

LUTON TOWN

Official
Programme

20^p

♥ **BLACKBURN**

Football League
Division Two

Saturday 17 September 1977
Kick off: 3.00 pm



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HARRY HASLAM



WITH THREE straight wins behind us, we've been a pretty cheerful bunch this week as we prepared for today's visit of Blackburn Rovers.

I was glad to see coachloads of our supporters at Bristol on Saturday, and glad that we made their long trip worthwhile.

Even more pleasing for me as a manager and Roy McCrohan as coach was the fact that we continued at Bristol with the sort of form we had showed against Wolves and Charlton.

I think we had near-perfection for half an hour, and Bristol Rovers were outclassed. Then we gave them a needless goal, one of those daft things that happens from time to time.

We had been so much the better team that after their equaliser, it was Bristol Rovers, the home team, who decided to try to hang on for a point. They tightened up their marking and there were times when we lived dangerously. But the lads stuck to their job, and once more a free-kick routine paid off when Steve Buckley hit the winner.

Rovers manager Don Megson was sporting in defeat, but thought he was a bit unlucky not to have saved a point. I told him that it was our turn — last year we deserved both points at Bristol and came home with none. This time they couldn't argue about the quality of our goals. Phil Boersma's was made and taken expertly,

and the free kick winner was the result of a lot of hard work.

Like all clubs we practise hard on set pieces, and it's nice to see the work producing goals.

Let's hope it continues today. It's always nice to see old friends, and I shall give a warm welcome to Jim Smith and his lads. I hope they have a nice day in Luton, except for having to go home without any points!

I also hope we have a decent-sized crowd. The lads deserve support, and on that subject can I add a few words about the League Cup tie with Manchester City.

Whatever ticket system is introduced is bound to cause problems and complaints. I think the system we have used is a fair as any can be. It seems as though we have about 10,000 genuine supporters in Luton, and they deserve first priority at the big games. The real supporters would be here today to see Blackburn anyway, and we have organised the sale of tickets so that we can be sure they all get one.

Before closing, I want to put on record the thanks and best wishes of Luton Town FC to John Aston. He served us well for five years, and I am very glad that after his sudden departure we are still good friends. I am sure he will do a good job for Mansfield too, and I wish him all the best for the future.

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Cover photo of Paul Fitcher by courtesy of Gareth Owen — Sportswide Photography

WELCOME BLACKBURN

PAUL BRADSHAW (Goalkeeper) A product of the Rovers Youth policy one of our best finds for quite some time. Paul had an extremely good season last season, being chosen to represent England Under 21's on 2 occasions. Made his first team debut at the latter end of the 1974/75 season.

KEVIN HIRD (Midfield) Born in Colne, another local lad who has made good. Kevin was the most improved player last season. Very skilful ball player, who can either play from the back or midfield. Was voted 'Players Player of the Year' 1977/78.

STUART METCALFE (Midfield) The longest serving player in the club. Having been with the Rovers now for ten seasons. Stuart is a player who wins a game for the team. On his day a very exciting player to watch.

BOBBY MITCHELL (Midfield) Signed from Sunderland in June 1976. Bobby is an extremely effective midfield player always on the move.

His appearances in the first team last season were plagued by injury, we are sure he will do well this season.

TONY PARKES (Midfield) Another player who has been with the club for some time. Born at Sheffield Tony joined the Rovers from the Cheshire League Club Buxton as a striker. At present he plays in midfield the position he was converted to on his arrival at Ewood.

JOHN BUTCHER (Goalkeeper) Born in Geordie land, John had a very good season in the central league side last year. Has been with the Rovers for a few seasons now signing professional in July 1976.

DEREK FAZACKERLEY (Defender) Born in Preston another of our youth products. He came to the Rovers in July 1968. He overcame a serious leg injury early in his career to fight his way into the first team in the 1970-71 season. Has been a regular member of the first team ever since.

GRAHAM HAWKINS (Defender) Born in Darlington (Staffs). Has

proved a bargain buy since being transferred from Preston North End in June 1974. An extremely popular player, has the ability to organise and instill confidence in his fellow players.

GORDON TAYLOR (Forward) Signed from Birmingham City at the end of the 1975/76 season, and played an important part in the relegation fight. Didn't make very many first team appearances last season due to a series of injuries.

JOHN WADDINGTON (Defender) Born at Darwen. Signed from Liverpool who released him in the 1972/73 season following a long and serious injury which threatened to end his career.

DAVE WAGSTAFFE (Forward) Signed from Wolverhampton Wanderers at the latter end of the 1975/76 season. Probably one of the best uncapped wingers of the last decade. Waggy is very popular with the fans. Voted Player of the Year in 1977.

MICK WOOD (Defender) Born at Bury. Started his career with the Rovers when he signed apprentice forms in July 1968. Worked his way through the Youth, and reserve teams to establish himself as a valuable part of our first team pool.

JOHN BAILEY (Defender) A player who has improved considerably over the last season. Very hard working and enthusiastic player, who always gives 100%.

TIM PARKIN (Defender) Born at Appleby. Had a very good season last season. Making his first team debut on Tuesday March 8th against Bristol Rovers at Eastville. Should show up well this season.

PAUL ROUND (Forward) Born in Blackburn. Signed for his home town club on leaving school. Made his first team debut on March 26th at home against Millwall, also scoring his first league goal.

JOHN CURTIS (Full Back) Born in Poulton-Le-Fylde, Blackpool. Signed from Blackpool in June 1977. He joined Blackpool straight from school, making 122 first team appearances for them.

