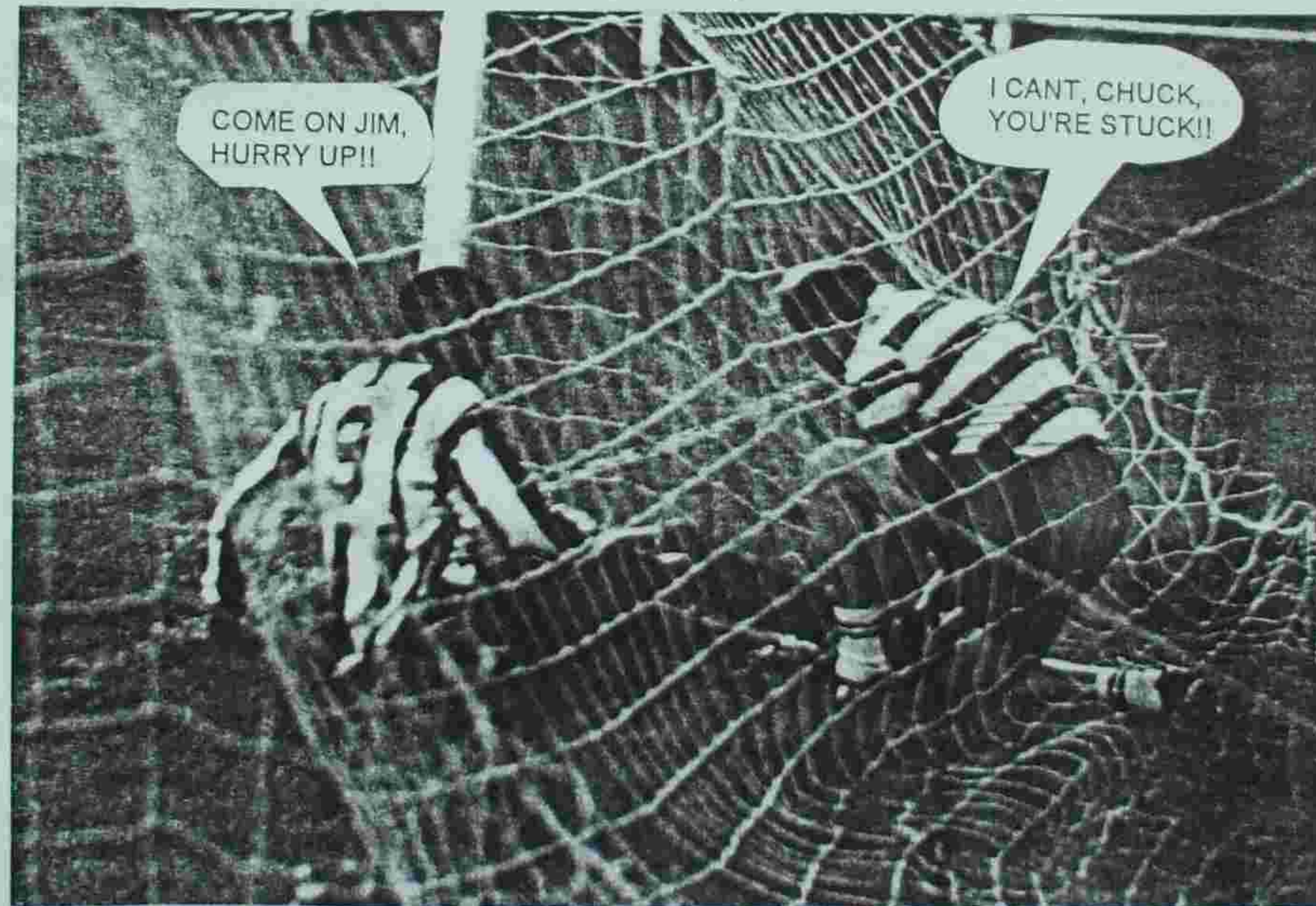


SPONSORS OF ALAN DEVONSHIRE AND MARTYN BUSBY

BORN & BRED

ISSUE 12, 50P



GOAL DROUGHT EXPLAINED

THE INDEPENDENT MAIDENHEAD UNITED FANZINE

Born and Bred

THIS ISSUES CONTRIBUTORS....

Keith Jackson, Steve Jinman, Mark Smith, Murdo Macleod, Richard Jackson, Mark Leonard, The Pupils of Northtown Primary School

PHOTOGRAPHS....

All by Mark Leonard, except the rude one, which is courtesy of the Phil Adkins Private Collection

OTHER PEOPLE....

Bob Popejoy for the colour cover

OUTLETS....

*Sportspages, Charing Cross Road, London
The Club Shop, which will also stock some back issues
The Social Club by the York Road turnstiles
And from us around the ground on matchdays.*

CONTRIBUTIONS....

We are always on the lookout for contributions, articles, letters, nude girlie pix etc., just send them to us at the address below.

BACK ISSUES....

Currently available are issues 3,6,7,8,9 and 11 for the measly price of 50p plus an SAE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS....

Subscriptions cost a mere £3.00 for the next five issues. Apologies to existing subscribers about the lateness of this issue, it was due to a combination of technical reasons, bad performances, and sheer laziness.

NEXT ISSUE OUT....

Well, that really depends on whether or not we get a decent run in the Full Members Cup, and how the relegation struggle is going....Mid April is a good bet, but DEFINITELY before the end of the season.

SEND YOUR SCRIBBLINGS AND £££ TO...

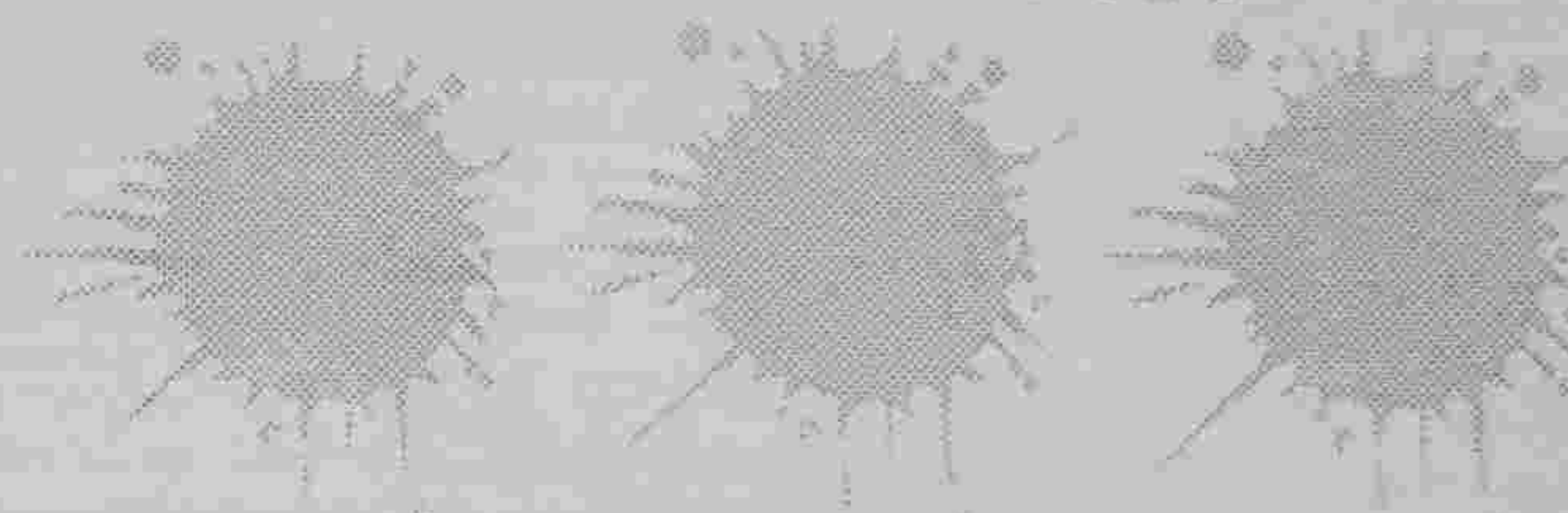
**BORN AND BRED, 'PENDEEN', STROUD FARM ROAD,
HOLYPORT, MAIDENHEAD, BERKS, SL6 2LH.**

Welcome to issue 12 of Born and Bred, the fanzine of Maidenhead United FC. All money raised from this publication is ploughed back into the Club, and we have already paid for the sponsorship of both managers this season. Our aim is to enlighten, not offend, and the right to reply is encouraged by any person who feels aggrieved by an article featured within this publication.

**CHEAPEST NOSEBAG
IN MAIDENHEAD**

**2 MINUTES CRAWL
FROM THE PUB**

Jumanji Tandoori



Restaurant

Queen Street, Maidenhead, Berks

**Been on the piss all day? Absolutely shit-faced?
Fancy pink poo tomorrow and a humdinger of a ring-stinger?**

**Then why not try our interesting 'unusual' dishes.
Wines chosen from around local supermarkets or perhaps sample our
popular Indian Lager with its distinctive taste.
We welcome all forms of payment, especially cash. Alternatively, just
claim to be Jim Parsons or John Swan and stick it on their slate!**



**If you can't be arsed to leave the pub call
01628 - 25713 / 79442**

EDDIE TORIAL

In 1965, Bob Dylan wrote a song called 'The Times They Are A Changin''. After six consecutive league defeats, change seems to be something we certainly need at York Road. Lets look at the situation: following our 5-1 win at Tooting on September 24th, we were top of the table, we had 16 points, and although we knew it wouldn't last, things were looking rosy. Now, we are situated 4th from bottom, and our points total has increased by a mere 5 points. A win against a poor Berkhamsted side, and draws at Leyton and Walton have been our only League performances worthy of any merit in almost 4 months. Oh, and a win against Barton, which we lost the points for in an event which further emphasises the state that the Club is in.

The players simply aren't performing. We have enough players of quality to make an impression this term; Chuck, Obi, Garry Attrell, Trevor Roffey of course, and not forgetting Francis Duku, Russell Adams, Kevin Brown, Tony Gale...with players like these we should be reaching for the Premier Division, not staring Division 2 squarely in the face. Which begs the question that the problems lie elsewhere....

Joint managers are always a bit of a gamble. When we had Cliff Jones and Martyn Spong in charge, we were going nowhere. What happened? We got rid of Cliff and kept Martyn. That got us promotion. That got us back into Division 1. I sincerely hope that a decision, should the Committee decide there will be one, won't be taken too late; or Martyn (or of course, Alan) may have to take the reins alone to get us back into Division 1 the season after next. In my humble opinion, with the current set up the Magpies will definitely be playing Division 2 football next year.

So what of the current performances? Surrendering a 2-0 half time lead at Canvey was just unforgivable, as was the home performance against Molesey. We played without a clue against Hampton and Uxbridge, and looked like a junior team against an average Aldershot side. A good Cup win at Molesey has been our only performance of note lately; and a very good performance it was too. It's such a shame that we can't play like that week in, week out.

With some hard games coming up, we need every possible point to avoid the drop into Division 2. Worthing look likely to go down, but who will be the others to join them? Berkhamsted and ourselves must be favourites. Those at Canvey Island would have noticed how their support never criticised the team when they were losing. They cheered every attack, and were a huge boost to the team. It's a shame some of our supporters (and Club Officials) can't notice this; barracking a player is hardly going to lift him. Even so, the crowd have been quite fair this term in comparison to the latter half of the John Watt era.

