

LUTON TOWN

Official
Programme

20p

OLDHAM ATHLETIC

Football League
Division Two

Saturday 14 January 1978
Kick-off: 3.00pm



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Top Teams Train On



HARRY HASLAM



HELLO AGAIN and welcome back to all of you – and to Oldham! It seems odd to be playing them again today for the third time in eight days, but after recent weeks nothing that happens in football could surprise me.

You will have read that we have had one or two little local difficulties behind the scenes, and until now I have purposely said nothing on the subject in this column until things were settled.

Now everything has been sorted out to the satisfaction of all concerned, and I can tell you that I am delighted with the way things have turned out. The newspapers had

a field day with reports saying that I was wanted all over the place. There were times when I wondered just who this bloke Haslam was when I read some of the jobs he was said to be taking.

I never wanted to leave Luton Town. It might not be a glamorous club, but I have always been happy here despite the hard work that has had to be done to keep the club going. It's been a challenge, to put it mildly, and despite all the trials and tribulations it has been a full and interesting life. My wife and family also like Luton, so when the decision was finally reached to stay in the town we were all very pleased. And I would like to say a big thank-you to all of you who took the trouble to write to me to give your views. I am trying to reply to them all, but there were so many that I might not be able to. So please, would you take this as a sincere thanks.

I would also like to say something to those of you who felt that we should not have sold Steve Buckley. I know exactly how you feel. As a manager I never want to see class players being allowed to leave. But we also have to realise that we are living in a hard commercial world. All clubs have to keep the money flowing in, and on our gates there was no way we could keep making profits. In the past we have had to sell players for purely financial reasons, and that was again the case over Buckley's transfer.

We had to draw in money to reduce the bank overdraft. That was the main reason why Buckley left. The good thing is that now the overdraft figure is manageable, and I was delighted to hear our chairman say that this should be the last time Luton Town is forced to sell a player for purely financial reasons.

It ought to be said as well that Steve was naturally ambitious, and wanted to play in the First Division. I am sure he will do well with Derby County, and I have no doubt he will make the best of his opportunity.

The most sickening news this week came on Monday when Alan West went to hospital for a full examination of the injury that caused him to be carried off on Saturday.

He had been in a lot of pain all weekend. We had all hoped that it would turn out to be nothing worse than severe bruising and swelling, and it was a major blow when the hospital confirmed that in fact there is a bone fracture.

It's typical of the way football can give managers one headache after another. At the time of writing these notes it was not known how long the injury would take to heal.

If the captain has anything to do with it it won't be long! Like all our players his attitude is simple and dedicated: he wants to get back as quickly as possible, and we all share that wish for him.

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WELCOME



OLDHAM

CHRIS OGDEN (Goalkeeper) Signed professional in July 1971 after progressing through the junior ranks. Came in for the injured John Platt last season. He is following in his father's footsteps, his father being the Oldham Goalkeeper in the early fifties.

JOHN PLATT (Goalkeeper) Ashton born aged 23 years, played regularly in the 1st team until injury. Signed as a boy from Ashton United. A player full of promise and of high calibre.

IAN WOOD (Full Back) 28 years old, signed from Radcliffe F.C. 11 years ago and considered an outstanding capture. A firm favourite with the fans, he has just completed his testimonial year. Consistent play has made the right back position his own.

MAURICE WHITTLE (Full Back) Signed from Blackburn Rovers as a Wing-Half in May '69 and successfully converted to Full Back. A lethal left shot has made him number one penalty taker having not missed from the spot in four seasons.

ALAN GROVES (Winger) Signed from Bournemouth four seasons ago

for a fee of £10,000. Was previously with Shrewsbury and Southport. One of the most exciting and skillful players in the Second Division.

KEITH HICKS (Centre Back) A local boy who again came through the junior ranks. Aged 23 and is an established First Team player. Gained youth international honours in 1972. A player with a great future.

PAUL EDWARDS (Centre Back) Ex-Manchester United and England under 23 International signed by Athletic after a loan period for £12,000. Strong and commanding at the back, with a flair for notching goals.

RON BLAIR (Midfield) Signed from Coleraine as a boy, then left the club to join Rochdale. He came back to Oldham four years ago. An Irish international with great determination.

GRAHAM BELL (Midfield) Another Oldham produced player whose father also played for Oldham for many years. Signed professional forms four years ago. One of the most exciting midfield players in the Second Division. A player who should go far in the game.



DAVID HOLT (Centre Back) Signed from Bury for £22,000 in November '74. One of the best young central defenders about, at 24 years of age a bargain buy for Oldham.

LES CHAPMAN (Midfield) In his second spell with 'Latics. Signed from Huddersfield as part of the exchange deal involving Colin Garwood. Began his career as a winger, now a tireless midfield player.

ALAN YOUNG (Striker) Age 21, represented Scotland four seasons ago at schoolboy level before joining Oldham. This tall clever striker has been unlucky with injuries last season, but has great ability to re-establish himself as Oldham's centre forward.

