

ARSENAL



Canon League Division One
v LIVERPOOL
Saturday, December 14th, 1985
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
Official Programme Price 50p

Sponsored by
JVC
leaders in video and hi-fi

ARSENAL FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED



Arsenal Stadium,
Avenell Road, Highbury,
London, N5

phone: 01 226 0304 (club)
01 359 0131 (information)

League champions: 1931,
1933, 1934, 1935, 1938,
1948, 1953, 1971

Runners up: 1926, 1932,
1973

F.A. Cup winners: 1930,
1936, 1950, 1971, 1979

Runners up: 1927, 1932,
1952, 1972, 1978, 1980

Football League Cup
runners up: 1968, 1969

European Fairs Cup
winners: 1970

European Cup Winners
Cup runners up: 1980

F.A. Youth Cup winners:
1966, 1971

President: Sir Stanley
Rous, CBE

Directors: Peter
Hill Wood (Chairman)
David Dein
(Vice chairman)

Sir Robert Bellinger, GBE,
D.Sc

Stuart McIntyre, MBE,
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Tony Wood

Roger Gibbs

Clive Carr

Richard Carr

Ken Friar (Managing
Director and Secretary)

Assistant Secretary:
David Miles

Manager: Don Howe

First team coach:

John Cartwright

Programme editor:

Kevin Connolly MA

Editorial features: Kevin

Connolly, Tony Pullein

and Fiona Cohn BA

Pictures: Bill Smith, FRPS
and Doug Poole

Programme designed and
printed by Maybank Press,
Hainault, Essex.

HIGHBURY INFO... INFO... I

WELCOME TO THE PLAYERS,
SUPPORTERS AND OFFICIALS
OF LIVERPOOL FOOTBALL
CLUB.

FA CUP TRIP TO GRIMSBY

We have been drawn away to Grimsby in the FA Cup third round on January 4 — and the Arsenal Travel Club is organising a special trip. The return rail fare will be £12.25 and tickets will be on sale after today's game. At the time of going to press it is not known whether the match will be all ticket.

• For more travel and ticket information see Commercial Corner on page five and Travel Club Milk Cup news on page 15.

SPURS DERBY

The Arsenal v Tottenham Hotspur Canon League game at Highbury on January 1 will NOT be an all-ticket match.

The South Terrace has been allocated to the visiting supporters and therefore we suggest that Arsenal supporters use the North Bank for this match.

Terrace season ticket holders should also use only the North Bank terrace season ticket turnstiles.

FIVES TITLE SLIPS AWAY

A penalty shoot-out cost us a bit of Wembley glory on November 27.

The Arsenal squad reached the final of the Daily Express National Five-A-Side competition at Wembley Arena — beating Sheffield Wednesday, Aberdeen and Sunderland on the way.

Graham Rix and Kenny Sansom scored in a 2-2 draw with Oxford United in the final... but we lost out when Ian Allinson's spot-kick was saved in the penalties decider.

Also in our squad were Rhys Wilmot, Michael Thomas and Chris Whyte.

CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS

Like everyone else, staff at Arsenal will be having a couple of days off for the Christmas break.

Arsenal Stadium will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day, but will be open as follows: Monday, December 23 — 9.30 am to 5.00 pm; Tuesday, December 24 — 9.30 am to 12 noon; Friday, December 27 — 9.30 am to 5.00 pm.

PROGRAMME FAIR

Wimbledon FC will be holding their annual Programme Fair at their ground tomorrow Sunday, December 15. There will be 10 stalls in operation, selling

programmes of all clubs. Major dealers will be well represented. Admission is free — so it sounds a must for all collectors.

FOR LIVERPOOL FANS

The London Branch of the Liverpool Supporters Club has asked us to point out that it is open for membership to all exiled supporters living in London and the South East.

The branch organises cheap travel for genuine supporters to all Liverpool matches and provides a regular newsletter and social events, and runs its own football team.

For further information about membership, write to: Mrs F. Sephton, Membership Secretary, LFCSC London Branch, PO Box 185, London NW1 3QU.

ARSENAL CHRISTMAS CARDS

On sale today... your official Arsenal FC Christmas cards. Buy them at the Gunners Shop, price 30p each — or £2.50 for 10. Also available is the 1986 Arsenal Calendar, with giant size colour photographs of all your favourite Gunners. For more information on Arsenal gifts and souvenirs available, see the Gunners Shop advertisement on page eight.

NEW

MAKE MONEY

LOTTERY

Coming soon, the chance to win a super new 1986 METRO CITY. Over £11,500 in prizes and tickets will still be just 25p. More details in the QPR programme.

