

LUTON TOWN



Lowry



Kelley



Wain



Humphreys



Crudgington



Fairhurst



Bradshaw



Riley



Peat



Melia



Manning



Nicholl

CREWE ALEXANDRA SATURDAY 13th JANUARY 1973 10p INCLUDING 'LEAGUE FOOTBALL'

LUTON TOWN

FOOTBALL AND ATHLETIC CLUB LIMITED

KENILWORTH ROAD, LUTON,
BEDFORDSHIRE, LU1 1DH
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HARRY HASLAM

For 90 minutes today, Luton Town will leave behind the pressure and strain of League soccer and join in what, in my mind, is still the greatest Cup competition in the World. It can fire the enthusiasm and bring a song from even the most placid supporter by the very nature of its explosive and emotional atmosphere.

True, I could not blame our fans if some of them should say that they have forgotten what it feels like to enjoy a thunderous good Cup-tie, full of incidents, goals and glamour. However, I should like to point out that it has not been all our fault because when you are continually drawn away from home the moment you step into the competition—and in recent years its taken a good side to win medals at such places as Maine Road and Upton Park—it brings you to a point when you wonder when the luck will change.

We hope it will this afternoon with the visit of Crewe Alexandra—and who knows, it could be Luton's year because giant-killers all start off with more hope than confidence. The club have never had the satisfaction of getting their name on this trophy. But the lads will be busy out there today making sure that, if effort can brighten our pale but rather unlucky record over recent years, we shall be listening carefully to the draw on Monday.

Crewe will arrive as something of a mystery, to some degree, even though I have had them watched carefully during the past couple of weeks. But, judging their standards from duty in a Division which one cannot profess to know as well as the First or Second, can be a hazardous occupation and no one should believe that we think Crewe will be less easy to overcome than many teams of our own rank.

Their manager, Jimmy Melia, is a personal friend of mine and remembering the skill and ability he carried when in his playing days for Liverpool, I think his side might well come thoroughly coached and put us to the test by sheer football. A good 2-0 home win last Saturday, when Terry Nicholl, the younger brother of Chris Nicholl, scored both goals, will serve as an encouraging springboard for them.

We actually loaned Crewe Terry Robinson a couple of weeks ago and I was pleased to hear that he featured prominently in that success when making his debut for the Gresty Road side. But, as much as Terry might like to be out here today, there is a special clause in the loan arrangement which rules him out. However, I wish him well in the future and trust that he helps Crewe and his own personal ambitions.

I would dearly like the team to enjoy a successful game to lead them through into the next round for many reasons, primarily, perhaps, to let them get their mind off the tension of the League programme.

TALKING TO NORTON JONES



I can have no criticism of our supporters last Saturday in voicing discontent at our annoying habit of failing to provide good results at home. My sympathies are with them. But it is also with the players, for I know beyond doubt that the lads are desperate to give their fans a new deal.

It's at times like these that players can throw off the frustration of disappointment if they feel the fans understand. I know that is difficult, but it is a situation that might be drastically altered by just a couple of quick wins.

