

LUTON TOWN

OFFICIAL
MATCHDAY
PROGRAMME
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
Saturday 28th April, 1980
LUTON TOWN v WREXHAM



PRICE
30P

TODAY'S MATCH IS SPONSORED BY:
**CLEANDUSTRIAL SERVICES
LIMITED**

Action BIRMINGHAM CITY 1 LUTON TOWN 0

A 25th minute goal from Keith Bertschin was enough to finally kill our promotion hopes at Birmingham last week. But it was a Luton performance which almost snatched a point with a dramatic late rally.

Below: Paul Price climbs above Mal Donaghy to repel a Birmingham attack with Frank Worthington paying close attention. *Top right:* Alan West jumps in an attempt to take the ball off Frank Worthington. *Below right:* Alan West leads the charge out of Luton's defence assisted by Paddy Grealish.



AROUND THE STADIUM

THANKS A MILLION

Almost the end of another long, hard season. This afternoon's game provides you with your last chance to read your magazine this season before a summer break which, for most people connected with the club, means a spell of hard work until the start of the new campaign.

But we couldn't allow the opportunity to pass without recording our thanks to the backroom people who have helped to contribute to the smooth running of our organisation this season.

There are dozens of willing workers the fans never see. They are people we couldn't do without behind the scenes. We are also extremely grateful to our match-day sponsors; advertisers; ball sponsors; Sponsorkid supporters and, in fact, anyone who has helped the club financially this season.

Secretary John Wilkinson's army of workers including stewards, gatemen and groundstaff have done a wonderful job. Ambulance men and police have given us their support. Our programme editor has good reason to thank John Wilkinson, George Rogers, Mike Beevor, Catherine Ball, Mike Iacono, Mike Hardwicke, Bill Butler, Clive Hustwitt, Gareth Owen, Colin Ball, Pat Flood, the Bobbers Travel Club, the Evening Post-Echo photographers for their action shots, the Luton News for their Memory Lane pictures. He's also grateful for the support he's received from the playing side of the club in addition to the administrative section.

The list is endless and our thanks are due to everyone who has helped the club to tick over on four cylinders throughout the season — including a special thanks to our wonderful fans.

It's been a fine season and we've all enjoyed it but — and, whisper it quietly — we'll be back with a bang in just over 12 weeks. See you then.

TODAY'S REFEREE

R. C. Challis (Tombridge, Kent). Commenced refereeing with RAF in Singapore (1952) then progressed via Kent League. Southern League — referee for 10 seasons — Football League line to full list in 1968. Has refereed FA Challenge Trophy Final and a European Competition Final in 1976. Lined the FA Cup Final in 1975, also twice in Inter-Cities Cup matches. Linesman in UEFA Cup Semi-Final in 1978. In 1979 was Reserve Referee for Football League Cup Final and refereed FA Cup Final.



Anyone got a Luton Town pennant? That seems to be the question posed by two representatives of OBC/Southern and Thorn Heating who sponsored our last home game against Shrewsbury.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, KIDS

You will have read in previous magazines that the Junior Hatters Club will probably be revamped next season under the control of Colin Ball, our new Youth Development Officer. To wind up this season, we offer congratulations to all the following members who have birthdays up to and including the middle of July.

June 1-30. Chris Griffiths (5), Stephen Randall (7), Tony Sisorgia (11), Michael Fleet (11), Robert Fleet (11), Bruce Houghton (14), Darren McManus (7), Larry Czubinski (7), Simon Clements (14), Andrew Swain (7), Martin Doherty (4), Paul Lines (5), Mark Gray (11), Helen Anderson (15), Peter Barker (16), Gerald McDaid (4), Earl Hart (13), Alan Watson (25), Kevin Laing (30), Matthew Wisbey (25), Larna Harp (25), Gary O'Connor (26), Louise Thomson (24), Simon Hughes (16), Colin Judge (22), Philip Doyle (28), David Glazebrook (18), Martin Blake (24), Andrew Wightman (18), Matthew Larkins (27). **July 1-15.** Martin Brennan (15), Anita Dilley (5), Alison Gildea (11), Stephen Jones (8), Adrian Dickens (3), Desmond Moffat (6), Simon Bangs (9), Graham Crisp (8), Nicholas Linnane (6), Lance Croft (13), Andrew Hopkins (12), Rohit Anhal (14), David Hewitt (12), Paul Webb (1).

CONGRATULATIONS, BOB

Former Luton secretary Bob Readhead is celebrating 50 years' association with the club today and, to mark the occasion, is taking advantage of the Sponsorkids scheme to allow 50 pupils of the Dunstable Road Junior School — Bob's former school — to watch this afternoon's game free of charge. We think that's a nice gesture by Bob who is currently responsible for running the Bobbers Club.

LUTON TOWN F.C.



72 Kenilworth Road
Luton
Tel: Luton 411622

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Match-Day Magazine published by
Luton Town FC
Designed and printed by
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Defeat at Birmingham last Saturday has probably meant that, right at the very end, we have failed to answer the final question of our examination papers. At the start of the season, many considered we were not good enough for consideration to even take that exam.

As the season has progressed, not only have we looked at the questions, but came up with the answers to stay with the leaders. The ball is in our own court next season not only to be considered for the examination — but to pass it with flying colours.

