

LUTON TOWN



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Banks



Holme



Pearson

LUTON TOWN

FOOTBALL AND
ATHLETIC CLUB
LIMITED

KENILWORTH ROAD, LUTON,
BEDFORDSHIRE, LU1 1DH
Telephone: 0582-23151

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HARRY HASLAM



We are not alone at Luton in searching for the key to falling gates. In our particular case, a stranger to soccer might feel that we have less cause to worry than the majority, because our attendances have marginally increased to correspond with the favourable results which the team has fought so magnificently to gain.

But I would be the last person to accept that our improved figures through the turnstiles are a comfortable exception to the nationally disturbing trend. Our early totals at Kenilworth Road spelt it out to me and this club that Luton Town have a big task ahead to convince the local population that they can expect a fair entertainment deal this season. Fans have more reason to be fickle in these modern days of television and direct motorways to more fashionable clubs and big-game matches.

There are many side attractions in football which all help to contribute in their own way. But, basically, it is only the effort and success of the team on the field which can make the "offshoots" important and necessary for a club's continued welfare. There are a multitude of reasons why this season has found a luke-warm response from the fans. Soccer standards, expense, over exposure, hooliganism and the weather.

A personal problem at Kenilworth Road is that we have had to accept that the fans lost confidence after last season when, in spite of nine months effort, the team lost its identity. Whatever the more wider problems of winning back the fans, this was considered our priority at the start of the new term.

Fashioning a new character is a tremendously-difficult target which cannot be achieved overnight. But, now, we seem to be gradually fitting together the pieces of this jigsaw with results that speak for themselves. When we are free from concentrating on making sure we can build our new image, then the club can break off to turn its attention to other factors which are accounting for the space on Luton's terraces, as they are elsewhere.

Recently, Everton, who must be considered a top club and a good guide for the rest of us, carried out a survey into this current problem and received many reasons why attendances have declined. The increased prices over recent years, and not only confined to entering the ground but also the cost of getting there, came out as

one of the major setbacks for supporters. Their postbag replies touched on a real assortment of factors which even included lusty criticism of their own playing standards—is it possible they have been spoilt at Goodison?

But one single contributory item which I consider has had a very big bearing on the problem and which is not mentioned in Everton's report was the ... weather. I think this country's climate must be about the most everyday thing discussed at every social level than anything else. It affects everybody in both work and play and thousands each year are choosing to spend summer holidays where there is more guarantee of summer weather.

This year was pretty hopeless for the sun worshippers until it changed round to correspond with the start of the football season!

I have no figures whatsoever to strengthen these thoughts and ideas. But I do think that football fans could well have other hobbies and their week-end trips to carry them out could have taken a percentage toll on the reduced gates. Football is a winter game, and when summer is in the air, there are so many outside alternatives on a Saturday afternoon.

Many people live to traditions, and changing a clubs strip might be to some fans tantamount to providing a cup of tea in the morning of the Russian variety. But we at Luton are seriously thinking of putting new colour into our character—and it's not purely for the want of a change, and we hope our choice of orange and white will meet with yours.

In these days of super selling and advertising, with colour TV sets a growing luxury, Luton's black and white is not the easiest colour combination to operate with in order to do the club full justice in the commercial world. As far as I am concerned black and white still has a special distinction of its own, and this is what clubs try to preserve.

But it may now be time to consider whether or not its unsuitability for the needs of a League club who have more reason to experiment for their survival whether or not there are protests from the England and Luton loyalists. Whatever decisions we make, there is only one aim, and that is to make it a better club for us all to live in, supporters included.

Harry Haslam was talking to Norton Jones



TOWN IN ACTION

The Hatters continued their spell of positive away football by beating Sunderland 2-0 at Roker Park and so, with four wins and two defeats, Luton are the only Second Division side not to have drawn away from home this season.

Our pictures show Viv Busby putting the pressure on Sunderland's defence.



Hull City rang out a warning to the Second Division pace-setters when slamming five goals past Portsmouth last Saturday. And that means the revitalised Tigers have stacked up 13 goals while taking seven points out of the last eight.

Included in that most encouraging sequence was a thumping 4-1 victory over Q.P.R.—the Londoner's only defeat in 24 games—and also their first away point of the season from a 1-1 draw at Brighton. Indeed, they were only three minutes away from snatching victory down in Sussex and so today, they are seeking their first away win since last April. That, incidentally, was here at Kenilworth Road, when a single goal by Ken Knighton was worth both points.

On their day, Hull are undoubtedly one of the more attractive sides in the Division, especially at Boothferry Park, where they have dropped only one point in six League matches this season and scored 16 goals. If they can carry this mood into away matches then there is reason for optimism that they can climb up to join the promotion hopefuls.

In recent weeks, they have come up with a highly successful striking partnership between local youngster Stuart Pearson and Phil Holme, a strong front-runner who was amazingly granted a free transfer by Third Division Swansea City last summer.

