

THE **SIMOD**  
**CUP FINAL**



**WEMBLEY**  
— WHERE ELSE —

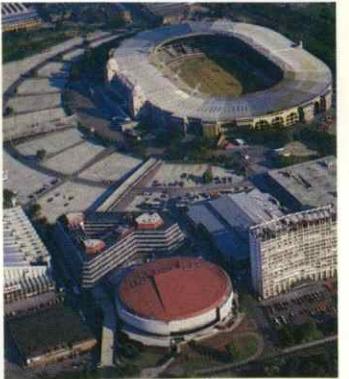


**LUTON TOWN V READING**

*Sunday, March 27th, 1988*

*Kick-off 3.00 p.m.*

Official Souvenir Programme £1.50



## TODAY'S TIMETABLE

### Welcome to our Chief Guest

**MALCOLM NATHAN**

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE are delighted to welcome Mr. Malcolm Nathan, the Managing Director of Simall Sports, as the Guest of Honour today.

Malcolm is an original "scouser" and says he is still a very keen Liverpool supporter. "I was on the Kop for the first 15 years of my life. I follow them avidly."

He studied economics at Leeds University then moved to London to work in the store management training programme in 1971. After two years he decided that was not for him and found himself a job with a shoe importing company.

From that he became involved in the manufacture and supply of sports shoes, most of which at that time were made in the Far East and he found himself working a lot in Korea.

In 1984 Malcolm decided to establish his own brand sports shoe company, as opposed to just supplying other people, and it was this tact which brought him into contact with Simod, the largest sports shoe manufacturers in Italy.

The Simod range was launched in 1985 and Malcolm hopes to establish it as a major brand within the next three years. To help with product awareness he has turned to football.



### Luton v Reading

1.00 p.m.	Doors Open
1.30 p.m.	Selections by the Band of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
2.00 p.m.	A display of soccer-skills by members of the Football and the Community Programme
2.25 p.m.	Further selections by the Band of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
2.40 p.m.	Exchange of Pennants
2.50 p.m.	Presentation of Teams to Mr. Malcolm Nathan, Managing Director, Simall Sports Limited
	THE NATIONAL ANTHEM
3.00 p.m.	KICK-OFF
3.45 p.m.	HALF-TIME. Marching display by the Band of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
4.40 p.m.	END OF MATCH Presentation of Trophy by Mr. Malcolm Nathan

#### SIMOD CUP SOUVENIR PROGRAMME PRODUCTION

Published by The Football League/Compiled & Edited by COLIN BENSON

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Welcome to WEMBLEY

Chairman: Brian G. Wolfson  
Chief Executive:  
David M. W. Griffiths  
Secretary: Derek G. Vobes

Administration: 01-902 8833  
Box Office: 01-902 1234  
Telex: 8811735

On behalf of The Football League Management Committee, may I welcome you here today to the inaugural Simod Cup Final. This is, of course, our first domestic Cup Final of the year and it brings together two teams who have until now experienced remarkably contrasting seasons. Luton Town are currently enjoying what must be their best season ever, already having qualified for three visits to Wembley with possibly a fourth still to come, whilst for Reading it's been a continuous battle to retain their Second Division status. Nevertheless, today's showpiece game will be a welcome relief from the pressures of the Barclays League and it provides both clubs with a marvellous opportunity to reward their loyal supporters with a highly prestigious Wembley appearance.

Indeed, The Football League are always conscious of the need to stimulate new interest in the game and it was with this in mind that we introduced the Simod Cup. The competition helps to create greater incentive within the game and effectively provides First and Second Division clubs with an additional domestic challenge. Hopefully, English clubs will be allowed back into Europe next season, but for those teams who are not successful in qualifi-

## WELCOME BY PHILIP CARTER C.B.E.



### PRESIDENT OF THE LEAGUE

fying for European competitions, the Simod Cup can offer an additional stimulus for players and supporters alike. The competition replaced the Full Members' Cup, which ran for two seasons with aggregate attendances increasing each year, last season by 21 per cent and this term by a further 33 per cent.

Similarly, the Sherpa Van Trophy for Third and Fourth Division clubs goes from strength to strength each year, whilst the play-offs introduced last season proved to be highly successful.

Every game needs success to stimulate interest, particularly spectator sports like professional football. And so the Simod Cup is bound to continue growing in stature so that more League clubs can enjoy a real sense of achievement at the end of a long season.

It would, of course, be very remiss of me not to welcome Simall Sports Limited, sponsors of the Simod Cup, and, in particular, their Managing Director, Malcolm Nathan. I would like to extend our sincere thanks to Simall Sports for the support they provide for football, which includes the significant level of prize money at stake today.

It only remains for me to say that I hope you all enjoy the occasion and have a wonderful day.

# CONTRASTING FORTUNES

BY COLIN BENSON

IF the Simod Cup, or as it was originally christened, The Full Members Cup, has anything to celebrate it is beyond all doubt, argument and vacillation, the success it showers on the unfashionable quarters of the Football League.

This is, when all said and done, the League's own private party. An intimate affair between the top clubs in the country, those from the First and Second Divisions of the Football League. Participation is not compulsory yet although this competition is very much in its infancy giants such as Everton, Nottingham Forest, Sheffield Wednesday, Chelsea, West Ham United, Newcastle United, Leeds United and Aston Villa have all entered this season and it must be said have failed.

Chelsea, the first winners of this competition when they beat Manchester City 5-4 in an absolute thriller here at Wembley in 1986, crashed out at Swindon at the quarter-final stage. Beaten comprehensively by Lou Macari's Robins by four goals to nil! Everton, the League Champions fell to Luton Town at Goodison Park, this being just one of three cup competitions they were eliminated from in the space of a week.

Coventry City, the F.A. Cup holders, were desperate to return to Wembley this afternoon. They overcame Wimbledon and Ipswich Town and were just one step away when they were gunned down in a semi-final penalty shoot-out at Reading's homely Elm Park. Drama of the highest order, entertainment and excitement fit to grace any tournament.

And for those who pour scorn on the Simod Cup, dismiss it as an unwanted intrusion on a cluttered football calendar, there is a ready made answer here at Wembley this afternoon as the fans pour in from the far flung corners of Berkshire and Bedfordshire to pay homage to their heroes.



Luton's first (and last until today) visit to Wembley. The Duke of Edinburgh meets the 1959 Hatters, with skipper and footballer of the year Syd Owen introducing him to goalkeeper Ron Bayham at the pre-match presentations. Luton failed to hit anything like their normal form and were beaten 2-1 by Nottingham Forest in Owen's final match. And Forest had to defend a 2-0 lead with only ten men after Roy Dwight — Elton John's uncle — broke his leg, and was carried off.

PICTURE: LUTON NEWS

engagements they have lined up here this season. They will be here again next month to contest the Littlewoods Cup Final with Arsenal and they will also appear in the Mercantile Credit Centenary Festival. Then if they can overcome Wimbledon they will be back again in May for the F.A. Cup Final.

Reading on the other hand are here for the very first time in their 117-year history. Before today the most remarkable chapter in the Club's cup history had been recorded in the season of 1881-82. They reached the fourth round of the F.A. Cup that season without playing a match having been given a walk-over in the second round, a bye in the third and scratching themselves to Marlow in the fourth.

The Royals do hold a record in the F.A. Cup though even if it is one they are not proud of. In 1893 their first round tie against Preston North End produced this scoreline: Preston 18, Reading 0!

Today it is a different story. Reading have left a trail of devastation through the First Division ranks having beaten Queens Park Rangers, Oxford United, Nottingham Forest and Coventry City to reach this final. It is an impressive record which has been totally at odds with what is turning out to be a constant struggle to avoid dropping back to the Third Division.

Manager Ian Branfoot, who makes no bones about the fact that he would trade a place in the Second Division next season for today's pageantry, admits he is baffled by the contrast in his team's Simod Cup and Football League form.

He says: "I just don't know the answer, I wish I did . . . First Division teams tend to give you a little more room to play and that has obviously suited us."

Luton Town, spearheaded by the aggressive qualities of Mick Harford, whose imposing style has brought him England recognition this season, will start as firm favourites. They have quality and experience on their side yet will take nothing for granted.

When the Hatters last took the Wembley field to play Nottingham Forest in the 1959 F.A. Cup Final they were clear favourites. The previous Monday they had thumped six goals past their Forest rivals in a re-arranged First Division game at Kenilworth Road but on the big day it was the 10 men of Nottingham who stole the honours and the game with a 2-1 victory.

Reading are treating this as a great day out as indeed it is for players and fans alike. Says Ian Branfoot: "We have very limited experience of Wembley, Neil Smillie and Keith Curle being the only two who have played here before.

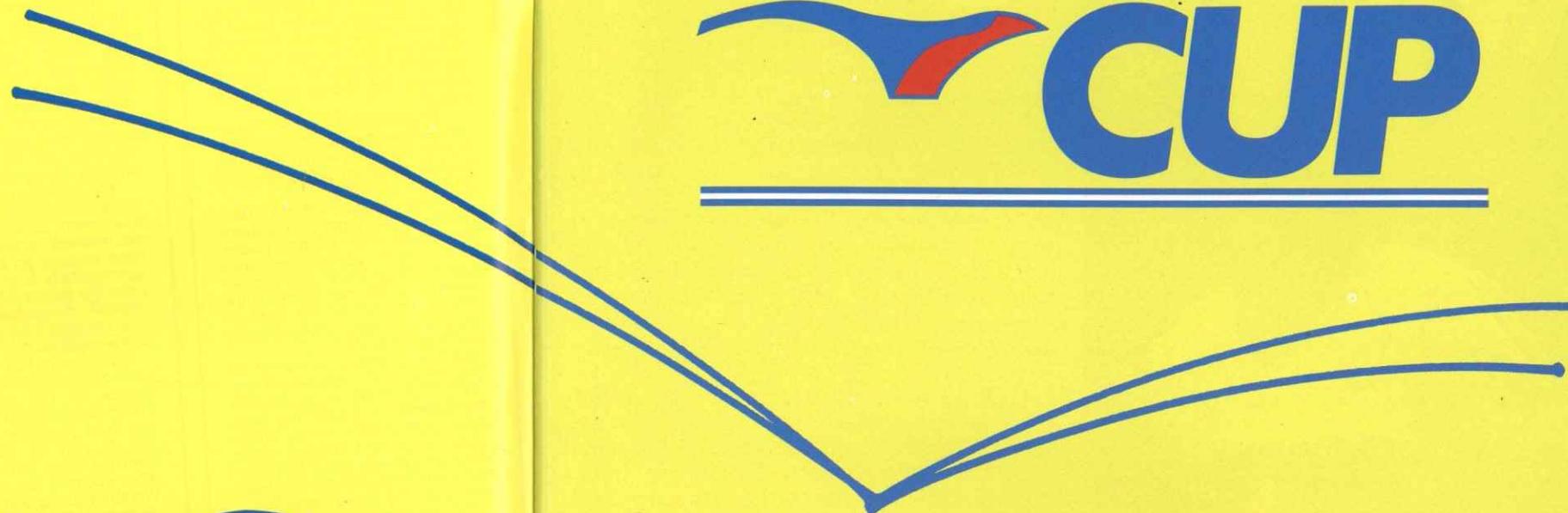
"Most of my players have come up from the Third and Fourth Divisions. In fact we played Aston Villa last Saturday and two years ago a fixture between us wouldn't have been thought possible. But I think the lads will relish the atmosphere here today. It will be the biggest crowd most of them have played in front of and I think they will rise to the occasion."

For Luton this is just the start of an epic Wembley season of course but this does not detract from the importance of the day. The Simod Cup is up for grabs and both Steve Foster and Martin Hicks have a singular design, to be the one who hoists this splendid golden trophy high into the Wembley air at the end of the day.



Keith Curle — was here last season with Bristol City.





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ITALIAN STYLE



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CUP

# THREE STRAIGHT WINS



MICK HARFORD — scored twice against Stoke City.

## LUTON'S ROUTE TO WEMBLEY

### Rd Opponents F A Scorers

Rd Opponents	F	A	Scorers
3 Everton.....	2	1	Oldfield 2
4 STOKE CITY.....	4	1	Harford 2, B. Stein 2
S/F SWINDON TOWN... 2		1*	B. Stein, M. Stein

\* After extra-time

**L**UTON TOWN took three giant strides to book their second cup final appearance of the season but can have little fancied their chances when they entered the Simod Cup at the third round stage, for the draw had paired them with Everton at Goodison Park.

