

# FOLLOW YOUR INSTINCT



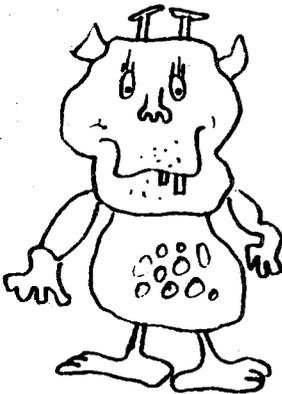
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A HALESOWEN TOWN FANZINE

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WHICH OF THESE IS THE ODD ONE OUT ??

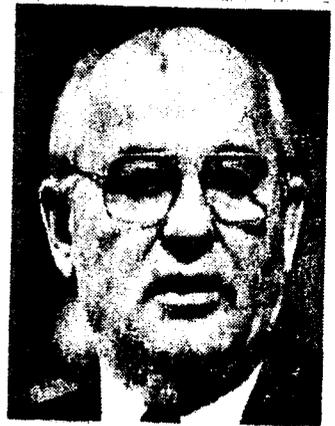
a)



b)



c)



ANSWER :- b) The FA Trophy - The other two are more likely to be seen in Halesowen.

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ISSUE FOUR

OCT/NOV 1991

PRICE: TEN BOB TO YOU

# *Follow Your Instinct*



6 , QUEENS GATE, LIPSON, PLYMOUTH PL4 7PW

1FL, 66, EAST CLAREMONT STREET, EDINBURGH EH7 4JR

## MIDFIELD GENERALS :-

Frank and Poll

## TRICKY WINGER :-

Ada

## COACH :-

Alison

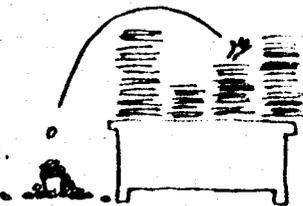
## DEFENSIVE WALL :-

Steve and Sarah, Kevin Harrison's Barber, Magnus McLain, JR, Cyril Waterman, Andy Miller, Esther, PM.

These random scribblings have nothing whatsoever to do with Halesowen Town F.C. or its official supporters clubs. The views expressed are those of the people who wrote them down in the first place and not necessarily those of the editors. Any racist, sexist or obscene material will be taken away and burnt. Anybody sending in anything supporting Stourbridge or the Harriers - we'll notify the appropriate authorities and you can expect a visit soon.

# Editorial

Well, much to our surprise we're still here but there is a definite air of melancholy around FYI mansions these days. It is not so much the actual results causing this, but rather the manner in which they are being achieved. We were never part of the "all we have to do is put 11 players out in a blue shirt and we're bound to win" school of thought, and were generally pretty pleased with last season's 8th place. The recent run of six games without a win didn't help but that's not the problem.



The reason for the disappointment is the negative way in which we've ben playing. Our main reason for watching the Town in the first place was the chance to see exciting, attacking football played on a regular basis. The midfield are playing far too deep and consequently we're losing possession too easily and putting ourselves under pressure. OK so we've got the numbers back but it hardly makes for an exciting game. Come on John - sort 'em out !!

That's enough grouching anyway. If it's goals you want to see then you could do a lot worse than watching the FYI/Halesowen Supporters football team. Quality football with flowing passing movements you won't see, but goals - yes. Hot on the heels of the FYI 6-a-side triumph in the summer we joined forces with the supporters team for a game with the Wealdstone supporters prior to the afternoon match. In a tense, titanic struggle we scraped a 3-3 draw down the tip, after being 2-0 and 3-2 down. Apparently it's the closest match they'd had in years !! Thanks are due to everyone who helped organise the event and to the club for providing kits, changing rooms etc. The rematch is set for Dec. 28th ....

Talking of battling performances, the general opinion was that we did alright at Rhyl under the conditions but it seems the Trophy Jinx has yet to be laid to rest. Maybe we should consider the Birmingham option and get the old gipsy curse removed for good.

## EDITORIAL (CONT.)

So, following the usual annual exit from the Trophy our main focus of attention - outside the league - is now the F.A. Cup. This being written before the match with Baldock fingers, toes and everything else are being crossed. A couple of performances in the same vein as the Tranmere match and things may start to look a bit rosier again. In the league it's no surprise seeing Dover doing the business again, along with Cambridge and Gloucester but there are a few surprises around. Rugby have been threatening for a while but Bashley ????

A few changes to the team have been seen recently but the new arrivals have escaped the scathing criticisms of the FYI pen as they'll be given a while to settle in. Let's just hope they do, as it looks like Shaun is on his way to Halesowen Old Boys F.C., sorry Coventry, and is going to be a hard act to follow. We're going to miss those headers from 25 ft in the air and that goal against Tranmere - well !! This season he has been our most consistent player and we wish him all the best.

### CONTRIBUTIONS

All contributions gratefully recieved. Articles, cuttings, cartoons, letters, wads of money etc. The more we get the better the quality will be so get scrawling. You don't need to be a member of the NUJ.

