

Nigel's Webspaces News

A newsletter distributed by [Nigel's Webspaces](#), a website dedicated to the history of English football cards 1965/66 to 1979/80.

A&BC World Cup stamps



[A&BC World Cup Footballer Stickers](#), also known as World Cup stamps, date from 1966/67 and are amongst the rarest and most sought after A&BC items. They can cause confusion as they look like stamps, and can therefore be listed and sold as stamps rather than stickers or cards. There were 50 to collect, though most collectors nowadays would be happy to own one or two.

Due to their rarity, and the fact that they had sticky backs, they are now most often found stuck to things. Three sold recently on ebay, and the seller admitted that they had been found stuck in an old cardboard suitcase with some of the thin suitcase lining stuck to the back of the stamps.

The seller said that 'an expert may be able to remove it'. In spite of this condition, and the obvious creasing and damage to the front of the stamps, they sold for £18, £14 and £10. A good condition stamp sold recently for £40, though the next day another in very good condition sold



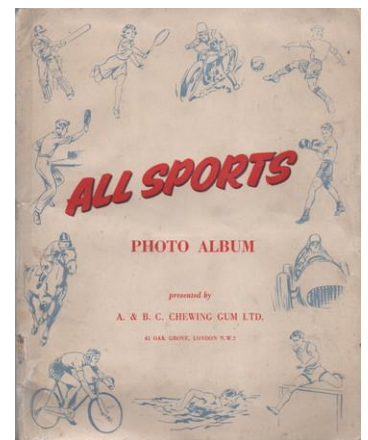
for only £18 (a real bargain).

The images shown here are not of the ones sold. Nigel's Webspaces is proud to be able to show a complete gallery of these stamps. So, the message here is obvious.... search through all of your old school books, folders, scrapbooks and other relics of your childhood and see if you have any of these stuck on your old possessions.

A&BC All Sports album



A&BC Chewing Gum began producing bubble gum cards in 1953, concentrating initially on film and television stars, plus some royal portraits. In 1954 they produced a set of 120 black and white photo cards called 'All sports', which featured 36 footballers. There was a coupon on the wrapper which you could use to send away with 1/- and five coupons to All Sports, 59 Oak Grove, Cricklewood, London, NW3 to acquire a 'super giant 20 page album containing a full history of all the sportsmen and sportswomen in this series'.



An album sold recently on ebay, containing 119 of the 120 cards in the series (though the cards were admittedly not in the best condition). The selling price ended up as £53, which seems very low, but there are fewer collectors of 1950s cards now as we all age. However, as an early piece of A&BC Chewing Gum history I suspect that this may end up being a wise and shrewd investment (as well as a lovely album).

Wizard comic gifts



[Compal Comics](#) is an auction site which specialises in, obviously, comics and annuals. Occasionally they sell comics which help to confirm dating of football cards and items. In a recent catalogue they listed items from the Wizard comic from 1970.

The Wizard was launched in 1922, but was relaunched in February 1970. The [Great Stars of Football](#) cards and wallet were included as part of their free giveaways. Eight cards were given out with the plastic wallet with No. 2 (21 February), and the remaining 8 cards with

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No. 3 (28 February).

The 'Team that won the World Cup' booklet was given away with the May 9th issue, and the 'World Cup Scorebook' with the May 16th issue. While the football items are interesting enough, it amazes me that the small items such as the 'Sure-shot shooter' and the 'Squirt ring' can still be found with their original packaging!

Tower Press, Series 2

In my [previous Newsletter](#) I featured the lovely [Tower Press Series 2 stickers](#), and have now built a gallery. Roger Pashby, from [Huddersfield Town Football Cards](#), has done some excellent detective work from the galleries to confirm the date as likely to be 1966/67. Here is Roger's logic, using webpages from the outstanding [Historical Football Kits](#) website:

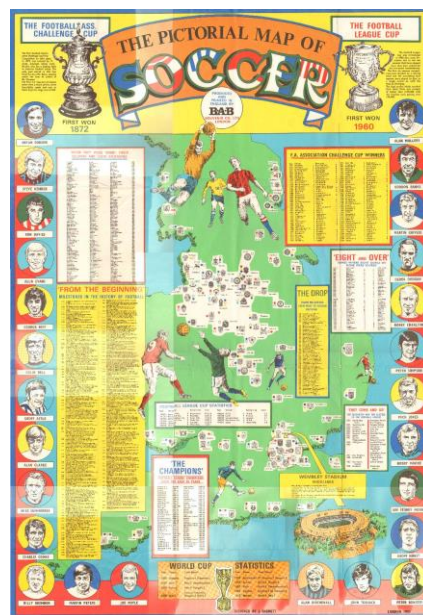
1. [Huddersfield Town](#) (Series 2) are wearing the blue shirt, dating it to 1966/67, 1967/68 or 1968/69.
2. The socks from [Hull City](#) (Series 2) confirm the date as between 1965 and 1968.
3. [Ipswich Town](#) (Series 1) played in their blue shorts in 1965/66 and 1966/67, though HFK shows 1966/67 as white socks.
4. [Plymouth Argyle](#) (Series 1) played in their full green strip from 1966 to 1968

New BAB trade card or poster corner?