STADIUM TOURS

Arsenal are running regular stadium tours for parties on week-days (except Fridays before Saturday first team home games). These tours are separate from the Junior Gunners stadium tours, which are exclusively for JGs. The stadium tour takes you behind the scenes at Arsenal from the dressing room to the boardroom. For all the details write to: Shelley Alger, Stadium Tours, Arsenal Stadium, Highbury, London N5 1BU.

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If you're not scoring goals you ain't going to win football matches. It's as simple as that.

We haven't found the net in our last three League games and we're very conscious of that fact.

People are saying: "What are they going to do about it?"

Well, we're doing a lot of special work in training to sharpen up the players' shooting skills and develop confidence around the box.

But I've found over the years that it's no good harping on about this kind of problem. That develops too much tension. Forwards become too tight. Goalscoring is a cool art.

The important thing is that we're creating chances. Against Birmingham we could have won 6-0. Martin Hayes could have had a hat-trick and I could have been presenting him with the match ball.

I can understand the frustration of the fans. They expect professional footballers to take these chances.

DON HOWE

If Steve Davis has to pot the black to win the game, people expect him to stick it away — because he's a pro. That's the difference between amateurs and pros. When the pressure's on the pro sticks it away. That's the kind of professionalism we expect from our players.

Strikers are always complaining about the lack of service — but to my mind that's an excuse. If you've got a chance you've got to make the most of it.

Some people say we need a big fella in the box — but that's just another excuse. Look at Liverpool. They've got Ian Rush and Paul Walsh up front and they're scoring plenty of goals. That's not necessarily the answer. But whatever the answer is, we'll find it.

How about that FA Cup draw? Another tough away trip to a side from a lower Division. I listened to the draw on the radio at Southampton with Saints boss Chris Nicholl, formerly of Grimsby, our third round opponents. He said: "It's bloody cold up there!"

Grimsby have a good home record, but if we do our homework properly we should do the job.

Talking of exotic locations . . . Last week the first-team squad got away to Trinidad for a few days — to play a sponsored match for a West Indian soft drinks manufacturer.

But anyone who thought it was going to be sunshine all the way was in for a shock. It never stopped raining from the moment we arrived to the moment we left! We never saw the sun once.

The idea was that we'd play the game on the first day and the players could have a couple of days relaxing in the sun. But the match was rained off on the first two days . . . and there was worse to come.

On the last day a group of us drove out to the sponsor's factory, an hour's drive from Port of Spain, to do a promotional spot. There was me, assistant secretary David Miles, physio Roy Johnson and players John Lukic, Viv Anderson and Paul Davis.

We left the factory with two hours to get back before the start of the game, which was finally going to be played. But the rain was so heavy that the roads were closed and we couldn't get through. Eventually they sent two helicopters out to pick us up! We made it to the ground halfway through the first-half, when we were winning 1-0. All the crowd were shouting for Viv Anderson and we managed to get him on in the second-half.

As soon as the game was over we had to make a mad dash to catch the plane home. The match finished at 6.10 pm and our flight was at 8 pm.

On the way to the airport our coach broke down in the middle of a flood. The water was seeping up into the coach! The coach driver managed to get going again — and we just made it in time. But it was a nightmare. I can tell you, it's experiences like that that make you appreciate the English weather!

YOUNG GUNNERS

PAUL MERSON

GROWING INTO THE STRIKER'S ROLE . . .

Well there certainly weren't many clubs around London that Paul Merson hadn't tried out in his short career, before deciding on Arsenal. He had spells with Chelsea, QPR and Watford where he stayed for two years before making the choice to commit himself to Arsenal as a schoolboy at the age of 14.

Paul began to take football seriously when he was nine, when he represented his district, Brent, in their under-10s team. He was also playing Sunday football for his local club Forest Utd, and it was while playing for these teams that he was offered the opportunity to go to Watford. While on Watford's books, he carried on playing for Brent and he began playing for Ealing district when he was 12.

It was while he was with Watford, that he visited the other clubs. As a Chelsea supporter, Paul's dream was to join "The Blues", but he was disappointed with the set-up and preferred the friendly atmosphere of Watford.

"I got on very well at Watford", he recalls. "The main choice I had to make was whether to stay there or come to Arsenal. I chose Arsenal because it was so much bigger and grander."

Although Paul doesn't doubt his potential, he knows that he was very fortunate to be offered an apprenticeship with Arsenal.

"I was really lucky to be signed up", he admits. "When I first came here, I was very short — much too small for a centre-forward. It's only this year that I've shot up . . . about 5 inches, and I'm not that tall now."

But despite his height, or lack of it, Paul has been doing well this season. What he lacks in stature, he makes up for in commitment — and he has broken into the reserve team. So far in 16 games this season, including friendly matches, Paul has scored 14 goals and he is greatly encouraged by that sort of form.

