

Introduction

The Lincolnshire Standard of July 8th 1933 reported that on Monday July 3rd 1933 “a small gathering of Boston sportsmen unanimously decided to form a new football club for the town, to be known as "The Boston United F.C.” This meeting, at the Friendly Societies Hall, was held in response to the demise of Boston Football Club (due to financial difficulties). The new club replaced the old one in the Midland League and took over their ground at Shodfriars Lane.

The full history of Boston United has never been written. This book is one part of that history - their involvement in the greatest sporting competition in the world, the F.A. Cup.

Since the club's foundation Boston United's supporters have felt the full range of emotions that “the Cup” can bring: The excitement and anticipation of a good Cup run, the glory of knocking out a Football League team and the bitter disappointment of unexpected defeat.

United's opponents have been from most levels of football and Boston have played on a wide variety of grounds in differing situations - sun-drenched September matches still vying for attention with the local cricket scene, Nottinghamshire mining villages with playing ‘pieces’ of sufficient quality to allow entry to the Cup, a windswept field in a housing estate by the Humber on a bitterly cold November day, the glamour of White Hart Lane.

A glance at the index of Boston's opponents on page 126 sums up what the Cup is all about. Next to each other you will find Teversal and Silverhill Colliery Welfare and Tottenham Hotspur.

This book is then, in its own small way, a celebration of a competition that still sets public imagination alight.



A signed souvenir of Jim Smith, player manager 1969-72. Smith masterminded victories over two Football League clubs.