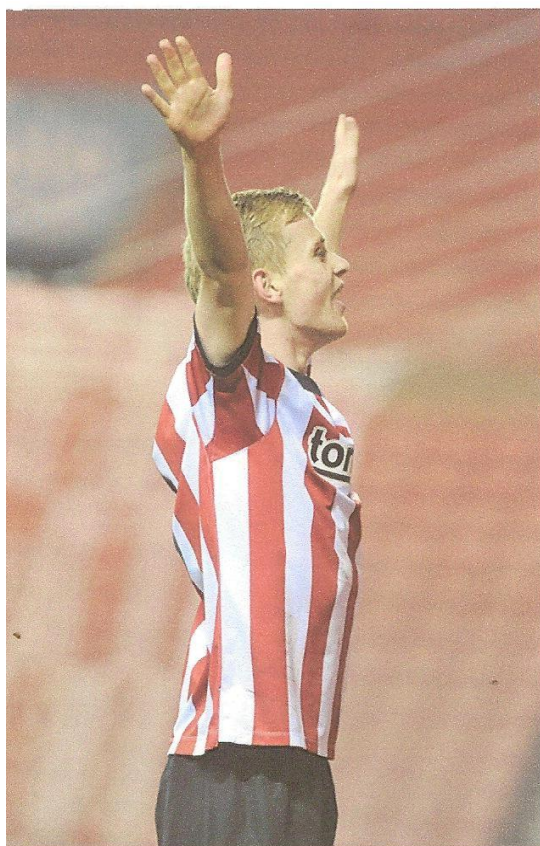


# REVIEW

“THE ‘A1’ SUPPORTERS”  
NORTH HERTS’ SUNDERLAND SUPPORTERS’ CLUB MAGAZINE  
[Motto: ‘Let’s push on’]



No. 227

[nineteenth year]

DEC 2011

## Review

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**ITEMS FOR  
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22<sup>nd</sup> DEC 2011  
PLEASE**

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## COVER PIC

### A NOBLE MAN!

RYAN NOBLE joined the list of SAFC players to score a hat-trick against the Mags in the Reserves recent win.

## ALWAYS REMEMBERED

DOUGLAS MELROSE  
04/10/20 - 21/06/99  
RAY CHAYTOR  
19/02/46 - 26/11/99  
FRED DUNN  
11/06/16 - 29/02/00  
DAVE TREWICK  
18/03/52 - 25/11/01  
ALAN JOBSON  
03/04/31 - 30/12/02  
RON SMITH  
02/10/23 - 29/03/05  
AUNT ELSIE  
13/03/13 - 28/01/07  
ROGER MAKIN  
04/06/32 - 22/12/09  
DENNIS TAYLOR  
25/11/24-  
EDDIE PERKINS  
17/04/41 - 04/09/11

# Reflections

by The Silver Fox

Not a lot of joy about at the moment as far as SAFC is concerned! Since last months 'Review' we have played four league games – three of them at home – and we have a two- point return! Not good....especially when you look at our opponents in those games.

As is quite common these days, we scored a very late goal to rescue a point at home to Aston Villa. I am sure that three points was a realistic target from this match, even allowing for the 'returning player' syndrome. As was to be expected Darren Bent was given a hard time by the fans, and fortunately he failed to score!

Johnny Cash once recorded a song entitled 'I was there when it happened'....and I WAS there way back in May 1968 when Sunderland last won at Old Trafford! So it was no real surprise that we came away from there pointless once again. We had our moments but were also fortunate for a tremendous double-save from our 'keeper.

Fulham & Wigan at home should have produced six points....not just one! I struggle to understand how we just cannot beat these sort of teams. We can dominate for most of the match and create umpteen good scoring opportunities but we are unable to inflict the killer punch....and so often fall to a late sucker-punch. Neither of these teams are particularly good – both struggle to score goals, and neither are that strong defensively....but neither, it would seem, are we! By all accounts both visiting keepers had exceptional games against us but that cannot be used as an excuse for our own failings – well, especially not week after week!

We sit just above the bottom three and have two more 'winnable' games coming up next (Wolves & Blackburn) – both, unfortunately for us, are on the telly! I say unfortunately in view of our track record in televised games! If we cannot get a worthwhile return out of those then we will look like turkeys & our goose may be well and truly cooked....even two weeks before Christmas!

On that note let me close this by wishing all you readers a very merry Christmas & a happy & prosperous New Year – if that is at all possible in the current economic climate.

Let's push on....Next year the World!  
Haway the Lads!



# Branch News

## ► REPORT OF MEETING – 03/11/11:

Meeting commenced at 8.40pm – 7 members present.

Apologies received from Bob Parkin

Chairman: Pending the election of a new Chairman, the Secretary welcomed those present.

Secretary: (Colin Dunn)

A summary of the AGM was contained in the latest issue of 'Review'.

Matters arising:

Branch banner: - An email has been sent to the BLC for more info on the plans to relocate banners, and for some idea of the time-scale involved. A reply is awaited.

Eddie's Shirt: This raffle is being organised by Colin Chandler in tandem with the London Branch.

Current issues:

Branch shirts: A new order is in the process of being submitted.

Chairman: We still need someone to take on this position.

Webmaster: Someone needed to take over from Bob Parkin....or else it may close!

Treasurer: (Colin Chandler)

Membership now stands at 133. Mini-bus fares will increase to £30 (adult) / £15 (child) as numbers travelling have dropped and costs have increased. Other details as in 'Review'.

Transport: (Ed Rayner)

We had a good non-trip (no transport was laid on but several members went) to Arsenal. There are NO Saturday matches for SAFC in December! Cheques for tickets for Wolves, Tottenham & QPR needed asap. Don't forget Arsenal Res v Sunderland Res at London Colney (NOT Barnet FC) on Wed 4<sup>th</sup> January KO 1.30pm.

A.O.B.:

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 'do': Leave to next meeting

Media '73: Email received advertising new retro magazine – Seventy3. A few copies available now.

Eddie's Shirt raffle: Draw may take place at London Branch Xmas 'do'....draw by Gary Bennett.

**Next meetings: Thursday 1st December 2011 & 5<sup>th</sup> January 2012 – to be held at The Rose & Crown, Baldock.**

**Meeting closed 9.15pm**

*Colin Dunn*

**► Treasurer's Report:**

Here are the branch membership and treasury matters since last month's report.