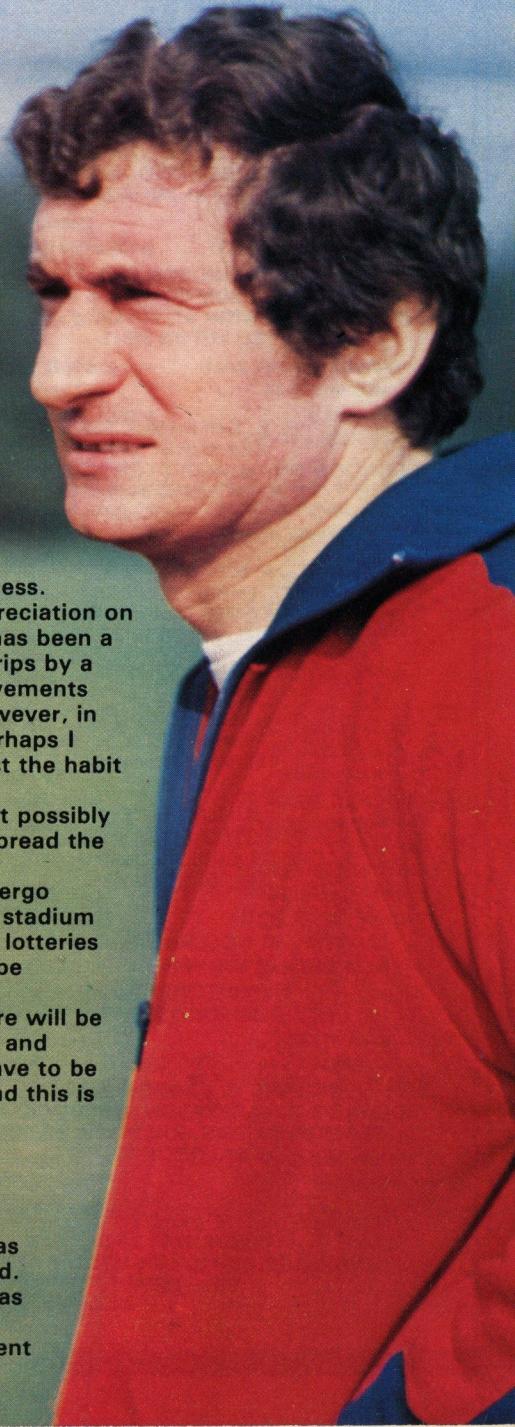
The change in our fortunes this term has not really surprised me. Any team takes time to build and the only place you can't build is in the First Division. Ideally, if the right players are brought together, worked with and developed into a good team unit, then when

DAVID'S DIARY

promotion is achieved the chances are you can hold your success. The management and coaches would like to express their appreciation on behalf of the players to the loyalty of our fans this season. It has been a tremendous boost to our spirits to be accompanied on away trips by a noisy following. At home, I personally feel our play and achievements have not been fairly acknowledged through the turnstiles. However, in saying that Rome wasn't built in a day regarding the team, perhaps I should be more tolerant of the missing fans who may have lost the habit of watching football.

However, a 50 per cent increase in attendances are figures that possibly 95 per cent of Football League clubs would have welcomed! Spread the word this summer. Our players deserve better audiences.

We have a busy summer ahead of us. The pitch will again undergo extensive treatment. There will be major alterations inside the stadium and staff will be kept busy selling tickets for next season. The lotteries and pools organisations will be as busy as ever and there will be League meetings to attend in addition to fetes and galas. New apprentices will join us looking for pleasant, homely digs. There will be further trials for youngsters and trips abroad for the first team and juniors. Training has to be finalised and some contracts will have to be renewed. Players will continue to train to overcome injuries and this is emphasised by Lilly Fuccillo who has worked well to begin the new season. Hopefully, Paddy Grelish, Paul Price and Mal Donaghy will have Home International games to attend. There may be changes in personnel as we look at ways to improve efficiency. No-one can afford to stand still. Whenever I arrange and get away for my holidays, it will be more than deserved — as will the break that every member of the football staff has earned. I trust that all our supporters will have a good break and return as eager as ever to cheer us on as we strive to make Luton Town a club respected for good players, good football, good management and, above all, for good support.



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JOHN'S JOTTINGS



Once again we have come to the last home match of the season and it seems to go quicker every year. At the time of writing, our destiny for next season is not yet known, but whatever happens we have had a wonderful season. This time last year, we were struggling to stay in the Second Division, but with the inclusion of one or two new faces and positional changes we have been competing with the best in the Division.

It is not only the football side of the club which has had a good year — the commercial side, under the leadership of Mike Hardwicke — has done a tremendous job, and I have no doubt they will be seen at a large number of fetes this coming summer.

Two people who have been going flat out lately are my assistant, Bill Butler, and his assistant, Margaret Duffy. Margaret must have wondered what day it was, as the new members' tickets got under way. She is with us only temporarily, but is doing a good job in the ticket office. This is Bill's second season with us, but he is the first to admit that since the members' tickets went on sale at the beginning of this month he hasn't been able to do much in his home because he has to take tickets and books home to work on, to keep his records up to date.

We have 6,000 to sell, so if you haven't got yours yet, don't leave it too late and be disappointed!

Mike Beevor, in his first season with us, hasn't done too badly either because trying to get people to spend money on advertising is a hard job these days, when money is short.

May I, on behalf of the club, say "thank you" to all our staff, whether full, part-time or voluntary workers. There are too many of you to name individually, but we appreciate your efforts to help us keep the club running smoothly. I hope that you all continue with us for many seasons to come.

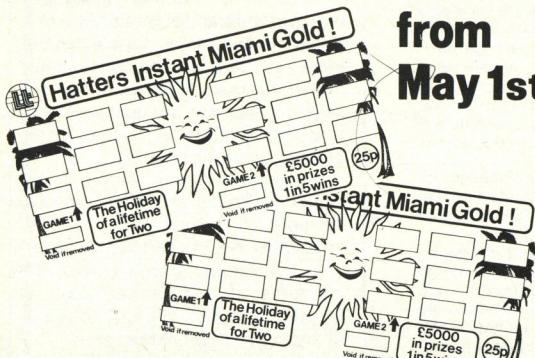
It adds up to a good team, both on and off the field. One thing that has pleased me is the number of school and youth parties which have had conducted tours of our amenities, not only from English schools and clubs, last week we had a visit from a group of German and French children who were playing in a competition at Dunstable. Imagine talking to fifty children who couldn't understand English! It just shows that the language of football is the same throughout the world.

