

# LUTON TOWN



Hazell



Clement



Gillard



Parkes



Evans



O'Rourke



Venables



Mancini



Givens



Francis



Thomas



Bowles

QUEENS PARK RANGERS SAT. 9th DECEMBER 1972 10p INCLUDING 'LEAGUE FOOTBALL'



# LUTON TOWN

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# HARRY HASLAM



It is not every day that a manager goes out and buys a £50,000 centre-forward. As Barry Butlin is the most expensive player I have had the responsibility of signing, I was naturally disappointed when he was unable to make the anticipated debut at Craven Cottage.

It is not a policy of mine to argue with referees. So when, last week, he turned round and said that, in his opinion, the Fulham pitch was 'unplayable,' I accepted it. But I would not be telling the truth if I did not say that I have seen far worse surfaces—and matches played on them.

I had geared Barry's signing to correspond with what should have been a challenging introduction for him at Fulham. Ever since the departure of Malcolm MacDonald, I have been quietly on the look out for a similar replacement and I think I have found one with Barry.

I have noted his progress and watched several times over the past two years and he has rarely failed to impress me.

Barry, who has been at Derby since he was a youngster, is now ready to mature into a centre-forward with many of the good old fashioned qualities. He is fast, explosive, fearless and good in the air.

Naturally enough, he requires the right kind of support to put these skills into practice and I think he will have far more chance of doing so at the head of our attacking methods than he has in Derby's reserves.

Barry has been confined to second-team football, not because he is not good enough for the First Division, but the brilliance of Derby's striker, John O'Hare, who is a Scottish international, has tied the centre-forward position down real tight. It is possible that Luton would have moved in Butlin's direction before. But my plans of signing him for the start of this season had to be shelved temporarily because of a cartilage injury.

Basically, I have bought Barry to do the same job for Luton as MacDonald managed so successfully. In many ways our new boy has the same characteristics on the pitch, always on the look-out for goals. One of the things I have already told him is that I want him to be greedy about the box. Perhaps Barry's record doesn't show an overload of goals.

But what a player has done before is not what matters to me. I know Brian Clough did not really want to part with his player, for he obviously shares my opinion that Luton have signed a brave type who is just waiting for the break. Let's remember, that 'Big Mac' had only scored five goals before he came to Kenilworth Road. Of course, there is no guarantee that Barry will provide the spark to light our frustrating performances at home.

That brings me to this afternoon's clash when we welcome Queen's Park Rangers who clearly rank among the strongest opposition in the Second Division. Along with Luton, Gordon Jago's men have proved the only successful side to visit Villa Park this season—so the scene is set for Barry Butlin to make his debut in a game which should be one of the best at Kenilworth Road this term.

No doubt, earlier this season, Viv Busby was looking forward to having a family 'affair' with his brother Martyn, who has been one of their central figures in their defence. But the match has come round with Martyn out with a broken leg—I wish him well in his recovery—and Luton's Busby also inactive with damaged ligaments.

It is an injury coincidence covering two brothers which has, in two separate 'camps', led to the transfer expenditure of over £200,000, Rangers, of course, buying Dave Thomas from Burnley.

Talking of new signings, Barry Butlin is not the only player of the last week or so to arrive at the club. We must also welcome Phil O'Connor, a 19-year-old right-flank player who has joined as a professional after getting 19 goals for Bexley. I am sure he will develop into a very useful addition to the strength.

That also goes for David Rouse, as yet only 16, but a youngster who already shows remarkable midfield skill. David has come from Margate and he completed a very satisfying pre-Christmas haul for me. Butlin, (23), O'Connor, (19) and David, (16) have slotted in at three different levels, and that is the kind of consistency which can have a big effect on Luton's future success.



PADDY SOWDEN

Few League scouts have been as successful in their first appointment as Paddy Sowden, the new Luton signing who now takes the responsibility of assisting Harry Haslam with the growth and success of the teams future.

Blackpool, the Lancashire side which first gave Paddy Sowden an inside look at a professional club some 27 years ago, called on this same character to go out as their chief scout five years ago and find first-team material.

The result? A cool quarter of a million saved—or earned whichever way you look at it—with the capture and development of stars such as Micky Burns, Peter Suddaby, Alan Ainscow and Peter Hardcastle.

"I may be wrong, but I reckon there is a prospect every bit as good as them whom I have left behind at Blackpool, named Billy Ronson. I have followed him since he was 11 years old and I'm sure he will make it." That is typical of the current confidence which backs the choice and selection of Paddy Sowden.

We asked Paddy whether he prefers finding established players or the type which needs a few years of development. "That is difficult either way because ready-made players are a rarity. Like all good scouts, I get a tremendous kick and satisfaction at seeing a player come good after having faith in him from a youngster.

