



GILLINGHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

**FOOTBALL LEAGUE
DIVISION III**

Saturday, Jan. 1st, 1966

v

SWINDON TOWN

Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

**OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME**



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NEXT HOME FIXTURES

FOOTBALL COMBINATION
DIV. II

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8th

v.

LEYTON ORIENT

K.O. 3 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE
DIV. III

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15th

v.

GRIMSBY TOWN

K.O. 3 p.m.

EDITORIAL

On this New Year's Day we greet our visitors and our supporters.

We haven't appeared at Priestfield for 3 weeks and indeed we haven't been able to play the intervening two away games because of interference from the weather. We have had the additional disturbance of the unexpected departure of manager Freddie Cox, to whom our grateful thanks go out for brilliant managerial successes during his 3½ year occupancy of the chair. No amount of whitewash will conceal the fact that behind the scenes various relationships were often

strained but this is no time for re-crimination.

We hope soon to appoint a new manager who will carry on the playing successes, but good managers are in very short supply and then there is the difficulty of the binding legal contract that often obtains.

We apologise most sincerely for the inconvenience caused to stand patrons by the delay in the construction of the roof but the weather-man produced the wettest December ever when we least wanted it.

THE PLAYING AREA

Spectators are earnestly requested not to trespass onto the playing area, before, during, or after the match.

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PERSONALITY PIC

CHARLIE RACKSTRAW

Now in his second season at Priestfield Stadium, Charlie joined us from Chesterfield in July, 1964, having spent nearly ten years at the Derbyshire club. Born in Sheffield 26 years ago, he was on amateur forms for Chesterfield at the age of fifteen, signing professional after his National Service. During this period he had appeared for the Army Amateur XI.

He has now made over fifty appearances and scored fifteen goals in our League side.

Charlie is married and the father of a month-old daughter. His hobbies include all sports, but particularly snooker.

35 YEARS AGO

Following the unexpected home defeat by Aldershot in the 2nd round of the F.A. Cup, Gills had five matches to play in the latter half of December, including three in three days over the Christmas period, to complete the programme for 1930. Although no reports of the matches are available, the bare results of these games certainly could not have aroused much enthusiasm at Priestfield Stadium.

After the Cup setback, Queen's Park Rangers held us to a 2-2 draw here on December 17th, and three days later we crashed at Norwich by four goals to nil. Christmas was a Thursday in 1930

and Thames were our visitors, when we recorded an encouraging 3-1 victory. The following day we gained a 2-2 draw in the return match, continuing our success against London clubs—we had now played each of the seven in our sphere at least once, and had yet to be defeated. We were unable to continue this success at Brighton, where we played our last match of the year on the 27th, and were on the receiving end of a 5-0 thrashing. At this stage we had taken 20 points from 22 games and were in 14th place.

Swindon had snatched a 0-1 victory here the previous November 15th.

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WORLD CUP

ENGLAND

JULY 1966

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"JUST IN TIME"— A WORLD CUP INTERPRETATION

One of the ways in which the World Cup Organisation has set out to ensure that the genuine football supporters are the ones who will be able to watch the World Cup Final at Wembley Stadium on July 30, 1966, is by making it clear from the outset that no single tickets will be sold for the Final. They will be obtainable only by purchasers of season tickets—people who watch other games will be those who will be able to see the great climax to the competition being staged in England from July 11 to 30 next year.

There are times, though, when even hardened box-office officials find it difficult to be unsympathetic to specific requests which do not conform to the regulations which have been laid down. But unsympathetic they have to be.

Take the case of the man who wrote to the World Cup Organisation offices at White City, London, from one of Her Majesty's corrective establishments.

Obviously well aware of the arrangements which have been made for the sale of tickets, he wrote to ask to have a ticket reserved for the Final alone, adding, simply "I shall not be able to watch any of the matches other than the Final, because I am not due to be released until July 29th".

No exception could be made to the conditions which have been laid down, even in such extenuating circumstances. It's a hard life, isn't it?

