



SWAYTHLING FC – SEASON 1978/79



PART 3: JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1979

This was a period known across the country as the ‘Winter of Discontent’ but not necessarily due to the awful weather conditions that occurred. Frost and snow took a grip in this period but Swaythling still managed to play a few games.

Key: Competitions: Div = Division; F’lit = Floodlight; Rd. = Round. **Score:** aet = after extra time.

Notes: ‘Yes’ shown indicates notes were taken and they are featured below (otherwise the game wasn’t attended). **Aban** = abandoned (in this instance during extra time, further details in ‘Match Notes 2’).

Date	Competition	Opponents	Venue	Result	Score	Notes
13/01/1979	Hampshire Senior Cup– Rd 2	Fareham Town	away	Draw	0-0 aet	Aban
17/01/1979	Hants F’lit Cup– Semi Final/1	Romsey Town	Home	Draw	1-1	Yes-1
24/01/1979	Hants Snr. Cup—Rd.2 Replay	Fareham Town	Home	Lost	0-1	Yes-2
08/02/1979	Hampshire League– Div 1	Netley Central Sports	Home	Draw	1-1	Yes-3
10/02/1979	Hampshire League– Div 1	Fareham Town	Home	Draw	1-1	Yes-4
14/02/1979	Hants F’lit Cup– Semi Final/2	Romsey Town	away	Won	3-0	Yes-5
17/02/1979	Hampshire League– Div 1	Southampton ‘A’	away	Lost	0-3	
24/02/1979	Hampshire League– Div 1	Brading Town	Home	Won	2-0	Yes– 6

Match Notes 1. **SWAYTHLING 1-1 ROMSEY TOWN**

Wednesday, 17th January 1979. Hampshire Floodlight Cup—Semi-Final, 1st Leg

Visit Number: 17. Opponent’s team unknown.

Referee: Unknown. The Swaythling line-up is shown in the table.

Notes Taken:

This result was a disappointing one against a team from the Second Division of the Hampshire League.

Romsey took the lead in the second half through Lambert but it took a late equaliser from **Ray Deane**. So, all level going into the second leg at Romsey.

Retrospective Comments:

A disappointing result it might have been but Romsey Town were due to become the Division 2 champions and also show a keenness for cup football as, at the end of this season, they lifted the highest ranking trophy in the county—the senior cup.

It was good to see club stalwart Terry Rawlins playing again, he was on the road to recovery following a serious long term knee injury.

No	SWAYTHLING	sub	gl
1	Malcolm Harris		
2	Steve Hills		
3	Kazi Podsadowski		
4	Chris Scott		
5	Ken Brady		
6	Graham Meyer		
7	Phil Birks		
8	Chris Glover		
9	Trevor Wallbridge		
10	Ray Deane		1
11	Kevin Kelly	yes	

12	Terry Rawlins	yes	
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Match Notes 2. **SWAYTHLING 0-1 FAREHAM TOWN**

Wednesday, 24th January 1979. Hampshire Senior Cup—Round 2 Replay

Visit Number: 18. Opponent's team unknown.

Referee: unknown

Notes taken:

A good—but frustrating—match for Swaythling who, particularly in the second half, fashioned many chances but failed to score. Fareham scored about forty seconds from time to win the tie, thus preventing the match going into extra time.

Retrospective Comments:

Both teams were rivals in Hampshire League Division 1 back then.

If my memory serves correctly so many years on, this match was played on compacted snow with the lines cleared as winter had bitten with a vengeance. The Fareham winning goal was netted by Kevin Albury, who spent many years at Fareham but had previously appeared for a brief spell at Swaythling.

The first game at Fareham's Cams Alders ground was abandoned at the end of the first half of extra time with the scores locked at 0-0. The pitch was too hard due to frost. Sufficient time had been played to mean the match watched was officially a replay and therefore played at Swaythling.

Once again, Swaythling fail to make an impact in the Hampshire Senior Cup.

No	SWAYTHLING	sub	gl
1	Malcolm Harris		
2	Steve Hills		
3	Kazi Podsadowski		
4	Chris Scott		
5	Ken Brady		
6	Keith Cooper		
7	Phil Birks		
8	Chris Glover		
9	Trevor Wallbridge		
10	Ray Deane		
11	Keith Vine		

12	Kevin Kelly	yes	
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Match Notes 3. **SWAYTHLING 1-1 NETLEY CENTRAL SPORTS**

Thursday, 8th February 1979. Hampshire League—Division 1

Visit Number: 20. Opponent's team unknown.

Notes taken:

Jenner Brown, in what was probably his first game for Swaythling, went off injured after about twenty minutes played. Steve Hills replaced him. Both goals were scored on the stroke of half-time. Podsadowski's free kick flew into the net to put Swaythling ahead but, no sooner had they celebrated the goal, Netley equalised.

The game was generally a scrappy affair.

Retrospective Comments:

This was a rare Thursday evening game back then (Wednesday being the usual evening day), the reason is unknown.