"One can spot the promising kind. It's a 3-D process—determination, dedication and discipline. It finally all boils down to the fact that the attitude of a youngster is so vitally important. I have followed prospects for a year or more and the very first time I meet them at home I lose interest because the outlook is wrong.

"You can learn a lot about a boy's character on the field. They all have some bad habits. But if the good ones are amongst them, you can put him through a process which will smooth him off into a fine player."

Paddy will be travelling far and wide over the next few seasons to guarantee that Luton get their share of soccer's starlets—and if it was possible at Blackpool, Paddy Sowden will find the same facilities and assistance to now bring them to Luton.

# NEW TOWN



# TALKING ABOUT RANGERS



One day last March, Queen's Park Rangers took a decision on which the immediate future of the club probably depended. In selling Rodney Marsh to Manchester City, they risked causing offence to a majority of their supporters and robbed their team of a player with true match-winning characteristics.

Marsh had won his first England cap and was easily Ranger's top scorer with 17 League goals. Did his departure mean the end of Q.P.R.'s promotion hopes for the season? That was the crucial question around Shepherd's Bush, where the fans were already reeling from the disappointment of losing the previous three games.

With Marsh's scoring talent missing, Q.P.R. adapted their style to a more determined, defensive mood, as was clearly indicated by their achievement in conceding only two goals in a dozen fixtures.

Although there was natural dismay at missing a First Division ticket by such a slender margin, Rangers looked back on that smart finishing burst and *knew* they had the basic qualities of a side gearing-up for promotion. And, next time, they mean to be better equipped than when suffering immediate relegation in 1968-69.

Rangers sought to sharpen their goal-scoring image in time for this season and, of course, it was to Kenilworth Road that they came to pay a sizeable fee for Eire international Don Givens. He has flourished in the Q.P.R. system, so much so that he has been topping the Second Division scoring chart.

With the goals flowing more freely,

Rangers soon appeared an attractive promotion bet. They scored 16 in the first eight matches and so they were undefeated for 20 games, in all, when their record was finally cracked in a 4-1 tumble at Hull in late September.

Rangers soon got the Hull result out of their heads. They promptly went out to score 13 goals while winning the next five games—and that included an important 1-0 victory over Aston Villa, on the Birmingham club's ground.

However, tragedy also intervened during this bright spell. Martyn Busby, brother of Luton's Viv, broke a leg at Fulham, but Rangers reacted sharply to this shock blow, and within days, had splashed out £160,000 to buy Burnley starlet Dave Thomas in a deal that caught the big clubs napping.

This took Rangers' three-year spending bill to over half-a-million pounds—a tremendous advertisement for the ambition and enterprise of the club's management. To spend two six-figure sums within a few weeks was a brave move by a team that has an average gate of only 13,000.

Most of the constructive units in the side have been assembled by way of the transfer market, but Rangers have every right to be proud of the way they have gathered their sound back-four from the youth scheme. Tony Hazell, the central defender, is the only survivor from the side which leaped from Division Three to One.

Full-backs Dave Clement and Ian Gillard are among the youngest and most sound pairings in the Division and centre-half Ian Evans has made rapid progress to reach the Welsh Under-23 team this season.

The new blend has been skilfully weaved by Gordon Jago, who was appointed manager mid-way through the 1970-71 season. He has given the club

fresh stability and this new image as the big spenders of the Second Division.

So Rangers have finally recovered from the disaster of that one season in the First Division. When a club wins only four times in a 42-match League programme, the mental channels of management and players take a severe hammering . . . and we ourselves, in company with clubs like Northampton and Orient, know the perils of leaving the First Division in a depressed state.

It can be so easy to slip straight through to the Third or even Fourth Division if the 'illness' is not cured in that first season back in the Second.

Rangers did that quite successfully under the management of Les Allen, who, in fact, was the fourth man to hold the reins during their season at the top level. Alec Stock, Bill Dodgin Jnr, and Tommy Docherty all had a crack at solving the problems, but it was a year when nothing would go right for the West London club.

They even had to spend half the season without Marsh, the one player most obviously equipped to trade his skills with First Division defences.

Nevertheless, promotion in successive seasons and a winning appearance in the Football



League Cup Final at Wembley gave Rangers the most memorable period in their history . . . plus the inspiration to establish among the big London clubs in the future.

Their first major signing after relegation was skipper Terry Venables, who cost £70,000 from Spurs, and, since then, they have forked out five-figure cheques for Phil Parkes, now an England goalkeeping candidate, centre-half Terry Mancini, from Orient, and forward John O'Rourke, from Coventry.

By spending large sums this season, Rangers have left no doubts about their intentions and, if there is any fear in the camp, it is that people are not giving the support they warrant as yet. They have scored more home goals than any other Second Division club—but their best gate is only 17,356, and that was on the day they paraded record signing Dave Thomas for the first time.

