



OFFICIAL MATCH DAY MAGAZINE 15p

# SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

SWINDON TOWN

v

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE



# Swindon Town Football Co Limited

Registered Office County Ground  
Swindon

Telephone No. 22118  
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Directors

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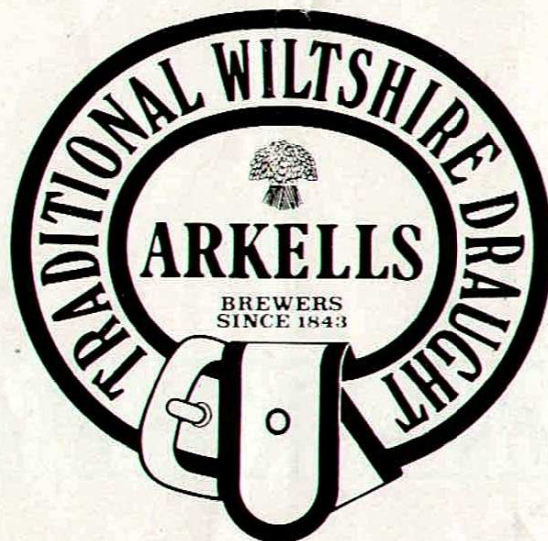
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# WOULDN'T A PINT GO DOWN WELL TONIGHT?





# Bits and Pieces

The exact origin of Plymouth Argyle is uncertain, but its predecessor - the Argyle Athletic Club - dated back to 1886 and was thought to have taken its name from the street where the inaugural meeting was held, Argyle Terrace. The club took over Home Park in 1901 and adopted its present title two years later on gaining entry to the Southern League.

In Plymouth's first season in the Football League, 1920-21, the club drew exactly half of its games (21).

Plymouth Argyle was undoubtedly the most consistent of clubs in the Third Division South during the 'twenties, finishing second in that League for a record six seasons in succession. Twice the margin between Plymouth and the champions was a single point and once, only goal-average divided the teams. During this period, Argyle had the services of the wing-forward Sammy Black, who scored a club record 180 League goals, and the Welsh International Moses Russell. This diminutive full-back, with little hair and even less teeth, had joined the club in 1914 from Merthyr Town and made 314 Football League appearances before ending his career with the ill-fated Thames Association in 1931.

The Plymouth Argyle manager was Bob Jack who had three sons on the club's books. David, later an England International with Bolton and Arsenal, spent two seasons with Argyle whilst another was Rollo, who came to Swindon from Clapton Orient in 1934.

In 1929-30 Plymouth took the championship which had so frequently eluded the club, amassing 68 points and losing only four times through-

out the season. Home gates came close to averaging thirty thousand and after a season of consolidation in the Second Division the Argyle rattled in 100 goals to come within five points of reaching the First in 1932.

After slipping momentarily out of the Second Division in 1950, Plymouth scored 107 goals and totalled 66 points to finish top of the Third South two years later. 1953 saw the Argyle again near the top of the Second and getting to the Fifth Round of the F.A. Cup for the first and only time. Sadly, Gateshead, then in the lower reaches of the Third North, went to Home Park and won 1 - 0.

Plymouth progressed to the semi-final stage of the League Cup in 1965 losing 2 - 4 on aggregate to Leicester City, and again in 1974 when Manchester City won 2 - 0 after a 1 - 1 draw at Home Park.

In the F.A. Cup Competition of 1904-05, Swindon Town was drawn away to a team of fishermen from Plymouth known as Green Waves. The fishermen led 2 - 1 at half-time and held out to provide one of the shock results of the last qualifying round.

There have been numerous transfer deals between Plymouth and Swindon, the most recent being those involving Dave Corbet and Cliff Jackson who both made their League debuts for the Town during the 1958/59 season and left for the Devonshire club within twelve months of each other. Both stayed with Argyle until 1966.

Previously Swindon had signed Plymouth's Scottish-born goal-scorer Jimmy Gauld (1959) and Swindon-born half-back Rex Tilley (1958) -



CLIFF JACKSON



D. CORBETT

who had previously been with Chippenham Town. Two Argyle players signed for Swindon in the 1955 close season, Tony McShane and the unfortunate Ernie Edds, the winger who had made a habit of scoring against the Town whilst with Plymouth and Torquay, but who appeared only three times in a red shirt before injury halted his career.

Before the war two renowned goal-scorers came to Swindon from Plymouth in Frank Richardson (1924) and Jim Cookson (1936). Half-back Tom Ryan also joined the Town staff but the war restricted his appearances to just two games of the truncated 1939-40 season.