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OUR VISITORS SWINDON TOWN

Swindon last came to Priestfield on October 5th, 1957, when we defeated them by two goals to one; our last meeting was the return fixture on February 15th, 1958 at the County Ground, Swindon, when we shared two goals. We parted company at the end of that 1957/58 season—unlike ourselves, Swindon avoided the drop into Division IV, although they had had to seek re-election at the end of both the previous seasons. In 1956/57 they had finished with 36 points, above only Norwich City, and 30 points had deposited them at the very foot of the table a year previous. In 1957/58, however, they not only evaded the unwelcome embrace of the new Fourth Division, but accumulated 57 points and took 4th place in the Third South.

This success was continued in the new Division III, and after five good seasons they finished 1962/63 as runners-up to Northampton Town, with 58 points. Unlike the Cobblers, however, Swindon were unable to make much progress in Division II—they took 38 points from their matches in 1963/64, finishing 14th, and last season they managed 33 points, to finish above Swansea only, and returned to the Third.

Since our re-election to the League in 1950, Swindon have taken only one

point from their matches at Priestfield Stadium, holding us to a goalless draw on September 17th, 1952. On each of the other seven occasions, we have inflicted defeat upon our visitors, the biggest being by four goals to nil on November 12th, 1955, and also on October 13th, 1951. Swindon have, in fact, scored on only three occasions at Priestfield, netting just once each time:—on May 2nd, 1951; September 18th, 1954; and on October 5th, 1957. We won each of these matches by two goals to one. The highest attendance for this fixture was recorded for the October game in 1951, when the "gate" was 15,704.

Our last three visits to the County Ground at Swindon have also proved fortuitous. In 1956/57, we won 3-2 (this completed the double, as we had, a week previous, beaten Swindon at home, 3-0); in 1957/58 we managed a 1-1 draw; and this season, on October 9th, we took both points by scoring the only goal of the match. This last result can be regarded as something of an achievement, as not only is it, to date, the only home defeat Swindon have suffered this season, but also our goal was the first seen at the County Ground this term. Swindon's three previous home games had all resulted in goalless draws.

PEN PICTURES

Peter DOWNSBOROUGH (Goal-keeper)—Signed at the commencement of the season from Halifax Town where he was a product of local football.

Owen DAWSON (Right Back)—Born Hatfield. Signed from Portsmouth June, 1962. Was a former Youth International.

John TROLLOPE (Left Back)—Born Swindon. A local boy who joined the Swindon ground staff from school. Was selected for the first team at the beginning of the season 1960/61 when he was 16 years old, and was ever present during that season and season 1961/62. Maximum appearances in the League side during 1962/63/64/65.

KEITH MORGAN (Right Half)—Born Trowbridge. A strong attacking wing-half, who joined Swindon as a youth player from Westbury. Made maximum appearances during 1962/3/4.

Mel NURSE (Centre-half)—A recent signing from Middlesbrough. He needs little introduction to football followers. A strong forceful player. He has many Welsh International caps to his credit.

Wilfred SHERGOLD (Left-half)—Born Swindon. Another product of the Swindon youth policy. He is fast and can play in almost any position in the forward line.

Donald ROGERS (Outside-right)—Born Paulton. A much sought after player. An England youth player who it seems is destined for further honours.

Dennis BROWN (Inside-right)—Born Reading. Joined the Club from Chelsea for a very substantial fee in November, 1964. A fast raiding inside-forward he made several appearances at centre-forward last season.

Keith EAST (Centre Forward)—Born Southampton. Signed from Portsmouth in the close season 1964. A strong forceful player.

Roger SMART (Inside-left)—Born Swindon. Another local born player who joined the Club direct from the Swindon Schoolboy's team. At 17 he made the centre-forward berth in the Reserve team his own, later converted to a wing-half.

Bruce WALKER (Outside-left)—Joined Swindon in 1963 from local amateur football. Just 19 years of age, he made his first team debut against Grimsby on Boxing Day.

