

# SOUTHEND



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## FROM THE HOT SEAT

with Ronnie Whelan

A warm welcome to everyone for today's first home match of the season with our colleagues from Luton Town.

Both of us didn't get the start we wanted last weekend and will be keen to make up for those disappointments.

We were just too careless for our own good at Fratton Park and although we created plenty of chances and took two of them, I can tell you from my Liverpool days that conceding four goals isn't the way to win prizes. However there were some good points from that game and more in the 6-0 victory the reserves had over Leyton in the week. In that game Phil Gridelet showed he has overcome the effects of his hand injury and netted a fine hat-trick. David Regis blasted two goals to underline his return to fitness after last year's long lay-off and operations.

So, Theo and myself have plenty to ponder on before deciding the line-up today, including the new substitute rule and must decide whether or not to name three outfielders or two plus a keeper. There are points for and against both views of course.

Martin Hayes has joined us for a month to have an extended trial and I know he wants to prove himself worthy of a contract which helps underline the competition for places.

So let's hope today we show more care but carry on with the flair and register the win we all hope to see.

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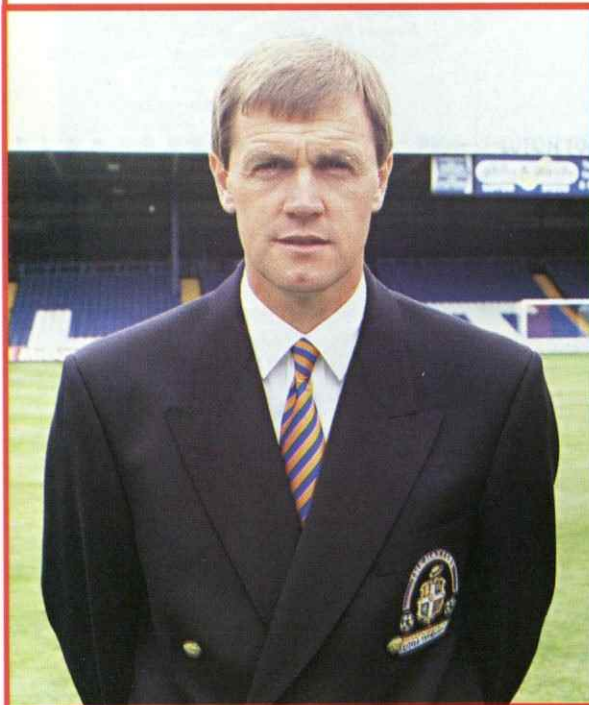


# THEY CAME TO PLAY



## - LUTON TOWN F.C. -

**Back Row (left to right)** Ben Chenery, Danny Power, Gary Simpson, Fred Barber, Paul McLaren, Rob Matthews, Gavin Johnson, David Greene, Steve Davis, Kelvin Davis, John Taylor, Trevor Peake, Julian James **Middle Row (left to right)** Chris Green (Director), Cliff Bassett (Director), Clive Goodyear (Physio), Paul Lowe (Youth Development Officer), Richard Harvey, Aaron Skelton, David Oldfield, Mitchell Thomas, Des Linton, Marvin Johnson, Bontcho Guentchev, Matthew Woolgar, Wayne Turner (Reserve Team Coach), John Moore (Youth Team Coach), Les Shannon (Scouting Co-ordinator), Nigel Terry (Director) **Front Row (left to right)** Jamie Woodsford, Gary Waddock, Tony Thorpe, Ceri Hughes, Mick McGiven (Assistant Manager), David Kohler (Chairman), Terry Westley (Manager), Scott Oakes, Nathan Jones, Graham Alexander, Dwight Marshall



## THE VISITING MANAGER

### TERRY WESTLEY

Terry Westley was appointed manager of Luton Town in July 1995, following the departure of David Pleat to Sheffield Wednesday.

Mr. Westley stepped up from his role of youth team coach, a position he held at Kenilworth Road since 1991, to become the club's 20th manager.

On Ipswich Town's books as a youth team player, Terry played non-league football at Bury St. Edmunds and Diss Town, and was player-manager at the latter.

He returned to Ipswich in 1988 to take over their School of Excellence, before David Pleat brought him to Luton in 1991. Since then he has been responsible for the Luton Town youth side, in a period which has seen the likes of John Hartson and Kelvin Davis progress into the first team.

## OUR VISITORS TODAY

with Kevin O'Donnell

The Hatters look forward to a more successful season in 1995-96 under new manager Terry Westley following the acrimonious departure of David Pleat, who for the second time in less than 10 years has left Luton for a "bigger" club.

Under Pleat Luton won promotion to the old Division One in 1982. The team he built went on to win the Football League Cup in 1988 but following his return to the club in 1991 the Hatters were relegated at the end of the 1991-92 season.

Subsequently, out went the "star" players and survival in the new Division One became the name of the game. At one stage last season Luton appeared to be pushing towards the play-offs.

However, the push was not maintained and Luton ended up 16th, three places below Blues. At least that was better than both the previous two seasons when the Hatters went close to relegation to Division Two.

During the close season there has been a lot of activity in the transfer market. The sale of Paul Telfer to Coventry and a number of free transfers have cleared the way for 7 new players at the time of writing, with Steve Davis from Burnley at a reported £750,000 the biggest money deal.

Luton, along with Blues, seek their first three points of the new campaign today. Last Sunday the Hatters crashed 1-3 to Norwich at Kenilworth Road so both teams are looking for a big improvement this afternoon.

## STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

### LUTON TOWN F.C.

- 1885** Club formed and based at the Excelsior Ground
- 1897** Moved to Dunstable Road and elected to Football League Division Two
- 1900** Failed re-election and joined the Southern League
- 1905** Moved to Kenilworth Road
- 1920** Founder member of Football League Division Three
- 1928** Unbeaten in the opening 10 Division Three (South) fixtures of 1928-29 but went on to finish 7th
- 1936** Record 12-0 League victory over Bristol Rovers including 10 goals from Joe Payne still the English record.
- 1937** Champions of Division Three (South)
- 1955** Promoted to Division One for the first time as runners up to Birmingham City in Division Two
- 1959** F. A. Cup runners up to Nottingham Forest. Record Kenilworth Road attendance of 30,069 for 6th round replay v Blackpool
- 1960** Relegated to Division Two after finishing bottom of Division One
- 1963** Relegated to Division Three after finishing bottom of Division Two
- 1965** Relegated to Division Four
- 1968** Champions of Division Four
- 1970** Promoted to Division Two as runners up to Orient in Division Three
- 1974** Promoted to Division One for the second time as runners up to Middlesbrough in Division Two
- 1975** Relegated back to Division Two
- 1978** David Pleat appointed manager for the first time
- 1982** Champions of Division Two
- 1984** A last minute goal gives Luton a 1-0 victory at Maine Road to keep Luton in Division One but Manchester City go down
- 1985** Luton became the second club to install an artificial pitch - controversial members only scheme effectively bans visiting supporters
- 1987** Highest League position (7th in Division One) achieved
- 1988** Football League Cup winners and Simod Cup runners up
- 1989** Football League Cup runners up
- 1991** David Pleat appointed as manager for the second time
- 1992** Relegated to the new Division One on the formation of the Premiership



**JUERGEN SOMMER** - Goalkeeper - Joined the Town in August 1991, but had to wait two years to make his debut v Watford at the start of the 1993-94 season. He went on to establish himself as the number one keeper at Kenilworth Road, and capped the season off with a call-up to the United States World Cup squad. He made his USA debut, coming on as a substitute v England at Wembley in September 1994. Lost his place at the end of the 1994/95 season after missing the home match with Watford due to an international appearance against Uruguay in Dallas.

**KELVIN DAVIS** - Goalkeeper. Highly rated keeper who made his league debut for the Hatters on the final day of the 1993/94 season in a 2-2 draw at Stoke. He spent a month on loan at Torquay in September/October 1994 playing in Division Three and in the Coca-Cola Cup against Wimbledon, before winning a place in the Luton starting line-up in March. With Juergen Sommer on international duty, Kelvin made his home debut in the televised 'derby' with Watford, saving a penalty in the 1-1 draw. He kept his place until the end of the season, and also won two England youth caps. Kelvin was selected for the England Under-21 squad for the Toulon Tournament in June 1995. Signed new four-year contract in June 1995.

**RICHARD HARVEY** - Defender. Resurrected his Town career in 1994/95 after two years plagued by injury. The former England youth international missed the entire 1993/94 season after a cruciate knee ligament operation and made his first appearance of the following campaign at Barnsley in January. His appearance at home to Watford in March 1994 was his first at Kenilworth Road for three years, and he held the left-back position for the remainder of the season.

**MARVIN JOHNSON** - Defender. Made his Football League debut against Wimbledon in 1988, and quickly established himself as a versatile defender. Started the 1994/95 season at left-back, but then switched to the centre of defence to form a reliable partnership with Trevor Peake. Marvin was one of only three players to play in every first-team match last season and was awarded the Players' Player of the Year trophy.

**MITCHELL THOMAS** - Defender. The former England Under-21 international made over 100 appearances for Luton before moving to Spurs, shortly after David Pleat, in 1986. He played in the 1987 F. A. Cup Final, and later moved to West Ham. He was on loan at Luton in the 1993/94 season before a permanent free transfer move, and after missing the start of the season through suspension was a regular at left-back in the 1994/95 campaign.

**CERI HUGHES** - Midfield - Ceri was a regular in the Town midfield in the 1993/94 season, and his performances earned a call-up to the full Welsh side. He made his Luton debut at Aston Villa in 1990, and has also represented his country at Youth and Under-21 levels. Scored seven goals in the 1993/94 season, but damaged knee ligaments against Grimsby in November 1994 and was ruled out for the rest of the campaign after just eight league starts.

**GAVIN JOHNSON** - Midfield. Was given a free transfer by Ipswich Town at the end of last season. The 24 year old, who had been at Portman Road since leaving school played in 20 Premier League games in 1994/95 taking his total appearances for the club to 160. He scored 16 goals for Ipswich, including the one which sealed the Division Two championship in May 1992, and then the club's first goal in the new Premier League in August of that year.

**TONY THORPE** - Midfield - Tony made an immediate impact in the Town side when he scored for the Hatters on his full debut at Newcastle United, in the fourth round of the F. A. Cup in January 1994. He joined the club at the start of the 1992/93 season, following a spell at Leicester. He was restricted to just five substitute appearances during the 1994/95 campaign.

**MATTHEW WOOLGAR** - Midfield. Matthew was a regular scorer for the Town's youth team in the 1993/94 season, and made his first-team debut as a substitute in that season's Anglo-Italian Cup match against Southend.

