



The Mariner

Grimsby Town v Bristol City

Nationwide League Division 2
Saturday 9th August 1997 Kick-Off 3.00pm

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THE BUCKLEY BRIEF

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the opening game of a brand new season, and the visit of Bristol City to Blundell Park.

It goes without saying that the first game of the season is an important one. All over the country supporters of different clubs will be full of optimism and hope of getting off to a good start. And Grimsby Town Football Club is no different. Today will be a tough game against a side which made the play-offs last season. Manager John Ward has done a good job in a relatively short period of time in the hot seat and he can be highly satisfied with the achievement of reaching the play-offs, although he will



Kingsley Black curls in a glorious free kick against Aberdeen, to seal the 2-1 victory

undoubtedly have been disappointed to have eventually missed out on promotion. I feel Bristol City will be one of the stronger teams in Division Two and will provide us with a very good test. It may have surprised many of you when I arrived back at Blundell Park and it seems a bit strange to be writing an article in the Grimsby Town matchday programme once more after a gap of nearly three years. From my own point of view it is great to be back and after a good pre-season, I am looking forward to the start of the real action this afternoon. The players

have responded well over the last 4-5 weeks and I want them to continue the good work. As often happens when a new manager takes over, there have been some new signings and they have fitted in well. I felt that I needed to bring the squad up to strength and the new signings have done that. The players fully understand the way I want the game played. My sides will always look to secure three points in a way which is entertaining and I certainly hope they repay the faith and optimism shown in them.



Last Monday evening I was on the panel for the Clubs Fans Forum and I would like to thank all the fans who attended. Many of the aspects of the Club were discussed in a very open manner and there were several fans keen to make their point. The Club is always prepared to take your opinions on board and implement them if they are thought to be useful. In closing, may I thank all the supporters who have welcomed me back to the club. Please get behind the players from the first whistle and give them your backing. Once again, thanks for your support.



Danny Butterfield in action

Best wishes
Alan Buckley

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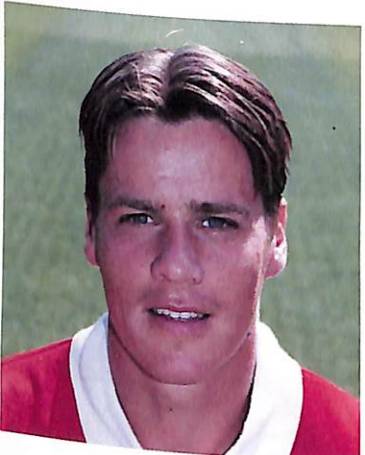
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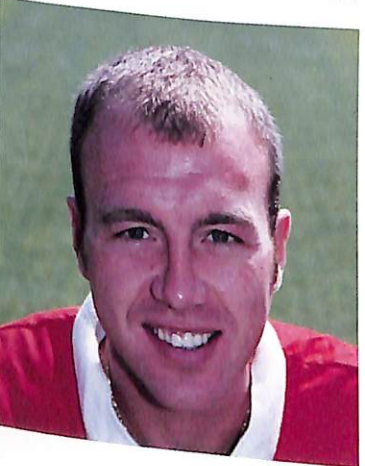
The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of Grimsby Town FC. Any correspondence regarding this magazine should be addressed to the Editor at the above address.



Shaun Goater



Darren Barnard



Gary Owers

MANAGER

John Ward

Born: Lincoln, 1951

John's playing career as a striker took him to Lincoln City, Warrington, Watford, Grimsby Town and Lincoln City, totalling 282 appearances and scoring 100 goals. On his retirement from playing, he joined Graham Taylor's Watford as coach, moving on to Aston Villa with Taylor to become assistant manager. When Taylor moved to the England job, John became manager at York City, followed by a managerial stint at Bristol Rovers before leaving Turf Moor to assist manager Adrian Heath at Burnley. He became City's new manager following the departure of Joe Jordan at the end of March 1997.

GOALKEEPERS

Stuart Naylor

Born: Wetherby, 6.12.62

Joined City at the start of 1996/97 after spending 11 years at West Bromwich Albion. Commenced his League career with Lincoln City in 1980 before moving to The Hawthorns in 1986 for a six-figure fee. After 400 appearances he line up for his City debut at Gillingham on the opening day of last season.

Keith Welch

Born: Bolton, 3.10.68

Keith's career started with his home town club before he moved to Rochdale in March 1987. In four years at Spotland he made well over 200 first team appearances. A £200,000 transfer fee brought him to Ashton Gate in July 1991. He won back the No. 1 spot from Stuart Naylor at the end of last season and has now also made over 200 League appearances for The Robins.

DEFENDERS

Mickey Bell

Born: Newcastle, 15.11.71

A stylish defender who was snapped up by City in July for a bargain £150,000 after impressive displays at Wycombe Wanderers where he was the club's Player of the Year. Will provide City with a number of options down the left flank. Formerly with Northampton Town for whom he made 177 appearances.

Louis Carey

Born: Bristol 20.1.77

Louis progressed through the youth ranks at Ashton Gate and was rewarded with a one-year contract in 1995. After an impressive first season at professional level, where he made 26 appearances after making his debut in the 1-0 win at York in October 1995, he was rewarded with a new two-year contract and is fast establishing himself as a first team regular.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Sean Dyche

Born: Kettering 28.6.71

A versatile utility player who has made over 200 appearances for Chesterfield prior to his transfer to Ashton Gate in July this year for a tribunal-set fee of £275,000 which could rise to £325,000. Originally signed as a midfielder from Nottingham Forest in February 1990 his consistent displays as an attacking full-back and then as a centre-back, made him a firm favourite at Saltergate.

Rob Edwards

Born: Kendal, Cumbria 1.7.73

Rob has represented Wales at Youth 'B' and under-21 level. He signed professional forms for Carlisle in April 1990 and immediately made an impression which alerted City who paid £135,000 for his services in March 1991. A versatile player, he has appeared as full-back, centre-back and in midfield.

Scott Paterson

Born: Aberdeen, Scotland 13.5.72

An Aberdeen-born midfielder who started his career just outside the Granite City with Highland League side Cove Rangers. Impressive performances alerted Liverpool who signed him for £15,000 in March 1992, but in a two-year spell at Anfield, he unfortunately failed to make the first team. Joined City on a free transfer and is highly-rated.

Mark Shail

Born: Scandviken, Sweden 15.10.65

A bargain-buy from non-league Yeovil Town in March 1993 for a fee of £45,000. Mark joined City after gaining representative honours for England at semi-professional level. He attained the captaincy within six months of joining City. He made a good recovery after suffering a serious knee injury to re-establish himself in the first team in the lead-up to the play-off matches.

Shaun Taylor

Born: Plymouth, 26.2.63

Shaun joined City from Swindon Town in September 1996. A highly-experienced defender who started his career with Bideford before turning professional with Exeter City in 1986. After 233 appearances and 17 goals for the Grecians, he moved to Swindon in 1991 for £200,000 and was part of the championship-winning side. Made 43 of the championship-winning side. Made 43 league appearances for City last season, with nearly 500 senior appearances behind him, he is proving to be a great asset for City.

MIDFIELDERS

Darren Barnard

Born: Rinteln, Germany 30.11.71

Highly-rated midfielder player who moved to Ashton Gate for £75,000 last season from Chelsea rising to £175,000 if he fulfils his tremendous potential. Started his career with Wokingham Town before moving to Chelsea for £50,000. Scored 13 goals last season from a left-sided position.

Matthew Hewlett

Born: Bristol, 25.2.76

Bristol-born midfielder who worked his way through the youth team to land a professional contract and made his senior debut in the 3-1 defeat at Wolves on the opening day of the 93/94 season. Has also served Bath City on loan to gain experience. Matt has also represented England at Youth level and made the stand-by squad for the England under-21 fixture against Italy at Ashton Gate last season.

Adam Locke

Born: Croydon, 20.8.70

A midfield player who was surprisingly freed by Colchester United at the end of 1996/97. Adam joined the Layer Road club in September 1994 following a loan spell from his previous club Southend United. Started his career at Crystal Palace but left after two seasons without making a first team appearance.

Gary Owers

Born: Newcastle, 3.10.68

Experienced and versatile midfielder player. Newcastle-born, he joined Sunderland, gained a professional contract in 1986 and soon established himself at Roker Park, making over 300 appearances. A former England under-21 international who gained an FA Cup finalist medal with Sunderland in 1992. Moved to Ashton Gate in December 1994 for a £300,000 fee.

Dwayne Plummer

Born: Bristol, 12.5.78

19-year-old Dwayne is another product of the club's Youth Policy. He captained the Youth team before signing a professional contract at Ashton Gate and is expected to be pressing for a first team place this season. He made his first team debut as a substitute in a 2-1 home win over Colchester United in the Coca-Cola Cup in 1995/96.

Brian Tinnon

Born: Stanley, Durham 23.3.68

Started his league career in 1986 making 39 appearances in a three-year spell before moving to Bradford City for £150,000. Was a virtual ever-present in the Bantams side in his four years there before moving to City

for £180,000 in 1993. Will always be remembered for his legendary goal that knocked Liverpool out of the FA Cup. Brian returned to form in the latter stages of last season.

Paul Tisdale

Born: Malta 14.1.73

A tenacious midfield player who joined Southampton from school making a number of first team appearances. One of John Ward's first signings. Much is expected of the former England Youth International.

FORWARDS

Junior Bent

Born: Huddersfield, Yorkshire 1.3.70

Junior signed from Huddersfield in March 1990 for a fee of £30,000. A speedy winger who can operate on either flank, his wholehearted displays have made him a favourite at Ashton Gate during his six years at the Club.

Colin Cramb

Born: Lanark, 23.6.74

A free-scoring centre-forward who ended last season as Doncaster Rovers' top scorer with 23 goals. A Scot who hails from Lanarkshire his good form at his first club, Hamilton Academical secured a move to Southampton where he made one first team appearance. Further spells followed at Falkirk and Hearts prior to his arrival at Belle Vue. A tribunal-set fee of £150,000 brought him to Ashton Gate during July.