NOEL BROTHERSTON (Forward) Joined the Rovers in June 1977 from Tottenham Hotspur. He joined Tottenham on leaving school making one first team appearance. Has played for the Irish Schoolboy and Youth teams.

GLEN KEELEY (Defender) Born in Barking. Was signed from Newcastle for a fee of around £30,000 in August 1976. Previous other club Ipswich.

ALAN CROMPTON (Midfield) A regular member of the reserve team last season. Was signed from Sunderland on a free transfer during the close season 1976.

ROYSTON TAYLOR (Midfield) Born in Blackpool. Was signed from Sunderland during the close season 1976. Another player that will be fighting for his place in the first team this season.

Left to right:

BACK ROW:— R. Taylor D. Fazackerley G. Keeley J. Butcher P. Bradshaw B. Reilly P. Round G. Hawkins

MIDDLE ROW:— N. Bodell J. Pickering N. Brotherston M. Wood J. Bailey D. Wagstaffe J. Marshall Physio J.M. Smith Manager

FRONT ROW:— C. Johnson S. Garner M. Shipley B. Moran B. Morley



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LUTON LATEST

THE REMARKABLE 7-1 victory over Charlton Athletic has been the subject of a great deal of discussion during the past two weeks. Pride of place must go to Jimmy Husband who scored four goals in a first class match for the first time in his distinguished career. In some quarters it was thought that it contained his first penalty conversion but Jim assures us that he has a 100% record in this department — taken 2 — scored 2. Another notable first was the goal scored on his debut by Gary Heale and our congratulations go to Jimmy, Gary and the other scorers, Steve Buckley and Ricky Hill. But, having mentioned the scorers, it must be emphasized that this was a superb all round team performance and, coming on top of the result at Wolverhampton it promises well for the rest of the season. In the morning of the Charlton match our Junior side won their Chiltern League match 12-0 with Godfrey Ingram leading the way with 5 goals. The Reserves had no fixture on the Saturday but defeated Ipswich 3-1 on the following Monday so the aggregate for the three teams was a staggering 22-2. At this stage the club had played nine competitive matches and of these seven had been won and one drawn.

On the day after the Charlton match a large party of players and officials were the guests of the newly formed Chicksands Bobbers Supporters Club. And a very enjoyable time was spent watching a fascinating duel between Chicksands and Upper Heyford at American Football, followed by a barbecue. The match itself would have been quite incomprehensible had it not been for the patient guidance of our hosts, but even if we missed many of the finer points it was impossible not to be affected by the atmosphere and excitement as the home side came back from 24-12 down to win 26-24 in the closing minutes. All of us were very impressed with the level of knowledge and enthusiasm for soccer as well as their own game and of course we are delighted to see increasing numbers of our friends from Chicksands attending our matches at Kenilworth Road. Finally on behalf of all of the

Luton Town party I would like to thank the Base Commander, Colonel Ernst, Larry McManus, John Townsend and the Committee and Members of the Chicksands Supporters Club for their friendship and excellent hospitality and we wish their new Club every success in the future.

It is difficult to judge the popularity of any of our 'fund raisers' until after the event. Usually we have the correct ingredients and as a result achieve a considerable measure of success. This time we were even luckier than usual because on Week 1 of our 'Grand Football Draw' with a prize of £25 each week to the person holding the 3 highest scorers, it was No. 11, Luton Town 7 goals, No. 21 Orient, 5 goals, No. (2) Manchester City 4 goals and No. (19) Gillingham 4 goals. The highest treble therefore was 16 goals in all — what a fantastic start! Today our lads are No. 8 so how about 8 goals — Charity after all begins at home.

Incidentally if anyone wants to have a go there are still a few tickets left for sale at the Pools Office. The price is 25p (less than 1p per week) for 30 weeks with a £25 prize each week for the person holding the highest combined score and, by the way, the Town score is on the tickets every week too!

The draw for the 3rd Round of the Football League Cup which took place two days after the Town's commendable victory over Wolves at Molineux produced a real plum. Not many sides can match the individual or collective talents of the light blues and at the time of writing this column they proudly occupy the No. 1 spot in the 1st. Division. Following our great performances against Wolves and Charlton I suppose most of us would have wished that the Cup match could have taken place in September rather than on October 25th but this view is not shared by those who are responsible for planning for the big occasion and making the necessary arrangements to cope with an influx of over 5,000 visiting supporters. The first decision which had to be taken was

whether or not to make the match all-ticket and it was unanimously agreed that in view of the limited capacity of the ground and the undoubted attractiveness of the opposition that there was no real alternative. To the casual observer this may not seem to pose any problems and indeed some may think that it simplifies administration but the mere mention of the phrase 'All-ticket' sends shudders down the spines of Club Secretaries and their staff. Apart from the problems of separate accommodation for opposing supporters involving temporary toilets and other facilities the Secretary is faced with a battle he can never win and a question which has no perfect answer — when and how to sell the match tickets. Over the past five seasons there have been several all-ticket matches and various methods of allocating tickets have been used. All have been condemned by some and we are always accused of ensuring that the tickets do not reach the regular supporters. For the 5th. Round F.A. Cup Tie in 1974 v. Leicester City we sold tickets during the week in normal office hours and were attacked by some 'out of town' supporters who had not been able to get to Luton in working hours. On a subsequent occasion it was decided to open the turnstiles on two or three evenings during the week. Operators and office staff were brought in and virtually no customers turned up. Still seeking a better way the Secretary decided to sell tickets on Saturday afternoon at a reserve match. To avoid accusations of profiteering no charge was made for admission to the match but instead customers paid for their big match entrance at the turnstiles. For this attempt we were taken to task by our loyal band of away travellers who were with the First Team in some distant corner of England (or Wales).