DAVID SHAW (Striker) Aged 29, in his second spell with Oldham, having previously been with Huddersfield Town. Left Oldham to join W.B.A. for a club record transfer fee of £80,000. Re-joined Oldham from W.B.A. on a free transfer in the middle of the '76/77 season. A quick and popular striker for Oldham.

VIC HALOM (Striker) Aged 28, signed from Sunderland in the close season of '76 and in the 76/77 season was Oldham's top scorer. A strong player who has the ability to destroy defences both in the air and on the ground.

DAVID IRVING (Striker) Aged 25, started his career with Workington Town and then moved to Everton for £40,000 where he gained first team outings before joining Oldham a season ago.

JOHN HURST (Midfield) Started from school to Everton, where he was a consistent member of the Everton first team. Also had 12 England under 23 international caps and was also with the England first team squad on many occasions but did not play for his full cap. A commanding player whose experience is invaluable in the Oldham defence.

CARL VALENTINE (Winger) Signed from Manchester schools. An outside left with great speed, skill and courage. In his first full season as a professional, he turned in some fine first team performances, and should mature as a player to challenge Alan Groves for his first team place.

MIKE BERNARD (Midfield) Signed from Everton this close season. Was previously with Stoke but was transferred to Everton for £140,000. He is able to fit in comfortably in either midfield or in a Full Back position. Height 5' 9" Weight 11½ st.

STEVE GARDNER (Midfield) Signed at the beginning of December for a fee of £10,000 was previously with Ipswich Town. A player of tremendous skill and promise. Height 5' 11" Weight 11½ st.

★

Left to right:

Back row: David Shaw, Chris Ogdren, Gary Hoolikin, John Platt, John Hurst, Ron Blair.

Middle row: Bob Jay (Physio), Walter Griffiths (General Manager), Paul Edwards, David Holt, Alan Young, Keith Hicks, Jimmy Frizzell (Manager), Andy Lochhead (Coach).

Front row: Carl Valentine, Mike Bernard, Graham Bell, Alan Groves (now with Blackpool), Les Chapman, Ian Wood.

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LUTON LATEST

FOR THE second time in the space of eight days we welcome the Directors, Manager, Players, Officials and Supporters of Oldham Athletic Football Club to Kenilworth Road and we congratulate them on having risen from the Division Two basement in mid-November to a position of parity with ourselves on the fringe of the promotion race. This has been achieved during a fine run of eight league matches in which only three points have been surrendered — impressive form indeed.

Oldham made a resounding start to their league career when, following election to the 2nd Division in 1907, they completed their first season in 3rd place, the second in sixth place and won promotion to Division One in only their 3rd season by being runners up to Manchester City. An impressive start was also made to their 1st Division membership when they achieved 7th place at the end of 1910/11 and although the following season nearly resulted in relegation they returned to form by finishing in equal 3rd place in 1913/14 and by going one better in 1914/15 when Everton pipped them for the Championship by one point. On the resumption of league football in 1919 Oldham struggled to recapture their former glory and in 1923 they left Division One and have not as yet managed to regain the top flight.

We referred last week to the apparent lack of any Cup history between Luton and Oldham and the league record is hardly more significant. By the time we had gained a place in Division 2 in 1937, our visitors had departed to the 3rd Division North (1935) and it was not until season 1953/54 that the two Clubs met in a league match for the first time.

In that season Oldham's first and last in the Second Division for many years, our visitors shared eight goals equally with us at Kenilworth Road on the opening day of the campaign. For Luton, Downie scored a hatrick whilst Pemberton converted a penalty.

In the return match at Oldham, Gordon Turner playing alongside Jesse Pye ensured victory for the Hatters by scoring both goals in the 2-1 victory. At this half-way

stage in the season Luton were doing extremely well having accumulated 27 points from 22 games but the Lancashire Club was struggling and at the end of 1953/54 returned to the 3rd Division along with Brentford.

It was ten years before the two sides met again in the League following Oldham's promotion from the 4th Division and Luton's relegation from the 2nd Division at the end of 1962/63 and it was the turn of the Bedfordshire side to struggle. Oldham came south in November and won 2-1, the home side's only goal coming again from Gordon Turner, one of three survivors from the 1953/54 team, the others being Baynham and Morton. The unexpected reversal of form in April gave the Town a 1-0 victory in Lancashire which helped to postpone for one year their drop into the 4th Division. Playing at half back in both Oldham sides that season was Jimmy Frizzell now of course their Manager.