No doubt the figures will improve if they maintain their high placing—and a good many top judges reckon that the Rangers will do just that.

(Back row): Tony Hazell, Ian Morgan, Ian Watson, Mike McGovern. (Centre row): Dave Clement, Ian Gillard, Alan Spratley, Andy McCulloch (now Cardiff), Phil Parkes, Ian Evans, Martyn Busby, Frank Sibley (youth-team coach). (Front row): Gordon Jago (manager), Barry Salvage, Mike Ferguson, John O'Rourke, Terry Venables, Terry Mancini, Don Givens, Mike Leach, Gerry Francis, Bobby Campbell (team trainer).

## Queen's Park Rangers History

Founded: 1885.

Elected to League Div. 3: 1920.  
Ground: Rangers Stadium, Shepherd's Bush, London W12.

Record Attendance: 33,572, versus Chelsea (F.A. Cup), February, 1970.

Division 3 Champions: 1966-67.  
Div. 3 (S) Champions: 1947-48.

Division 2 Runners-up: 1967-68.

Football League Cup Winners: 1966-67.

# QUEENS PARK RANGERS

## Four Year Record

Season	Div	Posn	W	P
1971-72	2	4th	20	54
1970-71	2	11th	16	43
1969-70	2	9th	17	45
1968-69	1	22nd	4	18

## Luton v. Queen's Park Rangers

Summary of past League results . . .

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
HOME	25	16	5	4	51	21	37
AWAY	25	3	5	17	19	47	11
TOTAL	50	19	10	21	70	68	48

Best wins: 4-0 (at home in 25-26) and 5-1 (at home in 30-31).

Worst defeat: 7-1 (away in 64-65).



# MANAGER CAPTAIN

Gordon Jago has now completed almost two years as Queen's Park Rangers manager—he took over in January, 1971, seven months after joining the club as chief scout—and aims to get the club into the First Division by the end of this season.

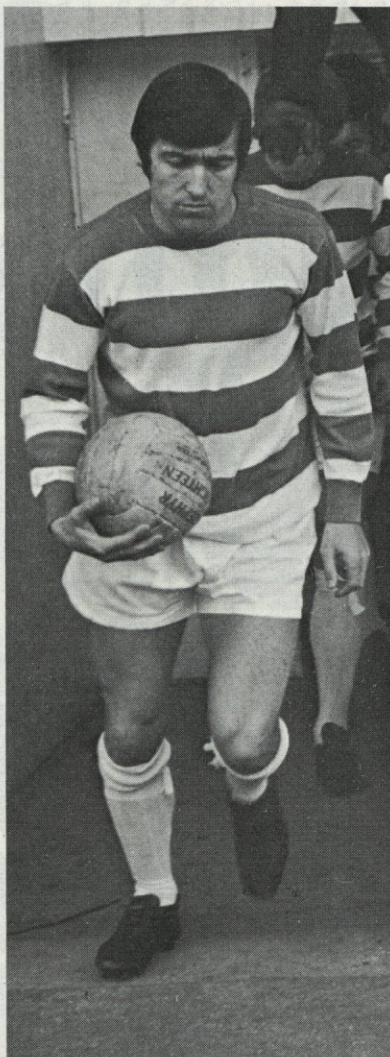
Mr Jago opened his professional career some 20 years ago when Charlton signed him from Dulwich Hamlet, with whom he had won England Youth honours. Charlton drafted him into their League eleven in 1954-55 but it was a couple of years before he won a regular place which he held for five seasons. He took up coaching during his last two seasons at The Valley and so impressed on this side that he was placed in charge of England's Youth-team.

When he left Charlton he became an F.A. Staff Coach—an appointment only open to the top men—and, by an arrangement between the club and the association, became manager of Eastbourne United, the amateur club which gave men like Ron Greenwood and George Smith a first taste of managerial experience.

Later he became Fulham's assistant manager but he resigned after 18 months in November, 1965—"they were still in the First Division then!" he smiled—to join the band of English pioneers trying to introduce soccer in a big way to the United States. "I knew it was going to be hard work," he admitted. "But didn't expect it quite as tough as it turned out."

"I had a wonderful mixture of players. Thirteen nationalities—and five of them couldn't speak a word of English! It was mighty tough trying to get things over to them I can tell you!"

During the summer of 1970 he decided he had seen enough of the United States set-up and returned home to join Queen's Park Rangers.



CAPTAIN—TERRY VENABLES

In the summer of 1969, Terry Venables was at the crossroads of his career... Should he stay with Tottenham and complete for a place amongst the million-pound White Hart Lane squad, or should he drop down a division and join Queen's Park Rangers?

