



Bernard. F. Stute

OFFICIAL JOURNAL

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL
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BOXING DAY, SATURDAY, 26th DECEMBER, 1953

Football League—Division II

Luton Town v. West Ham United

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The ticket number for the ball on Saturday, 5th December, 1953, was 5424.

A Special Train is running to . . . **BLACKPOOL**

for the Cup Tie match on 9th January, 1954. Anyone travelling by this train obtaining their ticket through the Bobbers Stand Club will be able to purchase a ticket for the Stand.

Fare 30/- Train leaves Luton 6.10 a.m. (approx.)

Bobbers Stand train leaves Blackpool 11 p.m. (approx.)

Please make your application as early as possible to the Steward at Bobbers Stand Club or to Mr. J. Collier, 6a, Cromwell Road, Luton.

Full details of times of trains etc., will be given over the loud speakers at the football match or in the match programmes.

Luton Town Football and Athletic Co., Ltd.

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CLUB NOTES

WE WISH all of you here today, whether for or 'agin' us, the Compliments of the Season, and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We trust you all had a very happy and enjoyable Christmas Day, which no doubt was enhanced if your own particular team was the victor at the match played at the Boleyn Ground yesterday. Whatever happened there, however, and again today, we trust at the end of it all that our two Clubs and their supporters remain, as we have always been, the best of friends, and that these Christmas encounters are now something we can both look forward to each year.

If we escaped defeat in London yesterday then our lads did a very good job of work for the "Hammers" have been playing extremely well this season, starting with such a run of success that at first it looked as if they might have the Championship in the bag by Christmas, but unexplainedly they have recently struck a bad spell which has caused them to drop considerably in the Table. They still however, are a force to be reckoned with, for they almost beat the present leaders on their own ground last Saturday, only a do or die effort by an injured player spoiling the "Hammers" from being credited with at least one point. Davie Sexton has fitted into the "Hammers'" scheme of things very well, and has been an ever-present so far this season. He received a nasty knock last Saturday which resulted in three stitches having to be inserted in a head wound, but there is every hope of him being present here this afternoon. He has scored nine goals so far this season.

After a glorious run in which our lads obtained eighteen points out of a possible twenty they had to admit defeat at Goodison Park last Saturday by the odd goal in three after a most entertaining game. No one could have grumbled if we had crossed over with at least a three goal lead, for we were undoubtedly the better team in the first half. A goal to Everton however in the first minute of the second half put the "Toffees" right on their toes, a goal which we thought should not have been allowed. Bernard Streten was definitely impeded as he went up to collect a high ball, but was prevented from doing so by the Everton centre forward as will be seen from the photograph in last Wednesday's "Luton News." Streten appealed but to no purpose and the Everton crowd, who throughout the first half looked upon their team's display with much misgiving, now began to give them all the encouragement they could. Talk about the Hampden Roar! Nothing in it compared with this. It would be a very poor team indeed which could not respond to such encouragement, and the "Toffees" did respond. But even then Ever-

ton's second goal looked very much offside to us sitting in the Stand despite the explanation that Bud Aherne played the winger onside. In our opinion it was definitely not so, but there it is, Everton on their second half display fully deserved the spoils—but if only our lads had driven home their superiority in the first half in the shape of another goal or two, we would not now be looking back on our first defeat since October 3rd, when we allowed Fulham to beat us down here; when again we lost a match through an all too obvious "offside" goal.

Our Reserves put up a very good show here last Saturday when they beat Leicester City's second string by the decisive margin of five goals to two, after a most entertaining game. It was cut and thrust from both sides right away through the match, with our lads just having the edge on the game. Johnnie Downie showed us what a good footballer he really is, for although not so outstanding during the first half he was the best man on the field in the second, using the long ball to perfection. But the whole team played well, with Leslie Jones in his new position at centre forward showing some very nice touches and some intelligent play. Altogether a most enjoyable and satisfactory match, fully worthy of a much bigger attendance.