We are also now available from :-

Magpie Records, Queensway Mall, Halesowen  
Tara's News, Stourbridge Rd., Halesowen  
Nostalgia & Comics, Smallbrook Queensway, B'ham  
Sportspages, 94/96 Charing Cross Rd., London  
Waggon & Horses, Stourbridge Rd., Halesowen

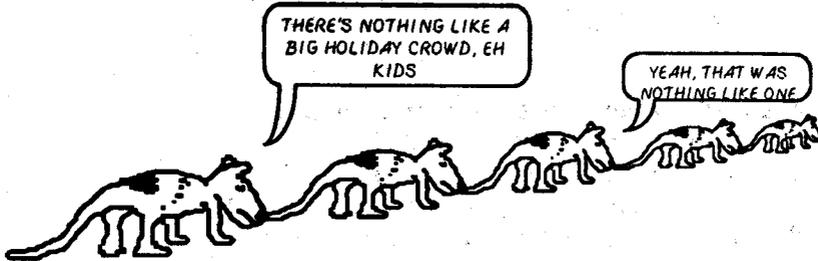
# THE ADVENTURES OF FIDO T DOG

No. 2

(The Harriers' Greatest Fan)

By Tony Lunga

FIDO AND FAMILY ON THE LONG TREK BACK FROM  
THE LYE ON BOXING DAY MORNING ...



## Millwall sued over 'bad view'

### FOOTBALL

THREE Leicester City supporters yesterday successfully sued Second Division Millwall for the "extremely poor view" from the away enclosure at The Den.

The fans were refunded one third of their admission money and travelling expenses while Millwall were ordered to pay more than £135 by District Judge Blomfield at Woolwich County Court.

But the Lions' chairman, Reg Burr, said the club would continue to fight the case. "I am certain that we will be taking advice and that we will appeal."

Glynn Marshall, one of the trio who sued after going to last season's FA Cup third-round match which Millwall won 2-1, said: "We couldn't believe how bad it was.

There was a floodlight pylon in the middle of the enclosure, a high safety fence that obscured all the goalmouth action, and the low roof of the stand cut off part of the pitch.

"Too many clubs treat away fans like this and I think they should all be sued. We decided to sue when Leicester were still leading 1-0 but I must admit our resolve was hardened by Millwall's two late goals."

### IS IT TRUE ??

That Halesowen Harriers are being sued by a Mr. O.L.D. Mann complaining that because of the unobstructed view, he was forced to watch the Harriers play when walking his dog on a Saturday afternoon ??

# QUIZ TIME

Call yourself a loyal Yeltz fan ? Complete a few simple questions and find out if you'll still be down The Grove in May when we get relegated (not that there's a pessimistic atmosphere here at FYI Mansions or anything.) Rules as in any good women's magazine.

1. What was your first Halesowen game:
  - (a) VS Rugby at Wembley 1983 ?
  - (b) Vase run pre-Wembley 1983 ?
  - (c) When Paddy Page was still playing ?
  - (d) When Harry Rudge was still playing ?
  
2. Your twin sister from whom you were separated at birth is found by 'Surprise Surprise'. However the reunion is arranged for a Tuesday when the Yeltz are due to play a 1st Round B'ham Senior Cup replay. Do you:
  - (a) Go down to LWT to record the show, nipping out halfway through to phone the Yeltzline ?
  - (b) Arrange to meet your sister in the Waggon after the game ?
  - (c) Postpone the reunion to a night when neither the first team or reserves are playing ?
  - (d) Ask Cilla and your long-lost twin down the match to make sure the relationship starts off on the right foot ?
  
3. What would you buy your granny for her 70th birthday:
  - (a) A pair of fluffy slippers ?
  - (b) A bottle of sweet sherry ?
  - (c) The new Halesowen away kit ?
  - (d) The latest fanzine ?
  
4. You are kidnapped by the 'Sue Lawley Black Country Traitors' and forced to live the rest of your life on a desert island. However they allow you one luxury along with a book and a few records. What would you take as your luxury:

- (a) Some soap ?
- (b) A barrel of Banks's Mild ?
- (c) Your Halesowen Town Subbuteo team ?
- (d) A Ceefax TV for following the Beazer Homes results?

5. Your girlfriend/boyfriend/husband/wife tells you that you spend too much time down the footy and he/she wants to go on holiday. Do you suggest:

- (a) The Bahamas ?
- (b) The New Forest (near Bashley) around May 2nd ?
- (c) The East End of London (near Fisher) on Feb 8th ?
- (d) Tell him/her to wait until we're in the Conference?

How did you do ?

Question	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1	1	2	4	8
2	1	5	2	10
3	1	4	15	7½
4	1	6	9	13½
5	-4	2	10	7

If you scored :

- 0 Yeltz fan? Pah! Groundhopper more like.
- 1-16 Don't tell me, you have to go shopping on Saturdays and you work too far away to get to midweek games. Pull your socks up.
- 17-32 Not bad, but get rid of last season's shirt with the Hardanger advertising on the front.
- 33-45 Well done - never seen you down the reserves though.
- 46-56½ Excellent! Where are you staying in Fisher?

# THOSE LAZY HAZY CRAZY AWAY DAYS OF SUMMER

Well it was nice and hot and a joy to watch football in the sunshine. As I only saw Halesowen for 1½ games in August I can't really say too much about our heroes as I know that 135 mins is not enough to assess a team in - although 70% of our crowd only need 45 mins on average !!

## SUMMER

As always it was a pleasure to watch a game at Sherley Lane, home of North-field Town. In my opinion there is no better ground to watch football in late summer and the springtime. I saw history made as Fairfield Villa actually won a game in the Influence Comb. Div. 2. The team was so high in the league early season that the players all got nosebleeds.

## TIME

As the nights draw in it will be time to see more of the "Big Guns" in action as Kidderminster/Worcester and Stourbridge (Big Guns ?? - Ed's) start to play midweek games.