If one accepts postal applications it is impossible to differentiate between regular and occasional supporters since all claim never to have missed a match for forty years and of course even fans of the away team can apply using a local address. The visiting club is entitled to 25% of all tickets under

LUTON LATEST

the rules of the competition which means that, after allowing for season ticket holders, there will be approximately 15,000 available for distribution by our office. Since our average 'gate' over the past two seasons has been around 11,300 this should satisfy those who patronise our normal league matches and we have therefore decided to follow the plan adopted by many clubs and to sell our cup tickets at the first available match. This is not designed to artificially swell the attendance at today's game but to ensure that those regular patrons at least have the first chance to stake their claim. No one believes that this is the perfect answer and of course there will be some good supporters who, for a variety of reasons cannot be with us today. We will, therefore, accept postal applications and these will receive any tickets remaining after this afternoon's exercise. We hope that the above explanation will convince the vociferous minority that we do try to provide a reasonable basis for distribution and that it is just not true that we want your support against Mansfield on December 17th but not when the glamour games come around.

This week from the Secretaries Office.

By John Wilkinson

TODAY we are selling tickets for our Football League Cup Tie against Manchester City from kiosks around the ground. Notices are displayed giving directions to the selling areas. I must apologise to our senior citizens and junior supporters about withdrawing the half price entry concession for this match. The reason being that extra revenue has to be found to pay for the fencing dividing the terraces, extra police and the extra cost of staging an all ticket match, which these days is very expensive indeed. Season Ticket holders have until October 8th to purchase their seats after which they go on general sale. Ticket number 32 from the back of their Season Ticket book should be handed in at the time they buy their tickets.

If applying by post, a S.A.E. must be added. By selling the tickets inside the ground at least our regular fans are given the chance to get a ticket for the game and one ticket per person should be adequate to satisfy our regular 8,000 people.

I know that we will be criticized by some people for the way we are selling them but we can't please everybody. There are always people who haven't missed a game for years but somehow can't get to today's match. The tickets will also be on sale after the game today from the same kiosks. It has been stated to me that the extra people we hope to get in to watch the Cup tie would pay the extra expense we have had to incur. This is not so.

The gate money is split up as follows. After all expenses have been paid out, that is for, Gatemen, Police, Floodlights, the three officials, St. Johns Ambulance Brigade, printing of tickets, visitors expenses and the biggest 'jolt' of all, the V.A.T. man, — 4% goes to the Football League, 20% to a pool operated by the Football League and what's left is split equally between the two clubs. We do not get as much as some people think.

Now something of a lighter vein. Our maintenance engineer, Fred Bunyan swears that we have a 'spirit' haunting our stand. On four occasions last season he has seen, on reporting for work in the early hours of the dark mornings, a whiff of smoke coming from the corner of the players tunnel and the dressing rooms. He says that it disappears as soon as he gets near it. He hasn't seen it so far this season, so perhaps it has heard of freedom of contract and has left to join Watford. If so then we will have to claim compensation in lieu of haunting services.

Enjoy the match!

Jimmy Husband made it a rare day when he cracked four goals in our 7-1 victory over Charlton. He also made it a day to remember for his team mates on the day for he has been awarded a case of J & B Rare Scotch Whisky — to be presented before today's game (v. Blackburn) — which will be shared, including the substitute, among the team.

J & B, the largest selling Scotch in the United States, has offered a case of its Rare whisky to every league player who scores a hat-trick in the League, League Cup (from the third round proper). Actually Jimmy Husband is certain to be in a little bit of bother for boss Harry Haslam learned from the J & B U.K. sales manager John Hughes that had Jimmy notched six goals he would have earned two cases for the team.

We recently received the following letter from Cardiff City and in view of our visit to them on October 8th all of our travelling supporters are urged to study its contents most carefully.

Dear Mr. Secretary,
I shall be grateful if you will note that my Club will be operating an Identity Pass system for the 1977/78 season, which requires any supporter under the age of 20 to have an identity pass to attend Ninian Park.

However, alternative arrangements have been made with the Police with regard to visiting supporters so that any of your supporters under the age of 20 years wishing to attend a match at Ninian Park must be accompanied by an adult. Special arrangements can be made for official supporters club parties, including persons under the age of 20, provided they can produce a supporters club membership card. The Secretary of the supporters club should contact me to discuss details.

In connection with the advanced booking arrangements for tickets at Ninian Park, I shall be grateful if you will note that due to the restrictions placed on the ground under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act, 1975, some stand tickets may not be available for our match with you and I shall be grateful if you require tickets, if you will check with me a little nearer the date of our match as to their availability.

Yours sincerely, L. G. Hayward, Sec.