With no replays in this competition that meant that the Hatters had to win on the Champions' ground to maintain their presence in the competition and that is a tall order against one of the meanest defences in English football.

It was Everton's 10th cup tie in 38 days but Luton had a secret weapon in their armoury, 19-year-old David Oldfield, who scored two goals to keep Luton's Simod Cup interests alive.

Oldfield, who had never previously started a game at senior level, put Luton back in the game when he scored an equalising goal in the 63rd minute. Until then Everton had been calling the tune although they only had Power's 21st minute strike to show for their superiority.

Besides Oldfield the Hatters also had Gray, McEvoy and Johnson making their debuts and it looked very much as if the tie would go into extra-time. Then Ian Allinson sent Grimes away on the left and his well placed low centre caught the Everton defence on the turn for Oldfield to strike the winner.

**LUTON:** Dibble; Breacker, Johnson, McEvoy, Foster, Allinson, Cobb, Gray (Harvey 77), Oldfield, Black, Grimes.

A home tie with Second Division Stoke City was the prize for this classic win and although manager Ray Harford was forced to make four changes to the side which beat Oxford United three days earlier in the Littlewoods Cup semi-final, it proved no handicap to the men from Bedfordshire who this season have shown a great affinity with cup football.

The trusted combination of Mick Harford

and Brian Stein, who, notched two goals apiece, destroyed the men from the potteries. Fittingly they both played a part in the opening goal in the 17th minute. Harford shot strongly, Stoke goalkeeper Barrett could only take the sting out of the shot and Stein pounced to rap the rebound into the net.

After Bould had missed a great opportunity to equalise Luton added a second goal with a looping header from Harford just after the interval and in the 50th minute the Stoke challenge was firmly silenced when Mark Stein latched onto a bad back-pass from Beeston, and squared the ball for Harford to net his 18th goal of the season.

Seven minutes later Brian Stein made it 4-0 before Shaw gained a consolation reply for the visitors in the 71st minute.

**LUTON:** Sealey; Breacker, Harvey, Johnson R., Johnson M., Donaghy, Black, Stein B., Harford (Oldfield 70), Stein M., Allinson.

Ray Harford says that his team's most difficult game by far was the semi-final against Swindon Town with the Second Division side forcing extra-time on the Kenilworth Road plastic.

This time it was the Stein brothers, Brian and Mark who proved the match winners against a spirited Swindon effort.

A header from Brian Stein — his 14th goal of the season — in the 29th minute, from a cross by Tim Breacker, had given Luton the lead but they were then subjected to considerable pressure before Kieran O'Regan equalised in the 67th minute.

The doors of Wembley beckoned invitingly four minutes later when Luton were awarded a penalty after Foley had felled Allinson but Mick Harford could only gasp as he saw Fraser Digby pounce to make a thrilling save from his 12-yard kick.

Both sides had chances to clinch victory before extra-time and in the 105th minute Luton were a lick of paint away from defeat when Foley shot against the post.

Three minutes later Mark Stein shot Luton into a third Wembley appearance. Substitute Black crossed, Harford headed it back and

Stein did the rest . . . 2-1 to Luton but what a fight!

**LUTON:** Sealey; Breacker, Grimes, Johnson R. (Black 106), McDonough, Donaghy, Wilson, Stein B., Harford, Stein M., Allinson.

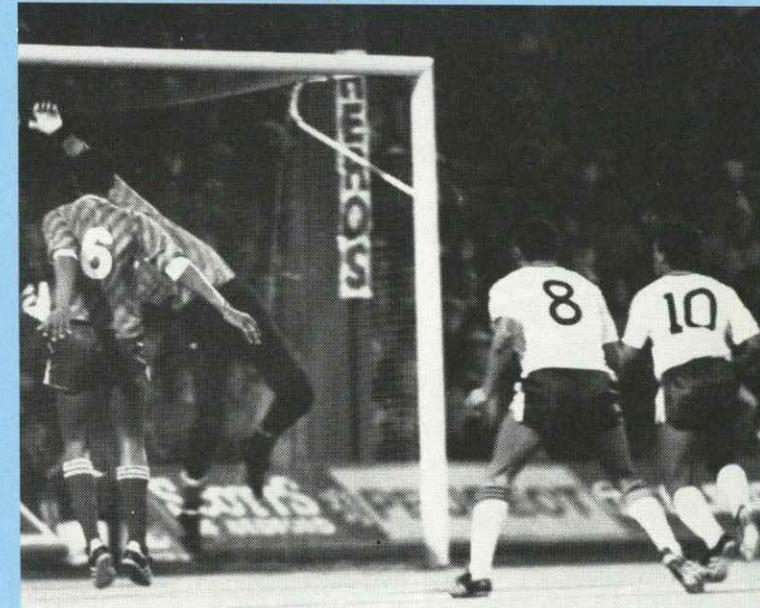
It has been a great season for the Hatters and Ray Harford says that it is all because he listened to the prompting of his players.

Last autumn Luton were struggling to find any kind of consistency. Ray, who had stepped up into the manager's shoes in the summer was deploying Mick Harford and Brian Stein as his twin strikers, and he now admits that was a mistake.

So he moved Stein back to his favourite position just behind Harford, the main striker, McDonough came in as the defensive midfield player and Luton have not looked back since, even though they have been without England midfielder Ricky Hill, David Preece and Emeka Nwajiobi, all with long-term injuries.

With success has come confidence and Mr Harford says: "We have the ability to win games now. We are certainly stronger away from home."

The Hatters have lost only five matches in the last five months and today they hope to extend that sequence by winning their first major cup trophy.



**TICKET TO WEMBLEY:** Mark Stein, wearing No. 10, heads Luton's extra-time winner in the semi-finals against Swindon. Brian Stein is the other Luton player in support, and the Steins are set to become the first brothers to play in a Wembley final since Brian and Jimmy Greenhoff were in Manchester United's FA Cup winning team in 1977. Luton hope the omens are good — the Greenhoffs were winners 11 years ago.

Picture: Luton News

# SWINDON IN THE SEMI-FINAL

1. STEIN-GUN: Brian Stein in typical action, firing in a shot during Luton's semi-final with Swindon.
2. EYES FRONT: Ian Allinson in action, and today preparing to enjoy the occasion more than most. The former Arsenal man was in the Second Division with Stoke when the season started, but a move to Kenilworth Road lifted his career, and brought him the bonus of a Wembley appearance that he never thought possible a few months ago.
3. TOP HATTER: Leading scorer Mick Harford shows the style that has helped Luton Town to three Wembley appearances this season, with a possible fourth in prospect in the F.A. Cup.
4. YOU LOVELY BOY: Danny Wilson and Tim Breacker congratulate Brian Stein after he put Luton into the lead in the semi-final against Swindon.



PICTURES: LUTON NEWS

WEMBLEY will almost become a second home for us this year with two and possibly three cup final appearances as well as the League Centenary Festival to come.

When the season started last August we all had dreams, as all professionals do, of one Wembley appearance but no one can have envisaged what has subsequently taken place... Whatever happens now it will be hard for us to get ourselves going next season. I mean how do you follow this?

People have suggested that perhaps the Simod Cup will not mean quite so much to us as we have a glamorous Littlewoods Cup date here with Arsenal to come. But I can assure you that everyone at Kenilworth Road is treating this as our most important fixture right now. This is our first final and although it might sound silly, we think it is imperative that we put on a good show today.

Defeat this afternoon could mean that we come to Wembley three or four times and go away without anything to show so it is very important to get the first one under our belts.

I'm sure today's event will be different to the Littlewoods Cup Final but it will still give us an advantage for that game. The younger lads, and the players who haven't been here before, will benefit from the experience, even though the hypemightnot be so great.

Mal Donaghy, Ashley Grimes and myself have played here before of course and the lads will probably look to us for a bit of leadership. They will probably get more shouting than guidance because I think we will all be in the same boat, we will all be a bit nervous. The only way to overcome that is



to help each other and play together which we will be looking to do.

The thing I learned when I was here with Brighton is that you have to enjoy yourself, enjoy the day. I lapped up every minute on that occasion even though we lost 4-0 to Manchester United. That was one of the highlights of my career but it seems a long time ago.

We have a good team at Luton and we shall get stuck in together and work for each other. That's the formula that has brought us success this season and I think our style of play will be suited to Wembley.

Being the First Division club we start today's game as favourites which is a position we are not accustomed to but I'm sure we shall cope with this well. We don't know that much about Reading, although Ray Harford has watched them a few times, but we are approaching the game as if we were playing Arsenal or Liverpool.

When you have players like Mick Harford and the Stein brothers in your attack you are always likely to score and that gives us all great confidence. Defenders tend to look for Mick and that is when the two "Steinys" cash in. Brian has scored a lot of important goals for us this season and Mark is very quick.

We didn't play last week, we had a free week, so we are nice and relaxed and looking forward to the game. We know that whatever side Reading put out it is going to be tough. This is a Wembley final and that means you can virtually throw the form book out of the window. The winners will be the team which rises to the occasion and we shall be striving to ensure that it is Luton Town who do just that.

## SETTING THE PATTERN

— Luton Town captain Steve Foster sees the Simod Cup as the key to his side's success this season —

# LUTON TOWN



**Back Row:** Rob Johnson, Richard Harvey, Tim Breacker, Gary Cobb, Kingsley Black, Paul Gray, Ricky McEvoy.

**Centre Row:** Emeka Nwajobi, Mal Donagh, Darron McDonough, Andy Dibble, Les Sealey, Mick Harford, Marvin Johnson, David Oldfield.

**Front Row:** Danny Wilson, Ashley Grimes, Steve Foster (captain), Brian Stein, Ian Allinson, Mark Stein.

**FOOTBALL LEAGUE RECORD:** 1897  
Elected to Division 2; 1900 failed re-election;  
1920 Division 3; 1921 Division 3(S);  
1937-55 Division 2; 1955-60 Division 1;  
1960-63 Division 2; 1963-65 Division 3;  
1965-68 Division 4; 1968-70 Division 3;  
1970-74 Division 2; 1974-75 Division 1;  
1975-82 Division 2; 1982- Division 1.

**HONOURS:** Football League: Division 1 best season, 8th, 1957-58; Division 2 — Champions 1981-82; Runners-up 1954-55, 1973-74; Division 3 — Runners-up 1969-70; Division 4 — Champions 1967-68; Division 3(S) — Champions 1936-37; Runners-up 1935-36. FA Cup: Runners-up 1959. Football League Cup: best season: 5th rd, 1978-79.

**COLOURS:** White shirts with navy and orange trim, navy shorts, white stockings with orange and navy turnovers. **Change colours:** All royal blue with white trim.

**President:** C. Holloway.

**Chairman:** D. J. Evans M.P.

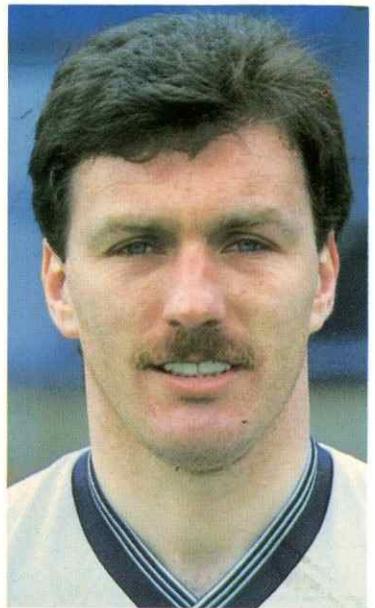
**Directors:** M. Aleyan, T. W. Bailey, D. G. Watson-Challis, B. Cole, E. S. Pearson LLM, esq, R. J. Smith. **General Secretary:** W. J. Tomlins.

**Marketing Executive:** Wendy Greaves.

**Executive Director:** J. R. Smith. **Team Manager:** Ray Harford. **First Team Coach/Player:** Steve Foster. **Physio:** Dave Galley. **Year Formed:** 1885. **Club Nickname:**

'The Hatters'.

