

THE HATTER

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COTTONHAM 50566



FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP
SECOND ROUND — 1st LEG
Tuesday 6th October 1981

LUTON TOWN v
WREXHAM



INSIDE TONIGHT:

- The Opponents pages 28 and 29
- David's Diary page 4
- Junior Hatters pages 10 and 11
- Press Gang page 19



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Luton

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Season 1981-82

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MATCH PREVIEW

There's always magic attached to Cup-ties and tonight's game leaves Luton and Wrexham hoping for a run in the Football League Cup competition — and the resulting financial rewards.

Finance is of paramount importance to our national game and, like the other 91 League clubs, we don't pretend we have plenty of money in the till.

We welcome Wrexham — and their new manager Mel Sutton — to Kenilworth Road and hope they, like us, will attempt to offer the fans value for money in an entertaining game. Details of our visitors will be found on pages 28 and 29.

Wrexham Manager Mel Sutton



Wrexham have plenty of experience in their team and will provide a stiff test for us. The second leg is scheduled to be played on 27th September in North Wales.

Rain stopped play is a common enough summer notice, but we were sorry it hit us at Kenilworth Road on the day of the Watford game.

Players of both sides were keyed up for the Final of the Luton Town FC Six-a-Side cricket tournament, and it was most unfortunate that the Saturday morning deluge washed out the pre-match entertainment.

Luton United and Luton Five Star, finalists in a tournament which started with 15 Luton midweek League teams, were prepared to give it a go, but the conditions would not have been fair to the players, nor to the soccer pitch.

The matting wicket is not too badly affected by rain, but the bowlers and wicket-keepers would have had huge problems trying to keep their feet, and the turf stood every chance of being badly cut up.

We hope supporters will understand why we had to postpone the cricket. It was particularly galling for us and the cricketers because the early arrivals at the ground for the football provided a much bigger audience than for our cricket semi-finals.

We are now hoping that the Final can be re-arranged for our next home game on 17th October, against Grimsby, and if it can be we will pass the word on through the local Press.

A look at some of the sporting men and women from Luton.

By BRIAN SWAIN

If you stand on the terraces to enjoy your football, the prosperous-looking gentlemen in the directors' box probably barely rate a second glance when there is so much to watch on the field.

They're the blokes we all moan about when we've finished giving stick to players who miss chances and managers who leave out our favourites.

This column, of course wouldn't dare to criticise directors in their own magazine, but they won't need reminding that one of the popular images fans have of directors was

neatly summed up years ago by the great Len Shackleton. Always a joker, his autobiography included a chapter headed 'What directors know about football'. And he left the page underneath blank.

Directors might not have laughed as much as the rest of us, but there is still a popular belief that, as a breed, football directors don't know the half of what really happens in the game.

Which brings me back to why the directors' box at Kenilworth Road does accommodate a boardroom personality who is something special.

His name is Tom Hodgson and he is unique in football — he is the only man in the game who can record the

Tom Hodgson leading Luton out at Wembley.



perfect comprehensive record of service to one club. At Luton Town he has been player, team captain, acting manager, director, chairman and now Club President.

I have to rely on my dad's generation to speak for Tom's qualities as a full-back. He was a coal-miner in Durham in the days when it was said that, if the club needed a player at short notice, they should go to the nearest pit and shout down the mineshaft for one.

West Ham raised the shout for Tom, recruiting him in 1922. After eight seasons at Upton Park he was transferred to Luton Town, and was quickly appointed skipper of the club. A knee injury ended his career prematurely three years later, and Tom became a public house licensee and Luton Town supporter.

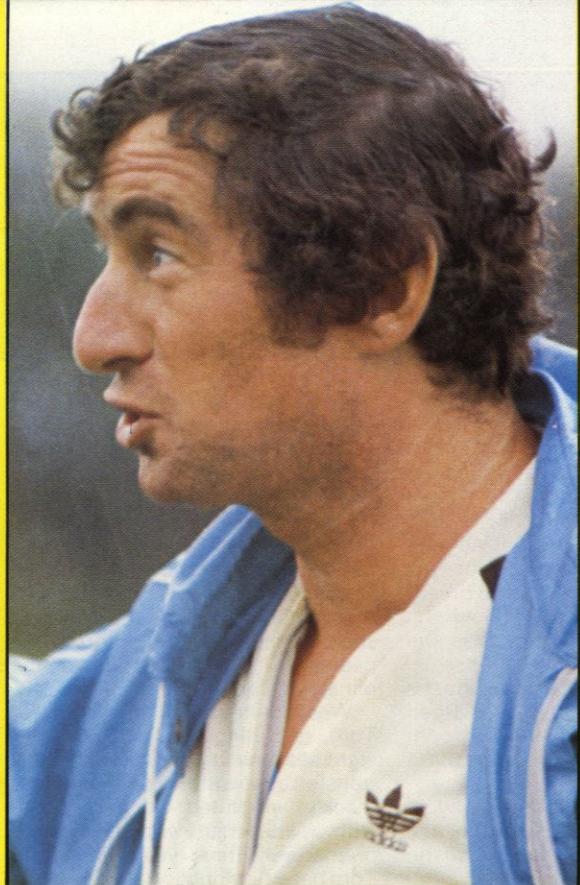
The ex-player rejoined his favourite club when he was invited to become a director in 1954, and his spell as acting-manager brought one of the highlights of his life — the Town were between managers in May 1959 when they went to Wembley for the FA Cup Final, and Tom was given the honour of leading the Hatters out onto the pitch.

Five years later, Tom became Chairman of Luton Town, and when well-earned retirement was due nearly ten years ago a grateful club appointed him President. The full-back who cost a £350 transfer fee from West Ham must have been one of the best investments Luton Town have ever made.

And if only Len Shackleton had met Tom Hodgson, one of football's long-remembered publishing jokes might never have happened.

I never met Tom Hodgson until long after he had given up playing. For the record, he doesn't have the old man's view of the past, in which the stars of his day were better players, in a better game, than the soccer he watches now.

He's content to enjoy what he sees, and hope, with the rest of us, that he will soon once more be at a club in the First Division.



DAVID'S DIARY

"It is important to me that we win with style . . . and a good performance"

Two leg cup ties have a special fascination and give both sides an opportunity to recover an indifferent initial performance. It would appear to be a fairer method than the sudden death of one game that tends to produce giantkilling acts. In the present climate, the uncertainty and excitement of the one-off game probably has more crowd appeal.

Wrexham are sure to be difficult opponents. I wish Mel Sutton every success in his management career, but hope, of course, he does not have a run in this competition this season!