The following season started promisingly with Luton winning three and drawing one of the first four away games and one of these successes was at Boundary Park with Reid scoring both goals in the 2-0 victory. However by the time of the return fixture in January the Town were losing ground rapidly and still had three away victories to their credit. More ominously they had only registered three home victories out of fourteen matches and the second 2-0 victory over Oldham must have come as a considerable relief. The scorers on this occasion were McKechnie (penalty) and Dave Pacey and the attendance was 5,290. Both Luton teams contained a right winger named David Pleat and at Kenilworth Road included a teenage inside left, Bruce Rioch. Despite this "double" over the "Latics", Luton finished in 21st place and were relegated. Oldham finished one place higher and survived for four more seasons. Once again our paths crossed but briefly as Luton, newly promoted, again did the double and finished in 3rd place in 1969 as Oldham slumped to 24th. Having scored four without reply at Kenilworth Road in August, the Hatters must have fancied their chances when they left Boundary Park in March with two more points and a total of 40 from

31 matches. This was only their fifth away win but the home record at this stage of the season was one of which Liverpool would have been envious — Played 14, Won 13, Drawn 1, Points 27.

A further seven seasons were to pass before our two clubs met again although Oldham spent only two seasons in the 4th and won the 3rd Division Championship in 1973/74 the year Luton were promoted to the 1st Division.

Our visitors had the better of the exchanges in 1975/76 winning at Luton 3-2 and drawing at home 1-1 but we returned to our "double" ways last season when we succeeded by the odd goal on both occasions. Including Oldham's victory on 27th August last, our full league record against them is as follows:—

Played 13, Won 8, Drawn 2, Lost 3.

★

WE ALSO welcome today our Match Sponsors, Palmers Scaffolding Ltd. and we hope that the Directors, Staff and Guests of the Company enjoy their afternoon's entertainment.

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★

TODAY barring accidents, Steve Buckley will be making his debut for his new club Derby County. As County are at home to fellow Midlanders and league leaders Nottingham Forest there will be no shortage of atmosphere and tension and I am sure that you would wish to join with us in sending our very best wishes to Steve on this important occasion.

Steve Buckley joined Luton from Burton Albion in April 1974, gained a first team place in the middle of our season in the First Division and never looked back.

A tremendous competitor, Steve always gave 100% even when injured and we shall miss him both on and off the field.

A FAVOURITE Sunday pastime amongst some of the staff at Kenilworth Road is to count the number of ex-Luton players who have scored goals on the previous day. Over the Christmas and New Year's holiday this was a particularly fertile field and we counted no fewer than twenty five goals from thirteen ex-Hatters as follows:—

Ryan (Norwich) 4, Halom (Oldham) 4, Biley (Cambridge) 4, Hales (W. Ham) 2, Fern (Chesterfield) 2, Geddis (Ipswich) 2, Busby (Stoke), Finney (Cambridge), MacDonald (Arsenal), King (Everton), Shanks (Q.P.R.), Aston (Mansfield) and Slough (Peterborough). John Ryan had the only 100% record, scoring a goal in every one of the four games and at the other extreme are those whose names did not feature as prominently as they have done earlier in the season. These included Rioch (Derby), Givens (Q.P.R.), Chambers and Seaman (Millwall), Holmes and Spiring (Hereford), Pollock (Portsmouth) and Butlin (Peterborough).



JUNIOR HATTERS CLUB

BIRTHDAYS

MANY Happy Returns of the day to the following members.

Phillip Bonner (8th), Steven Porter (13th), Kevin Woodhead (15th), Phillip Burgin (18th), Ian Saunders (20th), and Ian Dryden (21st).

The above members will be receiving a photograph of their favourite player.

COMPETITION

The answers to our last competition were as follows.

- Manchester City — Maine Road.
- Norwich City — Carrow Road.
- Southampton — The Dell.
- Crewe Alexandra — Gresty Road.
- Lincoln City — Sincil Bank.

The first all correct entry picked out on Friday 6th January was member 165, Simon Thomson from 23 Sanderson Road, Westoning in Bedfordshire.

THIS WEEK'S COMPETITION IS:—

Test your knowledge of Luton Town.

- In which year was Luton founded?
- In which year did this club reach the F.A. Cup Final?
- Which player was transferred in 1971 for £180,000?
- What is the name of the club's ground?
- What are the club's colours?
- Who is Luton Town's Manager?

Send your entries to Competition, 70-72 Kenilworth Road, Luton, The first correct entry picked out on Friday 20th January will receive two tickets for our home match against BRISTOL ROVERS.

If you would like to join the Junior Hatters Club, then write to Wayne Morgan, Luton Town F.C., Kenilworth Road, Luton, giving your name, address, date of birth, favourite player, a subscription fee of 40p and a stamped address envelope.

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PLAYER PROFILE



FULL NAME – *Pasquale Fuccillo*

HEIGHT – 5' 10"

WEIGHT – 11st. 8lbs.