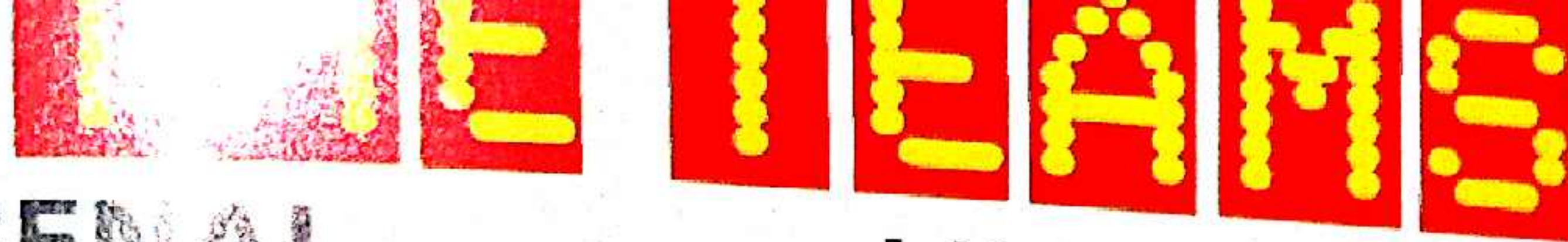
"Although I'm short, I've never been discouraged from playing centre-forward," he says. "I think people can see that I've got a good touch and that I'm not frightened to go forward".

Because he lives so far from Highbury, Paul doesn't have much spare time once training and travelling are over — and he likes to spend his evenings relaxing, listening to music.

If he doesn't have training on a Wednesday, he helps with training Forest Utd on Tuesday nights, where his youngest brother is in the team. He enjoys the challenge of coaching and if he does well as a footballer, would like to follow a playing career with a coaching one. He has often thought about doing courses like Pat Dolan and Nicky Hammond, but he lives too far away to make it feasible.

"For the moment, I just want to secure my place in the reserves and give 100 per cent to that", he says.





ARSENAL

Red shirts, white neck and sleeves, white shorts, red socks

LIVERPOOL

Yellow shirts with red trim, yellow shorts, yellow socks

- 1 JOHN LUKIC
- 2 VIV ANDERSON
- 3 KENNY SANSOM
- 4 PAUL DAVIS
- 5 DAVID O'LEARY
- 6 TOMMY CATON
- 7 IAN ALLINSON
- 8 STEWART ROBSON
- 9 CHARLIE NICHOLAS

MARTIN KEOWN

10 TONY WOODCOCK (NAIL QUINN)

11 MARTIN HAYES G. RIX

12 MARTIN HAYES

- 1 BRUCE GROBBELAAR
- 2 STEVE NICOL
- 3 JIM BEGLIN
- 4 MARK LAWRENSEN
- 5 SAMMY LEE
- 6 ALAN HANSEN
- 7 PAUL WALSH
- 8 CRAIG JOHNSTON
- 9 IAN RUSH