**GARY WADDOCK** - Midfield - Gary completed a free transfer move from Bristol Rovers in December 1994, after a three-month loan spell at Kenilworth Road. Started his career with QPR making over 200 appearances, including an FA Cup Final against Spurs in 1982, and the subsequent replay. That was followed by a spell in Belgium with Charleroi as Gary recovered from a serious knee injury and he also had spells at Millwall, QPR again and Swindon, before moving to Bristol. Gary missed only one game, through suspension after joining the Hatters in 1994/95, and scored his first goal for the club on the final day of the season.

**DWIGHT MARSHALL** - Forward - Signed in the summer of 1994 from Plymouth for £150,000 after scoring 14 goals for Peter Shilton's side the previous season - his third campaign at Home Park after playing non-league football with Grays Athletic. Started well for Luton with two goals in the 5-1 win over Middlesbrough in October, and despite being troubled by a shin injury late in the season he finished as the Hatters' leading scorer with 13 goals in league and cup.

**JOHN TAYLOR** - Forward. Joined Luton on deadline day in March 1995, for £200,000 from Bradford City. He started his career at Colchester, but was later snapped up by Cambridge from non-league Sudbury. He scored 46 goals in 160 appearances for Cambridge before a move to Bristol Rovers, where he netted 44 goals in 95 appearances. The centre-forward had scored 13 goals for Bradford before his move to Luton, and he added three goals for the Hatters before the end of the season after making his debut on March 26 against Watford.

**GRAHAM ALEXANDER** - Defender/Midfield. Joined the Hatters in July 1995, and was Terry Westley's first signing after being confirmed as Luton's new manager. The Town coaching staff had been watching him for two seasons before deciding to make their move, with the fee in the region of £100,000, with further payments depending on appearances.

**STEVE DAVIS** - Defender. Steve joined the Hatters in the summer of 1995 after making over 160 league appearances for Burnley, scoring 22 goals. He joined the Turf Moor side in August 1991 for £60,000 from Southampton, after loan spells at Burnley and Notts County. He captained Burnley during their rise up the league into Division One, and played in both their victories over Luton in the 1994/95 season.

**DAVID OLDFIELD** - Midfielder - David returned to Kenilworth Road in the summer of 1995, six years after leaving Luton Town. He started his career with the Hatters progressing through the junior ranks to a two goal senior debut in a 2-1 Simod Cup win at Everton in February 1988. He also scored on his full league debut in a 2-1 home win over Watford in May 1988, and went on to make 29 league appearances for the Hatters, scoring four goals. Australian-born Oldfield who played for England Under-21s joined Manchester City for £600,000 in March 1989, before moving on to Leicester city.

**BONTCHO GUENTCHEV** - Forward. The Bulgarian International signed for the Hatters after being released by Ipswich. The 31 year old striker, who played in the 1994 World Cup Finals, in the USA when Bulgaria reached the semi-finals, had been at Ipswich for three seasons playing 58 games in the Premier League.

He arrived on a free transfer after being released by the Portman Road club, but his wife's employment at the Bulgarian Embassy now means he is free to continue playing in the U.K.

# WE MET BEFORE with Kevin O'Donnell



Blues face the Hatters for the 49th time in the League today although 34 of the previous 48 meetings were before World War Two.

The first time the clubs met in the Football League was at the Kursaal on the 12th February 1921 and the match ended all square at 1-1, Tommy Nuttall scoring the Blues goal.

Blues first football League match at Kenilworth Road three months later ended in a 0-4 defeat and it wasn't until the 9th match in the series that Blues registered a victory - a 2-1 success at the Kursaal in December 1924.

For their first victory at Kenilworth Road Blues had to wait even longer - until September 1929 when Blues came away with a 3-0 win to make it 3 out of 3 at the start of that season. Blues have not enjoyed great success at Kenilworth Road since, with only four victories in total, the last in 1964.

Neither have Blues fared well in cup competition against the Hatters. Four times the clubs have met in the F. A. Cup and on all four occasions Luton have gone through, the best Blues having managed being a replay in the 1908-09 qualifying rounds.

However, it has not been all doom and gloom for Blues. A victory this afternoon would level the series which the Hatters presently lead 18-17 with 13 draws. Further Blues have not yet lost to Luton in a First Division game as the 6 games at this level have resulted in 3 Blues victories at Roots Hall and 3 draws at Kenilworth Road.

The Hatters' first visit to the present Roots Hall ground was for a Third Division game in March 1964.

They had already beaten Blues 4-1 at home the previous October and completed a double with a 1-0 victory here.

That remains the Hatters' only win at Roots Hall where they have lost all their other six visits. In 1964-65 Blues won 5-0 to complete their only double over the Hatters after a 1-0 victory at Kenilworth Road earlier that season.

In the final fixture of the 1992-93 season Blues completed their miraculous escape from relegation from Division One with a 2-1 victory over Luton before a crowd of 11,042.

Blues met Luton four times the following season. The first meeting was in the Anglo-Italian Cup, Blues coming away from Kenilworth Road with a 1-1 draw. That was also the score there in the League but Luton won 1-0 in the third round of the F. A. Cup. Blues had won 2-1 at Roots Hall earlier in the season.

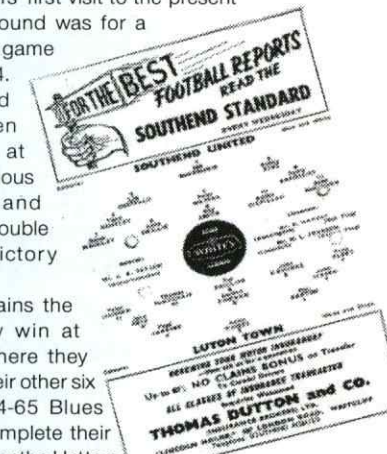
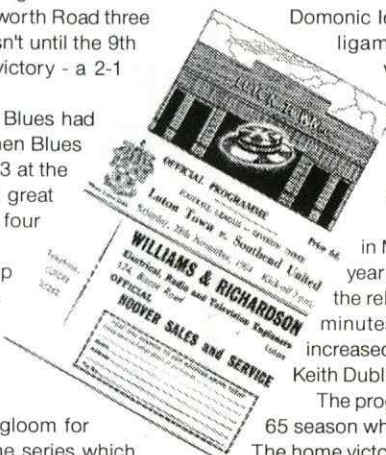
Last season the pattern continued. When the clubs met at Kenilworth Road at the end of August neither had recorded a victory and that remained the situation at the end of the 90

minutes. Luton twice led, John Hartson scoring just before the break, Keith Dublin heading an equaliser but Ceri Hughes restoring their advantage in the 70th minute. Blues had already lost Domonic Iorfa with the knee ligament injury which

was to keep him out of the side for several months. However, they fought back with a stunning volleyed goal from Ricky Otto and he could have snatched Blues a victory had he not hit another shot straight at the keeper.

When the clubs met in the return fixture in March Blues gained their first victory of the year at Roots Hall to lift themselves away from the relegation zone. Blues took the lead after 2 minutes through Gary Jones, Andy Thomson increased it in the 76th minute and makeshift striker Keith Dublin completed the victory in the last minute.

The programmes featured today are from the 1965-66 season when Blues did the double over the Hatters. The home victory was the first against Luton at Roots Hall and a repeat today would be the 7th in a row.



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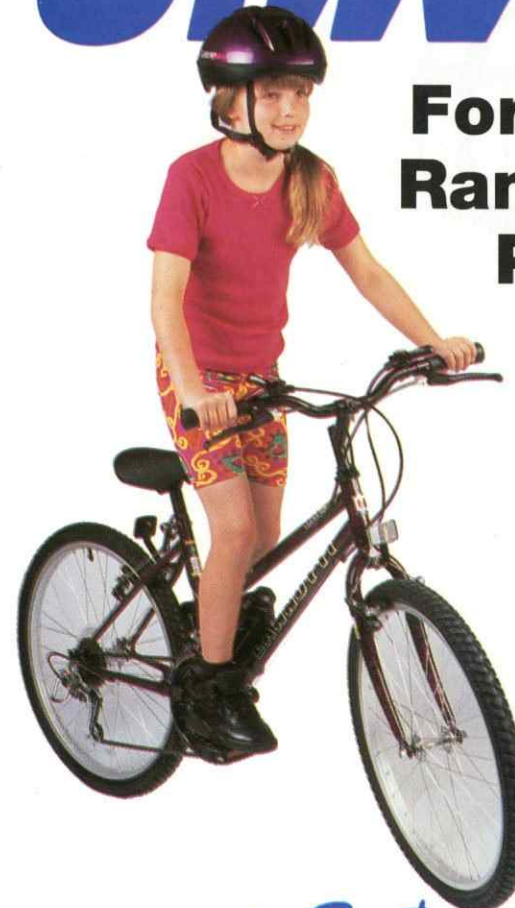
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# DESERT ISLAND GOSSIP with Olive Leatherdale of "Desert Island Books"



First the bad news. The fixture computer has done the dirty on Southend United.

Managers are wont to say when interviewed before a cup draw that they don't mind who they get - as long as they are at home.

It is much the same in the league. Clubs don't relish facing newly promoted outfits in the opening weeks. These can be full of themselves, and their winning habit often spills over from May to August. Other than that, the best that clubs can hope for is to play their first league match at home. Better to get those first league points on the board.

It's the same at season's end. It is preferable to conclude the campaign on your own patch, especially if promotion or relegation is at stake. Home advantage in such situations can be crucial. We all know examples of home teams staving off

relegation by winning their last match in front of a passionate crowd.

It is 50-50 whether clubs open up at home or away. Ditto the last match. More often than not the fixture computer arranges matters so that clubs enjoy one or the other.

In Southend's case, the computer has developed a hiccough. It prefers us to open and finish at home. In 15 seasons from 1980-81, only five times have Southend teed off at Roots Hall. But of the final matches, 11 of the 15 have been at home.

Rarely does the computer invite teams to play both first and last matches at home or away. It stands to reason that to open and finish the season at home is a welcome bonus. To open and finish away is an unwanted curse, and it is that fate which has befallen the Blues this season.

Now the good news. Southend United cock a snook

at these conventions. In 1965-66 we enjoyed home advantage for the first match and the last. Sure enough we won both games (versus Swansea and Reading). But what happened? Blues were relegated to Division 4 for the first time in their history.

The last time Southend were relegated was under Dave Webb in 1988-89. Southend enjoyed double home advantage that season, too. Again they won both fixtures (versus Bolton and Chester), but they still went down. Never have the Blues won promotion when the computer blows kisses at us.

