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LUTON TOWN



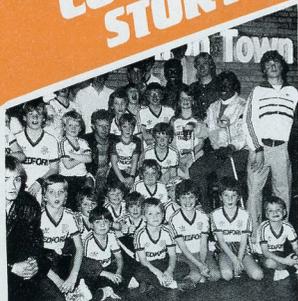
MERRY CHRISTMAS

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Saturday, December 21st, 1985
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

ACTION REPLAY

COVER STORY



Christmas crackers: Mick Harford (opposite top) and Mark North (opposite bottom) snapped up the close-range chances that gave us a 2-0 win over Newcastle two weeks ago. Mick was in brilliant form and kept the Magpies' defence under constant pressure as John Bailey (above) would agree!

Christmas crackers: Our Junior Hatters' Christmas party last Monday was a huge success enjoyed by everyone.

INSIDE

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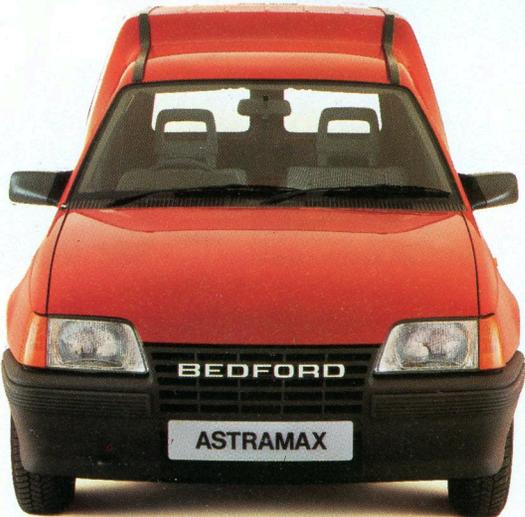
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100 Years On

WELCOME to what we hope is going to be a game for two footballing sides to entertain the public. Our friends from West Ham are having a super run and their manager, John Lyall, must be delighted with the progress of his team and the success of his signings.

I am sure that despite the counter attraction of Christmas shopping, there will be enough interest in the game to attract 15,000 people. Our gates are improving and there are now many people who voice the opinion that our team is worth watching.

Since my last notes we have finalised two transfers. Gentleman Paul Elliott is now a Villa player and Andy King has joined us from Wolves. We wish them both lots of luck. The transfer of Paul reflects huge credit on Steve Foster who has played a captain's role.

A remarkable year

Since the Board was reconstructed under the guidance of our chairman, David Evans, on November 17th, 1984 we have sold three players, Frank Bunn (£40,000), Wayne Turner (£75,000) and Paul Elliott (£400,000). Into the club have come David Preece (£75,000 plus Steve Elliott), Peter Nicholas (£160,000), Steve Foster (£70,000), Mick Harford (£260,000) and Andy King (£10,000).

More importantly during this time we have, prior to our visit to Forest, played 48 League and Cup games and have lost only 18. when you consider that the "new" squad took a couple of months to put together it has been quite a remarkable period at the helm for David Evans. I have always believed that sound speculations will derive benefits and



1985, taken in isolation, has been the year in which new life was breathed into the club.

Penning these notes I am reminded not to be repetitive—after all I have been manager a comparatively long time, and written many words. Today we meet the "oldest" Division One manager who has been a "Hammer" all his career and knows the warmth of Upton Park. He is a tough man, a loyal man, but, most important, encourages skill.

We are moving forward but we need all related support. Lotteries are our lifeblood. Please support them. On the field, down below we have the best group of schoolboys during my term. We are re-shaping our facilities. Our ambition is for a better future.

Have a Happy Christmas—enjoy the game and take it steady.

Best wishes
David Pleat

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GirlTalk

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

The season is halfway through: a time to look forward—and back, and with Christmas nearly here, to consider the lighter side of supporting the Town.

Earlier this year, when our stadium was tested for an equestrian event, the horses tried eating our "grass". But it's not just dumb animals who had trouble with our synthetic surface: Paul Cooper, Ipswich's 'keeper, tried to raise a divot in order to place the ball for a goal kick. And while on the subject of 'keepers—why is it that Les Sealey's gloves sometimes look like one of Kenny Everitt's props, and that Andy Dibble favours short socks and knicker-bockers?

Clothing has been a talking point this season with players using the "Top Hatter" column to criticise each other's off-the-pitch dress. Nothing they wear to the local disco would possibly raise the laugh that greeted Newcastle at the beginning of December. Their drab grey change strip was considered to be a colour clash so they donned old orange "Luton Town" shirts complete with "LT" logo and "Bedford Trucks".

Birthday-boy

There have been some entertaining newspaper headlines this season, too. After our 7-0 win over Southampton, where birthday-boy Brian Stein scored three, the "News of the World" had as its headlines "Hatter Trick" and "Full Stein ahead".

Players themselves have been amusing, too. How many of you heard the Luton Ladies shouting "Man on" during their matches? And I'm told that Wayne Turner has now put a deposit on an automatic washing machine.

And what of the future? I'm sure many of us were surprised and very pleased to see Mr. Pleat sign Andy King. He had been a great favourite at Kenilworth Road during the early part of his career and I'm sure he'll thrill us all again. Happy Christmas Everyone.

Gale Waller

Anyone wanting to contribute to Girl Talk please write to:

The Editor,
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by Tuesday am.

Parlez-vous Luton?

Monsieur Le Manager General, Etant supporter et sympathisant de Luton Town depuis de nombreuses annees et membre de l'Association Belge des Collectionneurs d'Insignes de Football, je me permets de vous solliciter afin d'obtenir 2 insignes metalliques officiels de votre club, qui manquent encore actuellement a ma collection.

Je ne foute pas, Monsieur Le Manager General, que Luton Town se fera un honneur de reserver une suite favousble a ma sollicitation et, vous en remercie bien sincerement.

Je souhaite a toutes les equipes de votre club d'obtenir au cours de cette saison 1985/85, d'excellents resultats sur le plan sportif et financier et, dans l'attente de vous lire vous prie de croire, Monsieur Le Manager Geneal, en l'assurance de ma consideration sportive et tres distinguee.

Gerard Davister,
Gembloux (Belgique)

EDITOR: The first person to accurately translate this letter wins a ticket to a forthcoming match.

Congratulations, Luton!

Dear Sir,
I have just heard on Breakfast Television that your club intended to ban away supporters at your ground because the police bill outweighs the ticket sales and I presume another reason is to prevent hooliganism. May I congratulate you and I really mean it. I'm sure this will not just make the local area and the ground a safer place but will create a peaceful, yet still exciting atmosphere. Well done! I support you wholeheartedly.

Perhaps when other clubs follow suit and normally returns to football grounds in general, the game will flourish again, and not have the dreadful stigmas attached of recent times.

B. J. Warren,
Leighton Buzzard.

A great day

Dear Sir,
On behalf of Scot Youth FC may I offer you the warmest thank you.

We attended the Luton match v. Man City and a smashing day was had by all.

With our good self and Luton's creditable attitude towards the surrounding districts I'm sure you gained supporters from our under-11s on Saturday. Once again many thanks for making a great day possible.

Les Trott,
Bletchley.



Les Sealey

Superb win at Spurs

Dear Sir,
I would just like to thank you for the most entertaining game you played at Spurs. It was a well deserved win and one that I am sure a lot of Spurs supporters would not deny. You really were on superb form. Well done particularly to the three goal scorers and Les Sealey.

I hope this same standard can be seen in following games, then perhaps people will see the real game of football and not the associated violence.

Thank you once again for a most enjoyable afternoon.

Miss G. Sayer,

P.S. We spoke to a Spurs supporter immediately after the game and he said that it was a well deserved win and that the Spurs supporters applauded Brian Stein's goal. This I feel is definitely true sportmanship.

