

LUTON TOWN



10/2/79

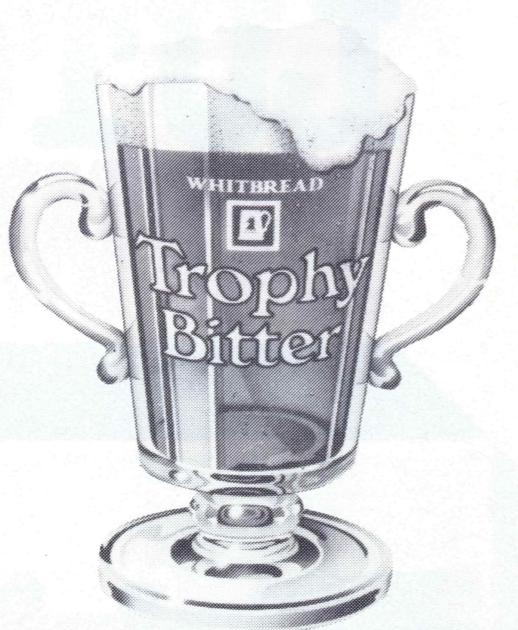
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photography

DAVID PLEAT

players countered tricky conditions to give the public an exciting game with plenty of goalmouth action.

Dave Lawson came into the side at the last minute when Jake Findlay failed a fitness test and performed capably. It is this rivalry for places that I hope to stimulate as we build a stronger squad. Steve Taylors arrival has given me this opportunity up front. Lil Fuccillo was at Cambridge smiling and pleased with a point but he feels football has deteriorated since his playing days!

Congratulations to Mark Aizlewood for his selection for the Welsh Under 21 side. Mal Donaghy who was originally selected for the Irish squad for Wembley was excluded when I informed the Irish of our game with Stoke. The youth team are making good progress in the Youth Cup, watch the press for the date of their home game with Villa or Leicester in the next round. They have also gone top of the Midland Youth League and they will be determined to keep in front.

Hopefully todays game will provide plenty of good football played in the right spirit. Keep up the support, the players appreciate the cheers. It's a team effort and we are all working towards the same goal.



Sheffield



Back Row: (L to R) Cec. Coldwell (Chief Coach), Tony Kenworthy, Paul Garner, Craig Renwick, Colin Franks, Jim Brown, Steve Conroy, Steve Finnieston, Simon Stainrod, Mike Guy, Andy Keeley.

Front Row: (L to R) John Cutbush, Gary Hamson, Cliff Calvert, Danny Bergara (Asst. Man.), Harry Haslam (Manager), Alan Woodward (now with Tulsa Roughnecks, U.S.A.), Mick Speight (Captain), Alex Sabella.

JIM BROWN (Goalkeeper) Signed in a Beat-the-Deadline £80,000 transfer from Chesterfield, breeding ground of many famous goalkeepers, on 14th March, 1974, after being watched in a Scottish Under-23 International against England at St. James' Park, formerly with Albion Rovers from whom he was transferred in 1972 for £7,000. Played for Scotland v Rumania. Total League appearances for United 170.

STEVE CONROY (Goalkeeper) Joined as Apprentice

Professional in July, 1972 and signed full-time in December, 1974. Regular Second Team Goalkeeper. Made three consecutive appearances in First Team last season when Brown was injured, and one appearance in the League Cup against Everton.

JOHN CUTBUSH Came on loan from Fulham and was signed on 8th April, 1977 for £15,000. Made his debut in the home win over Nottingham Forest on 19th March that year. Was formerly with Tottenham. 53 League appearances and scored one goal in the 2-0 win over Brighton on 4th April, 1978.

CLIFF CALVERT Also likes to attack and scored four goals last season. Cost £30,000 when he came from York City on 18th September, 1975. His versatility is shown by the fact that he has



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played in the First Team at left back, right back, right half, left half, outside right, inside right and outside left. 57 League appearances — 4 goals.

PAUL GARNER Joined from Huddersfield Town on a month's loan. Signed in December, 1975 for £50,000. Became regular choice full back and several times deputised as Team Captain. After first three games last season received a head injury in a car crash near Doncaster on 28th August, which kept him out for the rest of the season. 68 Appearances and 2 goals.

COLIN FRANKS Came from Watford on 19th June, 1973, for £55,000. Formerly with amateur Club Boreham Wood. Can be goalscorer or defender. Has played at left half, left back, Centre forward and outside right. Winner of a number of sprint championships in London. 123 appearances 11 goals.

ANDY KEELEY Came from Tottenham Hotspur on a free transfer on 20th December, 1977. Spurs originally listed him at £40,000 but he appealed to the Independent Tribunal and this was reduced. Made debut for United against Bolton Wanderers on 14th January, 1978. 14 appearances — no goals.

CRAIG RENWICK Attacking Centre-back was Civil Servant and part-timer with East Stirling. Signed on 25th April, 1978, for £20,000. Scored on his Central League Debut.

TONY KENWORTHY Came up through the Juniors. Signed apprentice professional in April, 1975 after playing for Leeds Schoolboys and Yorkshire Boys. One Year after signing made debut in First Division at Norwich on 3rd April. England Youth International, captained them in Tournament in Monaco. Has played at right half, left half, left back and inside left, Born Leeds. 60 appearances — 2 goals.

