

File: BMD Richard Dowden

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Interviewer: Could you please state your name, age and your relationship to your club?

Richard Dowden: Yes, my name's Richard Dowden. I'm 59 years old. My relationship with the club is, really, that I've been a, sort of, follower when I was a boy, and used to come every week.

But since I've been an adult, I'm now a board member of the Hertfordshire FA, and the Referee Secretary. I've been a referee for some years, but I've still had an association with the club, with pitch inspections, etc., in the past, and I always follow the results in the paper.

Interviewer: [Good 0:00:23].

Have you ever refereed here at Stevenage?

Richard Dowden: Yes, I have, a few years ago now. But obviously, in senior football, if you live in a town, you don't referee that particular town's club.

But, yes, I have refereed here in the past, certainly on Sunday league games, and also with the football club, in their early

days. But, obviously, as they reached higher up in the scale – although I refereed at a higher level – obviously, you then don't do Stevenage themselves.

Interviewer: Right.

So, when you were refereeing them at a lower level, is that right, but you did referee them?

Richard Dowden: Yes. I refereed them in-

Interviewer: When they were Stevenage Town, was that?

Richard Dowden: When it was Stevenage Borough, in their United Counties League days, which was very early on, when they just started. And in the first season, where they played on King George V Playing Fields, in Stevenage, I did referee them in a league called the Wallspan League, which was the first league that Stevenage, the current Stevenage club, every played in, back in about 1976 or 1977, I believe it was.

Interviewer: Right. (Laughter)

So, do you come and watch Stevenage now, as a fan? You say that you follow the scores. Or is it just, sort of, a back seat support, you just follow them?

Richard Dowden: Yes, because of my football commitments – I'm a referee assessor now, in the contributory leagues, which is a higher

level of football – I'm obviously out, most times when Stevenage are playing, I'm out doing something in that line.

But I do follow the results, and, as I say, my wife comes down here every week, selling the 50/50 tickets.

But I did follow them, from their Delphian League days, when I was here - the previous Stevenage Town Club - when I was a boy. And I watched them many times, both in the Delphian League, and then in the Southern League, when it was Stevenage Town, but they went bankrupt in 1968.

Interviewer: How did you feel when they went bankrupt in 1968?

Richard Dowden: Well, it was very sad but, unfortunately, they'd got some, it has to be said, undesirables on the board then - and, obviously, nothing, there's no association whatsoever with the present club - who rather took the money out of the club, I rather think, and left them with massive debts. I think it was somewhere in the region of £28,000 which, you can appreciate, in 1968, was a hell of a lot of money.

So, unfortunately, they had to withdraw from the Southern League and the club folded, which was a great shame.

But, there we are, it was good fun in the 60s, as a boy, watching Stevenage Town. They had a very strong side, they were in the top levels of non-league football and, no, it was good.

And that's where I got my interest, really, in football, I guess, but then I just moved in a slightly different direction, into refereeing.

Interviewer: Who was it that first introduced you, as a boy, to..?

Richard Dowden: Well, me and my friends just came. And a chap I know very well, was captain of Stevenage Town, when they were in the Delphian League. And my parents knew him, so we came down then to watch, and then, you know, just carried on from them.

We used to come every Saturday, and Monday evenings, it used to be, for football with Stevenage Town, in the 1960s. And we came down then and watched all the players who played then.

And I still see a couple of them, up at the paper shop. One of the lads who played for Stevenage Town in the 60s, I still see him, and have a chat now and then, when we bump into each other at the paper shop, on a Sunday morning, you know.

So, it's great, you know, the old team. It's a shame they didn't carry on. But they folded, and then there was another team called Stevenage Athletic that took over from them. And they lasted about eight years, and they folded through money worries, in about 1976.

And then the current club was started by all the volunteers, like the Berners and Keith Berners' dad, and various other people, like Jim Briscoe, who's the president of the current club. They all got involved and the club's gone from strength to strength since then, obviously, and they're now in Football League 1, you know. It's amazing really.

Interviewer: Yes.

How do you think the contribution of volunteers, how important it is to the club, the running of the club?

Richard Dowden: Well, the club wouldn't exist without the volunteers, not so much nowadays, at the present time. But going back into the 70s, when Stevenage Athletic folded, the club was finished. The owner dug the pitch up, as I'm sure you'll find out, when you interview other people. It was virtually finished.