Applaud the ban

Dear Sir,

I started to support and attend football matches at Kenilworth Road in 1941 but stopped attending several years ago because of the violence inside and outside the ground.

Therefore on reading your comments in "The Leader" I applaud your decision to ban away supporters from home matches next season and a business colleague and myself intend to purchase season tickets in view of your decision.

I concur with your statement that attendances will rise as a result of the ban because people like myself and families, will return.

B. J. Waller,
Luton.

Memorable visit

Dear Sir,

As your next venture approaches, I want to extend many thanks to your organisation and friendship which made our visit to Luton so memorable a week last Saturday. I am convinced this is the only way to put football back on its feet after a disastrous series of events in the last 12 months. I hope to see you on the return visit, April 19th, 1986. Martyn will contact you in the Spring.

Keith Newbold,
Bishop Ullathorne School,
Coventry

Editor: Keith's letter refers to the Luton v. Coventry Schools' match.

Many thanks

Dear Sir,

I write on behalf of our Under-14 squad and management to thank you for a most enjoyable day spent at Kenilworth Road both playing and watching.

The boys thoroughly appreciated playing on your pitch and were most grateful for your kind hospitality.

T. J. Blay,
The Reading Schools Football Association

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Refreshes the parts
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Luton News



FOR PRIZE-WINNING
PICTURES
THURSDAYS 14p



First Team ACTION

MISSED CHANCES

Forest 2 Luton Town 0

Missed chances cost the Town dearly at Nottingham last week where Forest made the most of their luck to record their first win in six league matches. Goals in each half by Nigel Clough and Neil Webb gave the scoreline a grim look after good build-up had been wasted.

Clough opened the scoring for Forest in the 30th minute after Andy King, Mick Harford and Brian Stein had all wasted good openings carved out by skilful approach work from midfield, where Ricky Hill was missing for the first time since August due to a groin injury.

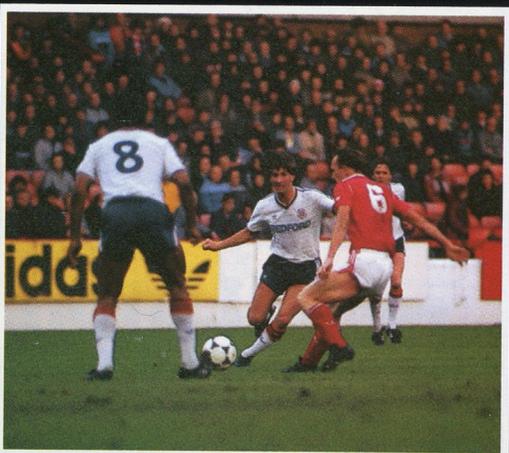
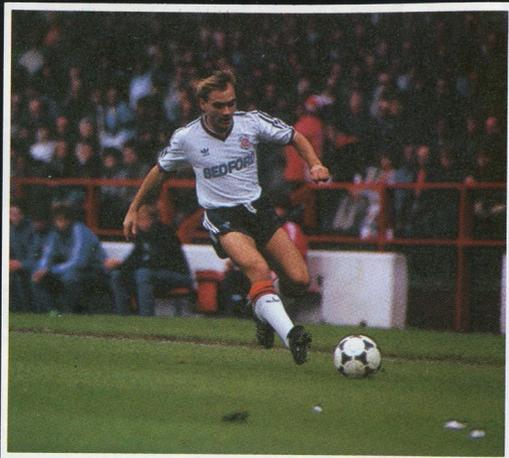
Free kick

The opening goal came after Steve Foster had fouled Ian Bowyer just outside the penalty area. Clough struck a low curling free kick past Les Sealey. The second goal came midway through the second half after the Town had begun to play as if their luck was out for the day.

Forest: Sutton, McInally, Pearce, Walker, Butterworth, Bowyer, Carr, Metgod (sub Walsh 79), Clough, Webb, Robertson.

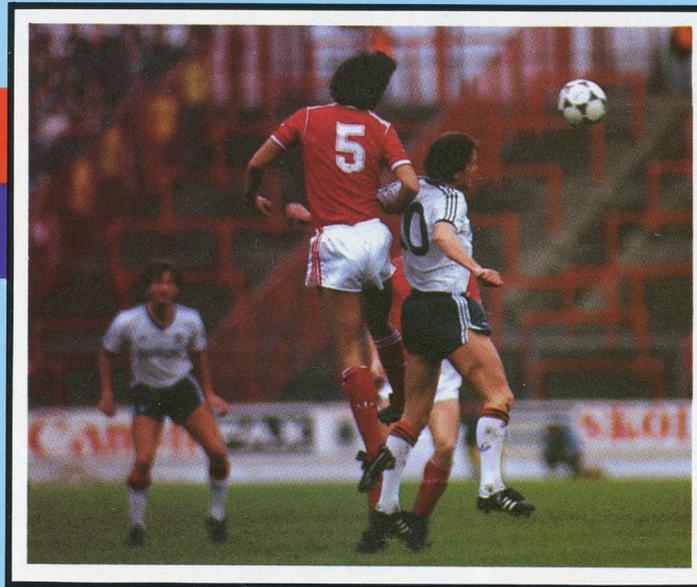
Luton: Sealey, Breacker, Thomas, Nicholas, Foster, Donaghy, Parker, Stein, Harford, King (North 69), Preece.

Ref: J. Bray (Hinckley).



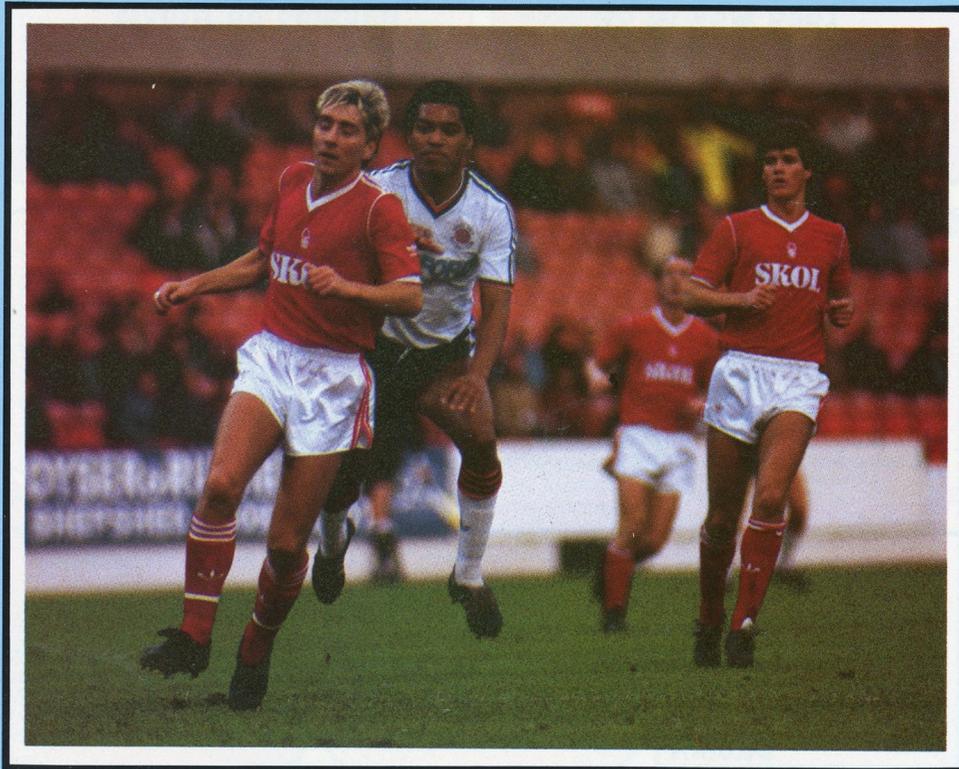
ACTION REPLAY from

City Ground



David Preece, Gary Parker, Brian Stein and Andy King are pictured in action during our 2-0 defeat at Forest last week.