Shaun Goater

Born: Bermuda, 25.2.70

A striker who is strong on the ball with lightening pace. This Bermudan international, who started his career as a trainee at Manchester United, joined Bristol City from Rotherham United during the summer of 1996. He has already shown what a bargain he is, and his goals have always seen him near the top of the goalscorer's charts. In his time at Millmoor, he made 262 appearances, scoring an impressive 86 goals. Last season's top scorer with 25 goals.

Gregory Goodridge

Born: Barbados, 10.7.71

A Barbadian international who has captained his country on more than 30 occasions. Played for Barbados side Lambda WI before starting his career in England in 1994 with Torquay United. After some impressive outings for the Devon Club, he made a £100,000 move to QPR, but made just nine substitute appearances for the London club, scoring once. Moved to Bristol City during the summer of 1996.



John Ward

Last Season

Division Two

League Position: 5th

	W	D	L	F	A
Home	14	4	5	43	18
Away	7	6	10	26	33

Points: 73

Leading goalscorer: Shaun Goater

23 League goals, 2 Cup goals

Coca-Cola Cup:

1st Round, 1st leg					
Torquay United A			3-3		
1st Round, 2nd leg					
Torquay United H			1-0		
2nd Round, 1st leg					
Bolton Wanderers	H		0-0		
2nd Round, 2nd leg					
Bolton Wanderers	A		1-3		

FA Cup:

1st Round					
Swansea City A			1-1		
1st Round replay					
Swansea City H			1-0		
2nd Round					
St Albans City H			9-2		
3rd Round					
Chesterfield A			0-2		

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THE WEEK THAT WAS

MARINERS DIARY

A round-up of recent events at the Club.

TUESDAY 29th JULY:

A crowd of 6348 watch the Mariners beat Scottish Premier side, Hearts, by two goals to nil. Steve Livingstone heads the Mariners opener from debutant Kevin Donovan's cross and then Kingsley Black tucks away a second half penalty after new boy Lee Nogan had been fouled. Although the visitors hit the post in the second half, the Mariners are worthy winners and the fans give the team a standing ovation after the final whistle.

WEDNESDAY 30th JULY:

The Commercial Department launch their first ever Mail Order Brochure for the Club Shop. Featuring several of the players, the brochure gives fans the opportunity of purchasing all the official merchandise on a mail order basis - contact the club for your free copy.

THURSDAY 31st JULY:

Preparation continues towards the big kick-off, although Richard Smith continues to struggle with injury and a further operation is necessary. Season Tickets continue to go well as the Club extends its excellent discount offer.

FRIDAY 1st AUGUST:

Cleethorpes is in Carnival mood and Mini and Mighty Mariner join in with the fun as they accompany the GTFC Handicapped Supporters float on the three mile journey. New Youth Team Coach Ian Knight, meanwhile, settles into his new post at the Club.

SATURDAY 2nd AUGUST:

Alan Buckley takes his team to Field Mill to face Mansfield Town. A super flowing move after 15 minutes ends with Tony Gallimore's cross being headed home accurately by Tommy Widdrington. A second goal is added two minutes from full time - a first for the Club for Kevin Donovan. A neat one-two with sub Neil Woods and a tidy finish by the flying winger. On the same afternoon, youth coach Ian Knight takes a reserve side to play Kettering Town. It finishes 2-2, with the Mariners coming from two goals down to level it with strikes from Lee Stephenson and Daryl Clare.

SUNDAY 3rd AUGUST:

The Club's Annual Open Day is attended by over 1000 fans. A penalty competition, face painting, balloon modelling and a bouncy castle are all part of the line-up but it is photographs with the players and autographs that are at a premium. Alan Buckley and his players do their utmost to meet all the fans. Over £3000 is taken in Season Tickets at the office re-inforcing the fans belief.

MONDAY 4th AUGUST:

The Inn on the Park stages a Fans Forum and the panel including Chairman Bill Carr and Manager Alan Buckley answer questions on all aspects of the Club. Several opinions are voiced and the evening proves to be an interesting and informative one.

TUESDAY 5th AUGUST:

A private practice game is held against Leeds United at their Training HQ. The Mariners play some excellent football and are unfortunate to lose 1-0 - a goal scored by Leeds new signing David Hopkin. Meanwhile, several players attend the Marks and Spencers Open Day during the afternoon.

WEDNESDAY 6th AUGUST:

The big kick-off is just three days away and ticket sales for the opening game against Bristol City continue to go well. A crowd of over 5000 is expected including an anticipated travelling support of 1000 Robins fans.



Steve Livingstone opened the scoring for the Mariners against Hearts



Peter Handyside pleased to be back after an injury hit season last campaign



John Cockerill

IN RESERVE WITH ASSISTANT MANAGER, JOHN COCKERILL

Welcome to today's game against Bristol City and of course to the new season. Obviously there has been a few changes with the Gaffa returning to the club and myself moving up to his assistant. This has also meant a return also for Ian Knight who is now the youth team coach.

As you can expect everybody here is looking forward to the start after some hard work during pre-season.

The reserves start the season next Wednesday at home to Oldham Athletic and be guaranteed some good games if in division one of the Central League. It will be good experience for the young pros and also the senior pros to impress in order to regain a first team place.

Not forgetting the pros coming back from injury to reach full match fitness during their rehabilitation.

I will also be arranging a number of under 21 games as over the last year a very good youth was built and it's important these lads keep playing together in order to maintain this progress not that the majority are too old for Youth team football.

Everything must now be geared to playing the same system throughout the club so that the first team get everything right and players know their jobs and what is expected of them.

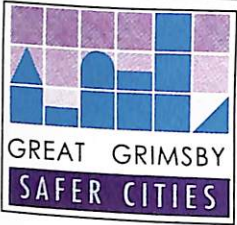
Enjoy the game
Cockers

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EUROPE'S
FOOD TOWN



Ray Blain

Ray Blain was our mascot for our pre-season fixture against Aberdeen, but as there was no programme that evening, we have included him in today's edition.

Ray Blain aged 12, attends Waltham Toll Bar School, Ray is a keen goalkeeper and plays for Cleethorpes Community F.C., and is also coached by Steve Sherwood. His favourite players are Jason Pearcey, Graham



Matthew Kennedy

Matthew Kennedy is 8 years old and attends Lacey Gardens School, he plays for the Discoveries (under 8's) football team and his favourite players are James Melbourne and Jack Lester



Neil Stafford

Neil Stafford is 12 years old and attends St James School, his favourite hobby is football and his favourite player is Steve Livingstone

If you would like to be a Grimsby Town mascot for one of the home games this season, contact Julie in the Blundell Park Club Shop on 01472 697111 extn 136 for full details.

Welcome to our visitors mascot Jordan Marlow is aged 8 and lives in Portishead, where he attends the local Primary School. His favourite Bristol City players are Darren Barnard and Keith Welch. His other heroes are Damon Hill and Emma from the Spice Girls!!

FOOTBALL FUN FOR ALL KITS SPONSORSHIP

WITH COMMUNITY OFFICER JULIAN WINTER

With this being my first opportunity to write in the match day programme. I would like to formerly introduce myself as the new or relatively new, football in the community officer. I have had a hectic but nevertheless very enjoyable two months in post and I would like to thank all the staff at G.T.F.C. for their support and for making this initial period relatively pain free.

Particular thanks go to Matt & Ade not only for their assistance but for their tremendous work during the period prior to my appointment. Business 5-A-Side

The business 5 A-Side comp, sponsored by B&C office equipment, which was held in late June attracted 14 teams from businesses in the local area. The tournament played over four nights produced some excellent football played in tremendous spirit. Thanks go to all those involved with particular congratulations going to the eventual winners 5 star Fish "A". We look forward to the next one!!!

Safer Cities

The continuing programme of coaching within and after school funded by Great Grimsby Safer Cities is proving to be an enormous success. On July 23rd the after schools activities culminated in a Five-A-Side tournament at the Novartis Sports Grounds. The trophies were sponsored by the Nat West Bank and the eventual winners were Springfield Primary School.

Summer '97

The Summer coaching programme for 1997 started with a fantastic response for the course at Waltham Toll Bar School. 130 children attended the 4 day course which had its trophies sponsored by Waltham Fisheries.

Following this course, the Louth Coaching Course also had a tremendous amount of support with over 80 children in attendance. Thanks go to Browns Peugeot & Rover in Louth for their sponsorship of the whole course & trophies.

Forthcoming Courses

Immingham:- 12th to 14th August (Sponsored by Imperial Ford)

Skegness:-

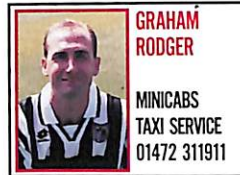
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Mablethorpe:-

To finish I would like to thank the coaches for their continued efforts throughout the summer, the people of Grimsby and the surrounding area for their enthusiasm and interest in G.T.F.C. Football in the Community. See you next time Julian



The pre-match line up against Aberdeen



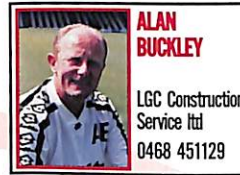
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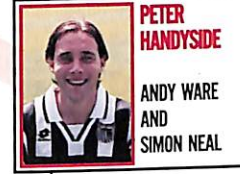
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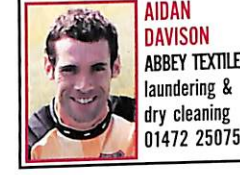
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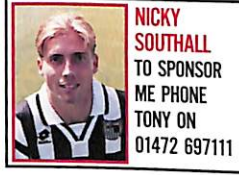
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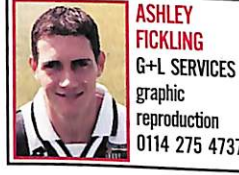
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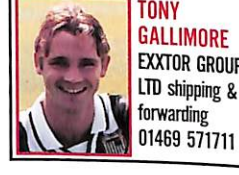
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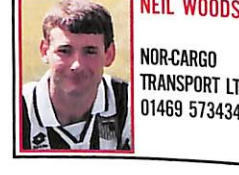
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NEWSDESK

Andy Stephenson from Buckinghamshire wrote to the club recently regarding his planned bi-monthly newsletter "It's a Grim Exile" - The Voice for Exiled Mariners. It will provide information, news and views on GTFC as well as trying to arrange social events and cheap travel to away games. Andy would like to hear from Town fans throughout the UK and abroad. If you are interested, write to him at Bob Cumming Cottage, 138 Aylesbury Road, Bierton, Bucks, HP22 5DL.

