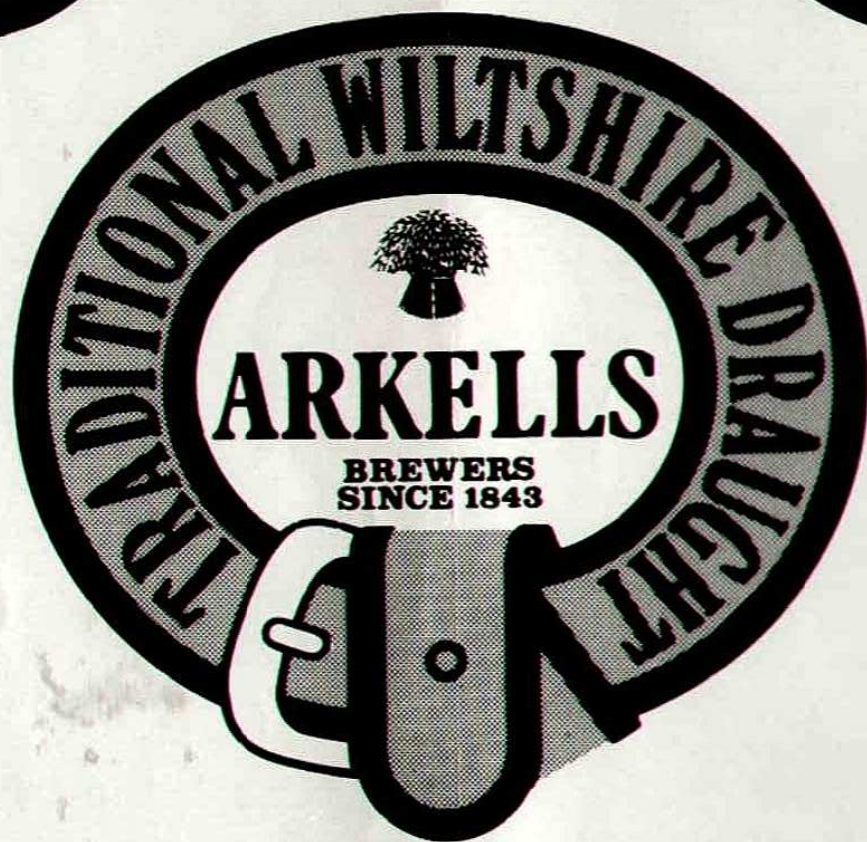


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## TALK OF THE TOWN by the Chairman

So much has happened home and away since writing my last programme notes, that for once I may not be given enough space to express my thoughts.

Number one of course is our League Cup performances with the Arsenal and I am certain that the replay on our ground will go down in the record books as the most exciting game ever.

The skills, the physical endeavours, the mental stress, for over two hours were tremendous.

The sporting way in which the game was played was a credit to everyone concerned.

I have received a letter from an Arsenal supporter who complimented us on our performance and our Club facilities and also expressed the wish that we should win the Cup. This kind of thought is refreshing in days when the game is taking so many knocks.

We are all very grateful to our Police who helped this occasion to run so smoothly.

While on the subject of Cup ties may I take this opportunity to express our views on the very difficult problem of ticket distribution.

First of all may I say that we value everybody's support whether it comes from far or near. I have had several letters complaining that as country supporters, they are not given the same opportunity as the local people. This of course is true not from any intentions of ours but from the fact that it is easier, quicker and cheaper for a local man to take advantage of any ticket sales. It has always been our practice without publicising the fact, that tickets for a replay go on sale the following morning of the original game with the exception when either opposition is not attractive enough to attract enthusiasm or when the original game is played on a Saturday and Sunday selling is not thought to be necessary under the circumstances.

now been solved because the seats which would have been available for cup ties have now been sold as Season Tickets. There will still be seats available for normal League matches but these seats will not be available for Cup ties because they have been allocated to the opposition as their allocation is laid down by Football Association rules.

The other problem is the fastest way to ensure a ground capacity of standing supporters bearing in mind that the ground will accommodate approx 20,000 standing. If we make this all ticket, we have to allocate 5,000 to the opposition leaving us with 15,000 to sell. On the occasion of the first leg tie with Wolverhampton or Grimsby at home on Tuesday 15th January we have decided to make this an all ticket game and we are going to sell the ground tickets on Sunday 6th January, the turnstiles will be open from 3 p.m. and people will go through a turnstile purchase a ticket and out through the exit gates. We are hoping that we shall please everybody in this way.

