

DIVISION THREE

Swindon Town

Football Club

v

Oxford

Official Programme

10p

**WOULDN'T
A PINT
GO DOWN
WELL
TONIGHT?**



Best Bitter Beer

ARKELLS 

Traditional draught beers



Swindon Town Football Company Limited

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Club Medical Officer **Dr. J. Nicholas**

NEWS & VIEWS NEWS & VIEWS NEWS & VIEWS

NEWS & VIEWS - Oxford United.

Today we are pleased to renew acquaintance with our old friends and rivals - Oxford United.

We last played them in Season 1973-74, a disastrous one for Swindon, which ended in relegation. We finished in bottom place in Division 2 with the following record:

Home						
P	W	D	L	F	A	
42	6	7	8	22	27	
Away						PTS.
1	4	16	14	45	25	

Oxford ended the season in 18th position

Home						
P	W	D	L	F	A	
42	8	8	5	27	21	
Away						PTS.
2	8	11	18	39	35	

The home game played on 20th October '73, resulted in a home win 1-0. Scorer Legg.

The complement of the two teams was Swindon - Allan, Thomas, Trollope, Butler, Burrows, Stroud, Moss, McGovern, Tracey, Legg, Jenkins. Oxford - Burton, Light, Flay, Roberts, Love, Evanson, Clarke, D., Gough, Cassidy, Curran, Skeen.

I wonder how many of those players names will appear on the programme today. One other interesting item, only 3 names of Swindon Directors, on the '73 programme will be included today.

The away fixture was played on Sunday, 17th March 1974. Result 1-1, Scorer Moss.

The Swindon team makes rather strange reading.

Sprately, Dixon, Trollope, Butler, Potter, Monks, Moss, McLaughlin, Syrett, Stroud, Legg. Last season Oxford was relegated, being in 20th position, with three clubs going down to Division 3.

Their statistics were:

Home						
P	W	D	L	F	A	
42	7	7	7	23	25	
Away						PTS.
4	4	13	16	34	33	

The two clubs relegated with them were York City and Portsmouth.

This year those three clubs have fared very badly in Division 3, York City are in bottom position, with Portsmouth only two places above them. Oxford has done a little better, and to date are in sixteenth place with 16 points from 19 games, whilst Swindon is 11th in the league table with 19 points from 18 games. As always this game between local rivals, will be a stern one, greatly enjoyed by what we hope to be, a Record Boxing Day attendance.

Oxford United has a very successful Youth team, and many of those players have made their debut in the Senior side. This is no doubt due to the efforts of Fred Ford who through his enthusiasm and experience has introduced many young players to the club.

Remember season 1962-63 when Swindon gained promotion to Division 2. This was because young players were introduced to the Senior Team, and that year they produced some of the best football seen on the County Ground since the 1939-45 War.

Oxford Uniteds team of twelve, which recently played against Tranmere was the second youngest ever fielded in Football League history. Their average age was 21 years and 7 months.

Talk of the Town

By the Chairman

Today we welcome the Directors and Players from our nearest League rivals Oxford United. We have always had a very friendly association with Oxford going back to their Southern League days.

The weather over the past couple of months has caused problems that we did not want, with cancellations of fixtures to all of our teams. Fortunately we have a larger playing staff this season, which helps, when we find ourselves with several fixtures to play in one week. On Monday evening last, we visited West Ham in the London Combination and drew 0-0 after a very exciting game, although no goals were scored. West Ham fielded a side that included Wyn Hooper our new signing and he impressed us all with his thoughtful play and endeavour.

Last weeks Youth Cup match against Swansea has been postponed until January 6th which is a Thursday and the kick off time has been arranged for 7.30 p.m. on our main ground.

What can I say about our replayed game with Hitchin that has not been said already. Everyone present must have admired the courage and ability of this Hitchin side. This was not the odd occasion when a team raised their game, because they are consistent as has been proved by their record this season. I know that our players will prefer to meet the higher grade teams and Fulham should make for an exciting encounter.