For all the news and interviews at Blundell Park, phone the Mariners Hotline on 0891 555 855 (calls cost 50p per minute).

All bars around the stadium are fully equipped with Satellite TV and Sky Sports will be showing on Channel 5 with a club video on Channel 6. The main stand lounge is a public bar for supporters in the main stand, whilst fans in the John Smiths Stand can enjoy a pint in the lower Smiths Bar. Please note the other bars are for members only.

IMPORTANT THE COCA-COLA CUP TIE BETWEEN THE MARINERS AND OLDHAM ATHLETIC WILL SEE REDUCED ADMISSION AT BOTH GROUNDS. PRICES WILL BE ADULTS £5 JUNIORS/OAPS £2. ANOTHER GOOD REASON TO COME AND CHEER THE LADS ON.

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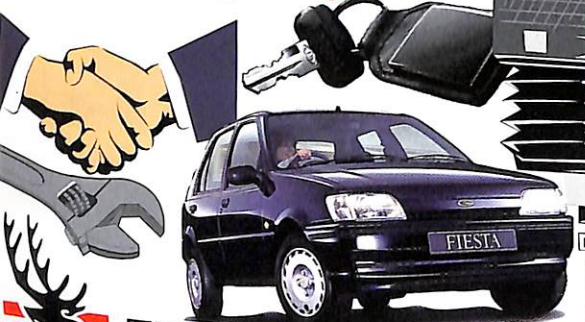
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ON THE ROAD WITH KIRKY AGAIN!

He's back! Our roving reporter John Kirk ready to bring you his exclusive reports on Towns away travel. With the exception of Oldham and Southend of course, there are new ground to visit and no doubt many tales to tell on his expeditions.....

The trouble with these non-football people (well Tottenham supporters actually) is that they have no sense of the value of things. Take one of my staff. Getting married, in Carlisle next April. Ideal - we play there on the 18th, what could be better? Well, she has decided to marry on the 4th! See what I mean, no sense, no feeling. I have suggested on several occasions that the wedding be changed, but all to no avail. Well, you all know me to be a generous hearted fellow, but that's the present reduced in value by 50% for starters. And £1.25 doesn't buy a lot these days. Then there's Bristol Rovers. Second Saturday in December - no problem, so why change to Friday night when we'll all have to high-tail it from work, and hope that the boys in blue are looking the other way?

Mind, those apart, we came out of the fixture lottery very well - hardly a long trip on a Tuesday night, and Plymouth next week. So someone Up There really does love us after all! And who knows, with a whole host of different grounds, maybe the fish & chips will show an improvement on last season - with Southend's Fish House still tops at away grounds - but surely there must be some good ones coming up at Plymouth, Blackpool and Bournemouth. And, of course, there always the 'fish that was left on the van' at Oldham! Any advance on last season's whiting? This season, Mr Tim wants me to keep a check on my away mileage. Bearing in mind that I live in the dead centre of Lincolnshire, my estimate is 7,500 miles to away grounds, plus an allowance of say 3,500 miles for misdirection by the wife, another 1,500 to find her a toilet, 2,500 in search of a fish shop anywhere near Walsall and 17 miles to walk through the car park at Oldham. The sum total of all this travelling should increase global warming by about 2 degrees Fahrenheit and bring summer football to Blundell Park by the back door.

I shall also be interested to see if Gerry Delahunt is still convinced that I am the team's lucky talisman when I carry the kit into away grounds having achieved some remarkable results last year - er mostly defeats Gerry - but at least I enjoyed seeing inside some dressing rooms. On the other hand, Helen reckons she would have enjoyed seeing inside the dressing rooms more than me, and might have done rather better in the lucky omen stakes too!

Perhaps this year, lucky omens will not be required, so the time has come for the talking to stop, and the shouting to begin - so let's do our best to get the world's greatest club back on the road to promotion!

On a personal note, this season sees my fortieth anniversary. That is, of watching football at Blundell Park. On the 4th April by coincidence. And some people think I'll be in Carlisle for a wedding? Fat chance! Come on you Mighty Mariners!

AWAY TRAVEL

The first league trip of the season is a long one! Plymouth Argyle provide the opposition at Home Park next Saturday but prior to that on Tuesday evening the Mariners travel to Boundary Park to face Oldham Athletic in the Coca Cola Cup First Round, First Leg tie. We cover both trips.....

v Oldham Athletic - Tues 12th August K.O. 7.45pm Boundary Park

HOW TO GET THERE

By car: All Routes: Exit M62 at junction 20 (s/p Rochdale, Oldham A627(M)). After 0.5 miles, where road divides, keep right (s/p Manchester East A663, Oldham, Ashton A627). After 1.4 miles exit A627(M) (s/p Oldham, Ashton A627). At roundabout take 2nd exit (s/p Oldham, Ashton A627 into Chadderton Way. The floodlights are visible from here. After 0.7 miles take 1st turning on LHS (s/p Boundary Park) into Boundary Park Road. Follow road round into Furtherwood Road. Ground is on LHS.

There is another route to the car park at the ground

At the roundabout off the A627(M), take the 1st exit (s/p Royton A663, Rochdale A671) into Broadway. Take first right turn, after 0.4 miles, into Hiltop Avenue which leads to the car park.

Parking

There are large car parks at the ground (£1), but cars are packed in tightly so no one gets away before the final whistle. The local police advise supporters to avoid the Elk Mill Business Park which is a clamper's paradise. **v Plymouth Argyle - Sat 16th August K.O. 3.00pm Home Park**

HOW TO GET THERE

By car: All directions: Keep on A38 passing Welcome to Plymouth sign. At the Marsh Mills turning, after 1.7 miles, keep right (s/p Cornwall, Liskeard, Tavistock A307), over estuary. At Manadon Turning after 2.4 miles, exit A38 (s/p Tavistock, City Centre A386, also Home Park). At roundabout take 2nd exit (s/p City Centre A386, also Home Park), onto Outland Road A386. Ground is on LHS after 1.1 miles.

Parking

There is a large, free car-park in front of the ground, which holds about 900 cars. Otherwise, it's street parking, and that usually means 5-10 minutes walk to the ground.

OUR NEXT VISITORS

A fortnight today, we will be welcoming Wrexham to Blundell Park for a Division Two fixture. The men from Clwyd are an outside bet for promotion this season having finished eighth in the table after the last campaign. Most football fans will remember Wrexham for their excellent cup run last term, when they beat both Birmingham City and West Ham United away from home to take them to a "battle of the minnows" in the quarter-final against Chesterfield. A single goal ended Wrexham's semi-final dreams but brought them much respect for their achievement.

Manager Brian Flynn, the former Welsh international, has strengthened his squad with the signing of Dean Spink from Shrewsbury Town and will be looking to his men for a good start when they take on promotion candidates Fulham at Craven Cottage on today's opening day and follow that up at home to Oldham next week. On their visit to Cleethorpes, the fans can expect to see a passing game of football from the Welshman, who

will be tough opposition for the Mariners. Following the Town - Wrexham fixture, the 1st Round Coca Cola Cup second leg brings Oldham Athletic to Blundell Park, in a repeat of last season's encounter which saw the Mariners lose out on a penalty shoot-out. Since then, of course, both clubs have been relegated and will be looking for a swift First Division return but on Tuesday 26th both teams will have thoughts firmly fixed on a passage to Round 2 of the Coca Cola Cup. Much depends on the outcome of the first leg at Boundary Park, with away goals at a premium should extra-time still see the teams level. Round Two will also be over two legs, whilst Rounds 3,4 and 5 will be one game only with no replays; extra time and penalties will be the order of the day if necessary. Oldham will be a stern test for Alan Buckley's men, but let's hope its the Mariners who force a passage into Round 2.

See you there!



Tony Gallimore in action against Winterton Rangers from the North East Counties League during the 2-0 victory



Kevin Donovan gets a his cross in after out-pacing the Hearts defence



Paul Groves narrowly misses losing his head in the 2-1 win over Aberdeen during some goalmouth action at the Pontoon end.



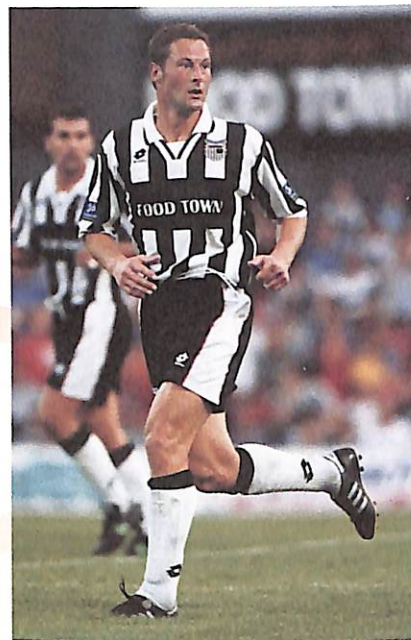
"Macca" keeps a close eye on the Hearts attack



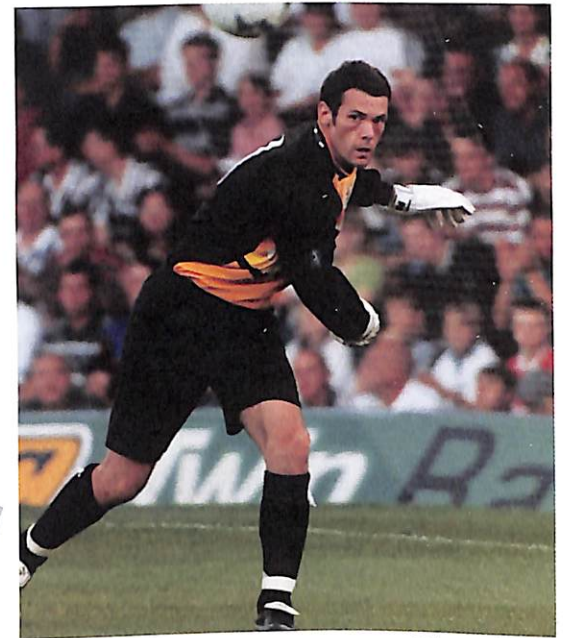
Tommy Widdrington is first to congratulate Kingsley Black after he had converted his penalty to secure the 2-0 win over Hearts.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