EDDIE COLQUHOUN Former Club Captain. Was with Bury and West Brom. before signing in October, 1968 for £30,000. Missed appearing in F.A. Cup Final for West Bromwich Albion because of injury, but gained full Scottish honours with United and has eight caps. Last close season played in the American League. 361 Appearances — 21 Goals.

GARY HAMSON Left sided midfield player joined as apprentice in July, 1976 and signed as Contract player in November.

Chosen for England Youth Team to play in a Tournament in Belgium in May, 1977, but had to withdraw because of an ankle injury. Scored against Spurs. when he came on as substitute. 64 appearances 4 goals.

ALEJANDRO SABELLA Argentinian International signed from River Plate Club, Buenos Aires for a Club record fee of £160,000 in July, 1978. A gifted midfield player he has 22 International caps. 23 years of age and married.

MICK SPEIGHT Signed Schoolboy forms and became apprentice professional in December, 1967. Bad injuries and a cartilage operation kept him out for most of 1976-77 season but he made 30 full appearances last season. Played in England 'B' Tour of New Zealand, Malaysia and Singapore during last close season, scoring several goals. Born at Upton Nr. Barnsley 111 appearances 6 goals.

KEITH EDWARDS Came as trialist for three months in September, 1975, not having been previously registered with any League Club. Signed full-time in December, 1975. Debut at Leicester in F.A. Cup Tie in January, 1976. In March and April, 1977 created new post war scoring record with 11 goals in 8 consecutive league matches. 64 appearances 29 goals.

STEVE McKEE Joined as contract player, in December, 1976, for £25,000. Previously played for Linfield F.C. in Northern Ireland. Exciting left-sided forward who in time should make quite an impact in league football. Born in Belfast — 4 appearances no goals.

ALAN WOODWARD One of the most outstanding discoveries from South Yorkshire since the war. Played for Barnsley Boys, Yorkshire Boys, England Youth and the Football League. Declined England 'B' Tour in Close season. First team debut at 17 against Liverpool on 7th October, 1964. Scored 100th League goal at Tottenham in September, 1973. 150th at Cardiff on 3rd December, 1977. Played 500th league game at home against Southampton 1st October, 1977 and scored. Appointed Captain in June, 1976. Leading Scorer last season with 12 goals. Local lad joined as an apprentice in April, 1962. 531 appearances — 158 goals.

SIMON STAINROD Played for Sheffield and Yorkshire Boys. Signed as Contract Professional in June, 1976. England Youth International. First Team debut at Tottenham in March, 1976. Scored against Norwich in his second game. Showed promise when a twin attacker with Keith Edwards. Another local lad. 50 appearances 11 goals.

MIKE GUY Was signed from Coleraine on 7th March, 1978 for fee of £15,000. Made one full appearance at No. 8 and three as substitute.

STEVE FINNIESTON Striker — signed on 5th June, 1978 for £100,000 from Chelsea after a hitch which held up the deal for more than a week. Born in Edinburgh, age 23, has five Scottish Youth caps. In four seasons scored 137 reserve team goals for Chelsea and in 60 first team games scored 31. Had a loan spell with Cardiff City.

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The above picture shows just one of the varied range of vehicles and plant equipment that can be hired from Bedfordia Plant Hire Ltd. They are kindly sponsoring our match ball in today's game with Sheffield United.

WELCOME

WE EXTEND a particularly warm welcome to Sheffield United, and without doubt many old friendships will be renewed when Harry Haslam and his boys visit us for today's match. After drawing 1-1 at Sheffield earlier this season, the Town will be fighting for a win and a hard battle will be fought. Looking at the ground as this article is being written it will probably be played wearing skates on ice.

United made a bright start to the season in which they beat mighty Liverpool in the League Cup and then took Leeds United to a replay, however, they are now rather uncomfortably close to the bottom three. Up to the time of writing they have not been able to play a league game since the turn of the year and so they have games in hand on most of the clubs just above them and they appear to be far too talented a side to be in any real danger of emulating their Wednesday neighbours by slipping to a first ever spell in Division Three.

Like Wednesday, United have over the years experienced frequent fluctuation between Divisions One and Two and since coming into the Football League as founder

members of Division Two in 1892 they have been promoted five times and relegated five times, though they did enjoy a 41 year spell in Div. One up to 1934. It was during this period that they won the F.A. Cup four times and the First Div. championship once, however, success in Europe seems to be eluding them.

Since the war they have spent much of their time either in the lower half of Div. 1 or the top half of Div. 2, their most successful spell in recent years being in 1971/2 when after winning promotion at the end of the previous season they soared to the top of Div. 1 only to slip back towards mid-table after an exciting first two months.

Tony Currie was one of their outstanding players at that time and other outstanding 'Blades' over the past forty years include two other international forwards, Jimmy Hagan and Len Allchurch, while in defence, goalkeepers Jack Smith and Alan Hodgkinson rendered sterling service together with back row men Joe and Graham Shaw, Eddie Shimwell and Len Badger.

So far this season they have won just one game away, at Leicester in August and have

also drawn at Preston, Millwall and Orient. They have recently lost four away games in a row, including a third round F.A. Cup replay at Aldershot. They did however, arrest a bad run that brought them only one point from seven league games by beating Cardiff and Newcastle at Bramall Lane and drawing 3-3 with Cambridge.

