

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME £1.00

# Luton v Oxford United

TODAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION ONE



Tuesday, May 5th, 1987 Kick-off 7.45 p.m.

# LUTON TOWN

Today's match is sponsored by: Handling Analysis Ltd

# ACTION

VICTORIOUS – HAPPY AND GLORIOUS!



• **Trophy-winners:** The youth team after beating Chelsea 4-0 (6-1 agg) last week. Line-up – (back) Aaron Tighe, Jason Rees, Darren McLean, Julian James, Mark Watson, Paul Gray, Marvin Johnson, Ian Scott, Neil Poutch; (front) Colin Barker, Seal Farrell, Richard Harvey, John Kennedy, Gary Cobb.

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Edited by: Robert Alexander Associates  
Pictures by: Sportswide Photography

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• **Cobb goal:**  
Gary Cobb scores against  
Chelsea (below) and the  
celebrations start (top).

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**BEDFORD** GM

# MOORE ABOUT FOOTBALL

**Welcome** to Oxford United. Like us, they have survived exceptionally well on small attendances in the First Division, though they arrive here tonight still seeking points to ensure complete safety. After our last home match, I was unfortunately quoted in the newspapers bemoaning the support we received – or did not receive – during the goalless draw with Sheffield Wednesday. It is unfortunate that the press chose to concentrate on my reaction to some probing questions and not to write about our team's very consistent form at home all season. Like everyone else, I was disappointed at the match, but I was also disappointed at the criticism of the team from our fans when I felt that vocal support would have done more good.

### Humans not robots

Our players do not go out and deliberately attempt not to perform at their best. They are not robots, however, and it is difficult for any human being to produce their most exciting work week in week out. They were very down in the dressing room afterwards. I can, however, understand the feelings of our fans who have worked hard all week and want to see their team win and play well on a Saturday. Nevertheless, I am disappointed by the level of support – how, for example, can we hope to satisfy the wage demands of top First Division players when our average attendance is only 9,000 in a season when we have consistently been in the top six? And remember, the opposition are not static objects, waiting to be beaten. It is never easy to win in the First Division so please give the lads your support today.

We are anxious not to let our position slip away. It is difficult with no incentive like European football to play for, but we want to finish in the club's highest position and to win more points than last year. As these notes had to be written before our trip to Charlton, I am unable to comment on our performance there. But you can be certain everyone gave their all to win.

Finally, I would like to thank all our fans for turning out to support the team through both the good days and the bad this season. I would like to see more supporters here – please bring a friend next season! Also special thanks are due to all the players for their hard work, physio Dave Kirby and coaches Ray Harford, Jim Ryan and John Faulkner, and everyone at the club. It has been a very exciting and eventful season. Have a good summer. See you in August.



**LUTON TOWN**

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# Mailbag

**Write to The Editor, Luton Town F.C., Kenilworth Road, Luton by Tuesday a.m.**

## Great success

Dear Sir,

The recent schoolboy international staged at Kenilworth Road by Luton Schools' FA was an undoubtedly success. However, Luton Schools' could never have achieved this success without the co-operation of Luton Town Football Club. From the planning stage to the actual evening the guidance, expertise and advice given from your staff were invaluable as well as freely offered.

On behalf of Luton Schools' may I thank Luton Town for generously allowing us the use of their facilities and for totally supporting us in the venture and compliment you on the professionalism and friendliness of your matchday staff.

Please express our gratitude to all involved.

Yours sincerely

Alistair Hearn

Chairman, Luton Schools FA  
Warden Hill Junior School,  
Birdsfoot Lane,  
Luton.

## Mick's kindness

Dear Sir,

I would just like to thank Mick Harford for signing my programme on Monday 30th March. My friend and I saw him in Harpenden High Street. We followed him and eventually

Dear Sir,  
If you could find space to print this letter in a future home programme I really would be very grateful.

I am a lifelong supporter of Manchester United and collect all their match programmes - home and away.

On 12/2/83 they were due to play Luton Town at Old Trafford but the game was postponed. I

plucked up enough courage to go and get his autograph. He did this with pleasure, he could easily have turned round and told us to go away and not to invade his privacy, but he didn't. I think that was really good of him.

We have been fans of him for a while now and would just like to thank him for his generosity and kindness and making our day.

Thanks again  
Jo Pickup & Hazell West  
50 Wroxham Way  
Harpenden, Herts.



•Mick Harford

## United appeal

Dear Sir,

This will probably sound like a very strange request, but please believe me it's deadly serious. I was wondering what's happening to the Astro-Turf when you have to replace it? I have a new house with a very large garden plus an 11 year old very energetic son.

I would very much like a piece of this "everlasting" grass to put into our garden. I am wondering how much it would cost me to buy some from the club?

I told you, it's a strange request!! My husband just laughed at me and my son dared me to write. However here I am, probably making a complete fool of myself, but I had to try!! I now await your reaction!

Yours sincerely  
Pauline DeBanks (Mrs)

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# GIRL TALK



## My withdrawal symptoms

The end of anything is always sad; the end of a League Season is particularly so for me as following Luton is my main hobby – I'll suffer withdrawal symptoms on Saturdays. This has been a particularly eventful season, with Ricky Hill growing his hair again so he doesn't look like a matinee idol, and Brian Stein departing from his usual practice of using his head to think carefully and creatively about his game, and using it to score with!

We've also achieved a great deal of notoriety this year. They say all publicity is good, but I sometimes wonder. I'm sure our synthetic surface and ban on away fans wouldn't have been so vilified in the media if we'd spent much of the season fourth from bottom rather than fourth from top. What I found most annoying was the inaccuracy of many of the reports. If the papers were to be believed no-one from Norwich watched their side go top of the League when they played here in October. Yet I remember commenting at the time on the number of green and canary favours being sported in our ground that day.

I realise that controversy is seen as newsworthy, but wouldn't it be pleasant to publicise the good things like peaceful crowds and few police in our ground?

## High points

There have been some high points in this, our most successful season. Finally defeating the top sides at home – letting them be afraid of us rather than our fearing them – gave me great pleasure. It's also been good seeing the youngsters develop; but the pinnacle was annihilating Liverpool in the Cup. Another success involving the Club and Luton Schools FA was the England v N. Ireland International. Let's hope Luton can stage more such matches.

