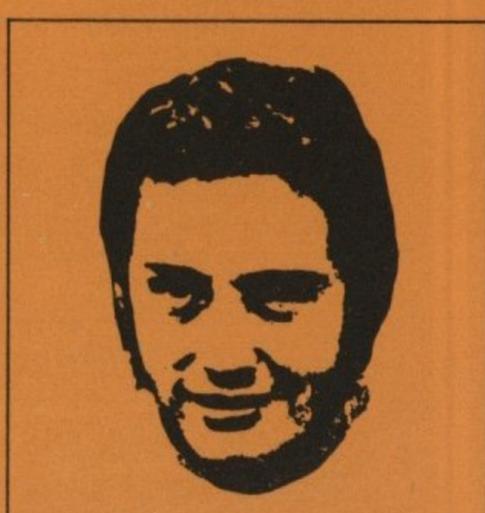
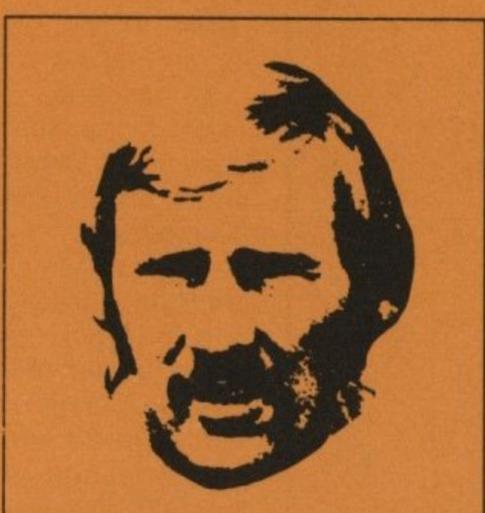
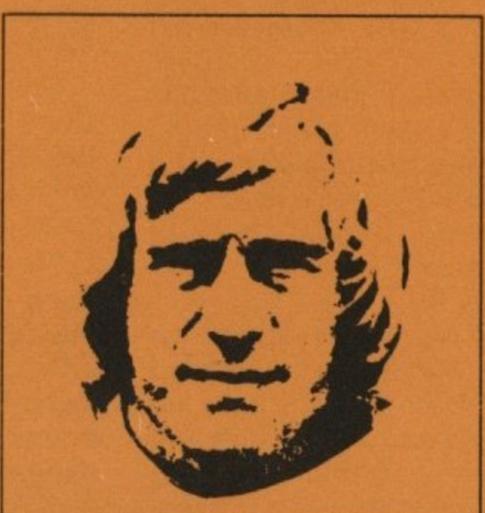
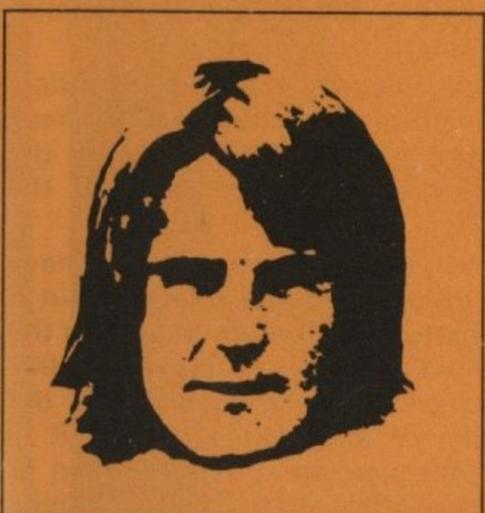
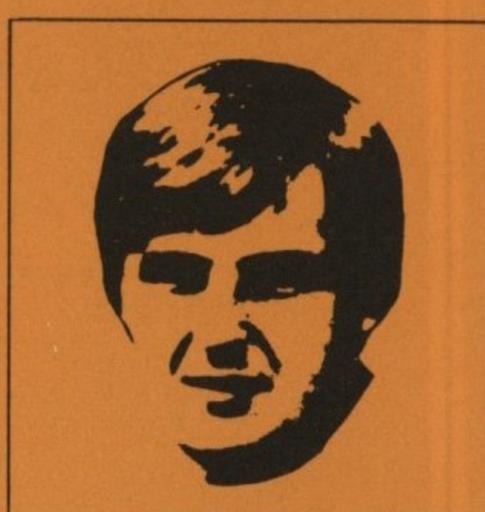
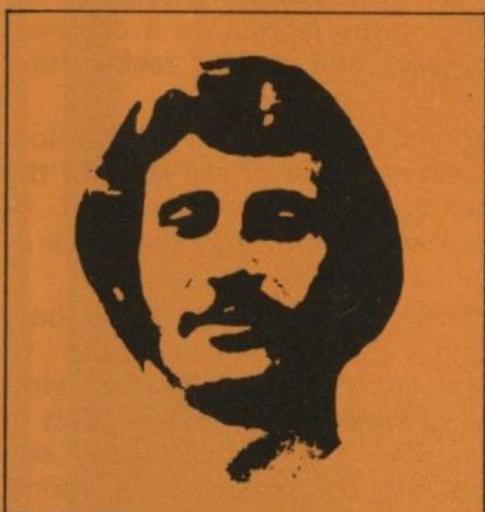
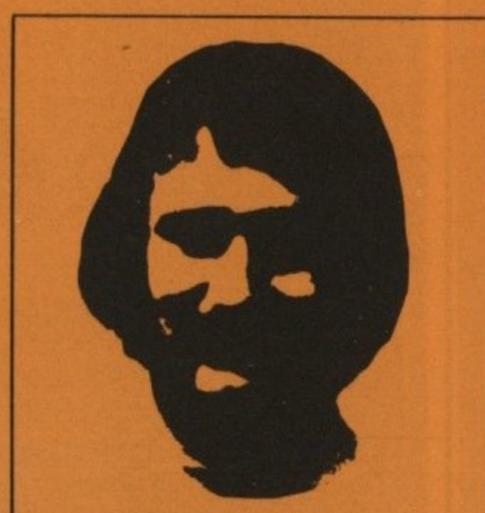
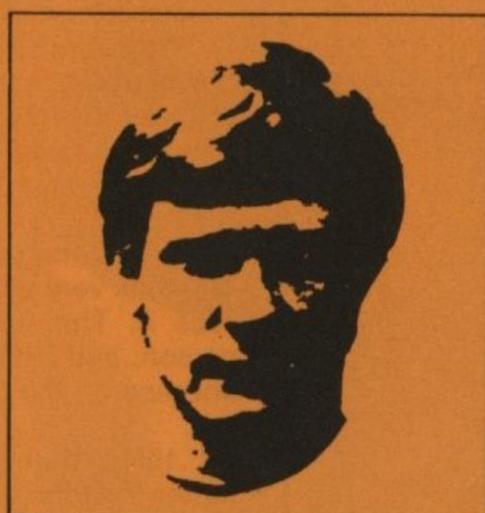
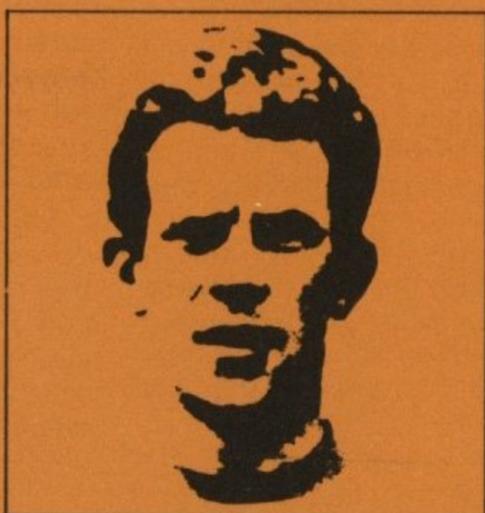
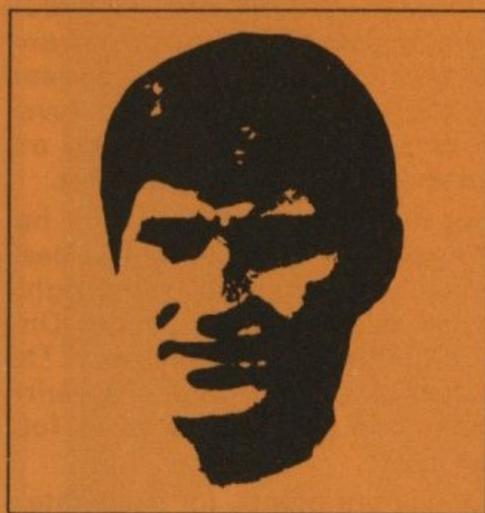