(Photos: Gareth Owen)





JOHN FAULKNER

VIEWS

from the bench

Youth team coach John Faulkner took over at the start of the season following a tremendously successful last term when we lifted the South East Counties League title. John has already made his mark and in recent weeks our youth team inflicted Swindon Town's first home defeat when we beat them 6-4 and swept Aston Villa out of the FA Youth cup with a great 4-2 victory here at Kenilworth Road. Today John reflects on the first half of a season in which his team have shown a great deal of promise for the future.

Long way to go

"Overall, I am very pleased with the way things have gone so far. Most of the lads have maintained their early-season promise and worked very hard. But, of course, there is a long way to go. In recent weeks particularly we have looked a very good side at times, but as I have always pointed out it is the final end result that really counts.

"The victory over Aston Villa was a particularly satisfying one in the Youth Cup because it is a prestigious trophy and we fielded a team which included only four or five players with experience from last year's side. Our team did, however, include five international players—a reflection of just how much talent we now have on our books at Kenilworth Road.

"Mind you, some of them play regularly in the reserves now and it is a bit of a problem

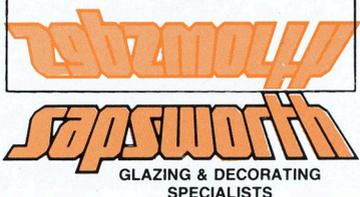
when they come back because it takes them some time and trouble to adjust! But the Villa match was a big one for us. We felt it was going to be a tough one before we kicked-off. But at one stage we were 4-0 up and afterwards we didn't feel it has been as tough as we'd expected. That's always a good sign. Of course, it is the last chance most of the lads will have of making an impact in a major competition this year.

"Still, it was a good result. The Swindon one was different. We were delayed in the morning and a bit late. We had a young side out but we played with a lot of freedom and expressed ourselves in the true Luton Town style.

Building up fitness

"One of the things I have learned in the job is that you should not expect too much or too little from anyone. I know sometimes the lads have worked hard all week and are tired when they play on Saturday, but the basic fitness they are building up is for the future and it will help them to get through games when they are older and perhaps playing in the first team.

"Sometimes, young lads can get too much attention however and lose their way. Sean Farrell, for example, has scored a lot of goals and went on the first team's trip to the West Indies—but it upset Sean and went to him a bit. He has taken quite a while to get his game together again. Like everyone else, he has to aim at consistency and trying to hold his place and then think about the reserves. No-one can relax at this level at all."



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Club News

SALVATION ARMY BAND

The traditional sound of Christmas carols will be provided today both before the match and at half-time by the Salvation Army Band. We hope you will enjoy their entertainment and give them your support.

Pre-match entertainment

Today's pre-match entertainment is provided by an under-13 match between the Bernard Chiltern Youth League and the Newham Youth League. Both are recognised as among the strongest in England. Teams: Bernard Chiltern: J. Slack, P. Harris, J. Duncan, G. Westcott, S. Smart, J. Lannin, D. Lelliott, R. Priestley, K. Phillips, M. Elphick, C. Dacey, M. Williams, B. Quill, C. McMennamin, P. Zephar. Newham: M. Carter, C. Wheeler, W. Saunders, J. Beaumont, D. Husband, J. Hayden, S. Williamson, C. Cochran, L. O'Shea, T. Moore, A. Ryan, G. Coombs, L. Kelly, R. Hyde. Referee: Alan Whittaker. Linesmen—P. McPherson, C. Clements.

Travel Club

West Bromwich Albion is our next away fixture and this takes place on Boxing Day. We are hoping that you spend part of your Christmas break with us and travel to the Hawthorns. Our coaches will be leaving the Maple Road car park at 12 pm and the cost is £4.50.

On December 28 we travel to Ipswich. Coaches leave at 11.45 am, cost £4.50.

Match Ball sponsors



This afternoon's match ball sponsor is Geoff Souster Menswear. Mr. Souster is a loyal supporter as well as a popular outfitter among the players.

TICKET OFFICE NEWS

On Thursday December 26th we are away to West Bromwich Albion, kick-off 3.00 pm. Entrance for visiting supporters standing is via Smethwick End (covered). The price if £3.00. If you require seats at £5.00 they can be obtained from our ticket office in Kenilworth Road.

On Saturday December 28th, we visit Ipswich Town, kick-off 3.00 pm. Entrance for visiting supporters is the North Stand, (covered) at £2.50 and £1.20 juniors. Seating £5.00 and £5.50 from our ticket office.

On New Years day January 1st we are at home to Leicester City, kick-off 11.30 pm. For match information phone Luton 30748 (24 hr service).

Forthcoming matches at Kenilworth Road



Canon League Division One
Wednesday, January 1st, 1986
Luton Town v. Leicester City
Kick-off 11.30 am

Football Combination
Saturday, January 11th, 1986
Luton Town v. Charlton Athletic
Kick-off 2.00 pm

MATCH REFEREE



Dennis Hedges (Oxford)

The manager of a joinery works, Dennis is married with two sons. He started refereeing in 1963 and progressed through the Oxford Senior, Hellenic and Isthmian Leagues to the Football League. He is interested in all sports, particularly cricket, and folk music. He has "lined" a full international and an FA Cup semi-final.

HOTLINE Luton (0582)



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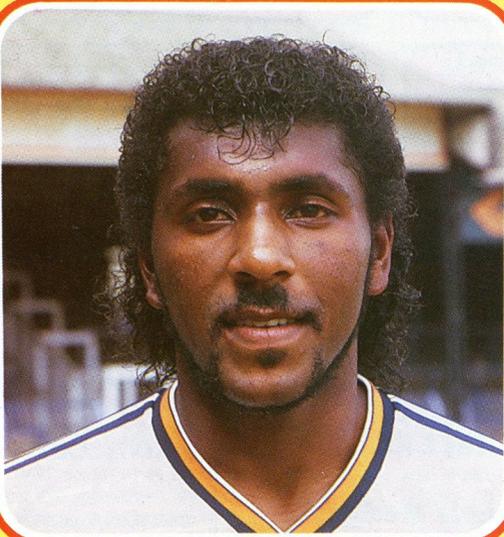
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Promotions Office: John Gornall,
Development Executive

RICKY HILL

TOP HATTER



Born in London on March 5th, 1959, Ricky Hill was missed by all the big clubs in the capital. He was spotted by then-reserve team coach David Pleat playing in a schoolboys' cup match at Hitchin. His ball-juggling skills and swerving shooting quickly earned him forms and he made his debut as a 16-year-old substitute against Bristol Rovers on Easter Monday 1976. It was the start of a career that has brought England recognition and the highest praise. This is his testimonial season and a match against an England XI is planned for April 8th, 1986.

PING-PONG MAN

At school, Ricky Hill played his table tennis in sporting company. His team-mates at Kelly Boys School in Neasden were the Gating brothers Steve and Mike, both of whom went on to play first-class football and cricket with Arsenal and Middlesex respectively.

Although Ricky has little time now to practice his skills, he believes his performances on tour with the Town in recent years have made him the club's table tennis champion!