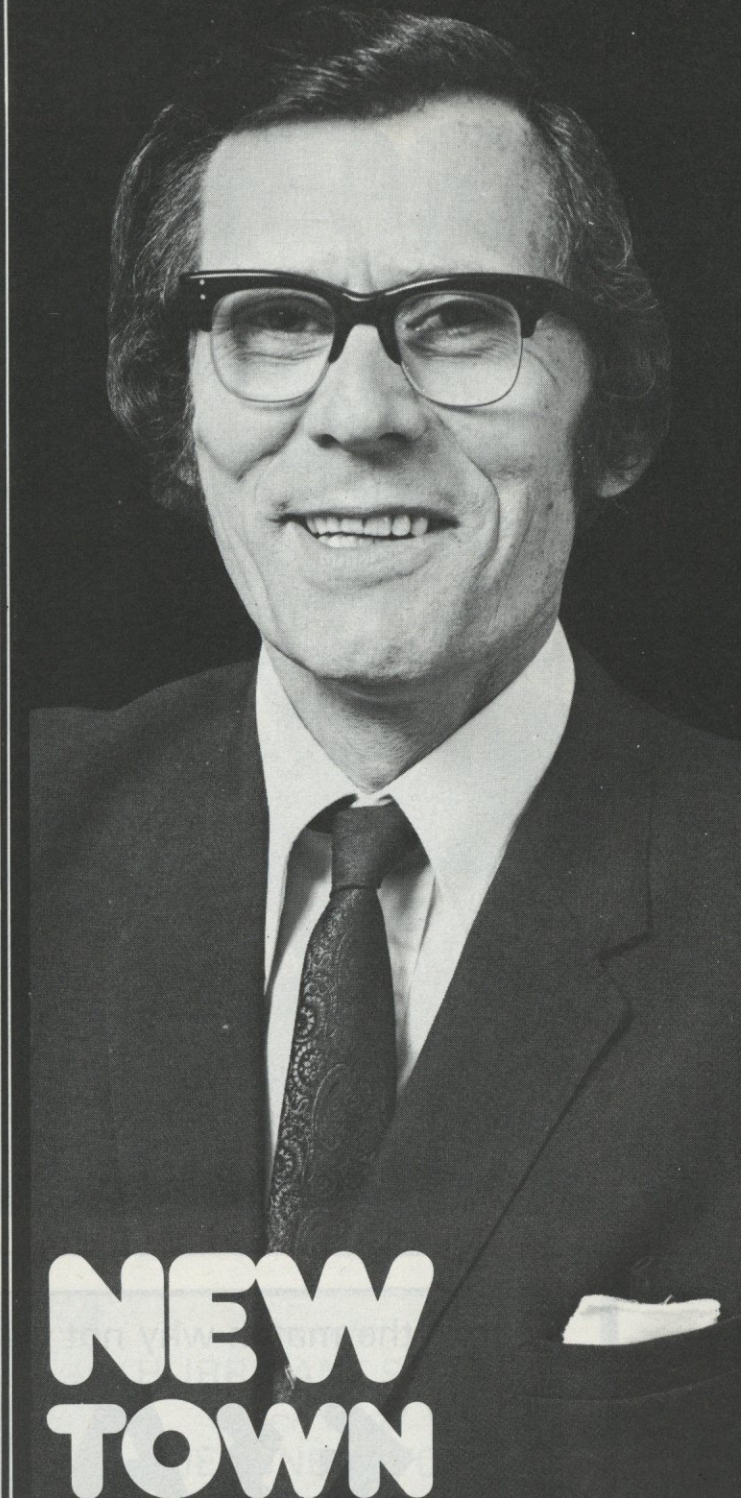
It is at moments like these, when depression makes life difficult to enjoy, that one should perhaps, remember a brighter moment. One consoling thought occurred when the similar trouble of Vic Crowe at Villa Park last week caught my eye. Burnley strolled to a 3-0 win much to the home fans' disgust.

But Bruce Rioch said afterwards that Burnley beat Villa no more comprehensively than Luton and that adds up to a sizeable credit for Kenilworth Road. And let's remember, that Burnley went home counting their lucky stars when they were visitors here earlier in the season.

I want to thank the number of un-official Luton scouts who have written in to me recommending young players. Over the last couple of weeks Ray King has had his junior squad strengthened with three teenagers who have all the makings of great players in the future.

Over the years as a scout myself, I have watched and sifted through hundreds of youngsters, but very few have ever looked so outstanding as these 16-year-olds. Chief scout Paddy Sowden has the directive now to be ultra-selective in his choice of player in this bracket, because we feel at Luton that there is a firm nucleus of class already captured. Building a successful squad at this level is no less important than having a crack first-team, for the babes of today are your stars of tomorrow.

While on the subject of these lads, the club would be interested to hear from anyone who can produce suitable accommodation for these youngsters. Our current force of landladies are super 'moms'—and they need to be to look after a lad away from home, possibly for the first time in his life—but we would like to sign-up just a couple more.



MIKE HARDWICKE

Mike Hardwicke, the new Commercial Manager of Luton Town, took up his new appointment recently and brings to Kenilworth Road wide experience of fund-raising projects which are now so vital to the future welfare of all League clubs.

Born in Hitchin, just a hundred yards away from the local Isthmian League club's ground, Mike recalls that he lived for football from the age of five. "I started supporting Hitchin in those days and, 12 years ago, I became a member of their Committee—though, because of the convenience of the fixtures, I always alternated amateur soccer with visits to watch Luton."

Mike then, employed by the 'de Havilland Aircraft Company' as an inspector, soon took an interest in Hitchin Town's money-making department and, within three years, their revenue from his competitions ranked with the biggest clubs of the country—even those like Manchester United.

They were selling 35,000 tickets per week and, during Mike's term in charge, the club gave away £1,000 in cash each week, as well as offering a £5,000 house, 22 new cars and 600 Continental holidays for two (each valued at £100).

He recognises that he has a tough task in following the success of Mike Skinner in the past three years. "I understand that last year's earnings for Luton Town Football Club were the highest on record," says Mike. "I know it will be quite an achievement to beat that."

One of Mike's first moves is to promote a new competition—The Luton Lottery—which starts on 3rd February. "This is a scheme which has been tried and tested with great success elsewhere in the country and I'm sure that it can bring in more money for the club on a permanent basis. We hope eventually to get as many as three separate competitions in operation, though the earnings from only one would produce a high level of income."

Mike Hardwicke's philosophy is that the public will respond when they know they are getting a fair deal and he says that a lot of people can help one in making improvements to the Football Club's amenities.