PLAYER PROFILE



Full Name – Gary John Heale
Height – 5' 11"
Weight – 11st. 7lb.
Birthplace – Canvey Island Essex
Birthday – 15th July .
Star Sign – Cancer
Signed as Pro. – November '76
League Debut – Sept. 3rd v. Charlton
Previous Clubs – None
Family – Mum, Dad, Sister Pat, Brother Billy.
Hobbies – Fast Cars, Snooker, Music
Favourite Foods – Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes
Favourite Recording Stars – Marvin Gaye, Average White Band, Donna Summer

Favourite Holiday Resort – Benidorm, Spain
Best Country Visited – U.S.A.
Biggest Disappointment – None
Advice to Young Players – Listen and Learn from Coaches and Experienced Players
When I Finish Playing – Have not thought about it.
My Greatest Moment – Scoring on my debut in the League v Charlton
Ambition – Become a regular 1st Team Player.

Autograph

BEHIND THE SCENES

ON THURSDAY, 7th September our popular winger John Aston signed for Mansfield Town. John joined the Town in July 1972 and gave some memorable performances during his five full seasons. Throughout this period he continued to live and train for most of the time in his native Lancashire and increasing business commitments have finally resulted in his moving to a club nearer his home. Whilst wishing John every success with Mansfield (except when playing against Luton) we would like to thank him for the great pleasure he has given us over the past five years.

Another recent move resulted in Peter Mead joining Northampton Town for whom he made his debut on August 29th in the League Cup. A local lad from Tilsworth who joined the Club as an apprentice in 1973, Peter was a popular member of the staff and he acquitted himself extremely well for the first team on the tour of the USA and New Zealand. However, with the competition particularly fierce for defenders at Kenilworth Road at present Peter decided that he would have greater opportunities with the Cobblers and we wish him every success. Incidentally Peter celebrated his 21st Birthday on 9th September so congratu-

tulations and Best Wishes from us all.

It was with great pleasure that we learnt of the birth of a Son, Paul, to Annette and Keith Barber. Paul who weighed 7lb. 8oz is their first child and we are sure that you would want to join with all at Kenilworth Rd. in sending our warmest congratulations.

It was with sadness that we heard of the sudden death of Mr. Ernest Brown who had been Headmaster of Stopsley High School for the past two years. Although Mr. Brown was not a regular attender at our matches we did enjoy his company on a few occasions and his co-operation and goodwill towards the club was much appreciated.

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Floral displays in the Vice President Suite this season have been kindly donated by Raymond Fox of Bishopsgate Road, Luton.

LAST HOME MATCH ACTION...

LUTON 7 CHARLTON 1

AFTER smacking it into the net four times, Jim Husband took the match-ball home with him after our last home match. "He had it on the pitch so often we decided he might as well keep it", said manager Harry Haslam.

It's the second time Jim has earned a Luton Town ball — the other is the one with which he scored his first hat-trick for us, against Orient three years ago.

Ronnie Futchter also has a hat-trick ball among his souvenirs — won against Wolves in the First Division — and left the Charlton match wondering how on earth he had failed to join in the goal-scoring fun.

"He was a bit choked about that, but we're not complaining", said happy Harry. "Ron made a big contribution to the score-line by the work he put in".

Our pictures show two of Jim's four goals. On the right is the one that gave players and coaches most pleasure. The team had worked on this particular trick for hours — Alan West flicked the ball over the defensive wall and Husband's timing and pace put him in exactly the right spot to lash in a left foot drive for our first goal.

On the left Jim shows that he can use his right foot equally well. Once more his speed off the mark had outwitted Charlton's attempts to keep him at bay, and this drive was Jim's second goal and our fourth.



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ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

A look back at Luton Town a decade ago.
By BRIAN SWAIN, Sports Editor, Luton News.

IN THE space of eight days in September 1967 the Town faced up to soccer at both ends of the scale, with league games against Hartlepoons and Newport County, and a Football League Cup match with Leeds United who were about to embark on a run of tremendous success.

The midweek confrontation with mighty Leeds had caught the imagination of most Town supporters, although the Division Four match with Hartlepoons, on September 9, 1967, was hardly inspiring.

The North-Easterners came to Kenilworth Road intent on saving a point. They packed their penalty area and strangled the game so far as entertainment was concerned.

It needed something special to break the deadlock, and in the 56th minute Bruce Rioch provided it. He picked up a loose ball in midfield, drifted past one defender and then sent a 30-yard rocket shot screaming into the net. It was the Town's 3,000th goal in league soccer, and ended Hartlepool's unbeaten record for that season.

Then came the trip to Leeds, and the Town, Fourth Division minnows, weren't given a chance by the pundits. At Leeds Don Revie was building a team that was to become a modern phenomenon, aided by former Town skipper and manager Syd Owen.

The Town went down fighting, but came home convinced that they might easily have had a draw. The reason they didn't was that this was one of the days when a young Leeds goalkeeper chose to have a brilliant match. Gary Sprake was outstanding, and unfortunately for Luton showed no inclination to produce the classic clangers that later made him famous.

He made two superb saves against Rioch, and with Billy Bremner, Jack Charlton and Norman Hunter all playing well the Town's well-drilled midfield was eventually snuffed out.

Sprake's two notable saves kept the score-line blank until Peter Lorimer unleashed one of his specials to put Leeds ahead in the 57th minute. But a minute later Sprake was heartily booed by his own team's supporters when he upended Micky Brown in the box, and Ray Whittaker equalised from the penalty.

Lorimer restored the Leeds advantage with a penalty after John Moore handled, and then completed his hat-trick with a volley to give Leeds a 3-1 win.

On Saturday September 16, 1967 it was back to Fourth Division duty at Newport. It was a bit of an anti-climax after Leeds, but a shrewd move by Allan Brown earned the Town a valuable point.

