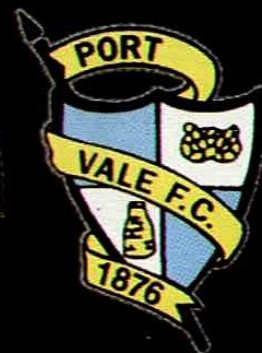


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Official Website - www.port-vale.co.uk
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Club Photographer - Bill Bache

Honours

Founder Members (Div 2) 1892
Highest Position: Fifth Div 2 1930/31
Div 3 (N) Champions
1929/30 1953/54
Div 4 Champions 1958/59
Promoted to Div 1 1993/94 (runners up)
Promoted to Div 2 1988/89 (via play-offs)
Promoted to Div 3
1969/70 1982/83 1985/86
FA Cup Semi-finalists 1953/54
Autoglass Trophy Winners 1992/93
Anglo-Italian Cup Runners Up
1995/96

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS
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FEATURES

*** Up Close and Personal**
Kevin Pilkington is expecting more
than a big break

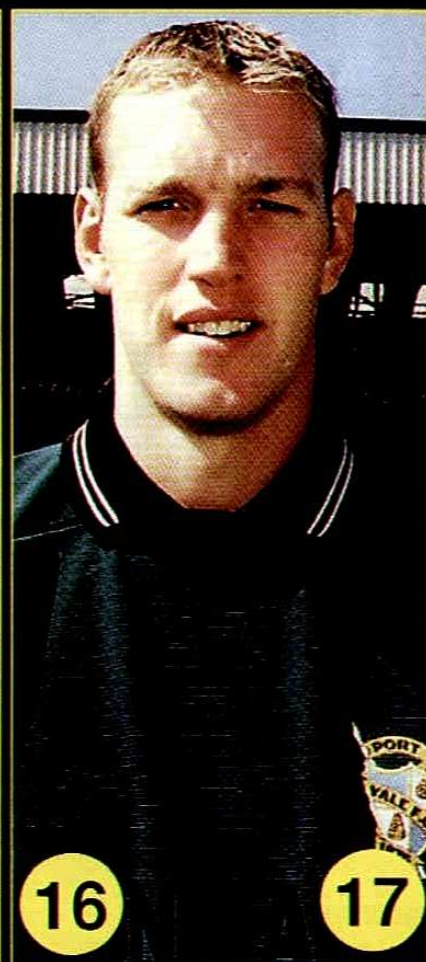
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14

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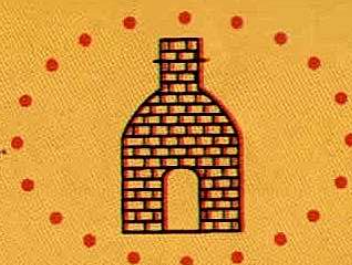
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LIFE OF BRIAN



Welcome to Jimmy Quinn, the directors, players, staff and supporters of Swindon Town.

This match day is important for both teams and we both need a win.

We need to try and put a run together now after the games against Fulham and Stockport.

Fulham was a disappointing game in that we were two very evenly matched sides but they managed to put two goals past us.

Fulham have now managed to get themselves a couple of more decent results and are climbing the table. While we went to Stockport where I thought we played well. We changed things around by including Ian Bogie in the side and enjoyed, I felt, the better

possession, but not where it counted and we let ourselves down with the final ball every time.

And it seems that each time we get ourselves into a position where we can make a leap up the table, we let ourselves down.

It is now important that we all do our best to get those results in the bag. I know we keep asking the supporters to get behind the team but it is important and I have told the players that they must give the fans something back and perform well for them on the pitch.

"And it seems that every time we get ourselves into a position where we can make a leap up the table, we let ourselves down."

The reserves had a good 3-1 home win against West Bromwich Albion last week. We came back well after Carl Griffiths was sent off with two goals from Richie Eyre and George O'Callaghan. George and Carl are now starting their three match bans and I have spoken to the team about our discipline. You cannot afford at this stage of the season to be getting sent off and serving suspensions. Keep up the great support,



PARK LIFE PARK LIFE PA

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Chris Bayley, with love from wife Cath, all the family and all at Port Vale.

STAMP OUT HOOLIGANISM

A TOUGH new law to stamp out hooliganism kicks off on Monday.

Lord Bassam, new government minister for combating hooliganism explains why.

"Cast your mind back to the beginning of the season and like me you'll remember looking forward to the promise of some quality football and the drama that goes with it - both on and off the pitch.

"If your team also put away six goals in their first game then of course you had something extra to smile about - you may have guessed that I am a Brighton supporter.

"Football headlines of the season's first weekend should have reflected this optimism about a new season. However, this was not to be.

"Thanks to a minority of cowardly and sometimes racist thugs who obviously see football as no more than an excuse to cause trouble, hooliganism at Cardiff and Reading hijacked the headlines - giving football a bad name from day one.

"On Monday a new law comes into force which will make life difficult for the hooligan and help keep football a safe game for everyone to enjoy.

"The hooligan must get the clear message that he is not wanted and will not be tolerated."

BOLTON PROGRAMME FAIR

The 25th Annual Bolton Football Programme and Memorabilia Fair will take place on Sunday 17th October from 11am to 3.30pm.

The event takes place in the Excel Leisure Centre, Lower Bridgeman Street, Bolton and there will be programmes, badges, photos, tickets, postcards, magazines and autographs on sale.

Refreshments will also be available. For further details call 01204 529 284.

UEFA UNDER 21 INTERNATIONAL

TICKETS are available for the UEFA under 21 International England v Denmark at Bradford City on Friday 8th October. Credit card bookings can be made on 01274 770022 and prices are:

STAND	ADULT	OAP	JUNIOR	GROUP
Sunwin	£12	£6	£6	N/A
Ciba	£10	£5	£5	£26
Carlsberg	£10	£5	£5	£26
Symphony	£7	£3	£3	N/A

Kick-off is 7.45pm and a group package is two adults with eight children.

GIBRALTAR CONNECTION

A football coach from Gibraltar contacted the club after watching the Port Vale versus Grimsby game on Sky TV.

His name is Charles Cumbo and he was intrigued to see his name Cumbo on one of our advertising boards behind the Hamil End goal.

We passed his letter on to the owner of the Cumbo garage in Burslem. His name is also Charles Cumbo and now the two Charles Cumbos are in regular contact with each other.

THE VALE PARK

BEANO

PARK LIFE PARK LIFE



FOUL PLAY THE FACTS

The Football (Offences and Disorder) Act 1999

Racist or indecent chanting at football grounds previously required two or more people to be involved. The new law makes it an offence for an individual.

If you commit a football-related offence within 24 hours before or after a match you run the risk of a banning order.

If you receive an international ban, you will have to submit your passport to the police before key matches played overseas and report at match times to a specific police station.

International bans can now last up to a maximum period of ten years and a minimum period of six years.

Domestic bans - which will prevent you from attending all league, cup and international matches in England and Wales - can last for a maximum period of three years and a minimum period of one year.

You don't have to attend a match to fall foul of the law. If you are at any place principally because of a football match and causing trouble which leads to conviction - you could face a banning order.

If you breach any condition or requirement of a banning order, you could face up to a six month prison sentence and/or £1000 fine.

SINGING FOR THE VALE

Become a TV star and sing a song about the Vale. Every football club has a song or songs pertinent to that club and generally involve ribbing their closest enemies.

These songs are usually very humorous and in very bad taste. To followers of opposing clubs they can sometimes make no sense as they are usually used to bait their fiercest rivals.

An example of this is 1990 when Rangers keeper Andy Gorm was diagnosed as schizophrenic and the Celtic fans took great delight in chanting, "There are only two Andy Gorms."

A television production company have asked us to appeal to our fans for help with funny Vale chants like the one above.

They are doing a documentary on football chants and are asking Vale fans to write the lyrics of their favourite song (About us or our rivals), a couple of paragraphs on how the song came about and why it is a favourite.

Contact Phil Blackett by post: MacBeth.Blackett, 43 The Spinney, Annitsford, Northumberland, NE23 7NY.
FAX: 0191 250 2900

e-mail: philblackett blackettuk.demon.co.uk

SOUTHPORT PROGRAMME FAIR

The Twentieth Annual Southport Football Programme Fair will take place in the Lakeside Suite of the Apollo Floral Hall Complex, Promenade on Sunday 3rd October from 11am to 3pm.

There will be all items of football memorabilia - from programmes to badges - on sale and admission is free.

HUDDERSFIELD HOSPITALITY

Huddersfield Town are offering a VIP package to Port Vale supporters when we play them on October 9th.

The package costs £50 and includes reserved parking, Bucks Fizz reception, VIP seats, half-time refreshments, complimentary programme, three-course lunch and a private bar.

And not only is there football on offer but there will also be VIP speaker Ron Yeats, Special guest Ray Wilson and MC Steve Kindon.

To book your place call Debs or Tracy at the Huddersfield Town Commercial Department on 01484 484100.

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UP THE VALE



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday tomorrow
Deb Knapper with lots of love
from Neil

Happy Birthday tomorrow
Deb Knapper with love from
all at Port Vale

Happy Birthday today
Sentinel Vale reporter Derek
Davis from all at Port Vale

EX-VALE

Former Vale player Jan
Jansson is now back in
Sweden.

He has signed for the club he joined the
Vale from, IFK Norrköping.

However Jan has been injured since
moving back to his old club and it is
doubtful that he will appear in the last
six games of the Swedish season.

92 CLUB

The 92 club has contacted
the Vale in a bid to recruit
more members.

The club is open to supporters who
have visited all 92 Premier and
Football League clubs to watch a
football match.

There are now 1,000 members in the
club of which just seven are Vale fans.
If you think you have been to every
ground in the country or are planning
to do so, then send an SAE to The 92
Club, 104 Gilda Crescent, Whitchurch,
Bristol, BS14 9LD.

YOUTH VICTORY

Congratulations to the youth team who found their
way into the second round of the Midlands Youth Cup
on Wednesday.

Dean Glover's side beat Swindon 1:0 with a goal from Ben Carrigan.

LORNE STREET NEWS

Today we open the Lorne Street restaurant for the first
time. The restaurant is open for meals on matchdays and
will also be hosting a 40th birthday party tonight.

In a couple of weeks a Sportsman's evening to raise money for Lorne
Street will be held in the room. Tickets are £28.50 and are available from
the Marketing Department on 01782 835524.

The night includes a five-course meal, after dinner speaker and former
Liverpool player Tommy Smith and comedian Terry Cotta.

The restaurant seats over 200 people and is available for hire for
parties, weddings and functions. To book call 01782 835524.

FORMER VALIANT SCORES

Aston Villa knocked bottom of the league club Chester
out of the Worthington Cup on Tuesday.

And it was nice to see that former Vale man Ian Taylor scored the
second goal in the 5:0 win.

Soccer Shorts

Over the weeks we have brought you some of the funniest
comments made by football players, managers, writers and
commentators.

But this week we feel that Alan Mullery's ramblings deserve a
section all of their own.

Alan is a wonder at getting his words and meanings mixed up.
Read on and laugh.

"A league game will always take president over a cup game."

"It doesn't endow me to be honest."

"I can't understand the notoriety of people."

"Jurgen Klinsmann, who refuses to earn £25,000 a week."

