



## Newsletter #18

Welcome to the latest edition of my irregular updates newsletter and thank you for your continued interest and support. I am trying to make these more interesting to the general football fan/collector so if you have any other suggestions as to how to do this then please get in touch. Also, if you know of anyone else who might be interested in receiving this newsletter please ask them to get in touch with me via the site or perhaps YOU could provide me with their email address.

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I need to begin this newsletter by apologising for the fact that my website might be a bit of a mess just at the minute; on June 28th Photobucket announced with no prior warning that they were now charging for their services and so all 3rd Party websites using photos hosted on their site are now filled with 'blanks' asking the authors to update their accounts. This has totally wrecked the historical internet, and I am working around this as quickly as I can; by the time that you receive this missive I might just be up to speed, but if not, please bear with me - I am getting there!

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## Another highlight from my website



### FIRST DAY COVER, 1970

I include this in recognition of the fact that Town are about to compete in the top flight for the first time in 45 years, having been relegated in summer 1972. The first day cover here is franked 15 August 1970 which marked Town's first game back in the old First Division, a home encounter with Blackpool who, oddly

enough, had been the other team to achieve promotion from Division Two alongside Town back in May. Town won the game at a canter, 3-0, but I think it will be rather a different matter at Selhurst Park on 12th August this season ...

As far as I can ascertain Town have appeared on seven different First Day Covers, this being the first. The other six are: Southport (a) 30 Nov 1973 - the first ever league match between the two sides; Carlisle (h) 19 Aug 1980 - Town's first home match back in Div 3; Blackpool (h) 30 April 1994 - the last ever game at Leeds Road; Wycombe (h) 20 August 1994 - the first game at the McAlpine Stadium; Blackburn (h) 20 Aug 1995 - the official opening of the McAlpine Stadium; Bristol Rovers, 28 May 1995 - celebrating Town's victory in the Division Two Play-Off Final at Wembley.

All of these cards can be seen on my website in the **MEMORABILIA** section.

## Here's a 'worthy website' for you ...

### CIGARETTECARDCOLLECTING.com

I'll admit right now that I am finding this more and more difficult to do as I think that I have pretty much exhausted all of the interesting cards and collectables websites, so this may well be the last one that I cover.

I've used this site for several years now simply to discuss all types of cards and collecting, not just football. In fact, I was one of the first to actually open up the football card debates on here; until then the main focus was on other sporting cards - mainly cricket and golf - but more generally the older sets of cigarette cards of all varieties - cars, kings and queens, Boer War, flowers, nature, etc.; in fact, all of the cards available since the dawn of time! It is basically a forum with several different boards which all form the one main board, but it means that you can specify your interests and simply stick to the board that interests you. Although the name implies that it focuses on cigarette cards, in recent times trade cards (from magazines and bubble-gum, etc.) have acquired their own posting boards, so it seems to cater for all types. There is also a nice little 'Gallery' system for collectors and contributors to display their pride and joy cards although I must confess that I have yet to test the waters with this. There is a host of 'experts' on here who will help you identify those cards that you are puzzled by and many can actually help source you any cards that you might be missing. In truth, it's a most welcoming - if not hugely active - community; all it needs is a few more members who are willing to contribute and raise debates., which could be you ...



### Auction Watch

This has been a bit 'dead' for a while, but I can confirm that the teapot shown here finally DID sell. It was initially advertised on eBay at £450 and was available over a period of a month but, as it got closer and closer to the end date, the seller got twitchy and reduced the price by three lots of £50 at a time so that by the time it finished, it was available for just £300. I say "just", but it was still too rich for my liking. Anyway, it went back up for sale almost instantly at that same price and disappeared very quickly indeed - I suspect that someone contacted the seller and made a good offer which did not meet the asking price as it didn't technically 'sell'.

