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Swindon Town FC

# SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

**Official Programme**  
**including League Football**



**1973-'74**

**West Bromwich Albion**

**Price 7p**



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Football Company Limited 1972

## Swindon Town Football Company Limited

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## Les Allen's Column

The Supporters who have attended our matches so far must have left the County Ground well pleased at the number of goals they have seen. First our opening 3-1 win against Sheffield Wednesday, secondly the six goals we shared in the First Round of the League Cup against Newport County and thirdly our Reserve Team match in which we beat Arsenal 7-1. Yes the goals have certainly been flowing. Let us hope we can keep it up. Our Reserve Team that beat Arsenal 7-1 had seven of last years youth team present in the side, and how well they and the rest of the side played. The only disappointing fact was the poor gate of 552 who turned out to see the game. Everyone who attended must still be talking about the excellent goals scored, and the general team performance.

During the next month we have two games a week, and this will be the initial period when the teams in our Division will start to sort themselves out. Points earned at this time of the season usually stand you in a good position during the coming months. If we could ask every Manager in our four divisions at the commencement of the season what would please them most the answer, I am sure, would be a good start to the season.

Last Saturday we earned a very valuable point at Preston, also had two goals dis-allowed and had Rod Thomas injured in the first twenty minutes, giving us a chance to blood one of our younger players who is still an apprentice, David Syrett. Although we were a goal down in the first minute our lads showed tremendous courage to keep going. After having the two goals dis-allowed we managed to score through Ray Treacy after good work by Tom Jenkins in the last three minutes of the game. It would have been rather unjust if we had ended losing this game 1-0, but our lads deserve all the credit for the way they stuck to the task.

Our replay of the League Cup away to Newport turned out to be another exciting game in which we ended up 2-1 winners. Our goals were scored by Mick McGovern and Richard Legg. Once again we had a goal dis-allowed, and in the early part of the second half the Referee gave Newport a penalty, which I thought was rather harsh, but once again our team really stuck to their task and fully deserved to win. We now have to visit Chesterfield in the next round and this, like the Newport game will be another difficult match to win.

## Second Division Scene

# CITY SPY ON US!



by **Tony  
Pullein**

Bristol City, who come to the County Ground on Tuesday evening, have been busy spying on us in recent games. Explains manager Alan Dicks: "This season we have decided to get more detailed reports than ever before on the teams we are due to play. We have already covered about six of the clubs we shall be meeting in the next month or so."

City already look a pretty good promotion bet. Tight in defence, they won their first two games — at home to Bolton and away to Orient — by solitary goals. They were hoping for good news on injured left-back Brian Drysdale who recently had the plaster removed from his injured right-leg. When he is fit again,

skipper Geoff Merrick will be able to move back into the centre of the defence where he feels happier.

High-spending Portsmouth, who invested £200,000 in new players during the summer, are already reaping benefits particularly from the partnership of winger Peter Marinello and striker Ron Davies. The famous Davies' head snatched the winner in the League Cup against Southend and, last Saturday, Davies headed down Marinello's cross for Piper to score in the 1-1 draw at Cardiff.

Unfortunately for Pompey, they had left-back Billy Wilson ordered off for a bad tackle close to the end. It wasn't too serious an incident but he had earlier

been booked for another offence.

A disappointingly small crowd of under eight thousand saw a fine game at The Manor between Oxford and Nottingham Forest who could both figure in the promotion reckoning when they have learned to convert a higher percentage of the scoring chances created. Derek Clarke (Oxford) and Neil Martin (Forest) — the latter only four minutes from time — both missed the sort of opportunities strikers dream about.

The only goal — magnificently accepted by Nigel Cassidy — was the result of an ill-conceived back-pass by George Lyall when there was absolutely no danger.