All we can do now is sit back and hope for the best - on and off the pitch.

Keith Jackson

VEEMBER - NOVEMBER - NOVEMBER - NOVE

TROPHY TIE...CONNOR SIGNS FROM MARLOW...ROFFEY BACK FROM INJURY...FIRST TEAM DEBUTS FOR GALE AND DUKU...MAGPIES SLIP FURTHER DOWN THE TABLE....

November started in disastrous fashion with the 4-0 drubbing at Worthing (see B&B issue 11), which is still without doubt the worst performance of the season so far. The Magpies had little chance to recover from this set back as the following Saturday, Premier division Bromley came to York Road in the FA Trophy. Chances are you will draw a side from a higher division in this competition, but you must be able to compete and beat these if you are to have any chance of qualifying into the competition proper. The Magpies learned from their mistakes against Heybridge earlier in the season, and an even fought game saw Bromley run out 3-1 victors, with John Ruggins getting our goal. If it wasn't for some disastrous 'keeping by Lee Knott then we may well have been able to force a replay.

Barton were next, and a lacklustre display saw the Magpies win with Obi Ulassi notching the only goal of the game just before half time. But, as we all know, the points gained in this match counted for nothing. We can ill afford to drop points at the moment, and losing the three we gained in this game for fielding the unregistered Andy Smith may better not be crucial to our survival come May. It is simply so unprofessional to allow things like this to happen. Admittedly, Andy has been with the club for 13 years, but you can't put a player on a team sheet without a registration number. Fingers can be pointed at many people over who gets the blame, but lets not forget, it's the managers who have the final say in who plays and who doesn't.

A trip to big spending, low flying Walton was the next port of call, and a good strike by Obi saw us go one up at the break. Some abysmal defending saw the Magpies in an oh-so-familiar situation midway through the second half, and on the 80th minute, some defending you wouldn't expect to see in a kids game saw the Magpies concede a penalty and go 2-1 down. Thank God for Chuck Agudosi's 11th of the season on 87 minutes, or the Magpies

may come away from Stompond Lane empty handed.

The month ended with the customary defeat by Abingdon, a game of little note and quality until Tony Gale came on in the second half and put some excellent crosses in the box. It's a shame no one was there to greet them.



Sarge watches in disbelief as Spencer fails to clear another cross

After starting the season so promisingly, our plunge from 1st to 17th in a matter of weeks was completely unexpected. What was expected was a slip to upper mid table. We knew we weren't promotion contenders, but few but the most cynical cynics would have classed us as relegation material. It doesn't take a genius to see why this slide has started. Firstly, the loss of Mark Harrison has left a gaping hole in defence, and barren runs in front of goal by Agudosi and Attrell have meant that not only are we failing to score, we are conceding far too many.

The defence seems to be the major concern at the moment. We know Chuck can score hatloads, he has proved that all ready. At the back however, we have a few players who simply aren't pulling their weight. Kevin Brown, our only ever present this term, is no great footballer, but will give you 100%, and 9 times out of 10, that will be more than enough. Tyrone's injury has kept him out of action, but he plays superb one week and piss poor the next. The main defensive concern is Spencer Collins. I'm not going to beat around the bush, in my view he is simply not good enough for this level of football.

New additions to the squad included Brian Connor and Francis Duku. Connor had been the attention of the Magpies for quite some time, and time will tell if he is capable of playing the way we have been told. Duku on the other hand has put in some solid displays at the back, and could be one of the key men determining our survival come May. On the whole, an awful month. Our league record must surely set some new record, played 4 points -2.

CEMBER · DECEMBER · DECEMBER · DECE

Another Cup defeat....the goal drought continues....Shot down at Aldershot....an Uxbridge too far....only postponement in South occurs at York Road....

Just like November, December was a bitterly disappointing month for the Magpies. As the cold set in around the country, the rot set in at York Road, with December being the worst month on the pitch for the Magpies for many, many seasons.

The month started with a trip to perennial promotion hopefuls Aldershot, a ground where we have picked up maximum points in all our league visits so far. This time, Aldershot, with recent signing Neil Webb, literally tore the Magpies to pieces. We played one of the poorest games of the season, and were comprehensively beaten 3-0. Defeat is always a bitter pill to swallow, but if you play well and lose, the effects are not as damaging. At the Recreation ground in front of 1500 people we played with no formation, no team spirit, and no idea. To gain any chance of doing well this year we should be picking up points in these sort of games, but the Magpies were just played off the park. A goal down after 18 minutes, and 2-0 down shortly after half an hour following a nice strike by Paul Chambers, it looked likely that the Magpies were set for a hammering. If it wasn't for some good saves by Trevor Roffey, and Aldershot sitting back in the second half, the scoreline could have been many, many more. Aldershot added the third 10 minutes before time, and the Magpies left Aldershot for the first time with no points.

Next up were Abingdon in the Berks and Bucks. Following last years farce with Aylesbury in the Semi Final, this competition holds no merit whatsoever, but that doesn't excuse a lousy performance such as this. The 2-0 defeat was watched by the lowest paying crowd in the history of the club, a crowd so low I'm not even going to mention how low it was.

Things could only get better...SURELY? But oh no, a trip to Uxbridge is rarely fruitful, but the Magpies started quite promisingly. Some good attacking play in the first 20 minutes, and the Magpies looked likely to end the barren run in front of goal. It was now a month since the Magpies had scored, and this hadn't gone unnoticed by the managers, as John Ruggins was dropped for the first time since joining. Mickey Creighton missed the best chance of the first half, when he went to smash a simple tap in and missed the ball completely. Goalless at half time, the Magpies faithful, which outnumbered the Uxbridge fans, were fairly optimistic that we could get something out of this, but when we conceded on 52 minutes it seemed unlikely we would get two back. 20 minutes later Uxbridge made it 2-0, but Russell Adams was unlucky to hit the post with a

spectacular shot from outside the box shortly after. A semi fit Garry Attrell added some zest to the forward line when he came on as a sub 10 minutes from time, but yet another fruitless trip for the Magpies finished 2-0, and if it wasn't for some appalling shooting from Uxbridge, it could have been many, MANY more, as Marlow found out on Boxing Day when Uxbridge thrashed them 7-1 at Oak Tree Road.

Hampton were the visitors to York Road on Saturday 28th, following the postponement of their Boxing Day fixture with us, and we were already behind before many people had taken their place on the terraces. A throw on was flicked to an unmarked player who tapped into an empty net after only 30 seconds, and the Magpies had a mountain to climb right from the start. An unbelievable moment happened 5 minutes into the second half, when a cross from Obinni Ulassi, surely the best signing the club have made for a long time, found Mickey Creighton in the box to head over the keeper and into the back of the net, ending a run of 413 minutes without a goal. This record stretched right back to Chuck Agudosi's equaliser at Walton, and was the longest the Magpies had gone without scoring for 11 years. However, just as things were looking up, normal service was resumed when Hampton hit the winner 8 minutes later. But at least the wait was over...WE SCORED!!!

The postponement of the Whyteleafe game on December 17th was somewhat baffling. It was the only game in the South and the Midlands to be called off, all because of a pointless pitch inspection held early in the morning. I can appreciate that we would have been lumbered with Whyteleafe's travelling expenses, but surely no one thought that the pitch would have been unplayable at 3.00? This was also the night of the players' 'do', and of course, as the game was called off, no-one from the playing side showed. However, those who did go had a great time, and respect is due to those behind the scenes in the Social Club who organised the event. Oh, those that didn't turn up, it was of course free to get in, and NOT £5, as was originally suggested by moron or morons unknown.

Myself, Murdo and Steve took the opportunity to go and watch our annual Enfield away match, who were the visitors to Kingstonian's new ground. And who did we bump into as soon as we passed through the turnstiles? A Mr T Roffey, who had heard of Kingstonian's goalkeeper problems before most others. You read it here first....

the gallery

Just before Christmas, the pupils in Miss Gideon's class at Northtown Primary school were asked to draw a picture of their favourite sports personality. Miss Gideon was kind enough to send some of them into us, and we have printed a selection of the best....



Ben is tall
just like
Carlton
Palmer

here we see our very own Ben Cook drawn by Emma Thomas, aged six.

JANUARY · JANUARY · JANUARY · JANUARY · JA

First game of 1997 sees Magpies win.....the shape of things to come?.....no, as we crash 2-0 to Molesey in the league.....relegation looks likely after defeat at Canvey....

1997 started in the best possible fashion for the Magpies. After what seemed like months, at long last we win a game. The Full Members Cup is not the most prestigious of tournaments, but a win away from home should be a big boost for the players. For the first time in literally ages, the Magpies played with spirit and determination, that was to be rewarded with a long overdue win. A hard pitch at Molesey, but playable nonetheless was what greeted the Magpies, and Garry Attrell greeted the feeble away support with a goal after only 4 minutes. Some superb goalkeeping from SupaTrev (again)



Chuck back to scoring form at Molesey

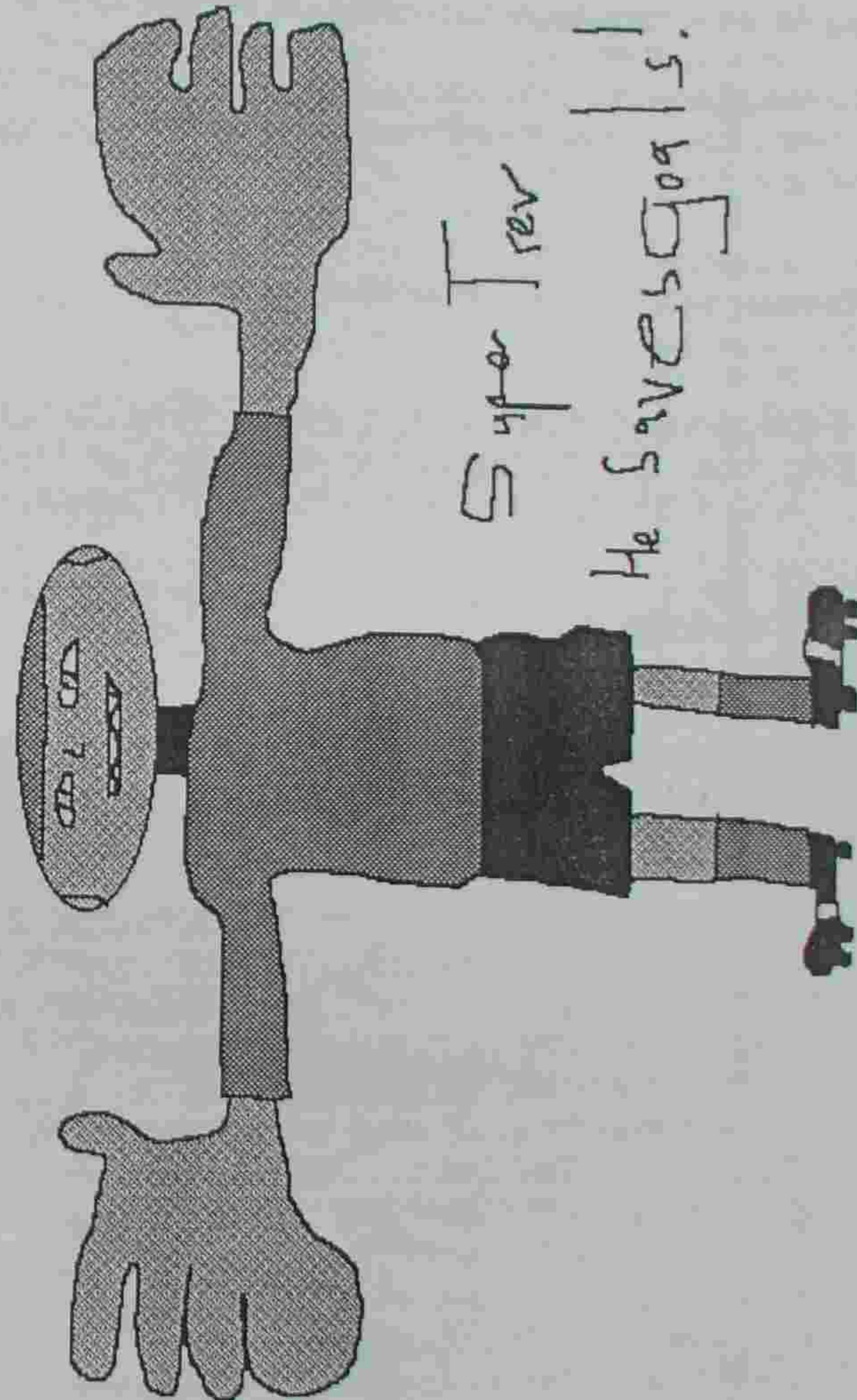
kept the tie within the Magpies grasp, and a goal from Chuck Agudosi 7 minutes from time sealed the win to put the Magpies into the last 16.