After the long and prolific partnership between Chris Chilton and Ken Wagstaff, Hull customers were frustrated last term when the goals drained away. Chilton was sold to Coventry for £90,000 and Wagstaff had an unhappy term in which he needed a cartilage operation.

The departure of Chilton gave Pearson his big chance and he responded so well that he was Hull's top scorer with 15 League goals, as well as winning a place in the England Under-23 squad for one match.

Pearson was soon among the goals this season, but was temporarily set-back when sent off at Hillsborough after scoring twice against Sheffield Wednesday. The resulting suspension was associated with Hull's worst form of the season.

Holme, meanwhile, showed promise with a couple of early goals, but was then relegated to the substitute's bench while Pearson and Wagstaff linked together. Wagstaff, unfortunately, didn't deliver his normal form and Holme was sent on as substitute, scoring in three successive

TALKING ABOUT HULL CITY



games, including once in the unfortunate League Cup defeat against Norwich City.

With Wagstaff not quite 100 per cent fit, Holme won selection in the next game at Brighton and was on target. He was in again against Portsmouth last Saturday and came up with a goal for the fifth successive game—enough to get Hull fans talking about the bargain transfer of the season.

But the real delight of the Pompey match was a four-goal spectacular from Pearson, who completed a first-half hat-trick in only 18 minutes. So, in the last five League and Cup games, the Holme-Pearson duo has been responsible for ten of Hull's 14 goals.

Hull's revival really dates back from a depressing performance in a 1-0 defeat at Fulham on September 20th. The staff was brought together for a straight-talking session, the main outcome of which was that former West Bromwich Albion star John Kaye was promoted to skipper in place of Knighton.

Hull still slumped to their fifth consecutive away defeat in the following game at Middlesbrough, but things improved dramatically against Q.P.R. At first, it appeared that Rangers were going to "tear us apart" (in the words of manager Terry Neill), but Hull kept their heads and showed a great display of chance-taking.

The brighter news from Hull is based on the fact that they have been able to pick from a fully-fit squad for the first time this season. The recall of Ken Houghton, in midfield, and transfer-listed Ian Butler on the wing, also helped to give a better balance.

Another Hull success story this season has been the form of young goalkeeper Jeff Wealands, who was signed from Darlington towards the end of last season. He has won the first-team place from Ian McKechnie and improves with every match so much so that his first club, Wolves, may be regretting the day they let him go without giving him a League chance.

Certainly Hull's outlook is now set more fair than at any time since the 1970-71 season when they were involved in the promotion race until fading at Easter.

Back Row, Left to Right: Don Beardsley, Roy Greenwood, Phil Holme, Melvin Green, Ray Pettit, Middle Row: Ken Wagstaff, Ken Houghton, Ian McKechnie, Stuart Pearson, Jeff Wealands, Paul O'Riley, John Kaye, Terry Neill, (manager in tracksuit). Front row: Ian Butler, Frank Banks, Roger Devries, Ken Knighton, Billy Wilkinson, Jim McGill, Malcolm Lord.

HULL CITY HISTORY

Founded: 1904. Elected to League Division 2: 1905. Ground: Boothferry Park. Record Attendance: 55,019 v Manchester United (F.A. Cup) 1949. Division Three Champions: 1965-66. Division 3 (North) Champions, 1932-33, 1948-49. Division Three Runners-up, 1958-59. Best in Division Two: 3rd, 1909-10.

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HULL'S EIGHT YEAR RECORD . . .

Season	Div	Posn	W	P	Season	Div	Posn	W	P
1971-72	2	12th	14	38	1967-68	2	17th	12	37
1970-71	2	5th	19	51	1966-67	2	12th	16	39
1969-70	2	13th	15	41	1965-66	3	1st	31	69
1968-69	2	11th	13	42	1964-65	3	4th	23	58

LUTON v HULL CITY—Past League results:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.	Biggest win:
Home	10	4	2	4	15	16	10	4-0 (away) in 1954-55
Away	10	5	2	3	17	13	12	Worst defeat:
Total	20	9	4	7	32	29	22	0-3 (home) in 1949-50

MANAGER CAPTAIN

Terry Neill must have every claim to being the busiest man in British soccer... because he's got four jobs. And just to emphasise his crowded calendar, let us remind you that Terry's last soccer mission was only three days ago—and well over 1,000 miles from England.

As player-manager of the Northern Ireland team, he was in Sofia for the first World Cup qualifying match against Bulgaria. Then it was first available plane back to Britain to pick his other double-role as player-manager of Hull City.

Terry, who joined Hull in a £40,000 move from Arsenal just over two years ago, has been combining international and club management for a year. And he says: "I'm quite happy with the way things have turned out".

