

THE
LUPTON CUP
STORY

1937-1972

By
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and
BRIAN SEARLE

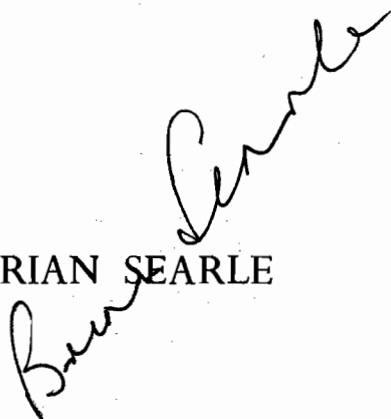
The Lupton Cup Story

1937-1972

The commentary of thirty-four years of competitive Waterguard football, of the colleagues past and present who contested footballing supremacy, the men behind them, the fans who went for the ride and to savour Waterguard hospitality at its best and of the man who inspired the enterprise, ARTHUR SINCLAIR LUPTON, CBE.

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VERNON HILL and BRIAN SEARLE

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brian Searle", written diagonally across the bottom right of the page.

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Origins, Organisation and Progress

IT all began just before World War II because a certain C. & E. Assistant Secretary named A. S. Lupton, who took such a keen interest in departmental sport, particularly Waterguard sport, accepted the salutation of the Preventive Staff Sports Club, upon retirement, to ascribe his name to a Cup which was to be played for by all Waterguard and Launch Service football teams.

Soccer flourished in the Waterguard between the wars when there had been numerous inter-port "friendlies". What was lacking was something of a competitive nature.

In March, 1935, a Waterguard XI was matched against the Maurice Club XI (a strong amateur side) at Edgware, Middlesex. The visiting revenue men were worthy winners and were royally entertained to a club supper after the game, their hosts being Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Lupton, whose interest in, and devotion to C. & E. sport was well known.

In 1937, a very fine London Customs team carried off the A.F.A. Minor Cup, the Coronation Cup and were runners-up in the strong Civil Service League. This formation included the fabulous Waterguard half-back line of Bill Williamson, George Dover and Ginger Ralph, said to have had no equal in the league.

Subsequently, Walter W. Bishop, Waterguard officer of London Port, formed the National Preventive Service Sports Club in 1938 out of two existing Waterguard clubs, the North Side Football club and the South Side Cricket club, both of which he had constituted. He motivated a great deal of inter-port football and cricket competition particularly between London and Gravesend, and for the literati and the leisured he also created the Preventive Staff Chess Club. Together with Charles Purser, London Port Superintendent, and Charles M. Woodford, last of the non-Waterguard IGWs, Wally Bishop originated the concept of a national inter-port knock-out football competition to honour the retirement of Mr. Lupton in 1937; and favourably, the operational processes of the Waterguard Service made it the perfect crucible for comradeship and allegiance. Centralised training courses, detached duty, mobile and cutter duties and promotion caused a constant interfusion of staffs, and the implanting of a regular, national competition upon this situation led to the memorable reunions which were to flourish.

Before the last war, situations in the Service were not manipulated with the flexibility of later years and it was never obligatory for superintendents to allow time-off for football. The forty-eight hours week meant that half-days' leave could be taken by officers wishing to attend Lupton Cup matches, but as a consequence, any overtime payment up to four hours could be lost. This did not occur often in practice and superintendents were invariably well disposed towards the Lupton Cup reunions, indeed appearing at venues in startling numbers; Jim Wiseman, Tyne's former organiser, attributed that port's commitment to the competition to their keenly participative "Supers". Their personnel problems though, were made easier because, happily, it was fortuitous that games were played in the 'off season' when ports had their permanent staff in post and Lupton Cup arrangements could be regularised confidently.

The role of those who stayed behind is inestimable where boarding stations and baggage halls require day-long manning. These are the nameless colleagues who showed loyalty and selflessness when needed

for without them surely Lupton Cup activities could never have been accomplished. Charles Woodford eulogised them on the occasion of the first final at Edgware in 1938, and more recently, Geoff Borchard recorded the thanks of the Middlesbrough footballers to their staff during the recent campaign, which personifies the appreciation of all Lupton Cup enthusiasts to those who kept the job going. The sentiment applies similarly to the organisers who experienced the difficulties and satisfactions of match arrangements, from the days of Liverpool's George Coady and Bill Hughes to the present day's Ian Francis, Brian Sharpe, Derek Bolam and many others.

Success in the field inevitably lay with the ports who ran a local league side which naturally required a sufficiency of young officers; the smaller ports possessing a nucleus of talented players generally had to supplement their sides with superannuated soccer stars, rugby and hockey types and others of indeterminate footballing ability. Ports who creditably overcame the handicap of limited numbers were Tyne with a cup final and twenty-six other games spanning thirty-two years; Leith with fine victories over Glasgow and Liverpool in 1970; Gatwick, who conclusively defeated the Southampton giants and Dover in 1971, their second season, and Gravesend, whose 4—3 result over L.A.P. in 1969 remains a famous victory.

Plymouth were almost in the first round draw in 1959 but the necessary application was not made, whilst Manchester and Middlesbrough have contested matters seriously since seasons 1968 and 1969 respectively, largely developing a rivalry for further advancement between themselves.

Geographical isolation prevented sizeable numbers of staff from entry with the resultant social benefits, the most notable example being the Belfast division much to the disappointment of colleagues in the port and boundary patrols. Belfast's P. J. Whyte said, "What about it, lads?" in 1951 and again in 1952, and saw no reason why, with the local support of Newry and Armagh in particular, the Northern Ireland Lupton Cup XI should not have been formed. More recently, exploratory conversations with Dick Smythe of Armagh, on the practicality of a Northern Ireland entry, revealed real enthusiasm at Newry and Armagh typified by Eugene Devlin and Jim Mitson respectively, but in view of the province's existing unhappy situation further research was regrettably postponed. The welcome awaiting such friends as Scully, Hodgson, Jeffrey, O'Shea, Aubin, Devlin, Mitson, Whyte, C. McWilliams, J. O'Connor, I. Murray and the many other colleagues would be massive and the prospect worth the prolonged delay. Our sporting friends from the Rep. of Ireland Customs, including the respected Mr. Kieilty, IG, Dublin, Mr. Pat McLoughlin, Dundalk, and Mr. Donal Costigan of Lifford, with whom the C. & E. Knock-Out Cup between teams north and south of the border, has been enjoyed in recent times, would surely be warmly welcomed in any future reunions.

It is additionally to be deplored that the staffs of many other ports were exiled from the competition and attendant sociality; the Cardiff division from Fishguard to Bristol were unfortunate in this respect, likewise Plymouth and Falmouth, Aberdeen, Holyhead and to some extent Preston, Grimsby, Newhaven and Shoreham and Luton Airport.

The arrangement for the first round matches decided in September, 1937, was for adjacent ports to play each other, the succeeding teams to be nationally drawn. There were eight founder members and the first match was played in October, 1937, between Gravesend and South-

ampton, followed by Hull and Liverpool, Cardiff and Bristol, and Dover and London, culminating in London's victory over Liverpool in the first final at the Tansley F.C. ground, Edgware, on 6th April, 1938.

Six ports entered the competition on the rather leisurely revival after the war in the 1947/48 season, Liverpool, surprisingly, being the only northern entry.

In 1950, the organisation came under criticism, when Liverpool's Bill Hughes complained of lack of dispatch and flair in the publication of the draw, particularizing that matches had been compressed into the latter half of the season which meant that financial resources of players and hosts were over-committed in a short space of time; the Preventive Staff Sports Club's improvements included the sectoring of eliminating matches into northern and southern areas. Similarly, there were lapses in *The Customs Journal* reports of scores and matches due to port correspondents, which will have been understandable during times of urgent concern with more vital Waterguard affairs, and this inconsistency has been the case to the present day.

Even the Football Association showed disfavour with the P.S.S.C. in 1951. Harwich had won the Lupton Cup in 1950 but it was brought to their notice that although Waterguard teams were properly affiliated with H.Q. Lancaster Gate, nevertheless the competition and trophy had not been registered and were therefore in danger of being formally invalidated; this illegality existed despite letters from the FA who finally rebuked the P.S.S.C. for their lack of foresight.

The 1961/62 season marked the nadir in the competition's fortunes when the only entries, L.A.P. and Southampton, contested the single tie at Cranford, Middlesex; the home side obligingly snapped up the prize after sharing it with Liverpool the previous year. The ports in retrospect blamed the P.S.S.C.'s bad publicity although Liverpool and Harwich insisted that they were ready to play, but more fundamentally, could it have been the anxiety of the "pay pause" which severely affected Civil Service moral and pay-scales during 1961? There appeared little improvement in affairs in the spring of 1964 when the final between Glasgow and L.A.P. failed to be arranged despite a Hull offer to stage the match. All ended happily, however, when Newcastle came to the rescue under the chairmanship of J. N. S. Moore, the final successfully being staged there in October of the following season. Six months later, L.A.P. repeated their Tyneside win over Glasgow, this time at Hull, where the east coast men immaculately and punctually staged the season's final.

Subsequent notes of censure have been limited to a pointed depreciation of ungentlemanly behaviour during the Southampton and L.A.P. semi-final in February, 1967. C.J. observer, Des Wallis, referred to an unsavoury game in which blatant fouls and referee's bookings shocked supporters on both sides and that 'win at all costs' had never been part of the Lupton Cup scene. But the manner of winning did not in fact leave anything to be desired at the post-match reception and such questionable play ultimately proved exceptional in the broad perspective of Cup games.

Judging from the record number of fourteen entries during each of the last two seasons, the complications of the Fifties and Sixties were no hindrance to the subsequent progressive impetus of the competition.

A. S. Lupton

ARTHUR SINCLAIR LUPTON, C.B.E., M.A., Barrister-at-Law, entered the Civil Service in 1900 and after service at Somerset House and with the Special Commissioners of Income Tax he was, in 1920, appointed to Assistant Secretary to the Board and Chairman of the Waterguard Sectional Committee and Promotion Board. He was involved with the revenue side of the Waterguard dealing largely with seizures and smuggling.

Mr. Lupton loved birds. He administered preventive measures on the importation of their plumage and kept an arctic owl in a glass cage in his room. Shortly after the introduction of the Plumage (Prohibition) Act of 1921, five cases purporting to contain eggs were detained at Newhaven having arrived from France. The importation was uncommon for the port and internal examination revealed dead birds.

Scientific investigation of specimens in a conditioning oven disclosed that the birds were of the genus Birds of Paradise, the seized variety. In the routine way, the department consulted the National History Museum who amazingly ruled that the birds were unidentifiable—in fact they were an unknown species. Even the Museum staff knew these particularly lovely birds of paradise did not roost on the telegraph wires in Dieppe but by dint of coincidence and detective work, it was discovered that far up the Fly River in New Guinea this hitherto unknown species was living and breeding in a place previously unpenetrated by the white man. The lower reaches of the river were unsuitable as a habitat and the character of the bird's wings and plumage generally could not enable it to fly away over the mountains, and it had continued to subsist there quite unknown to science. The facts thus established, the ornithological authorities had to accord the species a name. It was therefore termed PARADISA (= bird of paradise), APODA (= legless; the birds were originally thought to be legless on account of the retractable nature of the legs and because it was not known how they could roost they were thought to fly away to paradise every evening, hence the imaginative name), LUPTONI (= of A. S. Lupton, who worked the Board's file dealing with the case). The original sample is now in the Departmental Museum at King's Beam House.

Born in 1877, Mr. Lupton was educated at St. Paul's School, then at St. John's College, Cambridge, taking the Master of Arts degree, and being subsequently called to the Bar.

Throughout his close association with our Service he always took the keenest interest in all Waterguard affairs, official, sporting and social. He always gave careful and sympathetic consideration to Waterguard claims, and his kindly and painstaking attitude as Chairman of the Promotion Board was commendable. As Vice-Principal of the Working Men's College, he anticipated the Waterguard Training Centre in some degree by instituting at the College classes in Police Court procedure for Waterguard Officers, securing the services of an eminent Metropolitan Magistrate as lecturer.

A member of a prominent scholastic family, he was himself a classical scholar. Nevertheless, he loved social contact with his fellows in all spheres of life. No Waterguard function, be it football or cricket match, dinner dance or after match "sing-song" seemed complete without the genial presence of Mr. and Mrs. Lupton who often travelled with us to outports for inter-port matches, and frequently entertained opposing

teams and their supporters to supper at their home in Finchley or at the Working Men's College Ground at Canons Park.

On his retirement in 1937 the Waterguard entertained Mr. Lupton and his wife to dinner in London, but the only memento he could be induced to accept from those to whom he had been so good a friend was a case of pipes. An inveterate smoker, he was rarely without a pipe in his mouth, and on his desk there were always several cherished briars all ready loaded for use.

Arthur Lupton died suddenly and peacefully at Kendal, Westmorland, where he had been living for some years, on 9th January, 1949. Contemporaries of that Waterguard generation will remember him not only whenever the Lupton Cup is won or lost, but in the times between.

The Social Side

LUPTON CUP fixtures became an elemental reason for renewing old acquaintances and social contacts with other ports, new friendships were made sometimes with people who previously were only names and for others there was preoccupation with their side's footballing ambitions and inter-port rivalry.

In the early days, heads of ports constantly praised the reality of large, Waterguard gatherings on Lupton Cup evenings. At Southampton's first home reception in 1938, Mr. Lympney, the host Superintendent, expounded that, "the friendly spirit would manifest itself in the moulding of character, which after all was the one thing that we made in this world and took with us into the next". Charles Purser topically replied for London, when he likened a rummage crew to a football team, both worked together and in the same sporting spirit. More senior colleagues will also remember Charles Woodford, the immediate pre-war I.G.W. and a useful baritone who frequently sang at smoking concerts, who was possessed with the desire to perpetuate the great spirit of comradeship found in the Waterguard and to continue the cementing of good fellowship throughout all ranks of the Service.

The reception for the first final in 1938, between London and Liverpool, held at the Tansley Football Club, Edgware, was an exhilarating affair, when 187 dined and participated in an effusion of oratory and discourse followed by fine musical entertainment led by Liverpool's George Coady and Alf Smallwood. Chick Lacey had come up from Dover and glowed in old-time preventive uniform. Even Mr. Lupton thought it was the largest gathering seen at the Club and was glad it was the Waterguard, and in the course of his address uttered what must be the definitive precept of the competition, "These gatherings are the means of us getting all together which cause the spread of good fellowship". The success of the reunion was acclaimed by Charles Woodford who thought it an unprecedented occasion which performed immeasurable good to the Waterguard Service; he emphasised that in purpose, the competition was in honour of the recently retired Mr. Lupton, pointedly thanked the colleagues who stayed on duty in the celebrating ports and hoped that the festivity would be the forerunner of many others.

Another non-Waterguard enthusiast was Mr. T. J. D. Large, Collector, Liverpool, who, when unable to appear personally, always contrived to receive instant news of his port's Cup results. It was he who suggested a scheme for transferring footballers from port to port under F.A. conditions with a consequential rake-off for the respective Collectors,

and additionally prompted a Notice to Mariners issued to the Liverpool pilotage authority, in anticipation of the first Lupton Cup final between London and Liverpool, which read, "Owing to the absence from Liverpool on special service of a number of Customs Preventive Staff, incoming passengers and members of Ships' crews are warned that smuggling is forbidden during the period of absence, i.e., from 10 a.m., 6th April, 1938, to 6 a.m., 7th April, 1938. After that time the ordinary catch-as-catch-can rule will apply."

There was hardly a Lupton Cup match without mention of festivities afterwards and frequently they were held simultaneously with retirement and promotion celebrations where it was common to see officers from retirement and from the out-ports sharing in the merry-making. Let us read again an extract from a J.K. (John) Kennedy article from *The Customs Journal* for April, 1949—"It occurred at London, the typical re-union. It was towards the end of the game. First they looked hard at each other. Then they approached, hands outstretched. Liverpool in 1930? London, 1925? Of course! Remember old Botcher? A pity about old Smithy. And with each turn of conversation they went further and further back." And relating the observation of an old Chief Engineer, "The amazing thing about you fellows is the compact way you talk about the British Isles; wherever you are you talk about places like Liverpool and Glasgow as though they were small ports sitting around the very next corner of coastline." "How true!" remarked Jack, "and is not the late Mr. A. S. Lupton partly to blame?"

