SWAYTHLING FC – SEASON 1979/80

THE COMPLETE CAMPAIGN

(Based on notes taken for each game)

Match 01: (League 1; Cup 0)

Versus WATERLOOVILLE RESERVES

Venue - Home: Ten Acres (visit #029)

Date: Saturday, 25th August 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr P Kenward (Isle of Wight)

No opposition team available

Result: WON 5-0 (half-time 2-0)

Scorers: Rawlins 14'; Wellington 25'; Knight 26'; Wallbridge 60'; Brown 81'

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Ian Leigh		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Simon Wellington		1
04	Chris Scott		
05	Terry Rawlins		1
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Phil Birks ©		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Trevor Wallbridge		1
10	Malcolm (Jenner) Brown		1
11	Ian Knight		1
12	Jim Pringle	dnp	

Notes:

Incessant rain fell throughout the whole of the game and the pitch was saturated but didn't cut up.

Swaythling handed debuts to goalkeeper Ian Leigh (ex-West End), Danny Miller (ex-B.A.T.) and Simon Wellington (a former Welton Rovers player), who played in numbers 1,2 and 3 respectively and all played good parts. Phil Birks captained the side.

Leigh was in action in the early moments, saving bravely at a 'Ville player's feet. The visitors had a further chance and it was a good one but the ball was put wide. Swaythling opened the scoring when **Terry Rawlins** headed in a free kick while his marker made no challenge. Next, Rawlins beat the offside trap and ran through almost to the line and, with the keeper out of position, pulled the ball back where two home players awaited to place it into the open goal and **Wellington** stabbed it home. In the next minute **Ian Knight** superbly headed in a Birks centre to net his side's third goal in a twelve-minute period. Swaythling had further opportunities and somehow 'Ville kept it out and, on one occasion, a visiting player hurled his boot at his opponent to stop him! Half-time: 3-0.

Waterlooville tried to get back into the game in the second half but the home back four was well marshalled by Keith Cooper. On the hour mark **Trevor Wallbridge**, who was constantly teasing the defence, deservedly netted number four. Swaythling piled forward in an attempt to score more goals and **Jenner Brown** netted number five from close range. Full-time: 5-0.

It was a most satisfactory opening game of the season for Swaythling against a team that had finished fourth, and one place above them last season. Swaythling possibly top of the table as well!

Match 02: (League 2; Cup 0)

Versus BRADING TOWN

Venue - Home: Ten Acres (visit #031)

Date: Saturday, 1st September 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr G D Parsons (Basingstoke)

No opposition team available

Result: WON 2-1 (half-time 1-1)

Scorer: Deane 44'; Brown 83'.

Opponent Scorer: Southcott 3'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Ian Leigh		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Simon Wellington		
04	Chris Scott		
05	Terry Rawlins		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Brian Smith ©		
08	Ray Deane		1
09	Trevor Wallbridge		
10	Jenner Brown		1
11	Ian Knight		
12	*Unknown*	dnp	

Notes:

Brading took an early lead with a header from a free kick. Swaythling came forward in numbers but the Brading defence, also in numbers, did well to stifle their numerous attempts. Brian Smith, an experienced player making his first team debut, produced a fine save from Brading keeper Phil Moore and another home effort was cleared off the line. Swaythling were caught out and Terry Rawlins pulled back a Brading forward as he was going through and received a booking. Just as it looked as though the first half scoring would be just that early goal, Swaythling levelled when **Ray Deane** headed in a right-wing corner. Half-time: 1-1.

Brading had a good spell in the second half and they almost went back in front. Swaythling became frustrated and Smith was involved in an off the ball incident with two visitors but the referee took no action. Ian Knight did become their second booking for a foul. **Jenner Brown** netted the home side's winning goal late on, heading a corner into the roof of the net, via Moore's hand. The final minutes from there seemed to be a different game with the home side getting forward more but there was no further scoring. Full-time: 2-1.

This wasn't a particularly convincing show.

Other Notes: Swaythling will face Gosport Borough in the FA Cup on 15th September as they defeated Andover 2-1 in their Preliminary Round tie.

Retrospective Comment: The pull back offence in the first half as a Brading forward was 'going through' would most likely have meant a sending off in the modern day.

Match 03: (League 3; Cup 0)

Versus B.A.T.

Venue - Home: Ten Acres (visit #032)

Date: Wednesday, 5th September 1979

Kick-off Time: 7.30pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr R Marsh (Portsmouth)

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 1-4 (half-time 0-0)

Scorer: Smith 76'.

Opponent Times: … 55', Baxter 61; …66, 90.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Ian Leigh		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Simon Wellington		
04	Chris Scott		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Brian Smith		
08	Ray Deane	75'	
09	Trevor Wallbridge		
10	Jenner Brown ©		
11	Ian Knight		
12	Jim Pringle	75'	

Notes:

Last season's regular centre-half Ken Brady returned to the Swaythling defence having been unavailable until now. He replaced Terry Rawlins. Strangely, Jenner Brown became the team's third different captain in the opening three games of the season!

The first half was without goals and both sides had good efforts at scoring. Swaythling's nearest was a Brown shot that went just wide. It was a niggly half at times. Half-time: 0-0.

The second half came to life with B.A.T. opening the scoring ten minutes in with a breakaway goal. Just afterwards **Paul Baxter**, who was the visitors player/manager, caught the home defence on the hop again and scored. It wasn't long before the score became three in B.A.T.'s favour with the defence all at sea. B.A.T. had rocked Swaythling with three goals in the space of eleven minutes to take full control of the game.

Swaythling kept plugging away but the task had become a difficult one. They had a chance to come back into the game when a penalty was awarded in the 73rd minute but the keeper guessed the right way to save Ian Knight's spot-kick. [This appeared to be a twice-taken penalty, the keeper having saved the first effort but had moved before the ball was kicked, although the notes made are not particularly clear].

Jim Pringle, who'd netted a hat-trick in a recent reserve game, came on for his first team bow and **Brian Smith** got on the score sheet having burrowed his way past the keeper. However, it was B.A.T. who got the last word when a huge gap appeared in the home defence and their forward rounded Ian Leigh and his task was a simple one. Full-time: 1-4.

Retrospective Comments: This was one of only four league wins in the season for B.A.T. who were destined to finish bottom of the division.

Match 04: (League 4; Cup 0)

Versus BROCKENHURST

Venue - Away: Grigg Lane, Brockenhurst

(This was a new ground; #039)

Date: Saturday, 8th September 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr C S Black (Andover)

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 0-1 (half-time 0-0)

Opponent Scorer: White 51'.

No	**SWAYTHLING LINE-UP**	sub	gl
01	Ian Leigh		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Simon Wellington		
04	Chris Scott		
05	Terry Rawlins		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Brian Smith		
08	Jim Pringle		
09	Trevor Wallbridge		
10	Jenner Brown ©		
11	Ian Knight		
12	*Unknown*	dnp	

Notes:

It was a full first team debut for Jim Pringle. Mike Proudley, who left Swaythling for Grigg Lane in the close season, was in the Brockenhurst team. It was my first visit to Grigg Lane.

The first half was evenly contested with Brockenhurst looking dangerous when coming forward. Their best chance of the first half was a right-wing cross that produced a header for Proudley, the ball going just wide. The Brockenhurst keeper pulled off an excellent save late in the half, pushing over the bar from a superbly hit Trevor Wallbridge overhead effort after Chris Scott had headed the ball on. HT: 0-0.

White put Brockenhurst ahead early in the second half with a close-range shot. The home keeper then denied a Jenner Brown header that was destined for the top corner of the net. A bad stomach high kick on Brian Smith denied him a chance with only the Swaythling player's reaction being deemed a need to be dealt with by the referee and not the foul.

This was a disappointing outcome for Swaythling. There was one funny moment when Smith questioned why he was flagged offside. A spectator shouted: "It's two players between you and the goal" to which Smith replied: "Tell that to the linesman!"

Two wins and two defeats in Hampshire League is no more than an average start for the team.

Retrospective Comments: I was covering a lot of new territory with my football travels in this season, making trips to places I had never thought of going to before, such as Brockenhurst, and recall not knowing where this ground was. The 'safe' option was taken and I went on a train to get there in plenty of time only to find the ground within ten minutes of arriving! It was a most pleasant afternoon though and a slow wander around Brockenhurst was taken. The ground was similarly a pleasant one and, I am very pleased to say, still retains a tranquil character that blends in very well with its surroundings.

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Programme front cover: Brockenhurst v Swaythling

Match 05: (League 4; Cup 1)

Versus GOSPORT BOROUGH

Venue - Home: Ten Acres (visit #033)

Date: Saturday, 15th September 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: FA Cup – 1st Qualifying Round

Referee: Mr John Scott (Farnborough)

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 1-4 (half-time 0-1)

Scorer: Wallbridge 84'.

Opponent Scorers: Foster 45'(pen), 70'(pen); Hawes 75'; Coulbert 79'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Ian Leigh		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Ian Knight		
04	Chris Scott		
05	Terry Rawlins		
06	Simon Wellington		
07	Brian Smith ©		
08	Jim Pringle		
09	Trevor Wallbridge		1
10	Jenner Brown		
11	Toby Manns	73'	
12	Martin Cresswell	73'	

Notes:

Swaythling went into this game with both of their regular centre-backs absent against Southern League – Southern Division opposition. Young winger Toby Manns was given his first team debut.

The first half was evenly contested, Swaythling's best chance came when Gosport goalkeeper Tony Milne pushed a Jenner Brown shot round the post. Simon Wellington and Richie Coulbert received bookings, a foul by the Swaythling player and retaliation by the visitor. Ian Leigh made a tremendous save as the half was ending and this appeared to have kept the scores level going into the break. However, a further shot on the very stroke of half-time was pushed by Leigh but Terry Rawlins, covering behind, made an even better save to push the ball over the crossbar. Time was extended to allow the spot-kick to be taken and **Foster**'s penalty went in, Leigh being very close to saving it. Half-time: 0-1.

Gosport, who came to Ten Acres with a one hundred percent record in the Southern League, kept possession and pressurised Swaythling early in the second half. Their pressure eventually told when Rawlins fouled a visiting player in the box and **Foster** again netted from the spot. Within a further nine minutes Gosport had doubled their lead through goals by **Hawes** and **Coulbert**. Gosport were now well in charge but Swaythling should have had a penalty themselves but a handling offence was not seen by the officials. With six minutes to go **Trevor Wallbridge**, at the near post, flicked home a corner whilst Brown forced Milne to push the ball behind. By that time Gosport, who were the stronger team, had already booked their passage into the next round. Full-time: 1-4.

Retrospective Comments: The offence of handling the ball to prevent a goal being scored had not been deemed to be worthy of a sending off back then. Toby Manns and his replacement Martin Cresswell didn't appear in a further first team match, both being members of the club's reserve team. It was also Simon Wellington's last first team game for Swaythling as he moved on.

Match 06: (League 5; Cup 1)

Versus FAREHAM TOWN RES

Venue - Home: Ten Acres (visit #035)

Date: Saturday, 22nd September 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr M E Pearce *(Portsmouth)*

No opposition team available

Result: WON 3-0 (half-time 0-0)

Scorer: Deane 67', 86', 90'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Ian Leigh		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Ian Knight		
04	Chris Scott		
05	Terry Rawlins		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Phil Birks		
08	Ray Deane		3
09	Brian Smith		
10	Jenner Brown ©		
11	Steve Hills		
12	Jim Pringle	dnp	

Notes:

Ray Deane, following a couple of reserve team appearances, celebrated his return to the first team with a fine second half hat-trick in a hard-fought battle with Fareham Town Res. Manager Sam Stevens rang the changes. Keith Cooper, Phil Birks and Steve Hills were included in the starting XI as Swaythling, having lost their previous two home matches by 4-1, were determined to return to winning ways.

The first half was quite even. The closest Swaythling came to scoring was a Brian Smith lay-off to Chris Scott who drove it hard against the Fareham crossbar. Scott was also booked for a foul in the half. Halt-time: 0-0.

The visitors had a good spell early in the second half but the Swaythling back four played well whilst Ian Leigh also looked confident between the posts. With the second half at the half-way mark **Deane** netted a fine individual goal, beating a defender, a strong run into the area and a low shot that Town keeper Steve Bailey got a hand to but could only help it into the corner of the net. Just after, Smith swept past a defender but his shot hit the post and was then hacked clear. Swaythling made the game safe with four minutes to go. It was a debatable one too as Swaythling had a free kick and the referee blew for it to be taken. However, a Town defender was too close to the ball and the referee blew his whistle again to get the player to move back but, in between the two whistles the kick was taken and **Deane** received it and scored. Fareham disputed it but a goal was given. **Deane** rose well above Town defenders to complete his hat-trick right on time. Full-time: 3-0.

It was a good showing overall. In addition to the defence, Birks' return improved the team's performance and Smith battled well up front.

Retrospective Comments: A fine return to the side to one of my all-time Swaythling favourites Ray Deane. Fareham would be justified to feeling a tad 'hard done by' with that second goal.

Match 07: (League 5; Cup 2)

Versus TROWBRIDGE TOWN

Venue - Home: Ten Acres (visit #036)

Date: Wednesday, 26th September 1979

Kick-off Time: 7.30pm

Competition: South-West Counties Pratten Cup – First Round

Referee: *Unknown*

No opposition team available

Result: WON 1-0 (half-time 1-0)

Scorer: Knight 23' (pen).

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Ian Leigh		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Ian Knight		1
04	Chris Scott		
05	Terry Rawlins		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Phil Birks		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Brian Smith		
10	Jim Pringle		
11	Kazi Podsadowski		
12	Steve Hills	dnp	

Notes:

Trowbridge put out a strong Southern League side in this Pratten Cup tie. Swaythling made two changes as Jenner Brown and Steve Hills went out, being replaced by Jim Pringle and Kazi Podsadowski, the latter making his first appearance of the season.

Ray Deane was sent on a run with two opposing players giving chase. He got past one's lunging boot and moved into the box and the other defender crashed through the Swaythling striker and a penalty was awarded. Up stepped **Ian Knight** who, amidst of a shout of "save another one", was undeterred, sending the keeper the wrong way. Swaythling held the lead going into half-time. Half-time: 1-0.

Brian Smith (shot just wide) and Deane (shot pushed round) came close to adding to the lead. As the game moved into the latter stages, Trowbridge put the pressure on, Podsadowski and Phil Birks were operating in defensive roles as Swaythling survived a right onslaught. Ian Leigh was outstanding in the Swaythling goal, saving well on several occasions and was also very brave to save at an opponent's feet. Full-time: 1-0.

Well done Swaythling! Deane kept running all the time. Podsadowski did a midfield-cum-defensive role very well. Birks had a fine game. Smith and 'Scotter' *(Chris Scott)* held and used the ball well whilst Leigh in goal had his best Swaythling game to date. What a performance.

Retrospective Comments: Swaythling had been regular entrants in this competition. It puts clubs together who would not normally have an opportunity to meet. I had seen them play in the competition in the past (last season, in fact). This had been one of the club's more impressive victories in the competition. Ian Leigh's first-class performance in goal would have been a factor in his transfer into the Football League but that wasn't going to happen just yet. At the end of this season Trowbridge Town completed their Southern League – Midland Division season in 9th position (of 22) emphasising the merit of this Swaythling victory.