When he accepted the Ireland post last season, people thought he was overstretching his capabilities and others were quick to suggest that the strain was affecting his play. But he had a nice end-of-season answer for the critics... he scored Ireland's winning goal in their shock victory over England at Wembley.

Terry says he has no signs of an ulcer and sleeps soundly. "I wouldn't have accepted the four jobs if I had not thought it a perfectly reasonable arrangement," he adds. "The Irish F.A. seem happy, Hull seem pleased, and I am perfectly content."

Anyone who still believes that it is too much is shrugged off by the amiable Terry. "I just laugh at them", he says. "And, if the day ever comes when I am spending too much time away from the club, then I'll be the first to realise it."

However, he has been well covered at Boothferry Park. Tommy Docherty was there as assistant manager for the early part of last season and was then succeeded by Wilf Dixon, trainer-coach during many years of success at Everton.



TERRY NEILL—MANAGER



JOHN KAYE—CAPTAIN

John Kaye began last season as a First Division captain, then found himself in the West Bromwich Albion reserves, and was on his way to Hull City in a £20,000 deal by the end of November.

The move has been a great success for Yorkshire-born John and Hull recognised his inspirational qualities when he was appointed skipper in September in succession to the out-of-form Ken Knighton.

John's career has taken many twists and turns. He actually started with Hull City, but he never got as far as signing professional forms and moved to Goole Town. In those days, he showed promise as a goal-scorer and that was his role when he made the League grade with Scunthorpe United.

He was switched to centre forward in January 1962, when Scunthorpe sold Barry Thomas to Newcastle for £42,500 and, only 16 months later, he was worth slightly more than Thomas when signing for West Bromwich. At first, his form suffered because of persistent ankle trouble, but he really roared to the top in 1965-66.

John rapped home 23 goals to join the top rank of First Division strikers and made two appearances for the Football League which must have put him close to selection for the World Cup pool. In addition, he was honoured by nomination as Midland Footballer of the Year.

A cartilage operation in 1967 checked his scoring progress and, when he re-established in the Albion team, John took up a new role in midfield. Later, there was another switch into the back four and he became club captain when Albion sold Doug Fraser to Nottingham Forest in 1970-71.

He lost the captaincy to John Wile early last season and was happy to accept a new League opportunity with Hull, the club who could have had him for nothing more than ten years ago.

POINTS ON PLAYERS

IAN McKECHNIE, Goalkeeper

Born Bellshill, Glasgow. Joined Hull City in August 1966 after previous service with Arsenal and Southend United. Ian has now completed over five seasons in the Hull City side.

KEN WAGSTAFF Forward

A striker in every sense of the word. Ken has so far scored over 230 goals for the Tigers and a total of over 260 in his career. He signed for Hull City in November 1964, and in the eight seasons at Boothferry Park has played in over 280 League games. A danger to every defence he plays against. Toured Australia with an F.A. XI in 1971. Put out of action by a cartilage operation last season and has only just returned to the team.

IAN BUTLER Winger,

A very versatile and skilful player, a wing forward who has all the ability and know-how to probe open the defences. Makes some dazzling runs on the wing and lays on many chances for his colleagues, but also takes them himself when the opportunity arises. Joined Hull City from Rotherham United in January 1965.

KEN HOUGHTON, Forward

Schemer, general tactician and goal scorer. He can always be relied upon to cause the opposition some defensive trouble. Joined the Tigers shortly after his former team mate, Ian Butler, who was also with Rotherham United.

STUART PEARSON, Forward

Another local player who joined Hull City as an amateur in 1965 and has risen through the ranks to command a regular first team place as centre forward. Still only in his early twenties, Stuart is gaining a reputation as a goal-getter, being the highest scorer in 1971-72 with 15 goals.

JIMMY MCGILL, Midfield

Born in Glasgow in 1946, Jimmy made his League debut with Arsenal in 1967. Since then, he has played with Huddersfield Town and joined Hull City in October 1971. A player with a courageous spirit and no small amount of skill.

MEL GREEN, Centre half

A local boy who joined Hull City as a schoolboy, and has now been a full-time professional for over two years. A strong young centre half who has justified his choice when called upon for first team duty.

BILLY WILKINSON, Midfield

Went to the Tigers as an amateur and signed as a full-time professional ten years ago. A most industrious player, Billy packs tremendous stamina and ability into his game.



JIMMY MCGILL

DON BEARDSLEY, Defender

Born in Alyth, Scotland, and signed as a full-time professional for the Tigers in October 1964, after serving as an amateur and apprentice with the Club. A determined and strong defender.

MALCOLM LORD, Midfield

Born near Hull and signed professional in July 1965. Another local player who has risen through the ranks. Now a regular member of the first-team squad, and played 36 league games in the 1971-72 season.

KEN KNIGHTON, Midfield

Joined Hull City in March 1971, from

Blackburn Rovers, to whom Hull City paid a big cash fee. Ken can either play in the defence or in attack and is a very versatile and strong player. Began his career with Wolves and his value increased with further moves to Oldham and Preston.