The smoking concerts inspired the talents of the most likely and unlikely colleagues. Each port had its diversity of singers, monologists, players of instruments, raconteurs, dancers and gleemen who understandably will be remembered with nostalgia and appreciation, from George Coady's violin expertly bowed with a well-resined plug of hard tobacco, and the flair of Charlie (Snake Hips) Manning to Les Davies's hilarious humour and B. D. Smith's celebrated group. In recent years, possibly with some misgiving, there has been a slight regression in the homespun content of entertainment, replaced principally by the discotheque, but after-dinner addresses have remained a consistent and pleasurable feature of reunions.

Whatever fashion dictates in the composition of reunions, the Lupton Cup provided the Waterguard with one of its more blissful days, when beer never tasted better and the comradeship manifested surely unmatched in the Civil Service.

The Cup and Governing Rules

ONCE the idea of a national inter-port football competition to honour the retirement of Mr. Lupton was accepted, arrangements were finalised by Charles Woodford, I.G.W., to purchase a trophy of acceptable proportions which he, indeed, paid for himself, although becoming the property of the P.S.S.C. Each year, the cup, a simple, classic shape in silver, measuring about twelve inches high including its engraved, silver-banded plinth, has rested in the sacralium of the winning port's Superintendent's Office (six months at a time in the shared years of 1953 and 1961); except for the war period when, astutely, Bob Lowe, P.S.S.C. Gen. Sec., insured the article against shot and shell and deposited it in the safe of City Gate House.

The rules, drawn up by the national Preventive Staff Sports Club, and announced on 3rd July, 1937, are reproduced herewith:

THE LUPTON CUP RULES

(1) *The trophy to be known as "The Preventive Staff Inter-port Football Challenge Cup"—"The Lupton Cup".*

(2) *The trophy to be competed for by teams comprised only of officers in the Preventive or Launch Services and who are members of the competing clubs or who are Associate Members of the P.S.S.C.*

(3) *Teams to be confined to officers drawn from one port or officers drawn from a district under one Waterguard Superintendent, and who are members of the P.S.S.C.*

(4) *The contest to be on the 'knock out' principle, and all distant teams to be matched as far as possible in the first rounds with the team geographically nearest, or by reason of travelling facilities more easily accessible, or other method to ensure fairness of competition.*

(5) *The final venue to be arranged so that as near as possible an equal expense will be borne by the finalists.*

(6) *The results of matches to be sent to the General Secretary, P.S.S.C., together with the names of players, immediately after the match.*

(7) *Whenever possible the whole draw for the season is to be given, and in any case where this would prove to be unfair or involve considerable expense, the semi-final, or next round after the first to be arranged as per rule (4). This rule is to meet unforeseen circumstances and to speed up arrangements.*

(8) *The draw to be made in I.G.W.'s Office.*

(9) *Any points of difference arising between opposing teams, either before or after a match, in which agreement cannot be reached, such differences shall be referred to the managing committee for decision.*

(10) *Should a player transfer to another port or district during the course of a contest, he shall continue to play for his old port until the contest terminates.*

(11) *In order to cover any expenses such as postage, engraving, etc., the cost shall be charged to the P.S.S.C.*

(12) *Each club shall supply a linesman, and the home club a referee.*

(13) *Entries to be forwarded to the General Secretary of the P.S.S.C. not later than 1st August of each year.*

(14) *The first round draw to be notified to all club secretaries by the General Secretary of the P.S.S.C. before 31st August, and the first round played off before 30th October in each year in cases where there are more than four entries, and the semi-final round before the end of February.*

Ned Pollock and other Great Players

IN the thirty-five years of Lupton Cup football many hundreds of Waterguard Officers must have donned the shirts of their respective sides and sallied forth in search of the trophy, and despite research, it is quite impossible to say how many sportsmen have been involved in this quest, but it is well known that there have been many fine footballers amongst them.

Although we were not all privileged to see him in action it is conceivable that the greatest of them all was Ned Pollock. One of the best known of Liverpool's Waterguard officers, Ned, now seventy-three, enjoys retirement at his home in Orrell Park, Liverpool.

Tall and powerful, he brought distinction to the adult football scene over a span of twenty-five years with his constructive and goalscoring

forward play in a career which few amateurs could equal. He played for the Irish Guards from 1915-19, represented Ulster and won an Ireland Junior international cap against Scotland in season 1919/20. Until 1922, Ned played for the famous Bohemians in the League of Ireland, and his association with Dublin and its great Dalymount Park club he reckons to be the highspot of his playing days. Waterguard transfer to Liverpool followed and 1922-26 found him with Old Xaverians and Earle, where he played in the team which won the Lancashire Amateur Cup and Zingari Cup. He also played, in the course of his duties, for Whitchurch, Denbigh, Holyhead, Blaenau Festiniog and Llandudno, culminating in his leadership of the Liverpool Waterguard XI in the city's Wednesday Shipping league, which included four cup finals in 1938, and of course in the up-and-coming Lupton Cup, until the outbreak of war in 1939.

Ned played in Liverpool's first Lupton Cup match at Hull, at the age of thirty-nine, but injury prevented his appearance in the first final against London in April, 1938, regret being pointedly expressed by Charles Woodford, I.G.W. Happily, this was a temporary setback for a year later, Mrs. Lupton presented the cup to Ned, who had led the Merseysiders in a conclusive 4-0 victory over Southampton, before a crowd comprising officers from every part of the U.K. A reporter at Eltham (Kent) spoke of Liverpool's formidable "twin strikers", Billington and Pollock, and asked how could we possibly forget the value of every move of Ned Pollock and his educated feet.

Pre-war men with the whistle were to discover the existence of an extra dimension when a Pollock-inspired side was performing, and in March, 1948, at the retirement party of Ben Herrington, OBE, the renowned Liverpool H.W.S., inspired still by the fame of Ned who by now was almost fifty, referred in his valediction to "a great-hearted player, who, even in the midst of the hardest fight could always find time to stop and assist the referee with gratuitous advice." But on another occasion, Ned was asked for his name by a referee after an incident, whereupon he duly declared his surname; but this was misinterpreted and Ned was sent off. At the F.A. hearing the error was realised and the charge justifiably dismissed.

Regard for the tall Irishman was not confined to his prestige in sport, for Ned always had great presence, was of shrewd and sometimes controversial outlook, and indeed retains his fine literacy and immaculate penmanship.

During his last decade in the Service in Liverpool, he initiated the curious catch-phrase, "Where's Ned?" due to his mobility and occasional elusiveness around the boarding station; for younger colleagues who may wonder "Who is Ned?" perhaps this short pen-picture will indicate the standing of one of the truly memorable, Waterguard characters.

Next in succession could well be Ken McDonald, Amateur Cup finalist with Hounslow Town in 1962, winner of a Scottish Amateur international cap and L.A.P.'s forward strength for many years. A sportsman in every sense, Ken now braves the northern latitudes of Stornaway and the Outer Hebrides.

Many other names spring to mind; Stan Pearson, for instance, the talented Harwich player who did so much to take Harwich and Parkeston to Wembley for the Amateur Cup Final in 1953. Another, Liverpool's Sid Ablett, who played in the first four Lupton Cup finals which spanned eleven years due to the war, and generally gave his

port great service. Dai Davis, inside forward for London in the first final, remains an accomplished cricketer at the ripe, young age of fifty-seven, and still serving in the port. Bill Williamson (alias "Wimps") of the same port and George Dover (retired to Frinton), who together with the late "Ginger" Ralph, formed the finest half-back line in the history of Waterguard soccer. Colin Carthew, now Landing and Shipping at Newhaven, played inside forward in the same XI, and gained a Civil Service cap as a result of his brilliant performances. Former P.S.A. President Jim Douglas featured in the same side and was notable for his attacking wing play.

Len Hobbis is another name to conjure memories; early in his career he played with the Hull side brilliantly skippered by full-back Alec Brown. Len subsequently played memorable games for Dover and has now joined Alec in retirement.

A famous trio represented Southampton in the early fifties. Bob Fletcher, Roy Goodall and Jack Hopkins netted a fantastic number of goals between them, and Norman Evans, following in their strides in 1960/61, created the individual goal-scoring record by netting seven against luckless Harwich. John Curphy equalled this record for Liverpool against Leith ten years later.

Time passes but who could forget Jim Ward, the Scottish Amateur international from Glasgow. A fine player indeed. Or Liverpool's goal scoring ace, Geoff Henshall, the "Pride of Prescott".

Whilst forwards make news with their goal-scoring feats, we must never forget the many fine defenders on Lupton Cup duty. Men like brilliant Ken Hencher of London Port; Eric Pedley of London and Southampton, now guarding the Queen's revenue in Teignmouth. Jim Cooper, of Gravesend, was another centre-half of repute, who shone on many occasions for Barnet, and none came better in the number five jersey than popular Bill Hankin, who held Cardiff's defence together for several years.

Jack Langford, Southampton, Doug Barnard, tough as a leather whip with energy to spare at thirty-five, and Jim Boggan, both of Liverpool, and Sam Powell, L.A.P., all skippering their respective clubs at different periods, were four other defenders of distinction, as was Ivor Toms, who entered the Lupton Cup foray late in his soccer career, but brought vast experience to Southampton from his days with the Royal Navy and Cornwall.

Some noted custodians have "kept" for Waterguard sides. Alec Plowright, of Southampton, will be remembered by more senior colleagues, whilst successively, for Liverpool, Frank Hope, now sadly deceased, Bernie Howard, Gerry Attwood, and Reg Pooke all upheld the high Merseyside tradition; Ken Schofield arrived in the early fifties and possibly became the job's best keeper, giving Liverpool and later L.A.P. long service.

Hull were fortunate to have Allen Middleton in the 1950s and their successes more recently can be directly attributed to Brian Snelling's skills between the sticks. Other fine contemporaries include Alan Gregory, L.A.P. and Southampton, long-serving Dave Houghton with Liverpool, and in the south-east, Gravesend's Dave Brenner, Brian Lattimer of Gatwick, a brilliant exponent of the reflex save, and Peter Lovelock, L.A.P.

The enthusiast could go on, and on, but space would not permit. It is sufficient to record that they are merely a selection of the players who have graced the competition. There have been many, many more.

The Ports

Cardiff

ONE of the 1937 founder members, Cardiff have not aimed a boot at a Lupton Cup football since 19th January, 1950, when they were hosts to London Port. The Welshmen assembled a team with difficulty and the assistance of the inevitable rugger players, lost 1-4, and in the evening socialised with singing, dancing and general merry-making at the Cardiff Airport Club. In a spirited match, Bill Watson, the ex-Preston North End player, was outstanding in defence; Ingram, Marley, Thatcher and Badham did well, and in goal, Ted Rowe, was courageous and effective, but reportedly, without polish!

It was with this symbolic score that Cardiff burst upon the fledgling Lupton Cup scene on 1st December, 1937, in beating the visiting Bristol XI at the Civil Service Ground. The historic company that day were, for Cardiff: S. Charles; A. S. Hobbs, A. Wilson; R. R. Jones, F. G. Evans, M. S. Prendergast; C. D. Wilson, M. A. Cosh, T. Collins, W. B. Hankin, Capt., A. R. Jones. Bristol's representatives were: L. P. Patterson; J. W. Porter, Capt., R. A. Hargreaves; W. R. Pedder, A. T. Dando, W. J. Burden; L. M. Twentyman, R. W. Locke, P. M. Pettit, F. Simpson, E. P. Smith. Goalscorers, for Cardiff, Collins 3, being the competition's first hat-trick, and Cosh; and for Bristol, Phil Pettit, who later became a valuable Southampton player.

In the New Year of 1938, Bill Hankin, still incidentally a keen Anfield man and now a welcomed re-organised newcomer to Weymouth, led the Cardiff XI to Kingfield Park, Orrell, to face the Liverpool giants, but his efforts together with the indomitable John Burke and Eddie Lindley, were mere straws in the teeth of Billington's and Ned Pollock's tornadoes, who put the Mersey men six up after half an hour; the final 8-1 score showed the Cardiff boys to be individually talented but collectively lacking.

The trip to Southampton in October of the following season was noted more for its fine social occasion, the match predictably going to the strong Hampshire side by 8-0. The Cardiff party of twenty-four, including colleagues from Newport and Barry, and headed by A. M. Rolls, were treated to an evening-long delight of songs and monologues, and in turn, demonstrated their own brand of Welsh choral singing, finally heading for the Usk and Taff with the *hwyl* of "Cwm Rhondda" blending with the farewells of their generous hosts.

Before and since the war, South Wales have shown prowess at soccer, and of course rugby, but in the context of an integrated Customs arrangement, and indeed proudly contested a local cup final at Ninian Park in 1939, and perhaps in this manner, the boys from the principality will return to the national fray.

Dover

ALTHOUGH the Dover Waterguard side was one of the founder members of the Lupton Cup tournament in 1937/38, it was not until ten years later that the Kent side touched greatness. Then, at Ilford, Len Hobbs and his men carried off the cup with a 3-1 victory over Liverpool.

Dover's cup trail began, however, on 23rd November, 1937, when they entertained the powerful London Port team at the Dover County Ground in the first round of the competition's first year. Mr. and Mrs.

Lupton and Charles Woodford, I.G.W., led the visiting contingent, and participated at a convivially, successful reunion at the "Queen's Head" that evening.

Tragedy struck Dover in the third minute of the game, "Chick" Lacey falling awkwardly and sustaining a broken wrist. Even the curious Dover bell-ringers silenced their carillons and caters at this wretched misfortune until he was replaced by Pateman, who thus became the first substitute in a Lupton Cup match. The home side made the running in the first-half and led by two goals at the interval; Milligan scoring the first-ever Dover goal. London Port countered with three quick goals but "Digger" Stanley cleverly put Dover level again. Bill Williamson, however, clinched the match for London with a late goal. "Chick" duly and happily recovered and became one of the great characters of the Lupton Cup scene; a rabid Doverian who brought goodwill and colour to social events with his wit and songs, including his "Horrortorio", being a special musical experience.

With hostilities over, came the 1947/48 season. Len Hobbis, who started his Lupton Cup career with Hull in 1937, was now skippering the side, and kitted-out in their genuine Arsenal shirts, they scored victories over London Port and Harwich, bringing them to Ilford for the final, and a well-deserved win at Liverpool's expense gave them the Cup. A very good final was superbly refereed by our old friend Vic Starling, of the Valuation Branch.

From Vic's opening whistle-blast there was near sensation, for with Sir Otto Mundy, KBE, Deputy Chairman, who had festively kicked-off, still trotting to the touchline, goalkeeper Aylen for Dover, was making a fantastic save from an irrupting Liverpool forward. The omnipresent Mr. Lacey, once again, conducted an hour and a half of communal shouting and gesticulating with great vigour, and it was noticeable at half-time that he was the first to seek the resuscitating lemon. Later, festivities proceeded with many speeches, including emotive contributions from J. Kerr, I.G.W., and W. G. Thomson, W.S. and President of the Dover Sports Club, and gay, impromptu turns; old acquaintances were renewed, and eventually, "all drank from the cool, sweet depths of the Cup". All agreed that the organisation for the reception, by Charles Howard, had been without flaw.

In 1949, they reached the final again, but were beaten 1-0 by Liverpool, and in 1950, in the last final between southern clubs (zoning was to prevent this situation recurring), Harwich defeated Dover 3-1 to take the trophy. Len Hobbis scored Dover's goal direct from a corner, and he, goalkeeper Capstick, "Digger" Stanley and Gil Young were outstanding.

Dover recorded their biggest Lupton Cup win in the 1951/52 season when they beat newcomers L.A.P. by 8-1 with goals from Hobbis (3), Young (3) and Jim Guest (now of Liverpool) (2). Gil Young, in this period, proved to be a menacingly, penetrative left winger, who regularly helped himself to hat-tricks. In fact, commencing with this record win, Dover scored twenty-two goals in three matches, all at home, against the emerging L.A.P. side. These visits by the stateless, noise-abated L.A.P. parties, it was said, vitalised a unique and potent atmosphere in the town of the white cliffs and sea breezes; appreciation was symbolised on the third occasion, when L.A.P.'s Dicky West presented the generous Dover hosts with a magnificent model aircraft. During this period, Dover's affairs and social events were admirably served by their

Customs Journal correspondent, John Kennedy, otherwise the ingenious "Bauxite", who regularly forwarded descriptive, humorous and lyrical reports.

Dover's power receded as the 1950s advanced, and for some years they faded from the scene. Indeed, in 1964/65, they suffered their heaviest defeat, going down 10-0 to L.A.P., who thus gained their revenge. Incidentally, this was Dover's first Lupton Cup home fixture for eleven years.

In season 1968/69, they reached the semi-final by way of away victories over the W.T.C. (3-0; goal scorers being Malcolm Preece (2), and Douglas Hamilton, and London Port 4-1; Brian Gamble (2), Preece and Billy Gray), finally going down to Southampton by 2-0. Incredibly, the wins broke a losing sequence covering fifteen years; since the last 1954 victory against L.A.P., in fact.