We've had disappointments, too: losing to QPR in the Cup, and twice to Watford – the first time they've done the double over us since 1962. But generally it's been a satisfying season and we can all look forward to the next with optimism.

**Gale Waller**

Anyone wanting to contribute to Girl Talk, please write to: The Editor, Luton Town F.C., Dunstable Road, Luton, Beds.



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**THURSDAYS 14p**

Luton Town 0 Sheffield Wednesday 0

After the disappointment of losing to Watford, the Town were unlucky not to be able to bounce straight back to winning ways with a victory over Sheffield Wednesday here last Saturday in a match which produced few thrills on an afternoon of warm sunshine and humid conditions.

Goalkeeper Les Sealey and captain Mick Harford both recovered from injuries to take their places in the side, but neither was able to make decisive contributions on a day when the entertainment was not up to the level usually offered at Kenilworth Road.

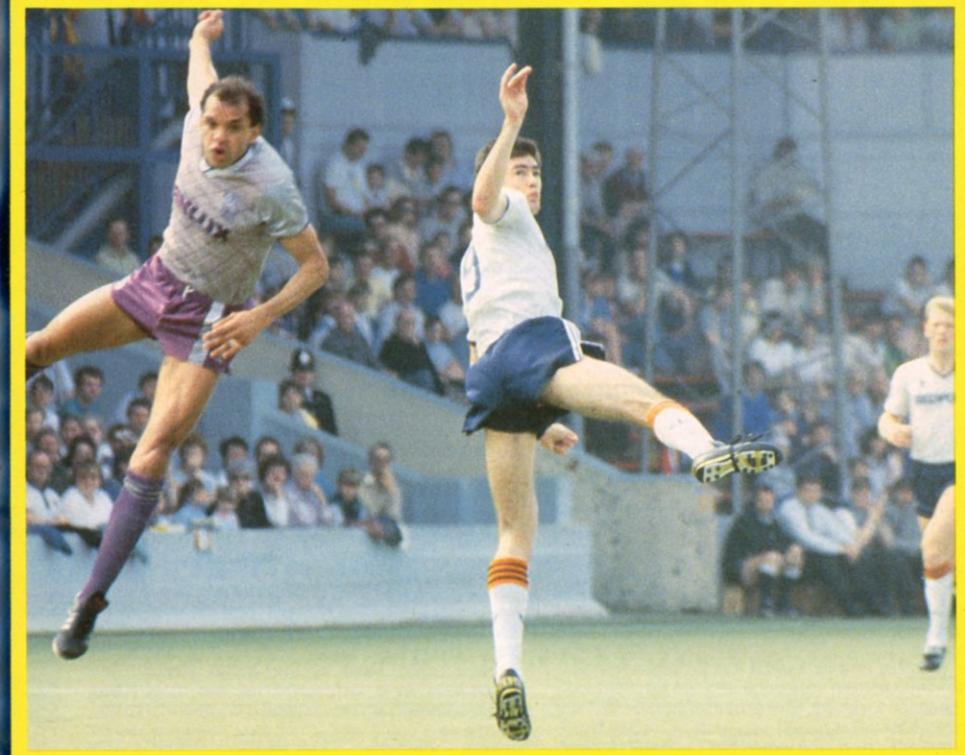
For that, Sheffield Wednesday deserve much of the credit or blame. They were desperate for a point and played their part in preserving a draw very well. That their performance did not lend itself to the entertainment of the home fans was clearly shown.

The draw maintained the Town's highest position in the First Division and also meant they have been beaten at home only once in 20 league matches this season. A fine achievement. Had it not been for two stunning second-half saves by Martin Hodge, the Town might well have won again—but Wednesday had done their homework and the Hatters were unable to hit the heights or take all three points.

Teams: Luton – Sealey, Breacker, Grimes, Nicholas, North, Donaghy, Hill, B. Stein, Newell (Sub M. Stein), Harford, Preece.  
Sheffield Wednesday – Hodge, Sterland, Smith, Morris, May, Madden, Worthington, Megson, Marwood, Chapman, Hirst (Sub Snodin).

Referee – J.E. Martin (Alton, Hants).

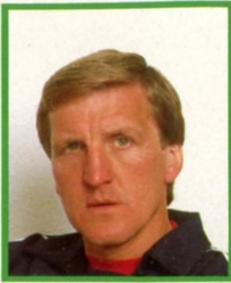
# 1st Team ACTION



- Stalemate: No goals and few thrills. The Town's 0-0 draw with Sheffield Wednesday was a disappointing result but there was plenty of action. Today's pictures show Mike Newell in a mid air duel (above) with Brian Stein (top left) and Ricky Hill (bottom right), challenging for positions. Tim Breacker (left) moves into another Hatters attack. Pictures by Sportswide Photography.

# VIEWS from the BENCH

## Ray Harford



Chief coach Ray Harford has been highly satisfied with the team's performances this season in his first spell in charge and, except for some reservations about the number of goals scored, is pleased with the players' efforts. Today, in his Views from the Bench, he reflects on the eventful nine months past and looks at the progress of the team towards a finishing place in the top group in the First Division:

### A fine season, but not enough goals

"Yes, I am satisfied overall, but we haven't really scored enough goals. We have been very good at the back and our goalkeeper has had a very good season, but I do not think we have been creative enough, have not made enough chances and have not taken enough of our chances when we have had them. I think the forwards might have scored more goals."

"We have had to defend 1-0 leads too often this season and for quite long spells. However, we were without Mick Harford for the first half of the season and have also been without David Preece, Steve Foster and Ricky Hill for spells as well. The defence has been very solid and the midfield too."

"Perhaps too solid. The arrival of Robert Wilson, Darren McDonough and progress of Stacey North has helped extend the squad too, but it still remains small for the First Division when compared to the big city power teams at the top."

### Notable features

"Stacey has had a bleeding in the last dozen or so games and the experience will have done him good. He has had the taste of it and now it is up to him to stake his claim for next season and try to keep Steve Foster out of the side. One of the notable features of our season with such a small squad has been that we have had to try and avoid injuries in training. As a result, we have not often gone flat out. We have been reluctant to go too hard and the lads have just been kept ticking over most of the time."

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# CLUB NEWS

### MEMBERS' RENEWALS

Members can renew at a special rate, providing they do so by May 31. For adults, this is £3, compared to £5 for new members.