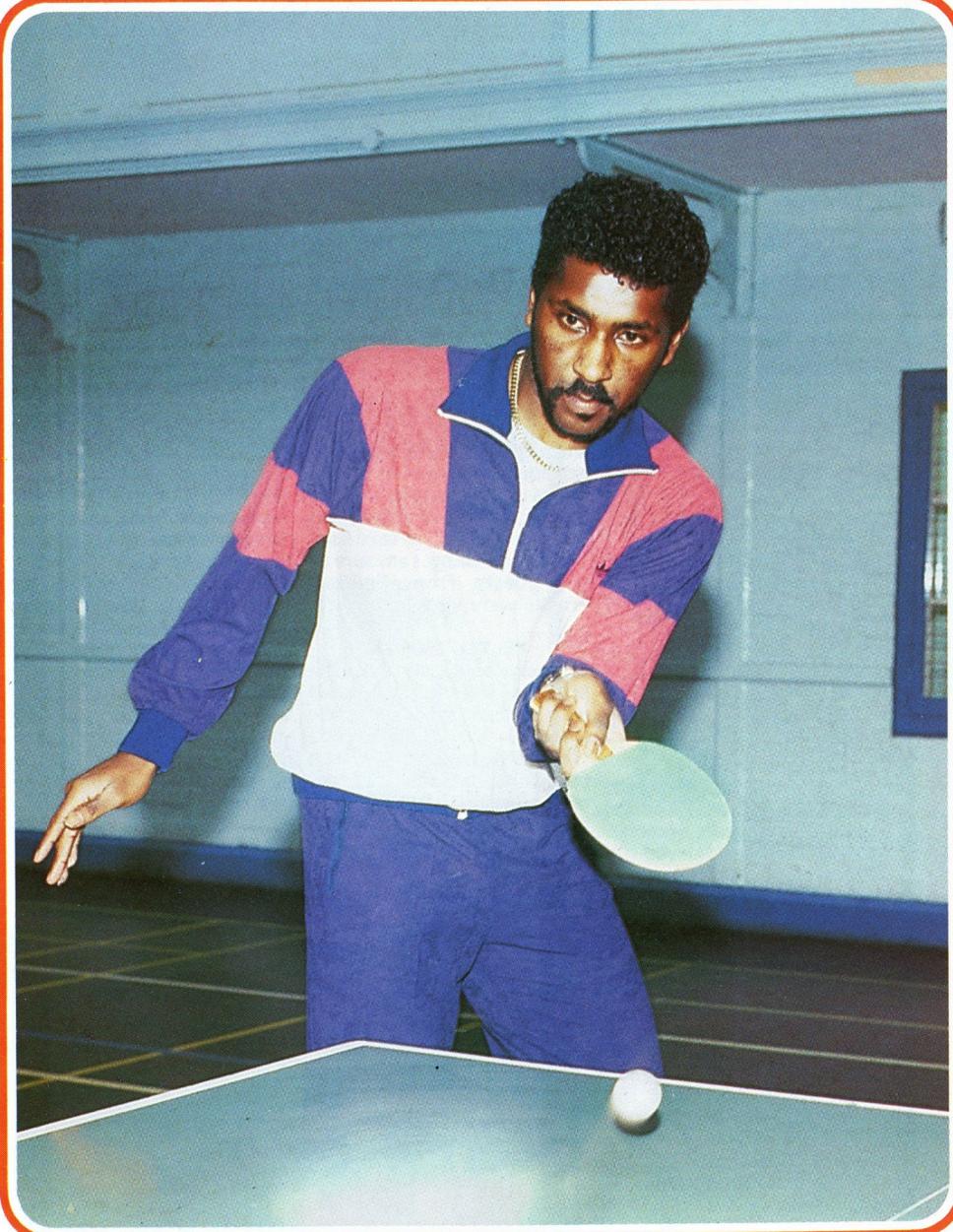
First love

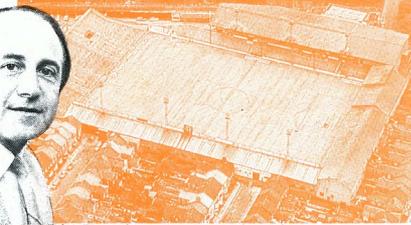
"I started when I was about 11. We played quite a good level at school. I was keen on all sports though, not just ping-pong. Football of course was my first love. But I played a lot of table tennis when I was about 14 or 15. Mind you, I'm not the only Town player with some idea of what it is about.

"Emeka, Brian and Mossy—when he was here—can play a bit. But I think I am the tops even though Brian might disagree because he beat me a couple of time in Trinidad once. I've never heard the end of it!

Cricket potential

"I always loved playing the ping-pong. But I've always had a good eye for the ball and people said I might have made the grade at cricket. I also like golf and snooker. In fact, people said I was better at cricket than football! But for me there was no choice."





Bill Tomlins, Commercial Director

the TOWN

BEDFORD WIN DOUBLE BONUS FROM NEWCASTLE TRIUMPH

by Bill Tomlins

What a coup for our hard-working commercial department! . . . We had Bedford Trucks as our match sponsors here against Newcastle and managed to field both teams in shirts with Bedford across their chests. An amazing stunt. Who could ever have dreamed of such a commercial success?

Of course, it was not all down to our own skill, ability and expertise as we owed the extraordinary drama to the antics and eyesight of Mr. Danny Vickers of Ilford, our referee that afternoon.

Thanks, Danny. I am sure all our guests from Bedford Trucks were very impressed.

FELT A TWINGE

Danny obviously felt the Magpies grey shirts clashed with our own white shirts. We were, as you would expect, very quick to offer our own orange reserve shirts to help poor Newcastle out of their predicament.

I must admit, however, that

I did feel a twinge for the loyal and generous sponsors of Newcastle United—Blue Star, the Newcastle Breweries. They had even taken a full-page advertisement in this programme on the day. And they were here in strength!

QUIZ QUESTION

No doubt Bedford were thrilled with the photographs which appeared in all the national newspapers and alongside this article today. I should think the delay and the shirt-switch will become a famous sports quiz question for the future.

Welcome to today's match sponsors Potton Timber Engineering and Daniel Homes and executive sponsors Falcon Holidays. The Potton group are known for their Heritage homes, a superior range of period cottages, and their involvement in leisure. Daniel Homes are developers on prestigious sites in the London dockland and also build luxury homes in the Home Counties.



Signing off: Our Chairman David Evans presents Bedford Truck's top executive J. T. Battenberg III with a framed photograph after our victory over Newcastle. Mr. Battenberg leaves Bedford to join Buick in the New Year.

Signing on: Andy King, watched by our manager David Pleat, rejoined the club from wolves on December 5th. We wish him a long and happy career at Kenilworth Road this time.



Lucky girl: Our mascot against Newcastle Karen Gardner was in luck with referee Danny Vickers who presented her with a souvenir coin of her day.

DOUBLE VISION

Bedford's bonus: John Bailey and Andy King give our sponsors' name that extra exposure!



THREE GENERATIONS OF HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!

Many happy returns times three: Steve Foster took time off before our last home match against Newcastle to make a special presentation to the incredible Goodman family—three generations of whom celebrated their birthday together on December 8th! Pictured with Steve are Mrs. Margaret Goodman, 54, son Philip, 32, grandson Nicholas, 17, and daughter Jackie.



CAPTAIN'S DIARY



with Steve Foster

UNLUCKY EMEKA

Poor old Emeka. No sooner has he let it out that he likes a dance on the ballroom floor than he gets himself crocked on the pitch! It's very bad luck for our talented striker—he's been looking dangerous recently . . . for everyone. We all hope he makes a full and quick recovery from the hair-line fracture in his foot he suffered against Manchester City. We are missing him—and so are all his dancing partners this Christmas.

Funny how things go . . . In the last couple of weeks, we have lost Emeka and Paul Elliott for different reasons, and Stacey North has been on loan to Wolves. But I hear from the boss that he has dug up another young diamond of a schoolboy player, a Dublin-born boy called Mike O'Brien. The manager said he is "one of the best schoolboy players he has ever seen". That's some compliment. Our chief scout Ron Howard crossed the Irish Sea to sign him.

Talking of young players, we also have another young star to welcome into the world—Ray Daniel's first child, a boy called Nathan. congratulations to Ray and family!

Finally, from the dressing room, a very merry Christmas to everyone.

AROUND

Junior Hatters



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A merry Christmas to all Junior Hatters, parents and friends!