**Printing Costs – Review:**

These look to have gone up a little last month as Ryman have increased their copying charges. I will see how things go this month and if so, perhaps it's time to look elsewhere and see how other places compare.

**Eddie's signed SAFC Shirt:**

Cash and cheques are coming in for this raffle which is being held in conjunction with the London Branch. The winning ticket will be hopefully be drawn by Gary Bennett at his book signing/question and answer session on the eve of the match against Tottenham. All proceeds are going to the RSPB – Eddie's favourite charity.

**Branch Embroidered Shirts:**

These have now been collected and sent out to those who ordered them. Our order came to 23 shirts of various colours, styles and sizes and our latest embroiderer has done a nice job on them. He is happy to do small orders for us so if anyone would like some in the future, then please get in touch and we'll see what we can do. There was a surplus to branch funds thanks mainly to one of our overseas members who was very generous in adding more than enough to cover their extra postage. Thanks for that lovely gesture. I've added it to the "general donations" pot in the accounts.

**Minibus:**

As mentioned previously, fares to home matches have now sadly increased to £30 for an adult. Traveller numbers have fallen and coupled with higher fuel and hire costs, it meant we weren't able to make ends meet. Currently as I write, the Fulham trip at the new fares provided a surplus but overall the minibus fund is approx £50 in arrears since the start of our financial year. I expect this will reduce from now on as the new fares take effect and the aim as always is to break even by the next AGM.

**Finances:**

**Balance** at 20/10/11 - £3436.38.

**Income** – Last-scorer Sweep - £1.50 (Aston Villa) – *winner June Flint £10.*

3-scorer Sweep - £1.00 (Aston Villa) – *no winner.*

Last-scorer Sweep - £2.50 (Fulham) – *winner John Flint £10.*

3-scorer Sweep - £1.00 (Fulham) – *no winner. [Prize stands at £32.80]*

Minibus surplus – £20.80 – Fulham [ *First at increased fare*]

Donation – Embroidered shirts balance – £23.69 – *see above.*

**Expenditure** - Printing - £42.00 - November Review – *see above.*

Postage - £6.74 - November Review – *still using pre price-rise stock.*

Minibus subsidy - £24.33 - Aston Villa – [ *Last at old fares.*]

**Balance** at 22/11/11 - £3413.80

**Birthdays** (taken from those who ticked their acceptance on the membership slips) –

**December** – Heather Donougher (1<sup>st</sup>), Margaret Holland (4<sup>th</sup>), Gordon Dunn (9<sup>th</sup>), Rachel Sharp (10<sup>th</sup>), Campbell Macintyre (11<sup>th</sup>), Ray Holland (19<sup>th</sup>), Martin Cherry (23<sup>rd</sup>) and George Baxter & Chris Malone both on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

Many congratulations to you all.

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thanks for your support throughout the year.

*Colin Chandler.*

**► Bedford sub-branch:**

A few Bedford locals meet up on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at the Pheasant pub in Bedford....any time from about 8.30pm onwards. This is not a 'formal' meeting, but is more just a good excuse for a chat and a drink. Next meetings are Wednesday's 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011 & 11<sup>th</sup> January 2011.



**► Branch Banner / Flag at Sol:**

As you will know, I am awaiting a reply from the BLC concerning the reasons for re-locating banners & the time span from us submitting our design to erection at the Stadium. I asked for these points to be raised at the BLC meeting due to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> November so hopefully I may have news soon.

*Silver Fox*

**► Eddie's Shirt raffle:**

Following discussions with the London (& SE) Branch, it has been agreed to make the draw for this at the L&SE Branch Christmas Party to be held at The Shooting Star pub, 125-129 Middlesex St, London E1 7JF on 17<sup>th</sup> December. Tickets for the function cost £5 each and are on a limited availability direct from the London & SE Branch (details available on request). The draw will be made by former Sunderland player Gary Bennett. Whilst this may mean that some of our members may be unable to attend the draw, it was thought that as the raffle is a joint Branch venture it would be a good idea to take advantage of the evening on offer.

*Silver Fox*

# S.A.F.C. NEWS

## ► Transfer news :

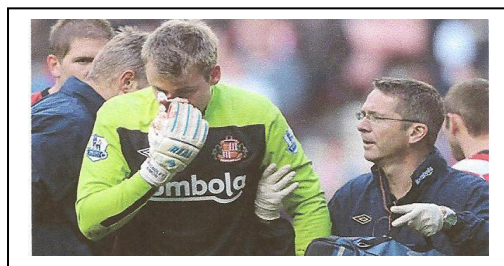
Two 'keepers on the move.....TREVOR CARSON has been re-called from his loan at Bury following the injury to SIMON MIGNOLET, and 19-year-old BEN WILSON has joined Conference North side Harrogate Town on a youth loan deal.

Sunderland are reported to be keeping a watch on £3m-rated, 24-year-old Spanish defender JORDI FIGUERAS. He is currently on a season-long loan with Rayo Vallecano from Russian side Rubin Kazan.....and are also interested in DANIJEL PRONJIC (Bayern Munich), LOIC REMY (Marseille) & NOLAN ROUX (Brest).

## ► Injuries:

CRAIG GORDON & FRAIZER CAMPBELL are both still on the road to recovery.

CONNOR WICKHAM is expected to be out of action until the New Year after suffering ligament damage to the back of a knee in the recent match at Old Trafford. SIMON MIGNOLET suffered a severe fracture of his nose and eye socket during the match v Aston Villa. He has had a successful operation.



## ► Internationals:

JOHN O'SHEA & KEIREN WESTWOOD were in the Republic of Ireland squad that secured a place in the Euro 2012 finals with a 2-leg play-off win over Estonia. JI DONG-WON featured as South Korea beat UAE but lost to Lebanon in their World Cup qualifying matches. PHIL BARDSLEY was in the Scotland side that beat Cyprus in a friendly match. NICKLAS BENDTNER scored in both games as Denmark beat Sweden 2-0 and Finland 2-1 (both were friendly games). AHMED ELMOHAMADY played the full 90-minutes as Egypt lost a friendly match to Brazil. SEB LARSSON was in the Sweden team which lost to Denmark & England. JORDAN PICKFORD played the first hour as England U18 drew 1-1 in Slovakia. England led 1-0 at the time of his departure.