Our visitors today were founded in 1873. They have been playing at the Racecourse Ground for over a century, and although they haven't won many honours since they were formed, the Welsh Cup has adorned their sideboard many times. Connected with their first triumph in that competition there is a story of astute captaincy which had far-reaching effects on the game in general. In accordance with the custom of that era, the Wrexham team played with six forwards and only two half-backs. During the course of one tie against the Welsh Druids, the thought struck Wrexham captain, Charles Murless, that the two centre forwards were getting in each other's way. So he told one of them to drop back. Not only did they win the tie but, the different forward formation caught on — and the centre half had finally arrived.

COMMERCIAL CORNER

INTRODUCING - the NEW Hatters Instant Miami Gold Lottery Ticket

On sale
from
May 1st



Win a trip to Miami for two
only 25p

AGENTS - Sell the winner and enter the draw
for a free trip to Miami!

Next May, we are off to Miami for the holiday of a lifetime — why don't you come with us FOR NOTHING, GRATIS AND ABSOLUTELY FREE. All it could cost you is 25p although, if you are a lucky agent, it won't even cost you that. Does the thought appeal? Then read on.

Each week, we are giving the top prize of our latest lottery, Hatters Instant Miami Gold, a super long holiday for two with spending money and possibly a hired car thrown in for good measure. Our jet set holiday will include players, directors and celebrities in addition to lucky agents — and one thing is certain — we will ensure we try to fill the aircraft with the Hatters atmosphere. We may even fly from Luton Airport and, as Lorraine Chase may say — if you'll pardon the pun — when we arrive in California "It's nice here, in it!"

Total prizes each week are £5,000 — which represents a better than 5-1 chance. Rub off any three of the nine panels in two games and you will instantly win that value remembering that three palm trees represent the major prize.

Today's magazine includes a leaflet and that has been designed to help you if you don't want to decimate your magazine. If you want a share of the action, enrol now as a Hatters Agent and remember there is a special draw for agents who sell the holiday to their friends and colleagues at work. It is also worth remembering that the chance of winning as an agent in a random draw is less than 50-1.

Commercial manager Mike Hardwicke explained the club's policy on fund raising by saying: "We are top of the Football League in that respect. We have no intention of being relegated and are increasing the close-season sales of our other popular lotteries. Our pitch embraces the entire Home Counties and we will continue to strive for increased profits to help the football club."

"We have sold three million lottery tickets this season — an achievement we could not have recorded without your help and we appreciate everyone's help."

Those statistics speak for themselves, but there is one thing you can do to help us help you. Buy a Miami ticket now — it could be your passport to a FREE holiday for two.

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Phone Luton 38651

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Phone 36761

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Phone Luton 24404

John Hooper (Builders) Ltd.
66 Chase Street
Luton
Phone Luton 412525

Mark James (Salvage) Ltd
16 West Street, Dunstable
Phone Dunstable 605944

P. Laycock
Luton Sports Press
Hazelbury Crescent
Luton
Phone 28757

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Allric House
21 Farley Hill, Luton
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Richmond Electronics
(Markyate) Ltd.
Hicks Road, Markyate
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Phone Luton 840761

T. & H. Tyre Services Ltd.
Manor Road
Luton
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TOWN-TOPICS

ANYONE FOR FISHING?

Luton Town are proud of their association with the local community through the facilities offered by the Hatters Community Arena. Local youngsters have received the benefit of many coaching experts in various sports and, this afternoon, we provide a complete run down on current and future activities.

A team of young Luton netball and soccer players today compete for the Sports Council Inter Regional Champions competition. The competitors have all won their places through taking part in events organised on the Hatters Community Arena.

The next football coaching course is scheduled for 13th, 14th and 15th August at

PROGRAMME BONUS

Anyone who collects football programmes will be interested in an exhibition being held at the New Kensington Town Hall, London, on Sunday, 5th May.

Collectors can swap, sell, buy, barter or browse at the exhibition. There will be all the leading dealers selling programmes from a few pence to over one hundred pounds! This includes last week's programmes to the 1923 Cup Final programme and everything in between.

There will also be a **Football of Fame Exhibition** with rare caps, pennants, jerseys and old programmes from your club. Geoff Hurst's 1966 World Cup shirt, and the boots worn by Pele and Stanley Matthews will be among the top attractions on display.

Stopsley Regional Sports Centre and Leagrave Park. The cost is only £3.50 for the three days. Coaching places are limited, and are already scarce. You are advised to apply immediately for your chance to be coached by the experts.

The hockey presentations at the Hatters Club provided a splendid evening for the 100 children who took part. Tactical discussions and talks from representatives of Bedfordshire Eagles and Chiltern Ladies gave the youngsters plenty of practical advice. Two further hockey courses are planned and further information will appear in the local Press.

Our next netball course is due to start on 14th May and will last six weeks for girls aged between 7 and 14. The cost is £1.80 for the complete course. Courses are also available for girls up to the age of 16, although there are only 28 places available in each group.

For those who like to relax, we are planning a unique angling course. Coaching will be provided by the representatives of the National Association of Fishing coaches and further details will be supplied at the start of the next soccer season.

There are many activities scheduled for next season. Playschemes also start in July in addition to special events. Again, further details will appear in the local Press.

Mike Iacono is still interested in hearing from local youngsters. He wants to know which particular indoor and outdoor activities they are interested in and would welcome your suggestions by writing to him at Marsh House, Bramingham Road, Luton. Telephone 56879 or 504211.

NEWS FROM THE CENTURY CLUB

How sad it is to find ourselves reading the last programme of the season — and what a fabulous season it has been. We have been privileged to watch exciting football and, even now, we hopefully await the conclusion of the season with the hope our team have won the promotion they richly deserve.