Joe BUTLER (Right-back)—Joined Swindon from Newcastle United in August, 1965. A tenacious player whose speed and ability amply makes up for his lack of inches. Born Newcastle.

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SMART

EAST

11
SHERGOLD

10

9
NURSE

6

TROLLOPE

3

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announced before kick-off*

BROWN
⁸

DAWSON
²

⁶
ARNOTT
¹¹
MEREDITH

ROGERS
⁷
MORGAN
⁴

L

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SUPPORTERS' ASSOCIATION

NOTES

**A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO ALL MEMBERS**

It actually seems like a year since these notes were last written and everything appears to have happened in the meantime except football.

TOWN HALL DANCE

All members are reminded of the dance being held at Chatham Town Hall on January 15th, when a prize for the best lady's hair style will be the main event of the evening. Tickets can be obtained from the Association hut or at the doors, and cost 5/d. each.

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DRAW

Was a success and we extend our congratulations to the winners and our sincere thanks to the many donors of prizes. The winners covered quite a wide area and this we feel reflects great credit on the agents concerned.

PREMIUM BOND

The last premium bond was drawn drawn on December 11th and the winner was Mr. Best, of 60 Milner Road, Gillingham.

At the time of preparing these notes for printing, the Club is without a manager. Should one be appointed in the meantime we would like to extend him a warm welcome and assure him of our continued support.



BEAT THE CLOCK

RESULTS FOR SATURDAY, 11th DECEMBER, 1965

FIRST GOAL TIMED AT 80 minutes 32 seconds

£20 : 80.32 : R. J. Abbott, 159 Balmoral Road, Gillingham.

£10 : 80.31 : Unclaimed to date.

£5 : 80.33 : Unclaimed to date.

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"BLUE AND WHITES"

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY. No manager, no match for 3 weeks, and what with the roof of our new stand being blown off—no luck either. Things seem to be going a little against us at the moment, but we trust the boys can put this to rights today with two points. Our visit to Swindon provided one of the upsets of that particular day and a repeat would be very welcome.

Perhaps the cancelled matches were a blessing in disguise and give us breathing space to welcome the new manager whoever he may be. From names mentioned by the press, it could be anyone from half of our population, but no doubt the people concerned know whom they desire and may we wish them luck and a quick appointment.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our supporters, and may the end of the season see us in the right place.

GUEST OF THE DAY. Our guest today is Mr. A. Smith, of 40 Junction Road, Gillingham. Mr. Smith is aged 73, and has been a keen supporter since 1911!! Thinks the younger members of the side have settled in well and wishes

all success to everyone connected with the Club. Favourite player—Jimmy White.

TEAM MASCOT. Our Mascot today for his third outing is Master John Summerset, of Ferndale Road, Gillingham. Well done, John.

ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DANCE. This will be held at the Town Hall, Chatham, on Saturday, February 12th. The Annual Miss "Blue & White" Competition will take place at this event. More details of this later. Tickets for the Dance are now available, price 6/- and 7/-.

GIFT VOUCHER WINNERS. 11th December, 1965. Miss M. Taylor, 10 Larkfield Avenue, Gillingham. 18th December, 1965. Mr. T. Scott, 81 Windsor Road, Gillingham.

PRE - MATCH ENTERTAINMENT. Thanks to those few supporters who kindly donated 6/8d. for records for our library. More are still required—can you help?

BEAT THE CLOCK JACKPOT

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Burgess	1	0
Gibbs	18	12
Grace	4	0
Hunt	5	0
Meredith	18	0
Miller	16	2
Moffat	5	0
Newman	9	2
Pulley	2	0
Rackstraw	17	4
Ridley	4	0
Riggs	4	0
Simpson	18	0
Stocks	18	0
Taylor, R.	8	0
Taylor, T.	4	0
Weston	6	0
White	18	0
Williamson	1	0
Yeo	15	4
Opponents' O.G.:		2
F.A. Cup—Taylor, R.	1	
F.L. Cup—Gibbs 1; Pulley 1		