Match 08: (League 5; Cup 3)

Versus SELSEY

Venue - Away: High Street, Selsey, West Sussex (new ground: #040)

Date: Saturday, 29th September 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: FA Vase – Preliminary Round

Referee: Mr D Bridle *(Southwick)*

No opposition team available

Result: WON 2-0 (half-time 1-0)

Scorers: Birks 5'; Deane 56'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Ian Leigh		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Ian Knight		
04	Chris Scott		
05	Terry Rawlins		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Phil Birks		1
08	Ray Deane		1
09	Brian Smith		
10	Jim Pringle		
11	Kazi Podsadowski		
12	Kevin Fargin	dnp	

Notes:

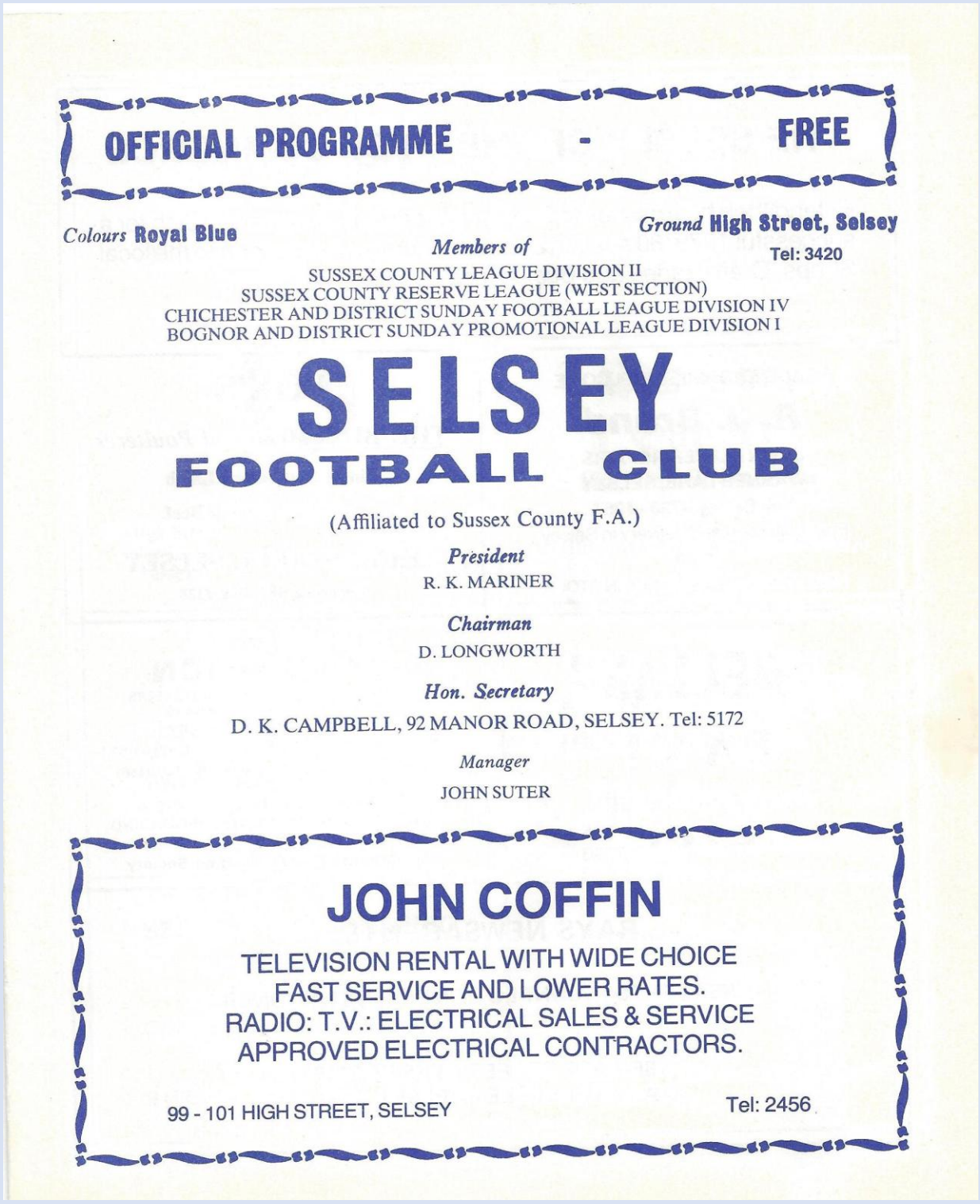
Fielding the same side that was successful against Southern League opposition in the last match, Swaythling comfortably negotiated this F.A. Vase hurdle against Sussex County League Division 2 side Selsey. Young reserve team striker Kevin Fargin was named on the bench.

Swaythling started well with Ray Deane having a first minute effort well saved by the home keeper. Further pressure came and **Phil Birks** put the visitors in front with a shot from just inside the box. Swaythling's superiority was emphasised by both Terry Rawlins and Jim Pringle having separate efforts cleared off the line with the game still in its early minutes, whilst Brian Smith should have tucked away a further chance. Despite all this, it was that fifth minute goal that separated the teams at the break. Half-time: 0-1.

The second half saw a similar pattern and when Smith pulled the ball back to Chris Scott from the dead-ball line, his cross was well headed by **Deane** for number two. Deane hit the post on two further occasions and, on the second of those, a Birks follow up struck a home defender on the line (who didn't know very much about it!). Selsey came forward in the last ten minutes, but they never looked like threatening the Swaythling goal with keeper Ian Leigh having no direct shot to save in the match. Full-time: 0-2 and a comfortable passage for the Hampshire League side.

Retrospective Comments:

This was the very first F.A. Vase game I'd attended, and it was an enjoyable afternoon in West Sussex. It seemed strange that the referee was from Sussex and the two linesmen (Messrs. Pearce and Barrett) were from Hampshire! Comments were written about the standard of refereeing in the game but, bearing in mind I was still 'fresh' from standing amongst thousands on the terraces at The Dell (and secondly still getting used to watching non-league football on a regular basis), these have been diplomatically omitted! This was Smith's final game in this spell for the club, he was to play against Swaythling for Sholing Sports (and with some effect) later in the season.



Programme front cover: Selsey v Swaythling (F.A. Vase)

Match 09: (League 6; Cup 3)

Versus MONEYFIELD SPORTS

Venue - Away: Moneyfield Sports Ground, Moneyfields Avenue, Copnor, Portsmouth. (New Ground #041)

Date: Saturday, 6th October 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr A Buckland *(Portsmouth)*

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 0-1 (half-time 0-1)

Scorer - Opponent: Bull 6'.

No	**SWAYTHLING LINE-UP**	sub	gl
01	Ian Leigh		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Ian Knight		
04	Chris Scott		
05	Terry Rawlins		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Jim Pringle		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Trevor Wallbridge		
10	Jenner Brown ©		
11	Kazi Podsadowski		
12	Derek Jolly	dnp	

Notes:

Swaythling made two changes from last time out as captain Jenner Brown returned to the team replacing Phil Birks who was unwell, whilst Trevor Wallbridge returned to the side in place of Brian Smith.

Moneyfield took the lead early on when a wind assisted Casson cross hung a little and caught out keeper Ian Leigh and bounced off the top of the Swaythling crossbar and was then bundled in at the far post by **Tony Bull**. This was at a very early stage of the game and Swaythling made a number of attacks but they were broken down by a stubborn home defence. Wallbridge did manage to get behind the home defence but shot wide. Ray Deane also got in two favourable positions but first, when in on Steve Fisher, the home keeper, he placed his shot wide and next Fisher did well to save his shot from point-blank range. On other occasions, the effective home offside trap generally succeeded. Half-time: 1-0.

The second half was mostly Swaythling possession but kicking against a strong wind, things didn't quite go their way. Fisher made a fine save from a Terry Rawlins header although the referee saw an infringement against Swaythling so it wouldn't have counted anyway. Danny Miller put a cross high into the air but it hung on the top of the net. Full-time: 1-0.

Swaythling were beaten by a strong battling side and some of the players were not as keen on the physical challenge than others. It just wasn't Swaythling's day.

Retrospective Comments: This was new territory for this fledgling Swaythling supporter and, armed with a map of Portsmouth, I walked from Cosham railway station and some walk that proved to be (a nearer station at Hilsea was not often used as a stopping point by the trains back then). It was a rather disappointing feel on the walk back. This was not, of course, the Moneyfields FC of today (meaning the Wessex League side in 2023/24 season).

Match 10: (League 7; Cup 3)

Versus NETLEY CENTRAL SPORTS

Venue – Home: Ten Acres (visit #037)

Date: Saturday, 13th October 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr A Ferrier *(Basingstoke)*

No opposition team available

Result: WON 2-1 (half-time W 1-0)

Scorer: Miller 25'(pen), 69' (pen).

Scorer - Opponent: *unknown* 88'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Ian Leigh		
02	Kazi Podsadowski		
03	Ian Knight		
04	Danny Miller		2
05	Terry Rawlins		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Jim Pringle		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Trevor Wallbridge		
10	Jenner Brown ©		
11	Phil Birks		
12	Chris Scott	dnp	

Notes:

Swaythling made only one change from the XI on duty at Moneyfield with Phil Birks replacing Chris Scott although positionally, Kazi Podsadowski played at right-back with Danny Miller into midfield.

The Netley defence was busy in the first half but they managed to scramble clear dangerous Ray Deane and Phil Birks crosses. Swaythling took the lead when Ian Knight ran into the penalty area and was kicked by the Netley keeper, the referee had no hesitation but to point to the penalty spot. Now, Knight had received a kick from an earlier heavy challenge and needed treatment and it was clear he would not be able to take the kick. A Netley player also needed to be treated too. Miller took the responsibility and his kick was placed to the keeper's left and well into the corner. However, as Miller turned away, he found it had to be retaken as, amongst the players outside the box, it became evident that the Netley trainer had not yet left the field! **Miller** sent the Netley keeper the wrong way with his next attempt. Swaythling attacked more but failed to add to the score. Half-time: 1-0.

Netley came more into it in the second half and Ian Leigh did well to punch clear on one occasion as the Swaythling defence looked sound. The match bubbled in the 69th minute. C Rafferty, the Netley keeper, saved and Terry Rawlins stayed up and was pushed away by him. This was noticed by the linesman who then placed his flag across his chest. **Miller**, successful from the spot earlier, took the responsibility again and the penalty was perfectly placed and just beyond the reach of the keeper. When Leigh pushed out a free kick, a Netley forward capitalised to score late in the game. Full-time: 2-1. The game was watched by AFC Bournemouth scouts with an interest in Leigh.

Retrospective Comments: This proved to be seventeen-year-old Leigh's final game for Swaythling who then went on to feature regularly for the Cherries over the next six years. He had made ten appearances for Swaythling. The club's Hampshire League record at this point was a rather average one. Back in 'days of yore' a linesman putting his flag across his chest was an 'unofficial' signal that advised the referee to award a penalty kick. This was subsequently outlawed by the F.A. After all, why should a clear, albeit unofficial, signal to players and spectators continue to be used?!

Match N/A (Friendly). **Versus HAMPSHIRE FA.** **Venue – Home:** Ten Acres.

Date: Tuesday, 16th October 1979. **Kick-off Time:** 7.30pm. **Competition:** Friendly.

Referee: unknown. **Result: WON 4-2** (half-time 3-0)

Scorers: Deane 14'; Birks 24'; Wallbridge 34', 61'. **Scorer - Opponent:** Brown 73', 78'.

No	**SWAYTHLING LINE-UP**	gl		No	**HAMPSHIRE F.A. LINE-UP**	gl
01	Malcolm Harris			01	Paul Brown *(Sholing Sports)*	
02	Steve Hills			02	Barry Joslin *(Netley Central Sports)*	
03	Kazi Podsadowski			03	Ian Knight *(Swaythling)*	
04	Chris Scott			04	*[Player not identified]*	
05	Terry Rawlins			05	Kevin Roberts *(Sholing Sports)*	
06	Keith Cooper			06	Bobby French *(Netley Central Sports)*	
07	Danny Miller			07	*[Player not identified]*	
08	Ray Deane	2		08	Len Phillips *(Newport IW)*	
09	Trevor Wallbridge	1		09	Jenner Brown *(Swaythling)*	2
10	Roy King			10	Paul Baxter © *(B.A.T.)*	
11	Phil Birks	1		11	Kevin Kelly *(Romsey Town)*	
12	*Unknown*			Subs	Included: Pat Rafferty *(Folland Sports)*; H Gates *(Newport IW);* Phil Janes *(Netley Central Sports)*.	

Notes: This was a good game on a wet surface in foggy conditions. Roy King, beginning his second spell with the club, came into midfield whilst Chris Scott was playing as an experimental right-back with Danny Miller continuing in midfield. Ian Knight and Jenner Brown were in the Hants team!!

Swaythling began impressively with Phil Birks and Steve Hills prominent. **Ray Deane**, having been put through by Trevor Wallbridge, netted in typical style, superbly running past a defender and smacked the ball past Paul Brown. King featured in number two, playing it to **Birks** who shot into the corner from 15-yards. Hills worked a good position and laid it off to **Wallbridge** who put Swaythling three ahead. Half-time: 3-0.

All the Hants subs were introduced at half-time. They got the better of things early in the second half but superb finishing by **Wallbridge** from a Hills pass put Swaythling 4-0 ahead, crashing his shot into the roof of the net. **Brown** twice scored for Hants and Keith Cooper needed to clear off the line as well but overall, it was a fully deserved victory. Full-time: 4-2.

Retrospective Comments: The game would have helped the county side prepare for their South-West Counties Competition. How can Swaythling, with no more than an average record in the Hampshire League, beat the County side? I still don't know the answer to that … and if anyone did then, they would have had the key to a successful Swaythling team at that time.

Match 11: (League 8; Cup 3)

Versus SHOLING SPORTS

Venue – Home: Ten Acres (visit #038)

Date: Wednesday, 24th October 1979

Kick-off Time: 7.30pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr R S Wilcox *(Bournemouth)*

No opposition team available

Result: WON 1-0 (half-time 0-0)

Scorer: Deane 90'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Steve Hills		
03	Ian Knight		
04	Danny Miller		
05	Terry Rawlins ©		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Roy King		
08	Ray Deane		1
09	Trevor Wallbridge		
10	Jenner Brown		
11	Phil Birks		
12	Chris Scott	dnp	

Notes:

Swaythling made three changes to their side since the last competitive match. Malcolm Harris came back into the number one spot as Ian Leigh had been transferred to AFC Bournemouth a week ago. Steve Hills replaced Kazi Podsadowski at right-back and Roy King, in his second spell with the club, came in for Jim Pringle. All three starters had appeared in last week's friendly win over Hants F.A.

The first half play was quite even. Sholing looked rather sharper in attack but Harris was equal to their efforts. The only direct effort Swaythling had on the Sholing goal in the first half came when Phil Birks and Trevor Wallbridge were involved in a good move which resulted in King heading off the post with Sholing keeper Paul Brown beaten. There were occasions when the players struggled to keep their feet on the slippery surface. Half-time: 0-0.