Perhaps we should take this opportunity to wish our manager, staff and players an enjoyable holiday. We look forward very much to seeing them all again at our first home game next season.

Because of printing deadlines, we are unable to bring you the name of the Century Club's Young Player of the Year who received his award at the chairman's end-of-season ball. But we are sure the final choice proved as hard as it has been in previous seasons.

We welcome our visitors from Wrexham today and hope we will be able to return some of the hospitality we enjoyed in their club.

In conclusion, may we wish all members of the Century Club a pleasant summer. We look forward to seeing you all next season.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS CHANCE

Our members tickets for next season are selling like the proverbial hot cakes. But that isn't surprising considering the fantastic savings Luton Town are offering supporters.

In addition to cheap admission on a seasonal basis, you can also take the opportunity of discounts on new and used cars in conjunction with Tricentrol Cars (Luton), sports equipment (Bernards World of Sport), electrical, household and photo-

graphic equipment (Blue Chip Marketing Ltd.) and holidays (Photravel).

Already, many of the seating areas of the stadium have been sold and the message to anyone who hasn't yet bought theirs is simple — make an application immediately.

There are attractive savings available for senior citizens and students, and we have introduced the scheme to help the regular supporters help the football club. We

want you to feel part of the club.

But perhaps the biggest bonus is the offer of a members ticket for the season after next ABSOLUTELY FREE if you take part in the discounts offered by Tricentrol by producing your new members' ticket when making a purchase.

On the following page, you will find an application form, but for your guidance, we print below the saving you can make.

Description	What you pay	What you save on next season's match day prices	What it costs per match when you buy a season ticket
CENTRE STAND (Seats)	£40.00	£44.00	£1.90
WING STAND (Seats)	£35.00	£49.00	£1.66
BOBBERS STAND (Seats)	£35.00	£49.00	£1.66
SENIOR CITIZENS, STUDENTS AND JUVENILES (Seats)	£15.00	£6.00	71p
ENCLOSURE (Standing)	£25.00	£27.50	£1.19
OAK ROAD (Standing)	£25.00	£27.50	£1.19
KENILWORTH ROAD (Standing)	£25.00	£27.50	£1.19
SENIOR CITIZENS, STUDENTS AND JUVENILES (Standing)	£15.00	£6.00	71p

HAVE YOU WON OUR ROME TRIP?

TO DAVID AND THE TEAM

Thank you for a wonderful Season's Entertainment

Brian E. Handscombe
(Life and Pensions Broker)
22 Cardiff Road
Luton
Tel: Luton 24404

Williams & Richardson
(Electrical Contractors)
174 Biscot Road
Luton
Tel: Luton 26262

Filmergraphic Associates
Alton Road
Luton
Tel: Luton 36407

Silvair Holidays Ltd.
Travel Agents
13 King Street
Luton
Tel: Luton 412131

LUTON'S NIGHT OF DISASTER

Luton fan D. J. Browne is on his way to Italy to watch England play in the European Championships this summer. Mr. Browne, of 10 Swallow Street, Ivor Heath, Bucks, is the winner in the competition we organised in conjunction with our very good friends, Photravel.

But what a photo-finish the competition provided for our two judges, Eric Harris and Brian Swain, Luton Town writers for the *Evening Post-Echo* and *Luton News* respectively.

The heat winner in the Shrewsbury game was James Mead of Holly Tree, North Road, Berkhamsted, Herts — and he emerged as the runner up to Mr. Browne in a dramatic and exciting climax to the competition.

Mr. Mead has been a regular contributor to the competition and won one heat in addition to his runners-up place. But the judges, after long and careful deliberation — and after sifting through all the heat winners several times — concluded that Mr. Browne won by a short head.

The heat winner for the Watford game was Luton fan Jo Furtado, who lives in Rochdale and watches the Town when he visits his mother in Bedford.

The competition brought an enormous response from Luton fans anxious to climb aboard that Italian-bound jet, and the standard of entries was surprisingly high.

So, congratulations to Mr. Browne who will be hearing from us shortly. We hope he, and Mr. Meade, will be our guests at this afternoon's match or the first home game of next season. For the benefit of the hundreds of supporters who entered the competition, we reproduce Mr. Browne's winning entry here.

This was a night of disaster for Luton. A waterlogged pitch, some dreadful refereeing, vital injuries and crowd misbehaviour all added up to the most unfortunate result of the season and one which may be decisive in their promotion battle. From now on, only victories will do, home or away, regardless of the calibre of the opposition — and, for the first time this season, vital players may be missing.

Referee Bidmead will long remember his visit to Luton. Rarely can a referee have been seen edging towards the tunnel before blowing the final whistle and racing off to safety a good ten lengths ahead of any player. He made many mistakes, not the least of which was his first decision — to allow the match to be played at all. The pitch glistened with water on mud and football was quite impossible. Only two worthwhile moves were put together in 90 minutes and the conditions played a part in all the goals.

Having decided to play, the referee compounded his error by failing to make any allowances for the impossible conditions. He blew his whistle continually for the slightest physical contact as players slithered into each other. More than once the Cardiff players nagged him to abandon the game (before they took the lead, of course).

The only piece of football in the first half came when a Cardiff clearance stuck in the mud and Moss grabbed the ball to weave past three defenders and score. Even this was a mixed blessing, as Moss was injured in the act of scoring and went

off on a stretcher. With the substitute on, Luton then also lost Stephens, after a Cardiff man trod on his hand. While Stephens was off, Cardiff scored twice, either side of half time.

First, Saxby was penalised for a "foul that never was" (and was booked, bringing him over 20 points) and Buchanan hit the free kick low through the wall into the corner. Then Buchanan swept over a fine cross and Stevens took advantage of Stephens' absence to score, unmarked, at close range — the game's second and final piece of genuine football skill.