## Fact finder

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE

CURRENT FORM - LAST FIVE SEASONS:

	DIV.	P	W	D	L	F - A	Pts	Posn.	Cup Round Reached		Average Home Lge. Gate	TOP LEAGUE GOAL-SCORER(S)
									F.A.	F.L.		
76-77	: 2	42	8	16	18	46 - 65	32	21st	3rd	1st	13,329	Brian Hall 10
75-76	: 2	42	13	12	17	48 - 54	38	16th	3rd	2nd	14,800	Paul Mariner 15
74-75	: 3	46	24	11	11	79 - 58	59	2nd	4th	1st	14,060	Bill Rafferty 23
73-74	: 3	46	17	10	19	59 - 54	44	17th	3rd	S-F	7,743	Paul Mariner 14
72-73	: 3	46	20	10	16	74 - 66	50	8th	4th	1st	9,057	Alan Welsh 12

COMPLETE FOOTBALL LEAGUE RECORD :

DIV.	:	PLD	W	D	L	F	-	A	PTS
Second	:	1176	389	301	486	1730	-	1952	1079
Third	:	368	149	102	117	547	-	477	400
Third South	:	604	321	139	144	1101	-	659	781
TOTAL	:	2148	859	542	747	3378	-	3088	2260

(To end of last season)



# Talk of the Town

By the Chairman

Today we welcome the Players and Officials from Plymouth Argyle to our last home fixture of 1977.

We have a long history of exciting encounters with our visitors of today and they like ourselves are fighting hard for success in the top flights. When Plymouth entertain the top clubs at Home Park, their supporters really rally round, but like so many clubs these days they disappear when times are not so good.

Our lads, certainly kept us on tender hooks until the dying seconds last week against Brentford. Brentford played some very good football and certainly came with the intention of winning and this produced some exciting end to end play, but any team that plays on the County Ground know to their cost that we never give in until the final whistle.

Cup-tie football is so unpredictable, as the last round proved and we shall do our best at Nottingham on January 7th to upset the form book.

Mick Lewis, Chairman of the Supporters Club, is keeping faith with all of our supporters who are a credit to our Club and who will be supporting us again in our cup round at Nottingham Forest. I know that Mick was very upset when a few hooligans caused so much trouble on the train to Wrexham. Every precaution is being taken this time to prevent any such trouble. People who would like to travel on this special train,

will only be issued with one ticket per person. The ticket will be numbered and it will also give the letter of the coach in which he or she will have to travel in. The recipient of the ticket will also have to leave their name and address on acquiring the ticket. The British Rail have also said that no one will be allowed to board the train with drink in their possession. Mick Lewis and his Committee of helpers will have a buffet on the train to supply cokes, coffee and food, so there will be no excuses to carry your own refreshments. Remembering the great following that we have enjoyed over the past years of glory, I feel that we can repeat history both on and off the field and let us all be a credit to Swindon Town.

Our Football Club was featured in a programme sent out over the air by Swindon Viewpoint last week with Danny, Bob Jefferies, David Moss and myself forming a panel to answer questions phoned in by viewers. There were many interesting questions phoned in and Danny and David were certainly kept busy. One question asked whether the panel thought, that the presentation of football by the Americans had anything that would appeal to our English crowds. The idea of making match day a family day as they do is great with pre-match entertainment and at the moment they in America are not troubled by trouble shooters. The weather over there of course is much more suitable for pre-match entertainment than ours.

We have a pre-match attraction on Monday, 2nd January, when we play Tranmere Rovers at home, kick off at 3.00 p.m. The pre-match entertainment is the 'Wild West Shoot Out' by the Cowboys of the Avening Court Ranch, lets hope that the shooting will be a feature of the game in more ways than one.

The Xmas draw organised by Doug Buswell was held in the Supporters Club on Monday, 10th December and the lucky winner of the first prize of £100 went to Longcot near Shriv-enham.

The second prize of £50 was won in Swindon and the third prize of £25 went to Devizes. Other prizes of £10 were evenly distributed between the county and town districts.

Talking of winning prizes, Doug Buswell will soon be releasing details of our new lottery which will be giving away £1,000 first prize and £1,500 in other prizes. This competition is due to start in February so watch out for the news.

We have an allocation of 1500 tickets from Nottingham Forest at £2.50p. per ticket and these are now on sale. Hoping that you have enjoyed your Xmas fare and that you will enjoy today's game.



Swindon's Kenny Stroud (left) beats the outstretched leg of Brentford's Selman to chip the ball into the visitors' goal-mouth during the Town's FA Cup win at the County Ground.



# From the POOLS OFFICE!

## CHRISTMAS DRAW

The draw was held on Monday 19th December in The Supporters Club. Thanks to all those who not only sold tickets but also purchased them and made it a financial success.

The major prize winners were:

£100.00 – G. M Thorley, 7 Church Close, Longcot.

£ 50.00 – Mr. R Wedge, 19 Dixon Street, Swindon

£ 25.00 –W. Moore, 83 Waiblington Way, Devizes

## THE NEW MOONRAKER LOTTERY

The new competition will start in February if the licence is available by then. It will be drawn each fortnight and there will be £2,500 in prizes. First £1,000 and £1,500 in other prizes. This will replace the Moonraker Draw in its present form. Our Bingo Ticket Competition will still operate due to its popularity.

Tickets for the new lottery will be 20p each and we would like to hear from you if you can help by selling a few each week or whether you would just like to purchase one. There is sure to be a tremendous demand. So order yours now by filling the form at the end of these notes. Here's your chance to win £1,000.

## SOCCER SPECIAL

We still have some copies of our Swindon Town Soccer Special 1977 left. If you would like one they can be purchased at the Pools Office or Souvenir Shop. Price 10p.