And it was the volunteers who restarted the club in 197... I think it was '76, on the park pitch in Stevenage, in a low league. And from there they grew and grew and grew, until the volunteers finally gave up in probably [1980 0:05:25] - not gave up – but handed the club over to a more business man, in Victor Green, in about, I suppose it was 1994. And then he did a runner in 1998, and Phil Wallace came in, and has done a marvellous job since.

But without the volunteers, it would have never got off the ground in the first place. All clubs in non-league football rely almost totally on volunteers.

But when you come into League Football and, obviously, just probably Conference National as well, then it's paid employees who run the club, and it's full time, everything's full time.

And the volunteers become, really, supporters, apart from a few roles, like the 50/50 Club, the 50/50 operation that the Supporters' Association run. That is done totally by volunteers, as is the Supporters' Association, generally.

But the actual running of the club is done by a full board of directors, and Bob Makin, obviously, the managing director, and all the full-time staff who work here during the week and

on match days, you know. It's a full-time operation when you reach the Football League.

Interviewer: You mentioned your wife now works handing out the 50/50 tickets here on match days. How did she get involved, did you play any part in that?

Richard Dowden: Well, no. What happened there was, we're good friends with the Berners, Keith and Jackie Berners. And Jackie's run the 50/50 since forever, you know, since they were way down the non-league scale.

And what happens is, they have girls on each gate, and when the supporters come in they pay £1. And then they, basically, they have a draw, and at half-time, whoever wins gets half the money, and the other half goes to the Supporters' Association. And then every now and then they make a donation to the club.

And my wife got involved because Jackie needed someone to help her and another girl and they're, sort of, like, now, they sell tickets in the boardrooms and things like that, and in the bar.

And then the girls, who are younger, do it on the gates. My two daughters have both done it. In fact, one still does do it, although she's about 25 now, and she's got a full-time job. She's a chartered accountant. But she still comes down because she enjoys doing it on the match days, selling the 50/50 tickets.

But that's the Supporters' Association thing, which is a great help to the club. And I think the club – I wonder whether sometimes the chairman would like to take it over for the club

to do it, but I think he probably is an astute, he's a very astute man, and he probably realises that if the club did it, no one would buy the tickets, because they'd be saying, "Well, I've just paid my entrance fee to get into the ground. I'm not giving you another pound now." But because its girls and the Supporters' Association, it's, like, "Oh, well, that's okay, yes. That's different, that's the Supporters' Association."

Interviewer: Yes.

Richard Dowden: So that's how she got involved, and she comes every week, you know, and certainly to all the home games. And she's a real fan, more so than me, really. (Laughter)

Interviewer: Do you think women being involved in football... and how can we improve that? Because surely there's not many women out on the terraces as, counting against men, obviously, there are more men fans.

Richard Dowden: Well, I think it's great that women do become involved. I mean, years ago, I mean, as you say, there was no women involved at all hardly.

I mean, I think the facilities have improved greatly. In the old days the facilities in football grounds were appalling, you know. All sorts of things, like toilet facilities [and such 0:08:44], really weren't any good at all, but that's all changed.

And there's no reason women can't get involved. I'm sure it's just, obviously, they need to make sure that it's not only women-friendly but children-friendly, and the language is cut

out, and all that sort of thing, which, I think there's still a way to go on that. Because some of the language you hear is appalling, you know. I mean, mindless chanting of abuse and swearing and, you know, and maybe there's a long way to go there, but they are making progress.

But, no, I mean, it's open to everyone. The FA is very keen on equality all round, both ethnic, you know, sexual orientation, women, men, everything. They want it to be an open book for everyone, and it is.

Referees, there's women referees now, which there never used to be, and not many but obviously, much fewer than men, but, you know, the opportunity is there if women wish to be involved. There's no problem at all.

There was a time when I know we - years ago, I was with a league - and we tried to propose a women for the council member of the Hertfordshire FA, and it was horror on the men who ran the Hertfordshire FA at the time, which was only in the 1980s. They were horrified that a woman should want to be on the Herts FA Council. But that's all changed now, you know, no problem at all. There's been ladies on the Herts FA Council, and like, as on the FA Council, there's women on the FA Council, who help to run the game.