The early stages of the second half saw Sholing apply a lot of pressure which either poor finishing and the steady Swaythling defence kept out. It wasn't until the final fifteen minutes of the match that Swaythling injected any urgency in their attacking play. They had a chance to take the lead in the 80th minute when the referee gave a harsh handling decision and up stepped Danny Miller to take his third spot-kick in two league games, but Brown comfortably saved his kick. Just as Swaythling appeared to be dropping a home point, Wallbridge played the ball on to **Ray Deane** who ran into the area and placed the ball wide of Brown's left hand and into the net to send Sholing away pointless. Full-time: 1-0.

This was a vital win for Swaythling but it was one they didn't deserve. Phil Hunt, formerly with Pirelli General, played well for Sholing, who fell to their second defeat of the season. Terry Rawlins was booked in the second half.

Retrospective Comments: Only two points were awarded for a win back then, so the phrase that 'Swaythling appeared to be dropping a home point' was correct. Once again, Swaythling could demonstrate an ability to 'mix it' with the better teams in the Hampshire League.

Match 12: (League 8; Cup 4)

Versus CHICHESTER CITY

Venue – Home: Ten Acres (visit #039)

Date: Saturday, 27th October 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: FA Vase – First Round

Referee: Mr C Keywood *(Shoreham)*

No opposition team available

Result: DRAW 1-1 (after extra time)

The score at ninety minutes was 0-0.

Scorer: Knight 94'.

Scorer – Opponent: Murray 109'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Ian Knight		1
04	Steve Hills		
05	Terry Rawlins ©		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Phil Birks		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Trevor Wallbridge		
10	Jenner Brown		
11	Roy King		
12	Chris Scott	dnp	

Notes:

Swaythling made just one positional change to the side that beat Sholing Sports on Wednesday. Danny Miller reverted to full-back with Steve Hills changing to midfield. Chichester included a notable player as former Plymouth Argyle and Pompey player Dick Reynolds was in their midfield.

Reynolds, having adopted a deep position, was regularly breaking down Swaythling's attacks as the first half was even with good approach work not materialising into chances. Jenner Brown hit the outside of the 'Chi' post whilst Reynolds struck a 20-yard effort that sizzled just wide of Malcolm Harris' post. Hills had a good first half. Half-time: 0-0

Swaythling produced most of the second half attacking but Reynolds remained outstanding. Niggly incidents crept in at times, one involving Wallbridge, although I didn't see exactly what happened. Chances remained at a premium. Full-time: 0-0 and the game moved into extra time.

A goal came Swaythling's way four minutes into the extra period. Terry Rawlins had the ball deep in his own half and the visitors defence pushed up but the Swaythling centre-back played a fine ball through and **Ian Knight** ran through. He had no Chichester player near him and as the keeper advanced, he fired into the net. Reynolds now pushed forward for the visiting side.

Into the second period of extra time and it was that man Reynolds again, a 25-yard shot and Harris dived to his left to not only stop the ball but catch it as well. It was probably one of the best saves seen all season and preserved the Swaythling lead. Unfortunately for Swaythling, the visitors levelled when a right-wing cross by **Ricky Murray** somehow beat everyone in the box and found the far corner. Ray Deane headed just over in the latter stages. Full-time, extra time: 1-1, replay needed.

Retrospective Comments: This was Jenner Brown's final match for Swaythling as he joined Southern League Andover. He was to return later in a player/manager capacity after the club name had been changed to Eastleigh.

Match 13 (League 8; Cup 5). **Versus CHICHESTER CITY**

Venue – Away: Oaklands Park, Chichester, West Sussex. (New Ground #045)

Date: Saturday, 3rd November 1979. **Kick-off Time:** 2.15pm.

Competition: FA Vase – First Round Replay.

Referee: Mr C Keywood *(Shoreham)*

Result: DRAW 1-1 (after extra time). The score at ninety minutes was 0-0.

Scorer: Rawlins 117'. **Scorer - Opponent:** Reynolds 110'.

No	CHICHESTER CITY LINE-UP	Gl		No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	Gl
01	Hillier			01	Malcolm Harris	
02	Ricky Murray			02	Danny Miller	
03	Grundy			03	Ian Knight	
04	O'Boyle			04	Steve Hills	
05	Clough			05	Terry Rawlins ©	1
06	Richie Reynolds	1		06	Keith Cooper	
07	Brown			07	Chris Scott	
08	Martin			08	Ray Deane	
09	James			09	Trevor Wallbridge	
10	Vick			10	Colin Hill	
11	Egleton			11	Phil Birks	
12	Holder	dnp		12	David Harris	dnp

Notes:

The Swaythling side made two changes in midfield as in came Chris Scott and new signing Colin Hill, who had played for the club a few years ago. It did mean the team had both a Hill and Hills playing! Jenner Brown (who'd left) and Roy King made way.

Steve Hills did a tight marking job on 'Chi' danger man Richie Reynolds but even then Malcolm Harris had to make a brave save at his feet in the first half. The Swaythling keeper also touched a Brown shot onto the bar and over. The home side dominated in the ninety minutes including one of the Swaythling players in a five man wall getting in the way of a thunderous Reynolds effort (sooner him than me!!). Harris' handling was faultless in the game whilst skipper Terry Rawlins marshalled the defensive line well. Overall though the ninety minutes were very similar to the previous week's tie with Chichester having more possession on this occasion. Full-time: 1-1. *Continued …*

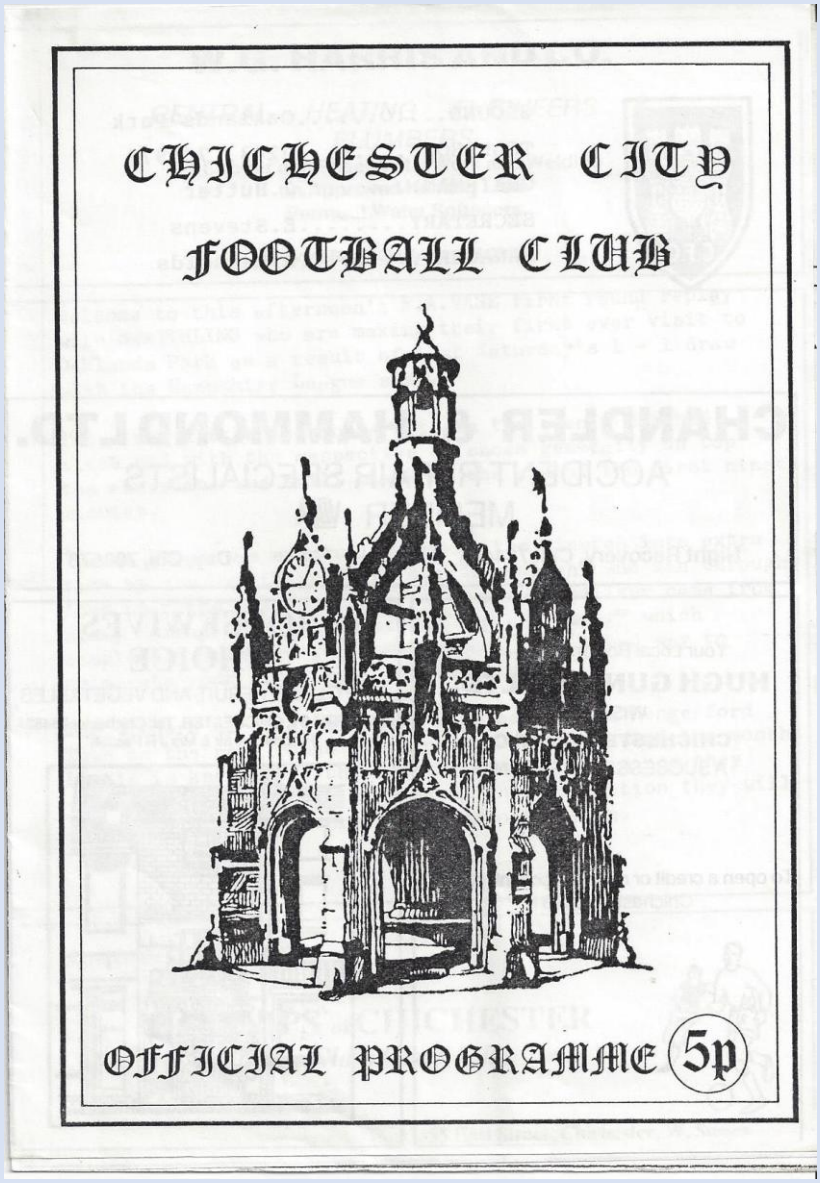
Chichester City v Swaythling (F.A. Vase) *continued*

Extra time was again needed with the ninety minutes not producing a goal once more and, in a similar pattern to before, there was a goal apiece in the thirty additional minutes.

Swaythling attacked more in the first fifteen minutes of extra time and there looked more of a possibility of the visitors pinching this tie.

In the second period of extra time and five minutes in, the deadlock was broken. A defensive error put **Reynolds** clear and he shot beyond the diving Harris and into the net. The keeper then made two fine saves to keep his side in it as Rawlins pushed forward and stayed up. It was **Rawlins** who saved the day late on. He received a Ray Deane touch and scored with a low 18-yard effort which went into the corner of the net and it was all square again! Full-time, extra time: 1-1.

Only two Saturdays were allocated for FA Vase matches so the third game would need to be played on a midweek date.



Programme issuing was not necessary in the Hampshire League back then and Swaythling only rarely produced a match programme of their own.

This was the front cover of the Chichester issue for the game.

The front cover image shows Chichester Market Cross which is in the centre of the city. The Sussex County League clubs were obviously keener to issue programmes as one was also issued on Swaythling's visit to Selsey in the previous round.

Match 14: (League 9; Cup 5)

Versus MONEYFIELD SPORTS

Venue – Home: Ten Acres (visit #041)

Date: Saturday, 10th November 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr P D Aston *(Andover)*

No opposition team available

Result: DRAW 1-1 (half-time W1-0)

Scorer: King 15

Scorer – Opponent: unknown 51' (pen).

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Chris Scott		
05	Terry Rawlins ©		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Phil Birks		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Trevor Wallbridge		
10	Colin Hill		
11	Roy King		1
12	*unknown*	dnp	

Notes:

In the midweek leading up to this game, a Wednesday league match with Bournemouth at home was postponed because the second replay of the FA Vase was due to take place at neutral Fareham Town on the next evening. That was postponed due to the Cams Alders pitch being under water.

Following the tough couple of games with Chichester, manager Sam Stevens rested Ian Knight and Steve Hills and brought in Kazi Podsadowski and Roy King against Moneyfield Sports who had already beaten Swaythling at their Copnor ground in the previous month.

Swaythling began the game well and put the visitors defence under pressure. This paid off in the 15th minute when **King** broke through, beating the offside trap, and also beat their keeper Steve Fisher, who did well to get his hand to it, but the ball went into the corner. Just after, Fisher came out of his goal to hack clear but sliced it to Trevor Wallbridge who headed the ball towards the gaping goal, but it went just wide. Later in the half Swaythling forced four successive corners but failed to register a further goal. Half-time: 1-0.

Things gradually went wrong for Swaythling in the second half as a more determined Moneyfield team came forward. In fact, it all went wrong in three early second half minutes. Terry Rawlins was penalised for a handling offence in the box and Moneys were awarded a penalty. Colin Hill was shown the yellow card for dissent. The penalty was scored. Just two minutes after, Hill appeared to make another comment to the referee and was sent off. It was a struggle from there, the closest Swaythling came was a Kazi Podsadowski free kick which bent around the wall but hit the outside of the post. Full-time: 1-1.

Retrospective Comments: Hill was the only Swaythling player to be sent off in the season. Yellow and red cards were in use then but were withdrawn at local level for a while before making a permanent return later. Three of Moneyfields total of just 17 points came against Swaythling.

Match 15: (League 9; Cup 6)

Versus CHICHESTER CITY

Venue – Neutral: Cams Alders Sports Centre, Fareham (visit #002)

Date: Monday, 12th November 1979

Kick-off Time: 7.30pm

Competition: FA Vase – First Round, Second Replay

Referee: Mr M E Pearce *(Portsmouth)*

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 1-2 (half-time W 1-0)

Scorer: Deane 41'.

Scorers – Opponent: Egleton 54'; Vick 56'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Chris Scott		
05	Terry Rawlins ©		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Steve Hills		
08	Ray Deane		1
09	Trevor Wallbridge		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Phil Birks		
12	Chris Wheeler	dnp	

Notes:

A mix-up with travel arrangements meant an uncharacteristically late arrival at Cams Alders (fortunately a first visit to the ground had been made earlier in the season so I knew how to find it). A sprint from the station and only ten minutes missed, and there were no goals scored in that time.

This tie was decided at the third attempt at neutral Fareham. Both sides appeared to have greater attacking intentions than they did in the previous two games. Swaythling enjoyed the bulk of the first half pressure although 'Chi' always looked dangerous on the break. Chris Scott and Ray Deane came close and a Trevor Wallbridge effort went just wide. Swaythling drew first blood near to half time when a Phil Birks corner got a defensive header in the middle, but Kazi Podsadowski did well to head it back into the middle where **Ray Deane** pounced to place a lunging header into goal from six yards. Half-time: 1-0 to Swaythling.

Things went array in two minutes in Swaythling's previous game and it happened again and at roughly the same time in this match. **Egleton** gave Malcolm Harris no chance with a shot to level after 54 minutes and within a couple of minutes **Vick** was credited with a goal, even though a Swaythling defender claimed he'd cleared before it had crossed the line. Both goals had come from long throws by Murray and headed on by Clough. Swaythling did most of the attacking from there with Deane heading just over from a Terry Rawlins head on and Wallbridge and Podsadowski having shots blocked. Full-time: 2-1 to Chichester.

Retrospective Comments: The winning goal is 'up there' with Swaythling's Hampshire Senior Cup replay (a winner for Farnborough in 1976) for the 'disputed goal' award. The draw for the next round had been made ages ago and Chichester went to Hungerford Town in the next round. This club had given Swaythling a couple of pastings in past F.A. competition matches. Town had also reached the first round of the F.A. Cup at this time ('Chi' lost 4-0). It's odd that these three matches with Chichester City remain to be the only times the clubs have ever met (as at June 2024).

Match 16: (League 10; Cup 6)

Versus PIRELLI GENERAL

Venue - Home: Ten Acres (visit #043)

Date: Saturday, 17th November 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: No information available

No opposition team available

Result: WON 3-1 (half-time 0-0)

Scorers: Deane 46'; Rawlins 54'; "Kazi" 62'.

Scorer – Opponent: unknown 82'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Chris Scott		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Steve Hills		
05	Roy King		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Trevor Wallbridge		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Terry Rawlins ©		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Colin Hill		
12	Phil Birks	dnp	

Notes:

Manager Sam Stevens made a few changes for this game and his gamble paid off against local rivals Pirelli General. Chris Scott moved to right-back; Terry Rawlins moved from defence to striker as Roy King took his place in the back line. Meetings with Pirelli General were always keen affairs.