From now on, all youngsters under 16 automatically become Junior Hatters, for an inclusive price of £3. A new section is being launched for supporters between 16 and 21 years old. The 16-21 Club will enable juniors to retain their close ties with the club as well as offering special benefits. Renew membership now and it costs £3, saving £1. Finally, all pensioners are entitled to a special card, at the lowest possible price of £2.

All members will receive letters during early May.

Season ticket holders will also receive a letter in May, enabling them to renew an existing season ticket by post. Of course, they get the same benefits as other members, plus substantial savings on match ticket prices.



### Kids Chase cops

Bedfordshire youngsters were tracking down their local bobbies last month, in a bid to win a free trip to tonight's match.

They were hooked on the Cop-a-Card competition, jointly organised by the police, Post Office and Luton Town on the twin themes of crime prevention and the use of the Post Code. An estimated 20,000 youngsters took part. Those who collected a complete set of Cop-a-Cards from police officers had a chance to win a trip to the match - by police car. And it proved so popular that police on patrol resembled pied pipers!

Nine winners from throughout the country are expected here tonight to meet some of our star players.

### PRE-MATCH ENTERTAINMENT

Tonight's pre-match entertainment is provided by the final of the challenge tournament sponsored by SunLife of Canada and our caterers SGL. The youngsters will be our guests tonight. Please give them your support.

### MATCH REFEREE

**NEIL MIDGLEY**  
**(Salford)**

An area sales manager, Neil is married. He started refereeing in 1959 and progressed via the Manchester League and Cheshire League. He enjoys all sports and particularly golf. He has refereed in the UEFA Cup matches.

### Executive Sponsors

We welcome as Executive Sponsors today Martin Smith Motors Ltd. Martin Smith established his Commercial Vehicles Business in August 1971. This is Martins first executive sponsorship and we hope he and his guests have an enjoyable day.

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**Souvenirs:** Junior Hatters (412418)

**Match Tickets & Match Enquiries:** Bev Tyler, Retail Sales Supervisor, (30748). (24 hour recorded information, 423293/4)

**Banqueting & Function Facilities:** Alan Helm, Catering Manager (411526)

**Promotions Office:** John Cornall, Development Executive (411622)



### COVER STORY

Today's action picture on our cover shows Mal Donaghy one of the most steady and consistent Town players in the front line adding a shot at goal.



# THE TOWN

CONSOLIDATING OUR STATUS IN THE TOUGHEST FOOTBALL LEAGUE OF ALL  
By Bill Tomlins

Good evening and welcome to our final home match of the season. A lot has happened in the 12 months since I wrote my final notes of the 1985-86 season, but I feel the club has progressed throughout the period.

Not only have we consolidated the status we held before the many changes of last summer, but we have improved our status, the team establishing itself as one of the leading clubs in the first Division. Well done John Moore and all the players and coaching staff.

#### Special thanks

The many changes at the club have also resulted in my own change of position from commercial director to general secretary, a new set of responsibilities and a new set of headaches. These have however been kept to a minimum by the loyal and hard-working support of all our 70 permanent staff, including the players, and the match-day casual volunteers who swell the number to 283.

On a personal note, I would particularly like to thank the heads of match-day areas of work - Ken Halsey, Fred Hayward, Gerry Barker and Cherry Newbery - who together with all our staff have coped

admirably with the introduction of our home members only scheme this season.

The membership scheme has itself been a topic of great interest of course and been welcomed by the police and local community. It has brought peace to the town on Saturday afternoons and ensured a generally healthy atmosphere.

#### Sponsors

Finally, a warm welcome to this evening's match sponsors, Handling Analysis Ltd., together with their guests. This is the first time that Handling Analysis have sponsored a Luton Town match - or indeed any other sporting event.

However, we are pleased to report that Handling Analysis appear delighted with the response they have received from their guests about tonight's match and we are sure that we shall see them here again soon.

Handling Analysis are a Northampton-based company specialist in the importation, sales, rental, service and rebuilding of fork lift trucks and allied equipment, and their motto is "The right truck at the right price backed up by prompt, personal and efficient after sales service".

## ENGLAND MAN



•Called up: Ricky Hill was called up by England last week to play in Turkey. Well done, Ricky

## AROUND

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW DIRECTORS



•Welcome to the club: Our chairman David Evans is pictured with new director Mike Watson-Challis at last week's extraordinary general meeting. Mr Watson-Challis and Brian Cole were appointed to the board.



•The big match: Nearly 300 pupils from six Luton schools have competed in a challenge tournament sponsored by SunLife of Canada and our caterers SGL. The final is tonight - our big match pre-match entertainment.



•Winning captain: Youth team captain Richard Harvey with the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup won last Tuesday night. Richard has been chosen for England's under 19 tour of south America. Congratulations.



•Behind the scene: Although Steve Foster is not seen on the field, he is still active with our Executive Member's after our last home match. Seen here with Mr & Mrs Pip Darnell our Match Ball Sponsors.

## CAPTAIN'S DIARY



### MICK HARFORD

#### Great night

Welcome to everyone. It is our last home match of the season and I hope we can produce a good result. Thank you to all our fans for their support this season. I hope we can improve just a little bit more next year and bring home a trophy - like the youth team did on Tuesday night.

It was the first trophy won since I came to the club really. And that is great - well done lads. I was not able to see the whole game because we were torn between two places at once within the club as Brian Stein's Sportsman's Dinner was held the same night.

#### Comedian

That was another great success with all present having a good time. Kenneth Wolstenholme came as the guest speaker and he was very good. So too was the comedian John Magee and all the side entertainments. Most of the lads were there to support Brian who has been a great servant to the club.

I hope next season is a great success for him - please give his testimonial your support whenever you can - and for the club. We are close to winning something and want to bring something back for you, our fans. Have a good summer off and I'll see you in August.

