

It's great that fans can smile once more



STEVE BROWN

PARKLIFE

WE'VE still got a lot to play for this season.

When we got beat at Cambridge, we started on another run and that's the most important thing. When our unbeaten home record came to an end, it was important to get another run going. The gaffer's never been too bothered about our home form; we need to win more away.

It was a massive game against Bristol and I was very pleased with a great result but we've been struggling with our passing game recently.

Against Port Vale, the pitch has been bad and we couldn't really pass it because of the surface.

The pitch at Adams Park is probably the worst it has been for years. I've never known it to be so heavy. Even players like Rhino who have been here for longer say it's never been so bad.

But it was a good pitch at Chesterfield and it was nice to get back to passing the ball.

I thought for the first half, we had a lot of possession for an away side. But we did need to get a goal so it was great when Sean [Devine] scored.

Then we were resilient. There were a few dodgy moments but I remember talking to Micky Forsyth, the youth team manager, and he said he loves winning 1-0 because it shows you've got some courage about yourself.

To get a result there was great for the fans. We've had a couple of poor performances on the road so it was nice to put that right and let them go home with a smile on their faces.

I'm delighted for Sean; it's great to see him playing. I never doubted he'd not get back to scoring – he's a natural scorer – but I saw him at his lowest, not playing and I'm just happy to see him laughing and joking and playing his football.

A lot of credit for that must go to Dave Jones, the physio. He's been his counsellor and mentor, everything really while Sean was injured.

We're now off to Bournemouth with their new stadium. They've been a bogey team but a new stadium puts more pressure on the home side.

I played at Northampton on the old County Ground. It was a three-sided ground and a lot of teams hated going there and playing.

The thing about new stadia is that everyone wants to go and play there.

On Saturday, I went to an Owl Patrol, which was for children all over the world who are allergic to UV rays and so can't go out into the sunshine.

More than 200 people were there and it was nice getting to meet these people and having a chat with them.

We take it for granted that we can walk about in the summer time with short-sleeved shirts but these children can't do that.

I enjoy doing charity work. If you can put a smile on peoples' faces, it's great. A lot of children like to meet a professional football so while I'm a football player, I'll continue to do that.

HOW THEY STAND

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Reading	33	11	2	4	29	14	9	3	4	22	15	65
Brighton	32	12	2	1	29	12	5	8	4	16	21	61
Stoke	33	10	4	3	31	11	6	5	5	19	21	57
Brentford	32	12	3	1	38	10	4	4	8	18	24	55
Bristol C	32	9	4	3	26	15	7	3	6	24	19	55
Huddersfield	32	10	4	3	27	16	5	6	4	20	17	55
Oldham	32	10	4	2	33	13	4	6	6	24	27	52
Tranmere	31	9	6	2	34	13	5	2	7	16	24	50
Cardiff	32	7	6	3	27	19	6	5	5	21	17	50
QPR	33	7	7	2	26	14	6	3	8	19	23	49
Wycombe	31	10	4	1	30	12	3	6	7	15	25	49
Port Vale	32	8	4	4	27	18	4	3	9	13	26	43
Colchester	33	8	3	5	27	21	4	4	9	23	34	43
Swindon	33	7	4	5	18	17	4	5	8	18	28	42
Chesterfield	31	7	1	8	27	25	3	8	4	13	15	39
Wigan	32	4	5	7	21	19	5	6	5	21	21	38
Blackpool	31	5	8	3	23	22	4	3	8	16	28	38
Peterboro	31	7	3	5	31	18	3	4	9	12	24	37
B'mouth	32	7	2	6	23	21	1	7	9	16	30	33
Bury	32	4	6	6	17	20	4	2	10	13	31	32
Wrexham	33	5	5	7	20	25	3	2	11	20	43	31
N'thampton	32	4	3	9	15	26	4	1	11	19	31	28
Notts Co	32	3	5	7	16	24	3	3	11	20	33	26
Cambridge	31	5	6	5	20	23	0	2	13	9	38	23