

The Talk of Stamford Bridge

THE second round matches of this season's F.A. Cup are being played this afternoon and on Monday, together with the rest of the First and Second Division clubs, we go into the bag for the third round draw. The two main points of interest are of course, will we be drawn at home, and who will we meet (whether home or away).

We have not been drawn at home in a third round tie since the 1954-55 season, when we defeated Walsall 2-0 and went on to the fifth round before being defeated by Notts County on their ground by the odd goal. Our manager must be hoping for a home draw anyway, as we have come out of the bag first only five times out of sixteen draws in the last seven seasons.

As far as our opponents are concerned, will it a First Division team which we have not yet met in the Cup, or a non-League team that is striving hard for a place in soccer history. One must not forget that Tooting and Mitcham, who played on this ground last Monday, held Nottingham Forest to a draw in the third round last season—a fine performance by an amateur club against the eventual Cup winners.

As a matter of record the only First Division teams which we have not yet met in the F.A. Cup are Blackpool and Preston North end.

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We have been drawn away against Ford United in the third round of the F.A. Youth Cup, and the match will be played on their ground on Saturday, 19th December (Kick-off 11.30 a.m.). Ford United, until this season, were known as Briggs Sports, and our paths have crossed before. In the Hornchurch League we beat them 1-0 at Woolwich and 5-0 on their ground in 1956-57. Last season we met in the second round of the F.A. Youth Cup and beat them 13-0 on their

ground — Barry Bridges will remember this game last November very well, as he scored eight of our goals.

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British Railways announce the following excursion train arrangements for our away League match with Blackpool on Saturday, 12th December. Tickets (37/6d. each return) can be obtained from Euston. They are available by the following trains:

Leave Euston 6.40 a.m.

Arrive Blackpool South 1.53 p.m.

Leave Blackpool South 5.10 p.m.

Arrive Euston 11.27 p.m.

We would advise you that refreshments are not available on either of these trains.

British Railways also announce the following excursion train arrangements for our away League match with Preston North End on Saturday, 19th December. Tickets (35/- each return) can be obtained from Euston. They are available by the following trains:

Leave Euston 8.20 a.m., change at Crewe.

Arrive Preston 1.43 p.m.

Leave Preston 5.31 p.m.

Arrive Euston 10.0 p.m.

British Railways also announce the following excursion train arrangements for our away League match against Newcastle United on Monday, 28th December. Tickets (34/- each return) can be obtained from Kings Cross and are available by the following trains:

Leave Kings Cross 12.10 p.m.

Arrive Newcastle 5.21 p.m.

Leave Newcastle 11.20 p.m.

Arrive Kings Cross 5.37 a.m. (Tues.)

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“Horses for courses” goes the old saying; and how true it can be at times in soccer. A fortnight ago Arsenal visited us and took away what now seems to be their usual two points. As happened a year ago, they scored three early goals and

(continued on page 13)

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS AND F.A. CUP TIES

We wish to remind Season Ticket Holders that in accordance with the Regulations printed in their Books, it will not be necessary for them to make application for tickets for home Cup Ties. Tickets will be sent to them automatically on a basis of one ticket for each Book registered in their name.