## ► Squad No's, Cards & Goals: [to & inc 19/11/11]

	<u>Y</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>G</u>		<u>Y</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>G</u>
1				2	3	1	
3				4	1		
5	2			6	4		
7	6	3		8	1		1
9				10			1
11	1	1		12			
13				14	2		
15	1			16	1		
17			1	18			
19			1	20			
21				22			
23				24			
25				26			
27			1	28	1		2
40				52			2
OG			1				

PHIL BARDSLEY received a 4-game ban after the FA cited him retrospectively for an incident in the Chelsea game. He will be absent for the games v Stoke, Norwich, West Brom & Arsenal.

SEB LARSSON was banned for 1 match (v Fulham) after his booking at Old Trafford.

TOTAL HOME ATTENDANCE (League games only) [to & inc 19/11/11]:-  
226,311 (ave 37,718)

## ► Away fans on the move at Sol:

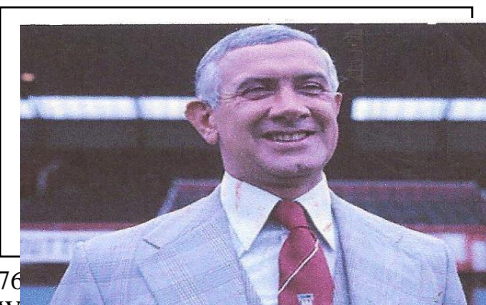
Indications are that away fans will be relocated to the North stand Upper from next season. SAFC is conducting a survey to see how best to use the vacated South Stand, and there seems to be support for a lively singing area reminiscent of the old Fulwell End at Roker Park. This is fine.....as long as the fans have something to sing about!

## ► Titus update:

SAFC have confirmed that following a full investigation, defender TITUS BRAMBLE has been fined and given the maximum sanction permitted for bringing the club's name into disrepute. The club also confirmed that the allegation of a drug related offence has been dropped and that he has tested negative for all banned substances.

► **Former manager dies:**

JIMMY ADAMSON – SAFC manager between 1976 & 1978 – has died, at the age of 82. Born in Ashington, he signed for Burnley in 1947 and was ever-present in their Championship-winning side in 1960. He was voted Footballer of the Year in 1962.



When he took over in early December 1976 (old Div 1) with a playing record of P16, W2, D5, L9 Goals for: 13, Goals against: 25. The first seven league games in which he was manager at Roker Park produced seven defeats and NIL goals for! The next two league games ended 0-0! He helped establish Kevin Arnott, Shaun Elliott & Gary Rowell in the first team. [according to [www.safc.com](http://www.safc.com)] and, although the resurgence in form was impressive – P26, W9, D7, L10 Goals for: 33, Goals against: 31 [ including successive wins of 4-0 (v Middlesbrough), 6-1 (v West Brom) & 6-0 (v West Ham)] - it was not enough to avoid relegation. This was the notorious ‘Jimmy Hill-gate’ last match of the season, where Sunderland lost 0-2 at Everton – I was there – whilst his beloved Coventry played out a draw with Bristol City, with Coventry & Bristol City both finishing 1 point above Sunderland but both with a worse goal difference! “Thank you Jimmy Hill!”.....NOT! Adamson’s last match in charge was a victory v Millwall on 21/10/78. His full league record with Sunderland was P79, W28, D26, L25, Goals for: 116, Goals against: 106.

► **Sunderland WFC:**

Latest results have seen the team score a 2<sup>nd</sup> win over Watford – having won 8-2 at Watford at the start of the season, they then beat them 5-0.....win their top-of-the-table clash at Barnet by 4-1.....and draw 2-2 in another top-of-the-table clash v Coventry. Five of the team have been called-up for International duty: Rachel Furness & Sarah McFadden for Northern Ireland in the Women’s UEFA 2013 Euro qualifiers v Norway & Hungary.....Keira Ramshaw for England U19 – with Ellie Christon on stand-by – for friendlies v France & Netherlands.....and Beth Mead is on stand-by for England U17 for two friendlies in Denmark at the end of November.

TOP OF TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
<b>SUNDERLAND</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Leeds</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Coventry</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Barnet</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Reading</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>16</b>

# Match Reports

## SUNDERLAND v ASTON VILLA [SAT 29<sup>th</sup> OCT 2011]

So, a nice day dawned and we headed north in the comfy 8-seat minibus. Unfortunately there are not many of us these days but the comfort of the smaller bus is much appreciated. Good progress was made until we became involved in a rolling roadblock. I’ve never been in one before but we were first in the line as the police car slowed us all down. Naughty calls to overtake the police were of course ignored by the driver who preferred to keep his licence intact. Eventually everyone was bought to a stand and we waited on the A1 for about 10-15 mins before setting off again behind the police car. We meandered at a steady 15mph catching up and following what must be every small boy’s dream - other than the girl next door of course. It was something very, very big which straddled both lanes, had a lorry pulling at the front, another pushing from the rear and which trundled along on a trailer with lots and lots of small wheels. We tucked in behind it and its escort until it pulled into a suitably wide space to pause and let us all pass. Very impressive although those who could see their drinking time diminishing didn’t seem quite so excited. Still, we made good time for the rest of the journey and still arrived with enough spare time that the order from Bill Godfrey’s butchers wasn’t quite ready. I also fitted in my usual visit to Greggs where the staff all laugh as I try to balance a big pile of stotties without dropping any. They aren’t all for me of course and apparently I’m not the only one who smuggles them south on a match day. I try to bring a little culture into my reports so here’s today’s snippet. I knew stotties were flat because they were traditionally baked at the bottom of the oven but I didn’t know the name comes from the “to stott” action of clonking one to see if it is properly cooked. Thanks to the lovely ladies in Gregg’s for that.

Righty ho. It would be nice to follow on from our performance at Bolton – the second-half at least - and keep our improvement going. Old words of course but I approached this match with renewed confidence. Villa would be a stronger test admittedly and with the return of Darren Bent, I reckoned he would either score a hatful or none at all. My logic then was that we could either win or lose so I convinced myself a draw wouldn’t be too bad. That’s all the options covered then.

Right and on to the match. For the record, DB was booed at every opportunity. When he came out to warm up, when he went to get changed, when he received the ball,

when he passed the ball but - and just to show the home crowd wasn't totally biased - he was cheered when anything he did went wrong. Apparently hell hath no fury like a woman or football supporter scorned. Anyway, I did learn one thing. I always thought he was just plain old Darren Bent but apparently he must have middle names too for the crowd kept singing "there's only one greedy b\*\*\*\*\*d." It was all new to me but what a long name that must make on his birth certificate.