The Luton Schoolboys are going great guns again this season, having won their Divisional Final for the second season running when they beat the Leicester Schoolboys at Leicester recently by two clear goals. The next Draw takes place on December 31st., when they can be drawn to play any team in the South of England. Last season they had the long trek to Plymouth, only to be beaten after a very close fight. This season they are full of confidence that they will go further, and from what we have seen of their displays so far this season it is going to take a very good team to beat them. We wish them every success in their efforts.

With regard to our F.A. Cup match at Blackpool on January 9th. Tickets are being issued at 7/6 Centre Stand; 6/- South Stand (Reserved Seats); Standing in the Centre Paddock at 4/6 and in their other Paddock (South Side) at 3/6. Season Ticket Holders are being given until first post on Tuesday, December 29th in which to apply for tickets, after which no preference can be extended. Postal applications only, please, together with a stamped addressed envelope, and it would help us considerably if you did not make your postal orders payable to anybody, but to leave this space blank. The Bobbers Club is running an Excursion Train, the details of which, as far as is known at the moment, being shown in their Notes on the opposite page.

THE COVERMAN

Bernard Reginald Streten

BERNARD STRETON first signed for us as an Amateur while with the R.A.F. in January, 1947, and upon his demob in January the following year decided to join the professional ranks. His first game for us was against Notts. Forest on Wednesday, January 29th, 1947 when we beat them three goals to two. Although there was a thick snow on the ground that day Bernard impressed very much with his skill in dealing with the ball, his initiative

is one of the very few players who can boast of International honours both as an Amateur as well as a Professional. Was capped six times as an Amateur, and his professional Cap was obtained when chosen to play for England against Ireland in 1949 when England won by nine goals to two. Is playing extremely well and confidently again this season and is well worth further recognition if only on his recent display which has been of the highest class.

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2 Dunne
Right Back

4 Shanks
Right Half

7 Davies
Outside Right

Referee—
Mr. F. S. FIANDER
(Loudwater, Bucks.)

11 Andrews
Outside Left

6 Bing
Left Half

10 Dick
Inside Left

3 Bond
Left Back

WEST HAM UNITED

Shirts Claret and Blue
Knickers White
Stockings Claret and Blue

SPECTATORS ARE ASKED NOT TO CROSS THE PLAYING FIELD AFTER THE MATCH

Streten Goal

5 Owen
Centre Half

9 Scott
Centre

10 Cummins
Inside Left

8 Sexton
Inside Right

5 Allison
Centre Half

9 Dixon
Centre

4 Malcolm
Right Half

2 Wright
Right Back

Gregory
Goal

Kick-Off 2.15 p.m.

Football League—Division II

3 Aherne
Left Back

6 Watkins
Left Half

10 Cummins
Inside Left

11 Mitchell
Outside Left

Linesmen—

Red Flag Mr. A. OWEN

(Coventry)

Orange Flag: Mr. F. THODAY

(Cottenham, Cambs.)

8 Sexton
Inside Right

7 Southren
Outside Right

4 Malcolm
Right Half

2 Wright
Right Back

Gregory
Goal

Kick-Off 2.15 p.m.

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TODAY'S HALF-TIME SCORES

NOTE. The letter in the Programme corresponds with the letter on the Board—thus A 0-1 means that the first-named club has scored 0 and their opponents 1.

FIRST LIST

A ASTON VILLA WOLVES
B BLACKPOOL ARSENAL
C BOLTON W CHARLTON
D CHELSEA CARDIFF C.
E HUDDERSFIELD SUNDERLAND
F LIVERPOOL WEST BROM.
G MANCH. CITY SHEFFIELD UN.
H NEWCASTLE MIDDLESBRO'
K PORTSMOUTH TOTTENHAM
L PRESTON BURNLEY
M WEDNESDAY MANCH. UN.
N DERBY CO' BURY