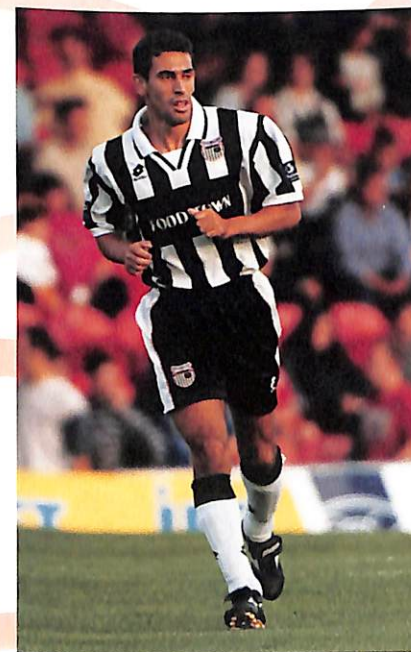
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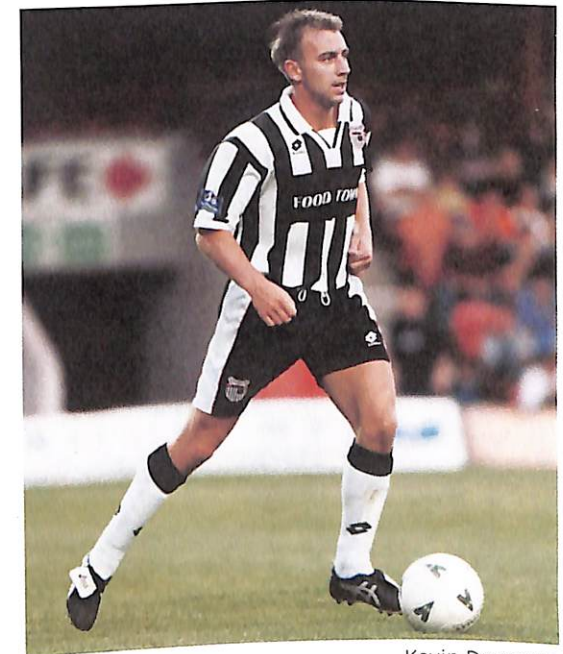
Paul Groves



Aidan Davison



Lee Nogan



Kevin Donovan



THE WINNING TEAM



Suppliers of Beer and Lager to Grimsby Town

DID YOU KNOW?

COLLECTING FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES

Part 1 of a series by John Litster, Editor of "Programme Monthly" magazine

INTRODUCING A GREAT HOBBY

Matchday programmes reflect the very best of our great sport. The triumphs and setbacks of the modern game and recorded in their contents; the rich and varied history of the game is best portrayed in nostalgic articles; and the game's personalities are profiled in words and pictures.

For £1 or more, or much less at non-league levels, programmes have an intrinsic, immediate value, unlike stamps, coins, trade cards and such like. Once the match is over, the publication which uniquely represented it takes on a different role, and becomes "a collectable". In the years to come, it will become a store of memories and nostalgia to football fans who can relive the roller coaster of emotions that make up a football season. It will remind readers of otherwise long-forgotten players, managers and personalities, and provide a valuable and authoritative historical and statistical chronicle of a period in a club's history.

That same programme, again down

the years, will have even further value to the owner if he or she purchased the programme at the match. In that context it will bring back memories of personal milestones, often during formative years.

In a thriving second hand market, that same programme may complete a "set" for an avid collector. This part of a programme's life introduces the whole ethos of programme collecting and the pleasure it brings to those who participate the sense of achievement in building and completing sets, the friendships to be made throughout the country and overseas as one corresponds, exchanges, buys and sells with other collectors. Collecting programmes of other clubs and from other countries makes one realise the widespread popularity of our sport, and introduces the collector to other areas of his own country, and those abroad.

Those fascinating features of football programme collecting will be described in a series of articles, along with hints on how to build up and store a collection of programmes.

* Programme Monthly is available from 46 Milton Road, Kirkcaldy, Fife, KY1 1TL, priced £1.50 plus 40p postage.

DID YOU KNOW? ABOUT TODAY'S TEAMS

- A rugby union match was once staged at Ashton Gate, home of Bristol City. England played Wales in 1908 and attracted a crowd of 21,000.
- Bristol City won the Welsh Cup in 1934 beating Tranmere Rovers in the final.
- Grimsby Town actually played City's rivals Bristol Rovers at Ashton Gate in 1980 drawing 2-2 in a Division 2 match, due to Rovers not having their own ground available.
- Bristol City gave their old floodlight pylons to Wigan Athletic in 1992.

...AND IN GENERAL

- Harry Stoker who played for Town in 1919-21 was also a cricketer for Derbyshire CC between 1920-36 scoring over 13,000 runs and taking over 200 runs.
- When Tom Mayson signed for the Mariners from Burnley in 1911, he cost a club record of £350.
- A North London couple have applied to Scarborough FC to have their child born in the players bath! Wesley, and Sandra Givens are both fanatical 'Boro fans and says Sandra "giving birth in the players bath at Scarborough is the dream".

ARE YOU THE JOHN SMITHS SMOOTHIE?

Is this your face circled?
This picture was taken at our last home game.
If it is you contact Tim Harvey at Blundell Park to claim your prize of 12 cans of John Smiths Extra Smooth Bitter.

Look out in the next Matchday Programme for another JOHN SMITHS SMOOTHIE.
It could be you!



LEVER REACHES

THE TESTIMONIAL MARK

Mark Lever's ten years at Blundell Park have flown by according to the man himself. "I've enjoyed it without doubt," says Mark. "Being a pro footballer is an excellent career and the ten years has gone very quickly. The only real low spot was last season's relegation - other than that the Club has had a fairly successful period."

The big defender was given his debut back in 1988 when Town started life in the old Division Four after successive relegations. The man who plunged Mark into the fray was none other than Alan Buckley, the man now back at the Club as manager once more. "I was grateful to the gaffer for putting his faith in me and giving me my debut" remembers Mark. After his debut Mark became an important part of Buckley's side which went onto two successive promotions playing the sort of quality football for which the Town manager is well known. "The famous game against Exeter City when we clinched promotion to the (then) Second Division will always be a special memory for me as I am sure it will be for everyone who was involved in it" says the 6 foot 3' defender nicknamed Plug by his team-mates, "but another special memory was the League Cup win over Aston Villa at Villa Park."

"It goes without saying that last season was a huge disappointment. But I have to say the lads are really determined to do well this season and get a swift return to Division One to make up for it," he comments. Currently just past the 250 appearances mark, he is hoping that he will be able to join John McDermott as current players over the 300, in the not too distant future. "Any player will tell you that their main objective is to be injury-free and certainly that is what I am hoping for. I suffered with injury a lot the season before last and so I am keeping my fingers crossed. If I am picked to play today, I need to knuckle down and make sure I do well enough to keep my place."

"Big 'Un" as he is also known, has played a major part in the pre-season games, but competition for places is strong for the central defensive pairing. Peter Handyside, Graham Rodger and Ashley Fickling are all competing with Mark for a shirt with Richard Smith also in the equation when he returns from injury. The team's build up to the big kick-off has been good. Mark says, "Confidence is high amongst the players, although it took a couple of weeks to get to know each other with four new players joining us. We have played decent opposition and beating both Aberdeen and Hearts at home was a major boost." The quality of football which Alan Buckley has instilled in his players has been clear. "The gaffer has got us playing the passing game, which those of us who were here before, know all about. Our football in the Hearts game in particular was excellent. So what of the real action? "The worst thing anyone can do is to think Division Two will be easy and we can expect promotion. The Second Division contains some strong teams and we will need to be at our best to be successful. We cannot and will not be complacent. I expect Bristol City, Fulham, Luton and Watford to be amongst the 'top sides' but as I said earlier, all the players are very determined to do well for the Club and the fans after the disappointment of last season."

Mark follows in John McDermott's footsteps with a testimonial season about to start, with Macca having completed his ten years service last campaign. Mark explains "I will be having several events throughout the year and obviously I would be delighted to receive the fans support. I've had a great time at the Club and am looking forward to being part of things for a few more seasons yet!" Mark has been a great servant of the Club and details of his testimonial events will be well publicised in the local press. Today, however, whether he is in the team or otherwise you can guarantee there will only be one thing on his mind - three points for the Mariners against Bristol City.



Sunday Lunches

Choose from a selection of Starters, Main Courses and Sweets (including glass of wine and coffee)

Served 12:30pm - 2:00pm for ONLY £8.40

Chantrys Restaurant, St James Hotel, St James Square, Grimsby, Tel: (01472) 359771

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It's.. TRIVIA TIME

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TRUE OR FALSE?

1. Jimmy Greaves was the First Division's leading scorer from 1959 to 1969.

2. Every opening match of the World Cup from 1966 to 1978 ended 0-0

3. Fiorentina's Gabriel Batistuta holds the record for scoring in the first eleven matches in Serie A.

4. Newport County resigned from the Football League in 1992/93.

WHO'S TROPHY CABINET?

Which club has lifted the following trophies?

FA Cup:

1904, 1934, 1956, 1969

League Cup:

1970, 1976

Division 1 Championship:

1936/37, 1967/68

Division 2 Championship:

1898/99, 1902/03, 1909/10,

1927/28, 1946/47, 1965/66

Euro Cup Winners Cup:

1969/70

? QUICK QUIZ?