Just to prove that the FYI journalistic team are well-versed in all levels of the non-league game I was sent (went on his own accord - Ed's) on a no expenses day out to the Cotswolds.

## AND

The occasion was the FA Vase extra-preliminary Rd. with Fairford Town v Larkhall Athletic. After a lazy morning drive and walks around the Thames & Fairford I arrived at the neat little ground at 2.40. £1.50 admission (inc. programme) which I assume was an FA directive as previous experience of Hellenic footy cost £1.

## THE

Both teams were warming up in the hot weather looking smart and well kitted out. A crowd of about 40 was ready at 3 and were not disappointed as Fairford stormed into a 2-0 lead after 32 mins with some lively attacking play. Larkhall's overworked defence, aided by their keeper, managed to keep it thus to half time.

The second half was more even and after 65 mins a 30 yarder from Larkhall's no.6 bounced awkwardly over the diving keeper - come back Phil, all is forgiven ! Larkhall, encouraged by their success storm forward and chances go begging at both ends until, on 78 mins, their no. 11 curls a free 20 yrd shot into the bottom corner. Fairford then lose their keeper, sent off for handling outside his area and Larkhall hit every part of the woodwork with the sub-goalie spectating. Full-time brings a 2-2 score and extra time.

#### LIVING

Fairford are spurred on by the loss of their goalie but cannot convert their many chances into goals. In the 1st minute of the 2nd period a defensive error by their captain, Bell, is punished by Larkhall's no. 11 for his 2nd goal of the game. It proves to be the winner and at 3-2 Larkhall earn a home tie with Bristol Manor Farm in the next round.

All in all, a very exciting game with plenty of action and incident. I thought the best team lost and was impressed by Fairfords attacking attitude. No surprise they're top of their division. Still, full credit to Larkhall for hanging on in there and making the most of their chances. Good luck in the next round, but I predict the 2nd round is out of their reach.

IS

Fairford have a nice ground, an attacking side and friendly supporters (though few). They may well finish one better than last seasons 2nd place. All the best for the season.

EASY

I'll keep you informed of my well-versed rhyme on the non-league scene both local and widespread if enough people read the column. If not then I'll just collect my £2,000 per word salary the easy way !!

P.M.

P.S. Has anyone else who reads this been on Penrith's ground ?? (Who cares ??? - Ed's)



The West Midlands branch of the Football Supporters Association hold monthly meetings as follows :-

VENUE:- "Pen and Wig" public house, corner of Dale End/ Newton Street, B'ham.

TIME:- 8 p.m. on the second Monday of every month.

FREE ADMISSION, NON-MEMBERS WELCOME

There should be a guest speaker at every meeting, more details nearer the date.

For any further information ring either Richard Clark (0384) 392975 or Steve Moss (021) 459-1482.

## **BANKS'S MILD AFTERSHAVE**

**For the man that  
doesn't want to try  
too hard**

*"Not only smells good,  
it tastes good too!!"  
- a top Rugby International*



# HALF TIME

"O.K. lads it's 1-0, we can't go for the 0-0 draw anymore. What we gonna do ?"

"Well boss, we could push some players forward."

"Into their half you mean ? Mmm, not sure I like that at this early stage of the game. I've told you about those runs into the box as well, cut it out !"

"I am the centre forward boss"

"Deep lying, deep lying centre forward, lad. Your main function is to stop the forward runs of their back four."

"They've only got a back two, boss."

"Arh, I've noticed that. Down right liberty, teams playing with only two at the back. I'm going to counter that !"

"By pushing players forward, boss ?"

"No, no ! By packing the midfield - stop 'em knocking the ball about."

"But boss, if you do that it'll stop our midfield playing as well. Push more men forward, they'll have to drop back. It'll give everybody more space."

"No way ! I've thought about that. Our midfield can drop back into the space just in front of the back four and knock the long high ball over their midfield. Catch 'em on the break."

"We need a big target man for that....."

".....or a fast winger..."

cont.

"Just a minute, if you're talking 4-3-3 again, forget it !! Much too difficult for the midfield and look at the pressure on the back four. Out of the question ! No, what we'll do is carry on being careful. Defend in depth, pack the midfield, make sure they don't score again. Then, with 10 minutes left, if it's still 1-0, we'll support the front two. Only one at a time of course, and if they get the ball - drop back, win it back and pump it forward. Remember, wide midfield - cover your fullbacks, forwards - behind the ball, lets keep our shape, we can do it! Go out there and surprise them, lads !!"

J.R.

## Clothes Show Extra

It's the most pressing fashion question of the day - is it OK to wear the old 'Hardanger' tops to matches anymore ?

The editorial team is split over this one. Half of us manage to keep up with the times, modelling the stylish and elegant white shirts with contrasting orange epaulettes to great effect, whilst the other half continue to prefer the 'traditional' boring old red and white stripey ones.

What do you think? Simply fill in your voting slip and get it to us before the next issue.

DO YOU PREFER THE OLD RED & WHITE SHIRT ?



YES, THE OLD-FASHIONED  
RED & WHITE STRIPED ONE IS BEST



NO, I PREFER THE DEAD TRENDY  
NEW WHITE & ORANGE NUMBER

# A Letter To Ed.

Dear Fellow Supporters,

Have you noticed how often the Halesowen goalkeeper kicks the ball towards the sidelines? OK it might be directed towards Sean Flynn who's not bad in the air for his height; OK it's not towards the opposition centre-backs who usually tower above our forwards; the point is everybody knows goalkicks should be punted down the middle regardless.