And as far as the full-time employees at the FA, I mean, the lady who is, basically, more or less the main person in charge of the national game, which is all non-league football, is a woman, you know, and not a man. So there's progress being made, that's for certain. But it's open to any woman who is interested. There's opportunities to become involved. But there's certainly no prejudice now, that there used to be, and that there was, definitely, in the past, but not now.

I think most clubs let women in all the boardrooms. There was a time, the Metropolitan Police in London, didn't let women in their boardroom after the game: (Laughter) women officials, women from the other team, the wives of directors of the opposition, but that's all changed now, I'm sure.

Interviewer: Great.

You mentioned previously, you've experienced Stevenage Town, and then later, Stevenage Athletic folding. And then almost folding with Victor Green.

Richard Dowden: Yes.

Interviewer: What do you think it is about the current board that's helped Stevenage Football Club prosper?

Richard Dowden: Well, I think Victor Green was a man who was good for Stevenage Football Club. When he came in, he had resources, and he could certainly guarantee loans, things like that, because of his own personal resource. But he was, in my opinion, he was always really looking, it was more for Victor Green, than for the football club.

Whereas, the current board, I mean, they're very fortunate to have got a man like Phil Wallace as chairman. He is a very astute businessman. He's built up his own business, or took over a business and built it up. It's a multinational company. He's a very astute businessman, and he will not allow anything to get...

The problem with a lot of clubs is, they get too excited, pay ludicrous money to players, without any back-up to it, and end up getting themselves in enormous amounts of debt, which is probably what happened with the previous two Stevenage clubs. And then can't manage, and so they just have to fold, because they owe the tax man, etc., lots of money.

With Phil, he's built up a good structure. He's clearly got a very good management structure in the club, and they're extremely well run, and that is quite clear to see.

I mean, I'm an accountant. I work at Knebworth House. And you can see the business model is very strong. And he runs it on a pragmatic basis. There's no going over the top. He's fortunate that his manager is also a very experienced businessman, Graham Westley, and he is the same. They will not allow things to go, to get too excited, go overspend chasing things. Do it in a nice steady way, and it works great.

And to be honest – and I'm not a die-hard supporter, as I've said – to be in League 1, on gates of what, 3,500, is phenomenal. It's unbelievable that they should be able to compete with the likes of Sheffield Wednesday and Sheffield United.

And that is solely, it's down to the playing side, and the management team and the playing side, obviously, but the main thing, in my opinion, is the way that Phil Wallace has built the club up and kept it on a grounded level.

He might not be everyone's cup of tea, I don't know the man, personally, but the way he's built the club, and with Bob Making and the rest of the board, it's fantastic. It's such a, sort of, well-run club. There's clearly strict expenditures sorted out, and kept to budgets, etc., and that is why it's so successful.

Interviewer: In your opinion, would you think the way Stevenage is run, then, is a good example for other football clubs?

Richard Dowden: Yes. Yes, absolutely, absolutely. I think it is the way a football club should be run. It's not always easy. It's not easy when you've got volunteers, at the lower levels, obviously. Because people can just round, if you're a volunteer, and say, "[I'm going 0:14:06] home. I'm finished. I'm not interested."

But for clubs going into the Football League, this is an ideal model. And senior, top, non-league echelons of non-league, and even in the Football League, is littered with clubs who are insolvent. Because someone's gone in there and spent too much money, they can't afford it, and the club's virtually bankrupt.

Plymouth Argyle, being a good example at the moment, you know, a famous club like them are virtually bankrupt. And Leicester City, not long ago, similar, until they got a foreign owner who came in with lots of money.

As a model for a football club to move forward, I would think you'd be hard pressed to think of a better model than Stevenage to follow. There can't be one. No one's been as successful as Stevenage.

And Crawley are doing very well. They've come up, following Stevenage up. But I wonder - there again, with no insight whatsoever - but I wonder whether there, it's because there is one person putting a lot of money in, from their own personal fortune. Which is, here, which is, Phil is obviously a rich man – and, again, I don't know, I haven't got a clue – but I would imagine he is a rich man, but he doesn't use his personal fortune to subsidise the club. The club runs on its own, as I

can see from the outside, and it's an ideal business model, really, for any aspiring football club.

Interviewer: Like you said, it's quite extraordinary that the club should be in League 1 and still getting crowds of 3,500. What do you think the club could do to attract more people to come?