# Robins Year-by-Year

## Part 3 — Season 1922/23

### Final Table DIVISION III (South) — 1922/23

	P	W	D	L	For	Ag.	Points
1. Bristol City	42	24	11	7	66	40	59
2. Plymouth Argyle	42	23	7	12	61	29	53
3. Swansea Town	42	22	9	11	78	45	53
4. Brighton & Hove Albion	42	20	11	11	52	34	51
5. Luton Town	42	21	7	14	68	49	49
6. Millwall	42	14	18	10	45	40	46
7. Portsmouth	42	19	8	15	58	52	46
8. Northampton Town	42	17	11	14	54	44	45
9. Swindon Town	42	17	11	14	62	56	45
10. Watford	42	17	10	15	57	54	44
11. Queen's Park Rangers	42	16	10	16	54	49	42
12. Charlton Athletic	42	14	14	14	55	51	42
13. Bristol Rovers	42	13	16	13	35	36	42
14. Brentford	42	13	12	17	41	51	38
15. Southend United	42	12	13	17	49	54	37
16. Gillingham	42	15	7	20	51	59	37
17. Merthyr Tydfil	42	11	14	17	39	48	36
18. Norwich City	42	13	10	19	51	71	36
19. Reading	42	10	14	18	36	55	34
20. Exeter City	42	13	7	22	47	84	33
21. Aberdare Athletic	42	9	11	22	42	70	29
22. Newport County	42	8	11	23	40	70	27

### Men Who Played

#### League appearances:

A. Archer, 11; H. Bentley, 9; J. Colburne, 35; F. R. Cooke, 15; R. Cooper, 5; C. H. Daniel, 6; A. S. Davies, 40; E. R. Dawe, 23; A. Denyer, 32; H. J. Fleming, 14; F. Hawley, 20; J. Johnson, 38; A. Lees, 1; J. S. Maconnachie, 1; A. S. Nash, 42; J. Norton, 26; T. W. Phillipson, 33; D. Rogers, 32; C. Turner, 4; W. Wareing, 35; A. M. Weston, 40.

#### League scorers:

Johnson 20, Phillipson 11, Denyer 5, Cooke, Fleming, Wareing each 4, Davies, Hawley each 3, Daniel, Norton each 2, Dawe, Rogers, Weston, John (Q.P.R.) each 1.

### Defeat

Our 0-5 reverse at Swansea was the heaviest defeat we had suffered in a League game at that time.

**DON'T MISS A COMPLETE SET!** Part 4 of this unique club record series will appear in our next first-team programme. Make sure you collect each instalment and thus complete this best-ever record of Swindon Town.

If you have missed past instalments, back numbers are available from the Secretary's Office.

*continued on page 7*

# THROSTLES START WELL

by Tony Pullein



**Back Row: Left to Right. Lyndon Hughes, Roger Minton, Hugh Maclean, Allan Glover, David Shaw  
Centre Row: Left to Right. G. Wright (Assistant Manager), Alistair Brown, John Wile, Jeff Astle,  
Peter Latchford, Ray Wilson, Alistair Robertson, B. Whitehouse (Chief Coach)  
Front Row: Left to Right. Willie Johnston, Alan Merrick, Asa Hartford, D. Howe (Manager),  
Len Cantello, Gordon Nisbet, Tony Brown**

After 24 consecutive seasons as a First Division club, West Bromwich Albion are only now coming to terms with life on a lower scale. Having been reared on the luxuries of soccer life for so long, Albion fans are naturally deeply concerned about the present situation.

Yet none can have suffered a deeper depression than manager Don Howe who is very conscious of what is expected of him this season. Quick promotion is his sole objective. He appreciates, of course, that even with three clubs going up this season it is not going to be easy to

attain it.

The Throstles gave their manager a boost on the opening day when they scored a splendid 3-2 victory at Blackpool — even though they were without two key players, Ray Wilson and Asa Hartford, who were under suspension. They were also minus former England striker Jeff Astle who continues to be plagued by injuries.

The success of the deputies at Blackpool gave Mr. Howe the rather pleasant problem of having a surplus of good players from which to select his team when everyone

was available.

In midfield, for instance, he can choose from Hartford, Lyndon Hughes, Hugh MacLean, Alan Merrick, Alan Glover and Alistair Robertson.

Hartford's career seemed to have collapsed in ruins when Leeds cancelled a proposed £170,000 transfer deal on medical grounds two seasons ago. But he recovered splendidly from the shock and earned himself a regular place in Scotland's team. Asa had earlier played for the Scottish schoolboy and under-23 elevens.

Hughes, MacLean, Merrick and Robertson are all Albion discoveries. Hughes and Merrick, who both came into the team in 1968/69, are both former England youth internationals. MacLean has as yet made only occasional appearances but could well come into permanent reckoning this season.

Glover developed with Queen's Park Rangers and joined Albion in 1969 after half-a-dozen senior games for Rangers. Robertson, a Scottish schoolboy and youth international, came into the side in 1969/70, gaining a regular place last season.