The next time Tony Rowe tries this ridiculous tactic I expect you all to shout "Down the middle, Tony mate!" If he still persists then we should whistle to try and put him off until he learns his lesson. It's our team and they should play the way we want them to.

Yours,  
A loyal Yeltz fan

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Dear FYI,

Just a short note of thanks for all your support through the little difficulties I've been having recently. I was glad the coup ended in time for me to get down to Worcester on Bank Holiday Monday.

See you soon,  
Boris Yeltz-in

PS Gorby thought Issue 3 was the best so far.

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Dear Editors,

Call yourselves topical? Everybody else put their prices up over the close-season, so how come your pitiful publication kept its prices the same as last year. What sort of example is that to set to anyone?

Yours etc.,  
Johnny 'Free Market' Stokes

Dear Eds,

I have sent this letter to an address in Liverpool as it seems to be roughly the mid-point between Plymouth and Edinburgh, in the hope that it reaches you both.

How often do any of your readers find that when they are tuning their radios to Radio WM for the football they come across Radio Shropshire ? This usually happens just as Pat Foley is saying "Let's go over to Crown Meadow where Bridgnorth are playing Stroud in an important Beazer Midland game....". Whilst I find this very interesting, as I always enjoy hearing about the fortunes of fellow Beazer clubs and their coverage of Shrewsbury and Telford now that Dean Spink and Tim Langford are involved, at the same time it does make me very envious.

With all due respect to Bridgnorth, they can hardly be regarded as being of similar status to Halesowen and yet they enjoy far more local radio coverage than WM give to us. Admittedly, Radio Shropshire do not have as many league clubs to cover but I would have thought there was sufficient demand for Radio WM to enhance their Non-league coverage of us and others in their broadcasting area. I did once make suggestions to Radio WM but sadly recieved a very dismissive response. Wouldn't it be great to have Tony Butler covering our matches ?? (Would it ?? - Eds)

Yours etc.,

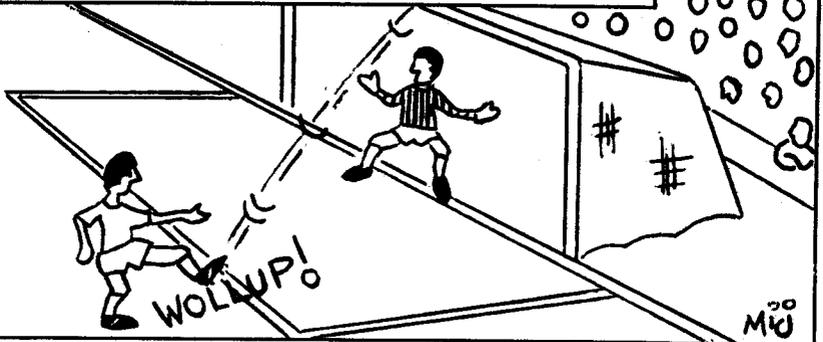
Cyril Waterman

PS : My seven year old son has recently joined the Junior Yeltz club and received his starter pack including a red and white scarf. He finds it very difficult to understand why he has been sent this when he can't wear it at the matches home or away. Can you provide any suggestions to help me explain this to him ??

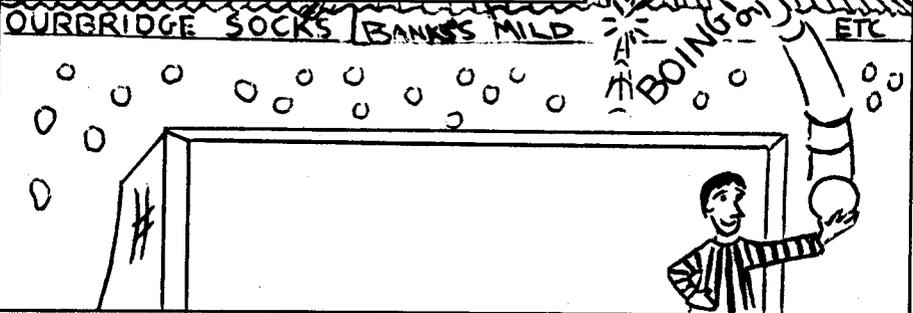
FPS : On a similar theme has anyone any good ideas for the use of the now obsolete Hardanger replica shirts ?? Should they be worn just when decorating or hung carefully in the wardrobe as a memento of a golden era ? I would still like to wear mine to matches, but when I do, I find myself the target of ridicule of my mate's teenage sons who do not consider this trendy.

# U R THE REF

1. KEVIN HARRISON HITS A VICIOUS SHOT JUST OVER THE BAR AGAINST HIS OLD TEAMMATES AT STOURBRIDGE.



2. THE STOURBRIDGE KEEPER REACTS SHARPLY TO CATCH THE REBOUND ONE-HANDED OFF THE STAND.



DO YOU :-

- SEND KEVIN OFF AS IT'S WELL-KNOWN THAT ONE-HANDED OFF THE WALL IS OUT?
- AWARD A PENALTY AGAINST THE STOURBRIDGE KEEPER FOR UNGENTLEMANLY CONDUCT (SHOWING OFF) ?
- AGAINST YOUR BETTER JUDGEMENT, GIVE STOURBRIDGE A GOAL KICK?

ANSWER : (d) IT'S A TRICK QUESTION. STOURBRIDGE HAVEN'T GOT A STAND SOLID ENOUGH TO REBOUND A HARRISON SHOT.