Season Ticket holders will be able to purchase from the ticket office as usual from 10.am to 4.30 p.m. commencing Monday 7th January on production of their Season Tickets.

Today we welcome the players and officials from Exeter City and once again get back to our League programme which is so important to our future.

The excitement of the cup sometimes side track the facts that we need every League point that we can get. At the time of writing these notes we do not know whether we have to plan another replay with Torquay or whether we shall be playing Luton in the next round on Saturday 5th January. Our fixture against Carlisle on this date will not take place in any case, because Carlisle have a cup fixture on this day.

Our problem with fair distribution of seats has

**continued over**



Due to fixture problems we have had to cancel the Xmas Party planned, because a Monday was the only available night we could have in the Rendezvous Club and we seem to be playing regularly on Tuesdays at the moment.

Our Reserve team fixtures have suffered recently because of cancellations due to our opponents ground problems following heavy rain. Bryan Hamilton did arrange a friendly match with Portsmouth which was played on Garrards

Sports ground with the kind permission of their committee.

We drew this game 3 - 3 and it gave the coaching staff a chance to play a competitive game against league opposition. Jack Smith was in charge of the Portsmouth lads.

Hoping you will enjoy today's game and thanking you for your support.

## From the Commercial Office

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. Congratulations to the team on their recent results.

Our GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW was held in The Rendezvous Club on Tuesday 18th December and the results were as follows:—

1st Prize £500 Ticket No 28307	Mrs. Piotrowski, 6 Wellington St.
2nd Prize £200 Ticket No 42512	Mr. F. Read, 23 Eastleigh Road, Devizes.
3rd Prize £100 Ticket No 00009	D. Landrey, 149 Station Rd, Thatcham
Portable B/W TV " " 36964	P. Norris, Lower Fie Id Farm Ampney Crucis
Xmas Fayre £25 " " 17681	F. Wiltshire, 26 Portal Road, Swindon.

The following ticket numbers each won £10  
29139, 22978, 05764, 04539, 27814, 04973,  
15139, 03328, 02946, 08730.

All winners will be notified.

Once again the support for the Christmas Draw was tremendous. Whether you bought a ticket or

helped by selling some tickets. Thank you. It is with your help that we shall reach our target, Division 1.

Although it is a long way off, we shall be running a GRAND DONKEY DERBY in AUGUST 1980. Although this seems quite a time away arrangements have to be started early in the new year. The site will be very close to Swindon and easily accessible. These events however cannot be run without a great deal of help. A keen supporter of "The Town" Mr. Bob Lonsdale of Burford has kindly said he will supply the Donkeys etc. I am appealing to any of you who think you could help in running a stall or directing cars in the car park and numerous other jobs to contact me so that the plans can be formulated as soon as possible. Efforts are being made to get a really well known personality to come along and open the day for us.