It was a tricky decision. Rangers had just been relegated after one season in the First Division, whereas Spurs had taken up their three years' option on Terry's contract and invited him to stay. But Terry decided that his future was uncertain at Tottenham, where a 1967 F.A. Cup winners' medal was the consolation for the abuse he suffered from Spurs' supporters.

"Some people told me I was daft to go into the Second Division," he recalls. "But I was happy with the move to Rangers from the start"—and he enjoyed the extra responsibility of captaining the side. In three years at Shepherd's Bush, he has played his part in helping Rangers become a quality team with a marvellous chance of promotion.

Terry was sorry that things didn't go better while he was at Tottenham, but he looks further back on eight happy seasons with his first club, Chelsea. "The funny thing is that I was daft on Spurs when I was a kid," he says. "Yet, when the chance came to join a big club, I went to Chelsea, even though Spurs were interested."

At that time, Terry was perhaps the 'hottest' schoolboy property in the country, and he has since confirmed that original promise by appearing for England at all levels—Schools, Amateur, Youth, Under-23 and Full international. He played his two full internationals against Belgium and Holland in 1964-65 and it wasn't long afterwards that he made the big-money switch to Spurs.

Now there is nothing that Terry wants more than to lead Queen's Park Rangers into First Division action at White Hart Lane. It could happen next season!

# POINTS ON PLAYERS

● Details at the start of this season.

**MARTYN BUSBY.** Aged 19, and comes from High Wycombe. Signed as an amateur, and has come up from the junior and reserve sides. Made his first-team debut at Leicester on 18th April, 1970, and has made 49 appearances scoring two goals, mostly at wing-half or forward. Represented the England Youth-team in the 'Little World Cup' in Czechoslovakia in which he played in all seven games. Currently out of action with a broken leg.

**DAVE CLEMENT.** Born Battersea, and signed apprentice for Rangers six seasons ago as a centre-half. Played for the England Youth team against Italy and France in the 'Little World Cup' in 1966. He has played 190 times for the first-team, scoring 14 goals, mostly in his role of attacking full-back. Made his debut on 8th April, 1967, at home to Scunthorpe United.

**IAN EVANS.** Aged 21. Signed as an amateur for Staines United. He plays at centre-half, and made his first appearance in the first-team on 6th April, 1971, at home to Sheffield Wednesday. Made 18 appearances and scored one goal. Capped by Wales Under-23 against England.

**MIKE FERGUSON.** Has been in League football since 1961, and was previously with Plymouth Argyle, Accrington Stanley, Blackburn Rovers and Aston Villa. He played 307 games for these clubs, and scored 34 goals. Signed for Q.P.R. in November, 1969, playing his first game on 22nd November, 1969, against Leicester City. Has since played 73 times and scored three goals.

**GERRY FRANCIS.** Aged 20, and another player to come up through the junior ranks. Scored in his first full appearance at Portsmouth in September, 1969. Since then has played 96 games, scoring 11 goals mostly at inside-forward.

**IAN GILLARD.** A junior with Tottenham Hotspur before joining Q.P.R. five seasons ago. Aged 20. Played his first senior game

on 23rd November, 1968, against Nottingham Forest, and since then, has played 69 times and scored just one goal from the full-back position.

**TONY HAZELL.** Played for England Youth at the age of 17, against Spain. Made his first-team debut on 3rd October, 1964, at Gillingham, and since then, has made 318 first-team appearances, more than any current Rangers player, mostly at wing-half or full-back, scoring five goals.

**RON HUNT.** Joined Q.P.R. from Reading at the age of 17. Made his debut on 28th December, 1964, against Bristol Rovers, and although he has received quite a few injuries, he has made over 250 appearances, mostly at centre-half, and has scored just one goal.

**TERRY MANCINI.** Aged 28, he joined Rangers from Orient on 11th October, 1971 for a fee of £25,000. Made 25 appearances at centre-half or wing-half, scoring just one goal.

**MICK LEACH.** Played for Walthamstow Schoolboys, before joining Q.P.R. at the age of 16. He appeared for England Youth in 1962-63, and scored on his first senior appearance against Colchester United on 26th February, 1965. Playing at centre-forward or inside-forward, he has made 172 appearances, and is the club's leading scorer with 40 goals.

**IAN MORGAN.** Joined Q.P.R. as a junior 11 seasons ago, along with his twin brother Roger, who was transferred to Tottenham Hotspur. After playing for the juniors and reserves, he made his first-team debut against Hull City on 25th September, 1964. In spite of injuries, he has made 189 appearances for the first-team and scored 28 goals as a winger or inside-forward.

**JOHN O'ROURKE.** Signed from Coventry City for £60,000 on 15th October, 1971. His previous clubs were Ipswich Town, Middlesbrough and Luton. Made his debut for Rangers against Luton on 19th October, 1971, and has scored nine

goals in 28 appearances at centre-forward or on the wing.