# THE A-Z OF LUTON TOWN



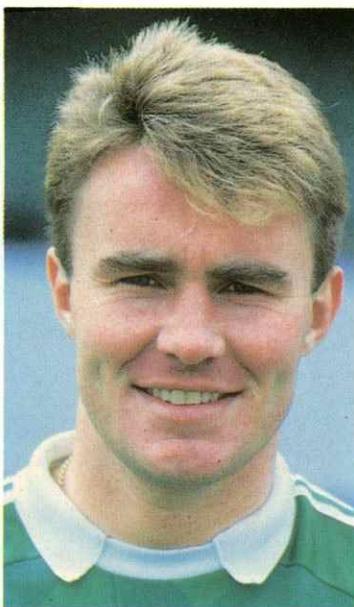
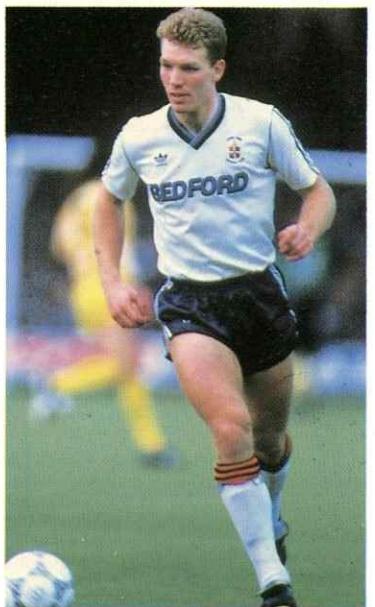
IAN ALLINSON

**IAN ALLINSON** (Striker). Arsenal literally pinched him from Fulham when they nipped in to take advantage of a technicality and sign him for nothing in the summer of 1983. Ian had played over 300 games for Colchester United and had finished top scorer in his final two seasons at Layer Road. Born in Stevenage Ian made his Arsenal debut against Walsall (Nov '83), in the Milk Cup. Was released by the Gunners last summer and joined Stoke City but in September Luton snapped him up. Although a member of Arsenal's first team squad last season he was not used in their Littlewoods Cup final team and is also precluded from the Luton team to play in this year's final as he is cup-tied.



TIM BREACKER

**KINGSLEY BLACK** — (Forward). Talented young winger who gained England Under-18 Schoolboy honours in season 1985-86. At the time he was also holding a regular place in the Luton Town reserve side. Signed professional with the Hatters last season when he was 18 and made his senior debut at QPR (26-9-87). Played in the Simod Cup matches against Everton and Stoke City. A left-sided player he combines exceptional close control with the speed of a sprinter.



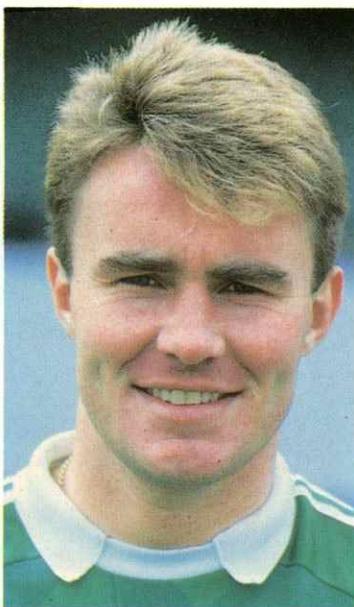
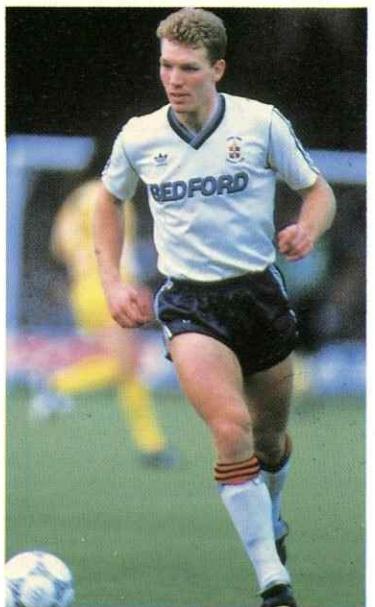
KINGSLEY BLACK

**TIM BREACKER** — (Full Back). Bicester born Breacker has been a regular member of the first team since his debut at Ipswich in 1984. This England Under-21 International can perform in midfield but his normal position is right back where his surging runs on the overlap have become a strong feature of his play. Total League and Cup appearances for Luton to end 1986/87 121 — Goals 1.



ANDREW DIBBLE

**ANDREW DIBBLE** — (Goalkeeper). Cost Luton £125,000 when they signed him from Cardiff City in the summer of 1984. Born in Cwmbran he joined Cardiff as an apprentice making his League debut against Cardiff City (8-5-82). In all made 62 League appearances for the Welsh club helping them gain promotion to the Second Division. While at Ninian Park he was capped by Wales at Youth and Under-21 levels. Started season 1985-86 in the Luton goal until injury in November cost him his place.



ANDREW DIBBLE

# THE A-Z OF LUTON TOWN



MAL DONAGHY

**MAL DONAGHY** — (Defender/Midfield). Luton's most capped International, with over 50 to his credit. Has now played in two World Cup campaigns for Northern Ireland. Started his career with Larne. Within months of making his debut for Larne he was being chased by many English First Division sides and it was regarded as an astute piece of business by former Manager David Pleat when Donaghy was "stolen" for £20,000 in June 1978. Solid and dependable he forms, with Steve Foster, arguably the best central defensive partnership in the country. Ever present last season as he has been for six out of the last nine.

**STEVE FOSTER** — (Central Defender). Has been an influential figure at Kenilworth Road since his arrival from Aston Villa in November 1984. David Pleat plucked the former England pivot from Villa's reserve team for just £70,000 and rated the deal the best he'd ever done. Born at Portsmouth, Steve joined his local club as an apprentice and made 109 League appearances for them in four seasons. Brighton invested £150,000 for him in the summer of 1979 and he came to prominence as Albion gained First Division status and reached the 1983 F.A. Cup Final. In March 1984 Villa paid £200,000 for Steve but he did not figure in Graham Turner's plans when he took control. Won 3 caps with England and played for the Under-21 side.



STEVE FOSTER



ASHLEY GRIMES

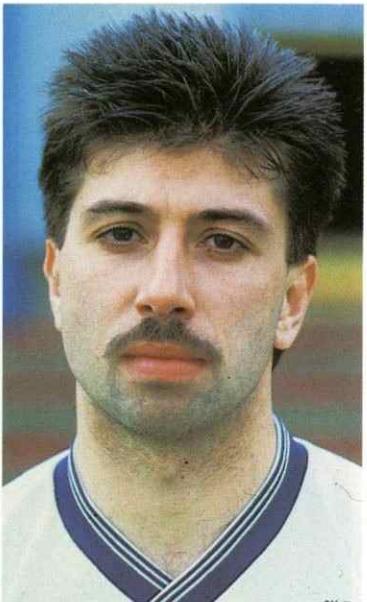
**ASHLEY GRIMES** — (Full Back). Now 30, Dublin born Grimes enjoyed his longest spell in the Luton first team in 1986/87 after almost being transferred to Swindon during the previous close season. He played the early part of his career with Manchester United where he had 90 League games and appeared regularly for Eire. Transferred to Coventry in August 1983 he joined Luton a year later in a straight swap for Kirk Stephens but was then plagued with injuries during his first two seasons at Kenilworth Road. Total League and Cup appearances for Luton to end 1986/87 52 — Goals 2.

**MICK HARFORD** — (Striker). Luton Town's record cash signing, at £250,000, from Birmingham City in December 1984. Sunderland born, Harford commenced his League career with Lincoln where 46 goals in 126 appearances encouraged Newcastle to pay £180,000 for his services in December 1980. He never really settled at St James' Park and the following close season Bristol City took him to Ashton Gate. City were in a parlous financial state and were unable to fully pay the fee so six months later he was re-signed by Newcastle and promptly transferred to Birmingham. He was therefore on the books of three clubs on the same day! He enjoyed some success with Birmingham in a struggling side but was prised away by Luton where he has played the best football of his career and has now gained England recognition..



MICK HARFORD

# THE A-Z OF LUTON TOWN



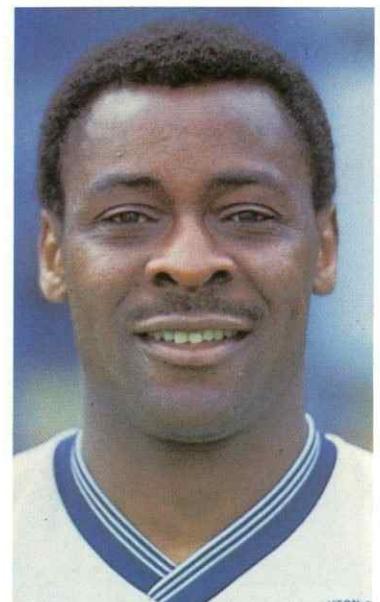
ROB JOHNSON

**ROB JOHNSON** — (Full Back). Born in Bedford and turning professional for the Town in August 1979 his career was almost over before it started. Rob suffered two extremely serious knee injuries which would have put most players out of the game but he fought back to make his debut against Birmingham City in November 1983. He played most of last season at left-back but prefers the right-side. Total League and Cup appearances for Luton to end 1986/87 62 — Goals 0.



DARRON McDONOUGH

**DARRON McDONOUGH** — (Midfield). Belgian born McDonough scored on his League debut for Oldham against Notts County in December 1980 thereby joining an exclusive club. He signed for Luton early last season in exchange for £87,000 to become a versatile and valuable member of the squad. Total League and Cup appearances for Luton to end 1986/87 19 — Goals 1.



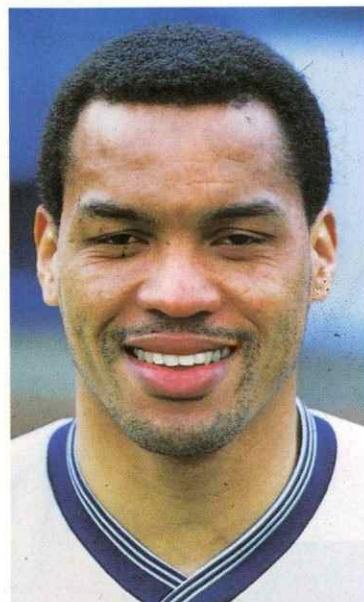
EMEKA NWAJIOBI

**EMEKA NWAJIOBI** — (Forward). Unpredictable Nigerian International who burst on the scene with a scoring debut against Nottingham Forest on 2nd January 1984 only weeks after transferring from Dulwich Hamlet. On his day a matchwinner who makes goalscoring look easy but injuries have affected his career. Total League and Cup appearances for Luton to end 1986/87 71 — Goals 17.



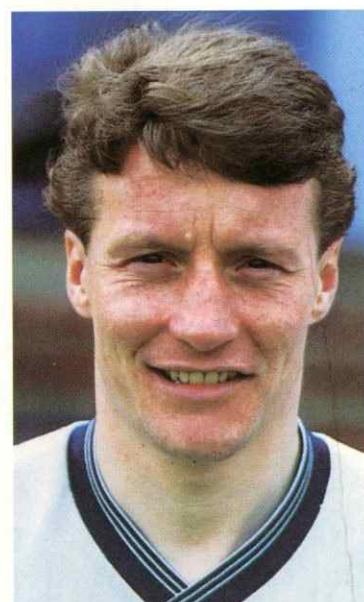
DAVID OLDFIELD

**DAVID OLDFIELD** — (Striker). Another outstanding teenager, David is 19. Made an outstanding full senior debut at Goodison Park in the third round of the Simod Cup when he scored two goals. A versatile player of exceptional ability he has skill and pace and is equally at home in attack, in the centre of the defence or in midfield.



BRIAN STEIN

**LES SEALEY** — (Goalkeeper). Although born and raised in the East End of London Sealey made his League bow with Coventry City for whom he signed in March 1976. Played 178 times for the "Sky Blues" before transferring to Luton in August 1983 for £100,000. Has found himself out of favour on more than one occasion but has fought back with many superlative displays to become the acknowledged number one. Total League and Cup appearances for Luton to end 1986/87 171.