Compared with the side which lost 4-0 here last season (and then gained revenge with 4-1 win at Bramall Lane) United have several newcomers in the side this season, one of them being our old friend Peter Anderson, who celebrated his return to English football from Tampa Bay Rowdies with United's goal in their 1-1 draw with us in September and BBC Television's October Goal of the Month a week later. Alex Sabella also linked up from the Argentinian club River Plate during the summer and he has impressed fans up and down the country with his elegant work in midfield. John Matthews, the former Arsenal man, is another addition to the midfield strength this season while up front two outstanding new men are Steve Finnieston, a 6-figure signing from Chelsea and Imre Varadi from Letchworth Town.

In goal Steve Conroy, a home-grown product, has gained a regular place this season while in front of him Tony Kenworthy, a former England Youth International links up with long-serving Colin Franks (from Watford in 1973) Cliff Calvert, and Paul Garner (from York and Huddersfield respectively in 1975). Others to look out for include Gary Hamson, a mid-fielder in his third season and Mick Speight, who went on an England B tour last year.

SHEFFIELD UNITED SUPPORTERS CLUB

IF ANYBODY is interested in joining the London Branch of the Sheffield United Supporters Club, please contact Mr. Robert Allan, 13, Parry Rd., South Norwood, London SE25 6RJ or telephone 01-653-4430 after 7pm.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

GREETINGS go this week to Rob Johnson.

Rob is one of our apprentices and looks forward to making a career with the Hatters. Happy Birthday Rob, and the best of luck in the future.

MASCOT

OUR Mascot for today's match is Darren Peck who is 9 years old. Darren attends Bushmead Junior School and he plays in their 2nd. and 3rd. year football teams. He has full Luton Town kit and his favourite player is Brian Stein.

NEWS FROM THE POOLS

WE WILL shortly be launching two new projects to further encourage our army of Pools Agents. From time to time we need to make changes for changes sake because our thousands of customers even become disenchanted with winning by the same methods! At all times we are conscious of the need to keep ahead of the field, hence the forthcoming changes. Just keep in mind —

'THE MIDAS TOUCH' and 'KEYCARD'

WITHIN the next few weeks, these two 'Brand Names' will become Household words throughout this area.

Best wishes and grateful to all our Agents and Customers, we are sorry that in the recent past, due to the weather conditions you have been forced to sell by 'Remote control'. Fortunately the sun will soon be shining on us all 'Poolswise and otherwise'.
Mike Hardwicke
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OFF-SIDE?

THE GAME between Norwich and Arsenal brought up once again an example of the difference of interpretation of the off-side ruling by different referees and the need for a revision of its ruling. Referee Peter Reeves disallowed what appeared to be a perfectly good goal and so robbed Norwich of victory.

Kevin Bond overlapped on the right and floated in a centre which Kevin Reeves, coming from a deep position, headed into the net. Later the referee said he disallowed the goal not because the scorer was off-side but because another home team player was deemed to be so.

This is the point over which many arguments are heatedly debated and is the cause of the current confusion. The ruling as it now stands requires a referee to have three pairs of eyes, to be able to see in all directions at the same time, and to have telescopic vision into the bargain. In most cases when a player appears to be off-side the linesman religiously carries out his function of trying to judge whether a breach of the ruling had occurred, but by the very nature of the decision he has to make he cannot see what is happening on the rest of the field.

If the linesman flags off-side then invariably the referee will accept their ruling and so the possibility arises that the situation as a whole has not been observed by either the referee or the linesman and so another bad decision is made.

The main reason for a much-overdue change in the ruling is to relieve referees of unwittingly making bad decisions. In any situation where a ruling is required it is of prime importance that justice must be done, but even more important it must be seen to be done.

It is not possible to have everything cut and dried so that there can never be any doubt about a referee's ruling on the field, and referees as a whole are conscientious and fair, but it is surely time that a change was made so that this controversy is reduced, the off-side rule causes more argument than the rest put together.

As a last thought on the subject and one which could be well debated, what would be the effect on the game if the off-side ruling was removed altogether. It would be interesting to see how modern techniques in attack and defence would be affected, who knows, it might make a better and freer flowing game.

FROM JOHN WILKINSON

IT WAS nice to watch a game of football again last week at Cambridge, and nicer still to come away with a point. These past few weeks have been trying, not only for the players and managers, but for secretaries as well. I have probably been more fortunate than others with only about fifteen matches

to re-arrange, but I have no doubt that they will all be fixed in before the F.A. Cup Final in May. The recent bad weather has once again brought in some extra money for the G.P.O. our telephone never stops ringing when a match is due to be played. At a guess I would say that nearly half the people who come to watch us have been ringing up to see if the match is on or off. Take that average over the 92 league clubs at 2p a time, not bad for a day's work.

Today sees the return of two former colleagues of ours, Harry Haslam and Danny Bergara. I think that everything has been said about these two gentlemen so I won't go into detail. Although we welcome them back to Kenilworth Road you can be sure that we will be all out to keep the points here.

A welcome too for Peter Anderson. It was Peter's transfer to Belgium if you remember that helped to keep us solvent when we ran into financial trouble. He has certainly travelled a few miles since he last played here. Not only has he played in Belgium, but also has had a spell in the U.S.A. where every away match can mean a two or three thousand mile trip.

Last week saw Doug Lygo leave us to take a job outside football and his successor, John Smith from Leicester City will not be taking up his appointment until early April. He is however in the office one day a week to deal with urgent business which is a good thing, as he will have knowledge of the workings of the Club before he starts officially.

