



Town Football Club

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Official matchday programme

**LENNIE LAWRENCE
ON TODAY'S
MATCH - p2&3**

**MEET THE
VISITORS
- p12-15**

**LEAGUE CHANGES?
- p26-27**

**DIVISION TWO
ROUND-UP
- p4&41**

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v BRENTFORD



Nationwide League Div Two - Saturday, October 25, 1997 - Kick-Off 3pm

From the manager's chair

FORTUNES change quickly in football, and this has never been more apparent than in the last two or three weeks at this football club.

We plumbed the depths with a 4-0 defeat by Watford, and then after a hard week's work and analysis got back on the winning trail with a 3-0 home victory over Plymouth, followed by a draw and a win from two difficult away trips.

Against Plymouth we did well in both penalty areas, and enjoyed some good fortune in ours from time to time, aided by some inspired goalkeeping from Kelvin Davis.

That set us up nicely for two consecutive away games, where we said privately beforehand that a win from one was absolutely essential.

As it was we obtained a thoroughly deserved four-point total from the two trips, which obviously has lifted us up the table by one or two places, and more importantly has boosted confidence.

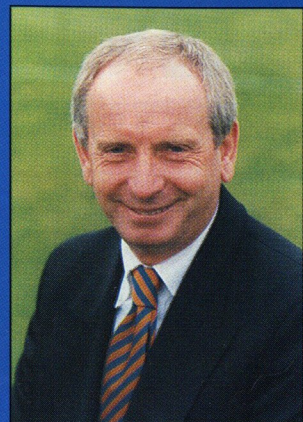
I had always maintained that when the senior players started to return things would improve considerably.

That process has already started and hopefully can continue today.

Julian James did a terrific job for us on his first full game back, playing at centre-half against Plymouth, and then the return of Steve Davis for the two away games was another massive boost for us.

Phil Gray also returned for the two away games, but seems to be dogged by minor injuries at the moment.

We controlled the game at Wigan with our passing,



with **LENNIE LAWRENCE**

although they had two good chances at the start of each half.

A draw was thoroughly deserved, a win would have been slightly fortunate, but a defeat would have been a total injustice.

The game against Carlisle was a more open affair, but we gave the ball away too frequently at times, although Carlisle were unable to turn any possession into anything more than long range shots or speculative crosses.

They missed one or two half chances, but did not create enough for a home team.

It looked as if the game would end in a draw, but Alan White popped up with a timely goal to ensure we got the points - which we just about deserved.

The most pleasing aspect of our play has been that we have only conceded a goal from the penalty spot in three games, and another clean

sheet is the first order of the day today.

This afternoon we welcome the players, supporters and officials of Brentford.

Like us they are finding life difficult this season after failure in the play-offs last term.

In particular today I would like to welcome their manager Eddie May, who was appointed as their new team manager at the start of the season, and who was my assistant at Charlton in the early 1980's.

Eddie is a much travelled manager in footballing terms, who has worked all over the world, and I'm sure he will improve Brentford's fortunes - although hopefully we can delay that procedure.

The support we received in the last home game against Plymouth was excellent, considering what had happened the week before against Watford, and hopefully that support can be reproduced again today.

Changes are necessary with the suspension of Matthew Spring, and we are looking forward to the imminent return of several first-team players.

Dwight Marshall and Marvin Johnson will appear in the squad today, and Ian Feuer and Andrew Fotiadis will play in the reserves at Norwich on Monday.

That still leaves us with an average size injury list, including Paul Showler, Darren Patterson, Stuart Douglas and Mitchell Thomas, although Mitchell could feature in the reserves on Wednesday week.

Young Chris Willmott has



also been given the OK to resume training after his cruciate knee ligament injury.

Following Gavin McGowan's return to Arsenal we have a loan available, but there are no plans to use it at present.

Finally, congratulations to Liam George and Gary Doherty

who have been on international duty with the **Eire Under 18** side.

Liam was on the scoresheet earlier this week, and with another match to be played at the weekend they are both unavailable for this Division Two game.

ABOVE: Phil Gray attempts to find a way through the Wigan defence during last Saturday's 1-1 draw.

see every goal

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It was all White on the night!

IT was a memorable Tuesday night for centre-half Alan White, as his first ever goal for Luton gave the Hatters the three points in a 1-0 win at Carlisle, writes Simon Oxley.

White's winner came just three minutes from time - but the defender could have departed after just 13 minutes!

It was lucky 13 though for the former Middlesbrough man as the referee decided his foul on Andy Couzens - clean through on the edge of the penalty area - warranted no more than a free-kick.

But White went onto forge a solid pairing with Steve Davis in the centre of the Town defence, and when Carlisle substitute Ian Stevens did break through, White was there to clear his goalbound shot off the line with 16 minutes to go.

At the other end, Tony Thorpe and David Oldfield went close to putting the visitors in front, but it was obviously destined to be all White on the night, and he duly headed in Graham Alexander's 87th minute corner.

It was Luton's first visit to Brunton Park since 1976, and provided their first away league win of the season.

Elsewhere in Division Two, Watford extended their lead at the top to four points with a 2-0 home win over Fulham.

Ronny Rosenthal and Paul Robinson were the Hornets' scorers, as they bounced back from Saturday's home



TONY Thorpe (pictured during Saturday's draw at Wigan) went close to opening the scoring at Carlisle.

defeat by Millwall.

The Lions were held 0-0 at Bournemouth, and are seven points behind Watford, but with two games in hand.

Goals from Ian Clarkson and James Quinn gave Blackpool a 2-1 win over Chesterfield, and the former Stevenage striker Barry Hayles netted twice as Bristol Rovers won 3-2 at our opponents this afternoon Brentford.

Marcus Bent had put the Bees 1-0 in front, with Hayles and Peter Beadle making it 2-1 after just 17 minutes.

Kevin Rapley equalised, with Hayles' winner coming on 71 minutes.

Gregory Goodridge netted an 89th

minute winner as Bristol City beat Preston 2-1, whilst second-placed Northampton were held 1-1 at home by York.

Tommy Wright and Lee Duxbury scored Oldham's goals in the 2-0 home win over Grimsby, with on-loan striker Gerry Creaney again on target for Burnley in their 2-2 draw at Plymouth.

Wigan lost 4-1 at home to Gillingham, whilst Wrexham recovered from a 1-0 half-time deficit to beat Southend 3-1 at the Racecourse Ground.

And Mark Stallard netted a hat-trick for Wycombe in their 4-2 home win over Walsall.

See page 54 for current league table.

SAFETY NOTE

The Chairman and Directors of Luton Town Football Club undertake to ensure as far as humanly possible that all activities that take place at the Kenilworth Stadium are conducted in such a way that, as far as is reasonably practicable, the safety of everybody at the stadium is assured.

It is the policy of the Chairman and Directors to ensure that the conditions set out in the General Safety Certificate, issued under Safety at Sports Ground Act 1975 are fully complied with.

It is the club's policy to provide at any activity sufficient and competent staff and management systems to ensure as far as humanly possible, for the safe admission, accommodation, and exiting of spectators attending the stadium. These systems will be subject to continual monitoring, testing and updating where necessary.

In the interests of public safety, the safety authority (Beds County Council) have imposed a NO SMOKING restriction in and beneath our main stand. Your co-operation is appreciated.

FRONT COVER: Match winner Alan White is congratulated by Paul McLaren after Tuesday night's 1-0 win at Carlisle, when White netted the decisive goal after 87 minutes.
(Picture: GARETH OWEN).

LUTON TOWN FC MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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STEVO

Club Captain's Corner with STEVE DAVIS



LEFT: Steve Davis returned to the Luton side at Wigan, following a back injury. This second-half header went wide, but the skipper hit the post with an 82nd minute free-kick.

LTFC TICKET OFFICE

See page 9 for ticket details
for the forthcoming trips to
Wycombe and Grimsby.

Please note: Next Saturday's
match at Wycombe is
ALL-TICKET for Luton
supporters, with
NO TICKETS available on
the day of the match.

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WITH four points from ur last two games, I wouldn't say we have turned the corner, but we are certainly heading in the right direction.

The lads did well against Plymouth with Kelvin 'Banks' excelling between the sticks. The young lads have staked a claim for regular run outs, with Springy and big Johnny Hartson, sorry Gary Doherty, impressing.

Unfortunately, Springy had an early bath. He thought the sending off was harsh, and it wasn't until he found the Plymouth number seven's shin pads stuck to the bottom of his boots that he realised he was a little over the top!

The dressing room was a lot chirpier on Monday, and after another full week's training the lads, with me

included at long last, headed for sunny Wigan.

Unfortunately our last ever-present this season, Wads, couldn't make the trip because of a calf strain, but hopefully will be available for the short trip to Carlisle! These notes have been written before Tuesday, so it would be nice to think we are going into today's game with 13 points.

I think the Wigan game was one we should have won. I thought we were the better side, especially in the first half, but we can't seem to turn our domination into goals at the moment, and are unable to shut up shop for longer than five minutes when we do score. The only solution is to score the winner with the last kick of the game!!

I was pleased to get through the game with no ill effects, but having missed three weeks of training I could have done with an oxygen mask in the last 10 minutes!

Despite our league position, and all the injuries we've suffered, there is still a self belief in our ability throughout the team, and indeed the club, that we are good enough to get promotion - which is very important.

Once we can field what the manager feels is his strongest eleven on a regular basis, I'm sure this could still be a season to remember.

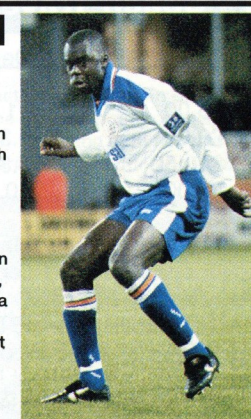
Finally, thanks to Gavin McGowan who has returned to Arsenal. Whether we see him back at Luton remains to be seen, but he did a good job when he played, and was a good lad to have in the dressing room. Wasn't too sure about his barnet though!

MARVIN JOHNSON BENEFIT 97/98

In recognition of 10 years loyal service to Luton Town, Marvin has been granted a benefit match at the end of the season, against Sheffield Wednesday, (subject to neither side being involved in any vital matches).

Marvin will also be holding a Sporting Dinner on November 11, at the Vauxhall Recreation Club, where for just £25 per person, you will receive a four-course meal, after-dinner speeches from David Pleat and Nick Owen, plus entertainment from a well-known comedian.

For further details please contact
01582 485709.



FIRSTLY I am delighted to be able to tell you that Mr Ward, who was taken ill in the Main Stand at the Plymouth match, has made an excellent recovery and has now returned home.

We hope that he will be back at Kenilworth Road for a match very soon, and we all send our best wishes to him.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone who helped Mr Ward on the day, and their quick response no doubt assisted his recovery.

At the time of going to press, we are receiving confirmation that our Nationwide League match with Grimsby Town, scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, has been postponed.

This is due to Grimsby's involvement in the fourth round of the Coca-Cola Cup.

There are a number of references to this match elsewhere in the programme - notably on the facing page - and printing deadlines mean we are unable to change these.

