

Charlton

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF CHARLTON ATHLETIC F.C.

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Welcome to our new
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Charlton

which is packed with
News, Views, Special
Features, Letters and
Superb Action Photos.

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Vote Valley

Pages 6 & 7
**Return to the
Valley**
by Michael Grade

Pages 8 & 9
**An action profile
of Andy Peake**

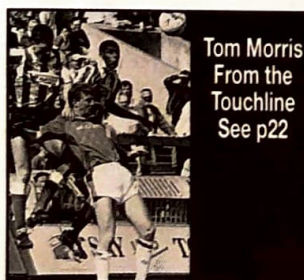


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The Bexley Show

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**Charlton's
Pre-season tour of
Australia**



BACK TO THE VALLEY

Charlton Athletic's dream of returning to their former home at the Valley could now become a reality after months of heartbreak and disappointment. Peter Burrowes talks to Mike Norris, (pictured right).



A revised planning application for the redevelopment of the ground is being submitted to Greenwich Council this month. The Club, subject to receiving approval from the planning committee, is hoping to be back playing football at the Valley from the start of 1991/2 season in a 20,000 capacity stadium. This will incorporate commercial and leisure facilities.

PROGRESS

After the rejection of the Club's previous plans for the Valley, a number of meetings have been held between Council officers and Charlton Directors, and considerable progress has been made. A recent meeting also took place between Chairman Roger Alwen, Vice-Chairman Michael Norris, the Council Leaders and Planning Committee Chairman to discuss the revised proposals.

"If, as we hope, planning approval is forthcoming, we should be on site by the end of the year."

Mr Norris told Charlton magazine that the outline plans, will be submitted to the council by the end of August to be followed by detailed proposals.

The revised proposals include the building of a new, four level, cantilever stand along the whole length of the pitch with 4,500 seats and 30 hospitality executive boxes.

Incorporated in the new stand will be a 25-lane bowling alley covering 35,000sq. feet as well as 10,000 sq. feet of fitness centre provision. The Valley Club will be relocated in the new stand as well as conference / function facilities and Club administration offices.

There will also be parking facilities inside the ground for 250
Continued on Page 3.

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The Official Magazine of
Charlton Athletic FC.

Charlton Athletic
Football Club (1984) Ltd.

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Vice-Chairman: Michael Norris.

Directors: Richard Collins,
Derek Upton.

Presidents: Richard Collins,
John Sunley.

Team Manager: Lennie Lawrence.

General Manager: Arnie Warren.

Company Secretary: Chris Parkes.

Assistant Club Secretary:

Ann Bligh.

Commercial Manager:

Steve Sutherland.

Valley Gold Manager: Andy Bryant.

Charlton

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Charlton Football Club

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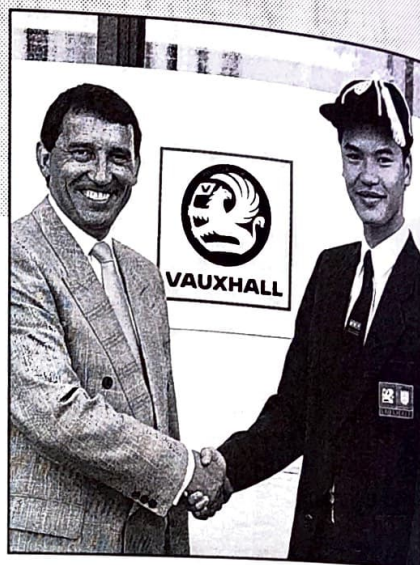
Contributors: Peter Burrowes, Rick
Everitt, Mike Whelan, Steve Dixon,
Michael Grade and Andy Bryant.

Photography: Tom Morris, Tony
Mitchell.

The views expressed in this
magazine are not necessarily those
of Charlton Athletic FC.

ENGLAND MANAGER WATCHES CHARLTON YOUNGSTER PROGRESS

*Mottingham boy Thevinh Nguyen receives his
England cap from newly appointed England
manager Graham Taylor.*



Charlton Athletic new boy
Thevinh Nguyen was
presented with his
international cap by recently
appointed England manager
Graham Taylor when he graduated
from the GM Vauxhall FA National
School on Tuesday 10 July. He will
now begin his professional career
with pre-season training.

Thevinh is the second pupil
from the GM Vauxhall FA National
School to join The Valiants,
following in the footsteps of
defender Darren Pitcher. During
his two-year scholarship the 16-
year old forward appeared in all 12
international fixtures at Under-15
and Under-16 level emerging as
top scorer with four goals, two
versus Sweden, one against
Finland and the winner at
Wembley Stadium in the Vauxhall
Challenge victory over a
Scandinavian Select X1.

The GM Vauxhall FA National
School was established in 1984 to
prepare England's most promising
14-year olds for a career in
professional and international
football. With the oldest graduates

aged 21 years, seventeen have
made first team debuts for
Football League teams, two of
whom have progressed
into Under-21 international
football.

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CLUBCALL: Team, ticket and Charlton Information including interviews are available on
0898 12 11 46. Calls are charged at 38p a minute 8am-6pm on Saturdays and at weekends.

KICK-OFF TIMES: Matches kick-off at 3pm on Saturdays and 7.45pm on midweek games.

SPONSORSHIP: Match sponsorship and all commercial enquiries should be made to Steve
Sutherland on 081-293 4567

VIDEO: Videos of Charlton's home games are available by post from the Club Shop at the
Valley. Price £15.50 (£11.50 Valley Gold members) plus £1.00. postage and packing. Please
allow 15 days for delivery.

TRAVEL TO HOME GAMES: A coach service is still available to all Charlton Athletic
home games and is run independently of the football club by Knights of the Road Coaches.
Ring them on 081-309 7741 for departure times and venue.

AWAY TRAVEL: Is organised through the Supporters Club. Bookings can be made
at the Valley Club. 081-858 0164 Thursday evenings prior to an away game
or phone 081-467 7623.

JUNIOR REDS: The Junior Reds office is situated at the Club Shop at the Valley. For
information ring Jackie Monahan on 081-293 4675.

Dual role for Alan Curbishley



coaching the reserves". Alan takes over the reserves from Peter Eustace, who did the job last season and has now joined Leyton Orient.

Our former midfield player Alan Curbishley has rejoined the Club as reserve team player coach, and we are delighted to welcome him back. Alan previously played for us from 1984 to 1987, then he joined Brighton and Hove Albion.

The South Coast Club have released Alan from his contract to allow him the chance of a first step into the management side of the game. "I am delighted to be back at Charlton and looking forward to the new challenge," he said "I still hope to play as well as

BACK TO THE VALLEY,

continued from page 1

cars as well as provision outside the Stadium in the local vicinity.

Improvements will be made to the North and South stands and new floodlights will be erected.

The East terrace will initially be used for standing in the lower section but will ultimately become a seating area in line

with the Taylor Report.

Mr Norris said "Although we have lost a year since our previous plans were put forward, we have gained the ability to achieve a new scheme which will provide a modern stadium which can be used by the general public and I am confident will meet with general approval."

PLAYERS LEAVE

Three Charlton Athletic players have left the club during the close season and we wish them well in their future careers.

Full back John Humphrey joined Crystal Palace, central defender Joe McLaughlin moved to Watford and striker Paul Williams went to Sheffield Wednesday.

John, the clubs Player of the Year for the past three seasons made 231 league and cup appearances for us, 137 of them consecutively and did not miss a game for three years. He joined Charlton in July 1985 from Wolverhampton Wanderers and scored four goals.

Joe McLaughlin was with Charlton for a year making 37 league and cup appearances.

Paul Williams joined Charlton from Woodford Town in February 1987 and scored 29 goals in 95 League and Cup games.



MAURICE BACK HOME

Back on familiar territory is Charlton Athletic's former groundsman Maurice Banham who has been helping out getting the playing surface at the Valley in good condition.

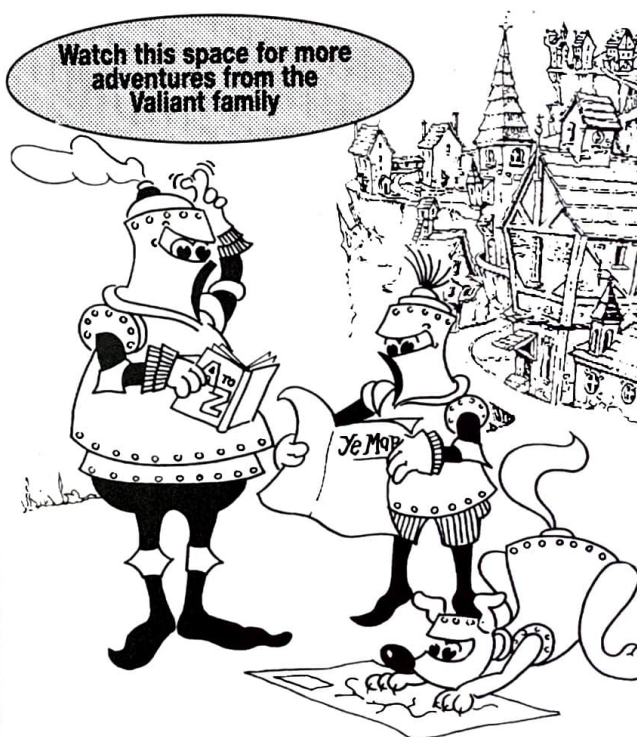
The club are hoping to return to play at the Valley by the start of next season. Maurice was the club's groundsman for many years before retiring.

PRE-SEASON TRAINING

The players enjoyed some vigorous pre-season training including aerobics, which Gordon Watson and Scott Minto are seen demonstrating.



Watch this space for more adventures from the Valiant family



Once more to the Land of Selhurst and into the Kingdom of the Palace

SOUTH EAST LONDON & KENTISH
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The Sports Pages that pointed the way back to The Valley

Bye bye Simon, bye bye Simon, bye bye Simon, bye bye" rang out from all corners of this great democratic institution. So loud, in fact, that you could probably have heard it 100 yards away down at Woolwich Police Station, which is just as well really, because that's where Oelman, Simon James, Sidney (Lab) just happened to be.

'NICKED'

What was the (former) councillor doing in the nick, I hear you ask. Well it's a long story (that's an understatement), but for the purposes of space, we'll keep it brief and begin this particular chapter back on 31st January 1990. It was at Woolwich Town Hall (see how neatly this all fits together?) that Oelman, Simon, James, Sidney (Lab) really came into his own.

Not so much the immovable object, more the implacable objector, our Simon chaired the planning meeting with a firm hand. It was the 'any-more-noise-from-you-lot-and-we're-off-so-where' brand of chairmanship that so endeared our Simon to his public. 'Here's Dave Higham, employee of the Planning Department and circulator of dubious leaflets' he failed to announce when 'the enemy within' stepped up to the mike.

APPLICATION

If you were there - and let's be honest, who wasn't - you'll no doubt remember the tirade from Rick 'the arch orator' Everitt, which finished up by suggesting that refusal of Charlton's application would haunt them for the rest of their political lives'. At the time, I remember thinking 'steady on old chap, that's a bit strong'. But it wasn't. It was true, and especially so in the case of our Simon.

He, of course, was the man who refused to negotiate with a third party, despite the fact that the third party he was referring to were, in fact, the people to whom he was supposedly responsible. He was the man who decided that our campaign was unimportant. He paid the price. Even on election night itself, he responded to a question from Dominic Crowe on the validity of 650 votes in

One of the Valley Party organisers, Steve Dixon reviews the way the votes went in the local Council elections on 3rd May 1990.

