



Newsletter #22

Welcome to the latest edition of my irregular updates newsletter and thank you for your continued interest and support. I am trying to make these more interesting to the general football fan/collector so if you have any other suggestions as to how I might do this then please get in touch. Also, if you have anything which believe could be of interest to me please **contact me** using the email address that you have for me; failing that, contact me through my website.

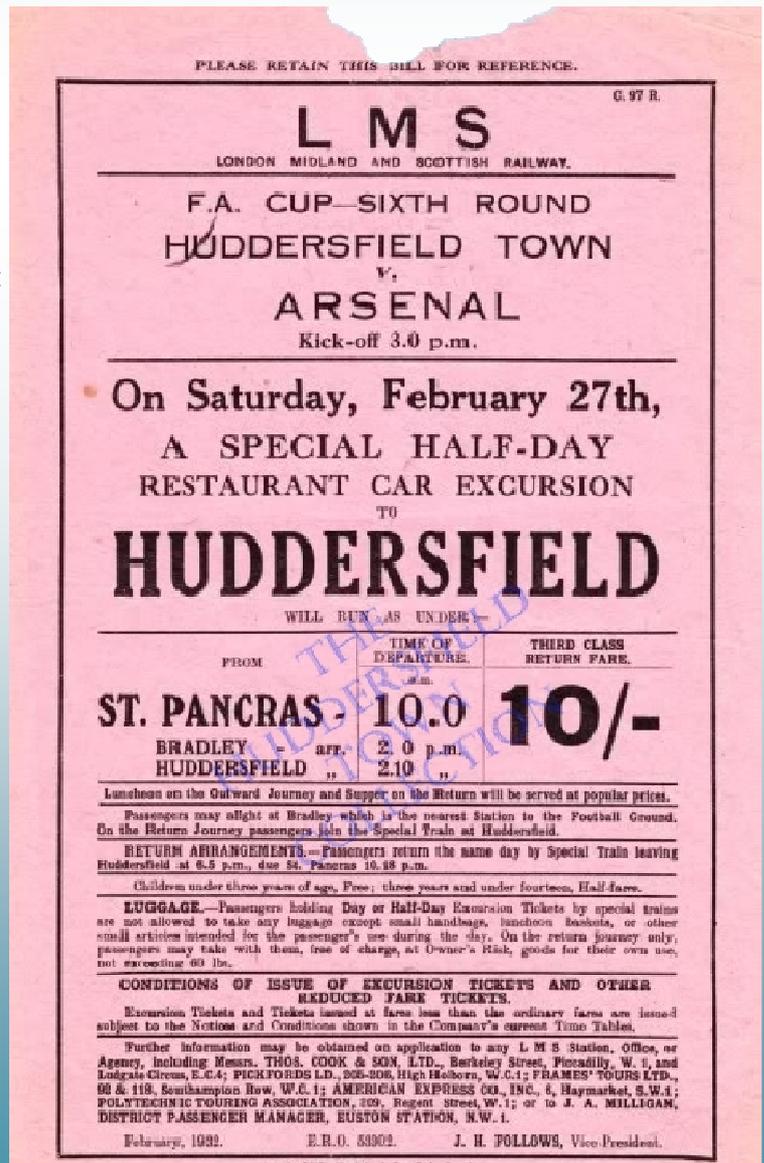
Another highlight from my collection

RAILWAY HAND-BILL (1932)

A casual pre-match conversation in the pub (hi, John!) helped me to decide what to include this time as one of my favourite items. I'm not really into 'railwayania' but this caught my eye on eBay several years ago and I know for a fact that it cost me around the £7 mark. So why the interest I hear you ask ...

This really is one for the Town fans only. The game in question - HTAFC vs Arsenal, FAC 6th Round, 27th February 1932 - drew Town's highest ever 'gate' at Leeds Road of 67,037 and, given the size of the new ground, one which is never ever going to be surpassed. I can only assume that I picked this up so cheaply because no-one appreciated the significance of the game involved.

