SWAYTHLING FC – SEASON 1978/79

PART 1: AUGUST TO OCTOBER 1978

It would seem strange now that Hampshire League football from those times didn't actually kick-off until the end of August as now, it seems that as soon as the first day of that month ticks over, everyone resorts to starting the round ball game once more, following a few friendly matches. The next thing you know (now) is you could well be suddenly playing in the FA Cup!

I didn't attend many of Swaythling's opening matches from the start of the season. Most of the results have been traced and it appears that it was a rather 'up and down' opening period overall and an early exit from both FA competitions entered.

Date	Competition	Opponents	Venue	Result	Score
26/08/1978	Hampshire – Division 1	Brading Town	away	Won	1-0
02/09/1978	Hampshire – Division 1	Brockenhurst	Home	Lost	1-2
09/09/1978	Hampshire – Division 1	East Cowes Victoria Athletic	away	Draw	2-2
16/09/1978	FA Cup – 1st Qualifying	Hungerford Town	away	Lost	1-5
23/09/1978	FA Vase – Preliminary	Alton Town	away	Lost	2-3
30/09/1978	Hampshire – Division 1	Havant Town	away	Draw	2-2
03/10/1978	Hampshire – Division 1	Gosport Borough Res	away	Draw	3-3
11/10/1978	Hampshire – Division 1	Moneyfield Sports	Home	Won	3-0
14/10/1978	Hampshire – Division 1	Portsmouth Royal Navy	away	Won	3-0
21/10/1978	Hampshire – Division 1	East Cowes Victoria Athletic	Home	Draw	0-0
28/10/1978	Hampshire – Division 1	Fareham Town	away	Lost	2-3

One match was watched in the period covered and the details were noted as follows:

SWATHLING V MONEYFIELD SPORTS

Wednesday 11th October 1978

Visit Number: 12. Opponent's team and referee—not recorded.

Swaythling line-up below:

No		sub	gl
1	Malcolm Shaw		
2	Graham Meyer		
3	Ian Knight		
4	Chris Scott		
5	Ken Brady		
6	Keith Cooper		
7	Phil Birks		
8	Ray Deane	yes	
9	Mick Proudley		1
10	Les Gattrell		
11	Kevin Kelly		1
12	Trevor Wallbridge	yes	1

Notes Taken:

Substitute Trevor Wallbridge made a big impact to the Swaythling team when coming on for Ray Deane with just over ten minutes left of this game with the score locked at 0-0.

Soon after, **Proudley** netted Swaythling's first goal.

Wallbridge netted a brilliant second, playing a 'one-two' with a teammate.

Kelly finished it off with a penalty scored almost on time.

Swaythling eventually broke down Moneyfields in what was an entertaining encounter.

Retrospective Comments:

So, not too much written about games back then and the clubs didn't write out pre-match team sheets, so I was unable to obtain the visitors' line-up.

What names in that team from 'the day'! Most of the starting XI had (or were to) put in such good service to the club over the years. Substitute Trevor Wallbridge, whose introduction sparked the eventual win, did make one appearance as a substitute for AFC Bournemouth, whilst Mick Proudley had a spell playing to a high level in France.

I was coming back to watch another in just over a month's time,

[NB: Moneyfield Sports are not the current Wessex League team known as Moneyfields FC.]