1. Which Nationwide side plays at 'The Hawthorns'?
2. Who was the first Third Division player to be capped by England?
3. What was the attendance of the first European Championship Final?
4. With which club did Barry Horne begin his career?
5. Who is the chairman of Newcastle United?
6. Which Scottish Premier side plays at Parkhead?

IN WHICH YEAR DID...?

Arsenal win the League, Manchester United win the FA Cup, Hibernian win the Scottish League and Rangers win the Scottish Cup. Stan Mortenson scored in every round of the FA Cup in this year while Stanley Matthews won the first Footballer of the Year Award. 83,260 saw Manchester United play Arsenal at Maine Road as Old Trafford was shut due to bomb damage.

ALL THESE EVENTS TOOK PLACE IN THE SAME YEAR



SPOT THE GROUND?

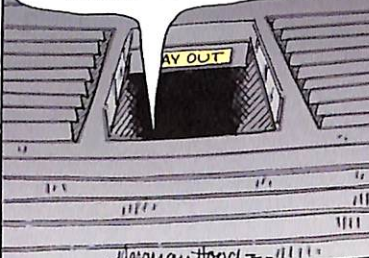
Was built when the club refused to pay the rent at what is now their rivals ground. It was the first major football ground in England at the time, with only Rangers' and Celtic's being more advanced. The Chicago White Sox and New York Giants once played a baseball match there. Was the first ground to have four double tiers, and later, a triple tier.

'Norm & Ec'

by Norman Hood

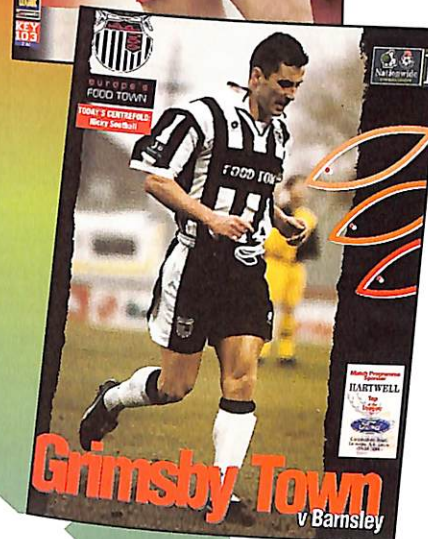
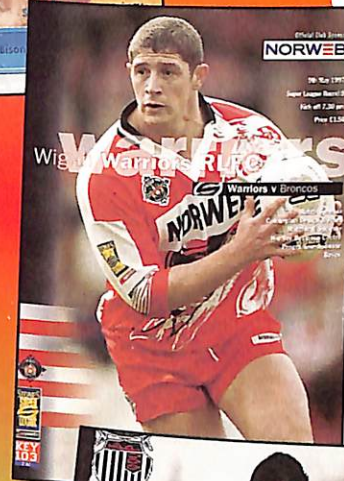
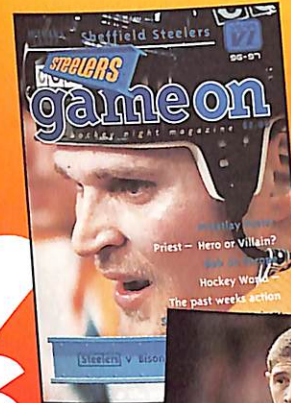


WON'T BE MUCH CHANGE.... WE'VE BEEN WATCHING THE GRATEFUL DEAD EVERY SATURDAY!



Answers

QUICK QUIZ: 1. West Bromwich Albion; 2. Jack Fort of Millwall; 3. 17,966; 4. Wrexham; 5. Sir John Hall; 6. Celtic.
WHO'S TROPHY CABINET?: Manchester City
TRUE OR FALSE?: 1. False, but he was leading scorer six times; 2. True; 3. True; 4. False; 5. False; 6. True.
IN WHICH YEAR DID...?
SPOT THE GROUND?: Goodison Park, Everton



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GAME

Grimsby Town v Bristol City

Bristol City entered the league in 1901 and won their first match 2-0 against Blackpool.

Past League Record

Grimsby Town 16 wins
Bristol City 19 wins
9 Draws

First Meeting

21 November 1903
Bristol City 4 Grimsby Town 0

Biggest Win (Grimsby)

5-2 Division 3 17 September 1960

Biggest Defeat (Grimsby)

0-7 Division 2 26 December 1914
The Mariners and The Robins have met on the season's opening day before - A 2-2 draw at Bristol in 1928.

Played for Both Clubs

Steve Harding
Scott McGarvey
Mike Brolly

Bristol City's record defeat was on 28th April, 1934 when they lost 9-0 to Coventry City. Present Manchester United striker Andy Cole signed for Bristol City from Arsenal in 1992 for a club record fee of £500,000, and was sold to Newcastle United in March 1993 for a club record £1.75 million.

Youngest player to play for Bristol City was Nyrere Kelly in 1982 aged 16 years 8 months.

The oldest player to play for our visitors was Terry Cooper aged 40 years and 86 days in 1984/85 season.

John Cockerill's first game in caretaker charge of the Mariners in October 1995 was at home to Bristol City. The Mariners won the game 1-0 thanks to a second half goal and remarkably it came from the head of Gary Childs.

STATISTICS

how teams scored when teams scored .. and how conceded

see key below	Hd	CR	Ob	V	FK	P	Ib	OG	mins into match	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Hd	CR	Ob	V	FK	P	Ib	OG	
Blackpool	11	9	12	10	0	4	14	0	Blackpool	10	10	9	11	12	8	Blackpool	11	8	7	6	0	3	10	2
Bournemouth	15	7	6	5	1	2	7	0	Bournemouth	2	15	3	4	10	9	Bournemouth	8	4	10	6	0	3	14	0
Brentford	10	9	8	11	0	1	17	0	Brentford	10	8	7	9	11	11	Brentford	9	3	11	9	1	6	4	0
Bristol City	14	11	5	7	3	8	20	1	Bristol City	7	10	11	11	13	17	Bristol City	16	11	6	7	1	3	7	0
Bristol Rovers	10	3	11	10	1	0	11	1	Bristol Rovers	4	5	7	11	8	12	Bristol Rovers	8	8	11	7	1	5	10	0
Burnley	17	12	7	14	1	3	17	0	Burnley	9	10	14	14	9	15	Burnley	17	12	4	10	0	2	9	1
Bury	16	12	3	15	1	5	10	0	Bury	8	10	11	11	6	16	Bury	14	1	5	5	1	3	9	0
Chesterfield	8	8	4	9	0	4	8	1	Chesterfield	6	5	5	8	4	14	Chesterfield	14	9	3	5	0	3	4	1
Crewe	9	6	13	1	3	1	23	0	Crewe	4	2	12	18	9	11	Crewe	9	1	8	6	0	2	20	1
Gillingham	12	8	7	6	1	4	21	1	Gillingham	10	8	7	8	8	19	Gillingham	14	9	11	7	1	2	14	1
Luton	20	8	8	7	2	7	19	0	Luton	9	12	11	16	14	9	Luton	12	6	0	5	2	4	16	0
Millwall	13	6	9	7	1	4	8	2	Millwall	5	7	4	6	13	15	Millwall	14	8	6	7	2	7	11	0
Notts County	9	7	2	3	0	3	6	3	Notts County	2	5	4	7	8	7	Notts County	11	9	11	10	1	1	14	2
Peterborough	12	11	5	5	2	4	15	1	Peterborough	4	9	9	7	12	14	Peterborough	18	9	11	9	0	2	22	2
Plymouth	12	4	4	12	0	3	12	0	Plymouth	7	5	5	6	16	8	Plymouth	13	8	11	6	0	3	15	2
Preston	16	9	9	5	0	2	7	1	Preston	4	8	8	11	9	9	Preston	11	15	7	9	0	1	12	0
Rotherham	12	6	6	3	0	4	8	0	Rotherham	2	7	6	10	5	9	Rotherham	18	10	8	1	4	24	1	
Shrewsbury	13	7	4	9	0	1	12	3	Shrewsbury	4	7	7	9	8	14	Shrewsbury	18	8	10	8	1	4	24	1
Stockport	21	8	3	5	1	4	13	4	Stockport	11	4	7	13	8	16	Stockport	14	6	3	6	0	4	8	0
Walsall	14	8	8	6	1	2	15	0	Walsall	3	14	8	7	7	15	Walsall	14	5	5	8	1	4	16	0
Watford	11	5	9	5	0	2	13	0	Watford	7	10	6	8	6	8	Watford	4	3	4	7	0	7	12	1
Wrexham	14	11	11	3	0	6	9	0	Wrexham	6	9	10	10	8	11	Wrexham	8	7	9	3	0	8	14	1
Wycombe	10	4	10	10	0	4	12	0	Wycombe	11	7	7	9	10	10	Wycombe	13	11	3	7	4	3	14	1
York	8	5	6	6	0	7	14	1	York	4	8	4	9	9	13	York	19	14	7	9	0	1	18	0

Hd=Header CR=Shot inside 6 yards Ob=Shot outside area V=Volley FK=Direct Free Kick P=Penalty Ib=Shot inside area OG=Own Goal

Division 2 Stats

Index in the table below reflects the league position of the opposition in the 6 games. ie the higher the position, the higher the index.