LUTON TOWN



OXFORD UNITED WEDNESDAY 30th AUGUST 1972 10p INCLUDING 'LEAGUE FOOTBALL'

LUTON TOWN

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HARRY HASLAM

The new disciplinary code, introduced by the Football League this season, has caused a lot of people to do a lot of talking, but I see no need to fear it, and, in fact, welcome it as a move that is bringing all those in the game, referees and players, closer together.

Certainly, it is better than the 'get tough' policy last season when I think that referees, in the early stages, set out to warn players, and came in for criticism for being over-zealous. On the new system a player gets his warning when the first point under the new scheme is debited against him, and it is up to him then to take note of it.

I have a chart in my office which lists 22 points which can be penalised by referees. In my book, ten of these things such as spitting, time wasting by the goalkeeper, players not complying with the ten yards law, etc, are all things that the players have brought into the game themselves, and should be cut out.

On the more serious offences, as to how a player makes a tackle, it is all depending on the way the referee sees it. I have told our players to keep out of trouble as much as you can, which is the best way in the long run.

All this is part of the game, and it depends very much on the way the referee sees it. The referee is a very important person, and I think he is the most important man on the field. I do not envy him his job.

I think that this points system is far better than the way it went last year. Then, a star player, like George Best—and I have nothing against George, I use him just as a name—could get a better deal than one of our lads from the disciplinary committee. Now it is the same for everybody, because the referee sees an instance and judges it on the spot.

I think that as far as possible all clubs will keep out of trouble. The suggestion that certain clubs encourage their players to be dirty, I think, is untrue. No manager is going to instruct his team in this way. Certain players you have to put out of the game, and by that, I don't mean that you kick them. You have to go in hard on occasions, and different players have different ways of dealing with this. Here again, it is the referee who decides what is fair and what is not.

It has been suggested that managers, who dictate the way a team plays, should take their share of the responsibility, and be fined as well, when their players are disciplined. I disagree. The players bring this upon themselves, and if they do wrong, then they should pay for it.

Too much time has been spent on arguing and talking about this point, and half of it is all part of the game. I have no axe to grind with referees, and I think we are endearing ourselves to them in trying to make this work. But a referee can have a bad game, and he obviously can't see

TALKING TO ERIC PUGH



everything that goes on. If he is not in distance, a player can spit at another, and in the heat of the moment the man can retaliate. He is the one that the referee sees. In these cases, the referee should be supported more by his linesmen.

People have got to realise that referees are not only responsible to themselves, they are responsible to their Referees Association. This new system is like running a new car. In the first few weeks you get all sorts of trouble, but after they are ironed out you run smoothly for years.

THE NEW CODE . . .

The new scheme, which has been tagged as 'instant justice' is based on penalty points which are awarded against players during a match. If any player totals 12 points during a season he will be given an automatic two-match suspension, and a sending off also counts as instant suspension.

This does not mean that the player has no right to appeal if he feels he has been treated unjustly. He has the same rights and his case will be heard by the Disciplinary Committee in the same way. The scheme details offences in order of severity, ranging from one point offences to four point offences.