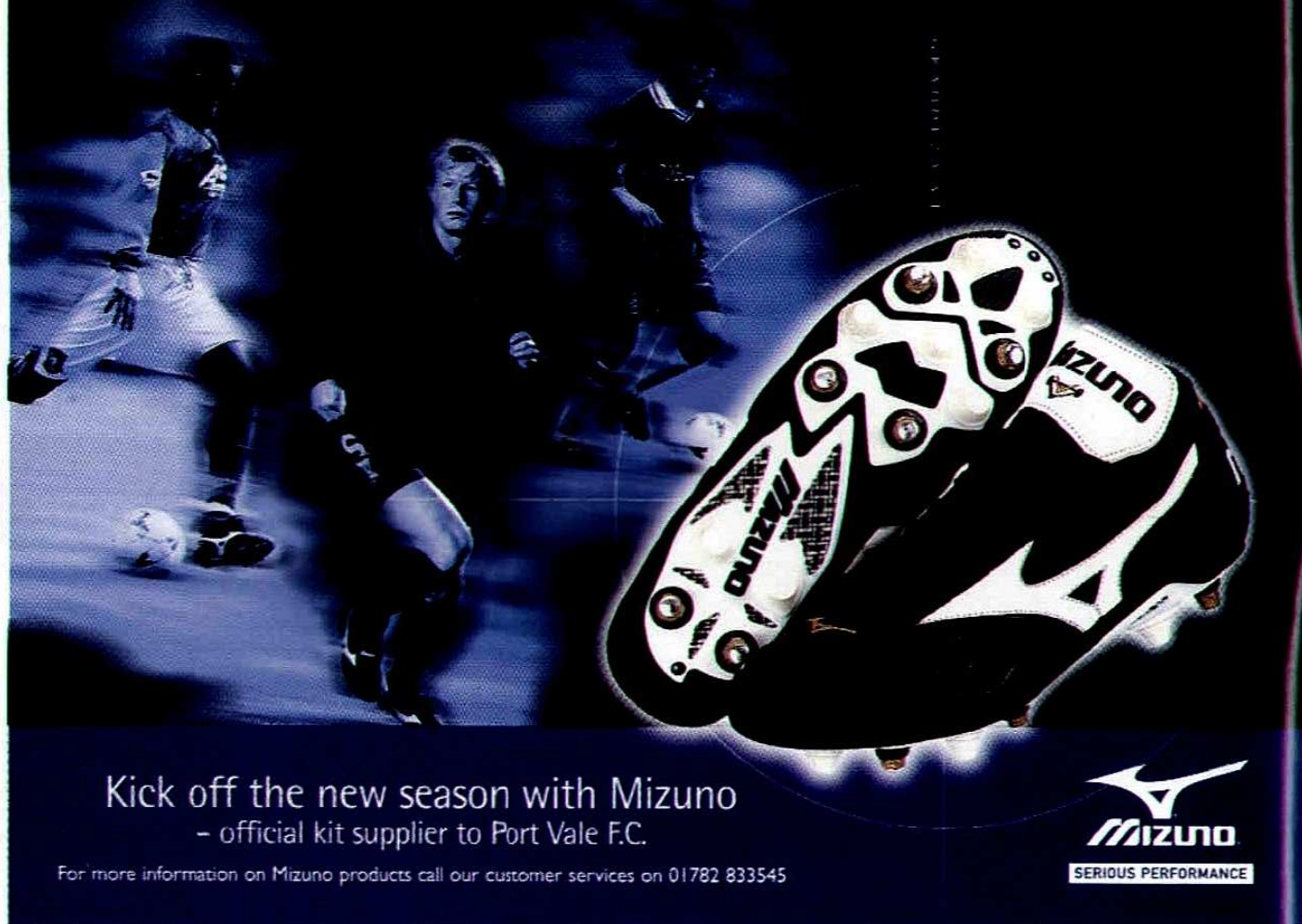
"He's not going to adhere himself to the fans, Jonathon."

"To be fair, I don't think Les Ferdinand was fouled there, Jonathon, I think he
went over all on his own ability."



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this season thanks to their exclusive Mizuno strip





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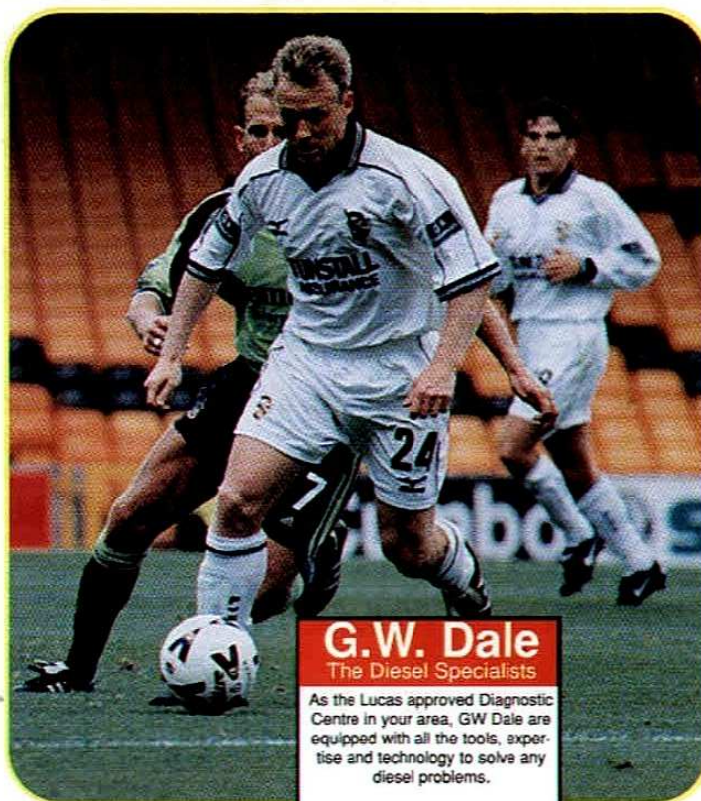
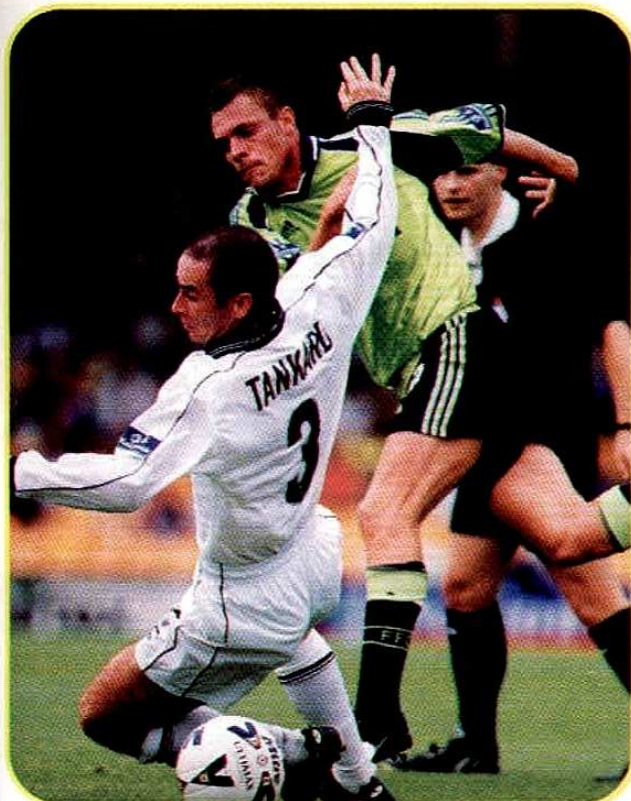
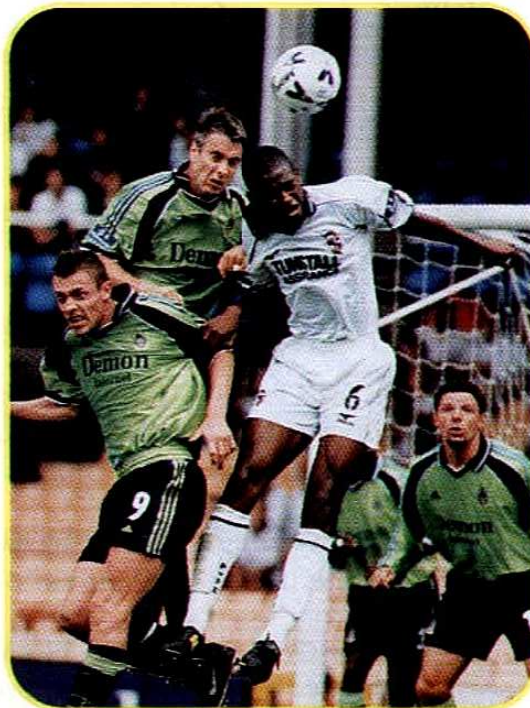
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AN ALTERNATE A-Z FOR FOOTBALL

Dean Glover

A is for Anxiety Attack. Something Dean Glover used to give us when he would do an overhead kick to our keeper.

B is for Big Name Signing. A 38-year-old who won an international cap for Wales in 1983.



C is for Cheating. Blatant diving in the box is cheating unless it's a Vale player who just happened to fall over.

D is for Dead Ball Expert. Keep your head down in Row Z.

Michael Owen

E is for Elbow – This is either what managers can expect after three consecutive defeats or what Michael Owen can expect when playing against Matt Elliott.

F is for Foreign Import. An expensive Italian signing who does little on the pitch apart except shiver and wear gloves.



G is for Goal Poacher. A bloke who has a gentle jog around the pitch for 90 minutes and scores with unusual parts of his anatomy.

H is for Hamstring – When some footballers just don't fancy playing they pull their hamstring. A pulled hamstring leaves no outward signs, so the physio can't tell you to stop malingering, and the only cure is rest. Italian imports are very prone to pulled hamstrings between November and April.

I is for Indirect Free Kick. Commonly interpreted as the referee giving the advantage to the team he has awarded the free kick to. But actually a chance for the other team's defenders to freely kick a few players while the ref is organising the wall.

J is for Jostling – As in "there's a bit of jostling going on in the box". This means 20 blokes are kicking lumps out of each other.

K is for Keeper. The one one who is bigger, fatter and more unfit than the rest of the squad.

L is for Lone Striker. The one you blame for a goalless scoreline.





- M** is for Man Marker. Someone who leaves lasting scars on the man he is marking.
- N** is for Non-League – old footballers never die, they just slip into non-league.
- O** is for Offside Trap. You don't really expect me to explain this one, do you? I am a woman.
- P** is for Pile Driver. A shot on goal where seasoned defenders step aside for fear of harming the more sensitive parts of their anatomy.
- Q** is for quiet. A description of the Hamil End when Vale score.
- R** is for Riveting Match. Phrase often used by ITV commentators covering a goalless draw.
- S** is for Shot Stopper. A keeper who is now infertile because of his gift for stopping shots.
- T** is for the phrase 'This is an Open Game'. See R above.
- U** is for Unsung Hero. An arthritic alcoholic who will end up living in a squat.
- V** is for Violent Conduct - A sending off offence that incurs a three match ban. Used to apply only to machete attacks and other life-threatening incidents, but now seems to be defined in the referee's handbook as "showing an inclination to take the ball from a member of the opposing team".
- W** is for Wide Man. He's the bloke who hangs about on the wing moaning that no one will pass to him. He always wears a long-sleeved shirt with the cuffs pulled over his fingers.
- X** is for Draw (X). Just to make every Vale fan's heart sink. We will use the example of that 4:4 draw against QPR three seasons ago. We were 4:0 up with fifteen minutes to go and QPR came back to equalise. Sheer agony.
- Y** is for Youthful and we are not talking about Foyley.
- Z** is for Zzzzzz (sleep). Defenders are occasionally prone to doing this on the pitch.