I think now that all the problems of banning people from the ground, should they be arrested and charged, have been overcome, so from now on the trouble makers had better toe the line if they still want to watch us play. The Club will not hesitate to act should any person be found guilty.

At this point I would like to thank everyone who turned up at the ground when the snow was about with their shovels and brooms to help clear the pitch. Unfortunately the weather beat us but at least we know we have some keen supporters about. Enjoy the match.

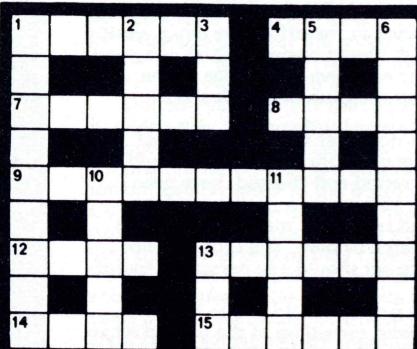
CROSSWORD 16

CLUES — ACROSS

1. Where you'd discover Dalymount Park (6)
4. Striker whose 100-plus League goals were shared between Huddersfield, Oldham (twice) and WBA (4)
7. Former defender of Rangers, Palace, Plymouth, St. Mirren and Scotland (6)
8. Wolves international who moved last year to Sweden, where he was later joined by Sammy Chung (4)
9. Midfielder who became Barnsley's biggest sale when he went to West Ham (11)
12. Salonika side (4)
13. See 3dn.
14. Nickname of Dumbarton (4)
15. Quick attacks from a defensive position (6)

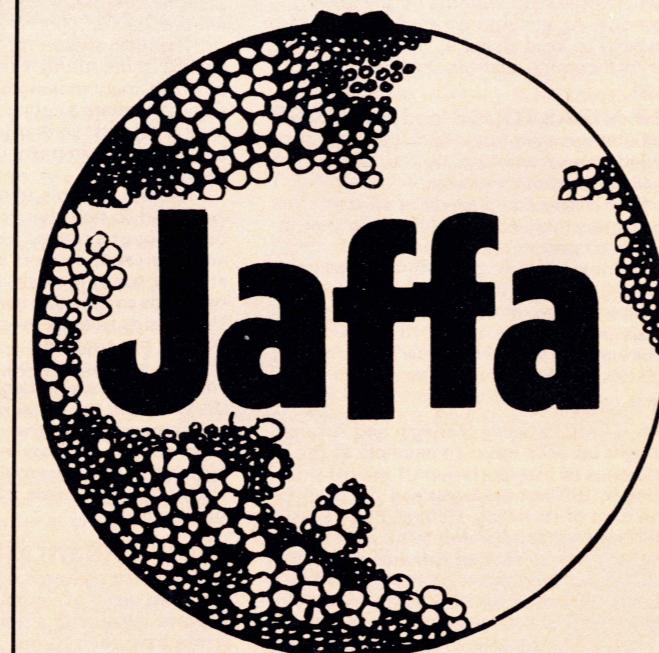
CLUES — DOWN

1. NASL side: Washington --- (9)
2. Equalise (5)
- 3 & 13 ac. Spurs are the only such winners of the F.A. Cup this century (3,6)
5. Plays the ball (but not football?) (5)
6. One of the nicknames of Airdrieonians (9)
10. The U in UEFA (5)
11. Keeper who made over 500 League appearances for Newport (5)
13. Possibly not the most logical shot to try against, say, Corrigan or Kearns? (3)



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N ACTION ACT



LUTON TOWN 3

BRISTOL ROVERS 2

TWO cracking goals in the last five minutes gave us a happy start to 1979 after Bristol Rovers had threatened to spoil the night for us.

In the end good football earned its due reward, but Rovers put up a tough fight, and were leading 2-1 with five minutes to go.

Below/left: David Moss, extreme left, hammers in the 20-yarder which put us back in the game in the second half after Rovers had pinched a 2-0 interval lead.

Below/left: Steve Taylor, making his Luton debut after his £50,000 transfer from Oldham, is kept off the score-sheet by a brave save from Martin Thomas.

Pictures: LUTON NEWS.



ION A

Programmes

PROGRAMME FAYRE.

Hendon Football Club are again holding a programme fayre on 18th February 1979 at their Clubhouse, Claremont Rd., Cricklewood, London NW2. (10-30 till 2-30 pm). Admission 20p. All are welcome.

Why not collect programmes from New Zealand?

Find out about players and teams in New Zealand's top competition, the Rothmans League, by buying the 20 page Dunedin City Club programme. 11 copies posted to you 4 times during the season. Send £2 to Dunedin City A.F.C. P.O. Box 34. Dunedin, New Zealand.

Old LUTONIAN and football programme enthusiast Mr. B.E. Graver, 9, Slade Walk, Upper Batley Lane, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF1 7ONG, informs us that he has a large collection of programmes for sale or swap. Any one interested, S.A.E. please to the above address for list.

THE FOOTBALL PROGRAMME DIRECTORY.

A copy of this programme directory has just been received in the office, and for programme collectors it is an absolute must! Any collector requiring further information regarding subscriptions etc. should write to David Stacey, 66, Southend Road, Wickford, Essex, or ring 03744-2041.

The publishers of the Football Programme Directory are organising an International Football Programme Fayre and Exhibition at the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen St., London W.C.2 on Saturday June 9th. Full details from the above address.

SWOP OR SELL CORNER.