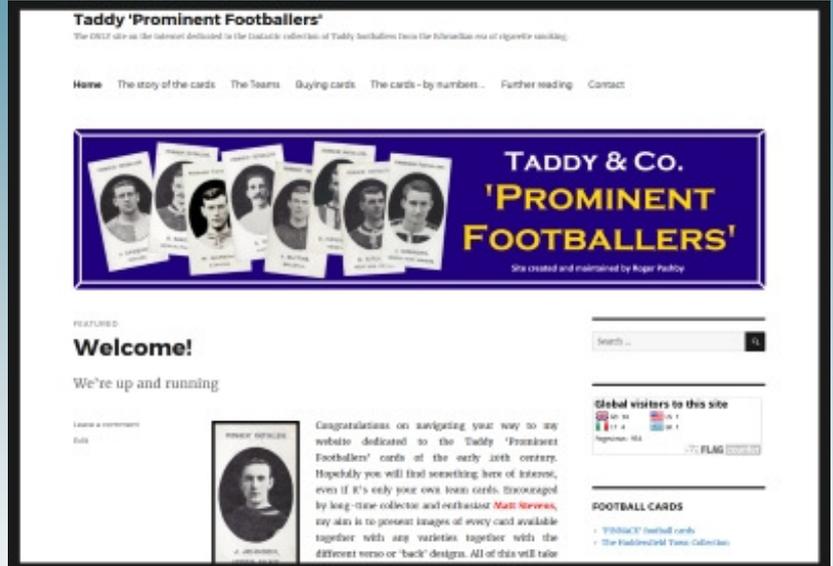
The more observant amongst you will also note that there is a tear at the top; very few of these survive without a tear because they were originally pinned to boards in railway stations because they were, after all, simply announcements and were never intended to be permanent. It's rare for significant ones such as this to survive.



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

Taddy 'Prominent Footballers' <https://taddyprominentfootballers.wordpress.com/>

I'll own-up straight away here - this is my latest, fledgling website. Designed in the same mould as my enormous 'PINNACE' website, this site will feature the 1262 footballer cards within the set of 1400 Taddy cards. No HTAFC I'm afraid as they weren't formed until 1908 and the series began in 1907, although by the time of the third issue - 'London Mixture' variety - in 1913-14 we should have been there. Anyway, at the time of writing all of the first issue of cards (475) together with the second issue (with 'footnote') of 386 cards. As



I mention throughout the site itself, my grateful thanks go to Matt Stevens for supplying the images. Mind you, that's only fair as it was Matt who actually willed the site into being in the first place!

Navigation of the site is very easy using the menu bar at the top, each option being fairly self-explanatory: we begin with *The Story of the Cards*; *The Teams* (43 teams and officials); *Buying Cards*; *The Cards - By Numbers ...*; *Further Reading*; *Contact*. Each team page is split into up to three sections depending upon how many cards of the team featured in the three issues; some teams, e.g. Birmingham, only appear in one issue where others, e.g. Tottenham, made it into all three issues with 45 cards. The *Cards By Numbers* section is fun if you like your stats (and I'm sure that you do!)

The site itself is now riding high in the internet search results, mainly thanks to being featured on Alan Jenkins' fantastic **Football Cartophilic Info Exchange** footy card website which receives far more 'traffic' than I could ever dream of any of my sites getting. Simply type in 'Taddy Prominent Footballers' and the site has come from nowhere to being - at the time of writing - the fourth result on the screen, which is pretty good and should attract a bit more attention now from casual searchers looking for the cards or just general information about them.

And, having said that Town don't feature in them - along with other famous teams of the time; where are Bury? - it was nice to note that two 'soon to be' Town players turn up in the form of Sheffield Wednesday's William Bartlett and Brighton's Joe Jee. How many of YOUR team feature for other sides?

I hope that you will enjoy a visit here and, if you do, please leave a comment somewhere.

Auction Watch



October 2017 saw this 1929 'Secret Signs' metal trinket of Austen Campbell, given away in *Wizard* comic, appear on eBay. The seller wanted £65 plus another £2 for postage; needless to say, it didn't sell. I paid £30 for mine way back when and I also picked up the small packet that it came in, which was not available in this auction.