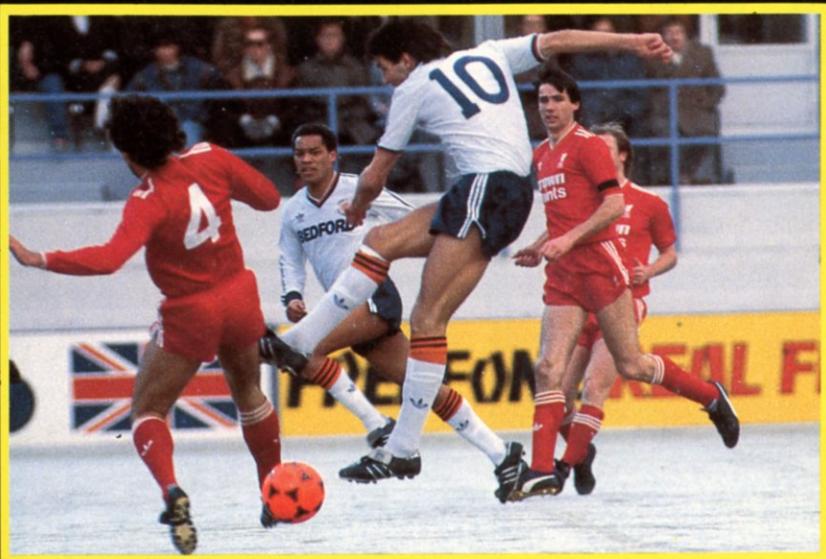
# ACTION



• Flashback: On the opening day of the season Ricky Hill spurs on a creditable 1-1 draw at Leicester. Another fine result came at Forest (below) where goals from Brian Stein & Mike Newell gave us a 2-2 draw – Tim Breacker is seen here controlling the right flank.



# PHOTO FILE



• Flashback: Many 'top' teams this year left us suffering humiliating defeats. Mick Harford (above) thundered another shot at Liverpool during our FA Cup victory, and goal scoring Mike Newell (below) moves forward in the 4-2 league victory against Nottingham Forest.





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## JOHN BAIN



### "a marvellous ambassador"

JOHN BAIN would have been moved by the tribute paid to his memory at Kenilworth Road on Saturday, April 25, before our match against Sheffield Wednesday.

Nearly 10,000 people stood in absolute silence for a minute to honour the Town's President, and one of their most loyal supporters.

His death at 82 after a short illness has saddened many people. Yet the memories are so happy that his funeral was not entirely morbid and sombre last week.

For in the mourning there was the recollection of a delightful character who enjoyed life to the full. Whenever one met John Bain, he would be doing one of three things - telling jokes, singing songs, or talking lovingly about Luton Town.

He loved his football, and his choice as President of Luton Town two years ago was perfect for both sides. Never did a club have a better ambassador at away games, and rarely can any official host in a boardroom have been more charming than John Bain.

Town chairman David Evans said: "Everyone in the club has been saddened by Mr Bain's death. And there will be people in mourning at other clubs who feel the same. They will remember him most for his marvellous sense of humour, particularly at times when it was most needed."

John Bain needed a cheerful determination to get on in the world. He was put into an Edinburgh orphanage as a young boy. Despite a life that started in poverty, he soon learned the old Victorian principles of the value of hard work and honesty.

Eventually he became a very wealthy man, through his work to build up J.A.C. Bain Haulage Ltd nearly 40 years ago. The company went public, and he moved into the garage business, sending Bain Garages to the stock market as well.

He became a Luton director in 1967, at a time when the club was beginning to rebuild its fortunes after a slump in the Fourth Division.

In his eight years on the board - directors have to retire at 70 - he enjoyed every victory, made the best of every draw, and tried to see advantages in every defeat. He enjoyed being the director in charge of away trips, and so did all who went with him.

His departure from the board in 1975 made little difference. He became deputy president, and then president in June 1985.

As a personality, he fitted perfectly with everyone.

Mr Bain is survived by his wife Elsie, by two sons Duncan and Roger, and by five grandchildren.

# LUTON TOWN 1987

## Thank you for your Support



*Back row:* Marcus Tuite, David Preece, Mark Stein, Emeka Nwajiobi, Marc North, Ricky McEvoy, Rob Johnson. *Middle row:* Jim Ryan (Coach), Tim Breacker, Les Sealey, Mick Harford, Stacey North, Andy Dibble, Mike Newell, John Faulkner (Coach). *Front row:* Ray Harford (Coach), Ricky Hill, Mal Donaghy, Steve Foster, John Moore (Manager), Peter Nicholas, Brian Stein, Ashley Grimes, Dave Kirby (Physio).

# HATTERS IN GEAR



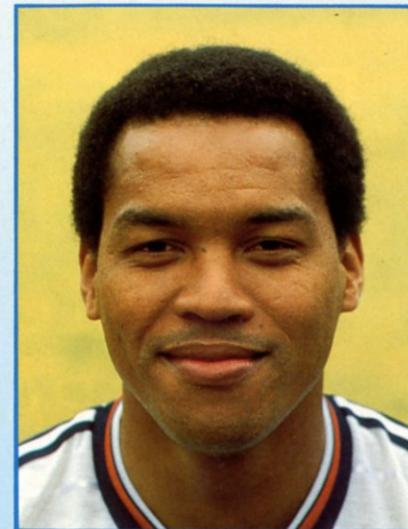
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# DRESSING ROOM TALK

with Brian Stein

Top-scoring striker Brian Stein will complete ten years with Luton Town this year, an achievement duly marked by his testimonial season. In recent seasons, he has played withdrawn behind the two main strikers in a disguised forward role and enjoyed great success, though not scoring quite as many goals as he did earlier in his career when he played as an out-and-out striker. Today, in his Dressing Room Talk, Brian reflects on how difficult it is to score goals in the First Division:



• Top-scoring striker: Brian Stein.

much meaner and more professional team than we used to be.

"The main thing is that we have got much more belief in ourselves now. We believe we can beat all the top teams and I don't think we thought that even among ourselves last year. It has made all the difference.

## Avoid injuries

I suppose we really are coming together well now. It is going to be good if the team is still together next season because if we avoid injuries and make a good start we could go for the title. I hope we really get bombing early in the season because then we can go all the way.

"Ricky's selection for the England squad was great for him and us because it shows how well we are all playing. I haven't given up all hope of playing for England myself and feel that if I can score a few more goals and we make a great start next year I could get myself right back in the reckoning.

"We've got Ashley, Peter and Mal and Ricky all figuring in the international squads now and that is really great for Luton. We thought we could do something this year after beating Liverpool in the Cup, but it was not to be and I think we shall have learned a lesson from that. I think we were tired when we played QPR at home and we allowed ourselves to be affected by it. Next year I hope to really make my testimonial memorable with a great season.