Didn't we all have a good night at the Junior Hatters Christmas party. I hope that you make as much noise at today's game as you did on Monday night. The sports quiz was very good, but I think I will stick to playing golf. I am better at that than I was answering all those questions. It was good seeing so many of you enjoying yourselves dancing to the disco and playing the games. All the players that attended had a good time. Today I would like to thank Bassett Foods for donating the sweets for our junior supporters who received them on their way in to today's game.

With this being our last home game before Christmas I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and all your family a happy Christmas. This week's visitors are West Ham. So give them a warm welcome. Enjoy the game and have a good Christmas and don't eat too much!

Peter Nicholas

ESCORTS

MASCOT

ESCORTS



Joe Le Vien



David Arnold



Nicholas Durrant



Stewart Smith



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Reserves ACTION REPLAY

MISSED CHANCES ARE COSTLY AGAINST GUNNERS

Luton Town 0 Arsenal 2
Missed chances and a lack of confidence in front of goal cost the reserves dearly as they went down to their third consecutive defeat against London opposition at Kenilworth Road last Saturday.

The Football Combination leaders are always a tough, determined and resolute team to meet and last week's match proved no exception. A goal in each half gave them a victory they earned as much through our own weaknesses as their strengths.

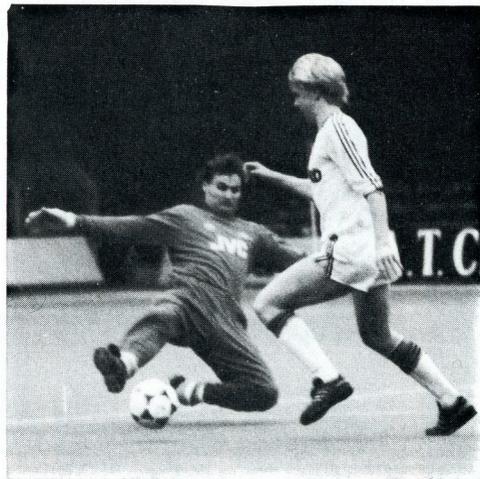
Shot wide

Our young side controlled most of the first half in terms of possession, but unfortunately David Oldfield missed our best chance when he beat the goalkeeper but shot wide and in the 44th minute

STEIN'S THUNDERBOLT



● Powerful effort: Mark Stein fires in a strong volley without any luck against Arsenal.



● Unlucky David: David Oldfield beat goalkeeper Wilmot but failed to find the net last week.

an own goal put the Gunners ahead.

They scored again during their best spell after 72 minutes after which we rallied but were unable to finish off any promising moves that threatened to bring at least one goal.

Teams:

Luton: A. Dibble, R. Johnson, A. Grimes, I. Scott, M. Johnson, R. McEvoy, M. Stein, D. Oldfield, R. Daniel, R. Harvey, M. Tuite.

Arsenal: Wilmot, Ceaser, Thomas, Rocastle, Adams, Whyte, Smith, Mersen, Osborne, Milton, Allen. Sub: Stamislaus.

This afternoon the reserves are away to Bristol Rovers.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Arsenal	19	14	4	1	71	16	32
2 West Ham	19	14	2	3	69	33	30
3 Watford	20	13	4	3	55	23	30
4 Chelsea	18	13	2	3	56	12	28
5 Ipswich	18	11	3	4	34	21	25
6 QPR	19	10	3	6	35	26	23
7 Luton Town	19	10	3	6	28	26	23
8 Norwich	20	9	4	7	35	23	22
9 Tottenham	17	10	1	6	40	25	21
10 C. Palace	21	8	4	9	34	47	20
11 Oxford Utd	21	7	5	9	37	36	19
12 Millwall	18	8	2	8	26	37	18
13 Birmingham	19	7	2	10	24	40	16
14 Bristol R.	17	7	1	9	33	39	15
15 Southampton	18	5	5	8	31	40	15
16 Charlton	19	6	2	11	35	49	14
17 Portsmouth	17	5	3	9	18	26	13
18 Fulham	17	5	1	11	25	44	11
19 Reading	17	4	2	11	20	49	10
20 Brighton	17	3	2	12	15	41	8
21 Swindon	16	1	3	12	23	48	5
22 Swansea	16	2	0	14	13	55	4

(Up to and including December 9th)

FOOTBALL COMBINATION APPEARANCES and GOALSCORERS

	App	Gls		App	Gls
Sealey	5		North M.	15	7
Johnson R.	15		Tuite	8	
Harvey	9		Berry	1	
McEvoy	18	3	Scott	6	
Elliott	12	1	Farrell	1	
Johnson M.	8		Black	6	1
Cobb	19	2	Lewis	2	
Stein M.	16	3	Daniel	12	4
Oldfield	19	5	Parker	14	1
Grimes	18	1	Ferguson	1	
Dibble	14		North S.	10	
Tighe	1		Farrell	1	

FOOTBALL COMBINATION FIXTURES

A	Aug 17	Portsmouth	1—0
H	Aug 24	Chelsea	0—4
H	Aug 31	Reading	2—1
A	Sept 4	Charlton Athletic	1—0
A	Sept 7	West Ham United	0—3
H	Sept 26	Millwall	3—2
A	Oct 2	Oxford United	1—1
A	Oct 9	Brighton & HA	2—0
H	Oct 12	Queens Park Rangers	1—1
H	Oct 15	Ipswich Town	2—3
A	Oct 19	Southampton	2—2
H	Oct 26	Swansea Town	2—0
A	Oct 31	Swindon Town	5—1
H	Nov 6	Norwich City	1—0
H	Nov 9	Crystal Palace	0—2
A	Nov 16	Watford	4—1
H	Nov 23	Fulham	1—0
A	Nov 26	Chelsea	0—2
A	Nov 30	Tottenham Hotspur	0—3
H	Dec 14	Arsenal	0—2
	Dec 21	Bristol Rovers	

Youth Team

FA Youth Cup 2nd round

Youngsters sweep Villa aside

Luton Town 4 Aston Villa 2

Our youth team romped into the third round of the FA Youth Cup and a home tie against Arsenal in the New Year when they swept Aston Villa aside at Kenilworth Road on December 5th. Two goals conceded in the last 15 minutes took some of the gloss off the scoreline, but could not deny the youngsters a well-deserved triumph.

The first goal arrived after 23 minutes of pressure and was scored by Paul Lewis who anticipated a poor back pass and nipped in to lob the goalkeeper.

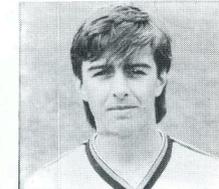
Splendid McEvoy

It was 1—0 at half-time, but the second goal came only five minutes after the re-start, the splendid Ricky McEvoy's raking cross-field ball put Kingsley Black in for a cross and Lewis, bursting through from midfield bundled the ball home in a scramble.

The third came in the 57th minute, Ian Scott finishing a fine move with a great header from a Lewis cross and the fourth later on when a 30-yard drive by McEvoy was tipped on to the bar and Sean Farrell knocked in the rebound.



Ian Scott



Paul Lewis

Further efforts by the dominant McEvoy, David Oldfield and Farrell had the Villa defence in all sorts of trouble, but without producing any rewards and it came as some surprise that the Town relaxed and allowed Ritchie to score from a penalty and Greene from a last-minute break down the middle to give the scoreline an unreal look at the final whistle.

Team: Jones, Cobb, Harvey, Scott, Berry, Johnson, Oldfield, Lewis, Farrell, McEvoy, Black. Sub: Tuite.

Goals: Lewis (23, 50), Scott (57), Farrell (65). Referee: E. Scales (East Herts).

Introducing West Ham United



WEST Ham come to Kenilworth Road today seeking their tenth consecutive victory in the First Division as they increase their challenge to leaders Manchester United at the top.

Indeed, since we won at Upton Park on August 28th, the Hammers have hit such a rich vein of improved form they have become strong candidates for their first League title.