The Returning Officer paused, took a deep breath, and continued. "And I therefore declare that Barrie Groves and John Rastall be elected to serve for Eynsham ward." Then - pandemonium. Talk about noise. You'd never heard anything like it. Anyone would have thought we'd won the F.A.Cup, such was the bedlam in Woolwich Town Hall at roughly 2.30am on the morning of Friday May 4th.

Charlton, by condescendingly referring to the result in that ward as 'a little protest vote'. Which makes it all the sweeter that he lost his votes, his seat, and eventually, his temper.

When the plot to contest this election was originally hatched a few months prior to that memorable evening, no-one had dared hope that the result would be so good. And to unseat Oelman, Simon, James, Sidney (Lab) was the ultimate prize. The

Labour party have since tried to convince us that we did not cause the defeat of the (ex) chair of Planning and Transport. In retaliation we point to the letter from Oelman, Patricia, that appeared in the Mercury blaming our intervention, and ask; why else did his personal vote drop by over 300? But that was not the only success we had that night, or should I say that morning. As dawn came up over Greenwich, it became clear that we had cost



On a night of political tension in the Town Hall even the statue of Queen Victoria came alive to the cause whilst awaiting the Valley Party voting results.

them at least four seats and possibly one or two more. 992 votes in Sherard was a fantastic achievement, one which candidate Kevin Fox felt could have been bettered. In Middle Park Ward we polled 24% of the vote, and in Kidbrooke we helped Jim Coughlan (one of the two councillors who said 'yes to The Valley') retain his seat at the expense of his running mate. And dare I say it, in Well Hall, despite a notorious candidate problem, a Labour gain was avoided by 35 votes.

THE BEST!

Which makes all the effort worthwhile. And believe me, it was an extraordinary effort. All the other parties (some more begrudgingly than others) agreed that our campaign had been by far the best. We'd produced the best posters, the best leaflets, and the best campaign bus! Now that's the way to travel. Hire an open topped bus and a megaphone, festoon it with banners and balloons and the world is your oyster! I'll never forget Quentin Marsh's face as we came down Eltham High Street with everyone on the top deck singing 'Bye bye Quentin'. It was a picture.

And perhaps that is one of the most satisfactory feelings of all. Yes it was worthwhile, as well as an achievement. But it was also great fun, and all the people involved must have been motivated by that, as much as the fact that they were all working towards a common cause. Which brings us to polling day itself. An astonishing 24 hours, beginning for most of us at 6 or 7am on the Thursday morning, and ending at roughly the same time on Friday.

INSPIRATION

With the entire borough leafleted the night before, there were plenty of jobs to be done. There were people in polling stations, and people driving round with megaphones, including one gentleman who was continually playing 'the red red robin'. There were leaflets being handed out at railway stations, and potential voters being knocked up and reminded to go to the polling station, all of which was

VOTE VALLEY

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coordinated at The Valley Club, a
hive of activity and a source of
communal inspiration.

Martin Thorpe's piece in the
Guardian two days later summed
it up. "By 7pm there were so
many people turning up at The
Valley", he wrote, "that there was
nothing for them to do except
soak up the tremendous feeling of
camaraderie around the place."

That camaraderie was
transplanted, first to the Director
General in Wellington Street,
before finally coming to a rest in
Woolwich Town Hall itself, and it
was to last us right through the
night until the end.

CONCERN

Although the first result gave us
cause for (misplaced) concern, it
gradually became clear that the
voters had turned out in their
thousands to 'Vote Valley'. The
attitude of our political foes was
suddenly changing from detached
amusement to genuine concern. I
had tentatively ventured earlier in
the day that we might just might
get ten thousand, and the
statement had been greeted with
scorn, but it seemed that we were
on course.

They claimed our votes were
meaningless without seats, but we
had a much greater prize. True,
winning a seat would have been
headline news, but the removal of
Oelman from the planning process
could turn out to be one of the
greatest single aids to Charlton's
return home. Of course the (ex)
councillor for Eynsham ward can
still be involved in the planning
procedure, but only if he writes a
letter to his local councillor like

everybody else.

Indeed, the new Planning and
Transport committee, announced
at the recent AGM, appears to be
much more likely to reach a
satisfactory conclusion than it's
predecessor. Bob Callow and Jim
Coughlan (who voted 'yes'
originally) remain, and David
Woodhead, the Liberal who voted
against the plans has also been
unlucky at the ballot box, which
gives the P&T committee a much
friendlier look.

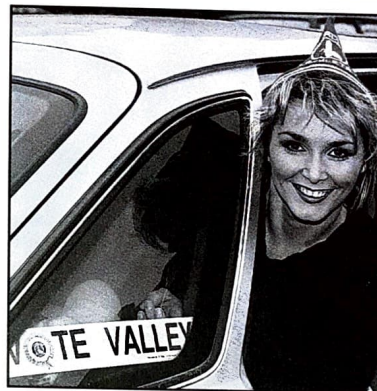
But we've made our point -
15,000 voters can't be wrong,
and now it's up to our elected
representatives to resolve the
problem. Sure, they could ignore
us, but they did that once before
and look what happened.
Alternatively, a solution could be
reached for the benefit of all
parties and that's what we've
been asking for all along. And
when that solution is found,
everyone of us can feel proud.
Proud that we were able to mount
such a campaign. Proud that we
refused to sink to the levels of
provocation and intimidation
witnessed at the count. And
proud that each and every one of
us has done our best for our
club.

YOUR ROUND!

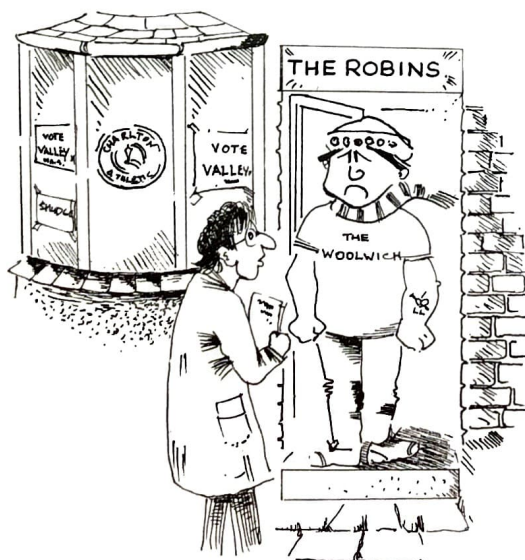
But there's just one more thing. I
do seem to recall a certain Mr Clive
Efford, the successful Labour party
candidate in Well Hall promising
me a drink if we could poll more
votes in Well Hall than Charlton
scored goals last season. Well, we
polled 677 votes, and
scored 31 goals. It looks
like your round, Mr Efford.



Kevin Fox (above)
celebrates his 992
votes in the
Sherard ward.
A fantastic
achievement.



Even the stars come
out in support of
the Vote Valley
campaign as Cheryl
Baker (left) shows.



**"Can I ask how you will be voting,
Mr Brown Welsh Bartram Peacock Duffy?"**

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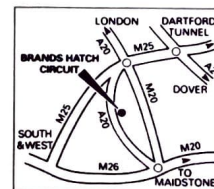
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Return to The Valley



People who run broadcasting networks do not publicly declare their political leanings. Michael Grade, the head of Channel 4, renounces that dictum to reveal exclusively, in an article in *The Guardian* on 31st March 1990, that he wholeheartedly endorses a new party.

Moving back? The five-year campaign to bring Charlton home goes all the way to the ballot box. The Valley Party's attempt to return Charlton Athletic to their spiritual home is just the latest amazing chapter in the rich and often hilarious history of the club.

In such a situation, fans of other soccer clubs might take the law into their own hands. Only Charlton fans would have the imagination to try to influence events through the ballot box. Then again, only Charlton would be in this predicament in the first place.

Before Norman Tebbit and the Conservative media monitors scream "bias" at my support for the Valley Party, I should state that its policies are not concerned with such mundane matters as the economy, the community charge, the European Community, Harrods, nuclear power or even the environment.

This party campaigned in the Greenwich council elections on May 3 on a single issue of much greater import: getting Charlton Athletic Football Club (1984) Ltd back home to The Valley, Floyd Street Charlton, London SE7.

DEFINITELY RED

Yes, Norman, I am red; Charlton red (and white) and not afraid to speak up.

To Charlton fans, getting the local council, to approve the move back (we have been lodging, like Cinderella, with our step-sisters, Crystal Palace, in another part of south London for the past five years) equates with any of the topical issues of national sovereignty you care to name, be it the Middle East or the Baltic.

It is not Yitzak Shamir or Gorbachev who stands in our way, but Greenwich council. Our homeland, the 11-acre site just a free-kick from the southern exit of

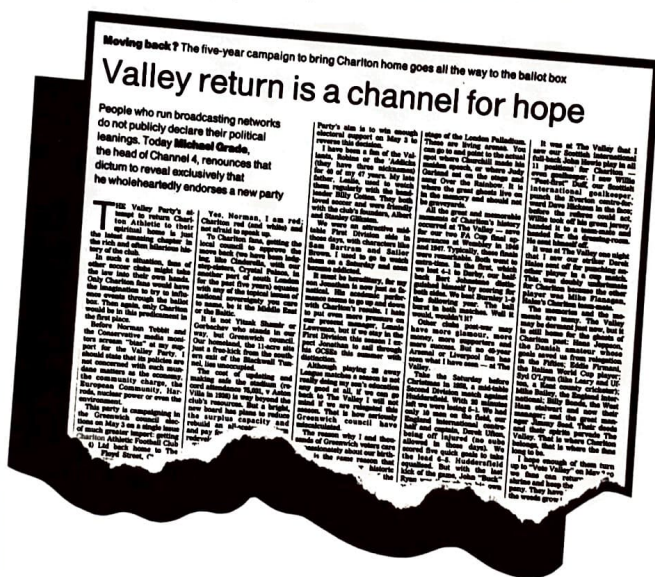
the Blackwall Tunnel, lies unoccupied.

The cost of updating and making safe the stadium (record attendance 75,031, v Aston Villa in 1938) is way beyond the club's resources. But a bright, new board has plans to reduce the surplus capacity and rebuild an all-seater stadium and pay for it by

commercially redeveloping some of the site.

These plans have been blocked by the present council, even though they had originally encouraged it. The Valley Party's aim is to win enough electoral support on May 3 to reverse this decision.

I have been a fan of the



Maurice Banham, Charlton's groundsman for many years has recently been back in action, helping to return The Valley playing surface to its former glory.

Valiants, Robins or the 'Addicks (they have three nicknames) for 40 of my 47 years. My late father, Leslie, used to watch them regularly with the band leader Billy Cotton. They both loved soccer and were friendly with the club's founders, Albert and Stanley Gliksten.

We were an attractive mid-table First Division side in those days, with characters like Sam Bartram and Sailor Brown. I used to go to watch them on a Saturday and soon became addicted.

It must be hereditary, for my son Jonathan is now just as fanatical. His academic performance seems to go up and down with Charlton's results. I hate to put even more pressure on our present manager, Lennie Lawrence, but if we stay in the First Division this season I expect Jonathan to sail through his GCSEs this summer with distinction.

EDUCATION

Although playing 38 away League matches a season is not really doing my son's education any good at all, if we can go back to The Valley I will not mind if we are relegated this season. That is how seriously Greenwich council have miscalculated.

The reason why I and thousands of Greenwich voters care so passionately about our birthright is the same reason that people revere other historic sites like the Chamber of the House of Commons, or the stage of the London Palladium. These are living arenas. You can go to and point to the actual spot where Churchill made his maiden speech, or where Judy Garland sat on the stage and sang *Over the Rainbow*. It is where the great ghosts live on in memory and should not be graveyards.