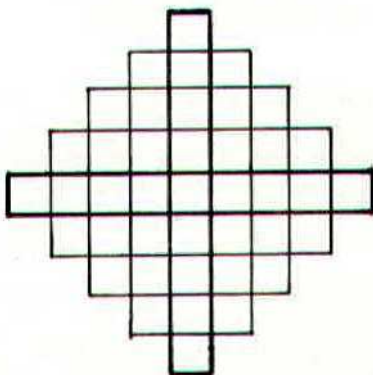
We have an allocation of 25% of the seating facilities available and we shall be making an announcement regarding the sale of these tickets as soon as we know what and when we are receiving from Fulham. Being an easy journey on the M.4. to Fulham, will mean a lot of support, I know, and in case anyone is not familiar with the Fulham Ground, may I suggest that if you are motoring up, to give yourselves plenty of time to find a parking spot because there is not a car park at the ground although side streets are used.

The Supporters Club had a very busy time before and during the Xmas period and the New Year Dance and Cabaret look like being a sell out.

Work is progressing on our squash court club and another couple of months will see a transformation in this section. The game of squash has really taken hold on the fitness fanatics of Swindon and district and to book a court at the Oasis Sports Centre one has to book a head and so it looks as if our courts will be in demand when they are completed. As we are developing all of this space under the stand apart from squash courts, through the generosity of our Director Bill Dore, it means a lot of work has to be done with drains and ground work.

I hope you had a happy Christmas and that you enjoy the match this afternoon.

HOLIDAY PUZZLE MYSTERY MAN - NUMBER TWO



- Losers in first F.A. Charity Shield Match
- Roving goalscorer who joined Swindon in 1964
- Club that Bill Atkins went to from Swindon.
- Goalkeeper who the Town signed from Arsenal
- Wing-half who came to Swindon from Plymouth in 1955
- Town Winger of the late sixties
- Walsall full-back

Answer the clues across correctly and the same name will appear in the centre squares horizontally and vertically.

Closing date for this competition is Saturday January 1st., 1977.

The first TWO correct solutions opened on the above date will receive £5 each.

The second TWO correct solutions opened on the above date will receive 2 tickets to our match v. Portsmouth.



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OUR VISITORS

OXFORD

by Tony Pullein

JOHN WILKINS (Goalkeeper)

John turned down offers from several bigger clubs to begin his professional career with Portsmouth. For over a decade, he performed with distinction for Pompey until a £10,000 transfer took him to Oxford in 1974.

League record: Portsmouth 344 apps.;
Oxford 38 aps.

ROY BURTON (Goalkeeper)

Roy was once given a free transfer by Oxford, then recalled after a change of mind. He made his first League appearances in 1971/72, lost his place to Milkins two seasons ago but won his way back again last season.

League record: Oxford 164 aps.

DAVID FOGG (Defender)

David took part in Wrexham's run to the quarter-final of the European Cup-Winners' Cup last season when they lost only marginally to the eventual winners Anderlecht. A one-time Wrexham amateur, he made his League bow in 1971 and moved to Oxford last summer.

League record: Wrexham 159(2) aps.;
Oxford 10(2) aps., 1 gl.

LES TAYLOR (Defender)

Les took over the right-back position last season. One of many young players in the Oxford side, Les made his League debut at Orient in March 1975. He has been out of the side in recent weeks, though.

League record: Oxford 53 aps.

COLIN CLARKE (Defender)

Colin began at Arsenal but it was Oxford who gave him the chance to play League football in 1965/66. For the past nine years he has been a fixture in their defence.

League record: Arsenal nil aps; Oxford 401(1)
aps., 22 gls.

ANDY BODEL (Defender)

Andy got his chance, due to an injury, at Bristol City in September 1975 but got only two more opportunities last term. Now he is holding down one of the central defensive positions.

League record: Oxford 22 aps.

JOHN SHUKER (Defender)

John has filled eight different positions for Oxford and in 1968/69 he was their top scorer! John broke the Oxford club record for League appearances two seasons ago and he is now well past the 450 mark.

League record: Oxford 459(7) aps., 46 gls.

MAXIE BRIGGS (Midfield)

Maxie joined Oxford from Norwich for a £30,000 fee three seasons ago. He first surfaced into Norwich's League eleven in 1968/69 and enjoyed very many lengthy spells in the side.

League record: Norwich 127(8) aps;
Oxford 70(3) aps., 1 gl.

PETER HOUSEMAN (Midfield)

Peter spent 15 years with Chelsea, playing for them in the 1970 F.A. Cup final and in the European Cup-Winners' Cup final a year later. One of the most accurate passers of a ball, Peter transferred to Oxford for £35,000 in 1975.