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On Mondays, Action Replay



shows you the weekend's action in full colour. And everyday, along with colour pictures, you'll get the latest on your team from our team: Bob Harris, Alan Thompson and Roy Collins.

When it comes to soccer coverage, we're in a league of our own. Get the paper that's totally different. Today.

## BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

### LUTON TOWN v GM NATIONAL SCHOOL

We are pleased to announce that a Luton Town under-16's team will play the GM National School team here at Kenilworth Road on May 6.

The kick-off will be at 5 pm. Please come and enjoy the match.



### RETAIL SALES

Bev Tyler is the club's retail sales supervisor. He can be contacted at the Ticket Office, 125 Oak-Road (telephone 30748 or 42393). Bev is pictured above (right) together with his assistant Andy Brooks.

### SEASON TICKETS RENEWAL

It simply could not be easier to renew your season ticket for next season.

Before June, we shall write to each season ticket holder individually, with a reply-paid form. Just return it with a cheque or Postal Order giving your Access/Visa card, to make sure of your favourite place in the ground next season.

You have from June 1st until June 30th to renew your season ticket and qualify for AN EXTRA DISCOUNT. From July 1st, season tickets go on general sale, with no cut-off date.

This convenient new system is made possible by our computer and your season ticket will be mailed to you in good time for the new season.

The uncertainty over home fixtures in the two cup competitions, means we cannot include cup matches in season tickets. However, when the prices are announced you can be sure there will be a big saving, compared to match tickets.

Renew using the reply-paid form by June 30 and the discount will be 25 per cent or more. New season ticket-holders will save about 15 per cent. And when you consider all the usual benefits of membership, including shopping discounts and up to £10 off RAC membership, it's obvious a Luton Town season ticket offers exceptional value.

### For Your Diary

On Saturday, May 9th, we play our last league game of the season, away to Everton, in a Today League Division One fixture. Kick-off 3.00 pm.

On Saturday, May 9th, the reserves are away to West Ham in a Football Combination game. Kick-off 2.00 pm.

For all your ticket and match information please call Luton 30748 (day time) or Luton 423293 (24 hour service) or call in to the ticket office at 125 Oak Road, Luton.

Enjoy the summer close season break. We look forward to seeing you all back at Kenilworth Road next season.

### PROGRAMME SUBSCRIPTION 1987-88

The club is once again offering a postal subscription for the 1987-88 season, with the prices as detailed below:

Home	18.00
Away	£15.00
Home/Away	£30.00

With the programme now having 40 pages, the subscription is excellent value. All remittances should be made payable and sent to: Cherry Newberry, Programme Distributor, Luton Town Football Club 179-185 Dunstable Road, Luton, Beds. Don't delay, send today.



# CLUB COMMENT

**David Evans, Chairman**

## RECOVERY FROM A THREATENED DISASTER

"With the season drawing to its close it is a good time to reflect on the last twelve months and perhaps try to glimpse the future.

This year has been traumatic, starting with the departure of our manager, chief coach and physiotherapist. Fortunately the club had the resilience and strength in depth to overcome what could have been disaster, but with hindsight was probably in the club's best interests. In amongst us were those who did not truly have the club's best interests at heart.

The successes, both on and off the field, have been described by various people as "a miracle", but I do not believe that being more or less in the top six for the last two years is anything other than a reward and justification for the hard work, dedication and team spirit on which we concentrate so forcefully at Luton Town.

Without you, the fans, the club is nothing and your support this season has been tremendous. However I cannot help wishing with all my heart that another 3,000 or 4,000 members could be persuaded to attend regularly.

There are four games this year that stay in my mind more than others. The first was the 4-1 thrashing of Liverpool in the League when Mike Newell scored a memorable hat-trick. For those who travelled to Liverpool for the replay, the second half of extra time was probably the longest fifteen minutes I have ever spent in my life – although the trip home was one of the most pleasant journeys from a football club I have ever experienced!

On the following Wednesday when Liverpool were so comprehensively beaten and in many ways humiliated by

our superb team-work, it was pathetic to listen to the Liverpool manager who was quite clearly unable to accept defeat in the way we would all have expected.

Finally, who can describe the satisfaction and complete feeling of justice being done when we totally and completely outplayed Tottenham Hotspur. Their manager and chief coach took the defeat in a way one would expect, in view of them having been trained and schooled at Luton, which is more than can be said for their chairman, who has obviously caught a bug from Dalglish.

I am sure this year we will finish in the League table in our highest-ever position. Although there are those who believe the synthetic surface has contributed to this success, I would merely ask them to look at the record in the late fifties when we came eighth. In that season we did not lose any games at home whatsoever so maybe one could say that the synthetic has been a disadvantage to us!

I personally believe that we will end up third, simply because we are the third best side in the Football League at the moment. John Moore and Ray Harford, together with Steve Foster as our captain, have brought the pride to Luton and given us the platform to go on and win the title next year.

Finally, next season, there will be a need for admission charges to be increased and I hope that you will all understand that we need your financial support to enable us to maintain a First Division Club.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and enjoyable summer and I look forward to seeing you all when the new season starts.



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# ACTION



•On the attack: Ian Scott beats his man and crosses during the reserves' 3-1 win over Reading on April 23. Richard Harvey, Gary Cobb and David Oldfield were the scorers.