Swaythling were clearly told to use the flanks and get crosses into the 'big fella' Rawlins although the Kazi Podsadowski and Ian Knight combination on the left were getting better results than Scott and Trevor Wallbridge on the other wing. The best chance came just before half-time when Scott's low ball found Rawlins who would have been disappointed to shoot wide. King and Keith Cooper were an effective pairing in defence. Half-time: 0-0.

Swaythling blitzed Pirelli with three goals in sixteen minutes and all had a touch of class. The second half was less than a minute old when Rawlins put **Ray Deane** through who shot just inside the post from the edge of the box. Out of the blue, **Rawlins** struck a 20-yard effort which bounced down off the underside of the bar and had such power it went like a bullet back up into the roof of the net, what a shot! **Podsadowski** then struck an absolute screamer! He was fully 30-yards out on the left and hit a tremendous shot into the top right-hand corner, the Pirelli keeper made a valiant effort to reach but didn't get anywhere near to it. The Swaythling performance was classy, but some great approach work was not finished thereafter. Pirelli netted a late consolation through **Micky Hutt** and Malcolm Harris was called on to make a further save which might have made the score appear closer than it should have been. Full-time: 3-1.

Retrospective Comments: Well, what a great result and Sam's changes paid off. What I didn't know when walking back home was this was the last time I was going to see the team win for a while; in fact, a number of successive defeats were going to occur, along with a couple of player departures. Swaythling were now a third of their way through their Hampshire League fixtures (10 matches), their W:D:L record being 6:1:3; Goals for: 18 and against: 10. Points: 13 (two for a win back in the day).

Match 17: (League 11; Cup 6)

Versus BROCKENHURST

Venue - Home: Ten Acres (visit #044)

Date: Wednesday, 21st November 1979

Kick-off Time: 7.30pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: No information available

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 0-2 (half-time 0-1)

Scorer – Opponent: Proudley 26'; Sexton 82' (pen).

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Chris Scott		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Steve Hills		
05	Roy King		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Trevor Wallbridge		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Terry Rawlins ©		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Colin Hill		
12	Phil Birks	dnp	

Notes:

Brockenhurst visited Ten Acres in fine form, having won 12 of their 16 matches and were clear at the top of the Division 1 table. This was an important game for Swaythling to win if they were to have any say at the top. The team remained the same as the one that defeated Pirelli on Saturday.

Both goalkeepers (Malcolm Harris and Ken Harvey) had to be alert early on. Brockenhurst took the lead when **Mike Proudley**, a former Ten Acres favourite, slipped his marker and hit a swerving 20-yard effort which beat Harris. Following the goal, Brock dictated up to half-time. Half-time: 0-1.

Swaythling fought hard in the early stages of the second half, Ray Deane looking particularly dangerous. Brockenhurst also looked dangerous on the break. Swaythling built their attacks on the right side, mainly involving Chris Scott and Trevor Wallbridge as well as Steve Hills. The visitors dealt with the home attacks quite comfortably though. Kazi Podsadowski and a visiting player got into a bit of an altercation and players rushed across to separate them as, incredibly, play was allowed to continue! Brock made the game safe late on when Proudley had Keith Cooper and Podsadowski coming at him from either side, one of them connected with him and **Sexton** converted from the penalty spot. Full-time: 0-2.

It would be easy to state Swaythling were disappointing but on the day Brockenhurst showed they were a good side, this being their eighth away win in ten outings. Unless a dramatic slide occurs the New Forest side look good to take the Hampshire League title.

Retrospective Comments: Brockenhurst finished as runners-up in the end and four points behind Newport for the title, which was equivalent of two wins back then. This was Wallbridge's final game for the first team. Although I didn't get all of the Brockenhurst line-up, players who also appeared for them on the day (other than those mentioned above) were Wickison, Finn, Talkes, Taylor, Renyard and White, all of whom I had recognised.

Match 18: (League 12; Cup 6)

Versus EAST COWES VICTORIA ATH.

Venue - Away: Beatrice Avenue Ground, East Cowes, Isle of Wight (New ground #047)

Date: Saturday, 24th November 1979

Kick-off Time: 2.15pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: No information available

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 1-2 (half-time 1-1)

Scorer – Deane 22.

Scorer–Opponent: Hopcroft 1'; unknown 75'

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Chris Scott		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Steve Hills		
05	Roy King		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Phil Birks		
08	Ray Deane		1
09	Terry Rawlins ©		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Colin Hill		
12	Graham Meyer	dnp	

Notes:

I arrived very early at East Cowes as I wasn't entirely sure where the ground was in Beatrice Avenue and, having found it with plenty of time on my hands, walked along to the impressive Whippingham Church and then continued to the main road past Osborne House and back into East Cowes.

This was another away defeat for Swaythling who are the only First Division side to have not collected an away point yet, although this was only their third away league game of the season.

The mainland side got off to an awful start conceding a goal in the opening minute. A long pass got past a defender and **Kim Hopcroft** took the ball on, got past Malcolm Harris and scored. The Vics regularly opened up the visitors in the opening ten minutes, with the defence being caught square. After that Swaythling dictated the play and got level when Chris Scott crossed and top scorer **Ray Deane** hit a turning shot that picked up a deflection to beat Jack Ince in the Vics goal. The game continued to be one-way traffic but Swaythling were unable to turn this pressure into goals. Half-time: 1-1.

The match continued in the same way in the second half and Colin Hill was put through but his effort was smothered by the advancing Ince. Deane had a good effort and Roy King was unmarked from a corner but fired over from close range. Swaythling had done everything but score. It was Vics that did find the net though when, following a poor throw out, they capitalised and crossed in where the home player was left clear to score. Swaythling piled forward from there but the leveller didn't come. Full-time: 2-1 to Vics.

It was my first return from the Isle of Wight defeated, which wasn't very nice *(but I'd get used to it!!)*

Retrospective Comments: The league record now looked a rather average Won: 6; Drawn: 1; Lost: 5. Goals for-against: 19-14. Points: 13. The results weren't going to get much better for a while.

Match 19: (League 12; Cup 7)

Versus HAVANT TOWN

Venue - Home: Ten Acres (visit #045)

Date: Saturday, 1st December 1979

Kick-off Time: 2.30pm

Competition: Hampshire Senior Cup – First Round

Referee: Mr J Gosby (Bournemouth)

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 0-1 (half-time 0-0)

Scorer – Opponent: Job 78'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Chris Scott		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Steve Hills		
05	Roy King		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Phil Birks		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Terry Rawlins ©		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Colin Hill		
12	Danny Miller	dnp	

Notes:

This was Swaythling's third successive defeat, two of them coming at Ten Acres, and an unexpected loss against Division 2 side Havant Town. The opposition were however challenging for promotion having lost their First Division place last term. The Swaythling starting XI was the same that played at East Cowes with Danny Miller taking the substitute place.

The first half was a fairly low key affair with the Havant winger Dawson Smith causing a few problems on our left but Malcolm Harris competently handled the crosses that came in. Ray Deane was quite tightly marked at the other end but he was almost successful with a shot with the final play of the first half, it beat the keeper and was heading towards goal but it was hacked clear by a covering defender. Half-time: 0-0.

Steve Hills made some good running on the right but overall, the home side struggled to get the ball into dangerous offensive areas. Havant continued to pose a threat and were unlucky not to be given a spot-kick for a foul in the penalty box but the referee waved play to go on. Havant went in front in the 78th minute when a 20-yard effort by **Job** went in despite Harris' full length dive. Only then did the home side show more attacking prowess, which was really needed before. It got a bit niggly at the end and Havant held onto their lead to pull off a shock result. It was fully deserved. Full-time: 0-1.

Retrospective Comments: Havant had another good day in the next round, defeating another First Division team B.A.T. before bowing out in Round 3 (or quarter-final stage) in a local derby with Waterlooville. This was Colin Hill's final game for Swaythling, this proving to be a brief second spell with the club. Incidentally, Swaythling's reserve side also played in Hampshire League Division 2 and the away match at Havant in the following month (January 1980) coincided with the first team having no game. A strong team was taken to the Front Lawn as the 'ressies' won by 3-1, which quite possibly was a reaction to this defeat! Havant finished fourth which proved to be the last promotion place due to Division 1 being extended from 16 to 20 teams for the following (1980/81) season.

Match 20: (League 13; Cup 7)

Versus PIRELLI GENERAL

Venue – Away: Jubilee Sports Ground

Date: Wednesday, 5th December 1979

Kick-off Time: 7.30pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr T W Brown (Aldershot)

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 0-1 (half-time 0-0)

Scorer – Opponent: Brown 75'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Chris Scott		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Roy King		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Peter Flood		
08	Steve Hills		
09	Terry Rawlins ©		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Phil Birks		
12	Danny Miller	dnp	

Notes:

This was the first of five successive scheduled away matches for Swaythling and a swift return game following their 3-1 win over the Cablemen just over two weeks before. The Swaythling team showed two changes as last season's captain Ken Brady came in for his second game of the season following some good performances in the reserves. Roy King moved into midfield and there was a debut for winger Peter Flood, a former Hampshire Youth player who'd signed from Winchester Castle. Top scorer Ray Deane wasn't in the team (no reason stated in the notes, possibly injured or unavailable?). Swaythling lined-up with a 4-4-2 formation with Flood on the right.

Incessant rain fell throughout the game and Swaythling had more of the first half but failed to create any noteworthy chances on the Pirelli goal. Ian Knight did have a shot pushed round by the keeper but that was about it attacking-wise. The defence, with Brady (back in a familiar partnership with Keith Cooper in the centre of defence) looking strong. Malcolm Harris was generally untroubled although he was forced to handle outside of his area and, as a dangerous free kick was looking likely, the referee blew his whistle for half-time before it could be taken! Half-time: 0-0.

Phil Birks got further forward in the second half and had a good battle with Martin Falla, the Pirelli full-back. Pirelli were kicking down the slope but again they struggled to test the tight visiting defence. Swaythling almost scored on the hour mark when Terry Rawlins chased a through ball with Pirelli's former Swaythling defender Dave Thackray. The keeper advanced and Thackray got to it, striking the ball away from his teammate and it ran goalwards. Rawlins let out a triumphant "Yes" but the ball hit the inside of the post, came out and was cleared. With fifteen minutes left Pirelli scored when **Terry Brown** latched onto a poor back pass, got past Harris and shot into an empty net. Full-time: 1-0.

Retrospective Comments: Martin Falla would later play for Eastleigh in the early/mid-eighties and Dave Thackray would return as well. A fourth successive defeat for the team, all since beating Pirelli at home, and there were some more to come in this disappointing spell of results for the club.

Match 21: (League 14; Cup 7)

Versus WATERLOOVILLE RES

Venue – Away: Jubilee Park, Aston Road, Waterlooville. (New ground #049)

Date: Saturday, 8th December 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr P M Scoble (Portsmouth)

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 1-3 (half-time W 1-0)

Scorer – Knight 35' (pen).

Scorer – Opponent: Unknown scorers in 61', 66' and 71' minutes.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Chris Scott		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Steve Hills		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Roy King		
07	Peter Flood		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Terry Rawlins ©		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Phil Birks		
12	Keith Cooper	dnp	

Notes:

This was my very first visit to Waterlooville and it proved to be a challenging journey for this then non driver. It was a walk from Cosham railway station, including up a beastly steep hill when heading north from the station. *(Retrospective: There must surely have been a more convenient bus service, but I was a fit young lad back then!).* The team showed more changes with another new central defensive partnership as Roy King joined Ken Brady there with Keith Cooper moving to the bench. Ray Deane, having missed the midweek game, returned up front.

Jubilee Park was located within an industrial area and was indeed a most impressive ground *[sadly now long gone, of course]*. The pitch was in a bad state though, having been played on in midweek, "It shouldn't have taken place" the gateman told me. Despite those concerns the surface surprisingly didn't cut up much more.

Swaythling had the run of the first half. Terry Rawlins adopted a role just behind Deane up top. Peter Flood's running was most impressive, but he was too often called to play a short ball when a cross into the box looked to be a better option. The sprightly Deane was tripped in the box and **Ian Knight** scored from the penalty spot, high into the right-hand corner, wrong-footing Ville keeper Trevor Gilbert. It was a lead they took into the interval and deservedly so. Half-time: 0-1.

The second half was played at a great pace and the lead was held for a while. Ville introduced their substitute and he immediately created their equalising goal with a defence splitting ball. They soon took the lead with a 12-yard shot, leaving Malcolm Harris no chance. A close range header produced a third Ville goal. In the end Swaythling were well beaten by a good side. Full-time: 3-1.

Retrospective Comments: It was another defeat for Swaythling as Ville's sub made a big impact. At least the walk back to Cosham station was downhill, which was a direction the Swaythling team were heading at this point, and it wasn't going to stop there. A Russell-Cotes Cup tie at West End (from the Southampton League) in the following midweek was postponed (due to a waterlogged pitch).

Match 22: (League 15; Cup 7)

Versus GOSPORT BOROUGH RES

Venue – Away: Privett Park

Date: Saturday, 15th December 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Unknown

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 1-2 (half-time W 1-0)

Scorer – Deane 5'.

Scorer – Opponent: Winning 56'; Coulbert 67'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Chris Scott		
03	Kazi Podsadowski	87	
04	Steve Hills		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Roy King ©		
07	Simon Fry		
08	Ray Deane		1
09	Terry Rawlins		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Phil Birks		
12	Kevin Fargin	87	

Notes:

Gosport's Southern League game at Poole Town was postponed early in the day so their management team decided to give their first team a run in the reserves. Peter Flood was injured so Simon Fry, a recent signing from Pirelli General, made his first team debut. Reserve player Kevin Fargin was named on the bench. Roy King, playing against his former club, was captain.

In blustery conditions, Swaythling made a good start to this game. Fry dribbled through and let the ball run to **Ray Deane** to shoot his tenth goal of the season from the edge of the box. That goal came in the fifth minute and Swaythling dominated for twenty minutes afterwards, coupled with an efficient offside trap on the occasions when Gosport threatened, whilst Malcolm Harris handled some difficult wind guided crosses very well. Gosport keeper Tony Milne saved well from a Terry Rawlins header and, on the break, he then pushed a Phil Birks effort against the bar. Half-time: 0-1.

Gosport showed better in attack in the second half and they got an early equaliser when **Martin Winning** headed in a right-wing cross, leaving Harris little chance. Swaythling were defending resolutely but Borough took the lead as a defensive slip allowed **Richie Coulbert** in and he made no mistake. Swaythling tried to get back in the game but struggled to create any opportunities. Kazi Podsadowski received a knock late on which enabled Fargin to play in the final minutes. Right near the end, a linesman flagged and drew the referee's attention to an off the ball incident. Harris laid on the ground and, having had a long talk to his linesman, the referee sent off Coulbert but there was little time remaining for this to have any impact. Full-time: 2-1.

Retrospective Comments: This was Swaythling's sixth consecutive defeat and a tough losing spell for the club. The last three occasions when the team had held an interval lead have all ended in defeats. They have only been behind at half-time once in the last thirteen games and have won just three of them. This was only the third time Swaythling had used a substitute in the season so far *(only one could be used back then, of course)* and this change only occurred due to Kazi's late injury.

