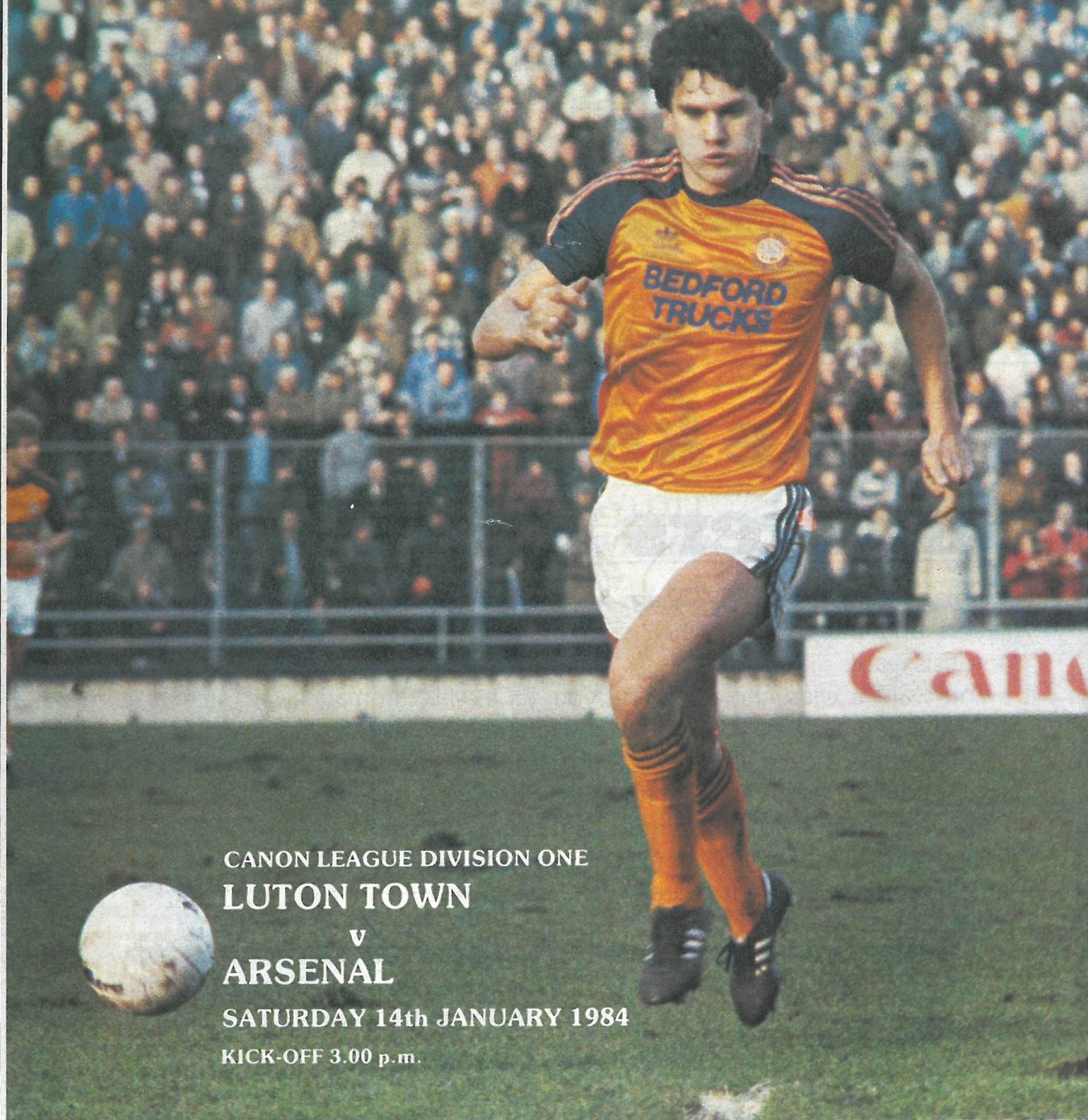


Welcome to

Luton Town



CANON LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
LUTON TOWN

v

ARSENAL

SATURDAY 14th JANUARY 1984

KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

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Playing:

Coaches:

David Coates, John Moore and
 Trevor Hartley

Physiotherapist: John Sheridan

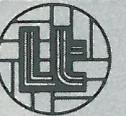
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 answering service — Telephone Luton
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Team Check

LUTON TOWN



- | | | |
|----|-----------------|--------|
| 1 | LES SEALEY | (1) 1 |
| 2 | KIRK STEPHENS | |
| 3 | MITCHELL THOMAS | |
| 4 | BRIAN HORTON | |
| 5 | PAUL ELLIOTT | |
| 6 | MAL DONAGHY | |
| 7 | RICKY HILL | PARKER |
| 8 | BRIAN STEIN | |
| 9 | PAUL WALSH | |
| 10 | TREVOR AYLOTT | |
| 11 | EMEKA NWAJIOBI | BUNN |
| 12 | NWAJIOBI | |

ARSENAL



- | | | |
|----|------------------|--------|
| 1 | PAT JENNINGS | (1) 2 |
| 2 | COLIN HILL | KAY |
| 3 | KENNY SANSOM | |
| 4 | DAVID CORK | TALBOT |
| 5 | DAVID O'LEARY | |
| 6 | TOMMY CATON | |
| 7 | RAPHAEL MEAD | |
| 8 | PAUL DAVIS | |
| 9 | TONY WOODCOCK | |
| 10 | CHARLIE NICHOLAS | |
| 11 | GRAHAM RIX | |
| 12 | McDERMOTT | |

Referee: K. S. HACKETT (Sheffield) Linesmen: G. BUTLAND (Red Flag) J. A. MASTERS (Yellow Flag)

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MY VIEW

Football at this time of the year is as hectic as ever. No sooner had we succeeded in playing four games in eight days of Christmas and the New Year we contrived to have two strength sapping encounters with Watford. It's at times like this when the questions are asked and answers needed. The test of any League season is consistency over a long distance course in varying conditions. The championship can only be won by a club with a strong squad in depth.

Our four holiday games gave us little reward in terms of points and that is always disappointing. But as a manager one has to look at the overall picture and do one's best not to be biased. The results were clear cut; fortunate to win decisively at Notts County, unfortunate not to hold West Ham after an injury to Trevor Aylott upset our rhythm, deservedly beaten at Sunderland, in a poor display by our standards, most undeservedly going down to the Forest in a superb game. Now we face the Arsenal again who have had their own problems recently. We wish them well and hope they have a good run into the season's end. But certainly today I hope we are good enough to regain lost ground at home and redress the balance of our defeat at Arsenal on the opening day.

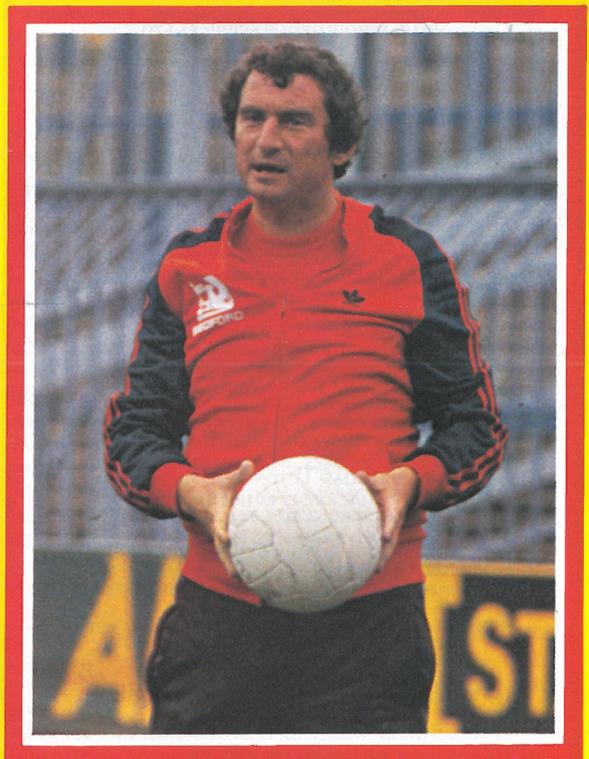
What of the good points over the last fortnight? I am hopeful that when Emeka Nwajobi establishes his full fitness he will be a cool customer. Good enough to scare First Division defences. Mitchell Thomas is showing signs that he has the temperament and ability to play at the highest level. Bobby Robson was a contented spectator in our game against West Bromwich Albion and Nottingham Forest.

He saw some good forward play from our attackers and that pleased me. Dave Sexton saw our game with West Ham and there was much to enjoy in that game too.

I have a theory that if our gates are not, for whatever reason, going to increase sufficiently to give us confidence to invest in players then we must ensure that we make enjoyable the 90 minutes for those who take the trouble to come along.

Last week's Cup-tie with Watford was recorded by ITV for viewing in many countries abroad — they will not be disappointed at the standard of English football. Today's game is being beamed live abroad to several countries including Sweden. Our postbag suggests we have many supporters. We hope they will enjoy plenty of good football.

