

NOTTS COUNTY

FOOTBALL CLUB

OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME

15_p

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION II

VERSUS

LUTON TOWN

Saturday March 3rd 1979



NOTTS COUNTY FOOTBALL CLUB

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THE WAY I SEE IT -

Brian Tansley of Radio Trent



THERE was quite a lot of interest caused by the recent competition we had on Radio Trent to name your best Notts County XI over the past 20 years.

You may have in fact had a go yourself at picking 11 of the many players who have worn the famous black and white shirts since 1959 and realised as I did that it's a far from easy choice.

For the benefit of those who didn't hear the outcome, the final team based on the number of votes for each player was (in 4-3-3 formation): Eric McManus; Bill Brindley, David Needham, Brian Stubbs, Ray O'Brien; Willie Carlin, Don Masson, Arthur Mann; Les Bradd, Tony Hateley, Alan Withers. Substitute Alex Gibson.

A fair choice you would no doubt admit, but when I came to selecting my own side, just out of interest, I came up with three or four changes.

As far as the defence goes I have no complaints, yet must say I find very little to choose between Eric McManus and Roy Brown who have both been fine servants to the club.

It's the midfield department where I come up with something different preferring two former captains, Bob Forrest and Gerry Carver to partner Don Masson.

Up front you've got to have Tony Hateley and remembering the formidable combination they formed I would pencil Les Bradd in a shade ahead of Jeff Astle.

And then you come to the problem position of who exactly would serve up the crosses from the wing for the big men to thrive on in the middle. Alan Withers proved the most popular choice, but you could equally have gone for Steve Carter, Iain McCulloch, Ian Scanlon, Peter Burcumshaw or Jon Nixon. Just to be a little different though I have chosen a player who looked probably the best of the lot ... Mike Barber.

What a tragedy it was in the mid-sixties when this former QPR star was forced to quit the game through injury. I think that anticipating just how good he could have been earns him the right to don the number 11 shirt in my team.

Substitute? Well, you can't look any further than the versatile Arthur Mann, who could step at a moments notice into any department of the side and not weaken it.

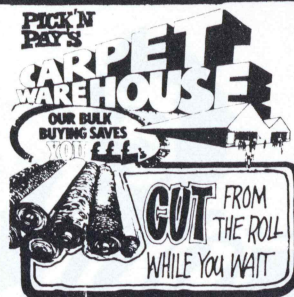
That's my side then ... not quite the same as the final choice, but none the less a team I would like to watch in action any day.

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TODAY'S VISITORS

STEVE TAYLOR: A striker of great talent. Steve Tayler has a remarkable scoring record up to the start of the 78/79 season — almost averaging one goal every two games. Previously played for Bolton Wanderers prior to joining Oldham.

PAUL PRICE: Luton's longest serving player. On the verge of the league scene in 1974, he broke his leg. He fought his way back to fitness, only to break it for a second time. But the second come-back was permanent, and Price has been a regular member of Luton's side for the past three years.

JAKE FINDLAY: A record fee for a Luton Town goalkeeper of £100,000 was paid to Aston Villa for Jake Findlay. After 8 years of mainly reserve playing he is happy with this move as it gives him the opportunity to realise his full potential, namely being capped for Scotland.

DAVID CARR: Spotted by a Luton scout near his home town of Margate, full back Carr joined Luton when he left school at 16 in 1973. Can play equally well in the back four or in midfield, but made his major breakthrough last season when he made the left back position his own after Luton sold Steve Buckley to Derby County.

GRAHAM JONES: Recruited from Manchester schools football at the age of 16 in 1975, Jones turned out to be a highly versatile player. He made rapid strides through Luton's lower teams, and made his league debut at 17.

STEVE SHERLOCK: One of nine new players who joined Luton in the hectic first four months of David Pleat's reign as manager. Signed from Manchester City. Scottish international Willie Donachie kept Sherlock out of the Maine Road limelight, and Luton stepped in when City allowed him to leave in May 1978.

DAVID MOSS: Moss gave sterling service to Swindon in the Third Division before moving up a division last summer. His £110,000 transfer was a major part of David Peat's re-building operation in the 1978 close season.

BOB HATTON: One of the most experienced strikers in the game, Luton moved quickly to secure the signature of Hatton in the close season. He has proved that he could score goals in any League in service with Birmingham, Carlisle and Blackpool.