THE FOOTBALL COMBINATION TABLE  
1986/87

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	33	22	6	5	72	32	50
Tottenham Hotspur	31	21	7	3	76	29	49
Chelsea	33	20	8	5	73	27	48
Watford	33	17	8	8	64	38	42
Queens Park Rangers	33	18	6	9	70	57	42
Norwich City	31	17	5	9	72	55	39
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>38</b>
Swindon Town	33	17	3	13	85	72	37
Southampton	32	15	5	12	60	53	35
West Ham United	31	14	6	11	58	47	34
Ipswich Town	33	14	4	15	46	57	32
Charlton Athletic	27	11	7	9	41	42	29
Fulham	34	11	7	16	46	60	29
Crystal Palace	32	7	9	16	44	61	23
Oxford United	31	8	7	16	52	70	23
Reading	29	9	3	17	38	76	21
Portsmouth	31	7	6	18	36	69	20
Millwall	32	5	6	21	36	75	16
Bristol Rovers	31	6	3	23	46	89	15
Brighton & Hove Albion	33	6	2	25	38	83	14

FOOTBALL COMBINATION 1986/87

Date	Opponents	Result	Date	Opponents	Result
1986			1987		
Aug 23	<b>Arsenal</b>	2-3	Jan 10	Arsenal	2-1
Aug 26	<b>Ipswich Town</b>	1-2	Jan 17	<b>Ipswich</b>	1-2
Sept 6	<b>Brighton</b>	3-1	Jan 20	<b>Fulham</b>	3-0
Sept 10	<b>Reading</b>	1-2	Feb 7	<b>Swindon</b>	3-0
Sept 20	<b>Southampton</b>	4-1	Feb 14	<b>Southampton</b>	1-2
Sept 27	<b>Chelsea</b>	0-0	Feb 21	<b>Chelsea</b>	1-1
Sept 30	<b>Charlton</b>	1-3	Feb 26	<b>Charlton Ath</b>	1-1
Oct 4	<b>Watford</b>	4-2	Mar 7	<b>Tottenham</b>	1-1
Oct 10	<b>Norwich City</b>	1-2	Mar 14	<b>Brighton</b>	2-0
Oct 18	<b>Bristol R</b>	3-0	Mar 21	<b>Norwich</b>	4-0
Oct 21	<b>Swindon</b>	3-1	Mar 24	<b>Fulham</b>	1-0
Oct 25	<b>Tottenham</b>	1-3	Mar 28	<b>Watford</b>	1-5
Oct 28	<b>QPR</b>	0-6	Apr 1	<b>Crystal Palace</b>	6-1
Nov 8	<b>Crystal Palace</b>	1-2	Apr 4	<b>Oxford</b>	3-0
Nov 22	<b>Portsmouth</b>	5-1	Apr 11	<b>QPR</b>	7-1
Dec 6	<b>Millwall</b>	9-2	Apr 18	<b>Portsmouth</b>	6-2
Dec 20	<b>West Ham</b>	6-1	Apr 23	<b>Reading</b>	3-1
			Apr 25	<b>West Ham</b>	2-1
			May 2	<b>Oxford</b>	5-1
			May 9	<b>Bristol R</b>	1-2



•Take me on: Mark Stein is on the ball.

## Reserve & Youth



JIM RYAN



JOHN FAULKNER

### BRILLIANT YOUTH TEAM WIN

What a brilliant win the youth team enjoyed here last Tuesday when they outplayed Chelsea to win the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup with a 4-0 win on the night and a 6-1 aggregate triumph. Colin Barker, Paul Gray and Gary Cobb, together with an own goal, were the Town scorers on a night when coach John Faulkner's young team did the club proud.

After a slightly hesitant start, the Town youngsters quickly got to grips with the game and put together some great moves, Barker scoring the opening goal from a set-piece move at a corner. In the second half, they survived Chelsea's best spell before proceeding to rip them apart and clinch victory and their fourth trophy in two years with a startling, mature display.

### Handled the pressure

"Not only did they handle the pressure and the physical side of the game well, they also played with tremendous style and were a credit to the club," said Faulkner. "It was an excellent performance. A deserved win." The Town team included six youth internationals, with another, Aaron Tighe, missing out through injury. Aaron had played in all the earlier rounds.

The trophies won by the club's youth team in the last two years are: The South East Counties league title in 1985, the Feyenoord International Youth tournament in 1986, the Eastern Counties Cup in 1986 (played in 1987), and the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup. The win was the Town's first in the tournament since the trophy was inaugurated in 1956.

The reserves have meanwhile continued their remarkable goal-scoring and victorious run with wins over Reading and West Ham to move within sight of 100 goals for the season. With 93 already registered, coach Jim Ryan was hoping another couple of big wins would help the team cross the magical three-figure landmark.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES 1986/87			1987		
Date	Opponents	Result	Date	Opponents	Result
1986			1987		
Aug 23	<b>Northampton</b>	3-2	Jan 3	<b>Chelsea</b> †-R	0-4
Aug 27	<b>Brentford</b>	3-0	Jan 7	<b>Birmingham</b> (SJFC)	3-0
Aug 30	<b>Brighton</b>	1-2	Jan 13	<b>Watford</b> (FAYC)(3)	2-3
Sept 6	<b>Bristol R</b> (SJFC)	3-0	Jan 24	<b>Colchester</b>	4-3
Sept 13	<b>Tottenham</b> U†	1-1	Feb 1	<b>Brighton</b>	3-1
Sept 20	<b>Cambridge U†</b>	1-0	Feb 14	<b>Crystal Palace</b>	1-0
Sept 24	<b>Ipswich</b> *	1-0	Feb 21	<b>Southampton</b>	0-0
Sept 27	<b>Oxford</b>	5-0	Feb 24	<b>Tottenham</b> (SJFC SF)	3-0
Sept 29	<b>Colchester</b> *	5-2	Feb 28	<b>Bournemouth</b>	4-3
Oct 4	<b>Northampton</b>	1-2	Mar 18	<b>Wimbledon</b>	2-0
Oct 11	<b>Southend</b>	5-1	Mar 21	<b>Swindon</b>	1-3
Oct 18	<b>Charlton</b>	3-1	Mar 24	<b>Oxford</b>	2-3
Oct 25	<b>Tottenham</b>	6-1	Mar 28	<b>Swindon</b>	5-2
Oct 28	<b>QPR</b>	5-2	Apr 4	<b>Bristol R</b>	5-2
Nov 8	<b>Reading</b>	5-2	Apr 11	<b>Wimbledon</b>	1-1
Nov 11	<b>Charlton</b> (SJFC)	3-1	Apr 18	<b>Brentford</b>	1-1
Nov 18	<b>Charlton</b> (SJFC-R)	3-1	Apr 21	<b>Chelsea</b> (SJFC F)	2-1
Nov 29	<b>Bristol R</b>	3-1	Apr 28	<b>Chelsea</b> (SJFC F)	4-0
Dec 3	<b>Wolverhampton</b> (FAYC)(2)	5-1			
Dec 6	<b>Southampton</b>	1-2			
Dec 13	<b>Tottenham</b>	1-5			
Dec 20	<b>Chelsea</b> †	2-2			
Dec 27	<b>Oxford</b>	PP			

† League Cup  
\* Eastern Junior Floodlit Cup  
PP TBA: Southend (A)

# REPLAY

# INTRODUCING...

## OXFORD UNITED

Players likely to be on duty tonight

**Steve Hardwick** – Goalkeeper. Born in Mansfield and started his career with Chesterfield. Transferred from Chesterfield to Newcastle United and moved to Oxford in February, 1983. A former England Youth international.

