



# Swindon Town Football Club

Football Association Cup Competition  
Second Round Replay

## Swindon Town

v

## Hitchin Town

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

### SWINDON

- 1 Allan
- 2 Dixon
- 3 Trollope
- 4 Stroud
- 5 Aizlewood
- 6 Prophett
- 7 Moss
- 8 McLaughlin
- 9 Syrett
- 10 McHale
- 11 Anderson
- 12 Rogers

at 7.30p.m.



### HITCHIN

- 1 Godfrey
- 2 Hammond
- 3 Gear
- 4 Brimson
- 5 Martin
- 6 Mulkern
- 7 Archibald
- 8 Wilson
- 9 Giggle
- 10 Bunker
- 11 Watson
- 12 Whishaw

Referee: Mr. T. Bune - Billinghamurst  
 Linesmen:  
 Red Flag: Mr. R.F.C. Harris - Carterton  
 Yellow Flag: Mr. S.G. Phelps - Longlevens

## Official Programme

Price 5p

# Chairman's Notes

Once again we welcome our friends from Hitchin and hope that this time we shall be able to complete the game.

The game played on Tuesday last, gave our supporters the opportunity to see what a high standard is played in the Rothmans Isthmian League.

The bonus to whom wins this replay is attractive with Fulham drawing the crowds through playing George Best, Rodney Marsh and Bobby Moore. Unfortunately, the delay in deciding this tie has delayed arrangements for the ticket sales from Fulham, but if we are lucky tonight, we shall be making an arrangement with Fulham and an announcement will be made as soon as possible.

If we draw tonight's game we have to play again on Thursday and the venue will be decided by a toss of the coin to either play again at Hitchin or Swindon, because both Clubs have agreed that to play on a neutral pitch is of no advantage to either or our supporters.

The National Press has made front page news about the financial state of Football League Clubs but as the Chairman of Q.P.R. pointed out, they have not taken into account the large assets that many of our Clubs have, neither do they account for the transferable possibilities that most clubs have. Of course if the banks

called in their overdrafts it would cause problems, but so would the country's industry if this was the attitude of the banks, but it is sensational reading, isn't it?

We have now signed another apprentice to our staff in Mark Walker from Ashford, Kent. Mark (who is known as Bill) is a forward and has played several times in our Youth Team.

If we do manage to beat Swansea in the next round of the F.A. Youth Cup we shall have another home tie against West Bromwich or Aston Villa.

The Carol Service held at St. Augustines Church last week was a great credit to the Kentwood Choir and a packed church was thrilled by their performance. Mrs. Sheila Harrod must spend hours of her spare time conducting and tutoring these talented artists.

An unusual feature of the concert was the appearance of Danny and his lads singing a song to the tune of a Christmas Carol. They were a credit to Mrs. Harrod whose father George Snook composed the words for their song. George also accompanied on the piano. The proceeds of Mrs. Harrod's work is to help provide a kidney machine for the local hospital.

Here's hoping tonight's game is enjoyable and that the weather elements are favourable.

## FROM THE POOLS OFFICE!!!

### FROM THE POOLS OFFICE!!!!

Welcome once again to Hitchin Town.

#### Golden Goal Winner v Hitchin Town 6 mins. 33 secs.

Mrs. Lester, 35 Henley Drive, Highworth.

#### Football Treble Winners

Week 8 One winner receives £35.00

W. Garrett, 4 Edmund St., Swindon.

Week 9 5 Winners each receive £7.00

D. Fudge, Rowde, J. Messenger, Swindon. W. Poynter, Swindon.

A. Hatten, Swindon. Mr. Budagowska, Swindon.

Here's hoping for a good game this evening.

DOUG BUSWELL,  
POOLS MANAGER.



# 'The First Cup Final, 1872'

Practically everyone in England is interested in the F. A. Cup Final, one of the world's greatest annual sporting events and saturation television, radio and press coverage makes it virtually impossible to avoid knowing who wins.

However, when the first Final was played 102 years ago, it was very different. The few who were interested had to seek out a publication like "Bell's Life", which specialised in sporting events.

The first competition was on a small scale with 15 entries but, in 11 years these topped the 100. Now, the draw decides choice of ground. Then, for the first two rounds, teams tossed for it, all later matches being played at the Oval.

The 2,00 spectators in 1872, and it seems surprising not that there were so few, but that there were so many — saw a pitch that bore little resemblance to the one seen at Wembley nowadays. There were two goalposts at each end, but no nets, and pieces of rope served as crossbars. Wooden crossbars, already in use in the Sheffield area, did not become general until 1875; and nets did not appear until 1891.

Now the, the annual attendance is 100,000; but over 400 million with the final on television. Two-thirds of the people in Britain and people in 20 other countries watch it live; and people in 25 other countries see colour recordings the same night.

The Wanderers and the Royal Engineers qualified for the first Final. The Wanderers had much the easier passage and failed to beat two of their opponents. They drew with Crystal Palace; and, to save time, both teams were allowed into the semi-final. There, the Wanderers drew with Queen's Park, Glasgow, who, unable to stay in London, withdrew and gave the Wanderers a "walk-over".

The Royal Engineers won three matches without conceding a goal, finishing with a 3-0 win over Crystal Palace, and were expected to win the Final.