At the time of writing we have no new date for our trip to Blundell Park.

Congratulations to the youth team who beat Arsenal 2-0 in the second round of the South East Counties

From the secretary's chair



with **CHERRY NEWBERY**

League Cup. They now play Swindon in the third round on November 22, at 11am, at Luton Rugby Club.

Can I remind you that the next five home Avon Insurance Combination matches will be played at Hitchin Town's Top Field ground - the first being on Monday, November 10 at 7pm, when we play Ipswich.

Admission is £2 for adults, and £1 for juniors and senior citizens.

Christmas is coming, and the Junior Hatters, with the help of the official Luton Town Supporters Club, have confirmed the date for their

Christmas Party as Monday, December 15, from 7 to 9pm.

This will be at the Co-op Bowling Centre in Stockingstone Road, Luton, and further details are available from the ticket office.

Finally, I am very pleased to tell you that, with the kind permission of the Rev. Nick Bell, we will be holding a Luton Town Christmas Carol Service, at St Mary's Parish Church on Wednesday, December 17, at 7.30pm.

You will need a ticket to attend and further details will be available shortly. I hope that you and your family will join the directors, players and staff for what I hope will become an annual event.

TOWN TEASER

Which player did Luton Town sell to Chelsea for £300,000 in the summer of 1992?

Listen out for the PA announcer asking this question this afternoon.

Bobbers Travel Club - Coach Travel 1997/98

Date	Destination	Adult	Child/OAP	Depart Cranfield	Depart Luton
Sat Nov 1	Wycombe	£6.00	£5.00	11.00am	12 noon
Tue Nov 18	Grimsby	£11.50	£9.00	1.30pm	2.30pm
Sat Nov 29	York City	£13.00	£10.50	8.30am	9.30am
Sat Dec 13	Chesterfield	£10.00	£8.00	10.00am	11.00am

Coaches from Cranfield pick up additionally at the following places: Marston Moretaine, Ampthill, Flitwick, Westoning and opposite the Luton Gateway Hotel. All coaches then depart from the junction of Hazelbury Crescent and Kenilworth Road.

To book: 1) From the ticket kiosk in the Kenilworth Road turnstiles. See BTC co-ordinator Paul Deason before any Saturday 1st team home match between 2.15 and 2.45pm. (NB No bookings taken at midweek matches). 2) On the return journey from the previous away game. 3) Telephone Paul Deason on Bedford 01234 750996. Membership of the Bobbers Travel Club is £1 for adults and 50p for children/OAPs.

Wycombe Wanderers v Luton Town

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
Saturday, November 1, 1997, kick-off 3pm

THIS IS AN ALL-TICKET MATCH FOR LUTON SUPPORTERS, WITH NO TICKETS AVAILABLE ON THE DAY OF THE GAME.

NB: Tickets are limited for this match.

Season ticket holders can now purchase one ticket each (subject to availability) up until Wednesday, Oct 15, at 4pm. If any tickets are still remaining they will go on sale to one per **Member** (subject to availability) from Thursday, Oct 16, at 10am.

Prices: Amersham and Wycombe College Stand (along side of the pitch) - £13 adults, £12 senior citizens, £11 juniors/students.

The Roger Vere Stand (behind goal) - £11 adults, £9 senior citizens, £7 juniors/students.

*Bucks Free Press Family Stand (along side of pitch) - £9 adults, £7 senior citizens, £5 juniors/students. NB: Tickets in the Family Stand can only be purchased by adults, seniors or students accompanying juniors from the same family.

(LTFC Ticket office open for sale of other match tickets - 9am to 12 noon - 1/11/97).

Luton Town v Burnley

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
Tuesday, November 4, 1997, kick-off 7.45pm

Tickets for this match are now on sale at normal league prices.
Normal guesting facilities apply.

Luton Town v Preston North End

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
Saturday, November 8, 1997, kick-off 3pm

Tickets for this match are now on sale at the discounted price.
Normal guesting facilities apply.

Grimsby Town v Luton Town

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
Tuesday, November 18, 1997, kick-off 7.45pm

Pay on the night only at Grimsby.
Covered seating in the Osmond Stand.
Prices: £12 for adults, £6 for juniors and senior citizens.

PLEASE NOTE: For a trial period, the ticket office was open on Fridays between 10am and 7pm. Our figures show that the service was not being used after 6pm, so the ticket office will now be open on Fridays between 10am and 6pm to assist supporters who are unable to contact the ticket office during normal opening hours. Thank you.

TICKET OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday to Thursday: 10am to 4pm. Fridays: 10am to 6pm.

Saturday (matchdays): 9am to 3pm, and 4.45 to 5.15pm.

Saturday (non-matchday): Subject to change, please contact ticket office on 416976.

For bookings, membership and enquiries, ring the ticket office direct on (01582) 416976.
Supporters wishing to order by credit card can do so by using the 24-hour credit card hotline on (01582) 730748.

Travel Information

WYCOMBE WANDERERS
Adams Park, Hillbottom Road,
Sands, High Wycombe, Bucks,
HP12 4HJ.
Tele: (01494) 472100.

Exit M40 at junction 4 (s/p A404 Wycombe, Marlow). At motorway roundabout, follow signs to Aylesbury A4010, picking up first signs to Wycombe Wanderers FC. Straight over three roundabouts and down a long hill - a total of 2.3 miles. At first of two mini-roundabouts turn left into Lane End Road. At next roundabout, after 0.5 miles, turn right (s/p Industrial Estate) into Hillbottom Road.

After the game, follow the yellow AA signs which direct traffic back to the M40, avoiding the town centre and some of the worst jams.

GRIMSBY TOWN.
Blundell Park, Cleethorpes, DN35 7PY.
Tele: (01472) 697111.

Take M1 north, then M18, M180 and A180 following signs to Grimsby/Cleethorpes. A180 ends at roundabout - third in short distance after crossing docks - but follow main Cleethorpes Road, and the ground is on the left after approximately one mile. If you reach the sea, you've gone too far!

Editor's note: Directions courtesy of FOOTBALL FAN'S GUIDE, an excellent publication with directions to, and full details of, every ground in the Premiership and Football League. Copies of this seasonally updated book are available in the club shop.

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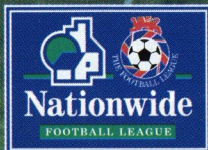
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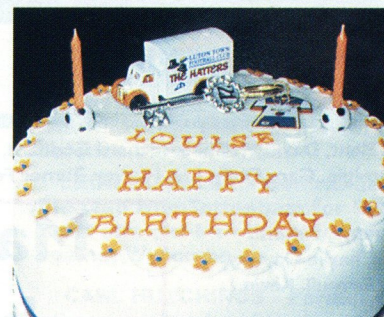
ABOVE: August 16, 1997, and Simon Agnew, from Bramingham Park, Luton, is at the Nou Camp Stadium in Barcelona.



LEFT: August 18, and the 13-year-old is preparing for Footy Party Night at the White Horse pub, in Calella, Spain, with Luton v Southend. It was quite a memorable night..... just ask Ian Feuer!



ABOVE: They could be anywhere, but Edward, Sam and Robert Little, from Bedford, are actually on top of Mount Snowdon, on a particularly cloudy day in the August holidays. On cloudy days for the rest of the year, they are season ticket holders in the Main Stand.



LEFT: Ardent Hatters supporter Louise Panter celebrated her 21st birthday on September 10, with a suitably decorated cake!

ASTON Villa supporter Mr W Rawbone is anxious to obtain a copy of the match programme Luton Town v Aston Villa, from January 18, 1986. If anyone can help, Mr Rawbone can be contacted at: 7 Longmeadow Grove, West Heath, Birmingham, B31 4SU, or by telephoning 0121 477 3152 or 0410 258293.

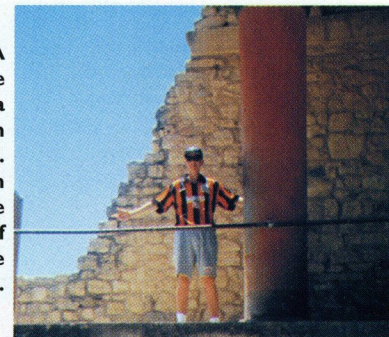
LUTON fan Robert McCree, from 55 Wroxham Way, Harpenden, Herts, is anxious to obtain a match programme from a friendly match played between Millwall and Luton Town on March 15, 1954. Can anybody help? Please contact Mr McCree at the above address.

THE Luton Town Supporters Club of Scandinavia are looking for a UK-based supporter to become guest writer in their fanzine 'The Hatters Magazine'.

The person must go to every home game and most of the away games, and anyone interested should write to: Lars-Petter Ronnestad, Chairman - Luton Town Supporters Club of Scandinavia, 6076 Moldtustranda, Norway.

The club has nearly 100 members across Scandinavia, and is the biggest club for English second division teams.

RIGHT: A Hatters fan at the Palace, and it's a far cry from Selhurst Park. Gavin May, from Luton, is at the Palace of Knossos, on the island of Crete.



Many thanks for the large number of photographs which show you the supporters proudly displaying the Luton colours in various parts of the world. (There will a prize for the most obscure, or any with celebrities in!) Please keep sending them! Photos should be sent to:

The Programme Editor, c/o Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton, Beds, LU4 8AW.

Requests for penpals, programme swaps etc. can also be forwarded. (NB Please enclose SAE for return of photos).

FOR THE LATEST NEWS - CLUBCALL 0891 121 123

Calls cost 50p per minute at all times



Back row: l to r: Marcus Bent, David McGhee, Richard Goddard, Robert Taylor, Jamie Bates, Carl Hutchings, Gus Hurdle.
Middle row: l to r: Joe Omigie, Gary Duffy, Lee Harvey, Tamer Fernandes, Kevin Dearden, Graham Benstead, Stuart Myall, Kevin Dennis.
Front row: l to r: Ryan Denys, Simon Spencer, Ijah Anderson, Charlie Oayway, Scott Canham, Simon Wormull, Kevin Rapley, Paul Barrowcliff.



ABOVE: Gus Hurdle

Marc of success for boss May's Bees

BRENTFORD winger Marcus Bent is being tipped as the next Nathan Blake - after boss Eddie May moved him up front.

May discovered Bolton and Wales star Blake during his time at Cardiff.

Now he reckons Bent, 19, can reach the top - by following in Blake's footsteps and switching from the wing to hitman.

He said: "Marcus has everything you need to be a top striker. He is strong, quick and skilful."

The Bees struggled in the first half, but Robert Taylor, Ryan Denys and Bent fired in after the break.

Walsall boss Jan Sorensen has told his players they have just one more chance to improve their away record before he wields the axe.

He fumed: "There are players who think they only have to put the effort in when it's a big match. I'm not having that."

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY!

Brentford's 3-0 win over Walsall last Saturday, and Tuesday night's 3-2 home defeat by Bristol Rovers, as reported in **THE SUN**.

MANAGER Eddie May wants new blood after Brentford's unbeaten home record was ended with a 3-2 defeat by Bristol Rovers.