League record: Chelsea 252(17) aps., 20 gls;
Oxford 50 aps., 2 gls.

BILLY JEFFREY (Midfield)

Billy is a Scottish lad who served his apprenticeship with Oxford, turning professional in October 1973. He has been a fairly regular member of the side for almost three years.

League record: Oxford 77(1) aps., 7 gls.

COLIN DUNCAN (Midfield)

Colin is back in favour again now after losing his place last season. Yet another of Oxford's own products, Colin made his League debut in 1974/75.

League record: Oxford 46 aps.

MICK TAIT (Forward)

Mick is Oxford's top scorer for the second successive season, having netted 11 times before the holiday. Last season his tally was 12. An Oxford discovery, he made his first senior appearances in 1974/75.

League record: Oxford 55(3) aps., 22 gls.

continued on page 7

OXFORD



Colin Duncan, Mick Tait, Nick Lowe, David Fogg, Billy Jeffrey, Roy Clark

Fred Ford (Chief Scout), John Shuker, Colin Clarke, John Milkins, Roy Burton, Max Briggs, Brian Heron,
Ken Fish (Trainer),

Peter Foley, Les Taylor, Hugh McGrogan, Mike Brown (Manager), Peter Houseman, Derek Clarke, Andy Bodel.

PETER FOLEY (Forward)

Peter served his apprenticeship at The Manor Ground and was introduced for a couple of games in the senior side in 1974/75. Now he has played himself into the side and is regularly among the scorers.

League record: Oxford 48(6) aps., 8 gls.

HUGHUE McGROGAN (Forward)

Another former Oxford apprentice who has made the grade. Hughie earned his first-team chance in 1974/75 though it is only this season that he has become a regular member of the side.

League record: Oxford 30(8) aps., 4 gls.

(Statistics up to and including December 11th, 1976).



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TOWN

SEASON 1976 - 77

DATE	LGE.H POS./	OPPONENTS	H-T	F-T	SCORERS (P) = PENALTY
S 14 AUG	()	H NORTHAMPTON TOWN (FLC1)	1-0	3-2	STROUD, GODDARD, SYRETT
W 18 AUG	()	A NORTHAMPTON TOWN (FLC1)	0-0	0-2	
S 21 AUG	()	H PORT VALE	0-0	1-0	SYRETT
TU 24 AUG	()	A PORTSMOUTH	0-2	1-2	ANDERSON
S 28 AUG	(4)	H WREXHAM	0-0	3-2	MOSS 2, PROPHETT
S 4 SEP	(3)	A CHESTERFIELD	0-0	1-0	ROGERS
S 11 SEP	(2)	H SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	1-1	5-2	MOSS, SYRETT 2, ANDERSON AIZLEWOOD
S 18 SEP	(3)	A LINCOLN CITY	0-0	0-0	
S 25 SEP	(3)	H GILLINGHAM	1-1	2-2	STROUD, AIZLEWOOD
W 29 SEP	(3)	A PETERBOROUGH UNITED	0-1	0-1	
S 2 OCT	(10)	A READING	0-3	1-4	MOSS
S 9 OCT	(6)	H SHREWSBURY TOWN	0-0	1-0	PROPHETT
S 16 OCT	(10)	A WALSALL	0-1	0-2	
S 23 OCT	(5)	H NORTHAMPTON TOWN	2-0	5-1	ANDERSON (2P), MOSS MCLAUGHLIN, SYRETT
TU 26 OCT	(5)	A BURY	0-0	1-0	DIXON
S 30 OCT	(5)	H TRANMERE ROVERS	1-1	1-1	ANDERSON (P)
TU 2 NOV	(4)	H CRYSTAL PALACE	1-1	1-1	SYRETT
S 6 NOV	(6)	A BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	0-3	0-4	
S 13 NOV	(11)	H ROTHERHAM UNITED	1-2	2-4	ANDERSON (P) STROUD
S 20 NOV	(-)	H BROMLEY (FAC1)	1-0	7-0	MCHALE, SYRETT 2, MOSS 2, ANDERSON 2
S 27 NOV	(10)	A MANSFIELD TOWN	0-0	1-1	ANDERSON
S 11 DEC	()	A HITCHIN TOWN (FAC2)	1-0	1-1	DIXON
T 14 DEC	()	H HITCHIN TOWN (FAC2R)	1-0	Aban.	SYRETT
S 18 DEC	()	A CHESTER	1-0	1-2	MOSS
T 21 DEC	()		0-1	3-1	SYRETT,
M 27 DEC	()	H OXFORD UNITED	-	-	
S 1 JAN	()	H BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	-	-	
M 3 JAN	()	A TRANMERE ROVERS	-	-	
S 8 JAN	()	A FULHAM (FAC3)	-	-	
S 15 JAN	()	H PORTSMOUTH	-	-	
S 22 JAN	()	A PORT VALE	-	-	
S 29 JAN	()	H YORK CITY (FAC4)	-	-	
S 5 FEB	()	A WREXHAM	-	-	
S 12 FEB	()	H CHESTERFIELD	-	-	
S 19 FEB	()	A SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	-	-	
S 26 FEB	()	H LINCOLN CITY (FAC5)	-	-	
S 5 MAR	()	A GILLINGHAM	-	-	
F 11 MAR	()	H READING	-	-	
S 19 MAR	()	A SHREWSBURY TOWN (FAC6)	-	-	
S 26 MAR	()	H WALSALL	-	-	
F 1 APR	()	A NORTHAMPTON TOWN	-	-	
F 8 APR	()	A OXFORD UNITED	-	-	
S 9 APR	()	H PETERBOROUGH UNITED	-	-	
TU 12 APR	()	A CRYSTAL PALACE	-	-	
S 16 APR	()	H BURY	-	-	
TU 19 APR	()	A YORK CITY	-	-	
S 23 APR	()	A ROTHERHAM UNITED (FACSF)	-	-	
S 30 APR	()	H MANSFIELD TOWN	-	-	
TU 3 MAY	()	H PRESTON NORTH END	-	-	
S 7 MAY	()	A GRIMSBY TOWN	-	-	
S 14 MAY	()	H CHESTER	-	-	
S 21 MAY	()	(FACF)	-	-	