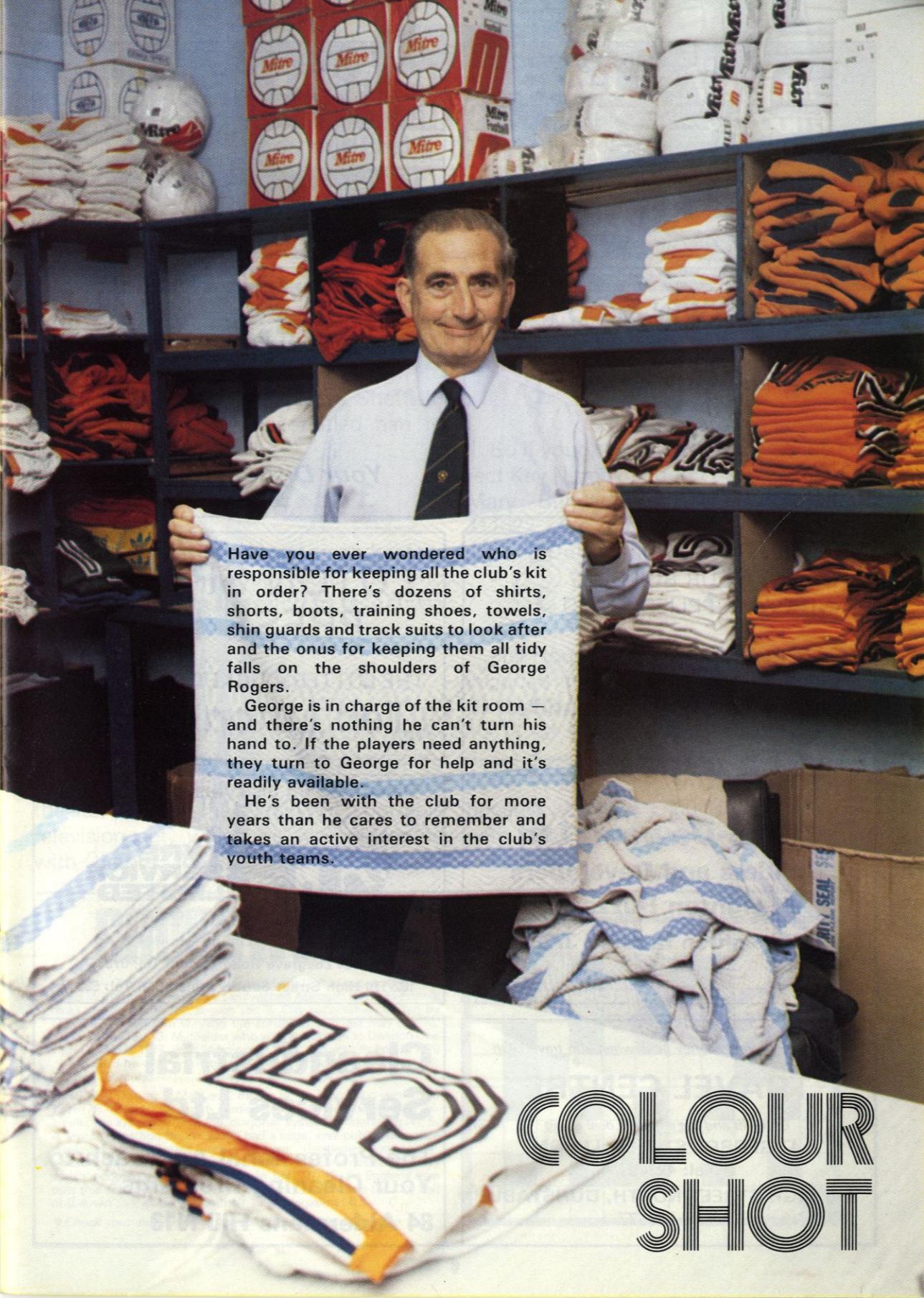
At the end of September we were the leading scorers in the Second Division despite the fact that Brian Stein never produced any form until the Leicester game, and David Moss missed the first four games. This augurs well for the future, particularly as Michael Small has goals in his locker and the reliable Frank Bunn is a consistent scorer. With Godfrey Ingram also in reserve, players must play to their peaks to stay in.

Steve White has slowly settled in and his unselfish determined play has been a contributing factor. I firmly believe that as a team we can create and take goals. What we must achieve is the determination and concentration to defend solidly as a team when necessary.

I am pleased for all our loyal supporters that the Watford result was emphatic and contained a first half bearing the Luton trademark — good early passing and fast flowing attacking football.

There will be no complacency as we aim to better ourselves. On the same afternoon our Reserves were knocked off top place in the Combination losing their first game of the season — to Watford. Defeat can only be acceptable if we are able to learn from losing. Winning is easily accepted by almost everyone, but it is important to me and our coaches that we win with style and get a good performance.

DAVID PLEAT



Have you ever wondered who is responsible for keeping all the club's kit in order? There's dozens of shirts, shorts, boots, training shoes, towels, shin guards and track suits to look after and the onus for keeping them all tidy falls on the shoulders of George Rogers.

George is in charge of the kit room — and there's nothing he can't turn his hand to. If the players need anything, they turn to George for help and it's readily available.

He's been with the club for more years than he cares to remember and takes an active interest in the club's youth teams.

COLOUR SHOT

IVOR HOLMES



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Fourteen year old Daniel Fidigan telephoned Mary Bunyan at the office a few days before our Cardiff match to check if his key numbers in his Sheffield Wednesday programme entitled him to play in Take Your Pick.

£ £ £ £

When told yes, it seemed an understandably shy and nervous young lad who was going out on the pitch to face those awful questions.

£ £ £ £

Not so! When faced with the questions, Daniel rose to the occasion, answered correctly, and walked off with the star prize for the evening of a portable television set, which he was presented with before the Sheffield Wednesday

match, by our Project and Advertising Executive, Mike Beevor.

£ £ £ £

So if your programme contains the correct Key Numbers, don't hesitate; contact Mary Bunyan immediately on Luton 411622 — it may be your passport to a super prize!

£ £ £ £

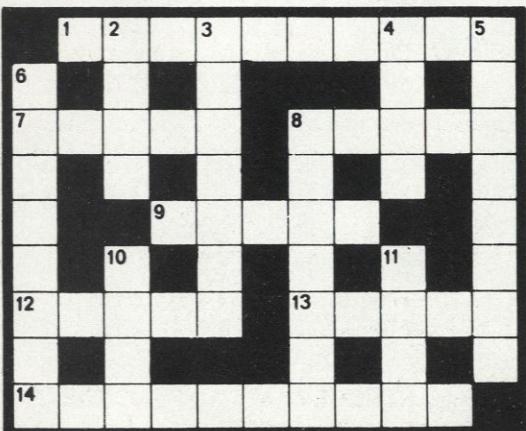
Full House Bingo at the Watford game included the following winning numbers: 38 89 53 31 47 68 8 44 26 75 83 71 33 10 74 39 14 88 36 62 52 54 60 37 57 46 3. So if you didn't check your Bingo Card in the Watford programme, please do so, because we've a £400 Holiday Voucher with SILVAIR Holidays waiting to be collected.