ROGER DeVRIES, Full back

A local player who made his debut in the Hull City team in August 1970. His performance against Manchester United in a pre-season tournament ensured him of a regular place in the first XI which he has maintained. A young but mature player who was almost an ever-present in the first team last season.

FRANK BANKS, Full back—

Joined Hull City on a free transfer from Southend in September 1966. Since then, he has improved to the extent that he is now one of the best defenders in Division II. His runs down the wing have resulted in goals for himself and others on many occasions.

STUART BLAMPEY, Midfield

Signed as a full-time professional in July, 1968, after amateur service with the Tigers. He has played for the first team on a number of occasions.

ROY GREENWOOD, Forward

Born in Leeds and signed as professional two years ago after service as an apprentice professional. A centre forward who has shown goal-scoring potential.

PAUL O'RILEY, Forward

Born in Liverpool in 1950 and signed for Hull City as an apprentice in 1966. He has been a full-time professional for four years and has played a number of games in the first team.

RAY PETTIT, Midfield

Another local lad who joined Hull as apprentice professional in 1963. Signed as professional in December 1964, and commanded a regular first-team place until injury kept him out of the game for most of the 1971-72 season.

JEFF WEALANDS, Goalkeeper

A young goalkeeper signed from Darlington in February 1972. Played three first-team games last season and has showed great promise for the future this term. Wolves were his first League club.

PHIL HOLME Forward


Born in Briton Ferry, Glamorgan, and played as an amateur in the Welsh League for Bridgend and Cardiff. A member of the British Olympic Amateur Squad and won 7 Welsh caps. Joined Hull City in July 1972, on a free transfer from Swansea City and has scored several valuable goals.

MAN ON THE SPOT

ROGER DUCKWORTH'S VERDICT



AND
MATCH REPORT
EVERY SATURDAY
SPORTS POST



MAN ABOUT TOWN

ALAN SLOUGH

Alan Slough is now spending his ninth season at Kenilworth Road, a loyal term of service from a local discovery now claiming the "senior citizen" spot in Luton's present-day squad.

Since his debut in 1964, Alan has rarely been a short free kick away from the action and involvement which has spiced the club's fortunes during the last eight years. But, says this former County sprint champion, "the latest campaign will certainly be the most eventful if it carries on like it has started".

Luton kicked off a bright new season without the pace and voracious work-rate of their familiar midfield character because he was nursing a "legacy" of the Turkey tour. "I came back home with the wounded and it was a bit of a grind to see the other lads preparing to open up while I battled to get fit again" he says.

Alan threw off the effects of his strained muscle well before his senior restoration in mid-September. "But I could not expect the boss to change a winning side—although I did get back in for one game against Huddersfield when Peter Anderson was injured."

Everything went right for Luton to hammer out a stirring 4-1 success—with Alan operating an attacking midfield role which he likes best. "But Peter quite properly got his place back and I fell back into the mid-week side."

But, incredibly, the reserves supplied Alan with only one burst of 90 minutes competitive play in five weeks. "After Huddersfield, it was three weeks before I got a game and another fortnight before the next one arrived. It was a time, I knew, which called for extra training. I did a few hours overtime each week. But, take it from me, there's no substitute for the real thing."

Alan got his recall against Sheffield Wednesday when Alan Garner was forced to stand down through injury. It proved a new challenge for manager Haslam gave him the responsibility of linking with big John Faulkner in the centre of the back four.

"After that terrible start at Hillsborough, anything might have happened. But the boss had faith in me, along with the rest of the side that day and it's been O.K. ever since."

Yet, Alan is burning with the ambition of regaining what he considers his best position in midfield. It's in this capacity which Slough has put together 130 appearances in the last three seasons. "Basically, when you are in the back four you have one responsibility—to prevent goals. I think it's my nature to be involved in creative work—so I like to be pushing forward on the missions when it's the turn of our attack."

In recent years, Alan has been giving a lot of his time to a local Boys club and being their guiding hand to success in various Leagues. Now he has jumped the other side of the fence and, of all things, has become an amateur referee.

"I have officiated in five or six matches so far—and I have to kick myself every so often to remind myself that I am only the referee. It's an interesting diversion which I am enjoying."

Alan thought he knew when a League referee would spot an accidental foul from a deliberate act. "But I was proved wrong at Sunderland which made me all the more convinced what a difficult life it must be with the whistle."

"Gordon Hill, a character whom the players respect and who is often looked upon as 'one of the boys' booked me for obstruction. It was a clear foul, I agree, but never intentional I accepted it because Gordon Hill is a real professional and if he can make a mistake, it only goes to show what a tough and difficult life refereeing must be."

So, a Saturday afternoon "stopper" who still hopes to switch to a schemer, will be continuing as a Sunday morning whistler attempting to understand the problems of the "man-in-the-middle".