They presented a colourful sight, though, the Wanderers in orange, violet and black, and the Royal Engineers with blue and red hoops which extended beyond their jerseys to their stockings and nightcaps!

Usually, six to eight forwards were played, the remainder being "behinds". Today, we know the term "three-quarter" only in connection with rugby, but one of the "behinds" was so called, his job being to assist the goalkeeper or "goals".

Six to eight forwards sound a formidable combination, but there was little combination. A forward who obtained possession normally kept the ball until he shot or lost it. No forwards played on either flank. They clustered together in the centre, and tried to keep constantly on the ball, as rugby forwards do. Ends were changed after every goal.

Surprisingly, the Wanderers pressed from the start and, equally surprisingly, the goal, which came after 15 minutes, came from a pass. R.W.S. Vidal passed to a team mate, who shot the first Final goal.

"Bell's Life" gives his name as "A.H. Chequer" but this was a "nom de plume" though, remembering the vigour of the game, "nom de guerre" might be more apt. His name was M.P. Betts.

The Wanderers continued to press largely because of an injury to Lieutenant Cresswell's collar bone, which was the first Final injury and the first officially recorded football injury.

Only once were the Royal Engineers dangerous, and that was when Lieutenant Muirhead approached the Wanderers goal. Throughout the match, the Wanderers had only one goal kick.

The game ended with no further score. The Wanderers took the Cup and "medals of trifling value". The Royal Engineers took nothing - except their place in football history.

Twenty years later, the Oval banned football, and the Final began the wanderings which ended at Wembley.

Visit our **SOUVENIR SHOP** after the match where we have the following items on sale all bearing the name of the club and/or our badge.

Papermate pens	70p	Mugs	45p
Satin Scarves	80p	Tankards	80p
Knitted Scarves	£1.25p	Ashtrays	60p
Coloured photo's - players -	20p	Tea Pot Stands	55p
Club Ties team	60p	Letter Racks	60p
Club Ties	£1.60p	Diaries	20p
Bangles	55p	Rings	45p
Pendants	70p	Bracelets	45p
Key Fobs	40p	Shoulder Bags	£2.00
Ball Point Pens	10p & 25p	Duffle Bags	£1.60
Belts	£1.00		

plus badges, rosettes, pencils, pennants etc.

# DANNY'S DESK

This evening we continue the saga Swindon Town versus Hitchin Town, the duration of the meetings between the two teams must contend with the other epic 'Gone with the Wind' and that is just what I wish had happened to that fog last Tuesday. During the past week we have witnessed the F.A. Cup demise of two League Clubs, namely Peterborough and Mansfield, their exit being brought about by non-league Clubs. It is up to our lads this evening to ensure that this does not become a hat trick.

I note that a letter has been written to the Evening Advertiser asking for support for a petition to influence me in my team selection. I would like to say once and for all to all those who write to newspapers either criticising or offering advice as to who I should play or how they should play, that no letter will influence my decisions. I am employed to act on my own judgement, utilising the advice given to me by my coaching staff, and I must stand or fall on that judgement. We all know that people have differing opinions upon games and players, I expect you all have your favourite, and if I relied upon advice from supporters I would no doubt have numerous different teams laid before me. No, the decision must be mine. I

haven't too much respect for those people who bravely write to sports columns of the local newspaper in the knowledge that I am unable to answer their criticisms. I would much rather these folk had the courage to come to see me if they feel strongly about something and then I can give them my reasons for what I do.

Last Tuesday's dance at The Affair to raise funds for the Video machine was quite successful, the players are now arranging for a collection to be taken at our Boxing Day Match when we hope that their target figure will be reached. The players have put themselves out quite considerably in order that they might have the advantage of a Video machine and I hope most sincerely that you will all assist them by giving to their collection.

Thank you for coming along again this evening. I know that many of you were disappointed last Tuesday both with the performance of our team and with the outcome of the match and your presence this evening is extremely encouraging.

Merry Christmas to you all!

## SWINDON'S PAST MARKSMEN . . . . . PART THREE . . . . . THE F.A. CUP

Below is a complete list of every player to have scored FIVE or more F.A. Cup goals for Swindon Town in the period since 1920.

The seasons in which the goals were scored are shown in parentheses.

- 15 goals — Maurice Owen (1947-56)
- 14 goals — Harry Morris (1926-33)
- 12 goals — \*Don Rogers (1963-70)
- 10 goals — Frank Richardson (1925-26)
- 8 goals — Alan Fowler (1934-38)
- 7 goals — Roger Smart (1963-70), \*Dave Moss (1973-77)
- 6 goals — Jack Johnson (1923-26), Bert Denyer (1923-29), Eddie Jones (1936-39), Billy Lucas (1938-48), Ernie Hunt (1960-63), Dennis Brown (1964-67), Peter Eastoe (1974-76).
- 5 goals — Harold Fleming (1920-24), Jack Bradley (1936-38), Ben Morton (1937-39), Bob Edwards (1955-60), 'Bronco' Layne (1960-61), Keith East (1965-66), Arthur Horsefield (1969-71).

\* Member of current playing staff.

Before buying your Christmas presents please look into our Souvenir Shop & Sports Shop

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**NEXT MATCH:-**

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**Monday - Boxing Day**  
**27th December, 1976**

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**Division III K.O. 3.0 p.m.**

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**OXFORD UNITED**

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