## AGENTS DRAW

Two of our Agents will be lucky winners today of £100 Pontin's Holidays. The draw will be made by the Match Referee.

Doug Buswell  
Pools Manager

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I am over 16 years old.

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**On Monday next, 2nd January we shall feature the Cowboys of The Avening Court Ranch in a Shoot Out prior to the match against Tranmere.**

**Don't forget kids - bring Ma & Pa to the County Ground Corral.**



# JOHN WARD TALKS TO DAVID MOSS

Most Swindon fans see the players for no more than ninety minutes each week. What are they like off the field? How do they feel about playing football for a living? What do they do in their spare time? Swindon supporter John Ward has been talking to the players to find out.

I asked David Moss if he had reached the stage when he preferred not to tell people how old he was. Jokingly he agreed but said that he thought he would reach his peak next season or the one after. Would he still be at Swindon? A brief pause while he decides whether to give a diplomatic or completely truthful answer before settling for a compromise; "I expect so, although I would love to play in the First Division. Every footballer wants to. It wouldn't matter so much if it turned out I wasn't up to it but I must find out for myself."

Meanwhile he plays for the team he has supported ever since he was a boy. Born in Witney, he always wanted to be a footballer. All that had to be decided was Swindon or Oxford United but his father had taken him to Swindon as a child and he got in the habit. When he left school he went to work in an office for six months because he was injured but as soon as he was fit he signed for Swindon soon after the famous League Cup victory. His regular first team place came in the season Swindon were relegated from the Second Division, something he naturally found a bit depressing. In the Third Division he was at first content to stay out on

the wing and make goals. Now he gets into the penalty area more often and finds the chances coming his way. At the moment they are going in but he says philosophically that he may not always be lucky. He finds that each season he is being more closely marked. In one game his full back never once watched the ball, only him. Most of the time he can put up with the clogging, as Danny Williams keeps on telling the team they must, but sometimes "if someone tries to whack you you just don't think not to retaliate". Although he is given more room in away matches when the home side is doing more of the attacking this is offset by the fact that Swindon can't get as many players upfield to support the forwards.

I asked what he felt about Danny Williams' oft-quoted remark "if only he had my brains he'd be playing for England" which has led to his being labelled a player with plenty of ability but no brains. David insists that this is rubbish; "the manager never actually said that anyway. What he did say was that because of my inexperience I was not taking up very intelligent positions. And that's not true now either. Look how many goals I've been scoring. There can't be too much wrong with my positioning."

David's wife is keen on football but cannot watch him all that often because of looking after their two young children. Being at home with the children is David's main interest outside football and he says he could spend all day playing with the baby. I

asked whether he found being a professional footballer meant having no social life. This doesn't seem to worry him. "Obviously you've got to be sensible about food and drink." Even on Christmas Day when they go to his parents and David just eats a little of everything and "perhaps a glass of sherry".

The summer break from football gets increasingly shorter and he uses it to recover from the previous season. He plays cricket and sometimes the family go to Jersey for a holiday. Playing cricket for sheer enjoyment without any pressures is the one time he completely forgets football. "Pressure" is a word that keeps on cropping up in these interviews and David, like the other players is in two minds about it. On the one hand there is the continued worry about his own game and whether the team will win; but on the other hand he loves cup games, where it's sudden death, because the crowds are bigger and the players that much more keyed up. "You can sense it when you come in for training on the Monday of a Cup week. There's a different atmosphere at the club and the build-up through the week is that much greater".

I asked whether he had any ambitions to be a manager when he finished playing. "I don't know yet. I've been coaching Clanfield and shall be at Wootton Bassett soon. I hope to get my FA coaching badge next summer." David began to rattle the coins in his pocket. It was lunch time and the baby called.

## IN OPPOSITION

A STATISTICAL RECORD OF PAST MEETINGS BETWEEN SWINDON TOWN AND PLYMOUTH ARGYLE

### AT SWINDON

#### Southern League

Nov. 21	1903	2-0	Milligan, Reid
Oct. 1	1904	4-0	Toombs, Chalmers, Kirby, Lean
Nov. 25	1905	2-1	Wheatcroft, Capes
Mar. 30	1907	1-1	Wardrope
Jan. 4	1908	1-0	Fleming
Mar. 13	1909	5-0	Rushton, Jefferson 2, Bown 2
Feb. 12	1910	4-1	Bannister, Wheatcroft, Jefferson 2
Oct. 1	1910	4-0	Bown 3, Lamb
Dec. 27	1911	2-0	Wheatcroft, Bown
Jan. 4	1913	2-2	Bown 2
Sep. 13	1913	4-1	Bown 2, Fleming, Bolland
Sep. 19	1914	3-2	Denyer 2, Batty
Jan. 3	1920	2-1	Ing, Warren