# Nostalgia - It Sure Ain't

My Dad rated Jimmy Meanie. Jimmy Meanie could turn on a threepenny bit, he said. Unfortunately, Jimmy was just before my time. My early visits to the Grove were spent kicking up the dust in the shed end, going on the swings at half-time and eating an ice cream from the corner shop on the way home.

" BUT IT

In the mid to late 1950's I can remember Sammy Roberts, the winger noted for his bullet shot. There was a fan who used to shout, "Sam, Sam, pick up thy musket, Sam !". I never understood what this had to do with football but it certainly amused the elderly patrons of the wooden seats.

WOR AN 'ARD

My first footballing hero was Ronnie Dugmore. My Dad thought he could play a bit as well and obviously influenced my choice of Duggie as a firm favourite.

GAME THEN

To be diplomatic Duggie was barrel shaped, some

may have called him fat. Suffice to say in any language he was not an athletic looking specimen. (I did catch sight of Duggie last year and he looked a lot fitter than in his playing days.) He was slightly bow legged and had an ambling, rocking run, if anything slightly slower than it looked ! In the modern game his lack of top class fitness would probably nullify his skills but in the late 1950's the pace of the game was such that skill could overcome lack of speed.

EH, BERT ??

In todays terms Duggie was a player of great vision. As an attacking inside forward he was always trying to do something with the ball; spraying first time passes out to the wingers (yes wingers, plural), slipping through balls to the centre forward (not striker, centre forward) or working a shooting position for himself.

- NAMBY PAMBIES

Duggie took an unfair amount of stick from other players but also knew how

# A SHORT PIECE

Small is beautiful, so they say. (*Gladstone Small?! - eds*) I must say I've always been partial to big centre-forwards. I'm not sure if it wasn't because of the realistic Admiral kits, but my England subbuteo team was unbeaten when Bob Latchford played instead of Kevin Keegan up front. So what about the midgets Halesowen have got? Would we do any better with a target man up front?

## SALMON LEAPS

Since we started our march from the West Mids League we've never exactly been well-endowed with giant centre-forwards. Geoff Moss and his near-post flick-ons were the nearest we ever came to aerial power in those days. I'm not sure if the defenders in the Beazer Premier are any bigger, but not all of them are complete donkeys - long gone are the games when we'd humiliate defences merely by showing a modicum of skill.

## TINY TOTS

We played the first few games of the season with a front line of Flynn, Attwood and Harrison. You couldn't really accuse them of having their heads in the clouds; their average height is about 5'6". (*I've measured them and it's true - technical ed*) Each time, once we realised it wasn't the greatest of ideas to keep lofting the ball over the top, we played it into feet and looked like a good team.

## COTTERILLS

OK things haven't gone too well since (and not that badly either!), but surely the principle still holds - you don't need a team of giants to win games in the Beazer League. Skill, speed and quickness of thought are just as important. Of course Sean's not exactly useless in the air, especially because most teams don't realise and won't mark him with their tallest defender.

## MOTHERCARE

With all due respect to the current players, I don't think we've as yet found adequate replacements for either Dean Spinks or Timmy Langford. Think of the team we'd have if we hadn't lost the players transferred in the last couple of years; it's enough to make a grown man weep - or at least get beaten up in a nightclub toilet.

## STICK WITH THE LITTLE 'UNS

We all want success down The Grove. I hope that we never go down the Dave Bassett/John Beck road of recruiting a team of hammer-throwers to try and gain promotion by playing ugly football. Lets get there by playing decent stuff and show the world how it should be done.



Alan Attwood leaps his mighty salmon leap to be beaten by a keeper with his feet still on the ground.

# AWAY DAZE

17 AUGUST 1991

CAMBRIDGE 2 HALESOWEN 1

Ryan Hemans  
and again

TOWN: Rowe; Goodall, Vowles, Smith, Heywood; Flynn, Hemans, Shilvock, Edwards; Harrison, Attwood

SUBS: Bradley, Laker

By some strange coincidence, on the same weekend that I'd suggested it would be nice to go and visit friends of ours in Cambridge, it just happened Halesowen were playing their first game of the season in the same city. 'Synchronicity' Sting would call it, others simply deviciousness but as I was in the area I thought I may as well pop along to see how we got on.

Hopes were high before the game since we'd stuffed Cambridge twice last year, but with Malcolm suspended and a couple of other injuries we weren't exactly in the best shape to face a team who finished 3rd last season. They had a couple of giant Jason Donovan lookalikes up front whilst our average height was about 5'5". Predictably they caused us trouble in the air right from the start. After only three minutes a cross from the right, a free header parried by Tony Rowe, a rebound knocked in, and we were 1-0 down.

Things didn't look too bad as we were playing some nice football, but every time they broke out they looked very threatening. Sure enough it was another header that put them two up on the half hour. After a period of sustained Halesowen pressure, another cross from the right, another free header (this time from about six inches off the ground) and we were not happy.

At half-time we were rolling out the "game of two halves" cliches to try and cheer ourselves up more than anything, but not realising how strong the wind we'd been playing into in the first half was, it wasn't far off the truth.

We stormed straight into them after the break; Leroy hit a screamer from at least 60 yards ten minutes into the half and we had them rattled.

Unfortunately, despite having nearly all of the play for the rest of the game, the equaliser never came and we had to be content with a good performance and nothing to show for it. Still the weather was nice and our friends were pleased to see us.