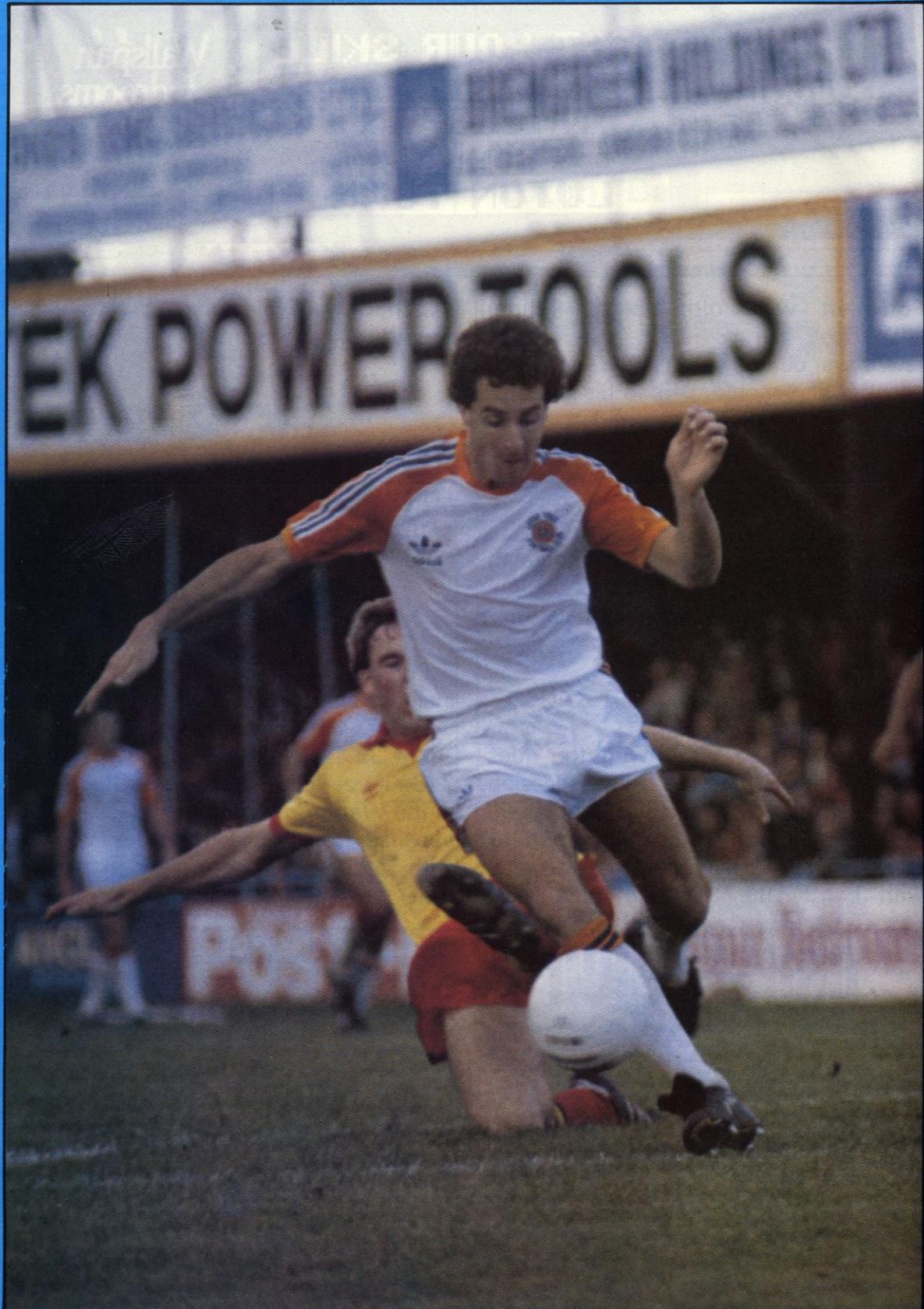
CROSSWORD

CLUES — Across: 1. Top scorer for Leeds United last season (4,6); 7. His WBA managerial slices sandwiched Atkinson (5); 8. Preston's most prolific scorer last season (5); 9. City successfully visited by Liverpool en route to winning the European Cup last May (5); 12. Sullivan, say (5); 13. Midfielder who won promotion to Division One with Carlisle in 1974, with 14 across in 1976, and with Bolton in 1978 . . . in 1979 he won promotion to Division Two with Watford! (5); 14. See 13 across.

CLUES — Down: 2. MacLeod, maybe (4); 3. Promotion-winners in 1981 (7); 4. Famous English administrator who was behind, for example, the introduction of the 'diagonal' system of refereeing (4); 5. A few seasons ago Brian Clough had a large, well-publicised notice displayed on the Forest pitch — it read: 'Gentlemen, no _____, please!' (8); 6. One of Charlton Athletic's nicknames (8); 8. City which recorded a relegation double in 1981 (7); 10. An England man puts this before 14 across (4); 11. Jimmy _____ was in the City half of 8 down . . . as he was in their 1980 relegation (4).

• Check your answers with the solutions on Statistics page.





SPOTLIGHT

On page four, you will find manager David Pleat's views on Steve White's performances this season. Steve joined us from Bristol Rovers for £175,000 and has blossomed into a mature player this season.

Tonight, he comes under the microscope in our spotlight feature when he answers the following questions.

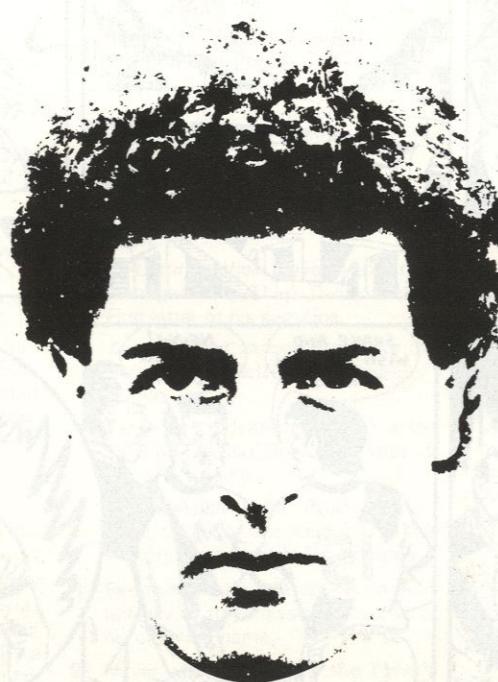
What was your background in amateur football?

I played for Mangotsfield United in the Western League before being signed by Bristol Rovers at 18. I played for England Schoolboys 11-19 while at school.

What do you remember about your Football League debut?

I made my debut against Southampton at the Dell at Easter 1978. We were beaten 3-1 and Southampton went on to get promotion that year.

The thing I most remember about the game was the influence of Alan Ball in midfield. The crowd was 28,000 and the atmosphere was electric.



Which part of your game if any are you anxious to improve?

I look to improve on all aspects of my game. When you sit on your backside and become complacent, then it's time to hang your boots up.

Football is a ruthless game and any player is only as good as his last game. However, I think I can improve a lot on my heading ability.

What was life like at your previous club?

Most football clubs are run on very much the same lines. Bristol, like Luton, were a very friendly club. There was always tremendous support from the die-hard football fans.

Who has been the biggest influence to you in your career?

My father has been the biggest influence and has helped me to become a mature player.

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"BOBBIN" DINO, LEATOWN'S YOUNG FOREIGN PLAYER, IS ONE OF THE SUBSTITUTES IN A WORLD CUP QUALIFYING MATCH FOR HIS HOMELAND OF GUATADOR . . .

HEAD FOR HEIGHTS!

EPISODE FIVE

by Ray Aspden



JUNIOR HATTERS



THE MASCOT . . .



RUSSELL FLECKNEY

TODAY'S MASCOT AND ESCORTS

Mascot: Russell Fleckney, Jillifer Road, Luton, pupil at Ferrers Junior School, aged 8 years. Jake Findlay is his favourite player.

Escorts: Alan Foster, Coombe Drive, Dunstable, aged 10, member of 1st Totternhoe Cubs — David Moss is his favourite player. Stephen McLeod, 55 Wood Green Close, Luton, Pupil at Putteridge Junior School, aged 11 — favourite player is David Moss. Peter Read, 15 Marlin Road, Luton, pupil at Chantry Junior School, aged 10 — favourite player is Jake Findlay. Andrew Waddell, St. Agustines Avenue, Luton, pupil at William Austin School, Luton — favourite player Raddy Antic. Andrew is leaving soon for Australia, with his family, and our good wishes go with them. Keep supporting Down Under, Andrew.

The results of our Camera Day competition will soon appear in this column.

Don't forget our trip to Billy Smart's Circus, Friday 30th October. Cost £2 a head (parents can come too). Coach leaves at 5.15 p.m. from Maple Road car park. Money and numbers to Colin Ball, Luton Town Football Club, 70/72 Kenilworth Road, Luton.

Colin Ball Youth Development Officer

GUESS WHO QUIZ

What to do:

- 1 Find the answers to *all* the questions below.
- 2 Write them *all* down on a sheet of paper.
- 3 Select the letter required (e.g. first letter of club's name).
- 4 Write down *all* eleven letters.
- 5 Unscramble the letters so that they make the name of someone well-known to all Junior Hatters.
- 6 Last say why you like the mystery person, and send your entry to Colin Ball, Luton Town Football Club, 70/72 Kenilworth Road, Luton. Closing date Wednesday 14th October 1981. Please write your name, address, and Junior Hatters Membership No. on your entry.