The main reason for their success is the consistently good teamwork of an enthusiastic and experienced squad and the monotonous accuracy of Frank McAvennie's finishing.

The Scottish international striker, who chose Upton Park instead of Kenilworth Road when he was offered terms in the close season, has hit 20 goals already this season—including one in the World Cup for Scotland—and earned comparisons with the great Denis Law.

Last week, West Ham won 2-0 at home to Birmingham with goals from McAvennie and a Ray Stewart penalty.

Players likely to be on duty today:

Phil Parkes—Born at Sedgeley, Staffs, Phil is a veteran of more than 15 years in the league with Walsall, QPR and West Ham, whom he joined in 1979 for a record £500,000 fee for a goalkeeper. An England cap.

Ray Stewart—Born Stansely, Perth, Ray was captain of Scotland boys. Moved from Dundee United to West Ham in 1979 for £430,000. A full Scottish international defender.

Steve Walford—Born at Highgate, London, Steve has played for Spurs, Arsenal and Norwich before joining West Ham in August 1984. A tall and deceptively fast defender.

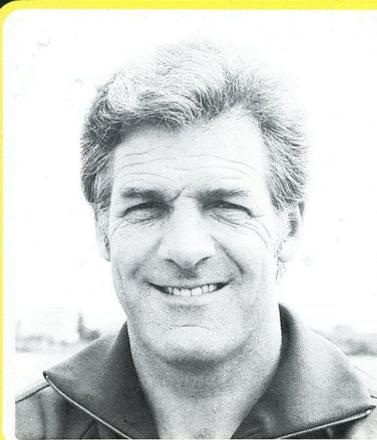
Tony Gale—Born Victoria, London, Tony played for England boys as a triallist and then Fulham. He joined West Ham from Fulham in July 1984.

Alvin Martin—Born Bootle, Lancashire, Alvin joined West Ham as an apprentice in 1974 and has now made more than 250 appearances. A strong and skilful centre-half, he is challenging to recover his England.

Alan Devonshire—Born Park Royal, London,



Back row, from left: Dave Swindlehurst, Alvin Martin, Billy Bonds, Tony Gale, Steve Walford, Phil Parkes, Johnny Vaughan, Tom McAlister, Greg Campbell, Alan Devonshire, Paul Hilton, Alan Dickens, Steve Whitton, Paul Goddard. Front row: Neil Orr, Ray Stewart, Keith McPherson, Geoff Pike, Bobby Barnes, Frank McAvennie, Tony Cottee, Warren Donald, Steve Potts, Kevin Keen, George Parris, Paul Brush.



West Ham manager John Lyall was born in Ilford and played for Ilford and Essex boys before joining the West Ham office staff and becoming a professional in 1957. He was a very promising youth player and won England youth caps, but injury cut short his career after only 30 league appearances. He graduated through the famous Upton Park "academy" however and became assistant manager in 1971, team manager in 1974 and manager in 1977. He has led West Ham to FA Cup glory in 1975 and 1980. In 1981 he led West Ham to promotion. A hard-working and loyal West Ham man, he has given his career to the club and has maintained their reputation for style and panache on the pitch.

Alan has made a remarkable recovery from injury this season and is recapturing the form that made him one of the best left-sided midfielders in England and earned him full caps. **Mark Ward**—Former Everton apprentice Mark has, like Devonshire, experienced part-time football, before breaking through. He joined West Ham from Oldham in August 1985 for £225,000.

Frank McAvennie—Born in Glasgow, Frank is the sensation of the league with his goalscoring form. Formerly with St. Mirren he joined West Ham in June 1985 for £340,000.

Alan Dickens—Born Plaistow, London, Alan joined West Ham as an apprentice in July 1981. He is an England youth midfielder.

Tony Cottee—Born West Ham, Tony signed as an apprentice in 1981 and has progressed quickly to become an England under-21 international and a respected First Division goalscorer in spite of his small stature.

Neil Orr—Born Greenock, Scotland, Neil joined West Ham from Morton in January 1982. His tidy game makes the Hammers tick.

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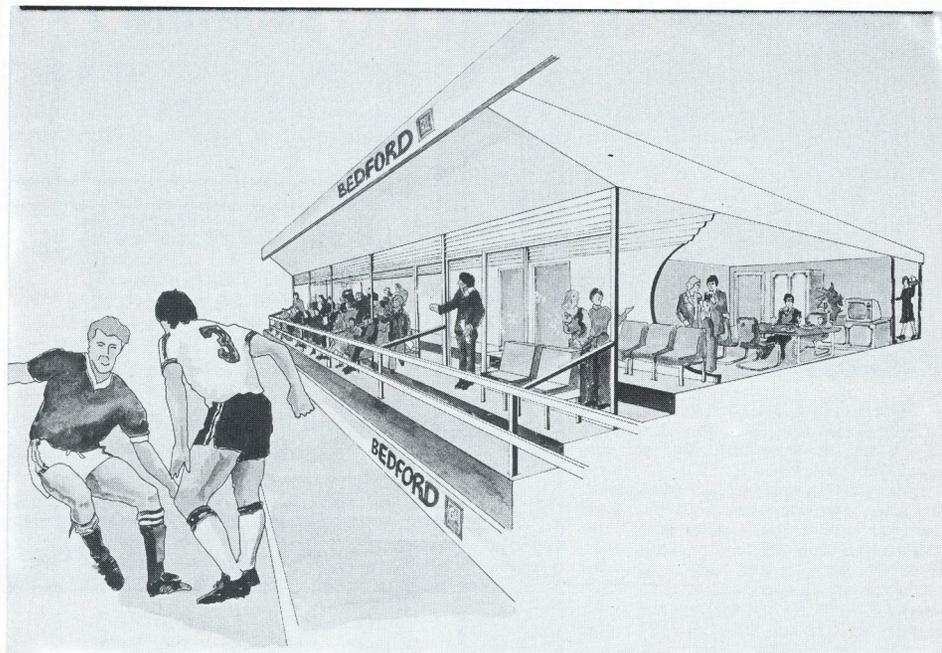


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THE NEW EXECUTIVE BOXES



Our view of the future: The two illustrations on this page show the planned executive boxes to be built on the Bobbers' stand. See Club Comment (opposite).



JOHN SMITH

Executive Director



Club Comment

Major changes ahead

Next season will herald major changes in the facilities at Kenilworth Road which will help secure the Club's future.

Twenty-eight Executive Suites will be constructed on the Bobbers Stand. These will be leased to companies for a period of three years, and should provide a significant new source of income.

This investment ensures the Club will be able to maintain its current position for the next few years.

It does not mean, however, that the A505 relief road no longer threatens our future at Kenilworth Road. We remain under threat and will require a new stadium at another site, if the road is built.

Building of the new complex will commence at the end of this season.

Much-improved facilities

Bobbers season-ticket holders will be relocated in a comfortable new seated area especially designed for families, which is to be built on the Oak Road terrace. It will have much improved facilities and all the fencing will be removed. Alternatively, there will be seats available in the Main Stand or Main Stand Enclosure. The new family enclosure means the Oak Roaders will be moved to the Kenilworth Road end, which will be covered.

An important aspect of the changes is that from the start of the 1986-87 season, home fans only will be admitted to the ground.

The alterations are part of a £1 million programme of improvements designed to provide a Sport and Entertainment Centre which can be enjoyed by all the family.

We will keep disruption to a minimum during the alterations, and we feel sure you will all enjoy the benefits of the new-look Luton Town.

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Views from the MEDIA

Harford hits the headlines

Our home win over Newcastle United thrust Mick Harford back into the headlines. His goal and his performance against one of his former clubs led to speculation about his value as an England centre-forward. Here is a selection of the Press comments after that recent match:

Daily Mail: "Manager David Pleat told the tale that when Mick Harford joined Luton a year ago from Birmingham he was baffled by the game they were playing at Kenilworth Road. Pleat said: 'Until then all his football had been hard work and running. He told us he hadn't had time to stop and think about it because if you stopped running at Birmingham you'd got shot!'"