Bees boss May said: "Players are making basic mistakes which cost us games. I must bring people in."

"I will have a meeting with the chairman about it tomorrow."

Marcus Bent had given Brentford the lead on seven minutes, but Barry Hayles and Peter Beadle had put Rovers in front within 10 further minutes.

Kevin Rapley equalised a minute after half-time, but Hayles netted his second to give Bristol the points with 19 minutes to go.

SPOTLIGHT ON TODAY'S VISITORS



KEVIN DEARDEN - Goalkeeper who joined on a free transfer from Tottenham in September 1993 and has been first choice ever since. Began his career as a trainee at White Hart Lane in 1988, but only made two appearances for Spurs. Kept 20 clean sheets last season as the Bees narrowly missed out on promotion.

TAMER FERNANDES - Goalkeeper who has come up through the Brentford junior ranks, signing professional in 1993. A former England Under-18 player, he has found it difficult to break into the first-team because of Dearden's consistent displays.

GRAHAM BENSTEAD - Goalkeeper who was originally signed for Brentford from Sheffield United by Steve Perryman. Was the mainstay of the 1992 Championship winning side, when he was also Player of the Year. After being released by Brentford he played non-league football with Kettering, Rushden and Sutton, but rejoined the Bees at the start of the season.

NICK COLGAN - Republic of Ireland Under-21 international goalkeeper, who has joined Brentford on loan from Chelsea, following an injury to Kevin Dearden.

JAMIE BATES - Inspirational club captain who was granted a well-earned testimonial season two years ago. The former Bees junior made his debut at Carlisle in 1986 and has since filled every defensive position in over 350 appearances - although he is now firmly established at centre-half.

GUS HURDLE - Earned his chance at Brentford after approaching David Webb at the training

ground and asking for a trial. The former Fulham junior, who can play at right-back or in central defence, earned international honours last season when representing his native Barbados in the World Cup qualifying competition.

IJAH ANDERSON - Former Spurs trainee who joined on a free transfer from Southend in July 1995. Played in midfield early on, but really made the left-back berth his own last season.

LEE HARVEY - One of the most popular players at Griffin Park, having joined Brentford from Leyton Orient in November 1993, where he had spent nine years. But suffered a bad injury midway through last season, which means he has missed the early stages of the current campaign.

GARY DUFFY - One of two first year professionals signed on following a successful apprenticeship in Bob Booker's youth team. Was a consistent performer in Brentford's reserve team last season.

DAVID MCGHEE - Versatile former club junior who established himself as a kingpin in the side last season. Recently signed an extended contract with the club, and can play in midfield, central defence or as a striker.

LEON TOWNLEY - Central defender who joined the club from Tottenham for £25,000 in September. Went straight into the side for the televised game against Wycombe.

CARL HUTCHINGS - Former Brentford junior who signed professional in the 1993 close season. Versatile player who has turned out at fullback, in midfield and in central defence, where he impressed at the end of last season.

SIMON WORMULL - Signed on a free transfer from Tottenham this summer. Joined Spurs straight from school, and appeared in the Inter Toto Cup.

SIMON SPENCER - Like Wormull (above), he joined on a free transfer from Spurs this summer. He was originally taken on trial, but impressed in pre-season training and was immediately offered terms.

PAUL BARROWCLIFFE - Joined Brentford for £60,000 from Stevenage Borough, where he was captain, just before the start of the season. Previously with Wycombe, Sutton and Aylesbury.

STUART MYALL - David Webb's first signing in the summer of 1996, on a free transfer from Brighton. Midfielder who began his career as a trainee at the Goldstone Ground five seasons ago.

(Continued on page 14).



LEFT: Kevin Rapley

See page 20 for Brentford stats....

KEVIN DENNIS - Left-winger who joined the Bees in June 1996, after a one-year professional term at Arsenal.

RICHARD GODDARD - Central defender who joined the Bees from Arsenal a year ago on a free transfer.

SCOTT CANHAM - Made 14 appearances for the Bees while on loan from West Ham in the 95/96 season. His contribution led David Webb to secure his services on a permanent basis in August of last year.

CHARLIE OATWAY - Was Eddie May's first signing in August, from Torquay United. London-born midfielder who was previously with May at Cardiff, having signed from non-league Yeading.

ROBERT TAYLOR - One of the leading strikers in the division, who netted 13 goals last season, and 54 in the past three campaigns. Began his career at Norwich and joined the Bees for £100,000 from Leyton Oreint in March 1993.

JOSEPH OMIGIE - Arrived from non-league Donna FC in October 1994. Scored his first goal for the club at Plymouth on Boxing Day last season.

MARCUS BENT - Talented teenage winger who is a product of Brentford's youth scheme.

KEVIN RAPLEY - Another product of the Bees' junior system, who signed professional terms in the summer of 1996. Made his league debut at Walsall in April, and scored two goals in his first full away appearance at Shrewsbury earlier this season, in the Coca-Cola Cup.

MALCOLM McPHERSON - Signed on a free transfer from West hamlast summer, having joined the Upton Park club from non-league Yeovil in 1993.

RYAN DENYS - Last season's Youth Player of the Year, who was offered professional terms in the summer. Scored Brentford's first goal of the current campaign, at home to Shrewsbury.

DEREK BRYAN - Joined Brentford from Isthmian League club Hampton in August, for £50,000.

RICKY REINA - 25-year-old striker who joined Brentford from Conference side Dover in September, for £100,000.



LEFT: Mitchell Thomas and Steve Davis join the attack during Luton's 3-2 defeat at Brentford in the early part of last season. Robert Taylor scored Brentford's winner, 10 minutes from time.

MEET THE MANAGER



Following various behind-the-scenes changes at Griffin Park over the summer, David Webb became the club's Chief Executive, with EDDIE MAY taking over as the club's 19th post-War manager.

As a player he made the centre-half position his own at Wrexham, during a career which saw him make over 400 senior appearances, most of them as captain.

He moved into coaching, taking up positions at Leicester and Charlton, before moving overseas. He moved into management briefly, with Newport County, before again working abroad.

He returned though to become manager of Cardiff City in 1991, succeeding Len Ashurst, and in his second season led them to a League (third division champions) and Cup double.

He had two spells at Ninian Park, then a brief period at Torquay, before taking over the hot-seat at Norwegian club Raudeberg, and then in early 1997 he became manager of Republic of Ireland side Dundalk.

Brentford's assistant manager is CLIVE WALKER, who arrived at Griffin Park following a playing career covering almost 25 years.

He turned professional with Chelsea in 1975 after a two-year apprenticeship, and went on to make over 200 appearances for them before joining Sunderland in 1984.

He made over 60 appearances for the Roker side, and over the course of the next eight years he made close to 250 appearances for QPR, Fulham and Brighton, before joining Woking four years ago.

His 200 appearances for the non-league side included some memorable cup highlights.

The Hatters and The Bees

GAMES against Brentford can be traced back to our Southern League days a century ago but, as with many of our opponents, matches in the Football League did not start until 1920 when we were founder members of the newly-formed Division Three.

The first clash between the sides in the Football League took place at Kenilworth Road on 4th December 1920 when goals from Ernie Simms and Allan Mathieson secured a 2-0 victory.

We went down 1-0 at Griffin Park the following week, but during the period leading up to the Bees' promotion in 1933 we were successful three times in West London and remained proudly unbeaten at Kenilworth Road.

The game at Kenilworth Road in February 1933 stands out in our history as the only 5-5 draw we have experienced against any opposition.

We were coasting 4-1 at half time with Tom Tait having banged home a hat-trick but Brentford fought back with a vengeance in the second period and we were, in the end, lucky to hang on at 5-5. Jack Holliday scored all five for the Bees, a record still standing to this day.

Fourteen years were to pass before we were to meet again, in the old Division Two, and in two early season games in 1947/48 the Town's Hugh Billington went some way towards emulating Holliday's record by banging in all six goals in two 3-0 wins.

Apart from a 3-3 draw at Griffin Park in 1952, all games were low scoring leading up to Brentford's relegation in 1954, and a 1-0 Luton win in West London in April 1954 typified affairs and was the final nail in the coffin as the Bees were demoted to Division Three.

Paths crossed again in 1963/64, and when we travelled to Griffin Park in February 1964 we needed little reminding that over 18 months had passed since we had last won on foreign soil.

Also mindful that Brentford had coasted to an easy victory at Kenilworth Road earlier in the season no one could have forecast that the Town would end up 6-2 winners!

New striker John O'Rourke netted four that afternoon, making an instant name for himself and setting up a grandstand fight against further relegation, which was won with a game to spare at the end of the campaign.

Brentford did not allow O'Rourke to repeat his feat as, on the opening day of the following season, he was badly injured during the 2-2 draw at Griffin Park and his absence for the major part of the campaign was the main factor behind the Town's eventual relegation to Division Four.

The Bees were relegated the season after and following an early campaign defeat at Griffin Park we gained ample revenge in winning 3-0 at Kenilworth Road with David Pleat on the scoresheet.

We won promotion the season after and Griffin Park



ABOVE: Tony Thorpe gets in a shot during last season's meeting at Kenilworth Road.

by ROGER WASH

holds a special memory during that campaign, as we went top of the table for the first time following a 2-0 win at Brentford in February 1968, a position we held until the end of the season.

The championship trophy was presented to us on the final day with Brentford the visitors to Kenilworth Road. Unfortunately the T.V cameras, plus a crowd of 14,643, were treated to a tired performance but a 2-1 win all the same.

We met briefly again during 1992/93 with our win at Griffin Park the first of the campaign and coming after six starts which had seen us holding up the rest of the table.

The 0-0 draw at Kenilworth Road the following February is best forgotten, but it is interesting to note that the Bees were nine points ahead of us at that stage in the campaign but ended up being relegated while we avoided the drop.

Our final clashes took place last season with our early season 3-2 defeat at Griffin Park being difficult to understand especially as we took the lead twice, through Tony Thorpe, with a penalty, and Ceri Hughes.

Again we gained revenge when Tony Thorpe's single strike at Kenilworth Road earned the three points - in a game televised live on Sky - and a brief flirtation with top spot in the Division Two table.



Tony Thorpe evades Carl Bradshaw's tackle during the second-half at Springfield Park.

Roberto Martinez's challenge prevents Phil Gray from connecting with this first-half cross.

It's behind you..... Phil Gray flicks the ball through the Wigan defence.

David Oldfield celebrates his first goal of the season, which put Luton 1-0 in front after 68 minutes.