HISTORY

All the great and memorable moments of Charlton's history occurred at The Valley - save for our two FA Cup final appearances at Wembley in 1946 and 1947. Typically, these finals were remarkable. Both went to extra-time. In the first, which we lost 4-1 to Derby, our half-back Bert Johnson distinguished himself by

scoring for both sides. We beat Burnley 1-0 the following year. The ball burst in both matches. Well it would, wouldn't it?

Other clubs post-war may have more glamour, more money, more supporters and more success. But no 40-year Arsenal or Liverpool fan has seen what I have seen - at The Valley.

Take the Saturday before Christmas in 1957, a mid-table Second Division match against Huddersfield. With 20 minutes left we were losing 5-1. We had only 10 men on the field, our England international centre-half and captain, Derek Upton, being off injured (no subs allowed in those days). We scored five quick goals to take the lead 6-5. Huddersfield equalised. But with the last kick of the game, John "Buck" Ryan was through on his own and scored Charlton's winner.

"FEETFIRST"

It was at The Valley that I saw our Scottish international full-back John Hewie play in all 11 positions for Charlton - even goalkeeper. I saw Willie "Feet-first" Duff, our Scottish international goalkeeper punch the Everton centre-forward Dave Hickson in the face; before the referee could act Willie took off his green jersey, handed it to a

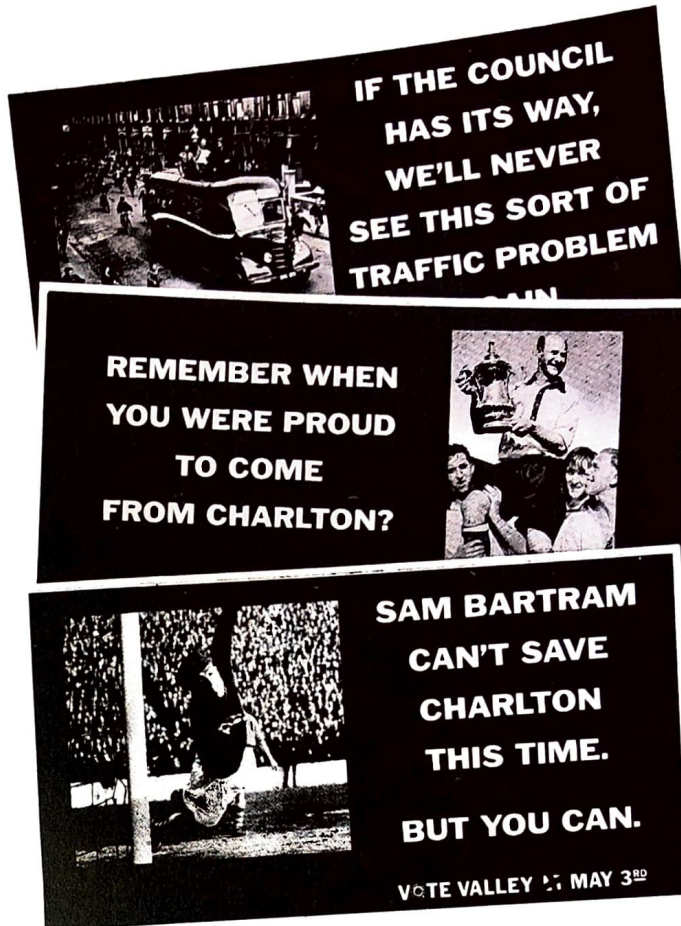
team-mate and headed for the dressing-room. He sent himself off.

It was at The Valley one night that I saw our striker Derek Hales sent off for punching another player in a cup match. This was doubly unfortunate for Charlton because the other player was Mike Flanagan, Hales's Charlton team-mate.

MEMORIES

The memories and the moments are many. The Valley may be dormant just now, but it is still home for the ghosts of 'Charlton past: Hans Jeppson the Danish amateur whose goals saved us from relegation in the Fifties; Eddie Firmani, the Italian World Cup player; Syd O'Lynn (like Leary and Upton, a Kent county cricketer); Mike Bailey, the England international; Billy Bonds, the West Ham stalwart and now their manager; and the great manager Jimmy Seed. Their deeds and their spirits pervade The Valley. That is where Charlton belongs, that is where the fans long to be.

I hope enough of them turn up to "Vote Valley" on May 3 so we fans can return to our shrine and keep the ghosts company. They have been watching the weeds grow for too long.



Three Posters used in the very successful 'Vote Valley' campaign. The posters combined apt statements with emotional and nostalgic pictures.

CHARLTON'S RETURN TO THE VALLEY GOES ALL THE WAY TO NO.10!

The following letter from the Department of the Environment, sent on behalf of the Prime Minister, was received by Mr. A. Hawkins of Orpington in reply to his letter expressing his concern about the handling of Charlton's application to return to The Valley by Greenwich Council.

“

Dear Mr Hawkins

Thank you for your recent letter to the Prime Minister about the difficulties being experienced by Charlton Athletic Football Club in their attempts to redevelop their ground at The Valley. The relevant planning application having been refused by Greenwich Council on 31 January. I have been asked to reply.

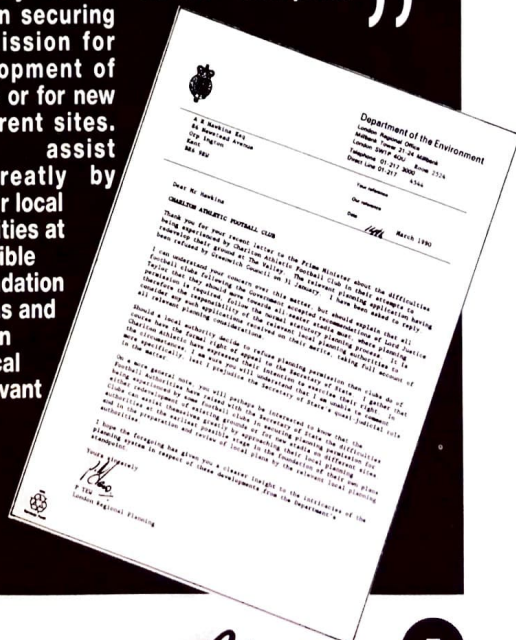
I can understand your concern over this matter, but should explain that all football clubs following the Government accepted recommendations of Lord Justice Taylor that they should move towards all-seater stadia must, where planning permission is

required, follow the normal statutory planning process. It is therefore the responsibility of the relevant local planning authorities to consider any such applications received on their merits, taking full account of all relevant planning considerations.

Should a local authority decide to refuse planning permission then clubs do of course have the formal right of appeal to the Secretary of State. I gather that Charlton Athletic have expressed their intention to exercise their right. In the circumstances, I am sure you will understand that I am unable to comment more specifically, lest I prejudice the Secretary of State's quasi-judicial role in the matter.

On a more general note, you will perhaps be interested to know that the Football Authorities have raised with the Secretary of State the difficulties being experienced by some football clubs in securing planning permission for either redevelopment of existing grounds or for new stadia on different sites. Clubs can assist themselves greatly by approaching their local planning authorities at the earliest possible stage in the foundation of their own plans and in the preparation and review of local plans by the relevant local planning authorities.

I hope the foregoing has given you a clearer insight to the intricacies of the planning system in respect of these developments from the Department's standpoint. ”



Andy was born in Market Harborough on New Year's Day, 1961. He joined Second Division Leicester as an apprentice on leaving school in 1978 and became a professional a year later, on his eighteenth birthday. His first-team debut came just six days later in Leicester's 3-0 FA Cup Third Round win over First Division Norwich. The match was one of only three ties played that day as icy weather gripped the country and I seem to remember that Leicester's Keith Weller donned black tights to keep out the cold (well, that was his excuse). Andy's League debut came a fortnight later in a 1-1 draw with Blackburn Rovers. Leicester's manager at this time was Jock Wallace, and Andy retains a high regard for the tough Scot. "A great man to work for. A disciplinarian, certainly, but totally straight with the players. You always knew exactly where you stood with him."

FORMULA

The Wallace formula paid dividends, too, with Leicester winning the Second Division and Andy collecting a Championship medal. That season also saw his selection for the England Youth Team. He scored on his debut, a 3-1 win over Denmark in Esbjerg in October 1979, and three of his team-mates would be future colleagues at Charlton: Colin Pates, Tommy Caton and Steve Mackenzie. At the end of that season he played in all five matches in the European Youth Tournament Finals in East Germany, England drawing with Portugal and beating Yugoslavia, Holland, Northern Ireland and Poland in the final to win the competition.

RELEGATION

Andy's First Division career began with a bang, as his thirty-yarder helped Leicester on their way to a 2-0 win over League Champions Liverpool, but it was all downhill after that, Leicester being relegated after just one season in the top flight. They fail in their efforts to win a return at the first time of asking but in October 1981, Andy again plays for the England Youth Team, this time in the FIFA World Youth Championships in Australia. He plays in all six matches as England finish fourth, and in April 1982, he adds an U-21 cap to his thirteen Youth caps when he appears in England's 2-2 draw with Poland at Upton Park.

PEAKE PERFORMANCE



'Character' one of those words much-loved of football managers and which, like 'class', is difficult to define. It is easier to say who has or has not got 'it' than to say what 'it' actually is. In footballing terms, character is not just a matter of resolve or determination, but it is about allying these to discipline, perhaps to the extent of subjugating your natural game to the greater good of the team. One player in whom this quality is not lacking, I would venture to suggest, is Andy Peake, a veteran of our last four First Division campaigns.

Michael Whelan looks at the career of midfield man, Andy Peake

Jock Wallace left Filbert Street to take charge at Motherwell in July 1982 and Gordon Milne arrived as replacement. Promotion was won in Milne's first season but Andy was largely a spectator, figuring in just 2 (2s) League appearances all season. Too much the diplomat to be openly critical of Milne, it is nevertheless clear that Andy didn't share the same relationship that had existed with Wallace. Although he appeared more regularly in 1983/84 and 1984/85, seasons in which Leicester tenaciously clung to their First Division status, his future seemed uncertain. In August 1985 the opportunity to join Second Division Grimsby arose, and he didn't hesitate, signing for 'The Mariners' for a fee of around £105,000.

APPEARANCES

The move, in retrospect, was not an ideal one but it did bring regular first-team football. In fact, Andy's stay at Blundell Park would be of just over a year, because in September 1986 he joined Charlton for a fee of £75,000, arriving on the day that Colin Walsh joined us from Nottingham Forest. Andy is perhaps an archetypal Lennie Lawrence signing, a player of proven ability whose career has reached an impasse, and who is given the chance to prove himself anew. His Charlton debut came in our 2-0 defeat at Anfield on 13th September 1986 and since then he has clocked up over 130 first-team appearances, performing an unglamorous but very necessary role in the midfield engine-room. His only major spell out followed a knee ligament injury in December 1987 which kept him out of the team until the end of that season. Notwithstanding that, only Bob Bolder, John Humphrey, Mark Reid and Robert Lee have appeared more frequently over the last four seasons.

DISAPPOINTING

Obviously our failure to beat the drop is a major blow. How did Andy view the campaign? "Clearly our lack of goals was the major factor but we also suffered from having such a small squad. We must have about the smallest squad in the top two divisions. There just isn't the strength in depth to cope with injuries." So where does that leave us for next season? "It's difficult to say. It really depends on what happens in the Summer. If we can keep the present squad intact and

add two or three new players, then I feel we can make a genuine challenge for promotion. But having said that, the club is bigger than any of the players. If the financial situation dictates that players have to be sold, then we have to accept that and be professional enough to make the best of things." How does he view the prospect of another season at Selhurst Park? "Although I didn't play for Charlton at The Valley it still seems strange playing our home games over there. You can't identify with it as your own ground and the players are only too aware of how the supporters feel about the place as well".