H GRIMSBY TOWN - TO BE RE-ARRANGED A PRESTON NORTH END - TO BE F

STATS

(FOR DIRECTORY OF CODES - SEE BELOW)

RES ULTY	ATTEN DANCE	ACCUM PNTS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	SUB
S - DENOTES SUBSTITUTED PLAYER														
RD, SYRETT	6253		01	02	03	04	05	06	07S	08	09	10	11	12
	7037		01	02	03	04S	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
	6138	2	01	02	03	04	05	06	13	10	12	09	11	
	7898	2	01	02	03	04	05S	06	13	08	12	09	11	14
T	6204	4	01	02	03	04	15	06	13	08	12	09	11	
	4148	6	01	02	03	04	15	06	07	08	12	09	11	
ANDERSON	8698	8	01	02	03	04	05	06	13	08	12	09	11	
	7379	9	01	02	03	16	05	06	13	08	12	09	11	
OOD	8678	10	01	02	03	04	05S	06	13	08	12	16	11	09
	5783	10	01	02	03	04	05	06	13	08S	12	16	11	10
	11670	10	01	02	03	04	05S	06	13	10	12	16	11	09
	9017	12	01	02	03	04	15	06	13	10	12	16	09	
	5529	12	01	02	03	04	08	06	13	16	12	10	11	
MOSS RETT	7285	14	01	08	17	04	05	06	13	02	12	16	11	
	6405	16	01	08	17	04	05	06	13	10	12	16	11	
	7776	17	01	08	17	04	05	06	13	10	12	16S	11	09
	11317	18	01	08	17	04	05	06	13	10	12	16	11	
	18761	18	01	08	17	04	05	06	03S	10	12	16	11	13
FROUD	7604	18	01	08	17	04	05	06	13	10	09	16S	11	18
'2, MOSS 2,	6497		01	08	17	04	05	06	13	02	12	16	11	
	6663	19	01	08	17	04	05	06	13	02	12	16	11	
	4827		01	08	17	04	05	06	13	02	12	16	11	
	7261		01	08	17	04	05	06	13	02S	12	16	11	07
	3399	19	01	08	17	04	05	06	13	02	12	16	11	
	6064		01	08	17	04	15	06	13	02	12	16	11	07

SWINDON TOWN PLAYING STAFF 1976-77

(League Games only - including substitute appearances)