Gerry King, who had left Kenilworth Road the previous season, put Newport ahead a minute before half-time, and an out-of-touch Town team was struggling to find the way to goal.

But in the 59th minute, manager Brown opted, for the first time, to use his sub for tactical reasons, under the new subs law which no longer insisted a man must be injured before being withdrawn.

Micky Brown was called off and Alan Slough sent on, and within a minute Slough blasted a first-time goal from the edge of the penalty area. The draw gave the Town seven points from their first six games and the late lamented "Green 'Un" reported: "Promotion looks possible, especially if the promised forward re-inforcements arrive".

YOUTH

By George Rogers

THE YOUTH team continued where they left off last season by winning the three games played so far. On Bank Holiday Monday they visited Barnet, winning 1-0, Mick Pacey scoring the vital goal. Alan Judge played extremely well in the Luton goal. In the second match v Stevenage, Danny Bergara was able to use some of the Youth players who normally play in the reserves and they had an easy win, scoring twelve without reply. The goals were scored by Godfrey Ingram 5, Nigel Johnson 3 Mick Pacey 2 Wayne Turner 1 and Alan Currie 1.

Last Saturday 10th. September the team visited Letchworth Garden City and won by 4 goals to 1. The goals were scored by Mick Pacey 2, Nigel Johnson 1 and Percy Pearson 1. Team: A. Judge, J. Murphy, R. Eaton, R. Howson, L. Harriott, T. Stewart, A. Pearson, S. Rowlands, N. Johnson, M. Pacey, J. Woodward, N. Madden and S. Patterson.

It was pleasing to see a number of supporters at the Chrysler Sports ground at Houghton Regis when we played Stevenage the other Saturday. Most of the Youth games will be played on this ground with an 11 a.m. K.O. (Details of these games are in the local newspapers). Why don't you come along and support your stars of the future.

Future Youth games: Today v Hertford, 1st October v Cambridge City, 15th October v Letchworth.

During the school summer holidays a number of boys have been invited to the town ground for Coaching and I am sure that all the boys attending have benefited from this. I notice that the Bedfordshire Football Association is also organising a Coaching Course for selected Youth players. This to take place at the Bisham Abbey Sports Centre at Marlow during the week-end 7th-9th October. Providing the boys involved take advantage of the coaching given at these sessions, their game should benefit considerably.

Last Sunday I went to Stopsley Sports Centre, where the local teams commenced their programme. Five games were in progress and the ones I watched were Stopsley B.C. losing to Colwell 1-0 in the under 16 league and Sacred Heart beating Stopsley B.C. 5-4 in the under 14 league. Regretfully not one of the five games at Stopsley had an official Referee, but the volunteers acting as Referees did an excellent job, enabling the boys to have an afternoon game.

CROSSWORD No.3

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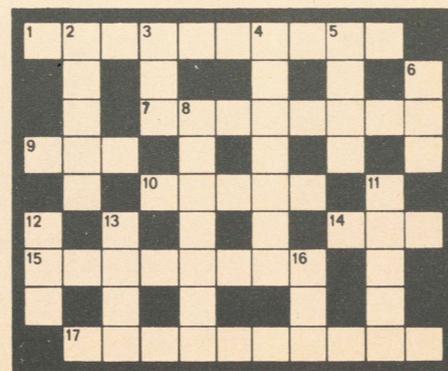


CLUES — Across

- 1 Aldershot's Ground (10)
- 7 Much-travelled former international now often heard as a radio soccer commentator (5,3)
- 9 ... and who in 1961 scored this many goals for Manchester City in an abandoned F.A. Cup tie (3)
- 10 Barber or Bradley (5)
- 14 ... Evans (Crystal Palace & Wales) (3)
- 15 Number that Johan Cruyff always used to wear (8)
- 17 League ever-present and top-scorer for Southport last season (4,6)

CLUES — Down

- 2 First name of McLintock's first Leicester buy (5)
- 3 ... Arnold was a League ever-present for Mansfield last season (3)
- 4 Meadowbank ... (7)
- 5 Nickname of Sheffield Wednesday (4)
- 6 & 16 dn. Score by which Hamburg beat Anderlecht to win the European Cup-Winners' Cup (3-3)
- 8 Club that was the unfortunate victim of both BBC's and ITV's "Goal of the Season" (7)
- 11 ... Cesar (Botafogo & Brazil) (5)
- 12 Players' Union (1,1,1)
- 13 Last season their line-up included Haigh, Hawley and Hemmerman (4)
- 16 See 6 dn.



Answers to Crossword No. 2

Across — 1. Nantes. 6. Libero. 7. Hyde. 8. Kennedy. 11. Everiss. 13. Bees. 14. Sansom. 15. Result.

Down — 1. Mike. 2. Deans. 3. Nordqvist. 4. Tove. 5. Speaks. 8. Kember. 9. Frank. 10. Reds. 12. Show.

COMBINATION

WHEN a club such as ours commits itself to a policy of producing its own players from schoolboys we cannot afford to ignore any recommendations that we receive. During a typical week I receive about fifteen to twenty letters and several phone messages about young hopefuls. We must be as thorough as possible whilst, at the same time, remaining aware of the club's purse strings. Consequently we do not hold regular weekend trials for lads from different parts of the country as is the practice at many big clubs because of the high costs of providing accommodation. We are aware that in the immediate area, including Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire we face opposition from several Football League clubs. Derby County, Bristol City, Watford and all the London clubs are constantly scouring the area.