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B HULL CITY LINCOLN C.
C LEEDS UNITED NOTTS. FOR.
D NOTTS. CO'TY BIRMINGHAM
E OLDHAM A. BRENTFORD
F PLYMOUTH FULHAM
G ROTHERHAM LEICESTER C.
H SWANSEA T. STOKE CITY
K BRIGHTON WALSALL
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C NORWICH C. CRYSTAL PAL.
D QUEEN'S P. R. COLCHESTER
E SHREWSBURY SWINDON T.
F SOUTHAMPTON BOURNEMUTH
G SOUTHEND WATFORD
H TORQUAY READING
K CARLISLE UN. GATESHEAD
L CHESTER PORT VALE
M CHESTERFIELD STOCKPORT
N DARLINGTON SCUNTHORPE

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FIXTURES, 1953-54

FIRST XI		Division II	Attendance	1952/53	F. A.	RESERVE FIXTURES	Combination Cup	Attendance	1952/53	
Wed., Aug.	19	Oldham Athletic	22,822	...	H 4 4	Tues., Aug.	25	Watford	1,972	
Sat.,	22	Everton	20,247	4 2	H 1 1	Sat.,	29	Northampton Town	2,630	
Wed.,	26	Notts. Forest	17,522	3 0	H 0 1	Wed., Sept.	2	Birmingham City	2,444	
Sat.,	29	Plymouth Argyle	22,574	1 2	A 2 2	Sat.,	5	Norwich City	4,765	
Wed., Sept.	2	Nottingham Forest	17,172	3 4	A 1 2	Wed.,	9	Ipswich Town	2,590	
Sat.,	5	Swansea Town	17,479	3 1	H 2 0	Sat.,	12	Watford	2,840	
Wed.,	9	Birmingham City	18,881	2 2	A 1 5	Sat.,	16	Ipswich Town	1,779	
Sat.,	12	Rotherham United	15,726	3 1	A 1 2	Sat.,	19			
Wed.,	16	Birmingham City	12,231	0 1	H 2 0	Wed.,	23	Northampton T.	1,318	
Sat.,	19	Leicester City	19,138	2 0	H 2 2	Sat.,	26	Leicester City	3,192	
Sat.,	26	Stoke City	24,083	...	A 1 0	Sat.,	30	Coventry City	808	
Sat., Oct.	3	Fulham	18,619	2 0	H 1 2	Sat.,	5	Leicester City	2,822	
Sat.,	10	Hull City	14,754	3 2	H 3 1	Sat.,	14	Coventry City	628	
Sat.,	17	Notts. County	12,208	2 1	A 2 1	Sat.,	10	Norwich City	2,861	
Sat.,	24	Lincoln City	15,578	4 0	H 1 0	Sat.,	11	Birmingham City	138	
Sat.,	31	Bristol Rovers	20,021	...	A 3 3	Sat.,	14			
Sat., Nov.	7	Brentford	15,167	0 1	H 1 1	Sat.,	21			
Sat.,	14	Derby County	15,934	...	A 2 1	Sat.,	24	Ipswich Town	2,489	
Sat.,	21	Blackburn Rovers	16,269	6 0	H 2 1	Sat.,	27	Bournemouth	2,991	
Sat.,	28	Doncaster Rovers	18,273	0 1	A 3 1	Sat.,	31	Portsmouth	2,774	
Sat., Dec.	5	Bury	15,309	4 1	H 3 2	Sat.,	7	Cardiff City	992	
Sat.,	12	Oldham Athletic	14,128	...	A 2 1	Sat.,	11	Millwall Athletic	2,369	
Sat.,	19	Everton	33,544	1 1	A 1 2	Sat.,	21	Arsenal	5,393	
Fri.,	25	West Ham United	...	0 0	H	Sat.,	28	Chelsea	4,270	
Sat.,	26	West Ham United	...	0 0	H	Sat.,	5	Reading	1,940	
Sat.,	2	Plymouth Argyle	...	1 0	H	Sat.,	19	West Ham United	3,326	
Sat.,	9	(F.A. Cup—3) Blackpool	...	...	A	Sat.,	25	Plymouth Argyle	0 0
Sat.,	16	Swansea Town	...	2 4	A	Sat.,	26			
Sat.,	23	Rotherham United	...	2 1	H	Sat.,	Jan.	Leicester City	...	
Sat.,	30	F.A. Cup—Round 4	...	...	A	Sat.,	9	Norwich City	...
Sat.,	6	Leicester City	...	1 1	A	Sat.,	16	Plymouth Argyle	...	
Sat.,	13	Stoke City	...	...	H	Sat.,	23	Fulham	...
Sat.,	20	Fulham (5)	...	0 2	A	Sat.,	30	Fulham	...	
Sat.,	27	Hull City	...	2 0	A	Sat.,	Feb.	Charlton Athletic	...	
Sat.,	13	Lincoln City (6)	...	2 1	A	Sat.,	13	Charlton Athletic	...	
Sat.,	20	Bristol Rovers	...	...	H	Sat.,	20	Tottenham H.	...
Sat.,	27	Blackburn Rovers	...	1 1	A	Sat.,	27	Norwich City	...	
Sat.,	6	Doncaster Rovers	...	1 2	H	Sat.,	March	6	Ipswich Town	...
Sat.,	10	Brentford	...	1 1	A	Sat.,	13	Bournemouth	...	
Fri.,	16	Leeds United	...	2 0	H	Sat.,	20	Portsmouth	...	
Sat.,	17	Derby County	...	...	H	Sat.,	27	Cardiff City	...
Mon.,	19	Leeds United	...	2 2	A	Sat.,	April	3	Millwall Athletic	...
Sat.,	24	Bury	...	0 1	A	Sat.,	10	Arsenal	...	
						Sat.,	16	Tottenham Hotspur	...	
						Sat.,	17	Chelsea	...	
						Sat.,	24	Reading	...	
						Sat.,	28	West Ham United	...	