	Apps.	Goals
Arnott	1	0
Burgess	9	0
G. Gilham	4	0
Gilbert	5	3
Grace	11	2
Huddart	15	0
Hunt	11	2
Miller	1	0
Moffat	10	3
Newman	3	1
O'Mara	4	4
Pulley	6	1
Ridley	13	4
Riggs	3	0
Ryder	13	1
Stacey	12	0
Taylor, R.	6	1
Taylor, T.	11	3
Vickers	8	2
Weston	6	0
Williamson	12	5
Yeo	1	0
Opponents' O.G.:		2

It is still undecided as to who will present our lads with a challenge in Round 3 of the F.A. Youth Cup. We are drawn at home to Spurs or West Ham. These two teams have met twice already—the first game was abandoned when Spurs were leading 2-1, and the second resulted in a 1-1 draw.

Whichever team provides the opposition, the resulting tie will certainly be entertaining fare.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

1965/66

LEAGUE TABLE—DIV. II.

(Up to and including Sat., 4th Dec.)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Q.P.R.	16	11	3	2	36	20	25
Gillingham	14	11	2	1	33	13	24
Leyton Orient	16	8	4	4	42	25	20
Charlton A.	16	8	4	4	34	21	20
Birmingham	16	10	0	6	39	25	20
Brighton & H.	16	9	1	6	34	27	19
Reading	15	8	2	5	28	21	18
Bristol R.	17	6	6	5	35	34	18
Bournemouth	17	7	4	6	23	25	18
Luton Town	18	7	2	9	35	39	16
Oxford United	16	6	3	7	24	18	15
Watford	16	4	7	5	22	19	15
Bristol City	15	6	3	6	27	27	15
Notts Co.	17	3	8	6	27	38	14
Millwall	14	4	4	6	24	29	12
Brentford	16	4	4	8	27	36	12
Aldershot	15	4	2	9	15	31	10
Southend Utd.	15	3	3	9	30	37	9
Colchester	15	3	2	10	17	43	8
Mansfield T.	14	2	2	10	16	40	6

At the end of the season, the top 3 Clubs are promoted to Division I, to replace the bottom 3 Clubs in that sphere.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION (Div. 2)

Opponents	Grd.	Goals	
		F	A
August, 1965			
21 Reading	(H)	1	1
September			
4 Colchester	(A)	3	0
11 Watford	(H)	3	0
18 Brighton	(A)	1	0
25 Queens Park	(H)	1	1
October			
2 Mansfield	(A)	2	1
9 Aldershot	(H)	2	0
16 Charlton	(A)	0	2
23 Bristol R.	(H)	4	1
30 Leyton O.	(A)	4	3
November			
6 Birmingham	(H)	3	2
20 Luton	(H)	2	0
27 Southend	(A)	5	1
December			
4 Bournemouth	(H)	2	1
11 Aldershot	(A)	1	2
January, 1966			
1 Bristol R.	(A)		
8 Leyton	(H)		
15 Birmingham	(A)		
22 Notts County	(A)		
29 Reading	(A)		
February			
5 Oxford	(H)		
12 Bristol C.	(A)		
19 Colchester	(H)		
26 Watford	(A)		
March			
5 Bristol C.	(H)		
12 Brighton	(H)		
19 Queens Park	(A)		
26 Mansfield	(H)		
April			
2 Luton	(A)		
8 Millwall	(A)		
9 Brentford	(H)		
16 Bournemouth	(A)		
23 Southend	(H)		
May			
7 Millwall	(H)		
Oxford Utd. (A) ..	to be arranged		
Brentford (A) ..	" " "		
Notts County (H) ..	" " "		
Charlton (H) ..	" " "		

FOOTBALL LEAGUE TABLE DIVISION III

(Up to and including Tuesday, December 28th, 1965)