Dover have had the benefit of several talented and experienced players, including Pat Haughey, Dave Baxter, Len Rutter, Brian Gamble, Bill Gray, Malcolm Preece, Vin McCarthy, Maynard and Bowman. They have a young, enthusiastic and able side blended with experience, and together with their pride-restoring secretary, Denis Oxenham, were latterly a force to be reckoned with.

Socially, Dover were gallantly warm-hearted and generous towards visiting colleagues. All southern clubs made the journey eastwards along the line of the North Downs to the historic port, excepting newcomers Gatwick, unhappily for them. Once there, they may well have suffered defeat, for all ports, in turn, were beaten; then later to the venue chosen by such organisers as Arthur Simkins, Charlie Howard, Fred Roy and Denis Oxenham. A variety of hostelries provided the means for celebration for visiting colleagues, including the Grand Hotel, Queen's Head, Priory Hotel, the Crypt Restaurant, Eagle Hotel and the "Sir John Falstaff".

And statistically, Dover's most frequent rivals were Southampton, who won seven to Dover's one, and L.A.P. who lost three and won three. There was one cup win, two cup-final losses and five semi-final appearances.

Was there ever a better day out than a trip to Dover? Thanks, boys, you were a grand port to visit. May there be many more!

Gatwick Airport

GATWICK became London's second airport when it was opened by the Queen in 1958, but over twenty years earlier its Beehive terminal building with subway to the mainline railway station was the most modern of its time. It was the first airport in Britain to feature a "finger" terminal along which passengers could walk to their aircraft, the system being adopted by most of the major airports of the world.

The airport is almost ringed by the glorious North and South Downs which afford ideal recreational areas for Customs footballers who insist on fitness, and the flat Weald which forms the bowl's centre abounds with numerous, level and available soccer pitches situated at nearby Horley and Crawley; therefore any rising C. & E. footballing stars would find this popular airport and its facilities comprehensively accommodating.

Gatwick Airport is the most junior of all the clubs now playing in the Lupton Cup competition, entering the fray in 1969/70 after several seasons of "friendlies", and games against Manston (with strong

Detached Duty support) and Gravesend during the previous season showed what sort of opposition might be encountered in the cup.

The record is not wildly impressive yet one or two results are worth noting and no less than seven of the present XI have played in all five games contested, namely Brian Latimer in goal, Howard Gould, Dave Mackenzie. Brian Gummer, Alistair McKenzie, Tony Weedon and Colin Mansell.

Gatwick started their cup battles in February, 1970, at Gravesend and came away with a very creditable 2 - 2 draw. In a spirited first half, Craske got an early goal for the home side, but this was equalised by Brian Gummer with a brilliant, rising shot from twenty yards. Gatwick suffered an early reverse after the change when the classy Jim McGregor hit a beautiful eighteen yarder, and they spent the whole of the second-half chasing the elusive equaliser which finally came with the last kick of the game in the ninety-seventh minute, thanks to the referee's faulty time-piece. Gatwick's soccer reporter at Gravesend described the final scenes with great relish: "the touch line exploded, the dark blues erupted in ecstasy, everybody was in the air; many a cared for tweedy cap was flung to the winds as, with the Gravesend penalty area awash with players, Tony Weedon stabbed in the equaliser." The replay was an anti-climax for Gatwick who were soundly beaten by a workmanlike Gravesend by 3 - 0.

The 1970/71 season was Gatwick's second term in the competition and yet before November was out they had thrashed Southampton 6 - 2 in the first round. The game played at the city's Civil Service Ground was fast, uncompromising and dramatic. The "Saints" took an early lead, but three goals by Colin Mansell, in one of the competition's best forward displays, helped the visitors to a superb victory. Other Gatwick scorers were Brian Gummer, with a brilliantly struck drive, a Tony Weedon header after outleaping the tall Southampton defenders, and finally Malcolm Smith, whose goal was just reward for his brave, front-running against a no-nonsense defence.

A narrow second-round win over Dover brought the powerful L.A.P. XI, the Cup holders, to Gatwick for the semi-final. The big guns from Heathrow cruised to a comfortable 3 - 0 lead at the interval but Gatwick hit back superbly with goals by Mansell and Chris Harrison, the Welshman heading in an awkward rebound off the crossbar to throw the match wide open, and had not a doubtful offside decision gone against Mansell as he burst through, history might well have been made. As it was, L.A.P. weathered the storm with captain Neil Heath, George Atkinson and Paul Harris in the vanguard, and Graham Buck it was, from a pinpoint Dave Leakey corner, who put the issue beyond doubt in the final minute.

Organisation at Gatwick has been on a collective basis with the purse strings securely in the hands of Mike Flude and Dave Mackenzie, backed by the encouragement of Leslie Battersby, A.C., newly welcomed from Headquarters. Customs & Excise caps have gone to Alistair McKenzie and Tony Weedon, both cultured players, whilst the competitive Brian Gummer, Liverpool's classy Colin Mansell and keeper Brian Latimer have contributed massively to the airport's achievements. Ray Stanford represented L.A.P. and Gravesend before Gatwick gratefully claimed him, and Larry Speers and Dave Mackenzie have served with tenacity and skill for several seasons. The performances of Howard Gould, Chris Jeal, Charlie Pollard, Chris Harrison and Jimmy Adamson are no less creditable.

The contingency of staff reduction through Civil Service reform and reorganisation causes uncertainty at Gatwick, which, sadly, puts their sporting future in the balance.

Glasgow

ONCE the officers of Glasgow realised that sheer distance need not isolate them from the Lupton Cup benefits of excursions to other ports and of themselves being visited, they entered into the spirit of the competition with the dynamism which has long symbolised the city of Glasgow's world eminence.

Well-known is the proud reputation for general, shipbuilding and marine engineering; their craftsmen built the first airship to cross the Atlantic, the Forth Bridge, London's Tower Bridge and led the world in pioneering the prodigies of municipal water, gas and electricity supplies commencing way back in the 1850s, and it is hardly surprising when the Royal Technical College claims to be the oldest of its kind in the world.

The embryonic stage was survived despite some heavy defeats commencing in 1948 with a 10-0 debacle down on Merseyside. Glasgow enjoyed its first visitation in 1950 when the experienced Tyne slotted in six goals in torrential rain. Charlie Hill's introduction to the Water-guard Service could hardly have been more tempestuous; thrown into action against the Novocastrians two days after joining the job, he suffered concussion and saw fit to continue the battle of the mud in stockinged feet. The reception was memorably conducted, however, and attended by "coveys of Collectors" and "schools of Supers", all charmed by the liltings of George Coady's excellent musicians.

The first victory, 7-0 against Hull in 1952, put Glasgow forward as a serious challenger and several fine players appeared, including captain Johnny Davis, Danny Harrison, Alex Johnston, the two Liverpoolians, Jack Firth and Freddie Ferguson, Eric Fleming, Donald McDonald and the brilliant Jim Ward, who played for Queen's Park and gained Scottish Amateur international recognition, together with the added involvement of Sandy Stevens, Hughie Gallacher and George Coady.

Tremendous interest was now aroused in the competition. At the Pollock Juniors Ground, in January, 1955, the exciting, winning semi-final against Liverpool took place (reported under Top Ten Matches) and the reunion at the Kenilworth Hotel arranged by George Coady excelled in its warmth of comradeship. The final against Southampton, played at Liverpool and the first to be held outside the capital, was an emotive experience, for the Glasgow side was piped into the arena and impelled into battle by their impassioned and rapturous supporters; driven on by the incomparable Jim Ward and Alex Johnston, the Scots took the 1955 Cup with a convincing 5-2 victory. The late, beloved Donald Grant was there to capture the fervour of the moment: "Och and ochon. But this was a grand day for Glasgow. Sassenach ears were assaulted by the skirl of the pipes and the continuous roar of the more violent nationalistic Scottish airs. Alban gu brath! Stand fast, Craigellachic! And a hundred thousand thanks to the men who brought the Lupton Cup over the Border for the first time."

The cup holders were surprisingly removed in the first round of the following season, by the visiting Hull, when the legendary sixty-three minute second-half was played. Freddie Ferguson's undying efforts

could not prevent a 1 - 3 defeat, which regretfully caused the final retirement of the stylish Merseysider. Two semi-finals were then reached and in the second in 1958, Glasgow claimed the largest crowd ever to witness a Lupton Cup match against Liverpool; with the conflict in extra-time at 2 - 2, Glasgow's Gerry Pickering was carried off injured, posing a crucial problem for the home-side. Jim Boggan, Liverpool's leader, sportingly offered to abandon the match, to be replayed later, but Glasgow creditably preferred to carry on—to their ultimate 2 - 4 defeat. The evening's unforgettable junketings at the Bundoran Club introduced the visitors to the eightsome reel and other fascinating pagan rituals, finishing a great reunion with choruses of "We're no' awa tae bide awa."

It was season 1962/63 which saw Glasgow's return to prominence; the heroes of the mid-1950s had retired and the talents of goalkeeper Duncan Rae, Rangers-loving Bill Simpson, Dave Sandilands, Dave Tanner, Pat Haughey and Gus McDonald were now beginning to count. The 5 - 1 semi-final win at Liverpool, retributive justice after four consecutive defeats by that port, unusually sent Glasgow back to Merseyside for the final, to face cup holders, L.A.P.; the Scots on duty that day, and described as "fanatical, young footballers of Glasgow who chased any and everything and were obviously dedicated to the task of taking the Cup over the Border"; were: Duncan Rae; Jim Galloway, Bill Simpson; Alistair Struthers, Bill Stewart, Ken Pattulo; Dave Tanner, Gus McDonald, Jim McNally, Pat Haughey and Pat O'Kane. Goals by Pat Haughey (2) and Gus McDonald put Glasgow marginally ahead at 3 - 2; the sure hands of Duncan Rae saved a penalty and despite L.A.P. pressure, Dave Tanner annexed the trophy, by making it 4 - 2 with the last kick of the match. This had been a game to savour and the following reception staged by the Liverpool colleagues crowned the delights of the day.

Alistair Struthers and Barry Quinn captained the side, in turn, through a period of primacy in which four finals were reached between 1963 and 1966, when the squad was further strengthened by goalie Stewart McLoon, relieving the promoted Rae; Forsyth, Andy McShane, Eddie Donagher and Jack Glenny, together with the splendid organisation of John Haddon. The final of 1966, in fact, brought the cup back to Glasgow after two final reverses against L.A.P., Southampton foundering from goals by O'Kane, Struthers, Donagher and Tanner.

But as in life, similarly in the sphere of football, catastrophe and malign influence can strike without warning; for the first round of the 1967 cup trail was a day of despair for champions Glasgow. They travelled to Tyneside on the day before the match, and that evening, anticipating Lupton Cup revels with a night on the town, they luxuriated in the indulgences offered by the "69 Club" and the "Dolce Vita" and the following afternoon were fragmented by Eric Johnson and his gallant company. On the return journey to Glasgow, the motor coach was halted at a quiet, moorland lay-by for a "relief stop"; Murdo Mackenzie, spartan in shirtsleeves and positioned at the outside rear of the vehicle, took a little longer achieving comfort and was more than surprised to see the streamlined juggernaut smoothly accelerate away into the dark, misty brae, with the unknowing, rejoicing party safely aboard—minus one. The hardy Murdo was, thankfully, seen again; a road-tanker and a police car securely conveying him to his home.

Glasgow were responsible for possibly the most spirited and com-

petent assault on the Cup in season 1967/68. Hull were ousted in the famous 6-5 Top Ten match; Manchester, 9-0, with goals from Tanner (3), John Hayes (2), John Ferguson (2), McGovern and Donagher; and Liverpool, 4-3, settling an away draw, with Donnagher and Charlie McKie both scoring twice. Manchester staged the battle of the giants, between the Glaswegians, clad in Celtic's own green and white hooped jerseys, loaned by manager Jock Stein, and L.A.P., the two teams having exclusive claim to the trophy since 1962; and it is not uncharitable to state that the southerners were outclassed in the 5-2 win, bringing the total goals scored during the campaign to twenty-six, in five matches. Cup Final scorers were Ferguson, McKie and Tanner (3); John Ferguson's equalising goal to L.A.P.'s opener was, reportedly, one of the finest seen in a Lupton Cup match.

Many players of class appeared in the Glasgow Waterguard team in recent years, who indeed, frequently starred for other ports through seasonal and promotional movements. Those number Alistair Struthers, Duncan Rae, defenders Barry Quinn and John Hayes, Eddie Donnagher, former schoolboy international; stylist Pat Haughey, Bob Mundell, an excellent attacking forward; Dave Tanner, a goal-poacher supreme with perhaps the most hat-tricks in the competition, and the pacy, elegant John Ferguson, whose ability to course through defences and goalscoring finesse were of the best in Lupton Cup football.

The standard of entertainment and hospitality, held at many, varied hostleries, including Cranston's Tea Rooms, Sloan's Restaurant and the Frairshall Hotel, Paisley, could be said to have been incomparable, if one did not remember the successes of ports like Hull and Dover. But, Glasgow, the flair and vitality you brought to Lupton Cup football and its reunions, like "auld acquaintance", will never be forgotten and will always be brought to mind.

Gravesend

LET it be stated at once that the Lupton Cup never came to Gravesend, yet its arrival would have been welcomed as fervently as was the landfall of Pocahontas, the fabulous American Indian princess in the early C17. That romantic, awesome maiden indeed lamentably went to her happy hunting ground in the town older than Domesday. Likewise, Gravesend's cup-winning ambitions which finally were laid to rest after twenty seasons of inspired campaigning.

However, it became the privilege of the Gravesend club to stage the very first Lupton Cup game against Southampton in October, 1937. Gravesend were beaten 3-0 but Waterguard social history had been made. They were beaten 4-0 by Dover in the following season and war came before Gravesend's forwards could get off the mark.

They were back in action again in the 1947/48 season and despite two fine goals by skipper Jim Cooper, they were defeated 2-4 by visiting Liverpool. This was the first Lupton Cup game played after World War II and incidentally their only encounter with a northern port. Liverpool did not waste this opportunity, in making their longest cup journey, because their supporters shared in one of the typically successful old-style Waterguard re-unions at the Central Hotel; chaired by Charles Purser, with the welcomings of A. T. Tarrant and Bill Powell and the many applauded speeches, the dinner and evening's arrangements were a credit to Bob Ellingham, Neville Ramsey and John Dinsdale.

In 1952, L.A.P. visited and recorded their first-ever win at the expense of the Kentish lads and three years later a memorable social outing was undertaken on the first of three happy visits to Southampton. On this initial trip, a dozen goals were shared in a keen tussle, Southampton unfairly claiming eleven of them.

It is remarkable that Gravesend waited twenty-six years before gaining the first Lupton Cup win, at the cost of visiting Dover in the 1964 campaign, which significantly marked the introduction of the port as a cup prospect. Figures show that of the last twenty matches played, only eight were lost; three semi-finals were reached, all being relinquished to L.A.P., and victories were achieved against all southern ports excepting Southampton.

In the 1968/69 season, Gravesend struck top form and in their notable first round tie against L.A.P. they defeated the powerful airport side 4 - 3. The superb hat-trick by Jim McGregor, and a tremendous display by the whole team made this day the greatest in the club's history, and the players were virtually chaired off the pitch.

The second round battle against Southampton proved to be a marathon affair. The first game was drawn 0 - 0, the replay 2 - 2 in which Gravesend were incredibly two goals up after only a few minutes of the match, and then for some obscure reason not apparent in the first two games, Southampton romped away with the second replay by 5 - 1.

Honours-wise, Gravesend were unlucky comparing with Hull in the northern sector. 1969 was the year of opportunity but Southampton would not lie down in that famous sequence of replays; Dover would have been their semi-final opponents but who knows what would have eventualised against their county rivals. It is no wonder that Gravesend proved a difficult tie for brother contenders when one examines the members of their playing squad. Capable goalkeeper Dave Brenner had Dave Baxter in command at the heart of the defence, the midfield of Mel Ewings and John Molloy served several talented forwards including Mike Renals, Don Armstrong of the Launch Service, Mike Craske, Barry Green, Chris Ballard and Jim McGregor; and the ubiquitous Frank Munoz, who shone in the solitary W.T.C. match against Dover in December, 1968, gave brief but valuable service to Gravesend before returning to Liverpool.

L.A.P. was to be the greatest rival and stumbling-block, winning eight out of eleven encounters.

Many of the seventeen home Lupton Cup matches have been held ideally at the accommodating Bowaters Sports Club which will hold fond memories for countless visiting colleagues, and Lou Easter now has the responsibility for keeping up his port's high standard of hospitality.