**PHIL PARKES.** Signed from Walsall, two seasons ago for a fee of £15,000. Has represented the England Under-23 side on two occasions. Has not lost his place since joining the club. Now a member of the full England squad.

**BARRY SALVAGE.** Joined Q.P.R. from Millwall on a free-transfer, at the end of the 1970-71 season, making his debut against Watford on 27th March, 1971. He has made 19 appearances and scored just one goal from the wing.

**ALAN SPRATLEY.** Joined Rangers from the Pathfinders Boys Club five seasons ago. He has been kept out of the first-team by Phil Parkes, but has made 30 appearances in goal, after making his debut against Aston Villa on 4th January, 1969.

**IAN WATSON.** Signed for Q.P.R. for £10,000 in 1965, after playing five times for Chelsea's first-team. Since then, he has made 187 appearances for Q.P.R. and scored two goals. Made his debut at Brentford on 21st August, 1965, and has played most of his games at full-back or centre-half.

**DON GIVENS.** Republic of Ireland international striker who joined Q.P.R. this summer for £40,000 from Luton. First played in England with Manchester United, making his debut in 1969.

**STAN BOWLES.** Arrived from Carlisle United for £110,000 in September this year. Had spent only a year at Bruton Park in which time his value went up nearly ten times, compared to the sum Carlisle paid to Crewe Alexandra.

**DAVE THOMAS.** Rangers set a new club transfer record of £160,000 when signing Dave from Burnley in October this year. He joined Burnley straight from school and although still only 21, had made over 150 first-team appearances on leaving for London. Has appeared for England Under-23 on seven occasions.

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# MAN ABOUT TOWN



Derek Hales is patiently waiting his chance to trigger off his striking power in Luton's League squad, an ambition fired by the remarkable personal average of more than a goal-a-game over the past couple of seasons. The former Dartford destroyer has already hit 14 in only 13 competitive games at Kenilworth Road this season—the kind of form which attracted Luton to this player when he was 'feeding' in Savoy style in the Southern League.

This late starter, who will be celebrating his 21st birthday in a few days time, poured in 53 goals in 35 games for Dartford and Faversham, a production rate which could be groomed to lead Luton way up into the scoring charts. The secret of this striker's success? "They don't see me coming" and that's a claim built on the height of Derek Hales, a steel-fibred pocket battleship of just five feet, eight inches!

"Six foot centre-halves don't bother me," Derek told us, "I have learned to handle myself from a very early age—when I used to be the fiery type. I have trained myself not to get involved with incidents now I am a professional, but sometimes you have to lean on the defences to get their respect."

Derek hails from a village near Sittingbourne, and it's no surprise that he has broken into the professional ranks because both his father and uncle previously played for Gillingham, at the same time as Paddy Sowden, Luton's chief scout.

It's not likely that Hales, an explosive handful for any defence, will forget the time he decided to join Luton. "In my last game for Dartford, I dived in to try and notch one of my rare headers. I should have known better because why should I use my head when I've got two feet!"

The trainer extracted the Dartford centre-forward from the crunch with a broken jaw which took a couple of months to heal earlier this year. It didn't stop Derek from going to Belgium for the close-season tour, "but it has made me think twice about opening my mouth on the pitch!"

This chunky character realised the disadvantages of trying to make a start some five or six years later than the average footballer. "Most lads have a serious link with a professional club direct from school these days and that can start at 15. Originally, I looked like falling into that pattern when I had a few games for the West Ham youth side." But Derek, a qualified Post Office engineer, put his career first. "I broke off football to take exams, fully expecting West Ham to invite me back. But I never heard another thing from them so I concentrated further on my job and let football take care of itself."

"I may have missed the boat because the lads around me have far more experience. But I have taken the plunge amongst the professionals because I think my family wanted to see me have a crack. Derek is first to admit that he is still learning and it's all a little new. "It will take a couple of seasons before I shall know the best—or the worst."

With goals a golden premium in present-day football, any player with the flair for finding the target will always discover all the encouragement they need. If Derek Hales continues to flaunt defences in a David and Goliath act, it should not be too far distant when he moves in beneath the aerial power of Second Division defences to sabotage a few dreams.





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



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## TOWN TALK

Pickwick International, of Leighton Buzzard, again offer six L.P. records for a 'Guess the Gate' Competition on our next home game against Millwall next Saturday. Your entries should go to: Luton Town Promotions, 70-72 Kenilworth Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, and must be received by mid-day on Saturday, 16th December.