Next week sees the official launch in London of the proposed new National Training School. This scheme will eventually coincide with various regional centres



where clubs, through FA Sponsorship, will be able to 'get amongst' the schoolboy talent earlier. There are still many points to be discussed but the basic idea is good. Bobby Robson and his staff will have to organise and satisfy the clubs so that the strategy is clear to all as we attempt to raise the technical standard of players.

It could well prove to be one of the most important and decisive moves the FA have put forward.

That's in the future. Meanwhile, enjoy today's game and get behind the team.

See you soon.

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Scene on One..Scene on One..Scene on One

WATCH OUT FOR SOUTHAMPTON

By Tony Pullein

Although many critics are suggesting the League Championship chase has become a two horse race between Liverpool and Manchester United, one or two other clubs have different ideas. And whilst West Ham and Nottingham Forest both fancy their chances, the side which could upset them all is Southampton.

The Saints showed their character by twice recovering from a two goal deficit to earn a point in the holiday games. They looked a beaten side at Highbury when Charlie Nicholas converted a second-half penalty to give Arsenal a 2-0 lead. But two goals from Steve Moran gave them a 2-2 draw.

Southampton were trailing 2-0 at home to Aston Villa and this time it was Moran and Dave Armstrong who pulled the score back to 2-2 to extend the Saints' unbeaten run to seven games.

Although then only six points behind Liverpool, Southampton manager Lawrie McMenemy was displaying caution. 'I still think Liverpool or United will win it,' he said. 'They have better resources and can cope better with injuries and loss of form.'

'We like to be realistic. We are playing for a place in Europe and, at the moment, I don't think we can expect to win the Championship.'

REMARKABLE RECORD

One quite remarkable record that McMenemy has achieved at The Dell is that, since he became manager, the Saints have never been beaten away from home in a League match during December! For a team whose away record has rarely been more than average, it is strange that they haven't lost an away League game in December since 1973. Since then, they have won 11 and drawn eight of 19 games played on opponents' grounds during that month.

Nottingham Forest's 3-2 win at Kenilworth Road put them very much in touch with the leaders. But, at the end of the season, they could have lost their chance by losing both games to Liverpool 1-0. Forest won 2-1 away to Manchester United but, in both matches against Liverpool, they lost to a late goal from Ian Rush.

Manchester United have scarcely hit top form since losing 2-1 at Oxford in the fourth round of the Milk Cup. They have had their injury problems, of course, and Gordon McQueen limped off during their game at Liverpool. But Ron Atkinson was delighted to go away from Anfield with a point after Norman Whiteside had equalised in the dying moments.

Whiteside had lost his place earlier when Atkinson signed Garth Crooks on loan from Spurs. It had originally been intended to complete the transfer when the loan period expired but, as Crooks was cup-tied, Whiteside was recalled for the Milk Cup marathon against Oxford. He shone sufficiently to earn his recall to League duty and his late equaliser at Anfield probably saved his United career. It was then being suggested that the Crooks deal might be called off.

● One man who still feels his team has a chance of the League title is Tony Barton. With Gary Shaw back after injury, and getting back on the goals trail in the 2-2 draw at Southampton, Aston Villa could prove very strong challengers.

NOT GOOD ENOUGH

At the moment Villa's away record is not good enough but if they can produce a few more away points, they could still make it. Villa won only one away game during the first half of the First Division season — at Manchester United (2-1) in November. And they had collected only four other points from drawn games. At home they had suffered only one defeat, a strange 6-2 affair against Arsenal when Tony Woodcock scored five times.

● Coventry City peaked in December when they won 4-2 here at Kenilworth Road and then thrashed Liverpool 4-0 a week later. After that they went through four games without a win until ending their run with a 2-1 home win over Sunderland.

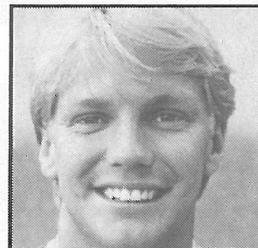
Manager Bobby Gould threw together a bunch of players largely drawn from the Third and Fourth Divisions and instilled them with the sort of enthusiasm which characterised his own days as a player. The Sky Blues had been treating every game as a cup-tie and were really playing to their full potential.

Sadly, it's not physically possible to maintain that sort of concentration throughout a 42-game programme and it is the teams who have been developing over a period of years, and who create an understanding among themselves, who are most likely to finish among the top six.

● Queens Park Rangers give the impression that they could qualify for Europe next season. They slipped a little



ALAN SMITH



GARY SHAW

over the holiday period, losing successive away games at Leicester (2-1) and Aston Villa (2-1). After Rangers had come back to form with a 2-1 home win over Wolves, they announced they would be offering manager Terry Venables a ten year contract.

UNDER CONTRACT

Venables was one of many names connected with the Arsenal vacancy but he stressed that he would not be applying for the job as he was under contract with Rangers until the end of the season.

It seemed highly unlikely that he would be tempted away from Shepherd's Bush for he is reputed to own the football club. It's not a situation discussed publicly by QPR but it is understood that a consortium of businessmen put up cash to purchase the football club with Mr Venables given absolute control over its running.

Should he move on to another club, Venables would — under Football League regulations — have to relinquish all ties with QPR.

● Former England striker Bob Latchford spent the New Year contemplating a return to First Division football. After being released by troubled Swansea City, he was in discussion with managerless Stoke City. Caretaker manager Bill Asprey confirmed his interest but declared that, under no circumstances, would the club break its wage structure and that the arrival of Latchford in a Pot-teries' shirt would depend upon whether he would reduce his salary demand.

Stoke's 2-0 Boxing Day victory over Norwich City brought slight relief to their relegation worries but they then lost their next two matches and looked back on that solitary win in 13 League outings.

● One club which seems to be well free of relegation worries is Leicester City whose 1-0 win at Stoke took them to six matches without defeat. Leicester lost their first six games of the season and failed to win any of their opening 12 League and Cup matches.

Even then, manager Gordon Milne went on record as saying: 'I have confidence in the players. All they need is two or three victories and their confidence will return.'

So it has turned out. And all their strikers are back on song. Each scored over the holiday and, after their success at Stoke, Alan Smith led their list with 10 goals, followed by Steve Lynex and Gary Lineker with eight each.



UNRIVALLED FOOTBALL COVERAGE

EXCLUSIVE
COLUMN
by
DAVID
PLEAT

HATTERS
REPORTS
by
BRIAN
SWAIN

LOCAL
LEAGUES
by
ERIC
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LUTON TOWN PICTURES BY MARK RICHARDS

IN THE **LUTON NEWS** THURSDAY 12p

Town Focus



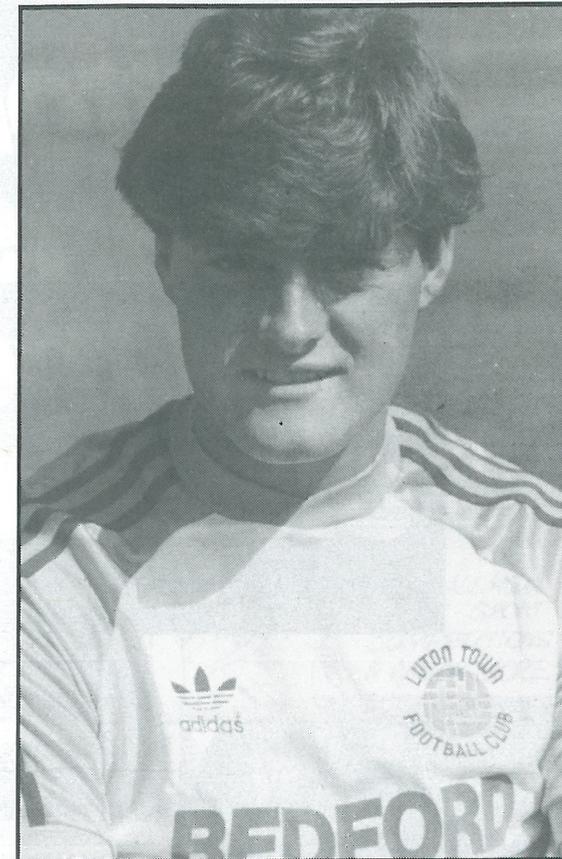
Frank Bunn must have been surprised himself when he found himself in our senior side at the start of the season – in a midfield position. A youngster who came to us from school as a striker, Frank made his debut in 1980-81 as a striker when he made three Football League appearances and one in the League Cup –

now known as the Milk Cup. The following season he was limited to two appearances as substitute and made only three more at League level last term. It was this season, however, that he really made his mark when, up to and including our recent home game against Nottingham Forest, he played in 13 League games.