final form table	Won	Draw	Lost	For	Agst	Pts	Indx	Sequence
Bristol City	5	0	1	11	4	15	49%	LWWW
Gillingham	4	1	1	11	5	13	54%	WWLWD
Blackpool	4	1	1	10	6	13	72%	LWWW
Chesterfield	4	0	2	6	4	12	65%	WLLWW
Wycombe	3	2	1	11	4	11	64%	WLDW
Bury	3	2	1	4	2	11	58%	WDDWW
Wrexham	3	1	2	9	7	10	61%	WLDWL
Preston	3	1	2	6	4	10	46%	WWLWL
Stockport	3	1	2	6	5	10	43%	DWVWLL
Luton	2	3	1	6	4	9	56%	DWDWL
Peterborough	3	0	3	6	4	9	63%	WLLWL
Burnley	2	2	2	9	11	8	41%	WDDLL
Crewe	2	2	2	6	5	8	62%	DLWLW
Bournemouth	1	4	1	6	7	7	43%	DWDDL
Notts County	2	1	3	6	7	7	35%	LDLWL
York	2	1	3	5	10	7	54%	DWLLL
Bristol Rovers	2	0	4	5	7	6	51%	LLWLW
Walsall	2	0	4	5	10	6	64%	LLWLW
Plymouth	1	3	2	4	5	6	57%	DLWLDD
Brentford	2	0	4	2	5	6	43%	LLLLW
Watford	1	1	4	6	10	4	62%	LDLLL
Rotherham	1	1	4	5	11	4	58%	WLDLL
Shrewsbury	1	1	4	2	8	4	67%	LLLLD
Millwall	0	1	5	0	7	1	54%	LLLLL

players used includes those who have left the club	.. various Div 2 stats ..	low and high position is taken after 5 games played	Plays used	goals for	goals agst	clean sheets	low pos.	high pos.					
Blackpool	26	60	47	15	18	7	Notts County	37	33	59	10	24	17
Bournemouth	27	43	45	15	22	11	Peterborough	43	55	73	8	22	12
Brentford	24	56	43	18	4	1	Plymouth	25	47	58	17	20	6
Bristol City	26	69	51	14	16	3	Preston	34	49	55	13	24	23
Bristol Rovers	29	47	50	15	20	6	Rotherham	35	39	70	8	22	5
Burnley	25	71	55	13	12	4	Shrewsbury	29	49	74	8	23	2
Bury	24	62	38	22	8	1	Stockport	24	59	41	18	22	6
Chesterfield	30	42	39	20	15	3	Walsall	25	54	53	12	22	6
Crewe	26	56	47	18	10	2	Watford	28	45	38	22	13	2
Gillingham	31	60	59	12	21	11	Wrexham	27	54	50	18	12	4
Luton	27	71	45	22	15	1	Wycombe	29	51	56	16	24	18
Millwall	34	50	55	14	14	1	York	31	47	68	12	21	12

Campaign Records

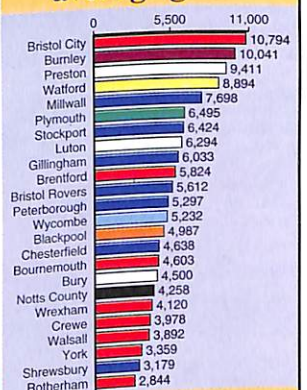
- Highest/Lowest Gates**
18,674 Bristol City v Bristol Rovers 15-Dec
1,610 Shrewsbury v Bournemouth 3-Dec
- Highest Aggregate Scores**
Peterborough 6-3 Wycombe 28-Sep
- Biggest Home Win**
Luton 6-0 Crewe 14-Dec
- Biggest Away Win**
Plymouth 1-4 Crewe 25-Jan
- Consecutive Wins**
Gillingham, Preston 3
- Games Unbeaten**
Watford 22
- Consecutive Defeats**
Rotherham, Shrewsbury 6
- Games without a Win**
Notts County 20

Current Sequences

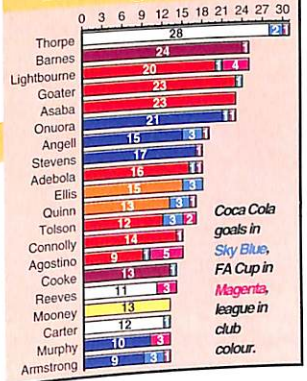
- Consecutive Wins**
Gillingham, Preston 3
- Games Unbeaten**
Bury, Luton 5
- Consecutive Defeats**
Brentford, Shrewsbury 4
- Games without a Win**
Millwall 11

Compiled by Football Information Services
Tel: 0151-632-5679

average gates



leading scorers



Coca Cola goals in Sky Blue, FA Cup in Magenta, league in club colour.

ON HIS DAY IN HISTORY

AUGUST 9TH

- 1969** - Grimsby open the 1969-70 Fourth Division season with a 0-0 draw at Workington. Forward Joe Fletcher makes his debut.
- 1980** - Town meet Notts. County in the League Cup for the second successive season. Joe Waters earns the Mariners a 1-0 First Leg lead.
- 1982** - A disappointing pre-season continues. Grimsby bow out of the Lincolnshire Cup with a 0-4 home defeat to Lincoln City.
- 1986** - Grimsby's Icelandic tour brings their second straight win. Trotur lose 0-6 with recent signing Ian Walsh scoring four goals.
- 1988** - A young Grimsby Town XI gain a 1-0 win in a friendly at Immingham Town. Marcus Newell finds the net while Paul Reece saves a penalty.
- 1994** - Clive Mendonca scores the only goal as Grimsby win 1-0 at Scunthorpe United. Just 1,619 see this Glanford Park friendly.

AND IN THE NEWS...

- 1902** - King Edward VII is crowned in Westminster Abbey.
- 1928** - 1,000 die in a Dutch East Indies volcano eruption.
- 1945** - Soviet troops invade Korea.
- 1965** - Singapore becomes an independent state.

LEAGUE ROUND-UP

NATIONWIDE ROUND-UP

Today's start to the Nationwide League season - the earliest since 1969 - means that the summer break must surely be one of the shortest on record. For those lucky enough to watch the Tournoi de France, the Toulon Tournament, and the World Youth Championships, the close season amounted to little more than two weeks.

The summer however proved to be just as busy on the domestic front. One of the biggest transfers of the last few months involved two Nationwide clubs when Stoke City's Mike Sheron transferred to Q.P.R., for £2.65m. Sheron, who regained his goalscoring form last term, failed to score against Grimsby in two outings during the 1996-97 season. Promoted Carlisle United manager Mervyn Day celebrated a new 3-year contract by signing England Under-21 defender Andy Couzens from Leeds for £100,000, as well as full-back Ross Milligan (Rangers) and Crewe midfielder Billy Barr. One player to leave Brunton Park was captain Steve Hayward, who signed for fellow promoted side Fulham in a £175,000 deal plus 20% of any future profit.

The team from Craven Cottage made the headlines themselves when Harrods owner Muhammed Al-Fayed paid a multi-million pound sum to gain control of the club, at the same time promising the supporters a team worthy of the Premiership. For years the future of the ground seemed to be in doubt also, but with the freehold having recently returned to the club the future looks a lot brighter on the side of the Thames.

Another club to be under new-owners are near neighbours Hull City. A near £3m buy-out enabled David Lloyd Leisure to gain full control, with long-suffering manager Terry Dolan being the first casualty of the new regime. After failing to entice Peter Beardsley and Chris Waddle as Player-Manager, the position was eventually taken up by former England forward Mark Hately. One disappointment for traditionalists is the decision for City to shortly quit Boothferry Park and move in with Rugby League neighbours Hull at the Boulevard, while a new 25,000-seat stadium is built in three years time.

Wigan Athletic showed their ambition to make the Nationwide League First Division by signing Bolton Wanderers' exciting winger David Lee in a £250,000 transfer. While the Latics had three Spanish players in their Third Division promotion side last season, this has now been cut to one following the departure of Isidro Diaz by mutual consent after failing to agree terms. Nevertheless, with the financial backing of former Blackburn star Dave Whelan as Chairman, Wigan must be considered a good outside bet for further progress.

After declining Hull City's approach Chris Waddle entered management with Burnley, with goalkeeper Chris Woods (who had a brief summer trial

at Grimsby) being an early signing. Other first-time entrants to the hot-seat involved two veteran defenders - Nigel Worthington accepted the post at Blackpool following Gary Megson's move to Stockport, while former West Ham favourite Alvin Martin took over at Southend. Previous holder Ronnie Whelan claimed he had no choice but to resign following lack of support from both the board and fans alike.

League Kick Off 80th Campaign with Family Promotion

With the new season just seven days, The Football League have secured a major offer for family supporters at 70 of the 72 Nationwide Football League clubs around the country. The Football League have joined forces with the Mirror Group to promote an incredible initiative which will see Nationwide Football League Clubs providing a minimum of 100 complimentary 'family tickets' for each of two designated home fixtures during the 1997/98 season. A family ticket is defined as admission for one adult and two children under the age of 16 and accommodation can be either seated or standing.

The four fixtures which have been designated for 'family ticket' purposes are listed below, although clubs are at liberty to select alternative matches.

w/c 11th August 1997 Coca Cola Cup First Round (First Leg)
Saturday 16th August 1997 Nationwide Football League
w/c 25th August 1997 Coca Cola Cup First Round (Second Leg)
Saturday 6th September 1997 Nationwide Football League

There are no F.A. Premier League fixtures scheduled for Saturday 16th August or Saturday 6th September and it is hoped that this special promotion will focus attention on Nationwide Football League action even further.

'Mirror' readers have been required to collect four tokens to qualify for a free family ticket. The response from Football League clubs has been tremendous with Nationwide Football League sides providing over 18,000 family tickets, worth a staggering £463,000.

New Men In The Middle

The Football League have recruited their youngest man in the middle since World Cup Final referee Jack Taylor joined the national list of officials as a 26-year old in 1956. Andy Hall, a 28-year old engineer from Birmingham is one of six new referees.

The other five new officials on The Football League's list are David Crick (Worcester Park, Surrey), Mike Dean (Eastham, Wirrel), Mike Jones (Chester), Matt Messias (York) and Mike Pike (Barrow-in-Furness).