#### Football League

Oct. 16	1920	1-1	Fleming	
Nov. 5	1921	1-2	Batty	
Mar. 24	1923	2-1	Denyer, Wareing	
Sep. 22	1923	0-1		
Sep. 1	1924	1-0	Crossley	
Mar. 20	1926	2-0	Clarke, Wall	
Mar. 19	1927	1-2	Morris	
Oct. 1	1927	2-2	Morris 2	
Sep. 5	1928	0-0		
Sep. 28	1929	1-2	Dent	
Oct. 21	1950	1-2	Owen	(16,763)
Feb. 27	1952	2-2	Owen, Kaye	( 7,024)
Mar. 9	1957	0-3		( 8,864)
Sep. 7	1957	1-0	O'Mahony	(11,305)
Feb. 28	1959	3-4	Marshall 2, o.g.	(13,090)
Mar. 7	1964	2-1	Large 2	(13,743)
Mar. 20	1965	2-3	Smart, Summerbee	(12,175)
Aug. 31	1968	3-0	Rogers 2, Smart	(12,302)
Sep. 14	1974	2-0	Hubbard, Eastoe	( 5,495)

Swindon score shown first with Town scorers and Post-War Gates

### AT PLYMOUTH

Mar. 19	1904	0-0		
Jan. 28	1905	0-3		
Mar. 31	1906	0-3		
Nov. 24	1906	2-2	Kidd 2	
Sep. 7	1907	0-2		
Nov. 7	1908	1-1	Jefferson	
Oct. 2	1909	0-0		
Mar. 29	1911	1-1	Fleming	
Sep. 30	1911	1-1	Bown	
Sep. 14	1912	1-3	Tout (pen.)	
Jan. 3	1914	1-3	Bolland	
Jan. 23	1915	1-3	Wheatcroft	
Aug. 30	1919	0-3		
Oct. 9	1920	0-0		
Nov. 12	1921	0-1		
Mar. 17	1923	0-2		
Sep. 29	1923	3-1	Daniel 2, Phillipson	
Sep. 8	1924	0-2		
Nov. 7	1925	1-1	Davies	
Oct. 30	1926	1-3	Morris	
Feb. 11	1928	0-3		
Aug. 29	1928	0-3		
Mar. 26	1930	0-5		
Mar. 10	1951	1-5	Hudson (pen.)	(11,636)
Feb. 13	1952	0-3		(13,257)
Apr. 29	1957	0-1		( 9,052)
Jan. 11	1958	2-2	Micklewright 2	(16,797)
Oct. 11	1958	2-2	Micklewright, Edwards	(26,051)
Oct. 26	1963	4-2	Hunt 2, Rogers, Woodruff	(19,282)
Nov. 7	1964	1-2	Atkins	(16,215)
Mar. 22	1969	1-2	Smart	(20,776)
Dec. 26	1974	3-4	Moss 2, McLaughlin	(18,027)



# IN TOWN TODAY

## PAUL BARRON (Goalkeeper)

Paul resigned his schoolteacher job in July to sign full-time for Argyle. Last season he made three League appearances early on but he progressed so well in the reserves that manager Mike Kelly has now promoted him to the senior side.

League record: Plymouth 23 aps.

## KEVIN SMART (Defender)

Another young player who has been given his head by the manager, Kevin was drafted into the side at right-back towards the end of last season and has played in every game this term.

League record: Plymouth 29 aps.

## GEORGE FOSTER (Defender)

George, another Argyle discovery, went off the boil last season and he was placed on the transfer list. But a loan period with Torquay stimulated him and he was recalled to take his place again in the Argyle side.

League record: Plymouth 45(11) aps., 3 gls; Torquay (loan) 6 aps., 3 gls.

## JOHN CRAVEN (Defender)

John made his early appearances in the First Division with Blackpool in 1965/66 and was transferred to Crystal Palace in 1971. Coventry paid £45,000 for him in 1973.

League record: Blackpool 154(9) aps., 24 gls; C. Palace 56(7) aps., 14 gls; Coventry 86(3) aps., 8 gls; Plymouth 33 aps., 1 gl.

## JOHN UZZELL (Defender)

Young John was promoted to the first-team pool for the pre-season games and he started the season in the left-back position. He is ever-present so far. He turned professional with the club in March.

League record: Plymouth 20 aps.

## CHRIS HARRISON (Midfield)

Chris served his apprenticeship at Home Park and made his League debut two seasons ago. He played in half Argyle's games last season and has recently been recalled to first-team duty.

League record: Plymouth 29(2) aps., 1 gl.



Back Row: (L to R) Mike Kelly (Team Manager) Geoff Banton, John Peddelt, George Foster, Dave Sutton, Paul Barron, Martin Hodge, Terry Austin, Mike Trusson, John Uzzell, Tom Eggleston (Physiotherapist)  
 PLYMOUTH ARGYLE  
 Front Row: (L to R) Brian Hall, Mick Horswill, John Delve, Colin Randell, John Craven, Brian Johnson, Alan Rogers, Chris Harrison, Kevin Smart.

## MIKE HORSWILL (Midfield)

While with Sunderland, Mike starred in their fabulous F.A. Cup final victory over Leeds at Wembley in 1973. Soon after that he moved to Manchester City for £100,000 but Argyle snapped him up for a bargain £30,000 in 1975

League record: Sunderland 68(1) aps., 3 gls; Man. City 11(3) aps; Plymouth 78(3) aps., 3 gls.