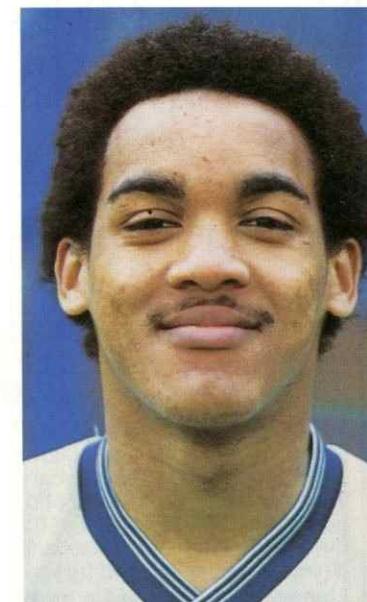
DANNY WILSON

**BRIAN STEIN** — (Striker). South African born striker who was signed from Edgware in October 1977 and within weeks was appearing for Luton at Old Trafford in a twice replayed Football League Cup tie against Manchester City. Brian scored twice in his first full League home game and has not looked back since, netting freely in all subsequent seasons. Deceptively fast and difficult to knock off the ball Stein has been extremely unlucky not to have added to his solitary England cap won against France in Paris in 1984. Currently enjoying a deserved testimonial season. Total League and Cup appearances for Luton to end 1986/87 410 — Goals 132.



LES SEALEY

**MARK STEIN** — (Striker). Brian's younger brother, signed professional forms for Luton in January 1984, making his debut three months later in a 3-0 home defeat by Everton. He had to wait nearly 18 months for his next League game but has gradually forced his way into the side with last season being his most successful to date as 8 goals in 21 League appearances proved. Total League and Cup appearances for Luton end 1986-87 32 — Goals 10.



MARK STEIN

**DANNY WILSON** — (Midfield). Ray Harford's first major signing, from Brighton, in the close season. Born in Wigan on January 1st 1960, Danny made his League debut for Bury in season 1977/78 before being transferred to Chesterfield three years later. His performances for the "Spireites" inspired Brian Clough to take him to Nottingham Forest in January 1983 but things did not work out at the City Ground and he moved to Brighton only ten months later. Qualifies for Northern Ireland through parentage and made three International appearances last season.

# LUTON TOWN

Shirts: White

Shorts: Navy Blue

- 1 LES SEALEY
- 2 TIM BREACKER
- 3 ASHLEY GRIMES
- 4 DARRON McDONOUGH
- 5 STEVE FOSTER (capt.)
- 6 MAL DONAGHY
- 7 DANNY WILSON
- 8 BRIAN STEIN
- 9 MICK HARFORD
- 10 MARK STEIN
- 11 IAN ALLINSON

Manager: RAY HARFORD

## OFFICIALS

**Today's Referee:** JOHN MARTIN (Alton, Hants)

John is a credit manager. Married with a son. Started refereeing in Bromley in 1958. Progressed through local leagues to Football League Line in 1973, and to the Referees List in 1977, and to the International Panel in 1984. Refereed European Cup matches in Czechoslovakia and Holland, and World Cup qualifying matches in Switzerland and Holland. Interested in all sports, especially athletics, badminton and bowls.

**Linesmen:** A. Dawson (Jarrow) Red Trim  
B. Frampton (Poole) Yellow Trim

**Reserve Referee:** J. M. Key (Rotherham)

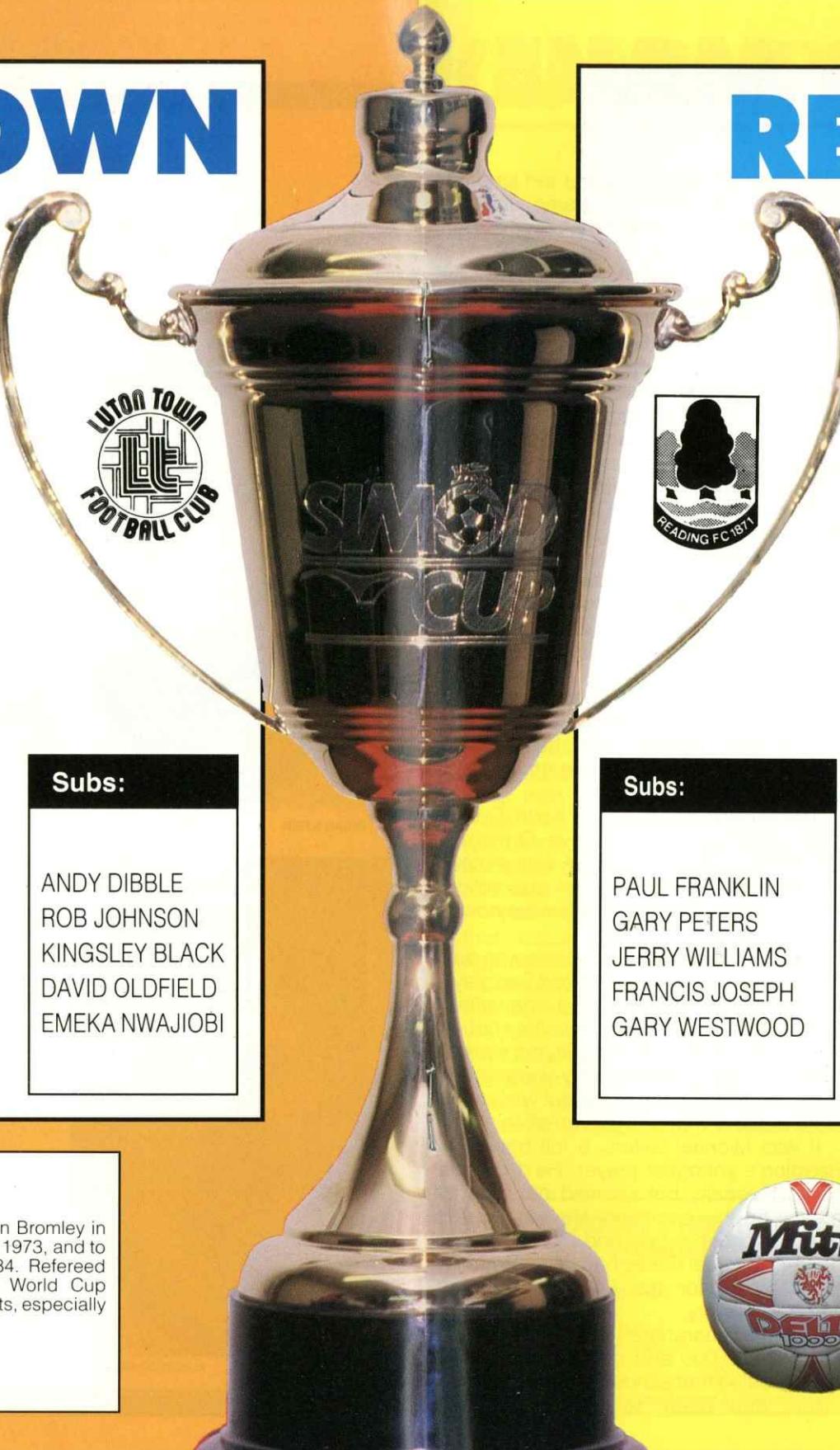
# READING

Shirts: Yellow

Shorts: Yellow

- 1 STEVE FRANCIS
- 2 COLIN BAILIE
- 3 STEVE RICHARDSON
- 4 STUART BEAVON
- 5 MARTIN HICKS (capt.)
- 6 KEITH CURLE
- 7 LINDEN JONES
- 8 LES TAYLOR
- 9 MICHAEL TAIT
- 10 MICHAEL GILKES
- 11 NEIL SMILLIE

Manager: IAN BRANFOOT



## IF IT'S A DRAW

Should the scores be level after 90 minutes play an extra 30 minutes will be played. If this Final is still not decided after extra-time then the winners will be determined by a penalty shoot-out, each team taking five kicks. If this again is not decisive then the penalty shoot-out will become sudden death.

# READING MAKE WEMBLEY AT LAST



Michael Gilkes — scored the vital penalty against Coventry City.

THE Elm Park floodlights burned long into the night as a thrilling drama unfolded between Reading and the FA Cup holders Coventry City.

It was the semi-final of the Simod Cup, and a Wembley final was the prize for the winners. The kick-off had been delayed by 15 minutes to allow the vast crowds to gain admittance and at the final count 15,348 people had squeezed through the turnstiles — the club's biggest gate of the season — to produce near record gate receipts of £60,217.

And they were not disappointed when the curtain was raised. Coventry, bristling with big names like Regis, Speedie and Bennett, were the unquestionable favourites for a third trip to Wembley in 10 months even though after 120 minutes play the scoreline read Reading 1 Coventry City 1.

The match had gone into an exciting penalty-kick decider. The striker against the goalkeeper in a one-against-one battle of nerves and skill reminiscent of the days of old when knights were bold. It was certainly not a time for faint hearts either on the pitch or on the terraces.

The tension mounted as Keith Curle's shot sped goalwards. Steve Ogrizovic, Coventry's giant goalkeeper, was already into his dive, a blur of green and yellow. The save was made, the odds were now all on Coventry.

Reading 'keeper Steve Francis was next in the shooting line. He stopped Sedgley's spot-kick then produced a marvellous save to turn away Dave Bennett's shot.

If the nerve ends of the players weren't frayed by now they certainly were on the terraces. The penalty shoot-out was deadlocked at 3-3 with one player left to shoot.

It was Michael Gilkes, a full back and Reading's youngest player. He'd missed his last penalty but showed no signs of nerves on this occasion. His run up was positive, his shot true and Ogrizovic was beaten. Michael Gilkes had taken Reading to Wembley for the first time in their 117-year history.

That had guaranteed the Berkshire club another £30,000 and manager Ian Branfoot revealed that although the five penalty

keepers had been selected before the

game, "a couple of them didn't fancy it when it came to the crunch and we had to re-arrange it a little.

"But Michael was keen. He had said he would take one and that he wanted it to be the last one, that's how confident he was."

During normal time Neil Smillie had registered his first goal in 11 months at Reading to open the scoring in the 57th minute and it was David Speedie who had equalised to force extra-time.

The road to Wembley had started on the plastic of Queens Park Rangers' Loftus Road. Ian Branfoot recalls: "We were going through a very bad patch at the time and the artificial pitch doesn't suit our style either so no one gave us any hope. But in the end we beat them quite comprehensively."

Linden Jones, a Welshman from Tredegar, scored two and Francis Joseph got another as the First Division side were beaten 3-1.

A derby game against Oxford United was won 1-0 and that provided a plum home tie against Nottingham Forest who were then in the First Division race... "Again we thoroughly deserved our 2-1 win," says Mr Branfoot. "Forest grossly underestimated us and by the time they realised they could not change their game.

"It must be difficult to motivate players of that calibre for a game like this. I appreciate their problem.

"Actually the hardest game for us was the fourth round tie against Bradford City. We had already played them three times in the League and the Littlewoods Cup and the players knew each other inside-out. It was a very tight match and we just squeezed through with the better of three goals."

## READING'S ROUTE TO WEMBLEY

Rd.	Opponents	F A	Scorers
1	Queens Park Rangers	3-1	Jones 2, Joseph
2	OXFORD UNITED	1-0	Horrix
3	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	2-1	Beavon, Horrix
4	BRADFORD CITY	2-1	Bailey, Horrix
S/F	COVENTRY CITY	1-1*	Smillie

(\*After extra-time Reading won 4-3 on penalties)



Steve Richardson in action against Aston Villa last week.

# READING



**Back Row:** Gary Peters, Gary Westwood, Martin Hicks (Capt.), Steve Francis, Paul Franklin.

**Centre Row:** Stewart Henderson (Coach), Les Taylor, Michael Gilkes, Linden Jones, Neil Smillie, Stuart Beavon, Steve Richardson, John Haselden (Physio).

**Front Row:** Jerry Williams, Colin Bailie, Ian Branfoot (Manager), Mick Tait, Keith Curle.

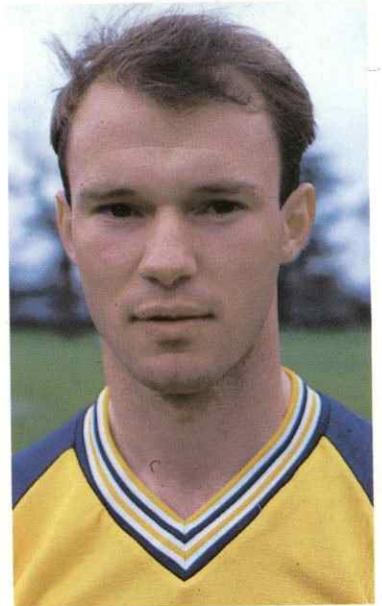
**FOOTBALL LEAGUE RECORD:** 1920 Original member of Division 3; 1921-26 Division 3(S); 1926-31 Division 2; 1931-58 Division 3(S); 1958-71 Division 3; 1971-76 Division 4; 1976-77 Division 3; 1977-79 Division 4; 1979-83 Division 3; 1983-84 Division 4; 1984-86 Division 3; 1986-Division 2.