Match 23: (League 15; Cup 8)

Versus WEST END

Venue – Away: Moorgreen Recreation Ground

Date: Wednesday, 19th December 1979

Kick-off Time: 7.30pm

Competition: Russell-Cotes Cup – Round 1

Referee: Unknown

No opposition team available

Result: WON 3-1 (half-time W 3-0)

Scorer – Deane 7', 17', 32'.

Scorer – Opponent: Unknown 80'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Chris Scott		
03	Kazi Podsadowski	70	
04	Steve Hills		
05	Dave Hadfield		
06	Ken Brady		
07	Peter Flood		
08	Ray Deane		3
09	Terry Rawlins		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Phil Birks		
12	Simon Fry	70	

Notes:

A superb hat-trick by Ray Deane in a 25-minute spell helped to produce Swaythling's first win since mid-November and put an end to a run of six successive defeats. West End, located just outside of the Southampton area boundary, played on a sloping recreation ground pitch and included last season's Swaythling reserve team captain Tommy Hare in their team. Although there was a gap between the teams in status, it must be recalled that Swaythling's last visit here ended in a first leg defeat in the Hampshire Floodlit Cup last season, a deficit they made up in the home leg.

Dave Hadfield came into the defence, his first game for the first XI this season and Peter Flood returned from injury and replaced Simon Fry who was substitute.

Swaythling got off to a great start when a cross unintentionally found its way through to **Deane** who shot home from 8-yards. A second goal followed when Steve Hills struck the bar with a fine 25-yard shot and **Deane** was swiftly to the loose ball to knock it home. A Peter Flood cross was then headed on by Terry Rawlins and **Deane** nodded it home to complete his second hat-trick of the season. Malcolm Harris and the defence was equal to West End's efforts at the other end. Half-time: 0-3.

West End's second half performance was better, but Swaythling had further chances to win the game even more comfortably. Flood came close from almost on the dead-ball line, Rawlins had a 'goal' disallowed as a teammate had strayed offside and Deane shot wide with only the home goalkeeper to beat. West End did get a goal back with ten minutes remaining, a shot from 20-yards. Harris pushed another effort over the bar and was knocked into the goal by a home forward and required treatment for the second match running. Kazi Podsadowski had a recurrence of the injury that forced him off on Saturday; Fry replaced him for the last twenty minutes. Full-time: 1-3.

Retrospective Comments: West End were forced off this ground in 1996 and folded a year later.

Match 24: (League 16; Cup 8)

Versus FAREHAM TOWN RES

Venue – Away: Cams Alders Sports Centre

Date: Saturday, 22nd December 1979

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr R I C Thomas (Southampton)

No opposition team available

Result: DRAW 1-1 (half-time 0-0)

Scorer – Rawlins 53'.

Scorer – Opponent: Unknown 84'.

No	**SWAYTHLING LINE-UP**	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Chris Scott		
03	Graham Meyer		
04	Steve Hills		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Peter Flood		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Terry Rawlins		1
10	Ian Knight		
11	Simon Fry		
	[There was no substitute]		

Notes:

With both Kazi Podsadowski and Roy King on the injured list, Swaythling called upon stalwart defender Graham Meyer in the number 3 shirt whilst Keith Cooper returned to the side in defence, replacing Dave Hadfield after the midweek win at West End. Another change was Simon Fry operated on the left as Phil Birks was away in Ireland. There was no substitute named because there weren't enough players available! Swaythling had visited this ground earlier in the season (Mt. 15).

Fareham too had selection problems and they had two of their usual keepers either injured or ill. They called on veteran Mick Richards, who'd made his club debut in 1966, and had appeared for their first team on almost 300 occasions and had hardly played at this level at all since 1973.

Richards took a while to adjust to playing, being a bit slow to respond to a Meyer cross and later took a short goal-kick which went behind his teammate forcing him to charge out of his goal and kick it again as Fry ran to challenge, thus conceding a free kick (and one you don't see occur very often). It must be said that he brushed off those early cobwebs and fared much better from there.

Swaythling dictated the play but the teams went in at half-time without a goal. The visitors soon took the lead in the second half when, following good work by Fry, **Terry Rawlins** struck a 25-yard shot that went high into the Town net. Two further efforts went across the Town goal without a finishing touch whilst, at the other end, Malcolm Harris was called upon to make a save for the first time with an hour played. Fareham got more forward as the game progressed and they netted a late scrambled goal. Rawlins collected a late booking. Full-time: 1-1.

Retrospective Comments: Short goal-kicks were often taken back then but the ball had to clear the penalty box; if it didn't then the goal kick was taken again. Once clearing the penalty box, the ball could then be played back to the goalkeeper by a defender. It could then be picked up and cleared by the keeper by dropping it out of the hands, therefore gaining longer distance than a goal kick.

Match 25: (League 17; Cup 8)

Versus ROMSEY TOWN

Venue – Away: By-Pass Ground

Date: Saturday, 29th December 1979

Kick-off Time: 2.15pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr R J Parsons (Aldershot)

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 1-2 (half-time 1-2)

Scorer – Deane 27'.

Scorer – Opponent: Kelly 12'; Tell(?) 23'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Chris Scott		
03	Graham Meyer		
04	Steve Hills		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Peter Flood		
08	Ray Deane		1
09	Terry Rawlins		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Simon Fry		
12	Simon Fargin	dnp	

Notes:

A defeat for Swaythling, meaning it's now seven League matches without a victory (just one having been drawn) as the seventies come to an end on a gloomy note. It was however, another match that could have gone either way. The team was the same as last time out. Romsey included ex-Ten Acres man Kevin Kelly in their ranks, who was with the club through most of the previous season.

It was **Kelly** who put Romsey into an early lead. He got behind the Swaythling back line and, as Malcolm Harris rushed out, he had sufficient time to chip the ball over the keeper and into goal. Kelly was behind Town's second goal, again getting beyond the back four, but this time went wider and swept past Harris before crossing where **Tell** dived to head home. It was the first time I'd seen Swaythling concede two goals by half-time for approximately fifty matches (this being my 53rd and more 'patchy' notes from the mid-seventies means it can't be confirmed but it could be my first time ever!). Immediately Steve Hills and Chris Scott changed positions, with the former moving to full-back. Swaythling forced their way back into the game when, following a corner, Terry Rawlins challenged the keeper and the ball fell to **Ray Deane** who fired a firm shot through a crowded goalmouth and into goal. Following that, Deane forced a good full stretch save from Town keeper Gary Collins. The hosts forced four corners late in the half, but the score remained 2-1 in their favour.

Romsey defended strongly in the second half as Swaythling pressed to equalise and it was looking like another of those 'old story' games. Kelly, getting no change from Hills, swapped flanks and didn't get much more luck against Graham Meyer. As time progressed Peter Flood and Simon Fry switched flanks but it proved to be too late to have an impact.

Retrospective Comments: An 'old story' game meant one that Swaythling had most of the possession but didn't convert chances into goals and were defeated. The Romsey scorer was shown as 'Tell' but it might have been Pell … possibly Andy Pell. Forward to the 'eighties'!!!

Match 26: (League 18; Cup 8)

Versus BOURNEMOUTH

Venue – Home: Ten Acres (visit #046)

Date: Saturday, 5th January 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Unknown

No opposition team available

Result: DRAW 2-2 (half-time L1-2)

Scorer – Scott 35'; Rawlins 61'.

Scorer – Opponent: Logan 10'; Clarke 42'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Steve Hills		
03	Ian Knight		
04	Chris Scott		1
05	Ken Brady ©		
06	Terry Rawlins		1
07	Peter Flood		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Jim Pringle		
10	Danny Miller		
11	Simon Fry		
12	Roy King	dnp	

Notes:

A reshuffled Swaythling side drew their first game of 1980 against the Poppies. Ian Knight and Terry Rawlins moved to defensive positions whilst Danny Miller and Jim Pringle came into midfield. Steve Hills and Chris Scott continued as they'd finished at Romsey, at right-back and in midfield respectively. Centre-half Ken Brady became the team's seventh captain of the season.

This was the first time that the Swaythling first team had faced Bournemouth since 1973/74 (a Hampshire Senior Cup tie) and the first league meeting since October 1972. The Poppies had been promoted from Division 2 in the summer (when they had met the Swaythling Reserve team).

Bournemouth drew first blood with a 10th minute header following a free kick which was well placed by **Logan**. Swaythling had a good spell but Ray Deane was their only central attacking player. The equaliser came in the 35th minute when good work by Simon Fry on the right was followed up with a shot across the goal where **Scott** had only to apply a touch to get it over the line. With half-time looming, following a corner, **Clarke** restored the visitors lead with a close in touch despite the presence of several defensive bodies. Half-time: 1-2.

Swaythling again got forward in the second half and they showed more urgency in their attacks. Peter Flood was getting round his marker regularly and Fry on the left was using the ball well. Pringle hit the bar with a cracking shot. Into the 61st minute and a corner was headed home by **Rawlins** who got up well and placed it in off the bar. Deane had a couple of opportunities and at the other end the Poppies best effort came when a looping cross was pushed against the crossbar by Malcolm Harris. Full-time: 2-2.

Miller played well in midfield whilst Rawlins and Brady were a dominant duo in the centre of defence, the latter again winning everything in the air. Unfortunately, Deane was lacking support up top. Bournemouth deserved their point overall.

Match 27: (League 19; Cup 8)

Versus NETLEY CENTRAL SPORTS

Venue - Away: Recreation Ground, Station Road

Date: Saturday, 19th January 1980

Kick-off Time: 2.15pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Unknown

No opposition team available

Result: WON 1-0 (half-time 0-0)

Scorer – Rawlins 89'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Ian Knight		
04	Steve Hills		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Terry Rawlins		1
07	Peter Flood		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Phil Birks		
10	Jim Pringle		
11	Simon Fry		
12	Chris Scott	dnp	

Notes:

This was Swaythling's first away League victory of the season and Netley's first home defeat too (the last Division 1 side to be unbeaten at home) and also Swaythling's first League win since 17th November; their ninth attempt since then. The first team had a day off a week ago but a very strong reserve team was fielded at promotion-chasing Havant Town (who'd defeated the first team in the Hampshire Senior Cup this season) and a 3-1 win in Division 2 ensued. Seven of the team on duty at Havant appeared in this game. Jim Pringle played in the back four as Phil Birks came in wearing an unfamiliar number nine shirt with Ray Deane again adopting the lone striker role.

Swaythling settled well early on with many of their attacks coming from Fry who was getting little change from Barry Joslin, the Netley right-back. When a cross eluded Malcolm Harris, Danny Miller headed the ball off the line, whilst Deane launched himself to a Peter Flood cross to connect with a header and was unlucky. Deane turned well to get past Netley defender Bobby French but his acute angled shot was palmed out by Netley goalkeeper Colin Rafferty. With Pringle and Ken Brady clearing effectively in defence the teams went into the half-time break scoreless which was perhaps a fair reflection. Half-time: 0-0.

It was a battle of midfields in the second half with Swaythling mainly dominating with Hills, Birks and Rawlins at the heart. However, the approach work didn't always reach the Netley penalty area. With the game seemingly drifting towards a goal-less conclusion it all happened in the final six minutes. As Flood's cross went into the box Netley's former Swaythling player Les Gatrell pushed it down with his arm and a penalty was given. Rafferty disagreed vehemently to the referee and Ian Knight took it but put his kick wide. It was very late when French obstructed Deane, a free kick was played short to **Rawlins** whose 20-yard shot went high into the right-hand corner. Full-time: 0-1.

There was another first today too – it was Swaythling's first league double of the season.

Retrospective Comments: Some great players and great characters on both teams. A win, at last!

Match 28: (League 20; Cup 8)

Versus GOSPORT BOROUGH RES

Venue – Home: Ten Acres (Visit #047)

Date: Saturday, 26th January 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Unknown

No opposition team available

Result: DRAW 0-0

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Ian Knight		
04	Jim Pringle		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Terry Rawlins		
07	Simon Fry		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Steve Broomfield		
10	Steve Hills		
11	Phil Birks	86	
12	Roy King	86	

Notes:

Team wise, Peter Flood was playing in the Hampshire Under-18 squad and in came Steve Broomfield, a tall striker, who'd been playing for Southampton Premier side West End. Gosport's first team had no fixture, but unlike when the teams met at Privett Park earlier in the season, it appeared to be their actual reserve team who were playing on this occasion.

Gosport did the early attacking but the Swaythling defensive line was efficient and kept them in check. The offside trap worked well on occasions too. The only real chance of the first half came Swaythling's way when the ball fell to Ray Deane but Gosport keeper Tony Milne lunged at his feet to prevent the shooting opportunity. It was a first half of midfield sparring, some good passing and neat approach work but defences dominated. Half-time: 0-0.

As they did early in the first half, Gosport applied pressure at the start of the second period, particularly on the right but their only worthwhile effort was a shot that ran comfortably through to Malcolm Harris in the Swaythling goal. Ken Brady was again dominant in the air, taking the 'first knock' in the Swaythling defence and worked well with Jim Pringle, who swept efficiently. Swaythling's closest opportunity came from a direct corner by Simon Fry but a Gosport defender did his job on the post and cleared it off the line at the expense of a further corner kick. There was a rare substitute appearance made as Roy King replaced Phil Birks who hobbled off in the closing minutes. Full-time: 0-0.

Overall, it was an unimpressive goal-less draw and the first time I had seen Swaythling involved in a 0-0 stalemate, this being my 52nd match. *[I think a 52-match run without a goal-less draw must have been an 'Eastleigh FC record' for me as there were many more to come through the years!]*

Match 29: (League 21; Cup 8)

Versus ROMSEY TOWN

Venue – Home: Ten Acres (Visit #048)

Date: Saturday, 2nd February 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Unknown

No opposition team available

Result: DRAW 1-1 (half-time 0-1)

Scorer – Rawlins 77'.

Scorer – Opponent: Wassell 31'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Ian Knight		
04	Jim Pringle		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Terry Rawlins		1
07	Peter Flood		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Steve Broomfield		
10	Steve Hills		
11	Simon Fry	54	
12	Phil Birks	54	

Notes:

Swaythling made one change since the last game, Peter Flood who was on county youth duty last week, returned to the starting XI and Phil Birks moved to substitute. This game was played in very wet conditions, there was almost a puddle in the middle of the pitch!

Swaythling started the game well with Ray Deane forcing Gary Collins in the Romsey goal to a good save. Defending was difficult on the surface, but Romsey defended in numbers as Danny Miller, Ian Knight and Steve Hills linked well with the front men. When Romsey broke they looked dangerous and Malcolm Harris made a fine save to deny a Wells shot from point blank range. Despite Swaythling's good work it was Romsey who went in front when a Jim Pringle slip let in **Wassell** who was left with a straight-forward task of a tap in. The half finished with Swaythling on the ascendancy, but it was Romsey who went into the break a goal ahead. Half-time: 0-1, rain and hail having fallen in two separate showers.

The home side made a change early in the second half, Birks being introduced for Fry. Flood was doing well on the right. Swaythling had a great chance to level when Steve Broomfield was fouled in the penalty area but Miller's spot-kick was saved by Collins moving to his left to preserve Romsey's lead. In the 77th minute and during another rain shower, it was **Terry Rawlins** who levelled following a corner, it was deflected to him and proved to be a scrappy effort. When Malcolm Harris dropped a difficult ball Ian Knight defended well. Pringle atoned for his error from earlier in the match with a 'goal saving' perfectly timed tackle to rob a forward who looked like he was going to put Romsey back in front. Full-time: 1-1.