Normal service was resumed however a mere six days later when the same Magpies XI played in completely contradictory fashion and fell to a 2-0 defeat at home to the same Molesey side. The spirit and workrate from Monday night was not in evidence here, a goal in each half sent the Magpies crashing to their 5th consecutive league defeat.

A trip to fellow relegation strugglers Canvey Island presented the Magpies with the ideal opportunity to gain some of those oh so elusive league points, and things looked familiar as wave after wave of Canvey attack came in on the Magpies goal. If it wasn't for some superb

saves from Trevor Roffey we could have been 3-0 down within the first 10 minutes. The Magpies opened the scoring after 13 minutes when a pass from Garry Attrell was well held by Micky Creighton who passed to Chuck Agudosi, who shot to beat the 'keeper at the far post. The 'keeper didn't judge the pace of the shot properly (the lack of pace, I hasten to add) and the Magpies were 1-0 up. Eleven minutes later a cross from Garry Attrell found Chuck and on loan signing from Basingstoke Peter Terry rushing in and it was Terry who connected to send the Magpies two up at the break.

Just as the Magpies looked to be home and dry, disaster struck. A disastrous miss by Francis Duku allowed Canvey to get one back 10 minutes after the break, and then they controlled the half and made the Magpies look like the misfits we were. Further goals after 64, 81, and 83 minutes sent the Magpies crashing to their sixth consecutive defeat, and left many wondering just why they had bothered. Surely, this must be the straw that breaks the camel's back. A point of note - Canvey Island is the most disgusting, grimy place on the face of the earth. Lets hope we don't have to go back there in division 2 next year....



With hands like that, Trevor should keep a clean sheet every game! By Steve Nicholls, aged six.

HOTLINE CON

Date: Saturday 9th November

Maidenhead are beaten 3-1 at home to Bromley in the FA Trophy.

Time: 10 pm

Welcome to the Magpies hotline sponsored by **WHICHFORD**, altogether blah, blah, blah... Bad news from Woodside Road, where Maidenhead have lost 4-0 to Worthing.

Date: Monday 6th January

At Midday the Molesey pitch is passed fit to host Maidenhead's Full Members Cup tie in the evening.

Time: 6pm

Welcome to the Magpies hotline sponsored by **WHICHFORD**, altogether blah, blah, blah... Our next match is at Molesey on Monday although the chances of it taking place are as high as the temperature absolute zero.

Date: Saturday 18th January

Maidenhead lose 4-2 at Canvey Island

Time: 8pm

Welcome to the Magpies hotline sponsored by **WHICHFORD**, altogether blah, blah, blah... Bad news from York Road where Maidenhead have lost 2-0 to Molesey.

This is a warning for anybody intending to ring the Hotline to obtain "all the latest news from York Road... updated with match reports, final scores and news of possible postponements". You will be very lucky to get any of the advertised services from our premium rate hot line. Indeed you would be better advised to save your money (39p per minute cheap rate and 49p minute at all other times) and make what will probably be a local call to either Maidenhead United Social Club (01628-24739) or the number of Maidenhead's opponents whoever they maybe. OK so the football club won't make any money but then again you won't end up getting pissed off at being ripped off and frustrated at still being none the wiser about that days fixture.

I understand that whoever is responsible for updating the hotline does so in their own time and so don't expect a daily run down on the life of Maidenhead United or reports filed as soon as something happens. However surely no more than a few hours is needed to record a short message. After all how many complaints would there be if the match programme was never "updated". Now there's an idea.

oh no, it can't be.....**OH YES IT IS!! IT'S THE RETURN OF....**

THAT MAN TALKS BOLLOCKS

Back once again by ever-so popular demand, Born and Bred's continuous quest for people talking bollocks this month heads South, to the delightful town of Worthing. Worthing, as I'm sure you are aware, are having a bit of a tough season, even worse than ours, but ever the optimist, their Chairman Beau Reynolds wrote this in the programme against Thame earlier this season.

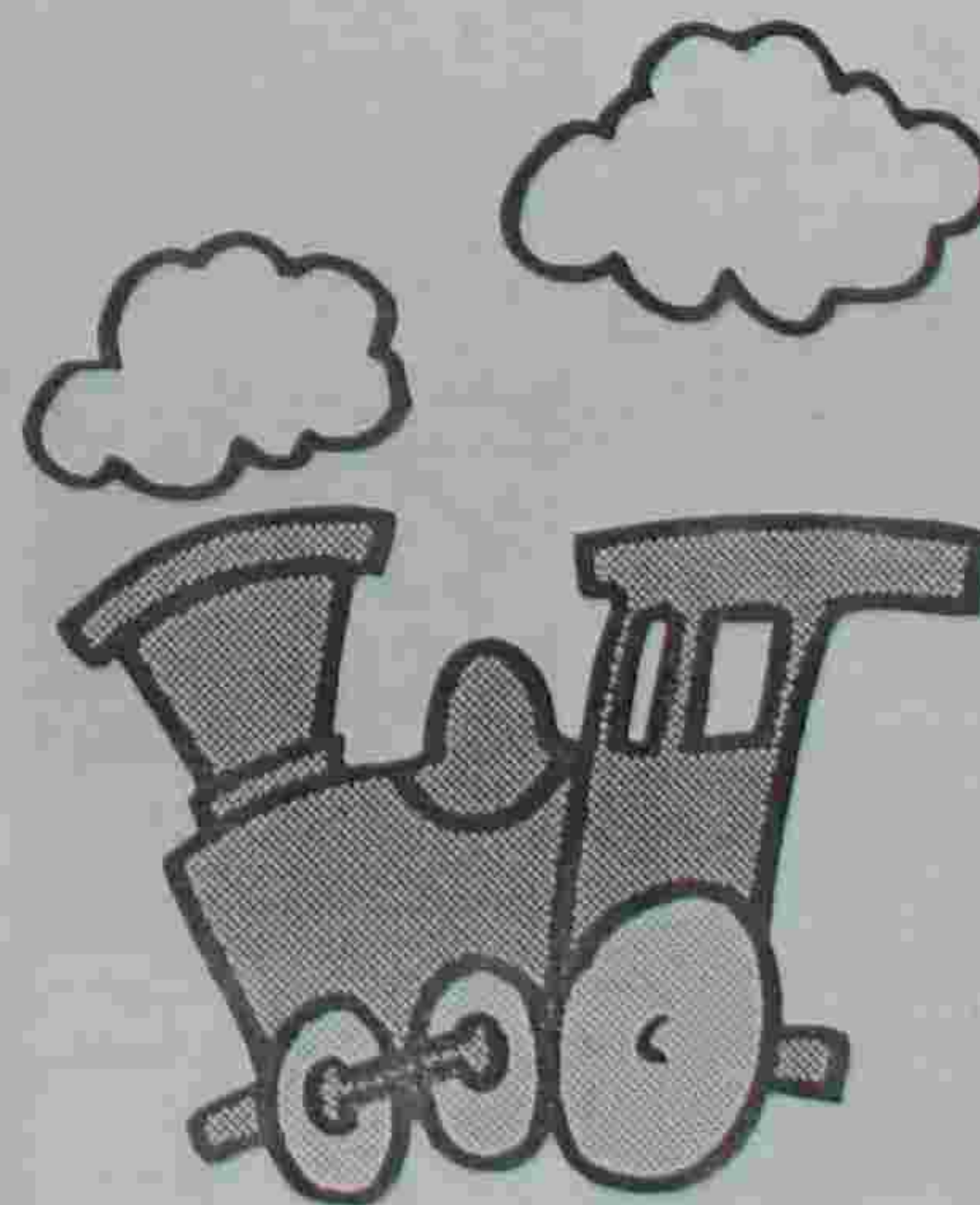
It was pointed out to me our record so far this season is relegation form. On figures alone it is possibly true but I would no more think about relegation after only six games than I would say we were certain to be promoted if we were in the top three at the present time. I would go so far as to say the top two clubs at the moment will not be in the first ten in May and my prediction is still Worthing, Chesham and Aldershot for promotion, and if any one wants to offer me fair odds against us getting promotion I will wager with them until the cows come home.

BEAU REYNOLDS,
CHAIRMAN.

Should have had a little flutter myself when we were down there...

So I'm afraid it's official Mr Reynolds, yes, you've guessed it, **YOU TALK BOLLOCKS MATE!!**

Thanks to Mark Smith for the cutting.



CHOO CHOO!! ALL ABOARD!
Following in the fashion of last years hugely successful, and indeed drunken, trip to Wokingham courtesy of Network South East, we shall be repeating the experience again this season. To get to Wokingham, you have to go via Reading, so meet in the Queens at 12, onto Reading and a stop off there to sample the delights of the cheap beer in the Monks Retreat. The more the merrier, and a good time is guaranteed. Lets hope that Brian doesn't return home with various gardening paraphenalia like he did last season....

CLUELESS RULES

1. To play, you will need two people, a die, and 2 counters (buttons are ideal).
2. Cut out the reason and suspect cards found elsewhere in this issue.
3. Take one reason card and one suspect card and discard the rest.
4. Roll the die, and move forward in a clockwise rotation.
5. If you land on a 'match' square, you can take a guess at the suspect and the reason. Obviously, each suspect should be linked with a reason to a particular game.
6. The person who guesses right is the winner.
7. If the wrong reason / suspect cards are drawn, or a player lands on a match that doesn't correlate with the reason and suspect, then the game makes no sense at all and should be started again.
8. The game designer recognises the fact that Lee Knott is a perfectly competent goalkeeper who had a couple of bad games, but I was running short of ideas.

Clueless - its the game of the year!