BIRTHPLACE – *Bedford*

BIRTHDAY – *2nd June*

STAR SIGN – *Gemini*

FIRST SIGNED AS PRO – *1974*

SIGNED FOR LUTON – *May '73*

PREVIOUS CLUBS – *None*

FAMILY – *Wife Jackie & Dog Sally*

HOBBIES – *Golf, Shooting, Football (Coaching)*

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GREATEST FOOTBALL

EXPERIENCE – *Scoring and being selected*

AMBITION – *To play in Division One and be a recognised player*

BEST TEAM PLAYED AGAINST – *Manchester City*

Signature

BEHIND THE SCENES

From the Secretaries Office

THIS WEEK I thought I would give a mention to some people who are often forgotten but without them the Club would be in a sorry state. Men who stand in one place come rain, sun, and wind often get abused by the public but every week they are back again. The gatemen who, working under Ken Halsey & Fred Hayward do a job which not many people would enjoy but when you look at the number of years they have been doing the job, you then realise just what Luton Town means to these people. Bill Richards heads the list with 34 seasons under his belt, closely followed by Ken Halsey & Bill Davies with 30 years. Jack Dowling has 28 & Wally Poulton & Charlie Sheen 24, Fred Hayward 22 & Eric Albone 20. Then come E. Wesley with 19, E. Brooks 14, L. Sulman & C. Bedding 13, C. Dorgan & G. Cooper 12, R. Hirons 11, J. Weir &

B. Fisher 10, and B. Punter with 9. There are still another 27 men that I haven't mentioned all with 8 years service or under. To all these men I, on behalf of the club say a thank you for all the work you are doing and we hope will continue to do for us. As for you supporters, well next time you go through the turnstile, a thank you goes down well rather than abuse. Now for two people that I haven't yet mentioned. How many supporters have stopped and thought how the programmes get distributed around the ground and how the boys pay in the money, well Percy Abbott has been doing that job for 44 years, a lifetime isn't it. Lastly George Barrett. George has been in charge of the bar staff who serve teas in the guest room and also make the tea for the players. I don't think he has seen a football kicked above half a dozen times in the 24

years he has been doing the job. That is what you call loyalty. To all these people we again say thank you and keep up the good work.
A few programmes back I mentioned some of the unusual places where transfers were completed. The transfer of Steve Buckley to Derby was no exception. That one was done in the cafeteria at Watford Gap Service Station. I wonder how many people in there realised what was going on. It did have its disadvantages though because having someone as well known as Tommy Docherty involved, the autograph hunters continually coming to the table made the business a little more difficult. Nevertheless it went through O.K. and we wish Steve the best of luck with his new club.
Enjoy the match.
John Wilkinson

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

GOAL OF THE MONTH?

Luton Town 1 Brighton 0

THE RECORD books will suggest that we had a narrow victory when we beat Brighton to round off soccer for 1977 at Kenilworth Road.

But if the margin was narrow, the victory was very well earned, with Brighton rarely troubling a solid rearguard. And the goal that settled it was well worth the points.

It gave us all a treat, and then provided a lot more enjoyment for millions of people on BBC's "Match of the Day" programme.

Phil Boersma's 32nd-minute header went straight into the programme's Goal of the Month competition, and the only one we could see to compete with it was Brian Kidd's effort for Manchester City.

We think Phil's was the better goal, with a brilliant build-up taking the ball from the left of our defence to the right flank of attack. Brighton didn't get a touch as the move progressed the length of the field, and Brian Stein's final cross was spot-on: the larger picture shows how he found Phil in space in front of goal. Phil has just completed his dive and watches his header speed past the Brighton goal-keeper.

The other picture shows one of our new bright prospects who helped to make it possible. "Discovery of the year", was one Press description we read. In view of the way Brian Stein has taken his chances in the league team, we wouldn't argue with that.

Pictures: LUTON NEWS





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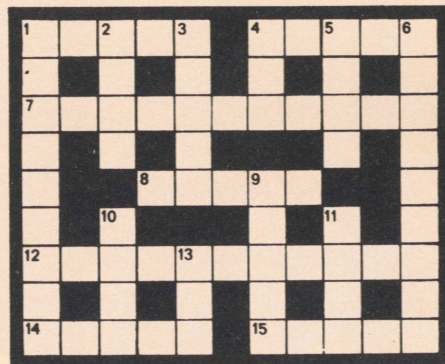
- 1 See 10dn.
- 4 Former president of Malaysia and current president of the Asian Football Confederation: ... Abdul Rahman (5)
- 7 Former Derby man who hit some vital goals for Bruges last season (5,6)
- 8 Frank McLintock wrote a book called "... The Way The Ball Bounces" (5)
- 12 Last season Rotherham fielded six League ... players - two more than any other club (4-7)
- 14 England's first regular post-war keeper (5)
- 15 The twenty-two players named by each World Cup finalist country (5)

CLUES - DOWN

- 1 Nickname of Southend (9)
- 2 Spanish club: Celta ... (4)
- 3 Old division of Division Three (5)
- 4 Half-time refresher (3)
- 5 Martin or McNab (4)
- 6 Goalmouth scrambles often catch keepers this way (9)
- 9 Nickname of Orient (3,2)
- 10 & 1ac. The F.A. Cup ... finals are, in effect, the same as round 1ac. (4)
- 11 World Cup finalists in 1978 (4)
- 13 ... Partridge, referee (3)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD No. 14

Across 1 World Soccer, 6 Swain, 8 & 9 Ted Bates, 14 Ole, 15 extra, 16 Netherlands.
Down 1 West, 2 Ryan, 3 Dundalk, 4 City, 5 Reds, 7 The Dell (Southampton), 10 Town 11 Best, 12 Stan, 13 Pars.



ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

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

TOWN supporters had to study the mathematics of the league table ten years ago today to help them over a disappointing defeat. On January 13, 1968, bad weather and the long journey involved prevented most fans from following the Town for their Division Four game at Hartlepool United.

The game was about as memorable as the place, and the best news from the Town camp was that Bruce Rioch returned after three weeks off with a knee injury.

The pitch was a quagmire of snow and mud, and in a nightmare for defences the big mystery was why only three goals were scored. The Town had the better of the first half, but goalkeeper Smith pulled off two spectacular saves, from Rioch and Keith Allen.

Wayward finishing cost the Town the points because Hartlepool took charge after the interval. Phythian gave them the lead in the 55th minute, and although Terry Branston equalised three minutes later goalkeeper Billy Taylor dropped a free kick to enable Bell to give Hartlepool a 2-1 win. The gate was 4,728.

But the league table still made cheerful reading. The Town were fourth, chasing Chesterfield, Bradford and Southend. And although the Town were two points adrift of top place, they had games in hand on all their rivals.

They had completed half their league programme, and with 23 games yielding 33 points it was obvious that the Fourth Division championship was in reach if that sort of schedule were maintained for the second half of the season.

The Town had a 100 per cent home record, and we figured that promotion at the very least was a near-certainty.

Tom Hodgson, now President of Luton Town, shared that view. A decade ago he had just been re-elected Chairman of the club, for a fifth year in office.

And he had no doubts that the Fourth Division campaign would be successful.

"I want to see us not only get into the Third Division, but well on our way to the Second, before I hand over the chairman's job", he declared when the annual meeting was held.

"I have every confidence that we will go up this season, and I don't see why we shouldn't go right through to the Second Division at the end of the next season".

Football managers and chairmen are traditionally confident and optimistic when they talk like that about the future, but in fact Mr. Hodgson's hopes were to be realised, although the job was to take a season longer than his 1968 New Year forecast.

YOUTH

By George Rogers

BY THE time you read these notes the result of our F.A. Youth Cup game v Peterborough will be known. This game originally scheduled for the 4th. Jan. but due to Peterborough's F.A. Cup commitment had to be postponed until Monday Jan. 9th. We hope Danny Bergara has not had to give the lads extra fatigues these last few days and that they have progressed into the last 16 of the competition.

With the above game in mind and the reserves without a fixture the Youth team was able to call on their strongest side for a Chiltern league fixture v Ware on Saturday 7th. January. This resulted in a 9-0 victory. Goals being scored by N. Johnson 2, M. Conquest 2, M. Pacey, W. Turner, T. Stewart, A. Currie and A. Pearson. Team:— A. Judge, A. Currie, L. Harriott, A. Wilkinson, T. Stewart, G. Sisman, A. Pearson, W. Turner, N. Johnson, M. Pacey, P. Driver, R. Eaton and M. Conquest.

Last week I watched the Manchester City documentary on Nationwide T.V. In this they outlined the Manchester City youth scheme. They stated that if they get one boy into the 1st team from the average of 10 apprentices a year they are satisfied. In the Luton v Oldham cup match, 6 of the Luton team came through the youth and in the reserve game at Ipswich last week no fewer than 8. This prompted many questions. What part do the Coaches play in this success? Is it an advantage for the boys to go to less fashionable clubs thereby allowing them to progress quicker? What are the benefits of a good Youth league in the area giving the boys a good grounding before taking the professional trail? What part do the schools play?

Following my comments in last week's programme re the coaching of schoolboys, Alan Roxborough a member of the English schools F.A. who was at the Oldham game stated that the Schools F.A. had sent out a circular to all Football League clubs, inviting them to meet their local English School member either individually or as a body with a view to improving relations between the professional club and the schools. A worthwhile effort which I am sure will be for the good of the game. In Bedfordshire we already have a schools representative sitting in on Youth matters and also sitting in on disciplinary matters when it affects Schoolboys. Any action taken is endorsed in the schools.

David Pleat and I watched the Bedfordshire v Hertfordshire Under 16 game at Arlesey on Sunday 8th. January. Hertfordshire winning by 1-0. An excellent game which could have gone either way. In this Home Counties competition it is played in two groups, Beds., Herts. and Oxon. in one group with London, Middx. and Essex in the other. The winner of each group to play in the final. Without doubt we shall watch these games with interest as these games are the shop window for the boys leaving school next summer.

COMMENT

WHILE we know that a lot of supporters are interested to read about the progress of our youth side, the lads rarely get big crowds to watch them in action.

But about 300 turned up on a cold Saturday morning a fortnight ago to see a Chiltern Premier League match. The attraction was Paul Futcher, our England Under-21 international, who was having his first game after his horrifying car crash in November.

He has amazed the doctors by the way he has fought his way back to good health, and he asked to play in a competitive match again within two weeks of resuming training.