KIRK STEPHENS: Luton Manager David Pleat's knowledge of non-league football paid handsome dividends when he signed Stephens, a promising right back from Nuneaton in the Southern League. Stephens immediately bridged the gap to full time football to force his way into Luton's first team squad.

DAVID LAWSON: Brought in to strengthen the squad, goalkeeper David Lawson started his professional career with Bradford and Huddersfield, he is also a fully qualified F.A. coach.

GODFREY INGRAM: A product of Luton's schoolboy and youth teams. He became an apprentice in the summer of 1976, a junior professional within 12 months, and a member of Luton's league squad a year later.

GARY HEALE: Made the breakthrough into Second Division football last season after being with Luton since leaving school in Canvey Island. A good target man in attack, he decided to take his chance with Luton despite approaches from Tottenham, and marked his league debut with a goal.

MARK AIZLEWOOD: David Pleat's confidence in this stylish defence or midfield player was backed dramatically in April 1978. Luton splashed out £50,000 to bring him out of the Fourth Division, where he was playing for Newport County, when he was still only 18. He is a former Welsh Youth international skipper.

MAL DONAGHY: Glasgow Celtic, Queen's Park Rangers, Sheffield United and Wolves were all reported to be interested in the future of Northern Ireland under 21 international Donaghy in the summer of 1978. Manager Pleat rates the centre half one of the best young players ever to come into the English game.

CHRIS TURNER: Luton boss Pleat was once a playing colleague of Turners at Peterborough, had him watched in the 77/78 season, and then laid out £95,000 for his signature.

PASQUALE FUCCLLO: Signed as a 16 year old apprentice in the summer of 1973, he broke through into the League side within three years, and his power and regular goals have kept him in the side ever since.

ALAN WEST: A brilliant creative player in midfield, West was one of the many young stars to come from Burnley. An England under 23 international, he moved to Luton in October 1973 for £100,000.

RICKY HILL: A midfielder of immense talent, Hill was signed as an apprentice from schoolboy football in North London as a 16 year old. Now 20 he has been capped by England at youth level.

JOHN LUCAS: Luton thought they had missed out when midfielder Lucas, a Welsh schoolboy international, turned down their approaches when he left school at 16. He went to Manchester United instead, but within a year, in June 1978, he decided that his prospects might after all be better elsewhere — and Luton got their man after all.

Front row: K. Gutteridge (coach), P. Fuccllo, A. West, R. Hatton, D. Pleat (Manager), R. Hill, P. Boersma, R. Johnson (Physio), Middle row: M. Aizlewood, J. McNichol, G. Jones, M. Alekic, S. Turner, P. Price, M. Donaghy. Back row: G. Ingram, K. Stephens, B. Stein, D. Moss, D. Carr, S. Sherlock.



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GEOFF ALLMAN

Point of Controversy

UP to a fortnight ago suggestions were raining in on all sides to the effect that the season should be halted for a two month break at the halfway stage or that it should run from spring to autumn, making full use of the summer conditions. Now, with the winter's strang-lehold on the game easing at last fans seem to be basking in a welter of exciting games up and down the country and to be looking forward to plenty more thrills in a packed last couple of months of the season. Somehow it seems that the season is correctly timed after all and that a vital dimension of the English game would be lost if there were no more ding-dong struggles in the cool night air on heavy pitches.

It seems suddenly that we are all resilient enough to stand a season riddled with postponements about every 16 years and those of us who can recall the 1947 and 1963 winters feel at this moment that there is no reason to tinker with the normal dates for the season provided that the next really severe winter is not with us for around another 16 years.

This way there are few problems of conflicting interests with cricket, tennis and speedway racing. Despite what was written in some sections of the press during the winter freeze-up summer sports do have a considerable following and many soccer addicts have other interests in the summer and would not wish every Saturday of a Test Match to conflict with a full programme of league fixtures. Even worse for some of us would be the prospect of soccer being played throughout Wimbledon fortnight.

What's more spectators stand the regular exposure to heat in a crowded stadium in summer as excessively hot as that of 1976. And what about the players? heat exhaustion would be far worse problem than cramp now is.

There is also the question of the long summer holidays taken by many people

these days. The watching habit could be lost in the midst of umpteen counter-attractions that do not exist in the winter and gates would not necessarily be higher than in the depths of winter when there is just the pull of television or shopping with the wife.

