



OFFICIAL JOURNAL

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL
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GOOD FRIDAY, 16th APRIL, 1954

Football League—Division II

Luton Town v. Leeds United

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2	Right Back	P. Laner	
3	Left Back	C. Roscutter	
4	Right Half	M. Oldings	
5	Centre Half	D. Ores	
6	Left Half	F. Lorings	
7	Outside Right	S. P. Ruce	
8	Inside Right	T. R. Ellis	
9	Centre Forward	(Canadian)	
10	Inside Left		
11	Outside Left		
Reserve:			
N. P. Banks			
Referee:			
T. Imber (Control)			
(Retired)			
Linesmen:			
P. Rompters			
C. Ash			

All Players on Free Transfer List

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The ticket number for the ball on Saturday, 3rd April, 1954, was 16010.

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THE COVERMAN

JOHN DENIS DOWNIE

JOHN DOWNIE signed for Luton Town on 31st July, 1953. Was born at Lanark on 19th July, 1925 and played in School football in Motherwell, continuing with the local A.T.C. Squadron team when school days were over. Graduated to Bradford (Park Avenue) in 1943 where, after two years as an amateur, signed

pro for them about Xmas 1945. Was a "Bevin Boy" so did valuable work during the War, being transferred to Manchester United in 1949. Was with them for 4½ years, during which time he gained a League Champions Medal, as well as being Runners-up twice. Is a player with a fine ball control and positional sense, and is our second highest goal-scorer. His debut at Luton was sensational for in that match he scored a well-merited hat-trick.

CLUB NOTES

FIRST of all we want to wish all of you here this afternoon a Very Joyous and Happy Easter. Apart from the Religious significance it is a most happy time of the year, with Nature showing definite signs of her awakening from her long sleep and the air filled with lovely scents, together with a feeling of pleasant expectation everywhere. We sincerely hope that this pleasant feeling will continue right through the year and that the Councils of Europe and indeed of the World will be influenced by it in their deliberations, for undoubtedly we live in the best of all possible worlds if only we could all act in harmony.

Our visit to Griffin Park last Saturday yielded us both points, but it was a victory from which we gathered little satisfaction apart from the magnificent performance put up by our defence. Sid Owen, the king-pin, is playing so well every week that it is not surprising that the F.A. are at last really taking some notice of him, and it would not surprise us to find very soon that he has been selected for the highest honours. He would certainly not let his side down if such an honour was given him. The rest of the defence is playing really well too and all as a unit. Despite all the fury and endeavour of the Brentford forwards last Saturday our defence looked capable of everything that could be placed against them and has been so for some weeks now, even when they conceded two goals at Blackburn recently. Although playing at full stretch most of the game they felt it was due to sheer bad luck that they succumbed.

The forward line looks capable of completing a very sound team, but somehow they have not clicked together, although they do play delightful football most of the time. The talent is undoubtedly there and it may be that it has taken a season to really settle down to the play of our two new inside forwards, although of course we have missed badly the experience of Jesse Pye, out since early December, thereby causing a problem in the centre forward position. We really think the blend will be there when battle commences next August.

We witnessed a most entertaining match here last Saturday when we had the pleasure of receiving Arsenal Reserves in a vital Combination match and after some thrilling moments ran out worthy winners by five goals to three. Peter MacEwan scored his second hat-trick of the season in this match and three well-taken goals they were too. John Groves, who has settled down very well after his demob played like a veteran, scored a lovely goal with just a flick of his head, and altogether had a very good match. Jim Pemberton scored the other goal from fully 25 yds. out, the ball going into the net like a rocket to leave absolutely helpless, Sullivan, the Arsenal goalie, who played well despite the goals against him. It was the unanimous opinion of all who saw this match that it was the best seen at Kenilworth Road this season. It was a thriller from the start, and every one of our lads are to be congratulated for the way in which they set about their task on the resumption of wiping out that goal deficit. Many a team which had enjoyed a two goal lead only to find themselves on the wrong side at half-time would have simply accepted the fact, but these lads, youngsters though most of them are, never gave up trying as well as playing their football, and the fact that they won in the end was all the more meritorious. They have two hard nuts to crack this Easter-time in facing the Spurs today at White Hart Lane and Chelsea tomorrow at Stamford Bridge. If defeat is avoided at both these venues then the two remaining matches, both to be played here, will undoubtedly be well worth watching and

especially the last one with West Ham, particularly if it means that the winners of that encounter are the Champions.