Cardiff then pulled ten men back and Luton threw everything at them, but all in vain. The cloying mud stopped any attempt at passing or carrying the ball; the massed ranks dealt with crosses and long balls. West once got deep into the penalty area before the mud beat him and there were numerous scrambles, but a goal rarely looked likely in the dreadful conditions.

The constant bombardment of Healey in the Cardiff goal by the crowd and the throwing of a beer can did nothing to help the team or the club. It was noticeable that the whistle solo of Mr. Bidmead ended, however, and as the game became ever more frantic he became ever more silent.

So — two points gone, Moss badly injured, Saxby to be suspended, the pitch ruined, the club inevitably fined and possibly even the ground closed because of crowd behaviour — a very sad night for Luton Town.

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL & ATHLETIC CLUB LTD
MEMBERS' TICKETS 1980-81
APPLICATION FORM

NAME

ADDRESS

TEL. No.

I have supported Luton Town since

At present I hold Season Tickets for:

BLOCK..... ROW..... SEATS.....

I wish to apply for the following Members' Tickets for the season 1980-81 and I agree to abide by any rules and regulations which are in force from time to time and I will do my best to promote the interests of Luton Town Football Club.

Signature

AREA	QUANTITY			SENIOR CITIZENS	
	£ .	ADULTS	£ .	STUD/JUV.	£ .
CENTRE STAND					
WING STAND					
BOBBERS STAND					
MAIN STAND ENC.					
OAK ROAD					
KENILWORTH ROAD					

- a: I require a total of Tickets and I enclose my full remittance of £..... in settlement.
- b: I require a total of Tickets and I enclose a remittance representing 10% of the total purchase price of £.....
- c: Financing can be arranged on the full purchase price. For further details, contact the Ticket Office. Telephone 411622.
- d: Students: Must be attending College full time. Documentary evidence required.
- e: Juveniles: Age qualification is 15 and under.
- f: Senior Citizens: Pension book to be produced.



Above: Mick Ferguson Coventry City's striker has been the subject of several proposed deals this season.

A call to put an end to the transfer of players during the season is not a new theme, but when the cry is made by someone who has played the market more than most during the past twelve months, it is at least worth re-examining the pros and cons. Malcolm Allison, Manchester City's big spending coach, believe that a total ban on transfers during the next two seasons, would do English football a power of good!

It is well known that up at Lytham St. Annes, the Football League authorities have long been anxious to find a way of stemming and holding the ever increasing transfer spiral. Yet in a world where the supply of quality class players nowhere meets the demand, a solution has seemed impossible.

So serious have things become in an industry crippled by unbalanced books, that the Secretary of the Football League, Graham Kelly, has stated: "The mad escalation of fees has almost tended to bring football into disrepute."

Well! Now that it is generally accepted that the silly transfer fees are not good for the game, is a total ban the answer? Mr Kelly says: "This has not been discussed seriously recently, although there are certain merits in the idea. There is a lot of logic in the suggestion, but I don't think there is a realistic chance of clubs accepting it at this moment in time." The argument for it of course is that you have the close season to build your team and buy and sell players, and for the period of the playing season you stand or fall on what you have got.

In theory it would make coaches work harder with the players they have, they would be forced to accept their deficiencies and would only overcome them by persistence. Whether this would be the actual outcome in practice is open to conjecture.

However a plea for such a drastic innovation from the tried and up to now trusted system, by someone like Allison seems to suggest that he is tired of fighting it out in the soccer jungle and would welcome some respite from the rat race.

A more cynical conclusion would be that Mr. Allison has now spent his money and therefore could benefit from a two year period of adjustment, but I think that is highly unlikely.

Of course on the other side of the coin it has always been claimed that transfers in season can stimulate attendances, and anyway that the money stays in the game. That is true to some extent, although of course the bigger the fee the larger the percentage that does go out to the Government and the player.

PUT AN END TO TRANSFERS

There is also the problem a club with a small staff could encounter if they had one or two serious injuries such as broken limbs to contend with. On the face of it then it seems that a total ban on transfers is not practical and not desirable to the majority of clubs. Maybe the cause for concern on the size of the fees could be restricted by a less revolutionary suggestion, a more compromising solution. The Football League for instance could impose a restriction on the number of signings each club makes in a season, or on the amount of money that can be spent!

Luton Town Manager David Pleat says: "We ought to stop the soccer mercenaries, those players that move from club to club for the money. I just wonder if there shouldn't be a regulation to restrict a player to say no more than three clubs in five years. It would certainly provide more stability."

Part of the problem has been the tendency of some clubs to panic buy when things are not going right. This is particularly evident the week before the March 15th deadline and is partly due to pressure from supporters and Directors. A manager certainly needs a cool head and a calm mind under such circumstances.