Mr. Leo Valentin of Elm Tree House, Letchworth Lane, Letchworth. Tel. Letchworth 4940 requires the following programmes — Luton v — 77/78 v Southampton (Home) 76/77 v Cardiff City (Home) 74/75 v Arsenal (Home) 74/75 v Spurs (Home) 69/70 v Orient (Home).

Mr. J. Pyper of 63, Marlborough Rd., Luton lists his requirements — All Luton Town programmes Homes — 67/68 Charlton (Lgue. Cup). 67/68 Barnsley. 68/69 Orient. 68/69 Bedford (Pro. Cup). 69/70 Bedford (Pro) and any friendly matches between 60/78.

Aways — 67/68 Wrexham, Swansea, Newport, Rochdale, Exeter, Bradford, Barnsley, Hartlepool, Port Vale, York, Brentford, Chesterfield, Darlington, Halifax, Crewe. 68/69 Northampton, Swindon, Oldham, Hartlepool, 69/70 Peterborough (Lgue. C.) Brighton, Shrewsbury, Bristol Rov. Barrow, Tranmere, Barnsley, Halifax, 70/71 Bolton, 72/73 Birmingham (Lgue. Cup). and any away friendlies 60/78.

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Town Away

WREXHAM v LUTON TOWN

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17th 1979

KICK-OFF 3.00 PM

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In 2.7 miles at roundabout take 3rd exit & follow signs Birmingham, The North to join Motorway M1.

7.0 TODDINGTON SERVICE AREA

43.8 JUNCTION 19
Branch Left to join Motorway M6 (signposted The Northwest)

47.3 JUNCTION 11 In 2.7 miles branch Left leaving Motorway and follow signs Telford A5

4.2 GAILEY

6.7 WESTON UNDER LIZARD In 1.3 miles at roundabout take 3rd exit A41 (signposted Whitchurch)

7.1 NEWPORT

20.7 WHITCHURCH Follow signs Wrexham A525

15.7 WREXHAM
Follow signs Ring Road into Salisbury Road B5100
at roundabout take 1st main exit into Talbot Road
In 1 mile Turn Left into Regent Street A541
Cross Railway bridges into Mold Road

1.5 WREXHAM F.C. (on right)
TRICENTROL COACHES
Depart The Square, Dunstable — 09.30
Depart Maple Road, Luton — 10.00 Fare £2.90.

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

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

Treorchy.

Reading's ten men responded by raising their game, and they pulled a goal back through Yard in the 76th minute, but the Town held on to take the points.

They did even better the following week when the injury-hit team went to meet promotion rivals Bournemouth at Dean Court. Laurie Sheffield and Fred Jardine were recalled to fill gaps, and each scored in a valuable 2-0 win.

Big changes were taking place behind the scenes at Kenilworth Road. Tom Hodgson stood down as chairman after five years in the job, to make way for Tony Hunt, a wealthy insurance boss.

Stock brought in a new chief coach to help his promotion ambitions: Jimmy Andrews, who had previously been assistant to Noel Cantwell at Coventry City.

It was a reunion for two old friends when Andrews reported for duty ten years ago this week: as a manager Stock had signed Andrews as an outside left for Orient, to join a team which also included former Town inside forward Dave Sexton. Andrews had also been coach with Stock for a spell at Queen's Park Rangers, and both made public promises as they renewed the partnership that they were going to lead Luton out of the Third Division. And that, at least, was one football promise which was kept.

YOUTH

By George Rogers

THE YOUTH team like the rest of football have been forced to take a break from competitive competition and from now on they hope that the weather will allow them to start again. It comes hard to train all the week only to find that the Saturday game has been postponed. During the past week they are due to play at West Brom on Thursday 8th Feb. and today Letchworth Youth at Chrysler Sports ground.

Over the past month some games have been played and victory against Arsenal put the Town into the last 16 of the F.A. Youth Cup. This is the top prize in Youth football. In the next round they have another home draw v Aston Villa or Leicester City. This to be played at Kenilworth Rd., within the next fortnight. The lads would appreciate your support at

this game. Having beaten Leicester recently the lads are fairly confident of reaching the last 8 of the competition.

In the Midland Youth league recent victories against Wolves 4-1, Leicester 3-1, and Northampton 2-0 have seen the Town go into 2nd place in the league table, Leicester City in top place with a superior goal average. Recently we have tried Steve Cannon from the Derby district and two boys from the Birmingham area, John Cole and Frankie Bunn and they have all shown excellent promise for the future. The next home game will be at Vauxhall Motors Sports ground, Park St., Luton on Thursday 15th. Feb. K.O. 2 pm. v Derby County. If you are able to come along, we will be thankful for your support.

In the Chiltern Youth League the only game played was against Hitchin the lads winning by 4 goals to 1. Again several lads from local football have been given the chance to show their skills. Ray Brammer, Limbury B.C., Alan Cosby, Limbury B.C. Ian Bygraves, Lewsey Centre, Terry Kitchiner, Stofold, and Jan Piotrowski, Bedford, have all shown promise in this league and could with continued hard work progress further.

At today's game we welcome an old friend Danny Bergara who left Luton to join Sheffield Utd., last season. Danny who is now the Assistant Manager at Sheffield is still interested in the progress of the Youth team and the lads who were in his charge when he was here.