This was a brief spell at Swaythling for Malcolm (Jenner) Brown, remaining for the rest of this season before moving into the Southern League. He was well known as a Basingstoke Town player earlier in this decade. He returned to manage the Swaythling club later when known as Eastleigh FC.

No	SWAYTHLING	sub	gl
1	Malcolm Harris		
2	Graham Meyer		
3	Kazi Podsadowski		1
4	Chris Scott		
5	Ken Brady		
6	Keith Cooper		
7	M (Jenner) Brown	yes	
8	Chris Glover		
9	Mike Proudley		
10	Ray Deane		
11	Keith Vine		

12	Steve Hills	yes	
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Match Notes 4. **SWAYTHLING 1-1 FAREHAM TOWN**

Saturday, 10th February 1978. Hampshire League—Division 1.

Visit Number: 21. Opponent’s team unknown.

Referee: unknown.

Notes taken:

In atrocious conditions, both sides gave a great display of entertaining soccer, despite the weather.

It was a hard fought first half which finished goalless. Fareham suffered a blow midway through the second half when goalkeeper Paul Grant was injured whilst pushing the ball away for a corner. Kevin Albury replaced him between the posts. The resultant corner was hammered home by **Chris Glover**, a shot that Grant probably wouldn’t have saved.

Fareham defended well as Swaythling tried to exploit the outfield player between the posts. They levelled when substitute Eames scored on the stroke of time. This was the second occasion Town had scored a last gasp goal in successive visits to Ten Acres.

Retrospective comments:

This was the very last Hampshire League meeting at Ten Acres between the teams. Fareham finished runners-up in the Hampshire League and were elected to the Southern League in the summer and, when they dropped down from that league, the Wessex League had been formed.

No	SWAYTHLING	sub	gl
1	Malcolm Harris		
2	Steve Hills		
3	Kazi Podsadowski		
4	Chris Scott		
5	Ken Brady		
6	Keith Cooper		
7	Ray Deane		
8	Chris Glover	yes	1
9	Mike Proudley		
10	Keith Vine		
11	Kevin Kelly		
12	Graham Meyer	yes	

Match Notes 5. **ROMSEY TOWN 0-3 SWAYTHLING**

Wednesday, 14th February 1979.

Hampshire Midweek Floodlight Cup—Semi-Final, 2nd leg.

First visit to the ground: By-Pass Ground, Romsey

Opponent’s team unknown

Notes taken:

The pitch and weather was atrocious. There was already snow and ice on it before the kick-off but it was deemed safe as the lines were cleared. It snowed more as the game went on.

Swaythling played against the wind in the first half and defended well. They went into half-time with a goal lead as **Proudley** had put them in front. **Proudley** scored two more goals in the second half to put Swaythling into the cup final with a 4-1 aggregate victory.

I don’t think I can recall being at a game in worse conditions before.

Retrospective comments:

Referring to that final comment above, I think I can say that I haven’t watched a game of football in worse conditions since. The conditions would have resulted in many games being postponed in more recent times.

No	SWAYTHLING	sub	gl
1	Malcolm Harris		
2	Steve Hills		
3	Kazi Podsadowski		
4	Chris Scott		
5	Ken Brady		
6	Keith Cooper		
7	Terry Rawlins		
8	Chris Glover		
9	Mike Proudley		3
10	Ray Deane		
11	Kevin Kelly		
12	Graham Meyer		



Match Notes 6. **SWAYTHLING 2-0 BRADING TOWN**

Saturday, 10th February 1978. Hampshire League—Division 1.

Visit Number: 21. Opponent's team unknown.

Referee: unknown.

Notes taken:

Jenner Brown gave Swaythling a first half lead as Brading concentrated on defending and. They still didn't break out of defence much in the second half and it came as no surprise when **Chris Glover** just got in before Brading keeper Phil Moore to net number two.

Even after that Brading were still prepared to keep the score to 2-0.

Retrospective comments:

This was a welcome league win for Swaythling who'd struggled to add to the 'W' column during the winter period. It was a comfortable win too.

No	SWAYTHLING	sub	gl
1	Malcolm Harris		
2	Steve Hills		
3	Kazi Podadowski		
4	Chris Scott		
5	Ken Brady		
6	Keith Cooper		
7	Ray Deane		
8	Chris Glover		1
9	Mike Proudley		
10	M (Jenner) Brown		
11	Keith Vine		
12	Terry Rawlins		

I was still attending The Dell for Southampton FC's home games back then but I managed to watch most of Swaythling's matches during the two month period covered by this part. Whilst they'd qualified to play in the Floodlight Cup final, league form suffered somewhat, although back then it was two points for a win only so drawn games didn't set a club back as much as they have in more recent times (when three points for a win was introduced). Although the club was still in a good position in the Hampshire League Division 1 table, they were clearly not going to be challenging the top sides after all as they had kept up with their matches to the extent that the vast majority of teams around them had a number of matches in hand.