## GARY MEGSON (Midfield)

Gary got his chance when Brian Hall was transferred to Burnley and has played in every game since his debut against Portsmouth in October. He is the son of former Bristol Rovers' manager Don Megson.

League record: Plymouth 6 aps.

## BRIAN JOHNSON (Forward)

Brian is a former Argyle apprentice. He made his first League appearance in 1973/74 and soon settled down as a regular performer, these days on the right wing.

League record: Plymouth 103(6) aps., 24 gls.

## TERRY AUSTIN (Forward)

Once with C. Palace, Terry won a place in League soccer with Ipswich in 1975 but it was after last season's transfer to Plymouth that he began to find his feet and start scoring goals with some regularity.

League record: C. Palace nil aps; Ipswich 10(9) aps., 1 gl; Plymouth 48 aps., 16 gls.

## ALAN ROGERS (Forward)

Alan made a quick impact when introduced to Argyle's senior side in 1973/74 but he lost his place at the end of that campaign and had to wait until last season for another good run.

League record: Plymouth 59(9) aps., 4 gls.

## FRED BINNEY (Forward)

Free-scoring Fred joined Argyle this season. He began with nearby Torquay and then joined Exeter where he was three times top scorer. Brighton signed him in 1974 and he was their best marksman in 1975/76.

League record: Torquay 24(7) aps., 10 gls. Exeter 178 aps., 90 gls; Brighton 68(2) aps., 35 gls. Plymouth 4 aps.

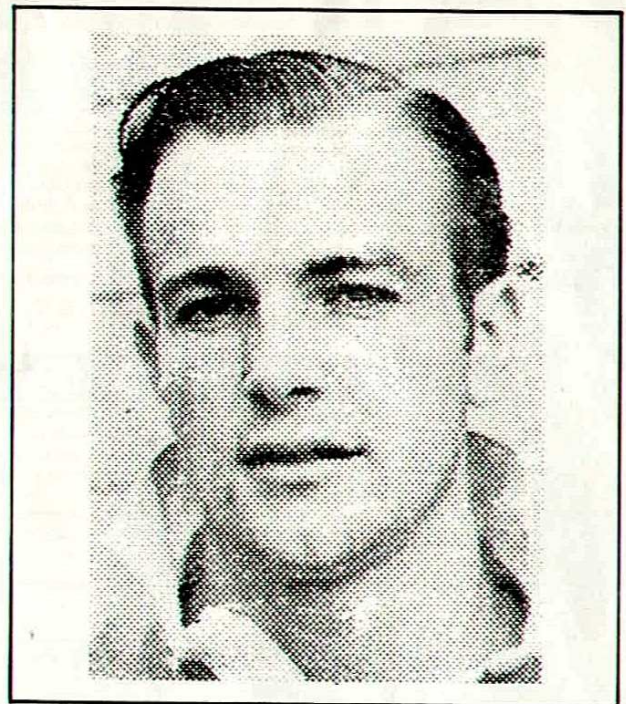
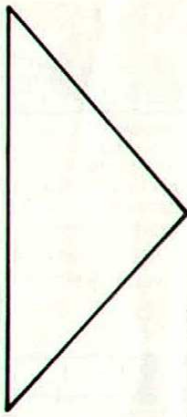