Prizes

First prize will be an invitation for the lucky Junior Hatter and a parent to travel *Free of charge* with Luton Excelsior Travel Club to one of the Town's away games (tickets for match *not* included), and *three Runners-up* will each receive a double ticket for the new football film, *Escape to Victory*, which will be screened at the Odeon cinema from 19th to 23rd October, inclusive.

The Junior Hatters Club is indebted to the Odeon cinema for their generosity, and to the Luton Excelsior Travel Club, who have not only donated the first prize, but are sponsoring the Junior Hatters Club by giving us £2 for every goal the Town score this season. So far, we have netted £30! Keep it up, Town!

. . . AND THE ESCORTS



ALAN FOSTER



STEPHEN McLEOD

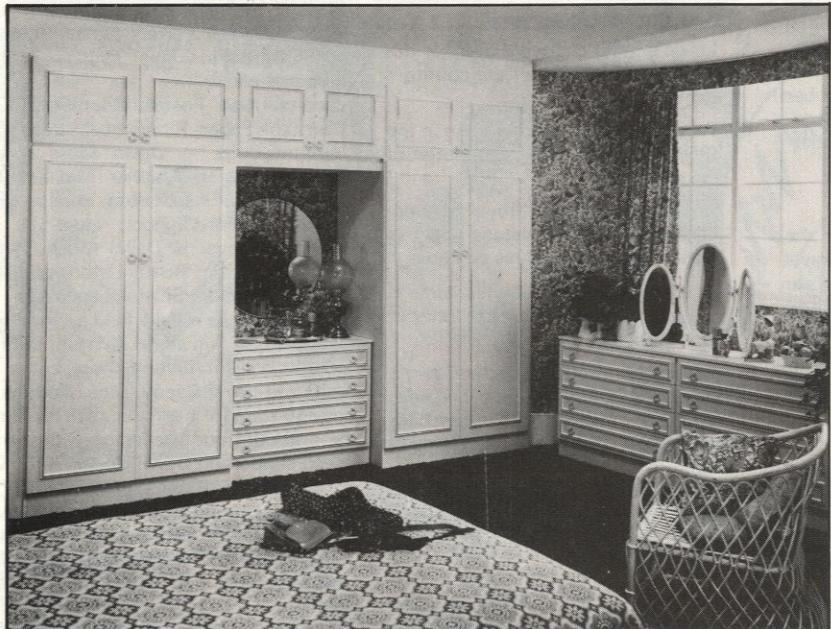


PETER READ



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TRAVEL TIME

A reminder that we shall be travelling to Oldham next Saturday, leaving Maple Road at 9.30 a.m. Adults £3.80, Juveniles up to and including 15 years £2.50. If you haven't booked yet, hurry to avoid disappointment.



If there is sufficient demand, we shall also be running a coach to Wrexham on Tuesday 27th October, for the second leg of the League Cup. Cost, Adults £3.75, Juveniles £2.50, departure Maple Road at 2.30 p.m. It is an early start, but with the lengthy hold-ups on the motorway, we must allow time for this.

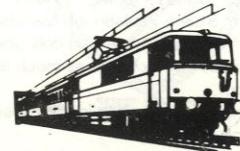
Please note, if you have

booked a seat on a coach, and then find you are unable to travel, we require 48 hours notice of cancellation otherwise your seat must be paid for. Coaches have to be booked well ahead - prices are kept very reasonable and half empty coaches are not practicable.

Would anyone care to volunteer as Courier on the in coach for the Hitchin, Welwyn, Stevenage, Baldock, Letchworth run?



The gentleman who was prepared to do this, has had to withdraw, and I am anxious to find a replacement as soon as possible.



Keep sending in your travel membership forms - if you do not want to cut your Matchday Magazine, copy the details on a sheet of paper, and send it off as soon as possible - and don't forget your two passport size photographs. Without these, your membership card cannot be completed.

Catherine Ball
Travel Organiser

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FLASHBACK

WREXHAM — BACKTRACK

A look at Luton Town a decade ago
By BRIAN SWAIN
Sports Editor

Why don't we see as many goals as we used to? Why are soccer crowds getting smaller month by month? Who has a decent centre-forward for sale? Will Stuart Pearson be fit this week?

If they sound like questions being asked around the country today — and with apologies to Stuart Pearson of Manchester United and West Ham fame — it only goes to show that times don't change as much as we think they do.

They were all points raised in the papers 10 years ago this week.

Stuart Pearson's name cropped up because on 2nd October 1971 the Town went to Hull for

a Second Division match against a team struggling to get going after three consecutive home defeats.

Player-manager Terry Neill, now boss at Arsenal, was Hull's centre-half, and they had just bought Ken Knighton from Blackburn to beef up the midfield. But they had surprised a lot of people by selling experienced centre-forward Chris Chilton to Coventry City for £90,000 the previous summer.

The reason for that deal was that Hull thought they had a better young striker available. Pearson was a local lad for whom great things were promised. But he missed the match against the Town through injury.

The 350 Luton supporters who went by chartered train to swell the Boothferry Park gate to 13,904 might have wished they had missed it too. Even the home fans broke out with the slow handclap as the 0-0 draw looked

inevitable from first kick to last. It was the Town's seventh draw in 10 games.

The result was bad enough, but Jim Ryan had his own difficulties — he fell awkwardly 12 minutes before the end and was found to have a dislocated shoulder, and would be out of action for at least a month.

The faithful gave the Town the benefit of the doubt for an away scoreless draw, and 13,423 turned up on 9th October to see Swindon, who included new signing Dave Mackay in defence after his transfer from Derby. No doubt a 13,000 crowd tonight would delight Luton Town. Ten years ago they didn't rate it much — it was 3,000 down on the attendance for the previous season's corresponding match.

The fans, of course, wanted goals, and although Swindon had a good centre-forward in Arthur Horsfield and a dangerous winger in Don Rogers we had to put up with another dreary 0-0 draw. Rogers was one of about 20 players who did little for entertainment, and the best thing that could be said about the Town's display was that at least Keith Barber had kept a clean sheet for three consecutive matches. Swindon had one bright spot on the horizon too, although we didn't know it at the time.

They had a young player in the reserves ready to take over from Rogers and he was to make his League debut for his local home town club in their final two home matches of that season. Horsfield and Peter Noble were going to need a bit of help in scoring goals as Rogers went off song, and David Moss turned out to be just the lad to do it.

The question about who had a centre-forward for sale was also answered at Kenilworth Road 10 years ago this week. Vic Halom was finding it hard to settle in after his move from Fulham, and was obviously not going to be able to replace Malcolm Macdonald without better support. So the Town went to Newcastle, where SuperMac was keeping a 21-year-old striker named Gordon Hindson in the reserves. Obviously not a superstitious man, Hindson signed for the Town for a fee of £27,500 on 13th October 1971.

One more name from the sports pages of 10 years ago is worth a thought tonight — the Town's youth side was turning in some impressive performances in the South East Counties League. And one youngster seemed to be singled out for special praise every match.

Seventeen-year-old Paul Price was picked out as being the most promising defender in the team. That was before he had the cruel luck to suffer two broken legs, and Luton Town had good cause to be glad that they picked him up for nothing from junior soccer in Welwyn Garden City. Don't forget his testimonial next Monday night.