" I love Clueless. It gives all the family a lorra lorra laughs" says TV celebrity Cilla



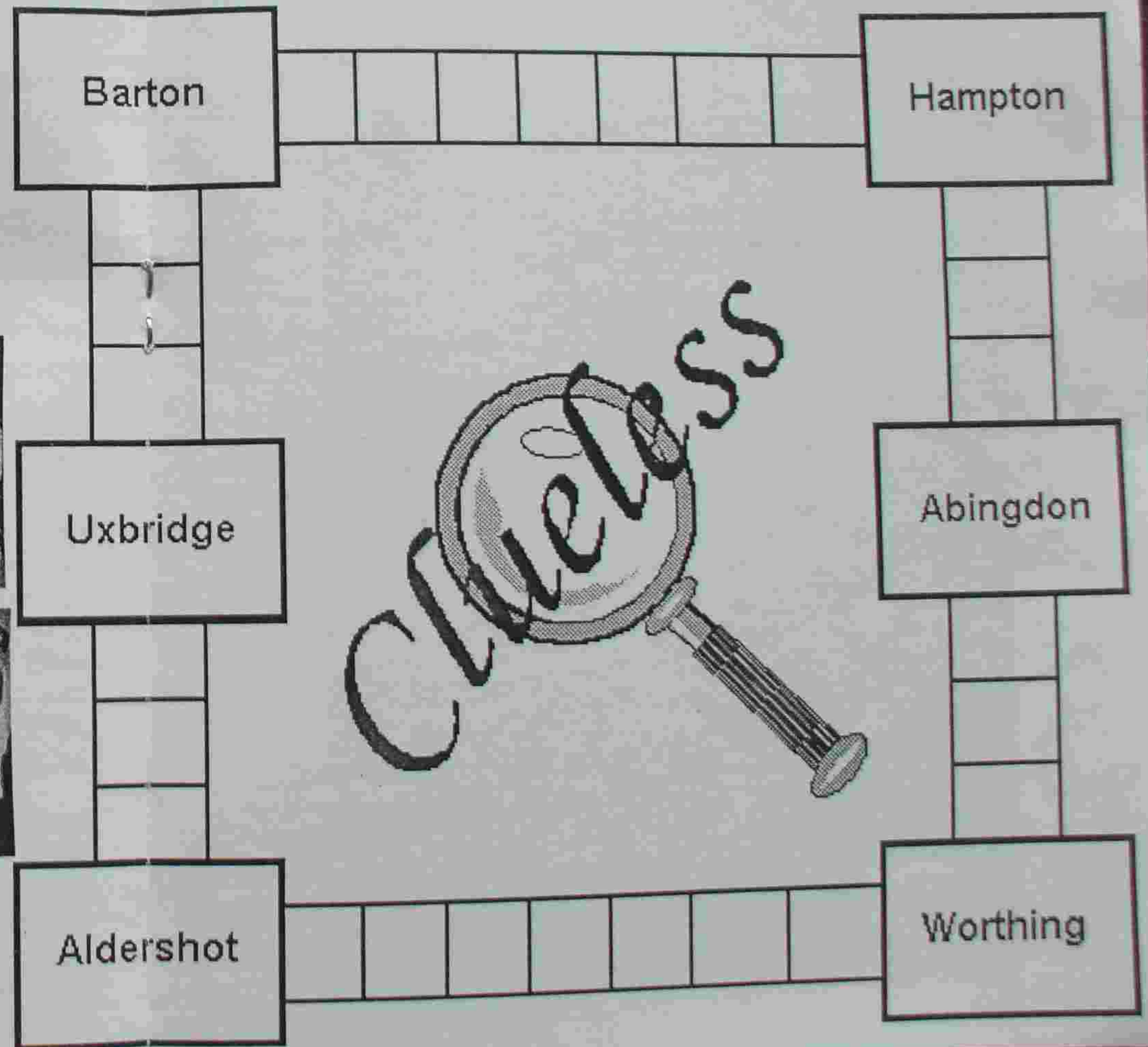
" I love a quick game of Clueless down the Nags Head. Trigger can't get the hang of it though. Lovely Jubbly!!" says TV funny man Del Boy



" Clueless is great! Me and Del always play it down the Nags Head. Trigger normally shouts out 'SNAP' though" said plonker Rodney

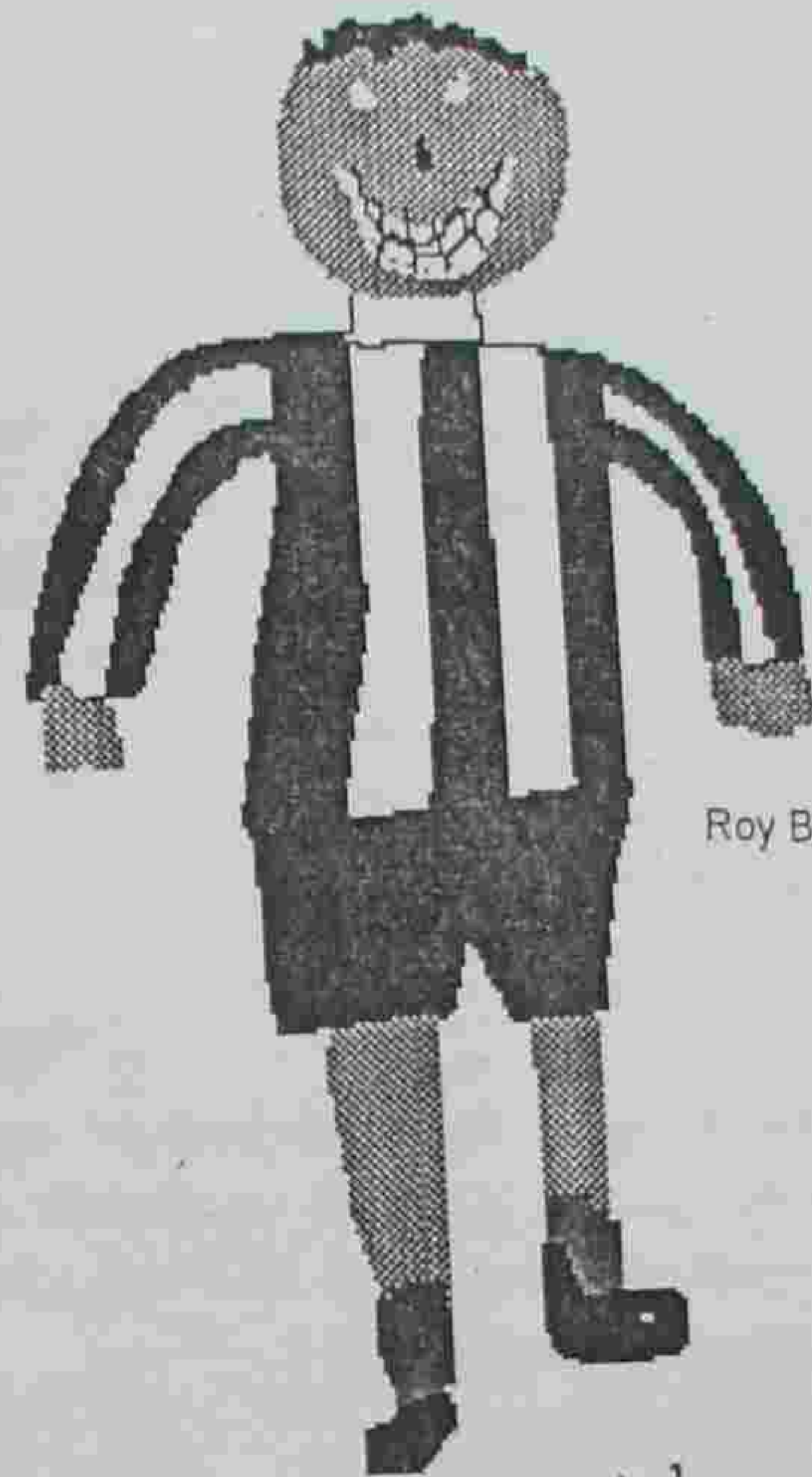
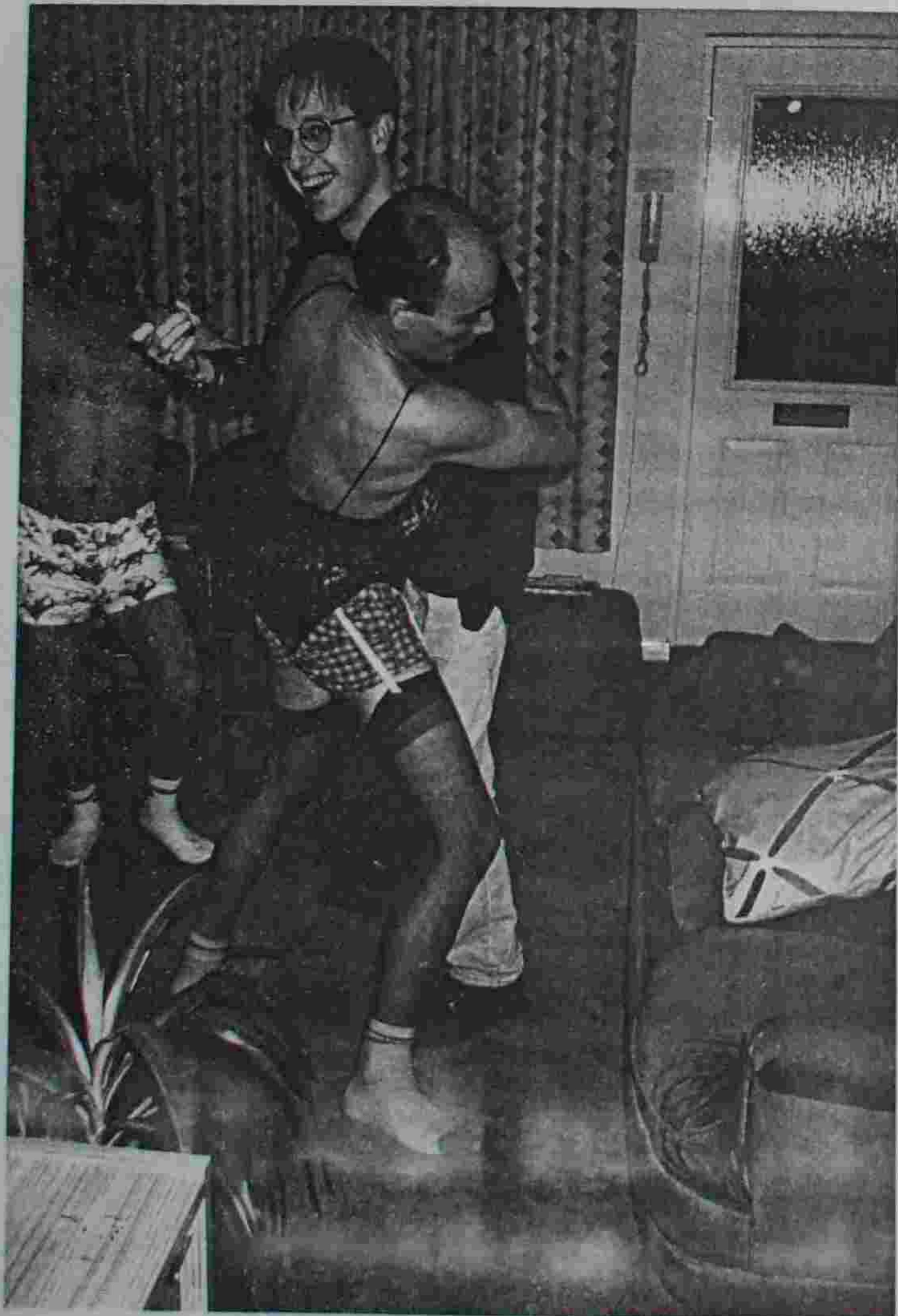


" Clueless? What's that? Are you from the News of the World? How did you get this number?" said Geordie Kevin



COMPETITION TIME!!