# Holiday Special

# FOCUS

# ON

# Maurice Owen



## FOOTBALL LEAGUE

	46/47	47/48	48/49	49/50	50/51	51/52	52/53	53/54	54/55	55/56	56/57	57/58	58/59	59/60	60/61	61/62	62/63	TOTAL
Accrington																		2
Aldershot		1	2	1	2(1)	2	2(1)	2(2)	2	2(2)	1	2						2
Barnsley															2	2	2	19(6)
Bournemouth	1	1	2	2(1)	2	2(1)	2(2)	1	2(1)	2(2)	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	6
Bradford C															2	2		25(7)
Bradford P.A																		4
Brentford										2(2)	2(1)	2	2		2	2	1	3
Brighton	1	2	2(1)		1	2	1(1)	1	2(1)	2	2(2)	2			2	2		12(3)
Bristol C	1(1)	2(3)	2(2)	1	1	2	2(2)	2(1)	2(1)	2	2(2)	2			2	2		20(5)
Bristol R	1	2(1)	2(1)	1	1	2	2	2(1)	2(1)						2	2		20(10)
Bury													1				2	13(2)
Carlisle																	2	2
Chesterfield													2(1)					2(1)
Colchester						1(1)	2	2(1)	2	2(1)	1	1	1		2	1		15(3)
Coventry						1(1)	1	1	1	1	2	1			2	2		13(1)
Crystal Palace	1	2	2	2	1	2	2(2)	2	1	2	2	2			2	2		25(2)
Doncaster													1					1
Exeter	1	2(1)	2(1)	1(2)		2(1)	1	2		1(2)	2(1)	2						16(8)
Gillingham						2(1)	2	2	1	2	2(1)	2						13(2)
Grimsby															2	2		4
Halifax															2	2	2	8
Hull															2	2	1	5
Ipswich	1(1)	1	2(1)	1(1)	1	2(3)	2(1)	1		2(1)	2(1)				2	2		15(9)
Leyton Orient	2(2)	2	2(1)	1(1)	1	1	2(2)	2	2	2								17(6)
Lincoln																2	2	
Mansfield	1(4)																	1(4)
Millwall			2(1)	2	2	1(1)	2(1)		1	2(1)	2(1)	1						15(5)
Newport		2	2(1)	2	1	2	1	1(3)	2	2	2	2(2)	2		2	2		25(6)
Northampton		2	2(2)	2(2)	2(2)	2	2(1)		2	2		1			2	2	1	20(7)
Norwich	1(1)	2(3)	2(1)	2	1	1	1	1	1	2(1)	2	1	1					17(6)
Nott. Forest																		3
Notts. Co			2(1)	1												2		10(1)
Peterborough															2	2	1	3
Plymouth					2(1)	2(1)				2	1	2						9(2)
Portsmouth																2		2
Port Vale	1(1)	2	2	1	1	2(3)						2			2	2		15(4)
Q.P.F.	1(1)	2(2)									1(1)	1(1)			2	2	2	20(8)
Reading	1	2(3)	2	2(1)	2(1)	1				2	1	2	2		2	1		22(6)
Rochdale																		2
Shrewsbury						1	2		1	2(1)	2	2			2	2		14(1)
Southampton								2	1	2	1	1	2					9
Southend	1(1)	2	2(2)	2(1)	2(2)	2(1)	2	1	1(1)	2(1)	2			1	1	2		23(9)
Stockport																		2
Swansea			2(1)															2(1)
Torquay	1(1)	2(2)	2(1)	1	2(1)	2	2(1)	1(1)	1(1)	2	2	2			2	2		24(8)
Tranmere																2		4
Walsall		2	2		1	2(1)	2(2)	2	2(1)	2	2(1)	1			2	2		20(5)
Watford	1(3)	2(1)	2	2(1)	1(1)	2(3)	2	2(1)	2(2)	2	1	1			1	2	1	24(12)
Wrexham																		3
	17	35	42	29	28	41	40	29	33	44	37	33	36	NIL	40	44	27	555
	(16)	(16)	(17)	(10)	(9)	(18)	(17)	(10)	(12)	(13)	(7)	(3)	(2)					(150)

Maurice came to Swindon from Abingdon Town and made his first-team debut against Watford on January 11, 1947 scoring a hat-trick in a 5-0 victory.

In 1957, he switched from centre-forward to inside-forward and later played at centre-half and right-back.

His last appearance came against Halifax Town on May 4, 1963.

Maurice was later appointed trainer and is now assistant groundsman.

F.A. CUP		
47/48	:	Aldershot 2
		Burnley 1(1)
		Ipswich 1
		Notts.Co 1
		Southampton 1
48/49	:	Stoke 1(1)
49/50	:	Bristol R. 1(1)
		Carlisle 1
51/52	:	Bedford 1(1)
		Cardiff 2(2)
		Luton 1
		Stoke 2
		Torquay 3(3)
52/53	:	Manchester C. 1
		Newport I.O.W. 1(3)
		Northampton 1(1)
54/55	:	Crystal Palace 11
55/56	:	Charlton 1
		Hereford 1(1)
		Peterborough 2(1)
		Worsop 1
56/57	:	Bournemouth 1
		Coventry 1
58/59	:	Aldershot 1
		Norwich 2
60/61	:	Bath C 2
		Shrewsbury 1
61/62	:	Kettering 2
62/63	:	Everton 1
		Luton 1
		TOTAL 39(15)

F.L. CUP		
60/61	:	Shrewsbury 3
61/62	:	Birmingham 2
62/63	:	Darlington 1
		Notts Co 1
		TOTAL 7





Brentford's Pat Cruse and goalkeeper Len Bond block a challenge from Swindon's Chris Guthrie (left) during a Town attack in their FA Cup win at the County Ground.

## DANNY'S DESK

Well, we have been saying for many months that our team would get much better results against opposition in a higher league and the draw in the F.A. Cup has given us a wonderful opportunity to prove that these have not just been empty words. Who can deny that Nottingham Forest (never call them Notts Forest) are the very best in football entertainment - did you see their display of one touch magic on television last Saturday week when they made Manchester United look a very ordinary team, I am sure we shall not be disgraced although your support at Nottingham will be a very necessary part of the exercise - the lads will look to your vocal support and the more of you who turn up the greater the chance we shall have of success.

I have read and heard much about our being dead lucky to have a chance to play the Forest, but what team who ever won anything did not have a large share of luck. Success and bad luck do not go together. The critics also seem to dis-regard two things 1) we were good enough to win and 2) Brentford were not at all a bad side. To sum up this argument I would much rather be a lucky winner than an unlucky loser and goodness knows we have had our fair share of being that in recent years. I am happy to live to fight another day.