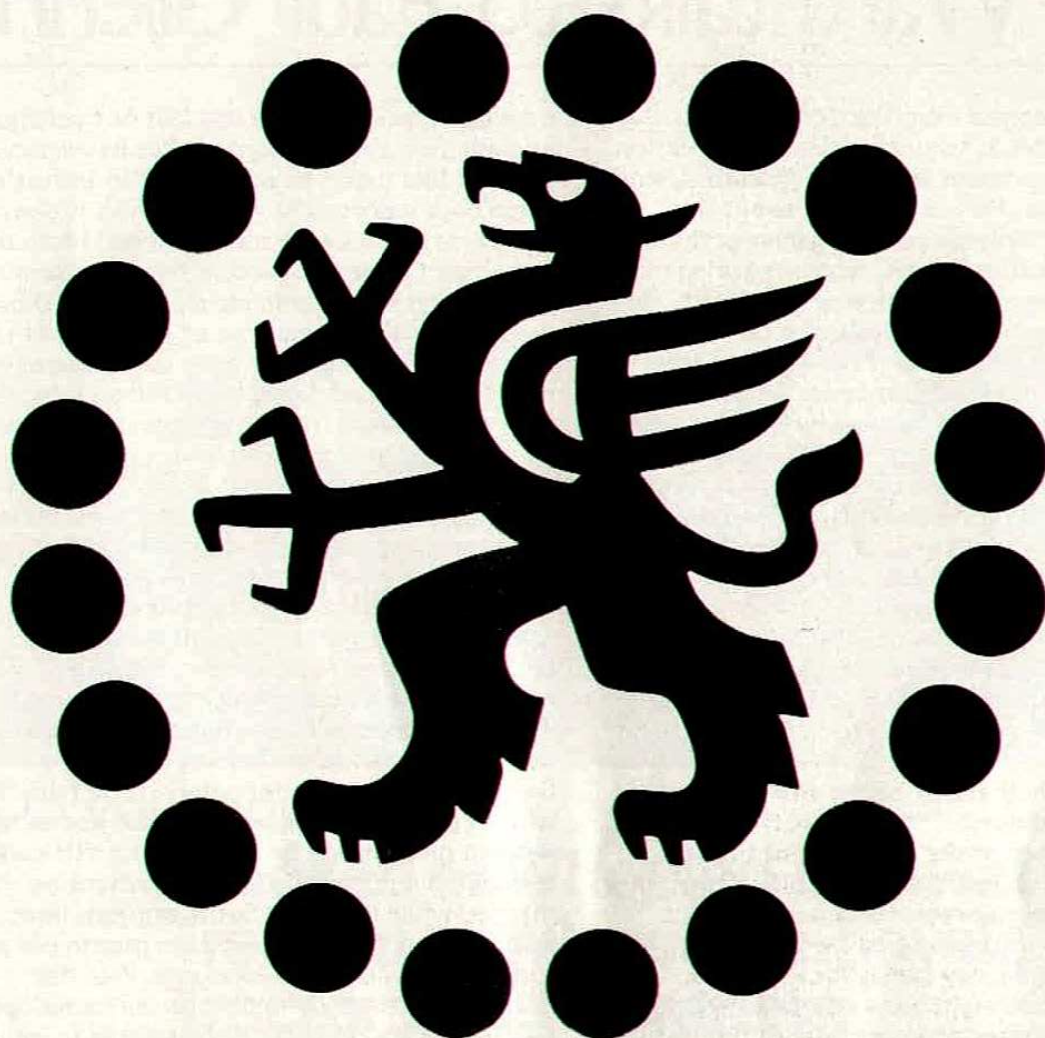
So if you can help, ring me on Swindon 42984 or 31510. Here's hoping you see another cracking game today.

Doug Buswell  
Commercial Manager.



One that didn't beat Pat Jennings - the Arsenal goalkeeper punches this one away from the head of Andy Rowland.





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# John Ward talks to Paul Gilchrist

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Paul Gilchrist comes from Dartford in Kent. While he was still at school he played in Charlton Athletic's junior teams and then signed for them as an apprentice. He was there for about five years in all but only played five games in the first team. Then Maurice Setters, who was seeing out his playing days at Charlton, was appointed manager of Doncaster Rovers and took Paul with him up north. Even though Paul was on a free transfer the directors at Doncaster took some persuading to have him because he brought with him a six weeks suspension: while playing his last game for Charlton in the reserves he was being kicked regularly and relentlessly by the opposition. Eventually his patience snapped and he told the referee in no uncertain terms what he thought of him for not giving him proper protection. This happened during one of the football authorities' periodic disciplinary clamp-downs and Paul was both sent off and given a long suspension.

I asked Paul whether he noticed any changes when he moved north. "Yes, it was freezing!" he replied. "I arrived at the beginning of the season and during the winter training consisted of running round Doncaster racecourse. I was just getting used to the cold when I was off again." He only played twenty games for Doncaster Rovers but scored eight goals and sufficiently impressed Ted Bates, then manager of Southampton, to take him back to the South. While Ted Bates remained manager Paul held a regular first team place. When Laurie McMenemy took over he was a member of the team which won the FA Cup. Naturally the visit to Wembley was the most memorable event in Paul's footballing life so far. "You can't begin to describe it," he said. I asked what had happened to the team which had won the Cup. "McMenemy decided that they would not be promoted; so he gambled, broke up the team and assembled a completely different one. As you can see it paid off. The Cup Final team were skilful players who could be very good on the day but they might not show consistency over forty-odd games which you need to win promotion."