On the other hand ... Funny things, computers. Only twice in 22 years have Southend been asked to start and conclude a season on the road. That was in 1977-78 and 1986-87.

Know what happened?

We went up both times!



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## FITNESS FEATURE

with John Fowan

Hello and welcome to our first home game of the season. Things have gone well in the pre-season from the injuries point of view (touch wood).

The injury list so far consists of Andy Sussex who has a calf strain, which he received while training. Harry Willis also has a problem with his patella femora joint, he has started running, and he is wearing special strapping to protect his injury, so hopefully he will be available for next week.

The weather has also caused a few problems for the players, as well as dehydration during training, the hard ground has caused some minor problems.

The players joints have suffered due to this, their knees, ankles and lower backs especially. So we have monitored those who have operations and injuries, so that they don't put too much strain around those previous injuries. As well as that they have continued with their rehabilitation work so that their injury is strong enough to take the extra pounding that has occurred during pre-season. Some of the lads are starting to pray for some rain.

*Howay the lads*



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# DID YOU KNOW?

with Dave Goody

CO-AUTHOR OF "SOUTHEND UNITED"  
THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE BLUES

Season 1931/32 was one of the most changeable in the history of Southend United Football Club, even taking into account the ups and downs of recent seasons! An opening day win at home to Gillingham was followed by a victory at Coventry City, both by scores of two goals to nil, and soon the fans began to think that it could be the Blues season. After fifteen matches, the Blues record was as follows:-

Pld	Won	Drn	Lost	For	Agst	Pts
15	9	6	0	33	14	24

By taking 80% of the points available from the first fifteen games, the Blues were setting the pace in Division Three South. The first defeat came on 21st November in front of 29,335 at Queens Park Rangers and, suddenly things went wrong. The next twelve games saw only two wins and a draw, with the following playing record:-

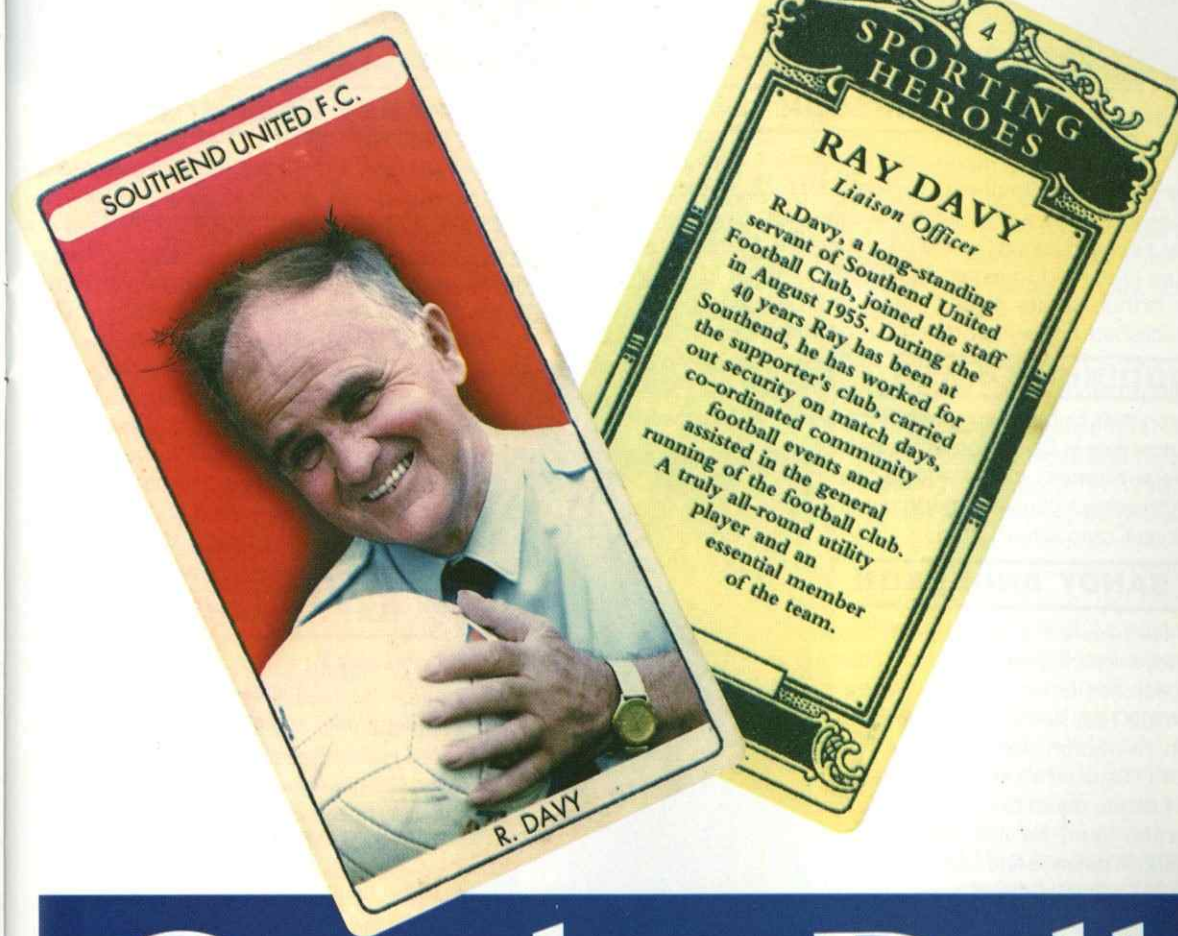
Pld	Won	Drn	Lost	For	Agst	Pts
13	2	1	10	15	29	5

Only 19% of points taken, and the Southend United story that would become well known in future seasons, of falling away after a promising start, began to manifest itself.

However, just as the home fans were resigning themselves to a dismal finish, the team picked itself up. A win at home to eventual champions Fulham, by four goals to one on 20th February was the start of a run-in that would prove hard to better in the subsequent history of the club. Of the final fourteen games, Southend won ten and drew four finishing the season in third place, only four points behind Fulham, the team they had demolished at the start of their magnificent run-in. The record for the final fourteen games was:-

Pld	Won	Drn	Lost	For	Agst	Pts
14	10	4	0	29	10	24

An 86% record to close the season would normally be good enough to gain promotion, especially after a start like the Blues had, but five points from thirteen games in mid-season put paid to thoughts of joining the upper echelons of the League. That would have to wait for another sixty years.



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# WHO'S WHO OF THE BLUES

with Leigh Edwards FOOTBALL HISTORIAN

## BRIAN ALBESON

Former England Youth defender Brian Albeson was ever-present in Southend United's 1971/72 promotion success. Initially a Bury junior, he signed professional in May 1965 and joined Darlington in July 1967. An influential figure in the bid to regain Third Division status in 1968/69, Arthur Rowley signed him in July 1971 and he re-established his central defensive partnership with Joe Jacques at Roots Hall - scoring nine goals in 110 League outings before moving to struggling Stockport County in March 1974. Subsequently with Hartlepool and Gateshead he now lives in Darlington where he has several business interests including a hairdressing salon and a partnership in Baines Composites Ltd.

## SANDY ANDERSON

Red-haired Scottish, left-back Sandy Anderson set Southend United's appearance record during 13 years at the club. Real name Alex, he developed with Newburgh Juniors before Harry Warren signed him in April 1950. Given his League debut at Ipswich Town five months later, he succeeded Frank Walton in defence and was ever-present in 1951/52 as Southend reached the FA Cup fifth round, then helped to beat Liverpool in 1956/57. He partnered the likes of Joe Loughran, Bill Pavitt and Arthur Williamson, netting eight goals in 452 League outings prior to working 16 years in the Spares Dept. for Ford at Dagenham, he is now retired and lives in Canvey Island, still a regular visitor to Roots Hall.

## BRETT ANGELL

Tall striker Brett Angell was Southend United's leading marksman in two successive seasons, including the 1990/91 promotion triumph. Initially a central defender, he joined his elder brother Darren at Portsmouth and signed professional from trainee in August 1986. Released to join Cheltenham Town a year later, he moved to Derby County for a record £45,000 in February 1988, then Stockport County in October 1988. Top scorer as they reached the Fourth Division play-offs in 1989/90. David Webb paid £100,000 for him in August 1990 and he netted 47 goals in 115 League outings - briefly partnering Stan Collymore before joining Everton for £500,000 in January 1994 after an initial loan period. He joined Sunderland for a similar fee in March 1995.



## ANDY ANSAH

Noted for his pace, tricky little winger Andy Ansa has made a significant contribution to Southend United's recent successes. A former Crystal Palace junior, he played for Crawley Town and Dorking prior to joining Brentford in March 1989 - gaining Third Division experience before David Webb snapped him up on a free transfer a year later. He quickly impressed, netting several vital goals as Southend rose from the Fourth Division to Second in successive years and consolidated higher status, also creating numerous goalscoring chances for Brett Angell and Stan Collymore. Briefly reunited with Webb at Brentford on loan in November 1994, he has now scored 33 times in 153 League outings for Southend.

## BARRY ASHWORTH

Wing-half Barry Ashworth was a valuable member of Southend United's squad during Ted Fenton's reign at Roots Hall. He impressed with Caernarvon Town and Bangor City before Fenton signed him in July 1963, making his League debut against QPR two months later. Providing reliable cover for the likes of Tony Bentley and Terry Bradbury, he scored five times in 31 Third Division outings prior to joining Alvan Williams' Hartlepool United in March 1965 and subsequently played under the Brian Clough/Peter Taylor partnership. He moved to Tranmere Rovers in July 1966 and partnered Roy McFarland in the 1966/67 promotion success, then played for Chester and Altrincham before ending his career back at Bangor City.

## JOE ASHWORTH

Versatile wing-half Joe Ashworth skipped Southend United's 1967/68 promotion challenge. A former Bradford BA Junior (where Ernie Shepherd was trainer), he joined York City in May 1962 and helped to win promotion in 1964/65, then moved to Bournemouth in June 1965. Reunited with Shepherd at Southend in July 1967, he netted twice in 36 Fourth Division games prior to joining Rochdale in July 1968 - starring in the 1968/69 promotion success (clinched against Southend) and 1970/71 FA Cup run. Subsequently with Chester and Stockport County, an Achilles tendon injury during the 1972/73 League Cup

# SOUTHEND UNITED'S LEADING PLAYERS OF THE 50 POST WAR YEARS

run ended his playing career. He now lives in Rochdale and since August 1974 has been a prison officer at Hull, Strangeways and now Newhall, near Wakefield.