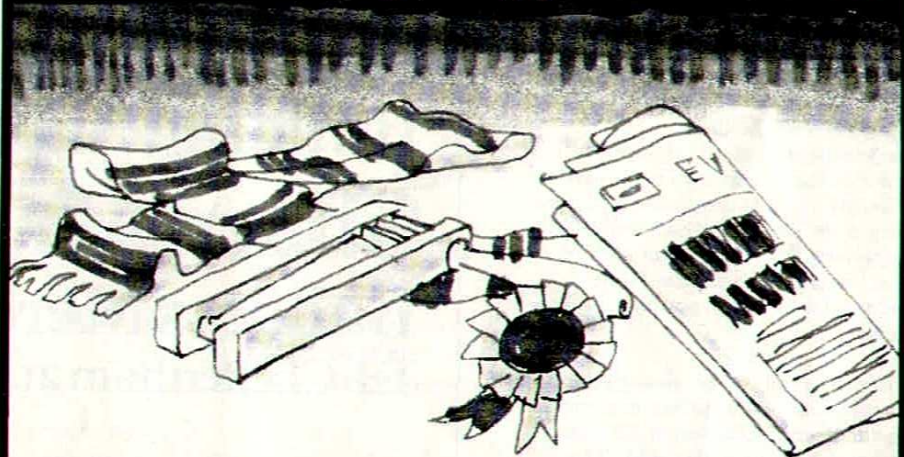
We are gradually building up the numbers of our first team squad and players will find that they will no longer be an automatic choice for a first team place, however they play. Any player displaced and unhappy with second team football, and with the cut in wages that results from it, has one solution - to play like the blazes to get himself into the league side then, once there, to stay there on merit. I should not have to select a team, they should select themselves by their form, approach and attitude. I am sure our lads will accept this situation - their first team place is

more important to them than the money and competition must be good for the ultimate good of the team.

Now a word to the kids. Don't forget that the Cowboys are coming here next Monday before our match against Tranmere, so bring Mum and Dad and all the family out to see this re-construction of the Wild West - gun fights and all.

I hope you all had a merry Christmas and I would like to take this opportunity of wishing you a very healthy and happy New Year.

### Part of every supporter's kit.



## The Evening Advertiser



# PLYMOUTH ARGYLE

By Tony Pullein

Plymouth Argyle, who lost their Second Division place because of a dramatic late collapse last season, are currently in some danger of falling further down the scale into the Fourth Division for what would be the first time in their history.

One of the biggest problems for new manager Mike Kelly has been Argyle's home form. Away from home they have been averaging almost a point per game - - - promotion form! - - - yet at Home Park they managed to win only three of their opening ten League games.

Mr Kelly, the former assistant-manager who took over from Tony Waiters during the close-season, has been quietly rebuilding his side and has given chances to several of his younger players. Goalkeeper Paul Barron and both full-backs, Kevin Smart and John Uzzell, are all enjoying their first full season of League soccer and, in midfield, Chris Harrison and Gary Megson are both comparatively new to this level of football.

As yet, Mr Kelly has been into the transfer market as a buyer only once. He bought midfielder Brian Taylor from Walsall and then felt able to release Brian Hall, the former Liverpool player, to Burnley.

Argyle were beaten by local rivals Exeter City in the first round of the League Cup and they received a bit of a shock in the first stage of the F.A. Cup when they were held to a goalless draw at Bath City. But they won the replay 2 - 0.

Plymouth's unusual name derives from the place of the club's birth, a public house in Argyle Terrace where the organisation was formed as Argyle Athletic Club in 1888. Home Park, the club's present ground, was originally the home of Devonport Albion Rugby Club.

Argyle became founder member's of the Football League's Third Division (South) in 1920 and in one exasperating early spell they had the galling experience of finishing runners-up - - thus missing promotion - - for a record-breaking six seasons in succession!

Following all those near-misses, Argyle eventually gained promotion to the Second Division in 1930 and remained there until 1950. They then spent two seasons in the Third Division before returning to Division Two. They were relegated again in 1956 but regained their place in 1959.

10

The club almost collapsed after the last world war. Their ground was completely wrecked by enemy bombs and the directors were more or less resigned to the fact that the club would be unable to start up again in time to compete in the first post-war League season.

They were persuaded to carry on, however, and in order to provide dressing room accommodation for the teams they hired a local double-decker bus which was driven on to the ground every Saturday. It was the only piece of covered accommodation in the stadium and the upper deck was used as the director's box! Mike Kelly is Argyle's eleventh manager since the war and the list includes some very well-known names. Jack Rowley, the former Manchester United and England player, was at Home Park soon after he retired as a player and Andy Beattie had a spell in charge.

Malcolm Allison began his career in League management with Argyle but he left because he was continually at variance with the board on policy. Billy Bingham, who managed both the Greek and the Northern Ireland national teams and until last season was in charge at Everton, was another well-known character to take over the reins at Home Park. His term came to an abrupt end because Argyle objected to him also being manager of the Northern Ireland team. Mr Bingham refused to resign that post, so a parting of the ways was inevitable.

## WHY BRITISH STARS FAIL ON THE CONTINENT

Why is that so many British players, who have accepted lucrative contracts with continental clubs, are so anxious to return to English clubs and the punitive British tax laws? The question was raised again when Roger Davies returned to England, to sign for Leicester City, after only 18 months with the crack Belgian club Bruges.