26 AUGUST 1991

WORCESTER 1 HALESOWEN 2

Flynn

Edwards

TOWN: Rowe; Goodall, Vowles, Smith, Heywood; Flynn, Hemans, Shilcock, Edwards; Harrison, Attwood

SUBS: Hazlewood, Hardwick

Had David Heywood really parked his car illegally or was the bloke on the loudspeaker trying a fast one? He fancied himself as a bit of a comedian, but we were the ones giggling when Sean took off and powered an unstoppable header in early on.

The way both defences were dealing with anything in the air, we all felt a high-scoring game coming on. Sure enough they equalised with a carbon-copy of the first Cambridge goal, then Pancho answered with right-foot rocket from the edge of the area.

Malcolm came on for Vowles in the second half, with Robert playing at the back. We didn't look much safer but Malcolm added a bit of sanity in a hectic midfield; the way he beat three men to get to the corner flag near the end was pure genius. Kevin hit the post after the best move of the game, and somehow we held on to the end.

## AWAY DAZE (CONT.)

2nd place after 4 games. Mr "Stop trying to play football, Halesowen", please take note.

7 SEPTEMBER 1991

CRAWLEY 2 HALESOWEN 0

Pitch and weather conditions played a great part in determining the style of this game. It was very hot with a strong, scorching wind blowing down the not inconsiderable slope of Crawley's pitch.

Town kicked uphill in the first half against the wind. From the first whistle to half-time we were put under heavy pressure. The Crawley targetman English laid the ball off well to some strong running midfield players, and the overlapping left-back caused havoc with his speedy, dribbling runs. We seemed incapable of stringing two passes together, but we did make an excellent chance when, after hard work from Attwood, Harrison headed wide of an empty goal.

The penalty award heralded much dissent but seemed reasonable. English held the ball in the area (*Handball! - eds*) and turned just before the challenge. A push in the back and it was 1-0 to Crawley.

In the second half, prompted by the hardworking Hemans and Shilvock, we pushed forward and created a few half chances from almost continuous heavy pressure. But it was obviously one of those days when the ball was not going to hit the back of net; the posts and crossbar, yes, the net, no! Crawley looked dangerous on the break and from a fast flowing move went further ahead, sealing the game. Although we'd had a substantially better second half, the score fairly reflected the play over the 90 minutes.

JR

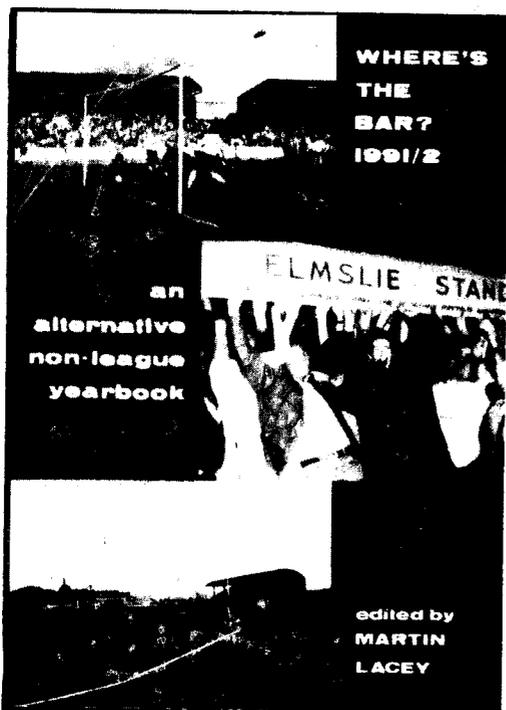


# Blind The Gap

So it looks like all we've got to do is win the league and the Football League will be ours for the taking. Farnboro's great start to the season has been one in the eye for all the so-called non-league experts who've been boring the pants off us for years saying how difficult it is for a team to establish itself in the Conference.

OK they'd only just come down the year before, and they were a class team, but it is encouraging. Fisher aren't exactly setting the Beazer Premier alight this season after years of yoyo-ing between leagues, so maybe this myth of Conference teams' invincibility will start to fade. Perhaps the few teams that are taking the plunge into full-time football will pull away from the rest, but on current form it appears the rest of the division are not completely out of sight.

Trouble is, we ain't gonna win the league in a million years.



**WHERE'S  
THE  
BAR?  
1991/2**

an  
alternative  
non-league  
yearbook

ELMSLIE STAND

edited by  
**MARTIN  
LACEY**

**OUT NOW!**  
**WHERE'S THE BAR? 1991/2**  
An Alternative Non-League Yearbook

Second edition of the alternative guide to non-league football, written by and for the fans. Contains full 1990/1 statistics for GMVC, BHL, HFS Loans League and Diadora League, plus F.A. Cup and Trophy, Feeder league tables etc. Club features on Barrow, Cheltenham, Dover, Margate, Hitchin, Halesowen, Chorley, Bangor, Kidderminster, Witton, Farnborough, Nuneaton, Dagenham, Newport, Gateshead, Wealdstone, Northwich and Barnet. Directory/ground guide with photos. 96 A4 pages. Full colour cover. ISBN 1 872204 03 1. Price £3.95. Available from Soccer Bookshelf (mail order), Sports-pages, or can be ordered from any bookshop by quoting the ISBN. Alternatively send £3.95 (+ £0.80 p&p) direct to the publishers, Juma, 44 Wellington Street, Sheffield, S1 4HD.

# RANTING AND RAVING

There's been a few things we here at FYI mansions have been wanting to get off our chests for a while now and so here goes with a bit of totally biased and over the top ranting.