Whatever the future holds, Gravesend's style, sportsmanship and sociability will be remembered.

Harwich

THIS famous port, Waterguard-wise, for its enormous trooping activities which assimilated officers from all corners of the U.K., is steeped in history, both in terms of events and of the elite who esteemed its lineage. King Alfred defeated Danish invaders off the Naze, Samuel Pepys loved being its M.P. as long ago as 1679, Constable sketched there, Nelson developed his touch at the "Three Cups", but, critically, Daniel Defoe hated the heavy public house charges. And the less celebrated, too, were proudly loath to leave the old town; a lady

was once asked where she went for her holidays, "I don't go on holiday", she replied, "I live in Harwich."

Twenty-one years have passed since Harwich recorded their one and only Lupton Cup final win. What a season that was to be sure! The Harwich lads failed to win any games in local competitions, and yet on the way to the 1950 final they produced that little bit extra to record fine victories over L.A.P., Southampton and the Tyne (the only Lupton Cup visit to the north) before meeting Dover at Ilford.

This was the last final to be played between two "southern" clubs as future zoning was to ensure an ultimate North v. South eliminator.

Harwich played well in the final and were three goals up at the interval, John Reed and Jock Allan (twice) having bulged the net with splendid efforts. In the second-half, Len Hobbs reduced the arrears and Dover pressed Harwich with repeated attacks, but Jock Ness, Hugh McDonagh, Ibbotson and goalkeeper Eric Smith distinguished themselves in weathering the storm. Stan Pearson, who was to find fame with amateur club Harwich and Parkeston, was particularly outstanding, and Harwich held on to record their first final win, which paired well with the Inter-Port Cricket trophy won during a great sporting year.

The first Lupton Cup game played was in 1947 when they defeated Southampton by 3 - 0 and a year later came the largest win, 4 - 0 against Gravesend. Jock Allan, reportedly, was in a class of his own, and Ferguson and Jock Ness were faultless; socially, too, Stan Pearson's arrangements for dinner and the evening merriment at the Phoenix Hotel were of the best. Singularly, Harwich took ship to Tilbury, en route to Gravesend, two years later, to repeat precisely the treatment.

Harwich's challenge for honours effectively ended in the middle 1950s, when they achieved their last victory, versus Gravesend in the 1957 tournament. Up to this point they had creditably won nine out of sixteen Lupton Cup games due largely to the ability of Stan Pearson, the goal-minded Jock Allan, general factotum Jock Ness, the dependable defence of goalie Eric Smith and Gerry Baker, forwards Roy Andrews and Arthur Oliver, midfielder Harry Davis and striker John Reed, all under the care of trainer Sandy Powell. And what a character to have in a side in Big Mac, the popular Hugh McDonagh. Socially, none came more hospitably than Harwich and every southern team, excepting Gatwick, were privileged to visit the port.

Despite defeats over the years, Harwich have invariably provided a Lupton Cup squad, thanks to the exertions of such colleagues as Dennis Wood, Eric Smith, John Reed, Ron Stephenson, Danny Laugharne and Brian Green. May they always continue to do so.

Hull

HULL is the only major port not to have won the Lupton Cup, an inequity when one considers the legendary profusion of hospitality afforded there.

Historically Hull was always hardworking, inventive and progressive; likewise their footballers who graduated to become a leading side appearing in two cup finals and one semi-final in the last three seasons of the competition. It was never a place for indifference. William Wilberforce, the slavetrade abolitionist was born there and so was *The Customs Journal*; Henry VIII visited the city, loved it and devised new harbour fortifications, and the Pilgrim Fathers initially embarked from Hull later to join the Mayflower at Plymouth.

Calling themselves Humberside, Hull entertained Liverpool in December, 1937, the year of the trophy's inception, the venue being Cottingham. Surprisingly Hull had never played together before and a Len Hobbs penalty was the only reply to Liverpool's eleven, but the entertainment delivered by local staff was so outstanding and the pleasures of the day so great that Hull challenged the visitors to a golf match which was to become a traditional annual event. A year later Todd led the side against London port and the capital saw a large party including wives enjoy an evening at the London Coliseum despite an earlier academic 1-2 defeat.

Charlie Rowett, persuader and optimist, and Nightingale organised the return to competition in 1949 losing against the Tyne, Arthur Burnham leading the Hull XI. At this time quality football was displayed by Allen Middleton in goal, Geoff Woolridge, Andy Thomson and John Mackenzie, a notably fast wingman. The first "win" came in the wintry January of 1952 against Glasgow when after fifty-five minutes an Arctic blizzard terminated the game at the Earle's Pelican ground, several players collapsing from exposure. Captains Thomson and J. C. Davis agreed the score should stand at 4-2, the Hull marksmen being Thomson, Burnham, Stan Coates and Charlie Kilvington. But who could forget the gala night that followed at the City Hotel, Lowgate, organised by Doug (Henry) Trumper who indeed played in the match for good measure. Artistes from the Hull "Top Town" broadcasting team, an inspiring exposition on the noble game by England star Raich Carter to an informed audience with additional dramatic participation by the company present made a memorably delightful evening.

Hull's footballers were increasingly travelling the northern landscapes experiencing injury, exposure, defeat and considerable hospitality at the hands and feet of Glasgow, Liverpool and Tyne. Supporters accompanied martyrlike. Lovely Bert Brown, now sadly deceased, discoursed to spellbound Glasgow hotel staff on the metascience of flying fish and how he helped the Germans lose the war, all this before being shown the door prior to official opening time suffering from excess of liquors; Jim Grice's half-time sorties on Scottish fields fortified Hull players with strong, hot drinks reeking with tea. Invariably the gauntlet of the snowy Pennines was run on many trips to the port they termed Scouseland and successive parties would enjoy pre-match lunch at the country town of Ormskirk hosted by Liverpool's personable Bill Gross, view Aintree's Grand National Course and heroic Goodison Park, later to sample the various Mersey sounds. Liverpool well-wishers were to make Hull nurses blush when they examined Doug Trumper's leg plaster incredibly figured with graffiti; railway porters at York stood aside with commendable understanding when their trolleys trundled by in the draughty hours bearing motionless Waterguarders, and Frank Ellingham, back from a particular defeat at Liverpool, limped forlornly away into a Humberside snowstorm—but thankfully to be seen again.

In 1956 the first outright win came against Glasgow with Chris Salisbury, Ted Alderson, Albert Panson and Peter Sturdy playing well at this period. 1964 and the first victory over Liverpool with a repeat performance a year later by Ron Smith's side. Hull now became a force, a peak being reached in the brilliant 8-3 win of 1966 against Liverpool, Geoff Beecroft scoring the port's first ever hat-trick, Dave Watson 2, Brian Hairsine, Talbot and Wilson adding the rest. Brian Snelling, goalkeeper, and Jim Bell were to play increasingly vital parts for Hull. In 1967, the formidable Glasgow side triumphed 6-5 at Hull, the rigour

of the encounter being reflected in the scoreline; talented Dave Watson, the home captain, personally amassing four goals. Hull led 4-3 at the interval and the lead changed hands three times before Glasgow's Donnagher rammed home the winner in the dying minutes.

In the tradition of "Milky" and "Henry", John Head, Bernard Murphy, John Greenbank and Ken Pauley continued the exemplary good fellowship toward visiting ports; latterly Andy Johnson, Eddie Batten and Ian Francis administered the Cup arrangements. Cottingham's Westfield Club and the Duke of Cumberland Hotel were to be the scene of many successful receptions.

Hull's finest hour arrived in the 1969 final. Liverpool were ousted, for the fourth consecutive time, prior to the ultimate confrontation with Southampton at the Lapwing ground, L.A.P. The 1-2 defeat was to be the nearest Hull came to consummate honour in the competition. The youthful Yorkshiremen led 1-0 at the interval, but after the break Southampton, with the wind behind them, showed the greater determination in getting the two goals necessary to clinch the result. In the battle, Alan Gregory, Southampton's goalie, lost four front teeth, a Hull defender sustained a broken nose and two young opponents made every effort to reach a conclusion at the half-way line.

A year later sixteen goals disposed of Tyne, Middlesbrough and Leith en route to the final stanza against L.A.P. at the Reckitt's ground. Geoff Beecroft cracked the opposition defence for a fine goal but the Airport men were undoubtedly superior in their 5-1 victory. Uniquely, Trevor Spindler was sent off in this final—severe treatment for a grand trier who merely used his tongue once too often. The newly opened City Centre Hotel provided an exhilarating dinner and dance but the respected hotelier gaped in disbelief to see his prized selection of beers dwindle until stocks were quite dry as the evening's revels unfolded; doubtless the takings soothed his indignation.

The 1965 L.A.P./Glasgow final was sensibly held at Hull, in view of the assured welcome which the generous home officers served in typical fashion, the match, dinner and dance arrangements being irreproachable.

Conclusively, Liverpool were to be the chief rivals and in seventeen meetings Hull won four times whilst in opposition to Glasgow there were two victories in ten games.

Leith

THE proud, little port of Leith once had a reputation for being attacked by the English but despite this slight irritation, they built fine ships in the Middle Ages, cannily became the Whisky H.Q. for Great Britain and controlled a major fishing district, to mention but a few initiatives. The Waterguard footballers, led by factotum Gus Cameron and Dave Bertram, much to the admiration of the staff were to wreak some vengeance on the aforesaid English when closure of Lupton Cup ambitions was declared upon Hull and Tyne in the last two seasons.

Leith are one of the more recent entrants in the competition although an isolated game was played against Glasgow in 1962 ending in heavy defeat. In preparation for their reappearance in season 1969/70, players from Leith, Dundee and Grangemouth united to play an international match against Russia, represented by the crew of the m/v *Dmitrova*, whose ambitions of victory on Scottish soil were peremptorily torpedoed

in a 1-4 defeat. A visiting Glasgow XI shaded Leith in a friendly match and in a third, it was a matter of "the Leith Police dismisseth us" when a Bobbies side unstopably cracked in eight goals.

And so it was in December 1969, that their powerful, fellow Scots in Glasgow were visited, boarded and sensationally sunk in a remarkable 5-1 triumph; the Leith team that day is worth recording: Colin Young; Stuart Baillie, Charlie Flint; Stuart Richardson, Craig Fiskin, Charlie McKie; John McKillop, John Wallace, Gus McDonald, Peter McKeich and John Knox. The goals came from Wallace (2), McKie, McDonald and Richardson. Visiting Liverpool succumbed 3-0 in the second round to complete two superb performances, conceivably the most meritorious in the whole competition. Hull prevented any further progress during that season, winning the semi-final 3-1, but Leith had arrived as a force to be reckoned with.

In the following season, Newcastle was dismissed at the second attempt, 7-1 in Leith's biggest victory, but they could not produce the form of the previous year when Liverpool won 11-3 in the second round.

Leith enthusiasts will recall, from the early sixties, goalie Pete McConnell, Doug Stewart, Bob Whitefield, Andy Howard, Jim Fotheringham, Brian Nicholl and Joe Jinks; and the ascendancy of recent years can be attributed in particular to Richardson, McKeich, Wallace, McKie, McDonald and Young. Who knows? We may soon see the name of Leith on a new-style Lupton Cup.

Liverpool

LIVERPOOL are perhaps the most celebrated of Lupton Cup competitors, having figured in the first, the most and the last of the finals; and as founder members, they are credited with the greatest number of competition appearances with only L.A.P. equalling their success ratio.

Prior to 1933, Waterguard soccer had been in the doldrums on Merseyside. But during that year, a new ground was acquired at Shingwell Park, which appropriately came to be called the "Rockery". Whilst the accommodation left much to be desired, it did boast an electric light, though rumour has it that on occasions conditions were so cramped that the light bulb had to be removed, in order to permit an extra player to change.

Soon after, George Coady, later to transfer to Glasgow, and the late Bill Hughes took over the reins and with such footballing stars as Charlie King, ex-pro with Millwall and Southport, Bill Gray, Tom Brown, Bill Williamson, John Dinsdale, Willie MacLachlan and the great Percy Burkey in goal, the future seemed assured; at this time, Liverpool also possessed the one and only Ned Pollock.

The late Alf Quine skippered the powerful Liverpool side in their first assault on the Lupton Cup in 1937, with two overwhelming victories over Hull, 11-1 and Cardiff, 8-1. A large party, headed by Ben Herrington, the Liverpool Super, travelled to Hull on that memorable day in December, 1937, for the first of the Lupton Cup encounters. The game soon became an academic exercise for the brilliant Merseysiders, with Norman Billington's five goals supported by a Sid Ablett hat-trick, outclassed a Hull side who had never played together before; Ned Pollock, the master-mind of the attack, Quine and Bob Walmsley, each bagged one, to bring the score to a final tally of eleven. At a massive reunion later, the standard of entertainment of the visiting

party even excelled the quality of their football, when George Coady, Alf Smallwood, Bob Hughes and the amazing Charlie Manning, captivated their Hull colleagues with musical and lyrical renderings, dancing and general hilarity.

On the 23rd April, 1938, the Cardiff contingent were welcomed, introduced to eight goals from Billington 4, Pollock 3 and Ablett, at Kingfield Park, Orrell, and then to a "smoker" where 150 people, including Mr. T. D. Large, Collector, Liverpool, Ben Herrington and Chairman Charlie Titherley, dined, and as the evening wore on, cheered to the echo the riotous entertainment provided by Liverpool's famous barnstormers.

These victories brought Liverpool to the Tansley F.C. ground at Edgware where the first Lupton Cup final was played on 6th April, 1938, and sixty-three fans travelled from Liverpool for the event. Liverpool, however, found their London Port opponents on top form, and goals by Jim Douglas and Colin Carthew gave the Londoners the cup at the very first time of asking. The players who represented Liverpool that day were: Urquhart; Gray, Brown; Dinsdale, Quine, Walmsley; Dixon, MacLachlan, Billington, Pearson and Ablett.

The following season, Liverpool were back again and qualified for the final against Southampton by beating Tyne, 5 - 2, and London, 6 - 0. Both of these occasions brought forth large crowds. Tyne's visit was a social triumph from the start and when the London side took the field four months later on the 1st March, 1939, the atmosphere was described as "Wembley-like". A further extract of the report read as follows: "The guile and dribble of Pollock continually put London in a tangle, and after weighing up matters, he let go a full-blooded drive from well out, and knowing the power and wickedness of the veteran, Howard in goal could not be blamed as the ball shook the back of the net." Following this great match, the banquet, speeches and entertainment, in which "Snakehips" Charlie Manning fascinated all with his dancing-master skills, contributed to one of the finest reunions.

Jack Langford was captain of a very sound Southampton team which had the misfortune to find Pollock ungovernable and Billington, in killing form, scoring all his side's four goals.

Liverpool recommenced their post-war Lupton Cup operations on 4th March, 1948, when they made their longest-ever journey to Gravesend and possibly their most arduous. An eight-hour expedition through thick fog ending in a taxi-dash saw the Liverpool XI take the field an hour late. But fears that the punishing trek would affect them were quickly dispelled when the mercurial Billy Kell promptly scored with a smashing drive, later got his hat-trick and Liverpool were back in business. In the final, at Ilford, however, they were beaten by Dover 1 - 3.

The following year, Liverpool were there again, and this time a goal by Kell late in the game gave them sweet revenge against Dover. On the way to the final, Liverpool initiated Glasgow into the niceties of goal-scoring and Kell, Jackie Thwaite ("a smart back-heel"), Gerry Attwood, Ablett, and Dick Sharps demonstrated the art on ten occasions. Later at the Stork Hotel, the homespun entertainment was excellent and the liquid consumption amazing.

In 1950/51, Liverpool fought their way through to the final again, captained by the indestructible Doug Barnard. Earlier, Tyne and London had fallen to the powerful shooting of Jim Boggan, Stan Vaughan, the nippy Broadfoot, and Thwaite, but in the final, only Kell and Freddie Ferguson could reply to Southampton's three goals.

Liverpool's final team was: Attwood; Ashcroft, Brown; Barnard, Wood, Thwaite; Broadfoot, Kell, Ferguson, Vaughan and Boggan. Also, during this profitable period, Liverpool were served by goalie Reg Pooke, Larry Benn, Mike Myerscough and Jim Guest of the great left-foot, both the latter, incidentally, being outstanding rugby players. Another player of note was the 6 ft, 4 ins., ex-soccer professional, 'Big Mac' Macgregor, one of the great Liverpool characters and a good man to have on your side; there was never any trouble with the 'toughies' in the Liverpool Mid-Week Business Houses League when he was around. On the occasion of one final with Southampton at Hendon it is related that Mac, on sizing up the opposition, remarked to Reg Pooke, "If we don't beat this lot I'll eat my ——!" Replied Reg, "Two days steady chewing, eh, Mac?" Mercifully the spectacle was averted.