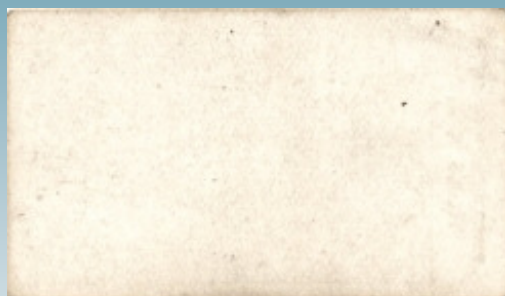


There was also a complete set (37) of the **1935 HTAFC Players & Officials** at **Loddon's Auctions** on July 5th. Despite an auctioneers estimate of just £70-£90 they sold for £220 - just above my bid of £200. I really need a complete set of these in good order as many of the set that I have are autographed and are in quite poor shape.

The search goes on ...

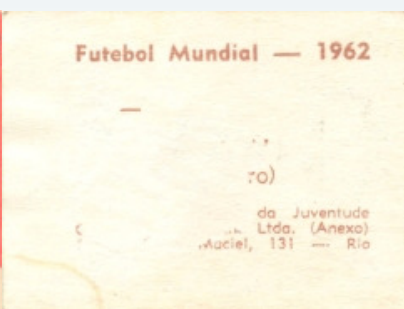
## Latest acquisitions

Lots of cards and stickers are expected over the coming months with Town having been promoted to The Greedy League but, for now, here's a selection of what else has recently fallen into my lap.



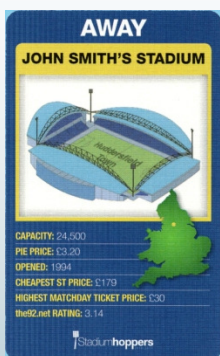
### c1925 Barratt "Cricketers, Footballers and Football Teams"

Now, I know what you're all thinking - "We've already seen this card at least once!" - and you'd be right, but there is a subtle difference again. This is in fact the THIRD version of this Barratt card of Billy Smith that I own and is unusual in that unlike the other two, it has a blank verso. I had read about such cards and having never ever seen one anywhere I always dismissed them as non-existent until this one appeared on eBay and I won it at just under £18.00. A very rare card indeed!



### Editoria Vecchi (Brazil) 'Futebol Mundial 1962'

Déjà vu! Yes, you might well be thinking exactly the same again with this item but, again, you'd be wrong. Similar to Italian card items from the 1962-63 era, this is a Brazilian paper collectable showing Town full-back Ray Wilson in the squad for the 1962 World Cup in Chile (notice the absence of a number to the front). The damage to the rear means that I picked it up at a fraction of the cost of a perfect one. Once again, very rare indeed.



### 2016 Stadiumhoppers 'Terrace Battles'

I must confess to not knowing a great deal about this card other than that it is from a set of 'TOP TRUMPS'-style cards with which children would play. I don't really like including these but sometimes needs must. I have no 100% confirmation of the date of issue, but I'm guessing that it must be 2016 going by the price of the cheapest season ticket. The reverse of this card features Gillingham FC as the 'HOME' side with their Priestfield Stadium. A full deck of these cards will set you back about £10.99, but this individual one cost me just 99p.



### 2010 MATCH OF THE DAY team tab

I'm pleased to report that these still keep turning up although they are becoming much more difficult to find. This was on eBay along with two other tabs (Luton and Kilmarnock from different seasons) although the actual season and publication were unidentified, so I had to do a bit of detective work to discover the finer details (thanks, Alan!)

And the good news is that both MotD and MATCH will be producing their League Ladders this summer, so I'll be adding my very first MotD 'scarf' tab; the joys of being in the Premier League, eh?

## I wish that I owned this

There are many collectables out there that I know feature Town or individual players, as well as others that may well exist but about which I know nothing at all at the moment. As part of an on-going series, I present here for you one of the items that I would like to have.

I don't think that I will EVER actually come across this; it's a postcard of Town official William Hardcastle as it appears in John Daniels' book 'Football Postcards', and it's autographed to boot. Hardcastle was associated with Town in one way or another from the club's birth in 1908 up until 1920 when he resigned; his letters of resignation can be seen in my **VIRTUAL MUSEUM**.

Postcards of Town players are quite rare and the officials are even rarer still. One such example of Harry Beever recently sold on **eBay** for just over £16 and that wasn't autographed. The fact that this one is signed makes it even more desirable and I have to confess that before Phil Martin brought this to my attention I had never even heard of such a postcard.