"I believe in giving prizes that I know appealed to me," he says. "When I had no car, we gave away cars in the Hitchin competition. When I was living in a Council House, we gave away that £5,000 house. And when I couldn't afford foreign travel, we introduced the Holiday prizes."

Crewe Alexandra are gradually regaining self-respect and confidence and are beginning to put the bitter memory of last seasons dismal failures behind them.

Crewe wound up the last campaign propping up the other 91 clubs in the Football League and had to go cap in hand to beg for re-election at the annual meeting of the League in June.

They got their reprieve, but it was apparent that their League future would be very much in jeopardy if they again finished among the bottom four positions this season.

So the club made a clean sweep. Jimmy Melia took over as manager in place of long serving Ernie Tagg, who retired to concentrate on his hotel interests, and Mr Melia is tackling the unenvied job of re-building Crewe.

Melia fired eight of last season's team and drafted in eight replacements, all recruited on free transfers. Crewe, surviving on gates sometimes hovering on the wrong side of the 2,000 mark, hadn't the cash in reserve to splash out on transfer fees.

But Melia, who moved in at Crewe in February, 1972, as player-coach after losing his job as player-boss of Aldershot, proved himself a shrewd manipulator. Only one of his signings has failed to make the first-team grade and Crewe's record so far this term proves that he has assembled the nucleus of a useful side.

Six of his players are aged 20 or younger and as they gain in experience and confidence, the odds must be that Crewe will continue to improve.

Currently, Crewe lie just above the bottom four danger zone and while they are not out of the wood yet, they have already effected a considerable improvement.

Manager Melia believes the signs are promising. He says: "We are on our way back. We had 20 points under our belts before Christmas and if I had known at the outset of the season that we would have that many by the half-way point, I would have been over the moon."

Crewe are also in the third round of the F.A. Cup for the first time in seven seasons and beginning to find some compensation for a humiliating first round dismissal at Gresty Road last season at the hands of the Northern League amateurs, Blyth Spartans.

But it is still a far cry from the time Crewe and Luton clashed at Gresty Road back in May, 1968. Luton were already Fourth

TALKING ABOUT

CREWE



Crewe Alexandra . .
(back row):
Tommy Lowry
Alan Tewley
Roy Drinkwater
Alan Stephens
Alan Kelley
Les Wain
(centre row):
Mick Gill
(physiotherapist)
Gerry Humphreys



Roy Gater
(now Weymouth)
Geoff Crudgington
Bill Fairhurst
Joe Maloney
(trainer).
(seated):
Alan Bradshaw
Hughen Riley
Arthur Peat
Jimmy Melia
(manager)
John Manning
Terry Nicholl.



Division Champions and Crewe had to beat them to clinch promotion.

Crewe triumphed 2-1, but their stay in the Third Division was a brief one. Twelve months later, they were relegated.

Crewe fans have had little to cheer them since then, although, two seasons ago, they managed to qualify for the Watney Cup as the top scoring side in the division not gaining promotion and won the £30,000 runners-up purse for ground improvements in the now-defunct Ford Sporting League.

In that season, Crewe scored 75 goals, but they found open, attacking football was a style which didn't guarantee results. The back door was left open too often and there was a price to pay for not paying enough attention to defence.

Nowadays, Crewe are much more defensively motivated. Jimmy Melia's basic philosophy is to play it tight and try to catch opponents on the break.

Unfortunately, Crewe seem to have lost the technique of scoring goals. Their output has dried up to hardly a trickle.

Crewe are averaging less than a goal a game and have scored more than one goal in a match on only three occasions all season. And they have yet to notch more than two goals in a game.

Their home record follows a similar pattern to that of Luton with the basic difference that Town have scored more goals. Crewe have mustered only 10 in 13 games before their own supporters. And that is hardly the sort of home recipe designed to set the fans cartwheeling with joy.

However, in defence Crewe are much more watertight than in recent campaigns. They recently had a spell of six consecutive games without conceding a single goal. In 19 games this season, they have either denied opponents a goal or given away no more than one goal.

Crewe reeled off three successive away wins in November and December, all without conceding a goal. In the Cup, they were 1-0 home victors against Stafford Rangers in round one and in the second round, a John Manning goal gave them a surprise win over Third Division Blackburn Rovers at Ewood Park.

They will be hoping to hand out another surprise at Kenilworth Road this afternoon.

We wish to thank the 'Crewe Chronicle' for their assistance in providing articles and pictures on the Crewe team.

HISTORY

Ground: Gresty Road, Crewe. Record Attendance: 20,000 against Tottenham Hotspur (F.A. Cup) in January, 1960. Promoted from Division Four: 1962-63, 1967-68. Founded in 1876. Members of Division Two: 1892-96, Division Three (North): 1921-22, to 1958-59, Division Four: 1958-59, 1962-63, 1964-65, 1967-68, 1969-70 onwards, Division Three: 1963-64, 1968-69. Record Scorer: T. Harkin, 1964-65, 35 goals.