We regret that owing to the building strike the hotel will not now open until APRIL 1973



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TOWNTALK

The Bobbers Stand and Supporters Club present a Cabaret Night in The Hatters Club on

TUESDAY 14th NOVEMBER at 8 p.m featuring **ERIC MORECAMBE** and **KENNY BALL AND HIS JAZZMEN**

A limited number of tickets are available from The Bobbers Club, The Hatters Club and the Town Sports Centre, 231 Dunstable Road. Price £1 (to Bobbers Club members) or £1.25 (including membership to the Bobbers Club.)

Pickwick International of Leighton Buzzard, have again donated six L.P.'s

for our competition to guess the gate at the next home game against Swindon Town on November 4th. Your entries should go to: Luton Town Promotions, 231 Dunstable Road, Luton, Beds., and must be received by mid-day on November 4th. **RAIL TRAVEL TO BRISTOL CITY, 28th OCTOBER 1972.**

Depart Luton 10-35 am, Harpenden 10-45 am, St. Albans 10-50 am. Arrive Bristol (Ashton Gate) 13-35 pm. Depart Bristol (Ashton Gate) 17-45 pm. Arrive St. Albans 20-35 pm, Harpenden 20-44 pm, Luton 20-54 pm. **Fare £1.35**

ROAD ROUTE FROM LUTON TO BRISTOL CITY

Leave by Dunstable Road, A505. Dunstable. Leave by West Street B489. Jun-

ction of roads, turn left B488. Half mile on turn right. Junction of roads, turn right A41. Aylesbury. Leave by Hartwell Road, A418. Thame, continue A418. Tiddington. Junction of Roads. A40. Keep left along Wheatley by-pass. Oxford. Leave as for Faringdon, take A420. Fyfield. Faringdon, leave as for Swindon. Continue A420. Shrivenham, turn right on leaving, keep right. Junction of roads. A361 keep left. Swindon. Leave by Wootton Bassett road, continue A420. M4 Motorway. Follow signs "Bristol, S. Wales, M4". Come off Motorway intersection 19, follow signs "Bristol M32". End of Motorway, follow signs "City Centre", Junction of roads A432. Keep right.

Total Distance 115 miles

STATISTICS...

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

HOME						AWAY						Team	*HOME GATES		†LEADING SCORERS
P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Best	Average	
13	4	3	0	15	8	2	4	0	8	5	19	BURNLEY	14,804	12,422	James 8, Thomas 4
13	4	2	0	17	5	2	4	1	10	10	18	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	12,528	11,771	Givens 8, Bowles 5, Leach 4, Francis 4
13	3	3	1	13	9	4	0	2	7	6	17	LUTON TOWN	12,197	10,891	Halom 8, Aston 6
13	5	1	1	9	3	2	2	2	6	8	17	ASTON VILLA	34,843	31,567	Rioch 6, Evans 5, Lochhead 3
14	6	0	1	18	7	1	3	3	7	10	17	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	30,197	21,889	Joicey 8, Prendergast 4, Sunley 4
13	5	0	1	14	5	1	2	4	6	10	14	OXFORD UNITED	11,330	9,082	Curran 7, Cassidy 5, Clarke, D. 5
13	3	3	1	12	7	2	2	2	10	10	15	BLACKPOOL	15,043	12,441	Suddick 5, Ainscow 4, Burns 4
13	2	3	1	4	3	3	1	3	8	7	14	PRESTON NORTH END	17,371	12,002	Wilson 4, Tarbuck 4, Young 3
13	4	1	1	6	3	1	3	3	4	11	14	MIDDLESBROUGH	24,145	12,512	Mills 4, Smith 3
13	5	2	0	17	5	0	1	5	3	11	13	HULL CITY	11,189	9,116	Pearson 8, Holme 7
13	0	5	1	6	7	3	2	2	11	7	13	BRISTOL CITY	15,648	13,447	Gow 5, Spiring 5, Galley 3
13	3	3	1	7	5	1	2	3	5	11	13	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	18,082	10,478	O'Neill 3
13	2	3	2	8	8	2	1	3	8	10	12	FULHAM	17,576	11,178	Earle 5, Mullery 3, Mitchell 3
12	3	1	1	9	6	1	3	3	6	12	12	SUNDERLAND	16,960	13,768	Lathan 6, Tueart 4
13	2	3	1	6	5	1	3	3	7	12	12	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	12,840	9,258	Gowling 5, Smith D. 4
13	3	0	4	7	9	1	3	3	7	9	11	PORTSMOUTH	16,419	11,661	Reynolds 4, Lewis 4, Piper 3
14	3	3	1	9	8	0	1	6	8	16	10	SWINDON TOWN	15,304	11,002	Rogers 7, Peplow 4, Treacy 3
13	1	4	1	9	10	1	2	4	7	13	10	BRIGHTON & HOVE A.	17,404	15,924	Irvine 6, Murray 4
12	3	1	2	13	7	0	2	4	3	10	9	CARLISLE UNITED	10,969	7,630	Owen 6, Laidlaw 4, Balderstone 3
13	3	0	3	7	7	1	1	5	7	10	9	MILLWALL	13,207	11,130	Wood 6, Bolland 3, Cripps 3
13	1	4	2	6	7	0	3	3	2	7	9	ORIENT	9,492	6,293	Downing 3
13	3	1	3	8	9	0	1	5	3	14	8	CARDIFF CITY	16,364	12,656	Bell 5

Up to and including Wed. 18th Oct.

