

FOOTBALL LEAGUE — DIVISION 1

LUTON TOWN

v.

ARSENAL



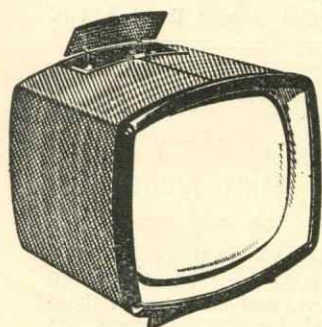
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B alsam	4				
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## CLUB NOTES

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS from all the Directors, Players and Staff of the Club to all you Luton Soccer Supporters! And a very special Christmas welcome and greetings to all the many visitors to our Club today.

We hope you are all thoroughly enjoying this great international festive holiday and are ready to see some fine soccer played in the true sporting spirit. We all hope that yesterday morning you found Santa had filled your Christmas stocking with all the good things you had requested and that today he will 'top it up' with two points!

Christmas Day this year being so close to the week-end has meant for us one less match than last year during this week. It has given our players the chance to enjoy, as we are sure you will have done, all the traditional fare of turkey, plum pudding and mince pies at home on Christmas Day with their families.

We are indeed fortunate having very little travelling to do this Christmas, with our only outing a trip to Highbury tomorrow.

For the first half of the holiday 'double fixture' we welcome the mighty Arsenal club. Arsenal can be certain of really first class support this afternoon for the distance between our Clubs is short and their well organised Supporters' Club is bringing members along in force.

The reputation the great players of Arsenal of yesteryear have built up remains, and indeed flourishes with this season's success. The fans which go along to Highbury each home game are probably only a proportion of the real following they have. We are sure if all their Supporters turned up, Highbury could be filled a dozen times over. All over this country and Europe, particularly in the 'lesser' soccer powers like Denmark, Holland and Belgium, Arsenal is THE team to thousands of soccer fans. In the case of the European countries this is a great thing for English soccer and must be encouraged. For us it means we have a top line fixture here at Kenilworth Road this Boxing Day and that the eyes of the world will read reports of it in many different languages. Let us hope a few will read it from the angle of the great Luton Town!

This season the "Gunnars" were living up to their name and really going great guns until a week or two ago when they found the seashores from Blackpool had rocked the bottom out of their boat to the tune of 3-0 for their first home defeat of the season. The unfortunate sequel of events has been two further consecutive home defeats at the hands of bottom-of-the-table Aston Villa (a sad blow to prestige when you are top!) and proud Preston North End last Saturday.

But whatever the indifferent form shown by Arsenal in the past few matches it must be remembered that Manager George Swindin, himself one of the great ex-Arsenal players, has moulded a fine side which will take a lot of beating and will, no doubt, be amongst the few at the end of the season with a chance of honours.

It is now almost a year since we played Arsenal at Kenilworth Road—December 28th, 1957, was their last visit—and on that occasion we really gave our best, Allan Brown scoring three goals in a 4-0 win. What a wonderful Xmas box if we can win by such a convincing margin this afternoon!

Boxing Day is about the halfway mark in the season for most Clubs; the League programme is half completed and it is therefore an admirable moment to check on how we are doing compared with last year. Just before the Christmas matches

in the 1957/58 season we were 6th in the League chart compared with today when we are 14th. Comparative records for the past three seasons are:—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
1956/57	...	...	21	7	7	7	28
1957/58	...	...	22	12	2	8	35
1958/59	...	...	21	6	8	7	31

Our record for this year may quite easily have included another draw or maybe even a win at West Bromwich, last Saturday, but the elements said it was not to be so.

With the game abandoned after 70 minutes play we were foiled by the mud. The Press generally, quite rightly, referred to the match as something of a pantomime with "water, water, everywhere."