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TEN YEAR RECORD

Season	Div	Posn	W	P	Season	Div	Posn	W	P
1971-72	4	24th	10	29	1966-67	4	5th	21	54
1970-71	4	15th	18	44	1965-66	4	14th	16	41
1969-70	4	15th	16	44	1964-65	4	10th	18	49
1968-69	3	23rd	13	35	1963-64	3	22nd	11	34
1967-68	4	4th	20	58	1962-63	4	3rd	24	59

MANAGER CAPTAIN

Jimmy Melia, on his day one of the most cultured inside-forwards of the post-war era, took on one of soccer's least envied postings when he succeeded Ernie Tagg this summer as Crewe Alexandra's manager.

Crewe were on the point of gaining re-election after finishing at the foot of the Fourth Division but obviously their League future was in jeopardy if there was another season of failure.

To Melia fell the daunting job of re-building a team without the cash to splash on transfer fees. He sacked eight players, snapped up eight replacements on free transfers and banked on youth to lift Crewe back towards respectability.

He has proved a shrewd operator for only one of his signings has failed to make the first-team grade and with six of his players aged 20 or under, things are on the up and up.

Crewe are hovering just above the re-election zone—and in view of last season's failures that is no mean performance—and they are in the third round of the Cup for the first time in seven years.

Melia, 35, arrived at Crewe in February, 1972, after losing his job as player-manager of Aldershot. He was engaged as player-coach but it was clear from the outset that he was being groomed as successor to Ernie Tagg, who was planning to retire from the managerial hot seat.

One of the track suit brigade of managers, Crewe's boss is the supreme enthusiast who is totally involved in the game and it is clear that the influence of Bill Shankly has had a great bearing on his approach to management.

A product of Liverpool schools soccer, Melia came under Shankly during his playing day at Anfield and is full of admiration for his mentor.

"My only regret is that Shanks wasn't in charge when I started my career at Liverpool. He really lifts players," says Melia.



JIMMY MELIA

Discarded by Southport after 11 seasons and 401 first-team games, Arthur Peat wondered if there was any future for him in League football when he found himself out of a job at the end of last season.

But newly appointed Crewe manager Jimmy Melia had a vital role for the 31-year-old veteran to play in his re-modelled set-up at Gresty Road.

Skipper Peter Leigh had retired after a club record 475 first-team appearances and he had Peat earmarked as a natural successor to take charge on the field.

He was appointed skipper before he had kicked a ball for Crewe and the player Southport thought was over the hill as far as League combat was concerned made a fairly tale debut in Crewe colours.

He collected a trophy and medal at the end of his first competitive game for his new club for Crewe defeated Cheshire rivals Chester to win the Cheshire Senior Cup.

Peat has made an outstanding contribution to Crewe's revival. His wealth of experience has done much to weld Crewe's young defence into one of the most dependable in the Fourth Division. Recently they went for six games without even conceding a goal.

Whether it is in the role of policeman or prompt man, Peat has played a key part to underline the wisdom of Melia's decision to give him the opportunity to extend his career in League football. He has relished the challenge offered him.

Peat started out with Everton and his career at Southport ran the full gamut of player, captain and, for a spell, caretaker-manager.

He has experienced first hand all the harsh realities of life in the Football League basement.

Clearly he has much to offer Crewe and manager Melia is convinced he could not have acquired a more capable first lieutenant.

POINTS ON PLAYERS

GEOFF CRUDGINGTON. A free transfer bargain from Aston Villa in the close season after making 14 appearances while on loan to the Cheshire club at the end of last term. Has been watched by several First Division clubs including Stoke City and Newcastle United.

TOMMY LOWRY. Previously with Liverpool and is in his seventh season at Crewe where he has clocked up some 270 League and Cup appearances.

ALAN KELLEY. Another summer signing, snapped up on a free transfer from Southport. Has succeeded Peter Leigh, who retired at the end of last season after a club record of 475 first-team outings.

ALAN BRADSHAW. A Blackburn schoolmaster and Crewe's longest-serving player. In his eight season at Gresty Road, the ex-Blackburn Rover will make his 300th appearance later this month.

PHIL NICHOLLS. Played in the same Bilston (Staffs) school side as Geoff Crudgington. Signed in September after trials with Manchester City. Was freed by Wolverhampton Wanderers at the end of last season.

LES WAIN. Another of Crewe's promising brigade of youngsters. Local-born and a former England Schoolboy international, he has recently been nominated for training with the England Under-18 squad. Made 13 appearances last season.

TERRY NICHOLL. Younger brother of Aston Villa and former Luton centre-half Chris Nicholl. Made his debut in February, 1972, when he was listed on the club's employment register as assistant grounds-



JOHN MANNING

man. Signed professional immediately afterwards and after 19 first-team games was the subject of an unsuccessful £15,000 bid by Sheffield United. Can play in midfield or striker.

