Swindon Town

Worth Waiting For?

So then, how was it? If you’re reading this, you’ve managed to get up and out of the house on Boxing Day. Well done, that’s quite an achievement, regardless of how your day was yesterday. I hope Christmas Day and the whole run up to it has been a good time for you. Not everyone enjoys this time of year and, if you don’t, I hope your day was ok too, but a lot of people do love it and if you are one such person I hope it’s been a special time.

I’ve been reminded this year of the joy of Christmas as I’ve done a lot of school assemblies and Carol Services. Kids (and staff!) so hyped up with excitement to give and receive gifts, spend time with family and friends and, for some, celebrate the birth of Jesus, the one who changed everything and made lasting love and true joy possible. It’s easy to lose joy and wonder as you get on in life. We can become cynical, frustrated, some of us lose hope or a sense that better life is possible. If you’re still holding on to hope and joy, keep going. If you’ve lost yours, maybe now is the time to seek it out again.

I love Boxing Day football. It’s been a tradition in my house for as long as I can remember. It regularly family issues, but it’s part of the joy of Christmas for me. Oddly, a favourite memory is traipsing to Leyton Orient in the mid 90s. Shilton in goal, seemingly impossibly ancient, but not much older than I am (or feel) now. I remember Larry Grayson scoring, us losing, improbably, but still having a great day with my Dad. If you’re lucky enough to be able to enjoy the game today and the Cobblers victory that is bound to be confirmed at the final whistle with a family member, these are special days. Make the most of them. For some people, this will be the first Boxing Day game without a loved one beside them. I pray for you that you would know comfort and peace today.

Our upturn in results recently has been a real joy and relief. As 2018 becomes 2019, there’s every chance of a late run up the table for us and at least one trip to Wembley. The rest of the club has had a brilliant season so far. The men’s First Team can still make it a clean sweep across the whole club. We’ll keep getting behind them. There’s always hope.

Up the Cobblers!