**HONOURS:** Football League: Division 2 best season: 14th, 1926-27; Division 3 — Champions 1985-86, Division 3(S) — Champions 1925-26; Runners-up 1931-32, 1934-35, 1948-49, 1951-52; Division 4 — Champions 1978-79. F.A. Cup: semi-final 1927. Football League Cup best season: 4th rd, 1965, 1966, 1978.

**COLOURS:** Sky blue shirts with white centre panel, sky blue shorts, navy stockings. **Change colours:** All yellow.

**Chairman:** R. G. Smee  
**Managing Director:** M. J. Lewis  
**Directors:** J. Campbell, C. M. Brooks  
**Life President:** J. H. Brooks  
**Manager:** Ian Branfoot  
**Financial Controller:** C. R. Winter  
**Physiotherapist:** John Haselden  
**Year Formed:** 1871  
**Club Nickname:** 'The Royals'

# THE A-Z OF READING



COLIN BAILIE

**COLIN BAILIE** — (Defender). Comes from Belfast, Northern Ireland. Born 31.3.64. Former apprentice with Swindon Town where he spent four years. Attracted interest from several top clubs before he left the Robins and joined Reading for a tribunal-decided £22,500 during the summer of 1985. A Northern Ireland youth international, he is a forceful full-back capable of filling in elsewhere when needed.



STUART BEAVON

**STUART BEAVON** — (Midfielder). Born Wolverhampton, West Midlands 30.11.58. Began his career at Tottenham and played a handful of games in the First Division. After four years at White Hart Lane, and a brief loan spell at Notts County he joined Reading for £40,000 in 1980. Busy player with a good shot in both feet. Stuart has made over 300 appearances for the club.



STEVE FRANCIS

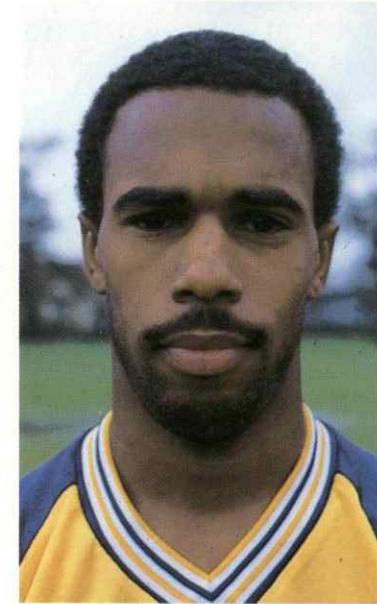
**KEITH CURLE** — (Midfielder). Born in Bristol 14.11.63, he was on the books of Bristol City as a schoolboy but signed for Bristol Rovers as an apprentice, in 1980. Made his League debut (29.8.81), against Chester and scored the opening goal in a 2-2 draw. Made 32 League appearances in all before adding a further 16 in the colours of Torquay United in season 1983-84. Was only three months at Plainmoor before returning to Bristol, this time to City, who paid £10,000. Was a regular in their team and played here at Wembley for them in last season's Freight Rover trophy final. Joined Reading in August.



PAUL FRANKLIN

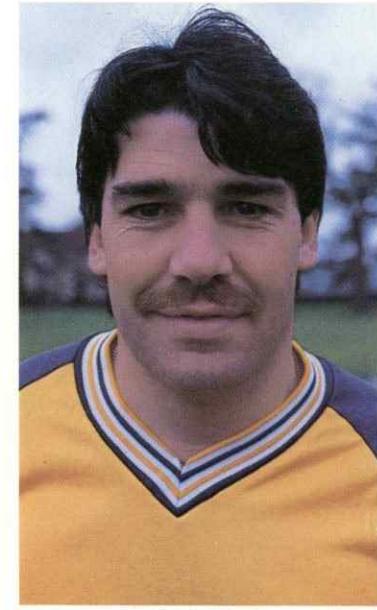
# THE A-Z OF READING

**PAUL FRANKLIN** — (Defender). Born Ilford, Essex 5.10.63. Central defender who served his apprenticeship at Watford. Made some 40 appearances during his stay at Vicarage Road. Suffered a cartilage operation three years ago on a troublesome left knee. Loaned to Shrewsbury and Swindon last season, joined Reading on free transfer in June, 1987. Paul became the third Watford player to move to Elm Park (Les Taylor and Neil Smillie also) in seven months.



MICHAEL GILKES

**MICHAEL GILKES** — (Winger). Born Hackney, London 20.7.65. Once on the books of Charlton and Leicester City he joined the Elm Park playing staff in January 1984. Moved through reserve ranks to make his senior debut, as a substitute at Lincoln in October 1984. Made eight full first-team appearances during 84-85, scoring two goals, and ten appearances, plus two goals in season 1985-86. Possesses lightning pace and good control.

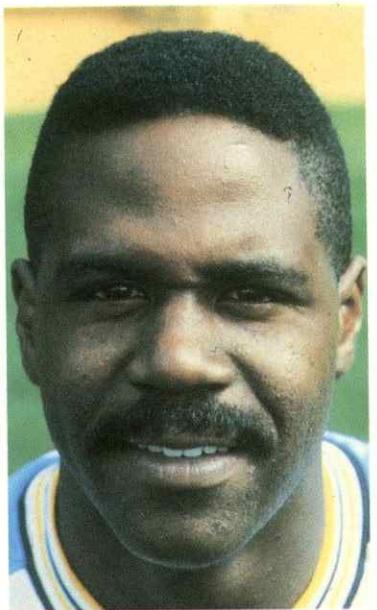


LINDEN JONES

**MARTIN HICKS** — (Defender). Born Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick 27.2.57. Played for Stratford Town in Hellenic league. Joined Reading then released to Charlton. Returned to Elm Park in 1977 for £3,000 following two seasons at The Valley. Won a Football League Fourth Division Championship medal with Reading in 78-79. Is now the club's leading current appearance maker with over 370 games to his credit. The Club captain, he missed the Third Division title run-in with a broken jaw. Broke the jaw again last season but has fully recovered. Currently celebrating his testimonial season.

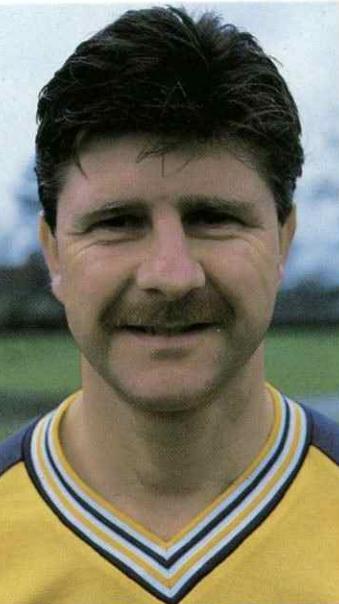
**LINDEN JONES** — (Defender). Born Tredegar, Mid-Glamorgan 5.1.61. Was an apprentice at Cardiff where he made 145 League appearances. Moved to Newport County after four years at Ninian Park and played over 150 games for them before switching to Reading for £30,000 in June, 1987. The former Newport skipper, Linden won three Welsh Under-21 caps. Twice picked for the full Welsh senior side but withdrew on each occasion due to club commitments and injury.

# THE A-Z OF READING



FRANCIS JOSEPH

**FRANCIS JOSEPH** (Striker). Born Kilburn, London 6.3.60. Started his career with non-League Hillingdon Borough. It was Wimbledon who gave him his break and he scored 14 goals in 51 League matches for them. Joined Brentford and played over 100 games for them averaging a goal nearly every other game. A broken leg hampered further progress at Griffin Park and Francis was loaned back to Wimbledon last season. Played summer soccer in Finland and joined Reading for £20,000-plus in July, 1987.



GARY PETERS

**GARY PETERS** (Defender). Born Carshalton, Surrey 3.8.54. Started his pro career with Reading in 1975. Moved to Fulham for £30,000 in 1979 then on to Wimbledon in 1982. Joined Aldershot two years later before starting second spell at Elm Park in February, 1985. Won Div. 4 Championship medal with Reading in 78-79; selected for PFA divisional team same season. Versatile defender who can also play in midfield and up front. Has been a member of no fewer than seven promotion-winning sides. Around 400 career League appearances.



STEVE RICHARDSON

**STEVE RICHARDSON** (Defender). Born Slough, Berks 11.2.62. Began career with Southampton. Spent three seasons at The Dell before free transfer move to Reading in 1982. Has since made over 200 appearances, for club and twice voted Player of Year. Member of PFA Div 4 team in 83-84. Fearless, speedy left-back always eager to attack.



NEIL SMILLIE

**NEIL SMILLIE** (Winger). Born Barnsley, South Yorks 19.7.58. Joined Crystal Palace as apprentice and made 83 League appearances, before moving on to Brighton. Collected an F.A. Cup runners-up medal with the Seagulls in 1983. Moved to Watford in a £100,000 deal in 1985 but never settled and, after a month's loan spell at Elm Park in January 1987 he joined Reading on a free transfer in March 86-87.

# THE A-Z OF READING



MICK TAIT

**MICK TAIT** (Midfield). Born Wallsend, Tyne and Wear 30.9.56. Mick began his career with Oxford United as an apprentice. Made 64 appearances, scoring 23 goals. Moved to Carlisle (106 games, 20 goals) then on to Hull (33). Next stop was Fratton Park where he scored 30 goals in 240 games for Portsmouth where he spent seven years but didn't figure in Pompey's Div. 1 plans. Bought by Reading for £50,000 in August, 1987. Comes from same Wallsend boys' club as new Reading teammate Les Taylor. Both were apprentices at Oxford at the same time.



LES TAYLOR

**LES TAYLOR** (Midfield). Born North Shields, Tyne and Wear 4.12.56. Joined Oxford United as apprentice and went on to play 219 League games (15 goals) at The Manor before moving on to Watford for £100,000 in November, 1980. Took his total League record to around 400 games before joining Reading for £20,000 in December, 1986, after an initial month's loan.



GARY WESTWOOD

**GARY WESTWOOD** (Goalkeeper). Born Barrow, Cumbria 3.4.63. Former Ipswich apprentice. Gary started at Portman Road in 1980. Had spells on loan with Charlton Athletic, Crystal Palace, Reading and Peterborough United before returning to Elm Park permanently in the summer of 1984. Now has well over 100 Reading appearances behind him. Former England youth international.



JERRY WILLIAMS

**JERRY WILLIAMS** (Midfield). Born Didcot, Oxon 24.3.60. Began as an apprentice with Reading, his only professional club, and progressed through junior, youth and reserve teams before making his League debut in February, 1977. Has since appeared in almost 300 first-team matches, operating in defence, midfield and attack. Has plenty of pace and ability to score goals from deep positions.

## WEMBLEY FOOTBALL DIARY

APRIL



### MERCANTILE CREDIT CENTENARY FESTIVAL

Sat 16 and Sun 17  
A knockout weekend of family fun as 16 top teams celebrate 100 years of The Football League.

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW FROM ALL LEAGUE CLUBS

### SAT 23 FA VASE FINAL

Seats: £6.00, £4.00  
Standing: £3.00

### SUN 24 LITTLEWOODS CUP FINAL

ARSENAL V LUTON TOWN

### SAT 30 SILK CUT RUGBY LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP FINAL

### SAT 28 SCHOOLS' SOCCER INTERNATIONAL (Smiths Crisps Shield) ENGLAND V ITALY

MAY

### SAT 7 FA TROPHY FINAL

### SUN 29 SHERPA VAN TROPHY FINAL

Seats: £12.00, £10.00, £8.00.  
Standing: £5.00

### SAT 14 FA CUP FINAL

### SAT 21 THE ROUS CUP ENGLAND V SCOTLAND

### TUES 24 THE ROUS CUP ENGLAND V COLOMBIA

Seats: £15.00, £12.50, £10.00, £8.00.  
Standing: £6.00.