We welcome our friends from Leeds on this Good Friday and can anticipate some good football as is usually the case when our two teams meet. They have proved prolific scorers this season, having scored 82 goals so far, of which number their outstanding player, John Charles, has notched 36 as well as 1 in the F.A. Cup and three for his country in full Internationals. In scoring those 82 goals they have at the same time conceded no less than 74, 49 of them on opponents' grounds. They are a team which believes in attacking football, which is only to be expected when managed by that prince of attackers Raich Carter, so quite an interesting match is laid on for us this afternoon.

Here are pen portraits of the players we hope to see wearing the gold shirts today.

John Scott (goal). A native of Whitehaven and joined Leeds from Workington. Did not miss a match last season. Height 5 ft. 11 ins. Weight 11 st. 6 lb.

Jimmy Dunn (right back). A product of the well known Glasgow Junior club, Rutherglen Glencairn, and in his seventh season with the United. Another ever-present in 1952-53.

Grenville Hair (left back). Born at Burton and went to Elland Road as a youngster, being still in his teens when making his debut in League football in 1950-51. Last term was only twice out of team.

Eric Kerfoot (right half). Hails from Ashton-under-Lyne and a product of Stalybridge Celtic from whom Leeds secured him in the face of keen competition in 1949. Missed only three games last season.

Jack Marsden (centre half). Local born and played for Osmondthorpe Y.M.C.A. Signed professional forms on August 24th, 1950. Graduated through the Northern Intermediate League team and Central League.

Tom Burdon (left half). A Londoner who made good with Chester before his transfer to Leeds in 1948. Used to be an inside left, but has been United's regular left half for a long time now. He is the third member of the present team who played in every match last season.

Andy McCall (outside right). Came to Leeds via Blackpool and West Bromwich Albion. Transferred from the latter club on August 1st, 1952. Formerly an inside forward and lately has played with success on the wing.

Albert Nightingale (inside right). A Yorkshireman who has in turn given good service to Sheffield United, Huddersfield Town and Blackburn Rovers. Went from Ewood Park to Elland Road last season.

John Charles (centre forward). A Swansea boy, discovered by the United in South Wales junior football, and capped by Wales as a centre half when only 17. Now he is making as big a name at centre forward as he did in the pivotal role.

Ray Iggleden (inside left). A native of Hull, who got his first introduction to League football in the ranks of Leicester City. Has been a consistent first team man for Leeds since early in 1949.

Harold Williams (outside left). One of two Welsh Internationals in the team. Born at Briton Ferry and went to Leeds in 1949 after giving a great display against them for Newport County in a Cup Tie. Can fill either of the wing positions.

For notes on Coverman see opposite page

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Outside Left10 Forrest
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Left Half3 Hair
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SPECTATORS ARE ASKED NOT TO CROSS THE PLAYING FIELD AFTER THE MATCH

Streten
Goal5 Owen
Centre Half9 Turner
Centre10 Downie
Inside Left11 Mitchell
Outside LeftLinesmen—
Red Flag: Mr. F. THODAY
(Cottenham, Cambs.)Orange Flag: Mr. P. J. SMYTH
(London)8 Nightingale
Inside Right7 Iggleden
Outside Right4 Kerfoot
Right Half2 Dunn
Right BackScott
Goal

Kick-Off 3 p.m.

Football League—Division II3 Aherne
Left Back6 Shanks
Left Half10 Downie
Inside Left11 Mitchell
Outside LeftLinesmen—
Red Flag: Mr. F. THODAY
(Cottenham, Cambs.)Orange Flag: Mr. P. J. SMYTH
(London)8 Nightingale
Inside Right7 Iggleden
Outside Right4 Kerfoot
Right Half2 Dunn
Right BackScott
Goal

Kick-Off 3 p.m.

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Easter Monday, 19th April, 1954

METROPOLITAN & DISTRICT LEAGUE

LUTON TOWN 'A' v. BRIGHTON & H. 'A'

Kick-Off 3 p.m.