## PART ONE

So who's been watching the Rugby World Cup then ? After all the hype over the summer the thing has actually got under way and is now thankfully drawing to an end.

BILL

Firstly, let's look at the origins of Rugby. A spoilt little brat at a posh public school decided he was so bad at football that he would cheat by picking up the ball and running with it. Instead of being sent off for a deliberate hand ball and denying his opponents a goal scoring opportunity the game was adopted by all the other people who couldn't play football and generations of schoolboys were subjected to being trampled and crushed in games lessons when they'd much rather have had a kick around.

The rules ?? Well, we've already established that the game was born out of cheating so that's a bit of a joke in the first place. Apparently, punching your opponent's face in is allowable but talking to the referee incurs a ten yard penalty !!

BEAUMONT IS

It is not this inconsistency that I find so annoying but rather the media's double standards in their reporting. You don't have to cast your mind back too far to the so called "Old Trafford Brawl" and the repercussions surrounding the incident at the time. The press carried calls for prosecutions, players to be made an example of etc., etc. Yet when it comes to Rugby incidents have been occurring in practically

every match which make the Arsenal - Man Utd. fracas look like a pacifist's convention.

#### THE STAR

On top of that a referee has been assaulted in the tunnel after the match and absolutely no action taken whatsoever. It's all just laughed off as a bit of over exhuberant fun.

#### OF A

You can guarantee that if the same sort of things had been going on during the England - Turkey match, on television the same week, the calls would have been made to ban football, ban people from watching it etc.

#### QUESTION

Can you imagine what the headlines would have been like had Des Walker, for instance, gone up to the referee on the way back to the dressing room and landed one on him ??

With the FYI resident psychologist off on his holidays at the moment, I'm not going to go into the arguments of whether violence on the pitch will be reciprocated amongst the fans etc.. It's just that I would like to see these incidents reported in the same way whichever shape the goalposts happen to be at either end of the pitch.

#### OF SPORT

I know I'm probably living in a dream world hoping to see reasonable and unbiased reporting in the media but it's enough to give a decent football fan a persecution complex when such glaring double standards are displayed. The British press - the best in the World, eh ??

#### THOUGH

Anyway, while I'm on the subject, how can anyone take seriously a game where the only tactic seems to be to boot the ball as far into the crowd as possible at every available opportunity ??

## PART TWO.

I hate Groundhoppers. Getting worked up about visiting an obscure new ground in the Dorset Combination seems to me to be as ridiculous as going Video Train-Spotting at Stourbridge Junction.

Football is all about passion. Non-believers go on about "22 men chasing a ball around a field". Poor people - imagine missing out on moments like when we took the lead against Tranmere. If Groundhoppers had their way, they'd reduce football to something like stamp-collecting; going to a match just to tick it off in your Non-League Yearbook rather than to support your team.

The next time you hear someone at a game discussing what way-out matches they've been to, grasp them firmly by the hair and escort them out of the ground. Supporters of the world unite and rid football of this scum once and for all.

## SURVEY

From "Where's the Bar ?":

The latest edition is well worth getting hold of. It's all written by actual fans but let's try to get ourselves out of this section for the next issue.

### LEAST HOSPITABLE CLUB

1. TAMWORTH
2. Gloucester City
- 3.= Halesowen Town  
Yeovil Town
5. Fisher Athletic
6. Enfield
7. Dartford
8. Crawley Town
- 9.= Chelmsford City  
Wealdstone



# FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS AGAINST MS



The footballing world is joining forces for the biggest charity initiative in the history of the game. "Football Against MS", aims to raise £3.5 Million in support for Action and Research for Multiple Sclerosis (ARMS) and will involve everybody at all levels within the game.

Football Against MS already has the support of League clubs in England, Scotland and Wales, the governing bodies, and supporters groups within the game. It will encompass numerous events taking place between September 1991 and May 1992.

The focal point will be three simultaneous walks visiting every League club, plus some non-league clubs along the way in England, Scotland and Wales. Players, staff and celebrities will walk between each club ground and supporters will be encouraged to raise money and walk with them.

Starting on 12th January, two of the walks will finish at Wembley Stadium during half time of the FA Cup Final, and the third will finish in Glasgow on Scottish FA Cup Final day.

The week 25th April to 2nd May has been designated "Football Against MS Week" when football orientated events will take place all over the country to raise funds for the cause.

Amongst the many things being done for FAMS are : National under 14 5-a-side competition with the finals at Wembley before the FA Cup Final, a woman's 5-a-side tournament, Two books - "The Match Of My Life" and a fanzine compilation by the Football Supporters Association called "It's Twelve inches High... And It's Made of Solid Gold", Veteran matches where supporters will have the chance to play the "old" team of the club they support, collections, competitions and auctions of football memorabilia.

As well as helping ARMS the event will also put a substantial amount of money back into the game at all levels.

Multiple Sclerosis affects an estimated 100,000 people in Britain. It is a progressive disease with no known cause or cure.

Action and Research for Multiple sclerosis (ARMS) will use the money raised from "Football Against MS" to further research and assist with the practical management of the condition.

The FSA and this fanzine urge you to support this event and to get involved as much as you can.

Multiple Sclerosis can affect anybody - it is not hereditary. it can strike at anytime. It could affect someone you know - tomorrow

For further information contact ARMS at 4a Chapel Hill, Stanstead, Essex or watch out for details that will appear just about everywhere.