RE-FOCUS

by Doug Lygo

The Focus on Steve Taylor, which will appear in a later programme, will, in all probability, be the last one I shall write for the Luton Town programme, although an earlier composition on Jake Findlay is still to appear in the West Ham edition. The Focus which appeared in the Bristol Rovers programme, of which I was the subject, was completely unauthorised and was not seen by the victim until it went on sale. As a result of totally unjustified allegations that I had been a Watford supporter prior to joining the Kenilworth Rd. staff have not only damaged any reputation I have but also brought under stress some very good friendships built up over the past five and a half years. My application to join the Century Club now hangs in the balance. The photograph

which accompanied this spurious article could well have been taken immediately following a multiple bereavement, but was in fact extracted from a larger picture which showed me being led in front of an F.A. tribunal with Sir Harold Thompson and Ted Croker on either side. The handcuffs were only removed after we had promised to erect fences to prevent Chelsea supporters from invading our pitch again.

Leaving aside such references to the happy times I have had in my various official capacities at Kenilworth Rd. I would like to end by thanking all those people who make Luton Town a friendly place to work in and for their comradeship and support over these past six seasons. It is impossible to name all those whom I

would like to thank but they include the Chairman and Board of Directors, John Wilkinson, and the very loyal staff at Kenilworth Rd., David Pleat and his staff and players, members of the match day staff and supporters of all kinds from Junior Hatters to Vice Presidents.

I would also like to express my gratitude to those individuals and companies who have provided much needed revenue by means of advertising and sponsorship of various kinds. Finally my best wishes go to David and the lads for a storming second half of the season and to John Smith, my successor, who, I am sure will make a major contribution to the future of Luton Town Football Club.

TO PLAY OR NOT TO PLAY

It was inevitable that as soon as matches started being postponed the old cry "Change the Season" would very quickly be heard. Of course, as will always be the case in football, many varied solutions have been offered. From a mid-season break, a full summer season, less teams in each division, under-soil heating, balloons and artificial surfaces have all been mentioned as ways of avoiding postponements.

Apart from fixture congestion there are many other problems which confront a football club when a match is postponed, but in the end it is purely a referee's decision. When we at the Club answer a call about a game being played, until we have received the referee's decision we can

only inform callers that a pitch inspection is being made. We are aware that non-committal replies like these must be frustrating to supporters who wish to make travel arrangements or perhaps re-organise a shift or arrange for time off, but we do have to abide by the rules laid down for the postponement of matches.

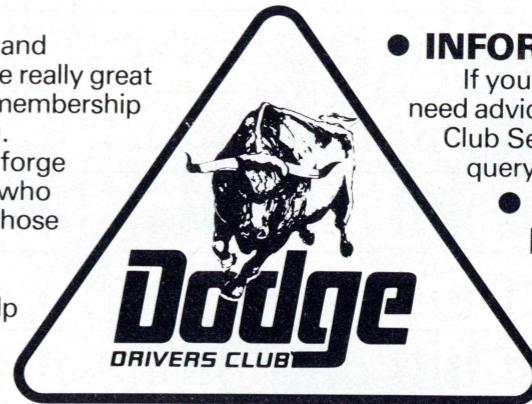
As soon as a game is postponed, one of the first calls we make is to the news media, both newspapers and broadcasting and television. We also contact as many as possible of the larger employers in the area when a mid-week match is concerned so that they may advise employees over the firm's tannoy. From correspondence we are aware that some fans believe we do not care about the inconvenience a

postponement causes, but I can assure you that we are very conscious of good public relations and what they mean to a football club.

Apart from the inconvenience of a postponement, there is the financial side. As with everything else the bills still come in and wages have to be paid while the Club is without income and the Chairman and Directors do a magnificent job with the aid of our colleagues in the Pools Office to ensure the lifeline continuing while we are waiting to get games played and income flowing.

So please be patient and rest assured that we want to play the games as much, if not more, than anyone.

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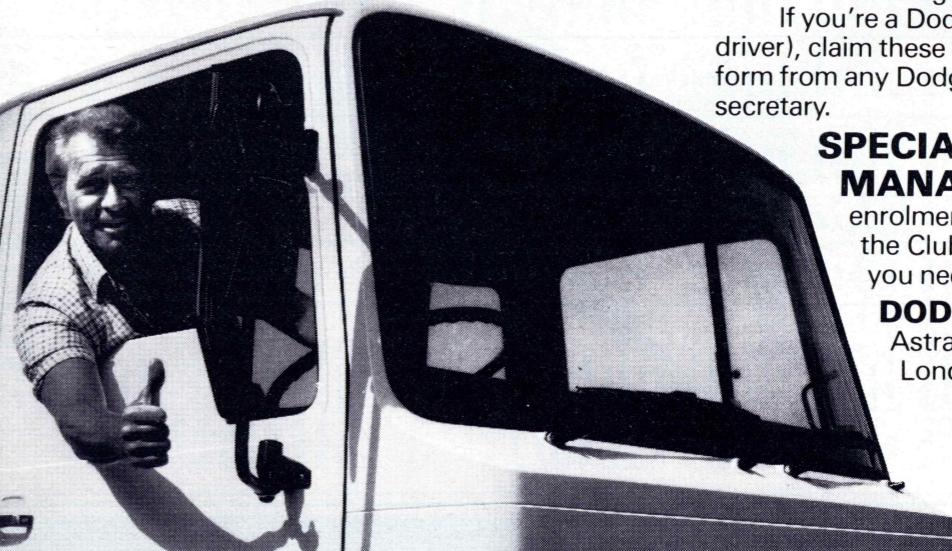