## DEAN AUSTIN

Young right-back Dean Austin was an emerging figure during Southend United's rise from the Fourth Division to Second in successive years under David Webb. A former Watford junior, he joined St. Albans City in July 1988 and Webb paid £14,000 for him in March 1990. Given his League debut at Burnley the following month, he helped to clinch an immediate Third Division return, then consolidate Second Division status. He scored twice in 96 League outings before following Justin Edinburgh to Spurs for £375,000 in June 1992 and the pair quickly re-established their exciting full-back partnership at White Hart Lane, helping to reach the FA Cup semifinals in 1992/93 and 1994/95. They remain regular members of Gerry Francis' Premiership squad.

## JOHNNY BABER

Versatile young winger Johnny Baber featured in successive promotion challenges under Ernie Shepherd while at Roots Hall. An ex-Charlton Athletic apprentice, he initially joined Southend United as an amateur and made his League debut against Bradford City in August 1966.

Alvan Williams signed him as a professional a month later and he netted 18 goals in 82 Fourth Division outings prior to following Eddie Clayton to Margate in November 1971 - facing Spurs in the 1972/73 FA Cup third round tie, then playing for Canterbury City and Herne Bay. He now lives in Westgate-on-Sea and after working as a driver and builder, since September 1983 he has been a care worker at the Royal National Institute for the Blind.



## KEN BAINBRIDGE

Speedy outside-left Ken Bainbridge was Southend United's leading goalscorer in 1953/54. Initially with Leyton, he moved to West Ham in November 1944 and held a regular Second Division place before joining Ted Drake Reading in June 1950. An influential figure in two promotion challenges Harry Warren signed him in February 1953 and he partnered the likes of Jimmy McAlinden, Colin Grant and Roy Hollis in Southend's attack - managing 25 goals in 100 Third Division (South) games prior to joining Margate in June 1955. He subsequently played for Chelmsford City and was a material handler for Ford at Dagenham, then a supervisor at Halewood until his retirement in September 1982. Now living in Prestatyn, he is a keen golfer.

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# SPOT LIGHT ON RONNIE WHELAN

by Paul Tomlin

**B**lues new player/manager has experienced just about everything it is possible to during his long football career. His 15 years at Liverpool yielded six championship, one European Cup, two F. A. Cup and three League Cup medals (not to mention three Central League and three Liverpool Senior Cup medals!). However, there were also the horrors of Haysel and Hillsborough (Ronnie was captain of Liverpool that day).

Ronnie was born in Dublin and followed in his father, Ronnie senior's footsteps into professional football. His father had played for St. Patricks Athletic, one of Blues' opponents in Ireland, and gained two caps for the Republic. Ronnie junior joined Home Farm from school and was transferred to Liverpool from there in October 1979. Ronnie's brother Paul is also a professional footballer and is captain of Shamrock Rovers.

Ronnie played for Liverpool's youth and reserve teams before making his first team debut against Stoke City on the 3rd of April 1981 at Anfield and he scored one of his side's goals in a 3-0 victory.

That was his only first team appearance in the 1980-81 season but he became a regular from the following season when he scored 16 League goals to help Liverpool to the championship.

He made his international debut in 1981 for the Republic of Ireland against Czechoslovakia and now has 53 caps and has taken part in the last two World Cup final tournaments.

His last game for Liverpool was the first game of the 1993-94 season against Aston Villa at Anfield. He was given a free transfer in the 1994 close season and left Liverpool after 5 years of loyal service.

Surprisingly there was no queue of clubs vying for his undoubted midfield talent. It was whilst playing for Millwall's reserves against West Ham he was watched by Colin Murphy who invited him



to join Blues for a month initially.

His Blues debut was ironically, against St. City but was not as his Liverpool debut as Blues crashed 1-4 at the Victoria Ground. A few days later Blues were humiliated 0-5 at Molineux and Ronnie was left wondering whether his move was worthwhile!

His Roots Hall debut was much better Blues beat Bristol City 2-1 and Ronnie scored a great goal from a free kick. His presence added a much needed subtlety to Blues' midfield and with Phil Gridelet complementing his style by a more aggressive approach Blues fortunes improved.

When Peter Taylor was removed as Blues manager Ronnie was one of the contenders for the vacant position. Although Steve Thompson temporarily took on the role Ronnie came in the frame once again when Thompson departed.

It is still very early days for Ronnie as a manager. He is enjoying his new role although he is finding it hard work as he now has to work in the afternoons!

Ronnie very much intends to keep on playing for at least the next two years and is optimistic that he can maintain the improvement in Blues form at the end of last season. The experience which awaits him is leading Blues into the Premiership and with Ronnie's record of success anything's possible.



# AND IT CAME TO PASS

with Richard Fodwin

SCASTATS

With August usually signifying the start of a new season, inevitably there are a number of players starting out with a new club and Southend is no exception and the players to make their Blues debut on this day are as follows:-

## 1950

**FRANK COOMBS**, our goalkeeper who made 20 appearances before going on to Colchester United.

**BOB HARPER**, played a dozen games at outside left before ending his professional days which had mostly been spent with Newport County. He sadly died in 1980 aged 60 years.

## 1953

**LES DICKER**, our winger who had previously played at Tottenham and a short non-League spell with Chelmsford City.

**JIM DUTHIE**, Scots born Jim was our regular half back for 160 League games after his earlier career with Grimsby Town and Hull City.

**JOHN McDONALD**, ended his career with Blues at age 31. Previously with Wolves, Bournemouth, Fulham & Southampton.

**BILL PAVITT**, left the RAF after the War and signed for Fulham prior to his 79 match spell at Southend.

**HARRY THREADGOLD**, Blues stalwart goalkeeper for 10 seasons played 320 League games, conceding 505 League goals. Earlier with Chester and a long spell with 1st Division Sunderland.

## 1961

**TONY BENTLEY**, long serving defender, became Club captain, is third in the Club list of appearances, beaten only by Alan Moody and Sandy Anderson.

**NORMAN BLEANCH**, made his Blues debut on his 21st birthday but after only three matches went up to Bradford Park Avenue.

**ROY GOULDEN**, had been an England Youth International while with Arsenal but after just nine games was transferred to Ipswich Town.

### OTHER EVENTS ON THIS DATE HAVE INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:-

## 1975

ALEX STEPNEY, Manchester United goalkeeper, dislocated his jaw while shouting at his fellow players in the teams 2-0 win away to Birmingham City in the First Division. Sammy McLroy scored both goals.

## 1982

KEVIN KEEGAN signs for Newcastle United following his £100,000 transfer from Southampton. He now of course is their manager.

## 1989

MICK QUINN scores four goals when Leeds United are beaten 5-2 by Newcastle, in the first match for each club since they were both promoted to Division One.

## 1992

Norwich City, and Coventry City are top of the Premiership as they are the only two clubs in that League with 100% record so far.

Since the War, only two Blues players celebrate their birthdays on this date, Norman Bleanch, who as earlier reported, played his debut game for us on his 21st birthday and Derek Tharme, born on this day in 1938 who spent a short time on the books of Tottenham Hotspur without getting into their first team, played as full back in the first seven League games of 1962-63 during which we won five and lost two. He was then transferred to non-League Hastings United from the Sussex County League.

**JIM SHIELS**, had played in the Northern Ireland 'B' side but although on Manchester United's books never played a first team game for them.

## 1967

**JOE ASHWORTH**, besides his 36 games for Southend, also played for 6 other sides in a career which spanned over 300 League games.

**PHIL CHISNALL**, had been an England Schoolboy and Under 23 Star while with Manchester United, and scored on his debut. One of 32 goals he notched for Southend in the 161 games he played, before going on to Stockport County.

**JIM FERGUSON**, signed from Airdrie but only stayed one season before moving back to Scotland.

**JIM STEVENSON**, was another Scot who only lasted one season at Southend, had been with Hibernian where he became a Scottish Schoolboy International.

## 1978

**NEIL TOWNSEND**, played the last of his 176 Southend games on this day and was transferred to Bournemouth, from where he later left to go to non-League Weymouth. A popular centre half who had been an England Youth International.

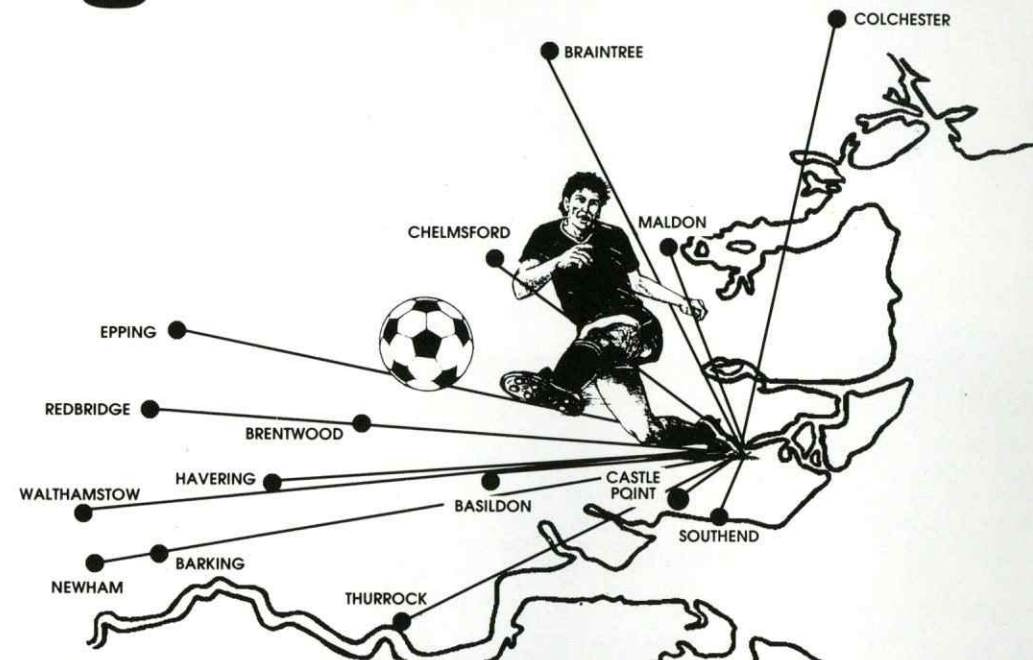
## 1989

**JASON COOK**, had been a YTS lad with Tottenham but did not get into their first team, and after a short career with Southend went up the road with Colchester United.

**ANDY DIXON**, a full back we signed from Grimsby Town, stayed for a short while then going up north to non-League Gateshead.

**MARIO WALSH**, was another of our players to score on his debut. He had been at Torquay and Colchester previously, and in fact went back to Colchester after his short spell of 18 games at Roots Hall.