10 JAN MOLBY

11 KEVIN MacDONALD MACMAHON

12 MACDONALD

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THE GUNNERS SHOP



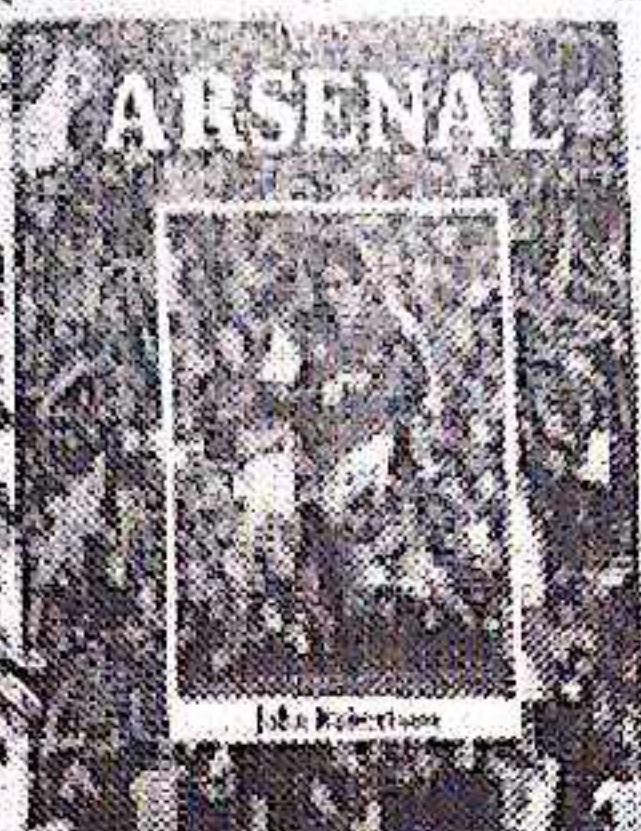
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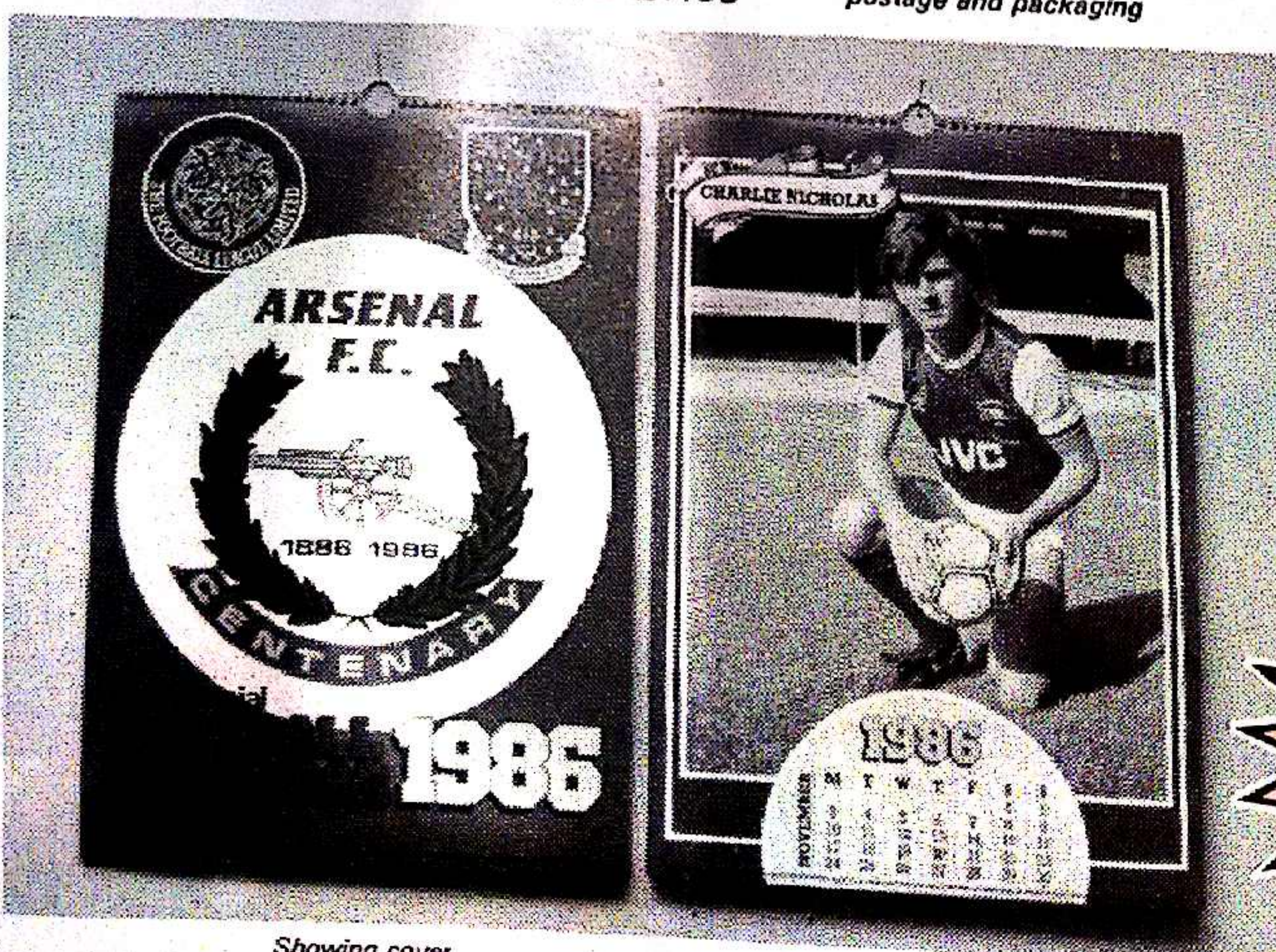


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1. Inside Soccer by Tony Woodcock ~~£9.95~~ £1.00*
2. Herbert Chapman Football Emperor ~~£8.95~~ £1.00*
3. Centenary Holdall (Vinyl) ~~£7.50~~ £1.33*

4. The Story of Arsenal ~~£4.95~~ £1.00*
5. Scatter Cushion 10" x 10" ~~£2.95~~ 26p*
6. 'Arsenal' Book ~~£5.95~~ £1.00*

*postage and packaging



Showing cover

Interior

The
Official
1986
Centenary
Calendar

Price
£2.95
plus
50p pp