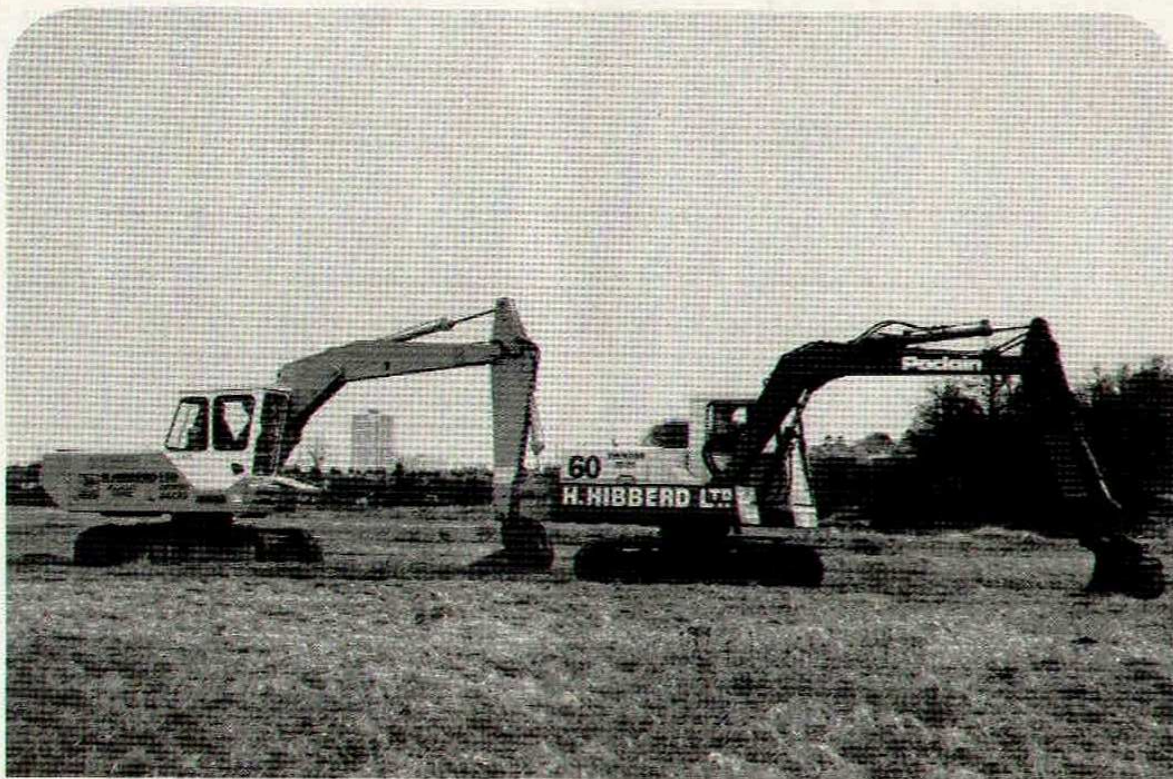
I asked if this might be a fair comment on his

own game, skilful on the day but not consistent enough over a whole season. "I've never thought about it like that," he admitted. "In football some days it goes right and on others it doesn't. Forwards rely a lot on other players. I found that out when I came to Swindon from Portsmouth. Portsmouth was a complete shambles in those days. It's not the same now of course but then it was terrible. I have never been so depressed in my life. I was glad to get away. When I arrived here there were all these good players around me; I was getting an unbelievable service."

Looking back on last season I mentioned that the papers had suggested that he had been signed to add some experience to, the reserves so his fine run in the first team must have come as something of a bonus. "You never want to believe what you read in the newspapers," Paul replied. "I have never thought of being content with playing reserve team football." Clearly he will not be satisfied with being out of the Swindon first team indefinitely. If he fails to win his place back and another club comes in with an offer he will be faced with a difficult choice. He and his wife Corinne, whom he married while he was at Southampton, have settled down with their eighteen month old son Luke in the village of Aldbourne. Paul has found much to enjoy in his new surroundings. Not least is the prospect of being able to indulge in one of his main hobbies, watching motor racing. Brought up five minutes away from Brands Hatch he has always had a keen interest in the sport even though he has now changed his own Morgan sports car for a slightly less sporty BMW. A marshal at Silverstone lives in the same village and has promised to take Paul there in the summer. Meanwhile his next door neighbour is teaching him to shoot. So far it has been clay pigeons but soon he may progress to game.