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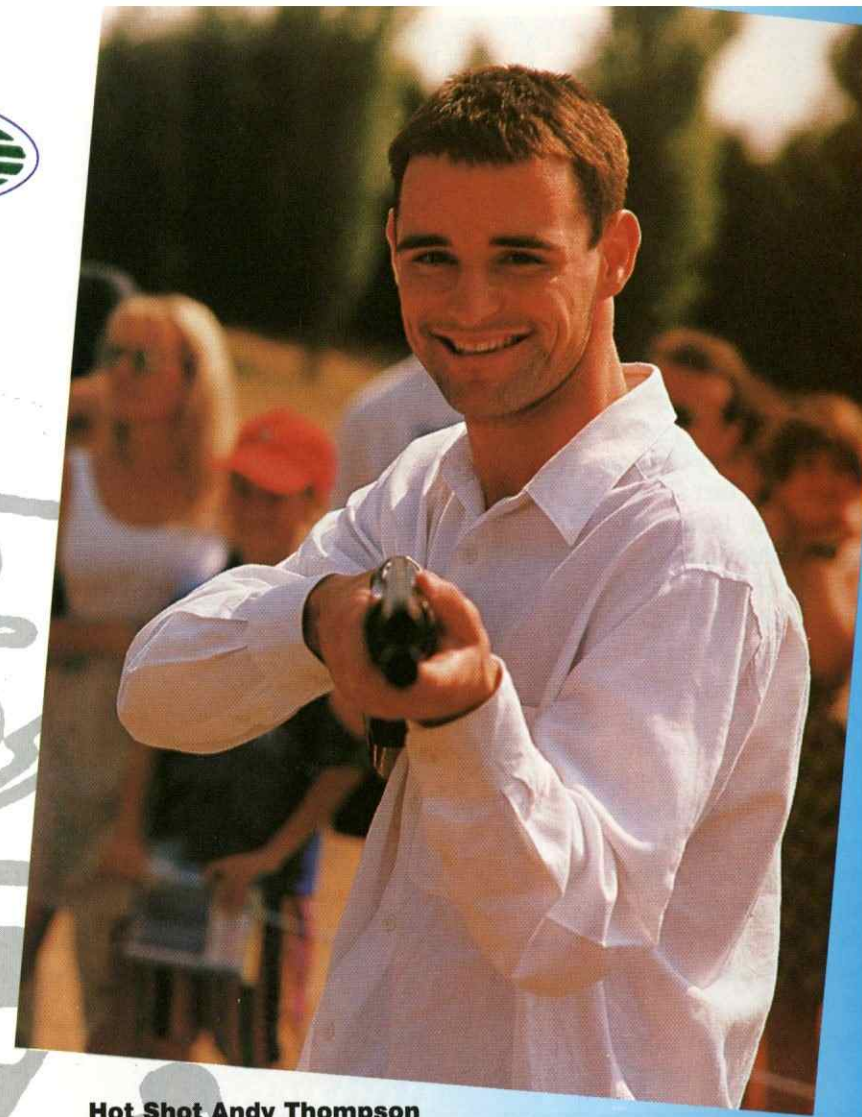
# BLUES IN ACTION



Ronnie doing battle with David Platt



Keith Dublin denies Dutch International Dennis Bergkamp



Hot Shot Andy Thompson  
Double Strike v. Pompey





# ONE'S WRITE UP

with Nick Alliker

## SOUTHEND START WITH DEFEAT

**S**outhend United opened up their 95/96 soccer season ... with a defeat at Portsmouth, but there were plenty of positive points to come from the Pompey game.

Live wire Andy Thomson showed just why he was top scorer last season, kicking off with another two on target. But, regrettably for Blues, it wasn't enough. Watching the game, you thought the Essex side were on for success, after the third minute Thomson drive. But double-trouble just before the break, put Southend in the back-seat. First Gerry Creaney hit home, and then Steve Tilson thundered into his own net.

A terrible two minutes in the second period sealed Southend's fate, but credit to Ronnie Whelan's team, who stuck to the task, and were unlucky not to gain reward, for the forges forward. Thomson and Gary Jones were unfortunate to come up against Estonian international keeper, Mart Poom, in such fine form. Thomson did grab a second for Blues, but, in the end, they went down 4-2 at Fratton.

Barry Fry's Birmingham showed why they are such strong contenders to storm through the First

Division, on the way to the Premiership, as they crushed former top flight side, Ipswich Town. Despite Ian Marshall giving the Suffolk side the lead, Barry's boys hit back. Paul Tait hit the leveller, ex-Southend star Ricky Otto put Birmingham in front, and debutant Jason Bowen crashed in the third just before the end.

Crystal Palace - under new coach Ray Lewington - crushed Barnsley 4-3 at Selhurst. Ian Dowie grabbed two of the Eagles goals.

Two of the top teams met at Prenton Park, Tranmere and Wolves drew 2-a-piece. John Aldridge carried on, where he left off last season, as he netted the equaliser nine minutes from time.

After a thrilling campaign last term, Reading only just scraped a point in their game, at Stoke. It finished 1-1. Newly promoted Huddersfield Town, were trounced at Oldham. The Terriers tumbled to a 3-0 defeat. Millwall new-boy Chris Malkin scored their winner, against Grimsby Town, while former Southend midfielder, Derek Payne, was among the scorers for Watford, in their 2-1 win over Sheffield United. And at the Hawthorns, David Gilbert grabbed a goal, in his first game for the Baggies, as they smacked Charlton 1-0.

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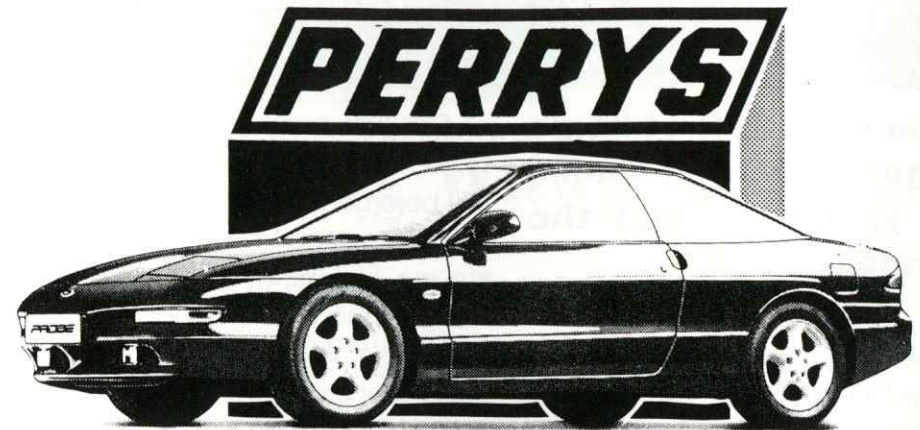
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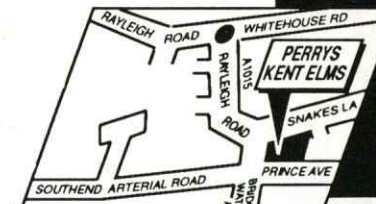
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# MARKETING MATTERS

with Colin Wooldridge

**W**elcome to our first home League match - it seems like only yesterday that the season ended.

A warm welcome to our Match sponsor today SOUTHEND COUNCIL, we hope that their officials and guests who are here enjoy the day with us. We would also like to welcome our Main sponsors UNITED ARTISTS to this our first home League match in the new team strip. Sales of these garments are flying, so make sure you get yours from our Club Shops.

Roots Hall Club Shop is progressing very well and all you Blues fans will be impressed with the new open plan unit when it opens fully in the next week or two.

As you are aware we are in the Anglo-Italian Cup this season and our first match is here at Roots Hall against Brescia on September 5th, Kick Off at 7.45pm.

Our first away match is on Wednesday October 11th when we play Reggiana. We will be organising a trip to this game, flying from Stanstead to Bologna, with the team, staying one night at the Hotel Astoria in Reggio Emilia, flying back to the U.K. directly after the match. For more details of this trip, please contact our Commercial Department on 01702 30 40 50. We are also looking at a one day excursion and I will be able to give you more details of that in our next Match Day Magazine.

The start of the season also coincides with the start of our **SPORTSMANS DINNERS** and our first one looks like being a real cracker. The guest speaker will be **DAVID WEBB**. The last time Webby spoke at one of our dinners we had the whole place in uproar. So don't miss out on this special occasion. Tickets at **£35.00 + V.A.T.** are available via the Commercial Department on **01702 30 40 50** - dress, black tie.



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# QUIZ TIME

with Kevin O'Donnell

1. **Roots Hall was formerly a rubbish tip - which other two Endsleigh League Club grounds were formerly rubbish tips?**
2. Which cup did Blues win on 9 occasions between 1950 & 1976?
3. **Three of Blues First division opponents have not won a previous League game in Southend - name them.**
4. How many goals did Gary Jones and Andy Thomson score for Blues last season?
5. **Against which clubs did Blues complete League doubles last season?**
6. When did Blues leave the original Roots Hall ground for the Kursaal?
7. **When did Blues move to the present Roots Hall Ground?**
8. Who were Blues first ever opponents in the Football League?
9. **Which is the only club of the three promoted to the old Division Two with Blues in 1991 that has since been relegated?**
10. How many players made at least one League appearance for Blues last season?
11. **Where did Luton finish in Division One last season?**
12. Who was Luton's top scorer with 13 goals last season?
13. **Which club knocked Luton out of the F. A. Cup in the 4th round last season?**
14. Which was Luton's home ground immediately before Kenilworth Road?
15. **What was Luton's highest win in 1994-95?**
16. Which clubs were relegated with Luton from the old Division One in 1992?
17. **Have Luton ever applied for re-election to the Football League?**
18. Which player was transferred to Luton from Blues in November 1992?
19. **Which club beat Luton in the F. A. Cup Final in 1959?**
20. What is Luton's highest ever League placing?

Welcome to the first full issue of this magazine for the 1995/96 season. We hope you find it improved in both quality and content. Kevin O'Donnell has returned as Editor and we thank Terry Wynn for his efforts last season.

Kevin, who is 38 years old, is a local solicitor and lives within walking distance of Roots Hall. He is starting his 30th season as a Blues supporter.

There are three new contributors this season, Clive Leatherdale of Desert Island Books is a Westcliff based sportswriter, Leigh Edwards, who writes for several Premiership clubs and Paul Tomlin who has been a season ticket holder at Roots Hall for several seasons.

Added to the efforts of the other contributors the amount of copy to advertising has been substantially increased from last season as has the amount of colour.