Most of the better schoolboy players usually make the town or county teams and we follow their form as they progress through the under 14 and under 15 stages. I would advise lads who are thinking of a career in football to get a qualified person such as a schoolmaster to verify their ability. A coach or teacher has a better idea of standards and a more realistic view. Of the boys invited for trials who have either written on their own behalf, or whose parents have written, very few have measured up to the standard required.

Of course some boys with outstanding football ability do not come to our notice as quickly as others. They may be attending rugby playing schools or have a sportsmaster with an apathetic attitude to soccer who does not recommend his boys for county trials. Some boys lead others to the Club. I well remember a phone call two seasons ago from a Youth Club Manager telling us that he had a youngster whom he considered a better prospect than his colleague who had written in and been invited for a trial. I took one look at the player and realised that his manager was 100% right. The player Gary Sisman, is now on the staff and, with luck and determination will go right to the top. A phone call from a friendly schoolmaster led Roy McCrohan and I to Bessemer School, Hitchin, one Tuesday afternoon

two seasons ago. There we watched Sir John Kelly School from Cricklewood play in the Pepsi-Cola Under 16 Competition. After the game we invited the big wing half to Luton for trials. That player was Ricky Hill. There are many other such cases. The Boss's contacts have sent several excellent lads for successful trials.

One of the most amusing, yet serious recommendations we received came from a Mr. Eric Morecambe O.B.E. Three seasons ago we were discussing goalkeeping merits when Eric told us that he knew a goalkeeper who would give his right arm to play for Luton. We told him that we had enough problems with normal lads and we felt that a one-armed keeper was going too far. However, for once, Eric was not joking and the lad developed in our Youth and Reserve sides very well before continuing his education at St. Lukes College, Exeter. I suggested to the Exeter City manager, John Newman that he should give the player a chance and John Baugh, now in his last year at University; was the regular City keeper during their promotion run-in and is now playing for them in the 3rd. Division. We have since asked our good friend Mr. Morecambe to look out for players with only one foot!

Our standards must remain high but we appreciate all the help we are given. We hope that you, the supporters, will continue to feed us with information in our efforts to the brightest of the youngsters in this area. We shall develop them carefully and, with our guidance, they can secure a good future in the game for themselves and for our Club.

THE DAVID PLEAT PAGE

IT'S IRONICAL

Football is full of ironies. I was reminded of this two weeks ago when I wrote in my programme notes about Charlton Athletic's success at dead ball situations. We of course proceeded to score our first goal with a superbly executed free kick and our opponents were demoralised on the day. Those who saw the game will have noted, however, that Charlton did show good ideas from both corners and free kicks.

There are many incidents and events concerning players, coaches, managers and clubs which illustrate the unpredictability of football. Just consider one or two on the managerial scene.

Midway through last season, John Newman, the manager of 4th. Division Exeter City left to take over Third Division Grimsby Town. Exeter flourished whilst Grimsby faded with the result that the former were promoted and the latter relegated. So now likeable John has the job of getting Grimsby out of the basement. Don Howe, a super bloke, who coaches quietly with great tact and thought piloted Arsenal in their magic year of 1971-72. Amid controversy he left them with fellow coach Brian Whitehouse and physio George Wright for the Hawthorns. His work paved the way for promotion for Albion but he moved on to Leeds. Now who should recall Don Howe in their need to restore their pride? — Arsenal, of course!

Several seasons ago when the controversial Tommy Docherty left Chelsea, Dave Sexton took over. Recently when Manchester United needed to change, Dave Sexton was given the job following, of course, Tommy Docherty. The chances of a third takeover in the future can never be ruled out.

And what about players. An irony that springs to mind is the case of Steve Buckley's brother Alan at Walsall. He was given a free transfer at Forest by Dave Mackay. When Dave took over at Walsall he inherited a much wanted goalscoring centre forward — Alan Buckley. He immediately stated that under no circumstances would he sell the player!

Talking of the big-hearted Dave Mackay

helped them to win both the 2nd and 1st Division titles. Who replaced Clough when he resigned? Dave Mackay, of course, and who did Derby want to take over when they forced Dave to quit? None other than Brian Clough!

★

DAVID PLEAT'S QUIZ BALL No. 3

1. Name the 3rd name;
(a) Harvey, _____, Kendall
(b) Robson, Jezzard, _____
(c) Stiles, _____, Peters,
2. Who is the main club coach at
(a) Orient (b) Millwall (c) Brighton.
3. Name the other striking half of the partnership.
(a) Crawford and _____, (Early 1960's)
(b) Gilzean and _____, (Late 1960's)
(c) Radford and _____, (Early 1970's)
(d) Toshack and _____, (Very recent)
(Answers in Programme No. 5).

Answers to Quiz Ball No. 1.

1. (a) Arthur Rowley. (b) 434 Goals.
(c) Shrewsbury Town. (d) Shrewsbury Town, Sheffield United, Southend United.
2. (a) John Newman. (b) Exeter City, Grimsby Town.
3. Boothferry Park. All the other grounds are in Lancashire.

Congratulations to Mr. T. P. Hunt of 55, Cobden Street, Luton who submitted the only all correct solution.

QUESTION VOUCHER No. 3

COMBINATION REPORT

Mon. 5th Sept. Luton Town 3 Ipswich 1.
Scorers Ingram, Carr, Bowen.