Right, we lined up in quite a similar fashion as has been the case recently. The team is starting to pick itself more now the new faces are settling in and I must admit to feeling more optimistic than of late, especially when our passing style works.

So, the match kicked off but it was pretty quiet for the initial stages with nothing much from Villa and only a couple of Larsson free-kicks from us. Bent did get a chance after about 15 mins when Emile Heskey crossed to the far post but he prodded wide under pressure from Richardson. Cue more derision. However, Villa did take the lead in the 20th minute when Petrov lashed in a pretty reasonable shot but that bucked us up a bit and we had a few other chances before we did equalise. Turner was in front of goal but headed just over and then Wickham headed goalwards for a defender to clear with keeper Shay Given stranded. With ten minutes of the half left we lost John O'Shea to injury and he was replaced by Phil Bardsley. It didn't seem to affect things too much and our goal duly came in the 38th minute when Sessegnon turned Hutton to feed Wickham an inch perfect pass. He drove home a fine shot from 10 yards but it wasn't that easy a chance to take as he still had a defender to hold off. Good lad.

Right, second- half then. Westwood got his first taste of Premier League action after five minutes. I wasn't too sure what happened as there was a bit of bumping and banging during a corner but the players were pretty quick in calling on the trainer and then signalling that Mignolet was going off and Westwood should get ready. How would he do then? Well not bad as it turned out. He's a pretty reasonable keeper and showed it when he saved with his foot/leg to deny Bent from close-range after the striker had been put through by Agbonlahor. That'll do me then. And so the match

progressed. I thought we'd been ok today and well worth our point although having modified my prediction as we went on, I would now have liked a win. However, that looked very unlikely in the 84th minute when a Villa free-kick from the left side of the box was headed home. Hmm. One point, now no points. Still, to show we've still got some spirit, we came back in the last couple of minutes of normal time to get another equaliser. This time it was Sessegnon who headed home after a bit of ping pong in Villa's area. That's good. Despite four minutes injury time neither side could muster a winner and overall the draw was probably a fair result. I think things are improving.

FINAL SCORE: SUNDERLAND 2 ASTON VILLA 2

SUNDERLAND: - Mignolet (Westwood 51), O'Shea (Bardsley 34\*), Brown, Turner, Richardson, Larsson, Colback, Vaughan (Meyler 81), Sessegnon, Bendtner & Wickham. [Unused subs - Cattermole, Ji, Gardner & Elmohamady.]

\* = Booked: Scorers - Wickham 38 and Sessegnon 89: Attendance - 37062  
Colin Chandler.

---

## MANCHESTER UTD v SUNDERLAND [SAT 5<sup>th</sup> NOV 2011]

The Greek economy might be in a big mess but my local pub still shows Premiership matches on Saturday's at 3.00pm via some Greek channel.

Therefore, with Manchester Utd as our opponents [*and playing at 3.00pm on a Saturday for a change!....Ed*] it was obvious that the landlord would have our game on. But despite the big screen there was very little interest in the match at kick-off time - only me and an old boy who had supported United since 1948! [*...and what about the wife, Frank? My sources tell me that she was with you. Did you forget about her?....Ed*].

Things got off to a painful start when Connor Wickham suffered a serious knee injury in the first four minutes. This was very disappointing as we were hoping to see him link-up with Bendtner (two up front at Old Trafford!). Instead we had to cope with Ji Dong-Won who really didn't make much of an impact.

However, our defence seemed to handle United's attack competently and the game was quite evenly balanced until the 45<sup>th</sup> minute. At that point United forced a corner which Nani took and, unfortunately, Wes Brown diverted the ball into his own goal.

Sunderland were playing with their third-choice goalkeeper, Kieren Westwood. He produced a magnificent double save (Monty style) to prevent United taking a two-goal lead.

The major controversy in the game came when the referee appeared to blow up [BANG /...Ed] for a penalty to Sunderland when the lineman flagged for a handball. Eventually the referee reversed his apparent decision because it appeared that the offending hand belonged to Ji.

Manchester Utd just about deserved their win in terms of chances created (10 / 7) and possession of the ball (53% / 47%). Also, we didn't want to spoil Sir Alex's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations!

FINAL SCORE: MANCHESTER UTD 1 SUNDERLAND 0

SUNDERLAND: Westwood, Bardsley\*, Richardson, Turner, Brown, Sessegnon (Elmohamady 76), Larsson\*, Cattermole, Colback (Meyler 76), Bendtner, Wickham (Dong-won\* 5)

[unused subs – Carson, Egan, McClean, Gardner]

\* = booked

Att: 75,570

Frank Garrick

.....and what did Dean Jones, The People reporter, have to say about it?

“...nothing was going to spoil Sir Alex Ferguson's Silver Jubilee. The legendary Manchester United manager has been honoured for his incredible service with the North Stand being named after him. The touching tribute came moments before kick-off here and added further emotion to a wonderful occasion.

But on such a historic day, and after former Red Devil Wes Brown had given United the lead, Fergie's aim of a 970<sup>th</sup> Premier League win was cast into doubt.

As Sunderland were awarded a 2<sup>nd</sup>-half penalty, the Theatre of dreams fell silent. A cross was aimed into the United area, Phil Jones & Nemanja Vidic leapt with Ji Dong-won in an attempt to clear the danger – and a penalty was awarded for handball. Suddenly United's party was in danger of being ruined....but Sir Alex was saved by the referee. Official Lee Mason consulted his assistant over the incident and then back-tracked. Throughout an incredible career, Fergie has never been shy of lashing out at the men in charge for dodgy decisions, but this morning he can toast Mason, who was correct to reverse the decision.....”

“Sunderland's front-line of Nicklas Bendtner & Connor Wickham certainly had the potential to harm United – but that plan fell apart within two minutes. Striker Wickham slipped as he ran across the turf, turned his ankle and had to be replaced. It was a blow to the Black Cats but they started well. – Seb Larsson driving a shot into the side-netting and Bendtner forcing a save from Anders Lindegaard.