Martin Foyle

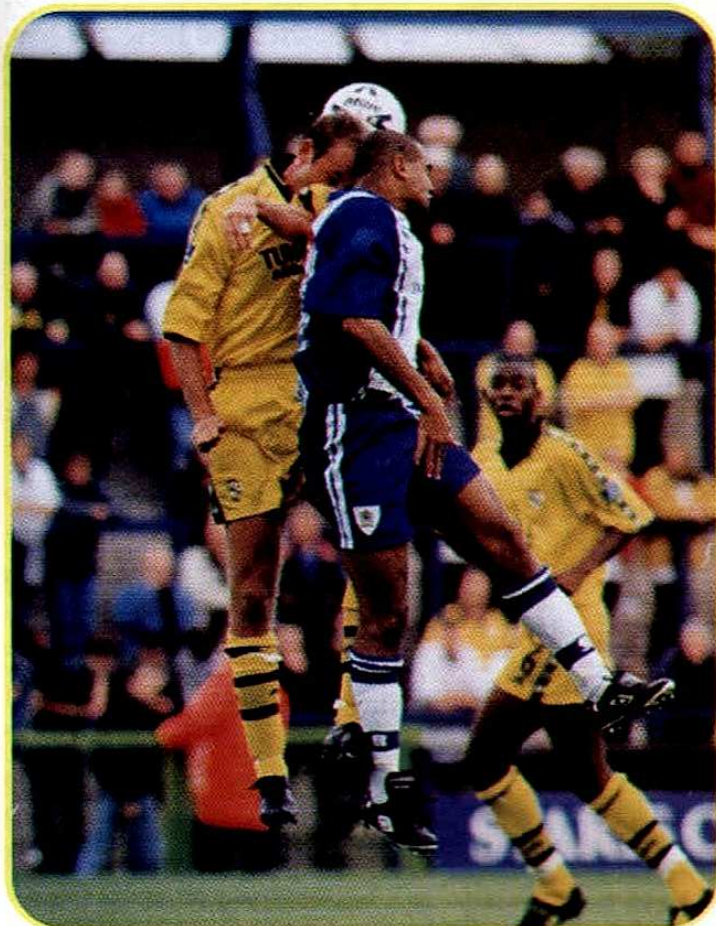
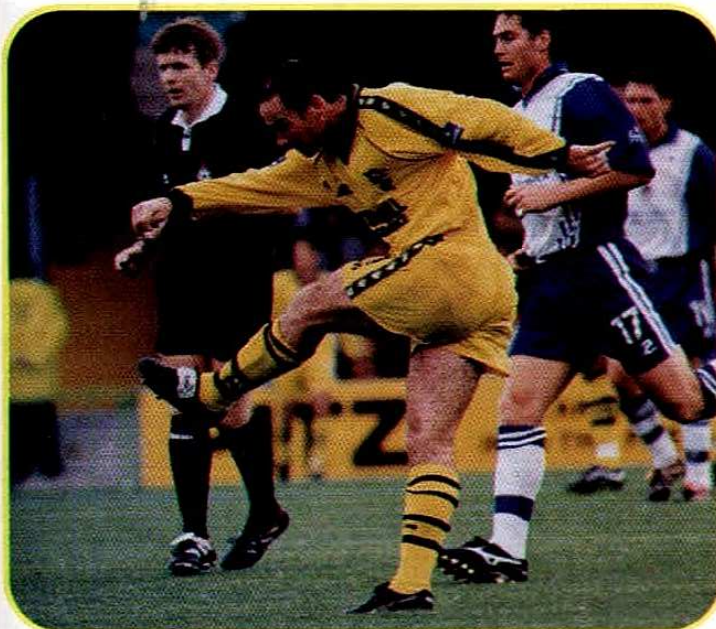


ACTION REPLAY

STOCKPORT COUNTY - 1 PORT VALE - 0

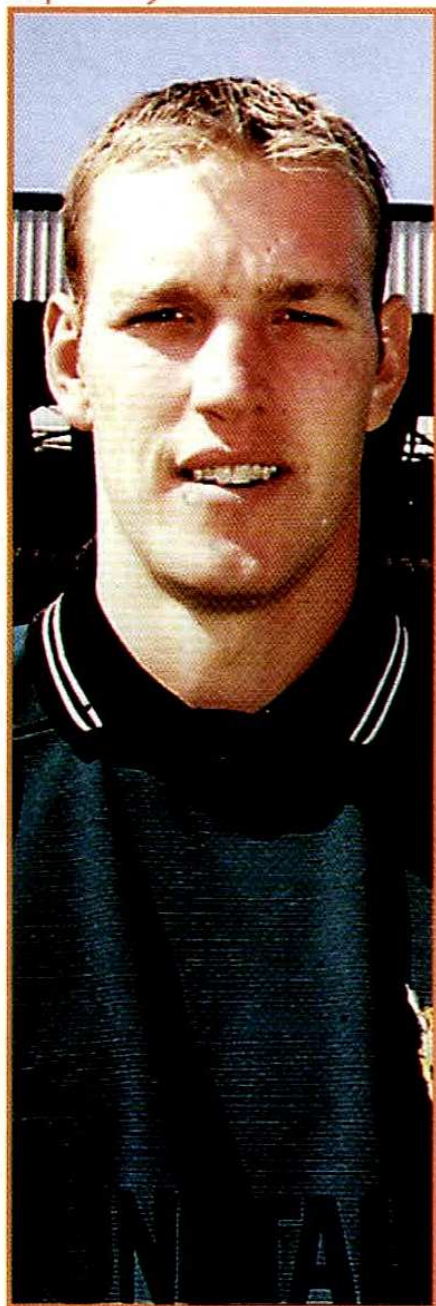


ACTION REPLAY



UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

GOALIE Kevin Pilkington is pregnant. It's true, after having the cast taken off his leg yesterday, he walked into my office this morning and said: "I'm expecting."



But don't panic, he's not some bizarre freak of nature, it's actually his wife, Rebecca who is pregnant.

The couple who live just outside Sandbach are expecting their first child in March next year.

Kevin (25) has been married to Rebecca, who is a lab technician, for two years and the couple are busy thinking of names for the new baby.

"I think if it's a boy we will call him Jack and our favourite girl's names are Holly, Ellie and Abigail."

They met in Derbyshire where Kevin was brought up.

Surprisingly, when they met Rebecca didn't know the first thing about football.

And Kevin likes the fact that although his wife does take an interest in his job, she hasn't become too involved with the game.

He said: "It's nice to come home and take your mind off your job sometimes."

"No doubt if I have a son then eventually I will end up playing football in the garden with him but at the moment we enjoy walking our two dogs George (a collie cross) and Ben (a retriever)." Kevin's football career began at the tender age of 17. He was at college and was spotted by a Manchester United scout playing at a semi-professional level.

He went on to achieve every boy's

dream by playing for Manchester United for seven years.

"It was great at United because as a young lad at the club there were so many role models to look up to. "And I can look back now and say that I played in the side that won the Youth Cup - a team which included the likes of Giggs and Beckham.

"There were some real characters there as well - David May, Lee Sharp and Gary Walsh were all comedians.

"But obviously as a keeper I had to compete against Peter Schmeichel and I knew that when he was injured and I replaced him, as soon as he was fit again, he would go straight back into the side.

"And you can't argue with that because he is the best goalie in the world.

"I went out on loan to Celtic and I knew then that I was desperate to play first team football.

"I spoke to several clubs and the Vale really impressed me."

Since coming to Port Vale Kevin has been unlucky when it comes to keeping that number one shirt.

"It's Birmingham's fault," he says.

"They must be bad luck for me. Last year, my dad was taken ill so I missed the Birmingham game and lost my place, and then this year I broke my leg on the Wednesday and we played the Blues on the Saturday."

"The gaffer is a great manager I think the best way to sum him up is hard but fair."



But Kevin's plaster came off yesterday and he is now keen to get back into training.

"I should be fit in another three to four weeks and I'm desperate to start pushing Mussie for the first team goalie's place.

"Although there is obviously a lot of competition between me and Mus, we get on very well.

"When we go away we share a room together and he is a great room-mate because he always makes me a cup of tea."

Kevin like most of the squad is a keen golfer and came third in the tournament on Scotland tour in pre-season.

"We have some really good players in the team apart from Liam Burns who is a cheat.

"When we were in Scotland he teed off and his ball landed well into the rough.

"He thought no one was looking so picked it up and threw it onto the middle of the fairway.

"But as it happened, the gaffer was walking past and saw him - so he got loads of ribbing off everyone when we all got back to the clubhouse."

So what does Kevin think of his team-mates?

"Well we have our fair share of comedians - Alex Smith and David Brammer have a typical Liverpudlian sense of humour and Foyley always makes me laugh.

"When it comes to talent on the football field I think you have got to look at Eyresy and Walshy. They are both really talented and I think will really come on as they get more first team games under

their belt.

"And Alex Smith plays like Rivaldo. Rivaldo is his favourite player and he is always going on and on about him. So I might earn myself a pint out for that comment."

"The gaffer is a great manager I think the best way to sum him up is hard but fair.

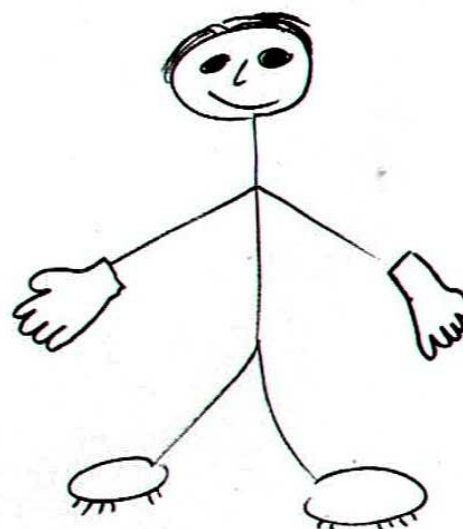
"And if you want to manage a football team successfully that is how you've got to be.

"I really think that we are going to do much better this season and I can't wait to be fit again and start training."



'Alex Smith plays like Rivaldo'

WE ASKED PILKO TO DRAW A SELF PORTRAIT



THE BIRTH OF FOOTBALL

Inflated bladders, togas and public schools. This is how football was born. And the passion, the love, the ferocity of the national game has a history all of its own.

The match we watch today has probably denied from a game played by toga wearing Ancient Greeks (I expect it differed in that shirt-pulling was skirt-pulling in those days). But the first real records of football come from the English history books where in medieval times a rough and rugged version of football was played.

Entire villages would battle to win possession of an inflated pig's bladder. Men, women and children would take part in the vicious version of football where kicking each other, biting opponents and hair-pulling were all part of the game.

The game died out during the industrial revolution and a new kind of football was played in public schools.

In these days, public schools were rife with bullying, rebellion and fighting. In the early nineteenth century the headmaster of Rugby School, Matthew Arnold, introduced the game as a way to quell his pupils boisterous behaviour, and this was the first ever PE lesson - a time where boys would savage each other on the controlled area of a football pitch. Soon other schools took up the sport and leagues were formed.

But there was one major problem - they all had different sets of rules.

Rugby School allowed their players to handle the ball while Eton College ruled

this as serious foul play.

So on 26th October 1863 representatives of 11 clubs met in the Freemasons Tavern in London to hatch a set of football rules.

This group would eventually go on to become the FA but in the meantime a storm was brewing.

They argued and argued over the rules. Blackheath, a squad of ex-Rugby schoolboys, demanded that hacking be allowed.

Hacking meant that if your opponent was in possession you could kick him in the shins until he keeled over crippled and gave the ball up.

They argued that hacking was manly, but others at the meeting felt that the game should be more refined and skilful.

So Blackheath stormed out and started their own game rugby. Meanwhile the remaining members of the committee formed football rules almost the same as those we have today.



THE BIRTH OF FOOTBALL

Eventually the schoolboys who played in these school leagues grew up and formed men's teams, but the sport remained an upper class pastime. In 1871 referee Charles Alcock started a sudden-death cup competition, based on an inter-house challenge he had played at school.

This became the FA Cup. Also around this time the game began to be popular amongst the working class.

Churches formed their own teams to help get their message across.

Aston Villa, Barnsley, Everton, Bolton, Fulham, Swindon, Southampton and Wolverhampton Wanderers were all originally church teams. In fact Southampton are nicknamed the Saints because of their former church name

Southampton St Mary's.

Then factories and pubs (who often owned playing fields) began to form teams.