VIC HALOM



a look at our visitors' history through the years

- Ambrose Brown was sent off within 30 seconds of the start of the Wrexham game at Hull on Christmas Day 1936.
- In the Division Three (North) game against Halifax on 10th September 1932 Wrexham recovered from a two-goal deficit 10 minutes from the end to win 5-2.
- Wrexham enjoyed unbroken membership of Division Three (North) from 1920-21 to 1957-58 without ever having to apply for re-election.
- Ken Roberts was only 15 years and 158 days old when he made his debut for Wrexham against Bradford in September 1951.
- Dixie McNeil was sent off while waiting to take a penalty kick against Charlton in January 1980. He became irate at the gamesman-



ship from opponents and finally kicked the ball away in protest. Mick Vinter then took the kick and scored to win the game 3-2.

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AROUND THE TOWN

DEATH OF A LEGEND

The death of former Liverpool manager Bill Shankly at the age of 67 will be mourned throughout football.

Bill, who left a widow — Nessa — died in a Liverpool hospital a week yesterday, was a legend at Anfield after taking the Reds to the top in European and British competitions.

His great years at Liverpool culminated in them winning the European Cup and UEFA Cup. We take this opportunity of offering our condolences to his family.

FOLLOW THE ACTION

After tonight's match, we travel to Lancashire to meet Oldham on Saturday. A week on Saturday, we are at home to Grimsby.

Crystal Palace provide the opposition at Football Combination level at Kenilworth Road this weekend.

SIT BACK AND RELAX

We are hoping to install a Delta Float to add to our impressive list of rehabilitation and training requirements.

We are delighted to be able to enjoy the benefits of this equipment

which will help players relax mentally and physically after particularly hard training or situations where they need to mentally 'shut off'. We are the first club to install this aid which basically allows a person to float in a body temperature solution in an enclosed cabinet.

The person is suspended in a floating state where they cannot hear anything or see anybody outside. In America the system has helped ease tension amongst business and sports people who have been wound up by the stress and pressure of their jobs.

Obviously David Pleat is hoping that the unit will help everyone relax and enjoy football even more.

BOX OFFICE . . . BOX OFFICE . . .

Our next home game is against Grimsby Town on Saturday 17th October, followed by Crystal Palace on Saturday 31st October. Both games kick off at 3 p.m. Tickets for both matches are now on sale.

We obviously don't know our position regarding a possible third round game in the Football League Cup. However, we will make what arrangements are necessary.

whether at home or away, and announce these during the Crystal Palace match preliminaries.

Regarding the League game and the second leg cup tie at Wrexham on the 24th and 27th October, respectively, Wrexham inform us that there will be plenty of seats available at the ground and we will not be receiving a supply of seat tickets for those two games.

Please do not forget that you can apply in advance by post for seats for future matches. All seats are priced at £3 so just pop your application in the post enclosing the correct remittance and a stamped addressed envelope and we will send the tickets by return.

Next Monday is, of course, Paul Price's benefit night! It is not often we get the chance of seeing the current Cup Holders here at Kenilworth Road and especially those Argentinean idols Ardiles and Villa.

Any player which has shown the courage and loyalty that Paul did during his ten years at Luton deserves the best of support. Let's show Paul and all other players how much we do appreciate loyalty at Kenilworth Road.

EDITOR'S POSTBAG

Dear Sir,
Although our lads have made an excellent start to the season, the matchday magazine has made an indifferent one. On the whole this season's programme content is the best Luton have ever produced, but I do have some minor complaints.

Personally I don't think this season's Statistics matches last season's. I would like to see the player's name written under the number, not the number under the player. You can then read the previous game's line-up much more clearly. I also miss the Division Two statistics, average attendances and hotshots.

Concerning the Bingo and Take Your Pick, and their effect on the programme price, although it is a nice idea to think of the fans — giving them a one in so many thousand chance of winning a prize — it does not subsidise the price of the programme.

Although I realise that the printing cost is obviously higher for our colourful match programme, a jump of 20p in cost is very unfair on the supporters' pockets. In the Charlton

programme you blamed inflation.

You obviously deserve credit for the programme design which has improved season by season.

Mark Burton, Cloisters Road, Letchworth.

• Thank you, Mr Burton. We always welcome constructive criticism and will shortly meet our matchday magazine printers to discuss improvements.

Dear Mr Pleat,
I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you and your staff for making our school trip such an enjoyable one. We were met at the ground by a steward who welcomed us on behalf of you and the club. We were taken in and had a very good view of the match. The children thought it a super idea to be treated like V.I.P.s.

I can say from everyone at the Watford game, Luton should certainly finish at the top of the league. It was a treat to watch, you must have been very pleased with the result.

On behalf of the headmistress, Miss Webb, the sports master, Mr Lucas, and myself, I would like to

thank you once again for a lovely day out.

K. G. Howkins,
Wellington Street, St Albans.

• Mr Howkins obviously enjoyed the trip we arranged. Other groups should contact our youth development officer, Colin Ball, for details of a day out at Kenilworth Road.

KING OF THE ROAD

Luton supporter Nigel Holland has a reputation as the King of the Road — after visiting all 92 Football League grounds.

Nigel, who lives in Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, is a season ticket holder at Kenilworth Road and received a certificate and statuette from our chairman Denis Mortimer to mark his achievement.



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PRESS GANG

Being in the words business, the language of football has always fascinated me. No, not the jargon of the coaches or the banter of the terraces, but the way the game has been faithfully, or not so faithfully as our critics would have it, in the columns of the sports pages.

But after delving into the archives, the inescapable conclusion emerges that although nobody actually said they were sick as a parrot at missing a penalty or alternatively over the moon at scoring a hat-trick, soccer scribes of a century ago were watching the same game and conveying the same emotions.

They were excited by skilful forwards, enthusing about solid defenders, marvelling at brave goalkeepers, complaining about dirty play, disputing offside and penalty decisions.

With apologies to Brian Swain and the Wrexham defence, the *Luton News* could well report an incident in tonight's game something like this . . . 'the Luton fans were brought to fever pitch by Moss's 60 yard run in which he eluded three defenders before crossing to the far post where Stein's first-time shot was touched over by Neidzwiecki!

With apologies to Brian's great great grandfather back in 1881, he would have penned . . . 'Moss cantered briskly down the green and despite a massive barrier of brave backs, middled the sphere into the jaws of the goal.

'Stein's immediate collision with the leather looked like effecting the downfall of the Welshmen's fortress but the indomitable Neidzwiecki produced one of his best fisters and the thunderbolt flew into the excited crowd, who were roused to the most tumultuous enthusiasm by these exploits.' Beat that Brian!

Yet don't be misled that those far off days of glorious Empire were always golden and the perfect example of the Englishman's inbred sense of fair play.

Newcastle were accused of kicking their way to a 2-0 victory in the 1910 Cup Final replay with Barnsley . . . 'before the end cries of "Dirty Newcastle" were heard on all hands, a state of affairs probably unique in the history of the club.'

The accusation seems to have been well founded on a quagmire of a pitch at the old Crystal Palace. Barnsley keeper Mearns was laid out early on and had to be forcibly

Another in our occasional series where we ask journalists to contribute to the matchday magazine. Tonight, the spotlight falls on Jim Hooley of the *Daily Mail*.

restrained from attacking Newcastle's Higgins. Barnsley's star full back Dickie Downs, was soon reduced to a limp and flattened again in the second half . . . it was noticeable during the stoppage that other members of the Newcastle team turned their backs on the offender when he spoke to them. *Daily Mirror* reporter Citizen must have felt some sympathy for the miscreant who remains anonymous.

The *Daily Mail* was not so reticent in its condemnation of the 1903 Final when Bury established a record score in beating Derby 6-0 in the 'tamest and dullest final yet seen at Crystal Palace. Had two amateur teams played such poor football as did the two presumably

best teams in the country, the ground would have been empty by half time.'