		Home				Goals		Away			Goals		
	P	W	D	L	F	A		W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Millwall	22	9	3	0	26	9		5	1	4	12	10	32
Hull City	23	8	2	2	31	8		5	3	3	21	20	31
Grimsby Town	21	8	4	0	29	14		2	2	5	11	14	26
Queen's Park Rangers ...	20	6	0	3	18	12		5	3	3	20	19	25
Oxford United	21	6	1	4	24	16		4	3	3	12	13	24
Shrewsbury Town	20	7	3	1	26	9		3	1	5	10	18	24
Workington Town	20	4	2	2	21	9		4	5	3	19	16	23
Swindon Town	21	5	3	1	24	6		3	3	6	15	17	22
Gillingham	18	6	2	1	13	5		3	2	4	13	14	22
Scunthorpe United	20	4	1	5	14	12		6	1	3	21	17	22
Watford	20	6	2	2	21	9		2	4	4	13	19	22
Peterborough United	21	7	2	1	25	12		2	2	7	12	24	22
Walsall	19	7	2	1	22	8		1	2	6	8	22	20
Brighton & Hove Albion	21	4	3	3	22	13		2	4	5	9	17	19
Bristol Rovers	24	4	7	1	18	9		1	2	9	13	28	19
Exeter City	21	5	3	3	18	11		2	2	6	8	24	19
Reading	18	5	3	2	14	8		1	3	4	12	21	18
Mansfield Town	17	4	2	2	13	6		2	1	6	13	22	15
Swansea Town	20	6	1	2	26	16		0	2	9	6	35	15
Southend United	20	6	0	4	20	16		1	1	8	7	28	15
Bournemouth & Bos. ...	22	4	3	4	13	12		0	4	7	5	22	15
York City	21	2	4	5	17	24		3	0	7	13	27	14
Brentford	19	4	1	5	17	10		0	4	5	5	13	13
Oldham Athletic	19	3	3	3	18	20		0	2	8	6	30	11

FIRST TEAM FIXTURES AND RESULTS, 1965-66

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIV. III

Opponents	Grd.	Goals	
August, 1965		F	A
21 Peterborough Utd	(A)	0	1
25 Exeter City	(H)	1	1
28 Millwall	(H)	1	0
September			
4 Bournemouth & B	(H)	2	0
11 Oldham Ath.	(A)	3	5
15 Reading	(A)	2	2
18 Watford	(H)	2	2
22 Blackpool (F.L.C.)	(A)	2	5
25 Scunthorpe Utd.	(A)	1	0
October			
2 Brighton & H.	(H)	3	1
9 Swindon	(A)	1	0
16 Shrewsbury Town	(H)	0	1
23 Grimsby	(A)	1	3
30 Brentford	(H)	1	0
November			
6 Bristol Rovers	(A)	0	0
13 Folkestone (FA Cup Rd. 1) ..	(H)	1	2
20 Oxford Utd.	(A)	4	0
27 Swansea Town	(H)	2	0
December			
4 Exeter City	(A)	1	3
11 Workington	(H)	1	0
Reading (H)	to be arranged		
Shrewsbury Town (A) ..	"		
Mansfield Town (A) ..	"		

Opponents	Grd	Goals	
January, 1966		F	A
1 Swindon Town	(H)		
8 York City	(A)		
15 Grimsby Town	(H)		
22 Mansfield Town	(H)		
29 Peterborough Utd.	(H)		
February			
5 Millwall	(A)		
12 Hull City (4)	(H)		
19 Bournemouth & B	(A)		
26 Oldham Ath.	(H)		
March			
5 (5) Hull City	(A)		
12 Watford	(A)		
19 Scunthorpe Utd.	(H)		
26 (6) Brighton & H.	(A)		
April			
2 Bristol Rovers	(H)		
8 Southend Utd.	(A)		
9 Walsall	(A)		
11 Southend Utd.	(H)		
16 Oxford Utd.	(H)		
23 Swansea Town (SF)	(A)		
25 Queens Park R.	(A)		
30 Walsall	(H)		
May			
7 Workington	(A)		
14 (F)			
18 Queens Park R.	(H)		
21 York City	(H)		
28 Brentford	(A)		

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