



SWANSEA CITY SUPPORTERS' TRUST

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Programme Notes – Cardiff City, Saturday 16th March 2024 – Howell Williams writes:

Well, what a week this has been so far for us all at OUR Club. Following a few encouraging performances both away from home & our well overdue win over Blackburn at the .com it helped us all feel somewhat more optimistic for our visit to Ashton Gate last Sunday lunchtime & our South Wales derby neighbours today. But very disappointing second half performances both last weekend & for our visit a few days earlier to Watford was not what we were looking for as we begin to ready ourselves for what many supporters rightly consider the visit of our beloved cousins from up the M4 as our most important match of the season.

By my calculations we have now dropped 26 points from winning positions this season which is a worrying statistic. However, on the plus side I must also mention the fantastic 'Jack Army' who were as usual absolutely superb at these two away games with their vocal support being heard right to the final whistle.

Being a JACK myself for 60 years I have attended every one of these home 'derby' games. Having lived in Cardiff (due to work commitments) for more or less 24 years no game is more important than this one. I've also discovered that there are a fair scattering of JACKS in & around Cardiff. This really is a massive game for more than one reason & I do not need to explain why. The pity this weekend is that I will not be able to walk in my local hostelry & attempt to order a 'DOUBE' spirit, but at the very least let's not allow them to perform the 'DOUBLE' on us for the first time.

I believe that we now have a manager in Luke Williams who has previously experienced & appreciates the importance of the performance & result against our 'cousins', I am sure that he will have spent some time this week calling on our experienced players like Joe Allen, Ben Cabango, Kyle Naughton, Jay Fulton, & captain Matt Grimes to try & impress on the younger players the magnitude of these matches & the expectations of our supporters on days like these.

It was an interesting Fans Forum at the stadium on Monday evening which in the words of a few supporters evolved into a feisty affair. This is no bad thing as it will demonstrate to our majority owners the passion our supporters have & we as a Trust were pleased the club listened to our request to hold this open event. Not many clubs do these fan engagement events nowadays - especially when not having the best of seasons.

The thing that I would attempt to impress on our supporters who feel so strongly about the manner in which they perceive that our club is being run is to seriously consider becoming a [Swansea City Supporters' Trust Member](#) & then go that one step further if you feel you have the time & experience to make a difference by putting yourself forward for election as a Trust Board Member in the summer. I made this decision over 2 years ago when I wanted to put something back into my club. I can say with all honesty that it has been a fabulous experience to be voluntarily working with such a dedicated & like-minded group of people. You can find out more about our annual Trust Board elections by visiting our website [HERE](#)

Following our supporters survey last year & it's subsequent findings the Trust has been busy liaising with the club in an attempt to improve the Match Day experience & a new working group made up of supporters, club employees & Trust board members has now been established to help take this project forward. I can report that for our game today there will be a few changes implemented which I am certain will encourage the Jack Army to really get behind the team from the very start & increase the atmosphere immensely.

Two of our most popular songs 'Day Dream Believer' & 'Take Me to The Vetch Field' will be blasted out before KO & I have no doubts that home supporters will not need much encouragement to join in.

That's all from me other than COYS

Howell Williams