A glittering array of prizes awaits the winner of this months competiton. All you have to do is come up with a caption for ths photo showing B&B contibutor and photographer Mark Leonard in a somewhat intimate pose. Send your answers in to the address inside the front cover. It just goes to show that a good Christian upbringing is not always in the best interests of the individual. Still, there's no accounting for taste, is there?

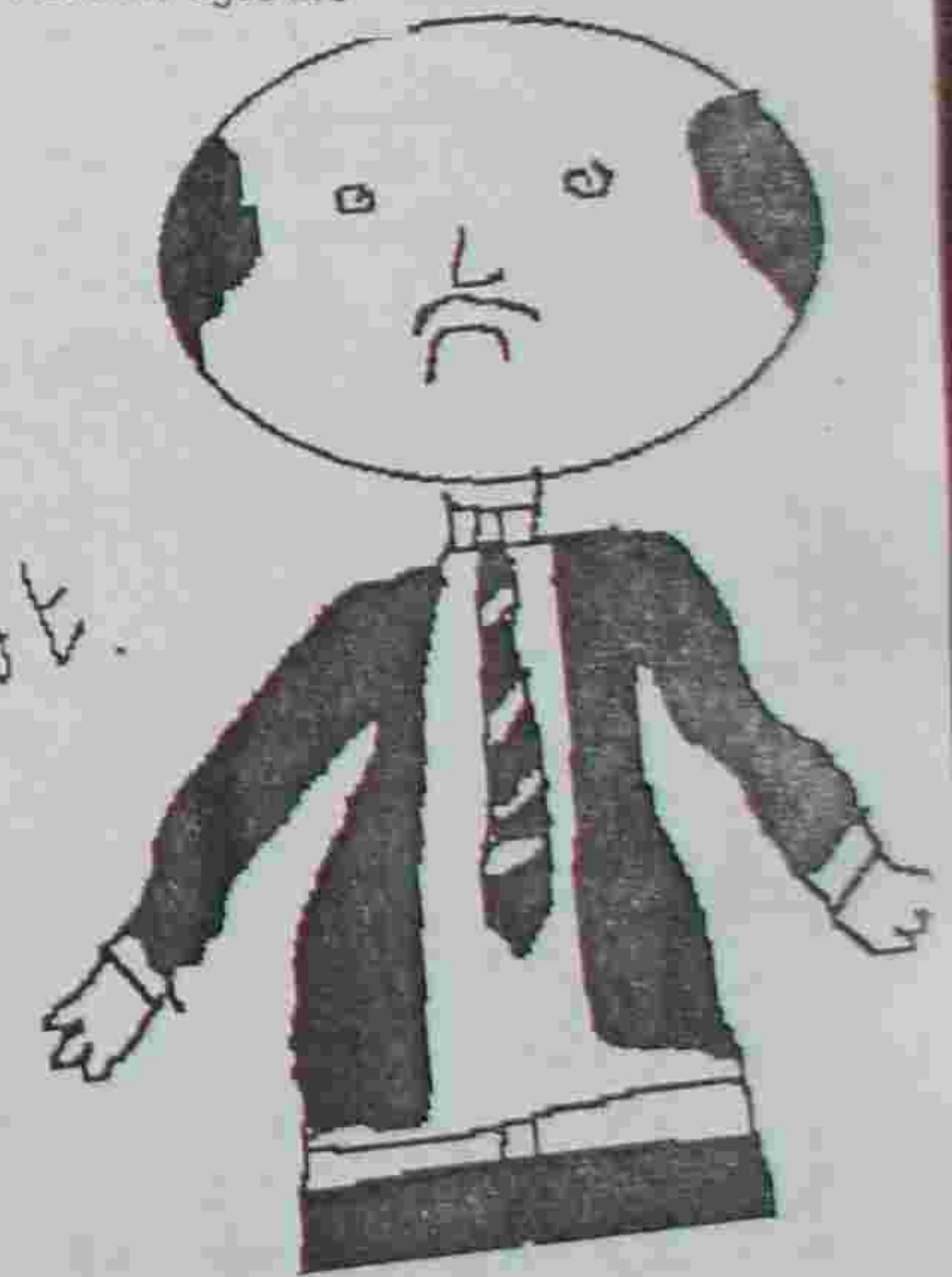


Roy Bannister, by Joanne Hawthorn aged five

Roy is bald
We never see
him anymore

I like Obi. He smiles a lot.