Swaythling had most of the pressure but had to settle for a point.

Retrospective Comments: The pitch description suggests a postponement in the current day!

Match 30: (League 22; Cup 8)

Versus NEWPORT (I.W.)

Venue – Home: Ten Acres (Visit #049)

Date: Wednesday, 13th February 1980

Kick-off Time: 7.30pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr M D Knight (Gosport)

No opposition team available

Result: WON 2-1 (half-time 1-1)

Scorer – Deane 8'; Rawlins 58'.

Scorer – Opponent: Austin 17'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Ian Knight		
04	Jim Pringle		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Terry Rawlins		1
07	Peter Flood		
08	Ray Deane		1
09	Steve Broomfield		
10	Steve Hills		
11	Phil Birks		
12	Simon Fry	dnp	

Notes:

Eleven days had elapsed since Swaythling's last game. A friendly with AFC Bournemouth and a Saturday fixture with Cadbury Heath in the South West Counties Pratten Cup had been postponed due to an unfit pitch (not helped by the last game having given the pitch a fair amount of wear). Just one change to the team as Phil Birks came back in the starting XI with Simon Fry on the bench. The signs were not good as Swaythling had a no better than average home record whilst championship-chasing Newport checked in having dropped only one league point on their travels and had won eight successive games.

Swaythling began well, Ian Knight played a piercing pass through which **Ray Deane** ran on skilfully, played it wide of the advancing Newport keeper 'Willie' Watson before shooting home. Newport's **Jeff Austin** soon levelled things, a 20-yard effort into the corner of the net. Swaythling were pushed into defending, even though there was a ten minute spell when Newport's Buckley was off the pitch receiving treatment following a collision. Ken Brady was having a great battle with Newport striker Bob Musselwhite, as was Terry Rawlins with Dale Young in midfield. Malcolm Harris was out well to save from Lennie Phillips to block with his leg and concede a corner near to the break. Half-time: 1-1.

Musselwhite had moved to the left in the second half as sub 'Bunny' Warwick, who'd substituted for Buckley, was in the middle. Musselwhite surprisingly turned up on the right and hit the bar with a shot, Jim Pringle completing the clearance. At the other end, Watson denied efforts from Steve Broomfield and Steve Hills. Swaythling took the lead when a Birks corner was chested down by **Rawlins** and he fired home. The home side was up against it then and Harris made a blinding save to get down low, seemingly diving behind him, to deny a Phillips header. A fine win. Full-time: 2-1.

Retrospective Comments: Once again, Swaythling on their day, could beat the best in the Hampshire League, such as Newport, but unlike 'Port' they were not as capable of beating the 'rest'! This is emphasised by the fact that this is one of only 2 Newport league defeats in the whole season.

Match 31: (League 23; Cup 8)

Versus SOUTHAMPTON 'A'

Venue – Away: BTC Ground, Stoneham Lane

Date: Saturday, 16th February 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: unknown

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 1-3 (half-time 1-2)

Scorer – Deane 14' (pen)

Scorer – Opponent: Juryeff 7', 68'; Foyle 20'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Jim Pringle		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Terry Rawlins		
07	Peter Flood		
08	Ray Deane		1
09	Kevin Dinan		
10	Steve Hills		
11	Phil Birks		
12	Toby Mans	dnp	

Notes:

Ian Knight and Steve Broomfield were missing due to knocks received in the midweek game and they were replaced by Kazi Podsadowski and debutant Kevin Dinan (from Sholing Sports). Swaythling were apparently playing against seven schoolboy players.

The hosts, who played just down the road in the same lane took an early lead when their striker **Ian Juryeff** beat two defenders and his shot was well placed beating the diving Malcolm Harris. Swaythling hit back when Peter Flood was fouled by Steve Richardson in the box and, following a little debate, it was **Ray Deane** who took the penalty, and he sent Saints 'A's keeper Alistair Sperring the wrong way to level the scores. Swaythling soon paid for some defensive indecision as **Martin Foyle** put the Saints back in front with twenty minutes played. Half-time: 2-1.

Into the second half and Juryeff had a chance to net his second goal but Harris came out of his box, dived and handled the ball to concede a free kick. Shortly after, the Saints did add a third goal. It was midway through the half and it was a good move that started with their own goalkeeper and was finished once again by **Juryeff**. A short free kick was played to Steve Baker but his shot hit the Swaythling bar. Full-time: 3-1.

It was a disappointing afternoon for Swaythling and their first defeat in 1980. It was their sixth game since the turn of the calendar year.

Retrospective Comments: Southampton's third team were one of those 'box of chocolates' sort of teams. They often brought a bit of pizzaz to the Hampshire League (when fielding experienced players) and, on other occasions, they put out young teams that would get a good beating. Harris' handball would probably have resulted in a sending off under the latter day laws and also noted was a couple of fouls by Saints' Richardson that might have resulted in two bookings and a dismissal.

Match 32: (League 24; Cup 8)

Versus SHOLING SPORTS

Venue – Away: Birch Lawn, North East Road

Date: Saturday, 23rd February 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr J L Gorton

Both teams are shown.

Result: LOST 1-4 (half-time 0-0)

Scorer – Deane 89'.

Scorer – Opponent: O'Shea 48'; Randall 56' (pen), 84; Smith 72.

SHOLING SPORTS	No	SWAYTHLING
Malcolm Hunt	01	Malcolm Harris
Les Butterworth	02	Kazi Podsadowski
Phil Hunt	03	Ian Knight
Terry Morton	04	Roy King
Kevin Roberts	05	Ken Brady
Dave Hillman	06	Terry Rawlins (sub 82)
Alan Weatherley	07	Phil Birks
David Poole	08	Ray Deane **[1]**
Brian Smith **[1]** (sub 81)	09	Steve Broomfield
Kevin Randall **[2]**	10	Steve Hills
Laurie O'Shea [**1]**	11	Simon Fry
Martin Dowding (81)	12	David Harris (82)

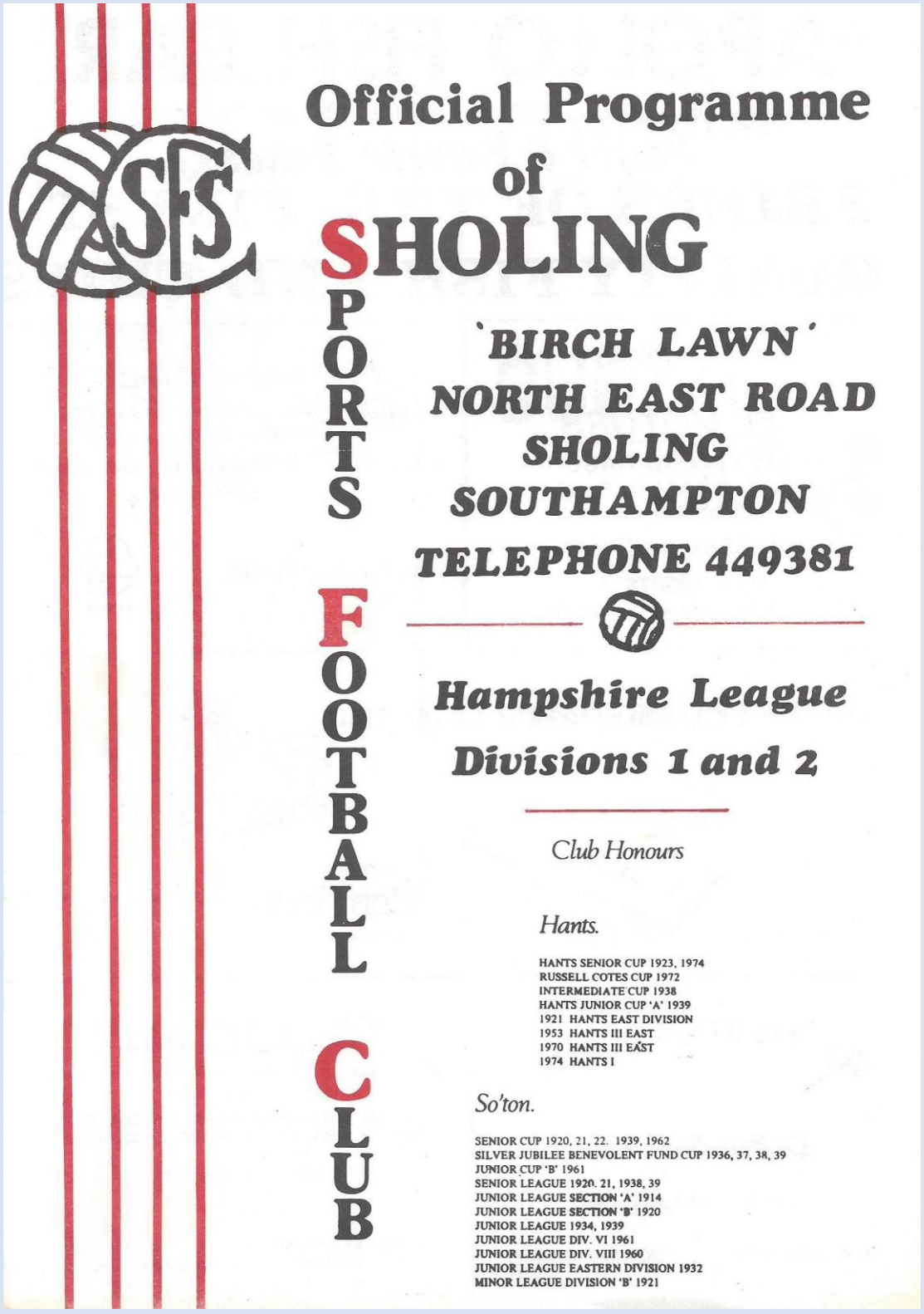
Notes:

The Swaythling side was much changed following the defeat last time out with Danny Miller and Kevin Dinan both out with knocks and Peter Flood was once again on Hampshire under-18 duty. In came Ian Knight (Kazi moving to right-back) and Steve Broomfield, who were both back following injury whilst Simon Fry came in for Flood.

This proved to be a disappointing result for Swaythling. Sholing included striker Brian Smith, who'd started the season at Swaythling and had, in the previous week, returned to the Sports for the first time for five years and capped it with the only goal. He went in heavily on Phil Birks, who received a gashed thigh. The Swaythling man responded with a foul on the Sholing striker shortly after and collected a yellow card. Terry Rawlins also collected a first half booking, this one being harsh as the referee decided that his perfectly timed sliding tackle was unfair. Sholing gradually looked dangerous and a 30-yard Smith drive was brilliantly saved at full length by Malcolm Harris. The Swaythling keeper then did very well to tip a Terry Morton header from Dave Poole's cross over the bar. Half-time: 0-0.

Sholing soon went ahead early in the second half when a long ball forward found **Laurie O'Shea** whose shot went high into the left-hand corner. Harris then brought down a Sholing player in the box and **Kevin Randall** scored from the penalty spot. Steve Hills was pushed in the Sholing box but stayed on his feet and ran on but shot weakly. Sholing added a third goal when a cross from the left went into **Smith**'s direction and he sent a diving far post header into the net. Rawlins came off with an injury and the score was soon 4-0 when **Randall** netted with a superb overhead kick that went beyond Harris' reach. **Ray Deane** netted a late consolation with a shot that Sholing defender Phil Hunt tried to keep out but could only force it into the roof of the net. Full-time: 4-1.

Retrospective Comments: Not a good afternoon! Nice to have the opponents' team listed.



Official Programme of SHOLING

SPORTS FOOTBALL CLUB

'BIRCH LAWN'
NORTH EAST ROAD
SHOLING
SOUTHAMPTON
TELEPHONE 449381

Hampshire League
Divisions 1 and 2

Club Honours

Hants.

HANTS SENIOR CUP 1923, 1974
RUSSELL COTES CUP 1972
INTERMEDIATE CUP 1938
HANTS JUNIOR CUP 'A' 1939
1921 HANTS EAST DIVISION
1953 HANTS III EAST
1970 HANTS III EAST
1974 HANTS I

So'ton.

SENIOR CUP 1920, 21, 22. 1939, 1962
SILVER JUBILEE BENEVOLENT FUND CUP 1936, 37, 38, 39
JUNIOR CUP 'B' 1961
SENIOR LEAGUE 1920. 21, 1938, 39
JUNIOR LEAGUE SECTION 'A' 1914
JUNIOR LEAGUE SECTION 'B' 1920
JUNIOR LEAGUE 1934, 1939
JUNIOR LEAGUE DIV. VI 1961
JUNIOR LEAGUE DIV. VIII 1960
JUNIOR LEAGUE EASTERN DIVISION 1932
MINOR LEAGUE DIVISION 'B' 1921

Sholing Sports issued programmes regularly for both first and reserve team matches. Their programme had a touch of uniqueness as the two-page portrait orientation narrative often included a rather cryptic comment at the end which was usually directed at a club member that only 'Sholing insiders' would understand!

Match 33: (League 25; Cup 8)

Versus SOUTHAMPTON 'A'

Venue – Home: Ten Acres (Visit #051)

Date: Saturday, 1st March 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: unknown

Both teams are shown.

Result: WON 2-0 (half-time 2-0)

Scorers – Pringle 37'; Deane 39'.

SWAYTHLING	No	**SOUTHAMPTON 'A'**
Malcolm Harris	01	Alistair Sperring
Kazi Podsadowski	02	Tim Cole
Ian Knight	03	Russell Burtenshaw
Roy King	04	David Madden
Ken Brady	05	Peter Vacher
Steve Hills	06	Ian Juryeff
Peter Flood	07	George Lawrence
Ray Deane **[1]**	08	*unknown*
Chris Glover	09	Steve Moran
Jim Pringle **[1]**	10	Joe Blochel
Simon Fry	11	David Poole
Danny Miller (dnp)	12	*U/k (for Madden)*

Notes:

This was a quick return fixture following Southampton 'A's 3-1 win two weeks before. More changes were made as Terry Rawlins, Steve Broomfield and Phil Birks were all out with injury and were rested as the team had a match on the following day. Chris Glover, who'd scored two goals in four reserve team games, came in for his first match in the team for a year, having recovered from a broken leg. The Saints team included Steve Moran, who'd burst onto the Division 1 scene with a goal from the substitute's bench against Manchester City back in January. Ian Juryeff, who'd scored twice for the Saints in that previous game, was in their defence today.

Moran wasn't getting much change out of Swaythling defender Ken Brady whilst winger George Lawrence was tightly marked by Ian Knight. Malcolm Harris made a fine full length save to keep out a David Madden shot. Both Glover and Brady came close to scoring the opening goal but this occurred when Fry's cross was not cleared and **Jim Pringle** controlled the ball and shot past Alistair Sperring to net his first goal of the season (at first team level). Two minutes later Knight crossed and **Ray Deane** got in a superb header before a defender which was combined with Sperring's fist to score from seven yards. Half-time: 2-0.

Play became scrappy in the second half with few chances. Knight almost added a third Swaythling goal with an excellent dribble into the Saints' box but his shot was blocked. Glover also put another opportunity over the bar. Full-time: 2-0.