AUSTRALIA

I wondered how the players viewed the three-week trip to Australia. Wasn't it an unwelcome diversion at the end of a tiring season? Andy disagrees, "Not at all. The preparations for next season begin now. The trip gave us a perfect opportunity to get away, sort a few things out, and rebuild our morale".

Andy is also the PFA representative at Charlton. If not exactly shop steward, he does act as an intermediary between the players and their union, and might also be required to intervene in



Andy Peake in the thick of the action at Old Trafford with Brian Robson and Paul Ince during Charltons final match of last years campaign against Manchester United.

the case of a dispute between a player and the management—happily a rarity at Charlton. Andy lives in Sidcup with his wife, Sue, and daughter, Laura, and son, Ben. He is keen on all sports, particularly golf, cricket and snooker. Has he any thoughts on

what he'll do when his playing career is over? "I've got a few irons in the fire." (Just what Sidcup needs... a blacksmith!) "I don't envisage staying in the game but would like to be involved in sports promotion and development."

G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936) once wrote, "One sees great things from the valley, only small things from the peak". Charlton fans, on the other hand, must surely be wishing for great things from The Valley and great things from the Peake!



Charlton

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE FOR CHARLTON ATHLETIC F.C.

Take advantage of this opportunity of making sure you don't miss out on a regular copy of the official Club magazine. To receive all five copies during the season complete and return the coupon below to:

The Charlton Club Shop, The Valley, Floyd Road, London SE7 8BL.

ISSUE DATES: AUGUST, OCTOBER, DECEMBER, FEBRUARY AND APRIL

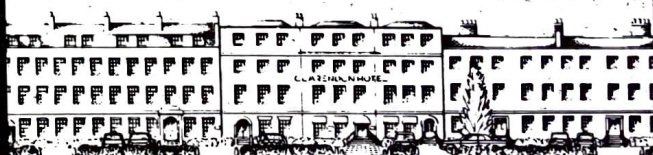
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Charlton

Dear Mr Sutherland,

today I'll write another letter to you and I hope that once again you will understand my problem and may be there is a way to help me.

First I hope that you can remember me. I'm the young man from East Germany, whom wrote to you last year and you replied very kindly with a letter and some other items. I went so happy with that that I phoned you to thank you personally. By the way, this was very difficult and expensive, but at last I came through and you were so kindly to allow me to write again.

In my first letter I explained very brightly how I became a Fan of english soccer and of Charlton Athletic, while I live here behind the iron curtain.

Also I explained how difficult it was to obtain any informations.

There are still a lot of problems here to get any informations about the english game.

But I am sure that you will have heard about the recent changes here, and so I'm optimistic that there will be improvements soon. May be o'ne day one of my dreams will come true and I can see the "valliants" play at "The Valley" life. Yes, I say at the Valley, because I hope very much that the team can return soon to her "real" home.

Unfortunately, Athletic is standing at the wrong end of the

LETTERS

table at the moment, but I'm optimistic that the team can produce again such form which kept them in the top-flight for the past seasons.

This season it was good to see that the team had a fine start, but then they lost then lost a bit of that good form. But that there is enough quality in the side, it was shown in the games at Mnchester City and against Luton Town. Unfortunately the recovery set a set-back in that home game versus Norwich City. But I believe that you will know that and much more much better then I. Of course, I could fill you a lot of pages with my thoughts and feelings about the team, but I'll not steel to much of your costly time.

Dear Mr Sutherland, this season brought a lot of hard moments to me, f. e. when the team lost by single goals at Arsenal (a penalty) or at Liverpool or in both the cups. But may happen what happens, also a not hoped for relegation. I'll always follow the team as good as I can.

May I ask you for a

programmme of your game versus Nottingham Forest? This because Forest is my second favorite team. But if that is not possible I can't be angry, but I would be happy about every other answer from you. Dear Mr sutherland, once more I can only excuse me for that enquiry but I hope that you can understand my reasons for writing.

With that I'll end that letter. I wish you, and all the players, staff and supporters of Charlton Athletic F.C. all the best. Hoping to hear from you

Yourse sincerely
Peter Kempel
F.-Heckert-Str.38
Eisenhutenstadt
1220
GDR (East Germany)

Dear Mr Alwen

I am writing to inform you of Bexley Education Authority's appreciation for the time and expertise which has been made available to our teachers and students by Steve Sutherland. The marketing presentation which he and the Marketing Department of the Woolwich Building Society arranged for teachers was most successful and its follow-up in schools is proving very valuable.

We hope that we can continue to develop this Education - Industry link to the benefit of the young people in the Bexley area and that

they will have the opportunity to use Charlton Athletic as a stimulating context for learning.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Brenda E Parsons
Directorate of Education
Bexley Advisory Service

Dear Mr Sutherland

On behalf of the Leukaemia Research Fund I would like to say thank you very much for the pennant which we received yesterday. It will make a good raffle prize at one of our events in the summer.

As you may know a great deal of progress has been made in the treatment of Leukaemia, particularly in children, during the thirty year's of the Fund's lifetime. Unfortunately there are still a large numbers of families affected by the disease. Your contribution is very much appreciated particularly in our anniversary year.

Good Luck in the rest of the season. With thanks and best wishes

Yours sincerely
Mary Plommer
Leukaemia Research Fund

Dear Mr Alwen

Thank you very, very much for a brilliant kit.

I am on half term but when I go back to School, I will show all the Charlton supporters in my School, there are only two of us in my School, they are Miss Howarth and Me.

Yours Sincerely
Stephen Hardie

P.S. Thank you for the stickers. I will say yes to the Valley.

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Swanley Village, Swanley, Kent BR8 7NN.

- ☐ IN REAL ALE GUIDE
- ☐ PUB GRUB 7 DAYS A WEEK
- ☐ GOOD LUCK TO CHARLTON FOR THE NEW SEASON

Magazine Stockist

'Charlton Charity Ball!'



I am writing to let you know that our Charity Boxing night was a great success and that just over £9100 was raised.

The football that you so kindly supplied raised £190 in the auction and I thought you might be interested to see a picture of the generous purchaser which I

enclose.

Once more many thanks for your help and I hope that the next time I write to you it will be at The Valley'

Yours sincerely
Michael McCabe
The Rotary Club of Danson

Dear all at Charlton F.C.,

I would like to take this late opportunity to thank your team and supporters for their behaviour during and after the recent game at Old Trafford, 5 May 1990.

I have followed Manchester United for almost 20 Years and have never seen visiting supporters enjoying singing United songs and vice versa. It was great to see the friendly party atmosphere on the terraces, which helped to make the poor performance of both teams seem almost irrelevant.

All of the United fans, close to me, found it quite emotional when the fans exchanged scarves and other football souvenirs. It was good to see your team, who have given their all award their shirts to the fans who had followed them throughout a tough season.

Good luck for the coming season and I hope that we will see you soon in Division One.

Yours in sport,

**Brian Ransom (Aged 25),
Sale, Cheshire.**

PS It would be nice if you could thank your supporters for making the day out more important than the game.

Dear Sir,

After attending the match at Old Trafford on Saturday 5th May, I feel I must write to congratulate you for having wonderful supporters.

At the start of the match some of the Manchester United fans (Of which I'm one) started to give some stick by shouting "We're going to Wembley, you're not, you're not!" Your fans weren't having any of that and replied with "You're going to win the cup!"

They came to the ground with the intention of having a good day out, in fancy dress, and they certainly did have a good day, so did we.

Our fans ended up shouting "You'll be back!". Everyone ended up doing the Mexican wave, Conga, exchanging scarves at the end and hugging one another.

What a wonderful atmosphere when both lots of fans were shouting "England, England".

To my mind there was only one winner of the day and that was Charlton.

Not surprising there has been no mention of these events in the paper or in the media. They would rather print bad news. Congratulations once again.

**Mrs S. Harrison,
Hyde, Cheshire.**

**Manchester United v Charlton, 5th May 1990,
at Old Trafford. Charlton's final fixture of
last seasons campaign.**

True Fans 1 Hooligans 0

In a climate where the wayward football fan is readily splashed across TV screens and Newspapers it was a sight for sore eyes to see the fans of both Charlton and Manchester United really enjoying the spirit of the competition in a very sporting and friendly fashion. It's a shame the media don't reciprocate by publishing more details about occasions of this nature instead of colouring the characters of true football fans by stooping to report on the few moments of madness created by a small minority.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have written to you to say you should be very proud of your Charlton supporters. As a keen Manchester United supporter I attended the Manchester United v Charlton Athletic match on the 5th May at Old Trafford.

The friendliness of your supporters put the proper spirit back into football, it was a great pleasure to see this match.

I found it quite emotional when the fans shook hands and exchanged scarves etc. It was a very lovely sight to see. I

thoroughly enjoyed this match. These Charlton fans are one of the nicest group of supporters I have had the pleasure to see. They were very well behaved and very humorous!

It was brilliant the way both sides were cheering each other.

I find it a great shame that Charlton Athletic are to be in the 2nd Division next season. It would have been great to see these two teams meet again and see two sets of brilliant supporters.

If I had the chance I would have liked to have met some of your supporters. The friendliness

they showed to the United supporters was overwhelming!

I do hope Charlton supporters will continue being such good supporters and maybe pass on friendliness to some of the other clubs. I hope that in the near future I will have the privilege of seeing Charlton at Old Trafford (soon) and seeing some of the brilliant fancy dress costumes worn at the match!

I wish you every success for the future, make sure your supporters stay as they are!
Yours sincerely,

**Marie Riley (aged 15),
Firwood, Manchester.**

Although each letter was answered individually we felt that Roger Alwen's reply to Marie Riley's letter expressed our feelings perfectly.

Thank you for your letter of the 5th May and for all your kind comments on the Charlton supporters. I would very much like to print your letter in one of our programmes next season and hope you have no objection. I thought our supporters were tremendous, they have no home ground, had just been relegated and had lost the game against Manchester United, yet they still had fun. On a day that saw such disgraceful scenes at Bournemouth it was a pleasure to be associated with one of two such well behaved Clubs.

May I take this opportunity of congratulating your team on winning the F.A. Cup, a well deserved victory.

Yours sincerely,
**R.N. Alwen, Chairman,
Charlton Athletic FC.**



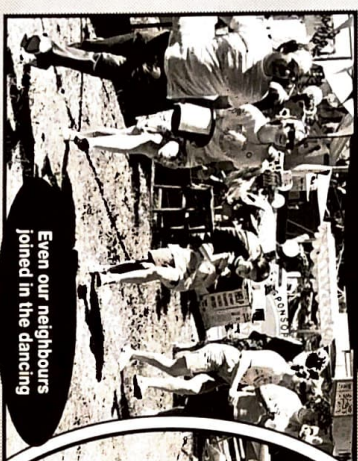
A group of Charlton fans enjoying themselves on the Old Trafford terraces, they created a party atmosphere by adorning some really crazy fancy dress outfits! as our picture shows.



Stacey Mitchell, Eve Waterman and Carrie White (Miss Charlton 1990) displaying their dancing skills



This is Mike Norris, News at Ten, Bexley Show!



Even our neighbours joined in the dancing



A new Charlton fan on the way!



