

# HALIFAX TOWN

No

834



## SWINDON TOWN

**SATURDAY 13th MARCH 1976**

**League Division Three**



**10p**

Pictured below are Hereford United, the team at present top of the Third Division, and who Halifax Town play away on Wednesday, 17th March 1976.



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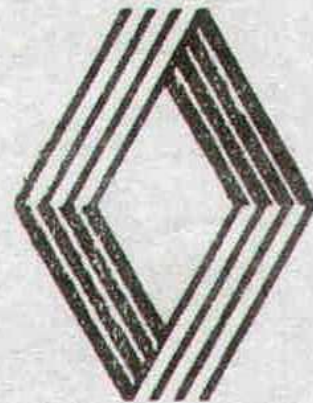
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Tony Thwaites (Programme Editor), Maurice Porter  
(Commercial Manager)

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## **Message from Alan Ball**

A 1-1 draw from our match with Gillingham!!

From our point of view it was a poor first half but the second half was better. There are those who have commented about our performance in the Gillingham game by saying 'that the Southport air has done no good'. That is a foolish remark! If people thought you could guarantee on perfect game after two or three days training away from home then every league team in the country would have a change of venue for their training each week. Our training in Southport has been a good psychological exercise in helping the players, especially the new members get to know each other in order to build up team spirit and to create unity. If it improves performance by 10% it will have been a worthwhile exercise.

Gillingham's style of football was all I said it would be. Westwood their new player (wearing No. 10) and, of course Tideman (wearing No. 7) both played impressively. I though we were unlucky to concede a goal when we did through a rebound from one of our defenders to their right full-back who was in the box. These are the things which go for you when you are on top but against you when you are struggling.

At half time we tried to put things right, sending players forward and pressurising them in their own half. For

half an hour this paid off and we had all the play with a lovely equaliser from George Jones. Lets hope this proves to be the start of a succession of goals from Jones.

After talks with Derek Bell I have decided to let him go on loan to Sheffield Wednesday. I have done this for his own good. I am sure he will now become a star player in some of your minds because of the action I have taken. I think he will be a much more mature player 12 months from now but, in the meantime, experience such as this can only be good for him. Before I came to the club he seemed to have 'dried-up'. I think this is an ideal opportunity for him.

At the time of this note I have not signed anyone but I am hoping to have one or possibly two players before the deadline. The good news is that David Ford is back in training and could solve my problems on the left side of midfield. Also, Tony Rhodes could be fit for this Saturday. Certainly for Hereford.

For those of you who supported us against Gillingham - THANK YOU! For those of you who were unable to come I hope you will be able to find time to come along to our next few games - much of our effort can be turned to success with drive of a good supporting crowd.

---

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### DIVISION III LEAGUE TABLE AS AT 11.3.76

	P	W	D	L	HOME					AWAY					Pts
					F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	
Hereford	33	10	4	2	32	16	10	3	4	32	21	47			
Brighton	35	15	1	2	47	11	4	3	10	15	29	42			
Crystal Palace	34	5	8	3	26	18	9	4	5	25	20	40			
Shrewsbury	33	11	1	4	27	17	5	7	5	19	20	40			
Walsall	36	10	5	3	36	17	5	4	9	22	30	39			
Cardiff	33	11	4	2	32	11	4	4	8	22	30	38			
Peterborough	33	10	5	2	32	16	3	7	6	21	31	38			
Wrexham	34	11	4	2	29	12	3	5	9	16	25	37			
Port Vale	35	9	6	2	24	13	4	5	9	19	24	37			
Millwall	33	11	5	1	27	13	1	6	9	13	27	35			
Preston	33	11	2	4	33	20	3	4	9	12	24	34			
Bury	32	7	6	2	21	8	3	7	7	18	24	33			
Gillingham	34	7	8	2	27	18	2	7	8	14	30	33			
Chester	33	10	5	2	26	12	2	3	11	7	33	32			
Grimsby	34	11	5	1	31	14	1	2	14	14	40	32			
Rotherham	34	9	3	5	27	17	3	4	10	14	33	31			
Aldershot	32	9	5	2	28	16	1	4	11	18	39	29			
Sheffield Wednesday	32	7	6	3	26	18	0	8	8	11	21	28			
Chesterfield	34	7	5	6	33	24	3	2	11	16	34	27			
Southend	31	7	4	5	33	24	2	4	9	15	28	26			
Mansfield	33	5	7	4	21	18	3	3	11	15	26	26			
Swindon	34	8	3	6	30	23	2	3	12	15	37	26			
<b>Halifax</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>			
Colchester	33	7	3	6	16	19	2	4	11	13	35	25			