CODE USED ABOVE		THIS SEASON APPS/GOALS	CAREER APPS/GOALS
01	JIMMY ALLAN	19	90
02	JOHN MCLAUGHLIN	14/1	181/8
03	TONY TAYLOR	12	285/16
04	KENNY STROUD	18/2	104/8
05	STEVE AIZLEWOOD	15/2	217/19
06	COLIN PROPHETT	19/2	241/12
07	DON ROGERS	1/1	499/182
08	WILL DIXON	16/1	270/9
09	HOWARD GODDARD	11	75/18
10	GERRY O'BRIEN	10	103/2
11	TREVOR ANDERSON	18/7	108/26
12	DAVE SYRETT	18/5	97/27
13	DAVE MOSS	18/6	159/36
14	PHIL HARRIS	1	1
15	FRANK BURROWS	3	484/14
16	RAY MCHALE	18/2*	224/48
17	JOHN TROLLOPE	8	671/20
18	JOHN GILLIGAN	1	6

*Includes 4 apps., 2 goals for Halifax Town

PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS

Swindon v Oxford

PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS

FULL LEAGUE RESULTS (Swindon's Score First)

					Gate
*	Aug. 21	1965	Home	0 - 0	20409
	Jan. 29	1966	Away	3 - 0	Henderson, Brown, Nurse 16074
	Dec. 10	1966	Away	0 - 0	10037
	May 6	1967	Home	3 - 0	Terry, Smart, Rogers 13981
	Apr. 12	1968	Away	0 - 0	17751
	Apr. 16	1968	Home	1 - 1	Rogers 16418
	Sep. 13	1969	Home	0 - 0	21903
	Dec. 13	1969	Away	0 - 0	11930
	Nov. 21	1970	Away	0 - 0	15369
	Feb. 20	1971	Home	3 - 0	Noble, Porter, Rogers (P) 17744
	Nov. 6	1971	Away	1 - 1	Butler 12382
	Feb. 26	1972	Home	4 - 0	Horsfield 3, Trollope 14743
	Dec. 16	1972	Away	0 - 1	9159
	Feb. 24	1973	Home	1 - 3	McGovern 11712
	Oct. 20	1973	Home	1 - 0	Legg 7537
	Mar. 17	1974	Away	1 - 1	Moss 9554

* SWINDON TEAM IN FIRST FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIXTURE BETWEEN CLUBS:

Downsborough; Dawson, Trollope. Morgan, Hallett, Atherton;
Weaver, Hunt, Keyworth, Brown, Rogers.

LEAGUE SUMMARY

	W	D	L	F	A	
Home	4	3	1	13	4	
Away	1	6	1	5	3	
Total	5	9	2	18	7	SWINDONS SUCCESS RATE : 59.38%

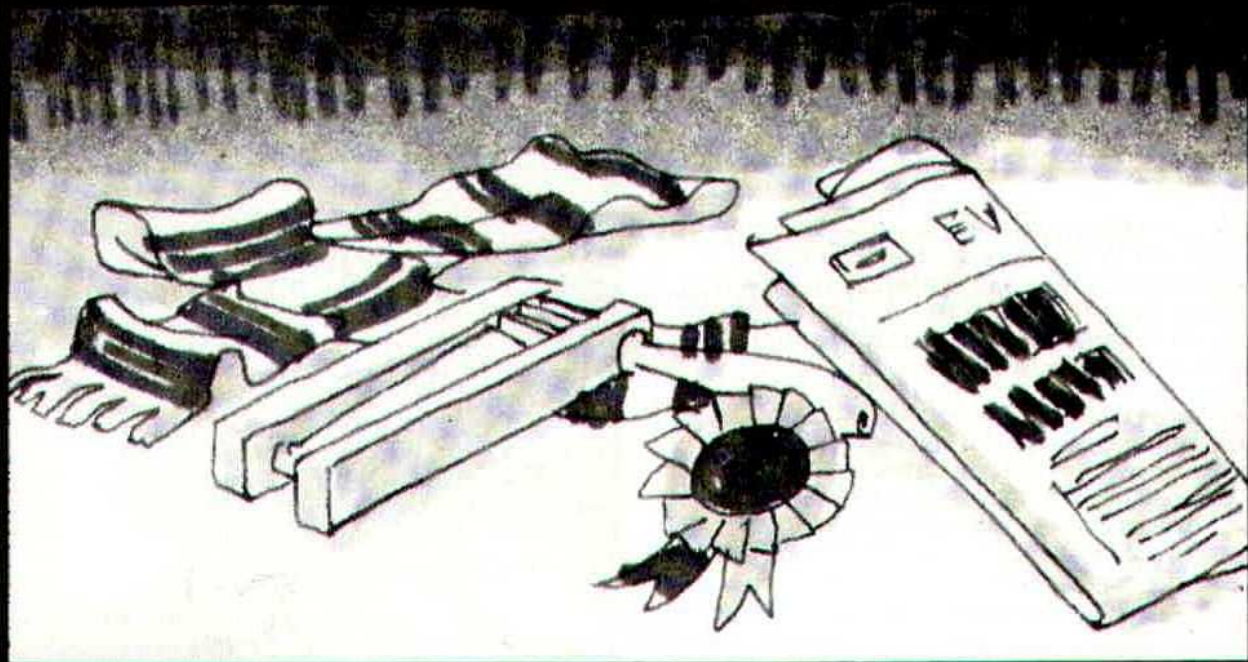
TRANSFERS BETWEEN CLUBS:

Johnnie Thomas to Headington United last app. v. Plymouth home Feb. 27, 1952.
Alan Gibbs to Headington United last app. v. Shrewsbury away Dec. 29, 1956.
Dave Gibson to Headington United last app. v. Walsall home Jan. 12, 1957.
Gordon Pembery to Headington United last app. v. Southampton home Apr. 20, 1957.
Jimmy Cross to Headington United last app. v. Q.P.R. away Sep. 16, 1957.
Johnny Skull from Headington United debut v. Northampton home Sep. 21, 1957.
Owen Medlock to Headington United last app. v. Walsall (FAC) home Nov. 14, 1959.
Ken Skeen to Oxford United last app. v. Nottingham Forest (FAC) at Villa Park Mar. 20, 1967.

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
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Goals Gifts for Christmas

by Tony Pullein

Ask him what he wants at Christmas and any fan will answer — GOALS! And Football League clubs, true to the festive spirit, have not often let the spectators down. Over the years some of the game's highest scores have been achieved at Christmas time.

The Fourth Division's record score was registered on Boxing Day 1962 when Oldham beat Southport 11-0, Bert Lister grabbing six of the goals. That was Oldham's finest win. Coincidentally, they also suffered their heaviest reverse at Christmas. They went down 4-13 — the highest aggregate score in League history — at Tranmere on Boxing Day 1935.

Fulham and Southampton both hit club record scores at Christmas. Fulham, sided by a fantastic burst of three goals in as many minutes from Graham Leggatt, cracked Ipswich 10-1 in 1963. Southampton ran up eleven goals against Northampton, without reply, in a Southern League game at Christmas 1901.

Then there was the curious case concerning Plymouth Argyle in 1960. They went down 4-6 at Charlton on Boxing Day but 24 hours later Plymouth reversed the tables by beating Charlton 6-4 at Home Park! Wilf Carter hit five of the goals in the second game.

A few other examples of Christmas scoring: Darwen 12 Walsall 0 (1896); Hull 10 Halifax 0 (1930); West Ham 2 Blackburn 8 and Manchester City 8 Scunthorpe 1 (both 1963).

Many clubs suffered their heaviest defeats over Christmas, among them Manchester United (0-7 v. Aston Villa 1930), Aldershot (0-9 v. Bristol City 1946), Rochdale (0-8 v. Wrexham 1929) and Walsall (0-12 v. Darwen 1896).

Blackburn Rovers suffered one of their most humiliating defeats of all time in a friendly on Christmas Day 1884. A few months earlier they had scored the first of three consecutive F.A. Cup triumphs. But that Christmas they were beaten at home by the famous Corinthian amateurs — by eight goals to one!

There were one or two ultra-special celebrations at Christmas games in war-time. In 1940 Norwich defeated Brighton 18-0 and four years later Leeds crushed Bradford City 9-1. Reason

for Brighton's huge defeat that day was that they travelled with only five players — completing the team with soldiers from the crowd!

These were unofficial games, of course. The only Football League games to be played at Christmas in war time were those of 1914 when two clubs no longer in the competition met twice, Leeds City scoring two 3-0 wins over Glossop. Bradford P.A. and Oldham drew 1-1 — in a First Division game! Bradford City and Notts. County were also in the top section at that time.