Exhibition Dancing by the Charlton Staff



Charlton staff pictured with our Disco Dancing Competition Winners

Charlton AND THE WOOLWICH **AT THE BEXLEY SHOW**

Charlton Athletic in association with our good friends at the Woolwich Building Society, had a large promotional Marquee at this years highly successful Bexley Show. We used The Bexley Show essentially to promote "Valley Gold" and to highlight the excellent relationship we have with the Woolwich who, we are delighted to say, have

"signed on" again as our Club sponsors. The weekend was great work in the sun but great fun and the hard-working Charlton and Woolwich teams spent the time giving out Balloons, badges and stickers, holding Disco Dancing Competitions for children, selling souvenirs and generally promoting the friendly image that the Club enjoys.

ANYTHING'S POSSIBLE WITH THE WOOLWICH



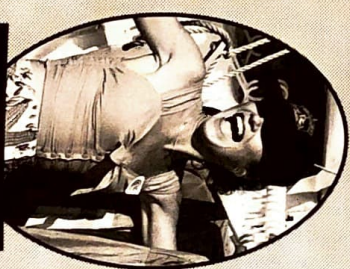
Lennie Lawrence in deep conversation.



Some of the hard working Woolwich girls



Junior Reds Secretary Jackie Monahan handling out Charlton Balloons



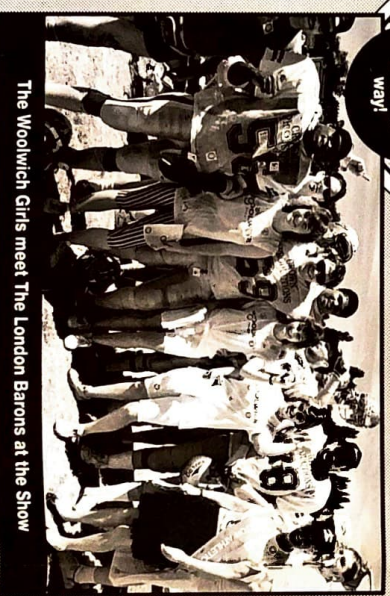
Alison Audsley



Eve Waterman



Steve Sutherland and hard working Charlton helper Terry Prestiant seen in deep conversation with the Mayor of Bexley, Councillor Holland



The Woolwich Girls meet The London Barons at the Show

PICTURES BY: TONY MITCHELL



£20,000

**YOUR REGULAR FEATURE
THAT BRINGS YOU UP-TO-
DATE WITH THE LATEST
VALLEY GOLD NEWS**

HOWZAT SUCCESS FIRST TIME OUT

Valley Gold member, Chris Sheerhan, and his fellow Charlton Supporters set up an indoor cricket team this summer and named it 'Valley Gold'. They entered the SLIPS league based at the Howden Centre, Stanhope Grove, Beckenham. Naturally, as a new team they were put in the bottom division No.7 but they soon showed their class as they finished the regular season in second place. The top four teams go into the play-offs and our team 'Valley Gold' came out the winners and are now hoping to jump up three or four divisions.

Next season starts in September so if you fancy a night out supporting the 'Valley Gold' cricket team over a few pints, pop along to The Howden Centre. Maybe a certain Mr. D. Upton could make a special guest appearance as our 'ace-up-the-sleeve' if the going gets tough!

FIXTURES

Chris will have the fixture list in the next few weeks and would be delighted to see some fellow Valley Gold members at the matches. Contact him on 081-464 6957 for details.

MORE AND MORE SAVINGS JUST FOR YOU

Summertime has brought a whole host of new discounts for members to save on and these were detailed in our recent summer newsletter so before you go shopping or for a meal out, just stop and think 'can I save money with Valley Gold'. If the answer is yes, give us a call and reserve your vouchers and start saving money.

Today (Sunday 19th August) a very lucky Valley Gold member will come up on the Valley Gold stage and collect a cheque for the grand sum of £20,000. Well we hope that he or she will be at the Open Day, and as an extra incentive for you to be there, we are giving our top prize winner a £500 Holiday Voucher - BUT ONLY IF YOU, THE WINNING MEMBER, ARE THERE IN PERSON TO COLLECT YOUR PRIZE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

By the rules of the draw ONLY those members who have paid the full annual subscription of £120 covering weeks 1-52 are eligible to have their number in the £20,000 DRAW. If you are in any doubt as to how much you have paid, then call Andy Bryant on 081-293 4567.

10 YEARS OF LOYAL SERVICE

They both joined the Club on the same day ten years ago and on the same Saturday 28th April the Club said thank you to Club Secretary, Anne Bradshaw (Payne) and Kit Manager, Bill Gallagher, for the hard work and loyal service they have given the Club.

Anne and Bill responded by making the Valley Gold draw during half-time in our final home match of the season against Sheffield Wednesday to a much deserved round of applause from the fans.

At the seasons end Bill went

into retirement and enjoyed a luxury cruise in the Med. No doubt, however, there'll be plenty of people knocking on his door needing his help with some physiotherapy. So we wish you well, Bill.

Anne has now left the Club on a full time basis to have her baby which is due in late August; although she has been seen popping into the Training Ground to lend a hand with the pre-season build up of work.

We wish you every happiness Anne and thanks go to both of you.



FLY FREE VOUCHERS A GREAT SUCCESS

Flexibreaks Managing Director, Stuart Gibbons called recently to inform us over 600 people had benefitted from making use of our Fly Free Holiday Vouchers which were sent to all members when they joined. This represents a saving of over £20,000 in holiday costs, or put it another way, members had £20,000 more to spend whilst enjoying themselves in the sun! Not bad eh! Especially when you're helping your favourite football club at the same time.

FREE SENIOR CITIZEN SEASON TICKET

Following our popular decision to offer Valley Gold members the opportunity to nominate a Senior Citizen to receive a FREE season ticket; we have this season improved the benefit by accommodating your nominees in Block H of the members stand.

The Club, however, require that your nominated person will need to provide us with two passport photographs plus £3 Charlton Club fee or £6 Valiants Club fee, should they wish to enter Valiants.

MATCHDAY PASS IS EXTENDED

The validity of the current Red Matchday Pass has been extended to 30th November 1990 in line with the Gold Card expiry date. If you have the red pass in your possession please keep it for use until November. If not, then members need to apply for their free pass in the normal manner. New passes will be available to all members in November to run from 1st December to 30th November 1991 and so on.

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Derek Ufton and 1989 Miss Charlton, Louise Durham, make the first ever Valley Gold Draw.



Charlton Legend Eddie Firmani was on hand to present the first ever Valley Gold Winners cheque to the Leukemia Foundation on behalf of Neil Bellers, represented here by his father, Bill.



VALLEY GOLD POST

Florida Sun

Our first ever USA holiday winners, Lien and Colin White returned to the UK in early June and wrote to us of their experiences:

Dear Andy,

Firstly, we must thank Continental Airlines and Valley Gold most sincerely for such a fabulous holiday. Lien's first words on arriving at the Magic Kingdom were; "This is a dream come true". We had a wonderful time and I am pleased to enclose some comments on the various places we visited.

Cypress Gardens - A magnificent display of tropical plants and trees.

Sea World - The intelligence and beauty of the dolphins, white whales and killer whales was quite unbelievable.

Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom - Words cannot describe this wonderful spectacle. Great for six year olds and sixty year olds like me.

Epcot Centre - Fantastic present-day technology. We spent thirteen hours there on the first day and then returned for a further four hours the following evening. Absolutely magnificent.

MGM Studios - Completely fascinating. The display by the Indiana Jones stunt team was breathtaking.

Kennedy Space Centre - A most interesting day and there was a shuttle ready for lift off on one of the pads.

Busch Gardens - A beautiful zoo combined with a theme park with all the rides you could want including a drenching on the 'Congo River Rapids'.

All in all we had the holiday of a lifetime. Such an experience would have been impossible for us, without Valley Gold.

Yours very sincerely,
Lien & Colin White.
Coultsden, Surrey.

Even if you are not lucky like Lien and Colin you can still have

a wonderful time in Florida flying with Continental Airlines and save 10% at the same time. For the latest travel brochures contact Paul Hogg at our official travel agents HORLEY TRAVEL on 0293-774421 and start planning 'your trip of a lifetime'.

Dear Mr Ufton,

I have been a Charlton supporter since the mid fifties when my father took me to The Valley as a young boy. It is only now that I have decided to do something concrete, although in a small way, to help our Club get back to The Valley and through these difficult times.

Although having lived abroad for many years through my occupation in the military and now as a civilian in Norway, I have always followed Charlton's progress with interest, even during the bad times. I fully support the return to The Valley because The Valley is Charlton FC and cannot possibly be anything else. The roots, tradition and feeling that the ground represents is impossible to replace.

When my father died last September I travelled to London for the funeral. I managed to walk the distance from the Chapel at Woolwich to The Valley just as we did in

those early days. The workmen at the portakabin were kind enough to let me walk around the ground and see the devastation!!! it was a truly depressing sight and something I'll find hard to forget.

Still, the future of the Club is the most important thing now and I hope that the Club and the Council can settle the differences outstanding so the ground can be used again for its proper purpose.

Enclosed is a cheque for £120 for membership of Valley Gold, plus a standing order form for payment 1991/2. Even though it is almost impossible for me to gain any benefits from this membership living abroad, I know that this is the time when the Club needs help the most.

Yours sincerely
Brian Desmond
Norway.

Editors Note: We are most appreciative of your Support Brian and would like to thank you and our other members across the world in such far away places as Australia, Saudi Arabia and the USA for the help you are all giving the Club.

Send your letters to:

**Valley Gold Post,
The Valley
Floyd Road,
Charlton SE7 8BL**

VALLEY GOLD WINNERS

Week 45 - 16th July 1990.

First Prize - Continental Airlines holiday to America plus £300 spending money.

No:834 Jack Linsdell of Blackheath.

Consolation Prizes

No:402 Mrs Ros of Blackheath.
No:1290 Damien Cook of Canterbury.
No:1543 Neville Cooper of Berkhamstead.
No:313 Colin Herridge of Eltham.
No:1274 Brendan Walsh of Bexleyheath.

Week 46 - 23rd July 1990.

First Prize - £500

No:1349 Mike Dixon of Swanley.

Consolation Prizes

No:460 Sherie Howarth of Harlow.
No:765 Jack Ambler of Bexleyheath.
No:1763 Michael Alford of Trowbridge.
No:1359 Joseph Mulcahy of Downham.
No:702 Edwin Wilson of Hereford.

Week 47 - 30th July 1990.

First Prize - £500

No:632 Peter Savory of Hartley.

Consolation Prizes

No:421 Trevor Ellis of Welling.
No:1456 Bill Jenner of Welling.
No:1193 Jill Cook of Orpington.
No:633 Alex Harrower of Bromley.
No:847 Karen Rivett of Belvedere.

VALLEY GOLDEN GIRLS



Stacey Mitchell (left) and Alison Audsley, two Valley Golden girls who have helped tremendously throughout the year.



Extracts taken from the Football League News, summer addition

Nearly 19.5 million people attended Barclays League matches during the 1989/90 season. For the first time since 1981 figures topped the 19 million mark and for the fourth successive season gates increased.

Across all four divisions there was a 5.35 per cent rise in people through the turnstiles on the previous season.

In 89/90 almost 19.5 million watched the national game, a million more than the previous season. This encouraging statistic represents the highest attendance for seven seasons and further strengthens the popularity of football as a spectator sport.

One of the key reasons for the record figures is attributed to the hotly contested Second Division championship. This showed an impressive 18.13 per cent increase in Second Division gates representing a million more people through the turnstiles.

Manchester United topped the average gate table, again confirming their status as the game's top crowd puller, while in the Second Division, solid support for Leeds, Sheffield United and Newcastle helped swell the figures.

Newcomers Maidstone United celebrated their entry into the Barclay's League with an impressive 134 per cent increase in gates, compared to the previous season's non-league figures.