*League games only

†League and Cup games

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	10,891	0 1
Sept 2	Huddersfield Town	8,133	4 1
5	Birmingham City (L.C.2)	20,962	1 1
9	Nottingham Forest	9,495	1 0
13	Birmingham City (L.C. first replay)	13,806	1 1
16	Brighton & Hove Albion	11,627	2 1
20	Birmingham City (L.C. second replay)	11,139	0 1
23	Sheffield Wednesday	18,913	0 4
26	Swindon Town	8,469	2 0
30	Burnley	12,197	2 2
Oct 7	Blackpool	12,073	2 2
14	Sunderland	13,394	2 0
18	Portsmouth	9,813	2 2
21	Hull City		
28	Bristol City		
Nov 4	Swindon Town		
11	Portsmouth		
18	Aston Villa (F.A.C.1)		
22	League Cup—5		
25	Carlisle United		
Dec 2	Fulham		
9	Q.P.R. (F.A.C.2)		
16	Millwall		
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		
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	1 0	13	Colchester United	
Sept 6	Cambridge United	5 0	Jan 3	Millwall	
27	Cambridge United	1 1	10	Brighton & Hove	
Oct 11	Millwall	2 1	17	Orient	
18	Watford	1 1	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 SUNDERLAND v LUTON TOWN
GROUND ROKER PARK, SUNDERLAND
DATE SATURDAY 14th OCTOBER 1972
ATTENDANCE. 13,394
COMPETITION FOOTBALL LEAGUE, DIVISION TWO
TEAMS SUNDERLAND: Montgomery; Malone, Coleman; Horswill, Ashurst, Porterfield; Hughes, Kerr, Watson, Lathan, Tueart. Sub. Hamilton.
LUTON: Barber; John Ryan, Thomson; Anderson, Faulkner, Slough; Jim Ryan, Fern, Busby, Halom, Aston, Sub. Hindson.
SCORERS Halom (24 minutes), Jim Ryan (33 minutes)
RESULT SUNDERLAND 0, LUTON TOWN 2

PAPER TALK "Argus" (Sunderland Echo): "Sunderland had no excuses to offer for this defeat. They had possession on a big scale, but Luton were good enough to claim two goals from a minimum of chances. There was uncertainty in the Sunderland defence, which created a lot of anxiety, and though the ball was moved forward to ensure that most of the second-half play was in the Luton half, clear-cut chances were few and far between and the best of them were squandered." Jackie Milburn (News of the World): "Fifteen minutes of brilliance by Rodney Fern and Sunderland were left gasping. Midway through the first half, Fern grabbed the reins to expose the young home defence and lay on chances for Vic Halom and Jim Ryan to sew up the game."

FORTHCOMING MATCHES...

FOOTBALL LEAGUE, DIVISION TWO
SATURDAY 4th NOVEMBER 1972
LUTON TOWN v SWINDON TOWN Kick off 3 p.m.

MID-WEEK LEAGUE
WEDNESDAY 8th NOVEMBER 1972
LUTON TOWN RES. v NORTHAMPTON TOWN RES.
KICK OFF 7-30 p.m.

TODAY'S LUTON MASCOT IS: ALAN EVANS



BEHIND THE SCENES

Attention to detail is a major feature of the final hour before any team goes into action—and we took the Luton camera into Kenilworth Road dressing room to show how the team prepares.

While skipper John Ryan is parking his car (Picture 7), trainer Reg Game is busy sorting his equipment in the medical room (No. 2) and the players' gear is lying ready (No.3).

Then the players arrive and the tension is mounting as John Faulkner and Keith Barber get "kitted out" (No. 5). Viv Busby (No. 4) is one of the first ready and is warming up before manager Harry Haslam calls the lads together for a final word (No. 6). Then comes the linesman's check on the studs (No. 1) . . . and the result of a week's preparation is about to be decided in 90 minutes.



MEMORY MAN

Among the wealth of disciplined soccer talent which was released from the Services at the end of the War was that of Maltese-born Wally Shanks, a winger of substantial promise who had been on the brink of joining Aberdeen when someone dropped a bomb to destroy those plans of 1939.