Thanks to the successful negotiations between the club's commercial department and the magazine's printers, Alyton Press, we have been able to keep the cost at £1.50.

We are always interested to hear your views and the editor will be pleased to receive letters regarding the magazine c/o the Club.

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Ninian Park, Cardiff & The Victoria Ground, Hartlepool.
2. The Essex Professional Cup
3. Birmingham, Derby and Stoke
4. 11
5. Derby and Oldham
6. 1919
7. 1955
8. Brighton
9. Cambridge
10. 32
11. 16th
12. Dwight Marshall
13. Southampton
14. Dunstable Road
15. 5-1 v Middlesbrough
16. Notts County and West Ham
17. No
18. Ian Benjamin
19. Nottingham Forest
20. 7th in Division One 1986-87.



I sincerely hope you have summered well and are back in good voice to cheer on the lads in another exciting season of Endsleigh League First Division Football at Southend United.

It's our first home match of the season and I hope you found your footsteps hurrying to

Roots Hall. There's always an extra buzz of excitement for the first match and I remember as a lad in Westcliff I was so excited I used to run all the way to the ground.

One season in the late 50's or early 60's our opening match was against Bury and many of us had the agonizing choice of watching the Carnival or the football. I of course chose the football but on that occasion it was Bury who had the carnival. They won 3-0 and went on to win the Third Division championship. I remember they had a magnificent centre half called John McGrath ... who went on to a very satisfying career with Newcastle United and later in football management.

Of course it's a new era at Roots Hall with Ronnie Whelan as player/manager ... backed up by the old warhorse Theo Foley, Paul Clark was our last player/manager at the club ... and good luck to him by the way ... now assistant manager at Cambridge United.

So it's not the first time we have had a player/manager but certainly the first time we have had a Dublin duo at the helm ... and of course we all wish them an outstanding season together ... and a good rub of the green, ha, ha, ha.

I for one have breathed a huge sigh of relief that the pre-season friendlies are over. They always frighten the life out of me. Of course I know they are essential for players proving their match fitness and the team knitting

## BUXTON WRITES AGAIN

with Roger Buxton

JOURNALIST AND PRESENTER ON ESSEX RADIO

together as a unit. But all too often it seems to me key players get injured and a side goes into a campaign under strength and handicapped.

The worst ever was some years ago when the chicken was off at D. The whole team went down with food poisoning and eventually relegated at the end of the season.

Manager Dave Smith blamed the food poisoning on Blues going down as he said right up until Christmas his team was feeling the effects of a pre-season friendly. I'm not a medical man, neither, thank goodness, have I ever suffered from food poisoning, apart from the odd dodgy curry, I'm sure Dave Smith had a point.

I don't know about food poisoning but certainly in this pre-season lads have had to battle against heat stroke. I can't remember a summer that's been so hot ... with temperatures in the town occasionally up in the 90's. More than once over the last few weeks all us fans have been grateful we haven't been in training as it's certainly been too hot to cool down.

It's not been easy for local club players either. Great Wakering Road had to call off a friendly with Canvey Island as they already had too many players crocked in other matches in the pre-season run up.

None of this applied to the splendid Friday night when Blues beat Arsenal at Roots Hall. What a joy it was to see a packed ground at a really superb match that the Gunners, with all their international stars including David Platt and Dennis Bergkamp won 3-1.

But now all the preparations are over ... and this is the real thing. Luton our first visitors. I'm sure you recall the vital match against Luton at the end of the season two years ago when Andy Sussex scored the absolute screamer. One or two like that would be handy but even if the game doesn't go our way ... not to worry ... this is just the opening exchanges in what will be another long, exciting and fascinating season



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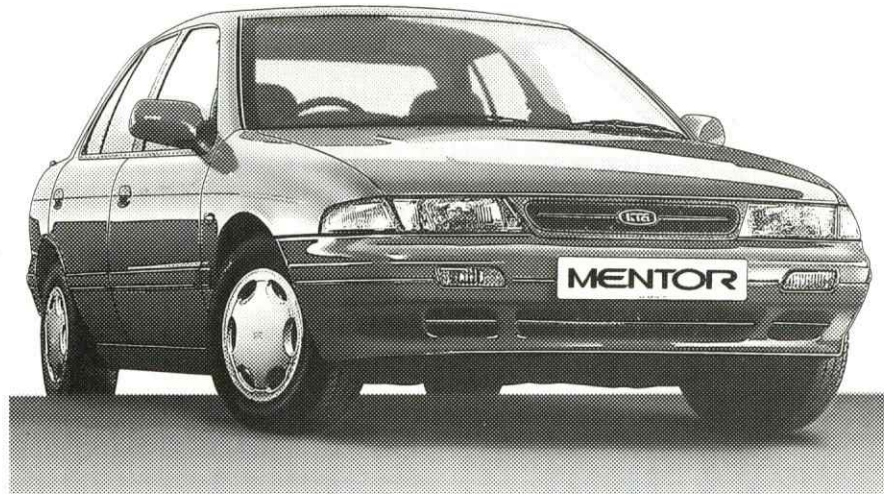


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	Pld	Home					Away				
		W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A
Barnsley	30	9	4	2	20	13	5	5	5	21	22
<b>Birmingham City</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
Charlton Athletic	34	6	5	6	24	24	2	3	12	16	41
<b>Crystal Palace</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>66</b>
Derby County	8	3	1	0	6	3	3	0	1	7	5
<b>Grimsby Town</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>42</b>
Huddersfield Town	16	3	1	4	14	12	2	1	5	10	16
<b>Ipswich Town</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>24</b>
Leicester City	6	1	1	1	4	3	0	0	3	1	9
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>48</b>
Millwall	68	14	9	11	48	38	7	8	19	33	68
<b>Norwich City</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>50</b>
Oldham Athletic	16	4	2	2	15	8	4	0	4	8	8
<b>Portsmouth</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>
Port Vale	60	11	16	3	49	30	4	10	16	26	63
<b>Reading</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>96</b>
Sheffield United	10	3	0	2	8	7	2	0	3	3	10
<b>Stoke City</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>
Sunderland	10	1	0	4	3	7	4	0	1	9	10
<b>Tranmere Rovers</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>27</b>
Watford	94	25	9	13	79	48	7	15	25	51	91
<b>West Bromwich Albion</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
Wolverhampton Wand.	12	2	2	2	6	6	2	1	3	4	12

## FOLLOW THE BLUES

*Every Night In The*

## EVENING ECHO

**TOP MATCH REPORTS, PREVIEWS  
AND REGULAR CLUB NEWS**





# JUNIOR BLUES ROUND-UP

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### Welcome back.

It does not seem possible that the season has started already, So here we go again.

I must apologise for any delay in sending your cards and tickets out. I am going as fast as I can.

Membership for Junior Blues and Blues Youth is going very well, but there is still room for more.

I am trying to arrange Hospitality days but due to a poor response there won't be one today.

If any information is needed, please ring our new number 01702 30 40 90.

By the way I've got plenty of badge boxes if anyone is interested, they are £1.00 each.

See you at the West Bromwich Albion.

Bye for now

*Lisa Axell*

**BE GOOD**

James Maggeridge

**Nicholas Bushell**

Gregory Smith

**Lewis Hammond**

Thomas Stock

**Asie Ali**

Johnathon Shim

**John Norris**

Bradley Pearce

**Samantha Berkley**

Mark Sisson

**Colin McWilliams**

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Full Kit  
**TECHTURE**

# RESERVES & YOUTHS *with Danny Greaves*



## YOUTHS

Last Saturday we played our opening game of the season at home to Norwich City, having quite a good pre-season we were extremely disappointed to be beaten by 4 goals to 0.

Luke Morrish and Phil Leggatt were the only two boys who really came out of the game with any credit, and this morning we were away to Leyton Orient, and I hope as you read this programme the performance and the result will be better.

However we are a young side this year with most of the team being made up of 16 and 17 year olds rather than 17 to 18's.

We hope that the boys will learn quickly and progress, so that the results will improve.

**Enjoy this afternoons game.**

*Good Luck*

## RESERVES

On Monday night we had our opening Capital League fixture at home to Leyton Orient.

We fielded quite an experienced side and some of the senior players had outstanding performances.

Phil Gridlet who was full of running and took his goals well to score a hat-trick. Dave Regis also took his chances well to score two and looked very strong. Mark Hone and Leo Roget put in good performances in defence.

It was also nice to see Andy Ansa playing again and also on the score sheet.

Mark Jones, one of our school boys and players for the future also had an outstanding game on that night.

### NEXT OPPONENTS

- Youths -

**LEYTON ORIENT (A)**

*Saturday 19th August*

**WEST HAM UNITED (H)**

*Southern Junior Floodlit Cup  
Monday 21st August K.O. 7.30pm*

### NEXT OPPONENTS

- Reserves -

**Colchester United (A)**

*Wednesday 23rd August*

**LEYTON ORIENT (A)**

*Wednesday 30th August*

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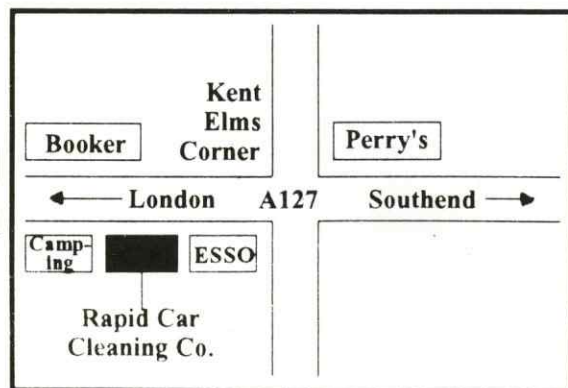
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## HERE WE GO

We hope the information below is of use to you and if there is any other information that you think would be useful please let us know

### ROADWISE

Follow signs London A127 to Watford/Dartford Crossing and at roundabout take first exit to join M25 to junction 30. In 1.2 miles forward A282 leaving motorway 1 mile further cross QEII Bridge - Dartford Crossing. Forward signs Swanley M25. In 2.2 miles branch left (signs London) and at roundabout take third exit A2. In 10.5 miles branch left (signs Central London) and at roundabout take first exit, Blackheath roundabout, take second exit then keep forward to Deptford/New Cross. Turn left with one-way traffic then turn right. Shortly turn right again the turn left. In 0.4 mile forward (one-way) take right hand lane and turn into Kender Street (one-way). Turn left into new Cross Road. In 0.2 mile turn right into Liderton Road. 0.5 mile further turn right into Zampa Road for Millwall Football Club (on right). Total Mileage approximately 46.3 miles.