All this has given Paul ideas about settling down in the country. Certainly he has no wish to continue in football once he has stopped playing. "Football is a rat race," he said. "It's bad enough as a player. The other side must be even worse!"





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# Third Dimensions

Football after lunch on Boxing Day has now become quite a tradition, but not so long ago our stars were pressed into action on Christmas Day as well. Swindon Town performed on the 25th as recently as 1958. Their predecessors were given even more hectic schedules - in times when travelling to away games was a slow and tedious task.

In 1911, for example, the Town played FIVE League games in the eight day Christmas period. After suffering a 1 - 3 home reverse against Brighton on Saturday December 23, Swindon bounced back to record four straight wins. Stoke City were entertained here on Xmas Day and beaten 3 - 0 and a Boxing Day trip to the Potteries for the return yielded two more points in a 4 - 1 victory. Then it was back to the County Ground on the 27th - for a third game in three days - and a 2 - 0 win over Plymouth Argyle. The week was rounded off on Saturday December 30 with an impressive 6 - 2 home display when Leyton were guests. Eight of the Town side played in all five games - including Bob Jefferson who tucked away six goals in the process. Harold Fleming, due to his religious beliefs, did not play on Christmas Day.

Bank Holiday football invariably means local 'derby' clashes and these first became a regular occurrence on the fixtures list during the 'twenties - our old rivals Reading being involved. Gate records at both the County Ground and Elm Park were broken in consecutive Christmases. The Boxing Day encounter at Reading in 1924 drew 18,764 and 17,295 saw the match here one year later. Both resulted in a 1 - 1 draw.

Tragedy struck Swindon's brilliant inside-for-

ward ALEC WALL on Christmas Day 1926. The former Everton man, who had netted twenty times in just 57 games, broke a leg at Merthyr and was never to play for the Town again. Top of the table at the time, Swindon struggled to replace him - exemplified by a total of six players appearing in his position during the remainder of the season.

Little interest was created by the Christmas pairing of Swindon with Fulham in 1930. Just over four-and-a-half thousand turned up to see the Town cruise to a 4 - 1 win on Xmas Day. Those who failed to attend no doubt chuckled when Fulham dished out a 6 - 1 Boxing Day hiding - their defender Gibbons even supplied Swindon's consolation goal - and then hear that the Town had slumped to a 4 - 1 defeat at Bournemouth on the next day. But brighter yuletide lay ahead.

Just before the last war interrupted the domestic soccer scene, Newport County were riding the crest of a wave. They visited Swindon as divisional leaders on Boxing Day 1938 - the Town being handily placed in fifth position. Swindon had stormed into a 4 - 0 lead by half-time and continued the onslaught in the second period - with the same outcome as the recent Bury game here - an 8 - 0 scoreline. The following day's tussle at Somerton Park proved equally remarkable when 20,261 saw ten goals hit the net - six to County and four to their visitors. Newport still went up as champions that year but the long war disrupted their team and they were left with 'old men' when they took up their rightful Second Division place in 1946. Perhaps that eight-goal hammering was some kind of omen!