In attack Albion have some outstanding goalscorers. Tony Brown has topped the Albion list in each of the past three seasons, last term netting 14 goals. Once a midfield player, Tony Brown has played centre-forward for England and he was a member of the Albion teams which won the League Cup in 1966 and lifted the F.A. Cup two years later.

Alistair Brown was signed from Leicester City two seasons back. The Filberts' leading scorer for his last two seasons there, he has never quite managed to score as regularly for the Throstles.

David Shaw was signed from Oldham for £80,000 last season. He was on two occasions the Latics' top scorer. Earlier he played for Huddersfield Town.

Jeff Astle won five England caps but for the past 12 months he has been troubled by injuries. Jeff joined Albion from Notts County for £25,000 in 1964, has on four occasions topped the Throstles' scoring list and now has over 160 League goals to his credit.

West Bromwich paid £130,000 to sign Willie Johnston from Glasgow Rangers last season. Willie has nine Scottish caps and he played in two European finals for Rangers gaining a European Cup-

Winners' Cup winning medal in 1972. He topped Rangers scoring list on two occasions.

When everyone is available the defence is likely to be as it was at the end of last season — Roger Minton, Len Cantello, John Wile and Ray Wilson.

Minton got his chance at right-back last season after Gordon Nesbit broke a leg. Roger had played several games in the First Division side over the previous two seasons. Cantello, a former England youth cap, made his Albion debut in 1968/69 and has played well over 100 League games for the club. Over the past two seasons he has won six England under-23 caps.

Wile was released by Sunderland in 1967 without getting a chance in their first-team so he settled down to Fourth Division football with Peterborough. Albion paid £32,000 for him in 1970 and two seasons ago he was appointed team captain.

Wilson is one of several Scots to blossom with Albion. Ray made his League debut in 1965/66 as a winger. He later switched to defence and made such a good impression that he was picked for Scotland's under-23 side.

Albion's goalkeeper will probably be Peter Latchford who took over last season when John Osborne "retired". Latchford, who came through Albion's junior teams, is one of three brothers currently playing in the League — goalkeeper Dave and striker Bob are Birmingham City regulars.

Osborne, a former Chesterfield goalkeeper, gave up football full-time to concentrate on business but he was persuaded to return to action when Walsall were desperate for a 'keeper. After regaining his taste for action while on loan to the Saddlers, Osborne later returned to Albion's First Division side.

In spite of suffering relegation, Albion enjoyed fine runs in both

Cups last season, going out only to Leeds United (in the F.A. Cup) and Liverpool (League Cup).

It is strange, but, since their very beginnings, Albion have never clicked quite so well in the League as they have in Cup competitions. One of the original twelve League clubs in 1888, Albion have won the Championship once (in 1920). They made the first of ten appearances in the F.A. Cup final in 1886 and returned in each of the following two years, recording their first success when they defeated Preston 2-1 in 1888.

They lifted the F.A. Cup again in 1892, 1931, 1954 and 1968. And they also have a good record in the League Cup, reaching the final three times. They beat West Ham in the 1966 final but were beaten by Q.P.R. a year later and by Manchester City in 1970.

Manager Don Howe has spent the major part of his professional career with the club. He was a boyhood fan of Wolves but it was West Bromwich who gave him his chance to become a professional footballer in 1952. Modelling his play on Sir Alf Ramsey, Don went on to emulate his favourite player and himself won 23 full caps for England.

Arsenal signed him in April 1964 and soon he was their club captain. But he broke a leg in the 1965/66 seasons and never really recovered properly. He was appointed chief coach, proving a superb part of the back-room team built by manager Bertie Mee.

He was obviously destined for a manager's job himself, yet the pull of Highbury was great. He turned down the chance to manage Leicester City but when his old club threw down the challenge two years ago it was too big a chance to refuse. It is doubtful if any other club could have tempted him to leave Arsenal at that time.



Vs. Sheffield Wednesday

Dave Moss pauses momentarily as the ball drops before half volleying our first goal against Wednesday.

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## Golden Goal Competition

Have you purchased your

**GOLDEN GOAL  
TICKET?**

SOMEONE TODAY WILL

**WIN £60**

*for an outlay of only*

**5p**

*It could be you!*

Your Golden Goal ticket seller will be in the usual place — make a date to buy your ticket every match.