United took a while to threaten and it was beyond the midway stage of the half before Javier Hernandez had a penalty claim turned down. Fletcher sent a volley over the bar and Nani hit a low shot that was turned away by Keiren Westwood. But at the end of

the half that cruel goal arrived. Nani's corner was drilled towards Welbeck but it was Brown who got the final touch to steer past his own keeper. What a gift to his old gaffer on such a momentous day!

Rooney was featured in midfield again and showed it could be his long-term position. Hernandez had a header cleared from the goal-line, and Vidic saw a long-range effort held by Westwood. Then came the Sunderland penalty – and it was queaky-bum time for Fergie. As Mason spoke to his assistant, the United contingent among the 75,570 attendance held their breath – then cheered as it was over-ruled. Fergie saw out the game from the seat in his dugout. He may as well have been on a perch!



Picture courtesy of The Sun

.....and a final word from [www.safc.com](http://www.safc.com)

“ Sunderland enjoyed an excellent spell in the closing stages and could have equalised with ten minutes to go when Larsson swept a beautiful low ball across the face of goal and a flying Bendtner was just inches away from connecting from inside the six-yard box.”

---

## SUNDERLAND v FULHAM

[SAT 19<sup>th</sup> NOV 2011]

Righty ho. Fulham today. A funny and sometimes unpredictable side. A bloke I work with terms them as “efficient” which I think means they can lack a bit of flair. They're sometimes good, sometimes not so. From our point of view, we could do with a win but we don't want to lose. Fingers crossed then.

We had a few changes to the team for today's match with Larsson suspended and Wickham injured. I think we miss both of them. Larsson for his free-kicks and corners and Wickham for another option up front. Anyway, we lined up with O'Shea at RB, Brown and Turner in the middle and Bardsley at LB. No problems there as far as I'm concerned. In the middle we had Richardson playing where he's probably best suited, Cattermole, who had a very good game today, Colback, who seems steady, and Elmo

who pings in plenty of crosses but not many that you can do much with. Sessegnon was wandering around generally on the left either in midfield or up front with Bendtner who in turn seemed to just wander around. Of these two, Sess had another good match but Bendtner was up against Hangeland who looked to have the better of him for much of the time. Mind you, if there was a high ball coming in, Hangeland always gave Bendtner a little nudge just before they jumped. It wasn't anything too obvious but it was just enough to make him the winner most times. The officials either didn't see it happening or chose to ignore it but it was pretty clear to us in the seats.

As is traditional, I can use the words "we started brightly." We did and I thought we looked the better team but there was always this lurking fear of a fast Fulham counter attack. Very basically, we created more than enough chances to win the match but we also had Westwood to thank for keeping us in it. It could have been 2 or 3 nil either way or indeed, anything in between such was the match's nature. For us, a Richardson header hit the crossbar from a Sessegnon cross and a few minutes later, Colback sent a left-foot shot against the post. However, Fulham staged an injury-time flurry when Cattermole cleared off the line from a Dickson Etuhu header.

In the second-half, we nearly came undone from corners. Not theirs but ours! Bardsley was the taker in the absence of Larsson but we had the strange sight of everyone up in their area except Westwood in goal and then either Colback or Cattermole meandering in the centre-circle as our sole defender. Fine, if the ball was won by us and went out for a goal-kick as it gave time for the cover to get back, but as happened on a couple of occasions, we were at the mercy of Fulham's poor finishing after they broke out quickly. Then just to show how topsy-turvy it was, Schwarzer made a stunning reaction save with just seconds remaining. Sessegnon's effort was going one way but clipped Philippe Senderos to take a wild deflection. It was goal bound but their keeper managed to instinctively stick out a leg to save it and keep Fulham their point.

It seemed to sum up the match really. We had the guile to create chances but not necessarily take them. "Wise Dave" – who sits behind me – commented about the international set-up with both Bent and Welbeck being good contenders to be picked for the England team. He added that both were with us until recently but neither seem to have been adequately replaced. Perhaps we still need that poacher style player who can pounce on a half-chance and score? If he can run midfield, deliver an inch perfect cross and drive the coach too, then that's a bonus.

FINAL SCORE: SUNDERLAND 0 FULHAM 0

SUNDERLAND:– Westwood, O'Shea, Brown, Turner, Bardsley, Richardson, Colback (Ji 72), Cattermole\*, Elmohamady (Noble 87), Sessegnon and Bendtner.

[Unused subs –Carson, Vaughan, Meyler, Gardner and Egan]

Scorers – none

Attendance - 37,688

Colin Chandler.

# Reserve & Youth up-date

## SUNDERLAND RES v BLACKBURN RES: 2-0

A solid all-round display saw Sunderland finally emerge as winners in a physical, competitive match. JORDAN COOK (24 mins) & an O.G (55mins) were the scorers.

## BOLTON RES v SUNDERLAND RES: 2-2

A last-minute equaliser denied Sunderland all three points. Bolton had taken the lead on 76 mins, but a brace from ADAM REED had set up what seemed like a win. There was no time for the game to restart after Bolton's late goal! This was Sunderland's first draw of the season.

## SUNDERLAND RES v NEWCASTLE RES: 3-0

A 10-minute hat-trick from RYAN NOBLE earned Sunderland a comfortable win over rivals Newcastle Utd at the Stadium of Light. His goals came in the 37<sup>th</sup>, 41<sup>st</sup> & 46<sup>th</sup> minute (thirteen SECONDS into the 2<sup>nd</sup>-half!)



*RYAN NOBLE opens the scoring in the derby game*

## LIVERPOOL RES v SUNDERLAND RES: 1-5

It was down to earth with a big bump for Sunderland after their derby win. Liverpool took the lead on 2 mins and were 3-0 ahead by half-time. A 82<sup>nd</sup>-minute penalty from RYAN NOBLE did not deter the home side, who ran out comfortable winners.

	TOP OF TABLE (at 25/11/11)						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester Utd	8	6	1	1	21	7	19
Newcastle Utd	8	5	1	2	20	13	16
SUNDERLAND	10	5	1	4	18	17	16
Everton	9	3	2	4	15	14	11
Liverpool	6	3	1	2	14	8	10
Wigan	11	2	4	5	12	20	10
Blackburn	10	0	6	4	4	9	6
Bolton	11	1	3	7	12	28	6

SUNDERLAND have a 100% home record – 5 wins and a goal record of 13-2

#### SUNDERLAND U18 v NOTT'M FOREST U18: 2-2

An injury-time equaliser by Forest denied Sunderland all three points. Forest went ahead on 18 mins with a shot in-off the far post. JORDAN LAIDLER showed great anticipation to slide in the equaliser on 28 mins. LAIDLER's header crashed against the bar on 78 mins, but Sunderland were back to take the lead on 80 mins when LAIDLER drilled the ball home at the 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt. LAIDLER almost grabbed a late, late winner in the dying seconds when his shot was deflected over the bar.