WEMBLEY WEST END  
BOX OFFICE  
NOW OPEN AT  
**TOWER RECORDS**  
PICCADILLY CIRCUS  
9.00 am — 9.00 pm  
**No Booking Fees!**

For details of advertising in all Wembley Programmes contact Publications Manager: 01-902 8833



## WARNING TV SURVEILLANCE

*This ground is equipped with*  
**CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION**

Installed with the help of a grant from the Football Trust.

It is there to increase crowd safety and to help the police.

Recording facilities enable film and photographs to be taken of disorder, which may subsequently be used in a court of law.

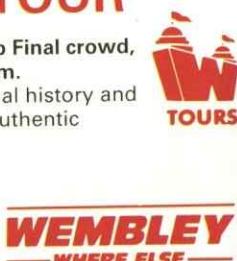
The Football Trust is funded entirely by the pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters from their Spotting-the-Ball competition.

## IT'S WHAT EVERY CHILD CAN DO ON A WEMBLEY TOUR

Step out of the players' tunnel to the roar of a Cup Final crowd, and hold the Cup aloft. It's every youngsters dream.

Relive the magic of Wembley with an audio visual history and visit the players' changing rooms kitted out with authentic international strips.

Tours run daily (except event days) on the hour. Adults £2.50, kids and OAP's £1.50. Party rates available. Phone 01-903 4864.



BOX OFFICE 01-902 1234

THIS is our big day. It is almost unbelievable that we are here at Wembley and the atmosphere generated through the club by this achievement is absolutely tremendous.

At the moment it is something we can't quite believe but as the day goes by I'm sure it will sink in. We have come intent on enjoying the experience although we have not lost sight of the fact that we are pro footballers and we want to win. We will be playing the game to win and if we don't we will be disappointed.

It was when we beat Nottingham Forest that I suddenly realised that Wembley could be a real possibility and not an impossible dream. We had to face Coventry City in the semi-final but we had beaten a couple of First Division sides this season and the reality struck home.

We had never been to a semi-final before and people tell you it is the worst one to lose but we were very confident and even when the game went to penalties I was sure we would win through.

We have beaten some good teams in cup football yet seem to be unable to reproduce that form in the League. Just why I don't know. Reading is not really a footballing community. We have a hard-core of about 3,000 people and our average League gate is about 5,500. We get a cup tie against First Division opposition and suddenly the terraces swell with 10-14,000 people and I think the

# OUR BIG DAY

Reading skipper Martin Hicks looks forward to the Wembley experience —



atmosphere created by them helps the players.

We have just felt that we would never get beaten in the cup games even though three of our games went into extra-time. We maintained that belief that we were going to do well and here we are.

One or two of the lads have been to Wembley before with other clubs — Neil Smailie (Brighton, FAC), Keith Curle (Bristol City, Freight Rover) and Les Taylor (Watford, FAC) — but generally speaking we are novices when it comes to finals.

It will be a great experience for us and we respond positively to the big atmosphere so I'm sure the boys will do well.

The town has really done us proud. Reading scarves and hats are everywhere, we have sold our allocation of tickets and the place is just buzzing with cup fever. It is fantastic because it is quite a big place and they need a little bit of success.

Personally, I feel very honoured to be here today. There are people who have spent their entire careers in the First Division yet have never played at Wembley so it is an absolute dream and I still can't believe that it is really going to happen.

Luton of course are having a great season and must be favourites but this is a one off situation and cup ties are notorious for creating upsets. It is all down to what happens on the day. I'm sure we are the underdogs and I'm sure we will do well.

# OLD ACQUAINTANCES

LUTON TOWN and Reading have played out many a contest over the years yet this afternoon they will meet each other for only the second time since 1970.

The last encounter was in the Football League Cup, a second round tie, played over two legs in August and September 1980.

At Elm Park in the first leg the Hatters established a two goal cushion thanks to strikes from Brian Stein and David Moss but the return match at Kenilworth Road proved a much tighter affair.

This second game, on Tuesday 3rd September 1980, was a memorable night for current Reading skipper Martin Hicks for it marked his return to the first team after a year out with injury. The game finished 1-1 on the night with Reading centre-half Steve Hetzke rubbing out the lead established by the Luton number five Mike Saxby in the second half. The draw was good enough for Luton though who went through on a 3-1 aggregate.

The teams that night were:

LUTON TOWN: Findlay; Stevens, Donaghy, Grealish, Saxby, Aizlewood, Hill, Stein, White, Antic, Heath (Ingram).

READING: Death; Joslyn, Cheetham, Bowman, Hetzke, Hicks, Earles, Wanklyn, Dixon, Sanchez, Beavon.

Attendance: 5,707.

The history of games between these two clubs goes back to the end of the last century when they both participated in the Southern League. In the Football League they have met on 32 occasions, all in the Third Division, with Luton winning 15 and Reading 13 games. The respective statistics are:

	P	W	D	L	F	A
LUTON	32	15	4	13	54	44
READING	32	13	4	15	44	54

On a dismal rainy Wednesday night in March 1970 Elm Park thronged to the sound of a big crowd once more as Reading and Luton squared up for what has proved to be the last League game there between these two old adversaries.

Both sides were challenging for promotion from the Third Division and this game was virtually a six-pointer. The match in fact got off to an incredible start. Reading goalkeeper Steve Death was snarled up in the heavy traffic outside and was just in the ground by the time the game kicked off.

So the Royals started with 10 men, full-back Dennis Butler pulling on the goalkeeper's jersey, and managing to keep the Luton forwards at bay until Death was able to take the field.

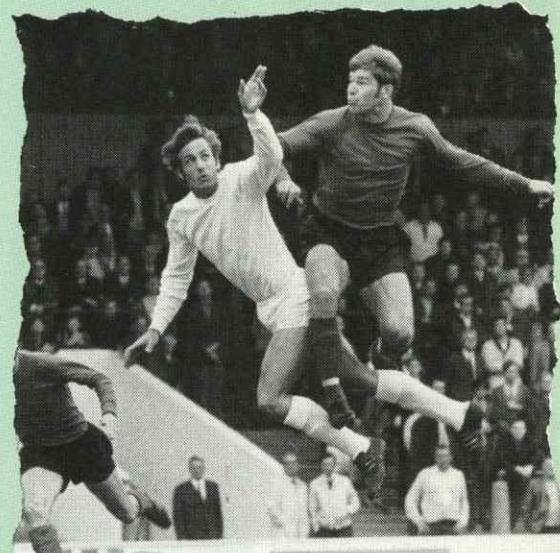
No sooner had he taken up his position than the little goalkeeper was called upon to make a brilliant save to deny Matt Tees a goal. On the night Reading enjoyed the better of the exchanges however, but, although forcing 15 corners to Luton's two, were unable to force a break-through and a goalless draw

seemed the inevitable outcome as the clock ticked into the final minute.

Then a hefty clearance from deep in the Luton defence caught Reading on the break. Malcolm Macdonald latched onto it and sprinted clear of the home defence to blast his shot past the stranded Death. With just 23 seconds remaining 'Super Mac' had won the game for the Hatters!

That goal ended Reading's 15 match unbeaten run and kept Luton in second place behind Orient, a position they were to hang onto until the end of the season.

Reading's only consolation was the attendance. Some 18,782 turned up that night, a gate which



Malcolm Macdonald — shattered Reading.

hasn't been bettered at Elm Park in the League since.

The teams that evening were:  
READING: Death; Dixon, Butler, Wagstaff B., Allen, Sharpe, Cumming, Chappell, Habbin, Wagstaff T., Williams.

LUTON TOWN: Davie; Ryan, Jardine, Slough, Branston, Moore, Collins, Donald, Tees, Keen, French (Allen).

Alas, for Reading, they had not heard the last of Malcolm Macdonald. In the return fixture at Kenilworth Road on Easter Saturday he celebrated with a hat-trick as Luton romped to a 5-0 win. Viv Busby recorded his first ever league goal in that game and Mike Harrison scored the other.

## READING'S ROUTE TO WEMBLEY

### ROUND 1

Linden Jones scores at Loftus Road.



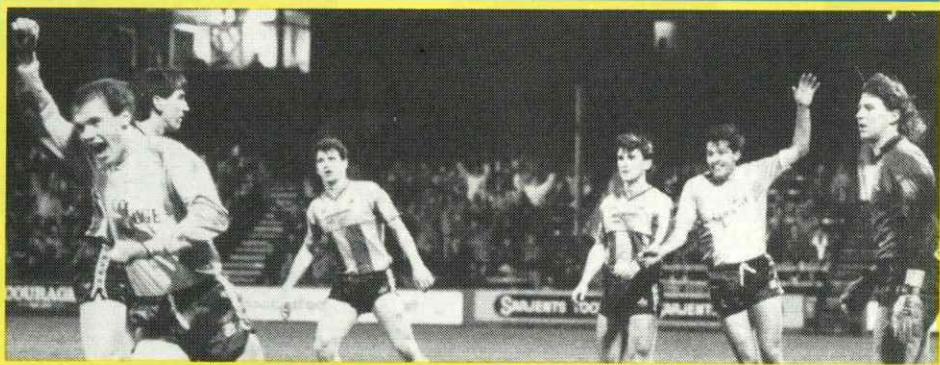
### ROUND 3

Dean Horrix shoots past Forest goalie Steve Sutton.



### ROUND 4

Reading's opening goal against Bradford City.



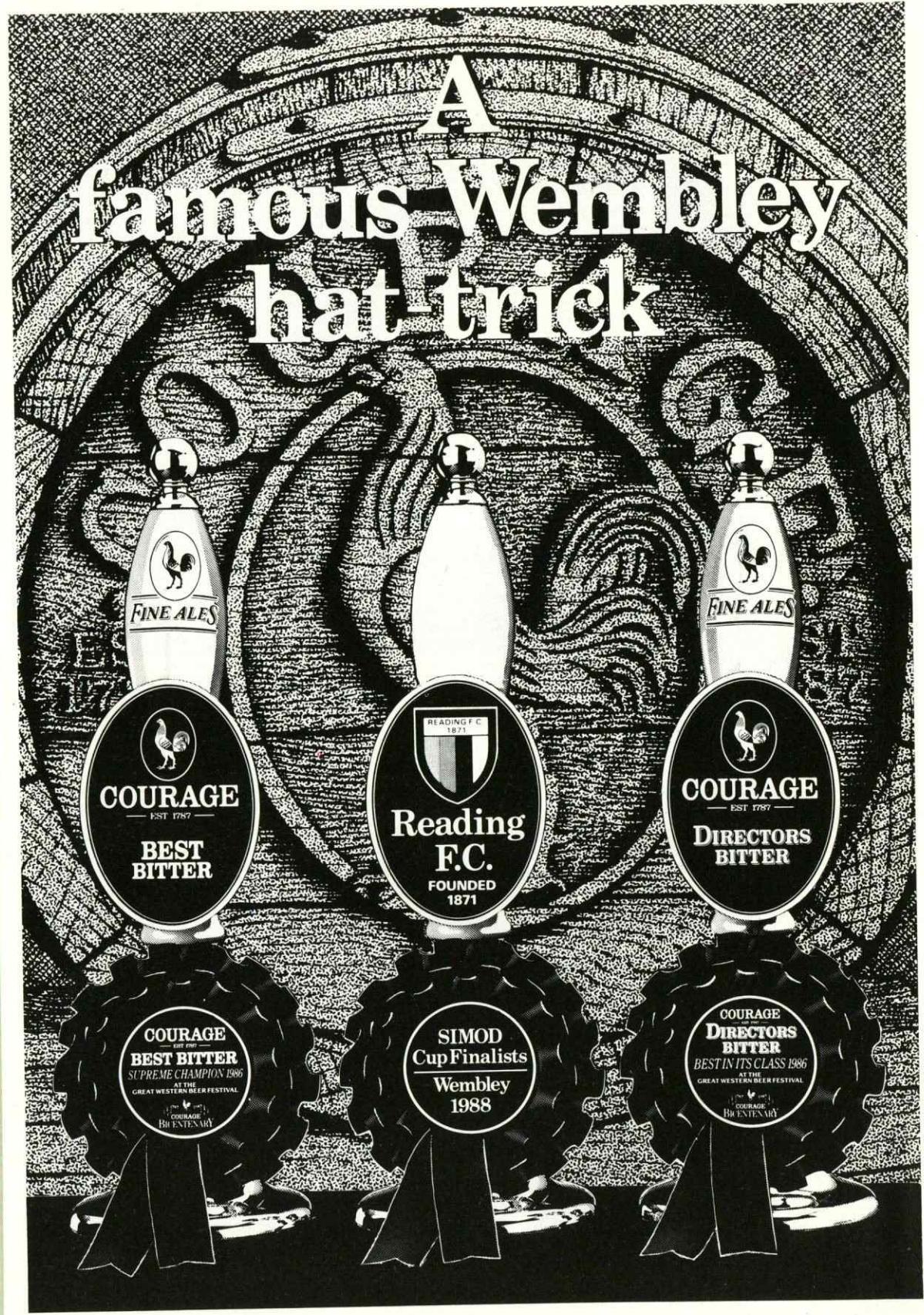
### SEMI-FINAL

The goal that brought Reading to Wembley. Michael Gilkes fires home the clinching penalty.