Obinna Ulassi by Johnathon Meer aged six

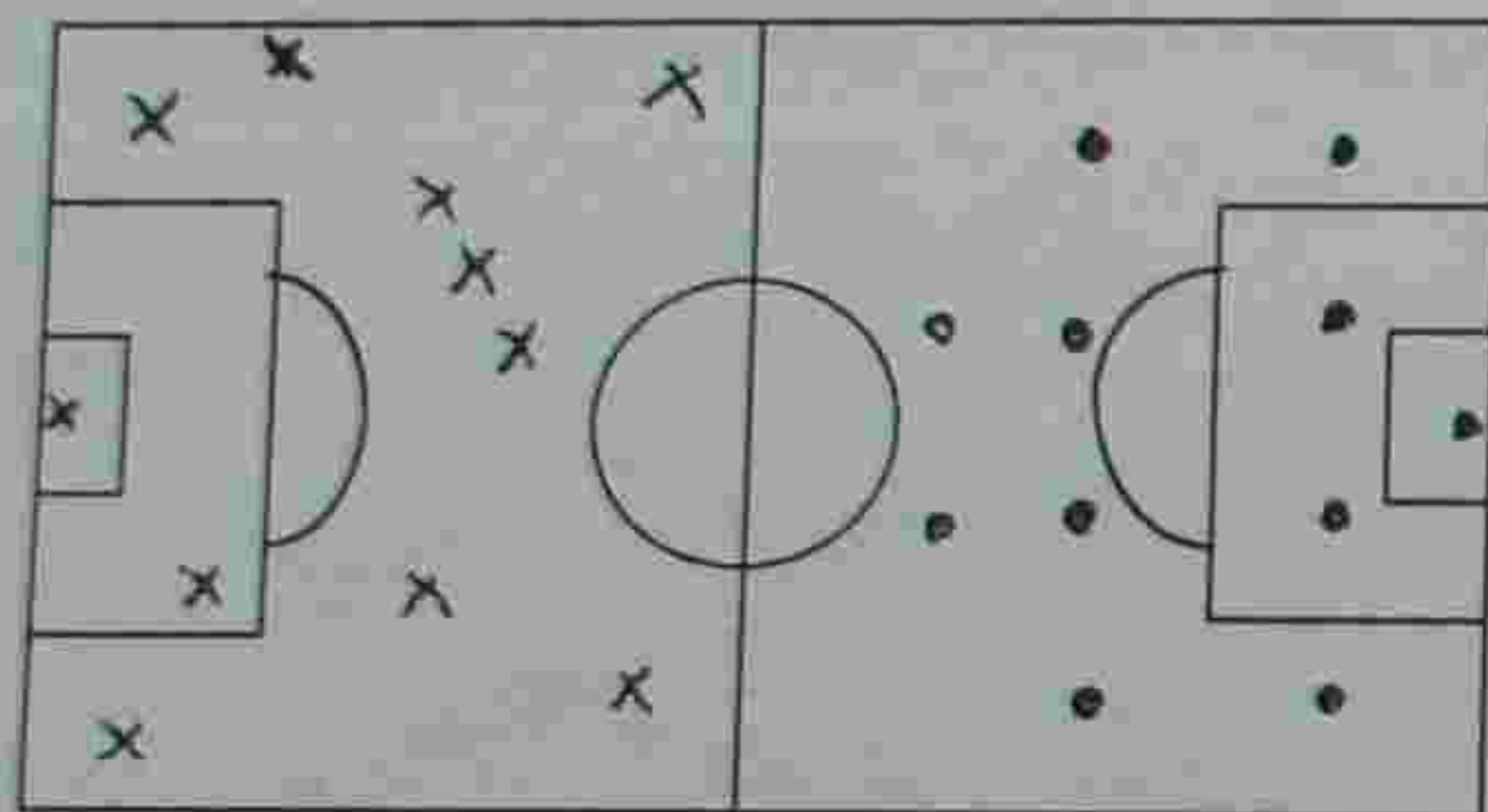


Alan is manager.
He won the Cup
with West Ham

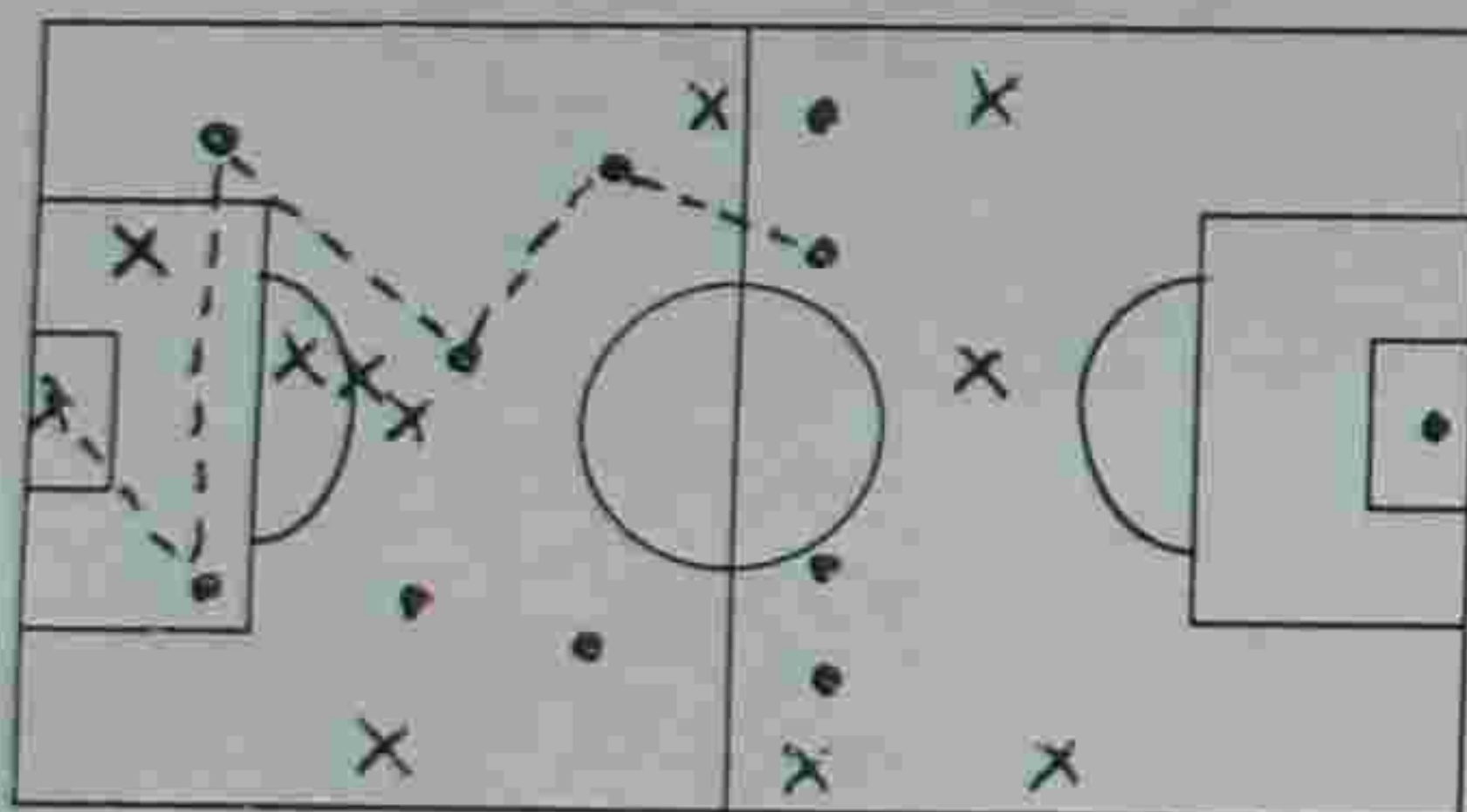
Alan Devonshire, by Mark Rufus aged six



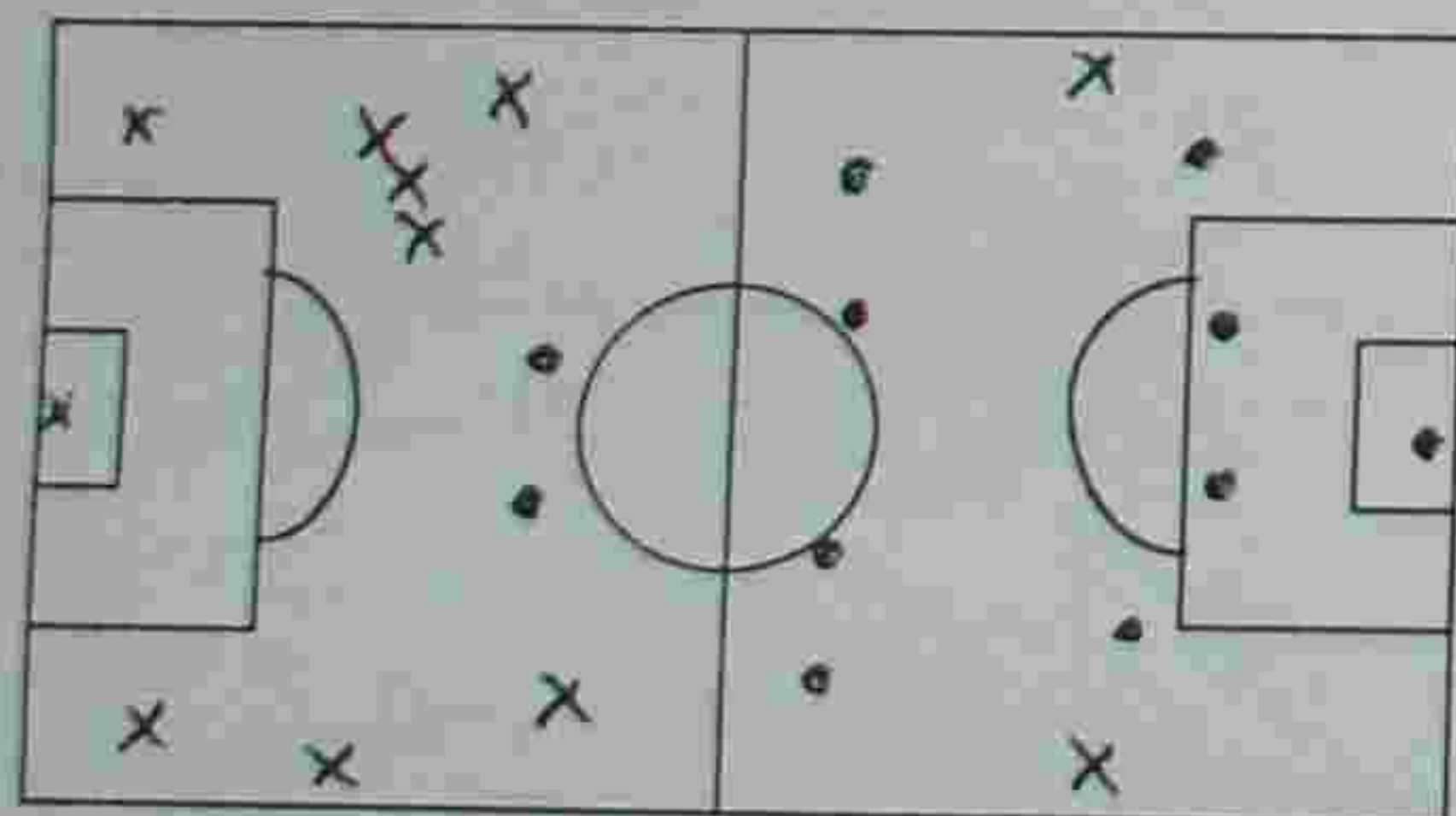
A NEW YEAR QUIZ?



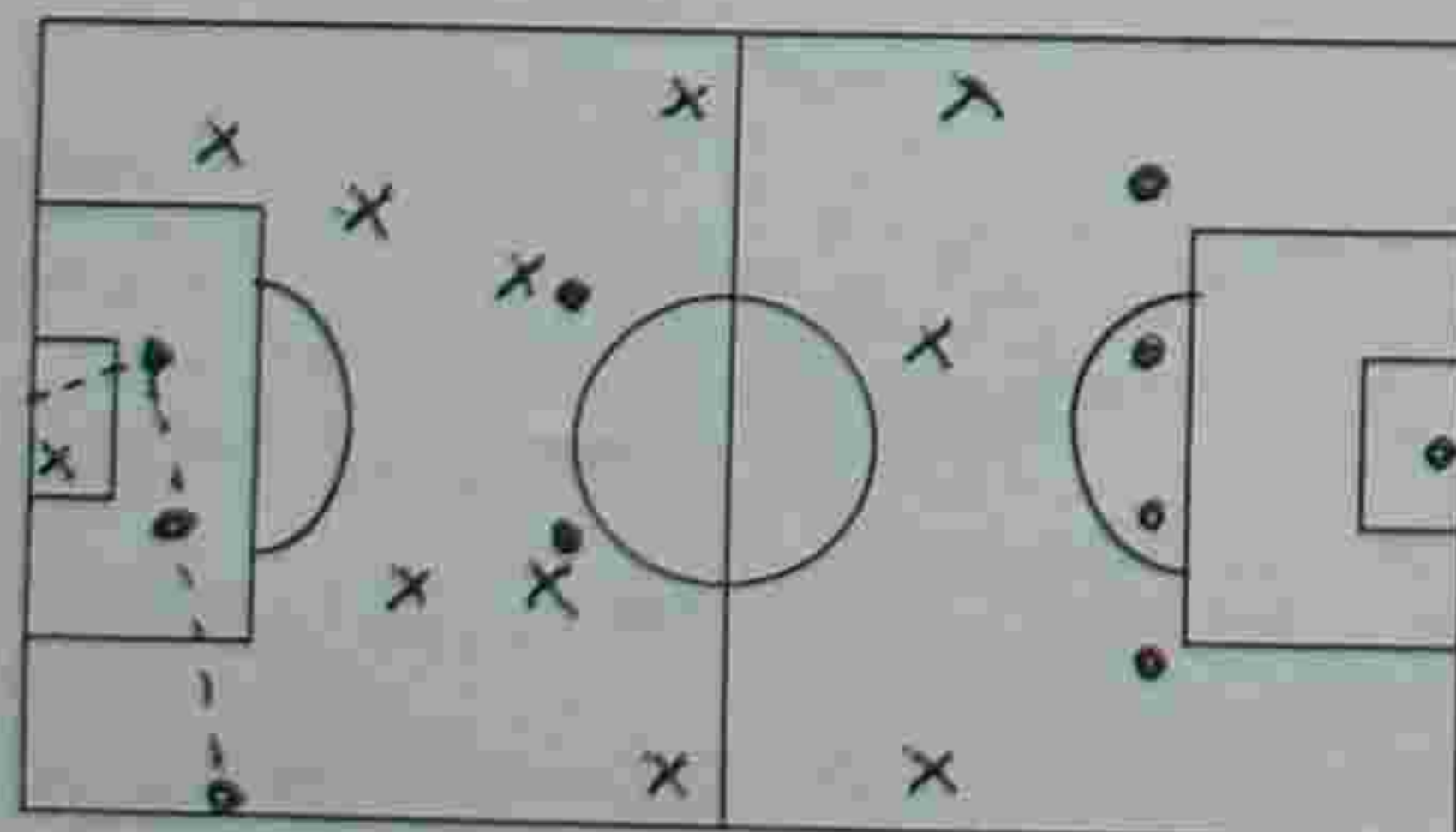
1. You line up for kick off. You have absolutely no idea where you are supposed to play or what to do. You play for
- Manchester United
 - Maidenhead United
 - Newcastle United



2. Your three man defensive unit rarely gets within ten yards of an opposing forward. The club you must be playing for plays at
- Old Trafford
 - York Road
 - St James' Park



3. Unfortunately, you aren't scoring enough goals, mainly because you are playing with nine men in your own half. The club you play for plays in
- Red
 - Black and white stripes
 - Blue



4. You concede a throw in in a dangerous position 20 seconds into the game, and leave players unmarked in the box. Are you playing in
- The Carling Premiership
 - The Icis League Division 1
 - The Albanian Shoeworkers Cup

5. You have points deducted for playing an unregistered player who happens to be the longest serving player at the club, have the only game in the entire league postponed on 14th December, and try to charge £5 admission for the Christmas Party. You are
- Wimbledon
 - Maidenhead United
 - Maccabi Tel Aviv
6. You have a Cup tie on a Monday night, which was not mentioned in the local paper, but you know that the game was scheduled to go ahead. You 'phone the Clubcall line at 5 pm to find out whether the game is on. You expect to hear
- Yes, the game is on, and will kick off at 7.45.
 - Saturdays game with Bognor is postponed.
 - An engaged tone.