All of us at Kenilworth Road send Paul best wishes, and hope that his own greatest wish comes true — a speedy return to the league side. We're very glad to see him back.

Cambridge United might not share our enthusiasm — they wondered why he picked them for his comeback game. Our youth team is the strongest in the Chiltern Premier League without adding someone like Paul.

Cambridge felt the full blast of our strength in defence and speed in attack as we romped home 5-1, and Paul went close to scoring with a shot that hit the bar.

He tells us that as he only scores one goal every four years, he's saving up the next one for his return to the Second Division!

Our picture, courtesy of the Luton News, shows Paul demonstrating that the old skill and balance is as much in evidence as it ever was.



MASCOT

Toby Churm of 36 Holmbrook Avenue, Luton. Toby who will be 8 on February 16th is a member of the Junior Hatters Club. He attends Moorlands School, Leagrave.

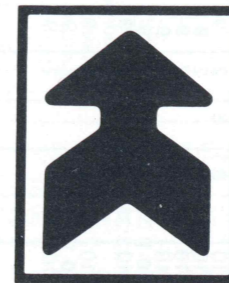
His favourite player is Milija Alešić.

Combination Report

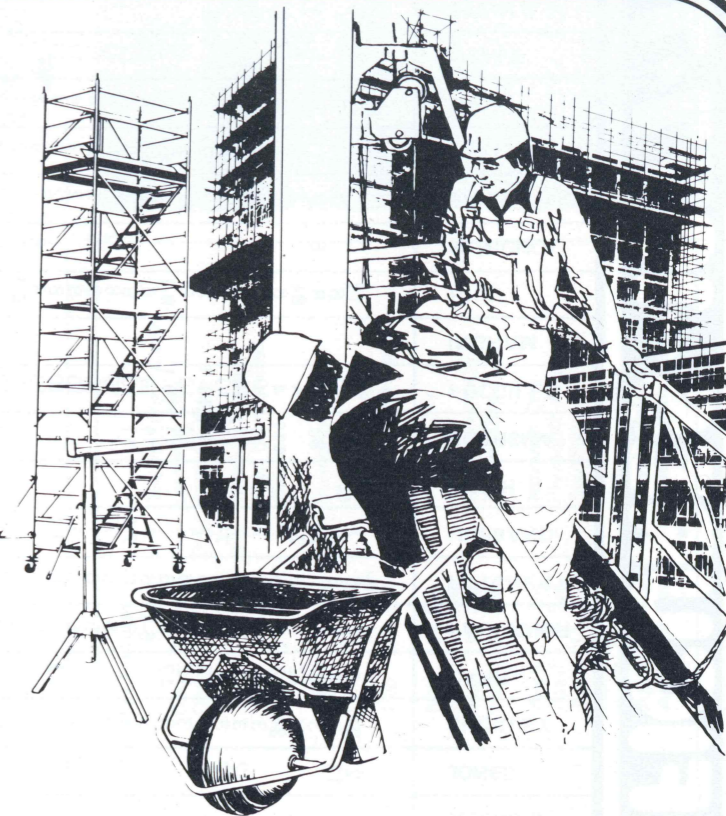
January 2nd 1978 Ipswich Town 5 Luton Town 3. Scorers for Luton: Ingram 2, Turner.

Team: Knight, Sisman, Eaton, Turner, Harriott, Futcher P., Johnson, Stein E., Ingram, Sperrin, Heale, Sub. Driver.

FOR THE first match of 1978 we faced powerful and experienced opponents whilst fielding our customary young side with six players under eighteen and a No. 6 playing in his second 'come back' match — Paul Futcher. After surviving some early pressure Luton started to come into the game more and in the 17th minute Ingram gave Sivell no chance when he volleyed home an excellent pass from Paul Futcher. Brazil levelled the scores after 22 minutes but five minutes before the interval Ingram struck again beating two defenders and driving a hard low shot under Sivell's body. In the second half Luton were in complete control in the early stages and played some brilliant football. It was no surprise therefore when they increased their lead, Turner heading home a perfectly placed corner by Gary Sisman. The score remained at 3-1 until fifteen minutes from the final whistle and the visitors had missed two good chances to make their lead impregnable. Then to the surprise of everyone at Portman Road Ipswich came back into the game as a result of two bad mistakes by the Luton defence, and, having saved a game which appeared to have been lost, they completely took the initiative and added two further goals in the final three minutes. For a side which had been so firmly in command for 75 of the ninety minutes this was a disappointing result but hopefully it will provide a lesson which the players will not quickly forget. Complacency undoubtedly led to a lack of discipline, slack marking and a loss of compactness and a more positive and professional attitude needs to be developed by the talented but inexperienced members of the side. To end on a high note Paul Futcher had an excellent game and showed some masterful touches whilst the remainder were exceptionally good — until the last fifteen minutes.



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BALL DONOR

IT GIVES us great pleasure to acknowledge two milestones in the life of Frank Sumner who is so rarely missing from his post as Steward in the Director's and Vice-President's suites. Frank will be celebrating his 70th birthday on January 19th and on the same day he will have completed 30 years service to the club. In wishing him a very happy birthday we hope that he will be able to carry out his duties for many more years.