FRANKIE BUNN – CAREER RECORD

FOOTBALL LEAGUE					
	80-81	81-82	82-83	83-84	Total
Arsenal				1	1
Aston Villa				1	1
Brighton			1		1
Coventry				1	1
Derby	1				1
Everton				1	1
Grimsby		s			0 + 1s
Leicester				1(1)	1(1)
Manchester United				1	1
Newcastle	1				1
Norwich				1	1
Nottingham Forest				2	2
Southampton				1	1
Sunderland			s	1	1 + 1s
Tottenham			1		1
Watford				1(1)	1(1)
West Ham			1		1
Wolves				1	1
Wrexham	1(1)	s			1 + 1s(1)
	3	0 + 2s	3 + 1s	13	19 + 3s
	(1)			(2)	(3)
LEAGUE CUP					
	80-81	81-82	82-83	83-84	Total
Blackpool			s		0 + 1s
Reading	1				1
Rotherham				1(1)	1(1)
	1	–	0 + 1s	1(1)	2 + 1s
				(1)	(1)
FA CUP					
	82-83	Total			
Peterborough	1	1			
	1	1			

Up to and including 3rd December



Town Focus

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	18	John Miles plus Support			Guest: Otilie Patterson
	19	Mezzoforte			

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junior hatters

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THE MASCOT



DAVID BEDFORD

This afternoon's mascot and escorts have the honour of accompanying Junior Hatters president Ricky Hill on to the pitch for one of our most attractive home games of the season.

We sincerely hope they enjoy their stay with us. If any youngsters watching the game require further details of all the activities involving our Junior Hatters, information is gladly available in the commercial office.

MASCOT

David Bedford of Dunstable is ten and attends Mill Vale Middle School, Dunstable. He plays football for First Dunstable Boys Brigade and his interests are gymnastics, boys brigade, football and supporting Luton Town.

THE ESCORTS



STEWART READ



CHRISTOPHER PEARCE



PAUL HANNABUSS



STEFAN MANKE

ESCORTS

Paul Hannabuss of Luton is 11 and a pupil at Halyard High School. He plays football for Luton West and his interests are football and snooker.

Christopher Pearce of Bletchley is 12 and attends Denbigh High School, Bletchley. He plays football for Bletchley Colts YFC and his interests are football, snooker, darts and Luton Town.

Stewart Read of Luton is 12 and attends Lea Manor High School. He plays rugby for Lea Manor School and his interests are rugby, football, BMX, scouts.

Stefan Manke of Luton is 12 and a pupil at Stopsley High School, Luton. He plays football for Stopsley Boys FC and his interests are football, drawing and judo.

Ricky Hill

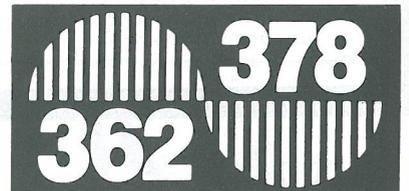
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COACH REPORT



GARY PARKER



CLIVE GOODYEAR

PLYMOUTH 1 LUTON TOWN 2

FA Youth Cup

LUTON: Dunn, Davies, Devine, McEvoy, Burke, Driscoll, Parker, Stein, McConville, Ellisdon, Watts. Sub: Oldfield.

This was a good victory on a pitch which had taken a lot of rain and become a little sticky particularly down the middle.

We adapted very well to the conditions and dominated the first half although we failed to turn our superiority into goals. However, we did manage to work a good goal when our centre right side was involved in a five pass move, finished off with a good shot from McConville inside the keeper's left hand post. The scoreline did not give a true reflection of our domination of this period, and we were worried we had played so well with only a one goal advantage.

At the start of the second half, our fears almost came true when, from a corner, they almost forced an equaliser from their first real chance of the game. This was our worst period in the match and we started to make one or two errors and one mistake led to an incident, where the linesman flagged and the referee awarded a penalty.

After Plymouth equalised from the spot, we seemed to pick our game up

again and chased the winner. We were made to work very hard before gaining our reward. With about eight minutes to go, we worked a shooting position and finished off with a good shot inside the goalkeeper's near post from Mark Stein.

The victory was well deserved on a wet and windy night, and some of our play was a delight to watch. We should have had some more goals to show for it!

QPR 1 LUTON TOWN 1

Football Combination

LUTON: Beasley, Breacker, Turner, Antic, North (S), Goodyear, Parker, Stein (M), McConville, Daniel, Moss. Sub: Watts.

Town got off to a bad start, when Rangers took a first minute lead when big McDonald forced in a right wing cross.

The Hatters played with great resolve and should have gone ahead when Ray Daniel missed two good chances. However, we did not have to wait too long for the equaliser. A Raddi Antic free kick was palmed out by the Rangers keeper and Clive Goodyear blasted the ball into the net for his third goal of the season.

Defences dictated largely on the

artificial surface, but credit must be given to the lads for working so hard on a surface they play on only once a year. It was nice to get over the Christmas festivities with a workmanlike performance against the 1982-83 champions.

CRANFIELD UNITED 0

LUTON TOWN 6

Friendly

LUTON: Findlay, Antic, Goodyear, Breacker, Turner, Parker, Johnson, Bunn, Watts, Nwajobi, Stein (M). Subs: Moss, Watts, North (S), Lindsey.

In this local friendly, we scored in our first attack when Gary Parker hit a right wing cross for an unfortunate defender to turn into his own net. Town kept on top and Gary Parker increased our lead before half time with a marvellous chip over the goalkeeper.

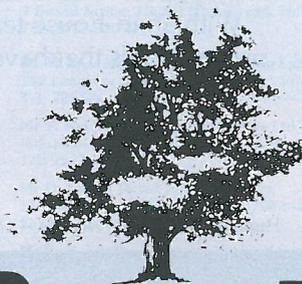
The floodgates opened in the second half, when Town opened up the game and a brace of goals by Mark Stein and Frank Bunn rounded off a 6-0 triumph. But, more important, it gave us much needed match practice. Our thanks go to Cranfield who made us most welcome on what was a bitterly cold day.

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NAME THE STAR

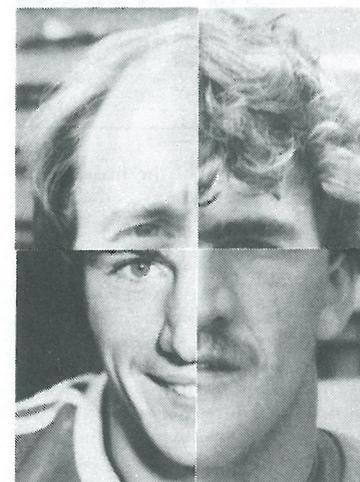
Today we continue our 'Name The Star' competition from our West Bromwich Albion, West Ham United, Nottingham Forest and Watford Magazines. Each week we add a small proportion of the body of a famous player inviting you to guess the player's identity. As the details increase so the prize will diminish. Send your entries to: 'Name The Star' Competition, Luton Town Football Club, Matchday Magazine, 70-72 Kenilworth Road, Luton.



Competitions

NAME THE FACES

Our photo caption shows three players' heads mixed up. Again all you have to do is name the three players and their current club. Write your answers on a postcard with your name and address and send your entry to Luton Town Photo-teazers, Luton Town Football Club Matchday Magazine, 70-72 Kenilworth Road, Luton.



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NEWSDESK... NEWSDESK... NEWSDESK...

SAINTS WEEKEND TRIP

On page 23, you will find details of an attractive weekend package we are offering supporters for our trip to play Southampton on 25th February.

When we launched the scheme last season when we travelled to Hampshire, the trip was a great success — the main reason why we decided to repeat it. Turn to page 23 for information on this exciting weekend.

On the subject of travel, many of our fans will take advantage of the services offered by our official Travel Club when we make the trip to the Midlands to meet Wolves a week today.

Our luxury coaches leave Maple Road car park at 11 am — and we will charge you only £3.50 for the bonus of leaving your car at home. Make your booking in the commercial office after today's game.

There are, however, some supporters who prefer to make their own way. For their benefit, this RAC route should assist.

Leave M1 north at junction 19 and join the M6 until junction 10 (A454). Follow the A454 to the Wolverhampton ring road and turn right on to the ring road (Railway Street). Continue to the third road junction and turn right into Waterloo Road. The football ground is on the right.

We'll see you all there.

JAKE'S GONE, ANDY'S BACK

Our senior Reserve keeper Jake Findlay has joined Second Division Derby County on a month's loan. To



cater for his temporary move, we have recalled Andy Beasley from Mansfield where he has been on loan.

DON'T BE LATE

We take another opportunity of reminding supporters that our home game against Manchester United on Sunday 12th February will be televised live. To accommodate the cameras, the game will kick-off at 2.35 pm.

Will you be on the telly?

A RICH STRIKE

The Luton Strikers, the energetic group of ladies who entertain you on the pitch before matches, have been in fine form all season.

One of them, Deborah High, had

good reason to celebrate after the Forest match when she won a football autographed by the Luton team. She received it from keeper Les Sealey.



CENTURY CLUB

The Gunners, one of the historic and most respected clubs in English football, are our visitors today at Kenilworth Road. No matter what team we support, Arsenal are one of the handful of clubs everyone follows with interest, and we welcome them, and look forward to a good afternoon's entertainment.

It has been nice this year to see all our holiday fixtures played on their due dates, with no weather hold-ups, and to enter the New Year with no backlog of fixtures must be an added bonus

for our manager and team. Let's hope the elements continue kind to them.

It was a pleasure to welcome our friends and near neighbours from Watford on the occasion of the recent Cup-tie. We are always pleased to welcome our friends in football into the club and we were particularly happy to strengthen these ties with Watford.