Winners of the competition for the Carlisle United game were: Mr P. J. Marsh, 9 Athelstan Road, Hemel Hempstead. Mr J. Taylor, 34 Ludwick Way, Welwyn Garden City. Mr S. Whiting, 94 Grove Road, Harpenden. Mrs M. Hill, Cemetery Lodge, Brackley Road, Buckingham. Mr S. C. Hill, Cemetery Lodge, Brackley Road, Buckingham. Mr T. W. Paulley, c/o Flat 1, Hall Place, St. Peters Street, St. Albans.

Mr Appleton, the manager of the Strathmore Hotel, which is to open in the New Year, and his Promotions team are welcome visitors to Kenilworth Road today. He has arranged pre-match drinks for members and guests in the Vice-President's Club at 2-15 pm and also donated a bottle of whisky for a raffle. It's

nice to have you here today, Mr Appleton, and we hope that Luton Town supporters will form a happy association with your hotel in the future.

Today's mascot is: ALAN ANDERSON

### FORTHCOMING MATCHES AT KENILWORTH ROAD...

Saturday, 16th December, 1972  
Football League, Division Two  
LUTON TOWN v MILLWALL  
Kick-off: 3-00 pm

Tuesday, 26th December, 1972  
Football League, Division Two  
LUTON TOWN v SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY  
Kick-off: 3-00 pm

## STATISTICS...

### LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

HOME					AWAY					TEAMS	*HOME GATES		†LEADING SCORERS
P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	
20	6	3	1	20	10	4	6	0	14	9	29	BURNLEY	Fletcher 10, James 8, Dobson 6
20	5	4	1	22	11	4	4	2	13	13	26	Q.P.R.	Givens 12, Bowles 9, Leach 4, Francis 4
20	6	4	1	20	8	3	3	3	12	13	25	BLACKPOOL	Suddick 8, Ainscow 6, Burns 6, Dyson 6
20	6	3	2	12	6	3	3	3	9	12	24	ASTON VILLA	Rioch 7, Evans 5, Vowden 4
20	4	3	2	9	4	5	2	4	11	11	23	PRESTON NORTH END	Tarback 5, Young 5, Bruce 4, Wilson 4
19	3	3	4	14	13	6	1	2	12	8	22	LUTON TOWN	Halom 9, Aston 7
20	5	2	2	11	9	3	4	4	9	14	22	MIDDLESBROUGH	Hickton 7, Mills 5, Smith 4
20	6	0	3	17	10	3	3	5	9	12	21	OXFORD UNITED	Curran 10, Cassidy 5, Clarke (D) 5
21	7	1	3	23	13	1	4	5	12	17	21	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	Joicey 9, Craig 5, Sunley 5
21	1	5	3	8	10	6	2	4	17	16	21	BRISTOL CITY	Galley 7, Gow 6, Spiring 6
20	5	4	2	14	11	2	2	5	8	15	20	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	Lyall 4, O'Neill 4
19	4	4	2	15	9	2	3	4	11	15	19	FULHAM	Earle 7, Mitchell 7, Mullery 4
20	4	5	1	15	12	2	2	6	13	18	19	SWINDON TOWN	Peplow 7, Treacy 7
21	4	5	2	10	8	1	4	5	9	16	19	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	Gowling 8, Smith (D) 4
19	6	1	3	21	13	1	3	5	12	18	18	CARLISLE UNITED	Owen 9, Laidlaw 6, Balderstone 5
20	5	3	2	20	10	1	3	6	7	16	18	HULL CITY	Pearson 10, Holme 7
20	5	1	3	12	8	2	2	7	14	17	17	MILLWALL	Wood 9, Bolland 7
20	3	4	3	12	12	1	4	5	7	14	16	ORIENT	Downing 5, Queen 5
19	3	4	2	12	10	1	3	6	11	20	15	SUNDERLAND	Lathan 7, Tueart 5, Porterfield 4
20	3	1	6	9	13	2	4	4	11	15	15	PORTSMOUTH	Piper 6, Reynolds 4
19	6	1	3	16	11	0	2	7	6	21	15	CARDIFF CITY	Bell 5, McCulloch 5, Woodruff 4
20	1	6	3	14	18	1	3	6	9	22	13	BRIGHTON H.A.	Murray 7, Irvine 6, Beamish 4

Up to and including Saturday, 2nd December \*League games only †League and Cup

# 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	11,560	1 2
28	Bristol City	13,562	1 0
Nov 4	Swindon Town	10,596	0 1
11	Portsmouth	7,571	2 2
18	Aston Villa	29,144	2 0
25	Carlisle United	10,091	0 1
Dec 2	Fulham	Postponed	
9	Q.P.R.		
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	1 1
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	1 1	31	Charlton Athletic	
Nov 1	Gillingham	1 1	Feb 7	Watford L.C.	
8	Northampton T.	4 2	14	Watford L.C.	
15	Southend United	1 1	28	Northampton L.C.	
21	Charlton Athletic	1 2	Mar 6	Northampton L.C.	
29	Colchester United	5 1	14	Orient	

## BACKTRACK

MATCH:  
PORTSMOUTH v LUTON TOWN

GROUND:  
FRATTON PARK, PORTSMOUTH

DATE:  
SATURDAY, 11th NOVEMBER

ATTENDANCE:  
7,571.