Richard Dowden: Well, I think the problem they've got at the moment is, that people of my generation, guys I know, friends of mine, they're season ticket holders of Spurs or Arsenal. They have been the bigger clubs. There's people who still I know go to Luton, because Luton, when they were in the Football League, Luton were, sort of, you know, a good team, and that's where they went. And people do tend to stick with the teams that they grew up with.

Where Stevenage, I think, in time, can improve their gate is, that the next generations coming through – say the kids who are 10, 11, 12 now – they've got a Football League club in Stevenage. And they can follow them from that age, and then they'll be a supporter all their life, and they won't go down to Arsenal or Spurs.

The only tough thing Stevenage has got – and all clubs at their level have got – is that, the way football's going, the Premiership's the only thing anyone's worried about, which makes it very difficult for clubs - even in the Championship, and more so in League 1 and 2 - to keep going.

But, no, I think, and as, if they hold their place in the Football League, I think, gradually, with a town the size of Stevenage, they can definitely, gradually, their gates will improve.

It's just, at the moment, they're going from a very – well, not a very low base – but, I mean, they're going, when Stevenage Town won the Southern League, when it was boom time for football, really, the average gate was about 1,500.

Well, going from a, sort of, lower gate, which they obviously, [it was 0:17:04] from nothing, when they started in '76, up to reasonably good crowds in non-league. But then getting that extra few to come into the...you know, it takes time, and all they can do is, keep trying to offer a good product, isn't it, really?

I mean, you could say they could drop the prices, but I don't know whether that's particularly a productive way to go, because, obviously, if you drop your prices, you've got to get a lot more people in. If you don't they you're losing money, because you've not got the money that you would have had if you kept the prices, from the same gates, sort of, thing.

But, no, I don't see any reason why it can't improve, but it will take time, I think. And the problem is, can they survive at this level, on the gates they gate, you know? Will they just drop again? Hopefully not.

But then I think there are clubs with a lot less gate than them in League 2, but in League 1 there is that step up. I would imagine Stevenage must be one of the lowest average gates. I don't know, you know, I don't really follow it to that extent, but I would imagine their average gate must be one of the lowest in the league.

So to be competing as well as they are at the moment is really a great achievement, but it's just maintaining it. There are a lot of clubs who, in the past, Rushden & Diamonds, who have just folded up, they got to League 1. But gradually they didn't have the resource to keep there and dropped down.

Dagenham & Redbridge went up last year. They get less gates than Stevenage. They came straight back down, and now they're struggling in League 2 this season, because it's just so difficult.

When you've got teams like Sheffield Wednesday, who get twenty-odd thousand watching, I mean, how can you expect (Laughter) Stevenage to match that really? And to beat them 5-1 is phenomenal.

But, you see it's just doing ____ [0:18:45]. If they get 20,000, and they get 20,000, 21 times a season, all that money, and Stevenage have 3,500, 21, you know, 23 times a season, 23 home games, I mean, you know, it's just a completely different amount. It's a different income stream isn't it? It's very difficult to compete with that.

But then again, you've got to look at it that it's only mismanagement that's caused the two Sheffield clubs to be in League 1. They should be in either the Championship or the Premiership. Well, they always were, weren't they? Especially Sheffield Wednesday, years gone by. And they've dropped down, like Charlton. But they shouldn't be in League 1. They should be higher. Whereas you could make an argument that Stevenage shouldn't be in League 1, because they should be lower, but they're doing very well to be in League 1.

Interviewer:

Yes.

Back when you were watching Stevenage Town, when you were growing up, what kind of atmosphere do you think is better, back then, back in the day, or now, with all these big stands? What kind of atmosphere do you prefer, or would you prefer?

Richard Dowden: Well, I think it depends what you get out of football, what you enjoy. I mean, Stevenage Town used to get about 1,500. It was great Monday night football down here.

And the football was pretty good. I mean, they had some good players on view, very good players. I mean, there was a guy called – who I still think is the best player ever to have worn a Stevenage shirt – a guy called Johnny Brooks, who was a gentleman as well.

He played for England. He played for England and Chelsea and Tottenham, and then when he was dropping down, he came and played here for Stevenage Town. And it was great, you know. There was some good football played, you know, and everyone enjoyed it.

If you go lower, if you go into, sort of, non-league football now, say, if you went and watched Ware. You can walk into Ware, it'll cost your £6 or £7 to get in, which is much lower, obviously, in this level.