NUMBER 22
Programme
Plus

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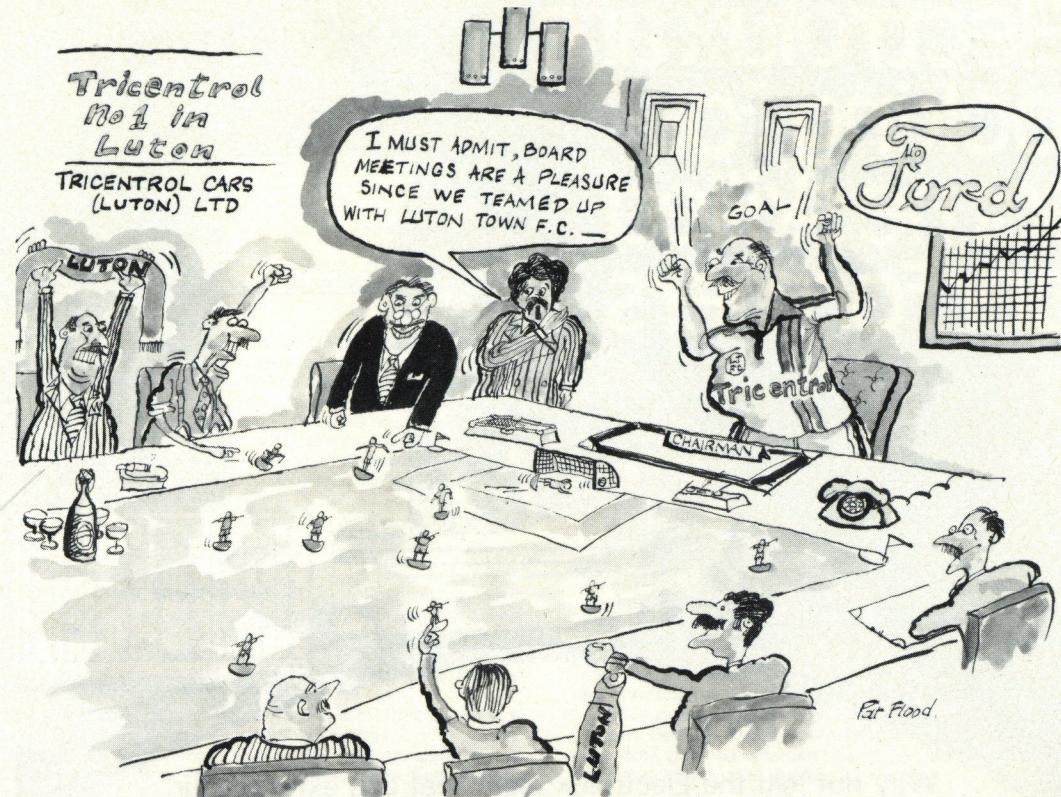
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PAT FLOOD'S CARTOON CORNER



Cartoonist Pat Flood has been busy with his pencil again to produce this result which reflects the close relationship between Tricentrol and Luton Town FC.

Pat has been a regular contributor to the match day magazine this season and has promised us further contributions next season. Judging by the favourable comments we have received from supporters, we think Pat's work has been tremendous.

DOUBLE TOP

Calling all darts fans . . . the season may be almost over, but we plan to keep you occupied during the summer months with a super darts championship.

In conjunction with Pontins and the Herald Darts League, we are looking for an overall winner who will team up with the Pontins National Football Clubs' Pairs Championship on a date to be arranged. Details have been sent to all local darts leagues but, because the competition is open, you can join in the fun if you don't belong to a local side.

Our championships will take place in the Hatters Club on 29th June and Pontins are donating some fabulous prizes. How can you find out more? Pop along to the Bobbers Club or the club offices for your application form.

SECONDS OUT

We have always been opposed to fistcuffs at Kenilworth Road. But today, we make an exception to the rule with pre-match entertainment which features members from the Vauxhall Motors Amateur Boxing Club.

Before the game, Pat Lindsay, Delroy Wright, Delroy Norris, Gary Beary, Harvey and Renard Ashton will figure in exhibition bouts. They are accompanied today by Vauxhall ABC officials Clive Howe and Tom Frances and coaches John Ashton and Dave Alexander.

TODAY'S SPONSORS

Many companies are taking advantage of the services offered by today's match sponsors, Cleandustrial Services Limited. The company offers a comprehensive range of services to deal with all cleaning problems, and is one of the countries leading specialists to cleaning and maintenance in commerce and industry.

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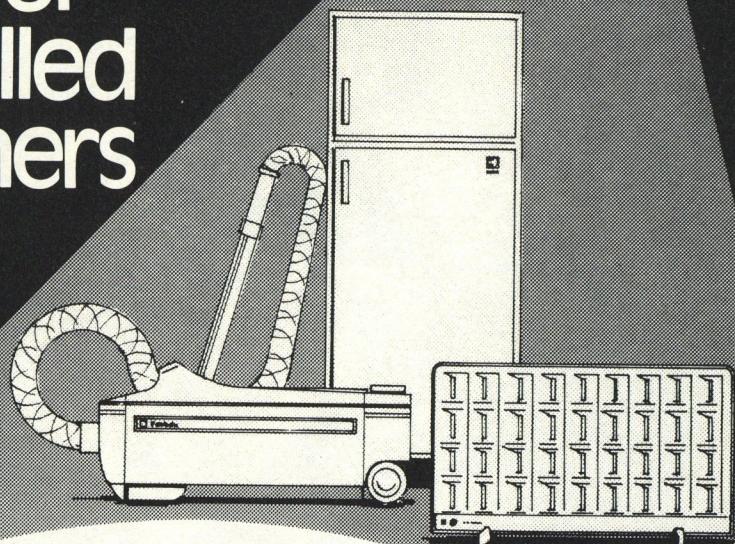
The company has its head office at Palmers Green, North London, with five service centres strategically located to give the best possible nation wide service to its clients.

TODAY'S MASCOT . . .

Our mascot for the final home game of the season is eight-year-old Neil Wilkinson, the son of our secretary, John, who has previously refused permission for Neil to take the role to give other youngsters a chance. This time, however, Neil has won and runs out with the team this afternoon. Neil attends Downside Junior School and lists his hobbies as collecting stamps and watching Luton Town. His favourite player is Alan West.



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RESERVE REPORT

By
GEORGE ROGERS

Luton Town 1 Fulham 1

Playing their fourth Combination game in two weeks, Luton found it difficult to penetrate Fulham's defence and, by half time, both teams found chances difficult to create. Fulham went ahead when substitute Gibson scored in the 55th minute and, for a brief period, threatened to increase their lead. But, after a spirited rally, Steve White equalised when he capitalised in Mark Aizlewood's free kick.

Team: Turner (I), Johnson, Aizlewood, Turner (W), Goodyear, Jones, Madden, Turner (S), Smith, White, Pearson. Sub. Harriott.