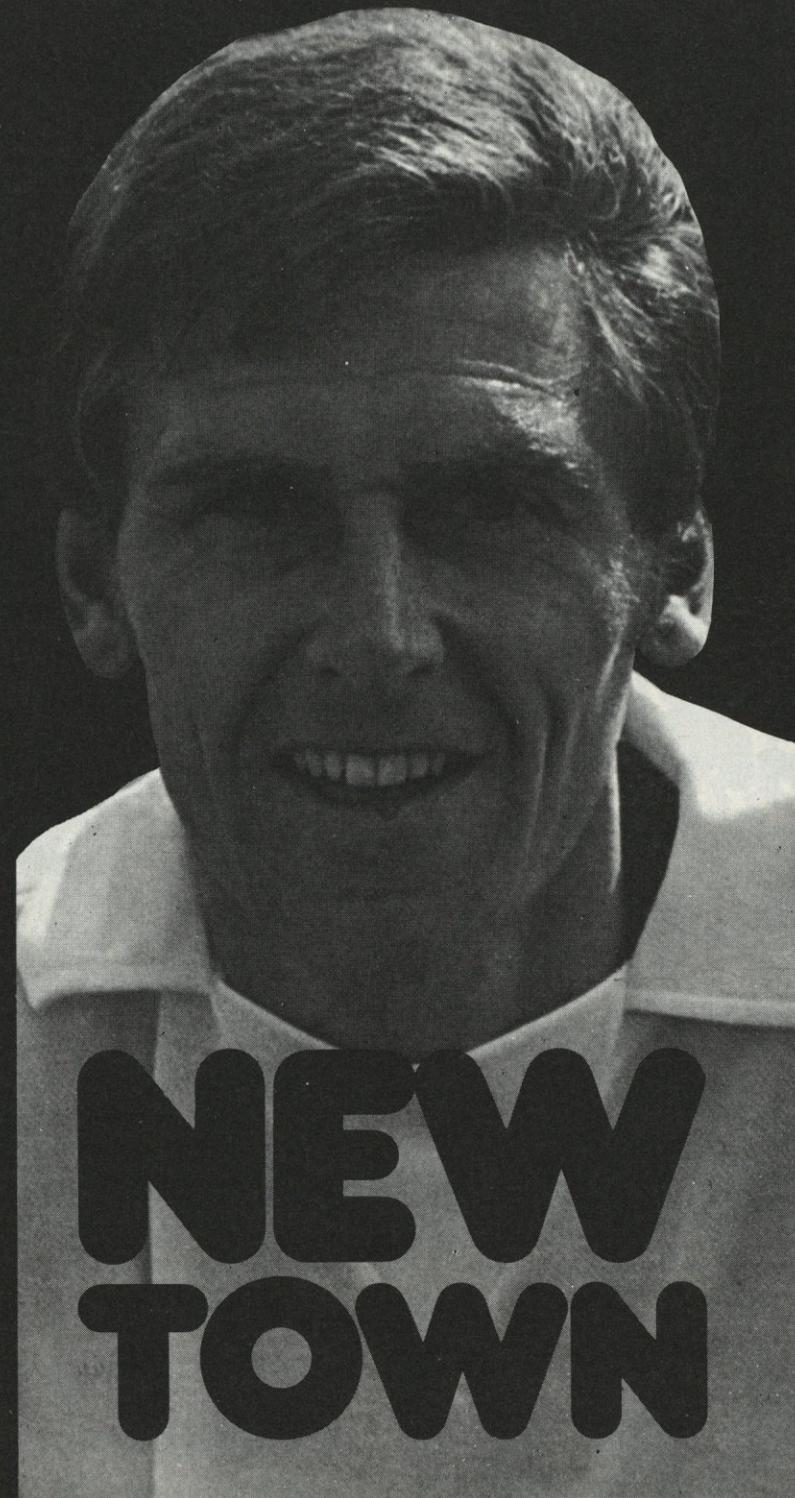
These read: Four points, for deliberately tripping an opponent, persisting in commenting to the referee on a decision, dangerous play and a foul tackle from behind.

Three points, for deliberate obstruction, persistent infringement of the laws of the game, pulling an opponent's shirt or shorts, encroachment within ten yards at the taking of a free kick.

Two points, for deliberate hand ball, time wasting, moving arms about to obstruct an opponent, goalkeeper lying on the ball to waste time, gesticulating in front of players taking free kicks, encroachment into the penalty area during a penalty kick, gesticulating in front of players taking a throw-in and ungentlemanly conduct.

One point, illegally marking the pitch, using a team-mate's shoulders to head the ball, and entering or re-entering the field of play without permission of the referee.

These are the instructions that have gone out to all clubs and referees. But it must be emphasised that the referee is the only man who judges a player in this instant fashion. Only he knows what the points value of an offence is, and it is dangerous for spectators or Press men to read their own interpretations into a 'booking' based on this guide.



BOBBY THOMSON

No particular defender is going to enjoy Luton's new invitation to attack better than Bobby Thomson, proud holder of eight full England caps, plus a full reel of other representative honours.

Bobby, who had over ten years at the top, primarily with Wolves, before a three-year campaign with Midland neighbours Birmingham City, is anxiously hoping to be among the goals for Luton this season.

'This term is a new and exciting challenge for me after the best part of three years or more in the wilderness at Birmingham. I only played 12 senior games in all the time I was at St. Andrews, so it will be a refreshing new start for me in a team that will have a spirit of adventure.'

Snap acceleration and the ability to create goal opportunities are the principal assets of this full back, whom manager Harry Haslam convinced he could enjoy a brighter future at Kenilworth Road than at Walsall.

After a two-month term on loan to Walsall—that spell was happier than any period with Birmingham—Thomson was all set to sign for Walsall, a club which was handy to the player's home in Wolverhampton.

Luton swooped 'out of the blue' to clinch free-transfer Thomson and if England's former full-back finds the groove which coined him a dazzling career with Wolves, it could prove one of the shrewdest pieces of close-season business.

Thomson's attacking flair will be fired by a determination to prove Freddie Goodwin was wrong in restricting him to reserve football at St. Andrews. 'When Goodwin arrived my ambitions were suppressed because he wanted a new method instilled in the side and I didn't fit into it.'

'Freddie Goodwin seemed to have little faith in me or my ability. Now Luton have given me the chance to prove myself, and that's my aim this season.'

TALKING ABOUT OXFORD



OXFORD IN ACTION AT BIRMINGHAM LAST SEASON

Nigel Cassidy and Dave Roberts challenge in the air with Birmingham's Roger Hynd. Colin Clarke looks on.

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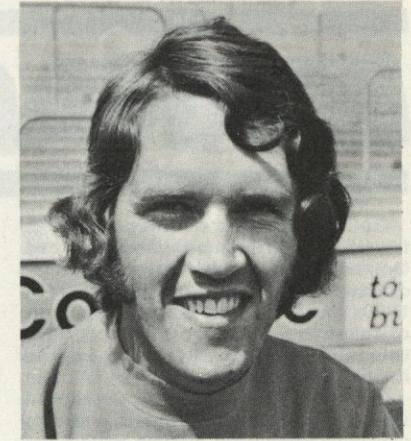
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DEREK CLARKE



COLIN CLARKE



DICK LUCAS

The new call for more goals in English soccer seems to have been answered by Oxford United, a club who have persistently been haunted by scoring problems in their four seasons in the Second Division.