#### LEEDS UTD U18 v SUNDERLAND U18: 0-0

Sunderland kept the ball well and played some great football, and were never really stretched by a more experienced Leeds side. Sunderland went close many times but couldn't get the elusive goal.

	LEAGUE TABLE (at 22/11/11)						
	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts	
Newcastle Utd	12	8	2	2	12	26	
Barnsley	12	7	2	3	8	23	
Derby Co	12	6	1	5	6	19	
Leeds Utd	12	5	3	4	7	18	
Sheffield Wed	11	4	2	5	-4	14	
SUNDERLAND	12	4	2	6	-6	14	
Sheffield Utd	11	4	2	5	-11	14	
Middlesbrough	12	3	3	6	-7	12	
Huddersfield	12	2	5	5	-13	11	
Nottingham Forest	12	1	4	7	-11	7	

FA Youth Cup 3<sup>rd</sup>-rd draw: Sunderland v Nottm Forest at Eppleton CW ground on Tues 29/11/11 (7.00pm KO).

# Being Frank

## Frankly speaking

### ....or speaking Frankly ?



[A bumper bag from Frank this month. Five, or was it 6?, letters dropped through my door - and I had to collect from Royal Mail.....because Frank had used a slightly bigger envelope than the A5 norm! £1.12 it cost me!\* That's Frank off my Christmas Card list!.....Ed]

HELLO AGAIN, READERS.

#### (01/11/11): BRUCE'S SUMMER SPEND

Much was made of Sunderland's signings in the close season. Many believed it would be difficult to 'bed in' so many new-comers into the 1<sup>st</sup> XI. At least seven of the ten arrivals had Premiership experience. Now that the season is almost a quarter over, it seems about time to make a quick assessment of how the 'bedding in' has gone. Needless to say, the marks given (out of 10) are highly subjective and may not accord with other people's assessment.

1. NICKLAS BENDTNER – one of three new strikers to replace the fleeing Gyan. Nicklas is only here on loan but may prove to be our best goalscorer. 7
2. WES BROWN – he fitted into the back four quickly and now partners Turner. He looks likely to become a real asset. 8
3. TITUS BRAMBLE – [is he one of our summer signings?....Ed] Off-pitch allegations have blighted his early season, but he did not impress when available. 4
4. CRAIG GARDNER – arrived from Birmingham with a reputation for scoring from mid-field. So far disappointing. 5
5. JI DONG-WON – has not had much opportunity to shine so far. Could blossom as he adapts to the Premiership. 5
6. SEB LARSSON – the Swede has made an outstanding start, especially with his extraordinary free-kicks. 9
7. JOHN O'SHEA – we had high hopes of this ex- Man Utd defender but his progress has been limited by injuries. 6
8. DAVID VAUGHAN – recruited from Blackpool where he was rated higher than Charlie Adams. He has made an impressive start. Several midfielders have had to make way for him. 7
9. KEIREN WESTWOOD – has not had many opportunities thus far but his big toe did keep Darren Bent off the score sheet. 6
10. CONNOR WICKHAM – transferred from Ipswich at 18-years-old and costing £8m. He has not had too many starts but shows promise...and so he should at that price! 6

(11/11/11): HOW TO MAKE A QUICK BUCK

I must say I don't normally feel sorry for Newcastle supporters but the latest initiative of Mike Ashley & Co is depressing for everyone. Most Magpies must have been horrified by the news that the historic St James' Park [Don't forget that Sunderland made it historic by recording the biggest ever away win in the top flight on 05/12/1908....a magnificent 9-1!.....Ed] name was to be replaced.

The wording of the announcement says it all:

'The ground is not being re-named, it's being re-branded Sports Direct Arena.' Despite our misgivings about our local rivals (currently 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Premiership!) it is an ancient (119 years), memorable & splendidly located football stadium.

I haven't been in a Sports Direct store myself, but I understand that the cheap clothing is stacked so high that it scarcely resembles a traditional sports shop. So Ashley's company brings no class to the football club.

Of course, Newcastle United are not the first club to sell the name of its home. We have reluctantly come to accept The Emirates & The Reebok....and even The Walker's Stadium, but at least these names were introduced for newly-built grounds not for historic ones.

We need to keep the name to remember our 9-1 victory there!

[Oops, sorry frank – I jumped in a little earlier with that fact.....Ed]

(15/11/11) FOLLOWING THE 'RE-BRANDING' OF A STADIUM

Correspondence in the Guardian following the proposed name change at St James' Park: [On Saturday 12/11/11] "The renaming of Newcastle United's stadium is old news. For us Sunderland fans its name changed years ago – it will always be Sid James' Park".....from a reader in Newton Aycliffe

.....and then the bite-back.....

[On Monday 14/11/11] "I always find it odd that Sunderland fans re-name Newcastle United's ground 'Sid James' Park' when the actor actually died (literally, not artistically) at the Sunderland Empire Theatre."....from a reader in Washington

[also 14/11/11] "The letter from the Sunderland fan about the re-naming of St James' Park reminded me about the trouble on the ferry the last time Sunderland played in Europe, when their fans ripped down the sails and hoyed the cannon over the side.".....

....from a reader in Holystone.

[I like it when someone tries to be funny[like those last two correspondents] and ends up sounding like a prize tw\*t – not a difficult thing to achieve for a Mag fan!

Isn't one a reference to Sid James being a 'comedian'? And at least our last venture into Europe (1973/74) was the result of actually WINNING something, not for finishing as also-rans!.....Ed]

(24/11/11) – WHO WAS THIS?

This extract is taken from a book about football tactics by Jonathan Wilson (circa 2008):

"In the following season manager Les McDowell had \_\_\_\_\_ play in that role. \_\_\_\_\_ subsequently devoted 20 pages of his memoir, "Soccers' Happy Wanderer", to explaining the system. After an uncertain start, City went on to reach the Cup Final and \_\_\_\_\_ was named 'Footballer of the Year'.