In 1876 Port Vale was formed. Details about our formation are a little sketchy. But it is generally believed we were named after our meeting place - Port Vale House on Westport Lake.

But strange things began to happen in the world of football.

Scottish players began appearing on Blackburn's books. These men were cracking players and had apparently moved South of the border to work in Lancashire for no apparent reason.

Rumours that these men were being paid spread across the leagues and the FA stamped its foot by threatening to throw teams out who paid players.

Accrington were banned in 1883 and a year later Upton Park accused Preston North End of paying players. The Preston manager admitted the offence and insisted that if anyone wanted to compete with the likes of Blackburn then they had to pay their working class players. The Football Association argued that turning professional was against the spirit of the game but were forced to back down when many Northern clubs threatened to form a breakaway league. And professional football was born.



THE VISITORS

Introducing SWINDON TOWN

by Tony Matthews

Swindon Town - our welcome visitors to Vale Park this afternoon - have made a disappointing start to the season. And if you take a glance at the First Division table you will see that the Robins, after losing 2-1 at Gresty Road last weekend, are now lying next to bottom with only five points out of a possible 21 - and they have also gone out of the Worthington Cup, beaten over two legs in the opening round by Leyton Orient.

Manager Jimmy Quinn knows the situation - he certainly wants to recruit another couple of experienced players to add to his squad but more than anything else he wants his side to start scoring goals. The Robins have only netted five in their first seven League matches!

Last season Swindon - initially under the guidance of Steve McMahon - battled hard and long to eventually claim 17th position in the table - well adrift of the play-offs but only three points (one win) clear of relegation. It took some hard-earned points late on to ensure they kept their First Division status.

Now Quinn wants to establish Swindon Town in this Division at

least for another season before he can say that now we 'go for promotion.'

THE SQUAD

Australian-born goalkeeper **FRANK TALIA** was once a trialist with West Bromwich Albion. He came over to England from Melbourne to sign for Blackburn Rovers but found it hard work to get into the first team at Ewood Park, hence his transfer to Swindon for £150,000 four years ago.

JIMMY GLASS is Swindon's reserve goalkeeper - and the man who saved Carlisle United from relegation to the Conference at the end of last season. Yes - he's the man who went up field for a last-second corner and slammed the ball home to save the Cumbrians from humiliation. He has also played for Crystal Palace, Portsmouth and Bournemouth.

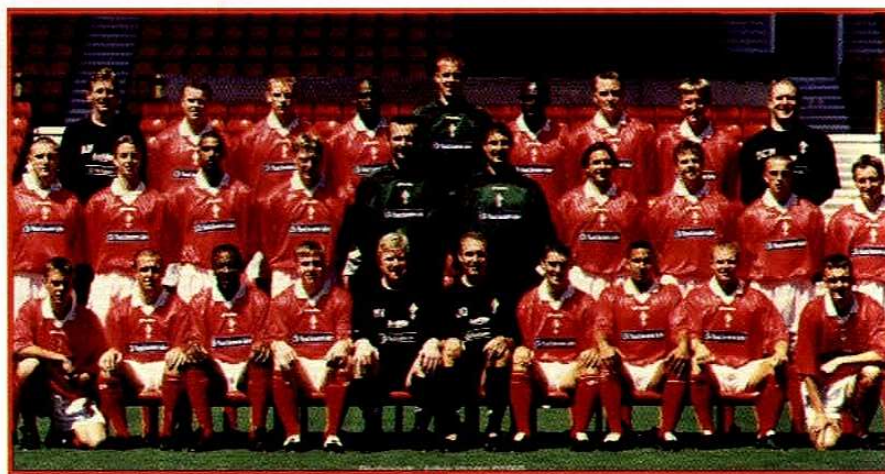
GARETH DAVIES is a strong, no-nonsense defender who was recruited by the Robins from Reading last March. The

former Hereford United, Crystal Palace and Cardiff player, who won eight Welsh under 21 caps earlier in his career, has now made well over 200 appearances at club and international level.

Tall 23 year-old defender **ADAM WILLIS** from Coventry, joined Swindon on a free transfer from the Premiership side at Highfield Road in April 1998. Last season he had a loan spell with Mansfield Town.

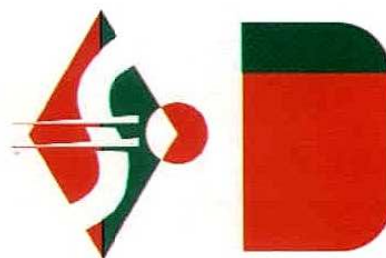
Right-back **JAMES WILLIAMS** made his league debut as 16 year-old and is highly rated at The County Ground. A year on and he's now a regular member of the first team squad.

GARETH HALL in contrast has been in the professional game for thirteen years, having initially played in the top flight for Chelsea. He then had spells with Sunderland and Brentford (on loan) before joining Swindon in May of last year. Capped by Wales at schoolboy, under 21 and senior levels (9 full caps) he made over 160 appearances for the London club.



SWINDO

"The Robins"



SOLOMON DAVIS (20) from Cheltenham had made just over 30 appearances for Swindon prior to the start of this season. A left-sided full-back he is now hoping to establish himself in the first XI on a regular basis.

ALAN REEVES (31) is a tall central defender who in the past has performed at the back for Gillingham, Chester, Rochdale and Wimbledon - all this after being rejected by Norwich City in 1989. He joined Swindon fifteen months ago and in his career to date has amassed in excess of 300 senior appearances.

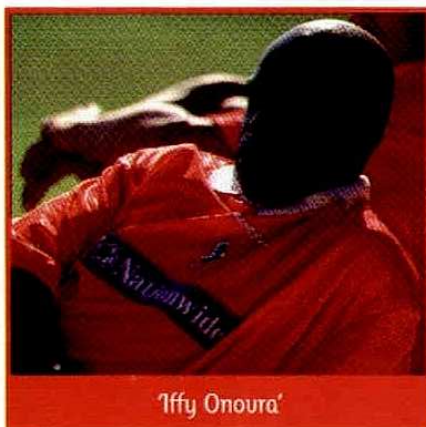
MARK ROBINSON played his early football with West Bromwich Albion before moving to Barnsley in 1987. Able to occupy a variety of positions in defence and midfield he joined Swindon from Newcastle United for £600,000 five years ago. He has now made over 400 appearances at club level (225 for Swindon).

BOBBY HOWE (25) is a hard-working midfielder with flare and vision. He was recruited from Nottingham Forest for a bargain £30,000 in January 1998 following a loan spell with Ipswich Town. A former England youth international he spent eight years with Forest during which time he made only 18 first team appearances.

MARK WALTERS (now 35) has seen it all and done it all as far as playing football is concerned. The former Aston Villa, Glasgow Rangers, Liverpool and England winger who has also assisted Wolves, Stoke City and Southampton, has been in the game since 1982. He has won medals galore at his various clubs,

collected caps at schoolboy, youth, under 21, 'B', and senior levels and has now accumulated well over 650 appearances on the club and international scenes. He is back in action after serving a suspension.

IFFY ONUORA despite his foreign-sounding name, was actually born in Glasgow. The tall, rangy striker began his League career with Huddersfield Town and after spells with Mansfield Town and Gillingham he joined Swindon for £120,000 in March of last year. In his career to date Onuora has netted over 90 goals up and down the country.



'Iffy Onuora'

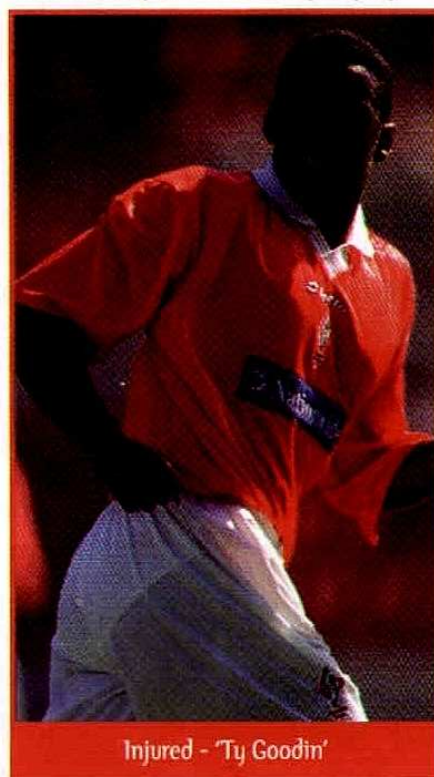
GEORGE NDAH partners Onuora up front. The former Crystal Palace, Bournemouth and Gillingham striker, who was capped by England at youth team level, moved to The County ground in November 1997 for £500,000. Aged 24 from Dulwich, he has now scored over 30 goals as a professional.

CHARLIE GRIFFIN (20) comes from Bath and played for Chippenham Town before turning professional with Swindon last January. A useful scorer on the non-

League scene, he is now aiming to do likewise in the Nationwide League.

CHRIS HAY (25) from Glasgow, was signed from Celtic for £330,000 two years ago. Unfortunately injuries have upset him from time to time but he has still managed to score over 20 goals for the Robins, having netted five times for the Scottish giants.

And finally there is **FRASER MCHUGH**, who by all accounts is not a Scot - he was born in Nottingham and joined Swindon as a trainee before turning 'pro' last season. One of the leading lights in the Robins' successful youth side he is now aiming to shine in the first team XI. Town's influential midfielder Ty Goodin is unfortunately sidelined through injury.



Injured - 'Ty Goodin'

N TOWN

THE VISITORS

DID YOU KNOW?

Swindon reached the FA Cup semi-final in 1910 and repeated the act two years later.

Thirty years ago in 1969 Third Division Swindon caused a major upset when they defeated First Division Arsenal 3-1 in the League Cup Final at Wembley.

Internationals Ossie Ardiles, Lou Macari, Glenn, Steve McMahon and now Jimmy Quinn have all managed Swindon over the last 15 years.

Internationals Ossie Ardiles, Lou Macari, Glenn Hoddle, Steve McMahon and now Jimmy Quinn have all managed Swindon over the last 15 years.



Steve McMahon, Manager of Swindon Town before Jimmy Quinn

Swindon went 30 away League games without a win between November 1972 and April 1974.

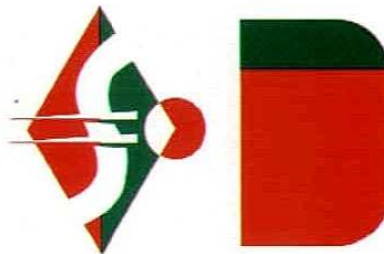
The Anglo-Italian Cup went to Swindon in 1970.

Swindon chalked up a record 102 points in Division Four in 1985-86.

The Robins have spent just one season in the Premiership: 1993-94.

Paul Rideout was just 16 years of age when he made his League debut for Swindon Town back in 1980 - the youngest player ever to serve the club.

"The Robins"



THE MANAGER

JIMMY QUINN



Jimmy Quinn has been in charge at The County Ground for almost a year now. The former Northern Ireland international striker (48 caps at senior level) has been in football for over 20 years. He joined Swindon as a player from Oswestry Town back in 1981 at the age of 17 having spent two years in non-League circles prior to that. Since 1981 he has certainly toured the country, playing and scoring for Blackburn, Swindon (again), Leicester City, Bradford City, West Ham, Bournemouth, Reading, Peterborough and Swindon for a third time. He returned to The County Ground in July 1997 (from Posh) and was initially coach under ex-boss Steve McMahon.

Quinn - now retired as a player - scored well over 270 goals at competitive level and close on 300 in all matches.



TONY R

THE VALIANT COLLECTION



OUGIER



JUNIOR VOICE

Good Afternoon,

A warm welcome to everybody attending today's game, especially the junior supporters from Swindon Town Football Club.

Many of our Port Vale Juniors have been busy playing football this morning at the Port Vale Community Gym, as the attendance from our Saturday Morning Club continues to rise with many more juniors remaining with Community Staff attend the games, and they can be seen (if not heard!) chanting in the Railway Stand.