I think that the nearest that I will ever get to owning this is to simply go out and buy the book!



## Other football cards

As I know that there are several subscribers to this newsletter who are neither HTAFC fans nor collectors I try to include other football cards or items that I have which will throw the spotlight on other collectable items and/or teams. Here's another ...



### AMALGAMATED PRESS LTD., 'CHAMPION Album of Famous Footballers' (1930)

I'm quite sure that many of you reading this will recognise these small stickers and possibly even the booklet that housed them. Issued over the period 8th February to 29th March 1930, these small pictures were to be stuck into the appropriate page: English/Scottish/Welsh/Irish Internationals; Champion Centre-Forwards; Wizards of the Wing; Half-Back Warriors; Famous Full-Backs; Great Goalies; Lads of the North; London Favourites; and £35,000 Worth of Forwards. You will often find these carefully removed and offered for sale individually on eBay at exorbitant prices; indeed, the Dixie Dean one shown here has been known to fetch in excess of £30 on its own!

I was lucky enough to pick up this complete - and in excellent condition too, I might add - booklet from eBay a few years ago for the ridiculously low price of just £12.00!! I also have stickers of Hine (Leicester), Hibbs (Birmingham) and Morton (Rangers) for sale if you're interested; you know where I am ....



## Recommended read

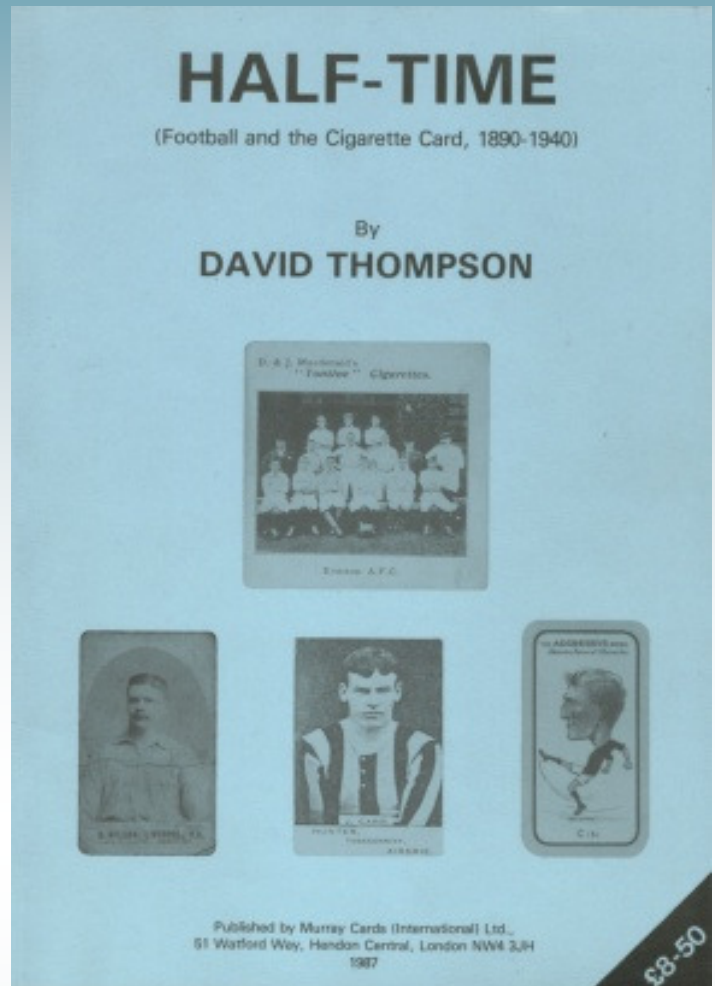
# 'HALF-TIME (Football and the Cigarette Card 1890-1940)' by David Thompson (1987)

Originally published in 1987, this is now quite a rare publication and if you do find a copy it will certainly not be anywhere near as cheap as some of the other books that I have recommended in the past. It is a 104-page A4-sized softback book which purports to list ALL the football cigarette cards ever issued, certainly in the UK anyway, although there is a sizeable *errata* printed at the very back which is dated 31st July, 2001. I should mention at this point that, as evidenced by the title of the book, this book does not include any of the trade cards issued during this period; for anyone who is unaware of the difference - and I wasn't when I started - trade cards were issued with comics, magazines, newspapers, sweets, bubble-gum, etc., whereas cigarette cards were issued with ... well, cigarettes!