Two famous stars turned out for two clubs on Christmas Day 1940. Len Shackleton signed as a professional and played for Bradford P.A. in the morning, then turned out for Bradford City after lunch. Tommy Lawton played for Everton v. Liverpool first, then for Tranmere Rovers.

Stockport's Ray Drake hit the quickest Christmas goal, netting within seven seconds of the start of their match with Accrington in 1956. One of the longest distance headed goals was scored at Villa Park on Boxing Day 1921 when Frank Barson's 30-yard bullet flashed into Sheffield United's net.

Christmas is not always a happy time for players. On Christmas Day 1936, Ambrose Brown made a long trip across country to line up at inside right for Wrexham at Hall. His journey was hardly necessary — he was ordered off by the referee before the game was twenty-seconds old!

Christmas is the time when many of us have one over the eight. Tranmere's Bunny Bell did just that on Boxing Day 1935, hitting nine goals into Oldham's net. Surely, the finest soccer Christmas present of all!





UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

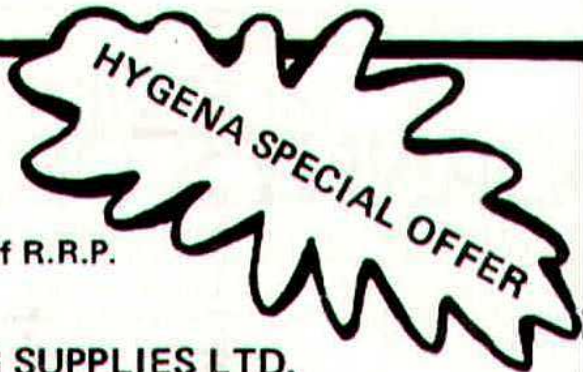


Dave Syrett



SYRETT, DAVID

Club	Season	League	
		Apps.	Goals
Swindon	73/4	20(7)	5
"	74/5	19(2)	3
"	75/6	28(3)	14
Wolves (loan)	"	—	—
Swindon	76/7	18	5



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FROM THE POOLS OFFICE!!!

Welcome to Oxford. Having been associated with Oxford United for a number of years I know full well that they will give us a very hard game.

Christmas Draw Winners were:

£100.00	Jim Green, Penhill, Swindon.
£50.00	A. Hamilton, 12 Elmore, Swindon
£25.00	Mrs. Pearson, 61 Westleigh, Warminster.
£10.00	B. Davies, 88 Drakes Way, Walcot.

Plus 10 others of £5.00 each.

May we thank our Agents who sold our tickets and people who purchased them for making the Draw a success.

Our Agents Draw will take place at half-time by the Referee and we hope to announce the winners on the tannoy later.

Golden Goal Winner versus Hitchin Town

Mrs. Lester, 35, Henley Drive, Highworth, Received £15.00.

Football Treble Winners

Week 9. 5 Winners receive £7.00.

Mr. Budakowska, Swindon, A. Hatten, W. Poynter, Swindon,
J. Messenger, Swindon, D. Fudge, Devizes.

To all of our Agents who have supported us in 1976 and all of our Customers who have purchased tickets may we wish you a Happy New Year.

DOUG BUSWELL,
Pools Manager.

DANNY'S DESK

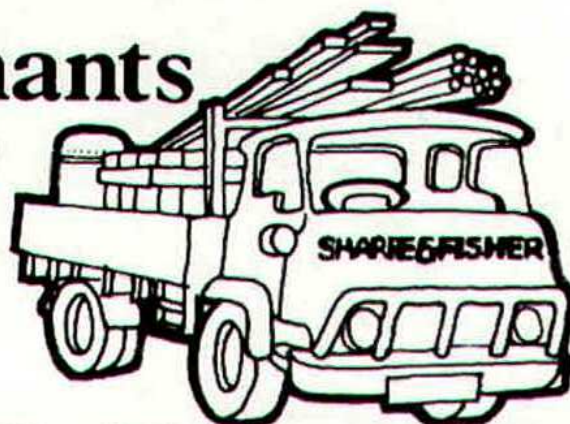
Last Tuesday evening saw the team finally, and with much wasted effort, pass into the third round of the Football Association Cup when they defeated the Isthmian League team, Hitchin Town, 3 to 1, the third goal being scored in the dying minutes of extra time.. Our players were much too erratic in this game, it is my consideration that they considered the result a foregone conclusion after the previous weeks abandoned match and because of this complacency they made far too many mistakes. In addition at least three of our players were below par. I wish to take nothing away from the performance of Hitchin, they are a very hard working team and I am sure they would not disgrace themselves in the Football League. Some people, I know, are wondering why I pulled off Ray McHale and my reason is that I have Ray attacking on the edge of the box, playing more as forward than as a defender and when I brought on Rogers I needed two good defenders who could push the ball to the four forwards and back them up in mid field and as Ray is more of an attacker than defender he was the one to be replaced but this does not reflect upon his ability or performance, he was no worse than any other mid field player.