To add to the talent already possessed on Merseyside, Liverpool now welcomed a fresh intake of footballers, and for the 1952 semi-final, the newcomers, Stan Lynch, who blasted in a twenty-minute hat-trick, Gerry Hickey and Ken Strahan, got the five goals to remove Hull. But, like the previous year, Southampton had the better of the exchanges in the Hendon final and won through a solitary Jack Hopkins goal.

The final battles between Liverpool and Southampton continued for another two years. In 1953 at Hendon, Liverpool were in a commanding position to achieve victory when they led 3-1 with twenty minutes to go. With Tom Brown in charge at the rear, goals from Jim Guest 2, and Gerry Hickey had put the Lancashire side within a stride of the trophy, but tragically, Jim sustained a broken bone in the leg and the game swung around. With Liverpool now uncertain in defence, Bob Fletcher completed a magnificent hat-trick for Southampton, and the game ended at 3-3 after extra-time. No replay was arranged and it was agreed that the Cup should be shared by the clubs.

Liverpool beat Southampton 3-1 in their fourth successive meeting at Hendon in 1954. Once again goals from the Lynch-Hickey duo disposed of Glasgow and Hull at home, taking Liverpool south for the final. Ken Schofield, Norman Saville and the athletic Geoff Henshall had arrived by this time and together with Mike Myerscough and the inevitable brace of goals from Lynch plus a Larry Benn header, Liverpool took complete command and the Cup, thus breaking the southern stranglehold.

Merseyside domination was temporarily unseated in 1955 in the thrilling losing semi-final with Glasgow. The Scots came to Liverpool for their first final appearance to beat Southampton and experienced one of their most stimulating days; this first staging of a final by the Liverpool colleagues, led by Bill Gross, could not and did not fail at this festive confluence of friends from the three famous ports. A further feature which was not to evade the notice of the large crowd was the outstanding display of refereeing by Liverpool's Ron Johnson, whose imperturbable control in a very spirited match was said to be memorable.

In 1957, L.A.P. reached the first of many cup finals, and at the end of ninety minutes they were drawing 1-1 with Liverpool. A goal by Jim Archibald during extra-time gave the airport side the Cup. Reports suggested that the better team had lost but, nevertheless, they failed to crack an ordinary L.A.P. defence until a penalty by Jack Corless salvaged a little respect. Jack was to become a leading figure in the Liverpool attack for many seasons, whilst another up-and-coming star, Peter Johnson, played outstandingly, but without avail, in this disappointing result.

Undaunted, Liverpool were back again in the next campaign. Tyne were beaten for the fourth consecutive time in the opening round, and in a very combative semi-final, Glasgow were beaten on their own soil 4-2, after extra-time. An intriguing feature of this match was the brotherly war between the renowned McDonald clan, Donald and Ken, and Tony and Jack Corless for Liverpool. Happily for the latter, goals in the extra period by Geoff Henshall, a player in the "Tommy Lawton" mould, and the progressive Freddie Gotts, settled the matter for the visitors.

For the first time, Liverpool played for the Cup on their own ground against London Port, sportingly trying their luck in the north, in their first final since the war. In a high scoring game, a fine hat-trick by Bill Rigby helped Liverpool to a 5-3 victory; and Henshall's headed goal from a perfect Gotts centre, was of such timing and power, that the connoisseurs still recall it with admiration.

Liverpool reached the final against L.A.P. in 1959, and for the second time in three seasons Jim Archibald won the Cup for the southerners, 5-4, with a goal in the last minute of extra-time. Once again Liverpool did not help themselves by conceding two penalties.

Revenge was at hand, however, and a year later, Liverpool faced L.A.P. again, in the final played at the N.A.L.G.O. Sports Ground, Liverpool. This time the lads from Merseyside made no mistake, winning by 3-0, being the most conclusive result between the two clubs.

Liverpool had continuous trouble with their draws in season 1960/61. Glasgow were beaten away after extra-time, and Hull, were overcome away in extra-time, following a drawn match at home; the campaign ended with a 1-1 tie in the final against L.A.P.

The airport side were now a combination to be reckoned with, and with Liverpool feeling the pressure, goalkeeper Ken Schofield was obliged to rugby-tackle Bob Fletcher. It took a great goal by Jack Corless to neutralise the resultant, unerring spot-kick, and despite extra-time, the Cup was shared.

Brief mention only can be made of some of the footballers who wore the Liverpool colours through the fabulous Fifties. Alongside those already mentioned, and variously under the leadership of Jim Boggan, famed for his football among the Pembrokeshire townships during his Fishguard days, Peter Johnson and the tough Mike Cullen, were Peter Waldron, Russ Woods, John Griffiths, Ron Hughes, Denis Rodenhurst, Derek Walmsley, goalies Arthur Rigby and John Brooksbank, and Alan Cross. And perhaps pride-of-place would ultimately go to manager Bill Gross, whose geniality and administration became known throughout the Lupton Cup scene; and in this work, he received first-class assistance from Stan Major.

What a record Liverpool had from 1950! In the eleven seasons to 1961, they appeared in ten finals, winning the Cup outright on three occasions, sharing the trophy twice. A wonderful effort only bettered by L.A.P. in the Sixties.

Liverpool disappeared into soccer oblivion for some years. The first-round defeat in the 1963/64 season against Hull was Liverpool's first early exit since 1950 when Jack Ashcroft's side were shaded out sensationally, 2-3, by Tyne. In December, 1964, Mike Cullen's Liverpool were psychologically shattered by the visiting Hull, with the second consecutive first-round beating by the Yorkshiremen. And Hull were not finished yet, because they made Liverpool suffer on the next two meetings, such was their superiority in the 1960s, vindicating their eleven losses in eleven games before this period. In fact, Liverpool

narrowly missed final appearances on four occasions, and twice each against the ascendancy of Glasgow and Hull, lost by the odd goal. Players of the calibre of Brian Conway, Len Rutter, Dave Field, Bob Allen, Vince McCarthy, Ken Faulkner, Ian Hamp and Dave Houghton, frankly, were unlucky in the Sixties quest for Lupton Cup honours.

Goals from Whelan and Hamilton, two each, Butterworth, Coady and Gordon, saw the colour return to Liverpool's game and ambitions in the 7-2 win over Manchester in December, 1969; and in the great 1971 Cup-winning trail, a win over Glasgow, John Curphy's masterly record-equalling tally of seven against Leith in a 11-3 victory and a kill against the marauding Hull in the ultimate meeting between the clubs, saw Liverpool go to the final for the first time in ten years. Much credit for their successes must go to Dick Pennington, the manager, and Brian Conway, their evergreen skipper.

The players who ran out to meet the mighty L.A.P. Cup holders on that April day in Liverpool in the last Lupton Cup final proper, were: Houghton; Atherton, McKittrick, Hill, Paskin; Conway, Coady; Munoz, Smith S., Curphy and Bromley. Substitute, Hamilton. In a hard fought game, the Merseysiders won 2-1 after losing keeper Dave Houghton with a broken leg early in the second-half.

So the Cup finally came to rest with Liverpool. Surely justice was manifestly and undoubtedly seen to be done on that great 218th and last day of the Lupton Cup competition.

London (Heathrow) Airport

VERY few people noticed that on the occasion of the last Lupton Cup final proper, in which Waterguard L.A.P. were attempting to win the coveted award for a record eighth time, the busiest international airport in the world was preparing to celebrate its quarter centenary. If nothing else, that item of useless information reminds us that civil flying operations commenced at Heathrow in January, 1946, and the formal opening took place later in May. At that time, the various sections, including Customs, were accommodated in caravans and marquees and when the weather was monsoonlike, first-class passengers received their gin, tonic and rainwater from waiters in gum boots and umbrellas, but modernisation soon got the staffs off the duck-boards and into the commodious, futuristic huts of the north side. Ever since, it has been a constant fight to keep up with the growth of traffic and there has never been a moment when some new extension was not under construction.

Although the Airport side did not enter the Lupton Cup arena until 1949/50, and then took several years to settle down, they have been a tremendous force in the competition since 1956. In fact, in the fifteen seasons since 1956/57, L.A.P. reached the final on no less than twelve occasions, won the trophy outright seven times—the record number of wins, and shared it with Liverpool in 1961.

Existence was not so rosy in the early days, however. Harwich narrowly beat them 2-1 in their first appearance in 1949, despite outstanding play by goalkeeper Reg Pooke and the late Frank Horrocks, both Liverpool exiles; the Essexmen going on to win the cup for the first and only time. Similarly, in 1950, L.A.P. were badly mauled by Southampton, who also went on to claim the ultimate award. In 1951, L.A.P., combining with Northolt, won their first Lupton Cup game, just grabbing the verdict at Gravesend by 2-1. Stan Jeffreys and Billy

Kell were now Heathrow displaced persons and playing well in their new colours, but in the second-round, they came up against an "in-form" Dover side and were crushed 8-1, the biggest defeat ever suffered by the airport XI.

In the following season, L.A.P. scraped through to the second-round with another narrow victory over Gravesend, but Dover rammed seven goals into the L.A.P. net to show that the previous season's result had been no fluke.

It was not until 1956 that L.A.P. "arrived" as a soccer force. Ken McDonald was now in town, and anyone who has ever been associated with the popular Scot will know just how much he meant to the airport side. This season, L.A.P. took the cup when, following victories over London (4-1) and Harwich (11-2), they defeated Liverpool by 2-1 at Hendon, the game going to extra time.

In their first defence of the treasured title, L.A.P. became involved in an unforgettable game at home to Southampton. L.A.P. led 1-0 at half-time, but the visitors levelled the score to 2-2 at the end of ninety minutes. Five incredible goals were hammered home during the extra half-hour with Southampton eventually triumphing by six goals to three. Fred Sweetingham, the popular L.A.P. full-back, realised his life-long ambition to score for Southampton by putting one into his own net.

In 1958/59, L.A.P. met Harwich in the first round, and poor Harwich took a terrible pounding as McDonald and his forwards went to work. Thirteen goals were blasted past that old veteran, John Reed, who had donned the custodian's jersey for Harwich in an emergency, and prompted that wise, old soccer owl, Dickie West, to comment that this was the best Heathrow side he had ever seen. L.A.P. conquered Southampton 4-3 in the semi-final and then beat Liverpool 5-4 in the final at Hounslow Town's ground. Both these games went to extra time and Jim Archibald netted the winner in the final in the last minute of extra time.

For the next six years, until the 1965 final tie, in fact, Heathrow contested the Lupton Cup final, creating a record seven consecutive appearances, and secured wins over Southampton and Glasgow (twice), sharing one final with Liverpool, after extra time, and suffering defeats by Liverpool and Glasgow.

Southampton were great rivals and on eight occasions, a party of L.A.P. players and supporters journeyed to the "Gateway". In January, 1961, it was ironic that Bob Fletcher and Sammy Powell, ex-Sotonians, now promoted, should lead the airportmen to Hampshire to gain a good 4-1 win in the semi-final. In a total of twelve matches played between the ports, L.A.P. were to win seven, one being drawn. Later that spring, L.A.P. met cup-holders Liverpool at Hounslow for the final tie, and Dave Leacy's penalty, after Bob Fletcher had been rugby tackled by the opposing goalkeeper, served to give his side a half-share in the trophy.

1962 was the year of the withered laurels, when, with some shame, only L.A.P. and Southampton played for the ultimate award. Even so, there was some melodrama because Ivor Toms and his Southampton comrades travelled up to Cranford, Middlesex, knowing that L.A.P.'s star, Ken McDonald, was playing in the Amateur Cup Final replay for Hounslow against Crook Town, within days of the Lupton Cup final, and feared for his preservation. They need not have worried, however, because Ken and captain Sammy Powell, carried the side to a clear

5 - 1 win; subsequently, Ken, safely through the Lupton Cup tie, faced the north-easterners for the second time, but in the event, had to be content with a runners-up medal.

Happily, for the 1963 cup trail, eleven ports entered, and L.A.P. had to prove their worth once again, and the following were selected to face Dover in the first round: Gregory; Wilson, H., Craymer; Smith, Fletcher, Leacy; Billing, Woods, Young, Pollard and Bolam. Goals from Bolam, Smith and Wilson saw them through together with the experience of defender Bob Fletcher. An outstanding see-saw semi-final disposed of London, 3 - 2, Bob and Dave Leakey playing quite brilliantly, with winger Peter Billing obtaining the winner. For the final against Glasgow, at half-way stage Liverpool, a large L.A.P. party encoached for the north-west. On crossing the Mersey, Gerry Hickey was conducted ceremoniously up to the driver's side and thence guided the coach, with some pride, through his native land to the ground in Bootle. The rarefied air of "Bootle-by-Sea", however, on L.A.P.'s first visit to the north, proved more beneficial to the Scots who pounded out their first final win for eight years.

A year later, L.A.P. reversed the Cup Final situation with Glasgow at Newcastle. Graham Buck, who had blasted five against Harwich in the first-round 12 - 3 win, scored the only goal in a tight, uncompromising match, in which Paul Harris and goalie Ken Schofield were faultless.

Again in the 1965 campaign, L.A.P. showed championship form when the enflaming goal-power of Buck 3, Mike Polkinghorne 3, Leakey 2, and Dave Young crushed Dover. Southampton, after a 1 - 1 draw away, participated in a combative match at the Lapwing ground where Buck and Scotsman, John Ferguson got the only goals, in extra-time, to put the L.A.P. squad in a celebratory mood at the "Peggy Bedford" dinner-dance later. A superb reunion was enjoyed by many Southampton colleagues who had "done time" at the airport; "Queenie" Greenwood was especially invited from London Port, and so was "Bing" Crosby from Northolt; George Morrison, L.A.P.'s respected H.W.S., presided and B. D. Smith and his very talented group supplied music of rare animation. In the semi-final, Gravesend were a dogged side to overcome but Alan Hinton's brilliant, flying header in the closing stages of the game sufficed to send L.A.P. forward to meet Glasgow for the third consecutive time, on this occasion at Hull. L.A.P. became the champion of champions in this private series with an irrefutable and record 5 - 0 victory; ex-Glaswegian, John Ferguson and Turner, two goals each, and Hinton being the marksmen. The season's final goal tally in five games showed nineteen to their credit with Southampton's lone goal being the only one against.

The visit of Harwich to L.A.P. for the preliminary defence of the cup, in the autumn of 1965, was expected to be more of a social outing than a footballing contest and the ladies of L.A.P. were to demonstrate their catering abilities to far greater effect than the eleven triers from Harwich with their fragile reserves of expertise. Fourteen goals were collected by Hinton 4, Bucklee 4, Bradfield 2, Smith, Turner, McDonald and Black, to create a new record in the competition. Mesdames Toms, Matthews, Dickinson and West then assumed responsibility for most delectable refreshments before the reunion party, including very welcomed guests, Mr. and Mrs. Davis, the home Collector and his wife, and Charles Douglas, I.G.W., and Mrs. Douglas, moved on to the Skyways Hotel for cabaret and dancing. In the succeeding round, L.A.P. surprisingly went out to Southampton, to end a run of eleven games without defeat,

in which fifty-two goals were scored with a mere four being conceded. A tremendous achievement by the L.A.P. partnership and all credit to the Southampton lads for demonstrating the airportmen's occasional frailty.

The 1967 pot recovery operation propelled L.A.P. into all kinds of difficulties. Gravesend fought grimly for three hours and went out to a late decider in the replay. The Battle of Southampton ensued in the new year which brought censure upon the two clubs after a match of reproachful behaviour which shocked spectators and Journal readers alike; L.A.P.'s Charlie McKie and Irvine scored, however, when bookings and lectures allowed, and the airportmen, led by Dave Young, moved into the final, which produced a painless 5-0 win over the Tyne, at Manchester.

A year later, L.A.P. progressed with greater certainty over the annual obstacles of Southampton and Gravesend, the once proud challenges of London and Dover having relapsed; but with L.A.P.'s national superiority seemingly confirmed, the north's leading protagonist, Glasgow, were plundering their way remorselessly towards the final. Bill Dickinson, Paul Harris and company did not outwardly manifest trepidation, the jumps and the jitters at news from the north, but had not the ex-L.A.P. stars, John Ferguson and Charlie McKie, returned to Clydeside? They knew there were few more impressive sights in the Lupton Cup world than these Scotsmen on the break, Dave Tanner and Eddie Donnagher were on the goal standard and Glasgow fans insisted that this was the most spectacular line-up yet produced. The Manchester-staged final endorsed Glasgow's claim for the Scots swept home with a thrilling 5-2 win.