ACTION STATIONS

Wigan Athletic 1 Luton Town 1

(Jones pen)

(Oldfield)

Saturday, October 18, 1997 - Nationwide League Division Two

Attendance: 4,466

Pictures by Gareth Owen



Hatters v The Bees

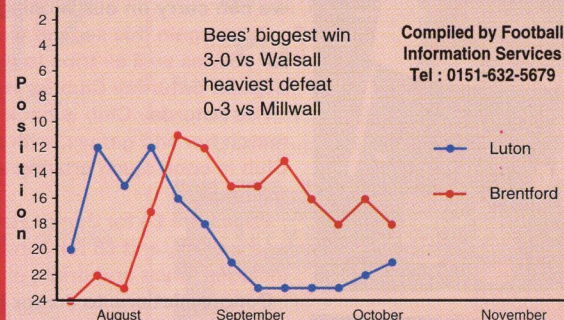


Who has played for Brentford

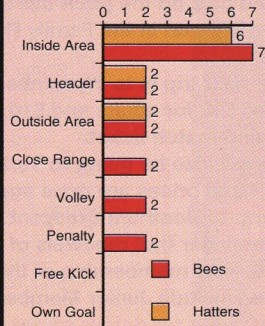
	A	G	C	Previous Clubs
Ijah Anderson	13	1		Southend
30/12/75	4			
Jamie Bates	13	2		
24/2/68	4			
Marcus Bent	13	4	(1)	
19/5/78	3	1		
Carl Hutchings	13	1	1	
24/9/74	4			
Robert Taylor	13	7	1	Orient Birmingham
30/4/71	4	3	1	Norwich
Gus Hurdle	11	1		
14/10/73	4	2		
Charlie Oatway	11			Torquay Cardiff
28/11/73				
Kevin Rapley	10(2)	4		
21/9/77	3(1)	2		
Kevin Dearden	10			Spurs Portsmouth (L)
8/3/70	4			Birmingham (L)
				Rochdale (L) Hull (L)
				Peterborough (L)
				Swindon (L) Oxford (L)
				Hartlepool (L)
				Cambridge (L)
Ryan Denys	8(1)	1	1	
16/8/78	2	1		
Scott Canham	6(1)			West Ham Torquay (L)
5/11/74	2(2)	1		
Leon Townley	5			Tottenham
16/2/76	1			
Gareth Hall	4			Sunderland Chelsea
12/3/69 Wales				
Paul Barrowcliffe	3			Stevenage
15/6/69	3	1		
David McGhee	2(4)	1		
19/6/76	2	1		
Kevin Dennis	2(1)			
14/12/76	2			
Simon Wormull	2(1)			Tottenham
1/12/76	1(1)			
Nick Colgan	2			on loan from Chelsea
19/9/73 Eire U21				
Graham Benstead	1			Sheff Utd Colchester
20/8/63				(L) Norwich QPR
Simon Spencer	1			Tottenham
10/9/76 Eng Yth	1			
Derek Bryan	(2)			Hampton
11/11/74				
Ricky Reina	(2)			Dover
age 25	(1)			
Joe Omigie	(1)			
13/6/72				
Richard Goddard				
31/3/78	(2)			

Key : A=Appearances (Sub) C=Cautions (Sent Off) G=Goals
Cup details in italics

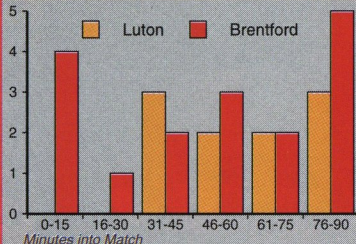
league positions so far this season



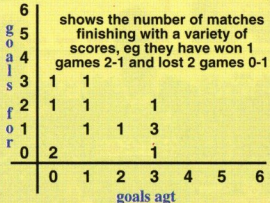
goals - how scored



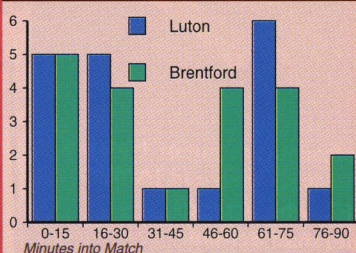
when goals have been scored



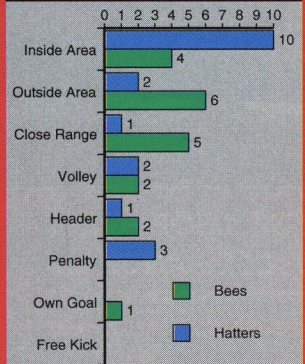
Bees' results analysis



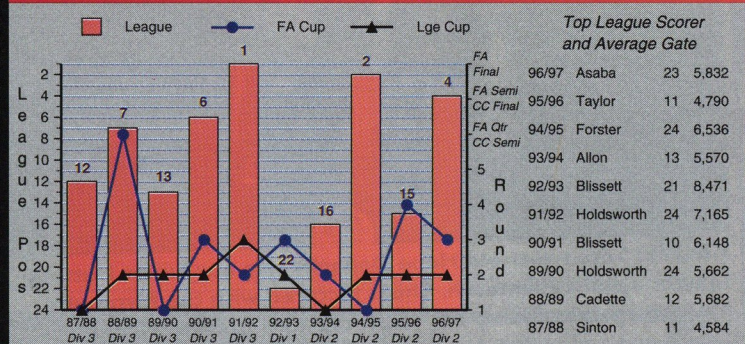
.. and when conceded



how goals conceded



Brentford's 10 year league and cup record



Top League Scorer and Average Gate

Season	Scorer	Goals	Avg Gate
96/97	Asaba	23	5,832
95/96	Taylor	11	4,790
94/95	Forster	24	6,536
93/94	Allon	13	5,570
92/93	Blissett	21	8,471
91/92	Holdsworth	24	7,165
90/91	Blissett	10	6,148
89/90	Holdsworth	24	5,662
88/89	Cadette	12	5,682
87/88	Sinton	11	4,584



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PONYTM

Hatters striker DAVID OLDFIELD on the recent good run...



LEFT: On the look out for goals, and he found one! David Oldfield piers into the distance at Wigan (sorry, couldn't resist that!)

LOOKING GOOD!

ALAN White's late winner at Carlisle on Tuesday meant there were plenty of smiling faces heading back on the 300-mile trip down the M6, and it brought the Hatters' points tally to seven from the last three games since the home defeat by Watford, writes **SIMON OXLEY**.

Town number nine David Oldfield says it's difficult to pinpoint one area which has led to the upturn in fortunes, but he's not complaining!

"Tuesday night's was a good result, because for all their problems at the moment a midweek trip to Carlisle is one of the tougher assignments of the season," said David.

"It certainly made the journey home a lot easier, and it was a nice time to score.

"Even though there were only three minutes to go, we made extra sure we didn't concede an equaliser, especially after Saturday when we only held onto the lead for two or three minutes.

"Conceding a goal soon after scoring is something we have done too often in truth, and we didn't want to do it again."

David probably has just cause for remembering immediate fightbacks by the opposition.

Prior to Saturday at Springfield Park, his last goal for the Hatters was in the play-off semi-final, second leg, last May,

which put Luton 2-0 in front against Crewe. A minute later it was 2-1, and the Railwayman were back in the tie.

"I was certainly due a goal come Saturday's trip to Wigan, and perhaps we should have won there as well," he reflected this week.

"I was obviously pleased to score, and it's up to everybody to contribute on the scoring front. Thorpey was outstanding last year getting 31, and he's already got six this time round, but we all have to chip in, myself included.

"I had a similar chance on Tuesday at Carlisle, but it went just outside the post that time, rather than just inside as it did on Saturday."

The Australian-born striker/midfielder is one of the few players to have escaped the injury jinx, having only missed the home win over Southend. So what's made the difference in recent games?

"It's a combination of things really," said David. "Obviously everyone was very disappointed with the Watford result, but that hasn't been the sole factor.

"We have worked very hard, and on a lot of things, in training; in some ways we have gone back to basics in our approach - sticking to the simple things; and of course players are starting to return after injury.

"Added to that we haven't conceded any silly goals, and we have taken our chances, so as I said it's been a mixture of things.

"We can still improve of course, and there are several more players to come back, and we have hopefully started on a winning run, as we did around this time last year.

"I think the division is similar in standard to last year, and although after a bad start we have our work cut out, there's no reason why we can't get back up the league.

"It's a hard league, but there's certainly nothing to be afraid of.

"The game against Brentford is certainly a big one for us, because we have to win our home games.

"That's what let us down last season - too many home draws - and we need to win on Saturday.

"Last time we played of course it was first against second, and everyone was predicting both clubs to go up.

"Now we're both in the bottom half - it's a funny game."

The winner in that match last season - Luton being 1-0 victors - was scored by Tony Thorpe, who was back to his best in the last home game here against Plymouth.

The striker has been troubled by a thigh injury in the opening weeks of the season, but declared himself fully fit, and ready for goals.

"I've not been too mobile recently, but I'm OK now so there will be no excuses," he told reporters afterwards.

"Hopefully I can continue scoring goals, and at this stage last season I had six, and I've got six now, so hopefully I can get at least 20."

Thorpe also had praise for his strike partner against Plymouth, Gary Doherty, who became his fifth partner up front this term.

"I've played up front with Stuart Douglas, Andrew Fotiadis, David Oldfield, Phil Gray, Gary Doherty and on my own, all of which are very different experiences.

"Gary did well in the air, and it was a nice flick for my first goal."



ABOVE: Matthew Spring (4) pictured during the first-half at Wigan.

Spring into action to earn first-team place

TEENAGE midfielder Matthew Spring has earned glowing reviews after three games in the Hatters first-team, even though his full debut against Plymouth was marred by a 71st minute sending off.

The 17-year-old was shown the red card after a two-footed challenge on Plymouth's Martin Barlow, with the Plymouth manager Mick Jones racing onto the pitch to defend the youngster and protest to referee David Crick.

"I was very upset that a kid making his debut should be sent off for a challenge that I considered 50-50," Jones explained afterwards. "That's why I reacted and if that's a crime then I'm guilty."

He has since been charged with misconduct by the FA for comments made to the official.

Lennie Lawrence's initial reaction was that the red card was harsh - although having viewed the incident on video his opinion had leaned more towards the referee.

However, he was still delighted with Spring's performance, and had no qualms about giving him a starting role at both Wigan and Carlisle, as Gary Waddock was suffering with a calf

strain. Matthew though starts a three-match suspension today.

"It was the best debut I have seen for a long time," said the Town manager.

"I'm looking for young players who can come in and show the necessary nerve. It's not just about ability, so many young lads have an air of confidence in training but bottle it when it comes to the games, he didn't. "He didn't look nervous from start to finish, he's got good vision and, although it's early days, he looks the part."

And a sending off on a full debut doesn't mean you can't go on to be a regular for years to come..... just ask Julian James!

There was praise too for Matthew's youth team colleague Gary Doherty who also made his full debut against Plymouth, and set up the opening goal for Tony Thorpe.

Gary was on the bench at Wigan, but was unavailable for the trip to Carlisle as he was on international duty with the Republic of Ireland youth squad.

And just to clear up an error made in a previous programme, Gary wasn't born in Luton, he was actually born in Donegal, Eire. - **Simon Oxley**.