Although they managed only 43 last term, it still ranked as their highest total in this section. But see the difference this time. After they had picked up a useful point from an away draw with Orient, they returned to The Manor and piled up eight goals in four days.

Derek Clarke, a man who knows all about goals from his brothers Allan (Leeds) and Frank (Ipswich), slammed two in a 4-0 League Cup victory over Peterborough United and then popped up with two more in a 4-0 trouncing of Middlesbrough.

The local *Sports Mail* hailed the Middlesbrough match like this: 'Oxford United produced some of the finest football of their Second Division career . . . Gerry Summers says he wants a striker, but his team have opened the season in such attacking form that he can ease off the search.'

This highly-promising start revives memory of Oxford's pacemaking two years ago when, for the first few months of the season, they were among the promotion hopefuls. They faded later, but finished comfortably off with 42 points in 14th place, their best so far in Division II.

Manager Summers has achieved quite a lot in his three years at Oxford. Taking control when Ron Saunders moved on to set up a promotion team for Norwich City, Mr Summers confessed to fears about the team's chances in his first season.

He needn't have worried unduly. Oxford have generally managed to hold on to a safe place, buying time for the day when they hope to aim for First Division heights with home-grown players. Mr Summers realises that youth is the one chance of Oxford making headway while defying the economics of playing before slender crowds.

A sizeable proportion of Oxford's income is placed aside for junior development and it was an ambitious move when they entered a team in the Midland Youth

League. This competition centres mainly on the Birmingham area clubs and, coupled with trips to places like Northampton, it becomes an expensive but no doubt worthwhile exercise.

'Unless we sell players for big fees—and who wants to do that?—we cannot

compete in the transfer market.' says Mr Summers. 'We must develop local players and build up our apprentice staff.'

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about Oxford is that they manage to make a profit without being involved in many outgoing transfers. Over the last four seasons, they have sold just half-a-dozen players, with just one large fee coming for goalkeeper Jim Barron, now of Nottingham Forest.

One outgoing deal has been in the wind for some time, however. Centre-half Colin Clarke, a much-admired defender, is on the list at his own request and a number of clubs, including some from the First Division, have been checking his potential.

Oxford do not want to part with Clarke, but any cash received—and it would need a big fee for them to sell—would be useful for manager Summers' team-building plans. Most of his spare cash has been aimed at strengthening the goal-shy forward line and it cost around £30,000 to buy in Scunthorpe United's Nigel Cassidy and Wolves' Derek Clarke.

Both players look good value. Cassidy was top scorer with 13 goals last season and Clarke is now a much more confident striker with youth on his side. Clearly, these two young men can make Oxford a more powerful force this season.

The side has always been hard to beat, and, with a sharper edge to the attack, they can be expected to aim for a place in the top half of the table for the first time. That, in itself, would be quite an achievement for a club that left the Southern League only ten years ago.

Remember that they came into the League with less spectacular claims than Peterborough United, but, whereas 'Posh' have dropped back to the Fourth Division—albeit in unfortunate circumstances—Oxford have maintained a steady level of progress.

The club have only one big wish—that the people of Oxford would take more notice of their efforts. 'They had better wake up to the fact that we have Second Division football in the City,' says Mr Summers. 'Or it will soon be gone.' We doubt that, but can sympathise with Oxford's frustration.

LUTON v OXFORD

A summary of the past League meetings:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Home	2	1	0	1	5	2	2
Away	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Total	4	1	1	2	7	5	3

Best win: 4-0, at home in 1970-71.

Worst defeat: 2-1, away in 1970-71 and at home in 1971-72.

OXFORD UNITED F.C.

Founded in 1896 as Headington United. Elected to League Division Four in 1962. Ground: The Manor, Beech Road, Headington, Oxford. Record attendance: 22,730 against Preston North End (F.A. Cup), February 1964. Division Three Champions, 1967-68. Promoted from Division Four in 1964-65.

Record in the last ten seasons . . .

	Div	Posn	W	Pts
1971-72	2	15th	12	38
1970-71	2	14th	14	42
1969-70	2	15th	12	39
1968-69	2	20th	12	33
1967-68	3	1st	22	57
1966-67	3	15th	15	43
1965-66	3	14th	19	46
1964-65	4	4th	23	61
1963-64	4	18th	14	41
1962-63	4	18th	13	41

MANAGER CAPTAIN

Gerry Summers, now starting his fourth season as manager of Oxford United, can look back with a feeling of satisfaction. When he took over in 1969, the club was breathing a sigh of relief at their narrow escape from relegation in their first-ever season in the Second Division.

Gerry admitted: 'I was a bit worried when I first went to Oxford. I was also concerned about the attitude around the club, for most people seemed to think we would struggle from the start.'

He made no attempt to disguise the fact that his first ambition was merely to aim for survival, tightening up the defence with an extra midfield man and aiming to 'pinch' away points. The plan worked and Oxford have since retained their Division Two status with much more comfort than in that first tricky year.

But hopes of improving towards the First Division have been severely restricted by poor support. 'It seems that professional football is a dirty word in this city,' claims Gerry. It is very depressing and the players here probably have more problems about producing good performances than at any other Second Division club. The atmosphere is more suited to cricket.'

Certainly, Oxford's gates—mainly in the 8,000 region—are a far cry from Gerry's days as a First Division player. Born in Birmingham (he went to the same school as Coventry City secretary Eddie Plumley), Gerry started out with West Bromwich Albion and later enjoyed considerable success with Sheffield United. His playing days ended back in the Midlands with Walsall, where he first made the move towards coaching.

His big break came when neighbouring Wolves appointed him as coach to Ronnie Allen. The young partnership had the job of lifting Wolves back to their old glory and they achieved a lot in laying the foundation for the current success at Molineux.



JOHN SHUKER CAPTAIN

Oxford United skipper John Shuker is currently enjoying the most settled spell of his career. After playing in eight positions, he has now slotted in at left-back for three years and accepted the captaincy last season when long-serving Ron Atkinson went to Kettering.

John says he prefers full-back or midfield, yet only a few years ago he was pressed into service as a striker and promptly became the club's top scorer!

His career at Oxford began in their Southern League days, joining them as an amateur in 1960, then switching to part-time professional in 1961, and finally accepting fully paid terms at Christmas that year.

Oxford have certainly had every reason to be delighted with a scout who spotted John playing amateur football in Mansfield. Reports were filed back to The Manor and then John was invited down for a trial. He was soon signed on and, in those early days, combined soccer with a job as a decorator.