Some members have enquired recently about our Century Club ties. We do have a quantity remaining. If you require one, see our secretary.

POOLS WINNER

There were some celebrations in our popular Cellar Bar when the Whitbread-sponsored pool competition reached its climax.

Many players from the area battled against each other before our skipper Brian Horton joined them to present them with their prizes.



After the presentations, Brian allowed himself to be put in the hot seat when he answered a barrage of questions on Luton Town FC from the competitors.

He is pictured with the happy winners and their various prizes.

A WELCOME SPONSOR

We were delighted to welcome directors and guests from Luton's Grange Hotel and Mark James Limited, our main sponsor and ball sponsor respectively for the home game against Nottingham Forest.

Our sponsors took full advantage of all the facilities offered to them at Kenilworth Road on matchdays. One young lady, Laura Newman, also took advantage of her good luck when she received the match ball from full-back Kirk Stephens. She is pictured with Kirk and some of the sponsors' guests.



A SAD LOSS

We are saddened to have to record the death of one of our most staunch supporters, Horace Fensome.

Mr Fensome had followed us for 30 years although he had not been able to watch the team for the last two. We extend our sympathy to his family.

THE LOCAL TASTE AND HOW TO SATISFY IT

We're very definite about our taste in beer around here. A clear light pint is what we look for; with a good, clean smack of malt and hops.

And there's only one name that really satisfies the local taste — BB. The light beer first brewed in Luton during the darkest days of the War by J. W. Green.

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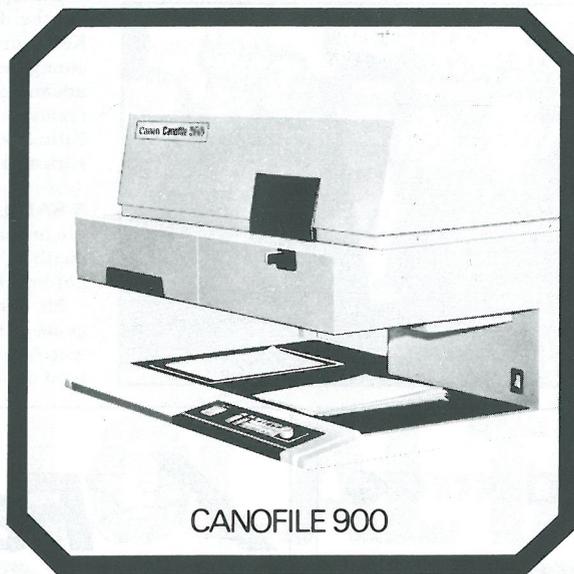
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HATTERS WHO'S WHO

Tony Pullein continues his series on former Luton players. This afternoon — Mike Keen

MIKE KEEN was one of those players who didn't outwardly show his powers of leadership. To many fans he was a wing-half who didn't particularly stand out. But out there, on the field, his quiet encouragement, and magnificent example, was an inspiration to all around him.

'I was never a very fast player but, in a way, I think this helped me,' he reflected. 'I had to think more deeply about the game and take up positions to compensate for my lack of speed. When I became captain of QPR and Luton, I had developed an understanding of the game and I think I was able to pass on some of my experience.'

As a boy Mike had always dreamed of becoming an Arsenal player. As things turned out, he joined QPR and helped them achieve unprecedented success. It seemed he might well spend his entire playing career with Rangers but, just as they reached their highest peak, a behind-the-scenes shake-up wrecked all that Mike and his colleagues had achieved.

It was in 1957 when he first joined the London club. They had spotted him as a 16-year-old playing for Bucks Boys Clubs and, after a successful trial, he was signed as an amateur.

A year later he was taken on to the professional staff and it was in 1959 that he made his League debut. Over the next few years, he became firmly established at right-half when the club was trundling along in the Third Division.

REMARKABLE SEASON

He became captain of Rangers and, in 1966-67, enjoyed a remarkable season. As he led the club to the Championship of the Third Division, he also had the pleasure of leading then out at Wembley for the first League Cup Final staged there.

Their opponents were West Bromwich Albion, and when the First Division club led 2-0 with less than half-an-hour to go, there seemed little hope for Mike and his colleagues. Then, with an astonishing burst, Rangers scored three times to become the first Third Division club ever to win a major trophy.

'Of course, that has to be the highlight of my playing days,' said Mike later. 'At one point I felt I should just relax and enjoy having played at Wembley. Then, in those dramatic closing minutes, I suddenly realised we had won.'

The following season Mike was ever-present as Rangers won promotion to the First Division for the first time in their history. Yet, during the early weeks of the following season, Rangers sacked the man who had created their success — manager Alec Stock.

Luton moved swiftly to offer Mr Stock the manager's job at Kenilworth Road and one of his first moves was to sign his former skipper Mike Keen.

CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE

So, with more than 400 first-team appearances for Rangers behind him, Mike brought his considerable experience to Kenilworth Road in January 1969. 'Until then, I had really expected to finish my playing days with QPR,' he said. 'But Alec Stock was a man for whom I had great respect and I was complimented when he invited me to sign for Luton — even though it meant dropping back into the Third Division again.'

Soon he was captain of the Luton side and in 1970 he led the Hatters to promotion to the Second Division. For the following two seasons he was ever-present as we made what turned out to be vain attempts to clinch further promotion.

By then he was 32 and approaching the end of his playing days. Harry Haslam had taken over as manager and, ambitious for First Division football, he was looking for younger players. So, at the end of the 1971-72 season, Mike was given a free transfer.

'I had no complaints,' he said. 'I had had a very good run and it was natural for the manager to plan ahead and introduce younger blood.'

But his playing days were not completely over. He joined Watford who had just been relegated from the Second Division. Within months he was appointed player-manager. As such, he found himself coaching the first and second teams, plus the Youth

side. And he confessed he was not much interested in the administrative side.

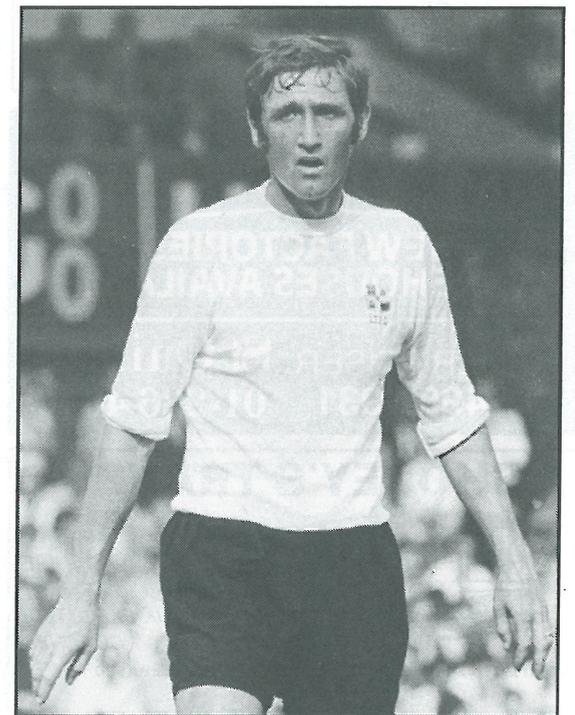
'I see my work out there on the pitch,' he said. Watford were relegated in 1975 and Mike decided to retire as a player to concentrate upon the managerial side. They made two brave bids for promotion but just failed and in April 1977 he left the club.

Looking back, he said: 'I had over three happy years at Kenilworth Road and we were either winning promotion or involved with it. I suppose, because my move from QPR was so unexpected after all those years, it gave me a new challenge and I certainly enjoyed it.'

LEAGUE RECORD

		Apps	Gls
QPR	1959-60	27	1
	1960-61	34	2
	1961-62	46	2
	1962-63	41	1
	1963-64	46	3
	1964-65	46	13
	1965-66	46	4
	1966-67	46	6
	1967-68	42	6
	1968-69	19	—
Luton	1968-69	15	5
	1969-70	45(1)	3
	1970-71	42	4
	1971-72	42	3
Watford	1972-73	44	3
	1973-74	44(1)	—
	1974-75	36(1)	2
		661(3)	56

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John's



Journal

JOHN WILKINSON – CLUB SECRETARY

I think everything that has happened at Highbury over the years has been written by just about everyone, but somehow things happen which get everyone talking about the club again.

The recent departure of manager Terry Neill prompted the press to suggest who might get the job and who shouldn't. But I think Don Howe will have something to say about that.

Arsenal's name is famous around the world and it is surely every schoolboy's dream to run out at Highbury in the famous red and white jersey. Names such as Eddie Hapgood, Laurie Scott, George Marks, George Swindon, Cliff Bastin, Bryn Jones, Alex James, Jack Crayston, Dennis and Leslie Compton and Ted Drake all roll off the tongue and will be remembered as long as the Gunners are in existence.

I could add many more to that list but lack of space prevents me doing so. The club's Football League and honours record is something to be proud of but there is one record they would like to forget. Clive Allen was transferred in June 1980 to the Gunners from Queens Park Rangers for a fee of £1,250,000. Two months later he was sold to Crystal Palace for the same amount of money without kicking a competitive ball for them. No wonder they say that football is a funny game.