Football pulls back its TV popularity

SOCCER has pulled back its TV popularity among the young over American Football, a new book has revealed.

Last year soccer pulled ahead again by 2 per cent, but interest in both sports had dropped to 28 per cent and 26 per cent respectively.

However, in 1988, televised American Football overtook soccer in popularity with 15 to 24 year-olds, with 35 per cent saying they liked to watch it compared to a third who preferred soccer.

The research, published in "Games and Sets: the Changing Face of Sport on Television," by Steven Barnett, is published by the British Film Institute.

Mr Barnett, Assistant Director of the Broadcasting Research Unit and author of the book, said: "Declining soccer ratings and gate receipts lead to speculation that this quintessentially British sport is

facing a consumer crises of disastrous proportions".

However, Football League News would also like to point out that without exception every sport in the country's top ten TV favourites has shown a dramatic decrease in popularity. Even snooker - the sport which shot to glory during the 1970s - hasn't increased its appeal to TV viewers for a decade.

Mr Barnett attributes the slump in interest to the fact that sport is becoming increasingly marginalised in television schedules, because it is seen to alienate the female audience. An indication, perhaps, that by increasing female interest and enjoyment of soccer the sport can, in turn, increase its TV ratings.

Just after England won the World Cup 24 years ago football was the most popular sport on television, with 52 per cent of

BARCLAYS LEAGUE ATTENDANCES - SEASON 1989/90

	AGGREGATE	MATCHES	AVERAGE	+/-%
First Division	7,887,658	380	20,757	+0.99
Second Division	6,884,439	552	12,472	+18.13
Third Division	2,803,551	552	5,079	-8.04
Fourth Division	1,891,178	552	3,426	+5.59
TOP TEN AVERAGE GATES				
Manchester United	39,007			
Liverpool	36,589			
Arsenal	33,713			
Leeds United	28,210			
Manchester City	27,075			
Tottenham Hotspur	26,586			
Everton	26,280			
Aston Villa	25,544			
Newcastle United	21,590			
Chelsea	21,531			
TOP TEN % INCREASES				
Maidstone United				134.0%
Exeter City				81.4%
Crystal Palace				60.5%
Carlisle United				49.25%
Peterborough United				47.35%
Bristol City				42.25%
Tranmere Rovers				39.75%
Stockport County				39.65%
Grimsby Town				39.15%
Sheffield United				39.05%

Source: Barclays League Bulletin

Table 1: Sports enjoyed on TV, 1989/1989

1989		1969	
1. Snooker	43%	1. Football	52%
2. Athletics	37%	2. Showjumping	49%
3. Tennis	30%	3. Athletics	45%
4. Football	29%	4. Skating	44%
5. Boxing	27%	5. Wrestling	44%
6. Skating	25%	6. Swimming	43%
7. Darts	24%	7. Boxing	43%
8. Cricket	23%	8. Tennis	38%
9. Motor Racing	23%	9. Skiing	35%
10. Skiing	22%	10. Horse Racing	33%

**Table 2: Sports most enjoyed on TV, 1989:
Male v Female**

Male		Female	
1. Snooker	51%	1. Skating	36%
2. Football	47%	2. Snooker	35%
3. Boxing	44%	3. Tennis	31%
4. Athletics	44%	4. Athletics	30%
5. Cricket	36%	5. Showjumping	24%
6. Motor Racing	36%	6. Skiing	22%
7. Golf	31%	7. Darts	19%
8. Darts	29%	8. Swimming	17%
9. Rugby Union	29%	9. Bowls	15%
10. Tennis	28%	10. Golf	15%

people saying they enjoyed it. Its top place has been usurped by snooker, and football now lags in fourth place, below athletics and tennis, with only 29 per cent claiming to enjoy watching it on television.

Trevor Phillips, Commercial Director of the Football League, commented on the research results "If a product in a highly competitive market on a supermarket shelf loses brand share, in general you'll see increased marketing activities to support that product and a commitment and hard sell attitude put behind it.

"Football is no different from any other product. What we're witnessing is purely increased competition in what is now a highly competitive market for the TV Sports viewer. Only by aggressive grass-roots marketing to generate increased gates at matches will see a knock-on effect of increased armchair popularity".

On a slightly brighter note,

soccer appeared three times in the top ten rated sports programmes during 1989, with the First Division clinching Liverpool v Arsenal match attracting as many viewers as the FA Cup Final (10.3m). During 1988 the most watched TV soccer attracted an audience of only 8.9m (Match of the Day 21.2.88) and the FA Cup Final 7.8m.

Trevor Phillips, commenting on the BFI research, said: "Whilst this research reveals an encouraging upward trend in TV viewing of soccer, it also underlines the fact that there is much work to do simply to keep our game at the top end of the ratings where it belongs. It is also worth bearing in mind that 1989 saw the most exciting First Division climax possible and interest in our game was exceptionally high. Another indication we must never rest on our laurels; we cannot always rely on a season's finish like that one."



**Table 3: Sports most enjoyed on TV, 1989:
Young v Old Viewers**

15-24 year olds		65+ years old	
1. Athletics	35%	1. Snooker	54%
2. Snooker	33%	2. Bowls	34%
3. Boxing	33%	3. Athletics	33%
4. Football	28%	4. Tennis	32%
5. Tennis	29%	5. Showjumping	31%
6. American Football	26%	6. Skating	31%
7. Skiing	26%	7. Golf	30%
8. Motor Racing	26%	8. Football	30%
9. Motor Rallying	21%	9. Cricket	30%
10. Darts	21%	10. Darts	26%

ITV Live Football Ratings 1988/89

Date	Match	Ratings (millions)
1988		
30 October	Everton v Manchester United	5.9
6 November	Nottingham Forest v Arsenal	5.8
20 November	Sheffield Wednesday v Tottenham	6.5m
27 November	Newcastle v Manchester United	6.2
4 December	Arsenal v Liverpool	7.4
11 December	Liverpool v Everton	6.7
27 December	Norwich v West Ham	5.4
1989		
1 January	Manchester United v Liverpool	8.1
2 January	Arsenal v Tottenham	7.9
15 January	Tottenham v Nottingham Forest	6.8
22 January	Millwall v Norwich	5.9
5 February	Manchester United v Tottenham	6.4
12 February	West Ham v Luton	
	(Littlewoods Cup semi-final)	6.2
26 February	Bristol City v Nottingham Forest	
	(Littlewoods Cup semi-final)	7.1
12 March	Aston Villa v Liverpool	6.0
26 March	Tottenham v Liverpool	6.0
2 April	Manchester United v Arsenal	7.8
9 April	Luton v Nottingham Forest	
	(Littlewoods Cup Final)	8.1
1 May	Arsenal v Norwich	4.3
3 May	Everton v Liverpool	9.8
26 May	Liverpool v Arsenal	10.3

Figures exclude Scottish/Grampian regions which did not show English Soccer (except for the last match, whose ratings are national). Source: BARB/ARG



Darren Pitcher and Steve Mackenzie in action against Welling United, in the recent friendly match.

Charlton Chat

by Steve Sutherland

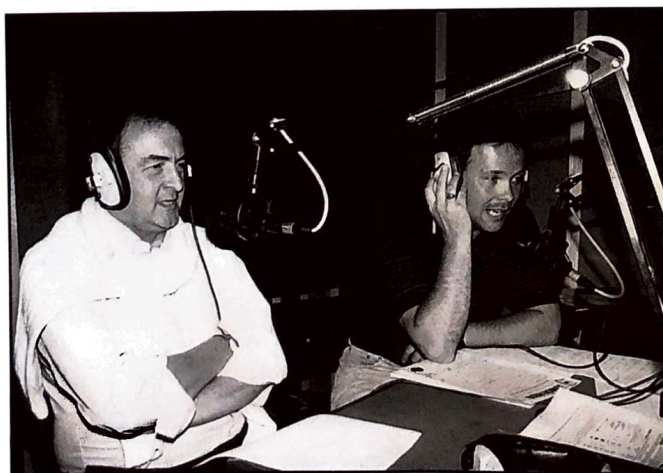
Well, where did the close season go? Our last match at Old Trafford seems like yesterday but here we are preparing for our first Match back in the second division at Selhurst on August 25th versus Swindon Town.

"I should like to say that myself and my family enjoy Charlton Chat on Sunday evenings. We would applaud the friendly, lighthearted style and the snippets of news and club information, not normally available via Club Call or the home programmes, are of great interest to us as supporters. I was almost moved to join in the 'phone in' but embarrassment overtook me at the last minute! Still, you never know next week maybe! Keep up the good work."

Jean Huelin
Dartford.

Football, as one famous T.V. pundit once said "is a funny old game" and there is no doubt that the football league's computer has given us the most high profile

Vice-Chairman Mike Norris (left) sharing the airwaves with Charlton Chat's presenter Steve Sutherland.



game possible with which to start the season due to Swindon's much publicised off-field problems and legal wranglings. It should prove a good test for Lennie's team so I hope as many of you as possible come along to support the lads.

As you will know we closed down our offices at Selhurst Park in June and now operate from our new premises at the Valley and from the Training Ground at New Eltham. It's been a period of adjustment for us but we are now all settled in and being based back locally has given the Club back its own identity. For your information all football administration matters are dealt with at the Training Ground whilst the Club Shop, Commercial Department, Junior Red's Membership and Valley Gold are housed at the Valley.

On a personal note, I have spent the summer break preparing for the new season, organising the Club's Open—Day and planning this new Magazine. Most of you will be familiar with "Charlton News" our bi-monthly newspaper. Due to circumstances beyond my control it became impossible to continue the paper. To my mind, the papers produced by football clubs all look the same! I have for some time harboured the idea of producing more of a magazine than a newspaper,

so I began investigating the various different options. I must at this point thank my good friend and Charlton Executive Club member Roy Atterbury for all his help and advice in searching for the right format. Eventually I came to an agreement with Charlton based company "Image Directors" for the production of the magazine and this is the result. I would like to thank Neville Maw, Paul Bell, Trevor Puddifoot and Steve Nelson of "Image Directors" for their assistance in this project.

RTM 103.8FM

Our new initiative launched this close season was my weekly radio show "Charlton Chat" on RTM 103.8FM. Co hosted by my good friend Clive Richardson, "Charlton Chat" has quickly become essential listening on Sunday nights and I would like to put on record my gratitude to Anne Bradshaw, Roy King and Rick Everitt for their sterling work answering the many telephone calls we receive every Sunday. The show is an informal mixture of competitions, interviews, news, views, opinions and music and I have been delighted that so many Charlton personalities have been guests on the show. These have included: Lennie Lawrence, Mike Norris, Richard Collins, Chris Parkes, Colin Clarke, Andy Jones, Scott Minto, Colin Powell, Peter Burrows, Andy Bryant, George Green, Charlie Revell, Tom Morris, Rick Everitt, Tony Fewell, Roy King, Andy Solomon, Carrie White and a telephone interview with Roger Alwen. Charlton Athletic is the first club to have a radio programme entirely devoted to it and I see "Charlton Chat" as an excellent vehicle for promoting the good name of the Club and football in general in the local community. Why not give us a try this Sunday by tuning into RTM radio 103.8FM at 8.30pm.

Other new promotions to look out for this season are the Charlton Athletic Mastercard, Charlton Athletic GPT Paytelco Phonenumber, Charlton Athletic Car

Dear Steve & Clive,

Please, Please can you play a request for my friend Ian Young of Holbeach Gardens, Sidcup, Who fell off his bike on Friday and knocked out his front teeth. You may remember he was the one who won the disco competition at the Bexley Show and he hasn't taken his Valley Gold cap off all week.

