



Pat Kruse and John Fraser race each other during training at the London Transport grounds

else was, which maybe he was, but a few of the lads felt he looked down his nose at us at times. He was a big, brave player though and it was good to have him in your side.

The supporters responded to Dodgin's style of play and saw the potential of your team didn't they? The attendance figures jumped massively.

I think the supporters seemed to appreciate that the players were giving it their all and when you see a packed ground, that in turn boosts the players, so it was a good combination. During that era fans could turn up at Griffin Park confident that they would probably see a home win. With Jackie Graham as captain Brentford were always going to give it everything, he was a whole-hearted player, a general, and the players responded to him.

I'll never forget playing Watford a couple of matches after I'd arrived, what a complete shock, I had no idea that the game meant so much. Jackie's blood was boiling before the game and he was barking out for us all to get stuck in, "kill the bastards", I heard him shout as the game kicked off. I thought that there'd be a blood bath as it became more and more physical with big tackles flying in. We won three-nil with all the goals coming in the opening fifteen minutes, which demonstrated how the team battled for each other and how pumped up Jackie had got the team before the start. I couldn't say one word against Jackie Graham, he epitomised everything that was good about football at the time.

You mention that win against Watford, but they were the club who eventually went on to grace the top level. Do you think Graham Taylor's approach to management would have been better at Griffin Park than Bill Dodgin's?

The two men approached the game very differently I agree, but Taylor was a lot younger and he had different ideas, Bill's experience and knowledge of the game was far greater in my view. I know a number of players who played under Graham Taylor and I am glad I wasn't one of them.

I don't know what it was but I never liked the way he had his teams play football, he had some very good players, better than ours probably, but they were playing a variation of the long-ball game, while we played a lot more football on the deck. Admittedly it brought his teams success but as a manager I think he got found out eventually because he couldn't play any other way and that style wasn't attractive.

Your centre-back partners were Paul Shrubbs or Nigel Smith when you first arrived, what did you think of them as a newcomer?

Paul was another dedicated player, he was very good at what he did, he was quick and would run all day. Maybe he wasn't the most talented player in the world, but I'm being honest and I'd say that about myself too.