I found this book an invaluable source of information when I started tracking down the many tobacco cards featuring Town players. There is page after page of lists, organised alphabetically by tobacco brand and a few illustrations scattered about which give an indication of the style of each card and can be helpful in identifying just exactly what you are looking for. There is also some commentary with most of the sets pointing out some of the more interesting information such as variations, anomalies, historical and biographical facts about players, clubs and even the brand of cigarette.

Obviously typed up in pre-computer technology on an old Corona typewriter, or whatever, this is still an excellent publication but nevertheless one which I would most heartily recommend to all collectors of football cigarette cards. However, I've had a quick squint on Amazon, eBay and the internet in general and have drawn a blank in every search so it looks as if you might struggle to find a copy at ANY price!

**UPDATE:** I've just checked Garry Daynes' 'FOOTBALL CARD COLLECTOR MAGAZINE' catalogue and it would appear that he has one for sale at £15. However, he often has stock listed which is no longer available so I wouldn't pin my hopes on this if I were you. If you don't have any contact details for Garry, get in touch with me and I'll let you have them.

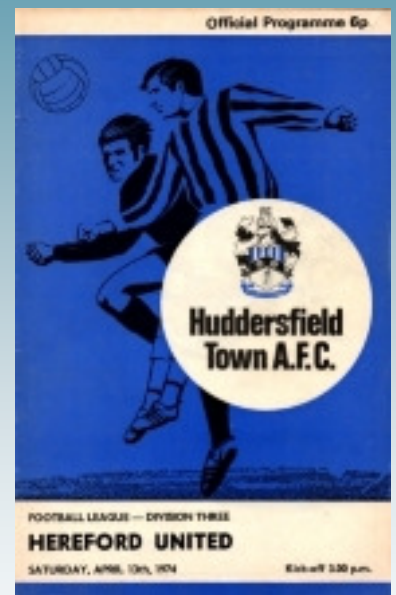


## For Sale

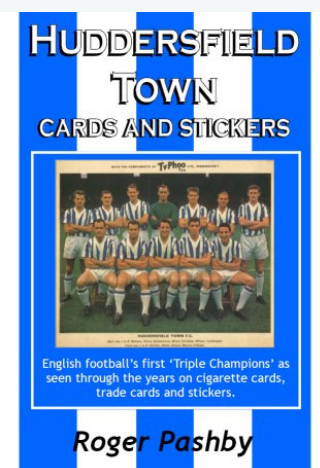
As ever, it would be remiss of me not to mention this section of the website, just in case I happen to have the one thing that you've been looking for.

Currently I have one or two cards, a calendar and a raft of 1973-74 programmes for sale. There are also a few fixture cards from recent years which I know that many of you out there collect; they're not really all that rare, but you just try finding one nowadays!

The complete list of programmes and everything else that I have can be found by visiting the **FOR SALE** section of my website.



I also have two autographed 2012-13 'MATCH ATTAX' cards featuring Town players Alex Smithies and Lee Novak. You can have the pair for just £3.00 with free postage - just contact me and I'll let you have payment details.



And finally, I suppose anytime is a good time to plug my book. I now knock them out at £4.75 (p&p included) which still represents good value. Having said that, I strongly suspect that all recipients of this newsletter already own a copy so I'm almost certainly preaching to the converted. However, you might just be looking for something for that other Town fan that you know who may not own a copy. Anyway, you can pick up one up - or several if you like as the postage is still only £1.75 no matter how many you buy! - by visiting the appropriate section of my website.

Thanks for taking the time to read this and I hope that it has encouraged you to have a look at my site and find something of interest. I should also point out that there is a GUESTBOOK on there and if you haven't yet signed it, please do; you'll join various luminaries such as Reece Dinsdale and the descendants of Town players of old. And remember - if you come across anything that you think might interest me, please get in touch; we might be able to strike a deal!

*Roger*