COMPETITION:  
FOOTBALL LEAGUE, DIVISION 2

TEAMS:  
Portsmouth: Horn; Hand, Wilson; Piper, Stephenson, Munks; McCann, Reynolds, Price, Hiron, Jennings. Substitute: Lewis.

Luton: Barber; John Ryan, Thomson; Slough, Faulkner, Garner; Jimmy Ryan (sub: Goodeve), Hindson, Fern, Halom, Aston.

SCORERS:  
Portsmouth: Piper, Jennings.  
Luton: Stephenson (o.g.), Fern.

RESULT:  
Portsmouth 2, Luton Town 2

PAPER TALK:  
Alan Hughes, *Sunday People*: "Portsmouth, blinded by their own success, forgot that Luton have the best away record in the Second Division. Luton kept playing good football and the equalisers came in the second half." Frank Leyland, *News of the World*: "In the end, Luton showed more class after a great fightback." Roger Duckworth, *Evening Post*: "Luton had enough character to stick to their guns and salvage a point when all seemed lost."

MATCH:  
ASTON VILLA v LUTON TOWN

GROUND:  
VILLA PARK, BIRMINGHAM

DATE:  
SATURDAY, 18th NOVEMBER

ATTENDANCE:  
29,144.

COMPETITION:  
FOOTBALL LEAGUE, DIVISION 2

TEAMS:  
Villa: Cumbes; Ross, Aitken; Rioch (B), Nicholl, Turnbull; Graydon, Evans, Lochhead, Vowden, Anderson (sub: McMahon).

Luton: Barber; John Ryan, Thomson; Slough, Faulkner, Garner; Jimmy Ryan, Anderson, Fern, Halom, Aston. Substitute: Goodeve.

SCORERS:  
Luton: Fern, Aston.

RESULT:  
Aston Villa 0, Luton Town 2

PAPER TALK:  
*Sunday Mercury* (Birmingham): "Luton made Aston Villa's Second Division promotion claims look little more than pie-in-the-sky as they stunned the Villa Park crowd by sweeping to their sixth away win in nine matches... Things might have been different for Villa if Luton goalkeeper Keith Barber had not produced three tremendous saves during a crucial period in the second half. They came at the time when Villa were beginning to turn on their heaviest pressure of the match and Luton were clinging precariously to their slender lead." *Sports Argus* (Birmingham): "Luton's attack was far more inventive."





# TOWN IN ACTION

Derby County, the Football League Champions of last season, showed the Hatters fans that they are returning to top form when winning 1-0 in Ian Buxton's Testimonial Match at Kenilworth Road. It was far from an uneven contest, of course, and the *Evening Post* pictures display Luton's attack pressing the Derby defence which had previously held the Benfica attack—Eusebio and all—in the European Cup. (Top): Vic Halom beats £225,000 defender David Nish and heads just wide. (Below): Derek Hales, called in for a sample of first-team action heads past £160,000 star Colin Todd.





# MEMORY MAN

It took a riot and the closure of the Irish club with which he was playing at the time to launch Ireland's international full-back, Tommy 'Bud' Aherne, into English soccer nearly 25 years ago.

Luton's left-back, who assisted the side through the best part of the Fifties, was thrown out of a job in 1949 when Belfast Celtic lost their Irish League status because of a rumpus on the pitch. The first club to get across the Irish sea and offer agreeable terms to Bud were Luton—and Bud Aherne packed his bags and left Ireland for good, to start a new career with a new club and also to get married.

We dropped in on Bud to recall old times at his Stanmore Crescent home in the town where he has been ever since the 'bombshell' exploded on Belfast Celtic in Windsor Park.

"I originally came from Limerick, in Southern Ireland, but moved up to join Belfast when I came out of the Army in 1946. I remember we had a very good side with players of the calibre of Jack Vernon and Charlie Tully. But one afternoon in 1949, all hell broke loose and players were attacked by supporters. The club closed and I joined the majority of the team in searching for less dangerous duty in England.

"Three of the team went to Fulham, Vernon, who won 16 caps for Northern Ireland, went over to join and later captain West Bromwich Albion, and Charlie Tully, of course, went on to forge a successful career with Glasgow Celtic.

"I plumped for Luton because the late chairman, Mr Charles Jeyes, convinced me that the Kenilworth Road set-up was just right for me—so I signed at the cost to Luton Town of £8,000'.