Usual Reserve Team Prices of Admission

Tuesday, 20th April, 1954

LUTON, SOUTH BEDS. AND DISTRICT LEAGUE—DIVISION I

LUTON TOWN 'B' v. WOBURN ATHLETIC

Kick-Off 6.30 p.m.

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FIXTURES, 1953-54

FIRST XI Division II		Attendance	1952/53	F. A.	RESERVE FIXTURES		Combination Cup	Attendance	1952/53	F. A.				
Wed., Aug.	19	Oldham Athletic	22,822	...	H	4	4	Tues., Aug.	25	Watford ...	0 3	A 1 2		
Sat.,	22	Everton	20,247	4 2	H	1	1	Sat.,	29	Northampton Town	2,630	A 3 1		
Wed.,	26	Notts. Forest	17,522	3 0	H	0	1	Wed., Sept.	2	Birmingham City	2,444	3 0 H 4 0		
Sat.,	29	Plymouth Argyle	22,574	1 2	A	2	2	Sat.,	5	Norwich City	4,765	1 4 A 0 0		
Wed.,	Sept.	2	Nottingham Forest	17,172	3 4	A	1	Sat.,	9	Ipswich Town	2,590	H 1 2		
Sat.,	5	Swansea Town	17,479	3 1	H	2	0	Sat.,	12	Watford	2,840	H 2 1		
Wed.,	9	Birmingham City	18,881	2 2	A	1	5	Sat.,	16	Ipswich Town	1,779	A 4 1		
Sat.,	12	Rotherham United	15,726	3 1	A	1	2	Sat.,	19	Northampton T.	1,318	3 3 H 1 2		
Wed.,	16	Birmingham City	12,231	0 1	H	2	0	Sat.,	23	Leicester City	3,192	4 1 H 3 4		
Sat.,	19	Leicester City	19,138	2 0	H	2	2	Sat.,	26	Coventry City	808	3 3 H 2 0		
Sat.,	26	Stoke City	24,083	...	A	1	1	Sat.,	Oct.	3	Leicester City	2,822	3 2 A 1 2	
Sat.,	Oct.	3	Fulham	18,619	2 0	H	1	2	Mon.,	5	Coventry City	628	1 1 A 1 4	
Sat.,	10	Hull City	14,754	3 2	H	3	1	Sat.,	10	Norwich City	2,861	3 1 H 2 0		
Sat.,	17	Notts. County	12,208	2 1	A	2	1	Wed.,	14	Birmingham City	138	2 3 A 1 1		
Sat.,	24	Lincoln City	15,578	4 0	A	1	0	Sat.,	21	Birmingham City	...	...
Sat.,	31	Bristol Rovers	20,021	...	A	3	3	Sat.,	24	Football Combination	...	...
Sat.,	Nov.	7	Brentford	15,167	0 1	H	1	1	Sat.,	Oct.	17	Ipswich Town	2,489	3 2 H 2 1
Sat.,	14	Derby County	15,934	...	A	2	1	Sat.,	24	Bournemouth	2,991	3 3 H 2 2		
Sat.,	21	Blackburn Rovers	16,269	6 0	H	2	1	Sat.,	31	Portsmouth	2,774	H 4 2		
Sat.,	28	Doncaster Rovers	18,273	0 1	A	3	1	Sat.,	Nov.	7	Cardiff City	992	...	
Sat.,	Dec.	5	Bury	15,309	4 1	H	3	2	Sat.,	11	Millwall Athletic	2,369	...	
Sat.,	12	Oldham Athletic	14,128	...	A	1	2	Sat.,	21	Arsenal	5,393	...		
Sat.,	19	Everton	33,544	1 1	A	1	2	Sat.,	28	Chelsea	4,270	...		
Fri.,	25	West Ham United	19,017	1 0	A	0	1	Sat.,	Dec.	5	Reading	1,940	...	
Sat.,	26	West Ham United	20,133	0 0	H	3	1	Sat.,	12	West Ham United	3,326	...		
Sat.,	Jan.	2	Plymouth Argyle	9,686	1 0	H	2	1	Sat.,	19	Leicester City	2,814	0 0 H 5 2	
Sat.,	9	Blackpool (F.A. Cup—3)	25,242	...	A	1	1	Sat.,	25	Plymouth Argyle	2,346	...		
Wed.,	13	Blackp'l (Cup 3, Replay 1)	23,472	...	H	0	0	Sat.,	26	Leicester City	2,010	2 1 A 4 3		
Sat.,	16	Swansea Town	16,785	2 4	A	1	1	Sat.,	9	Norwich City	2,617	...		
Mon.,	18	Blackp'l (Cup 3, Replay 2)	31,663	...	A	1	1	Sat.,	16	Plymouth Argyle	3,349	H 4 2		
Sat.,	23	Rotherham United	17,300	2 1	H	1	1	Sat.,	23	Fulham	1,182	...		
Mon.,	25	Blackp'l (Cup 3, Replay 3)	25,855	...	A	0	2	Sat.,	26	Charlton Athletic	2,312	...		
Sat.,	Feb.	6	Leicester City	31,782	1 1	A	1	2	Sat.,	13	Charlton Athletic	1,535	...	
Sat.,	13	Stoke City	17,055	0 0	H	0	1	Sat.,	20	Tottenham H.	3,829	...		
Sat.,	20	Fulham (5)	26,982	0 2	A	1	5	Sat.,	27	Norwich City	3,249	...		
Sat.,	27	Hull City	21,550	2 0	A	2	1	Sat.,	March	6	Ipswich Town	3,045	2 0 A 1 3	
Sat.,	March	6	Notts. County	14,623	5 1	H	2	1	Sat.,	13	Bournemouth	2,402	1 2 H 7 1	
Sat.,	13	Lincoln City (6)	11,195	2 1	A	1	1	Sat.,	20	Portsmouth	3,452	...		
Sat.,	20	Bristol Rovers	12,195	...	H	1	1	Sat.,	27	Cardiff City	2,710	...		
Sat.,	27	Blackburn Rovers	24,500	1 1	A	0	2	Sat.,	April	3	Millwall Athletic	2,242	...	
Sat.,	April	3	Doncaster Rovers	10,838	1 2	H	2	0	Sat.,	10	Arsenal	5,326	...	
Sat.,	10	Brentford	14,200	...	A	1	0	Sat.,	16	Tottenham Hotspur	...	...
Sat.,	16	Leeds United	...	2 0	H	1	1	Sat.,	17	Chelsea	...	...
Sat.,	17	Derby County	...	...	H	1	1	Sat.,	24	Reading	...	...
Sat.,	19	Leeds United	...	2 2	A	1	1	Sat.,	28	West Ham United	...	...
Sat.,	24	Bury	...	0 1	A	0	1	Sat.,	24	Up to and including 13th April, 1954	...	...