Latest acquisitions

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



TOPPS: Match Attax Premier League 2017-18

They're here! All Town card collectors have been waiting for this moment and now it's arrived - the first set of professionally produced cards to feature HTAFC players since the Match Attax Championship set of 2012-13. There are eighteen 'base' cards in this set with a further ten harder-to-find cards spread about special packets and boxes, some only available through promotions at Tesco or newspapers. All are of course available at a price via **eBay**. Perhaps the most interesting ones have a common theme: card 398 is of 'Man of the Match' Tommy Smith but actually shows Mark Hudson (left); then the 'Live' PRO11 code card of Mark Hudson himself leads instead to a PRO11 card of striker Laurent Depoitre. Bizarre!

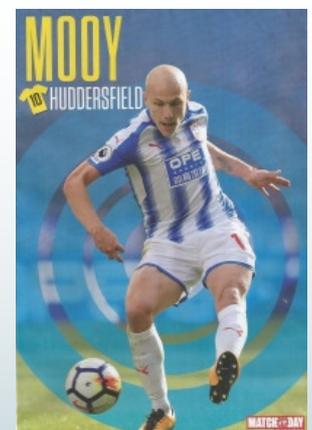
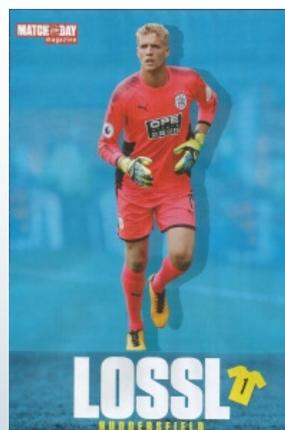
The hardest of all to find will be that PRO11 card of Depoitre simply because you can only win it by playing the game online at the Topps website. It won't feature in any packets, special boxes or tins. It will eventually turn up on **eBay** as kids sell off their spares. I'm lucky - I did actually have a go online and amazingly won one! Yes, me - a sixty-years-old beat the kids at their own game! Ha!

Finally, a word on K8, the 'Kit' card. This isn't available at the time of writing although it should be. I have no idea what is happening with this set of cards but no doubt they will hit the auction sites very soon.

MAGAZINE POSTERS/ARTICLES

Only two new posters have appeared in magazines since the last update but they are both rather nice. **MATCH OF THE DAY** magazine produce these rather elegant 'isolated' player images, removing all crowd or match elements from the frame and they look rather good.

And if you've missed any of this season's posters a quick squint on **eBay** might just score you one or two of them. I know for a fact that I saw four in one 99p auction a few days ago.



And the clappers just keep coming. I can only presume that they don't cost the club a penny and that Langley Park KIA are footing the bill. Latest in the line was the one produced for the Tottenham game, featuring Elias Kachunga. It was nice to see the Yorkshire Rose make an appearance on the verso.

Judging by the number on the floor after the last match I suspect that if nothing else, they keep the stadium cleaners busy putting them out on seats and then clearing them up after the game.

I wish that I owned this

There are many collectables out there that I know feature Town or individual players, as well as many football items in general. As part of an on-going series, I present here for you one of the items that I would like to have.



ANONYMOUS (Yugoslavia 1954)

This card has appeared on **eBay** over the last few weeks. It's an anonymous Yugoslavian issue card of Town player Ron Staniforth on England duty for the 1954 World Cup in Switzerland. It's also very small; having contacted the vendor I learned that it is actually 27mm x 35mm which is about half the size of a Panini sticker.

Initially it went up at £49.99 but subsequently fell to £29.99 after not selling first time around. I might just have a dabble if it comes down by another £10 ...

Other football cards

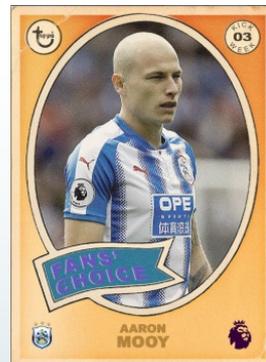
As I know that there are several subscribers to this newsletter who are neither HTAFC fans nor collectors I try to include other football cards or items that I have which will throw the spotlight on other collectable items and/or teams. Here's another ...