Travelling Valiants

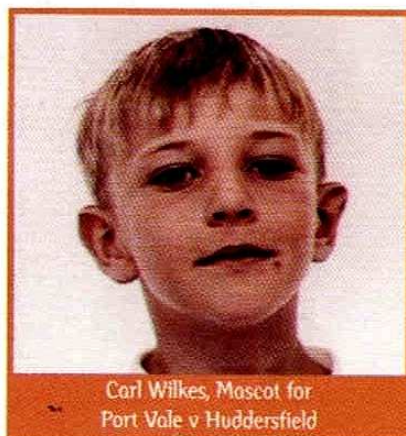
The juniors recently travelled to Stockport County as part of our family exchange programme.

Unfortunately we will not be visiting Manchester City, but we will be sending a junior to represent the Vale as an official

matchday mascot. Aaron Lear from Bradeley will lead the lads out at Maine Road. He is 7 years old and attends Mill Hill Primary School in Tunstall. His favourite Vale player is Martin Foyle, although he'd love to see David Beckham wearing Vale colours!

Our next away visit is to Huddersfield Town on Saturday 9th October where we have enjoyed great days out in past seasons!

Leading Port Vale out as mascot at The Alfred McAlpine Stadium will be 10 year old Carl Wilkes from Meir. Carl attends Grange Primary School and he enjoys swimming, cricket and football. His favourite Vale player is Paul Musslewhite.



Carl Wilkes, Mascot for Port Vale v Huddersfield

Following Huddersfield we will make the short journey to Wolverhampton Wanderers on 23rd October. Richard Turnbull of Stafford will be mascot at this fixture, where he will be rubbing shoulders with his favourite player Tony Naylor. Richard who is 14 years old and attends Blessed William Howard High School in Stafford was just five years old when he attended his first Vale game against Preston, with Vale winning 3-1 on the day, so lets hope his luck continues for us at the Molineux Stadium.

If you want to know more about our Juniors Saturday Morning Club, or how to book on our executive junior away coaches, do not hesitate to contact me in the Community Office on 575594!

Enjoy today's game,
Keely Brown





HEAD 2 HEAD BY CARLING OPTA

DAVE BRAMMER V MARK WALTERS

This afternoon's encounter at Vale Park is set to be an enthralling clash between two sides who like to play good football. Two of the key men this afternoon are certain to be Dave Brammer and Mark Walters. Brammer has played an integral part to this season's campaign for Vale, and although he is still waiting to find the back of the net, he has had 13 efforts at goal.

Mark Walters has surprisingly failed to hold down a place this season, not helped by his red card against West Brom. When he has played he has contributed well, with a 77 per cent pass completion rate and a better-than-average 38 per cent of crosses finding a fellow Robin.

Dave Brammer's inspirational performances for Vale have been outstanding, as his statistics clearly prove. He has made an extremely consistent number of passes in the eight games he has played, and also got a very high dribble completion figures and compares well with Walters in the art of crossing the ball.

Walters' impressive defensive statistics are let down by his poor discipline. He has conceded more fouls than Brammer, even though he has spent nearly half Brammer's amount of time on the pitch.

Summing up, it would appear that a great deal of Vale's play goes through Brammer, so Swindon will have to perhaps man-mark him out of the game if they are to return to Wiltshire with a share of the points.

Vale will have to be on their guard throughout Walters' involvement, however great or small it is. A piece of magic from him could turn the game, provided he is on form and does not let his ill-discipline get the better of him.

	Brammer	Walters
Minutes On Pitch,	720,	395
Goal Attempts,,		
Goals,	0,	1
Shots On Target (inc goals),	2,	6
Shots Off Target,	7,	3
Blocked Shots,	4,	1
Passing,,		
Goal Assists,	1,	0
Total Passes,	349,	137
Pass Completion %,	65%,	77%
Crossing,,		
Total Crosses,	56,	26
Cross Completion %,	36%,	38%
Dribbling,,		
Dribbles & Runs,	22,	12
Dribble Completion %,	82%,	75%
Defending,,		
Tackles Made,	34,	18
Tackles Won %,	35%,	39%
Blocks,	11,	0
Clearances,	38,	12
Interceptions,	6,	3
Discipline,,		
Fouls,	7,	8
Offside,	0,	2
Yellow Cards,	2,	0
Red Cards,	0,	1

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DOWN UNDER



Supporting the Vale from long range requires stamina, resourcefulness and not a little ingenuity. In my case, long range for the last four seasons has meant around 17000 kilometres (Melbourne to Stoke). Before that it was 16 seasons in Hong Kong.

Listening to the BBC World Service or a relay of Five Live leaves you bleary eyed of a Sunday, but if the result is right it is always worth it. These days many clubs provide an excellent service for exiled fans with commentary through the Internet. It really is a treat to listen to live coverage of a Vale game on the other side of the world – if you will pardon the expression, it's bloody marvellous actually!!! There is also a really wonderful mailing list which, through the Internet, links Vale fans around the world – people from all walks of life and living in far flung places – all united in one common view – a love of the Vale and a wish to see the team and the club go onward and upward. All except our tame Stoke supporter, that is! A special mention here for Gary Benson – the driving force behind the Mailing List and the Official Port Vale web site. Truly, among the best web sites of any club in the world.

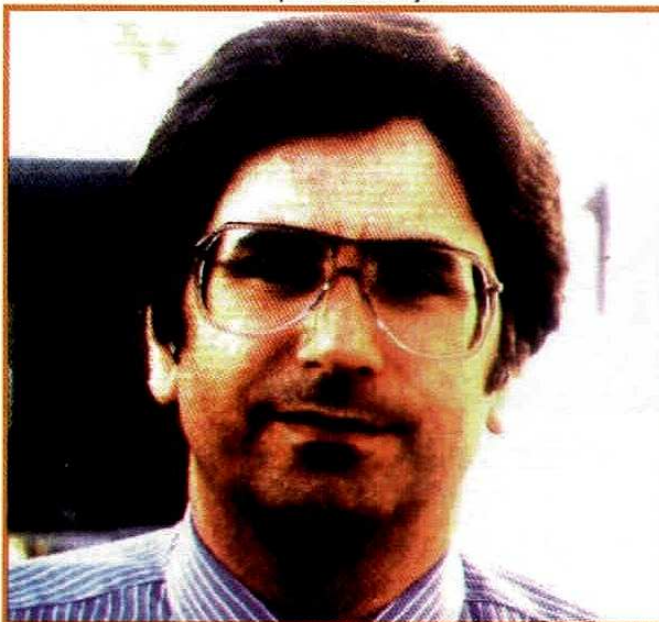
Football (soccer) is very popular here in Australia. There is excellent coverage of the Premier League, and programmes on Italian and World Football. Mr Horton would do well to invest in a trip to Australia to check out the talent – Harry Kewell is the tip of the iceberg. People 'know' the game and 90,000 people saw the Socceroos lose to Iran in a World Cup qualifier. Against this, though, it would be natural to imagine that one is in a desert as far as recognition of the Vale is concerned. However, you would be wrong. We have a national news channel that does great coverage of the UK football results on a Sunday morning (Saturday evening your time). The guy who runs the show is a Gloucestershire émigré, Mike Gardner. After several weeks of listening to him give the lead-ins to the sports news presenter it became clear that Mike is Vale fan. Strange, but true. I still have not found out how and why – I have wondered whether he worked on Radio Stoke at some point. Thus we have comments on a Sunday morning on nationwide radio in Australia like, 'The Vale have won again,' and 'The Vale have bounced back.' Sometimes it's not so happy of course, but Mike's best yet was a couple of seasons ago when, in the middle of run of defeats for Man United, he greeted the Australian nation with, 'Well, United have lost again, but the Vale go marching on!' Now you show me a radio station in the UK which would lead with that headline and I will show you a rare object!!!

I mentioned ingenuity. What did I mean? Well, my best story relates to 1989 and the play offs. I was living in Hong Kong and doing my level best to tune the short wave radio and listen to the BBC World Service, trying to find out how we were doing in the final game. Sport on 2 was giving precious little coverage and come the start of the second half I couldn't stand it. I called my Dad and asked him to tape the mouthpiece of his 'phone to the radio and I listened to live commentary of the rest of the game. After the final whistle he allowed me a few seconds of listening to the raucous crowd, and came back on with what must be among the greatest of understatements, 'Was that what you wanted?!!!'

"It really is a treat to listen to live coverage of a Vale game on the other side of the world"

Today I am fortunate to be at Vale Park for the game against Swindon in the midst of a business trip to the UK. These opportunities arise now and again, and an in-depth study of the fixture list is mandatory when figuring out the itinerary.

I am hoping for a win today. Just be thankful I didn't choose the home game against QPR. The last Vale game I saw was the calamitous 4-4 draw a couple seasons ago!!



'David Picken'

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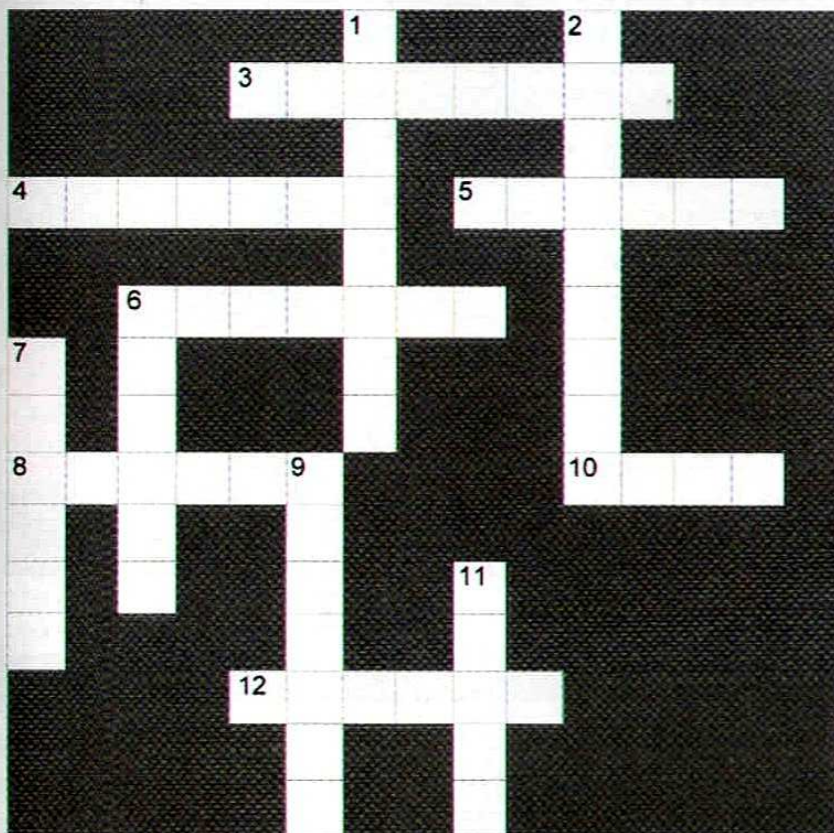
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VISITORS CROSSWORD



DOWN

1. Record
2. Record buy
6. Club nickname
7. Semi-final opponents in
9. Left for record fee
11. Mighty Manager

ACROSS

3. Knocked Swindon out of FA Cup last season
4. Attracted record attendance
5. Top scorer last season
6. Youngest debutant
8. Came from Herts
10. Founder of the club
12. Club record-scorer

ANSWERS AT THE FOOT OF THE PAGE

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Daniel & Hannah-Lisa Moore (Endon)
Dimitri Gianluca Moore (Endon)
& Paige Elizabeth Gregory (Packmoor)
Thomas & Harry Price (Stafford)
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Ramona Silfver (Sweden)
Dylan Ingram (Bradeley)
Jasun Steele (Hanley)
Kiera-Lee Simpson (Bucknall)
Daniel Tooth & Daniel Platt
(Smallthorne Clubscouts)
James & Katie Belfield (Endon)
Sam Heeks (Alsager)
Rebecca Wesley (Bradeley)



Across: 3. Barnsley, 4. Arsenal, 5. Omuro, 6. Rideout & Leitch, 10. Pitt, 12. Morris
Down: 1. Trollope, 2. Beauchamp, 6. Robins, 7. Bolton, 9. Horlock, 11. Quinn

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UTTER DRIVEL

By Richard Caddy



IVE become a bit sad – I've started to go and see the reserves on a regular basis.