JOHN MANNING. Signed in August and is one of soccer's happy wanderers. Has had two spells with Tranmere Rovers and also played for Shrewsbury Town, Norwich City, Bolton Wanderers and Walsall. Started as a centre-half. Six goals for Crewe this season.

GERRY HUMPHREYS. Crewe's leading marksman with seven goals. Recruited in February, 1972, on a free transfer from Crystal Palace, who paid £25,000 to sign him from Everton. A Welsh Under-23 international, he made 21 appearances for Crewe last season and is an ever-present this term.

DAVE GILLETT. A Scot who was previously with Hibernian. Another summer signing, who although wearing the number 11 jersey, operates in the back line in a twin centre-half role with Phil Nicholls.

HUGHEN RILEY. Signed midway through last season from Rochdale and a busy worker in midfield. Had 24 games last season and has been a fairly regular member of the team this term.

ALAN TEWLEY. Leading marksman last year with nine goals but unable to command a regular berth this time. Formerly with Leicester City and Bradford Park Avenue, is in his third season. Had made 56 first-team appearances to the end of last season.

POINTS ON PLAYERS

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

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MAN ABOUT TOWN

MAN ABOUT TOWN—JOHN MOORE

There was no traditional Scottish New Year revelry for Motherwell-born defender, John Moore, though some people would consider that the transformation of his football fortune in December certainly justified a measured celebration.

It may seem like sacrilege to his fellow countrymen, but the truth is that John welcomed 1973 between the sheets, the result of a self-imposed programme of discipline since winning his way back into the League side. "It's the first time I have ever failed to see the Old Year out on my feet". And we guess that John, as a member of a proud Scottish family, that he found this easier said than done.

"One must get the priorities right and that means if a man wants to be regarded as a true professional footballer, he must act like one. I could have enjoyed it as much as anyone. But Harry Haslam pinned his faith in me and my inclusion in the League side was the best Christmas present I could have wished for."

John, the longest-serving Luton player, with over 200 games to his credit, was brought back against Middlesbrough and Sheffield Wednesday for a Yuletide return which put three out of four points in the bank.

A month earlier, John was rightly forming the opinion that his days with Luton may well be coming to a close, for, in October, he went on a month's loan to Brighton. The relegation strugglers immediately picked up their form with an instant away win—their first of the season—and impressive performances afterwards pegged their problems.

"I had failed to win a first-team place at Luton, so the idea of playing in Brighton's League side really appealed to me. In the five games I played in, we took five points—a percentage any struggling side would accept.

"If I could have stayed, I would have enjoyed helping Pat Saward's side to fight against the drop. The team worked really hard in the early matches. But, at the finish, the work-rate dropped and I think they must now be in the kind of rut which a club can easily fall into when they lose touch at the foot of the table."

But John appreciates that the time will inevitably arrive when he can no longer command the prospect of a League spot and, wisely, he is now plotting his future. "I have been so much a part of football I really want to stay involved in some capacity. I would like to devote the rest of my life to the sport.

Right now, though, John is buckling down to the task of sealing a regular spot to try and achieve the aim of First Division football with Luton. "Life with this club in all my seven years has been good and there is nothing I would like better than to see them back upstairs."

TOWN TALK



Luton Town's New Song . . .

Sung to the tune of 'DAISY' by the kind permission of Francis, Day and Hunter Limited.

Luton, Luton, we are the best of all,
Luton, Luton, we're always on the ball,
We've got the greatest players,
They're ninety-minute stayers,
Put to the test, we'll best the rest,
For Luton are the best of all.

The winning song was written by Mr V. E. Evans, 31 Sharpenhoe Road, Barton, Bedfordshire.

Note: A record is being made of this song and will be played over our public address system.

Your Road Route to Huddersfield . . .

Leave by Dunstable Road, A.505 to the M.1 motorway, follow signs 'Birmingham M.1'. Toddington service area, Newport Pagnell service area, Watford Gap service area, Leicester Forest service area, Trowell service area, Woodall service area. Follow signs 'The North, Sheffield, Leeds, M.1'. At intersection 38, follow signs 'Huddersfield A.637'. Midgley, turn left. Flockton, crossroads turn left into A.642. Tandem, keep right on A.629. Greenside. Mold-green, three-quarters of a mile on, turn right. Huddersfield (Wakefield Road). Total distance—160 miles.

Your Rail Route to Huddersfield . . .

Train departs Luton at 09-50 and Bedford at 10-12 to arrive at Huddersfield at 13-37. The return train departs Huddersfield at 17-43 to arrive at Bedford at 21-20 and Luton at 21-50. Fare: £1.35.

Pickwick International, of Leighton Buzzard, again offer six L.P. records for a 'Guess the Gate' competition on the match against Nottingham Forest on 27th January, 1973. Entries should reach Luton Town Promotions, 70-71 Kenilworth Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, by mid-day on Saturday, 27th January.