A few years earlier, Aston Villa began their great cup tradition by beating West Brom, who wouldn't stop complaining that Villa's first goal was off-side. But Villa captain, Archie Hunter, would have none of it in a hard-hitting after the match interview: 'A fairer or more deserving goal was never scored. the quickness with which the umpires (sic) on both sides declared in our favour should dispel any doubts. Anyway, we simply ran away from them subsequent to half time.'

But the Albion were determined to find some excuse for losing their second successive final and came up with a classic when they claimed the southern air at their Ascot Cup HQ had softened them up!

But as final proof that the more things change, the more they stay the same. read on: 'Last year they ran a special train. The thousand or so passengers at every station where the train stopped, descended upon the refreshment rooms and wrecked them.

'They ate, drank and were merry. They broke glasses and windows, refused to pay, and struck horror into the usually complacent bosoms of the presiding goddesses. It was as an advancing army in enemy country.'

Leeds fans setting out to provide a First Division welcome for Swansea this season? The Chelsea Shed on their annual outing to Shrewsbury? Actually they were Blackburn fans on their way to London for the 1884 Cup Final against Queens Park.

No, nothing changes except perhaps that British Rail have run short on presiding goddesses for their 1981 buffet bars.

ODD HAPPENINGS

Dave Simmonds, a well-built striker of the sixties and seventies, had an odd sort of career. He was one of the comparatively few players over the years to have been on the books of both Arsenal and Aston Villa (Jimmy Rimmer is of course the best-known example).

In 13 full games for Villa he scored seven goals at a time when they were a struggling side sliding towards Division Three and yet never won a regular place. Whilst with Villa he had a spell on loan with Walsall, who were in the lower reaches of Division Three, but made little impact and was not retained.

Yet he was to star in one of the greatest acts of giantkilling of all time when he netted Colchester's third goal in the Fourth Division club's sensational 3-2 FA Cup win

over Leeds United, who at the time were generally recognised as the country's leading club.

This was in February 1971 and a month later he was involved in a remarkable incident when he was injured in a pre-match kick-in and had to be substituted. There are two more recorded instances of players being injured after taking the field but before the kick-off, the others being Walsall's Nick Atthey and Coventry's Jim Blyth, but even so it was possibly the most odd chapter in Dave's unusual career.

The date was 20th March 1971 and Colchester were kicking in before the start of their Fourth Division game with Exeter City. In turning on the ball Dave twisted his knee and was carried off on a stretcher and taken to hospital.

Though officially a team cannot be changed after the handing in of the team-sheet 30 minutes before the kick-off, the referee stretched a point in the emergency and allowed the appointed substitute John Whittaker to take Dave's place in the Colchester line-up while a junior took over the number 12 role.

The game was drawn 1-1 without the substitute being called on. Dave's adventures were, however, still not over. A few weeks later whilst still recovering from his knee injury he inadvertently stumbled into a plate glass window and severed an artery. Only prompt medical attention avoided a possible fatality. Yet incredibly he was back in the Colchester team by the end of the season. Life was never dull when Dave Simmonds was around.

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JOHN'S JOURNAL



A surprise visitor to Kenilworth Road at our match with Watford was David Court. As supporters may know, David made his name at Arsenal before joining us, and had many great games for Luton Town before being given a surprise free transfer by Alec Stock in the summer of 1972.

I noticed that he and Tony Read, our former goalkeeper, were in deep conversation at the end of the game, no doubt talking about old times.

David, by the way, is helping Peter Anderson by doing a bit of scouting for Millwall. Also in attendance, and again helping Millwall, was former Tottenham manager Arthur Rowe. No doubt many older fans will know that he was responsible for the great 'push and run' team which was so successful at Spurs 20 years ago. It is nice to see that his knowledge of the game is still being used.

The death of Bill Shankly saddened

just about everyone in football, and supporters may not realise that he held a very special place in our affections at Kenilworth Road — he was once a Luton Town player, believe it or not.

It came about because for a spell during the war Shanks was in the services in this part of the country, and gested for us in some of our war-time games. In those days Aldershot had the best team in the country, for obvious reasons. But we had some fair players at times, including goalkeeper George Marks, and defenders Laurie Scott and Eddie Haggard. All internationals from Arsenal.

Bill Shankly was a Preston player when he was called up, and in the few games he played for Luton Town he showed all the grit and determination that made him famous.

But it was as Liverpool manager, of course, that made him famous through the world. Sadly, he was denied what

might have been his last return visit to Kenilworth Road at the start of the 1974-75 season. We had just won promotion to the First Division, and our first game was at home to Liverpool. But Shanks had just retired as Liverpool's manager, and Bob Paisley was in charge for the very first time.

Shanks was famous for his quick wit and football jokes, and probably appreciated the one cracked at his expense on the day of that Luton v Liverpool game. All the Pressmen wanted to know where Shankly was — it was still unthinkable that Liverpool could go anywhere without him. Paisley replied: 'He's decided to get right away from football. He's gone to watch Everton...' John Wilkinson
Secretary



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Paul Price Testimonial

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v

FA CUP WINNERS
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

MONDAY 12th OCTOBER 1981

Kick-off 7.45 p.m.

Admission: £2.00 seats, £1 standing

IN RESERVE



LUTON TOWN 2 QPR 0

Town started in fine style and, after 10 minutes, Michael Small crossed from the byeline following a fine run and Lill Fuccillo rammed home a low right foot shot for the opening goal.

The Hatters then proceeded to squander chance after chance particularly by Michael Small and should have gone in at half-time with a comfortable lead.

Rangers opened the second-half brightly, but Town claimed their way back and justice was done when Frankie Bunn showed us what a cool finisher he is by slotting home our second and final goal.

It was a fine performance only marred by the number of missed chances, however, it is nice to see people arriving in there goalscoring positions.

TEAM: Beasley, Johnson, Heath, Breaker, Goodyear, Turner, Madden, Bunn, Small, Fuccillo, Keys, Brammer.

WATFORD 5 LUTON TOWN 0

From one of our better performances to easily our worst of the season.

Watford hit four goals in a 20 minute period in the first-half through a charitable Luton side unable to cope with the pressure. Defensively it was a 45 minute nightmare, but also we had little contribution from our other players.

In the second-half although conceding a further goal, from a dubious decision, Town eventually found their nerve and proceeded to dictate the course of events despite not scoring a goal.

Lessons have to be learned and sometimes it has to be done the hard way by losing. But if this performance does not give us a severe jolt, players are further away from a first team spot than they think.

CENTURY CLUB

This evening sees the first of three meetings we have with Wrexham within the next two weeks, and is the only one we shall play on our home ground. Nevertheless, we are sure there will be a large contingent of supporters from the Century Club attending the away fixtures — there has certainly been a good representation at away games so far this season.

TEAM: Beasley, Thomas, Heath, Breaker, Goodyear, Johnson, Madden, Bunn, Ingram, Turner, Keys, Small.

LUTON TOWN 1 WEST HAM 2

This was the fourth game in eight days for our youth team and they started slowly and looked tired. The Town went one down and could have conceded further goals in the first 20 minutes when we were second best at everything.

But we started to put our game together and played some nice controlled football and deservedly equalised through McConville. Luton enjoyed a good period at the start of the second-half but, as the game wore on, we made more mistakes and lost the game when West Ham hit the winner minutes from the end.

TEAM: Mark North, John, Chapman, Ashton, Owen, Beaumont, Lane, Brown, McConville, Daniel, Popplewell. Subs: Smith, Mark Thomas.

WOLVES 0 LUTON TOWN 2

This was a very professional performance by the youngsters in a Midland Youth League Cup game when all the team seemed to have the right attitude. They were rewarded with their first away victory over Wolves since entering the Under-19 League and Cup section.