Additional £10 prizes for last goal scored and Official Attendance.

Remember we pay £80 at every First Team match.

## Forthcoming matches

Tuesday, September 11th  
Football League — Division II  
**BRISTOL CITY**  
Kick-off 7.15 p.m.

Saturday, September 15th  
Football Combination  
**BRISTOL ROVERS**  
Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

Saturday, September 22nd  
Football League — Division II  
**MILLWALL**  
Kick-off 3.0 p.m.

### GOLDEN GOAL WINNERS SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY

**£60** First Goal — 25m. 44s. paid on 25m. 45s. — J. Buckland, 2 Gilberts Green, Shipton Bellinger, Tidworth.

**£10** Last Goal — 85m. 54s. paid on 85m. 53s. — D. J. Whatley, 72 High Street, Manton, Marlborough.

**£10** Attendance 8,267 — paid on 9,138 — Mrs B. Ranger, 52 Medgbury Road, Swindon.



**Vs. Newport**  
 Keeper Macey foils Ray Treacy's efforts to get to a corner.

## Key of the board

Saturday, September 8th, 1973

- A Arsenal v. Leicester
- B Coventry v. Southampton
- C Ipswich v. Manchester Utd.
- D Leeds v. Birmingham
- E Liverpool v. Chelsea
- F Manchester City v. Norwich
- G Sheffield Utd. v. Newcastle
- H West Ham Utd. v. Tottenham H.
- I Wolverhampton v. Burnley
- J Aston Villa v. Oxford Utd.
- K Blackpool v. Millwall
- L Bristol City v. Luton
- M Carlisle v. Notts. County
- N Crystal Palace v. Middlesbrough
- O Fulham v. Orient
- P Hull City v. Preston North End
- Q Nottingham Forest v. Sheffield  
Wednesday
- R Portsmouth v. Bolton
- S Sunderland v. Cardiff
- T Swindon v. West Bromwich Albion

## The man in the middle

### BRIAN HENRY DANIELS

(Rainham, Essex). A former military policeman who now works as a personnel and recruiting officer. Progressed through Essex junior and intermediate leagues to the Isthmian League and then The League line in 1965-66. Promoted to the referee's list in 1967-68. Linesman for the U.E.F.A. Cup tie Las Palmas v. Twente Enschede 1972. Married with three children he likes course fishing and ballroom dancing. Founder member and president of the Ilford seven-a-side Charity Cup competition, vice-president of the South Essex Combination Charity Cup.

*continued from page 3*

#### Football League Division III (South)

	Home	Away
Aberdare	5-4	3-3
Brentford	3-0	0-3
Brighton	3-0	1-1
Bristol City	0-1	1-3
Bristol Rovers	1-0	0-2
Charlton	2-1	1-3
Exeter	2-1	1-2
Gillingham	0-1	0-0
Luton	1-1	2-3
Merthyr Tydfil	4-0	1-1
Millwall	0-0	1-1
Newport	2-2	2-2
Northampton	2-0	2-1
Norwich	1-2	0-0
Plymouth	2-1	0-2
Portsmouth	3-0	1-4
Q.P.R.	1-0	2-0
Reading	3-1	0-1
Southend	3-0	0-2
Swansea	2-1	0-5
Watford	1-1	3-0

#### F.A. Cup

Rd. 1 - Barnsley	(h)	0-0
	(a)	0-2

Saturday, September 8th, 1973 — Kick-off 3 p.m.

# SWINDON TOWN v. WEST BROMWICH ALBION

## Swindon Town

- 1 Allan
- 2 Butler
- 3 Trollope
- 4 Hubbard
- 5 Burrows
- 6 Stroud
- 7 Moss
- 8 McGovern
- 9 Treacy
- 10 Legg
- 11 Jenkins
- 12 Bunkell

## West Bromwich Albion

- 1 Latchford
- 2 Minter
- 3 Merrick
- 4 Hughes
- 5 Wylie
- 6 Robertson
- 7 Cantello
- 8 Shaw
- 9 Glover
- 10 T. Brown
- 11 Johnston
- 12 A. Brown

Referee:  
Mr. B. H. Daniels  
(Brentwood)

Linesmen:  
Red Flag  
Mr. R. Dix  
(Fareham)

Yellow Flag  
Mr. A. W. Jones  
(Bath)

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