



He shows off his souvenirs of the momentous Goldstone occasion

dig the road

ees and umbrellas, tching an assortment of thos to keep track of the re.

When Albion scored assive cheers resounded ng the Old Shoreham ad and the singing did t stop until long after t final whistle had gone. Mick Cull, 30, from Lit-hampton said: "I'm eked to the skin and I ew I wouldn't get in, t I just had to come. I me for the vibes, for the nosphere, just to say I d been here on this day.

When you follow football your common sense goes out of the window."

Dave Baker, 17, Richard Allen, 18, and Matt Gurr, 18, all of Burgess Hill, said they had followed the Albion since they were children and felt cheated they had not been able to get tick-ets.

Roof

Matt said: "I think it's unfair that the glory hunters come down just for the big games. I saw them in the Cup Final and I was only four."

Andy Taylor, 27, travelled down from Middlesex without a ticket and had to spend the 90 minutes outside while his season ticket holder mother cheered on the blue and white army from inside the ground.

Other fans climbed up 25ft on to the roof of Kenning car and van rental on the corner of Old Shoreham Road, others stood on stepladders, climbed on friends' shoulders and leaned out of windows of houses that had just the slightest glimpse of the ground.



Another piece of turf is uprooted



CROWD RELIEF: Fans celebrating victory at the end of the match

THEY'RE OFF THE BOTTOM AT LAST

by Phil Dennett

JUBILANT Mary Slade broke off from her Farewell Goldstone party and pointed me towards the Division 3 table on the television.

"They are off the bottom at last. But I have been a nervous wreck this afternoon. I smoke too much when I watch them in games like that."

Given the fact that Albion's match against Doncaster would be their last at the Goldstone, Mary, relatives and friends staged a farewell bash.

Cake

Like a few other families on Goldstone Lane, they stood in the drizzle on the patios enjoying their free view of the pitch for the last time.

Ken Upton, who works for Brighton Health Care NHS Trust, ordered a cake of the Goldstone ground for the party which said Good-bye Goldstone 1902-1997.

Jim Warne, 61, from Hollingdean, proudly showed off the Welsh cap won by his grandfather and former Albion full-back Jack Jenkins from Pontypridd. Jim looked sad at the occasion, but said: "I think Jack's here in spirit."

In a dull first half when Albion fretted from fear the air seemed full of the ghosts of Albion's past.

Alan Miles, 43, from Hollingbury reeled off: "Lawrenson, Ward, Foster, Ryan, Case, Nelson." If you had to ask their first names you



MY WAY: Mary Slade celebrates outside her house

were never there. Alan said: "It's not sunk in that there won't be a pitch here soon."

As Albion struggled for a goal Alan recalled: "I was at the Walsall match when it was 0-0 at half time. Ward got four and Mellor three in the second and they won 7-0. "I saw Peter Ward score in about 50 seconds on his debut at Hereford. We didn't even know he was in the team when we arrived because Fred Binney was the regular striker. When he scored we said 'Who's that then?'"

The patio party asked the same question amid the mayhem when Albion went 1-0 up but the jungle drums told them Storer was the hero.

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SHIRTV: One fans makes his point