After the following season at City he became disillusioned with the club and joined Sunderland AFC. But he struggled to settle at Roker Park where the club tumbled into an illegal payments scandal. Allan Brown replaced manager Bill Murray, but the club went on to be relegated.

In the chaos, \_\_\_\_\_ was unable to adapt his style to the club's requirements. "There was only one way he could play", said Sunderland's Charlie Fleming. "He did a lot of things foreign to us which had suited City but everyone knew about it when he came to Sunderland."

He soon departed for Leeds."

Whose name is missing? [answer on P.26 ]

Frank Garrick



\* Proof, if needed, of incurred costs!.....Ed

# URGENTLY WANTED

## BRANCH CHAIRMAN

To 'chair' monthly meetings – ie welcome those present and close the meeting when done....not a lot more than that!  
Must be able to attend meetings at Baldock on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month....although the occasional absence is permitted!  
Interested? Please contact one of the Committee members  
*(details inside front cover)*

---

## WEBMASTER

To oversee the Branch website.  
Duties to include regularly updating the site with information for members, and to load the monthly 'Review'.  
Training can be given by the current webmaster Bob Parkin.  
Interested? Please contact one of the Committee members  
*[details inside front cover]*

# Comment

by Orla Twitter



Welcome wise friends.....

BELOW AVERAGE A recent article in the Guardian – forwarded by Frank Garrick in an over-sized envelope (see P.18) – discussed the fall in average attendances this season at Villa Park....questioning whether this was more than just a fan reaction to the appointment of Alex McLeish. Mention was made of several other teams suffering a similar downfall – and this makes interesting reading [*although that is a matter of what 'floats your particular boat'*]

Teams suffering a fall in averages from 2010/11 figures are Arsenal (-0.16%), Aston Villa (-12.82%), Blackburn (-8.00%), Everton (-3.26%), Fulham (-1.26%), Newcastle (-3.37%), Sunderland (-5.71%), West Brom (-0.74%) & Wolves (-10.53%) – it was pointed out that Wolves had a reduced capacity for the 1<sup>st</sup> home game of this season.

Teams with an increased average are Bolton (+5.33%), Chelsea (+0.52%), Liverpool (+5.00%), Man City (+2.57%), Man Utd (+0.97%), Norwich (+3.64%), QPR (+5.72%), Stoke (+1.31%), Swansea (+25.3%), Tottenham (+1.27%) & Wigan (+ 2.93%).

Obviously the stats for Norwich, QPR & Swansea are a result of their promotion. You would think that the economic climate would be the cause of reduced attendances, but that doesn't explain the unexpected increase at such labour black-spots as Blackburn & Wigan! And how on earth can anyone explain the drop in attendances at the mighty Newcastle – home of the most faithful supporters in the land (allegedly!). ....and they sit 3<sup>rd</sup> in the League!

MAKES ME WANT TO SPIT! Wigan's captain Antolin Alcaraz has been banned for 3 matches for spitting at a Wolves player. Wigan boss Roberto Martinez reckons that he would not have been suspended if it had happened in Alcaraz's home country – Paraguay. "No-one would have batted an eyelid if it had happened in Paraguay\*. Spitting is seen in a different light here. In other countries it is not as important. Cultural aspects are very important." says Martinez. So, on that basis it's okay for a player from a gypsy background – Freddie Eastwood? – to shit on the pitch<sup>a</sup> when he's took short!

[\* *probably because their eyes would have been gunged up with spit!....Ed*]

[<sup>a</sup> *assuming that this reputed habit is correct of course....it may not be!...Ed*]

YOU'RE HAVING A LAUGH! Fulham have put a massive £15m price-tag on Bobby Zamora's head!!!!!!

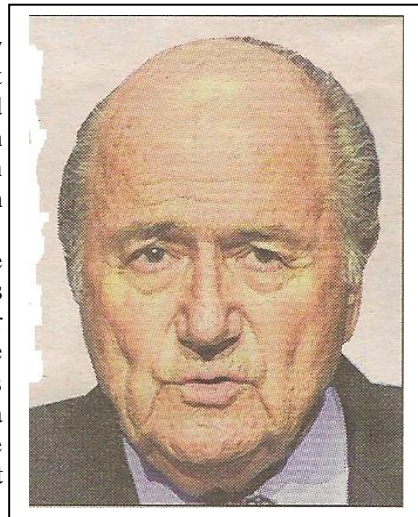
# Bum, poo, arse...

don't some things just annoy  
you!

by Ena Rage

## SPLAT THE BLATT!

FIFA chief SEPP BLATTER has really stirred up a load of s\*\*t with his latest outbursts. After FIFA dictated that England would not be allowed to wear poppies on their shirts in their friendly v Spain recently, Blatter cowered away from criticism by declaring: "I am not involved"! Well, who the hell is/was then? The directive from FIFA – which is Blatter's 'family' – states that 'political, religious or personal slogans' on kits are barred. Where does the poppy fit into those categories then? I understood that the poppy was a world-wide symbol of peace/remembrance – ah, but then perhaps Switzerland didn't have anyone killed in the wars!



He has now jumped onto the 'Racism in football' debate, following – in particular – the allegations against John Terry. "Shake hands" is his solution. Now in some respects that is a good thought – ie 'no hard feelings' after a competitive match, but the 'racism' ticket has a raised profile these days so a shake of the hands is hardly likely to be the solution. Perhaps players could wear some sort of symbol on their shirts to declare that 'racism' is not to be tolerated! Ah, but will that not fall into the category of 'political, religious or personal slogans'?

Just as a personal view:

When did the term 'Black' become a racist comment? Doesn't 'black' signify 'colour' not 'race'? Wasn't one of the worlds' greatest players universally known as 'The Black Panther'? Did that cause offence? Perhaps we should ask Eusebio!

## \*\*\*\*\*SEVEN7Y3\*\*\*\*\*

[SEVEN7Y3 is a fairly new Sunderland Retro fanzine which some of you may have seen on sale at the SoL. Mark Harrison (Director of Media73) has approached all SAFCSA Branches seeking subscriptions for the magazine. It's well worth a read....Silver Fox]

## December Promotion & David Meyler signed shirt

Hi,

Please feel free to share the following opportunities with your family and friends..

\* Seventy3 will be sending anyone whom subscribes or renews in December a free previous issue as a token of appreciation.