TOPPS 'PL Kick 18' digital cards (2017)

Would you spend good money on a digital card? You know, one of those new-fangled things where you don't actually get anything that you can handle but it looks great on your phone, tablet, or PC. No, I wouldn't either, but it seems that there is a burgeoning market for such things both professionally produced and the amateur variety. If you are a fan of an established Greedy League club then you will know what I am talking about whilst general collectors of cards might also be aware, especially if they have 'cashed in' some of the codes on various TOPPS issues. Anyway, with Town's promotion to the English Premier League in May 2017 there was a surge in the ones available, often through **eBay**.

With the assistance of **Phil Arnfield** I have images of all of the Town ones issued thus far and they can be seen by visiting my site then navigating to the '**CARDS**' menu. I have given four examples here but there are many more on my site including the multitude of 'base' card issues in which the players graduate through from 'white' level to - currently - 'avocado' with an almost identical card save for the colour of the value at the left margin. Perhaps the most *pleasing-on-the-eye* card is that of Elias Kachunga

(shown here) in 'Tier 7: Stained Glass' of the 'PL Chase' category. Very unusual indeed. The Kasey Palmer one is also unusual in that it appears to have been altered by using a chalk effect; indeed it appears in the 'Tier 10: Chalk' subset. And it would seem that there is to be no let-up in the issue; I look forward to adding more 'cards' as the season progresses. And next season, and the next ...



Recommended read

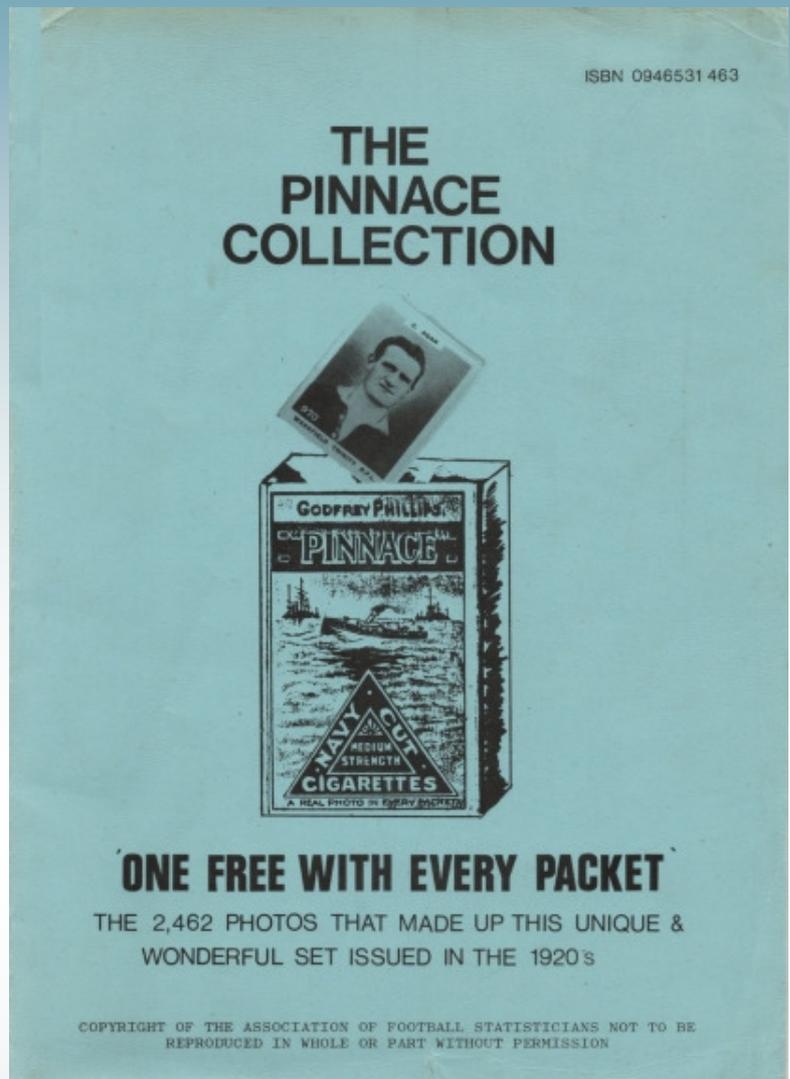
‘THE PINNACE COLLECTION’ by R.J. Spiller (1985)

A very rare publication indeed, this 114-page A4-sized softback book features every Pinnacle card produced by the Godfrey Phillips tobacco company in the early 1920s. The first couple of pages show the four different varieties of 'back' available in the series, and the remainder is made up of photographs of the supposed 2,462 cards that were produced, although there is no provision made for the numerous variations created when players switched clubs or errors were made. There is also a cross-referencing index at the front which allows you to check for players by name and also by club but, confusingly, it is not strictly in completely alphabetical order!