Dunstable 0 Luton Town 1

With a victory behind them at Biggleswade and losing to Letchworth, the Town's youngsters went into this last Wallspan League fixture with nothing to play for. With a very hard, bumpy pitch, good football was scarce but Luton created the chances although poor finishing let them down. In the second half, the pattern was much the same but Frankie Bunn broke the deadlock when he broke clear to give the Town victory.

Team: Phelps, Woodward, Murphy, Hill, Foote, Piotrowski, Ever-shed, Small, Bunn, Brammer, Cole.

YOUTH TOURNAMENT

An encounter all the Town's young players are looking forward to is the youth tournament in Amsterdam, Holland. This is due to take place over the Whitsun Bank Holiday at the Blaw-Wit Stadium. Other English clubs taking part are Nottingham Forest and Leicester City.

Over the Easter weekend, the Chiltern Youth League ran a tournament at Stopsley Sports Centre, catering for teams from Norway and Sweden at under-18 and under-16 level. The hard work put in by Pete Brown, Geoff Henkes and Chris Davison was much appreciated by all who took part, with the sponsors, S.T.I., saying teams from other countries have applied to take part next year.

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HERE TODAY WREXHAM



Wrexham's away form this season

may have been the biggest reason why the Welsh club have not had a bigger say in the promotion race. But, as Luton has found on their visit to the Racecourse Ground in December where we lost 3-1, Wrexham have not often been in the mood to do any team a favour. Under manager Arfon Griffiths, Wrexham are making a desperate effort to become the first Welsh side to win promotion to the First Division since Cardiff City made it in 1960. They haven't, of course, any chance of achieving that this season, but Griffiths has been quietly rebuilding his team and there will be a few eyebrows raised if they don't do it next term. Their appearance in the Second Division programme last season was the first in their history and although their final 15th position was average, it proved Wrexham were capable of holding their own in higher company. Griffiths sold Bobby Shinton to Manchester City, but looked only over the Welsh border to Chester for a replacement when he bought striker Ian Edwards who grabbed his own headlines when he scored four goals for Wales in his international debut last season. Notts County's Mick Vinter was also a newcomer up front. He marked his debut by scoring against West Ham, but Griffiths won't be satisfied until enough goals from his top marksmen

are enough to secure promotion.

Improved stadium facilities have helped Wrexham to stage more Home Championship matches at the end of this season, and that should stand them in high esteem if they manage to compete in Europe in future seasons via the Welsh Cup.

Edwards, born in Wrexham, began his career with West Brom where he played only a handful of games before a transfer to Chester soon helped to put his name on the scoring charts. That brought him to the attention of the Welsh manager — and Edwards repaid his recognition with four goals against Malta. It also made Wrexham manager Griffiths sit up and take notice and he obtained his signature on a transfer form in exchange for a £125,000 cheque.

Vinter arrived at Wrexham for £175,000 after making his mark as top scorer with Notts County for the last two seasons. Griffiths has the benefit of Welsh internationals on his staff, and none come with more experience than keeper Dai Davies.

He has been in superb form since a bargain price transfer from Everton in 1977 after service with Swansea. In front of Davies, Joey Jones cost a record £200,000 fee to secure his return to Wales. He joined Wrexham straight from school and moved to Liverpool for £110,000 in 1975. He won a championship medal and European Cup honours in addition to

international appearances.

Defender Gareth Davies is one of seven full Welsh internationals at Wrexham, the club he joined immediately after leaving school. The club captain, he led Wrexham to the Third Division Championship and the Welsh Cup in his second season as skipper. Central defender John Roberts was a member of the Arsenal double side in 1971 and moved on to Birmingham before signing for Wrexham for £30,000 in 1976.

Terry Darracott, Alan Dwyer and Micky Evans are other defenders Griffiths can call on to bolster a midfield department which has strength stamped all over it.

David Giles, a £30,000 signing from Cardiff, is a Welsh Under-21 international and forms part of midfield with Graham Whittle, a Liverpool born lad with a tremendous shot.

Other midfield players include Les Cartwright, another Welsh international who joined Wrexham for £40,000 from Coventry, Mel Sutton — Griffiths' assistant — who arrived from Cardiff, and Steve Fox for whom the manager paid Birmingham £90,000.

But no mention of Wrexham would be complete without the name of Dixie McNeil. One of the most prolific scorers in the game, his goals helped Wrexham into the Second Division after his arrival from Hereford United.



Back row (from left to right): Bruce Urquhart, Steve Buxton, Ian Roberts, Steve Fox, David Giles, Peter Williams, *Ken Roberts (Chief Scout/Youth Development Officer)*, George Showell (Physio), John Roberts, Wayne Cegielski, Frank Jones, Eddie Niedzwiecki, Dai Davies, Stephen Kenworthy, Dixie McNeil, Les Cartwright, Norman Wilson (General Secretary). Front: Mick Vinter, Alan Dwyer, Mickey Evans, Mel Sutton (Assistant Manager), Arfon Griffiths (Manager), Gareth Davis, Graham Whittle, Alan Hill, Joey Jones.

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LITTLE AND LARGE



One of the guests at the Watford match was television comedian Trevor Little, who was appearing in cabaret at Caesars Palace during that week. Photographer Gareth Owen snapped him with big Mike Saxby after the game. A case of Little and Large?

DIDN'T HE DO WELLY?



The great welly throwing contest was greeted with roars of laughter by the fans before the Watford game. The Mayor of Luton presents the winner with his prize watched by Gerry Brooke (centre) resident compere at Caesars Palace, who conducted the pre-match fun. The game was sponsored by Tricentrol Chassis Developments Limited.

HAPPY VISITORS



Fags out, face front and smile for the photographer please. Gareth Owen snapped this happy group, part of our Watford sponsors Tricentrol Chassis Developments, in the dressing rooms before the game.