Maybe an 'evenings only' kick-off arrangement could be worked out to ease some of the problems of heat, but this would not affect the holiday problem. perhaps teams like Torquay would cash in from fans on holiday from other parts of the country. Even so, could this over amply replace the mud-bath on his local pitch for the dedicated fan for whom soccer is one of the main reliefs in the average winter and which is now helping us quickly to forget the grim winter of 1979.

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- 5 Brian STUBBS
- 6 Arthur MANN
- 7 Iain McCULLOCH
- 8 Don MASSON
- 9 Paul HOOKS
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Ball boy duties this afternoon fall to pupils from the Alderman Derbyshire School of Nottingham. We are grateful for their help and thank them and their parents and their teacher for the visit; we hope the boys enjoy their afternoon with us.

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- 3 Mark HAZLEWOOD
- 4 Alan WEST
- 5 Chris TURNER
- 6 Paul BRYCE
- 7 Barry SILKMAN
- 8 David CARR
- 9 Steve TAYLOR
- 10 Bob HATTON
- 11 Ricky HILL
- 12 Mal DONAGHY

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C	C. Palace Wrexham			P	Coventry W.B.A.		
D	Leicester Cardiff			Q	Everton Q.P.R.		
E	Millwall Sunderland			R	Ipswich Forest		
F	Newcastle Charlton			S	Leeds Norwich		
G	Oldham Sheffield Utd.			T	Man. City Bolton		
H	Orient Bristol Rovers			U	Southampton Arsenal		
J	Preston Fulham			V	Spurs Derby		
K	Stoke West Ham			W	Mansfield Blackpool		
L	Aston Villa Birmingham						

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Luton Town Through The Years

It was in 1897 that Luton Town were first elected to Division Two, but three years later they failed to gain re-election and it was not until the advent of the new Division Three (South) in 1920 that they regained league status

Walsall lost at Luton's Kenilworth Road in the F.A. Cup competitions of both 1947/8 and 1948/9, but played Luton only once since local works team Vauxhall Motors borrowed the use of it after reaching the first round for only the only time in their history in 1947.

Luton became the only Third Division team ever to supply three players for one home international game when in October 1921 ALBERT MATHESON and LOUIS BOOKMAN turned out for Ireland against an England team that contained ERNIE SIMS.

Boxing Day 1927 Luton lost 6-5 after leading Northampton 5-0 at half-time.

On 13 April 1936 Luton beat Bristol Rovers 12-0 with JOE PAYNE a late choice to lead the attack, netting no fewer than ten goals.

In 1946/7 Luton regularly fielded Player-Manager DALLY DUNCAN and coach FRANK SOO, but were captained by HORACE GAGER.

In 1956/7 GORDON TURNER, who, sad to say, died recently, scored 32 of Luton's 58 First Division goals.

In 1958/9 Luton played no fewer than 14 league games between the Semi-final and the final of the F.A. Cup. They finally went down 2-1 to Nottingham Forest at Wembley at a time when they were without a manager, 'DALLY' DUNCAN having resigned to join Blackburn.

In 1965 Luton became the second former Division One club to drop into Division Four, Brentford having previously done so. In 1974, however, they became the first club ever to win back their First Division place after dropping into Division Four.

Redmayne County Schools Penalty Competition.

The competition continues this afternoon but because of recent postponements of our 1st team matches the sequence of teams taking part has become slightly confused to say the least! However details will be given over the P.A. system this afternoon to keep you all in the picture as to who the teams are.

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1ST TEAM GAMES IN MARCH

Monday 5th March — 7.30pm. (County Cup Semi-Final)

Mansfield Town v Notts County

Sat. 10th March — 3.00pm. (Football League Div. Two)

Cambridge United v Notts County.

Tues. 13th March — 7.30pm. (Football League Div. Two)

Notts County v Sheffield United

Sat. 17th March — 3.00pm. (Football League Div. Two)

Notts County v Wrexham

Sat. 24th March — 3.00pm. (Football League Div. Two)

Millwall v Notts County

Tues. 27th March — 7.30pm. (Football League Div. Two)

Notts County v Cardiff City

Sat. 31st March — 3.00pm. (Football League Div. Two)

Brighton v Notts County

These fixtures are re-arrangments of previously postponed dates. (Tickets issued and sold are valid for the new dates).