In the first-half, playing down the slope with the wind at our backs, we had the right mixture of playing good football when we could and using the wind to our advantage.

We scored both our goals in the first-half but the second period was equally pleasing when we created chances on the break and were well worth an excellent victory.

TEAM: Beasley, Beaumont, Mitchell Thomas, Breaker, North, Owen, Lane, Mark Thomas, Bunn, Daniel, Brammer. Sub: Popplewell.

We are sure we shall see some of our friends from Wrexham Vice Presidents Club here this evening. We welcome them, and hope we all enjoy a good game.

We remind members that there are very few seats left in our balcony for the Paul Price testimonial game next Monday. Tonight is your last chance to book your seat, as entry to our balcony on this occasion will be by special ticket only.

A date to note in your diaries is Monday 26th October, the Century Club Annual General Meeting. We look forward to seeing our members and associate members at this important meeting. We would be glad of names of members interested in helping our club by offering themselves for nomination for the committee.



IN FOCUS



Watford's skipper may have been smiling before the kick-off — but he had little to laugh about at the end after we had beaten the Hornets 4-1 at Kenilworth Road.

It was a case of smiles all round in the Luton dressing room after the game and, before the match, there was a treat for our Junior Hatters mascot and escorts who faced Gareth Owen's camera with skipper Brian Horton, the referee and his linesmen.

There was also a celebration for Mark Aizlewood before our previous game against Cardiff City when he was presented with a Welsh Under-21 cap by Luton chairman Denis Mortimer.

Mark was manager David Pleat's first signing when he paid Newport County a modest £40,000 for his transfer.



PROGRAMME CORNER

By JOHN FARMER

We have previously discussed in the column the question of an 'Insert' in a match programme. That is a supplement of 12 or 16 pages stitched into a club programme and of general interest to supplement the more 'inside' information from the club itself.

These are often very well produced and fit in perfectly with the rest of the programme and yet they are not universally popular with fans, some of



whom prefer an 'all home-made' issue even if the cost of the extra pages is more.

Similarly, many fans do not take to the newspaper-style programme that a number of clubs have tried in recent years even though again these seem often to provide better value for money. Two years ago a dozen clubs were using newspaper-style programmes. Now there are just two, Derby County and Plymouth.

Of these Derby are now in their eleventh season of producing their 16-page 'Ram' magazine. Their supporters have become converted to this

particular sort of publication, probably helped by the fact that it got off the ground during the peak days of success under Brian Clough and Peter Taylor.

Though the achievements of Derby County on the field have deteriorated since then, the quality of the magazine has remained constant with plenty of statistics, photographs and Supporters Club features, all enhanced by a liberal helping of 'from the inside' articles from the manager, the club secretary and a special interview with an individual player each week.

Circulation is enhanced by copies being available in shops on the day before the match and it seems that there are a number of regular readers who do not actually attend matches, but like to keep closely in touch with what is happening.

Ideally, of course, clubs want everyone interested to be in attendance at matches, but to have people buying a regular copy of the programme is far better than no link at all and one wonders if clubs have in general explored the possibility of this outlet for sales.



Despite the success of the 'Ram', however, most clubs have not persisted with a newspaper-style programme. Programme clubs have, in general, not considered the latter when deciding upon their awards for a particular season. Maybe fans are more interested in having a programme that will fit conveniently into the pocket and is relatively easy to store.



There is also the fact that whilst most newspaper-style programmes provide more reading matter for the same price — fans do seem to expect the cost to be that of a daily newspaper rather than that of a glossy magazine.

With printing costs seeming to rise even more quickly than other costs today, it may be that ultimately the only way clubs will be able to keep the cost of a programme within reasonable bounds may be to become newspaper-type. Whatever happens programmes are so much part of the game as far as many fans are concerned that they will survive in one form or other.

SHOP WINDOW



We have hundreds of winners whose names and addresses have already appeared on our monthly result sheet which is published in the *Evening Post* every fourth Monday throughout the year.

Although there are thousands of lottery winners every month from 25p up to £50, we considered that the big winners do fall into an elite category and have special pride of place in our match programme.

Space only permits a few lucky winners, who have

won during the past three months, the total winning value being nearly £35,000 worth!

The Maxim that you have to have winners to have customers really does apply here, and when you consider that the winning agents

receive

10 per cent commission on sales as well as 10 per cent bonus on the value of all prizes, it is no wonder that there is so much happiness generated in these oppressed times.

If you are only a customer and not an agent, why not

join our army of pools agents?

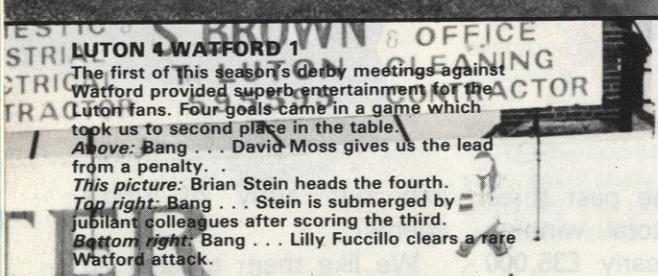
We like them to earn so much they can't afford to give up their sales, and after all, the commission does help to support the present reduced or restricted salaries of those involved.

We hope you find your name and address, or that of a friend among the list of happy winners.

Keep buying, selling and winning.

MIKE HARDWICKE
Commercial Manager

ACTION



VISITORS

Wrexham kicked off the 1981-82 season — their fourth season in Division Two — hoping for a change of fortunes.

Since the club was promoted at the end of the 1977-78 season the side has never really produced the brilliant footballing form that swept them to the Division Three title.

The main reason has been an unprecedented number of injuries — injuries that ended the careers of three players Mickey Evans, Graham Whittle and Terry Darracott.

Mel Sutton took over as manager in June following the departure of Arfon Griffiths. Mel, who was assistant manager, has given Wrexham nine years of tremendous service and has

made the 1972 £15,000 fee to Cardiff City — a bargain.

Mel missed the run-in to the end of last season having suffered a double leg fracture in a training session. He spent the summer getting back to fitness, although he admits most of his energies will now be directed towards his managerial duties.

He has kept his playing registration and his number two is Mickey Evans who has been at the Racecourse 15 years.

He suffered a serious back injury at Fulham two years ago — that ended his playing career but he has enjoyed the switch to the 'other side' having successfully looked after the club's youth players.

Wrexham were founder

members of Division Three (North) in 1921. In 1957-58 when the North and South Divisions were disbanded Wrexham went into Division Three. They were relegated in 1958-59 to Division Four.

Two seasons later they moved back up to Division Three but went down in 1965-66. Promotion to Division Three came again in 1969-70 when the club began a transformation both on and off the field.

This culminated with headline-hitting cup exploits both home and abroad with promotion to Division Two for the first time in history in 1977-78. Wrexham have won the Welsh Cup 21 times.

Eddie Niedzwiecki is the club's first choice keeper this season after Dai



Back row (l to r): Frank Carrodus, Stephen Jones, Simon Hunt, Les Cartwright, Mark Jones, Ian Arkwright. Middle row: Ken Roberts (Chief Scout/Youth Development Officer), Mick Vinter, Steve Dowman, Ian Edwards, Eddie Niedzwiecki, Stuart Parker, Wayne Cegielski, Alan Hill, Dixie McNeil, George Showell (Physio), Mr Norman Wilson (General Secretary). Front row: Steve Buxton, Steve Fox, Mickey Evans (Assistant Manager), Mel Sutton (Manager), Joey Jones, Gareth Davis.

LINE-UP

Davies's summer departure to Swansea City. Defender Alan Hill is Wrexham's Mr Versatility who can also play in midfield or in the forward line.