Wally, a stalwart midfielder man for 14 seasons with Luton, had been airlifted out of Malta many years earlier by his parents, arriving in Scotland, where he was brought up to learn his schoolboy soccer before getting called up into the Army.

"Scotland was my father's birthplace, says Wally. "He was a military gentleman—so I had a good grounding before I was shipped abroad to get some time in. "When Wally wasn't at war—he was playing football, generally for a combined Services side. "I remember playing in the same team as Tommy Walker, who became a close friend, and Denis Compton, the Middlesex cricketer and post-war Arsenal left winger. Most of the side were actual professionals—and at that time I could barely be classed an amateur".

Offers from Blackpool and Spurs were all tempting bait for this touch-line trickster. But in striking up a friendship with Tommy Walker, a peacetime Hearts player, Wally had promised that when he was free to do so, he would join the same Scottish club.

"But the very week I was demobbed Tommy got a transfer to Chelsea which released me of my obligations towards Hearts." So Wally had time to look around. But not too much, because ships and planes were unloading a lot of established and prospective players, all keen to slot into those vacant positions the League clubs were offering.

Wally's form abroad, however, must have made a substantial impression on Tommy Walker because it didn't take him long to convince Chelsea manager, the late Billy Birrell, that he ought to give Wally an opportunity.

"I was pleased to join Chelsea. It was there that I met up with Joe Payne in his latter years." Joe, of course, was the man whom Bristol Rovers knew as "Mr Pain" after a 1936 Division 3 game when the new centre forward, making



WALLY SHANKS

his debut for Luton, crashed in no less than ten goals to create a League record.

However, Wally was unable to blitz his way into the Stamford Bridge senior side and after only three months, with Chelsea's ranks growing bigger every day—the Scottish professional now looked to organise his career elsewhere and he chose Luton."

"I have to thank Joe Payne for that. My old friend, Tommy Walker, wanted me to go to Hearts. But I liked the look of Luton, after a chat with manager George Martin, and signed for a club after having no earlier intentions of doing so.

"I think they were able to offer me better terms than Hearts"—and so began a fresh chapter for Wally Shanks, under the coaching auspices of Dally Duncan, Derby County Cup Final winger of 1946 and a later manager of Luton.

Wally made his League debut in the 1946-47 season against West Bromwich Albion, the same day that Tommy Kirnan came through into the senior side. That was on the wing. But it wasn't long before Wally switched to a

role in which he was a familiar sight for many seasons to come.

"I wasn't by any means a prolific goal-scorer, so I was quite happy to stand in for Duggie Gardner when he was injured. It was a wing half position which came my way at White Hart Lane and, in those days, I had the necessary attributes of control and accuracy with my passing which pleased the Luton management—so that's where I stayed until my time was up".

We asked Wally how many games he reckoned his 14 seasons covered. "Never kept a record in my life—until I joined Gordon Turner in our Sports Shop business in the Town. If I was the worst on such a point, I'll tell you who was the best—Sid Owen. He was a fanatic record keeper whom I'll never forget."

The only real figures which Wally remembers are the rewards of playing 41 of the 42 games in the League programme which brought Luton promotion at the end of the 1954-55 season. "The team's individuals were paid on an appearance percentage out of the £550 the club had to distribute. I got the same as Bob Morton—roughly £15 after tax, and that was the only extra award which ever came my way."

Yet Wally never regrets one minute of his 1946-1960 soccer span. It was enjoyable and interesting—much more I think than most of it is today. We used to have our moments, particularly when there was Frankie Soo, Horace Gager, Hughie Bill, Mel Daniels and Ted Duggan all professing to be the "guvnor" on the field.

"But it was built on good humour. Today I only watch rare matches because players don't get on with the game. It's certainly not so orderly and sporting as it used to be."

Wally retired as a player to join Luton's coaching set up towards the end of the five years in the First Division. But when relegation swept Luton into the Second Division, Wally was one of the victims of a new "charter" and so he decided to hang up his boots for good, completing a career which left Luton a club more than delighted that they had got their man on the books 14 years before.

SCORES

List One

Birmingham v S'hampton
C Palace v Arsenal
Ipswich v Derby C.
Leeds Utd v Coventry
Leicester v Norwich
Liverpool v Stoke
Man City v West Ham
Newcastle v Man Utd
Sheff Utd v Everton
Tottenham v Chelsea
W. B. Albion v Wolves
Brighton v Sheffield Wed.