Thank You

Neil Francis, Aged 9
of Sidcup, Kent.

loans and an exciting new link up with Fulham Rugby League Football Club. More information will be given on these initiatives shortly, so "Watch this Space" as they say. Finally, you would have seen earlier in this Magazine the report on our excellent promotion

*Dear Steve,
"I have to congratulate both yourself and Clive Richardson (plus guests etc.) on the Charlton Chat programme. It comes over as a very 'friendly' and 'informative' programme. It must be very difficult broadcasting live"*

Eileen Malyan,
New Eltham.

at the Bexley Show, I would like to use this column to personally thank all the members of staff and helpers for all the hard work and commitment they displayed throughout the entire weekend. The main Bexley Show team was:

Terry Presland, Jackie Monahan, Andy Bryant, Roy King, Eve Waterman, Stacey Mitchell, Tony Mitchell, Ben Tegg, Carrie White, Clive Richardson, John Fuller, Chris Tugwell, Alison Audsley, Paul Ellis, Perry Bartlett, Rick Everitt, Ian Marsh yours truly, and all our friends at the

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Charlton Athletic F.C. Open Day
19th August 1990
Charlton Athletic F.C. Open Day
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Charlton Athletic F.C. Open Day
19th August 1990

PROGRAMME
£1.00

Since last March many fans have made the Sunday evening slot a regular fixture. Just how many cannot be judged until community radio station RTM gets its first audience figures.

What does seem certain is that the audience includes a sizeable chunk of Charlton's hard-core support. Indeed, most of them seem to call in to answer the weekly quiz questions, as volunteers answering the phones, including this writer can testify.

Presented by commercial manager Steve Sutherland and R'n'B disc jockey Clive 'R' Richardson (he's the one with the corny jokes), the programme has taken off in a big way since RTM began broadcasting to SE London and North Kent earlier this year. The show began life on the station's cable based forerunner, Radio Thamesmead.

UNIQUE IN THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE

The fact that RTM, which is one of the new wave of community stations licensed by the government to provide more truly local radio, has a transmission area that coincides with the bulk of the club's catchment area makes the partnership especially neat.

"We're delighted with the programme and we believe it to be unique in the Football League," said Steve. "It's proved a great success and hopefully it's good for RTM too, because it may bring in

IT'S SUNDAY, IT'S EIGHT—THIRTY AND IT'S TIME FOR.....WELL, CHARLTON CHAT, ACTUALLY.

by Rick Everitt

people who wouldn't otherwise listen to the station."

For the first time the club can speak directly to its supporters, including those who are unable to attend Selhurst Park regularly. It also gives the supporters the opportunity to speak directly to the club.

At which point there appears to be a problem. Supporters, naturally enough want to ask questions about topics like players leaving the club, team selection and the plans for The Valley. Steve Sutherland is in no real position to give answers. Indeed in many instances, it would be quite wrong of him to do so, since as commercial manager team affairs are obviously quite outside his remit.

On the other hand, if "unacceptable" views are screened out with too heavy a hand the programme will lose much of its appeal. Steve is as aware of this as anybody else, but believes the answer lies in getting the right people into the studio on a regular basis.

"For instance, last week Joe McLaughlin was sold to Watford and there were a lot of noises about us selling our best players. Then Lennie Lawrence agreed to come down on Sunday. It was partly coincidence but it meant the fans could put their views straight to the man himself, which is the right way to do it," he said.

Other guests have included vice-chairman Mike Norris, director Richard Collins, current players Scott Minto and Andy Jones and former stars George Green and Charlie Revell. Youth team boss Collin Clarke enjoyed it so much he came back for a second visit, while chairman Roger Alwen has linked up by phone from his Sussex home.

But there has also been time to speak to people like company Secretary Chris Parkes, Valley Gold manager Andy Bryant, press officer Peter Burrowes, club photographer Tom Morris and

Chief Steward Tony Fewell. People who may be less well known, but whose activities are a vital part of running a modern football club.

What they have found at the modest Thamesmead studios, (the station is based in a flat in the middle of a vast concrete estate,) is a deliberately informal 90 minute show that is no more and no less than what it's called, chat about Charlton.

It isn't journalism, but it isn't just about promoting the club either, although Steve concedes that he does take the opportunity to plug his own commercial department activities.

Of course those more used to Capital Gold's excellent football coverage might take some time to adjust from that station's rather breathless approach, but this is something else. The informality works, even if on occasion the microphones and tape decks don't!

Certainly, the supporters, deprived for years by the steady erosion of local press coverage and the predictable domination of the London-wide media by Arsenal and Spurs, seem to like what they're hearing.

FROM BADGER'S MOUNT TO ESSEX

Calls come in from all over the transmission area, and even from places which ought to be beyond it. Fan Mark Moncur, from Badger's Mount, near Sevenoaks was one of the furthest, although there have been other reports of listeners just this side of the Medway Towns and even in far-flung parts of Essex.

In fact, the peculiarities of radio reception have become a source of vexation to some Kentish supporters. They include Richard Redden, author of the new club history, who complains that the RTM signal disappears a short distance from his West Wickham home!

Tapes of the programme

regularly change hands and it's rumoured some fans outside the area even get in their cars and drive around until they can pick it up.

Happily, a majority of supporters are getting the message loud and clear and they will no doubt be listening in even greater numbers as the new season gets under way. It's worth remembering that Steve and Clive launched the programme under the not inconsiderable handicap of relegation and then the summer break.

That proved less of a problem than originally anticipated, perhaps because, as the Charlton fanzines have proved, there is an insatiable appetite for information, and particularly reminiscences, about the club.

The potential for Charlton Chat is almost unlimited. During the season there is considerable scope for reviewing the previous day's game. Radio is not necessarily the best medium for match reports, as fans of Kevin Nolan (Mercury) might agree, but, certainly the programme can offer far more insight than we are likely to get from the Sunday press as a Second Division club.

Most of all it presents the opportunity to bring Charlton closer to the supporters, something already achieved in different ways by the fanzines, Clubcall and the election campaign.

Used properly, it could become one of the most significant innovations in the club's history.



OPEN DAY

Programme of events

- 11.00am Gates Open
- 11.30am Tour of Club House Begins
- 11.30am Junior Reds Football Competition begins
- 11.45am Youth Team Training Sessions with Colin Clarke, commentary by Lennie Lawrence.
- 12.00 noon Bar Opens
- 12.15pm Celebrity 6-a-side Football Match, commentary by Lennie Lawrence
- 12.30-2.00pm Lunch
- 2.00pm Chairman's Charlton X1 v Lords Taverners Cricket Match.
- 4.00-4.45pm Tea
- 4.00pm Parachute Display by the Royal Engineers
- 4.15pm Lords Taverners presentation of a coach for the Greenwich Toy Library
- 4.30pm Valley Gold, £20,000 Gold Draw
- 4.45pm Cricket Resumes
- 6.45pm Draw Stumps

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The team had to travel a thousand miles and play 5 matches in the space of ten days before enjoying a well deserved weeks holiday at Surfers Paradise which lived up to all expectations. The Charlton Tour Party did English football and themselves proud and were great ambassadors for the game and they were warmly received wherever they went from the enthusiastic local supporters who were very generous with their hospitality. Association football is regarded as something of a minor sport in Eastern Australia as it battles to make its mark against the more popular and heavily sponsored Aussie rules football and rugby league.

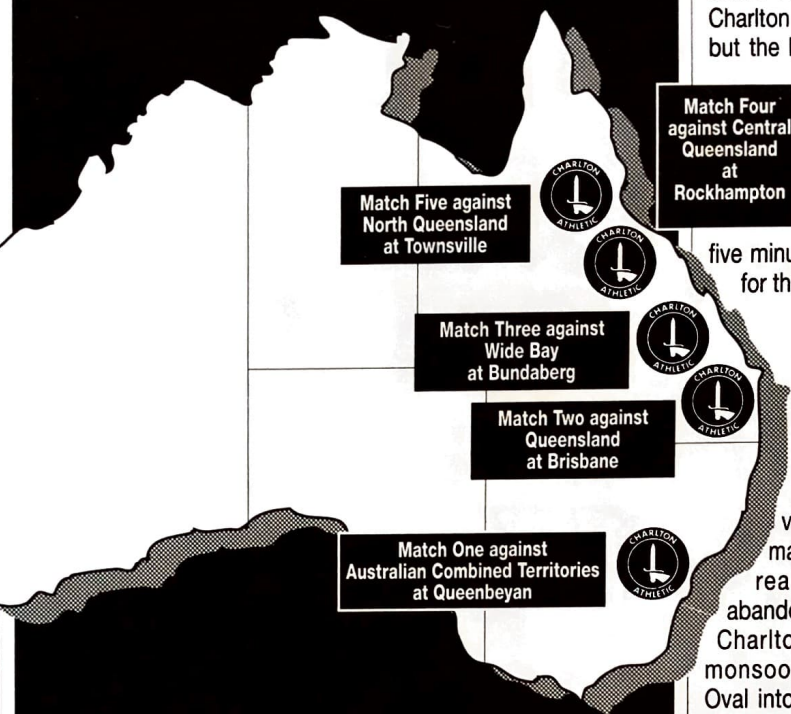
There is still great interest especially amongst youngsters in English league football which is seen on television each week.

ADMIRAL

The tour was organized by the Queensland Football Federation and Charlton's kit sponsors Admiral and proved a mammoth public relations exercise from which everyone on the trip emerged with flying colours. The players spent many hours signing autographs, being interviewed on radio programmes and visiting local schools and shopping centres. It was also a hectic time for manager Lennie Lawrence who had to make a speech in every town and city visited as well as present souvenirs and mementos of the tour to local club officials and civic heads.

The tour took place at the start of Australia's winter and the Charlton party were confronted with some of the worst weather imaginable including a couple of monsoons. But thankfully, as if reward for their efforts it changed for the better as they relaxed for the final week. It took the tour party two or three days to get over jet lag after their 23 hour flight from London to Sydney and the Journey certainly took a toll of them in the opening two matches both of which were drawn. The third game was abandoned because of one of those monsoons with Charlton a goal in front and the last two

TRAIL



BLAZERS

Charlton Athletic became trail blazers for English Football in Australia during May when they completed a demanding three week five match tour of the Eastern side of the country.

by Peter Burrowes

games were won convincingly to leave the team unbeaten.

The opening match on May 17th was against the Australian Combined Territories team

played at Queanbeyan just outside the capital Canberra. It ended in a 1-1 draw with 1,200 people braving the torrential rain in the local rugby stadium. After

THE TOUR PARTY

Bob Bolder, Mick Salmon, John Humphrey, Paul Bacon, Darren Pitcher, Joe McLaughlin, Tommy Caton, Scott Minto, Gordon Watson, Andy Peake, Paul Mortimer, Andy Jones, Paul Williams, Carl Leaburn, Steve Gritt, Assistant Physiotherapist Gary Moss - who doubled up as a player - Physiotherapist Jimmy Hendry, Manager Lennie Lawrence, Coach Mike Flanagan - who also enjoyed himself hugely by playing in most of the games - and yours truly Peter Burrowes, Press Officer.

a goalless first half Paul Williams put Charlton in front after 65 minutes but the A.C.T. equalised 10 minutes from the end.

On May 20th Charlton played the prestige match of the tour against Queensland at Perry Park in the beautiful city of Brisbane. Charlton were the first English team to visit the city since 1979. Andy Jones fired Charlton in front after 26 minutes but the home side levelled after 58 minutes to the delight of the crowd of over 5,000. Paul Mortimer headed Charlton back in front on the hour but five minutes from time equalised for the second time.