Competition winners for the Orient match . . . Mr D. J. Keys, 7 Orchard Close, Bletchley. Mr P. R. Garner, 40 Napier Street, Bletchley. Mr W. Vann, 14 Corn-crake Close, Stopsley, Luton. Master A. Winsor, 79 High Road, Soulbury, near Leighton Buzzard. Mrs M. Keys, 7 Orchard Close, Bletchley. Mr W. A. Wilmshire, 18 Meadway, Welwyn Garden City.

STARTING ON SATURDAY
3rd FEBRUARY
Luton Town Development
Association present the . . .
**LUTON
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3rd Prize—£10—Guaranteed

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Please call at the Development Association Office and let us explain how simple it is to become an Agent, the address is 231 Dunstable Road, Luton, or telephone Luton 30748 and ask for Mike Hardwicke.

STATISTICS...

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO										Up to and including Saturday, 6th January, 1973										*League games only									
HOME					AWAY					TEAMS					*HOME GATES		LEADING SCORERS												
P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L						F	A	P	Best	Average	(League, Cup and games for other clubs)									
25	6	5	1	23	13	7	6	0	20	10	37	BURNLEY	15,477	12,725	Fletcher 10, James 8, Dobson 7														
25	7	4	1	28	12	5	5	3	18	19	33	Q.P.R.	17,356	12,734	Givens 18, Bowles 9, Leach 6														
26	9	1	3	22	10	3	4	6	10	14	29	OXFORD UNITED	13,412	9,405	Curran 10, Cassidy 7, Bray 5, Clarke D 5														
25	6	4	3	22	12	5	3	4	17	18	29	BLACKPOOL	25,277	12,547	Ainscow 10, Suddick 8, Burns 6, Dyson 6														
25	7	4	3	15	11	3	5	3	12	15	29	ASTON VILLA	38,637	30,680	Evans 8, Rioch 7, Graydon 5														
25	7	4	2	21	11	2	6	4	15	19	28	FULHAM	17,576	10,733	Earle 8, Mitchell 8, Mullery 6														
25	3	7	4	19	18	7	1	3	13	10	28	LUTON TOWN	15,799	11,275	Hålom 10, Aston 8														
27	8	2	3	28	16	2	6	6	16	23	28	SHEFFIELD W.	30,197	19,961	Joicey 11, Craig 8, Sunley 7														
26	5	4	3	14	10	5	3	6	12	20	27	PRESTON N.E.	18,822	11,350	Bruce 7, Tarbuck 6, Wilson 5, Young 5														
26	3	5	4	12	11	6	3	5	20	22	26	BRISTOL CITY	20,490	13,815	Gould 8, Gow 7, Spiring 6														
26	6	3	3	12	10	3	5	6	11	19	26	MIDDLESBROUGH	24,145	12,003	Hickton 7, Mills 5														
25	6	6	2	26	14	2	3	6	10	17	25	HULL CITY	13,580	9,550	Pearson 10, Holme 7														
24	8	2	3	32	15	1	4	6	6	14	24	CARLISLE UNITED	10,969	7,389	Owen 12, Laidlaw 9, Balderstone 6														
26	7	2	3	17	9	2	4	8	17	21	24	MILLWALL	13,207	10,382	Wood 13, Bolland 8														
25	6	4	2	18	11	2	4	7	11	21	24	NOTTINGHAM F.	18,082	10,127	Galley 10														
25	4	6	1	17	14	2	4	8	15	24	22	SWINDON TOWN	15,304	10,401	Treacy 8, Peplow 7														
26	3	4	7	13	18	4	4	4	14	15	22	PORTSMOUTH	16,419	9,973	Lewis 6, Piper 6, Hiron 5, Reynolds 5														
24	4	6	3	12	12	1	5	5	9	16	21	HUDDERSFIELD T.	12,840	7,993	Gowling 10														
22	4	5	2	16	10	2	3	6	14	22	20	SUNDERLAND	18,717	13,748	Lathan 7, Tueart 6, Hughes 5														
25	4	4	4	13	13	1	5	7	9	19	19	ORIENT	9,492	5,793	Downing 6, Queen 5														
23	7	1	4	20	14	0	3	8	7	23	18	CARDIFF CITY	16,364	12,104	Woodruff 6, Bell 5, McCulloch 5														
26	1	6	5	16	22	1	3	10	10	35	13	BRIGHTON H.A.	18,699	15,913	Robertson 11, Murray 7, Irvine 6, Spearritt 5														