TODAY'S OTHER FIXTURES

Saturday 9th August 1997

Nationwide Football

League - Division One

Birmingham City v Stoke City
Bradford City v Stockport County
Bury v Reading
Manchester City v Portsmouth
Middlesbrough v Charlton Athletic
Norwich City v Wolverhampton Wdrs
Oxford Utd v Huddersfield Town
Port Vale v Nottingham Forest
Queens Park Rangers v Ipswich Town
Swindon Town v Crewe Alexandra
West Brom v Tranmere Rovers

Nationwide Football

League - Division Two

Blackpool v Luton Town
Bristol Rovers v Plymouth Argyle
Chesterfield v Walsall
Fulham v Wrexham
Gillingham v Preston North End
Grimsby Town v Bristol City
Millwall v Brentford
Northampton v AFC Bournemouth
Oldham Athletic v York City
Southend Utd v Carlisle Utd
Watford v Burnley
Wigan Athletic v Wycombe Wdrs

Nationwide Football

League - Division Three

Chester City v Lincoln City
Colchester Utd v Darlington
Exeter City v Hartlepool Utd
Leyton Orient v Cardiff City
Macclesfield Town v Torquay Utd
Mansfield Town v Hull City
Notts County v Rochdale
Peterborough Utd v Scunthorpe Utd
Rotherham Utd v Barnet
Scarborough v Cambridge Utd
Shrewsbury Town v Doncaster Rovers
Swansea City v Brighton & H A
Sheffield Utd v Sunderland (1.00)

Sunday 10th August 1997

Nationwide Football League - Division One
Sheffield United v Sunderland (1.00)

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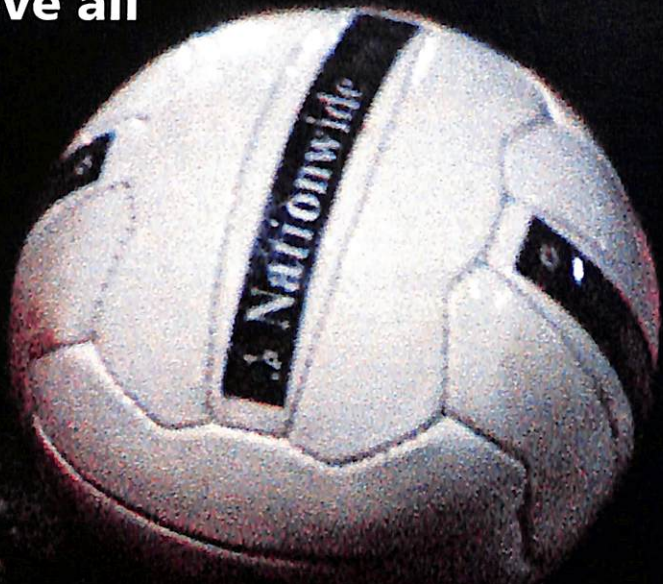
Grimsby Town Football Club

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COMMERCIAL BREAK



Tim Harvey
assistant commercial manager

Good afternoon once again. The early start to the new season makes it seem like only yesterday since the disappointment of the Southend game. However, that is history and the club now has a fresh start and everyone is optimistic for the new campaign. Season Ticket sales have been good and commercially speaking the backing from our sponsors, advertisers and executives has been marvellous. A decent crowd is expected this afternoon and let's hope it makes for a cracking atmosphere.

The club wishes to thank HARTWELL FORD for their sponsorship today and I do hope Wyn Parry and his guests have a great day with us. We are also grateful to our matchball sponsors HARCROS and likewise hope they enjoy themselves. There are still three games during the remainder of the season which are available for sponsorship, so if you are interested, please contact Tony Richardson or myself on 697111. After the success of last season, we have retained both our Half Time Bonanza Draw and John Smiths Smoothie, which is featured on page 15. You can get your HTB tickets from inside the stadium priced still at only 50p and the first prize will be 40% of the gross receipts. The draw will take place on the pitch at half-time and should you miss it, the winning numbers will be displayed on the scoreboard during the second half. Remember 50% of the cost of the ticket goes directly to the Club Funds - thank you in anticipation of your support.

Two recent events at the Club, which both went very well were The Open Day and The Fans Forum. Held last Sunday the Open Day was extremely well attended and I wouldn't like to even hazard a guess at how many autographs each of the players and management signed, but I hope all the fans who were there got the autograph and/or photograph they wanted. On Monday evening last 100 fans attended our Fans Forum and asked our panel of Bill Carr, Alan Buckley, John Cockerill and Ian Knight a varied selection of questions regarding the club. The evening proved the passion amongst the supporters who attended and the over-riding factor was everybody's wish to see Grimsby Town doing well. The discussions which took place were very frank and open and it was a good evening.

In closing let me thank you for your support and I hope you enjoy this afternoon's match.

Today's Match Sponsor: Hartwell Ford

Today's Matchball Sponsor: Harcros

Comic Corner

This week's soccer quip

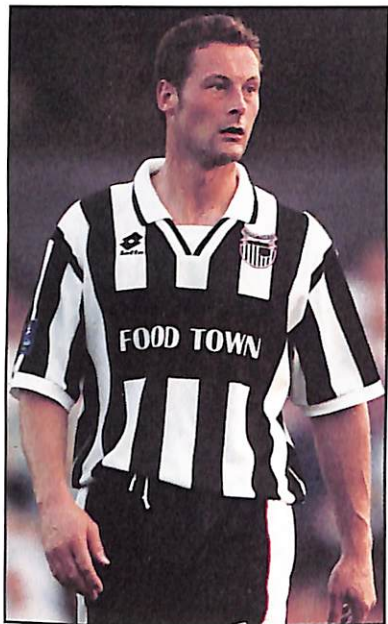
"I was thrilled until I learned that Ivan Lendl had finished above me."

Rangers striker Ally McCoist on being voted the fifth best-looking sportsman in the world in 1990.



Mini & Mighty will be here to entertain you once more of course!

MARINERS HOTLINE 0891 555 855



CAPTAIN'S LOG

SKIPPER PAUL GROVES WRITES...

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to the game. On a personal note, it is nice to be back at the Club and I am looking forward to the new season. I have good memories of my previous four seasons at Blundell Park and myself and the lads are very determined to get the Club back in the First Division.

Of course, I have not been the only 'new' signing this pre-season and as captain I would like to officially welcome Aidan, Lee and Kevin to the Club. The new lads have settled in very well during training and indeed during the pre-season matches, and our form in general has been good. We have played quality opposition in Aberdeen and Hearts and our football for spells during those games has been of a good standard. We have also taken on teams of "so-called lesser opposition", which in turn have provided the lads with a different test. Against both Darlington and Mansfield Town, we were given a more physical game and it was important we experienced that type of game too. It would probably be fair to say that our football wasn't always fluent in those games, but nevertheless we stayed in control and didn't concede.

The pre-season will have given us confidence for today and without complacency we can go into today's encounter taking those good points with us. It has to be encouraging to think of the way we are playing when we have had new signings. The gaffer has got us all playing the way he wants very quickly. Myself and a few of the players have played under him before, but when you consider that the likes of Kingsley Black, Tommy Widdrington and Tony Gallimore are new to him as well as the new signings, we have gelled together well.

Looking at the Division Two line-up as a whole, you can see some strong teams there. Both Wigan Athletic and Fulham now have big financial backing and the likes of Bristol City, Brentford, Watford and Luton Town were all there or thereabouts last season. Oldham and Southend will also fancy their chances of success. As nearly always in football, it will be a close one to call - rarely does any one club run away with a league (Bolton being an exception last year in Division One) and I think this season will be tight. Everyone starts equal and each team will be looking to get off to a good start.

I believe today's visitors will be one of the stronger sides we face, so although it is early days, today will be a good yardstick for us. The Bristol players know what it takes to be up there and they were very close to promotion last term.

In closing, a big thank-you to everyone who has welcomed me back to the Club, and I hope we can give you plenty to cheer about over the next 9 months. The team will be looking for success and achieving it with an entertaining style.

Please make some noise and cheer us on!

All the Best

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MATCH STATISTICS 1997/98

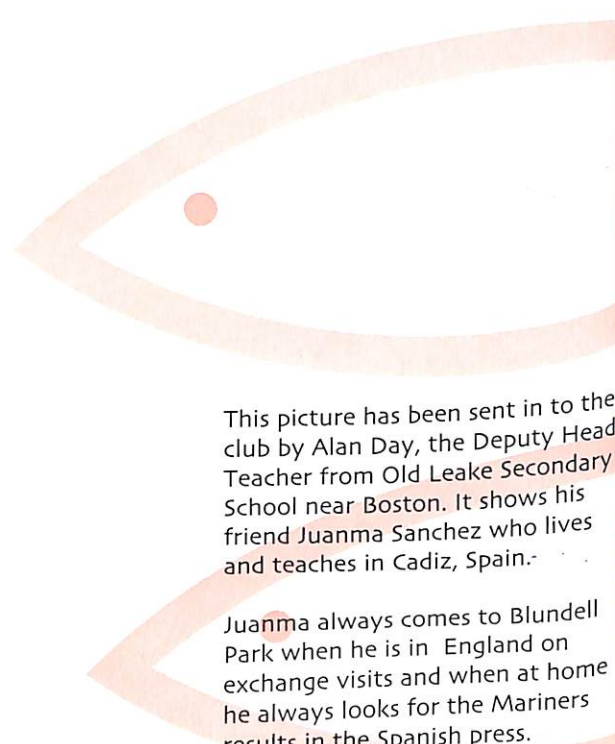
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT - KEEP IT GOING !