You can have a burger. You can have a beer in the bar, if you wish. You go and watch the football. The football's nowhere near as good, obviously, (Laughter) but it's a different league. It's, like, you go with your mates and you have a social, it's like a social thing more, you know.

Whereas, it's like I'm, for example, I'm going to assess the match officials at Potters Bar Town this afternoon. Now that will be a gate of about 70. But everyone knows each other, and they have a good laugh, and they go in the bar and watch the telly in the bar, you know, it's a social thing.

Whereas here, you turn up, you pay your money, and it's the football and the atmosphere of the ground that you're looking

at, you know. And the lads who come every week, you can tell they think it's great, you know, but it's not for everyone, but the football on view is much better as well.

And then if you go further up, and you get on the Premiership, you pay an exorbitant amount of money. There's remoteness from the players, really, isn't there, you know? You don't see the players, you know, unless you wait for hours after the game.

Here you can still, at Stevenage, you know, when they won the Conference, the players would go in the bar after the game, and all the supporters would talk to the players.

Well, I doubt very much whether any supporters of a Premiership club ever see the players, you know. They might very occasionally, you know, they're, sort of, like, in the distance, aren't they. They're remote from the fans.

And at the grass roots, like Ware Football Club, everyone's probably brother's playing, you know what I mean, or something like that. (Laughter) They actually know the players very, very well.

So it's a different, sort of - you either like one sort of football or another, to a certain extent. There are blokes who would go and watch, for example, Potters Bar Town, but they wouldn't cross the street to watch Barnet, who are just down the road, and a League 2 club, because they're not interested in that, like, type of football, you know. They prefer the more, sort of, grass roots and, you know, I mean, taking the Mickey out of the players.

I mean I used to be connected with Baldock Town Football Club who, sadly, have gone now. And it was great, you know. You, sort of, knew all the players. You'd have a laugh, you know. If someone made a mistake, you could hear all the

crowds' comments, you know. And often there's always some bloke in the crowd who's got a funny comment to make, you know, and it's great.

At this level you don't see that so much. And the one thing about this level that is, where they've got to work on it is, you know, all the effing and blinding, because I do think it's unnecessary sometimes. But it's very difficult for the club. I don't know what you'd do, because it's society isn't it?

But, I mean, they stand over on the East Terrace over there, and you hear them occasionally, effing and blinding at the opposition supporters, who eff and blind back. And I don't see the need for it. And a lot of people would be put off by that, you know, you don't need that.

But, by and large, I think it's just, although it's football, it's different, and you get a different product. And it's not like, when you go to the pictures, you know what you're going to get.

Football: some people like Premiership, and wouldn't look at anything else. Some people like League football, like, League 1, League 2, Championship, and they'll go. And some people prefer just to go to non-league, you know, and where the crowds are lower but it's a different sort of emphasis. So it's whatever you feel like doing really, and whatever any individual person prefers.

But I think a lot of it is, if you start supporting a team as a fan, then you stick with that team. There's never any swapping of teams. I mean, kids do, of course, but I mean, for older, once you've grown up, you've got a team, and that's your team, and you'll always stick with them.

And I think that's what Stevenage has got to try and improve, you know, they've got to try and build up, people who think of Stevenage as their team, you know.

Interviewer: You mentioned Johnny Brooks. You think he's the best player Stevenage has ever had. Can you remember any time when you thought, [you know 0:24:27], that it was really amazing?

Richard Dowden: Well, I must admit, when I was a kid, when you're a kid, you've got to, sort of, preface that, with the fact that I think Johnny Brooks was the best player that's ever... even a better player than the players who play now for the team, which is the best they've ever been, the highest level they've ever been, as a team. But then I'm biased, because that's when I was a kid, and when you're a kid, you are, sort of, you know...

But I knew John because he played for a year – he played until he was over 50, in the Stevenage Sunday League, and he was most respected. No one would kick him up in the air.

And he's a super bloke. He's a smashing bloke. I think he's still alive. I'm not sure. He must be getting on now. He must be pushing 80 now, I should think.

But he left the area. His son played for Orient and Crystal Palace, and I think he moved down south somewhere.

I met him a times, you know, at functions at that, and he's a real gentleman, which might colour my view.

