

LUTON TOWN F.C.



FOOTBALL LEAGUE — DIVISION 1

LUTON TOWN

v.

ASTON VILLA



Official Programme

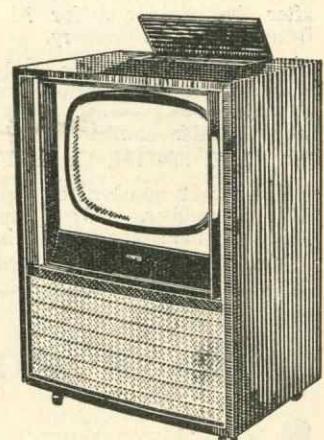
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2
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4
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M. ATCHINS

7
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N. U. STOCKS

8
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The ticket number for the ball on Boxing Day, Thursday, 26th December, 1957 (Manchester United match) was 14340 and the supporter who had this number was :—

Mr. R. C. SMITH, Coplar Farm, Bletsoe, Beds.

The ticket number for the ball on Saturday, 28th December, 1957 (Arsenal match) was 21809 and the supporter who had this number was :

Mr. M. GOBEY, Top Farm, Clophill, Beds.

Will Members please note that their Subscriptions are now due. We are pleased with the many new Members so far this season. Also for the number of Life Members joining from Dunstable, Hemel Hempstead, Luton and one from Stockport, Mr. H. G. Allen, "The Rising Sun" Hotel, Hazel Grove, Stockport.

We take our hats off to the Team for that grand result last Saturday, at Wolverhampton. To take three points from them is a great achievement, which many teams will fail to do.

Let us hope that it will bring to the game with the "Villa" today a record gate.

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CLUB NOTES

AFTER our surprising defeat at Stockport, to be knocked out of the F.A. Challenge Cup Competition at the first attempt we went to Molineux last Saturday wondering just how that defeat had affected the morale of our lads. But we need not have worried. They played splendidly throughout the match, every man playing for his side, making us all feel that the journey the previous Saturday had been but only a bad dream. Our defence looked almost impregnable, with Syd Owen the 'King - pin' of the whole system and with Ron Bayham once again not only claiming but proving that he has no equal, never mind better, playing between the sticks in this country today. His anticipation and the way he catches those cross balls are splendid examples of goalkeeping at its best, and why he is so persistently ignored by the Selectors is beyond our comprehension. Backs, Half Backs and Forwards all played their part well, and the point we brought away from the ground of the present leaders, only the second they have lost at home this season, was thoroughly deserved. The way the 'Wolves' played however it was not surprising that they hold such an excellent home record, and with only eight more matches at Molineux this season there is every prospect of them finishing with at least a home record comparable with Manchester United the season before last when they dropped three points only out of the twenty-one matches played at Old Trafford. The goal scored by Allan Brown—and how nice it is to see him getting among the goals these last few weeks—was the result of quick thinking and an ice-cool brain. As the ball went up into the air from Billy Wright's head, Allan quickly sized up the situation as the ball was dropping, even to the extent of looking over his shoulder, for he had his back to the goal, to see where Finlayson, the 'Wolves' goalkeeper, was positioned. With an overhead kick Allan placed the ball to enter the net just under the crossbar and well out of the goalie's reach, to score a spectacular goal and to leave the 'Wolves' defence standing in amazement. After that Billy Wright saw to it that Brown did not get any more chances to score, but there were opportunities for the other forwards which with a little more luck could easily have registered. But 'Wolves' also had their missed chances, and everybody seemed agreed that a share of the spoils was a fair and just result, with some spanking football from both sides which made the whole ninety minutes well worth watching.

Today we have the F.A. Cup Holders as our guests in a League encounter, but with a team vastly changed in comparison with the one which won all that glory on the Wembley turf, last May. Then the line-up was—

Sims; Lynn, Aldis; Crowther, Dugdale, Saward; Smith, Sewell, Myerscough, Dixon and McParland.

Due to injuries which are likely to keep them out of the side for several weeks are Dugdale, Aldis and Dixon, and at the time these Notes were being prepared Aston Villa had just been informed that Pat Saward, deputising for Dugdale at centre half, is doubtful for today's match as he was reported having the 'flu'. The Villa were not having a successful time at all until they stepped in and obtained the signature of Gerry Hitchens from Cardiff City, at a quite substantial fee. So far it has paid handsome dividends for Hitchens in those few weeks has scored five goals and given the Villa forward line that dash which had been

lacking until then. A surprising move however is the preference of Tommy Southern at outside right for today's match in place of Leslie Smith, who has been playing consistently in that position for some little time. It may be due to injury of course for he played at Wolverhampton last Monday, in the Cup Replay with Stoke City. Southern signed for West Ham from Peartree Old Boys, making his League debut in 1951, but was not able to gain a regular place due to the brilliance of Harry Hooper. Villa paid a large fee for Smith in 1954/55, and in view of his ability it is surprising he has not been able to establish a regular place, although he has played twice against us before, at Villa Park, in November, 1955, at outside right, and at Luton, in March 1956, at inside right, when we won two goals to one, Tommy scoring the Villa goal. Peter McParland has been a very busy man lately, for in twelve days he has played in one International, three Cup Ties and a League match, sufficient activity for the most enthusiastic of players. He received a hard knock early in the game at Belfast, last Wednesday but has reported fit to play today. Should Pat Saward not be fit to play, a local lad named Trevor Birch, born at West Bromwich will play at centre half. He made seven first team appearances last season so that he is not without some experience of League 1 football.