### MILLWALL F.C.

Saturday 26th August 1995

Ground: **The Den**

Tel No: **0171 232 1222**

Ticket Office No: **0171 231 9999**

Ticket Prices: **£12.00**

Disabled Facilities: **Contact Ticket Office on 0171 231 999**

Nearest Train Station: **South Bermondsey**

Matchday Magazine: **£1.70**

Car Parking: **Juno Way**

### BLUES AWAY

### MILLWALL F.C.

Saturday 26th August 1995

Depart: **Shoebury Station 11.00am.**

**White Horse 11.15am**

**Golden Lion 11.30am**

**Kent Elms Corner 11.40am**

**Rayleigh Weir 11.45am**

**Jolly Cricketers 11.50am**

**Fortune of War 11.55am**

Fare: **(all One Price) £5.00**

Travel will be  
by 53 seater standard coaches  
Bookings for this game can be made by  
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(After 6.30pm)

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# AROUND THE HALL

Regretfully, we have again to use this column to help refute an incorrect report as published in our local columnist conscious organ, "The Evening Echo".

On Tuesday night, a columnist called Heath, who I am reliably informed was a reader who sent in

many letters to the paper and was then invited to contribute to the column, tried to be snide at the clubs expense by suggesting that the Board of Directors had announced that there was to be no Match Day cash entry to Roots Hall and that all tickets had to be pre-purchased before the day.

Can we state here and now that this is a **NONSENSE** and had Mr. Heath bothered to contact us we could have assisted him in getting his facts correct.

Once contacted, Echo Deputy Editor Kevin Furbank was fully apologetic and offered to print a retraction to put matters straight. However, as with the previous bit of mal reporting over the Arsenal match, the damage was done with irate fans bombarding the Ticket Office once more.

In case anyone is in doubt can we make the position clear again. You most certainly **CAN** turn up on the day for the matches (save those specifically advertised as **ALL TICKET**), and pay to get in.

We are, in line with many Clubs, in the interest of customer care, safety and security moving the point of purchasing facilities.

The old ticket office on Victoria Avenue, much loved by those who loved to stoop and incline their head whilst speaking, has now been replaced by two new centres which serve, on Match days, the East Stand in its entirety and the Blues Seats (upper and lower) of the South Stand.

West Stand members and South Stand upper and lower yellow spectators enter as previously from Shakespeare Drive with Family Tickets purchased from the west side ticket office in the normal manner.

Visitors using the North Bank will either have purchased their tickets from their Club or enter direct at the turnstiles.

Thus the new offices on the East side offer 14 purchasing points as opposed to 13 stiles. The advantages are that there is a credit card sale point in the North East ticket office and of course, purchases of concession tickets obtain their seats together and especially important for those with youngsters, they then go in through the same turnstile entrance.

Indeed, these initiatives have been made following a combination of our observations at other clubs and constructive letters sent to us over the past couple of years by fans.

thus, if things take time to knit together initially we hope that fans will help us - help them and far from Mr. Heaths idea of wishing to alienate support, we hope that we shall effectively be moving further to what into days jargon is referred to as making Roots Hall more "Customer Friendly".

Finally though, season ticket holders and Pre-match purchasers will feel the real benefits as the scheme expands to embrace all the ground eventually for the home support and of course, there is no substitute for arriving early to guarantee entry. Remember at the Arsenal match, virtually everyone was in by kick off, whilst against Salonika with late arrivals we had a problem despite a small gate.

If you want further information, please call at the Main North East Ticket Office and ask for a ticketing procedure sheet prepared by Lesley Vincent or send her an SAE and she will post one to you.

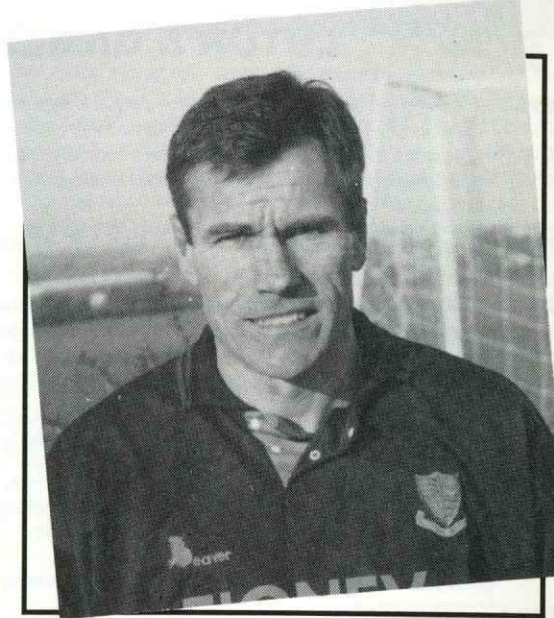
**I wonder if Mr. Heath will bother!**

# CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

This year the Southend United Centre of Excellence will be running age groups from under 11 to under 16. I make no secret that our aims are totally selfish, we want to produce as many top players as possible for the clubs benefit, if we are successful it's good news for Southend United F.C. and what a great life we will be giving to someone.

Our commitment in trying to produce quality players is at our training headquarters where we will have weekly training, top coaching by the managers of the age groups plus guest coaches who will all do their thing in a disciplined and enjoyable way.

One thing I can promise is that more boys will get a chance to trial



with us as long as we know something about them. So if you see the best boy in the team at a local park let him know we will give him a chance.

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# IN YEARS GONE BY

with Richard Godwin

## LUTON'S GAMES ON 19TH AUGUST

- 1989** This was the last occasion that Luton played a fixture on this date. It was the opening fixture of the season in 1989-90 in the old Division One. Luton played away at White Hart Lane and lost to Tottenham by 1-2. Roy Wegerle netted a consolation goal for Luton while Paul Allen and Paul Stewart scored for Spurs. At the end of that season Luton escaped relegation with a superior goal difference to Sheffield Wednesday who went down accompanied by the 2 South London rivals Charlton Athletic and Millwall.
- 1980** Luton's first home game of the new season 1980-81 was with Watford, their near neighbours. Steve White scored their first half winner. Luton ended the season in 5th spot in Division Two which also saw both Bristol clubs being relegated together.
- 1978** The Second Division started with a great 6-1 win for the Hatters at home to Oldham Athletic. More remarkable when you read that the half time score was 1-0 to Oldham. Lutons goals were scored by Bob Hatton (2), Dave Moss (2), Brian Stein, and a penalty by Lil Fuccillo who later came to Roots Hall. At that time Lil netted seven goals in just eleven matches.
- 1974** A visit to Upton Park to meet West Ham was the Luton task for their first away match in this Division One season. Frank Lampard and Billy Bonds were on target for Hammers with Luton failing to reply. At the seasons end Luton were relegated to Division Two mainly due to losing all but one of their opening 21 League games. In goal for this game was Graham Horn who later had a short career here at Southend.
- 1972** Hatters opened their Home campaign with a 1-0 win over Preston North End thanks to a Peter Anderson first half goal. This was one of only six home League wins all season.

Today also marked the first ever League win for newcomers Hereford United when they beat Reading 3-0.

<b>1950</b>	Watford	Home	5-1	18,000	Davies (2), Wakefield (2), Lawler
<b>1953</b>	Norwich City	Away	0-1	27,523	—
<b>1961</b>	Bradford Park Avenue	Home	2-1	13,049	Corthine (p), Houghton (o.g.)
<b>1967</b>	Port Vale	Away	2-1	7,451	Chisnall, McKinven (p)
<b>1972</b>	Plymouth Argyle	Away	0-2	6,969	—
<b>1978</b>	Chester	Home	0-1	4,223	—
<b>1981</b>	Gillingham (F. A. Group Cup)	Away	0-0	2,000	—
<b>1989</b>	York City	Home	2-0	2,725	Walsh, Crown

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## Good afternoon everyone,

Welcome back to Roots Hall for what I hope will be a successful season for Ronnie Whelan and the boys. I would like to take this opportunity of wishing Ronnie and his staff all the very best for the coming campaign. Good luck boys. The Community Office has been a hive of industry over the close season period. With soccer schools especially taking up a lot of organisational time as well as practical time. I especially enjoy the soccer schools as it gives me a chance to get out of the office and muck in with the coaching of the youngsters. Talking of office, we in the community are having a brand new office erected close by the old one, next to the Souvenir Shop. This will have a classroom and creche attached, enabling us to use the premises to the full. The Community staff has changed slightly as my full-time assistant Gary Piggott who is a trainee has been given a further three month period to work for the community project. Cleve Taylor is now in full-time employment with Southend United as an electrician and kit man while Alan Reade is coaching football to the Americans in Wyoming. John Threadgold, Craig Davidson and Michael Charlton are all coaching on our soccer schools and are all very popular with our youngsters.

Coming onto our senior citizens we are planning a 2 day trip down to Bournemouth at a cost of £35.00. This is planned for Friday 6th - Saturday 7th October. We will be stopping at the Majestic Hotel. Bournemouth, this offer is open not only to senior citizens but to anyone showing an interest. (For further details you can contact me on 01702 - 34 13 51). The birthday party treats that we run over at our training ground are proving very popular. The cost is £8.00 per head with a minimum of 10 youngsters. This involves an hours coaching session on our Astro Turf pitch followed

# IN THE COMMUNITY

with Frankie Banks

CO-ORDINATOR OF  
SOUTHEND UNITED IN THE COM UNITY

by a choice of burgers - pizza - nuggets with chips and jelly and ice cream. Each child receives a goody bag with the birthday child receiving a special goody bag. (Contact this office or Lorraine at Boots & Laces). It's my 50th birthday on Monday and although I haven't got anything special planned I hope to take my wife Marion out for the night for a celebration meal. I also hope to see my mum and dad who are hoping to come down from Hull to see me.

I would just like to send my condolences to Ray Suttons family on his untimely death last week. Ray was only 34 years of age and he leaves a widow and 2 children. A testimonial match has been planned for him on Sunday 27th August at Great Wakering Ground, Kick Off 3.00pm. I have been asked to get a team together and as well as myself, Paul Clark, David Crown, Glenn Pennyfather, Mervyn Cawston, Ronnie Pountney, Ray Scott, Bill Garner, Danny Greaves, Craig Davidson, Gary Piggott, Joe Dungwell, Tony Hadley and John Gowans will all be making an appearance. (All proceeds will go to Rays widow), so please attend this very worthwhile cause.

Finally I would like to welcome our Saturday Team.