But I can remember one game, they played a team called Nuneaton Borough, in the Southern League Premier Division, who are no longer. I think they're still around in non-league somewhere.

And he got through on goal, and the goalkeeper came out, and he just dropped his shoulder. The goalkeeper's sat on the floor. He walked round him and tapped it in the net. A phenomenal skill, the way he moved his [body 0:25:36].

And he could pick a pass, you know, 40 yards, 50 yards. He was just a very, very talented player, and he's my type of footballer. He's, like, if you ever remember – you may not [remember] – there used to be a guy who played for Chelsea, called Gianfranco Zola, who I always thought was a great footballer, you know. He might not have been – he might have had ____.

And Johnny Brooks, I thought, was a great footballer. He might not have run around a lot, but when he had the ball he could really, he could play, you know.

You know, I always prefer a player – that's only my opinion - you've got players who run around like chickens with their heads cut off, and really work hard, and really work at their game. And I think you could say that a lot of the current Stevenage team's like that. They really work hard for each other.

But I prefer players who can just play football. It's, like Barcelona, I mean, their guys can really play, you know. The way they play football is how it should be played.

And John Brooks, obviously not to that level - although he did play for England three or four times - but he could play football. You know what I mean?

And there's a difference between someone who can really, on the ball, his ball control, the way he brought the ball down, the way he knocked the ball around, it was fantastic. And I still reckon, I've not seen a player at Stevenage who I would say was as good a player as Johnny Brooks.

And you may find a lot of the older guys might well agree with me. Even though, I mean, if Johnny Brooks was here now, and he was probably a bit younger than when he played for Stevenage Town - because he was in his early 30s then. If you put him into his 20s, he'd beat the best player in Stevenage Borough – well, it's Stevenage now, isn't it – Stevenage's team now.

He'd be the best player playing centre midfield. He used to play – they didn't call it midfield then - it was inside left, but he was a midfield player, in effect.

And, you know, and I always think that, that he was the best player who's ever worn a Stevenage shirt, if you take all the three teams that's been.

But that's only my opinion, and football's about opinions, isn't it? So, I mean, I'm sure there's people who, obviously, the youngster who you may interview, might not have heard of Johnny Brooks, and wouldn't have a clue who he was. But I'm sure, if you interviewed people of my age or older, they would all know what I was talking about.

Interviewer: And, finally, just to sign off, if you could just give your greatest memory of Stevenage Club, across all the three, what would it be?

Richard Dowden: I'll have to think about that. I don't know, really. I think, probably, if I was to say – there's two things really. One would be that incident. I've always remembered that Johnny Brooks incident I just described.

And the other thing was coming down here, in about the late 60s, and Stevenage were playing Merthyr Tydfil, in the

Southern League Premier Division, and they were short, and they had the bus driver playing centre forward. Merthyr had the bus driver... (Laughter) He weren't signed on or anything, but in those days they didn't have all the computers [so you could/, so you'd 0:28:40] check everything up. And the bus driver played centre forward for Merthyr, and he [couldn't] kick the ball, you know, obviously, and it was hilarious. And Stevenage only just beat them.

And then, ironically, in 1976, I was drinking in The Swan, in Stevenage. One of the Stevenage officials came in - Stevenage Athletics this was – their last ever game it turned out – pulled three blokes out of The Swan public bar, to go and play for Stevenage the next day, at Merthyr Tydfil, because they were bankrupt. They didn't have a team.

And he just got three who weren't signed on or anything. Just went on the coach, "Yes, we'll have a game," you know. They played for The Swan Sunday team. I mean, they lost about 4 or 5-0, you know, but it's funny it was Merthyr Tydfil.

But I think they are my main memories. As far as the Stevenage Town, on a Monday night, it was great, you know. But I think my main memory would be, of just how good Johnny Brooks was, as a player, in that era.

I don't really, as I say, mine's very much that era. Because of refereeing commitments and such like, I really haven't watched Stevenage much at all, over the years, apart from a passing interest. And now and then I might attend three or four games a season. But I came down today, with Keith and Jackie Berners, I came today, because of my memories of, really, very early days of Stevenage, in the 60s.

But what they've done is phenomenal, I have to say, even from an outsider, it's unbelievable that a Stevenage team – having

lived in Stevenage all my life – that a Stevenage team could beat Sheffield Wednesday 5-1 is unbelievable really. It's great.

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