Universal Motors



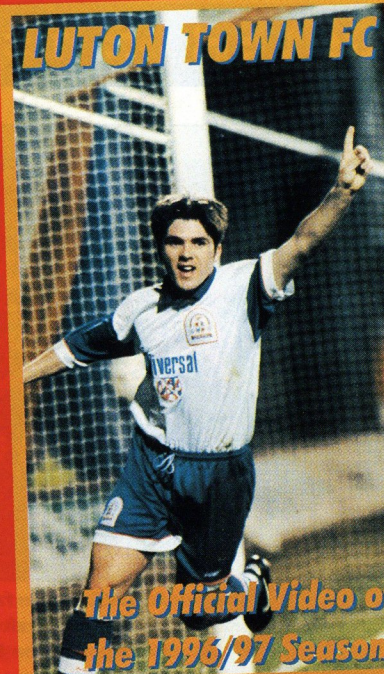
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Hatters chairman DAVID KOHLER on his report to the League's Structure Committee



ABOVE: Luton fans pack the terrace at Blackpool to watch the Hatters on an August afternoon by the sea. But surely we wouldn't play Blackpool if the Football League was regionalised.
LEFT: Running on empty. Deserted terraces as the Hatters play at Fulham.

CHANGE for the better? From FIFA looking at plans to outlaw the tackle, to debate over the Coca-Cola Cup, there seems to be a constant desire to change, writes **SIMON OXLEY**.

In a recent edition of the Nationwide Review (enclosed free with your matchday programme), you may have seen an article debating the structure of the Football League, and listing the names of the people charged with putting forward new proposals for the world's oldest competition.

The Luton Town chairman David Kohler is one of the club representatives on the Structure Committee, who will make recommendations to a League EGM in February.

The man in charge at Kenilworth Road feels the key to football's success is the need to be "Family Friendly".

And he has proposed some radical changes, which he feels will make for "an exciting and positive image" for the Football League.

Drawing inspiration from the time-honoured cliché "a game of two halves", Mr Kohler has, among other things, suggested points for teams who are in front at half-time as well as full-time. So what is the history of this particular desire for change?

Earlier this year, management consultants, Deloitte Touche, delivered their verdict on how the league should be formatted and run in the future.

Some of their suggestions were taken on board, but many were rejected as too radical. As a result, working parties on both structure and regulations - containing representatives of clubs and the league - were sent away with the task of making acceptable proposals.

They have to report back by the end of this month and, once the recommendations have been considered, they will be put to a Football League EGM in February - at which the 72 clubs will have the chance to vote, with most decisions requiring only a simple majority.

Alongside Mr Kohler on the Structure Committee, are: Terry Robinson (Bury), John Evans (WBA), Geoffrey Richmond (Bradford), Tony Kleanthous (Barnet), Heather Wilkinson from Deloitte Touche, and various officials from the Football League.

"In my view the first question we must ask is 'is the current structure working', and over many years I have heard much criticism of the structure and even more attempts at changing it," said Mr Kohler.

WHOLE NEW BALL GAME?

"If the current structure is failing then we need to find out why, and to date the main adverse comments centre around too many games, and too many meaningless matches.

"However I have never seen any evidence as to which clubs subscribe to either of these two comments, and at our last meeting I asked the League to provide information as to what clubs feel, and I still await with interest.

"I believe that every club has aspirations to play in the big time, but to some clubs the big time is the first division. There is a definite relationship between the size of a club, its town and its success. I do not believe we can fight this however, and we must cut our cloth accordingly."

Regionalisation is a topic which regularly crops up, as a means of increasing local derbies, and reducing travel costs for clubs and fans.

But where would the line be drawn. To use the Auto Windscreens Shield as an example, their north and south divide still had Northampton making a trip to Plymouth last season.

And whilst I can think of better ways of spending a Tuesday, a midweek trip to Carlisle comes into the "I was there" category.

How many of you went to Blackpool on the opening day of the season, and combined the football with a weekend break?

Wouldn't a constant diet of Wycombe, Northampton, Peterborough and Cambridge get dull after a while?

In a discussion paper prepared for the committee, Mr Kohler has put forward other changes to make the game more appealing, rather than shorter journeys.

"Deloitte and Touche in their recent report stated: 'Football needs to stay ahead of the competition in offering family-friendly, exciting and positive images in sport to maintain its leading market share', but are we family-friendly," said Mr Kohler.

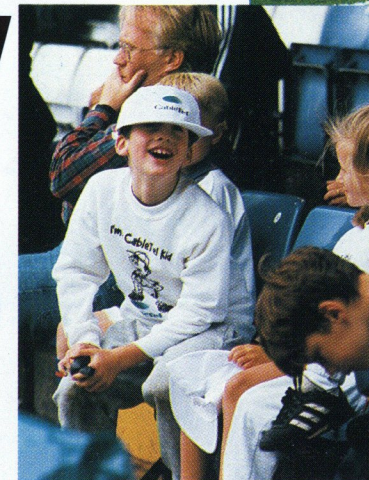
"At the chairmen's summer conference a presentation was made which stated that most stadia are running at 50 per cent capacity.

"We must consider carefully a change in structure because most of our fixed costs by definition will not change if there are less games. We should be concentrating on getting more bums on seats as this income will go straight to the bottom line.

"There must be some merit in considering a national sponsorship for the family to enable us to use the current spare



ABOVE and LEFT: The League must be "Family Friendly" says the Hatters chairman David Kohler. "Get them young and keep them," he states in a report to the Football League's Structure Committee.



capacity for our stadia, and the phrase 'get them young and keep them' must be true.

"But we must look at our image, and I feel it is therefore of fundamental importance that we differentiate our competition from that of the Premier League.

"What about the 'game of two halves' with one point for being in the lead at half-time; one point for being in the lead at the end of the second half; two points for a win; and one point for a draw?

"A further way of increasing our crowds could be to persuade the Premier League to play their matches on a Sunday. I have already sounded out a Premier League chairman who stated that as many Premier League clubs wish to take advantage of digital TV, they would have to move their fixtures to Sundays anyway."

Food for thought indeed, but do we need to change. You could argue that attendances have been growing for the last 10 years, and over 12 million people went to Nationwide League games last season. Could that have been 20 million though, as supporters vote with their feet.

Player Profile



JULIAN JAMES

Date of Birth: 22/3/70
Previous Clubs: None.
Joined Luton: July 1986

Julian joined Luton as a trainee, and was introduced to first division football in 1988, but was sent off on his full debut in a Littlewoods Cup win at Leeds in November of that year.

A former England Under-21 international, he has played across the back four for the Hatters, with a brief spell in midfield. Was a regular at left-back in the 1993/94 season, but made the right-back position his own in 1994/95, earning the Player of the Year Award from the Loyal Luton Supporters Club.

Was in and out of the side at the start of the 95/96 campaign, before an extended run at right-back following the arrival of Lennie Lawrence, and was a regular in that position last season. Has recently returned from injury, and has made over 300 league and cup appearances for the club.

Most memorable game: "Our 3-2 win at Derby in the last game of the 1989/90 season, which kept us in the old Division One. My full debut at Leeds also stands out, even though I was sent off."

Game I'd prefer to forget: "Like many of the other players here it would be the 7-1 cup defeat at Grimsby, but I prefer to forget any game we lose."

Which present-day player do you admire most? "Dennis Bergkamp - he is a controlled, quality footballer."

Premiership 'Dream Team': David Seaman; Rio Ferdinand, Tony Adams, Gareth Southgate; David Beckham, Paul Ince, Patrick Vieira, Ryan Giggs; Gianfranco Zola, Dennis Bergkamp, Alan Shearer.

Greatest sporting achievement away from football: "I won a diving medal at school, when I was 12. On the golf course, most players lose balls, but I managed the achievement of losing a club, when it flew out of my hands on the second tee, over the first green, and into a bush. I never found it!"

State of the game: "The influx of quality foreign players and also given British players the opportunity to express themselves, rather than be regimented. But on the down side I feel the rich are getting richer, and the poor poorer. All the better players are sold off to the top division, leaving the lower leagues to be determined by brute strength rather than by playing your way out."

Autograph



Birthday boys!

There hasn't just been a turnaround in fortunes on the field to celebrate in October, as no less than **NINE** Town players have celebrated their birthdays this month - **THREE** of the on the same day!

PAUL SHOWLER, **GRAHAM ALEXANDER** and **SEAN EVERS** all celebrated their birthdays on October 10 - the day before the home win over Plymouth, with Graham marking the occasion with his return to the first-team after injury.

There was a slight difference though in the number of candles on the cakes (sorry, Showls), with Paul 31, Graham 26 and Sean 20.

MARVIN JOHNSON celebrates his 29th birthday on Wednesday, and could be back in contention for starting place soon after a knee injury.

MITCHELL THOMAS was 33 on October 2 - the same day as **PHIL GRAY** was 29 - with **DWIGHT MARSHALL** 32 on October 3.

DARREN PATTERSON was 28 on October 15, with **STEVE DAVIS** celebrating his 29th birthday this coming Thursday.

Virtually a whole team born in the same month - that must be some sort of record..... never mind how big an indication that there's not much else to do on cold January nights!

LEFT: Steve Davis celebrates his 29th birthday this week, the ninth current Hatters player born in October!

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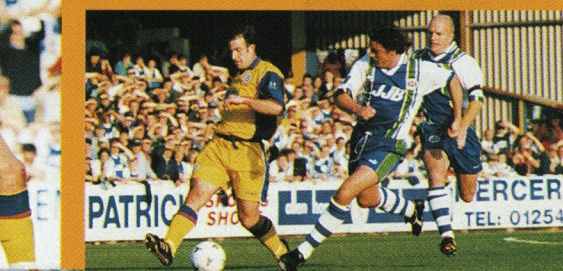
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ACTION EXTRA.... Wigan v Luton



ABOVE: Beer we go..... Tony Thorpe, Steve Davis and Alan White challenge the Wigan defence.



TOP RIGHT: Luton scorer David Oldfield outjumps Wigan right-back Carl Bradshaw.

CENTRE RIGHT: Bradshaw and Colin Greenall give chase as Phil Gray makes a break for the Hatters.

RIGHT: Oldfield looks on as Paul McLaren fires in a second-half shot.

Div Two clubs on the transfer trail

THERE'S been plenty of transfer activity involving Division Two clubs in the past week, with messrs Keegan and Wilkins finally starting to spend the Al Fayed millions at **Fulham**, writes *Simon Oxley*.

Fulham's new management duo have signed the former England Under-21 midfielder Ian Selley from Arsenal, for a club record £500,000 - a fee which could rise to £750,000 on appearances.

Since breaking his leg a couple of seasons ago, Selley has been unable to force his way back into the Gunners' line-up under Arsene Wenger.

Southend have signed French striker Sada N'Diye, and he marked his debut with the winner in last Saturday's 3-2 win at Plymouth. But midfielder Paul Byrne, once with Celtic, has left Roots Hall to return to Ireland.

Wrexham goalkeeper Andy Marriott says he wants to leave the club to boost his chances of becoming Wales' first-choice keeper.

Marriott won a full cap against Belgium two weeks ago, and said: "It's nothing against Wrexham, but to continue to play for Wales I must get away."

On the subject of the Welsh side in Brussels that night. A pat on the back is due for everyone involved in the Luton Town youth policy over recent seasons as the trio of Hartson, Hughes and Pembridge were all in the starting eleven for the World Cup fixture.