★

★

FACTS & FIGURES ~ 1977-78

	Attendance	FA	ALEKSIC	JONES	BUCKLEY	CARR	FAULKNER	FUTCHER P.	HUSBAND	SMITH	BOERSMA	FUCILLO	INGRAM	HILL	McNICHOL	PRICE	FUTCHER R.	WEST	HEALE	STEIN B.	SPERRIN
Bold figures indicate scorers																					
(Aston played first 2 games at No. 11)																					
Aug 20 Orient	8,061	1-0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		12	6	2	11	9			
Aug 27 Oldham Athletic	7,579	0-1	1	12	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10	11		
Aug 30 Wolves (LC2)	14,682	3-1	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	4		8	6	2	9	10			
Sept 3 Charlton Athletic	9,061	7-1	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	4		8	6	2	9	10			
Sept 10 Bristol Rovers	5,940	2-1	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	4		8	6	2	9	10			
Sept 17 Blackburn Rovers	9,149	0-0	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	4		8	6	2	9	10			
Sept 24 Tottenham	32,700	0-2	1	12	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Sept 27 Brighton	25,132	2-3	1	12	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Oct 1 Notts County	7,593	2-0	1	12	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Oct 4 Millwall	9,119	1-0	1	12	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Oct 8 Cardiff City	8,369	4-1	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Oct 15 Fulham	12,736	1-0	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Oct 22 Blackpool	12,167	1-2	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Oct 25 Man. City (LC3)	16,443	1-1	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Oct 29 Bolton Wanderers	20,113	1-2	1	12	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Nov 1 Man. City (LC3R)	28,254	0-0	1	12	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Nov 5 Hull City	8,936	1-1	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Nov 8 Man. City (LC3R2)	13,024	2-3	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Nov 12 Mansfield Town	7,522	1-3	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Nov 19 Stoke City	9,384	1-2	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Nov 26 Sunderland (1)	26,915	1-1	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Dec 3 Burnley	6,921	1-2	1	3	12	12	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Dec 10 Southampton	19,909	1-0	1	6	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Dec 17 Mansfield Town (2)	6,401	1-1	1	6	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Dec 26 Crystal Palace	22,027	3-3	1	6	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Dec 27 Sheffield United	10,885	4-0	1	6	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Dec 31 Brighton	13,200	1-0	1	6	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Jan 2 Orient	9,270	0-0	1	6	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Jan 7 Oldham (FAC3)	9,851	1-1	1	6	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Jan 10 Oldham (FAC3R)	13,802	2-1	1	6	3	4	5	6	7	7	9	10		8	6	2	9	10			
Jan 14 Oldham Athletic																					
Jan 21 Charlton Athletic																					
Jan 28 Millwall (FAC4)																					
Feb 4 Bristol Rovers																					
Feb 8 League Cup SF																					
Feb 11 Blackburn Rovers																					
Feb 15 League Cup SF																					
Feb 18 Tottenham (5)																					
Feb 25 Notts County																					
Mar 4 Cardiff City																					
Mar 11 Fulham (6)																					
Mar 18 Blackpool (LCF)																					
Mar 21 Bolton Wanderers																					
Mar 25 Sheffield United																					
Mar 27 Crystal Palace																					
Apr 1 Hull City																					
Apr 8 Sunderland (SF)																					
Apr 15 Stoke City																					
Apr 22 Southampton																					
Apr 26 Millwall																					
Apr 29 Burnley																					
May 6 F.A. Cup Final																					

DIVISION TWO

Table of Results - As at 4.1.78

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tottenham	24	8	4	0	33	7	5	4	3	16	14	34
Bolton	24	10	1	1	26	12	5	3	4	13	11	34
Southampton	24	9	2	1	21	7	4	4	4	14	15	32
Blackburn	24	9	2	1	21	8	3	5	4	13	20	31
Brighton	24	6	5	1	22	14	4	3	5	11	11	28
Luton	24	7	3	2	21	7	3	6	16	19	26	
Crystal Palace	24	5	3	4	20	16	4	5	3	16	15	26
Oldham	24	6	5	1	18	10	3	3	6	12	18	26
Sheffield U.	24	6	3	1	22	11	2	3	7	16	28	26
Sunderland	24	4	3	3	21	12	1	7	4	17	23	24
Blackpool	24	4	4	4	15	13	5	2	5	17	17	24
Fulham	24	6	4	2	24	12	3	1	8	10	17	23
Charlton	23	8	1	2	27	16	1	4	7	9	23	23
Stoke	24	7	2	3	20	11	1	4	7	6	17	22
Orient	24	5	5	2	18	14	1	5	6	7	13	22
Notts. C.	24	6	5	1	21	12	1	2	9	10	26	21
Bristol R.	24	6	5	2	22	12	0	3	8	12	34	20
Hull	24	4	3	5	15	12	1	5	6	7	15	18
Cardiff	23	6	4	2	17	15	0	2	9	10	32	18
Mansfield	24	4	2	6	17	20	1	5	6	13	22	17
Millwall	24	2	6	3	9	13	1	4	8	11	21	16
Burnley	24	3	5	4	11	11	2	0	10	9	30	15