Statistics up to and including Tuesday December 18th 1979

This Season				Top Goalscorers (incl Lge Cup & F.A. Cup)	
	Highest Lge Win	Best Lge Gate	Aggregate*		
Barnsley	2 - 0	22,360	133,775	Ronnie Glavin 14, Mick Lester 6	
Blackburn Rovers	3 - 0	8,877	76,823	Andy Crawford 7, Duncan McKenzie 6	
Blackpool	5 - 2	10,392	70,596	Stan McEwan 10, Tony Kellow 9	
Brentford	7 - 2	13,765	90,095	Jim McNichol 7, Steve Phillips 7	
Bury	3 - 0	8,347	41,325	Craig Madden 6, Steve Johnson 5	
Carlisle U	4 - 0	6,347	50,931	Paul Bannon 11, Gordon Staniforth 10	
Chester	3 - 1	6,361	38,873*	Peter Henderson 7, Ian Rush 6	
Chesterfield	7 - 1	14,950	69,153	Ernie Moss 12, Alan Birch 11	
Colchester U	4 - 0	4,510	40,423	Trevor Lee 12, Bobby Gough 10	
Exeter C	4 - 2	4,356	38,956	Keith Bowker 11, Steve Neville 9	
Gillingham	4 - 0	8,769	76,305	Ken Price 13, Danny Westwood 5	
Grimsby Town	4 - 1	14,900	86,125	Bob Cumming 10, Tony Ward 7, Joe Waters 7	
Hull C	3 - 1	10,306	69,477	Keith Edwards 6, Mick Tait 4	
Mansfield T	5 - 1	11,272	56,073	Terry Austin 16, Steve Taylor 8	
Millwall	5 - 1	7,563	67,506	John Mitchell 9, Nick Chatterton 8	
Oxford U	5 - 1	6,807	50,754	Paul Berry 7, Peter Foley 7	
Plymouth A	3 - 0	6,208	58,917	Dave Kemp 10, Mike Trusson 6	
Reading	3 - 0	9,951	74,252	Pat Earles 10, Mike Kearney 9	
Rotherham U	4 - 1	20,355	83,636	Richard Finney 11, Rod Fern 8	
Sheffield U	4 - 0	20,507	175,539	Jeff Bourne 9, Barry Butlin 6, Mick Speight 6	
Sheffield W	3 - 0	23,230	149,369	Terry Curran 10, Rodger Wyld 7	
Southend U	4 - 0	5,944	43,953*	Derrick Parker 8, Colin Morris 7	
<b>SWINDON TOWN</b>	<b>8 - 0</b>	<b>11,835</b>	<b>82,412</b>	<b>ALAN MAYES 18, ANDY ROWLAND 16</b>	
Wimbledon	2 - 0	6,009	40,134*	John Leslie 12, Steve Parson 8	

\*Ten home game played - all other eleven

Goals totals include those for other clubs this season



ALAN MAYES

Third Division Top Scorer



## MIXED SEASON FOR EXETER By Tony Pullein

It has been a season of very mixed fortunes for Exeter City. A glance at the League table shows them to be uncomfortably close to the relegation strugglers, yet they managed to equal a club record by reaching the fourth round of the League Cup.

To reach that stage, the Grecians turned in some very impressive performances. They disposed of Hereford United easily by 5-2 on aggregate in the first round but they had to pull back from a 1-3 first-leg deficit against Doncaster to win the return 5-1.

Exeter then visited Second Division Birmingham where two goals from Steve Neville gave them a magnificent victory.

They were then given the near impossible task of taking on Liverpool at Anfield! No one expected them to win that one, of course, for Liverpool had an unbeaten home record stretching back for two years. Yet they came away defeated by only 0-2 from a ground where many of Europe's famous sides have been devastated.

Results have been far less encouraging in the League, though. As they approached the holiday games, Exeter could look back on only two away League victories, at Brentford (2-0) and Sheffield Wednesday (1-0). The latter result will undoubtedly have given them great encouragement as they battle against relegation. It was achieved shortly before the holiday games and will certainly have boosted their confidence for today's clash.

Exeter have drawn at Wimbledon (2-2), Hull (2-2) and Barnsley (2-2).

They were beaten at Grimsby (1-4), Sheffield United (1-3), Millwall (1-5), Gillingham (0-1), Reading (1-2) and Southend (0-4).

Manager Brian Godfrey, quite naturally, made a few changes in his side when early results were poor. Young Tony Mitchell has been drafted into the back four, playing both right and left-back. Normally he is on the right with Peter Hatch on the opposite flank and John Hore and Jimmy Giles in the middle. Vince O'Keefe is the goal-keeper.

Mitchell was still an amateur when drafted into the side for a few games last season. Hatch spent his early days at Oxford but he didn't really establish himself as a League player until he signed for Exeter in 1973.

Hore developed with Plymouth and made his League bow for them in 1965. He made more than 400 first team appearances for Argyle before joining Exeter, initially on loan, in 1976.

Giles is in his second spell at Exeter. He began his

career here at the County Ground, of course, making his League debut in 1966. He didn't get many first-team chances here, though, and he was transferred to Aldershot in 1968. Three years later he moved on to Exeter but in 1975 he joined Charlton. Exeter signed him again in 1977.

O'Keefe played for Birmingham and Walsall but he didn't play any League soccer with them. He went non-League with AP Leamington until Exeter signed him in 1978.