L.A.P. had not lost two consecutive Lupton Cup matches since the mid 1950s and it was eleven years since they failed to qualify for the second-round. Gravesend, however, realised these facts for L.A.P., in the opening encounter of the 1969 cup quest, with their famous, inspired 4-3 triumph (related under Top Ten Matches). This disappointment was countervailed in April, 1969, when Bill and Mrs. Dickinson arranged a greatly enjoyed reunion at the "Peggy Bedford" for the season's L.A.P.-staged final between Hull and Southampton.

1969/70 was a season of complete accomplishment for the L.A.P. footballers. London and Dover felt their goal-power, without reply in either case. Gravesend collapsed before Buck and Hinton hat-tricks, Neil Heath and Jones additionally popping in one apiece, and the final tie at Hull against the strong Humbersiders was clinched, 5-1, by goals from Buck 2, Hinton 2, and Heath. Uniquely, Geoff Beecroft, Hull's clever forward, was the only player capable of piercing the L.A.P. defence that season and in the final account, his was the only goal against in contrast to twenty goals scored.

The last season of the competition proper took L.A.P. to the final for the twelfth time. The players who faced Liverpool up on Merseyside for this exclusive match were: Peter Lovelock, Paul Harris, Mike Stephenson, Dave Leacy, George Atkinson, Dave Bradfield, Neil Heath (capt.), Graham Buck, Alan Hinton, Stuart Richardson and Dave Leakey. Graham Mingo substituted. The 1-2 defeat was hard fought but sportingly conceded, before a typically enthusiastic Liverpool crowd; but this final reversal does not detract from L.A.P.'s admirable record.

Since their first cup winning season in 1957, forty-five games were played of which only seven were lost; 195 goals were netted compared with fifty-eight against.

L.A.P. benefited throughout from a transfusion of experienced players from all corners of the U.K., beginning with Reg Pooke in 1949 through to the present-day of Stuart Richardson, which invariably renewed former acquaintances on the baggage benches, through promotion and seasonal movements—the very commodity, in fact, which induced the success of the competition.

Nevertheless, for many seasons, L.A.P., in their own right, had the advantage of numerous, fine players. They regularly produced captains of skill and personality, numbered amongst whom were Dave Young, Paul Harris, Dave Bradfield, Neil Heath and George Atkinson; whilst other players of talent included the brilliant Dave Bucklee and Jim Archibald, the goalscoring Graham Buck, Alan Hinton, goalie Peter Lovelock, Dave Leacy and Greg Marcanik.

Much credit for L.A.P.'s prestige lies with Bill Dickinson, whose consistent implication with Lupton Cup affairs is unsurpassed, and Dicky West, whose involvement with L.A.P. functions spanned twenty years.

L.A.P. were hosts to visiting ports on eighteen occasions and provided open house for four cup final meetings. With such resources, L.A.P. must remain the prime contender for future footballing honours.

London Port

LONDON PORT has the distinction of having won the first Lupton Cup final against Liverpool in 1938, fittingly for Britain's one-time greatest port, but since then, despite having considerable talent on which to draw, have reached the final once only, in 1958, and it was then that Liverpool gained sweet revenge for their defeat twenty years earlier.

Waterguard soccer flourished on the Thames for many years between the Wars. Indeed had not colleague J. W. Booker played at half-back for England and Millwall in 1920? It was in the 1930s that the London side really developed, however, and included such fabulous players as Bill Williamson, George Dover (the captain) and "Ginger" Ralph at half-back, Colin Carthew and Dai Davis at inside-forward and Jim Douglas on the left wing.

In the first round of the new Lupton Cup competition in 1937, London Port were drawn away at Dover. They were well supported on this visit to the Kent port; Charles Woodford, I.G.W., and Mr. and Mrs. Lupton travelling with the party. London made a remarkable recovery in this game, when, after being two goals down at the interval, they finally took the match by 4-3, "Wimps" Williamson scoring the winner late in the proceedings. It is amusingly related that the more the locals cried, "Come on, Dover!", the harder the London captain played which resulted in London's epic win.

This qualified the Port to a home semi-final tie against Southampton ending in a 2-2 draw. In the subsequent replay in Southampton, London walked away with the game scoring four goals through Carthew (2) and Stan Webster (2) without reply. Carthew had such a fine game that he was later selected to play for a Civil Service XI. He is now engaged in landing and shipping in Newhaven.

The final was played at Tansley F.C. Ground, Edgware, on 6th April, 1938; Liverpool, led by the late Alf Quine, were their opponents, but the visitors' star, the incomparable Ned Pollock, had been injured

in a previous game and was unable to play. Nevertheless, odds of 10 - 1 were offered against London.

London won a finely contested game by 2 - 0, Jim Douglas scoring the first-ever goal in a Lupton Cup final and Colin Carthew adding another in the second-half.

The following year, London beat Hull 2 - 1 in the first round, but were then outclassed by a Liverpool side which included Ned Pollock and the superb "Ginger" Ralph at wing-half, who had won cup winners' honours with London in the previous season.

Hostilities interfered and when the Lupton Cup story continued after World War II, London's first post-war chapter was short and sweet with a 7 - 1 defeat in the first-round against Dover and Len Hobbis.

London was not without talent, however. Jack Bishop (son of Wally Bishop), who commenced his appearances for the Waterguard at the age of thirteen, was not a frilly footballer, but as a centre forward he knew exactly where the back of the net was; and he started on the goal trail in his first season, 1948/49, by scoring all London's goals in their two games, against Southampton, winning 2 - 1, and versus Dover, losing 2 - 5.

The following season saw London drawn away to South Wales at Cardiff where four goals from the marauding Bishop and Roly Jenkins proved too much for the game Welshmen. At this time, the rising star of Jimmy Goulette appeared to sparkle for London on their way to two semi-finals in 1950 and 1951, although in their next start they suffered their heaviest defeat falling to Southampton by 10 - 0.

The 1957/58 season proved to be London's best for twenty years. Dai Davis was still at full-back, that fine veteran, Bill Williamson, was at centre-half, Andy Lennon at wing-half with Bishop leading the line. Jack had a profitable game scoring two superb goals against Southampton in the semi-final and another brace in the final which Liverpool won 5 - 3.

London incurred some severe defeats in the next few campaigns until Jack Hopkins joined the squad, and Alf Smallwood took over as secretary and general enthusiast. These two and Ken Hencher were a formidable trio and played a major part in the port's revival in 1962/63. During this season they beat Gravesend 4 - 0 in round one, and Southampton 9 - 1 in the next, their biggest win in the competition. In fact, London were unlucky not to reach the final as they led 2 - 1 at half-time, with goals from Terry Warren and Ken Hencher, in the semi-final against L.A.P., and only ran out of luck very late in the game when L.A.P. grabbed the winner. The heroes for London that day were: Harman; Bambury, Barber; Kramer, Warren, Lennon; Rylance, Hencher, Davis, Miles and Hopkins (capt.). Warren, Hencher and Denis Bambury were particularly outstanding; Denis, a rugby player esteemed in C. and E. circles, like many other handling-code operators in the Lupton Cup, proved himself just as adept and valuable to his port with the round ball.

London's last Lupton Cup victory was over Southampton in 1963/64 when they won 4 - 1, but they were beaten by L.A.P. 1 - 0 in the semi-final and since then their results have left much to be desired.

Many memorable Waterguard reunions were enjoyed with our London Port colleagues, frequently at the Dutch House Hotel, near Eltham. The criterion of comradeship hospitality fulminated by Wally Bishop and George Dover was continued by Vic Benham and Terry Warren, amongst others, who all did great work in this direction, whilst Alf Smallwood

and his virtuosity at the piano have long been a scintillating feature of reunion entertainment.

London's leading rival was Southampton and in twelve skirmishes, six wins went to the Londoners, one draw being played.

Once or twice in the late 1960s London did not enter a side in the competition but Tim Connolly has worked hard in recent years and a London Port XI has appeared in each of the last four years, but without sporting success. Perhaps next season will be theirs!

Manchester

MANCHESTER'S footballing resources are thinly dispersed and found mainly in the corners of Lancashire and Cheshire. The port receives its ocean-going liners along the thirty miles cut of the Ship Canal which then docks them in the heart of the city, famous for its culture, education and socialism; for Manchester has the most distinguished of town grammar schools founded in tudor times, is the birth-place of free libraries and claims the idealistic, classfree dictum, a "Manchester man".

Most players are based at Ringway Airport in north-east Cheshire and at the port in Salford and Stretford, others making the journey from Eastham and Ellesmere Port on the Wirral peninsula.

Manchester obtained a taste for the Lupton Cup, where the twain do frequently meet, when they staged the 1967 L.A.P. versus Tyne final; festivities later at the Airport Hotel were grandly enjoyed by the members of all three ports.

In December, 1967, the division swept into the second round of their first season on a bye, and then into Glasgow's record book, providing the Scots with their biggest ever 9-0 win. Hull and Liverpool respectively proved their eminence in the following seasons although the Mersey-siders were privileged with excellent hospitality at Manchester's first home cup reception in their own right, held at the Salisbury Hotel.

The battle of the minnows in the 1970/71 season resulted in the overwhelming of Middlesbrough, through hat-tricks by Rochelle and McCue, by 7-0 in the replay, after a punishing 2-2 draw in north Yorkshire. Hull beat Manchester 4-3 in the next round, but this creditable defeat symbolised to the larger ports that Triton had indeed arrived.

Manchester now has an enthusiastic squad of about eighteen players including the notable Eric Jones, Chris Jones and Dave Mellor in mid-field and goalie Phil Byrne, led by Paul Wiseman. Chris Salisbury and Colin Gurton in particular help to make soccer happen and special mention must be made of Brian Sharpe who unfailingly and magically produces funds for social occasions highlighted by the Lupton Cup scene.

Middlesbrough

IN February, 1949, a Middlesbrough XI with supporting party travelled to North Shields, to contest their Lupton Cup claims for the first time in a match which also celebrated Tyne's post-war return. Jimmy Steedman played himself to a standstill, alongside Frank Ellingham, Dennis Stevenson, Ken McGrath, Jim Burnett, Lou Barnes, Eric Parsons and Bob Fox. The Tyne lads after their narrow win, took the Boro party to the Albion Grill for a memorable dinner, followed by a smoker where, it was reported, the singers and raconteurs, all of them Water-

guard, performed to a professional standard. It later developed that Middlesbrough were entreated by the Tynesiders that in necessary things it was good and joyful to unite, but the suggestion of Lupton Cup amalgamation was respectfully and firmly refused owing to the impelling privilege of representing their port as a separate entity.

Historically, the town grew on a site occupied in 1829 by a single farm, although the physical conditions of constantly changing mud flats had originally been hostile to settlement. But the local resources of limestone, Cleveland ironstone and Durham coal together with the development of the Stockton-Darlington railway in 1841 led to the first ironworks and by 1861 there were fifty operational blast furnaces. Workers were attracted in large numbers, who later were to suffer industrial depression and unemployment; the port grew from its 1850 beginnings, all contributing to the present-day's hard working community.

In 1968, with football a part of a thriving sports and social club, Middlesbrough re-established Lupton Cup interest, again with a Tyne fixture; Hull and Manchester were visited, the latter port being welcomed in the last season.

Geoff Borchard, who courageously played very competitively into his forties until a split cartilage and a realistic wife put him on the referee's list, and John Solley have helped Boro's soccer arrangements together with such mainstays as Norman Brand and Dave McMann, backed by keen players including Geoff Robinson, Dave Newton, Brian Hamilton, Tommy Walker, Barry Watson, Dick Green, Dave Godfrey, Dave Fiddy, Alan Tomlinson, Steve Lewis and Geoff Crowther.

Keep it up, lads. With iron in your soul, you yet may be masters of them all. Up the Boro!

Southampton

ONE thing distinguishes Southampton from all other Lupton Cup competitors. As one of the founder members, Southampton have entered a team every year since its inception, including the ill-fated 1961/62 season, when only one game was played.

It was the Southampton side which opposed Gravesend in the first ever Lupton Cup game, and several of the team which reached the final in 1939 are still serving in the department.

In reaching the 1939 final, they disposed of Cardiff by 8-0 in the first-round, in a game in which centre forward, "Whirlwind" Jarvis, cracked home three goals. The second-round game against Dover was a much tougher affair but Jack Langford's boys made it 2-1 to give them their chance against Liverpool in the final.

Liverpool, however, proved much too strong for Southampton and despite Alec Plowright's fine display in goal, Langford, Eric Pedley and Dave McNeil's stubborn resistance in defence and the craft of Colin McDougall and Cliff Bayliss up front, that wily, old fox, Ned Pollock, knew too much and took the winners' medal which he had set his heart on for the sake of his beloved Liverpool.

After World War II, Southampton had little success in the competition for several seasons, being defeated in the first rounds of successive campaigns, by Harwich, 1947, London Port, 1948, and by Harwich again in 1949.

Then one of those rare characters turned up to take over soccer in

the great South Coast port. George Hibberd, whose name is synonymous with Lupton Cup soccer, had arrived.

That season of 1950-51, Southampton won the Lupton Cup for the first time, beating Liverpool 3-2 after extra-time, at Hendon; Roy Goodall's goal during the additional half-hour being enough to pull in the medals. The proud representatives that April day were: Colin Bunster (captain), Ron Parsons, Ron Moore, Roy Goodall, Bob Fletcher, Dick Williams, Ron Edmonds, Phil Pettit, Eric Dee, Ken Jackson and Frank Powell. Doug Barnard, now A.W.S. in Southampton (pre-reorganisation), was the Liverpool skipper on that day, and Phil Pettit of Southampton had last met Tom Brown of Liverpool in the 1939 final.

The following season and the Saints were pot-hunting again. They pounded London 10-0 and Dover 2-0 on their way to another meeting with Liverpool, again at Hendon, a game in which Roy Goodall's solitary goal and "Snippy" Parson's brilliant form between "the sticks" carried the day for Southampton. Thus they equalled Liverpool's 1949 record of winning the Cup without conceding a goal.

In 1953, for the third successive year, Southampton reached the final. They disposed of London, and then in the semi-final met Dover. Southampton's league side had recently carried off the Hampshire Mid-Week Cup and the Travers Cup and therefore faced the Kentish visitors with confidence. Veteran "Digger" Stanley's quick goal shocked the home team and it required a fine Jack Hopkins' header from a Colin Bunster cross to level matters. The large crowd were thrilled with a perfectly timed climax, for with Dover doing well and the seconds running out, Roy Goodall hit the ball home for Southampton, the congratulations from team-mates and supporters mingling with the referee's final whistle. At Hendon, for the final, they were perhaps a little lucky in holding Liverpool to 3-3 after extra-time, and so sharing the trophy, for with twenty minutes to go the lads from Merseyside led 3-1 with fine goals from Jim Guest (2) and Gerry Hickey, but they then lost Jim through injury. Bob Fletcher completed a glorious hat-trick in those dying minutes to save the game for Southampton, in which, together with Bob, Ken Jackson, goalie Parsons and captain Jack Hopkins were outstanding.

Almost a year later to the day, the same ports met yet again for the final, and there seemed little likelihood in those days of a serious challenge coming from any other port. This time it was Liverpool's turn to take the title outright, winning by three goals to one, scored by Southampton captain, Jack Hopkins, whilst Goodall, John Bell and Ron Edmonds were taking the eye with good displays.

In 1954/55, Southampton scored twenty-three goals in three games on their run-in to another final. On this occasion they confronted a Glasgow XI, who had sensationally removed Liverpool in the semi-final, determined to put Scotland's name on the Cup for the first time, and they did so with a 5-2 scoreline.

1956 saw Southampton in their sixth consecutive final, an extraordinary achievement for Jack Hopkins, George Hibberd and the rest of the gallant boys. In this match, they beat Liverpool to take the trophy for the third time in six years. This was Southampton's last meeting with the famous Merseysiders and in six matches, all being finals, the Hampshire lads won three with one drawn game.

They were unbeaten from their victory over L.A.P. in the autumn of 1950 until Liverpool beat them in the 1954 final, and in six seasons from 1950/51 to 1955/56, they scored 82 goals, conceding 26. Roy Goodall, 21, Bob Fletcher, 21, and Jack Hopkins, 19, were responsible

for 61 of those! Quite a formidable trio! Tony Labram was to become another player of class in Southampton's mid-field, and also at this time, goalkeeper Roy Saltmarsh, John Bell and forward Denis Heighway arrived to contribute their skills.

During the ensuing ten years, Southampton failed to progress beyond the early rounds, excepting the unique 1962 final with L.A.P., though three games during that period are of interest.