I do not think there will be another transfer like that one.

Looking through the records I find that the biggest attendance at Luton to watch a match between the two clubs was on Tuesday October 6th 1970 in a third round League Cup match. The attendance was 27,023. We won't beat that figure unless there is a change in the safety code for stadiums.

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Bedford's four year support of the Hatters goes beyond mere shirt sponsorship, extending as it does into good community relationship between a major local employer and the local team. This has a direct spin-off into other areas.

The entire Luton Town football team for example, including manager David Pleat, were at a recent lunch to meet handicapped and under-privileged children from schools throughout Great Britain.

As part of their support for the Variety club's Sunshine Coach programme, Bedford Commercial Vehicles played host to over 100 school children at the Luton van plant just before Christmas.

Bedford have organised a massive fund-raising exercise throughout its 473 UK dealerships to aid a unique

transport programme which has so far funded the purchase of over 50 Bedford CF minibuses, including four vehicles directly donated by Bedford.

The programme demonstrates how effective use can be made of limited resources to provide a practical and effective approach to charitable action. The Luton Town team, who are sponsored by Bedford Trucks, were at the lunch to meet the children and sign much requested autographs.

Six schools for mentally and physically handicapped children were represented at the party and each of the children received a memento from the club and further gifts and sweets from Bedford before leaving for home.

Today, Bedford looks forward to a particularly exciting game between closely matched opponents — Luton,

playing at home against Arsenal, no doubt expecting to redress the balance of their 2-1 defeat by the Gunners at Highbury earlier in the season.

At the conclusion of its first year as a separate company and autonomous General Motors Division in the UK, Bedford Commercial Vehicles reports that the organisation gained a 12 per cent increase in registrations during the year, with 36,667 units sold in the UK with a market share of 13.7 per cent.

Bedford made substantial gains in the light van section in 1983, with a sales increase of 40 per cent (at 16,898) over 1982. Reflecting the major impact of the Astra Van, this success pushed Bedford's market share in the sector from 17 to 19.8 per cent.



Brian Stein signs autographs for handicapped children at their Christmas Party organised by Bedford.

Travel...



Travel...



Awayday Luton supporters who look for something out of the ordinary will be pleased to hear we have again arranged another breakaway weekend in Southampton for our match there on 25th February.

We organised a successful package trip to Southampton last season when we played at the Dell and it was on the basis of that which prompted our decision to repeat it.

This season, we again give you the opportunity to visit the Saints Supporters Club, provide a seat at the match and provide a match-day magazine.

A tour behind the scenes of the Dell is also included in addition to a coach tour of the city's docks and the New Forest. There is also time for sightseeing and shopping.

The price of the package, which includes two nights bed and breakfast in a three-star hotel, coach transport to and from Southampton, is £55 per person.

We are aiming for a family market and, at the price at which it is offered, we feel it is an extremely attractive package.

If last season's trip is any indication, demand is going to be heavy and we advise early booking at our Kenilworth Road commercial offices because a maximum of 35 fans can be accommodated.

We would also remind supporters of the facilities we offer for travelling to other away games.

Our Travel Club uses only luxury coaches fitted with full air conditioning and fans who have been aboard for trips this season have already enjoyed the best in travel.

One of the main benefits of travelling by coach is that we drop you right outside the ground which eliminates the problem of finding somewhere to park your car.

The membership fee for our Travel Club is only £1 for the entire season and bookings — which must be accompanied by your payment — are accepted up to 24 hours before travelling time.

If it makes sense to you, call at the commercial office in Kenilworth Road now to secure your booking for the trip to Wolverhampton a week today.

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INJURIES WRECKED ARSENAL'S LEAGUE HOPES

Arsenal's League Championship hopes exploded last month when a devastating series of injuries robbed them of right-back Stewart Robson, centre-back David O'Leary, midfielder man Graham Rix and striker Alan Sunderland at a highly critical time.

The Gunners had been beaten at home by Third Division Walsall in the Milk Cup and team performances generally had led to a growing feeling of dissatisfaction around the Highbury terraces. All this, sadly, led to the departure of manager Terry Neill shortly before Christmas and team affairs were placed in the hands of Don Howe for the time being.

One of Mr Neill's final acts as Arsenal's manager was to sign Manchester City centre-back Tommy Caton for £500,000. The tall and domineering Caton was an instant success when introduced to City's First Division side in 1979 and he has been capped eight times by the England Under-21s. He has also been nominated in the full England squad and it is clearly only a matter of time before he wins his first full cap.

Caton initially replaced the injured O'Leary and is one of four players to turn out in the middle of the Gunners' defence this season — Chris Whyte and Colin Hill are the others.

O'Leary served his apprenticeship at Highbury and made his bow in League soccer in 1975. He has been capped on 26 occasions by the Republic of Ireland. Whyte, an exceedingly tall player, brings a touch of class to a position often considered as purely defensive. He emerged as a first teamer two seasons ago and has since been holding a fairly regular place. Chris is an England Under-21 international.

VERSATILE PLAYER

Hill is a versatile player who served his apprenticeship with the club. He made his League debut against Norwich last April but is already in line for international honours. Though English, Colin's father comes from Belfast and he was recommended to Ireland manager Billy Bingham who included him in the squad for the game against West Germany in November, although he didn't play on that occasion.

When Stewart Robson was injured, Hill moved over to right-back. Robson is another versatile player who made his First Division debut two seasons ago as a right-back. Last season he made 31 League appearances, most of them in midfield.

England's Kenny Sansom is Arsenal's left-back. They signed him from Crystal Palace in a £1 million exchange deal for Clive Allen in 1980 after he had enjoyed four successful seasons in the Palace side and gained England Under-21 honours. He has 38 full caps.

Goalkeeper Pat Jennings has played for Ireland on a record breaking 103 occasions and he has now played more than a thousand games in top class football.

Watford signed Jennings from Newry for a mere £6,500 in 1962. He moved on to Tottenham for £27,500 in 1964 and remained long enough to set up a new club record of 472 League appearances. He was in Spurs' FA Cup winning team of 1967 and collected League Cup winners' medals in 1971 and 1973, the year he was voted Footballer of the Year.

NUMBERED

When he moved to Arsenal for £40,000 in 1977, it was felt his First Division days might be numbered. But he has now topped 200 League appearances for the Gunners and still looks good enough for another season or two yet.

The midfield has been the most unsettled part of the Arsenal side. Paul Davis has been the anchor here and, following Rix's injury, Ian Allinson took over on the left. David Cork and Brian Talbot are among several others to appear in this department.

Davis made an occasional appearance in the Gunners' First Division side in 1979-80 and the following campaign, but for the past two seasons he has been on regular duty. He has been capped four times by the England Under-21s.

Rix had been a fixture in the Arsenal side since his debut in 1977 and now looks back on well over 200 First Division games. An England international, Graham was an ever-present member of our 1982 World Cup team in Spain and he now has 15 caps.

Allinson developed with Colchester, making his League debut in 1974-75. For the past two seasons he had been their top scorer, with 26 goals in 1981-82 and 24 last term. Due to some clerical error, his contract was allowed to expire so, when Arsenal wanted to sign him last summer, they were able to complete the deal for no fee!

COMPLETED APPRENTICESHIP

Cork completed his apprenticeship at Highbury and made his first League appearance against Watford last month. He scored his first goal in the 2-2 draw with Southampton on New Year's Eve.

Charlie Nicholas and Tony Woodcock are Arsenal's two chief strikers.

Talbot began his career with Ipswich and was in their Wembley team when they defeated Arsenal in the 1978 FA Cup final. He was transferred to Arsenal for £450,000 the following season and played in the next two finals for the Gunners. He has eight England caps.

Nicholas shot to fame as an 18-year-old when he was promoted to Celtic's first team in 1980-81. He responded

ARSENAL

with a grand tally of 28 goals and ended up the proud possessor of a Scottish Championship medal. Charlie's success earned him his first Scottish Under-21 cap that season. He has now played four times at that level and last season he made his debut in the full Scotland team, playing against Switzerland, N. Ireland and England.

Charlie, who scored 48 goals for Celtic last season, joined Arsenal this summer for £700,000 but took some time to settle to English football. He was beginning to find his feet by December, though, and scored his seventh goal against Southampton.

TOP SCORER

Woodcock, top scorer with 21 goals last season, has now established himself in the England side, taking his cap total to 29 against Luxembourg. Tony opened his League career with Nottingham Forest in 1973-74 and later had loan spells with Lincoln and Doncaster before joining West German side Cologne for £650,000 in 1979. Arsenal signed him for £500,000 in the 1982 close season.

Tony's tally of 12 goals by the turn of the year included a fabulous five-goal hit at Villa Park.

Alan Sunderland, Brian McDermott and Raphael Meade have all occupied the third attacking position.