The midfield will probably consist of Richard Forbes, John Delve and David Pullar but Lee Roberts, who has also appeared in defence, often fills one of the midfield places.

Forbes came through from the juniors to make his first League appearances two seasons ago. Delve began his career with Q.P.R. and was transferred to Plymouth for £25,000 in 1974. Exeter signed him for a then club record fee of £15,000 in 1978.

Pullar earned his place in Portsmouth's side in 1976 and made almost 100 League appearances for them before transferring to Exeter at the beginning of this season. Roberts served his apprenticeship with Shrewsbury and joined Exeter on loan in 1976/77. The transfer was completed the following season.

When John Sims was sold to Plymouth, Keith Bowker had the opportunity to regain his place in attack and he has responded well with quite a few goals. Steve Nevill and Ian Pearson normally fill the other two attacking positions.

Bowker served his apprenticeship with Birmingham and made 21 League appearances for the Blues. Exeter first signed him in 1973 and he was their top scorer with 18 League goals in 1974/75. They sold him to Cambridge in 1976 and, while with them, he spent a loan period at Northampton. He returned to Exeter in 1977 and last season he was their leading scorer with 12 goals.

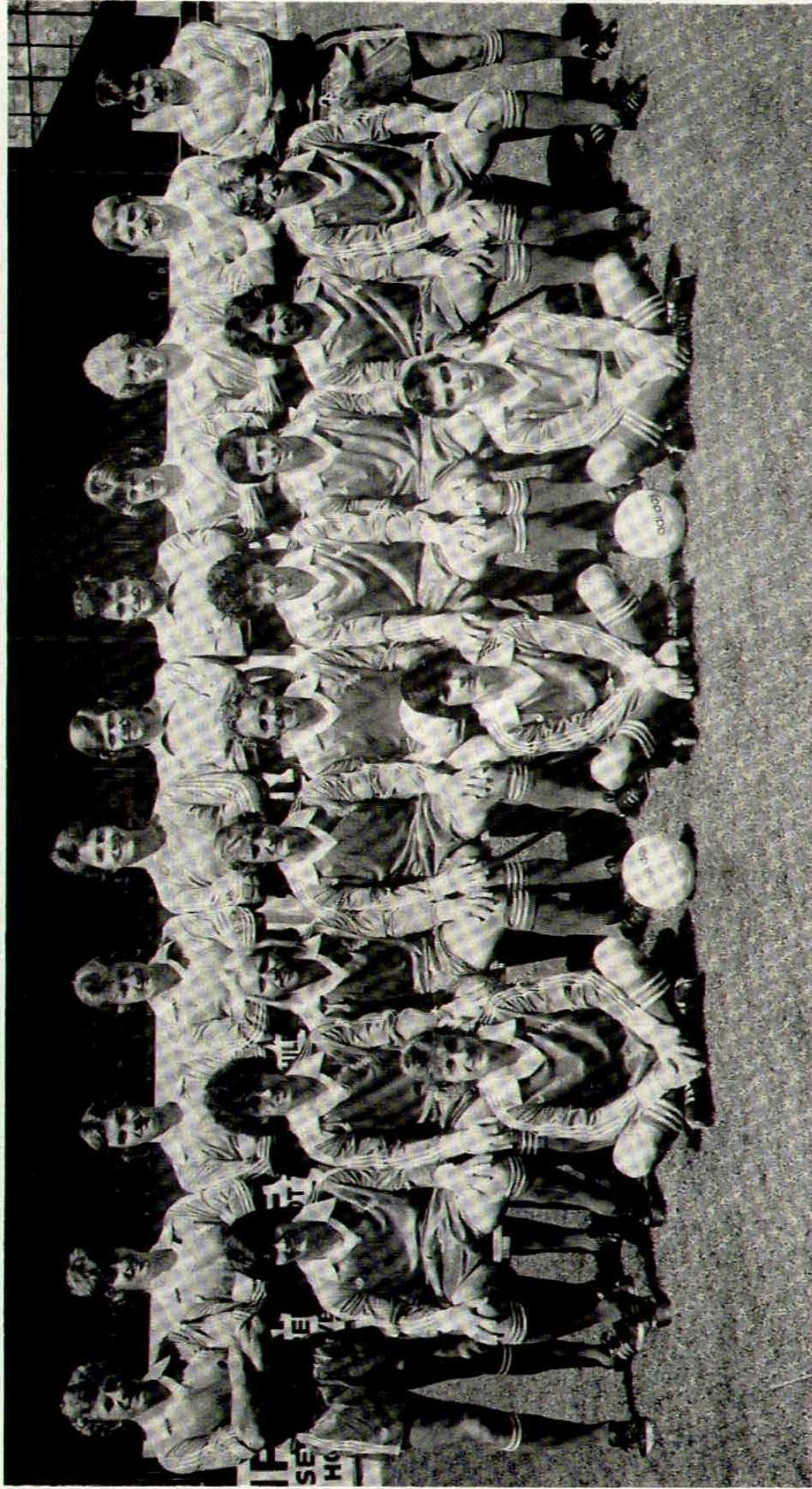
Neville began his career with Southampton but got few chances in their League eleven. Exeter signed him last season and he has since been a fixture in their attack. Pearson first played in the League for Millwall two seasons ago and he was transferred to Exeter last season.