If any of you stayed up last Saturday evening to watch Sportsview on B.B.C.-T.V. you were able to judge for yourselves just how bad the conditions were. The area around the playing pitch was like a moat and it was really sloshy mud in both penalty areas. It was obvious that good football was quite impossible. If conditions were bad at the start they became worse as the match progressed and to make matters worse rain simply pelted down throughout the 70 minutes "play" to make the conditions so bad that it simply became the survival of the fittest. As Syd Owen observed following his article in last Saturday's "Green Un"—how would the World Champions Brazil, have fared under those conditions?

It was a pity they were so appalling for mistakes and mishaps were bound to happen. Each goal was, in fact, a mistake. Setters, the West Bromwich right half, had the misfortune to head past his own 'keeper while Ron Baynham is confident he could have saved Howe's free kick goal had the mud been a little less deep. The mishaps were, fortunately, not serious. Seamus Dunne was bumped into by Kevan and, unable to stop on the slithery mud, crashed into the concrete surround behind the touchline. Luckily he quickly recovered. For West Bromwich Albion, outside left Derek Hogg was injured too in the mud and was off the field for attention for some time.

It was difficult to ascertain what success the moving of Morton to the centre forward berth had brought. Pacey's return will be welcomed by all fans and we are lucky in our obvious strength in half backs which allows Morton, the great half back he is, to be moved up front.

Those of you who did not do your Christmas shopping early enough to allow time to visit Kenilworth Road, last Saturday, to watch the "Stiffs" play Bristol Rovers Reserves, missed the early arrival of Santa Claus from Bristol! Our lads were not showing up too well against the fast Rovers in the first half-hour and might easily have been a couple of goals down. But then Santa struck with his magic wand and Barry Hawkes (brother of first team Ken) scored a great goal. In the second half the Rovers defence burst open like a badly wrapped Christmas parcel and four more goals fell out—two to Dixon, one to Gregory and an own goal. Yes, Santa really arrived with two very easy points, but it could have been a different story if the Rovers had snapped up their early chances.

The Bedfordshire Professional Cup took an unexpected turn last Saturday week. The final is looked upon as an annual clash between Luton and Bedford, but not so this season. In the semi-final, Dunstable visited Bedford and although 3-1 down at half-time rallied to win 5-4. Well done Dunstable, and we look forward to meeting you in the Final!

Continued on inside front cover

# Luton Bobbers Stand Club

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The ticket number for the ball on Saturday, 13th December, 1958 (Blackburn Rovers match) was **22709** and the supporter who had this number was:—

**MR. KIRBY,**  
3a, Culverhouse Road, Luton.

The Officers and Committee of the Bobbers Stand Club  
wish you all  
the Compliments of the Season and a Happy New Year

## CLUB NOTES—continued

On the subject of Cup Ties the 3rd Round of the F.A. Cup is only just around the corner. We would like to take this opportunity of reminding all Season Ticket Holders that their ticket applications (by post please) with the appropriate "buff" slip from their book, the remittance and a stamped addressed envelope MUST be received by December 29th—that's next Monday so please hurry.

For our return match at Highbury tomorrow, British Railways are running a special train to St. Pancras. It departs from Leagrave at 11.25 a.m.

and Luton (Midland Road) at 11.30 a.m. Return is by any train on the same day. The fare is 6/6 return from both Leagrave and Luton. For those who prefer road travel London Transport are running a special excursion leaving Park Square at 12 noon. The return fare is 6/- for adults and 3/- for children.

Today brings two events in one. Firstly it is our only home holiday fixture and secondly it is our last home game in 1958. We would therefore like to wish you continued good cheer for the remainder of the Christmas holiday and a very Happy and Prosperous 1959 with good health to enjoy all that's in store.