Oxford's election to the Football League in 1962-63 gave John a chance he had always dreamed of, but it was another three years before he won a regular first-team place. One of the few games he played in that period still stays in his memory as 'the best of my career.'

It was against Blackburn Rovers, then a high-ranking First Division club, in the Fifth Round of the F.A. Cup. Oxford won and became the first Division Four team to reach the quarter-final, where they lost only narrowly to eventual finalists Preston.

After that highspot, it was back to the reserves and John admits that he became dejected and thought about trying for another club. However, he stuck it out and his determination paid off as he helped Oxford through to the Second Division. 'I found the gap between the Third and Second quite large', he says. 'The pace is so much quicker.' But not many wingers get much change out of this defender.

POINTS ON PLAYERS

MICK KEARNS, goalkeeper. Born in Banbury and joined United's staff as an apprentice. Standing at well over 6 ft tall, he made rapid progress to reach the League side towards the end of 1969-70 and was an ever-present in his first full season the following year. Qualified to play for the Republic of Ireland and joined their international squad in 1970. Lost his place in the latter part of 1971-72.

ROY BURTON, goalkeeper. Born in Wantage. Oxford became his first League club in 1970 and he developed steadily to take over the first-team spot for 20 games last season.

DICK LUCAS, defender. Born Witney. Has been with Oxford, his only League club, for five years and has now made around 150 appearances. He was so consistent that he missed only two games in the 1969-70 and 1970-71 seasons. Again a regular last term.

JOHN SHUKER, defender. Born Mansfield. Another highly-consistent player who is one of Oxford's longest-serving professionals. Joined them in 1960 and, after playing in many positions—he was top scorer three years ago—has now settled down at left-back. Missed only two games in the last three seasons.

COLIN CLARKE, defender. Born at Penilee. Released by Arsenal in 1965 and Oxford stepped in quickly to make one of their best-ever signings. The 6 ft tall centre-half has missed very few games since entering the League side and he is rated among the best number five's in the Second Division by manager Gerry Summers.

RODNEY SMITHSON, defender. Born Leicester. Another former Arsenal reserve who found a League chance on joining Oxford in 1964. He was an ever-present in 1969-70, but lost a regular berth last season.

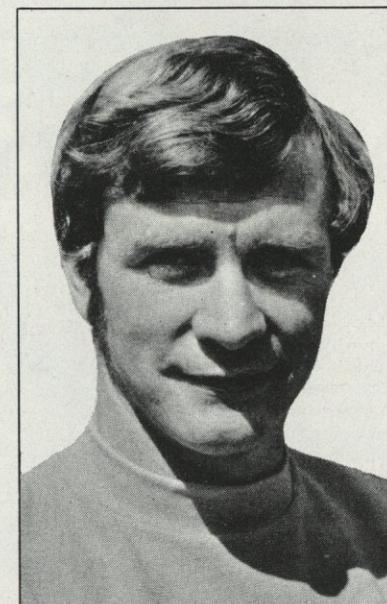
DAVE ROBERTS, defender. Born at Hemel Hempstead. Although he managed only one game in Fulham's Third Division promotion side, this determined defender achieved much more opportunity on stepping up a division when signing for Oxford early in 1971. He went straight into the first-team and gave reliable service last term.

GRAHAM ATKINSON, midfield. Born in Liverpool. Brother of former club skipper Ron Atkinson and followed Ron from Aston Villa to Oxford in 1960. Graham was an apprentice with Villa, but was soon in the Oxford team and helped them through from their days in the Southern League. In 12 years with Oxford, he has made almost 300 League appearances.

JOHN EVANSON, midfield. Born in Newcastle. A shrewd signing from Towcester in 1965 who has matured into a talented half-back. Has been watched by many of the big clubs.



DAVE ROBERTS



GRAHAM ATKINSON

STEVE AYLOTT, midfield. Born Ilford. A product of the West Ham youth scheme who was delighted to accept an introduction to League football with Oxford. Signed for them in 1971 and burst into the first-team early last season.

BRIAN THOMPSON, midfield. Born Brierley Hill. Manager Gerry Summers first

got to know Brian when he was a coach with Wolves. When the Molineux club gave Brian a free transfer, Oxford stepped in with an offer and he has since had just over 50 senior games in three seasons.

MICKY WAY, midfield. Born Salisbury. A young prospect who signed professional for Oxford in 1969 and managed several promising appearances before breaking a leg last season. Is recovering well and hopes to be playing again shortly.

DAVID SLOAN, forward. Born Lisburn, Northern Ireland. Talented winger with good finishing ability. First played in England with Scunthorpe United, running up 133 League appearances before transferring to Oxford in 1963. Won an Irish Under-23 cap soon after joining his new club and later became Oxford's first-ever full international when playing against Israel. Has now topped 150 appearances for Oxford.

ROY CLAYTON, forward. Born Dudley. Former manager Arthur Turner's knowledge of West Midlands football brought Oxford a highly-useful signing, Roy arrived from Midland League club Warley in 1969. A promising marksman who has hit a number of goals in the League side.

KEN SKEEN, forward. Born Cheltenham. A non-stop worker who also has a sharp eye for goals. First played for Trowbridge and got his League chance when impressing Swindon officials in a representative game on their ground. Had limited opportunity at Swindon, but became a regular when signed by Oxford in 1967.

NIGEL CASSIDY, forward. Born in Sudbury. A fervent Norwich City supporter who was delighted when the Canaries gained promotion last season. His father had played for Norwich and Nigel also joined the Carrow Road club after scoring 70 goals in a season for Lowestoft. But he had only three League outings for Norwich and later followed former Norwich manager Ron Ashman to Scunthorpe. He proved a good marksman, scoring 36 goals in 88 matches for Scunthorpe, who received a £20,000 fee from Oxford in 1970. Nigel has been well worth the outlay and was Oxford's top League scorer with 13 goals last season.

DEREK CLARKE, forward. Born in Willenhall. The younger of the Clarke footballing family, he started his career with Walsall, where his 'middle' brother, Allan, began his progress towards fame with Leeds United. Elder brother Frank has also been a goal-scoring success with three League clubs and, on this season's early evidence, Derek is set to make a big name, too. He scored twice in the 4-0 victory over Middlesbrough. On leaving Walsall, Derek went to Wolves for a five-figure fee and then joined Oxford for another sizeable cheque in 1971.