GRIMSBY T

DATE	OPPOSITION	VENUE	FOR/AGAINST	GATE	POINTS	POSITION
AUG 9	BRISTOL CITY	H				1
AUG 12	OLDHAM A. CCC 1(1)	A				2
AUG 16	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	A				3
AUG 23	WREXHAM	H				4
AUG 26	OLDHAM A. CCC 1(2)	H				5
AUG 30	BRENTFORD	A				6
SEP 2	PRESTON NORTH END	A				7
SEP 6	YORK CITY	H				8
SEP 13	FULHAM	A				9
SEP 20	MILLWALL	H				10
SEP 27	A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH	H				11
OCT 4	WIGAN ATHLETIC	H				12
OCT 11	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	H				13
OCT 18	BLACKPOOL	A				14
OCT 21	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	A				
OCT 25	WATFORD	H				
NOV 1	SOUTHEND UNITED	H				
NOV 4	WALSALL	A				
NOV 8	CHESTERFIELD	A				
NOV 15	F.A. CUP 1					
NOV 18	LUTON TOWN	H				
NOV 22	BURNLEY	H				
NOV 29	GILLINGHAM	A				
DEC 2	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	H				
DEC 6	F.A. CUP 2					
DEC 13	BRISTOL ROVERS	A				
DEC 20	CARLISLE UNITED	H				
DEC 26	YORK CITY	A				
DEC 28	PRESTON NORTH END	H				
JAN 3	PLYMOUTH A. F.A.CUP 3	H				
JAN 10	BRISTOL CITY	A				
JAN 17	BRENTFORD	H				
JAN 24	WREXHAM F.A.CUP 4	A				
JAN 31	FULHAM	H				
FEB 7	MILLWALL	A				
FEB 14	WIGAN A. F.A.CUP 5	A				
FEB 21	A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH	H				
FEB 24	BLACKPOOL	H				
FEB 28	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	A				
MAR 3	CHESTERFIELD	H				
MAR 7	SOUTHEND U. F.A.CUP 6	A				
MAR 14	WALSALL	H				
MAR 21	LUTON TOWN	A				
MAR 28	BURNLEY	A				
APR 4	GILLINGHAM F.A.CUP SEMI	H				
APR 11	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	A				
APR 13	BRISTOL ROVERS	H				
APR 18	CARLISLE UNITED	A				
APR 25	WATFORD	H				
MAY 2	OLDHAM ATHLETIC					
MAY 16	F.A. CUP FINAL					



7 SOUTH-HALL
8 LESTER
9 SHAKESPEARE
10 MENDONCA
11 OSTER
12 BLACK
13 FICKLING
14 LEE



This picture has been sent in to the club by Alan Day, the Deputy Head Teacher from Old Leake Secondary School near Boston. It shows his friend Juanma Sanchez who lives and teaches in Cadiz, Spain.

Juanma always comes to Blundell Park when he is in England on exchange visits and when at home he always looks for the Mariners results in the Spanish press.

In the picture, Juanma and his pupils show their allegiance to their adopted club, although they haven't quite got the lyrics right on "sing when we're fishing" yet!

"Grimsby's supporters - Spanish section" says the banner - is this the most distant supporters club section or do you know different?



KEY
 SCORERS - *ITALIC*
 DEBUT - **D**
 PLAYER
 BOOKED - **Y**
 PLAYER
 SENT OFF- **R**

MARINERS MEMORABLE MOMENTS

MARINERS AT WAR

THE STORY OF GRIMSBY'S 1914-15 LEAGUE SEASON PART 1

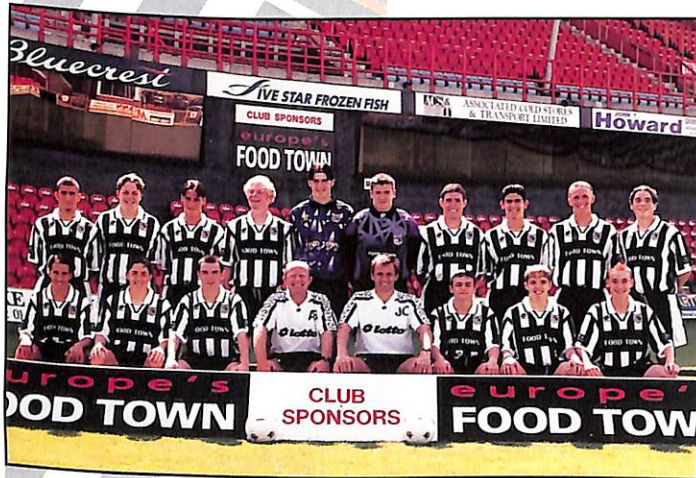
Although tension had been building between the powers of Europe for several years, the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand - heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne - in Sarajevo on 28 June 1914 proved to be the spark that ignited the Great War. The gunman, Gavrilo Princip, said that he had acted to avenge Serbs for past oppressions, and immediately suspicion fell on Serbia itself. As Germany pressured Austria to take revenge, Russia said it would support Serbia. And, through a series of alliances, Britain and France were duty bound to provide help where needed.

4 AUGUST: BRITAIN DECLARES WAR ON GERMANY

Germany's invasion of Belgium finally prompted the British government into action, and on 4 August, War was declared on Berlin. For the players of Grimsby Town however life went on as normal, and one day later, they returned as scheduled for pre-season training. This was reported to have begun well, with the Blundell Park pitch likewise in excellent condition. Three practice games were announced for later in the month before the start of the League campaign on 1 September, with admission to each costing just 2d. The war itself though was never far away. Race meetings and county cricket matches began to be abandoned as playing areas were requisitioned, or call-ups to the forces began to take effect. The soccer authorities also were monitoring the situation - while the F.A. were in favour of a suspension of fixtures, the Football League took a different view, and issued the following statement: 'Any sport which can minimise grief, help the nation bear its sorrow, and save people at home from panic is a great national asset which can render lasting service to the people.' Such was the esteem in which football was held.

19 AUGUST: BRITISH FORCES ARRIVE IN FRANCE

By the time of the opening Second Division game against Preston North End on 1 September (the earliest date under the then rules at which the Football League season could start), Town's preparations had gone smoothly despite other events. The practice matches had been well attended, with total receipts of nearly £65 divided between Grimsby Hospital, the Mayor's Fund, and two orphanages. The Mariners were also able to parade their two summer signings - goalkeeper Percy Summers (from Chesterfield) and Tommy Spink, a winger from Rochdale with good speed and control. Thus, Grimsby began the season with the following team: Summers, Wheelhouse, Arrowsmith, Andrews, Gordon, Martin, Spink, Rippon, Chalmers, Mayson, Scott. Preston, newly-relegated from Division One, fielded a weakened team, though did include Irish international Jim Macauley, formerly of Huddersfield. In fine cricketing weather, a crowd of around 5,000 gathered at Blundell Park to see Grimsby kick-off.



The Youth Team pictured with Alan Buckley and John Cockerill

THE NEW GENERATION

With Youth Team Coach, Ian Knight

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to today's game and the start of a new season - hopefully a successful one!

I was delighted to be offered my new post by the gaffer - a decision which didn't take me long to accept. With my previous experience of working at the club and having a knowledge of the talents in our school of excellence ranks, I am sure that I can provide the manager with players to fill the team for years to come.

I don't need to mention the magnificent job that Cockers has done over the past few years bringing on players like Andy Love, John Oster and recently Danny Butterfield from our youth system. Together we believe that the halcyon days of the late 70s/early 80s when a team of local lads represented Grimsby Town F.C. will return.

Today we start our season away at Port Vale, which will provide our boys with a good test. Although not the most physical of teams our boys certainly have talent, during the course of the season they will obviously be working to show that talent on Blundell Park in the first team!

I'm sure the lads would welcome your support at our home games at Cheapside, Waltham starting with next week at 10.45am against Notts County. We hope to see you there.

Cheers

Knighty, Knighty

Youth Development Association

As Chairman of the Youth Development Association I would like to welcome you to today's game.

I thought I would start with an explanation of exactly what the YDA is. It was formed in 1987 and the sole aim is to promote the youth of today in their chosen sport.

The majority of the funding raised through the hard work of the committee and the generated sponsorship is directed to funding the School of Excellence set up at the club a boost through the money generated by the likes of Gary Croft and recently John Oster. A special thanks should also go to the coaches of all of the age groups for their time and effort.

How can you help? Well, it's only £5 for a years membership, in which a draw is made before each home game for a pair of tickets to watch the game and if you're interested in helping or have any ideas for meetings.

Interested? Call me on 885003.

Finally, I would like to wish, Ian Knight, Julian Winter, John Cockerill and of course, Alan Buckley the very best of luck and wish all the teams a successful 1997/8 season.

Thanks

Steve Sherwood

Chairman YDA

Trust us to help the game

The Football Trust has been providing support for the game at every level throughout the UK for over 22 years. Its present priority task is to help League clubs to complete the implementation of the Taylor Report recommendations.

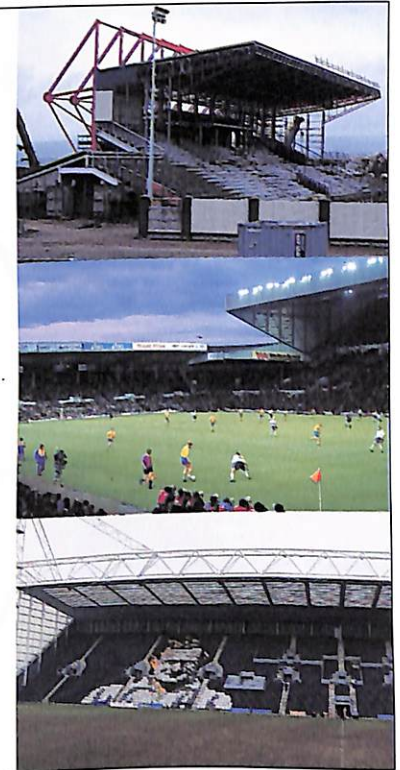
Thanks to the Government and to the Football Association, the FA Premier League and the English Sports Council, a major new funding package to secure the future of the Trust has been put in place.

These funds will be in addition to income derived from the football pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters, and will enable the Trust to complete its Taylor task, carry on its essential safety work and continue to grant aid football at every level. The Government's commitment to the Trust has the support of everyone who cares about our national game.



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AIDAN DAVISON	1	KEITH WELCH
JOHN McDERMOTT	2	LOUIS CAREY
TONY GALLIMORE	3	GARY OWERS
PETER HANDYSIDE	4	ROB EDWARDS
MARK LEVER	5	SHAUN TAYLOR
TOMMY WIDDRINGTON	6	SEAN DYCHE
KEVIN DONOVAN	7	MATT HEWLETT
KINGSLEY BLACK	8	BRIAN TINNIION
STEVE LIVINGSTONE	9	MICKY BELL
LEE NOGAN	10	SHAUN GOATER
PAUL GROVES	11	JUNIOR BENT

SUBSTITUTES

NEIL WOODS	12	GREGORY GOODRIDGE
KEVIN JOBLING	13	STUART NAYLOR
GRAHAM RODGER	14	DAVID SEAL



REFEREE

MR. G. FRANKLAND



ASSISTANT REFEREES

Mr. I. BLANCHARD

Mr. G. B. TURNER

RESERVE OFFICIAL

Mr. K. D. G. LAWSON

THE MAN IN CHARGE

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