Pictures courtesy — Evening Post Reading

EVENING POST



## LUTON ONE UP

IT is nearly 31 years since Luton Town last met Reading in a cup final. The venue was Reading's Elm Park, the trophy they were jousting for, the Southern Floodlight Cup.

Reading were ninth in the Third Division (South), after 40 games, and it was a big night for them against the aristocrats from Luton who were down from the First Division.

A magnificent 2-1 victory over Arsenal in the semi-final had sparked great interest in the town. The triumph was all the more glorious from the fact that Reading had played the entire second-half of the game with just ten men after Bobby Campbell was injured.

As for Luton, they had disposed of Brentford in their semi-final tie. The Hatters had a connection with Reading as well for their manager, Dally Duncan, a former Scottish international and Derby County star, had played for Reading as a 'Guest' player during the war years.

A gate of 15,599 turned out to roar Reading to victory but they were soon silenced, Luton scoring within 90 seconds of the start.

The Third Division side could have cap-

italated but they didn't. Indeed, they fought back impressively and when Jimmy Wheeler netted an equaliser with a spectacular 25-yard shot, were well in command.

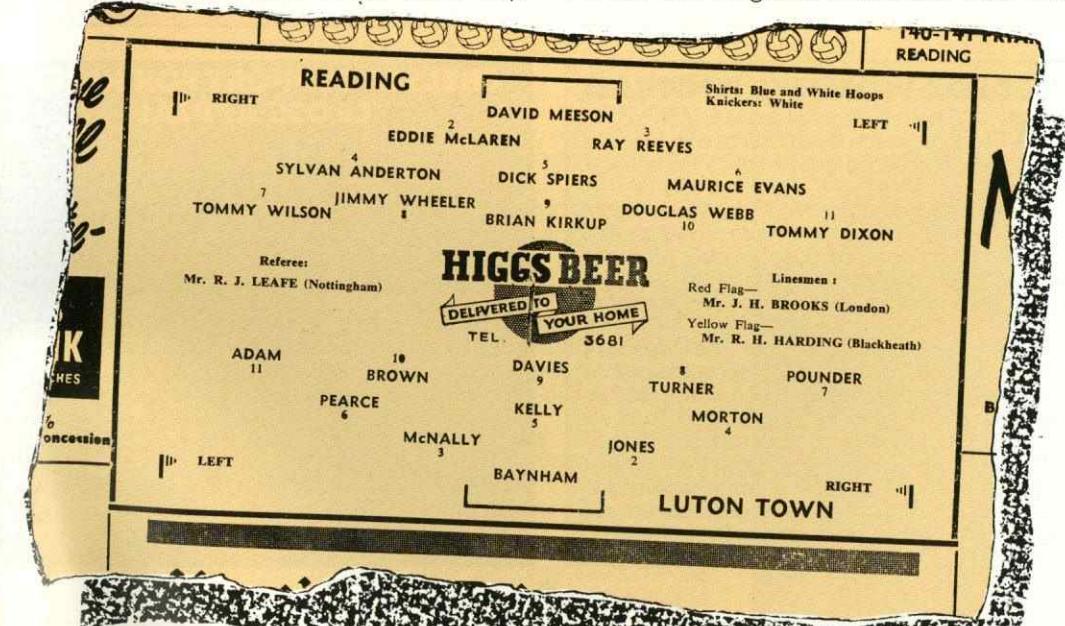
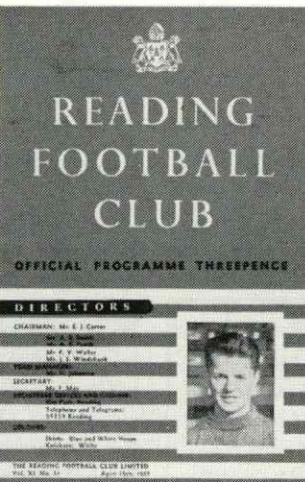
Ron Bayham in the Luton goal wasn't to be beaten again however and it was Luton who snatched the winner when left-winger Adam followed up to score after David Meeson had done well to block a fierce shot from Turner.

So Luton took the cup with a 2-1 scoreline.

The following season the two clubs met again in the Southern Floodlight Cup, this time at the semi-final stage. This game at Elm Park proved to be a cracker with six goals shared.

In the replay at Kenilworth Road, Reading pulled off a shock win. The only goal of the game came in the 27th minute from Tommy Dixon and the margin could have been more had Reading not missed a penalty late in the game.

Reading lost 2-0 at home to Portsmouth in the final but it is interesting to note that their team included Maurice Evans, who has been managing Oxford United, and Dougie Webb, the father of Nottingham Forest and England midfielder Neil Webb.



What organisation receives £9 million annually from the Spotting-the-Ball competition run by Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters and spends it all on projects which benefit football throughout the UK? ... which pays £4.5 million to the Football Grounds Improvement Trust to enable them help League clubs meet the demands of the safety of Sports Grounds Act and improve their stadia?

... which has set aside £2.3 million during the past two years to ensure that all Football League grounds are covered by closed circuit television systems?

... which is spending £2 million to help English local authorities improve their park pitches and changing rooms?

... which is spending £1.25 million to assist 'non-League' clubs with essential safety work?

... which has agreed to pay over £1.3 million annually to League clubs to cover 35% of policing costs at football matches?

... which paid £85,000 to build a new railway exit Wembley Central, £35,000 for a new platform at



Nottingham and half the cost of a new railway station at Watford?

... which is spending £350,000 on research at Oxford and Leicester universities to examine football violence and the role the game can play in combating crime in inner cities?

The answer to all these questions is The Football Trust.

By the end of this year Spotting-the-Ball will have generated almost £70 million for the Football Trust and Football Grounds Improvement Trust.

Formed in 1979, The Football Trust uniquely brings together representatives from all areas of the game drawing its membership from the Football Association, the Football League, the Professional Footballers' Association, the game in Scotland, local authorities, the police and pools companies.

The Football Trust's annual income of £9 million is in addition to the £6.5 million the PPA pay to the football authorities for the use of their fixtures on the pools coupons, thus making them the game's largest benefactor by far.

## SCILLY FOOTBALL

Football on the Isles of Scilly has seen better days as St. Mary's FC can testify. The club, who have received a £100 Football Trust grant, recently made a desperate plea for assistance.

Club spokesman Steve Watt explained: "Raising funds for European tours to Penzance is very difficult for us due to the small and isolated population." He continued: "We need some money after last season's catastrophic tour of Torquay. Firstly, we couldn't leave the island as scheduled because of a force 9 gale. Secondly, we were banned from playing Penzance FC because our Honorary Secretary had forgotten the FA affiliation. Thirdly, a bill for sandwiches in a Torquay pub came to £30."

## BOOST FOR WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

The Football Trust has released £6,000 to the Women's FA to assist the organisation with the cost of its successful programme of international matches.

England currently lead their European Championship Group having defeated both Finland and Denmark 2-1. With four matches to play, England have a strong chance of qualifying for the Quarter-Finals of the competition in November 1988.

Linda Whitehead, Secretary of the Women's Football Association, said: "Women's football is getting stronger and stronger and if it weren't for the support of organisations like The Football Trust we simply couldn't survive. I don't think people have fully realised the growth of the game in this country. Given the status and financial support received in the Scandinavian countries and West Germany we could have the fastest growing female sport."

## SAFETY SUPPORT FOR WEMBLEY STADIUM

The Football Trust has awarded Wembley Stadium up to £100,000 to cover the cost of safety measures at the ground. The grant will cover work required for use at football matches. Safety measures include a concourse segregation gate and 'snaking' facilities at Turnstile H.

Last November the Trust completed grant-aid totalling £862,000 to Wembley for the refurbishment of the international stadium and installation of CCTV. During that month England's European championship match against Yugoslavia became the first ever international in the United Kingdom to be staged with closed circuit television cameras operational.

## CHELSEA SUPPORT FOR KING'S CROSS APPEAL

British Transport Police have written to The Football Trust to inform them of the admirable behaviour of the Chelsea FC Supporters Club.

On Sunday 22 November, the BTP Sergeant on duty at St. Pancras Station was approached by the Chief Steward of the Chelsea Supporters Club who informed him that a collection had been made amongst the supporters in aid of the Kings Cross Fire Victims Disaster Fund.

It is believed that £150 was donated. Inspector Temporal of the Trust-supported Football Liaison Office commented: "At a time when the only publicity afforded to football supporters is of the adverse kind, it is felt that such acts of generosity and deepest sympathy should be brought to the attention of the Football Authorities." The British Transport Police have written to the FA, the Football League, Department of Environment and the Home Office in praise of the Chelsea supporters.

# THE MANAGERS

**RAY HARFORD**, is probably the least known of the managers in the First Division, no doubt because most of his career has taken shape in the lower regions of the League. But in this his first season of management in the top sphere he could be the most successful.

Harford, a shy man, has steered Luton back to Wembley for the first time in 29 years and this is only the first of several dates they have here in the next couple of months.

Born in Halifax, he has a distinct London accent and in fact started his playing career at Charlton. After two years there as a reserve half-back — he made three League appearances — he transferred to Exeter City. He went on to play in 354 League games in a career which embraced Lincoln City (161 appearances), Mansfield Town, Port Vale and Colchester United.

It was at Layer Road that Ray came under the influence of Jim Smith who groomed him for management during his seven year association with Colchester and Ray still turns to the Bald Eagle for advice when he needs it.

It was former Luton player Malcolm Macdonald, then manager of Fulham, who offered him the coach's job at Craven Cottage. When Macdonald left Ray was appointed manager a job he relinquished two years later.

Luton snapped him up almost immediately and after working as the first team coach last season he was installed as the Hatters' manager last summer following the resignation of John Moore.

**IAN BRANFOOT** will be sniffing the Wembley air for the third time this afternoon although this will be the first occasion that he has been directly involved in the proceedings which will take place.

It was in 1966 that he first sampled the atmosphere as a young player with Sheffield Wednesday. The Owls faced Everton in the F.A. Cup Final and although not in the squad he was in the official party.

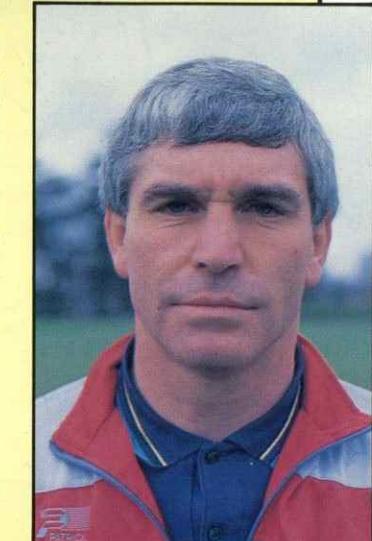
Thirteen years later he was back again as one of the coaching staff at Southampton as the Saints tackled Nottingham Forest for the Football League Cup. On both occasions Ian was on the losing side so he is hoping it will prove third time lucky for him today.

Born in Gateshead 41 years ago, Ian's career as a player developed with Doncaster Rovers and then Lincoln City and he clocked up 358 League appearances, mostly at right back. Won a Fourth Division champions medal with Lincoln in 1976 and then became the chief coach at Sincil Bank before moving south to join the coaching ranks at the Dell.