Sharp and skilful

Joking apart, the centre forward's game has taken on a new dimension, surrounded by so many sharp and skilful players . . . and neither Pleat nor the Luton players can

fathom why Harford is not in Bobby Robson's plans."

Daily Telegraph: "Bobby Robson will recognise Luton's development into one of the most technically adept teams in the First Division if he responds to the fashionable acclaim for Mick Harford. The argument that Harford offers greater variety than Kerry Dixon, his chief domestic rival, was given weight by his accomplished contribution to Newcastle's predictable defeat."

Brilliant target play

Sunday People: "Watch out Kerry Dixon and Gary Lineker—Mick Harford is on your heels. Luton striker Harford proved to his old Newcastle mates that he isn't just good in the air."

Sunday Mirror: "Had Harford's team mates made better use of his brilliant target play Newcastle would have been buried long before the 76th minute goal by substitute Mark North that wrapped up the points."

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Tom Hodgson began his playing career at Upton Park with the Hammers before coming to Kenilworth Road in 1930. He made 67 League appearances but injury cut short his career. He went on to become director, acting-manager, chairman and president of the club.



THE LUTON TOWN STORY



All Our

VINALL'S GOAL ON HIS DEBUT IN 1937

Our meetings with West Ham and their predecessors Thames Ironworks stretch back to our earliest days in the Southern League, but surprisingly, our first Football League fixture was not until 1937-38, following our promotion to the Second Division.

This took place at Luton on October 23rd, 1937 when a crowd of 17,757 saw a thrilling 2-2 draw at Kenilworth Road. For the first quarter of an hour the Hammers played like world-beaters and were well worth their 1-0 lead from the second minute.

Only heroics by Luton goalkeeper Humphrey Dolman kept the score down. Then, following a heavy downpour, Luton came into their own and found they could control the greasy ball rather better than their London opponents.

A fine run and cross by Billy Fellowes led to Ted Vinall heading his first goal for the club in only his second game and shortly afterwards Albert Dawes latched on to a through ball from Fred Roberts to put the Town ahead.

Payne's farewell

By then, Luton were well in control, but fate intervened. Tom King, under pressure, back-headed the ball to Dolman. The goalkeeper, alas, had already left his line and the equaliser was the outcome. Despite heavy Luton pressure the score remained the same at the end of play.

Although Luton only managed a draw at Upton Park later in that season in a game marking the final appearance of Joe Payne in Town colours, the first away win was not long coming. It took place on March 18th, 1939.

Handicapped by the loss of a player 10 minutes

MENTION West Ham and you think of style, honesty and good attacking football. The London club has a reputation for its imaginative and attractive approach to the game. Players like Bobby Moore, Geoff Hurst, Martin Peters, Ronnie Boyce, Billy Bonds, Trevor Brooking, Alvin Martin and Alan Devonshire fall into the tradition.

We have an even record against them in the League, with most of our meetings having taken place in the top two divisions. Indeed, after 41 matches the record shows we have won 14 apiece with the Town tipping the balances by one goal.

There have been some breathtaking exciting matches over the years including a famous Cup-tie in 1936. Full details of that match and much more of the excitement of Luton's 100-year history are recorded in the official club history **THE LUTON TOWN STORY 1885-1985**, a fully-documented book to mark our Centenary this year.

Today's accompanying feature in the All Our Yesterdays series throws the spotlight on some of the most famous League meetings between the teams. But for deeper reading the history is a "must!"

Copies of the book have sold fast. It now seems a sellout is inevitable. But discussions about a second edition are taking place and, it is hoped, will continue in the New Year, if demand for the book—which will be revised—continues.

Order your copy now to avoid disappointment—it's a book every supporter will be proud to read.



Billy Jennings began his goalscoring career in London where he made his name with West Ham. He came to Kenilworth Road in 1982 from Orient to provide vital experience and bite on the run-in to promotion as we went back to the First Division as Second Division champions.



Joe Payne made 72 League appearances for the Town but scored a remarkable 83 goals including 10 in one famous appearance, his first at centre-forward, against Bristol Rovers in 1936. He left for Chelsea in 1938 and later played for West Ham and Millwall.

Yesterdays

before half-time (no substitutes in those days), West Ham put up a good fight and were unlucky to lose to a Billy Redfern goal scored from a George Stephenson cross.

The win, however, was just desserts as earlier in the season West Ham had won luckily at Luton, destroying the Town's unbeaten home record in the process. The Luton game, incidentally, marked the home debut of the heir apparent to Joe Payne's crown—Hugh Billington.

After the war, our Second Division meetings stretched to 1955 until our promotion. During that time, neither side gained the upper hand and both clubs gained wins on their rivals' territory.

Morton's first game

Bob Morton, who went on to appear a record 495 times for the Town, made his League debut at West Ham in 1948-49. Seamus Dunne made his debut in the fixture at Luton in 1951-52 and Reg Pearce at Luton over Easter 1955, in a game which saw the town win 4-1 before a near record League crowd of 27,148.

The scoreline was repeated when we next met in 1958-59 following West Ham's promotion to the First Division. The following season was our last in the highest company for a long spell and the Hammers have the dubious distinction of being our

A summary of our League matches against West Ham United (Luton score first)

	Home	Away
1937-38	2-2	0-0
1938-39	1-2	1-0
1946-47	2-1	1-2
1947-48	0-0	0-0
1948-49	0-1	1-0
1949-50	2-2	0-0
1950-51	1-1	1-2
1951-52	6-1	0-3
1952-53	0-0	1-0
1953-54	3-1	0-1
1954-55	2-0	1-2
1958-59	4-1	0-0
1959-60	3-1	1-3
1974-75	0-0	0-2
1978-79	1-4	0-1
1979-80	1-1	2-1
1980-81	3-2	2-1
1982-83	0-2	3-2
1983-84	0-1	1-3
1984-85	2-2	0-0
1985-86		1-0

Overall summary of results:

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home	20	7	8	5	33	25
Away	21	7	5	9	16	23
Total	41	14	13	14	49	48

Club statistician: Roger Wash



Action from our great game with the Hammers in November 1980 when Brian Stein scored twice and David Moss supplied the winner in a 3-2 win for the Town! Mark Aizlewood and Kirk Stephens are pictured.

final visitors in 1959-60 before our relegation.

We "signed off" with a 3-1 win, but relegation was a certainty and Syd Owen resigned as manager.

In more recent years, our record, particularly at Upton Park, has been a good one. A memorable win was the 3-2 triumph in 1982-83 when Paul Walsh scored a hat-trick.