Our youngsters continued their bright start to the season with a well deserved victory over a powerful Ipswich side. We had the confidence of a good start, taking the lead after only two minutes. Ingram raced on to a clever pass from Keith Bowen, outpaced a square defence, drew Sivell and scored. Play swung from end to end but it was mid-field player Carr who scored the vital second goal from a cleverly worked free kick after 25 minutes. Ipswich maintained their challenge and a minute before half-time Parkin scored after we failed to clear a right wing corner. In the second period we raised our game, Smith, Carr and Turner regaining control of the mid-field. Jones and McNichol held the lively Bond and Turner whilst Currie and Sisman kept a close watch on the dangerous Lambert.

With 15 minutes to go Keith Bowen, playing his first game for the club, scored with a low shot. In the last ten minutes Ipswich twice went close when Jones cleared from Lambert and Knight saved Bond's shot. The crowd thoroughly enjoyed the game and applauded our youngsters off the field.

Team: Knight, Currie, Sisman, Smith, Jones, McNichol, Turner, Carr, Ingram, Bowen, Driver: Sub. Johnson.

Sat. 10th Sept. Luton Town 1 Swindon 2.
Scorer G Ingram.

In view of the previous three games this was a most disappointing performance. We started with a casual approach at the back and this quickly spread through the team. Poor defensive play allowed our visitors three good chances which they failed to take before Durbridge then Gilligan punished us for our lethargy. With Jones and McNichol completely at sea against the Swindon aggression and Smith and Heale failing to make any impact, we faced the second half with the odds stacked in Swindon's favour. Ingram and Bowen were a little more positive in the second half and we showed a more determined attitude. Ingram scored with a fine drive from a free kick with 30 minutes remaining. We pressed frantically and Smith, Heale, Bowen and Ingram were unlucky not to score, in addition to which the referee failed to spot an obvious handball in the visitors' penalty area. However, as the minutes ticked away we lost our composure and Swindon looked dangerous on the break. This was undoubtedly a poor team effort lacking commitment and determination and proving how the fortunes of a group of youngsters (all the players are in their teens) can fluctuate from week to week.

Team: Knight, Currie, Sisman, Smith, Jones, McNichol, Heale, Turner, Ingram, Bowen, Driver: Sub. Wilkinson.

FACTS & FIGURES ~ 1977-78

	Goals		ALEKSIC	JONES	BUCKLEY	CARR	FAULKNER	FUTCHER P.	HUSBAND	SMITH	BOERSMA	FUCILLO	ASTON	HILL	McNICHOL	PRICE	FUTCHER P.	WEST	HEALE
	F	A																	
Aug 20 Orient	1	0	1	2	31	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	2	11	9		
Aug 27 Oldham Athletic	0	1	1	12	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Aug 30 Wolves (LC2)	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Sept 3 Charlton Athletic	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Sept 10 Bristol Rovers	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Sept 17 Blackburn Rovers	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Sept 24 Tottenham Hotspur	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Sept 27 Brighton & Hove Albion	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Oct 1 Notts County	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Oct 4 Millwall	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Oct 8 Cardiff City	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Oct 15 Fulham	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Oct 22 Blackpool	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Oct 25 Man. City (LC3)	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Oct 29 Bolton Wanderers	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Nov 5 Hull City	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Nov 12 Mansfield Town	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Nov 19 Stoke City	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Nov 26 Sunderland (1)	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Nov 30 League Cup 4	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Dec 3 Burnley	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Dec 10 Southampton	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Dec 17 Mansfield Town (2)	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Dec 26 Crystal Palace	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Dec 27 Sheffield United	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Dec 31 Brighton & Hove Albion	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
1978																			
Jan 2 Orient	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Jan 7 F.A. Cup 3	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Jan 14 Oldham Athletic	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Jan 18 League Cup 5	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Jan 21 Charlton Athletic	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Jan 28 F.A. Cup 4	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Feb 4 Bristol Rovers	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Feb 8 League Cup SF	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Feb 11 Blackburn Rovers	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Feb 15 League Cup SF	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Feb 18 Tottenham Hotspur (5)	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Feb 25 Notts County	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Feb 28 Cardiff City	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Mar 4 Fulham (6)	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Mar 11 Blackpool (LCF)	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Mar 18 Bolton Wanderers	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Mar 21 Sheffield United	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Mar 24 Crystal Palace	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Mar 27 Hull City	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Apr 1 Sunderland (SF)	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Apr 8 Stoke City	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Apr 15 Southampton	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Apr 22 Millwall	7	1	1	31	12	12	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Apr 26 Burnley	2	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
Apr 29 F.A. Cup Final	3	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10	11	8	2	11	10	10	
May 6																			

Bold figures indicate scorers

MASCOT

Today's Team Mascot is Barry Harp of 14 Dryden Road, Harrow Weald, Middlesex. Barry is a member of the Junior Hatters Club and although not living locally he and his father and sister are regular attenders at Kenilworth Rd. His favourite player is Jimmy Husband.