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO 72-73				MID-WEEK FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIXTURES—SEASON 1972-73					
Date	Opponents	Att	F A	Date	Opponent	F A	Date	Opponent	F A
Aug 12	Cardiff City	16,364	1 2	Aug 23	Gillingham	7 0	Dec 5	Northampton Town	1 1
19	Preston North End	11,507	1 0	30	Brighton & Hove A	1 0	13	Colchester United	1 0
26	Orient	6,494	1 0	Sept 6	Cambridge United	5 0	Jan 3	Millwall	3 2
30	Oxford United	10,891	0 1	27	Cambridge United	1 1	10	Brighton & Hove	5 0
Sept 2	Huddersfield Town	8,133	4 1	Oct 11	Millwall	2 1	17	Orient	
5	Birmingham City (L.C.2)	20,962	1 1	18	Watford	1 1	24	Southend United	
9	Nottingham Forest	9,495	1 0	25	Watford	1 1	31	Charlton Athletic	
13	Birmingham City (L.C. first replay)	13,806	1 1	Nov 1	Gillingham	1 1	Feb 7	Watford L.C.	
16	Brighton & Hove Albion	11,627	2 1	8	Northampton T.	4 2	14	Watford L.C.	
20	Birmingham City (L.C. second replay)	11,139	0 1	15	Southend United	1 1	28	Northampton L.C.	
23	Sheffield Wednesday	18,913	0 4	21	Charlton Athletic	1 2	Mar 6	Northampton L.C.	
26	Swindon Town	8,469	2 0	29	Colchester United	5 1	14	Orient	
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 9	Q.P.R.	13,670	2 2						
16	Millwall	11,550	2 2						
23	Middlesbrough	10,122	1 0						
26	Sheffield Wednesday	15,799	0 0						
30	Preston North End	9,638	0 2						
Jan 6	Orient	8,344	1 1						
13	Crewe (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								
27	Fulham								
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								

LUTON v TOTTENHAM


Luton's youngsters in the South Eastern Counties League covered themselves in glory last Saturday when all but bringing the downfall of Spurs—with centre-forward Paul Haynes in the role of emergency goalkeeper.

Squad-chief, Ray King, was shocked with pride when goals by Gilchrist and Ealham led a tremendous second-half rally which left Spurs lucky to be hanging on to a 2-2 draw at the finish. "Our Swansea-based goalkeeper missed his train and the lads were two behind at half-time and we might have been on the rack," he said.

But Luton's nursery side, conceding height and weight, and an average of two years—two Spurs players carried Football League experience—settled down after the interval to overshadow the opposition who, of course, are presently top of the table!

F.A. CUP THIRD ROUND REPLAY

If we draw today the replay will be at Crewe next Wednesday, 17th January 1973. Kick-off: 7.15 pm



FORTHCOMING MATCHES

Wednesday, 17th January Mid-week League LUTON RES v ORIENT RES Kick-off: 7-30 pm	Wednesday, 31st January Mid-week League LUTON RES v CHARLTON RES Kick-off: 7-30 pm
Saturday, 27th January Football League, Division Two LUTON T v NOTTINGHAM F Kick-off: 3-00 pm	Saturday, 17th February Football League, Division Two LUTON T v CARDIFF C Kick-off: 3-00 pm

F.A. CUP THIRD ROUND
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Kick-off: 7-30 pm	Kick-off: 7-30 pm
Saturday, 27th January	Saturday, 17th February
Football League, Division Two	Football League, Division Two
LUTON T v NOTTINGHAM F	LUTON T v CARDIFF C
Kick-off: 3-00 pm	Kick-off: 3-00 pm



TOWN IN ACTION

The annoying failure to find a home win since mid-September continued with last Saturday's 1-1 draw with Orient. John Aston, who put Luton ahead in the first-half, is pictured (right) in a tussle for the ball with full-back Bobby Arber and is also seen forcing a save from Ray Goddard (above).

(Below) Jimmy Ryan's shot for goal late in the game seems to have those Orient defenders worried. (Pictures) Evening Post.



MEMORY MAN

There is no wiser policy pursued by any League club than to encourage locally-born prospects to join the side on their doorstep in search for stardom in the world of soccer. They arrive with a sense of loyalty and pride which no amount of transfer 'gold' can get.

Twenty years ago, Luton manager, Dally Duncan, when powering the club through probably its most colourful period since the War, adopted such measures and kept a close eye on the parks and recreation grounds in the Bedfordshire area. It was such a concentrated sweep for home-grown talent which spotted the potential of a bright 15-year-old youngster named Keith Underwood.

Keith's ability in schools football had made him a natural target for the professional outfits when he completed his normal educational studies. But Luton won the race because they had discovered a teenager who took pride in being associated with his home-town team.

A strapping six-footer who had all the raw qualities of maturing into a first-class player later in life, Keith jumped at the chance of carving out a career in a sport he had followed ever since he was old enough to run.



What no one was able to foresee at the time, in the mid-Fifties, when he first penned his name on a form at Kenilworth Road, was that the next five years would reveal three major obstructions which, in a nutshell, would disintegrate his hopes of fashioning a successful future.