### GOALSCORERS UP TO AND INCLUDING 10.3.76

	League Cup	F.A. Cup	League	Total
<b>Ray McHale</b>	—	<b>4 (3 pens)</b>	<b>10 (2 pens)</b>	<b>14</b>
Derek Bell	2	—	7	9
Steve Downes	2	1	3	6
Tony Rhodes	1	1	3	5
David Gwyther (now Rotherham)	—	1	4	5
Albert Phelan	1	—	2	3
David Ford	—	—	2	2
G. Jones	—	—	1	1
Albeson (Hartlepool)	1 o.g.	—	—	1
				46

### THIRD DIVISION GOALSCORERS UP TO 6.3.76

BUCKLEY — Walsall	26	SYLVESTER — Southend	23
BINNEY — Brighton	23	ROWLAND — Bury	20
McNIEL — Hereford	23		

### NEXT IN TOWN — MARCH

SATURDAY 20th	SHAYMEN v. WREXHAM
TUESDAY 23rd	SHAYMEN v. SOUTHEND UNITED
TUESDAY 30th	SHAYMEN v. CHESTERFIELD

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5. D. PUGH
6. A. PHELAN
7. A. JONES
8. J. MCGILL
9. M. BULLOCK
10. G. JONES
11. G. HARRIS
- T. VIETCH

**Referee:** Neville Ashley

#### Records by:

G. Evans, 19 Westgate, Halifax.

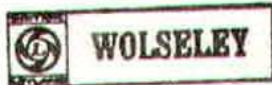
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### HALIFAX TOWN A.F.C. 1975-76

Date	Fixture		Res.	Attend.	Scorers
Aug. 16	Millwall	H	1-2	2,460	Downes
20	Hartlepool (L.C. 1 1st L)	H	4-1	1,476	Bell (2), Phelan, Alberson og
23	Aldershot	A	2-1	3,221	McHale, Gwyther
25	Hartlepool (L.C.1 2nd L)	A	1-2	1,726	Downes
30	Walsall	H	2-1	2,076	Ford, Gwyther
Sept. 6	Colchester United	A	1-0	2,819	McHale (Pen.)
10	Sheffield U. (L.C. 2nd)	H	2-4	7,925	Rhodes, Downes
13	Shrewsbury Town	H	0-0	2,501	
20	Cardiff City	A	0-0	8,035	
23	Grimsby Town	A	2-2	6,130	Bell (2)
27	Chester	H	5-2	2,240	Bell, Rhodes (2), McHale, Phelan
Oct. 4	Gillingham	A	1-1	5,934	Bell
11	Swindon Town	A	1-3	6,214	McHale
18	Hereford United	H	0-1	2,667	
20	Southend United	A	1-4	3,089	McHale
25	Bury	A	0-0	7,516	
Nov. 1	Crystal Palace	H	1-3	3,282	McHale
4	Preston North End	H	2-1	3,366	Bell, Rhodes
8	Mansfield Town	A	1-1	5,288	McHale
15	Brighton & Hove A.	H	1-3	2,201	Ford
22	Altrincham F.A. Cup (1)	H	3-1	4,077	McHale (2, 1 pen) Rhodes
29	Wrexham	A	1-1	3,063	McHale
Dec. 6	Peterborough United	H	0-1	2,289	
13	Stafford R. F.A. Cup (2)	H	3-1	4,650	Gwyther, Downes, McHale
20	Chesterfield	A	2-1	3,703	Gwyther, Bell
26	Port Vale	H	1-3	2,959	Bell
27	Rotherham United	A	1-0	7,614	Gwyther
Jan. 3	Ipswich Town F.A. (3)	A	1-3	23,488	McHale (pen.)
10	Walsall	A	0-2	7,167	
17	Cardiff City	H	1-1	2,399	Phelan
24	Shrewsbury Town (4)	A	0-2	3,398	—
30	Southend United	H	Postponed		
Feb. 7	Preston North End	A	1-2	5,840	McHale
14	Mansfield Town (5)	H	1-1	2,378	Downes
21	Brighton & Hove A.	A	0-1	13 686	—
24	Grimsby Town	H	2-1	22,00	Downes McHale (pen)
28	Bury	H	0-2	3,606	—
Mar. 2	Sneffield Wednesday	H	0-0	5,876	—
6	Crystal Palace (6)	A	Postponed		
9	Gillingham	H	1-1	1,886	G. Jones
13	Swindon Town	H			
17	Hereford United	A			
20	Wrexham	H			
27	Peterborough United	A			
30	Chesterfield	H			
April 3	Millwall (S.F.)	A			
7	Chester	A			
10	Colchester United	H			
17	Port Vale	A			
19	Rotherham United	H			
20	Sheffield Wednesday	A			
24	Aldershot	A			
May 1	F.A. Cup Final				