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DIVISION TWO

Table of Results - As at 15.9.77

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bolton	5	3	0	0	5	2	1	1	0	1	0	9
Tottenham	5	3	0	0	7	3	0	2	0	0	0	8
Stoke	5	3	0	0	4	2	0	1	1	1	5	7
Blackpool	5	1	1	0	4	2	0	1	1	7	5	7
Southampton	5	2	1	0	5	1	1	0	1	3	3	7
Brighton	4	2	0	0	8	1	1	0	1	2	2	6
Luton	5	1	1	1	5	4	1	1	0	4	1	6
C. Palace	5	1	1	0	4	2	0	2	0	2	1	5
Blackburn	5	1	1	0	3	0	1	0	2	4	1	5
Hull	5	2	0	0	3	0	0	1	2	4	7	5
Oldham	5	1	1	0	4	1	0	2	1	3	6	5
Sunderland	4	2	0	0	5	1	0	2	1	2	8	5
Charlton	5	0	2	1	4	5	0	1	1	3	4	3
Notts Co.	5	0	2	1	4	5	0	1	1	3	4	3
Orient	5	0	2	1	6	7	0	1	2	2	4	3
Bristol R.	5	1	1	0	3	4	0	1	1	2	4	3
Mansfield	5	1	1	1	3	3	0	0	2	1	4	3
Cardiff	4	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	3	3
Fulham	5	1	1	0	3	1	0	0	3	3	10	3
Sheff. Utd.	5	0	1	1	0	3	0	1	2	3	5	2
Millwall	5	0	1	1	0	3	0	1	2	3	1	8
Burnley	5	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	3	1	8

COMBINATION

As at 12.9.77

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Southampton	4	4	0	0	12	0	8
O.P.R.	5	4	0	1	7	1	8
Chelsea	5	3	1	0	14	4	7
Fulham	4	2	1	0	5	2	6
Bristol City	5	2	2	1	9	7	6
Luton Town	4	2	1	1	10	5	5
Hereford United	4	2	1	1	7	6	5
Birmingham City	5	1	3	1	5	4	5
Crystal Palace	5	2	1	2	0	5	3
West Ham	3	1	2	0	5	3	4
Arsenal	5	2	0	3	8	6	



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LUTON LATEST

JUNIOR HATTERS CLUB

We would like to hear from all our young supporters, under the age of 13 who have not yet joined the Junior Hatters Club.

If you would like an autographed photograph of your favourite player sent to you on your Birthday, a seat in the Bobbers Wing Stand for 75p (League matches only), an opportunity to take part in a competition every home game, also a chance to be our Mascot, then join the other 160 members of this club.

All you have to do is to write to Wayne Morgan, Luton Town F.C., Kenilworth Road, Luton, giving your name, address, date of birth and the name of your favourite Luton player with a 40p postal order.

Members will receive a membership card and an enrolment number which will be available from the souvenir shop in Kenilworth Road.



COMPETITION

This week's competition is club colours. Can you name the colours of the following teams:

(a) Cambridge United, (b) Northampton Town, (c) Stoke City, (d) Barnsley. Send your entries to Competition, Kenilworth Road, Luton. The first correct entry picked out on Friday 23rd. will receive a scarf. The answers will be in our next home programme.

BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

Birthday greetings to the following members.
Paul Conlon (4th) Stephen Dickman (5th) Dannie Bonner (11th) Clair Hanley (11th) Mark Pinney (12th) David Shelton (14th) Stephen Slight (20th) Ian Gallagher (23rd) Kenny Warboys (24th) Paul Miller (26th) David Gorbutt (28th) Robert McAvoy (30th).

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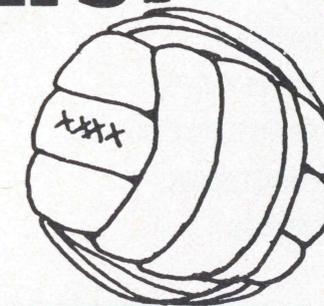
SPURS v LUTON TOWN
SATURDAY, 24th SEPTEMBER 1977, K.O. 3pm

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TUESDAY 27th SEPTEMBER 1977, K.O. 7.45pm

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- 4 DAVID CARR
- 5 JOHN FAULKNER
- 6 PAUL FUTCHER
- 7 JIMMY HUSBAND
- 8 RICKY HILL
- 9 RON FUTCHER
- 10 PASQUALE FUCCILLO
- 11 PHIL BOERSMA
- 12 TIM SMITH



- PAUL BRADSHAW 1
- DEREK FAZACKERLEY 2
- JOHN BAILEY 3
- STUART METCALFE 4
- GLEN KEELEY 5
- GRAHAM HAWKINS 6
- NOEL BROTHERSTON 7
- KEVIN HIRD 8
- JOHN LEWIS 9
- TONY PARKES 10
- DAVE WAGSTAFFE 11
- BOBBY MITCHELL 12

- Arsenal
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- Everton
- Norwich
- Ipswich
- Liverpool
- Q.P.R.
- Man. City
- Blackpool
- Tottenham
- Burnley
- Brighton
- Cardiff
- Mansfield
- Fulham
- Notts Co.
- Hull
- Stoke
- Millwall
- Southampton
- Oldham
- Charlton
- Orient
- Bristol R.
- Sheffield Utd.
- C. Palace
- Sunderland
- Bolton

OFFICIALS

Referee: Mr R. Challis (Tonbridge, Kent). Commenced refereeing with R.A.F. in Singapore (1952) then progressed via Kent League. Southern League - referee for 10 seasons - Football League line to full list in 1968. Has refereed F.A. Challenge Trophy Final and a European Competition Final in 1976. Lined the Football Association Cup Final in 1975, also twice in Inter-Cities Cup matches. Married and with two sons is a Magazine Production Officer. Keen member of Referees' Association who enjoys visiting societies for talks on Laws of the Game. Hobbies are photography and playing squash.

Linesmen: Red flag - Mr M K Bevan (Melksham); Yellow flag - J T Kensett (Croydon).