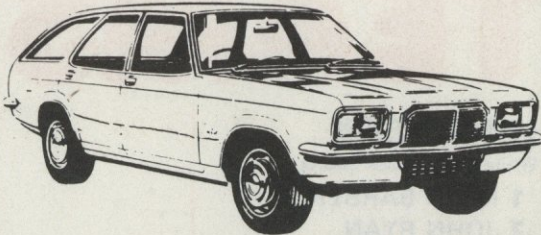
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SCORES

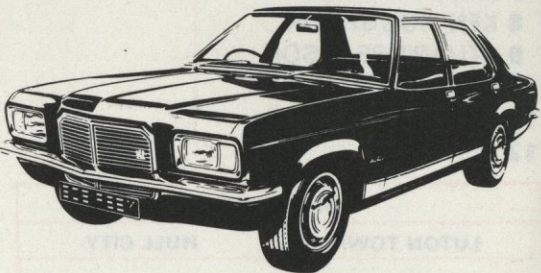
List Two

Burnley v Cardiff
Fulham v Blackpool
Middlesbro v Huddersfield
Nottm For. v Swindon
Orient v Carlisle
Oxford v Bristol C.
Portsmouth v Aston Villa
Preston v Millwall
QPR v Sunderland
Bournemouth v Plymouth
Bristol R v Shrewsbury
Walsall v Rotherham

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ZOOM...



...The best Vauxhall
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for it! Come and test drive the
Transcontinental of your choice
at your local Vauxhall dealer.

MEMORY MAN

TEAMS

LUTON TOWN

White Shirts, Black Shorts

- 1 KEITH BARBER
- 2 JOHN RYAN
- 3 BOBBY THOMSON
- 4 PETER ANDERSON
- 5 JOHN FAULKNER
- 6 ALAN SLOUGH
- 7 JIMMY RYAN
- 8 RODNEY FERN
- 9 VIV BUSBY
- 10 VIC HALOM
- 11 JOHN ASTON
- 12

HULL CITY

Amber Shirts, Black Shorts

- 1 JEFF WEALANDS
- 2 FRANK BANKS
- 3 ROGER DE VRIES
- 4 JOHN KAYE
- 5 TERRY NEILL
- 6 KEN KNIGHTON
- 7 JIMMY MCGILL
- 8 KEN HOUGHTON
- 9 STUART PEARSON
- 10 PHIL HOLME
- 11 IAN BUTLER
- 12

GOALSCORERS

LUTON TOWN		HULL CITY	
HALF TIME		HALF TIME	
FULL TIME		FULL TIME	

Referee:

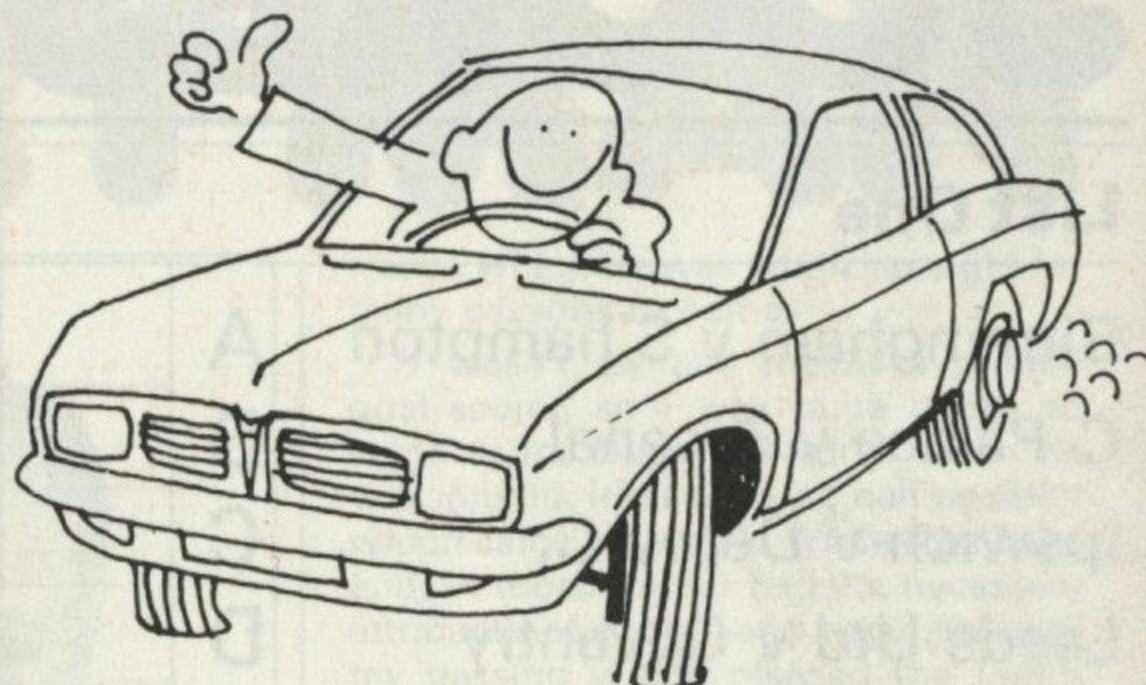
S. J. KAYLEY, Preston

Linesmen:

J. GRIFFITHS, Oxford, *Red Flag*

D. V. REEVES, Uxbridge, *Orange Flag*

Tom Marlborough (The Favourite)



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