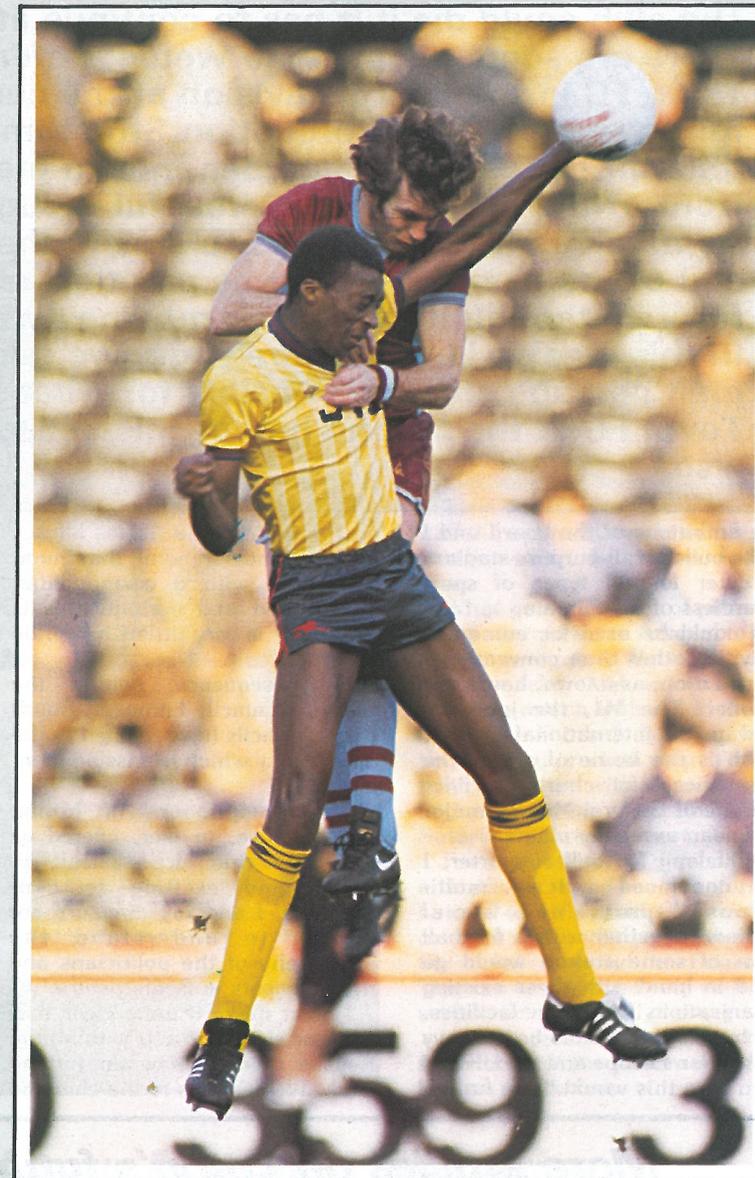
Sunderland won England Under-23 honours in his early days with Wolves and was a member of their League Cup winning team in 1974. Arsenal invested £240,000 in his transfer in 1977 and two seasons ago he was their top scorer with 12 goals. Last season he was again on target 12 times. Alan has

one full England cap.

McDermott is a winger of high promise who first played in the senior side in 1978-79. Since then he has made a round 50 first team appearances and last season he turned out on loan for

Fulham.

Meade made his League debut two seasons ago and came back sensationally last month with a hat-trick against Watford and two at Tottenham in successive games.



CHRIS WHYTE



Standing (left to right): Roy Johnson (Trainer), Don Howe (Coach), Graham Rix, John Kay, Raphael Meade, Lee Chapman, Chris Whyte, Danny O'Shea, Colin Hill, Peter Nicholas, Paul Gorman, Tony Woodcock, Terry Neill (Manager, no longer with the club).

Seated: John Lukic, Alan Sunderland, Paul Davis, Charlie Nicholas, David O'Leary, Stewart Robson, Kenny Sansom, Brian McDermott, Brian Talbot, Pat Jennings.

LUTON'S FUTURE

"My dearest wish is that Luton Town Football Club should stay in Luton or at least in the Luton area."

Those words may seem a contradiction of facts when one appreciates they come from Denis Mortimer, chairman of Luton Town Football Club, and a member of a board who voted unanimously in favour of relocation, which in the long term will ensure the safety of the club.

The club could die if it has to continue at Kenilworth Road. There are some people who would prefer to see Luton Town FC in the Fourth Division at the current ground than for us to move — a Coronation Street image, with the toilet at the end of the garden, not to mention the bath in front of the fire — what a dreadful thought for the eighties! As much as the club wants to stay in the Luton area, at the end of the day we have to be practical and plan for the future although it may mean moving away from Luton. In this week's Luton Future page, we take a look at the man perhaps more responsible for what happens to Luton Town FC in the second half of this decade than anyone else.

The ambitions of the board and I are to build an all-purpose stadium to cater for all types of sport regardless of the climate.

It could be used for numerous activities other than conventional sport. Luton, as a town, has much to offer. The M1, the inter-city railway, an international airport, which is the home of one of the most successful charter airlines and one of General Motors' major European assembly plants.

A lifelong football supporter, I am convinced that a multi-purpose sports and social stadium, together with a football team of some stature would go hand in hand with these existing organisations and public facilities. Such a stadium would be the envy of Western Europe and the UK and I am sure this would bring further

prosperity to Luton. It has always been my understanding that Luton is a town with a cosmopolitan background and perhaps this is why there is very little Civic pride here.

In consequence, neither the County Council, Luton or South Beds Councils have reacted to the opportunity which is passing them by.

Their neighbours in Milton Keynes have, in fact, offered us prospects that are difficult to refuse and exciting to contemplate, I and my directors are unable to understand the philosophy of the politicians and their advisors in Bedfordshire.

I must make it quite clear that once we sign contracts with Milton Keynes there will be no turning back. We owe this to the club and

everyone working for its success.

I have been a football addict since I was five. My father insisted on it. Born in Hertfordshire, his early years were spent supporting West Bromwich Albion. His father used to take him to see them play on Bank Holidays and, when in London, other than Bank Holidays it was Luton one week and Watford the other.

If you discount Luton Town, the team I presently most admire is Watford. In less than a decade they have created something from nothing — full marks to Elton John, his directors and Graham Taylor.

CHANCE MEETING

A chance meeting in Mexico during the 1970 World Cup with John Bain, then a director at

LUTON'S FUTURE

Coronation Street — or the envy of Western Europe?

Kenilworth Road, led to me joining the Luton Town board in 1972. I have been chairman since 1975 and try to forget the crisis which nearly took the club out of existence in that year. But I will never forget the enormous help given to me by the remnants of the board, the Kenilworth Road staff of those days and the small number of supporters who acquired 'B' shares.

As chairman, I see Luton Town Football Club as a family. I am thirsting to see more success in the First Division and, perhaps a place in Europe. Everyone should have ambitions for their family, our ambitions can be fulfilled. The manager is allowed to manage which is an all important factor. In David Pleat I have the ideal ingredient for success, on and off the field we have a wonderful at-

mosphere within our coaches, players and staff. I hope this will not be ruined by the few who are satisfied with the toilet at the end of the garden and bath in front of the fire.

My football interests involve me one way or another seven days, or a part of those days, each week.

Do I enjoy my football? The answer is not the one you would expect, although perhaps it is delivered somewhat tongue in cheek — not at the moment.

Dealing with the club as a business gives me many responsibilities, worries and pressures.

Dreadful as it may seem, and most un-British, I always want to be a winner and when my team does not do well I can be a bit touchy. I think my wife takes it rather more to heart than I do. I believe the late President Truman had the appropriate answer — the oven, or was it the kitchen, and all that.

What gave me a lot of pleasure was a recent visit to Arsenal to see the game against Watford. I was able to relax and enjoy an interesting match with old friends.

League Football has, at last, begun to appreciate that it must fight to exist with many alternatives eroding the traditional Saturday afternoon sport.