MAN ON THE SPOT

ROGER DUCKWORTH'S VERDICT



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MAN ABOUT TOWN



The new attacking policy adopted by Harry Haslam has given the whole team a new licence to look for goals. One of the first players to feel the benefit of the outlook is Peter Anderson, last season's striker, now featuring in a midfield number four role.

It was more by accident than design, however, that goal-hunting Peter began the season in a position, until now, basically strange to him. 'During our pre-season tour of Turkey, I dropped back from centre-forward when Rodney Fern took a knock against one of the amateur sides.

'Immediately, goals started to flow and it convinced the manager that this would be the way I would start the season. When I conceded the penalty in the opening match at Cardiff to gift them an equaliser, I began to have second thoughts, especially when they knocked us sick with their late winner.'

But Peter remedied the situation by logging the only goal against Preston for the first win of the season. 'I thought we should have paralysed them. The two teams were a class apart. If a couple of the lads had had more confidence in their own ability to score, the goals would have tumbled in.'

The former Hendon winger who joined Kenilworth Road only 18 months ago, has earned glowing reports from his first two games and the scouts of leading clubs are beginning to take notice of the Anderson talents.

We asked Peter if he had set himself a new target from his new position. 'No, I don't ever think of end-of-the-season totals because I have never really had any trouble in getting goals throughout a term. I'll admit they dried up somewhat last year after I had put ten in the back of the net by Christmas. But that could be attributed to a lot of things.

'However, I shall be a little disappointed, in view of the fresh approach now being adopted by the squad, if I don't touch 15 this season. I say this because I reckon I shall get more opportunities by playing deeper. Already I have noticed how much easier

it is without being picked up every time you go for a pass.'

Peter pays tribute to a team-mate whom he thinks is unlikely to get the credit he deserves. 'Few fans appreciate how much Viv Busby has to soak up. He is working hard all the time to create the chances for someone else.

'Viv was pulled off against Preston. But, in the dressing room afterwards, it was obvious that he had burnt himself out to help us get our vital first win.'

Peter's early-season form has now rocketed him up into the £80,000 bracket. It's a rating that is sure to go on increasing if the goals continue to flow and with everyone seeking to achieve the same end result in the Luton side—Keith Barber possibly excepted—rival defences are likely to be rather too busy to make a point of stopping Peter's progress.

(Opening end of February 1973)



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ROUND ABOUT

Preston North End were placed in desperate trouble by the loss of **Alan Lamb** (broken leg), **Hugh McIlmoyle** (fractured toe) and **Alan Spavin** (ankle operation). The injuries piled on top of worries created by opening League defeats against Aston Villa and The

Hatters—plus a shattering League Cup exit at Workington.

Manager **Alan Ball Snr**, confessed that no money was available for replacement signings and set off in search of players on loan. He was turned down when he tried for **Billy Rafferty** (Coventry), **Barry Butlin** (Derby) and **Frank Clarke** (Ipswich), but was eventually second time lucky with Derby manager **Brian Clough**.

The Rams agreed that Preston could borrow 21-year-old centre-forward **Roger Davies**, who, 18 months ago, played in Midlands amateur football with Bridgnorth Town. Then he moved to Worcester City—and Derby created some-

thing of a sensation by buying him for a non-League record fee of £15,000.

Huddersfield Town, next Saturday's visitors to Kenilworth Road, have also had injury problems, especially in the goal-keeping spot. After selling **David Lawson** to Everton for £80,000, they expected to start the season with former Cheshire League player **Gary Pierce** in the position. However, he was injured in practice, and former first-choice **Terry Poole**, who broke a leg in January, 1971, is still not fit for League action.

So they had to call in 17-year-old **Chris Wood**, who made his debut in a 1-0 victory over Blackpool.

STATISTICS...

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO—FINAL TABLE 1971-72

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Team	Home Gates		Leading Scorers
								Best	Average	
4	3	0	1	11	7	6	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	23,109	21,367	Joicey 4, Sunley 3, Craig 2
3	2	1	0	5	1	5	PORTSMOUTH	14,067	14,067	Lewis 3, Reynolds 2
3	2	0	1	8	4	4	BLACKPOOL	10,984	10,984	Dyson 2, Hutchison 2, Lennard 2
3	1	2	0	6	3	4	CARLISLE UNITED	7,747	7,747	Balderstone 2, Owen 2
3	1	2	0	2	1	4	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	13,175	10,383	Lyall 1, O'Neill 1
3	1	2	0	7	4	4	BURNLEY	14,804	12,304	James 2
3	2	0	1	3	2	4	LUTON TOWN	11,507	11,507	Anderson 1, Aston 1, Busby 1
3	1	2	0	7	5	4	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	12,977	12,977	Leach 2, O'Rourke 2
3	2	0	1	4	4	4	ASTON VILLA	34,843	34,843	Graydon 2, Vowden 2
3	1	1	1	6	3	3	OXFORD UNITED	8,428	8,428	Clarke D 4, Skeen 2
3	1	1	1	4	4	3	MILLWALL	13,207	12,818	Smethurst 2
3	1	1	1	4	4	3	SUNDERLAND	12,658	12,658	Lathan 3
3	1	1	1	2	3	3	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	12,840	11,161	Smith D 1, Krzywicki 1
4	1	1	2	5	8	3	SWINDON TOWN	15,304	14,737	Peplow 3
3	1	1	1	3	5	3	FULHAM	10,285	10,285	Went 2
3	0	2	1	4	5	2	BRISTOL CITY	15,648	15,648	Stiring 2
3	1	0	2	4	6	2	CARDIFF CITY	16,364	14,382	Bell 3, Showers 2
3	0	2	1	5	9	2	BRIGHTON & HOVE A.	16,839	16,372	Irvine 5
3	1	0	2	3	7	2	MIDDLESBROUGH	24,145	17,777	Smith 2
3	0	1	2	2	6	1	HULL CITY	11,189	11,189	Pearson 2
3	0	1	2	1	3	1	ORIENT	7,249	6,871	Bowyer 2
3	0	1	2	1	3	1	PRESTON NORTH END	17,371	13,306	Young 1