LEAGUE TABLES, 1953-54

LEAGUE DIVISION II										
Pld.	Won	Drn.	Lost	For	Agst.	P.	Football Combination—Division I			
LUTON TOWN	26	14	8	4	67	43	36	36	34	34
West Ham Utd.	24	16	2	6	52	34	30	30	30	30
Tottenham H.	26	11	8	7	51	40	29	29	29	29
Norwich City	24	12	5	7	53	36	29	29	29	29
Arsenal	25	12	4	9	51	32	28	28	28	28
Bournemouth	25	10	7	8	37	29	27	27	27	27
Millwall	25	12	3	10	40	40	27	27	27	27
Chelsea	24	11	4	9	51	34	26	26	26	26
Leicester City	24	10	4	10	51	49	24	24	24	24
Charlton Ath.	26	9	5	12	45	52	23	23	23	23
Portsmouth	24	8	5	11	36	38	21	21	21	21
Cardiff City	24	7	6	11	38	50	20	20	20	20
Reading	25	6	7	12	39	50	19	19	19	19
Plymouth A.	26	7	5	14	40	68	19	19	19	19
Fulham	26	7	4	15	38	69	18	18	18	18
Ipswich Town	24	7	3	14	36	61	17	17	17	17

Saturday, 17th April, 1954

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION II

LUTON TOWN v. DERBY COUNTY

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