I used to think only anoraks used to go and watch reserve games, but I am becoming a bit of a convert.

It's especially good now that the new stand is open. First of all, because the view is a lot better than in the Railway, and secondly, because it's licensed. Beer and football, a match made in Heaven that's possibly only equalled by naked women and large American motorbikes.

But beer and a better view apart, a night with the stiffys has a lot more going for it.

For all you parents out there, it's only two quid to get in. You always hear people moaning that the thing that has stopped them going to football is that if they go they feel obliged to take their 24 kids, and that pushes the price out of their range. Go to the reserves and the problem is solved. It's particularly relevant as most people with small children soon find out that small children are completely incapable of taking in a full footie match, however much they nag you to let them go.

This was demonstrated to me at the last reserve game I went to – VALE 3 BAGGIES 1.

I sat in front of a dad and his small daughter. Things started off pretty well.

"Which ones are us?" she wanted to know. "Why are all the players shouting at each other?"; "Who are they over there?" (pointing at the

couple of ballboys stationed in the Bycars; "Is that a goal?" (it was a throw-in).

But after 15 minutes the warning signs started.

"It's getting darker."; "It's getting cold.";

"Look, the telly's on in there.".

Note how the questions have been replaced by statements.

What she really meant to say was,

"I'm a small child with a tiny attention span – get me out of here."

That's what the reserves offer – affordable football for people who



Drama at reserve games.
George O'Callaghan sent off
twice in three games

would rather be playing with a rubber duck in the bath.

NOW FOR a moan. Everybody accepts that match officials are bound to come in for a bit of stick, but a few Vale fans went completely over the top at the Stockport game. Tony Butler's booking in the first minute was the cue for a few professional pr**ks to subject the linesman and ref to a subsequent 90 minutes of obnoxious abuse. This included one scrawny little

youth who hurled abuse at point-blank-range at the referee at the end of the first half as he queued to get down the telescopic tunnel behind the players. If I'd have been the ref I'd have ripped the prat's head off, but brain donors like him only have a go at people they know can't give it back.

Look, the point is this: Without officials there is no football – the game as we know it would cease to exist.

OK, some officials are awful. But at the end of the day they are just people who love the game trying to do their bit.

They ain't in it for the money, asnd, believe it or not, they are not people fulfilling a lifelong grudge against the Vale, which is what some of you seem to think.

It's getting harder to recruit new referees, and some of you reading this are part of the reason why.

I DON'T know about you, but I thought last weeks "revelations" in The Sentinel about Rudgie's departure were rather strange. The main reason was that virtually everything printed in The Sent was broadcast on the first day of the season – August 7 – in an interview with Radio Five Live!

It seems that either The Sentinel genuinely didn't realise they had been scooped, or decided to wait six weeks before repeating John's claims in the hope that everyone who heard the original radio interview had forgotten what was in it.

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RAILWAY CUTTINGS

By Jean Jackson



I hope you lot aren't going to waste your breath yelling and shouting today. Robert Uhlig, Technology Correspondent for the Daily Torgyraph, wrote recently: "Cheering your team is a waste of breath, according to the latest research. Shouting encouragement, wearing a team's shirt or waving a flag makes no difference to the outcome of team games".

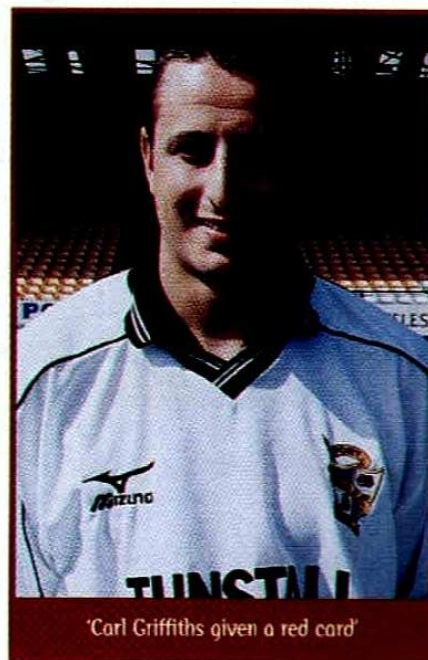
The research he refers to has been done by a boffin at the University of Münster. It was based on four matches involving an American football team where he concluded that crowd response had no positive effect on the outcome of particular set plays. The only benefit of enthusiastic support is to make the spectators feel better because, it seems, it makes the crowd think they are contributing something towards the performance of the team on the pitch.

Can this possibly be true? How many times have we heard someone say that the crowd at Old Trafford or Anfield and the like gives the home team a goal start? Perhaps our friendly professor was looking at this from the wrong angle, though. Granted, a crowd shouting a lot can have a negative effect on players of a nervous disposition. They can also increase the adrenaline flow of some players and cause them to play in a hurried fashion without thinking.

What crowds can do, of course, which does have a major effect on the outcome of a football match, is to insidiously influence referees. "What!", I hear you say. "Is this woman suggesting that our officials give in to terrace pressure when making crucial decisions? Never!" I would have to agree that our referees try to be scrupulously fair in their handling of matches - it is a mere accident of statistics that twice as many penalties are awarded to home teams than away and a similar imbalance occurs in the issuing of red cards. I must, however, share a recent experience with you that was in my humble opinion, a wonderful example of "crowd power"!

Some of you reading this may have attended the Reserves match against West Bromwich Albion last week and seen the workings of crowd power in all its glory! Let me explain to those who weren't there. To begin with, the referee rejoiced in the rather unfortunate name of Mr Kettle - an absolute godsend to the terrace wit! He initially brought the game to the boil after about half an hour when he issued a red card to the harmless Carl Griffiths when really the Baggie defender should have walked for heading Carl's elbow! Within a few minutes the 10-man Valiants were a goal behind and a larger than average crowd of potters were calling the Kettle in the black. This friendly banter (or should I say downright abuse!) continued into the second half and the tide began to turn. First Georgie O'Callaghan got us back on level terms then the ref cracked

totally and awarded us two penalties. Now I'm not saying these weren't spot kicks. To quote the Sentinel reporter when Stoke's high board champion Stein collapsed in the area a few years ago, "contact in the box, however minimal" should result in a penalty. Suffice to say that not many saw the push on Foyle which led to the Richard Eyre's first goal and whilst the second was a bit more blatant, I've seen many refs turn their backs on such incidents before now.



'Carl Griffiths given a red card'

So it ended 3-1 to the ten man Vale side against a very disgruntled set of Baggies. The players were delighted and, together with Mark Grew, probably thought it was down to their efforts that the three points had been achieved. We, of course, know different. I just wished Professor Strauss of the University of Münster had been there to see his theory shot down in flames!



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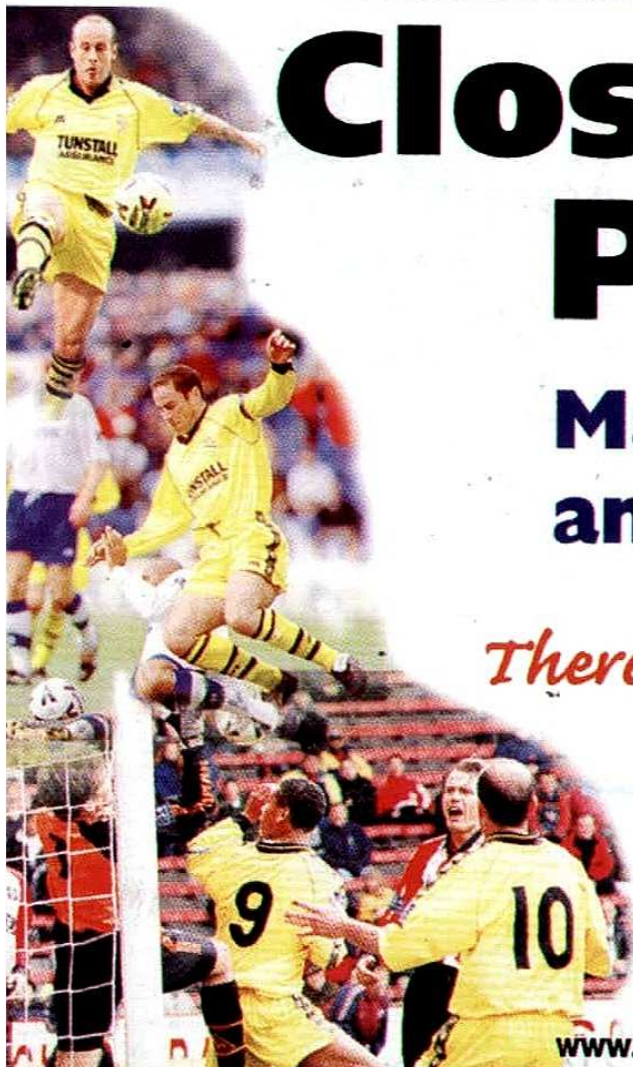
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LOOK AHEAD

By Eddie Jackson



NORWICH CITY VALE PARK SAT 16th OCT 1999 Kick-off 3pm

WHEN Norwich were relegated from the Premier League in 1995 many people expected an early return to the top division. Since then, however, the Canaries have finished 16th, 13th, 15th and then 9th.

They have not made a promising start to this season. At the time of writing they have lost at home to Birmingham and Blackburn but then defeated Crewe. Away from home they have drawn at Walsall and West Brom, losing at Charlton. In the Worthington Cup they defeated Cheltenham narrowly but look

certain to exit the competition following a 4-0 home defeat against Fulham in the first leg. On paper Norwich have good players in the likes of Dalglish, Roberts, Eadie and Bellamy. The problem is, however, that the last two have been injured, though Eadie has just come back, to the relief of Manager Rioch.

We tend to think that Norwich belong in the top flight but they didn't actually reach this level until 1972. As recently as 1993 they finished 3rd in the Premier League. Last season Norwich entered the Christmas period in 5th place but won only four of their final 23 games to finish 9th.

Carrow Road has undergone massive redevelopment in recent years and is now a fine stadium, which they are capable of filling in good times. The job of providing food for the spectators should be in safe hands with Delia

Smith on the Board.

THE REFEREE

DAVID ELLERAY of HARROW

We used to worry that David brought his schoolmasterly ways onto the football pitch but the evidence is that he pulls out the yellow and red cards rather less frequently than most. He first refereed Vale in 1987 when we lost 5-2 at Walsall but he was in charge on two most memorable occasions in May 1993. The first was in our Play-off 2nd Leg match at home to Stockport, which Vale won 1-0 to take us to Wembley. A few days later he refereed Vale on the best day of my life - the Autoglass Trophy victory over Stockport at Wembley, though he did make us wonder if his watch had stopped for about ten minutes at the end of the game!

TICKET INFO

IN PERSON



Port Vale Ticket Office
Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm
Saturdays 9am - 12 noon
Matchdays 9am - kick-off •Please note:-
Tickets for some away matches
are available from the Marketing Dept.
Mon-Fri 9.30am - 5pm Matchdays 9am - 3pm

BY POST



Cheques should be made payable to:
Port Vale Football Club and sent to:-
Port Vale Ticket Office, Vale Park, Hamil Road,
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On all bookings please state match, which stand, and the number of seats required (Adult, Juvenile, Student, or OAP) stating any membership numbers.