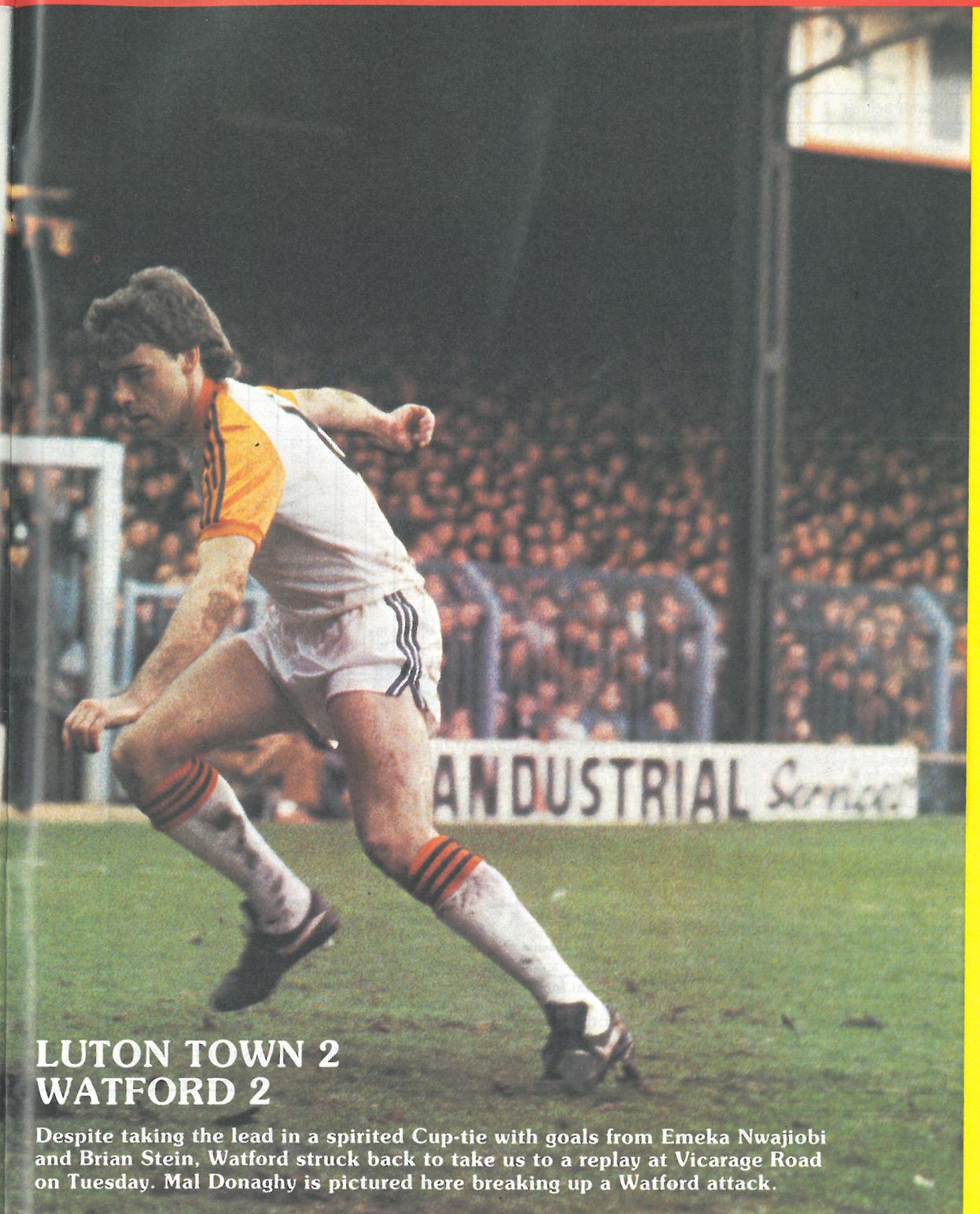
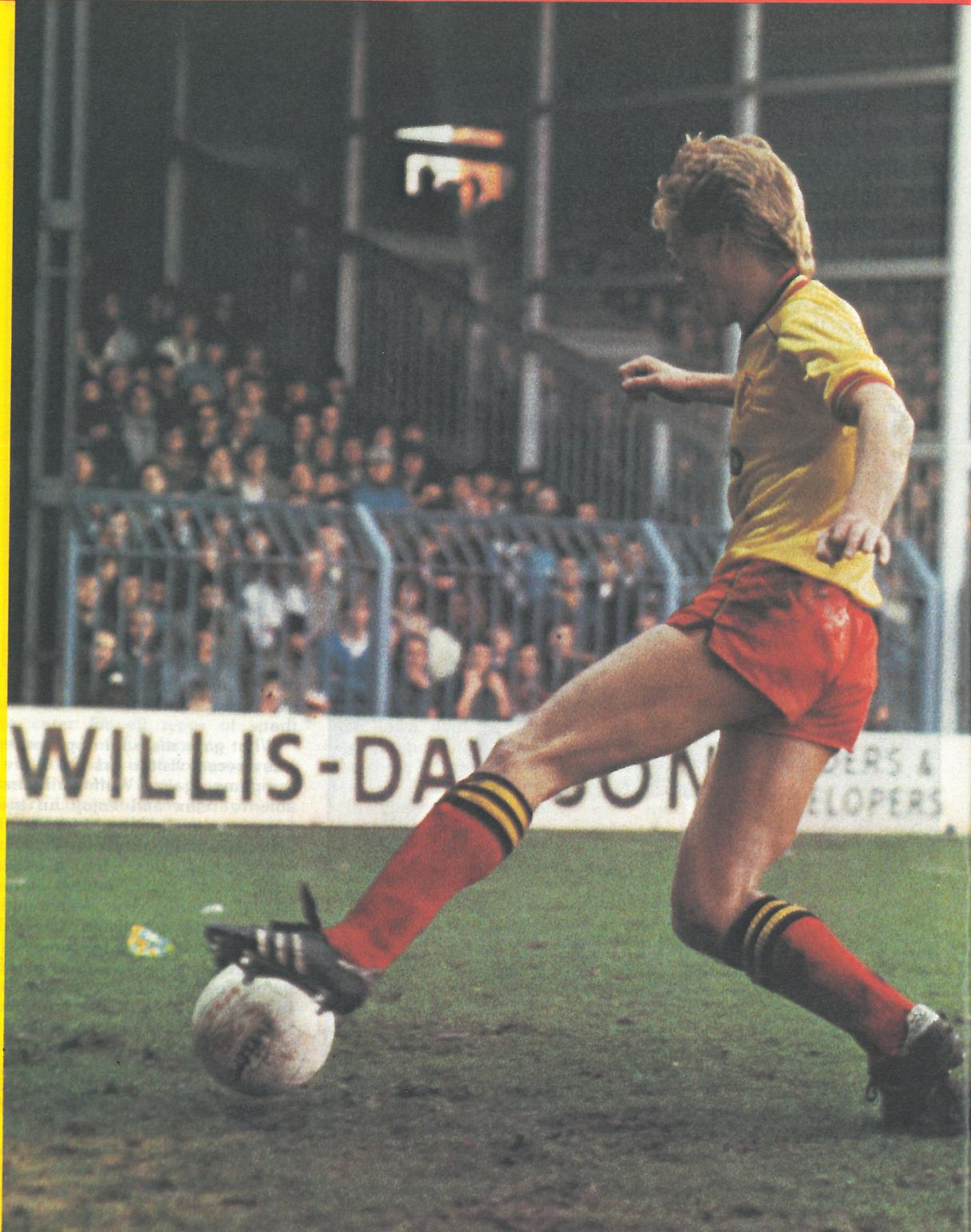
For each and every person life is a challenge. I and the directors of Luton Town Football Club aim is to make this football club amongst the most powerful in England. This can be achieved only with the support and goodwill of everyone.

It is my personal belief that this is the view of the vast majority of Hatters supporters.



More articles on Luton's future will be published in future editions of your Matchday Magazine

REPLAY IN COLOUR. . . REPLAY IN COLOUR

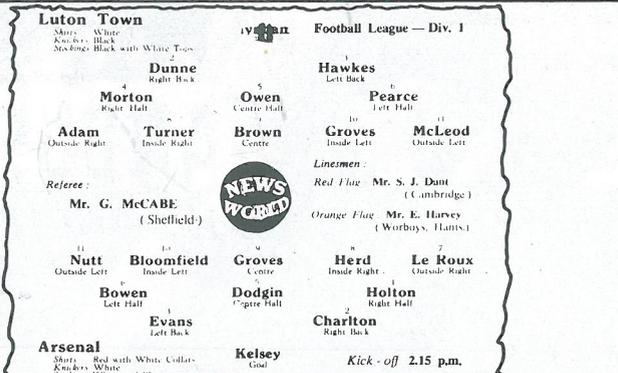


LUTON TOWN 2 WATFORD 2

Despite taking the lead in a spirited Cup-tie with goals from Emeka Nwajiobi and Brian Stein, Watford struck back to take us to a replay at Vicarage Road on Tuesday. Mal Donaghy is pictured here breaking up a Watford attack.