DINE OUT IN STYLE



You can now enjoy a mouth-watering steak in the Kenilworth Suite every lunchtime during the week. Catering manager Clive Hustwitt has introduced a superb menu with equally fine prices. Our picture gives you an idea of the facilities we offer. Why don't you enjoy them — and bring your friends.

DOWN MEMORY LANE



KEN HAWKES

Ken is still a regular visitor to Kenilworth Road, and keenly follows the club's fortunes.

Signed from Shotton Colliery Welfare in 1951-52, he had six seasons playing in the reserve side and the 'A' team, then in the Metropolitan League. He made his League debut in 1958, and had an immediate run of 22 matches. He was in the Town Cup Final side at Wembley. His brother Barry was also on the playing staff in 1955, and he also spent many seasons at Luton.

Picture: Luton News

TOWN'S FINANCIAL BOOST



We've said it before, and we'll say it again — sponsors play a very important part in the financial security of Luton Town. Tricentrol Chassis Developments sponsored the Watford game and Graham White (right) receives a clock from chief executive John Smith to mark their gesture.

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a further 50 children from Dunstable Road Junior School have been invited along as guests of the Bobbers' Club Secretary, Bob Readhead, who today celebrates his 50th year association with the Club.

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MARK FREER.

Happy birthday on 1st May, love from Mum, Dad and Tim.

You can get your message in Town Classifieds for only 10p per word, £1 minimum payment. Send details with payment to Mike Beevor, Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road, Luton.



FACTS AND FIGURES

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO TABLE 1979-80

FOOTBALL COMBINATION									
Home	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Gls	Gls
P W L F A W D L F	Gls	Gls							
39 11 5 4 30 18 8 7 4 24	18 50	18 50	+ 18	Tottenham	38	23	9	6	89
39 13 3 4 31 16 9 3 8	31 35	35 50	+ 11	Arsenal	38	23	9	6	89
39 14 5 6 13 13 6 5 8	19 21	21 49	+ 19	Chelsea	38	22	8	8	62
39 14 4 2 34 13 6 5 8	19 21	21 49	+ 19	Norwich City	37	20	10	7	66
40 8 10 2 34 17 7 6 7	28 46	26 46	+ 19	Fulham	39	16	8	10	73
40 9 9 2 44 24 7 4 9	26 45	27 45	+ 19	Ipswich	39	16	13	6	62
40 13 5 2 33 17 2 8 10	28 43	28 43	+ 5	Southampton	41	15	14	12	65
40 12 2 4 31 15 6 4 8	15 20	20 42	+ 11	Q.P.R.	38	17	8	13	82
40 7 1 2 28 13 4 3 10	24 41	24 41	+ 3	West Ham Utd.	39	12	15	6	43
40 10 6 4 37 21 4 28 20	21 49	29 40	- 2	Leicester City	41	17	7	17	66
40 11 4 4 28 20 4 6 10	19 29	29 40	- 2	Cambridge	34	16	10	7	70
39 7 8 4 29 23 5 7 8	18 22	23 39	- 5	Oldham Athletic	40	12	16	12	47
39 10 6 3 20 30 5 6 20	20 39	20 39	- 5	Orient	39	14	11	14	59
40 11 3 6 20 15 5 4 11	20 39	20 39	- 5	Cardiff City	37	13	12	15	54
39 13 0 7 30 19 3 7 9	15 32	32 38	- 6	Bristol Rov.	39	13	12	15	60
40 13 2 5 25 12 3 5 25	21 38	21 38	- 5	C. Palace	39	12	15	6	36
40 11 3 6 36 21 5 2 13	21 38	21 38	- 5	Oxford	39	10	12	17	49
40 11 3 6 23 21 7 3 10	21 38	21 38	- 5	Cardiff City	38	11	9	22	47
40 8 6 6 26 23 8 3 23	23 35	23 35	- 6	Swindon	40	9	8	23	50
39 9 7 3 32 20 2 5 13	23 35	23 35	- 11	Plymouth	36	9	6	21	52
39 5 4 10 17 26 5 3 12	21 41	27	- 29	Reading	37	6	9	22	45
38 6 8 22 29 0 4 14 12	20 42	26 33	- 33	Hereford	39	6	7	26	25
38 6 8 22 29 0 4 14 12	20 42	26 33	- 33	Orient	39	6	7	26	19

Figures in brackets
denotes substitute

Up to and incl. 19th April
Up to and incl. 21st April 1980

DIVISION 2 HOT SHOTS (including League / FA Cups)									
RESERVE TEAM APPS. & GOALSCORERS 1979-80									
Gls									
Gls									
AVERAGE ATTENDANCES									
Best Average									
Sunderland 41,752									
Newcastle 38,322									
Chelsea 32,281									
West Ham 31,627									
Birmingham 28,377									
Leicester City 26,075									
Watford 24,716									
Swansea 22,000									
Q.P.R. 26,598									
Luton Town 20,040									
Wrexham 15,641									
Preston 13,069									
Cardiff City 9,337									
Notts County 14,859									
Fulham 8,950									
Shrewsbury 14,115									
Oldham 11,486									
Burnley 16,433									
Charlton 19,021									
Bristol Rov. 14,176									
Orient 23,885									
Cambridge 8,863									

Up to and including 19th April 1980

Up to and incl. 19th April 1980

Up to and incl. 21st April 1980



THE TEAMS



LUTON TOWN

JOHN FINDLAY
KIRK STEPHENS
MAL DONAGHY
TONY GREALISH
MIKE SAXBY
PAUL PRICE
RICKY HILL
ALAN WEST
BRIAN STEIN
BOB HATTON
DAVID MOSS

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12

WREXHAM

DAI DAVIES
JOEY JONES
GRAHAM WHITTLE
GARETH DAVIS
JOHN ROBERTS
MEL SUTTON
MICK VINTER
IAN ARKWRIGHT
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