It led to a 10-year service by the Irishman at Luton which constantly reminded one and all that it was an £8,000 outlay never more wisely spent. During his career, Bud sampled international soccer on two dozen occasions, being one of the players, at that particular time, who qualified for both Southern and Northern Ireland.

Most of his caps were won before he moved. Shortly after his demob, Bud



BUD AHERNE

played in the Victory internationals against Scotland and Wales. In 1947, he turned out against England and continued his campaign for the North with caps against Scotland and, against Wales in 1949 and 1950.

The 1950 side included such talents as Danny Blanchflower (Barnsley), Con Martin (Aston Villa), Dave Walsh (Albion), Norman Lockhart (Coventry) and Paddy Ryan (Albion). "The one real result I still remember was when I turned out for the South against England. Johnny Carey, then Manchester United's skipper and more recently a manager, was at right-back and we came off Goodison Park that day really delighted having toppled the masters 2-0"

Bud was a fast and mobile defender who relied on a keen sense of positioning and anticipation. "But it took me the best part of a season to settle down to the different soccer climate of this country.

"The football was instantly recognisable as a yard or two quicker than I had been used to. But I did not have to wait long for my senior debut against Spurs in 1949, when they beat us 2-1 and went on to win promotion from the Second Division."

Between 1949 and 1959, when Bud hung up his boots, the reliable Irishman stayed in the side as a regular and figured in many stirring encounters. But the one he recalls most vividly was the First Division battle against Wolves in 1956, around the time when the Molineux gladiators were conquering the best sides in Europe.

"The Wolves wingers, Johnny Hancocks and Jimmy Mullen, were about the best pair in the business in those days. But Luton matched Wolves for their fast, attacking football and I think it was rather rough justice on Luton to lose considering we proved capable of hitting four past them—one less, however, than they powered through us!"

Bud's last international credit arrived in the qualifying stages of the 1954 World Cup when Ireland took on France at Dellymont Park in Dublin and were beaten 5-2. "I had had a good run for my country, and, in fact, when I had to finish for Luton, I reckoned I had not missed much because I proved one of the lucky types who escaped getting knocked about. I had more trouble with cuts and bruises in collisions with team-mate Wally Shanks than ever I did with the opposition!"

But, in the end, it was the result of an injury which put the retirement writing on the wall for Bud Aherne. "I was coming towards the end of my senior days, and I suppose it was a case of not being quick enough, when I suffered a hairline fracture of the ankle.

"By the time I got back, I had to face the fact that I was too old and in the big shake-up after the Cup Final defeat I stepped down to look after the Youth team."

With 13 years past by since Bud was last seen at full-back, we asked him whether he thought there had been much change. His reply: "It's too defensive. There is a shocking lack of character in the game. There is no room for individuals because its purely a full team game now with players and patterns so organised. They have a certain job to do and that's it. I know players are fitter and faster than they ever were in my time. But the majority of them can't think quick enough for the policies that they try to put into practice."

# SCORES

## List One

Birmingham v Leicester  
Chelsea v Norwich  
Derby v Coventry  
Everton v Wolves  
Ipswich v C Palace  
Leeds Utd v West Ham  
Man Utd v Stoke  
Newcastle v Southampton  
Sheffield Utd v Man City  
Tottenham v Arsenal  
W. B. Albion v Liverpool  
Bristol C. v Aston Villa

A  
B  
C  
D  
E  
F  
G  
H  
K  
L  
M  
N

# SCORES

## List Two

Burnley v Huddersfield  
Cardiff v Sheff Wed.  
Hull v Carlisle  
Middlesbro v Nottm Forest  
Millwall v Swindon  
Orient v Brighton  
Oxford v Fulham  
Portsmouth v Sunderland  
Preston v Blackpool  
Barnet v Bilston  
B. Stortford v P'borough  
Watford v Aldershot

A  
B  
C  
D  
E  
F  
G  
H  
K  
L  
M  
N

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# TEAMS

## LUTON TOWN

White Shirts, Black Shorts

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

## QUEENS PARK RANGERS

Blue & White Hoops, White Shorts

- 1 PHIL PARKES
- 2 DAVE CLEMENT
- 3 IAN GILLARD
- 4 TERRY VENABLES
- 5 IAN EVANS
- 6 TONY HAZELL
- 7 DAVE THOMAS
- 8 GERRY FRANCIS
- 9 JOHN O'ROURKE
- 10 STAN BOWLES
- 11 DON GIVENS
- 12

### GOALSCORERS

LUTON TOWN		Q.P.R.	
HALF TIME		HALF TIME	
FULL TIME		FULL TIME	

#### Referee:

E. D. WALLACE, Swindon

#### Linesmen:

K. F. MERRETT, Brackley, *Red Flag*

C. F. ATTWELL, Northampton, *Orange Flag*

Mr APPLETON, Strathmore Hotel

Mr DEARNE, The Three Horseshoes

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