Davies maintained that personal differences had made it imperative to leave Bruges. He was so desperate to return home that he even threatened to walk out on the club and risk a world ban by FIFA. In the end the situation was resolved when Leicester bid in the region of £150,000 to bring the former Derby striker back to England.

It's not long since Duncan McKenzie, one of England's most talented strikers, ran into all sorts of difficulties with Anderlecht, another Belgian club, and was back in England with Everton within months.

Former England striker Martin Chivers, currently with Swiss side Servette, has often expressed a desire to come home and several other exiled English stars have made it clear that they would welcome the chance to come back.

But why?

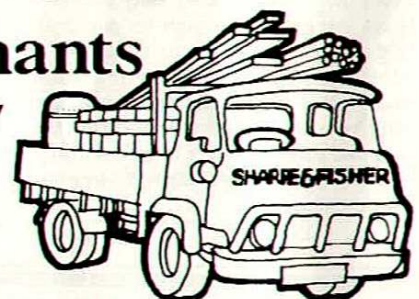
Is it, after all the initial glow of calculating how much money they will be paid, that they are unwilling - - or unable - - to fulfil their part of the contract by giving continental clubs the sort of skill, and dedication, they are paying for?

Many players admit that their main motive for moving to Europe is the cash. Kevin Keegan made it abun-

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dantly clear that no British club could ever match the terms offered to him by Hamburg. In addition to earning more money, Keegan is paying less tax.

Former England skipper Gerry Francis, recently transfer-listed by Q.P.R. has been looking for a chance to cross the Channel for some time.

Many players have found, however, that it is one thing to be wined and dined by continental officials - - and had it laid out before them how they could secure their financial future by signing on the dotted line - - - but quite another matter when the time comes for them to provide the services they are being paid for.

Southampton manager Lawrie McMenemy, who has made a close study of continental methods, was close to the point recently when he said: "After months of study, I realised that they don't do anything any differently than we do. It's just that they work harder at their crafts and put in far many more hours in training".

Is it then a case, as McMenemy hints, of our travelling stars not being prepared to work as hard as their continental colleagues?

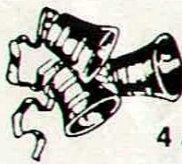
Another reason for players wanting to return is for further financial gain. A player might pick up a healthy cut on his £200,000 fee paid by his foreign club and then contrive to fall into dispute with the club.

A swift transfer back to an English club would give him another fat cheque and a return to the conditions where he can best play his football.

If this actually is happening then we are simply conning the European clubs. And they are not stupid enough to go on paying out big money for British players if they can be guaranteed no more than a few month's service. They will go elsewhere.

This would be sad in the case of the many British players who go abroad with genuine ambitions to improve themselves. Players like Mick Deacy who didn't really make much of a success with Hereford United. Hereford agreed to release him to Dutch club PSV Eindhoven for a mere £20,000 in 1975.

Being wise enough to realise that he had been offered a golden opportunity, Deacy got his head down, trained hard and derived full advantage from Dutch training methods. Today he is a big success and he has earned himself a regular place in Mike Smith's Welsh international team - - something that would never have happened if he had remained at Hereford.



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- 10 McHALE R
- 11 CUNNINGHAM D
- 12 KAMARA C

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- 4 MEGSON G
- 5 FOSTER G
- 6 CRAVEN J
- 7 JOHNSON B
- 8 HARRISON C
- 9 AUSTIN T
- 10 HORSWILL M
- 11 ROGERS A
- 12 BINNEY F

**REFEREE:**

**MR. DENNIS SMITH** (Hornchurch, Essex)

Started refereeing in 1965 in Essex local leagues, then graduated via the Isthmian and Athenian Leagues to the Football League list. Has refereed three County Cup Finals, and has also been in charge of an F.A. Amateur Cup quarter-final and an F.A. Vase semi-final.

A married man, he is a Maintenance Engineer. He played football, as an amateur, for Millwall and is interested in all sports but particularly in cricket.

Linesmen: Red Flag: Mr. K.F. Bissix, Hanham, Bristol. Yellow Flag: Mr. W.T. Williams, Grangetown, Cardiff.

**NEXT MATCH**

Monday 2nd January 1978

Division III

**TRANMERE ROVERS**

K.O. 3.0 p.m.

Pre-Match entertainment - Cowboy Shoot Out

**KEY OF THE BOARD**

- A Exeter v Hereford
- B Lincoln v Tranmere
- C Peterborough v Gillingham
- D Port Vale v Oxford Utd.
- E Sheffield Wed. v Rotherham
- F Walsall v Chester
- G Wrexham v Carlisle
- H Birmingham v Bristol City
- I Chelsea v West Ham Utd.
- J Coventry v Norwich
- K Derby v Aston Villa
- L Ipswich v Q.P. Rangers
- M Leeds v Everton
- N Liverpool v Wolverhampton
- O Manchester Utd. v Leicester
- P West. Brom. Alb. v Arsenal
- Q Bristol Rovers v Crystal Palace
- R Fulham v Brighton
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