Wrexham have a liberal sprinkling of Welsh internationals. One, Joey Jones, joined the club straight from school and later moved to Liverpool for £110,000. He soon became a favourite with the Kop fans but rejoined the Welsh club for a record £200,000 fee in 1978.

Wayne Cegielski enjoyed his best season last term as regular centre half and more experience is provided by Frank Carrodus who arrived at the Racecourse Ground from Aston Villa in December 1979 for £70,000. Les Cartwright, another Welsh international, won his first cap with Coventry City.

Up front, the goals have come thick and fast from Dixie McNeil who had previously done the rounds with Leicester, Lincoln, Exeter, Northampton and Hereford before joining Wrexham in 1977 for a bargain £60,000.

He is partnered by Mick Vinter who started his career with non-League Buxton before moving to Notts County where he scored 53 times in 112 games. He joined Wrexham for £150,000.

Another international, Ian Edwards moved to Wrexham in exchange for a £125,000 cheque when he was signed from Chester in November 1979. He scored four times against Malta in an international.



FRANK CARRODUS — in action against Bristol City

POINTSTAKES ATTENDANCES LEAGUE TABLES

Opponents	Result	Attendance	Points Position	Findlay	Stephens	Aizlewood	Horton	Saxby	Donaghy	Hill	Stein	White	Antic	Ingram	Turner	Moss	Fuccillo	Own Goal
Goals Scored																		
1981																		
August																		
29 Charlton Athletic	3 - 0	8,776	3 - 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11					OG
September																		
1 Queens Park Rangers	2 - 1	11,000	6 - 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11					OG
5 Bolton Wanderers	2 - 1	6,911	9 - 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
12 Sheffield Wednesday	0 - 3	12,131	9 - 3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
19 Leicester City	2 - 1	14,159	12 - 2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
22 Cardiff City	2 - 3	9,015	12 - 4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
26 Watford	4 - 1	12,839	15 - 2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
October																		
3 Orient	3 - 0	5,584	18 - 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	10			
6 Wrexham (LC2 - 1L)																		
10 Oldham Athletic																		
17 Grimsby Town																		
24 Wrexham																		
28 Wrexham LC2 - 2L)																		
31 Crystal Palace																		
November																		
7 Derby County																		
11 League Cup 3																		
14 Blackburn Rovers																		
21 Newcastle United (1)																		
24 Bolton Wanderers																		
28 Rotherham United																		
December																		
2 League Cup 4																		
5 Shrewsbury Town																		
12 Chelsea (2)																		
19 Barnsley																		
26 Cambridge United																		
28 Norwich City																		
1982																		
January																		
2 FA Cup 3																		
9 Queens Park Rangers																		
13 League Cup 5																		
16 Charlton Athletic																		
23 FA Cup 4																		
30 Leicester City																		
February																		
3 League Cup SF 1																		
6 Sheffield Wednesday																		
10 League Cup SF 2																		
13 Orient (5)																		
20 Watford																		
27 Oldham Athletic																		
March																		
6 Grimsby Town (6)																		
13 Wrexham (LCF)																		
20 Crystal Palace																		
27 Derby County																		
April																		
3 Blackburn Rovers (SF)																		
9																		
10 Cambridge United																		
12 Norwich City																		
13 Newcastle United																		
17 Rotherham United																		
May																		
1 Shrewsbury Town																		
5 Cardiff City																		
8 Chelsea																		
15 Barnsley																		
22 FA Cup Final																		

HALF-TIMES

Aldershot v Wigan
Barnsley v Swansea
Birmingham v Nott'm Forest
Bristol Rovers v Northampton
Carlisle v Bristol City
Colchester v Cambridge
Doncaster v Crystal Palace
Everton v Coventry
Grimsby v Watford
Huddersfield v Brighton
Middlesbrough v Plymouth
Millwall v Oxford



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CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

Across: 1. Call Harts; 7. Allen; 8. Bruce; 9. Softee; 12. Collin; 13. Train; 14. See 13 across; 15. Down; 2. Ali; 3. Linton; 4. Ross; 5. Swearing; 6. Huddicks; 8. Bristol; 10. Alan (Sunderland); 11. Main.

+ Player replaced by substitute

● Goalscorer

FOOTBALL COMBINATION FIXTURES 1981-82

F A

Aug. 29	Orient	4 - 0
Sept. 1	Tottenham Hotspur	1 - 0
Sept. 5	Oxford United	2 - 1
Sept. 12	Leicester City	1 - 1
Sept. 19	Queens Park Rangers	2 - 0
Sept. 26	Watford	0 - 5
Oct. 3	Bristol City	1 - 1
Oct. 5		
Oct. 10	Crystal Palace	
Oct. 17	Swindon Town	
Oct. 24	Ipwich Town	
Oct. 26		
Oct. 31	Plymouth Argyle	
Nov. 7	Arsenal	
Nov. 9		
Nov. 14	Fulham	
Nov. 17	Birmingham City	
Nov. 21	Hereford United	
Nov. 25	Tottenham Hotspur	
Nov. 28	Southampton	
Nov. 30		
Dec. 5	Chelsea	
Dec. 12	West Ham United	
Dec. 19	Bristol Rovers	
Dec. 28	Reading	
Jan. 2		
Jan. 9	Oxford United	
Jan. 11		
Jan. 16	Orient	
Jan. 23		
Jan. 30	Queens Park Rangers	
Feb. 1		
Feb. 6	Leicester City	
Feb. 8		
Feb. 13	Bristol City	
Feb. 20	Watford	
Feb. 27	Crystal Palace	
Mar. 6	Swindon Town	
Mar. 13	Ipwich Town	
Mar. 20	Plymouth Argyle	
Mar. 27	Arsenal	
April 3	Fulham	
April 10	Birmingham City	
April 12	Reading	
April 17	Hereford United	
April 24	Southampton	
April 27	Chelsea	
May 4	Norwich City	
May 8	West Ham United	
May 15	Bristol Rovers	
May 22		

P

W

D

L

F

A

W

D

L

F

A

Pts

DIVISION TWO TABLE 1981-82								DIV 2 APPS & GOALS 1981-82
P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	App Gls
8	2	0	2	9	7	4	0	9 3 18
8	2	1						

TODAYS TEAM CHECK

LUTON TOWN		WREXHAM	
JAKE FINDLAY	1	EDDIE NIEDZWIECKI	
KIRK STEPHENS	2	JOEY JONES	
MARK AIZLEWOOD	3	PHIL BATER	
BRIAN HORTON	4	STEVE DOWMAN	
MIKE SAXBY	5	WAYNE CEGIELSKI	
MAL DONAGHY	6	SIMON HUNT	
RICKY HILL	7	STEVE FOX	
BRIAN STEIN	8	DIXIE McNEIL	
STEVE WHITE	9	IAN EDWARDS	
RADDY ANTIC	10	MICK VINTER	
DAVID MOSS	11	FRANK CARRODUS	
	12		

Referee: V. G. CALLOW, Solihull Linesmen: H. E. BISHOP (Red Flag) A. N. BUKSH (Yellow Flag)



TOKEN
5

Tuesday
6th October 1981
Wrexham

IN CHARGE TODAY

CALLOW, VICTOR G. (Solihull). Commenced refereeing in 1966 through various leagues to the West Midlands (Regional) League and then to the Football League in 1975. Officiated as linesman in England v Wales Under-21 international 1976-77, FA Cup Semi-Final replay Manchester United v Wolverhampton Wanderers 1979, refereed the West Midlands (Regional) League Cup Final 1979, England v Switzerland and Scotland v West Germany. Married with two sons, he is a Principal Work Study Assistant.