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Mr. Ashley began refereeing in the Crewe and District League and graduated through local leagues onto the Leagues Linesman's List in 1971 and the Supplementary List in 1973. He was appointed to the Full List in 1974. In November 1974 he was a linesman at a European Cup Winners match in Lisbon and was on the line for a 1973-4

League Cup Semi-Final.

A married man with two children, he works as a professional buyer (pharmaceuticals) and is involved in youth work. He has won representative honours at cross country and middle distance running and in 1958 was ranked in the British 880 yards list.

## ABOUT SWINDON TOWN

The club was founded in 1881 and, in 1884 turned professional and joined the newly formed Southern League. In 1920 they entered the league's Third Division South and had an excellent first season finishing in fourth position behind Crystal Palace, Southampton and Q.P.R. and scored more goals (73) than any other team in the division. For the following seven seasons the club proved to be most consistent and gained 6th, 9th, 6th, 4th, 6th, 5th and 6th position. But then, a gradual decline in fortunes saw them slip down the league. Eventually in 1932-33 after finishing in bottom position, "The Railwaymen" had to apply for re-election for the first time in their history and, after this had proved successful they again became their old consistent selves the following season by finishing in 8th position. In 1955-56 however, the club finished bottom again and, though their application for re-election was again successful, the following season saw them just one place higher resulting in a third application. In 1957-58 when the top twelve teams from the Third North and South were to form a new Third Division, Swindon finished in 5th position and so became one of the new division's founder members. After five seasons in this division the club, after being runners up to Northampton Town in 1962-63 gained promotion to the Second Division but, after gaining 14th position in 1963-64 the following season

brought relegation. Once again however, their stay was a short one for in 1968-69 they were promoted back to Division Two after being runners up to Watford who, although having the same number of points, took the Championship with a superior goal average 2-176 against Town 2-028. This was a wonderful season for "The Railwaymen" for they also reached the final of the League Cup at Wembley and in an exciting match in which former Shay goalkeeper Peter Downsborough produced a brilliant display, won the cup by beating Arsenal 3-1. For the following seasons however, the club failed to re-produce the brilliant form of the 1968-69 season and eventually in 1973-74 they were relegated to the Third Division along with Crystal Palace and Preston North End. Last season they just missed returning to Division Two after finishing fourth position behind Blackburn Rovers, Plymouth Argyle and Charlton Athletic.

Record League Goalscorer H. Morris 47 goals: Division Three South 1926-7  
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