WET

Charlton's third match against Wide Bay in the rum making town of Bundaberg proved a very wet experience. The match which should never really have started was abandoned after an hour with Charlton winning 1-0 after a monsoon turned the Martens Oval into a river within minutes. Darren Pitcher who proved one of the successes of the tour with some powerful midfield displays scored the goal after 35 minutes. At one stage in this match the left side of Charlton's midfield and attack had a combined age of 69 with 'Gritty' 32 and 'Flan' 37 still showing the youngsters a thing or two.

FURTHER NORTH

Still further north to Rockhampton for the fourth match at Ryan Park in overcast humid conditions against Central Queensland with Charlton running out 5-1 winners three of the goals coming in the last 15 minutes. Darren Pitcher put Charlton in front after 22 minutes, the other goals came from Andy Peake (35 mins), Paul Williams (75 mins), Mike Flanagan (85 mins) and Scott Minto (88 mins).

The final match was in the tropical city of Townsville with Charlton 4-0 winners over North Queensland at the Murray Complex, again in conditions that were barely playable. Andy Jones scored Charlton's first

goal after 53 minutes and the others were added by Steve Gritt direct from a corner (84 mins), Paul Williams (86 mins) and Gordon Watson (87 mins).

PHOTOGRAPHER

Amongst the supporters at the game was Charlton fan Brian Cassy who now lives in Cairns and is a former photographer at Charlton matches.

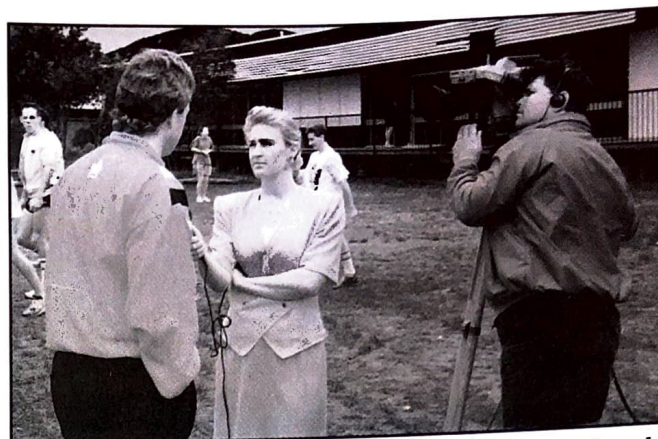
After the pressure of the travelling and the matches the players flew off to the coast for surfing, swimming, sunbathing, shopping, playing the casino and relaxing after a job well done.



When replying to an advert please mention that you saw them in this magazine



Filmed by a local television station in Brisbane, the Charlton Athletic players (above) sign autographs on a visit to a school.



Charlton Athletic coach Mike Flanagan (above) is interviewed by an Australian television reporter after a training session.



Paul Bacon (back left), Gordon Watson (front) and Scott Minto (back right) sign autographs for some Australian youngsters before the match against the Queensland State team in Brisbane.

TOUR MATCH FACTS

MATCH ONE

Charlton 1
Australian Combined Territories 1

Scorer: Williams.

Attendance: 1,200.

Team: Bolder, Humphrey, McLaughlin, Caton, Minto, Watson, Peake, Gritt, Mortimer, Williams, Jones.

Subs: Leaburn (for Watson after 45 mins), Pitcher (for Gritt after 60 mins), Flanagan (for Williams after 75 mins).

MATCH TWO

Charlton 2
Queensland 2

Scorers: Jones, Mortimer.

Attendance: 5,750.

Team: Bolder, Humphrey, McLaughlin, Caton, Minto, Watson, Peake, Gritt, Mortimer, Williams, Jones.

Subs: Bacon (for for Watson after 55 mins), Leaburn (for Jones after 70 mins), Pitcher (for Minto after 75 mins).

MATCH THREE

Charlton 1
Wide Bay 0

Scorers: Pitcher.

Attendance: 1,500.

Team: Salmon, Humphrey, McLaughlin, Caton, Gritt,

Bacon, Peake, Pitcher, Mortimer, Williams, Leaburn.
Subs: Flanagan (for Mortimer after 45 mins), Watson (for Williams after 45 mins), Jones (for Bacon after 55 mins).

MATCH FOUR

Charlton 5
Central Queensland 1

Scorers: Pitcher, Peake, Williams, Flanagan, Minto.

Attendance: 3,500.

Team: Salmon, Humphrey, McLaughlin, Caton, Minto, Bacon, Peake, Pitcher, Mortimer, Watson, Jones.

Subs: Gritt (for Peake after 45 mins), Williams (for Watson after 45 mins), Leaburn (for Jones after 45 mins), Flanagan (for Bacon after 60 mins).

MATCH FIVE

Charlton 4
North Queensland 0

Scorers: Jones, Gritt, Williams, Watson.

Attendance: 2,100.

Team: Bolder, Humphrey, McLaughlin, Caton, Minto, Bacon, Peake, Pitcher, Mortimer, Jones, Williams.

Subs: Gritt (for Pitcher after 54 mins), Watson (for Bacon after 57 mins), Flanagan (for Minto after 60 mins).



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Robert Lee (above) in action against QPR.



Paul Mortimer (below) battling with Nigel Jemson in the match against Forest.



Steve Gritt pictured above in aerial combat against Sheffield Wednesday.



TOM MORRIS

From

THE TOUCHLINE

Scott Minto pictured tussling with Micky Gynn of Coventry.

Paul Mortimer (below) in action again, this time against Southampton



Charlton Win Local Derby

Still without a defeat at any level, Charlton cruised to a comfortable victory over neighbours Welling United from the GM Vauxhall Conference on Saturday, August 11th.

Welling 1 Charlton 5

It was their best result so far in what has now become an annual clash at Park View Road and not surprisingly, on another warm afternoon, Charlton fans again seemed to make up almost the entire crowd of around 2,000.

Despite the overwhelming margin of victory, the team were slow to get into their stride and it wasn't until the 29th minute that Colin Walsh put them in front, his low free-kick swerving beyond keeper Parson's despairing dive at the last moment and slipping just inside his left-hand post.

Garth Crooks, playing his fourth match for the club in just eight days, got the second and the best goal of the game three minutes before half time. Robert Lee headed Walsh's long upfield ball back into the box, Steve MacKenzie flicked it on and Garth Crooks looped it past Parsons.

Three minutes after the break substitute Scott Minto made it 3-0. Robert Lee again headed the ball

across the penalty area, this time from Mark Reid's left-wing cross and Scott's firm downward header deceived the young keeper.

Charlton might have reached double figures had they taken all their chances. The chief culprit was Gordon Watson, but he did get the fourth on 57 minutes, clipping the ball home from 15 yards after being set up by Robert Lee.

Despite continuing their domination, it was not until the 78th minute that Charlton got their fifth, Kenny Achampong squirming



Steve Gritt involved in an aerial tussle.

into the box and Garth Crooks bundling the ball home.

The Wings grabbed an 82nd minute consolation goal. Bob

Bolder, Carl Leaburn and Andy Peake missed the game through injury.

Reports by Rick Everett



West Country Tour

Charlton's first-team squad began their warm-up for the new season with a highly successful tour of the West Country at the start of August.

In the space of five days they took on Saltash United, Exeter City and Plymouth Argyle, and ran out winners on each occasion.

Wednesday boss Ron Atkinson and he agreed to sign for the Owls.

Exeter 1 Charlton 2

Thus he was no more than a spectator when the second match got under way, a hard-fought clash with newly-promoted Exeter City of the Third Division which Charlton were lucky to win.

Charlton had gone ahead through first-half goals from Carl Leaburn and Andy Jones, although Danny Bailey did pull one back after the break.

Steve Gritt moved into his once-familiar right-back berth for this one, although youngster Paul Bacon came on as a second-half substitute and did particularly well with a headed clearance late in the game. Mark Reid was also restored to his normal position.

It was the first time Exeter had

Saltash 1 Charlton 3

The Great Mills Western League side Saltash proved easy meat as opponents. Charlton were comfortable 3-1 winners and should really have won by a bigger margin.

Mark Reid was absent from the party due to a family bereavement, so Steve MacKenzie and Scott Minto formed an unfamiliar full-back partnership at the start of the game.

Paul Mortimer was unable to play because of an ankle injury and returned to London the following day. The goals were scored by Andy Jones 2 (1 pen) and Colin Walsh.

Around 80 Charlton supporters made the trip, many of them staying in the area to watch them staying in the area to watch all the week's games, and a convivial evening was spent in the clubhouse afterwards, where the players enjoyed a post-match buffet.

The Saltash game proved to be Paul Williams' last in Charlton colours, because two days later manager Lennie Lawrence drove him up to meet Sheffield

lost at St James' Park for more than a year, but even the most partial observer would have to concede they were unlucky.

Plymouth 2 Charlton 3

For many people, however, the highlight of the tour came in the third game, at Second Division rivals Plymouth. Veteran midfielder Steve Gritt was again pressed into service as an emergency goal keeper and managed to save a penalty.

The incident came during the second half after Bob Bolder had aggravated an earlier back injury in taking a goalkick and was unable to continue.

Joe McLaughlin, who was playing what would prove to be his last game for Charlton conceded the kick, which Steve Gritt promptly saved.

Charlton went on to win the game 3-2, after being level at the interval following Colin Walsh's opener. The second-half goals came from Andy Jones (pen) and Robert Lee, who had a fine game and relished the opportunity to play in an experimental 4-3-3 formation.

Although Lennie Lawrence was obviously pleased to have won the three matches, he felt that the record temperatures during the week and the multiple substitutions he had used to keep everybody involved made it unwise to read too much into the results.

He was also disappointed with the quality of the Plymouth Argyle side, although he conceded that a draw would have been a reasonable reflection of the game.

Garth makes Comeback

Charlton 1 Swansea 0

The following Wednesday, August 8th, Charlton travelled to South Wales to play Swansea City at the Vetch Field and won 1-0 with a 71st minute penalty from Tommy Caton.

The goal came after Paul Mortimer had been put through by Steve Gritt and was brought down. Andy Jones, Charlton's penalty taker in the previous games, was not on the field, having been substituted by Garth Crooks early on.

It was Garth's first appearance in the club's senior side since last November and further evidence that he is winning his battle to regain full fitness. Another newcomer to the team was Swedish midfielder Casper Pauchstadt, on trial from Malmö where he is out of contract.

Unfortunately, the sparse crowd, just 732, saw a rather poor game with little incident of note other than the penalty.

THE TOUR PARTY

Bolder, Salmon, Bacon, Caton, Gritt, McLaughlin, Reid, R. Lee, Minto, MacKenzie, Mortimer, Peake, Pitcher, Walsh, Achampong, Jones, Leaburn, Watson, Williams.



Charlton 1990/91



Back Row: KENNY ACHAMPONG, DARREN PITCHER, PAUL MORTIMER, TOMMY CATON, ANDY JONES, ROBERT LEE, PAUL BACON, GORDON WATSON
Middle Row: COLIN CLARKE (Youth Development Manager), GARY MOSS (Assistant Physiotherapist), STEVE MACKENZIE, MIKE SALMON,
 JOE McLAUGHLIN (Now Watford), BOB BOLDER, CARL LEABURN, ALAN CURBISHLEY (Reserve Team Coach), JIMMY HENDRY (Physiotherapist),
Front Row: COLIN WALSH, PAUL WILLIAMS (Now Sheffield Wednesday), ANDY PEAKE, MIKE FLANAGAN (First Team Coach),
 LENNIE LAWRENCE (Manager), STEVE GRITT, SCOTT MINTO, GARTH CROOKS. (MARK REID - Absent at time of picture).