Today we welcome the players and supporters of Oxford United who themselves were knocked out of the cup this season by a non League side. I am sure that this afternoons' game will be an enjoyable one to complete the festive celebrations but, a message to the younger ones, please do not spoil the afternoon by unruly behaviour. Whatever you may think hooliganism does not make you into some kind of giant in the eyes of others but rather into some pitiful mindless creature and make no mistake, the strongest action will be taken against any offender, Christmas or no.

I think our Groundsman is wondering what kind of rogue he is to deserve the weather conditions he is having to contend with this season. As you probably know, Maurice Owen took over this job at the end of last season and in his words "I have had to contend with every *?;" kind of weather lately - snow, ice, rain and fog". Maurice, I guess someone up there does not like you. Never mind, you are doing a good job under exceptional circumstances, not forgetting your helpmate Fred Park, and who knows, we might have one weeks fine weather before the season ends.

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Mon.	3rd January	Tranmere	09.00	£2.40
Sat.	8th January	Preston	09.00	£2.55
Sat.	22nd January	Port Vale	09.30	£2.00
Sat.	5th February	Wrexham	09.00	£2.40
Sat.	19th February	Sheffield Wednesday	09.00	£2.35
Fri.	1st April	Northampton	T.B.A.	£1.60
Fri.	8th April	Oxford	T.B.A.	£1.15
Tues.	12th April	Crystal Palace	T.B.A.	£1.90
Sat.	23rd April	Rotherham	09.00	£2.35
Sat.	17th May	Grimsby	09.00	£2.55

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MONDAY 27th DECEMBER 1976

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 3.00 p.m.



OXFORD

- 1 Burton
- 2 Fogg
- 3 Shuker
- 4 Bodel
- 5 Lowe
- 6 Jeffrey
- 7 Briggs
- 8 Houseman
- 9 Foley
- 10 Tait
- 11 Duncan
- 12 McGrogan

Referee: Mr. D. Turner - Cannock, Staffs.
Linesmen:
Red Flag: Mr. R.B. Gifford - Blackwood, Gwent
Yellow Flag: Mr. R.E. Keyes - Weston

REFEREE

TURNER, DENNIS (Cannock, Staffs.)

Commenced refereeing at 18 in the local Cannock Youth League, then progressed via the Staffs. County (South) and West Midlands Regional Leagues to the Football League full list. Refereed the 1974 Amateur Cup Final at Wembley and was also in charge of Anglo-Italian Cup games in Italy in 1970 and 1972. Lined a European Champions Cup match in Malta (1968) also the 1972 Wales v. Northern Ireland International.

A married man with two children, he is a Mines Safety Engineer. His main interests are club cricket and swimming.

NEXT MATCH

Saturday, 1st January, 1977

Division III

BRIGHTON and HOVE A.

K.O. 3 p.m.

KEY OF THE BOARD

- A Gillingham v Crystal Palace
- B Lincoln City v Grimsby
- C Northampton v Rotherham
- D Portsmouth v Brighton
- E Port Vale v Bury
- F Reading v Peterborough
- G Sheffield Wednesday v York City
- H Shrewsbury v Tranmere
- I Walsall v Preston N.E.
- J Wrexham v Chester
- K Birmingham v West Ham Utd.
- L Coventry v Ipswich
- M Derby v Leicester
- N Leeds v Manchester City
- O Liverpool v Stoke
- P Manchester Utd. v Everton
- Q Middlesbrough v Aston Villa
- R Newcastle v Sunderland
- S Norwich v Q.P. Rangers
- T West Brom. Alb. v Bristol City