7. After years of trying, you finally arrange some sponsorship for the Club. Knowing how cash starved Maidenhead are, you
- Take 10%, and sit back and do bugger all
 - Gratefully hand over all monies, and continue searching for more revenue
 - Spend the money on sweets

Answers:

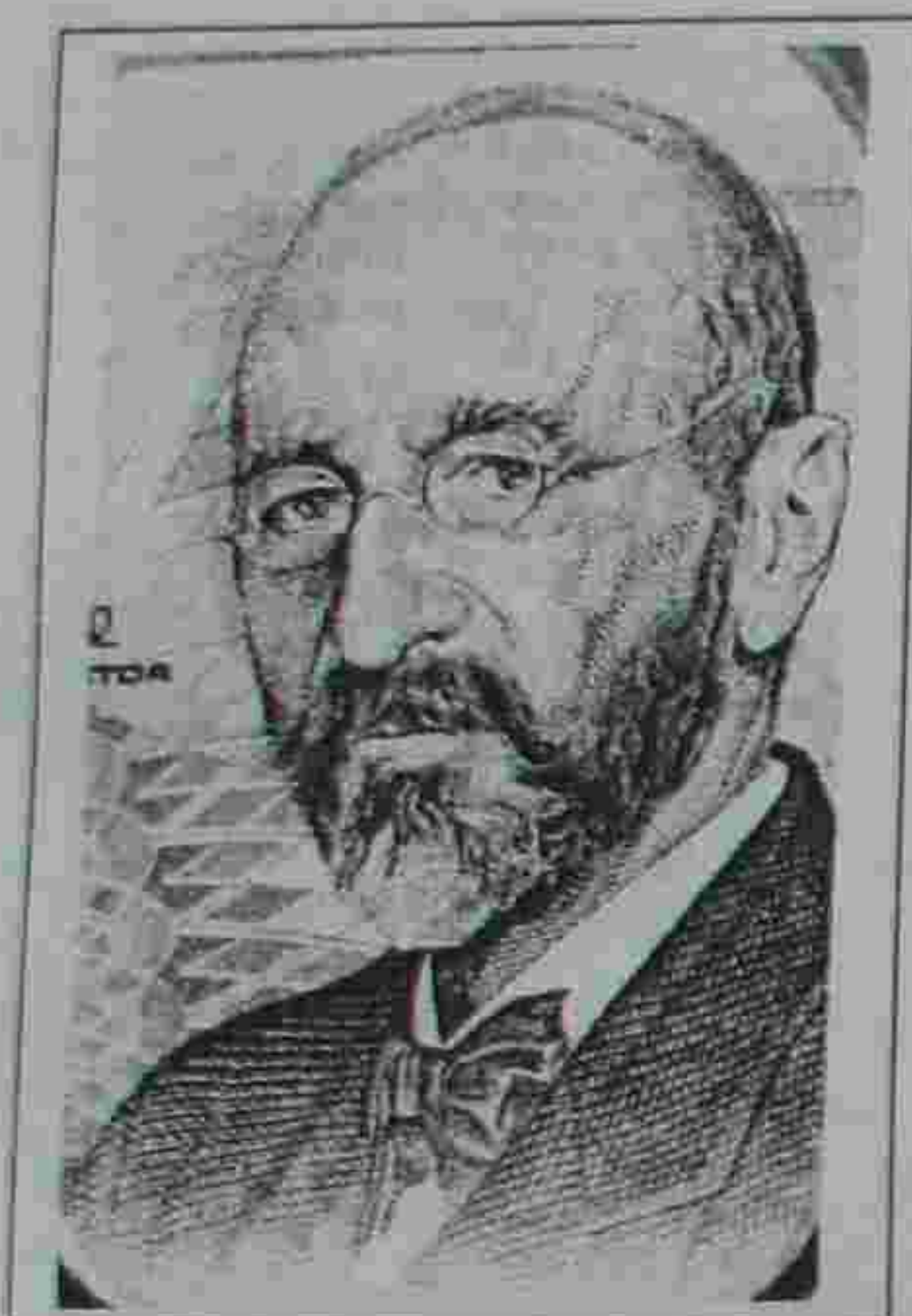
- all A : You must be the manager or on the committee
 all B : You must be a long suffering supporter of the Club
 all C : You are thick
 all D : You weren't paying attention

Mark Smith, with additional work by Keith Jackson

THE BEST AWAY SUPPORT IN THE LEAGUE?

It has long been held that the way to measure the level of away support at matches is to see just how many supporters congregate behind the goal. Furthermore, just listen to the cheer that goes up when the away side scores. In most cases, the numbers visiting York Road can only be described as pathetic, and the roar when the visitors score can easily be drowned by a passing dog farting!

This has led some to state that Maidenhead has the best away support in the League, with the exception of Aldershot. But, now is the time to explode this myth for once and for all. The Magpies first away game of 1997 saw a victory in the Full Members Cup at Molesey, in front of the 'best away support in the league'. If one discounts the club officials, and ignores the odd player who wasn't in the team, then forget the players parents who wouldn't have been there if their precious little lad hadn't been playing, and disregard the Managers' family, there was an absolutely huge total of just 4 supporters present. As they included the semi-official Club Shop Manager, Board Room Bar Steward and Program Editor, there was really only one supporter there, and that was your trusty Fanzine Ed. Thank God for B&B!



Maidenhead Grates

ALFRED CHARLES STICKLEBACK

One of Maidenhead's early Chairmen, Alfred Charles Stickleback, who held the position from 1905 to 1927, was a man who made his fortune importing mangoes from Guyana. A man given to fits of rage, he was best avoided after a Maidenhead defeat or a drop in the international mango price. There are many examples of his fiery temper. At Chesham in 1912, he punched the wife of a director

squarely on the nose after the referee's awarding of a corner to the home side, and later that season he burned down the main stand at Hayes with his cigar following a 1-0 defeat. In 1920, following a defeat at Northwich in the 2nd round proper of the FA Cup, he hired a First World War Gotha bomber and dumped 3 tonnes of rancid mango on the town centre from 3000 feet. Three weeks later he was arrested for attacking the referee with a cutlass after losing the toss at an Amateur Cup tie at Enfield.

The following year he topped it all when, after hearing of Maidenhead's Cup defeat at Hendon via short wave radio whilst on a business trip in Guyana, he and his friend the Algerian Governor declared war on nearby Tanzania. Hostilities were only halted after 3 weeks hard fighting when the respective Governments discovered the real reason for the fighting.

Alfred died alone in his Fisheries Mansion aged 57 in 1932.

MARLOW v MAIDENHEAD

SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

Derby Day is drawing ever closer, and it looks as though this year the points will be ever more precious for both sides. We will need as many Magpies fans over at Oak Tree Road as possible, so why not make a day of it courtesy of Born and Bred Tours? A 12.00 meet in the Queens Arms for a swift pint, then on to the station to catch the train to Marlow will be the order of the day. A pit stop in the only pub to be named after a Marlow player, 'The Marlow Donkey' (can you guess who) then onto our familiar residence in the Plough, where you can get a decent meal on a Saturday lunchtime for a couple of quid. We need as many of us over there as possible to make some noise, and lets hope our trip to Marlow will be a bit more fruitful than our last two visits (0-3 and 1-4)!!

STEVE'S SOAP BOX

SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP

This is a message for all those currently enjoying "Murdoch's whole new ball game" at league grounds all over the country. Not only are players now expected to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner, but also fans are now expected to sit back in their over priced seats and reciprocate by applauding politely and keeping their comments sweet. As usual football culture is mirroring that of society.

A brief scan of the popular press will reveal the jekyll and hyde nature of football writers. On one page they will lionise the off and on field antics of footballing greats such as George Best and Rodney Marsh, whilst simultaneously condemning modern day characters such as Eric Cantona and Paul Gascoigne. In the same way you will find plentiful stories of how crowds although passionate used to always be appreciative of these players and enjoyed good natured ribaldry with opposing fans unlike the nasty minority who need to be flushed out of today's sanitised stadia. Football grounds, unique arenas for freedom of speech and action are in danger of losing this unique status as society seek to make football fans conform to the political correctness reactionary of.

However as you can read from the examples opposite this sinister spectre is not being harshly imposed by some Orwellian force, indeed it is almost being positively welcomed by some sectors of supporters. Ever eager to play the helpless victim, supporters never shy of dishing out the stick to any player who incurs their wrath now feel so feeble that they demand prosecutions of those players who respond in kind.

KICKER CONSPIRACY

"If I met Rupert Murdoch I would kill him, because he is responsible for a game that is not the same as I knew it. It's not the people's game any more. There's too much money it." (Brian Clough Oct. 96)

Although the great Brian's demise has somewhat contrasted with the rise and rise of Sky Sports and the Carling Premiership I can't help but feel that he's onto something here. However he is wrong on one point. There's nothing wrong with the huge amounts of money swimming around in the game nowadays, just the way it is distributed. Whilst the comment is frequently made that football has never been richer, increasingly higher financial demands are being placed on supporters (e.g. Sunderland fans charged £16 to stand at the windswept open Roker End) with the clubs reasoning that they must pay to keep up with the bigger clubs. Good luck to the players after all they only have a short time to maximise their economic potential.

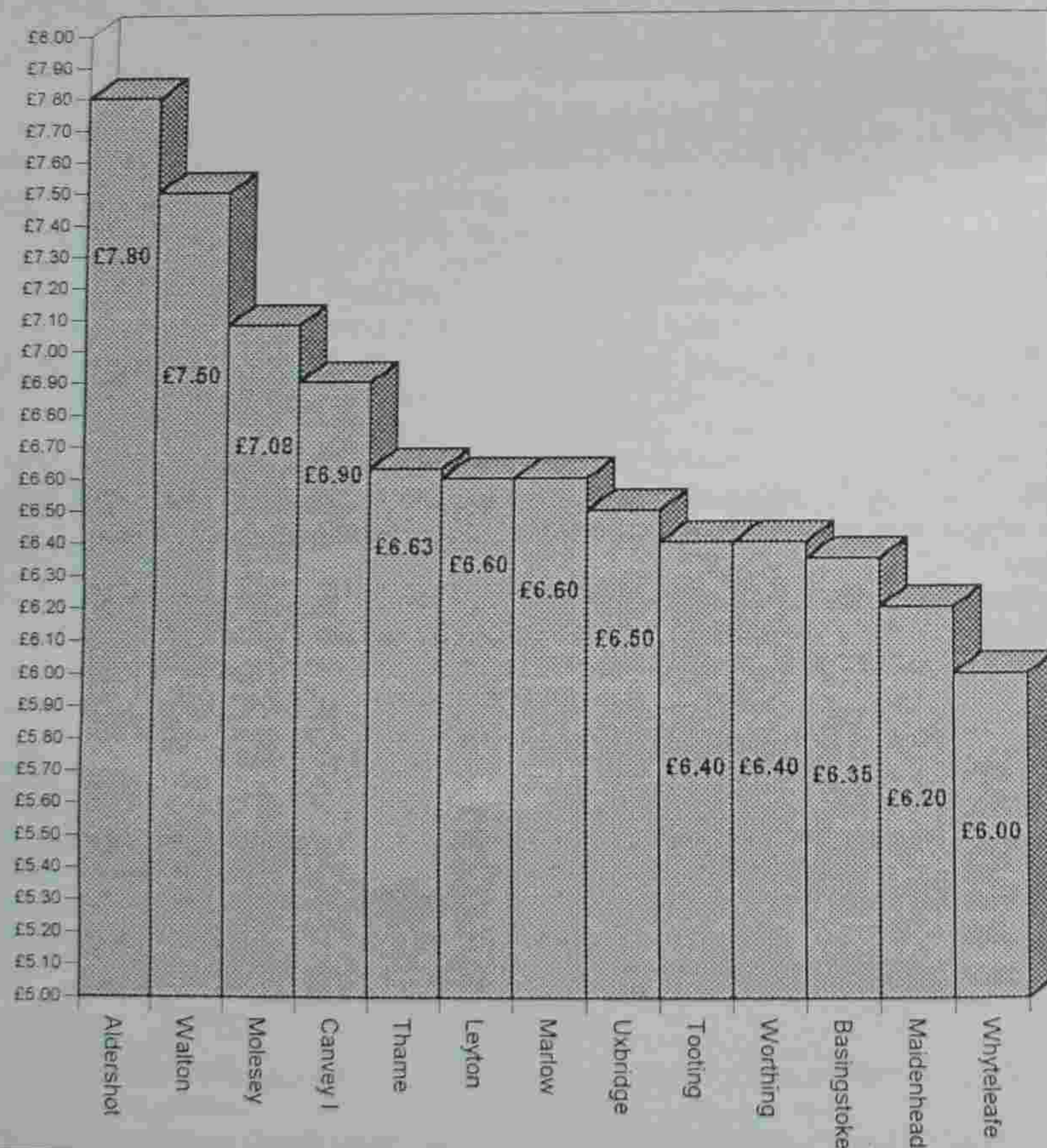
The real villains are to be found in the boardrooms of Britain's professional clubs. They are the ones who pay the sky high wages and transfer fees. They are the ones who levy the admission fees and receive the TV money. They are the ones who are increasingly looking to the stock market, ostensibly to provide capital and to give supporters a say in running their club, in reality to maximise their own share profits, relying on the city institutions, who will always own the greater portion of shares, to keep them in power.