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2 **Dunne**  
Right Back  
4 **Groves**  
Right Half  
7 **Bingham**  
Outside Right  
8 **Turner**  
Inside Right

Referee:  
**Mr. K. STOKES**  
(Newark)

11 **Henderson**  
Outside Left  
10 **Bloomfield**  
Inside Left  
6 **Docherty**  
Left Half  
3 **Evans**  
Left Back

**ARSENAL**  
Shirts Red  
Knickers White  
Stockings Blue and White Hoops

Spectators are asked NOT TO CROSS THE PLAYING FIELD after the match

**Baynham**  
Goal

5 **Owen**  
Centre Half  
9 **Morton**  
Centre



9 **Barnwell**  
Centre  
**Fotheringham**  
Centre Half

**Kelsey**  
Goal

### Football League — Div. 1

3 **Hawkes, K.**  
Left Back

6 **Pacey**  
Left Half

10 **Cummins**  
Inside Left  
11 **Adam**  
Outside Left

Linesmen:  
Red Flag:  
**Mr. D. R. Wildman** (Kettering)  
Orange Flag:  
**Mr. R. A. Pipe** (Slough)

8 **Groves**  
Inside Right  
7 **Clapton**  
Outside Right  
4 **Ward**  
Right Half  
2 **Wills**  
Right Back

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	Birmingham	.....	Manchester C.	.....
B	Everton	.....	Bolton Wan.	.....
C	Leicester City	.....	Burnley	.....
D	Manchester U.	.....	Aston Villa	.....
E	Newcastle U.	.....	Notts. Forest	.....
F	Portsmouth	.....	Wolverh'pton	.....
G	Preston N.E.	.....	Blackpool	.....
H	Tottenham H.	.....	West Ham U.	.....
K	West Brom.	.....	Leeds United	.....
L	Bristol City	.....	Cardiff City	.....
M	Derby County	.....	Swansea T.	.....
N	Fulham	.....	Brighton & H.	.....

**SECOND LIST**

A	Ipswich Town	.....	Bristol Rov.	.....
B	Leyton O.	.....	Stoke City	.....
C	Middlesbro'	.....	Barnsley	.....
D	Rotherham U.	.....	Liverpool	.....
E	Scunthorpe U.	.....	Sunderland	.....
F	Sheffield Wed.	.....	Lincoln City	.....
G	Accrington	.....	Halifax Town	.....
H	Bury	.....	Tranmere R.	.....
K	Chesterfield	.....	Wrexham	.....
L	Colchester U.	.....	Bournemouth	.....
M	Hull City	.....	Mansfield T.	.....
N	Norwich City	.....	Reading	.....

**THIRD LIST**

A	Notts. County	.....	Bradford City	.....
B	Plymouth A.	.....	Q. P. R.	.....
C	Rochdale	.....	Doncaster R.	.....
D	Swindon T.	.....	Brentford	.....
E	Aldershot	.....	Crystal Palace	.....
F	Coventry City	.....	Torquay Utd.	.....
G	Gillingham	.....	Northampton	.....
H	Hartlepoons	.....	Darlington	.....
K	Port Vale	.....	Gateshead	.....
L	Shrewsbury	.....	Southport	.....
M	Walsall	.....	Watford	.....
N	York City	.....	Barrow	.....

**BUNTY COACHES**

**Football Excursion**

**SATURDAY**

**17th JANUARY, 1959**

**WEST HAM UNITED**

**v. LUTON TOWN**

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**DIVISION I and FOOTBALL COMBINATION FIXTURES :: 1958 - 1959**