COMBINATION

Table of Results - As at 10.1.78

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Southampton	22	14	2	6	45	22	30
West Ham	22	12	5	5	42	20	29
Chelsea	25	11	7	7	43	21	29
Q.P.R.	22	11	6	5	36	16	28
Ipswich Town	22	12	4	6	39	21	28
Tottenham	23	9	10	4	42	27	28
Leicester C.	25	12	4	9	35	28	28
Norwich C.	24	10	8	6	30	21	27
Crystal Palace	23	10	7	6	39	34	26
Hereford United	23	11	4	8	39	34	26
Arsenal	23	9	7	7	31	23	25
Plymouth	21	10	3	8	30	25	22
Fulham	21	7	8	6	28	25	22
Birmingham C.	23	5	11	7	20	23	21
Luton Town	25	7	5	13	38	52	19
Bristol Rovers	20	6	6	8	22	33	18
Orient	22	4	7	11	16	34	15
Oxford United	24	4	6	14	20	43	14
Swindon Town	19	5	4	10	20	45	14
Cardiff City	21	3	6	12	19	42	12
Reading	21	3	3	15	16	52	9

GOALSCORERS - League/Cup

Futcher R.	9	Heale	3
Husband	8	Price	2
Buckley	4	Stein B.	2
Boersma	7	Carr	1
Hill	4	Faulkner	1



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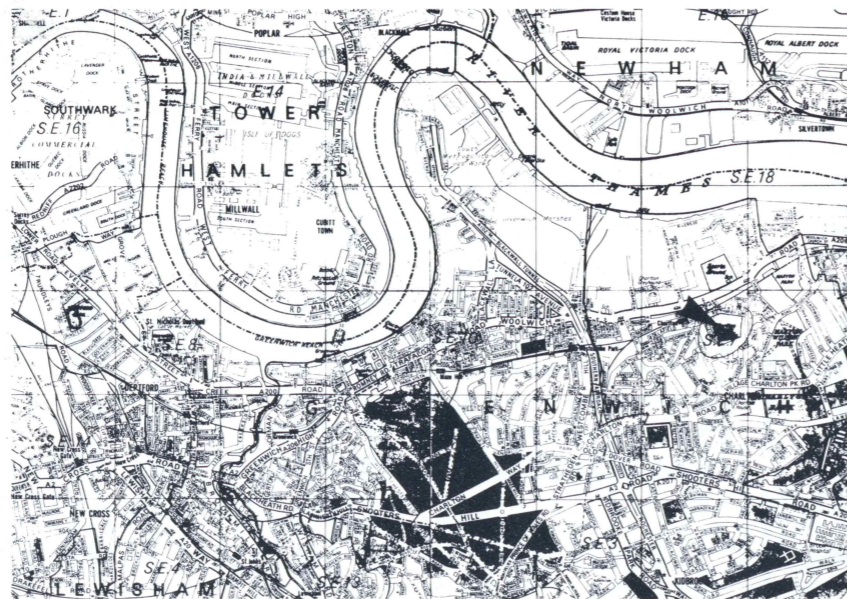
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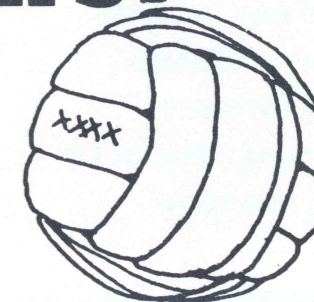
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- DAVID HOLT 3
- GRAHAM BELL 4
- KEITH HICKS 5
- JOHN HURST 6
- CARL VALENTINE 7
- STEVE TAYLOR 8
- VIC HALOM 9
- LES CHAPMAN 10
- ALAN YOUNG 11
- STEVE GARDNER 12

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- Charlton
- Burnley
- Stoke
- Cardiff
- Blackburn
- Fulham
- Bristol Rovers
- Hull
- Crystal Palace
- Mansfield
- Southampton
- Millwall
- Brighton
- Notts Co.
- Tottenham
- Orient
- Sunderland
- Sheffield U.
- Bolton

OFFICIALS

Referee: Mr. Malcolm V. Sinclair, (Guildford). Started refereeing in the Isle of Wight in 1959, then moved to Guildford later. Graduated via the Surrey Senior League and Football Combination to the Football League list. Refereed in the Anglo-Italian Tournament of 1971 in Italy and has lined two F.A. Cup Semi-Finals - in 1968 and 1970 - also a European Cup match in Russia in 1973. A married man, with two daughters, he is a Brick-layer, and enjoys watching cricket. He is Chairman of the Guildford Referees Society.

Linesmen: Mr. D. Jackson (Red Flag); Mr. A. Rhodes (Yellow Flag).