We have arranged for our postponed Second Round (Replay) Southern Floodlight Challenge Cup match with Brentford to be played here on Wednesday, January 29th, kick-off 7.15 p.m., and we trust that the weather will be kinder to us this time. It has been a most unfortunate and long-drawn affair, for in our first meeting at Griffin Park, on December 3rd, the match had to be postponed after 58 minutes due to fog, and the replay arranged for December 16th, at Kenilworth Road had to be cancelled because of ground conditions.

Our congratulations to Vauxhall Motors on their splendid display last Saturday, when beating Hounslow Town by 3 goals to one, and so enter the last 32 in the F.A. Amateur Cup. It was a hard task before them but the Motors were the first to settle down and long before the end the local lads were playing with such confidence that the result was a foregone conclusion. They have now to make the long journey to Devizes, in the Second Round but they have only to repeat last Saturday's display to ensure further progress in this Competition. We wish them well.

Next Saturday we break fresh ground by playing on Scottish soil for the first time in our history. It is strange that we have visited most countries in Europe and yet have never played across the border. We visit the 'Granite City,' the birthplace of Douglas (Dally) Duncan, and what a homecoming it should be. There is a moral in this for youngsters entering the threshold of the outside world from schooldays. Dally left Aberdeen at 17 to play for Hull City, moving on to Derby County and to Luton Town. Collecting 11 'home' International Caps on the way, as well as playing for Scotland in countries abroad. When he came to Kenilworth Road, Luton were in the Second Division, and now he has the satisfaction of taking his team, now in the First Division, to his home town to play their First Team, which holds the same position in the Scottish First Division as we do in the English Division. After Luton's result Dally is always anxious to know what Aberdeen has done. We wonder what his feelings will be next Saturday!

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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	Birmingham	Burnley
B	Blackpool	Wolverhampton
C	Chelsea	Newcastle U.
D	Leicester City	Arsenal
E	Manchester U.	Bolton Wan.
F	Notts. Forest	Leeds United
G	Portsmouth	Manchester C.
H	Sunderland	Everton
K	Tottenham H.	Preston N. E.
L	West Brom.	Sheffield Wed.
M	Barnsley	Fulham
N	Blackburn R.	Bristol Rov.

SECOND LIST

A	Bristol City	Charlton Ath.
B	Cardiff City	Leyton O.
C	Grimsby T.	Rotherham U.
D	Huddersfield	Notts. County
E	Ipswich Town	Lincoln City
F	Liverpool	Middlesb.
G	Sheffield Utd.	Derby County
H	Stoke City	Doncaster R.
K	West Ham U.	Swansea T.
L	Bournemouth	Brentford
M	Coventry City	Crystal Palace
N	Exeter City	Newport Co.

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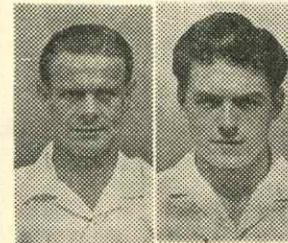
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THIRD LIST

A	Gillingham	Port Vale
B	Millwall	Plymouth A.
C	Norwich City	Coventry U.
D	Q. P. R.	Southampton
E	Reading	Northampton
F	Shrewsbury	Watford
G	Southend Utd.	Brighton & H.
H	Swindon T.	Aldershot
K	Walsall	Torquay Utd.
L	Bury	York City
M	Mansfield T.	Scunthorpe
N	Swansea Res.	Luton T. Res.

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DIVISION I and FOOTBALL COMBINATION FIXTURES :: 1957 - 1958