It was a fully deserved win for Swaythling against a surprisingly poor opposition. Losing combative midfielder Madden with a first half injury didn't help the visitors cause.

Retrospective Comments: It was back to winning ways after two very disappointing away defeats. The team wore their yellow and green change strip in this game as they had a game on the next day. In just over ten years' time David Madden would be appearing for Crystal Palace in the FA Cup final.

Match 34: (League 25; Cup 9)

Versus CADBURY HEATH

Venue – Home: Ten Acres (Visit #052)

Date: Sunday, 2nd March 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: South West Counties Pratten Cup – Third Round

Referee: unknown

No opposition team available

Result: WON 5-1 {half-time 1-2)

Scorers – Deane 54', 86 (pen); Birks 66; Hills 77'; Own Goal 82'.

Scorer – Opponent: Rutter 17'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Jim Pringle		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Steve Hills		1
07	Peter Flood		
08	Ray Deane		2
09	Simon Fry		
10	Terry Rawlins		
11	Phil Birks		1
12	Chris Wheeler	dnp	+OG

Notes:

This was a sensational result as Swaythling recovered from a goal down against the County of Avon Premier League side at half-time to go on and fire a five goal second half victory salvo.

Ian Knight was absent as he had commitments with his regular Sunday team (captain of Moorgreen F.C.). In came Danny Miller as Kazi Podsadowski crossed to his more conventional left-back berth.

Swaythling could have scored very early, Ray Deane's shot hitting a post but despite early pressure it was the Bristol side who took the lead when a break resulted in **Rutter** running through, took the ball past Malcolm Harris and scored. Swaythling forced many corners as Simon Fry, in an unaccustomed centre-forward role, was looking dangerous whilst Kazi and Phil Birks combined well down the left side. As the home pressure continued, Peter Flood tried to place his shot but put it wide whilst Deane went in with the Cadbury keeper and latched onto the loose ball at the dead ball line but his shot was cleared on the post. Cadbury kept their lead into the break. Half-time: 0-1.

Swaythling were soon level, a Terry Rawlins header being cleared off the line and scrambled clear for a corner. Birks took it and found the head of **Deane** and despite an effort to clear the ball the referee adjudged it was over the line. There was no stopping them now! Fry challenged the keeper and the ball fell loose to **Birks** who crashed it high into the net from 12-yards out. At the other end Harris made an excellent diving save to keep out an equalising goal. Then came the goal of the match! Birks crossed and Deane knocked it on to **Steve Hills** who crashed a first time 20-yard drive high into goal. There were two late goals, as Deane got to the dead ball line again and his cross was diverted into his **own goal** by a visitor and **Deane** was hacked over by a defender and his firmly struck penalty could only be helped in by the keeper. Full-time: 5-1.

Who's next in this cup? Only a trip to the 1979 F.A. Vase finalists Almondsbury Greenway!!

Swaythling Association Football Club

FOUNDED MAY 1946

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

TEN ACRES, STONEHAM LANE, NORTH STONEHAM, EASTLEIGH

TEL: EASTLEIGH 613361

Here it is!! This was the one and only programme issued by Swaythling F.C. in the season. Why? Well, ridiculous as it might seem now, back in those long lost days it wasn't possible to charge admission if you are hosting a game on a Sunday. The only way to 'get round' this problem was to charge for a programme. Although it looks to be a decent cover, it was a regular one from those days (on the odd occasion a programme was issued), suggesting the club might have had a load of these covers stashed away in a drawer somewhere!!

Match 35: (League 25; Cup 10)

Versus SHOLING SPORTS

Venue – Away: Birch Lawn, North East Road

Date: Saturday, 8th March 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Russell-Cotes Cup – Second Round

Referee: Mr J Gosby (Portsmouth)

Both teams are shown.

Result: LOST 0-2 (half-time 0-2)

Scorer – Opponent: Hillman 32'; Smith 38'.

SHOLING SPORTS	No	SWAYTHLING
Malcolm Hunt	01	Malcolm Harris
Les Butterworth	02	Danny Miller
Phil Hunt	03	Ian Knight
Terry Morton	04	Jim Pringle
Kevin Roberts	05	Ken Brady
Dave Hillman **[1]**	06	Steve Hills (sub 75)
Alan Weatherley	07	Peter Flood
David Poole	08	Ray Deane
Brian Smith **[1]**	09	Chris Glover
Kevin Randall	10	Terry Rawlins
Laurie O'Shea	11	Phil Birks
Unknown (dnp)	12	Kevin Dinan (75)

Notes:

Changes were made for this game as Ian Knight and Chris Glover, who both played in the last Hampshire League game, returned to the team for this second round Russell-Cotes Cup tie. This was the first of four successive away games.

Sholing Sports, who'd defeated Swaythling 4-1 at this ground in a Hampshire League match just two weeks ago, had much the better of the first half having applied a lot of pressure. They eventually took the lead when a free kick was met perfectly by their defender **Dave Hillman** who was left space to head just inside the post. Not long after, good work by Dave Poole and Kevin Randall and the ball was played to **Brian Smith** who netted a fine individual goal, showing good control to sweep past three defenders within a small space and placed his shot well away from the diving Malcolm Harris. Sholing had further opportunities but both Smith and Poole didn't put them away. A difficult half for Swaythling ended 2-0 in Sholing Sports' favour.

The visitors got their game more together in the second half as Sholing had a bit more of a battle on their hands. Steve Hills, who'd scored a real cracker of a goal last time out, had brought his shooting boots along today and his long range effort was top corner bound but Sholing keeper Malcolm Hunt made a blinding save to keep it out. Hills was on the receiving end of a heavy challenge by Kevin Roberts (who did play the ball) and the game was held up for five minutes for the Swaythling midfielder to receive treatment. He was eventually replaced by Kevin Dinan, who went into a defensive role as Jim Pringle moved into midfield. Smith struck the underside of the visitors bar and, following a scramble on the line, Dinan got it away. Full-time: 2-0. Sholing now visit Brockenhurst.

Retrospective Comments: Another disappointment at Birch Lawn. The Sholing goal scorers later played for Eastleigh, Smith having already done so earlier in this season and would do so again. Swaythling's final remaining hopes of silverware now point to the South West Counties Pratten Cup.

Match 36: (League 26; Cup 10)

Versus BOURNEMOUTH

Venue – Away: Victoria Park, Victoria Road

Date: Saturday, 15th March 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr K Smith (Winchester)

No opposition team available

Result: WON 2-1 (half-time 1-0)

Scorer – Deane 46', 66'.

Scorer – Opponent: Rutter 2'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Chris Scott		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Dale Ewen		
08	Ray Deane		2
09	Kevin Dinan		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Phil Birks		
12	*None*		

Notes:

There were many changes for this game. Terry Rawlins (suspended), Steve Hills (injured) and Jim Pringle (unwell) were non-starters and in came Kazi (at full-back as Ian Knight moved into midfield) whilst Kevin Dinan replaced Chris Glover (to ensure his eligibility for the Pratten Cup tie next week). Two players were included who hadn't featured for a while – Keith Cooper and Chris Scott – playing in the first team for the first time since December 29th and January 5th respectively. New signing Dale Ewen was also included in the team as it turned out to be a bare XI with no substitute option.

Some of the players arrived shortly before the kick-off which wasn't the best preparation, and the team began badly when Kazi was called to clear but decided to pass the ball back to Malcolm Harris, which let in **Rutter** to have a simple opportunity. It continued to be disorganised for a while but there was no further concession. The team gradually got their game together and there was some patient build up play with Dinan coming close with a deflected effort that was well saved by the Poppies keeper Lewis. By the end of the half, Swaythling were well in control of the play, but they went into the break still that early goal adrift. Half-time: 1-0 (Poppies).

Swaythling kicked off for the second half, it was played back to Scott who punted a long ball through the middle which skimmed off a home player's head and into the path of **Deane** who struck a low shot past the diving keeper's hand and into goal to net an equaliser within ten seconds of the restart. The Poppies tried to make progress but Swaythling were now resilient and there was hardly any way through their defence. The dangerous Deane headed Kazi's corner goalwards but it was cleared on the line. The same combination worked a little later as Kazi played the ball through and **Deane** got just in front of a defender, swept past the keeper (in trademark Deane style) and fired home to put the visitors in front. Deane could have been selfish and bagged his hat-trick, but he enabled Knight and Ewen opportunities that weren't taken. Full-time: 1-2 (Swaythling).

Retrospective Comments: This was the first time I'd got to know the players as I travelled down by car with Deane, Kazi and Scott, which was just as well as, although I had been here, I still wasn't too certain of the way to Victoria Park. Clearly some of the players weren't too sure either! A good day.

FOUNDED 1875

BOURNEMOUTH F.C.
'POPPIES'

HAMPSHIRE LEAGUE DIV.1

V

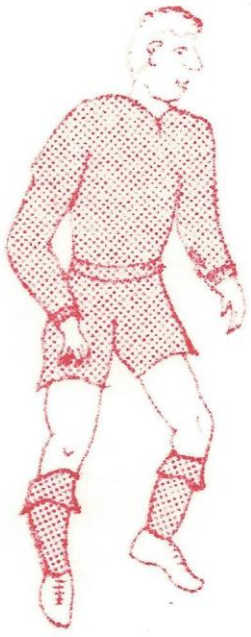
SWAYTHLING

SPONSORED BY

BRIGGS INSURANCE

SERVICES LTD

Parkstone 733666



Become a member and
enjoy the new bar facilities

ADMISSION BY PROGRAMME

ADULTS 25p

CHILDREN & O.A.P.S. 15p

The Bournemouth FC programme was quite a basic effort, but back in these days when programme issuing was far from commonplace in the Hampshire League, fair play to them for issuing. Swaythling didn't issue, with the exception of one Sunday match.

Match 37: (League 26; Cup 11)

Vs. ALMONDSBURY GREENWAY

Venue – Away: The Field, main Gloucester Road, Almondsbury, Avon (New ground: #055)

Date: Saturday, 22nd March 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: South West Counties Pratten Cup – Quarter Final

Referee: Mr A Pocock (Devizes)

No opposition team available

Result: LOST 0-1 (half-time 0-0)

Scorer – Opponent: Kerr 88' (pen)

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Danny Miller		
03	Kazi Podsadowski		
04	Chris Scott		
05	Ken Brady		
06	Keith Cooper		
07	Jim Pringle		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Kevin Dinan		
10	Ian Knight		
11	Phil Birks		
12	Simon Fry	dnp	

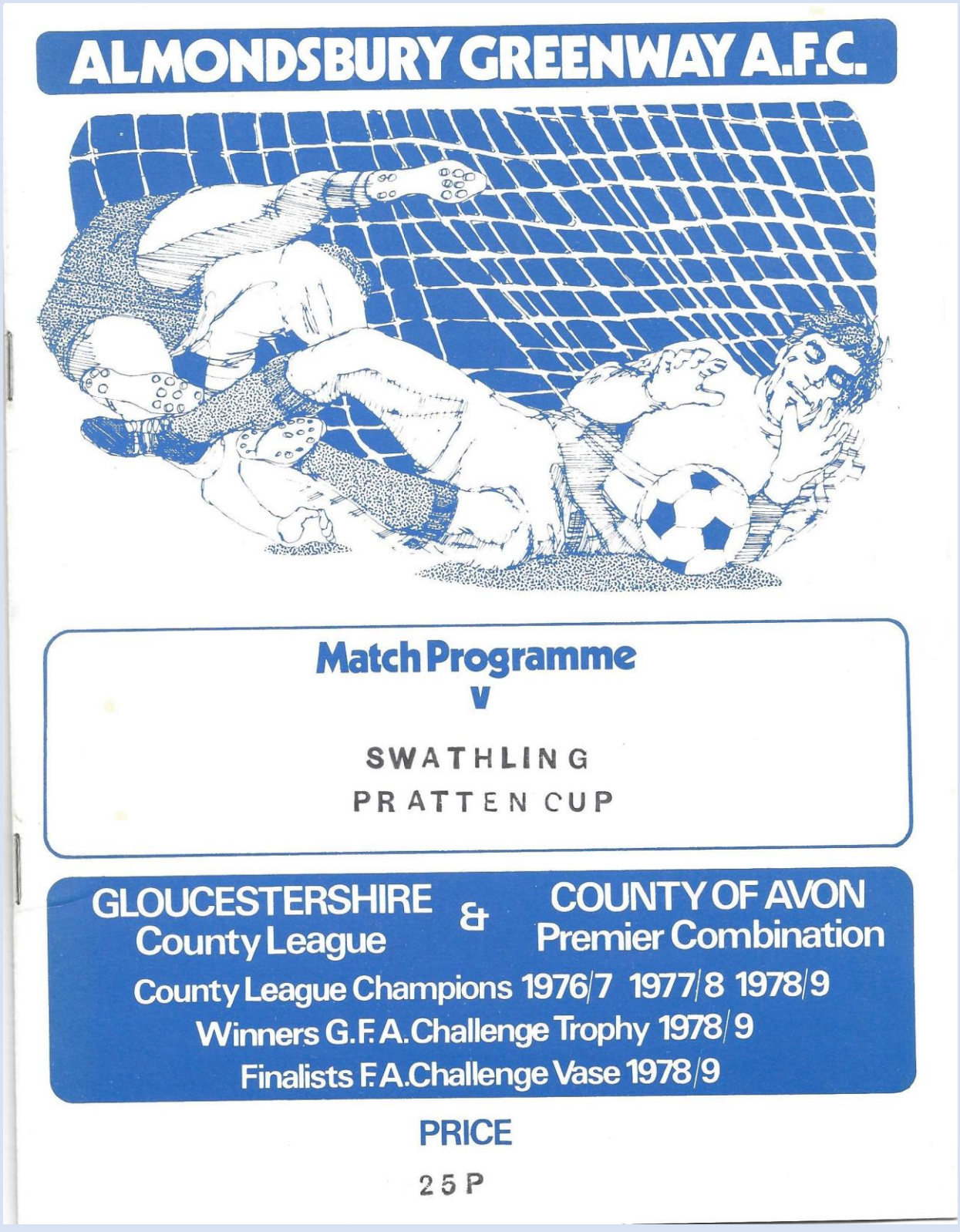
Notes:

Swaythling went to Almondsbury knowing that this was their last chance of collecting silverware this season. It was going to be a tough task as their opponents Almondsbury Greenway reached the coveted F.A. Vase final just a year ago. On the day this one was a tough defeat as Swaythling had what looked to be two perfectly good goals chalked off and were defeated by a late penalty kick.

The visitors clearly showed the home side some respect in the first half. As Cadbury Heath had told us the two wingers were the dangermen, but Danny Miller and Kazi Podsadowski were keeping a tight hold on them both and, on occasions when the ball did come across, the central defenders had little trouble. At the other end Ray Deane and Kevin Dinan were chasing everything, with Deane and Jim Pringle having efforts that went wide. Goalkeeper Malcolm Harris had to push over one home effort but other than that, the team kept them well under control. Half-time: 0-0.