Carlisle have signed midfielder Laurent Croci from Bordeaux under the Bosman ruling, and striker Lee Peacock joined Mansfield for £150,000.

Brentford have signed Chelsea's Republic of Ireland Under-21 goalkeeper Nick Colgan on a month's loan while first choice Kevin Dearden is injured., and **Burnley** have extended the loan of striker Gerry Creaney for another month.

The former Celtic and Portsmouth striker is on loan at Turf Moor from Manchester City.



LTFC Community & Schools Noticeboard



Official Drinks Supplier to
Community & Schools Programme



Penalty shoot-out success

PICTURED with Football Development Officer Dean Rastrick (left) after the half-time penalty shoot-out at the Plymouth game are: Liam Jones (Thornhill Colts), Paul Dorman (Dragons Youth) and David Hill (Dunstable Wanderers).

The goalkeeper was Dean Brill, who attends the LTFC School of Excellence.

Look out for more of these popular half-time features throughout the season.

Mini-Soccer with LTFC

LTFC's Community and Schools Programme, and the Bedfordshire FA, have launched a major initiative to encourage young children between the ages of 6 and 11 years to play football.

Mini-soccer has been devised to provide a fun introduction to the sport for children of all abilities, with six or eight-a-side games played with simplified rules on small pitches.

Recognising the increased reliance on organised sport and leisure activities for children, Luton Town FC and the Beds FA aim to establish up to 20 mini-soccer centres throughout Bedfordshire.

The initiative was launched two weeks ago, but Mini-soccer will take place every Saturday morning between 10am and 11.30am. For details call Dean Rastrick, the LTFC Football Development Officer, at Luton Town on (01582) 411622.

YOUR chance to be a matchday mascot at Luton Town!

LTFC's Community and Schools Programme are offering one lucky youngster the chance to be a matchday mascot at our game with Preston on Saturday, November 8.

The prize includes tickets for Mum and Dad as well, with a pre-match meal and a seat in the Directors' balcony.

The lucky mascot also receives a full LTFC strip, and meets the players before leading the teams out on to the pitch.

This great prize will be won by a youngster attending one of our half-term coaching courses (see opposite page), and for further details please see this week's Luton News, Dunstable Gazette and Leighton Buzzard Observer.

LTFC Home Counties U12 tournament



This event is sponsored by
ASDA stores

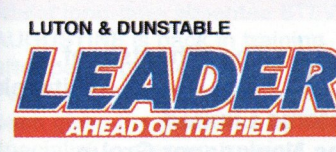
AS part of Luton Town's rapidly expanding Community and Schools Programme, we have today hosted a Home Counties Under 12 representative tournament - sponsored by ASDA stores - featuring over 80 youngsters.

This took place this morning, at the Vauxhall Recreation Centre, in Gypsy Lane, Luton, and featured teams from the following leagues:- Bedford Colts League, Chiltern Youth League, Mid Herts Rural Minors, Bushey Friendly League, the Royston Crow League, plus a representative side from Luton and Dunstable.

The tournament got underway at 9.30am, with presentations to the winning teams being made at half-time at Kenilworth Road in this afternoon's Luton Town v Brentford match. There will also be an ASDA Fair Play Award.



Associate sponsor to the
LTFC Community and
Schools Programme



Bedfordshire's biggest and best team - for the best coverage of Luton Town FC every week

HALF-TERM COACHING COURSES

Courses for boys and girls aged 6 to 13 years - Qualified LTFC coaches, supervised by Dean Rastrick (LTFC Development Officer) - 10am to 2pm daily - Technique coaching, fun, games and prizes - Official LTFC certificate for all participants - Meet the players - Opportunity to be invited to LTFC School of Excellence



**Join Hatters
keeper
IAN FEUER
at the Sacred
Heart School,
Luton, on
Oct 30 & 31**

Code: LUI
Venue: Icknield Junior School, Birdsfoot Lane, LUTON
Date: Friday, October 24
Cost: £8
Course Type: Striker (with TONY THORPE)

Code: LU2
Venue: Icknield Junior School, Birdsfoot Lane, LUTON
Date: Monday and Tuesday, October 27 and 28.
Cost: £16
Course Type: Coaching

Code: LU3
Venue: Sacred Heart Junior School, Langford Drive, LUTON
Date: Thursday and Friday, October 30 and 31
Cost: £16
Course Type: Coaching

Code: LU4
Venue: Sacred Heart Junior School, Langford Drive, LUTON
Date: Thursday and Friday, October 30 and 31
Cost: £16
Course Type: Goalkeeping (with IAN FEUER)

(*Three days, combining striker/coaching at Icknield Junior School - £20). (*Two days, combining goalkeeping/coaching at Sacred Heart - £16)

Code: MK1
Venue: Milton Keynes Sports Club, Woughton on the Green, MILTON KEYNES
Date: Monday and Tuesday, October 27 and 28
Cost: £18
Course Type: Coaching

Code: LB1
Venue: Linslade Middle School, Mentmore Road, Linslade, LEIGHTON BUZZARD
Date: Tuesday and Wednesday, October 28 and 29
Cost: £16
Course Type: Coaching

Code: DU1
Venue: Queensbury High School, Langdale Road, DUNSTABLE
Date: Thursday and Friday, October 30 and 31
Cost: £16
Course Type: Coaching

Code: DU2
Venue: Beecroft Lower School, Westfield Road, DUNSTABLE
Date: Monday, November 3
Cost: £8
Course Type: Striker (with TONY THORPE)



**Join Hatters
hot-shot TONY
THORPE at the
Striker coaching
courses in Luton
and Dunstable on
Oct 24 & Nov 3**

Contact
Football
Development
Officer
DEAN
RASTRICK
for any
information
regarding our
Community
and Schools
Programme,
on (01582)
411622.



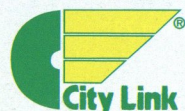
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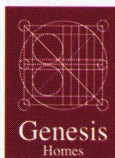
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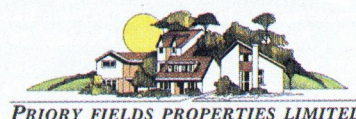
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INJURY UPDATE

Op for Showler, but better news for striker Douglas

There's mixed news on the injury front, with PAUL SHOWLER requiring an operation, although STUART DOUGLAS has been told he won't require surgery.

Overall, the majority of players are returning to fitness, and a number could figure in reserve team games over the next week.

Paul Showler had returned to training following knee and toe problems, but then suffered a groin injury, and underwent a hernia operation on Tuesday which will sideline him for six weeks.

But Stuart Douglas saw the specialist Mr Gilmore and was told he won't require a hernia operation, and after treatment should be able to resume training sooner rather than later.

IAN FEUER has been training normally this week, and if he is able to continue to do so, then Monday's reserve team game at Norwich is a possibility.

MITCHELL THOMAS is close to full training after his hernia operation, with ANDREW FOTIADIS having resumed already, and he is another who could feature at Norwich.

MARVIN JOHNSON, who has been ruled out with a knee injury, played 65 minutes in the reserves on Monday, and will hopefully be able to complete a full 90 minutes on Monday.

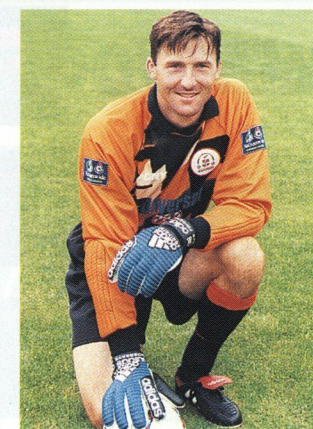
DWIGHT MARSHALL has also returned to first-team action, and I'm pleased to report that STEVE DAVIS and GRAHAM ALEXANDER have both come through the Wigan and Carlisle matches without any recurrence of injury.

GARY WADDOCK had a slight calf strain which kept him out at Wigan, but he came on at Carlisle and should be fine to resume today.

PHIL GRAY suffered a 'dead' leg on Tuesday, but his ankle problem has cleared.

DARREN PATTERSON has spent another week at Lillshall recovering from his ankle injury, whilst long-time absentee STEVE AUGUSTINE is back in training after pelvic problem.

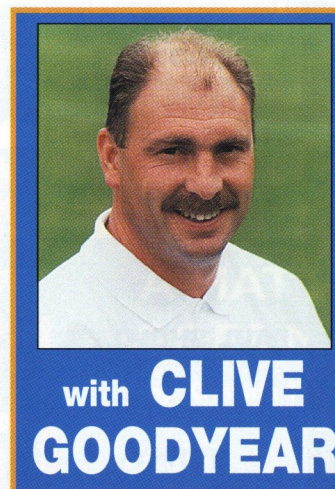
CHRIS WILLMOTT has also been given the go-ahead by the specialist to step up training after his knee operation.



LEFT: Ian Feuer could play in the reserve side next week.



RIGHT: Andrew Fotiadis is back in training after an injury lay-off.



Win tickets for YOUR junior team

FOR the third season in succession, the Loyal Luton Supporters Club are once again sponsoring the Young Team of the Month Award.

Having received a grant from NatWest Bank as part of the bank's Community Action Scheme, and through monies raised through the year, the supporters, in conjunction with Luton Town FC, have again funded the award.

The award is run on a monthly self-nomination basis - starting with November 1997 - and is open to all teams, boys and girls, under the age of 16. Winners receive 15 tickets (13 children and two adults) for a chosen Luton home match.

Previous winners have included successful regional champions through to teams who have won their first point after two years of playing.

Anyone wanting to nominate their local youth, school, cubs or girls team, should send a letter to Simon Oxley, c/o LTFC, briefly explaining why they deserve to win one of the monthly awards. And remember, you only need to make one nomination. All remaining letters will be considered throughout the rest of the season.



PHIL GRAY
G + S Ceramics
Stapleford Road, Luton



SEAN EVERS
David Forman -
West Malaysian Branch
of the Luton Town
Supporters Club



PAUL McLAREN
Danny and Elsie Clubb,
from Blackpool



WAYNE TURNER
Danny and Elsie Clubb,
from Blackpool



STUART DOUGLAS
Richard Culley and
Pete Carney



KELVIN DAVIS
Space Display Systems
Ltd



JULIAN JAMES
Shorey's Travel



MARVIN JOHNSON
Capital Golf



DWIGHT MARSHALL
Milton Keynes Branch of the
Luton Town Supporters Club



LENNIE LAWRENCE
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Beds Yeomanry



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Les and Sue Miller



TREVOR PEAKE
Bobbars Travel Club



TONY THORPE
Bedfordshire Rural
Communities Charity



CLIVE GOODYEAR
Danny and Elsie Clubb,
from Blackpool



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Mad As A Hatter



RICHARD HARVEY
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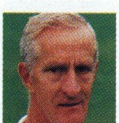
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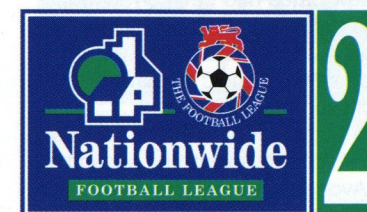
To sponsor a Luton Town player or official.....
Please contact the Commercial Department on (01582) 411622

Bees launch new book with help of Griffin Park legends

TWO of the greatest players in the history of today's opponents Brentford were invited to the club's Nationwide League fixture with Walsall last Saturday to help launch a new publication.