1957 FIRST XI—Division 1			Attendance	1956/57	F	A
Aug. 24 Sat.	Bolton Wand.	...	17591	1 0	H	1 0
" 26 Mon.	Blackpool	...	21099	0 4	A	2 1
" 31 Sat.	Arsenal	...	50111	3 1	A	0 2
Sept. 4 Wed.	Blackpool	...	19567	0 2	H	2 0
" 7 Sat.	Wolves	...	22030	1 0	H	3 1
" 11 Wed.	Leeds United	...	21972	2 1	A	2 0
" 14 Sat.	Aston Villa	...	28962	3 1	A	0 2
" 18 Wed.	Leeds United	...	16887	2 2	H	1 1
" 21 Sat.	Everton	...	19797	2 0	H	0 1
" 28 "	Sunderland	...	36734	0 1	A	0 3
Oct. 5 "	Burnley	...	15179	0 2	H	3 2
" 12 "	Preston North End	...	25403	0 2	A	0 1
" 19 "	Sheffield Wed.	...	14473	2 0	H	2 0
" 26 "	Manchester City	...	36333	2 3	A	2 2
Nov. 2 "	Birmingham C.	...	17316	0 0	H	3 0
" 9 "	Chelsea	...	34102	1 4	A	3 1
" 16 "	Newcastle U. (I)	...	19703	4 1	H	0 3
" 23 "	Tottenham H.	...	41242	0 5	A	1 3
" 30 "	Notts. Forest	...	18391	...	H	3 1
Dec. 7 "	Portsmouth (2)	...	17782	2 2	A	0 5
" 14 "	West Brom.	...	15365	0 1	H	5 1
" 21 "	Bolton Wanderers	...	16754	2 2	A	2 1
" 25 Wed.	Manchester United	...	39594	1 3	A	0 3
" 26 Thurs.	Manchester Utd.	...	26478	0 2	H	2 2
" 28 Sat.	Arsenal	...	27493	1 2	H	4 0
Jan. 4 Sat.	Stockport C.—F.A. Cup—3	...	18162	A	0 3	
" 11 "	Wolves	...	30805	4 5	A	1 1
" 18 "	Aston Villa	...	0 0	H		
" 25 "	F.A. Cup—4	...	...	
Feb. 1 "	Everton	...	...	1 2	A	
" 8 "	Sunderland	...	...	6 2	H	
" 15 "	Burnley (5)...	...	...	1 1	A	
" 22 "	Preston N. E.	...	...	1 1	H	
March 1 "	Sheffield Wed. (6)	...	0 3	A		
" 8 "	Manchester City	...	3 2	H		
" 15 "	Birmingham City	...	0 3	A		
" 22 "	Tottenham H.	...	1 3	H		
" 29 "	Newcastle United	...	2 2	A		
April 5 "	Chelsea	...	0 4	H		
" 7 Mon.	Leicester City	...	...	A		
" 8 Tues.	Leicester City	...	...	A		
" 12 Sat.	Notts. Forest	...	1 0	H		
" 19 "	Portsmouth	...	0 4	A		
" 26 "	West Bromwich A.	...	0 4	A		
Jan. 4 Sat.	Fulham	...	1676	...	H	2 2
" 11 "	Southampton	...	1305	...	H	6 0
" 18 "	Swansea Town	...	...	2 0	A	
" 25 "	Queens Park R.	...	5 0	H		
Feb. 1 "	Leicester City	...	1 2	A		
" 8 "	Bristol Rovers	...	...	5 1	H	
" 15 "	Arsenal	...	...	1 3	A	
" 22 "	Norwich City	...	...	4 1	H	
March 1 "	Charlton Ath.	...	...	...	H	
" 8 "	Birmingham City	...	0 2	A		
" 15 "	Coventry City	...	3 1	H		
" 22 "	Northampton T.	...	...	A		
" 29 "	Tottenham H.	...	4 1	H		
April 4 Fri.	West Ham Utd.	...	0 2	H		
" 5 Sat.	Chelsea	...	2 4	A		
" 7 Mon.	West Ham United	...	...	0 0	A	
" 12 Sat.	Bournemouth	...	5 0	H		
" 19 "	Brentford	...	2 1	A		
" 26 "	Portsmouth	...	5 1	H		

League Table, 1957-58

DIVISION 1

Up to and including Saturday, 11th January, 1958

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Wolverhampton W.	26	17	6	3	61	29	40
Preston North End	26	15	4	7	58	36	34
West Bromwich	26	11	11	4	61	44	33
Manchester United	26	13	6	7	61	41	32
Manchester City	26	14	3	9	67	62	31
LUTON TOWN	26	13	4	9	42	37	30
Nottingham Forest	26	13	3	10	54	39	29
Chelsea	26	10	7	9	59	53	27
Burnley	26	12	3	11	52	51	27
Tottenham H.	26	11	5	10	55	56	27
Bolton Wan.	26	11	5	10	47	52	27
Blackpool	26	11	4	11	45	42	26
Everton	26	8	9	9	40	45	25
Arsenal	26	11	3	12	42	47	25
Birmingham C.	26	8	8	10	47	57	24
ASTON VILLA	26	9	4	13	46	54	22
Newcastle United	26	8	4	14	42	46	20
Portsmouth	26	8	4	14	48	53	20
Leicester City	26	8	3	15	50	68	19
Leeds United	26	7	5	14	33	48	19
Sunderland	26	6	7	13	31	61	19
Sheffield Wed.	26	6	4	16	48	68	16

NEXT MATCH

Saturday, 25th January, 1958

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

Luton Town Reserves

V.

Queens P. Rangers Reserves

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