The second half was the opposite of the first as Swaythling got more possession and in a most incredible spell, could have taken a 3-0 lead. First Deane challenged the keeper, the ball ran loose and there was no whistle, Deane scooped it back from the dead ball line and Dinan had an easy task to 'score' but the ref then blew and gave a foul on the keeper. Deane then ran into the box and from an acute angle, his shot came down off the underside of the bar, came out and was hacked clear as Pringle was moving in to score. Swaythling were robbed when Deane netted a perfectly fine 'goal'. He cut across a completely outpaced home defender and belied an attempt to be stopped by pulling his shirt and shot home before the onrushing keeper and, after the ball had entered the net, the ref blew his whistle and, incredibly, gave the Almonds a free kick! There were three clear corners gained, given as goal kicks. Late on, a foul in the box was given and Almondsbury were given a penalty and **Kerr [pen]** scored his 20th goal of the season to win it. Full-time: 1-0 (AG). The game could be perfectly summarised at the end by a home fan: "They were all over us, we scored".

Retrospective Comments: This one still hurts all those years on! AG didn't win the competition.



The Almondsbury Greenway programme was a most impressive effort. Note they couldn't spell Swaythling correctly but the teams weren't exactly local rivals. That stated, they had played Swaythling in the same competition on this ground in the past. For the record, that match was a 2-3 Swaythling defeat after extra time in March 1975.

Match 38: (League 27; Cup 11)

Versus NEWPORT (IW)

Venue – Away: Church Litten

Date: Saturday, 29th March 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr. Lee (Southampton)

Result: LOST 1-2 (half-time 1-1)

Scorer – Brady 39'.

Scorers – Opponent: Own goal 1'; Austin 46'.

NEWPORT (IW)	No	SWAYTHLING
Michael Watson	01	Malcolm Harris
Paul Young	02	Danny Miller
Steve Watts	03	Kazi Podsadowski
Mick Gee	04	Chris Scott
Tony Cleveland	05	Ken Brady **[1]**
Pete Buckley	06	Keith Cooper
Malcolm Wilkes	07	Phil Birks
Dale Young	08	Ray Deane
Bob Musselwhite	09	Kevin Dinan
Lennie Phillips	10	Jim Pringle
Jeff Austin **[1]**	11	Ian Knight
H Gates (dnp) **[+OG]**	12	Simon Fry (dnp)

Notes:

The biggest news came in midweek when Swaythling FC publicly announced they were to be changing their name to Eastleigh FC with effect from next season. They took on the 1979 (and almost 1980) Hampshire League Division 1 champions Newport, a team they have beaten on their last four meetings.

Swaythling got off to a terrible start, conceding a goal in 48 seconds and a poor one too as Malcolm Wilkes was allowed to dribble into the box and Phil Birks, in trying to clear, mishit the ball and it squirmed into his **own goal**. This delighted the home crowd, the goal being scored at the main stand end of the ground. Swaythling fought back with some patient build up play with Ian Knight coming close, just clearing the angle from the edge of the box. Swaythling levelled close to half time when Birks crossed from the left and **Ken Brady**, up from defence, powered a header into the net from ten yards via a defender on the line (with that wily poacher Ray Deane's attempt to get the final touch just evading him!). It was the Swaythling defender's first goal for two years. Half-time: 1-1.

Newport were back in front within a minute of the start of the second half when **Jeff Austin** netted a scrappy effort which had bobbled about around the Swaythling box before the finish. It was a struggle for the visitors from there with both defences being well drilled and the offside flag was frequently seen. Newport looked the more dangerous of the teams with Swaythling's closest effort being a Kevin Dinan shot which Newport keeper 'Willie' Watson saved well. Full-time: 2-1 (Newport).

Newport had entertained Burnley in their previous game at Church Litten (a friendly game which they won by 2-0), a match they had on video tape. Newport now need six points from their final four games to be certain of taking the Division 1 title *(remembering only two for a win back then)*.

Retrospective Comments: Newport did win the title, they were easily head and shoulders the best team in it, as the final table reflects of course. Swaythling always gave them a competitive game.

Newport (I.W.) Football Club

FOUNDED 1888

Affiliated to the Hants. F.A. and I.W.F.A.

Members of Hampshire League
Associate Member English F.A.



OFFICIAL PROGRAMME—5p

President: **Mr. H. Bunday**

Assistant Chairman: **T. Hunt** *Manager:* **Mr. D. Edwards**

Hon. Treasurer: **Mr. D. Hadfield** *Hon. General Secretary:* **Mr. R. W. Curling**

The Newport programme had a typical front cover from this era.

Match 39: (League 28; Cup 11)

Versus BRADING TOWN

Venue – Away: Vicarage Lane, Brading, Isle of Wight. (New Ground: #057)

Date: Saturday, 5th April 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm The match started late (3.06) due to the late arrival of the visitors.

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Mr. A. King

Result: LOST 0-1 (half-time 0-1)

Scorer – Opponent: Dave Brown 44'.

BRADING TOWN	No	**SWAYTHLING**
Phil Moore	01	Malcolm Harris
Ian Hailes	02	Danny Miller
Alan Furber	03	Kazi Podsadowski
Derek Brown	04	Terry Rawlins
M Simmonds	05	Ken Brady
Chris Cheverton	06	Keith Cooper
J Southcott	07	Phil Birks
P Warren	08	Ray Deane
T Grimwade	09	Kevin Dinan
Dave Brown **[1]**	10	Jim Pringle
C Wheeler	11	Ian Knight
Wozencroft *(dnp)*	12	*None*

Notes:

This was a poorly prepared game from the Swaythling viewpoint. First, they had to break into the dressing room to get the kit and one player didn't arrive in time to catch the boat and the later boat was taken by the group. One player mistakenly thought he wasn't playing and opted to work instead, meaning the bare eleven players made the trip. The players changed on the coach and even then their arrival meant the game started a few minutes later than scheduled.

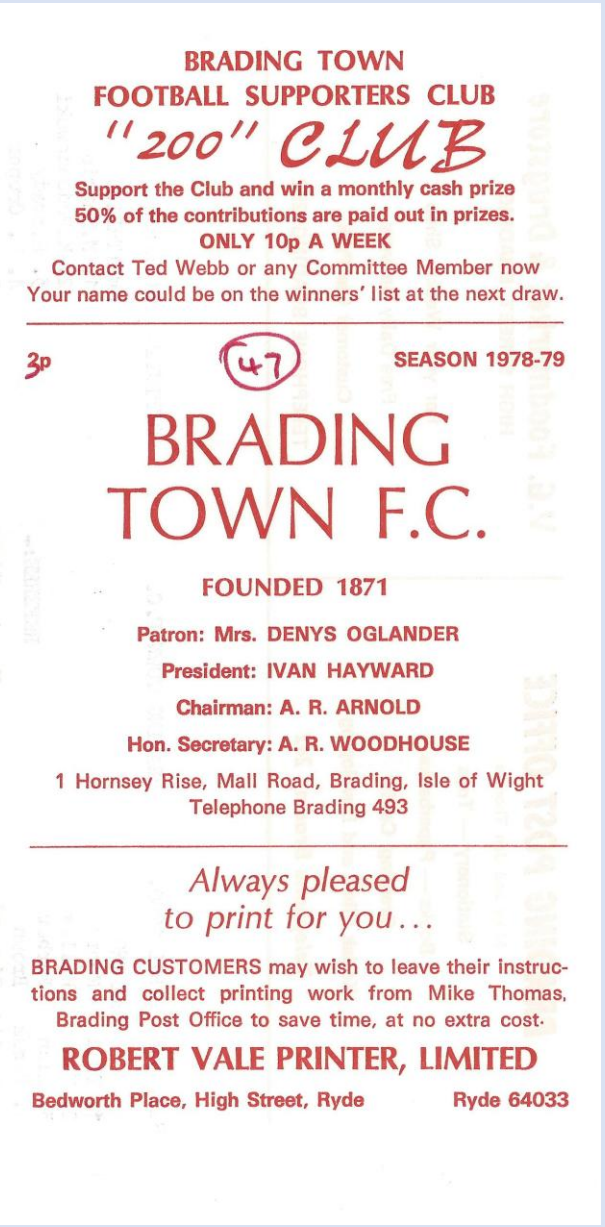
The team's second successive Saturday visiting the Isle of Wight resulted in a rather chalk and cheese type performance. They did so well at champions-elect Newport last week and struggled at Brading which, with their sloping pitch, is always a difficult place to go.

Terry Rawlins (the only change from the previous match) had an effort that deflected off a Brading defender's knee. The home side were looking dangerous on the break and they took the lead close to the interval. A poor defensive clearance fell to **Dave Brown** who appeared to toe-poke it goalwards and the ball crept inside the post. Half-time: 1-0.

Brading didn't have an effort on goal in the second half as Swaythling created the chances. The closest came when Ian Knight's effort was cleared off the line with the Brading keeper beaten. A Rawlins cross came off the crossbar. Ken Brady looked to add to his goal from the previous week but his well-controlled volley from distance went a yard wide. Swaythling had used Kevin Dinan's near post flicks from corners but they changed it with Phil Birks and Danny Miller reverting to short ones, but the goals just weren't coming. Full-time: 1-0.

This wasn't the best of days for the club. There were two matches remaining.





The end of this season suddenly became a plethora of programme issues for Swaythling games; there had been hardly any in the first few months of the campaign. I probably wasn't expecting to get one here.

The Brading Town F.C. programme was a 'fold' into three type effort, so each page was therefore smaller than A4 in size. Two of the pages are featured here. Does anyone recall the advert shown on the left-hand side? I did visit the Wax Museum on one of my trips for an Eastleigh game here and found it a most impressive attraction. It has, of course, long since closed but it was worth including. After all, there couldn't have been too many football programmes out there that advertised a local wax museum!

Match 40: (League 29; Cup 11)

Versus B.A.T.

Venue – Away: B.A.T. Sports Ground, Ringwood Road, Totton

Date: Saturday, 12th April 1980

Kick-off Time: 3pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Unknown

Result: WON 2-1 (half-time 1-1)

Scorer – Pringle 7'; Deane 90'.

Scorer – Opponent: Hadfield 12'.

B.A.T. (incomplete)	No	**SWAYTHLING**
Roger Smith	01	Malcolm Harris
Brian Payne	02	Danny Miller
Steve Flux	03	Ian Knight
Unknown	04	Roy King
Peter Hadfield **[1]**	05	Ken Brady
David Stamp	06	Keith Cooper
Unknown	07	Jim Pringle
Keith Darnton	08	Ray Deane
Ricky Fiebelkorn	09	Kevin Dinan
Paul Baxter	10	Chris Wheeler
Kevin Kelly	11	Phil Birks
Unknown (used)	12	Dave Hadfield (dnp)

Notes:

Swaythling were away again but this time it was the very much shorter trip than recent weeks, this time to Totton to play bottom side B.A.T. The Tobaccomen had beaten Swaythling heavily at the beginning of the season, which has remained their last away victory and they've recorded only two home wins since. In came Roy King and Chris Wheeler, the latter making his first appearance in the side as Kazi Podsadowski and Terry Rawlins made way. Dave Hadfield was the substitute.

Swaythling began the game well and took a seventh minute lead when Ray Deane back headed a cross, B.A.T. keeper 'Jacko' Smith could only parry it out and **Jim Pringle** crashed the ball high into the net to score his second goal of the season. B.A.T. stormed back when former Swaythling favourite Kevin Kelly's left-wing corner found **Pete Hadfield** (who is Dave's brother) to score. From there the first half honours were about even with Keith Cooper making an excellent tackle on Kelly as he had got into a good position. Half-time: 1-1.

The visitors controlled the second half but it looked as though they weren't going to score another goal as chances were wasted. Roy King had moved to a left sided position and he had a fine shot that was tipped over by Smith. Wheeler also had two opportunities, but both went just wide. Another former Ten Acres man Keith Darnton went off with a knock which affected the B.A.T. midfield. Just when it looked like a draw would be the outcome, a poor B.A.T. back pass resulted in **Kevin Dinan** steering the ball past Smith and it slowly found its way into the corner of the net. There were about nine seconds played after the restart and it was all over. Full-time: 1-2.

Swaythling's first win whilst wearing their new red change strip, which had been used since the trip to Almondsbury (when necessary). It had replaced the yellow and green second kit. It was very surprising that B.A.T. finished as low as they did as they had some very good players in their team. However, the league deciding to extend the divisional numbers at the end of the season (the first division adding four clubs to take numbers to twenty) saved them from relegation.

Match 41: (League 30; Cup 11)

Versus EAST COWES VICTORIA ATH.

Venue – Home: Ten Acres (Visit #056)

Date: Saturday, 26th April 1980

Kick-off Time: 2.30pm

Competition: Hampshire League – Division 1

Referee: Unknown

Result: LOST 1-2 (half-time 0-0)

Scorer – Glover 63'.

Scorer – Opponent: Own Goal 75'; unknown second goal scorer 89'.

No	SWAYTHLING LINE-UP	sub	gl
01	Malcolm Harris		
02	Keith Cooper		
03	Ian Knight	89	
04	Kevin Dinan		
05	Dave Hadfield		
06	Ken Brady		
07	Phil Birks		
08	Ray Deane		
09	Steve Broomfield		
10	Chris Glover		1
11	Peter Flood		
12	David Bunker	89	

Notes:

This was the historic last game ever for a team called Swaythling F.C. It was a match against East Cowes and there was nothing particularly riding on it as both clubs were in a mid-table position. Perhaps unsurprisingly, despite the significance of it, there was just a meagre attendance at Ten Acres. This was Swaythling's first home game since 2nd March and the team was much changed from the win at B.A.T. a week ago. Kevin Dinan, who'd scored a late winner in that game, reverted to centre-back, Keith Cooper moving to the right-back berth and in came Dave Hadfield into midfield with Steve Broomfield and Chris Glover back in the team up top.

Swaythling began the game reasonably well but Broomfield's close range header that went about a yard wide was all that they could show as anything close to the target. The Vics did get the ball in the Swaythling net as Malcolm Harris was lobbed but the 'scorer' was flagged offside. Half-time: 0-0.

The second half wasn't too impressive as both sides seemed to be playing out an insignificant match to complete their final fixture of the season. The game came to life in the 63rd minute when **Glover** netted his first goal for the first team this season (this being only his third game) when, with teammates calling for a pass, he opted to shoot from around 22 yards and his low effort beat Vics keeper Jack Ince and found his right-hand corner. The lead lasted just twelve minutes though when a calamitous mix-up between Dinan and his keeper resulted in an **own goal**. With this gift the Vics had a realistic chance of winning the game which overall was best forgotten. Ian Knight picked up an injury as the Vics winger got past him and the ball was crossed to the far post for their winning goal. Knight had to withdraw before the game restarted, giving Dave Bunker (also a left-back) his first team debut but it only lasted a minute before the final whistle was blown. Full-time: 1-2 and the Vics recorded a double over the team, having beaten Swaythling by the same score on their ground.

It was a rather disappointing final scene for Swaythling F.C. and for the writer who'd attended every game of a football club for an entire season for the very first time. Ten Acres is in the Borough of Eastleigh (just) and it was the end of a Southampton team and the start of one from Eastleigh. The end of Swaythling F.C. really deserved a much better send off, both on and off the field.