# **FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS AGAINST MS**

This season the whole of football will come together to help  
raise funds for  
**ACTION AND RESEARCH AGAINST MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS**

Funds will be raised through the staging of :

**A National Walk to all  
English and Scottish league grounds  
Supporters Matches  
Collections  
Parties/ discos and barbecues  
Match of my Life book  
It's Twelve Inches High... fanzine compilation  
A National Raffle**

**Plus other events too numerous to mention**

For further information contact  
FAMS at 4a Chapel Hill, Stanstead, Essex  
or watch out for further details that will appear just about  
everywhere.

**Don't miss the FSA fanzine compilation  
*"It's Twelve Inches High..."*  
due out on sale before Christmas**

**ARMS Registered Charity No : 268899 Registered Company No : 1196338**

## MAGIC MOMENTS

"What's the best moment you've had watching Halesowen?" I was asked the other day. Not an easy question to answer as you might think. Going to Wembley? Scoring at Wembley? Winning the Midland division? Geoff Moss scoring five at Ledbury? Les Prosser's goal at Gresley? No, after much deliberation I decided that it would have to be a moment which occurred only last year.

### AND FIGLETS

With the F.A. Cup match against Baldock coming up my mind turned back to that wonderful move and finish to go one nil up against Tranmere in the first round, this time last year.

### EAR'S STREAMED

At the time Tranmere were top of the 3rd Division and so were probably the toughest draw we could have had at this stage of the competition. There was a general air of optimism about the game though and a belief that down the Grove we stood a good chance of springing a surprise.

The opening 5 or 10 minutes had been fairly even and, if anything, we had been playing the better football. And then it happened !! A Tranmere attack broke down and the ball was played out to Leroy in mid-field. Sean set off on a run down the right, Leroy showed one of his moments of true genius and the ball was passing a stranded full-back for Sean to run onto.

### BEHIND HIM

After what seemed like an eternity, Sean had gathered the ball and taken it towards the goal. As the keeper, Nixon, advanced towards him Sean glanced up and curled it majestically round him and into the back of the net.

### LIKE BANNERS

All we had to do now was hang on for the next 80 minutes and a historic victory would be ours. Unfortunately Tranmere were a good team and it was not to be.

### IN THE WIND

With Sean's imminent departure to Coventry in one moment he wrote himself into the FYI history books forever.

# Further Reading

We were going to review the fanzines available but who are we to criticise anybody ?? All of them have their own merits and so here's a list of some which might be of interest to somebody

## GENERAL NON-LEAGUE

- "Lets Get Talking" - 50p from 41 Lockington Avenue, Hartley, Plymouth,  
Devon PL3 5QG  
"Non-League Football Fanfare" - 40p from 26 Orchard Road, Kingston Upon Thames  
Surrey KT1 2QQ

## OTHERS INCLUDE :-

- DARTFORD - "Light at the End of the Tunnel" 50p from 19 The Terraces,  
Dartford, Kent.  
DOVER ATHLETIC - "Dover Soul" 40p from 9A St. Johns Road, Dover,  
Kent CT17 9SE.  
"Tales From the River End" 40p from 92 Wyndham Road  
Dover, Kent.  
"Rhodes Boyson - Oo's Ee Play For 7" 50p from 72  
Longfield Road, Dover, Kent.  
FARNBOROUGH TOWN - "Simon's Haircut" 50p from 129 Roberts Road, Aldershot  
Hants, GU12 4RA  
GLOUCESTER CITY - "Tiger Roar" 20p from 70 Sussex Gardens, Hucclecote,  
Gloucester GL3 3SU  
KIDDERMINSTER - "The Soup" 50p from 29 Silgal, Stourport, Nr. Kidderminster  
Worcs.  
MOOR GREEN - "Moors Code" 50p from 69 Fitzroy Ave., Harborne,  
Birmingham B17 9RH  
RUSHDEN TOWN - "Russians Roulette" 40p from 22 Queen Street, Rushden,  
Northants NN10 9AZ  
STOURBRIDGE - "Glass Routes" 40p from 78 Meridan Avenue, Wollaston,  
Stourbridge, W.Mids, DY8 4QS  
WATERLOOVILLE - "Flippin' Eck Ref, That was a Foul Surely" 50p from 268  
Somers Road North, Fratton, Portsmouth, PO1 1PL  
WEALDSTONE - "The Elsie Ender" 50p from 37 Grange Road, Kenton, Harrow,  
Middlesex HA1 2PR  
"Long Ball Down the Middle" 1 from 50 Hartington Close,  
Sudbury Hill, Harrow, Middx.  
ASTON VILLA - "Heroes and Villians" 50p from P.O. Box 1703, Perry Barr,  
Birmingham, B42 1UZ  
"Witton Wisdom" 50p from 50 High Road, Byfleet, Surrey  
KT14 7QL  
B'HAM CITY - "Tired and Veary" 50p from 133 Longmore Road, Shirley  
Solihull, W.Mids B90 3EF  
WALSALL - "Saddle Sore" 40p from 24 Blenheim Road, Horspath, Oxford  
OX9 1RY  
WEST BROM - "Grorty Dick" 50p from c/o 7 Ruth Close, Tipton, Staffs.  
DY4 0AR  
WOLVES - "A Load of Bull" 50p from Box 277, 52 Call Lane, Leeds  
LS1 6DT  
"WHEN SATURDAY COMES" is also available at newsagents, W H Smiths e.t.c.

REMEMBER : Please enclose an SAE when writing away for fanzines.

**COMING**

**STRAIGHT OUTTA**

**HALESOWEN.....**



**FYI**  
*in the Area!!*