In 1957, they played an exciting first-round game against L.A.P., which Saints won 6-3, five wonderful goals coming in the extra period. Eight players found the net in this game, Norman Evans of L.A.P. being the only player on target more than once.

Then three years later, Evans, now with Southampton, created the Lupton Cup individual goal-scoring record by netting seven times in Southampton's 8-1 victory over luckless Harwich. This record was equalled by Liverpool's John Curphy in 1971.

In the winter of 1962/63, a weak Southampton eleven travelled eastwards through a blizzard to meet a tough London Port side and were convincingly beaten 9-1, despite a great effort by captain Peter Statham, Saints' heaviest defeat in their Lupton Cup history. On the return journey, the Southampton party, in marvellous voice under the baton of choirmaster Dave Down, took on the mantle of heroes when, with the coach pushing onwards through the blinding snow, it was observed that a car had come to grief in a deep, snowdrifted ditch. Like a motley horde of good fairies the boys slid down the glacial bank and rescued two travellers who were in some distress; the journey continuing once George Hibberd's party had ensured the safety and comfort of the unfortunate victims.

A moderately successful season in 1965/66 saw Southampton through to the final, but Glasgow beat them handsomely, 4-0, in Liverpool.

In 1966/67, they beat Dover 9-0 in round one, with goals from Alan Buenfeld 4, Dave Leacy 2, Tony Weedon, Dave Leaky and John Bordessa, and then met Heathrow in the following round. The Londoners won it 2-0 but here all resemblance to a soccer game ended.

Southampton's last success in the competition was in 1969. Their second-round tie with Gravesend went to three games before Southampton pulled it off 5-1. In the final against Hull, the Yorkshiremen led for a long period, but goals by John Harris and "Twiggy" Rogers in the second half, and notable performances from Peter Dare, Jim Taylor and Alan Gregory, brought the Cup back to Southampton for the first time in thirteen years.

Since 1969, they have suffered two first-round defeats, 6-4 against Dover and 6-2 against Gatwick.

Southampton have been fortunate in finding officers who cared enough to provide a game of football for their socially isolated colleagues. In pre-war days, Charlie Timby, managed the Saints in between singing his comic songs; he was followed soon after the war by John Northcott, who then handed over to the admirable George Hibberd. Much work was then capably performed by Alf Smallwood, Norman Thomas, the superlative Jack Hopkins, Vic Benham, Doug Russell and to the present day of Norman Evans. They consistently communicated news of matches to colleagues in out-ports and it was common to see old friends like George Jolliffe, Weymouth, Bill Martin, Poole, and Denis Morgan and Stan Bewen of Fawley, arriving to join the reunions.

Today's L.A.P. stars, Dave Leacy, Graham Buck and Dave Leakey began their Lupton Cup days with Southampton, as did Gatwick's Tony Weedon. At the present time, Southampton are lucky to have John

Harris, an outstanding all-round sportsman and departmental cap—not many come better than this exceptional footballer and cricketer.

Southampton will taste success again. They have the players of ability and an enthusiastic committee under Norman Evans. But it will be difficult to emulate the feats of George Hibberd's boys!

Tyne

THE Customs effected their lawful processes upon Newcastle at a very early stage, not before the Romans perhaps, who settled on Tyne's north bank, constructed their protective castle and originated the city at the most favourable bridging point. Coal was being shipped in C13 from an unpolluted river which abounded with salmon and from the C16 Newcastle became the commercial focus of Tyneside. But the implications of the Lupton Cup competition, with eight ports accepting the challenge, took another season before impressing the north-easterners of their competence of entry.

Nevertheless, an enthusiastic party tempered with exiles travelled to Liverpool in October, 1938, where the Tyne XI bravely lost 2-5 and finished the match with eight men. Smith was injured, returned to battle, fainted with pain and was finally carried off as were Watson and Ronnie Stephenson but Ladbroke and Hogg historically got the port's first cup goals. This was the start of seventeen seasons of Cup entry in which victories were achieved over all major northern sides excluding Leith.

Tyne were raring to go in 1939 but Hitler's ambitions sent Jock McCarthy and ex-schoolboy cap Jock Ness into the Navy, Ronnie Stephenson to the Royal Artillery, newly-wed Jimmy Day to other ports, whilst the young veteran Bill Grossart and Frank Cox (size twelve in boots, who could only play when his brother was at work which then left the only soccer boots available), amongst others, cursed the postponement of the competition as they served their sixteen-hour watches.

Cup hostilities recommenced in 1949, neighbouring Middlesbrough feeling the sting of a frustrated Tyne. Eddy Kane, to become a fine player and organiser, was responsible for many handsome dinners and smokers in this post-war period. Early in the new year of 1950, in the next round, came the first important win, at Liverpool, the 3-2 win proving a memorable triumph remembering that the Lancastrians were the Cup holders who remarkably had appeared in all four finals. Fred Elliot led the side in beating Hull at North Shields which was followed that evening by a great reunion featuring the variety of talents of colleagues Bruce, Clough, Barnes, Griffiths and Atkinson, and enjoyed by innumerable Collectors, Supers and Waterguard friends. The losing semi-final, Elliot's penalty being the only reply to three goals, against Harwich—and the only Cup match against the Essexmen—was also held at North Shields with yet another sparkling reception at the Grand Hotel, Tynemouth, the large gathering being supplemented by Immigration, C.I.D. and Custom House staff.

In October, 1964, that admirable enthusiast, J. N. S. (Pony) Moore, Chairman of Tyne Sports Club, welcomed L.A.P. and Glasgow for the final which those ports should have arranged and played the previous season. The Tynesiders' initiative was approved nationally and the assembly at a perfect example of open-house hospitality saw Mr. J. Downie, North Shields, present the trophy to George Morrison, supporter supreme, on behalf of the Airportmen.

Tyne were among the also-rans throughout a profitless sixteen-year period when they failed to progress past the first round. They were years of "if you have boots you're in" for the Division's recruits. Once a young officer unusually was carried on the field heavily fortified with the potheen in anticipation of the festivities to come, such was the insufficiency of talent available. Away trips posed problems of selection resulting in delayed departures, and habitually, shoppers in Scottish towns were regaled with lowering slacks and attendant Tyneside cheeks glimpsed through steaming coach windows as players hurriedly changed to meet kick-off time. Off-course drivers were not excused embarrassment as Border farmers shouted oaths to get their coaches out of their farmyards and once the law when issuing a summons for speeding was not impressed at vague excuses about the Lupton Cup.

But the sparsity of success never deflated the Tynesiders' desire for involvement, and at last in the first round of the 1967 competition Glasgow were beaten at the height of their success, being Cup holders and finalists on the four previous occasions. Tyne were led to victory by Eric Johnson with the two winning goals coming from John Sherrard. The powerful Hull were overcome in the semi-final, the only goal coming from Mick Mason, and it was Eric Johnson, Alan Ismay in goal and Keith Kemp who shaded the honours in a great team effort that proud day. For ten years Jim Wiseman had continued Eddy Kane's fine example of both player and organiser, and in this, Tyne's best ever year, he proved his flair in the anxious art of planning the receptions, for Glasgow at the "Alexandra", North Shields, and for Hull at the Bay Hotel, Cullercoats, excelling in organisation and conviviality. Derek Bolam too, among other willing officers, was to give valuable service to Tyne football. Tyne travelled to Manchester for the final to contest matters with L.A.P. in a match which was to result in defeat and some anti-climax.

Fortunes lapsed from 1968 to the present day, the 7-0 win over visiting Middlesbrough proving to be the highest and last.

Liverpool were the most frequent rivals, Tyne's 1950 win being the sole one of ten meetings. Out of thirteen home matches, six different ports had the privilege and pleasure of visiting Tyneside, an admirable record for such a small division.

THE LUPTON "LEAGUE"

(the complete record of each port showing % success)

	<i>Played</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>%</i>
L.A.P.	54	36	4	14	70
LIVERPOOL ...	65	43	5	17	70
SOUTHAMPTON ...	57	31	5	21	58
GLASGOW ...	39	18	5	16	52
DOVER ...	33	16	0	17	48
LONDON ...	36	14	1	21	40
HULL ...	39	13	3	23	37
HARWICH ...	26	9	0	17	34
GRAVESEND ...	31	7	5	19	30
TYNE ...	27	7	2	18	29

"MINI LEAGUE"

	<i>Played</i>	W	D	L	%
GATWICK	5	2	1	2	50
LEITH	7	3	1	3	50
CARDIFF	4	1	0	3	25
MANCHESTER	6	1	1	4	25
MIDDLESBROUGH	5	0	1	4	10
BRISTOL	1	0	0	1	—
W.T.C.	1	0	0	1	—

The First Lupton Cup Game

THE first ever game in the brand-new Waterguard and Launch Service soccer competition took place between Gravesend and Southampton at the Central Avenue Ground, Gravesend, on 26th October, 1937.

The Southampton side plus a number of ardent fans travelled to Gravesend by train, and on the way, Colin MacDougall caused some panic when, after showing much concern and consideration for his teammates, it was discovered that Colin had left his gear in a shop in the rush to catch the train. Fortunately the error was discovered in time and Colin was able to lead his men to a fine 3-0 victory over Gravesend.

The honour of scoring the first goal in Lupton Cup football went to Jack Langford, who netted for Southampton early in the game. The visitors led 2-0 at the interval, and their supporters were in such vociferous mood, and used their feet to such good effect, that the small stand had to be examined at half-time to see if anything had been dislodged.

The line-up on that historic occasion was:

Gravesend: Hall; Farro, Smith; Urwin, Cooper (capt.), Thomas; Ellingham, Ramsey, Lones, Brennan and Ayles.

Southampton: Plowright; Andrews, Pedley; Hayward, McNeill, McDougall; Barratt, Fry, Langford, Bayless and Hornsby.

The Top Ten Matches

Match 1—Dover v. Liverpool (final, 1949)

In March, 1949, for the second final after the war, Liverpool, under the managership of the late Bill Hughes, travelled to London to meet Dover, in a repeat of the previous season's final at Ilford. Before a large crowd at the Hendon F.C. Ground, obtained through the influence of Tom Whittaker, of Arsenal fame, a highly combative game was fought between Sid Ablett's Merseysiders, roared on by their vociferous supporters, and the Dover XI, led by the resolute Len Hobbis and encouraged by a cacophony of Kentish rattles and bells. The reporter for this match took his impressions from the charged atmosphere and football rivalry rather than from the personalities engaged in the struggle, and the only player mentioned, other than the well-known captains, was Liverpool's mercurial Billy Kell who slammed in the only goal during the second-half to regain the trophy for the North. The Liverpool side, and in particular their goalkeeper, during the campaign were illustrious in never conceding a goal throughout the three games played.

Match 2—Glasgow v. Liverpool (semi-final, 1955).

From 1951, Southampton and Liverpool had contested Lupton Cup supremacy in each of the four finals played and the 1955 enterprise

saw them set fair in the semi-finals. Southampton were favoured to beat London whilst the Merseysiders had beaten their Glasgow opponents in all three previous starts and now they travelled to Scotland for the eliminator. The Glaswegians startlingly led the Cupholders 3-0 at half-time, but during a hectic second period, Liverpool had fought back to 4-3 down; with time running out and under continuous pressure, Glasgow fatally incurred a penalty. The ball was struck truly and lethally goalwards but Jim Finlay became his side's hero with a brilliant save to win a bitterly fought game. Donald Grant, the great "Sammy Soordook", proudly proclaimed, "the Blue Bonnets will soon be over the border in an invasion that will make the 1745 seem like a Sunday school outing", and, of course, his prophesy was borne out in Glasgow's first-ever cup final win against Southampton.

Match 3—L.A.P. v. Southampton (semi-final, 1959).

L.A.P., still without a cup win against their great, southern rivals, faced Southampton in the semi-final tie remembering that in the previous season the "Saints" had blasted six goals past them; and so it appeared a good match to win. At full-time, goals by Ken McDonald, Crabtree and Young had kept them level at 3-3, in one of the most contentious games played between Waterguard teams; and it was Dave Bucklee who settled the dispute in L.A.P.'s favour, in extra time, with the goal that counted. Alan Febery and Sam Powell had played exceptionally well for the Airport whilst Jack Hopkins, Bob Fletcher, Brian Martin, Dave Down and Ivor Toms were Southampton's best. A month later, Ken McDonald collected the trophy for the Airportmen from Bernard Reilly, I.G.W., the winning goal, once again, coming in extra-time.

Match 4—Tyne v. Hull (semi-final, 1967).

Could Hull reach the 1967 final for the first time in their Lupton Cup history? They had massacred Liverpool in the first round and now only Tyne stood in their way, a port which had not graduated past the first round for sixteen seasons. Ken Pauley led the strong Humbersiders admirably but his attack could not overcome Alan Ismay in the Tyne goal; they found Keith Kemp impassable and agonisingly for the hopeful Hull lads, Tyne's Mick Mason found their net for the only score in one of the competition's memorable games.

Match 5—L.A.P. v. Gravesend (1st round, 1967).

In the deep south, meanwhile, Gravesend and L.A.P. had tied 0-0 and were doing battle in the replay. The powerful L.A.P. XI, with Devlin irrepressible, twice took the lead, but each time Mike Renals and Mike Craske hit back with fine goals for Gravesend who were bravely served in defence by goalie Dave Brenner and Dave Baxter. Paul Harris, L.A.P.'s skipper and the side's 1966 Footballer of the Year, played a dominant part in containing the urgent Gravesend forwards but yet again Lady Luck, surely a pre-existent Air Hostie, smiled upon the Heathrowmen, who snatched the decider in so stirring a match that neither side deserved to lose.

Match 6—Hull v. Glasgow (1st round, 1968).

Glasgow could not have confidently backed themselves for honours after forty-five minutes of the 1967/68 season. Dave Watson was showing, by example, what he required from his Hull side, for his remarkable first-half hat-trick had relegated the dynamic Glaswegians

to a 4-3 deficiency. Goal by goal, however, the Scots contested this thrilling match; Watson scored his fourth goal like a hunter shooting an indestructible lion but his achievement, shored up with a Geoff Beecroft goal, could not cope with hat-tricks from the inspired Dave Tanner and Eddie Donagher, which edged Glasgow into an exciting 6-5 victory. Dave and Eddie, together with John Ferguson and Charlie McKie, were to be the most prolific scoring force in a Lupton Cup season, netting in all twenty-six goals on the way to their incontrovertible final defeat of L.A.P.

Match 7—Gravesend v. L.A.P. (1st round, 1969).

The following season commenced with a first round tie between Gravesend and L.A.P., their seventh encounter. Was it to be a seventh heaven for the cup finalists, who had never lost to the Kentishmen, despite the tremors of two years earlier. Norman Elley made no mistake with an expeditious goal for the visitors and after thirty thrilling minutes of football Chris Ballard put Gravesend back in the game. Jimmy McGregor then shocked L.A.P. with a beautifully taken goal but nearing the halfway stage, Dave Bradfield, playing a captain's part, equalised. L.A.P.'s defensive seismograph recorded disturbance when McGregor flashed in again to score early in the second-half, but nothing in comparison to the convulsive shock when Jim got his hat-trick soon afterwards. Graham Buck unavailingly pulled one back for L.A.P. but victory sensationally went to Gravesend, in one of the hardest and most sporting of Lupton Cup games.

Match 8—Glasgow v. Leith (1st round, 1970).

Between 1963 and 1968, Glasgow struck the golden vein of cup success, winning the trophy three times in five appearances, but the 1969 campaign saw Liverpool sickeningly eject them in the opening round. With an eye on the 1970 Cup, Glasgow welcomed Leith, returning to action after a seven year break, for the first tie, presenting perhaps a more undemanding hurdle. The events on the King George V Playing Fields at Renfrew that December afternoon are now history in the Central Lowlands, for the once great Glaswegians, possibly the most precipitate, masterly and extraverted of Lupton Cup winners were reduced to insolvency, their talents overdrawn, despite the efforts of strikers Bob Mundell and Dave Tanner. Gone were the golden touches and goal-scoring crafts of earlier seasons in face of the prodigious Leith side, for whom Richardson, Young, McKie, Wallace, Gus McDonald and McKeich excelled. Leith's 5-1 win marked one of the most creditable performances and notable upsets in the competition. Their form was repeated against Liverpool in the second round but it was Hull who survived the semi-final to end Leith's great fight for the final honour.

Match 9—Southampton v. Gatwick (1st round, 1971).