Peter Rogers was formerly with Southern League Bath City and he joined Exeter last season.

Exeter are particularly keen to avoid relegation for the last time they dropped into Division Four it took them 11 years before they returned in 1977.



# IN TOWN TODAY: EXETER CITY



Standing L to R Jimmy Giles, Lee Roberts, Andy Bell, John Sims, Vince O'Keefe, Steve Nute, Ian Main, Dave Pullar, Peter Hatch, Phil Roberts, Martyn Rogers.  
Seated L to R. Pete Rogers, Steve Neville, John Delve, Keith Bowker, John Hore (Captain), Roy Ireland, Ian Pearson, Tony Mitchell, Richard Forbes.  
Seated Front L to R, Paul Clatworthy, Ian Cole, Martin Musgrove.









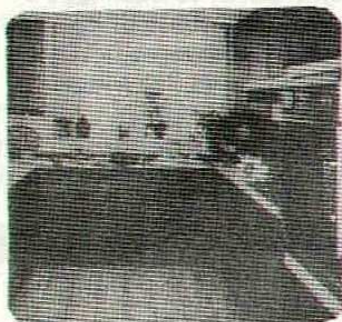
A diving Pat Jennings fails to stop Alan Mayes' shot from entering the Arsenal net for Swindon's second goal in their League Cup victory at the County Ground.



Brian Williams (left) shoots goalwards just before the winner was scored by Andy Rowland (second left) in the League Cup victory over Arsenal.



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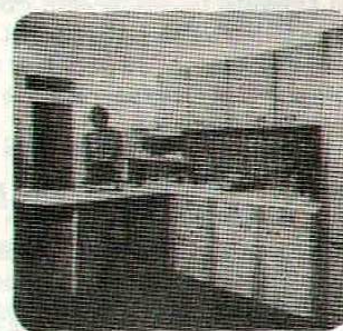


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# SOCCER SCENE by Tony Pullein

## GOALS GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

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, aided 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. Drawn 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 of 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 Hull. 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!

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1. Ian Maine
2. Tony Mitchell
3. Lee Roberts
4. John Hore
5. Phil Roberts
6. Peter Hatch
7. Steve Neville
8. Peter Rogers
9. Ian Pearson
10. John Delve
11. David Pullar
12. Keith Bowker



**KENNETH W. BAKER (Rugby)** Commenced refereeing in 1959. Was appointed to the Football League line in 1967 and has been on the full list for several years. Linesman in the Northern Ireland v. Wales match (1975) also the Fulham v. Birmingham City F. A. Cup Semi-Final Replay. In 1977 was linesman for the Charity Shield match between Manchester United and Liverpool.

Married, with four children, he is Security and Service Executive at the National Exhibition Centre. For 12 years he served with the Metropolitan and Warwickshire Police Forces rising to a Detective Inspector. Is Chairman of both the Rugby and District Referees Association and the Rugby and District Junior League, and an Executive Committee Member of the Football League Referees' and Linesmen's Association (Midlands Section). Plays tennis for the local police team.

Linesmen: Mr. A. G. BAILEY, Hereford - Red Flag Mr. C. J. PEAKE, Tuffley, Glos - Yellow Flag

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 26**

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