FACTS AND FIGURES

1978			F	A	Att.	Goalscorers
July	31	Mon	Mansfield T. (AS Cup)	A 0 1	5,107	
Aug	5	Sat	NORWICH C. (AS Cup)	H 2 1	4,539	Blockley :: Carter
	8	Tues	Orient (AS Cup)	A 3 2	2,511	Benjamin :: Carter (Pen) :: Vinter
	12	Sat	Scunthorpe United (LC)	A 1 0	2,394	Hooks
	15	Tues	Scunthorpe United (LC)	H 3 0	5,064	Hooks :: Carter (2)
	19	Sat	West Ham United	A 2 5	25,387	McCulloch (2)
	22	Tues	MILLWALL	H 1 1	7,060	Vinter
	26	Sat	BLACKBURN ROVERS	H 2 1	7,774	Blockley :: Vinter
	30	Wed	Crewe Alexandra (LC)	A 0 2	3,178	
Sept	2	Sat	Burnley	A 1 2	9,961	McCulloch
	9	Sat	Leicester City	A 1 0	14,485	Vinter
	16	Sat	ORIENT	H 1 0	8,190	Masson
	22	Fri	Charlton Athletic	A 1 1	8,643	Vinter
	30	Sat	NEWCASTLE UNITED	H 1 2	11,813	Hooks
Oct	7	Sat	Cardiff City	A 3 2	7,974	Hooks (2), McCulloch
	14	Sat	BRISTOL ROVERS	H 2 1	8,646	Vinter :: O'Brien (pen)
	21	Sat	Luton Town	A 0 6	8,561	
	28	Sat	CAMBRIDGE UNITED	H 1 1	8,437	McCulloch
Nov	4	Sat	Wrexham	A 1 3	10,891	O'Brien
	11	Sat	WEST HAM UNITED	H 1 0	11,002	O'Brien (Pen)
	18	Sat	Blackburn Rovers	A 4 3	7,893	Hooks :: Vinter :: Masson :: Hunt
	21	Tues	BURNLEY	H 1 1	8,520	Hooks
	25	Sat	BRIGHTON & HOVE	H 1 0	8,851	Hooks
Dec	2	Sat	Fulham	A 1 1	7,591	Hooks
	9	Sat	CRYSTAL PALACE	H 0 0	11,011	
	16	Sat	Preston North End	A 1 1	10,728	Vinter
	23	Sat	SUNDERLAND	H 1 1	11,281	O'Brien (pen)
	26	Tues	Oldham Athletic (3 p.m.)	A 3 3	8,262	Hooks :: Blockley :: Vinter
	30	Sat	Stoke City	A 0 2	21,393	
1979						
Jan	1	Mon	SHEFFIELD UNITED.(3 p.m.)	H		
	9	Tues	READING (FA Cup 3)	H 4 2	8,265	Hooks :: Mann :: Masson ::
	20	Sat	Orient	A 0 3	4,803	
	27	Sat	Arsenal (FA Cup 4)	A 0 2	39,173	Vinter
Feb	3	Sat	CHARLTON ATHLETIC	H 1 1	7,958	Mann
	24	Sat	Bristol Hovers	A 2 2	6,887	Hooks :: Vinter
Mar	3	Sat	LUTON TOWN	H		
	10	Sat	Cambridge United (6)	A		
	13	Tues	SHEFFIELD UNITED	H		
	17	Sat	WREXHAM (LC Final)	H		
	24	Sat	Millwall	A		
	27	Tues	CARDIFF CITY	H		
	31	Sat	Brighton & Hove Albion	A		
			(FA Cup Semi Final)			
Apr	7	Sat	FULHAM	H		
	10	Tues	Sheffield United	A		
	13	Fri	Sunderland	A		
	14	Sat	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	H		
	21	Sat	PRESTON NORTH END	H		
	24	Tues	LEICESTER CITY	H		
	28	Sat	Crystal Palace	A		
May	5	Sat	STOKE CITY	H		
	12	Sat	FA Cup Final			

Note For Your Diary

Re-arranged date for our postponed home League game with Leicester City is scheduled for Tuesday, 24th April, 7.30pm. at Meadow Lane.



Notts. County
F.C. 1978/79

15

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