**Dave Langan** – An Eire international who was born in Dublin. Started as an apprentice with Derby County and graduated to the first team, making 143 league appearances for them before moving to Birmingham City in July 1980. Stayed with Birmingham until the end of season 1983-84 and later that summer signed for Oxford.

**Gary Briggs** – Born in Leeds but was snapped up by Middlesbrough as an apprentice. Never had a game in Middlesbrough's league team but moved to Oxford on a temporary transfer in January 1978 and did well. Signed as a fully-transferred player from Middlesbrough in the following August. He's well-built for defensive duties. He's now not far short of 400 league appearances for Oxford.

**John Dreyer** – A 23-year-old who has been introduced to First Division football this season. He was born at Alnwick and after playing for Wallingford Town, signed for Oxford as a contract professional in January 1985. Last season he had spells on loan to both Fulham and Torquay United and played

in the league teams of both clubs. Went upfield to head a spectacular winning goal in Oxford's 2-1 victory at home to Sheffield Wednesday last month.

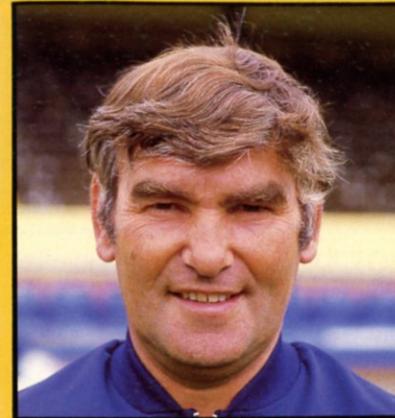
**Tommy Caton** – Transferred to Oxford from Arsenal as recently as February. He was born in Liverpool and was snapped up as a youngster by Manchester City. He established himself at Maine Road after developing through the apprentice ranks and had made 165 league appearances for the Manchester club when transferred to Arsenal in December 1983. He made 14 appearances in the England Under-21 team. He's Oxford's captain.

**Ray Houghton** – Transferred to Oxford from Fulham in September 1985. A Scot from Glasgow, he came south originally to sign as a professional for West Ham United in July 1979 but made one appearance only in league football for the East Londoners before making the further move to Fulham. His total of league appearances in Fulham's colours was 129.

**Les Phillips** – Oxford secured his transfer from Birmingham City in March 1984 and he made his debut for them as substitute two days later in a home match with Plymouth Argyle. Had made his league debut for Birmingham in the No. 10 shirt away to West Ham in February 1982. Born Lambeth, South London.



Back Row from left: Sean Reck, Andy Thomas, Alan Judge, Gary Briggs, Jeremy Charles, Steve Hardwick, Trevor Hebbard, John Dreyer. Middle row: Ken Fish (Trainer), David Fogg (Reserve Team Manager), Kevin Brock, David Leworthy, Neil Slatter, Peter Rhoades-Brown, Bobby McDonald, Robbie Mustoe, David Langan, Paul Swannack, Mark Jones, Tony Obi, Ray Graydon (Assistant Manager), David Coates (Youth Development Officer). Front row: Ray Houghton, Les Phillips, Malcolm Shotton, Maurice Evans (Manager), Steve Perryman, John Aldridge, John Trewick.



**Maurice Evans** has been manager of Oxford since August 1985, when he was given the full appointment following a short period as caretaker-manager. He had previously been right-hand man to Jim Smith, the former Oxford manager who is now in charge of Queen's Park Rangers.

Maurice who was born in Didcot and is therefore familiar with the Oxford area, was a half-back in his own playing days, and spent his league career from 1953 to 1967 with Reading.

He occupied the managerial chair at Reading from 1977 until 1983. Previously he had managed Shrewsbury Town from 1972 until 1974.

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# JUNIOR HATTERS!

BY PETER NICHOLAS

## CHEER US ON, IN OUR LAST HOME MATCH THIS SEASON

Today's lucky Junior Hatters membership number is 874. The winning member should contact Bev Tyler in the ticket office at Oak Road, with his, or her, membership card for two free tickets to one of our home matches next season.

This being our last home match of this season, we must keep up our good home record of only being beaten once on our synthetic pitch. We can only do this with your help - so let's hear you cheer us on tonight!

All you juniors who renew your membership for next season will automatically become a Junior Hatter. You will get a new-look card and you will receive a letter in the post giving you all the details.

Tonight, our visitors are Oxford United. Give them a warm welcome to Kenilworth Road. I hope that you all have a good summer holiday. Enjoy your self tonight and I will see you all next season.

### ESCAPES



Stephen Crow



David Cole

### MASCOT



Gerald Corcoran

### ESCAPES



James Craig



Matthew Thomson

## KENILWORTH THE CAT



# QUIZ

## First Eleven

A	N	B	R	A	T	D
D	L	O	N	R	A	Y
F	A	L	E	O	L	N
R	D	V	A	L	A	N
C	O	L	I	N	R	E
R	C	B	I	D	R	K
T	T	E	R	R	Y	Y

Look at these soccer surnames and find the eleven matching first names hidden in any direction in the square - cross them through as you do. Get a goal if the uncrossed letters spell out a club.

Brooking

Cochrane

Muhren

Todd

Brotherston

Curbishley

Nish

Whitehurst

Canning

Hunter

Sansom

Answers to Soccer Ninety-Niner No. 12

Across

6. Phil Coleman 7. Streets 8. Ted 10. Les 12. Gorilla (Botham)  
 15. Mickelwhite  
 Down  
 1. shot 2. See 14 down 3. postponed 4. red 5. Dave 9. eight  
 11. Eric 13. Late 14&2dn. Sky Blues (Coventry)

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## Views from the media

### NO GOALS AND A REPORTED LACK OF SUPPORT

The lack of decisive goal-scoring action on the field left most reporters at our goalless draw at home to Sheffield Wednesday last week with little to write about and, as a result, they turned their attention to the post-match interviews. Our manager John Moore made some comments which surprised him by being turned into news. Here is a selection of the reports on the match:

**Sunday Express:** "Luton manager John Moore lashed the home fans who booed his team off the pitch after a disappointing sterile performance. Moore's outburst came when he was questioned about his decision to withdraw Mike Newell, by no means the worst of Luton's tepid attack, in the 70th minute. The 9,278 expressed their displeasure and Moore said later. 'The crowd were diabolical. We've been beaten at home only once this season and should be able to expect some local support.'