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SEARCH

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Division Two

Combination

100

FOOTBALL COMBINATION FIXTURES — 1978-79										All Fixtures subject to alteration										
HOME					Goals AWAY					Goals					All Saturday Matches Kick-off 3pm					
P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	T	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Brighton	25	11	1	2	33	9	3	3	5	14	17	32	Tottenham	24	19	4	1	69	27	42
Crystal Palace	24	7	4	3	20	9	3	7	1	14	9	31	Norwich City	22	15	4	3	57	20	34
Stoke	24	7	4	1	24	10	4	5	3	9	12	31	Ipswich Town	22	15	4	3	47	20	34
West Ham	23	8	2	2	28	8	4	3	4	17	15	29	West Ham	22	14	5	3	52	24	33
Sunderland	25	7	3	2	22	12	3	6	4	16	19	29	Southampton	23	12	5	6	41	25	29
Orient	25	8	2	3	22	10	3	6	4	16	17	27	Q.P.R.	20	12	5	3	41	27	29
Fulham	23	7	4	3	24	13	3	2	4	9	14	26	Chelsea	23	10	6	7	46	33	26
Notts. County	25	6	1	13	9	3	4	6	18	32	26	Plymouth	26	11	4	11	42	44	26	
Burnley	23	8	2	1	23	12	1	5	6	13	23	25	Fulham	22	8	7	7	35	28	23
Newcastle	24	8	2	1	16	6	2	3	8	8	19	25	Bristol Rovers	22	8	6	8	38	40	22
Charlton	24	3	4	4	15	14	5	4	4	24	23	24	Bristol City	23	8	6	9	37	48	22
Cambridge	25	3	8	2	17	11	3	4	5	14	21	24	Crystal Palace	23	5	10	8	35	39	20
Bristol Rovers	24	8	2	2	26	16	1	3	8	7	25	23	Arsenal	20	6	7	7	38	31	19
Luton	23	7	1	3	31	12	2	3	7	9	17	22	Oxford	22	7	5	10	44	38	19
Wrexham	20	5	4	1	16	7	2	3	5	9	14	21	Cardiff City	23	7	3	13	33	45	17
Preston	23	5	5	2	25	15	2	2	7	12	25	21	Hereford	23	6	5	12	26	48	17
Leicester	24	3	5	4	13	13	2	6	4	9	13	21	Leicester	21	5	5	11	24	34	15
Oldham	22	4	2	5	2	15	13	2	2	7	13	26	Luton Town	20	6	2	12	23	37	14
Sheff. United	21	5	2	4	19	15	1	3	6	9	18	17	Birmingham	21	3	7	11	15	30	13
Blackburn	23	1	7	2	14	13	2	2	9	10	29	15	Reading	21	5	3	13	28	64	13
Cardiff	23	4	3	3	15	15	1	2	10	10	37	15	Swindon	22	3	6	13	18	44	12
Millwall	23	3	2	6	12	19	1	3	8	7	19	13	Orient	23	3	3	17	22	63	9
As at 5/7/79										All Saturday Matches Kick-off 3pm										
Sept.	6	W	Hereford United	3-1	S	Oxford United	18	S	Birmingham City	1-0	Feb.	3	S	Norwich City	...	...	...	...	...
Aug.	19	S	Southampton	3-1	T	Cardiff City	21	T	Bristol Rovers	1-2	...	...	S	Plymouth Argyle	...	...	...	...	...
	22	T	W	2-0	S	Birmingham City	29	W	Reading	P	...	...	S	Swindon Town	...	...	...	...	...
	30	W	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oct.	4	W	Fulham	2-2	S	Arsenal	9	S	West Ham	1-3	Mar.	3	S	Tottenham H.	...	...	...	...	...
														C	10	S	Plymouth Argyle	...	...
														C	17	S	Leicester City	...	...
														C	21	W	Crystal Palace	...	...
														P	28	W	Cardiff City	...	...
														P	31	S	Reading	...	...
Nov.	1	W	Fulham	1-2	S	Tottenham H.	1979	M	Ipwich Town	P	April	7	S	Fulham	...	...	...	...	...
	4	S	Leicester City	0-3	T	Southampton	1-0	S	Southampton	P	16	M	Ipwich Town	...	...	...	...	...
	8	W	W	2-0	S	Hereford United	17	W	Bristol City	...	21	S	Bristol City	...	...	...	...	...
	12	W	W	2-1	T	West Ham	20	S	West Ham	...	24	T	West Ham	...	...	...	...	...
	16	W	W	2-0	W	Arsenal	24	W	Arsenal	...	28	S	Arsenal	...	...	...	...	...

Next home games

NEW YORK SWIMMERS	Sat. Feb. 13th Combination	Sat. Feb. 17th Combination	Tues. Feb. 20th Division II
	WORCESTER	NEW YORK	WEST HAMPTON NEW YORK NEW ENGLAND NEW JERSEY

✓ C.R.N. ✓ C.R.E.S.L.A ✓ W.E.S.I. H.A.M
Kick-off 7.30 p.m. Kick-off 3.00p.m. Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Century Club

by Catherine Ball, Secretary.

ISN'T IT nice to be back at Kenilworth Road? It's a long time since the Century Club room has been used so little during the football season, and I know I am not the only member who has been feeling decidedly deprived at the lack of football in the last five weeks.

But we haven't completely shut up shop, and the folk evening with Andy Dougall turned out to be another successful event in our continued efforts to improve our social programme between games.