It was in July 1983 that Ian arrived at Elm Park, appointed as first team coach by manager Maurice Evans. When Evans was sacked in January, 1984, Ian was installed as the manager and four months later Reading were promoted from Division Four.

Two years later the Royals ran away with the Third Division Championship setting a League record of 13 straight wins at the start of the season . . . Ian Branfoot was named as Division Three's Manager of the Year.

The holder of a full F.A. Coaching badge he led Reading to 13th place in the Second Division last season, the Club's highest ever in the Football League.





FOOTBALL LEAGUE CENTENARY



# FESTIVAL OF FOOTBALL

WEMBLEY STADIUM

16th & 17th APRIL 1988



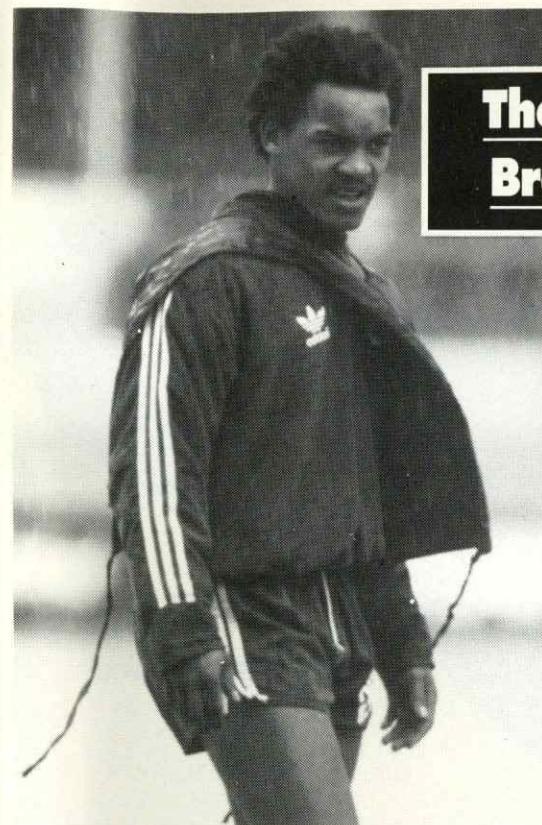
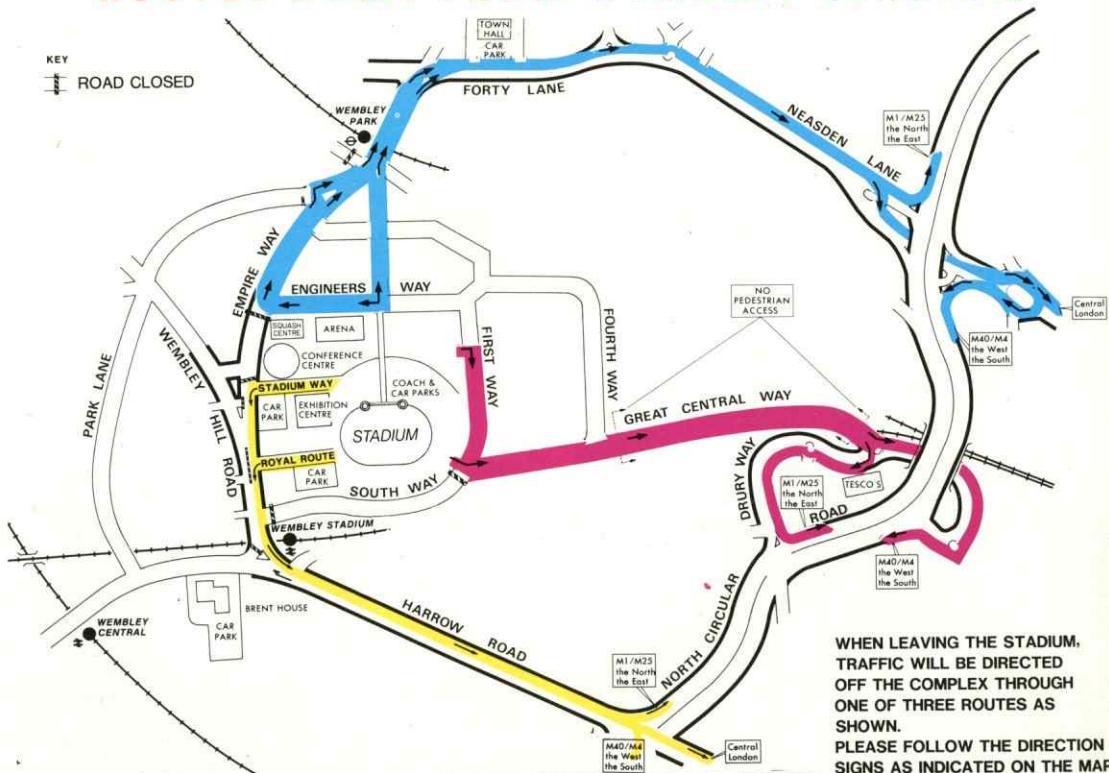
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- 15 HOURS OF FOOTBALL ... • TWO DAYS OF COMPETITION ...
- 16 TOP LEAGUE CLUBS ... • ASTON VILLA • BLACKBURN ROVERS
- CRYSTAL PALACE • EVERTON • LEEDS UNITED • LIVERPOOL • LUTON TOWN • NEWCASTLE UNITED • NOTTINGHAM FOREST • MANCHESTER UNITED • SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY • SUNDERLAND • TRANMERE ROVERS
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**WEMBLEY**  
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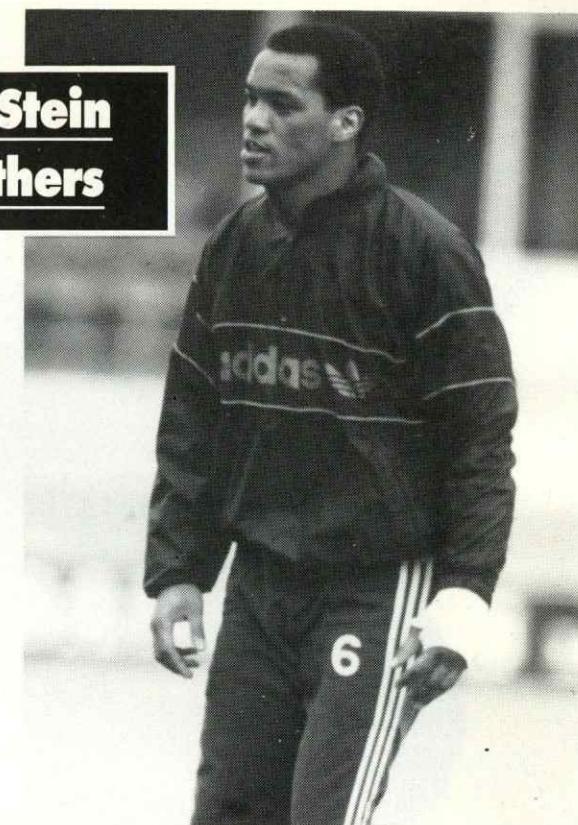
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NOW FOR DETAILS

IMPORTANT TICKET INFORMATION: SATURDAY, 16th APRIL —  
MEMBERS ONLY. SUNDAY 17th APRIL — FAMILY GROUPS AND  
MEMBERS ONLY

## ROUTES HOME FROM WEMBLEY STADIUM



**The Stein Brothers**



Luton Town's Mark (left) and Brian Stein, who are set to become the First Brothers to play in a Wembley Final since Brian and Jimmy Greenhoff appeared in Manchester United's F.A. Cup winning team in 1977.

## LUTON TOWN'S FORM GUIDE

Opponents	Res	Scorers
Derby County	(A) 0-1	
Coventry City	(H) 0-1	
West Ham United	(H) 2-2	Harford (2)
Chelsea	(A) 0-3	
Arsenal	(H) 1-1	Wilson (pen)
Oxford United	(A) 5-2	Stein B, Brecker, Nwajobi, Harford, Hill
Everton	(H) 2-1	Stein B, Hill
Charlton Athletic	(A) 0-1	Weir
Wigan Athletic (LC21L)	(A) 1-0	
Q.P.R.	(A) 0-2	
Manchester United	(H) 1-1	Harford
Wigan Athletic (LC22L)	(H) 4-2	Harford (3), McDonough
Portsmouth	(A) 1-3	Harford (pen)
Wimbledon	(H) 2-0	Stein B, Wilson
Liverpool	(H) 0-1	
Coventry City (LC3)	(H) 3-1	Harford (2), Weir
Newcastle United	(H) 4-0	Stein M (2), Nwajobi, Stein B.
Sheffield Wednesday	(A) 2-0	Stein M, Allinson
Ipswich Town (LC4)	(A) 1-0	Stein B.
Tottenham Hotspur	(H) 2-0	Allinson (2)
Norwich City	(H) 1-2	Stein B.
Watford	(A) 1-0	Foster
Southampton	(H) 2-2	McDonough, Harford
Everton	(A) 1-0	
Charlton Athletic	(H) 3-0	Stein M, Stein B, Harford
Chelsea	(A) 1-1	Stein M
West Ham Utd.	(A) 2-1	Weir, McDonough
Hartlepool United (FAC3)	(H) 1-0	McDonough
Derby County	(H) 2-0	Foster, Harford
Bradford City (LC5)	(H) 2-1	Allinson, Stein B
Southampton (FAC4)	(H) 7-4	Harford (2), Stein B, McDonough, Stein M (3)
Oxford United	(A) 1-1	Stein B
Oxford United (LCSF 1L)	(A) 1-2	Stein M
Arsenal	(A) 1-1	Harford
Q.P.R. (FAC5)	(H) 1-0	Own Goal
Q.P.R. (FAC5 R)	(H) 1-0	Stein B, Grimes
Oxford United (LCSF 2L)	(H) 2-0	Stein B, Grimes
Wimbledon	(A) 0-2	
Portsmouth (FAC6)	(H) 3-1	Wilson, Stein M, Harford
Coventry City	(A) 0-4	

## READING'S FORM GUIDE

Opponents	Res	Scorers
Leeds United	(A) 0-0	
Plymouth Argyle	(H) 0-1	
Shrewsbury Town	(A) 1-0	Joseph
Oldham Athletic	(H) 3-0	Gordon, Canoville, Joseph
AFC Bournemouth	(A) 0-3	
Stoke City	(H) 0-1	
Crystal Palace	(H) 2-3	Own Goal, Gilkes (Pen)
Chelsea (LC2 1L)	(H) 3-1	Gilkes (2) Hicks
Swindon Town	(A) 0-4	
Middlesbrough	(A) 0-0	
W.B.A.	(H) 1-2	Gilkes
Chelsea (LC2 2L)	(A) 2-3	Gordon (2)
Birmingham City	(A) 2-2	Gordon (2)
Huddersfield Town	(H) 3-2	Gordon, Gilkes, Peters
Barnsley	(A) 2-5	Gordon (2)
Bradford City	(H) 1-1	Gordon
Peterborough United (LC3)	(A) 0-0	
Aston Villa	(A) 1-2	Horrix
Peterborough United (LC7R)	(H) 1-0	Peters
Ipswich Town	(A) 1-2	Gordon
Manchester City	(H) 0-2	
Bradford City (LC4)	(H) 0-0	
Sheffield United	(A) 1-4	Moran
Bradford City (LC4 R)	(A) 0-1	
Blackburn Rovers	(H) 0-0	
Millwall	(A) 0-3	
Hull City	(A) 2-2	Taylor, Moran
Leeds United	(A) 0-1	
Stoke City	(A) 2-4	Moran, Tait
Swindon Town	(H) 0-1	
Crystal Palace	(A) 3-2	Jones, Madden, Beavon
Plymouth Argyle	(A) 3-1	Gilkes, Jones, Moran
Southampton (FAC3)	(H) 0-1	
Shrewsbury Town	(H) 1-0	Beavon
Leicester City	(H) 1-2	Williams
Oldham Athletic	(A) 2-4	Horrix, Moran
Millwall	(H) 2-3	Tait, Hicks
Middlesbrough	(H) 0-0	
W.B.A.	(A) 2-0	Jones
Huddersfield Town	(A) 2-0	Beavon, Whitehurst (2)
Birmingham City	(H) 1-1	Whitehurst
Aston Villa	(H) 0-2	



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