\* Additionally any subscription that is inclusive of issue 6 will be put into a draw to win one of 4 signed copies by the issue 6 guest editor and yes he is a true SAFC legend!

\* To celebrate that we are the sponsor of David Meyler we will enter all current subscribers into a draw on the release of issue 8 for the chance to win a David Meyler signed replica shirt.

Now, here are some interesting facts about issue 5 that you may wish to share with them..

The issue had interviews with 12 ex Sunderland players. Taking the stats from those interviewed, they played over 1650 games for Sunderland, they scored over 120 goals (not bad given many were defenders), 6 were capped at full international level and there was one international manager in Mr George Burley.

Now... as Issue 6 will be released at the Blackburn game and if you have renewed will hit your doorstep w/c 12<sup>th</sup>

So, let's whet the appetite on issue 6 a little... It is the biggest issue to date with 4 extra pages, we have more player interviews than ever before. When I look at the stats for issue 6 versus issue 5 the ex Sunderland players we interviewed played more games, scored more goals, had more international caps and indeed we have another international manager in the issue.

So at £10 for 5 issues you truly are getting amazing access to all things retro Sunderland AFC.

Please follow us on Twitter and Facebook for when we break more news on issue 6 content as we have some true legends in there.

Thank you once again for your continued support, it really is greatly appreciated!

Here is the link for anyone wanting to subscribe

<http://www.seventy3magazine.co.uk/5-for-4-Subscriptions.html>

Best regards

Mark Harrison

Director

Email. media73@msn.com

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# Ed 's Travel

Hello and welcome again.

The draw for the FA Cup 3<sup>rd</sup> rd will be made shortly after the issue of the next Review....so be prepared to order tickets asap afterwards

Ticket requests for Wigan (a) should be with me as soon as possible....no details yet available for cut-off date for these tickets.

Tickets for Tottenham (a) on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December are on general sale from 1<sup>st</sup> Dec & those for Queens PR (a) on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December will be on general sale from 12<sup>th</sup> December.

There are new dates/times also for Man City (h), Wigan (a) & Norwich (h).

Later in the season we will be looking to travel to Lichfield on Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup> for Villa. The Big Bus Trip to the SOL will be on Sunday May 13<sup>th</sup> for the season finale against Man United.

**PLEASE NOTE: NEW FARES ON MICK'S MINIS TRIPS**  
**ADULT £30 : JUNIOR £15 : RETURN DRIVER £20**

All the best. Let's push on!

*Ed Rayner* Mobile 07789035483 : Home 01462 813963

E-mail [edrayner@gotadsl.co.uk](mailto:edrayner@gotadsl.co.uk) or [travel@alblackcats.co.uk](mailto:travel@alblackcats.co.uk)

**TICKET INFO:**

Tottenham (a)	Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec (3.00pm)	Adult £36/£40.....O65 £20/£23..... U16 £18/£21
QPR (a)	Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec (8.00pm)	Adult £40/£45....O65 £35/£40.... 16-21 £35/£40.....U16 £17/£20... U8 FREE if with adult paying £40

Tickets for EVERTON (H) Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Dec are now on sale.

CD

'WHO WAS THIS?' [from P20].....DON REVIE

# FIXTURES

## PREMIERSHIP

Aug 13	Liverpool	(a)	1-1
20	NEWCASTLE	(H)	0-1
27	Swansea City	(a)	0-0
Sep 10	CHELSEA	(H)	1-2
17	STOKE CITY	(H)	4-0
26	Norwich City	(a)	+ 1-2
Oct 1	WEST BROM	(H)	2-2
16	Arsenal	(a)	+ 1-2
22	Bolton Wand	(a)	2-0
29	ASTON VILLA	(H)	2-2
Nov 5	Man Utd	(a)	0-1
19	FULHAM	(H)	0-0
26	WIGAN ATH	(H)	
Dec 4	Wolves	(a)	+ 4.00
11	BLACKBURN	(H)	+ 1.30
18	Tottenham	(a)	
21	Queens Park R	(a)	+8.00
26	EVERTON	(H)	
Jan 1	MAN CITY	(H)	+ 3.00
3	Wigan Ath	(a)	
14	Chelsea	(a)	
21	SWANSEA	(H)	
31	NORWICH	(H)	+ 8.00
Feb 4	Stoke City	(a)	
11	ARSENAL	(H)	
25	West Brom	(a)	
Mar 3	Newcastle	(a)	
10	LIVERPOOL	(H)	
17	Blackburn	(a)	
24	QUEENS P.R	(H)	
31	Man City	(a)	
Apr 7	TOTTENHAM	(H)	
9	Everton	(a)	
14	WOLVES	(H)	
21	Aston Villa	(a)	
28	BOLTON	(H)	
May 5	Fulham	(a)	
13	MAN UTD	(H)	

\* espn + sky sports

# 2011 / 12

## FRIENDLIES

July 13	York City	(a)	2-1
17	Arminia Bielefeld	(a)	1-1
20	Hannover '96	(a)	1-3
23	Borussia Mchgbch	(a)	0-0
27	Kilmarnock	(a)	2-1
30	Burnley	(a)	0-1
Aug 2	Hartlepool Utd	(a)	3-1
3	Darlington	(a)	3-0
6	Hibernian	(a)	0-0

## CARLING CUP

Aug 23	Brighton	(a)	0-1 (aet)
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## F. A. CUP

## LATE NEWS

WOLVES (a), BLACKBURN (h)  
MAN CITY (h), NORWICH (h)  
All now 'live' on Sky TV

REMEMBER  
KEEP THE FAITH  
KEEP THE FAITH  
KEEP THE FAITH  
KEEP THE FAITH  
KEEP THE FAITH



# Get shirty....get a mug



Want to be the proud owner of a Sunderland mug showing the teams colours over the years (to 2008)?.....  
.....or a framed photo of the same [25" x 18"] ?

I have found a supplier of both items, so if you're interested please get in touch without delay.

Get your family to buy you one – or both – for Christmas.

Mugs are £6.50 & the framed photos are (approx) £35.00 [exact price to be confirmed- may get a discount!]

Contact me, Colin Dunn, on 07734508861 or 01438221519  
or via e-mail on [silverfox.safe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:silverfox.safe@hotmail.co.uk)  
or [editor@blackcats.co.uk](mailto:editor@blackcats.co.uk)