#### Incentive lacking

**The People:** "Despite two stunning second half saves by Wednesday keeper Hodge, it still looks as if Luton will finish in their best position ever. 'At the end of the day or even next year, who will remember where we finished this season,' asked Moore. 'Now we are out of Europe, there is just no incentive for players like ours. However high we end in the league, we will still win nothing.'

**Daily Mail:** "Even in their finest hour, manager John Moore fears for the very survival of Luton in a town which cannot raise 10,000 fans to watch a team in the top six of the First Division. Despite being frustrated by Wednesday, stubbornly intent on avoiding the dreaded play-off, Luton currently fifth, are on course for their best finish, yet only Charlton and Wimbledon have attracted fewer fans. Moore Said: 'What chance have we got in the long-term with a ground capacity of 14,500 coupled with the fact that we cannot even fill it with home fans during a season such as this?'



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# LUTON TOWN GOAL'DEN OLDIES

## CHEEKY BRIAN LEWIS – THE IMPISH GOALSCORER WHO WAS A FAVOURITE AT KENILWORTH ROAD

In welcoming Oxford to Kenilworth Road, we are mindful of the fact that we have yet to beat them in Division One our previous meetings in competitive games we have won only three to Oxfords seven *writes club statistician Roger Wash.*

On a brighter note, our first ever meeting was a friendly game played at the Manor in May 1968 with the

Town running out winners 3-2. Usually, friendly games do not figure highly with football supporters thirsting for football. Our overall record, in fact, is not too bright as in a competitive edge to a contest, but this match was different because prestige was involved due to the Town entering the field as 4th Division champions whilst their opponents were winners of Division 3.

Chiltern, reporting in the Luton News, confirmed that there "was as much seriousness about the affair as if



• **Bruce Rioch:** Regular goal scorer for the Hatters. Scored against Oxford back in the old Fourth Division days.

league points were at stake and more than a little needle crept into the game as Oxford attempted a fightback".

The Town shocked the 6,342 crowd by taking a 3-0 interval lead through goals by Rodnéy Green, Bruce Rioch and John Moore – a 25 yard screamer!

Oxford scored two quick goals soon after the break but after that it was always the Town who looked the more likely to score and the Hatters faithful, who had cheered as the players made a pre-match lap of honour with the 4th Division trophy, had every reason to be optimistic for the season to come.

Such was the success of this "friendly" venture that a pre-season re-match was arranged for the following July when the Town romped home 3-0.

By this time, the Luton squad had been further strengthened following the signings of Mike Harrison, from Plymouth, Laurie Sheffield, from Oldham, and, for a massive fee of £20,000, Brian Lewis from Coventry.

### Intelligent play

Lewis in fact was the star on the night with his classy and intelligent inside-forward play and he capped a superb performance with a fine goal to add to those scored by Rioch and Alan Slough.

The 6,659 crowd could not now wait for the season to start and after another fine pre-season performance in



• **Brian Lewis:** Played for both Luton and Oxford in the 60's and 70's.

drawing 2-2 at Norwich the Town feared no-one and fully expected to walk through the Third Division.

It was all too easy at the start of the season with the Town early leaders following big home wins over Oldham, Rotherham, Barnsley, Tranmere and Mansfield, interspersed with an unbeaten away run.

The crowds returned in their thousands and the early season attendances of 20,167 for the League Cup game against Watford was the best for eight years.

All of a sudden, the bubble burst for following the first defeat of the season at Brighton, at the end of September, no more points were picked up away from Kenilworth Road until the 2-0 win at Northampton three months later.

During this period, manager Allan Brown had been replaced by Alec Stock and although the Town were unbeaten at home even these performances were less than convincing.

### Chasing shadows

After Christmas, an injury to Bruce Rioch created further problems and although away performances picked up, the Town were always chasing shadows as Swindon and Watford pulled further ahead.

As it turned out, the Town finished the season way ahead of the fourth-placed club, but as only two teams were promoted in those days we had to wait a further twelve months for our place in Division 2.

Apart from the Towns unbeaten home record the highlight of the season had been the goalscoring prowess of Brian Lewis who was not only the Towns top marksman with 22 goals but also the Third Division leading scorer.

Lewis, who remained a firm crowd favourite possibly for the wrong reasons due to his knack of getting opposing players sent off for retaliation, did not find full favour with Alec Stock and was transferred to Oxford, in January 1970, from where he went to Colchester before finishing his playing days at Portsmouth.

The highlights of his career which encompass scoring Coventry City's first goal in Division One and being a member of the Colchester team that beat Leeds in the famous cup game in 1971 must also include the autumn of 1968 wearing a Luton Town shirt!



• **Alan Slough:** Born locally, Alan was always a favourite with the fans.



# Vauxhall Teamcheck.

## Luton Town

2

- 1 Les Sealey
- 2 Tim Breacker *R. Johnson*
- 3 Ashley Grimes *R. Marve*
- 4 Peter Nicholas
- 5 Stacey North
- 6 Mal Donaghay
- 7 Ricky Hill
- 8 Brian Stein *Marc Stein*
- 9 Mike Newell *1*
- 10 Mick Harford *Gary Cobb*
- 11 David Preece

Sub

## Oxford United

3

- 1 Peter Hucker
- 2 David Langan
- 3 John Dreyer
- 4 Les Phillips
- 5 Gary Briggs
- 6 Tommy Caton
- 7 Ray Houghton
- 8 Dean Saunders
- 9 Billy Whitehurst
- 10 Trevor Hebbard
- 11 Kevin Brock

Sub

Referee: N. MIDGLEY (Salford)

Linesmen: A.S. FOOT (Red Flag) P. JONES (Yellow Flag)



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