Ken Coote and Jim Towers were due to be presented with the first two "hot off the press" copies of a brand new 140-page book entitled 'The A to Z of Bees' - a Brentford encyclopedia which has been written and produced by two staunch Bees' fans and programme contributors Graham Haynes and Dave Twydel.

Brentford billed the event as a significant occasion for all their supporters as it would have seen Ken and Jim take to the field for the first time since their last playing appearance together back in May 1961.



Both former players are part of Griffin Park folklore in their own right, having established club records during their time with the West London side, and they feature heavily in this new club publication.

Ken Coote has gone down in the record books for making the most appearances of any player in the Bees' history with 559 games in all competitions under his belt, including 514 in the Football League. Meanwhile, Jim Towers, who was

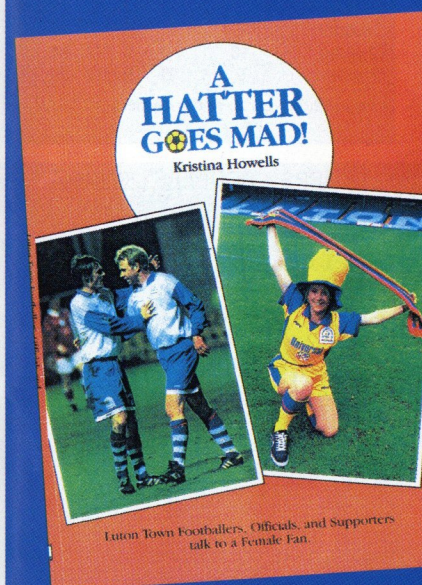
part of the club's 'terrible twins' partnership with George Francis in the 1950's, is Brentford's record goalscorer with 153 Football League strikes to his credit during seven years with the club.

Ironically, the only match in which Ken and Jim scored the only goals of the game was in Brentford's 2-2 draw at Griffin Park on March 31, 1956, against last Saturday's opponents Walsall.

Peter Gilham, Brentford's marketing manager, said: "The whole afternoon had a really nostalgic feel about it because the club also invited two of our oldest known supporters, 94-year-olds Arthur Flint and Bill Axbey, to have a VIP day out at the game as a reward."

A HATTER GOES MAD

by Kristina Howells



Look out for a this new publication which is launched in Luton on November 8. It's a collection of Luton Town memories compiled by past and present players, officials and supporters - as told to committed Hatters fan Kristina Howells.

The launch on November 8 is at three venues, across the town:

9.30 to 10.45am - Hammicks, Arndale Centre.

11am to 12 noon - LTFC Club Shop.

12.30 to 2pm - Asda, Wigmores Lane.

Waddock injury halts 100% bid

GARY Waddock's calf strain which ruled him out at Wigan last week, saw the Town's last ever-present record end in only the 12th league game of the season.

Waddock was the only player to have started all the previous 11 Division Two matches, plus the four games in the Coca-Cola Cup.

It shows the extent of the Hatters injury problems when such a record goes so early. But there is still a chance that one player could feature in every game.

Paul McLaren had started 10 of the 12 league matches - prior to Tuesday night's trip to Carlisle - and came on as a substitute in the other two, as well as starting all the League Cup games. Last season, Ian Feuer played every league game (46), with Julian James, Marvin Johnson and Graham Alexander (44), Steve Davis (43) and Mitchell Thomas (42).

RESERVES AND YOUTH ROUND-UP



THE Town's reserve side have returned to action with a defeat and a draw following the postponement of the games against West Ham and Brighton.

(These games were postponed due to injuries, and at the time of writing no new dates had been arranged).

The defeat came at Kenilworth Road, 4-1 to Charlton, in a game which saw Icelandic trialist Haraldar Ingolfsson make his debut.

The Luton scorer was Andrew Barr, with his fourth goal of the season in the Avon Insurance Combination.

Team: Abbey, Lawes, Harvey, Evers, Boyce, Fraser, Sweeney (McIndoe), Kean, Barr (Scarlett), Doherty, Ingolfsson.

Sub not used: Peake.

On Monday, Marvin Johnson returned to action after a knee injury, playing 65 minutes of the 0-0 draw against Chelsea.

Dwight Marshall and Richard Harvey also featured in the Town side.

Team: Abbey, Jones, Fraser, Evers, Boyce, Johnson (Peake), Sweeney, Kean, Barr, Harvey, Marshall (Scarlett).

Sub not used: Lawes.

The reserve side are back in action at Norwich on Monday.

As you can see from the fixture list

Wed Aug 13	OXFORD UTD	drew 1-1
Thu Aug 21	Queens Park R	drew 1-1
Thu Aug 28	MILLWALL	won 3-1
Wed Sep 10	Tottenham	lost 3-0
Wed Sep 17	CRYSTAL PAL	lost 2-0
Wed Sep 24	WATFORD	won 3-1
Wed Oct 1	WEST HAM	postponed
Mon Oct 6	Brighton	postponed
Wed Oct 15	CHARLTON	lost 4-1
Mon Oct 20	Chelsea	drew 0-0
Mon Oct 27	Norwich City	7.30pm
Wed Nov 5	Wimbledon	2pm
Mon Nov 10	IPSWICH T	7pm*
Wed Nov 19	Southampton	7.30pm
Mon Nov 24	ARSENAL	7pm*
Thu Dec 4	Millwall	2pm
Mon Dec 8	SWINDON T	7pm*
Tue Dec 16	Crystal Palace	2pm
Mon Jan 5	TOTTENHAM	7pm*
Tue Jan 13	West Ham	7.30pm
Wed Jan 21	Watford	7.30pm
Mon Jan 26	BRIGHTON	7pm*
Wed Feb 4	Charlton	2pm
Mon Feb 9	PORTSMOUTH	7pm*
Tue Feb 17	Arsenal	2pm
Wed Feb 25	QPR	2pm
Wed Mar 4	WIMBLEDON	2pm
Wed Mar 11	NORWICH	2pm
Wed Mar 25	Oxford	7.30pm
Wed Apr 1	SOUTHAMPTON	2pm
Wed Apr 8	Portsmouth	7pm
Wed Apr 15	Ipswich Town	7pm
Wed Apr 22	CHELSEA	2pm
TBA	Swindon Town	

Games in CAPITALS denotes home fixture. Home matches played at Kenilworth Road will kick-off at 2pm. * Denotes home match to be played at Hitchin, kick-off 7pm.

(left) a number of matches are again being played at Hitchin Town FC over the winter months. This now includes a rearranged game at home to Swindon on Monday, December 8.

At the time of writing we are still waiting to confirm a date for the match at the County Ground.

The youth team remained top of South East Counties Division Two, with a 3-2 win at Southampton a fortnight ago.

Tresor Kandol bagged a hat-trick for the Hatters, who also had James Ayres sent off.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION

	P	W	D	L	E	A	Pts
Arsenal	10	6	3	1	26	9	21
Tottenham	10	6	2	2	19	13	20
Charlton	9	6	1	2	22	8	19
C Palace	10	6	0	4	16	13	18
Southampton	10	4	4	2	17	11	16
Oxford	10	4	4	2	17	17	16
Wimbledon	10	4	3	3	14	8	15
Portsmouth	9	3	4	2	10	7	13
Watford	10	3	4	3	11	12	13
Millwall	9	3	3	3	10	12	12
Norwich	10	2	5	3	11	17	11
QPR	10	2	4	4	11	12	10
West Ham	10	3	1	6	13	21	10
Ipswich	10	2	4	4	12	20	10
LUTON TOWN	7	2	2	3	9	13	8
Swindon	9	2	1	6	7	12	7
Chelsea	10	1	4	5	11	21	7
Brighton	9	1	3	5	10	20	6

League table up to and including 16.10.97

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION 1997/98 APPS & SCORERS (20/10/97)

	APPS	G		APPS	G
Nathan ABBEY	7		Haraldar INGOLFSSON	1	
Ian JONES	7		Marvin JOHNSON	1	
Richard HARVEY	4		Dwight MARSHALL	1	
Sean EVERS	5				
Gary DOHERTY	6	2			
Emerson BOYCE	4				
Robert KEAN	8				
Matthew SPRING	3 (2)				
Andrew BARR	6	4			
Liam GEORGE	5	2			
Terry SWEENEY	6				
Andre SCARLETT	(5)				
Michael McINDOE	2 (3)				
Stuart FRASER	5 (2)				
Daniel TATE	1				
Gavin McGOWAN	3	1			
Paul SHOWLER	2				
Alan WHITE	2				
Russell LAWES	1 (2)				
Colin OMOGBEHIN	3				
S QUINN	2				
Trevor PEAKE	2 (1)				
Richard CLARKE	(2)				
M BLOCK					

Team: Tate, Lawes, Fraser, Clarke, Boyce, Ayres, Scarlett, Robert (McKoy), Kandol (Howe), McIndoe, Jerry. Sub not used: Harrington.

Last Saturday, the Town youngsters progressed to the third round of the South East Counties League Cup, with a 2-0 win against Arsenal, at London Colney.

Substitute Delroy McKoy scored both Luton goals, after replacing Darren Howe after 35 minutes.

Team: Tate, Lawes, Fraser, Clarke, Howe (McKoy), Ayres (Harrington), Scarlett, Robert (Stirling), Kandol, McIndoe, Jerry.

Luton now play Swindon Town, at home, in the third round on Saturday, November 22.

This morning the youth team were back in league action against Tottenham.