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO 72-73

Date	Opponents	Att	F A
Aug 12	Cardiff City	16,364	1 2
19	Preston North End	11,507	1 0
26	Orient	6,494	1 0
30	Oxford United		
Sept 2	Huddersfield Town		
5	Birmingham City (L.C.2)		
9	Nottingham Forest		
16	Brighton & Hove Albion		
20	Portsmouth		
23	Sheffield Wednesday		
26	Swindon Town		
30	Burnley		
Oct 4	League Cup—3		
7	Blackpool		
14	Sunderland		
21	Hull City		
28	Bristol City		
Nov 1	League Cup—4		
4	Swindon Town		
11	Portsmouth		
18	Aston Villa (F.A.C.1)		
22	League Cup—5		
25	Carlisle United		
Dec 2	Fulham		
6	League Cup—S.F.		
9	Q.P.R. (F.A.C.2)		
16	Millwall		
20	League Cup—S.F.		
23	Middlesbrough		
26	Sheffield Wednesday		
30	Preston North End		
Jan 6	Orient		
13	F.A. Cup—3		
20	Huddersfield Town		
27	Nottingham Forest		
Feb 3	F.A. Cup—4		
10	Brighton & Hove Albion		
17	Cardiff City (L.C. Final)		
24	Millwall (F.A. Cup—5)		
Mar 3	Blackpool		
10	Sunderland		
17	Hull City (F.A. Cup—6)		
24	Bristol City		
31	Carlisle United		
Apr 7	Fulham (F.A. Cup—S.F.)		
14	Queen's Park Rangers		
21	Aston Villa		
23	Middlesbrough		
24	Burnley		
28	Oxford United		
May 5	F.A. Cup—Final		

MID-WEEK FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIXTURES—SEASON 1972-73

Date	Opponent	F A	Date	Opponent	F A
Aug 23	Gillingham	7 0	Dec 5	Northampton Town	
30	Brighton & Hove A		13	Colchester United	
Sept 6	Cambridge United		Jan 3	Millwall	
27	Cambridge United		10	Brighton & Hove	
11	Millwall		17	Orient	
18	Watford		24	Southend United	
25	Watford		31	Charlton Athletic	
Nov 1	Gillingham		Feb 7	Watford L.C.	
8	Northampton T.		14	Watford L.C.	
15	Southend United		28	Northampton L.C.	
21	Charlton Athletic		Mar 6	Northampton L.C.	
29	Colchester United		14	Orient	

BACKTRACK

MATCH GROUND LUTON TOWN v PRESTON NORTH END
KENILWORTH ROAD, LUTON
DATE SATURDAY, 19th AUGUST, 1972
ATTENDANCE 11,507
COMPETITION FOOTBALL LEAGUE, DIVISION TWO
TEAMS LUTON: Barber; John Ryan, Thomson; Anderson, Faulkner, Garner; Jimmy Ryan, Fern, Busby, Halom, Aston. Substitute: Slough.
PRESTON: Kelly; McMahon, McNab; Bird, Hawkins, Connor, Heppollette, Wilson, Tarbuck, Young, Clark. Substitute: Spark.

SCORER Anderson (35 minutes)
RESULT LUTON TOWN 1, PRESTON NORTH END 0
PAPER TALK

The *Daily Mirror* reporter commented: 'Luton's aim to be apostles of brighter football cannot be judged a failure. Bad luck deprived them of at least three goals in a game in which they were always on top, without being dominant.'

The *Sun*: 'Luton brilliantly responded to manager Harry Haslam's promise to attack and suggested the fans are in for something good this season.'

Norman Shakeshaft, *Lancs Evening Post*: 'Luton were too good for Preston and fully deserved their victory. The winning goal came after 35 minutes when Peter Anderson scored with a header from a John Ryan free kick. But they made several other chances and were foiled by a clearance from the line and some fine saves by Preston goalkeeper Alan Kelly.'

FORTHCOMING MATCHES...
FOOTBALL LEAGUE, DIVISION TWO
SATURDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER, 1972
LUTON TOWN v HUDDERSFIELD TOWN
KICK-OFF: 3-00 pm

MID-WEEK LEAGUE
WEDNESDAY, 6th SEPTEMBER, 1972
LUTON TOWN RESERVES v CAMBRIDGE UNITED RESERVES
KICK-OFF: 7-30 pm

MEMORY MAN

Gordon Turner, Luton Town's 'G.T.' striker of the 1950's, flew off to Ibiza last week, a luxury holiday which he credits to a successful 15 years in football when his accuracy and consistent ability to hit the target made him one of soccer's hottest properties.

Before he embarked on his 1,000-mile jet trip, hot-shot Turner of yesteryear, reflected on his good life which the sport had moulded for him. 'They get fabulous wages today compared with the pay-packets I used to handle. But they need every pound to pay off the pressures which are equally higher.'

'The game is different as well as the wages. But no one has come out of football more satisfied with its rewards than me. It has given me opportunity, bought me a Sports business in the town, and I have a nice detached chalet bungalow to share with my family.'

No one can disagree that Gordon has got it made for himself, a blissful existence in a community where the fans used to salute his blistering shots. But, as Gordon explains, it wasn't always so peaceful at Luton.

One of the biggest and most controversial storms ever to erupt at Kenilworth Road blew up when 'Mr Goals'—his career record figures cover over 400 senior games in which he found the net 320 times—was dropped for Luton's most important game since League soccer began after the war... the 1959 Cup Final.

For six years, Turner had been topping the goal-charts for the club, rattling them past First Division defences with the utmost contempt for reputations right from the time Luton were promoted with Birmingham City in the mid-1950's.

Yet Turner, because of an internal disagreement, took his place on the trainer's bench at Wembley. 'It was the first time in my life that I remember being dropped. It was a bombshell. Dally Duncan, who was manager when I had signed for the club in 1950, said in the press it was



GORDON TURNER

suicide for Luton to go into the final without Turner.

'At one time, I thought I would have more chance of playing for the opposition, Nottingham Forest, because Billy Walker had been round to see if he could sign me in time to play. But Luton wouldn't let me go.'

'I was unhappy then, to say the least, but I was never bitter. I look back on it as just another episode in a life that was very kind to me. It keeps coming home to me everytime I think of the survey which some organisation carried out into the average span of a soccer players life at the top in 1958.'

'It emerged as only two years—and I had 15! Whether it has altered since I don't know. But I will always be grateful to the game.'