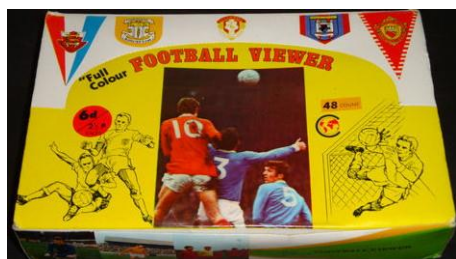


An ebay seller recently listed this as a BAB trade card from the International Footballers set. I contacted the seller but he could not provide any further information to support this claim. The auction attracted 9 bids and the card sold for £21, suggesting that it interested some serious collectors.

I doubt that it is a football card, though I would love to be proven wrong. I've never seen any football cards with this style before, nor have I heard of the International Footballers set. BAB produced stickers, whereas this was sold as a trade card. I can identify the image from a poster produced by BAB. This is one of the few items which clearly identifies the BAB Souvenir Company and the date, 1971. If you look in the bottom right hand corner of the poster you can see Peter Bonetti in the colours the same as the ebay image. Coincidence, or a new trade card? If anyone has ever seen any similar cards or stickers, please get in touch as it would be interesting to know whether it is a genuine football card.



Football viewers



I featured these viewers in my 'Mystery items' section a few years ago. Sadly they have very little in the way of manufacturer information. The viewers, shaped as TV sets, date from the early 1970s. There are 8 different viewers (in colours such as red, pink, orange, yellow) with 11 player images on each one, making 88 images from around 21 different football clubs.

The manufacturer was perhaps a company called 'Crescent' (there is a world surrounded by a C on the shop display box), while the display box also says 'Empire Made' (which apparently in the distant past was used by companies from the 'Empire' to get better tax rates when importing items into England for sale, but would I suspect have become obsolete by the 1970s). The shop display box held 48 viewers, which sold back then for 6d or 2½p each.

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A display box, complete with 48 viewers was recently listed on ebay but went unsold at £449. The seller listed the teams represented as - Arsenal, Blackpool, Burnley, Chelsea, Crystal Palace, Everton, Huddersfield Town, Ipswich Town, Leeds United, Liverpool, Manchester City, Manchester United, Newcastle United, Nottingham Forest, QPR, Sheffield Wednesday, Southampton, Sunderland, Tottenham Hotspur, West Bromwich Albion, and West Ham United. Some of the many legends represented on these viewers are- George Best, Bobby Charlton, Denis Law, Bobby Moore, Geoff Hurst, Ron Harris, Peter Osgood, Billy Bremner, Eddie Gray, Jimmy Armfield, Emlyn Hughes, Roger Hunt, Francis Lee, Mike Summerbee, Rodney Marsh, Mick Channon, Jimmy Greaves, Martin Chivers, Jeff Astle plus many more.

This list of players may help to date the viewers, since Jimmy Armfield played his last League game in May 1971. The UK moved to decimal currency in February 1971, and the counter box has both 'old' and 'new' prices, which suggests a date of late 1970 or early 1971.

Recent ebay prices

- Three Tottenham Hotspur football stickers sold for £23. Two of the items appear to be from the rare [Northern Tracessories](#) sets, one a [Soccer Star](#), and the other a [Soccer Club](#) badge. This was either an example of strong demand from Spurs fans, or a reflection of the value of these NT items.
- A number of [A&BC Chewing Gum Giant Team Posters](#) have sold for prices ranging from £17 to £31 each.
- A full set of 1,000 [Sun](#) Soccercards from 1978/79 sold for £37.
- A full set of 12 [Hartleys / Cadburys Jam Jar lids](#) plus the display folder sold for £31.
- Some flag and shield stickers from the amazing [Panini Mexico 70](#) set sold. CCCP sold for £47, while Israel sold for £95. Since there are 288 stickers in this set, it goes to show how valuable and collectable they have become.

Until next time...**Nigel**