I will admit right here and now this work was the inspiration for my creating the **PINNACE website** because I was always convinced that I could make a better job of the subject using modern technology. One of the major drawbacks of the book is that the photographs have been reproduced using a photocopier and therefore the images are really not that good at all. In fact some of them are remarkably poor indeed. Compare this with the images on my website where I have many beautifully scanned cards with players in numerical order, together with their varieties, and also players of the same team appearing side by side, something not possible with this nevertheless worthy tome.

The book seems to have been published once and then never again, which is a real shame as there must have been - and probably still is - a very real market for it; a quick glance on **Amazon** both UK and US shows no copies available and it's the same with **eBay**. When I bought my copy it cost me just over thirty quid and that was more than ten years ago so I know that you'll pay well in excess of that for one, if a copy does eventually come up somewhere.

Actually, you'd be forgiven for imagining that now that my website has superseded this printed version there would be no need for this and that the market would be flooded with copies for sale; well, I would anyway!



For Sale

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

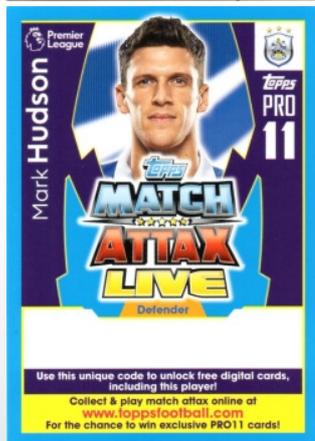
Currently I have one or two cards, a calendar and a raft of 1973-74 programmes for sale. There are also a few fixture cards from recent years which I know that many of you out there collect; they're not really all that rare, but you just try finding one nowadays!

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



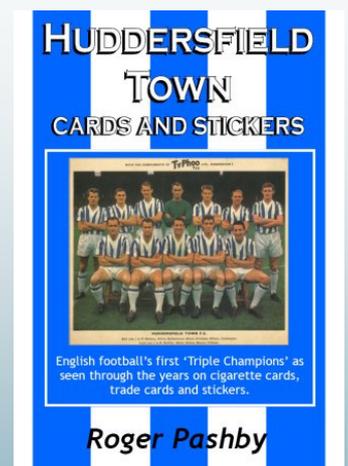
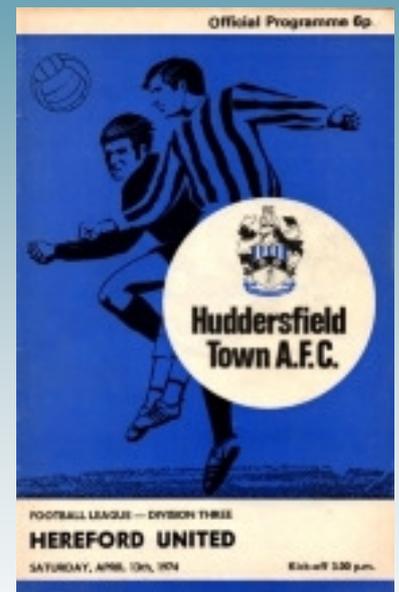
I also have a number of MATCH ATTAX cards for sale. First, two auto-graphed 2012-13 Championship cards featuring Alex Smithies and Lee

Novak. You can have the pair for just £3.00. In addition I have two of this season's 2017-18 Premier League Match Attax cards: Mathias Jørgensen and the Topps 'live' code card of Mark Hudson. The latter is used to play the online game and gives players the opportunity to win a really rare Laurent Depoitre PRO11 card - which I have already done! The code on this card is unused but 'blanked' here for display purposes. I am asking a pound a shot for these two cards and ALL four come with free postage - just contact me and I'll let you have payment details.



And finally, I suppose anytime

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



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

Roger