The biggest stumbling block of all

for this apprentice toolmaker was the vice-like grip which Luton's skipper of that decade, Syd Owen, had on the position in which young Underwood was playing. The consistent brilliance of Luton's leader, who led the club to a memorable Wembley visit in 1959, gave the budding prospects beneath him little encouragement.

"I had always been a pivot during my schooldays and I carried on at centre-half in the Bedfordshire County side for Under-18's which won the Youth Cup," recalls Keith.

Keith started and finished his Luton career without ever appearing for the club in the League. But we considered his story worth telling in tribute of all

KEITH UNDERWOOD

the other many young soccer 'scholars' who pledge themselves to many seasons of hard work in the shadow squads and never enjoy the satisfaction of the big-crowd atmosphere.

Without such supporting reserves, there could be no stars and Keith Underwood numbered among the unsung heroes of this group where there are twice as many reverses as there are breaks to open the door to the big-time.

At Youth level, Keith impressed sufficiently for Luton to advance his status to a part-time professional basis, with the idea that he might come through with Terry Kelly to cover for Syd Owen.

Keith, who now controls a local works side, progressed from the third-team into the reserves, waiting to get the chance of first-team duty. But

before the opportunity arrived, another call came, an enforced two-year period in H.M. Services.

"I was stationed at Aldershot in the R.E.M.E. which made it fairly easy for me to be available whenever Luton found room for me. I had regular games for the Regiment and I remember Andy Nelson and Roy Ironside, who was the Rotherham goalkeeper, in the Army side which won the Services League".



Though it kept Keith in trim and in touch with Luton, two years away from the heart of a club's activities made it all the more difficult to fit back into the system when conscription was finished. "It might have been different had I been a star player—but I was only average and needed, I suppose a lucky break which might have been my making."

Although he joined the full professional squad on his return, Keith's hopes suffered another and final jolt after only 12 months when the lifting of the maximum wage put a squeeze on the economical situation. "I had no real option but to look elsewhere in football or revert to my trade."

The trail took Keith out of full-time football when he re-enlisted part-time with Bedford Town before staying local and joining his works side, Hayward Tyler, in 1967. "I watch the old side in their mid-week matches because Saturday's are confined to running the works side."

It didn't 'happen' for Keith Underwood years ago... but he never regrets his time one bit, a sentiment of a true sportsman.

MEMORY MAN

SCORES

LIST ONE

Arsenal v Leicester	A
Bradford C. v Blackpool	B
Brighton v Chelsea	C
Burnley v Liverpool	D
Charlton v Bolton	E
Chelmsford v Ipswich	F
C Palace v Southampton	G
Everton v Aston Villa	H
Man City v Stoke	K
Margate v Tottenham	L
Millwall v Newport	M
Newcastle v Bournemouth	N

LIST TWO

Norwich v Leeds Utd	A
Orient v Coventry	B
Peterborough v Derby	C
Port Vale v West Ham	D
QPR v Barnet	E
Reading v Doncaster	F
Scunthorpe v Cardiff	G
Sheffield Wed v Fulham	H
Swindon v Birmingham	K
Watford v Sheffield U	L
W. B. Albion v Nottm F	M
Wolves v Man Utd	N

BOBBERS & SUPPORTERS CLUB APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name

Address

Date of Birth

Date of Application

Remittance enclosed : *25p—Bobbars Club facilities only
*50p—Bobbars and Hatters Club facilities
* Delete where applicable

Completed forms should be returned to either Mike Ogden, Bobbers Club, Beech Hill Path, Luton or John K. Smylie, Supporters Club Shop, 125 Oak Road, Luton.

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TEAMS

Luton Town

White Shirts, Black Shorts

- 1 KEITH BARBER
- 2 DON SHANKS
- 3 BOBBY THOMSON
- 4 JOHN RYAN
- 5 ALAN GARNER
- 6 JOHN MOORE
- 7 JIMMY RYAN
- 8 PETER ANDERSON
- 9 BARRY BUTLIN
- 10 VIC HALOM
- 11 JOHN ASTON
- 12

Crewe Alex.

Red Shirts, White Shorts

- 1 G. CRUDGINGTON
- 2 TOMMY LOWRY
- 3 ALLAN KELLEY
- 4 ALAN BRADSHAW
- 5 PHIL NICHOLLS
- 6 ARTHUR PEAT
- 7 ALAN TEWLEY
- 8 TERRY NICHOLL
- 9 GERRY HUMPHREYS
- 10 HUGHEN RILEY
- 11 DAVID GILLETT
- 12

GOALSCORERS

LUTON TOWN		CREWE ALEXANDRA	
HALF TIME		HALF TIME	
FULL TIME		FULL TIME	

Referee: W. S. CASTLE, Dudley, Worcs

Linesmen: P. TOTNEY, Dudley, Worcs, (*Red Flag*)
A. WILLIAMS, Dudley, Worcs, (*Orange Flag*)

Mascot: Master J. Dunne

Ball Donor: Connell's Estate Agents
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