Please include a DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER and a self-addressed envelope with your application. Customers collecting tickets from the office will be asked to produce the credit/debit card and sign for the tickets.

To avoid delay customers are advised to collect tickets at least one hour before kick-off

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A-Z OF THE VALIANTS



—continuing our series through the Vale alphabet with Tony Matthews

SULLEY, Christopher Stephen



Now approaching his 40th birthday, left-back Chris Sulley played 51 senior games for the Valiants (one goal scored) during his time at the club: Previously with Chelsea, Bournemouth, Dundee United and Blackburn Rovers, he joined the Vale from Ewood Park in the summer of 1992 and left in June 1993, on a free transfer to sign for Preston North End.

SUMMERSCALES, William Charles

Bill Summerscales made 145 League and Cup appearances for Port Vale, scoring six goals. A tall, rugged no-nonsense central defender, born in Willesden, he joined Leek Town while attending North Staffordshire College of Technology. At

the age of 21 he moved to Vale Park in February 1979 for £400 and remained with the club until June 1975 when he was given a free transfer. Soon afterwards he signed for Rochdale and later assisted Stafford Rangers, Newcastle United (Australia) and Marquis FC before becoming Stoke City's under-15 coach. He was also a valuable committee member of Redgate United.

SUNDERLAND

Vale's playing record against Sunderland is:

Football League

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	7	1	3	3	8	10
Away	7	0	4	3	7	12
Totals	14	1	7	6	15	22

FA Cup

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	2	2	0	0	5	1
Away	3	0	2	1	2	5
Totals	5	2	2	1	7	6

ADSC

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Away	1	0	0	2	1	
O/T	20	4	9	7	24	29

The two First Division League games played last season both resulted in victories for Sunderland, 2-0 here and then 2-0 at The Stadium of Light.

SUTCLIFFE, Peter David

Manchester-born right-winger Peter Sutcliffe scored eight goals (and made plenty more) in his 54 League and Cup appearances for the Vale between March 1977 and December 1978. Signed from Stockport County and initially with Manchester United, he left the Potteries to sign for Chester in a £15,000 deal and later assisted Bangor City and Stockport County (for a second time), as well as

Scarborough in their non-League days.

SWAN, Peter Harold

Tough-tackling, determined centre-half Peter Swan is one of only a handful players to be sent-off at Wembley - dismissed for a professional foul on West Brom's Bob Taylor in the second-half of the 1993 Second Division Play-off Final. It was 0-0 at the time of Swan's dismissal - so one will never know what might have transpired had he stayed on the park! A Yorkshireman, born in Leeds in 1966, he could also play as a centre-forward and his first two clubs were Leeds United and Hull City. He joined the Vale for £310,000 from Boothferry Park in August 1991 and went on to score eight goals in 140 appearances for the club before transferring to Plymouth Argyle for £320,000 in July 1994. Soon afterwards Swan switched his allegiance to Burnley, then Bury and back to Burnley. He helped Vale win the AGT in 1993 and promotion to the First Division the following year.

SWANSEA (TOWN) CITY

Vale's playing record against the Swans is:

Football League

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	24	16	4	4	40	17
Away	24	5	6	13	20	42
Totals	48	21	10	17	60	59

FA Cup

Venue	P	W	D	L	F	A
Away	2	0	0	2	0	4

The last time the teams met in the League was in season 1993-94 (Division 2) when Vale doubled up by winning 3-0 at home and 1-0 at The Vetch Field.

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IN RESERVE



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8TH SEPTEMBER 1999

BIRMINGHAM CITY - 2 Port Vale - 0

Port Vale Reserves:

GOWAN, DONNELLY, TAYLOR, BOGIE, SNIDJERS, GLOVER, O'CALLAGHAN, BARKER, CLITHEROE, GRIFFITHS, FOYLE, CORDEN

A brave performance by ten man Vale finished with a creditable two goal defeat. Sound familiar? Well it was the Reserves turn to merit this accolade only 18 days after the 1st XI's similar headlines from St. Andrews. However the circumstances were a little different, with Vale skipper George O'Callaghan departing the pitch in the 35 minute still trying to work out why he had been dismissed. George appeared to just reach a bouncing ball first, and knock it out right to Vale's wideman, as a Birmingham defender slid in late and caught his foot. As the defender was deemed to have been injured George saw the red for the second time in three Reserve games.

There was now a steady drizzle falling and one has to assume it had softened the referee's brain rather than his heart as Vale also received four yellow cards to go with the red one in a game that did not see a tackle with any malice all evening. The general

consensus was that the referee killed off, what had looked like being a well balanced game, by not allowing tackling to go unpunished. The game had got off to a promising start with both sides creating shooting opportunities. Vale's best efforts, by Foyle and Griffiths, were blocked just inside the area, whilst Gowan was well positioned to gather Forinton's solid drive from the edge of the area. On 23 minutes Griffiths had an effort cleared off the line and O'Callaghan put the rebound wide. Snijders was the first into the box on 26 and Newton put the resultant 25 yard freekick over the bar. After O'Callaghan's dismissal both Barker and Taylor saw yellow before halftime and the game petered away.

The second half started slowly as players tried to guess what the referee would do next but Vale's 4-4-1 formation allowed Birmingham to take control. Forinton side footing over when

it seemed easier to score. Then Dean Glover brought back memories of his heyday with an acrobatic intervention on the edge of the box followed by a last ditch tackle, timed to perfection, to keep it at 0-0. Adebola then missed a good opportunity but in the next minute Birmingham took the lead as a 56 minute cross was rifled home by Newton from five yards. Glover then demonstrated his other well known speciality by firing a 30 yard free kick straight at the keeper. A booking followed for Griffiths for diving in the box and he was removed from the fray to avoid further problems. Adebola and Dyson wasted good opportunities for Birmingham before Corden's driven cross almost caused an own goal. Adebola missed another 2 sitters, receiving the crowd's derision, before Newton sealed the game with a header from an 85th corner to make the final score 2-0.

Lyndon Roberts

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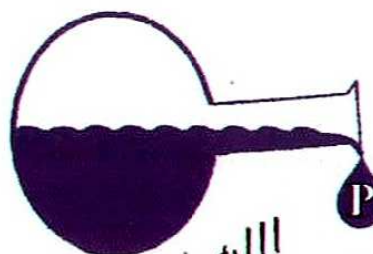
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THE ROOF'S FELL IN



It only takes a minute is a line from a famous pop song in Manchester City's case though it took six minutes, that was the time that the fourth official held up in the final of the second division play off at Wembley between Manchester City and Gillingham.

And how vital that six minutes proved to be with City staring defeat in the face losing to Gillingham by two goals to nil there were gasps from the crowd and a look of disbelief on the face of the then Gillingham manager Tony Pulis who could not believe along with many of the watching public where the referee had got the additional time from. But that proved to be a lifeline to Manchester City whose fans were contemplating another season in Division Two. Within the added time City turned the game on its head scoring two goals to force the game into extra time which rejuvenated their team and their thousands of fans and City went on to win the game on a penalty shootout. So instead of making the trip towards the south-east coast and the county of Kent to play Gillingham at the Priestfield Stadium the Vale, now make the shorter trip down the M6 into Lancashire to play current division one league leaders Manchester City at Maine Road.

The City manager Joe Royle has had a complete clearout since taking over the reins as manager and his first task was to restore City back into the First Division after being relegated last season he has achieved that goal and will be hoping to continue that run with promotion back into the Premiership next term.

The Blues have a magnificent fan base and Manchester City's ground is usually full to capacity every week such is the loyalty of the fans even before the play-off final they had sold 12,000 season tickets for the start of the season. Since then that has been increased to 25,000 and a capacity crowd will be in attendance at Maine Road for the visit of Port Vale.

Joe Royle has put together a very talented

squad with the emphasis on experience along with youth in goal. They have the talented England under 21 goalkeeper Nicky Weaver while in defence they have the experience of former Oldham and Leeds United defender Richard Jobson. Gerald Wiekens who has had a lot of experience playing in Holland and is also a dangerous player at set pieces. Making up the back four are England youth international Richard Edgehill and Australian international and former Stoke City player Danny Tiatto both defenders are quick and skillful and are always looking to support the front men down the flanks.

In midfield Royle has a lot of experience with former Everton and West Ham star Ian Bishop now back in his second spell with Manchester City, Bishop who is 34 is the veteran in the midfield area but has the quality and the skill to prise open the best defences. Along side Bishop are youngsters Jeff Whitley who has just turned 20 and has a strong engine which gets him from box to box and Vale will have to be aware of his running off the ball but the danger man in the City midfield is Mark Kennedy currently starring for the Republic of Ireland in their bid to reach the European Championships. Kennedy has a sweet left foot and scores some outstanding goals at International level and is very dangerous when running at set pieces not only having pace but also excellent close control which can get him into dangerous situations, the anchor man in City's midfield is Kevin Horlock who plays just in front of the back four but he is not too shy to get forward if given the chance but his main qualities are defending and Horlock who is also an Irish International is a versatile player who can fill a number of roles that is why he is important to Joe Royle in his bid to get to the premiership.

Up front City have a little and large combination in Shaun Goater who was City's top scorer last season whose physical presence and power kept defenders occupied throughout the 90 minutes Goater has already made his mark this season and

notched City's winner at Walsall last weekend to take them to top spot in the division one league table and alongside Goater is Paul Dickov who is small in stature but very quick and alert and is the perfect foil for Goater. In addition Royle has other options with former Manchester United winger Terry Cooke who can play on both flanks. Gareth Taylor, Danny Allsop and Chris Greenacre waiting in the wings for a chance to prove their worth.

For Brian Horton it is a trip back to one of his former clubs where he enjoyed his time there although on Saturday between 3 p.m. and 4.45 p.m. he will be hoping that Vale can put one over his former club Manchester City.

Don't forget to get behind the Burslem boys and give them your full vocal backing.

Remember, It's good to talk. Keep the faith, Georgie



'Shaun Goater, City's top scorer last season'



Michael Walsh's kit is sponsored by the Smith family from Sheffield

AWAY TRAVEL



Manchester City

Nationwide League Division One, Saturday 2 October 3.00pm

TICKETS

The match against Manchester City is all ticket and we have just under 1,000 available for Vale supporters. Tickets have been on sale to season ticket holders this week and any remaining tickets are now on general from the Port Vale Ticket Office.

COACH TRAVEL

The official coaches leave the Hamil Road Car Park at 12.45pm. Seats can be booked in the Marketing Department and are priced at £6.50 adults and £5.50 concessions

How to get to....

Some people prefer to use the motorway to Manchester but as with our trip to Stockport, I prefer the gentle stroll along the A34.

Take the A34 out of the city through Congleton and Alderley Edge. Turn right at the roundabout on the outskirts of Alderley Edge to pick up the new Wilmslow By-Pass stretch of the A34. Follow A34 signs at all roundabouts until the major traffic lights approaching the M60 formerly the M63. Join the westbound M60 and stay on the motorway for approx 3 miles. Leave the motorway at the next exit (junction 5, formerly junction 9) then follow signs to Manchester A5103. In 1.4 miles get in right hand lane at traffic lights and turn right into Wilbraham Road (A6010 signposted Ashton-under-Lyne and MCFC Maine Road). After 0.2 miles turn left into Lloyd Street. In about half a mile you will find Maine Road down the side streets on the right hand side.

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Roast Staffordshire Turkey

Accompanied with sage and onion half stuffed tomato, chipolata and bacon roll, served with a traditional gravy

Or

Roast Sirloin of Beef Bordalaise

Accompanied with Madeira sauce, served on a bed of caramelised onions and garnished with pan-fried wild mushrooms

Or

Filo Pastry Baskets

Filled with a fricasse of vegetables in a light cream sauce garnished with asparagus spears

Christmas Pudding

Served with rum and vanilla sauce

Or

French Lemon Tart

Served with strawberry coulis and garnished with fresh berries
Freshly brewed coffee and mince pies

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To book your function call the Marketing Department on 01782 835524.