TOWN RECORD '83/84

Opponents	Result	Attendance	Points	Position	Sealey	Stephens	Turner	Horton	Elliott	Donaghy	Hill	Stein	Walsh	Bunn	Moss	Antic	Aylott	Daniel	Thomas	Parker	Johnson	Goodyear	Nwajobi	Own Goal	
Goals Scored							2	2	1	2	8	12	3	3	7	2							2	2	
1983																									
August																									
27 Arsenal	1-2	39,348	—	—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9●	10	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
31 Leicester City	3-0	11,929	3	—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7●	8	9	10●	11●	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
September																									
3 Sunderland	*4-0	10,846	6	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7●	8●	9●	10	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
6 Norwich City	2-2	11,905	7	5	1	2	3	4	5●	6	7	8●	9	10+	11	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
10 Manchester United	0-2	41,013	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
17 Wolverhampton W.	4-0	10,975	10	7	1	2	3	4●	5	6	7	8●	9●	10	11●	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
24 Nottingham Forest	0-1	16,296	10	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+	11	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
October																									
1 Aston Villa	1-0	12,747	13	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11●	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
4 Rotherham (MC2-1L)	3-2	4,035	—	—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9●	10●	—	—	11●	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
15 Everton	1-0	14,325	16	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9●	10	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
22 Southampton	3-1	12,389	19	4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8●	—	10+	11	12	9●●	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
25 Rotherham (MC2-2L)	0-2	6,755	—	—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	—	—	—	—	10	9	11	—	—	—	—	—	
29 Liverpool	0-6	31,940	19	6	1	2	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
November																									
5 Queens Park Rangers	1-0	15,053	22	4	1	2	3	4	5●	6	7	8	9	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	
12 Birmingham City	1-1	11,111	23	5	1	2	10	—	5	6	7	8●	9	—	—	12	—	—	3	11+	4	—	—	—	
19 Tottenham Hotspur	2-4	17,275	23	10	1	2	3	—	5	6	7	8●	9●	—	—	11	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	
26 Watford	2-1	17,791	26	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8●	9	11●	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
December																									
3 Coventry City	*2-4	10,698	26	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11+	—	12	10●	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
10 Stoke City	4-2	10,329	29	8	1	2	—	4	5	6	7	8	9●	—	—	10	11●	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	
18 West Bromwich Albion	2-0	11,566	32	6	1	2	—	4●	5	6	7	8	9	—	—	10●	11	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	
26 Notts County	3-0	9,789	35	3	1	2	—	4	5	6	7	8	9	—	—	10●	11●	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	
27 West Ham United	0-1	16,343	35	5	1	2	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	—	—	10+	11	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	
31 Sunderland	0-2	19,482	35	6	1	—	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	—	12	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	2+	
1984																									
January																									
2 Nottingham Forest	2-3	12,126	35	9	1	2	—	4	5	6	7	8	9●	10+	—	12	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	11●	
7 Watford (FAC3)	2-2	15,007	—	—	1	2	—	4	5	6	7	8●	9	10+	—	12	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	11●	
10 Watford (FAC3R)	3-4	20,586	—	—	1	2	—	4	5	6●	—	8	9●	11+	—	10	—	3	7	—	—	—	—	12	
February																									
4 Aston Villa																									
12 Manchester United																									
18 Liverpool																									
25 Southampton																									
March																									
3 Queens Park Rangers																									
10 Birmingham City																									
17 Norwich City																									
24 Leicester City (MC Final)																									
31 Ipswich Town																									
April																									
7 Everton																									
14 Tottenham H. (FAC SF)																									
17 West Ham United																									
21 Notts County																									
28 Watford																									
May																									
5 Coventry City																									
7 Stoke City																									
12 West Bromwich Albion																									
19 FA Cup Final																									
TBA Ipswich Town																									



Older Arsenal fans at Kenilworth Road this afternoon will not need reminding about the game played here 26 years ago on Boxing Day 1958. For the record, we won 6-3 in a game watched by 21,870 supporters. But the Gunners gained their revenge at Highbury in the return the following day when a massive 56,501 crowd watched Arsenal win 1-0 at Highbury.

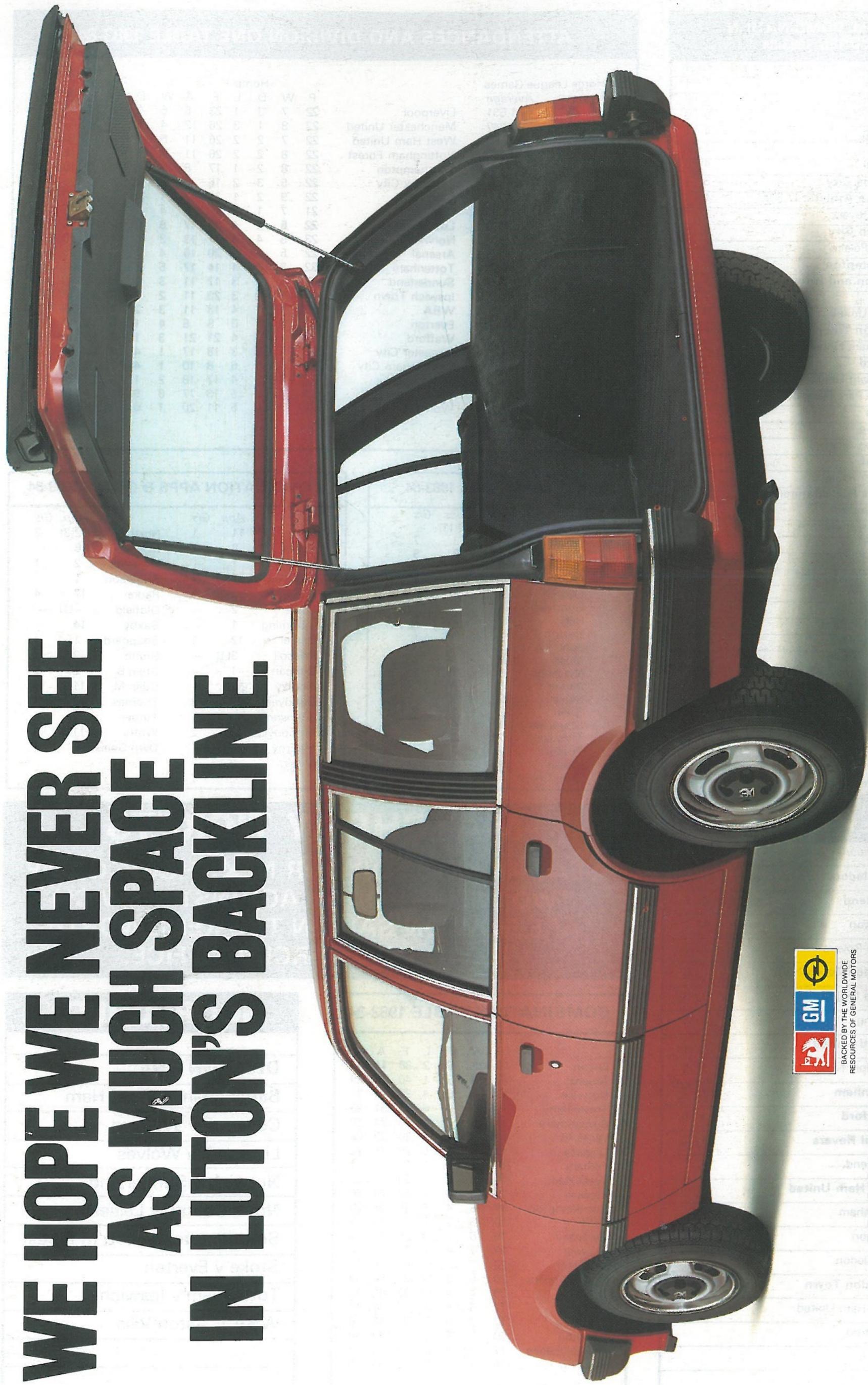
FOOTBALL COMBINATION FIXTURES 1983-84

Date	Opposition	F	A
Aug. 27	Chelsea	1	1
Sept. 7	Leicester City	1	0
Sept. 10	Ipswich Town	0	0
Sept. 14	Reading	4	1
Sept. 17	Arsenal	1	2
Sept. 20	Millwall	4	0
Sept. 24	Swansea City	3	1
Oct. 3	Charlton Athletic (7.30)	1	1
Oct. 8	Bristol Rovers	2	1
Oct. 11	Norwich City	0	0
Oct. 18	Crystal Palace	0	0
Oct. 25	Southampton	3	1
Nov. 5	Brighton and Hove A.	4	0
Nov. 9	Millwall	2	1
Nov. 23	Oxford United	0	1
Nov. 26	Swindon Town	4	1
Dec. 3	Tottenham Hotspur	2	1
Dec. 10	Watford	3	0
Dec. 17	West Ham United	2	1
Jan. 3	Queens Park Rangers	1	1
Jan. 17	Chelsea		
Jan. 21	Reading		
Jan. 28	Swansea City		
Feb. 4	Arsenal		
Feb. 14	Charlton Athletic		
Feb. 25	Queens Park Rangers		
Feb. 28	Southampton		
Mar. 6	Brighton & Hove A.		
Mar. 10	Fulham		
Mar. 13	Watford		
Mar. 17	West Ham United		
Mar. 20	Fulham		
Mar. 24	Norwich City		
Mar. 27	Crystal Palace		
Mar. 31	Leicester City		
April 7	Ipswich Town		
April 10	Birmingham City		
April 14	Oxford United		
May 12	Tottenham Hotspur		
TBA	Birmingham City (H)		
	Swindon Town (A)		
	Bristol Rovers (H)		

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE FIXTURES 1983-84

Date	Opposition	F	A
Sept. 3	Wimbledon	3	2
Sept. 9	Southend	4	2
Sept. 17	Brighton	4	1
Sept. 24	Bristol Rovers	1	4
Oct. 1	Swindon Town (Cup)	1	5
Oct. 15	Oxford United	0	0
Oct. 22	Reading	0	3
Oct. 29	Oxford United	1	2
Nov. 5	Swindon Town	0	5
Nov. 19	Tottenham	1	1
Dec. 3	Brentford	3	0
Dec. 17	Bristol Rovers	1	3
Feb. 4	Southend		
Feb. 11	West Ham United		
Feb. 18	Tottenham		
Feb. 25			

**WE HOPE WE NEVER SEE
AS MUCH SPACE
IN LUTON'S BACKLINE.**



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