First Team

1985-86 SEASON

UPDATE

Canon League Division One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Manchester U.	21	8	3	0	20	2	7	1	2	20	10	49
2 Liverpool	21	10	1	0	29	6	3	4	3	16	14	44
3 West Ham	21	8	2	1	26	9	5	3	2	12	10	44
4 Chelsea	21	9	0	1	21	8	3	5	3	13	14	41
5 Sheffield Wed	21	6	3	1	17	15	5	2	4	15	17	38
6 Everton	21	6	2	2	25	10	5	2	4	20	17	37
7 Arsenal	21	8	2	1	15	7	2	3	5	9	18	35
8 Luton Town	21	6	4	1	21	7	3	2	5	14	18	33
9 Newcastle	21	6	2	3	20	15	3	3	4	9	16	32
10 Nottingham F.	21	6	1	4	17	15	3	2	5	16	17	30
11 Watford	21	7	2	1	24	9	1	3	7	13	26	29
12 Tottenham	20	5	1	3	26	12	3	3	5	10	14	28
13 QPR	21	6	2	3	14	8	2	1	7	6	18	27
14 Southampton	21	6	4	1	19	7	0	2	8	8	23	24
15 Coventry City	21	3	2	5	16	15	3	4	10	16	24	
16 Manchester C.	21	3	4	3	14	14	2	3	6	10	15	22
17 Leicester City	22	3	6	2	20	18	2	1	8	8	22	22
18 Oxford Utd	22	4	4	2	19	13	0	4	8	13	33	20
19 Aston Villa	21	2	4	5	14	16	2	3	5	11	17	19
20 Birmingham C.	20	4	1	5	8	10	1	1	8	4	19	17
21 Ipswich Town	21	3	2	6	10	16	1	1	8	7	19	15
22 West Brom	21	1	3	6	8	20	0	2	9	8	32	8

League table as December 15th, 1985

LEAGUE and CUP APPEARANCES and GOALSCORERS

	League		Cup	
	App	Gl	App	Gl
T. Breacker	18		3	
A. Dibble	7			
M. Donaghy	21		3	
P. Elliott	3(3)			
S. Foster	16	2	3	
A. Grimes	1(1)		1	
M. Harford	20	10	2	
R. Hill	17	2	3	1
R. Johnson	4	1		
P. Nicholas	20		2	
E. Nwajobi	18	4	3	1
G. Parker	4(4)		1	
D. Preece	21	1	2	1
B. Stein	21	12	3	1
M. Thomas	19	1	2	
M. Stein	1			
L. Sealey	14		3	
M. North	1(2)		1	1
R. Daniel	1(2)		1	
Own goal		1		

Leading League and Cup goalscorers

- 20—Dixon (Chelsea)
- 19—McAvennie (West Ham)
- 16—Aldridge (Oxford), Lineker (Everton)
- 13—Stein (Luton), Speedie (Chelsea), Gibson (Coventry) (up to December 16th)

Luton Town

	FA	Att	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug 17 Nottingham Forest	1-1	11,381	—	Dibble											
Aug 21 Newcastle United	2-2	21,304	—	Dibble											
Aug 24 West Ham United	1-0	14,104	8	Dibble											
Aug 27 Arsenal	2-2	10,012	10	Dibble											
Aug 31 Aston Villa	1-3	10,524	12	Dibble											
Sept 7 Chelsea	1-1	10,720	15	Dibble											
Sept 14 Everton	0-2	26,419	16	Dibble											
Sept 21 Queens Park Rangers	2-0	9,508	14	Sealey											
Sept 24 Sheffield United (MC 2r 11)	2-1	8,943	—	Sealey											
Sept 28 Sheffield Wednesday	2-3	17,887	15	Sealey											
Oct 1 Ipswich Town	1-0	8,553	14	Sealey											
Oct 5 Manchester United	1-1	17,454	14	Sealey											
Oct 8 Sheffield Utd (MC 2r 21)	3-1	5,660	—	Sealey											
Oct 12 Oxford United	1-1	10,626	14	Sealey											
Oct 19 Southampton	7-0	8,876	13	Sealey											
Oct 26 Liverpool	2-3	31,488	13	Sealey											
Oct 29 Norwich City (MC 3rd)	0-2	8,202	—	Sealey											
Nov 2 Birmingham City	2-0	8,550	10	Sealey											
Nov 9 Tottenham Hotspur	3-1	19,163	10	Sealey											
Nov 16 Coventry City	0-1	9,607	11	Sealey											
Nov 23 Watford	2-1	16,107	8	Sealey											
Nov 30 Manchester City	2-1	10,096	8	Sealey											
Dec 7 Newcastle United	2-0	10,319	7	Sealey											
Dec 14 Nottingham Forest	0-2	12,078	8	Sealey											
Dec 21 West Ham United															
Dec 26 West Bromwich Albion															
Dec 28 Ipswich Town															
Jan 1 Leicester City															
Jan 4 Crystal Palace (FAC 3r)															
Jan 11 Chelsea															
Jan 18 Aston Villa															
Jan 25 FA Cup Round 4															
Feb 1 Arsenal															
Feb 8 Southampton															
Feb 15 Liverpool (FAC5)															
Feb 22 Queens Park Rangers															
Mar 1 Sheffield Wednesday															
Mar 8 Manchester United (FAC6)															
Mar 15 Oxford United															
Mar 22 Everton															
Mar 29 Leicester City															
April 1 West Bromwich Albion															
April 5 Birmingham City (FAC s/f)															
April 12 Tottenham Hotspur															
April 19 Coventry City															
April 26 Watford															
May 3 Manchester City															

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Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill*	Stein B.1	Harford	Nwajobi	Preece	Parker●
Thomas	Grimes	Nicholas	Elliott	Donaghy	Parker	Stein B.	Harford1	Nwajobi1	Preece	North
Johnson	Thomas	Nicholas	Elliott	Donaghy	Parker	Stein B.	Harford1	Nwajobi1	Preece	North
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Parker	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.1	Harford	Nwajobi1	Preece	Grimes
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Johnson*	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.1	Harford	Nwajobi	Preece	Parker●
Johnson	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford1	Nwajobi	Preece*	Elliott●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill*	Stein B.	Harford	Nwajobi	Preece	Parker●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford1	Nwajobi	Preece	Elliott●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster1	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford1	Stein M.	Preece	Nwajobi●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.1	Harford	Nwajobi1	Preece	Elliott
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas*	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.1	Harford	Nwajobi1	Preece	Elliott●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford	Nwajobi	Preece	Elliott●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.1	Harford	Nwajobi	Preece	Elliott●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford	Nwajobi	Preece	Elliott●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill1	Stein B.	North*	Nwajobi	Preece	Elliott●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	North1	Nwajobi	Preece1	Elliott
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.1	Harford	Nwajobi	Preece	North
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill1	Stein B.3	Harford	Nwajobi1	Preece1*	Daniel1●
Breacker	Johnson	Daniel	Foster1	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford1	Nwajobi	Preece*	Grimes●
Breacker	Johnson*	Daniel	Foster	Dongahy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford	Nwajobi	Parker	Grimes●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.1	Harford1	Nwajobi	Preece	Grimes
Breacker*	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill1	Stein B.1	Harford1	Nwajobi	Preece	Elliott
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford	Nwajobi	Preece	Parker●
Breacker	Thomas1	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford	Nwajobi	Preece	Daniel+
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Elliott	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford	Nwajobi	Preece	Daniel●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.2	Harford	Nwajobi*	Preece	North1●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford1	King*	Preece	North1●
Breacker	Thomas	Nicholas	Foster	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Harford	King*	Preece	North●

MC = Milk Cup FAC = Fa Cup * Indicates player substituted ● Substitute used

Home fixtures in bold Scorers name in bold + Own goal

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE.



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THE WORLD'S LARGEST SPORTSWEAR



MANUFACTURER



Photos by Gareth Owen Photography Luton 418025

Editor: Robert Alexander



Vauxhall Teamcheck

Luton Town

- 1 Les Sealey
- 2 Tim Breacker
- 3 Mitchell Thomas
- 4 Peter Nicholas
- 5 Steve Foster
- 6 Mal Donaghy
- 7 Ricky Hill
- 8 Brian Stein
- 9 Mick Harford
- 10 Andy King
- 11 David Preece

Sub

West Ham United

- 1 Phil Parkes
- 2 Ray Stewart
- 3 Steve Walford
- 4 Tony Gale
- 5 Alvin Martin
- 6 Alan Devonshire
- 7 Mark Ward
- 8 Frank McAvennie
- 9 Alan Dickens
- 10 Tony Cottee
- 11 Neil Orr

Sub

Referee: D. A. HEDGES (Oxford)

Linesmen: J. BYLES (Red Flag) R. PELLATT (Yellow Flag)

THE ROVERS' TEAM COACH.



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