1958	FIRST XI—Division 1	Attendance	1957/8	F	A
Aug. 23 Sat.	West Brom.	24425	5 1	H	1 1
" 26 Tues.	Leeds United	25498	2 0	A	1 1
" 30 Sat.	Birmingham City	32000	1 1	A	1 0
Sept. 3 Wed.	Leeds United	13497	1 1	H	1 1
" 6 Sat.	West Ham Utd.	25715	1 1	H	4 1
" 10 Wed.	Manchester City	30771	2 2	A	1 1
" 13 Sat.	Bolton Wand.	19699	1 0	H	0 0
" 17 Wed.	Manchester City	18160	1 2	H	5 1
" 20 Sat.	Burnley	23760	2 1	A	2 2
" 27 "	Preston N. End	23056	1 3	H	4 1
Oct. 4 "	Leicester City	32017	1 4	A	1 3
" 11 "	Nottingham Forest	30187	0 1	A	1 3
" 18 "	Chelsea	24864	0 2	H	2 1
" 25 "	Portsmouth	24831	0 5	A	2 2
Nov. 1 "	Aston Villa	18714	3 0	H	2 1
" 8 "	Newcastle United	53420	2 3	A	0 1
" 15 "	Tottenham H. (1)	23592	0 0	H	1 2
" 22 "	Manchester United	41195	0 3	A	1 2
" 29 "	Wolves	20648	3 1	H	0 1
Dec. 6 "	Blackpool (2)	14140	2 1	A	0 3
" 13 "	Blackburn Rov.	13475	2 1	H	1 1
" 20 "	West Brom. Albion	2 4	A	H	
" 26 Fri.	Arsenal	4 0	A	H	
" 27 Sat.	Arsenal	0 2	A	H	
1959					
Jan. 3 Sat.	Birmingham C.	3 0	H		
" 10 "	Leeds United F.A. Cup-3	...	A		
" 17 "	West Ham United	...	A		
" 24 "	F.A. Cup-4	...	A		
" 31 "	Bolton Wanderers	2 1	A		
Feb. 7 "	Burnley	3 2	H		
" 14 "	Preston N. End (5)	0 1	A		
" 21 "	Leicester City	2 1	H		
" 28 "	Notts. Forest (6)	3 1	H		
March 7 "	Chelsea	3 1	A		
" 14 "	Portsmouth (S.F.)	2 1	H		
" 21 "	Aston Villa	0 2	A		
" 27 Fri.	Everton	0 1	H		
" 28 Sat.	Newcastle U.	0 3	H		
" 30 Mon.	Everton	2 0	A		
April 4 Sat.	Tottenham H.	1 3	A		
" 11 "	Manchester Utd.	2 2	H		
" 18 "	Wolves	1 1	A		
" 20 Mon.	Blackburn Rov.	...	A		
" 25 Sat.	Blackpool	2 0	H		

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**League Table 1958/59**

**DIVISION ONE**

Up to and including Saturday, 20th December

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Bolton W.	22	11	7	4	44	31	29
Wolverhampton W.	22	13	2	7	42	25	28
Preston North End	23	12	4	7	42	34	28
West Brom. Albion	21	10	7	4	52	32	27
ARSENAL	23	12	3	8	54	35	27
Blackburn Rov.	22	9	7	6	46	37	25
Manchester United	23	10	5	8	53	43	25
Blackpool	22	7	10	5	29	24	24
Notts. Forest	22	10	3	9	40	31	23
Burnley	22	9	4	9	40	38	22
Newcastle Utd.	22	10	2	10	43	41	22
West Ham United	22	9	3	10	44	42	21
Leeds United	22	7	7	8	31	38	21
LUTON TOWN	21	6	8	7	31	29	20
Birmingham C.	22	8	4	10	34	42	20
Chelsea	22	9	1	12	43	56	19
Everton	22	8	3	11	39	53	19
Manchester City	22	6	6	10	36	50	18
Leicester City	22	7	4	11	37	54	18
Tottenham H.	22	6	5	11	42	53	17
Portsmouth	22	6	5	11	37	50	17
Aston Villa	23	6	4	13	35	59	16

**NEXT MATCHES**

Saturday, 27th December, 1958

METROPOLITAN & DISTRICT LEAGUE

**Luton Town 'A'**  
v.  
**West Ham United 'A'**

Kick-Off 2.15 p.m.

Usual Reserve Team Prices of Admission

Saturday, 3rd January, 1959

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION 1

**Luton Town**  
v.  
**BIRMINGHAM C.**

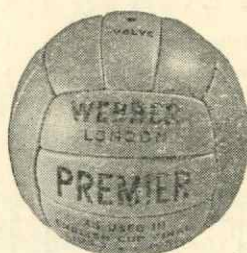
Kick-Off 2.15 p.m.

Usual First Team Prices of Admission



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