LEAGUE TABLES, 1953-54

Up to and including
19th December, 1953

LEAGUE DIVISION II

	Pld.	Won	Drn.	Lost	For	Agst.	P.
Leicester City	...	23	12	7	4	56	31
Doncaster Rov.	...	23	14	3	6	39	24
Everton	...	23	11	8	4	46	38
Birmingham C.	...	23	11	6	5	31	28
LUTON TOWN	23	10	7	6	41	36	27
Notts. Forest	...	23	10	6	7	48	35
Rotherham U.	...	24	12	2	10	44	44
Leeds United	...	23	8	8	7	49	44
Blackburn Rov.	...	22	9	6	7	40	34
Stoke City	...	24	6	11	7	36	37
Bristol Rov.	...	23	7	8	8	45	37
Fulham	...	23	8	6	9	49	45
WEST HAM U.	23	9	4	10	41	36	22
Derby County	...	22	8	5	9	41	45
Lincoln City	...	23	8	5	10	36	41
Swansea Town	...	23	9	3	11	31	41
Hull City	...	23	9	2	12	34	34
Plymouth A.	...	23	5	10	8	29	39
Notts. County	...	23	7	6	10	26	43
Bury	...	23	4	9	10	29	46
Brentford	...	23	5	7	11	17	41
Oldham Ath.	...	23	4	5	14	23	48

FOOTBALL COMBINATION—Division I

	Pld.	Won	Drn.	Lost	For	Agst.	P.
Tottenham H.	...	10	7	3	0	28	13
West Ham Utd.	...	10	8	0	2	19	9
Norwich City	...	9	6	2	1	24	11
LUTON TOWN	10	5	3	2	25	16	13
Bournemouth	...	10	4	4	2	15	10
Portsmouth	...	9	5	1	3	21	14
Arsenal	...	10	5	0	5	16	13
Cardiff City	...	9	4	1	4	15	9
Chelsea	...	9	3	2	4	17	8
Charlton Ath.	...	10	3	2	5	16	8
Reading	...	9	2	3	4	13	7
Millwall	...	9	2	2	5	11	6
Plymouth A.	...	8	2	2	4	13	6
Leicester City	...	9	2	1	6	13	5
Ipswich Town	...	9	2	1	6	11	4
Fulham	...	10	1	1	8	10	3

Next Match, Saturday, 2nd January, 1954

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