Needless to say the weather was appalling, and the snow prevented some members getting to the club. On top of that, the outside gate was accidentally locked for a time, and if any members did turn up only to find that they couldn't get in, our apologies are due.

Our next social night comes on Friday, with a Valentine Party. As usual it will be an informal evening, with the accent on light-hearted enjoyment. Tickets are £2.50 each, and some are still available.

A few of us went to Cambridge on Saturday, but much as we enjoy trips to other clubs most of us prefer our home surroundings.

I suppose Harry Haslam returns to the ground with mixed feelings, and while we welcome Sheffield United's staff and their supporters we all hope to see them go home on the wrong end of the score-line!

Finally, on behalf of the Century Club, I extend a warm welcome to Luton Town's new chief executive, John Smith.

Kenilworth Club

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Junior Hatters

At the time of going to press, our game with Stoke is doubtful and consequently with the "on - off" position of most games at the moment it is quite possible that some of our news is out of date and for this fluctuating position we can only apologise.

However we will start with the result of the competition in the Bristol Rovers programme and the answers were as follows:-

1. Don Givens
2. Peter Anderson
3. Any two from the following:- Nottm. Forest., Luton Town., Shrewsbury., Exeter., Peterborough or Nuneaton.

The response to this competition was by far the best yet and the first three all correct entries opened were from Tony Walker of Tophill, Luton., Kevin Folland of Caddington and Tony Sborgia of Dallow Road, Luton.

These winners will each receive a pair of tickets for to-day's game.

To-day's competition is going to be different. This time we would like you to write in and give us your views of what you would like to see done to improve facilities for our younger supporters and what type of information you would like to see included in the Junior Hatters Column. Please limit your entries to 100 words. We will extend the time limit for this competition until Friday 23rd February, 1979. All entries will be read and what is in the Editors' opinion the most constructive of ideas in the letters will be the winners. The Editors' decision will be final and the two winning letters will be published in this column. There will be one pair of tickets in the age section up to 10 years old and one pair of tickets for the age group between 10 and 15 years old. So please put your age on your entries. All entries should be sent to:- Junior Hatters Competition, Luton Town F.C., 72 Kenilworth Road, Luton, Beds.

Now to this month's Birthdays:-
No. 31 Stephen Smith, 1st., No. 89 Christopher Hollands, 2nd., No. 235 John Waterfield, 3rd., 255 Philip McClure, 3rd., No. 1 Alan Baxter, 5th., No. 529 Ian Martin, 6th., 152 Andrew Garratt, 7th., 216 Martin Waller, 8th., 234 Scott Farquhar, 9th., 144 Heather Briers, 10th., 174 Lee Brown, 11th., 209 Joey Buba, 13th., 63 Andy Copperwheat, 14th., 204 Joey Czubinski, 15th., 168 Greg Watts, 15th., 531 Antony Box, 9th., 246 Peter Wilson, 14th., 42 Trevor Alexander, 15th., 162 Toby Churn, 16th., 224 Scott Wilson, 17th., 212 Joanne Steenburgh, 18th., 22 David McKay, 18th., 115 Ian Jack, 19th., 25 John Peters, 20th., 114 Iain Bullock, 22nd., 67 Matthew Parker, 23rd., 17 Shaun Jackson, 24th., 16, Craig Jenner, 25th., 120 John Jordan, 27th., 8 Dean Clarke, 28th., 90 Jill Oliver, and 43 Andrew Collon, on the 29th February, 1979. We are not sure which day you celebrate your birthday Andrew but thought you would like to be included. A very happy birthday to you all.

All of the autographed birthday photographs will be sent off within the next few days, although there are quite a number of members who have not yet changed their favourite player from those who are no longer with the club.

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- 8 RICKY HILL
- 9 STEVE TAYLOR
- 10 BOB HATTON
- 11 DAVID MOSS
- 12 BRIAN STEIN



Sheffield Utd

- STEVE CONROY 1
- CLIFF CALVERT 2
- MICK SPEIGHT 3
- COLIN FRANKS 4
- JOHN McPHAIL 5
- JOHN MATTHEWS 6
- PETER ANDERSON 7
- TOMMY SMITH 8
- SIMON STAINROD 9
- ALEX SABELLA 10
- GARY HAMSON 11
- JOHN CUTBUSH 12

16

Half Times

Bristol Rovers	Leicester	Bolton
Cambridge	Orient	Liverpool
Burnley	Newcastle	Coventry
Millwall	Notts. County	Tottenham
Cardiff City	Preston	Ipswich
Wrexham	Brighton	Southampton
Crystal Palace	West Ham	Manchester City
Stoke City	Sunderland	Manchester Utd.
Fulham	Arsenal	Nottingham Forest
Oldham	Middlesboro	Aston Villa.

Officials

Referee: Trevor, D. SPENCER (Wootton Bassett). Began refereeing in local Hampshire Leagues and the Hampshire Senior League. Moved to Swindon in 1970, and continued via the Football Combination to the Football League full list. Was a linesman at the Texaco Cup Final in 1971, a European Cup Semi-Final in 1972 and in the 1971 Anglo-Italian Tournament.

A married man, with two daughters, he is an Equipment Planning Engineer. His interests and hobbies are cricket, golf, do-it-yourself work and caravanning.

Linesmen: D.A. Hedges (Oxford) Red Flag: M.G. Richardson (Chislehurst) Yellow Flag.