This game was a southern equivalent to the foregoing encounter. Southampton had been champions in 1969 whereas Gatwick were without a win and entering their second season. Gatwick would have wished for a more manageable tie but it was with unconquerable hope that a large Airport party travelled to that happy land, far, far away, where Saints in glory stand; tasteful in their strip of red. Urged on by John Harris and Jack Hopkins and fine attacking forward play from Bluenfeld and Crawford, Southampton looked the more accomplished, commanded affairs in mid-field and generally displayed a harder and more positive approach than the enthusiastic visitors. With the game in its last

quarter Gatwick had done well to be on level terms at 2-2, but their grit and determination, sustained them long enough for the wind of ascendancy to turn and drive them onwards. Colin Mansell put the Airport side in front to claim a superb hat-trick and from this point Southampton stood no chance, for Gatwick were to double that score before the final whistle in an amazing 6-2 result. This was Gatwick's finest-ever display, a complete team effort highlighted perhaps by the play of captain Alistair McKenzie, Brian Gummer, Tony Weedon, Colin Mansell and goalie Brian Latimer, which achieved one of the best against-the-odds Lupton Cup victories.

Match 10—Liverpool v. L.A.P. (final, 1971).

Liverpool's golden era ended in 1961 after sixteen seasons of distinction in which they reached the final on no fewer than fourteen occasions. One of the most feared of teams they lost only ten out of forty-five games in this period. But it was another ten years before they were to take the field again in a final with the chance to restore their former respect; and the Liverpool Police Ground set the scene for the 1971 confrontation with the cup holders, L.A.P. The southerners countered the brash, energetic Liverpoolians with studied, collective play and with the scoreline still bare it seemed that the side with the greater resilience of character would triumph in this grim but absorbing battle. Without showing superiority, Liverpool grabbed two chances in the first-half and made them count to the full, but hardly had they reflected upon their good fortune when the pendulum of fate swung the other way. Dave Houghton, fearless and splendid in goal, suffered a fractured leg early in the second-half repulsing a desperate L.A.P. attack and was rushed to hospital. Minutes later L.A.P.'s Hinton stabbed in a goal to re-establish danger for the fighting Merseysiders at 2-1. Character did tell during that punishing final half exemplified by the fluent, steadying skills of captain Brian Conway and the competitive Frank Munoz backed by tangible team effort, because they refused to be harrowed by an L.A.P. team whose purpose and drive had achieved so much in recent years. Thirty-three years earlier, Ned Pollock had urged on his Liverpool colleagues in the first final to be played, and on this present, victorious occasion, the last of the Waterguard finals, Ned was there again, proudly watching the new Liverpool; the admiration was mutual.

Possible Waterguard Representative Teams

THERE was never an occasion when a purely, nationwide Waterguard representative XI took the field, although many colleagues have served the Customs and Excise in the "Lewis Cup", being the Civil Service Association Football Challenge Trophy, and in inter-departmental and related matches. But which of our footballers would have been called up for duty in such an eventuality?

Picking best-ever XIs, in whatever team game, has always been a popular pastime, and it is well-known that British polar expeditions spend snow-bound hours choosing their greatest English cricket sides. But the art of the amateur selector, safe in his armchair, is so functionless and unproductive, that the desire to pick and shuffle names is quite irresistible, and the combined talents of the selected, like desirable girls in glossy magazines, remain quite inviolate and secure in their inaccessibility.

Accordingly then, a little controversy may be added to the proceedings by selecting three Waterguard sides from players who have played in the Lupton Cup competition:

THE BEST WATERGUARD TEAMS

PRE-WAR PERIOD

Alec Plowright (Southampton)	SHADOW SQUAD
Bill Gray (Liverpool)	Bill Watson (Cardiff)
Alec Brown (Hull)	Charlie King (Liverpool)
Bill Williamson (London)	Jack Langford (Southampton)
George Dover (London)	Bill Hankin (Cardiff)
'Ginger' Ralph (London)	Alf Quine (Liverpool)
Alec Gerrie (London)	Tom Brown (Liverpool)
Colin Carthew (London)	
Len Hobbis (Hull)	
Ned Pollock (Liverpool) (Capt.)	
Sid Ablett (Liverpool)	

MIDDLE PERIOD

Ken Schofield (Liverpool)	SHADOW SQUAD
Jim Cooper (Gravesend)	R. R. (Dai) Davis (London)
Sam Powell (Southampton)	Jim Boggan (Liverpool)
Jim Ward (Glasgow)	Jim Archibald (L.A.P.)
Ken Hencher (London)	Jack Bishop (London)
Stan Pearson (Harwich)	Geoff Henshall (Liverpool)
Bob Fletcher (Southampton)	Denis Bambury (London)
Jack Corless (Liverpool)	Tony Labram (Southampton)
Jack Hopkins (Southampton) (Capt.)	Jim Goulette (London)
Ken McDonald (Glasgow)	Jock Allan (Harwich)
Gil Young (Dover)	

RECENT PERIOD

Brian Snelling (Hull)	SHADOW SQUAD
John Harris (Southampton)	Alan Gregory (Southampton)
George Atkinson (L.A.P.) (Capt.)	Paul Harris (L.A.P.)
Stuart Richardson (Leith)	Neith Heath (L.A.P.)
Alistair McKenzie (Gatwick)	Tony Weedon (Gatwick)
Mel Ewings (Gravesend)	Frank Munoz (Liverpool)
Brian Conway (Liverpool)	Charlie McKie (Leith)
John Ferguson (Glasgow)	John Curphy (Liverpool)
Bob Mundell (Glasgow)	Jim McGregor (Gravesend)
Dave Watson (Hull)	Dave Baxter (Gravesend)
Dave Bucklee (L.A.P.)	Geoff Beecroft (Hull)
	Dave Tanner (Glasgow)
	John Hayes (Glasgow)
	Graham Buck (L.A.P.)
	Don Armstrong (Gravesend and Launch Service)
	Dave Leakey (L.A.P.)
	Phil Byrne (Manchester)
	Brian Gummer (Gatwick)
	Keith Kemp (Tyne)
	Bill Gray (Dover)
	Colin Mansell (Gatwick)

The Future of the Competition

EXCEPT for the necessary break required by the allies to deal with Adolf Hitler, Waterguard men from all points of the British Isles have, since 1937, fought for the honour of helping his soccer team win the Lupton Cup.

Now that the Waterguard, suspected by reorganisers of the palsy and twitch, palpitates under the surgeon's knife, its vitality drained and its organisms slashed and amputated, when all that need have been prescribed was possibly the selective hand of the geriatrician and a timely transfusion of ideas, the vital question is asked "Is this the end?"

Already the Preventive Staff Sports Club on the Tyne has closed its doors, its members having walked in the shadow of the cup for the last time; will other clubs follow that sad path? Can it be true that when the champions of north and south meet in this non-regular shift season of 1971/72, the famed trophy will reside with the winners for all time, with memories of the battles of today disappearing into the past like ancient history?

It is a fact, of course, that Rule 2 of the competition, decreed in 1937, has been violated with the inclusion of team members other than "Waterguard Officers and members of the Launch Service". In any case, the Service had been consigned to Abraham's bosom on 1st July, 1971, as official directives had informed us. When Liverpool won the Lupton Cup in 1971, theirs was the last side to be comprised solely of Waterguard officers. This then was the last of the true and legitimate Lupton Cup finals.

We must not, however, let all that has gone before have been in vain. Do not let such wonderful work by the late Charles Woodford, and Norman Moore of the Tyne, Bill Dickinson (L.A.P.), George Hibberd (Southampton), Bill Gross and Dick Pennington (Liverpool), John Reed (Harwich), Denis Oxenham (Dover), Dave Bertram (Leith) and Dick Elliott (Gravesend), to mention a few, fade into the past.

Views on success in the future, principally in terms of sociality and comradeship, in a modified Lupton Cup competition or its replacement, precipitates mixed feelings engendered by proposed de-centralisation, commendable in its way, and the probable magnitude of the new department. Hull's Ian Francis feels pessimistic that the national fellowship as it exists can prosper under these conditions, whereas Geoff Woolridge, another keen Humberside participator, retains hopes that these Waterguard qualities can survive the present traumas. Tyne's Derek Bolam modestly feels that a replacement competition would require the Midas touch to follow the Lupton Cup, but John Reed, of Harwich, unequivocally would put the trophy in parallel with the Chief Inspector's Office Inter-Collection Cricket Cup, and utilise it as the national football competition of the future.

So let us offer the qualities and democratic disposition of the Waterguard Service and show the way in comradeship and sociability to those who join us in integration, and in this way allow the memory of Arthur Sinclair Lupton to live on.

Lupton Cup Final Results

1937/38	At Tansley F.C., Edgware (6.4.38)			
	LONDON	(1)	2	LIVERPOOL
	Douglas, Carthew			(0) 0
1938/39	At Eltham, Kent (30.3.39)			
	LIVERPOOL	(3)	4	SOUTHAMPTON
	Billington 4			(0) 0
1947/48	At Ilford F.C.			
	DOVER	(3)	3	LIVERPOOL
	Lones 2, Hobbis			McLintock
				(0) 1
1948/49	At Hendon F.C.			
	LIVERPOOL	(0)	1	DOVER
	Kell			(0) 0
1949/50	At Ilford F.C.			
	HARWICH	(3)	3	DOVER
	Reed, Allan 2			Hobbis
				(0) 1
1950/51	At Hendon F.C. (23.4.51)			
	SOUTHAMPTON	(1)	3	LIVERPOOL
	Fletcher, Bunster, Goodall			Ferguson, Kell
				(1) 2
1951/52	At Hendon F.C. (9.4.52)			
	SOUTHAMPTON	(0)	1	LIVERPOOL
	Goodall			(0) 0
1952/53	At Hendon F.C. (7.4.53)			
	SOUTHAMPTON	(1)	3	LIVERPOOL
	Fletcher 3			Hickey, Guest 2
	(After Extra Time; Full Time Score 3 - 3; CUP SHARED)			
1953/54	At Hendon F.C. (7.4.54)			
	LIVERPOOL	(2)	3	SOUTHAMPTON
	Benn, Lynch 2			Hopkins
				(0) 1
1954/55	At Liverpool			
	GLASGOW	(3)	5	SOUTHAMPTON
	Davis, Johnston, D. McDonald, Fleming 2			Hopkins, Fletcher
				(0) 2
1955/56	At Hendon (18.4.56)			
	SOUTHAMPTON	(2)	4	LIVERPOOL
	Fletcher, Hopkins, Bell 2			Guest
				(0) 1
1956/57	At Hendon (1.5.57)			
	LONDON AIRPORT	(1)	2	LIVERPOOL
	Evans, Archibald			J. Corless
	(After Extra Time; Full Time Score 1 - 1)			
1957/8	At Orrell Park, Liverpool (1.5.58)			
	LIVERPOOL	(1)	5	LONDON
	Rigby 3, Henshall, J. Corless			Bishop 2, Hencher
				(1) 3

1958/59	At Hounslow (27.4.59)				
	LONDON AIRPORT	(1)	5	LIVERPOOL	(1) 4
	Buckle 3 (2 pens.), Evans, Archibald			J. Corless 2 (1 pen.), Saville, Henshall	
	(After Extra Time; Full Time Score 4 - 4)				
1959/60	At NALGO Sports Gnd., Liverpool (25.4.60)				
	LIVERPOOL	(3)	3	LONDON AIRPORT	(0) 0
	Henshall, Saville 2				
1960/61	At Hounslow (21.4.61)				
	LONDON AIRPORT	(1)	1	LIVERPOOL	(0) 1
	Leacy				
	J. Corless				
	(After Extra Time; CUP SHARED)				
1961/62	At Cranford, Middlesex (18.4.62)				
	LONDON AIRPORT	(1)	5	SOUTHAMPTON	(1) 1
	Hencher 2, Young, Leacy, Harrison				
1962/63	At NALGO Sports Gnd., Liverpool (2.5.63)				
	GLASGOW	(2)	4	LONDON AIRPORT	(0) 2
	Haughey 2, Gus McDonald, Tanner				
1963/64	At Newcastle (22.9.64)				
	LONDON AIRPORT	(1)	1	GLASGOW	(0) 0
	Buck				
1964/65	At Hull (13.4.65)				
	LONDON AIRPORT	(3)	5	GLASGOW	(0) 0
	Hinton, Ferguson 2, Turner 2				
1965/66	At Liverpool				
	GLASGOW	(2)	4	SOUTHAMPTON	(0) 0
	O'Kane, Struthers, Donagher, Tanner				
1966/67	At Manchester (12.4.67)				
	LONDON AIRPORT	(3)	5	TYNE	(0) 0
	McKie, Hinton 2, Irvine, Bradfield				
1967/68	At Manchester				
	GLASGOW	(3)	5	LONDON AIRPORT	(1) 2
	Ferguson, McKie, Tanner 3 Adamson, Holden				
1968/69	At Lapwing Gnd., L.A.P. (17.4.69)				
	SOUTHAMPTON	(0)	2	HULL	(1) 1
	J. Harris, Rogers				
1969/70	At Hull				
	LONDON AIRPORT	(2)	5	HULL	(1) 1
	Heath, Hinton 2, Buck 2 Beecroft				
1970/71	At Police Gnd., Liverpool (29.4.71)				
	LIVERPOOL	(2)	2	LONDON AIRPORT	(0) 1
	Curphy, Smith Hinton				

The 1972 Final

Yet the race abides immortal . . .

WHEN the 1971 A.G.M. of the National P.S.S.C. met, Chairman Jim Edmondson, a champion of the Waterguard to the end, said that whatever happened after the extinction of the Service, at least the Lupton Cup would be contested throughout a further season despite deviation from the codified rules. At that moment the 'Super's office at Lower Thames Street Custom House was redolent of Waterguard history; silver trophies shimmered in glass lockers, impressive photographic plates caught animated cutter, launch and rummage officers irrepressible at sea and in the estuaries, and an expansive print showed Liverpool's Waterguard of the 1940s, now looking of ancient lineage. With a thump on his polished desk top, Jim determinedly declared, "The Lupton Cup lives!" Thus secretary John French projected the 1972 campaign, and although there are doubtless no amaranthine fields on this or any other side of reorganisation, yet once again the spirit of the Lupton Cup bloomed in a sunburst of comradeship throughout the qualifying rounds to the cracking final at L.A.P. where cup-holders Liverpool defended their trophy against the airport lads.

Tyne, Leith and Glasgow had been bagged by Brian Conway's northern champions, proving that Stan Chedzoy, Noel Shuter and newcomer Toundrow, fresh to their cup squad, were well up to standard, whereas the long-established L.A.P. side, led by Preston's pride, George Atkinson, had survived the Southampton, Gatwick and Dover confrontations.

A crowd numbering over 200, many of whom had arrived from other ports, met at the Imperial College Ground, Harlington, on the 4th May, 1972, appreciated the souvenir programme specially prepared by artist Peter Shea, and saw the southerners triumph 3 - 1, for a record eighth time.

Comprehensive arrangements were finely made by Paul Harris, Bill Dickinson and Peter Dine, and later at the "Cricketers Hotel", Feltham, eighty-six enjoyed dinner, and successively applauded cup presentation to George Atkinson by Bert Fry, the eloquence and discourse of Tom Hill for Liverpool, George Morrison, President of the L.A.P. Sports Club, Larry Kieran, former Liverpool Lupton Cup skipper and retired P.S.S.C. Chairman, and the many other colleagues. The ensuing celebrations saw Lupton Cup fellowship at its most memorable.

The trophy can be viewed at L.A.P. for the next year and then will be despatched to the care of Ted Carson, yet another Lupton Cup three-port player, who as our reputable Librarian, will find for it, a prominent, stately and sunny niche in the departmental Museum showcases.

Acknowledgements

Our sincere thanks are extended to Waterguard colleagues, girls of the Customs Library, Mr. R. C. Jarvis, retired Customs Librarian and Mr. Vic Starling, Chairman of the C. & E. Football Club, who all so generously and helpfully contributed to this compilation of facts of the Waterguard Lupton Cup competition. Without them, and vitally, the observations of the many colleagues, past and present, who forwarded their reports to The Customs Journal, the research would have been impossible.

It has been our purpose to salute and recollect players, organisers, supporters, the magnificent entertainers in our ranks and those who kept the job going on Lupton Cup days, with a record of the events and personalities which embodied this proved and valuable aspect of Waterguard life, in the belief that anything worthwhile is worth recording and remembering.

Finally, we are very aware of the many colleagues who have proved themselves fine footballers in the service of their ports and who showed the warmth of character in the roles of organisers and helping hands when it mattered most; to those whose names have been undeservedly omitted through pure oversight or restriction of space, we would respectfully dedicate this Lupton Cup study.

V.H., B.S.

Gatwick, May, 1971 — April, 1972.