VITAL STATISTICS

					1	2	3	4	5	6
Aug 7	Blackburn Rovers	A	20,530	0-0	Pilkington	Walsh	Brammer	Gardner	Bent	Minton
Aug 10	Chester City	A	2,101	1-2	Pilkington	Walsh	Brammer	Gardner	Smith	Bent
Aug 14	West Bromwich Albion	H	7,891	1-2	Pilkington	Walsh	Tankard	Brammer	Gardner	Smith
Aug 21	Birmingham City	A	18,089	2-4	Musselwhite	Walsh	Tankard	Brammer	Gardner	Bent
Aug 24	Chester City	H	2,625	4-4 (5-6 agg)	Musselwhite	Walsh	Tankard	Brammer	Gardner	Smith
Aug 28	Tranmere Rovers	H	4,657	1-0	Musselwhite	Tankard	Brammer	Butler	Gardner	Smith
Aug 30	Queens Park Rangers	A	9,502	3-2	Musselwhite	Tankard	Brammer	Butler	Gardner	Minton
Sep 5	Grimsby Town	H	3,737	3-1	Musselwhite	Tankard	Brammer	Butler	Gardner	Minton
Sep 11	Fulham	H	6,130	0-2	Musselwhite	Tankard	Brammer	Butler	Gardner	Minton
Sep 18	Stockport County	A	7,632	1-0	Musselwhite	Tankard	Brammer	Butler	Gardner	Bent
Sep 25	Swindon Town	H								
Oct 2	Manchester City	A								
Oct 9	Huddersfield Town	A								
Oct 16	Norwich City	H								
Oct 19	Nottingham Forest	H								
Oct 23	Wolverhampton Wanderers	A								
Oct 26	Swindon Town	A								
Oct 30	Manchester City	H								
Nov 5	Crewe Alexandra	H								
Nov 13	Walsall	A								
Nov 20	Crystal Palace	H								
Nov 23	Sheffield United	A								
Nov 27	Charlton Athletic	A								
Dec 4	Blackburn Rovers	H								
Dec 11	F.A. Cup Third Round	A								
Dec 18	Portsmouth	A								
Dec 26	Bolton Wanderers	H								
Dec 28	Barnsley	A								
Jan 3	Ipswich Town	H								
Jan 15	West Bromwich Albion	A								
Jan 22	Birmingham City	H								
Jan 29	Tranmere Rovers	A								
Feb 5	Queens Park Rangers	H								
Feb 12	Grimsby Town	A								
Feb 19	Charlton Athletic	H								
Feb 26	Stockport County	H								
Mar 1	Fulham	A								
Mar 7	Crewe Alexandra	A								
Mar 11	Sheffield United	H								
Mar 18	Crystal Palace	A								
Mar 21	Walsall	H								
Mar 25	Bolton Wanderers	A								
Apr 1	Portsmouth	H								
Apr 8	Ipswich Town	A								
Apr 15	Barnsley	H								
Apr 22	Norwich City	A								
Apr 24	Huddersfield Town	H								
Apr 29	Nottingham Forest	A								
May 7	Wolverhampton Wanderers	H								

PONTINS LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION 1999/2000

AUGUST		
Wed 18th	Stoke City	Score 0-0
SEPTEMBER		
Wed 1st	Tranmere Rovers	Score 3-0
Wed 8th	Birmingham City	Score 0-2
Wed 15th	WBA	Score 3-1
Wed 29th	Burnley	7.00pm
OCTOBER		
Wed 6th	Wolverhampton Wanderers	7.00pm
Wed 27th	Oldham Athletic	7.00pm
NOVEMBER		
Wed 3rd	Huddersfield Town	7.00pm
Mon 15th	Preston North End	7.15pm
DECEMBER		
Wed 1st	Manchester City	7.00pm
Tue 14th	Grimsby Town	7.00pm
JANUARY		
Tues 4th	Wolverhampton Wanderers	7.00pm
Wed 19th	Burnley	7.00pm
Wed 26th	Tranmere Rovers	7.00pm
Mon 31st	Stoke City	7.00pm
FEBRUARY		
Wed 23rd	West Bromwich Albion	7.00pm
MARCH		
Wed 1st	Birmingham City	7.00pm
Wed 15th	Grimsby Town	7.00pm
Tue 28th	Manchester City	6.45pm
APRIL		
Wed 12th	Oldham Athletic	7.00pm
Wed 19th	Huddersfield Town	7.00pm
Wed 26th	Preston North End	7.00pm

7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

Naylor	Rougier	Carragher	Brisco	Barker	Eyre ¹⁵	Griffiths ⁷⁵	Smith	Snijders	Musselwhite
Minton	Naylor	Rougier	Carragher	Barker	Eyre ¹⁵	Griffiths ⁸⁵	Snijders	Burns	Musselwhite
Bent	Minton	Naylor	Carragher	Barker	Musselwhite	Burns	Snijders	Eyre	Griffiths ¹⁵
Minton	Widdrington	Naylor	Rougier	Carragher	Foyle ¹⁵	Smith ¹⁵	Eyre	Snijders	Oakes
Minton	Naylor	Foyle	Rougier	Carragher	Widdrington	Griffiths ⁴¹	Eyre ¹⁵	Snijders	Gowan
Minton	Naylor	Eyre	Rougier	Carragher	Walsh	Griffiths	Widdrington	Foyle ⁴⁵	Oakes
Naylor	Eyre	Foyle	Rougier	Carragher	Walsh ¹⁵	Griffiths ⁷⁵	Widdrington ²⁵	Snijders	Oakes
Naylor	Eyre	Bent	Rougier	Carragher	Foyle ⁷⁵	Oakes	Barker ¹⁵	Snijders ¹⁵	Corden ^{15c}
Naylor	Eyre	Bent	Carragher	Barker	Foyle ¹⁵	Glennon	Bogie	Rougier ¹⁵	Burns
Minton	Naylor	Rougier	Carragher	Bogie	Walsh ⁴⁵	Eyre	Foyle ¹⁵	Barker	Glennon

YOUTH TEAM FIXTURES FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE

AUGUST

Saturday 21 Wrexham youth (11am) 1-1 Clitheroe

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 4 Sheffield Utd (11am) 1-1 Farr
Saturday 11 Mansfield Town (11am) 3-0 Tarr2/Farr
Tuesday 21 Swindon Town (MY Cup) 1-0 Carrigan
Saturday 25 Rotherham utd (11am) H

OCTOBER

Saturday 2 Chester City (11am) A
Saturday 9 Lincoln City (1pm) A
Saturday 23 Shrewsbury YA Cup A
Saturday 30 Wrexham YA Cup H

NOVEMBER

Saturday 6 Walsall YA Cup A
Saturday 13 Chesterfield (11am) A
Saturday 20 Chester YA Cup H
Saturday 27 Lincoln City (11am) H

DECEMBER

Friday 3 Chesterfield (1pm) A
Saturday 18 Sheffield United (11am) A

JANUARY

Saturday 8 Mansfield Town (11am) H
Saturday 15 Rotherham Utd (11am) H
Saturday 22 Wrexham (11am) A
Saturday 29 CUP 2 (11am)

FEBRUARY

Saturday 5 Chester City (11am) H
Saturday 12 Stockport County (11am) A

MARCH

Wednesday 1 CUP QUARTER-FINAL
Wednesday 22 CUP SEMI-FINAL

APRIL

Sun 16 CUP FINAL

Nationwide	
FOOTBALL LEAGUE	
Division One	
	P W D L F A Pts
Manchester City	7 5 1 1 11 2 16
Birmingham City	8 4 3 1 17 11 15
Ipswich	7 4 2 1 17 7 14
Huddersfield	7 4 1 2 13 7 13
Fulham	7 3 4 0 8 4 13
Barnsley	8 4 1 3 19 16 13
Charlton	5 4 0 1 9 5 12
Stockport	6 4 0 2 7 5 12
Portsmouth	7 3 3 1 10 10 12
West Brom	7 2 5 0 9 7 11
Nott'm Forest	8 2 4 2 10 9 10
Blackburn	6 2 2 2 9 7 8
QPR	6 2 2 2 9 8 8
Crews	6 2 2 2 10 11 8
Sheffield United	7 2 2 3 10 15 8
Grimsby	8 2 2 4 6 11 8
Port Vale	8 2 1 5 9 13 7
Crystal Palace	7 2 1 4 11 17 7
Bolton Wanderers	7 1 3 3 8 10 6
Wolves	6 1 3 2 5 6 6
Walsal	8 1 3 4 7 14 6
Norwich	7 1 2 4 5 9 5
Swindon	7 1 2 4 5 10 5
Tranmere	8 1 1 6 5 15 4



TODAY'S SQUADS



THE VALIANTS



THE ROBINS



PAUL MUSSELWHITE
 MICHAEL WALSH
 ALLEN TANKARD
 DAVE BRAMMER
 TONY BUTLER
 ANTHONY GARDNER
 ALEX SMITH
 MARCUS BENT
 CARL GRIFFITHS
 JEFF MINTON
 TOMMY WIDDRINGTON
 TONY NAYLOR
 KEVIN PILKINGTON
 RICHARD EYRE
 MARTIN FOYLE
 WAYNE CORDEN
 TONY ROUGIER
 GEORGE O'CALLAGHAN
 MATT CARRAGHER
 STEPHEN RIMMER
 LIAM BURNS
 NEIL BRISCOE
 STEWART TALBOT
 SIMON BARKER
 IAN BOGIE
 MATTHEW GLENNON
 MARK SNIJDERS
 PAUL DONNELLY
 STUART CLITHEROE
 ANTHONY TARR
 PAUL TAYLOR

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FRANK TALIA
 MARK ROBINSON
 GARETH HALL
 SCOTT LEITCH
 GARETH DAVIES
 CRAIG TAYLOR
 STEPHEN HOWE
 GEORGE NDAH
 IFFY ONUORA
 GUILIANO GRAZIOLI
 TY GOODEN
 ALAN REEVES
 JIMMY GLASS
 MARK WALTERS
 CHRIS HAY
 LEE COLINS
 STEVE COWE
 STEVE MIDENHALL
 ADAM WILLIS
 CHARLIE GRIFFIN
 SOL DAVIS
 ROBIN HULBERT
 PHILLIPE CUERVO
 SAM CAMPAGNA
 FRAZER McHUGH
 NICHOLAS BURKE
 JAMIE MILLS
 RICHARD CULBERTSON
 ALAN FLANAGAN
 PAUL McAREAVEY
 ALAN HUGHES
 JAMES WILLIAMS

THE REFEREE

MIKE REED BIRMINGHAM

Our Referee for this afternoon's game against Swindon Town is Mike Reed from Birmingham. Mike (47), is a regional manager and is married to Hazel. They have two children, Stuart (17) and Stacey (14). He began refereeing in the Birmingham area in 1973 and progressed to the National Linesmen's list nine years later. He became a Football League Referee in 1985 and in 1993 became a FIFA International Referee. In his free time Mike enjoys playing gardening and cricket. He is a member of Warwickshire C.C.C.

OFFICIALS

Assistant Referees

Mr G. A. Aston
Mr S. Castle

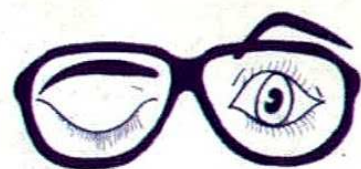


Reserve Official

Mr P. N. Gibbs

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THE MASCOT



Our mascot today is Kai Widdrington and his daddy is Vale player Tommy. Kai is four years old and has just started school at St Joseph's College Preparatory School. His favourite Port Vale players are his daddy and the big number five Tony Butler. In his spare time Kai likes karate, football and trains.

His favourite music is I Believe I can fly by R Kelly and everything by Shania Twain especially Feel Like a Woman.



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