National Service was principally responsible for Doncaster-born

Gordon settling in Luton. 'I was in the Navy and crackers on football. Lucky for me that two of my Chief Petty Officers lived in Luton and they put the word in. It then emerged that Town manager Dally Duncan had played in the same Hull City side with my father and, at 19 years of age, I became a professional with the club.'

Gordon Turner had to wait two more seasons before breaking into the senior side... as right-half. 'I had two games that term and I will always remember them. The first time I marked or tried to, Coventry's Ken Chisholm and the second time I came face to face with Don Revie.'

The following season brought the move which unlocked the door on Gordon Turner's goal talents. Manager Duncan introduced his wing-half to the attack at inside-right... and 'The Tiger' was loose!

The goals arrived thick and fast for Luton's new marksman and it was a role he dominated right through to the end of his Kenilworth Road career in 1965. Coincidence brought Gordon Turner four goals against Sunderland, 'twice' in the second half of both games, and he logged all four in a 4-1 beating of Stoke City.

But Gordon gunned in a tribute, here, for his main provider, Jessie Pye, the former Wolves and England player. 'Pye seemed to be telepathic. He could read my next move almost before I could. I have played with them all, Finney, Lofthouse, etc, but he was the finest. I will never be out of Jessie's debt.'

Gordon had so much respect for Jessie Pye that he signed for his club, Wisbech, to leave Luton in 1965. From there he moved on to Kettering and then retired after scoring 37 goals in his last season.

Gordon Turner, a player with the 'golden touch,' is now looking forward to the day when either or both of his sons, Stephen and Michael, get to the point where they are able to enjoy their football as much as their father did.



TOWN IN ACTION

The home League programme got off to a satisfactory start with the 1-0 win against Preston North End and, although the hoped-for goals did not materialise at once, we think you'll agree that the new Town style is attractive to watch. Our pictures (by courtesy of the *Evening Post*) show Viv Busby launching a series of determined attacks on the Preston goal. Viv was particularly unfortunate with one attempt which hit a post.

TOWN TALK

Programme

As you are now aware, your official Luton Town programme costs 10p this season and, as we promised in the first edition, we want to explain the facts behind our decision to make the increase.

Basically, it is to balance costs and quality. We improved the magazine last season, but still felt that we had not quite reached the standard which should be associated with an ambitious club.

We saw no reason why The Hatters should not have a programme to be proud of—and one to match those now being published by the big First Division clubs.

BUT A TOP-CLASS PRODUCT IS AN EXPENSIVE ITEM.

Clubs like Everton, and those in the Midlands who pioneered the idea of informative magazines rather than glorified advertising sheets, can afford to sell at 7p or 8p because their large attendances give an adequate circulation.

This, unfortunately, is not the case at Luton, where gates are generally in the 11,000 region . . . but it still costs us as much to set up a glossy programme as it does for well-supported clubs.

Nearly half of our costs go in setting-up charges—i.e. writing and photographic expenses, type-setting and design. Frankly, it is impossible to carry this burden unless we sell at the new price.

Other clubs, in fact, came to this decision last season when both Hull City and Bournemouth sold their programmes at 10p.

They, too, realised that this is the only way to give a modern club image via the magazine. Like ourselves, they only wish they could achieve their ideals at a lower selling price—and make the profit returned by some top clubs.

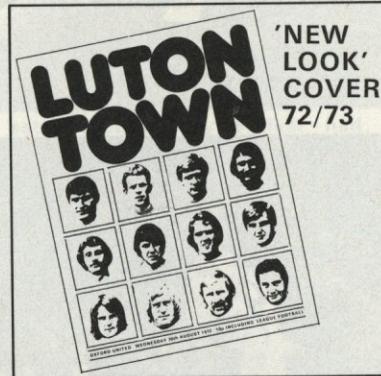
For instance, Aston Villa, while still in the Third Division last season, made around £17,000 from their programme. Everton, in their worst playing season for over a decade, returned a surplus of much the same amount.

But profit is not our aim in putting up the price. Quality is our concern and we are pleased to say that a lot of supporters told us how much they enjoyed the first issue at the Preston match.

For any fans still in doubt, may we suggest that, if possible, you turn back to the club programmes of five or six years ago? The Luton product included an enormous amount of advertising, the space for articles was limited and few pictures were used.

Yet that programme used to sell at 5p. If you consider today's improved style and the cost-of-living increases in recent years, you will perhaps understand that the new price is not unrealistic.

Also, in order to make the programme better and something that every Luton fan wants, we are to issue all club views, statements and policy in the magazine. So you will keep up to date and, we hope, entertained by the programme.



Travel

NOTTINGHAM FOREST v LUTON

Saturday 9th September, 1972

Depart: Luton 11-55 am
Bedford 12-15 pm

Arrive: Nottingham 13-39 pm

Depart: Nottingham 17-28 pm
Bedford 18-55 pm

Arrive: Luton 19-25 pm

Fare: £1.35

Tickets available from the Ticket Office, 70-72 Kenilworth Road.

Mascot

Today's mascot for The Hatters is Master A. Davey. Anyone wishing to be a mascot should contact the club Secretary, Luton Town F.C., 70-72 Kenilworth Road, Luton. The age limit is up to 12 years.

Pools

YOU COULD BE A BIG WINNER THIS SEASON ON THE NEW HATTERS BINGO-TREBLE CHANCE WEEKLY COMPETITION.

Please do not be put off by thinking that your own effort would be too small—EVERY LITTLE HELPS—and whether you sell 10 or 1,000 tickets each week—be assured—your efforts will be most gratefully appreciated.

Contact: Mike Skinner, Promotion Office, 231 Dunstable Road. Telephone: Luton 30748.

SCORES

List One

Leeds v Southampton
Leicester v Liverpool
Manchester Utd v Chelsea
Newcastle v Tottenham
Norwich v Stoke
WB Albion v B'ham City
Cardiff v Millwall
Portsmouth v Huddersfield
Chester v Colchester
Crewe v Hereford
Reading v Torquay
Southport v Bradford City

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Come Dancing . . .



at the HATTERS CLUB

to the

Big Band Sound

of the

Barry Austin Orchestra

FRIDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 1972

* TICKETS 50p

Available from the Hatters Club only

* Bar extension until midnight



“ROOM WITH ZOOM...”



...The best Vauxhall since the war," says the Daily Mirror.

And you can take their word for it! Come and test drive the Transcontinental of your choice at your local Vauxhall dealer.

TOWN TALK