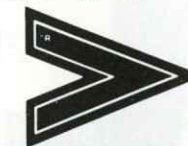
## Wickford Dynamo's U/8's

**with their manager  
Steve Holmwel.**

I hope you all enjoy your day and the match. God Bless,

*Frankie Banks*

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# BLUES FACTS & FIGURES

Date	Opposition	H/A	Res.	Pos	Pts	Att.	1	2	3	4	5
12 Aug	Portsmouth	A	4-2	-	0	10,630	ROYCE	DUBLIN	POWELL	BODLEY	LAPPER
<b>12 Aug</b>	<b>LUTON TOWN</b>	<b>H</b>									
16 Aug	Coca-Cola Cup 1st Rd - 1st Leg	-									
23 Aug	Coca-Cola Cup 1st Rd - 2nd Leg	-									
26 Aug	Millwall	A									
<b>29 Aug</b>	<b>WEST BROMWICH</b>	<b>H</b>									
<b>2 Sep</b>	<b>READING</b>	<b>H</b>									
9 Sep	Sunderland	A									
13 Sep	Derby County	A									
<b>15 Sep</b>	<b>BRESCIA (ANGLO-ITAL CUP)</b>	<b>H</b>									
<b>16 Sep</b>	<b>WOLVERHAMPTON W.</b>	<b>H</b>									
20 Sep	Coca-Cola Cup - 2nd Rd - 1st Leg	-									
23 Sep	Leicester City	A									
<b>30 Sep</b>	<b>GRIMSBY TOWN</b>	<b>H</b>									
4 Oct	Coca-Cola Cup 2Rd - 2nd Leg	-									
7 Oct	Birmingham City	A									
11 Oct	Reggiana	A									
<b>14 Oct</b>	<b>SHEFFIELD UNITED</b>	<b>H</b>									
21 Oct	Tranmere Rovers	A									
25 Oct	Coca-Cola Cup 3rd Round	-									
<b>28 Oct</b>	<b>HUDDERSFIELD TOWN</b>	<b>H</b>									
4 Nov	Watford	A									
8 Nov	Salemitana	A									
<b>11 Nov</b>	<b>STOKE CITY/FAC 1</b>	<b>H</b>									
<b>18 Nov</b>	<b>CRYSTAL PALACE</b>	<b>H</b>									
21 Nov	Ipswich Town	A									
25 Nov	Oldham Athletic	A									
29 Nov	Coca-Cola Cup 4th Round	-									
<b>2 Dec</b>	<b>BIRMINGHAM CITY/FAC2</b>	<b>H</b>									
<b>9 Dec</b>	<b>LEICESTER CITY</b>	<b>H</b>									
<b>13 Dec</b>	<b>FOGGIA</b>	<b>H</b>									
16 Dec	Grimby Town	A									
<b>23 Dec</b>	<b>PORT VALE</b>	<b>H</b>									
26 Dec	Norwich City	A									
30 Dec	Charlton Athletic	A									
<b>1 Jan</b>	<b>BARNSELY</b>	<b>H</b>									
<b>6 Jan</b>	<b>FAC3</b>	<b>-</b>									
10 Jan	Coca-Cola Cup - 5th Round	-									
13 Jan	Luton Town	A									
<b>20 Jan</b>	<b>PORTSMOUTH</b>	<b>H</b>									
<b>23/24 Jan</b>	<b>Domestic Semi Finals</b>	<b>-</b>									
<b>27 Jan</b>	<b>FAC4</b>	<b>-</b>									
<b>3 Feb</b>	<b>MILLWALL</b>	<b>H</b>									
<b>6/7 Feb</b>	<b>1st Leg Domestic Final</b>	<b>-</b>									
10 Feb	West Bromwich	A									
<b>13 Feb</b>	<b>2nd Leg Domestic Final</b>	<b>-</b>									
14 Feb	Coca-Cola Cup - Semi-Final - 1	-									
<b>17 Feb</b>	<b>DERBY COUNTY/FAC5</b>	<b>H</b>									
20 Feb	Reading	A									
21 Feb	Coca-Cola Cup - Semi-Final - 2	-									
24 Feb	Wolverhampton W.	A									
<b>27 Feb</b>	<b>SUNDERLAND</b>	<b>H</b>									
<b>2 Mar</b>	<b>NORWICH CITY</b>	<b>H</b>									
9 Mar	Port Vale/FAC6	A									
<b>16 Mar</b>	<b>CHARLTON ATHLETIC</b>	<b>H</b>									
<b>16/17 Mar</b>	<b>International Final (Wembley)</b>	<b>-</b>									
23 Mar	Barnsley	A									
24 Mar	Coca-Cola Cup - Final	-									
<b>30 Mar</b>	<b>TRANMERE R./FACSF</b>	<b>H</b>									
2 Apr	Sheffield United	A									
6 Apr	Huddersfield Town	A									
<b>8 Apr</b>	<b>WATFORD</b>	<b>H</b>									
13 Apr	Crystal Palace	A									
<b>20 Apr</b>	<b>IPWICH TOWN</b>	<b>H</b>									
<b>27 Apr</b>	<b>OLDHAM ATHLETIC</b>	<b>H</b>									
4 May	Stoke City	A									
<b>11 May</b>	<b>FA CUP FINAL</b>	<b>-</b>									

## IN MEMORY OF A TRUE FOOTBALL SUPPORTER



## ADAM DEALEY

*Born 3rd July 1985*

*Died 15th July 1995*

*Aged 10 years*

### THIS SPACE IS RESERVED FOR THE LEAGUE TABLE

If you have any remarks to make about our new Matchday Magazine please send them

to:  
**The Editor**  
**Matchday Magazine**  
**c/o Southend United F.C.**  
**Roots Hall,**  
**Victoria Avenue**  
**Southend on Sea**  
**Essex**

## TOP GOALSCORER THIS SEASON

Andy Thompson - 2

6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	Sub GK	Scorers
HAILS	IORFA	WHELAN	JONES	THOMPSON	TILSON	REGIS	HONE	SAMSONE	Thompson (2)

Adam suffered from a rare cancer (bone) "Ewings Sarcoma", which is found only in children - 50 new cases are diagnosed each year in the U.K. - Success Rate 50%

Adams condition was diagnosed in October last year. He underwent 8 intensive chemotherapy courses, Radiotherapy and major surgery to remove a rib.

Adam lived in Hemel Hempstead and attended Southall School. He played football for Hemel Lions as well as being the youngest boy to represent his school at football.

Adam also loved tennis and at the age of 7 represented Hertfordshire in the East of England County Championships.

Adam regularly watched Luton up until 2 years ago and was mascot when Luton played Manchester City in November 1991 - His allegiance changed to Manchester United and he met Alec Ferguson and the players in November of last year.

The last matches he attended were both Southend v Luton fixtures last season.

Trust status in the process of being applied for to further the research and treatment of Ewings Sarcoma and other childhood cancers.

In children under 14 who die the biggest cause is cancer

1 in 600 children are diagnosed with cancer which equates to 1,200 new cases each year.

### SPRINGHEATH CAPITAL LEAGUE

14 Aug	LEYTON ORIENT	H	27 Nov	PETERB' UTD	H
23 Aug	Colchester United	A	20 Dec	Peterborough United	A
30 Aug	Leyton Orient	A	- 1996 -		
4 Sept	WEST HAM UTD	H	8 Jan	BARNET	H
11 Sept	WELLING UTD	H	15 Jan	NORTHAMPTON.	H
18 Sept	Sutton United	A	22 Jan	GILLINGHAM	H
25 Sept	SUTTON UTD	H	12 Feb	Reading	A
11 Oct	Gillingham	A	19 Feb	BRENTFORD	H
16 Oct	COLCHESTER UTD	H	6 Mar	Cambridge Utd	A
25 Oct	Barnet	A	20 Mar	Wokingham Town	A
30 Oct	FULHAM	H	25 Mar	WYCOMBE WAND.	H
8 Nov	West Ham United	A	2 Apr	Crawley Town	A
13 Nov	Welling United	A	27 Apr	WOKING	H

Home Kick Off: 7.45pm - Turnstiles 29 - 32 only in use  
 Admission to East Stand: Adults £2.50 - Juniors/OAP £1.00  
 Season Ticket Holders: Free

### SOUTH-EAST COUNTILES DIV 1

HOME FIXTURES ONLY	
12 Aug	NORWICH CITY
26 Aug	MILLWALL
9 Sep	QPR
16 Sep	CHARLTON (L. CUP 1)
30 Sep	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
14 Oct	ARSENAL
21 Oct	(L. CUP 2)
4 Nov	CHELSEA
18 Nov	GILLINGHAM
25 Nov	(L. CUP 3)
16 Dec	IPSWICH
- 1996 -	
6 Jan	LEYTON ORIENT
24 Jan	PORTSMOUTH
3 Feb	WATFORD
17 Feb	CAMBRIDGE UNITED
2 Mar	CHARLTON ATHLETIC
16 Mar	FULHAM
30 Mar	WEST HAM UNITED

Home Kick Off: 11.00am at  
 The Training Ground, Eastern Avenue,  
 Southend on Sea, Essex



# THE PLAYERS

## SOUTHEND

Player/Manager:

Ronnie WHELAN

Simon ROYCE - 1

Keith DUBLIN - 2

Chris POWELL - 3

Michael BODLEY - 4

Mike LAPPER - 5

Julian HAILS - 6

Dominic IORFA - 7

Ronnie WHELAN - 8

Gary JONES - 9

Andy THOMSON - 10

Steve TILSON - 11

Dave REGIS - 12

Mark HONE - 14

Paul SANSOME - GK

v

## LUTON TOWN

Manager:

Terry WESTLEY

1 - Juergen SOMMER

2 - Mitchell THOMAS

3 - Gavin JOHNSON

4 - Steve DAVIS

5 - Ceri HUGHES

6 - David OLDFIELD

7 - Graham ALEXANDER

8 - Dwight MARSHALL

9 - John TAYLOR

10 - Bontcho GUENTCHEV

11 - Richard HARVEY

12 - Gary WADDOCK

14 - Tony THORPE

GK - Kelvin DAVIS

## THE REFEREE

Mr. G. R. Pooley

## THE LINESMEN

Mr. T. P. Hails (Red/Yellow)

Mr. S. G. Tomlin (Yellow)



C.I.A.  
International

## TONIGHT'S REFEREE

Mr. Graham Pooley is a security guard with B.A.A. He is married with two children Kelly and James. He started refereeing in 1972 in the local league and progressed onto the South-East Counties and Eastern Counties leagues. He was finally promoted in 1982 to the Football League Referees List in 1988

## FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

Endsleigh Insurance League Division One

**MILLWALL - (away)**

Saturday 26th August

**WEST BROMWICH - (home)**

Tuesday 29th August

NEW TICKET OFFICE NUMBER

(01 702) 30 40 90