

Leek's long haul to glory

UNKNOWN Leek Town travel to Wycombe next month hoping to continue their amazing run of success in the FA Trophy.

The gallant little North West Counties League side have slogged their way through nine matches — including three replays — for the right to face Blues in the third round on February 8.

Managed by former Telford player Kevin Lewis, Leek Town have so far disposed of Spalding United, Sutton Coldfield, Buxton, Dudley Town and Rhyl.

And on Saturday they stunned Multipart League leaders Macclesfield with two goals in the last 15 minutes for their best win to date.

The Staffordshire club's previous best run in the Trophy came in 1973 when they managed to reach the first round.

They also set a new club record in the FA Cup this season when they reached the third qualifying round for the first time in their history before losing to St Helens Town.

Blues will have to beware of Leek's leading scorer, Tony Griffiths, who has notched six goals in their marvellous Trophy run.

The North West Counties League Cup and Shield champions are currently fifth from bottom in their league.

But they have become so embroiled in Cup and Trophy games that they have nine matches in hand over most clubs!

Leek's Trophy run: Preliminary round: v Spalding United, drew 0-0 away, won replay 3-0; 1st qualifying round: v Sutton Coldfield, drew 0-0 away, won replay 2-1; 2nd qualifying round: v Buxton, won 3-2 at home; 3rd qualifying round: v Dudley Town, won 2-1 at home; 1st round proper: v Rhyl, drew 1-1 away, won replay 3-2; 2nd round proper: v Macclesfield, won 2-1 at home.

Blues will obviously treat Leek with respect.

But their must be relieved to have avoided Gola League big guns.