To paraphrase Muhammad Ali, just like Mr. Clough I've had enough. My advice to anybody who feels the same: get down to Maidenhead United where your time and money may be appreciated and you can scream and shout to your hearts content without anybody being there to report you or any of the other participants to the authorities.

Pricewatch update time....

Back by popular demand, pricewatch shows YOU the customer where the fair deals are to be had. With new additions Aldershot, Walton, Canvey Island and Uxbridge, our little graph is really beginning to take shape. Not surprisingly, Aldershot lead the rip-off brigade, charging a season high of £5.00 to get in, and £1.20 for a programme. Canvey get an extra black mark for charging a season high of £1.90 for their Toby Bitter. Disgusting. The price and the beer....

TOTAL COST OF ADMISSION, PROGRAMME AND A PINT AT
ICIS LEAGUE DIVISION ONE GROUNDS



the
Stun

THE BIGGEST!
THE BEST!
THE BOUNCIEST!
THE BRIGHTEST!
plus tits!!!
your big value
Stun, only 28p

UNITED IN CUP TIE WIN SHOCK!!!!

FANS IN SHOCK AS MAGPIES BEAT MOLESEY 2-0

Maidenhead United fans were still speechless yesterday as news filtered through that the Magpies had progressed in a Cup Competition by winning a game away from home. The 2-0 win at Molesey, with goals from Attrell and Agudosi, was the first win away from home since the 5-1 demolition of Tooting in September, and the first time the Magpies had kept a clean sheet away from York Road since April.

The Full Members Cup, the competition in which this momentous victory occurred has been slandered in the past, receiving nicknames such as the Mickey Mouse Cup, and the Joke Cup. 'At least it's better than the Berks and Bucks', a supporter was overheard to say.

Prior to the Molesey game, the only previous Cup success this term was the 4-2 whipping of Corby, and

this was the first success away against a team of a similar standard for some time. Some Stun readers may recall the Magpies win at Windsor in the Berks and Bucks Cup, but junior sides do not count.

With a relegation battle looming, the Full Members Cup is the Magpies only chance of success this year. The Stun wishes them all the best, and in recognition of this and will be producing some shitty

looking plastic hats to make you look like a tit in front of you mates.




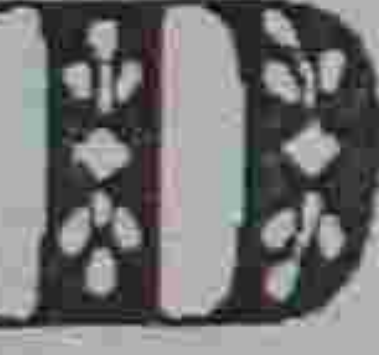


Gracious in defeat, Molesey were nevertheless happy to stage such a prestigious tie. Club Chairman Bill Tosser said 'We were quids in, even though we lost. It was by far our biggest gate of the season'. The match drew an attendance of 47.




A cup pictured yesterday

YOUR *Clueless*™ GAMECARDS

Suspect Cards

<i>Clueless</i>  MR AGUDOSI	<i>Clueless</i>  MR BUSBY	<i>Clueless</i>  MR COLLINS
<i>Clueless</i>  MR DEVONSHIRE	<i>Clueless</i>  MR KNOTT	<i>Clueless</i>  MR SMITH

Reason Cards

<i>Clueless</i>  NO IDEA	<i>Clueless</i>  UNREGISTERED PLAYER	<i>Clueless</i>  MISSED OPPORTUNITIES
<i>Clueless</i>  NO FORMATION	<i>Clueless</i>  NOT STRONG ENOUGH	<i>Clueless</i>  SLOPPY GOALKEEPING

LIBERO!

the campaign for freedom in football

The behaviour of those who play and follow football has never before been under so much public scrutiny. Players are expected to be role models and are liable to be disciplined and even prosecuted for what they do on the pitch. Up and down the country fans are being thrown out of their own grounds for "abusive" and "offensive" behaviour - in other words for shouting at the opposition.

- Aston Villa goalkeeper Mark Bosnich has been fined £1,000 for making a joke Freddie Starr-style nazi salute at Spurs fans.
- Gillingham fans have been barred from bringing celery into the ground, subjected to celery searches at the turnstiles, and threatened with life bans if they are caught with offensive vegetables.
- David Beckham has been investigated by the police for allegedly dropping his shorts in front of Southampton supporters, while Stan Collymore has been accused of swearing in the presence of children at a Liverpool reserve game.
- Celtic are installing 80 cameras to spy on their own fans, and plan to confiscate season tickets from those caught singing songs that millionaire chairman Fergus McCann decides are 'unacceptable'.

Part of what makes football the most popular game in the world is the passion and rivalry between different clubs. This rivalry, whether between players or fans, is often aggressive, disrespectful, insulting and foul mouthed. It may not be politically correct but nor is it a problem.

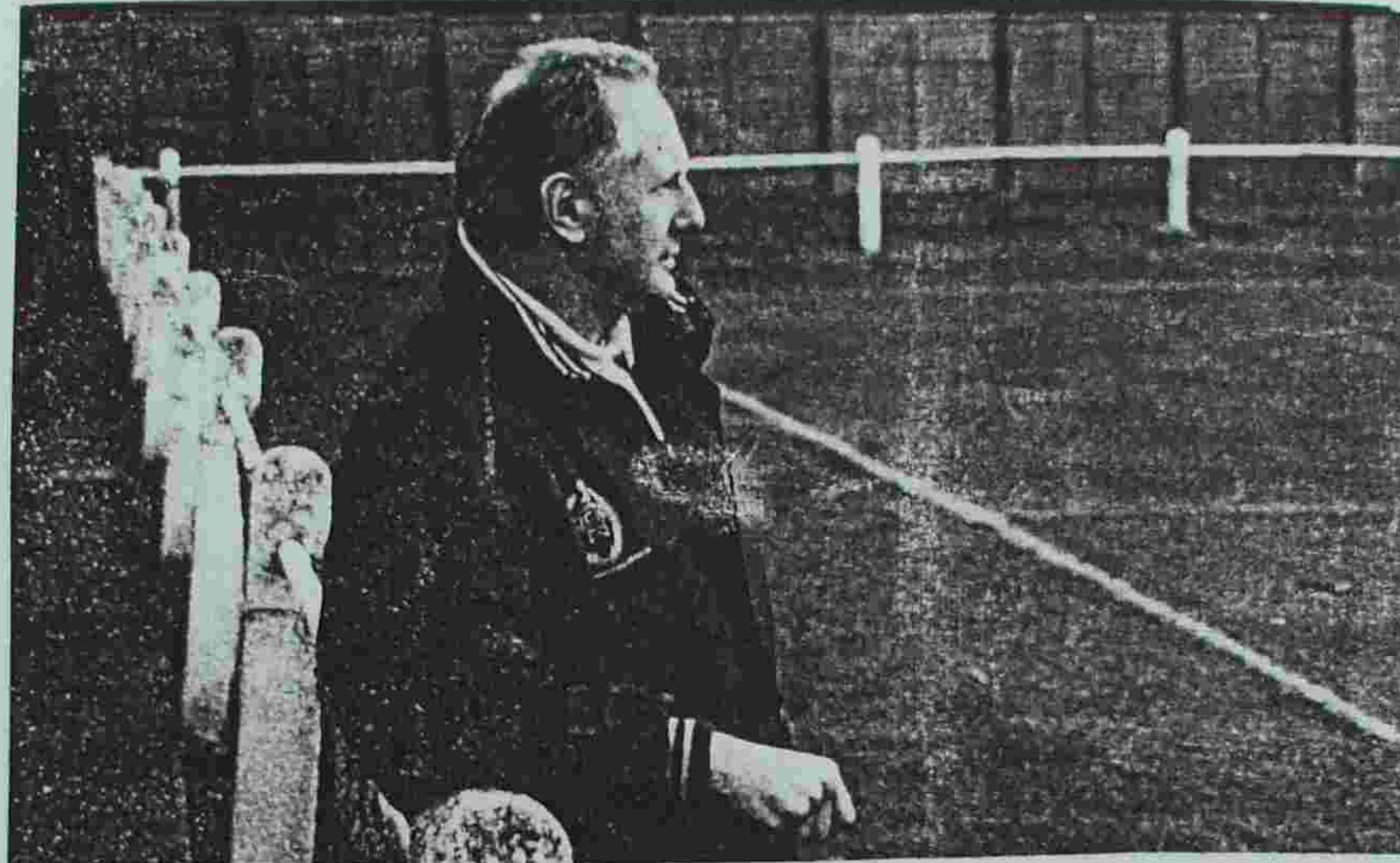
Today this behaviour is often described as "loutish", "yobbish", or "macho", but it is simply what the game is all about. Long may it continue.

LIBERO! has been set up by football fans across England and Scotland who are opposed to the growing regulation of our beautiful game.

Carlton Brick says: "Going to watch football in the 1990s is as much about watching your behaviour as it is about watching the game. LIBERO! aims to give two fingers to the increasingly intrusive regulation of the game, on and off the pitch. This mind-your-language culture is threatening to ruin the game."

The LIBERO! network can be contacted via: London Carlton Brick, 1 Darwin Rd, N22 6NS, 0181 881 0364; Duleep Allirajah, 12 Ulverstone Rd SE27 OAJ, 0181 761 9872; Manchester Pete Normington, 43 Horton Rd, Fallowfield M14 7QB; Newcastle Jon Bryan 0191 265 4423.

BARRS BARRED IN DUGOUT BAN SHOCK



So this nun walks into this pub... Photo : Mark Leonard

News has reached Born and Bred that following a series of awful jokes and tales from injuries past, club physio Jim Barrs has been made the victim of a dugout ban. Following his 'Many Hands Make Lights Work' joke (see **B&B** issue 9), Jim received an official warning, but it did not affect his 'comedy' approach. Both Alan Devonshire and Martyn Busby claimed that Jim's antics were intolerable, and were one of the main contributory factors to the Magpies recent demise. Jim was unavailable for comment, it must have been stand up night in the Anchor or something...

Thanks for buying issue 12 of Born & Bred, even if it is a month late. Still better late than never, eh? The next issue will be out mid April, unless we go all the way in the Full Members Cup (stop sniggering at the back). Don't forget, lets cheer the Magpies on to some much needed points at Wokingham, Chesham and Billericay. Oh Christ, it just gets worse and worse, doesn't it....