They have also progressed in the Eastern Junior Cup, with a 3-0 win at Clacton. Moses Jerry, Andre Scarlett and Stuart Fraser were the scorers.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES DIV TWO

	P	W	D	L	E	A	Pts
LUTON TOWN	9	6	1	2	32	12	19
Brentford	9	4	4	1	13	10	16
Tottenham	9	5	1	3	15	17	16
Southampton	9	5	0	4	24	16	15
Swindon	8	4	2	2	16	13	14
Colchester	9	4	2	3	16	15	14
Wycombe	7	3	3	1	12	5	12
Bristol City	7	3	3	1	15	12	12
Bristol R	8	3	2	3	20	17	11
Wimbledon	7	2	3	2	12	17	9
Oxford	8	3	0	5	15	23	9
Barnet	9	2	2	5	13	21	8
Bournemouth	9	1	3	5	15	22	6
Reading	8	1	2	5	8	19	5
Brighton	8	1	2	5	10	22	5

League table as at October 18, 1997



with **TREVOR PEAKE**



and **JOHN MOORE**

South East Counties League, and League Cup; FA Youth Cup; Southern Jnr Floodlit Cup; and Eastern Jnr Cup

Sat Aug 9	WYCOMBE W	lost 1-0	Sat Dec 13	Bristol Rovers	
Sat Aug 16	Reading	won 6-0	Sat Dec 20	Wycombe W	
Tue Aug 19	Ipswich (SJFC Pre)	won 1-0	Sat Dec 27	Wimbledon	
Sat Aug 23	Swindon Town	won 4-2			
Sat Aug 30	OXFORD UTD	won 5-1	Sat Jan 10	SWINDON TOWN	11am
			Sat Jan 17	Oxford United	
Fri Sep 5	Barnet	won 4-2	Sat Jan 24	BARNET	11am
Tue Sep 9	C PALACE (SJFC1)	lost 1-0	Sat Jan 31	Brighton	
Sat Sep 13	Southend (SECLC1)	won 1-0			
Sat Sep 20	BRIGHTON	won 8-1	Sat Feb 7	BRISTOL CITY	11am
Sat Sep 27	Bristol City	drew 2-2	Sat Feb 14	Brentford	
			Sat Feb 21	SOUTHAMPTON	11am
Sat Oct 4	BRENTFORD	lost 1-0	Sat Feb 28	Tottenham	
Sat Oct 11	Southampton	won 3-2			
Sat Oct 18	Arsenal (SECLC2)	won 2-0	Sat Mar 21	Colchester	
Sat Oct 25	TOTTENHAM	11am	Sat Mar 28	BOURNEMOUTH	11am
Sat Nov 1	READING	11am	Sat Apr 4	WIMBLEDON	11am
Sat Nov 15	COLCHESTER	11am			
Sat Nov 22	SWINDON (SECLC3)				
Sat Nov 29	Bournemouth				
Sat Dec 6	BRISTOL ROVERS	11am			

Games in caps denote HOME matches. Home league matches at Luton Rugby Club.

	LGE APPS	G	CUP APPS	G	YOUTH TEAM 1997/98
Daniel TATE	9		4		LEAGUE AND CUP
Russell LAWES	6 (1)		4		APPEARANCES
Stuart FRASER	6	1	4		& SCORERS
Matthew SPRING	5	4	3		
Emerson BOYCE	6	3	2		
James AYRES	7		1		
Andre SCARLETT	9	3	3		
Clifford AKURANG	4 (1)	3	2 (1)	1	
Gary DOHERTY	2 (1)	1	1		
Richard CLARKE	9		4		
Delroy McKOY	5 (2)		2 (1)	2	
Darren HOWE	1 (1)		1 (1)		
C DREW	(1)				
Michael McINDOE	7 (1)	2	4		
Jimmy COX	6	5	3		
Tresor KANDOL	6 (1)	8	2 (1)		
Moses JERRY	5 (3)	2	2		
J STIRLING	3		1 (1)		
J HARRINGTON	(2)		(1)		
S ROBERT	2 (1)		1		
A MINTON	1				
C GREGORY	1				
MORAN	(1)				

LUTON Town FC require landladies on a permanent and/or part-time basis for our YTS players.

We are ideally looking for families, in Luton, with an interest in football, who have room available for one of our youngsters, either on a permanent (seven days a week) basis, or on a temporary basis (for example in school holidays).

Anyone interested should contact Youth Development Officer Paul Lowe on (01582) 411622.

Spink and his Lions tame league leaders Watford!

NIGEL Spink was a novice when he won a European Cup medal - now he's chasing a Second Division medal at the age of 39.

Spink became an Aston Villa legend as a sub for the injured Jimmy Rimmer in their 1982 glory night against Bayern Munich.

Now he loving life with the Lions, and after Saturday's 1-0 win at leaders Watford, he believes they can roar to the title.

They went into Tuesday night's games five points behind the Hornets, but with two games in hand.

Spink said: "We've taken full points from two difficult home games then gone to Watford, who are top of the table, and won."

Paul Shaw netted the winner on 37 minutes, but Spink - a recent £50,000 buy from West Brom - made a vital late save to deny Giffon Noel-Williams.

"Millwall are geared to go up, that's why I came here," said Spink.

It was Watford's first home defeat, and manager Graham Taylor admitted: "We couldn't open up a well organised and disciplined side."

"Previously we have had seven or eight players on form and looked good."

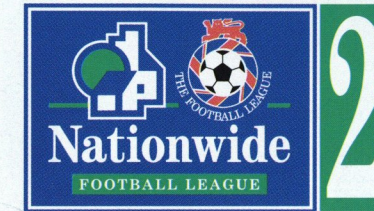
"This time some of them played nowhere near as well, and it's the first time my players have disappointed me."

Wigan boss John Deehan had some words of warning for his players after the 1-1 draw with Luton.

Deehan said: "I've no doubt they have the ability but we haven't got that much time to make it gel for this season."

"The players have to decide if they want mid-table mediocrity or to push on and really aim for that play-off place."

"We should have caused more



problems for Luton."

Fulham manager Ray Wilkins admits his side have a battle on to achieve promotion, after a 2-1 defeat at Bournemouth.

The Cherries, roared on by 7,606 fans, their biggest crowd of the season, outplayed a Fulham side including £500,000 new signing Ian Selley from Arsenal.

Wilkins admitted: "Other teams now raise their game because of Fulham's higher profile."

"I suppose that was inevitable after Kevin Keegan's and my arrival, but it's difficult for the players to cope with."

"It's a new experience for both of us. Neither Kevin nor myself have spent much time outside the top flight in football and it's going to take some getting used to."

Fulham were sunk by two goals from set-pieces from defender Ian Cox.

Jamie Vincent's own goal gave Fulham hope, but Bournemouth missed a chance for a third when Steve Robinson's penalty was saved by Mark Walton.

Sada Ndiaye, signed from French side Troyes, netted the winner on his debut for Southend as they won 3-2 at Plymouth.

It was a first away win of the season for Alvin Martin's side.

Southend had led 2-0 after a Paul Wotton own goal and Adrian Clark's 20th minute effort.

But Argyle hit back with Adrian Littlejohn and Carlo Corazzin

levelling the scores, before the Frenchman won it for the visitors.

Lee Nogan put Grimsby 1-0 in front at Blackpool, but goals from James Quinn and Tony Ellis looked to have given Nigel Worthington's side the points.

But substitute Phil Clarkson conceded a penalty five minutes from time, and Kevin Donovan equalised from the spot.

Brentford saw off Walsall 3-0 at Griffin Park, with goals from Robert Taylor, Ryan Denys and Marcus Bent.

Bristol Rovers missed a hatful of chances at Wycombe, and then saw goalkeeper Andy Collett's mis-hit clearance present Mark Stallard with the winner for the home side.

Veteran striker Andy Ritchie came off the bench to inspire Oldham to a 2-0 home win over Chesterfield.

Ritchie, the 36-year-old player-coach, scored on 61 minutes and then set up Stuart Barlow for his seventh of the season.

Chesterfield manager John Duncan reflected: "We were doing OK until Ritchie came on. His guile completely turned the game and he was just too good for us."

Wrexham were held to a 0-0 draw at the Racecourse Ground by Burnley, but Northampton chalked up another home win with a 2-1 victory over Gillingham.

John Gayle and Carl Heggs put the Cobblers 2-0 in front, before Ade Akinbiyi pulled one back.

Carlisle lost 2-0 at home to Preston in Friday night's televised game on Sky, with the goals coming from Gary Parkinson and Lee Ashcroft.

Also on Friday, Bristol City came from a goal behind to beat York 2-1 at Ashton Gate. - SIMON OXLEY.



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Trust us to help the game

The Football Trust has been providing support for the game at every level throughout the UK for over 22 years. Its present priority task is to help League clubs to complete the implementation of the Taylor Report recommendations.

Thanks to the Government and to the Football Association, the FA Premier League and the English Sports Council, a major new funding package to secure the future of the Trust has been put in place.

These funds will be in addition to income derived from the football pools companies Littlewoods, Vernons and Zetters, and will enable the Trust to complete its Taylor task, carry on its essential safety work and continue to grant aid football at every level. The Government's commitment to the Trust has the support of everyone who cares about our national game.



THE FOOTBALL TRUST
Helping the game

THE FOOTBALL TRUST, WALKDEN HOUSE, 10 MELTON STREET, LONDON NW1 2EB



STEVE Buckley was one of the best left-backs ever to ply his trade at Kenilworth Road and the sight of him careering down the wing before cutting inside and firing in a rocket shot, was one of the enduring memories of a good Luton side in the mid 1970's.

Born in Brinsley, Notts, Steve played his early football for Ilkeston Town before transferring to Burton Albion where Ken Gutteridge, later to join the coaching staff at Kenilworth Road, was manager. Gutteridge was friendly with David Pleat and recommended that the Town have a look at his left winger, a position that Steve was playing at the time.

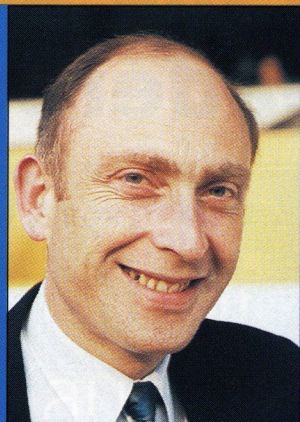
"I was a left winger in my early days and always remember my clashes with Kirk Stephens (later to star with the Town) who was right back with Nuneaton," said Steve. "David Pleat and Harry Haslam, the Luton manager, came to watch me and invited me to Kenilworth Road in the summer of 1974 just as the Town had won promotion to the old Division One.

"I must admit to some misgivings about coming to Luton, but soon realised that it was a homely, friendly club and I was made welcome in some great digs which I shared with Steve Litt."

Steve soon realised that he would stand more chance of getting in the first team if he moved to full back to challenge ex-England star Bobby Thomson who was nearing the end of his career, rather than fight for a place on the left wing where John Aston was King. This turned out to be a wise move, as a first team call up came quicker than expected when Thomson was injured and Steve was drafted into the squad for the away game at Leicester in October 1974.

"I have never been as nervous as I was before that match when I was told that I was playing. I can remember that the score finished 0-0 and we were unlucky not to win and that was down to Leicester

Where are they now?



by **ROGER WASH**

goalkeeper, Peter Shilton, playing in all white, who saved everything that was thrown at him."

The Town had got off to a disastrous start to that season, and as Christmas approached we were rock bottom with only nine points to our name. Harry Haslam decided on some surgery and amongst the casualties was Thomson who was replaced by Buckley. The second half to that campaign saw the Town turn in some tremendous performances, especially at home, and if the record in the opening half of the season had been any where near as good then we would have qualified for Europe. As it was we had left ourselves with too much to do and relegation was a disappointing end to a season that holds many memories.

"We were really unlucky that season as we got it together after Christmas

and were capable of beating anyone on our day. The changes made to the side, bringing in Paul Fitcher and his brother Ron, and then later on Andy King and Lil Fuccillo made a difference, but it was all too late."

We all thought that a quick return to the top flight was a formality, given the quality in the side, but over the next two seasons promotion was narrowly missed, although it was a good time to be a Luton supporter with some great team performances producing some thrilling games.

One of the stars of the side was undoubtedly Steve Buckley and we all knew that it was only a matter of time before he was sold to one of the big boys. When Steve turned out for the Town at Orient in January 1978, we guessed it was likely to be his last game for the Hatters as the national press had been full of transfer talk with Aston Villa the favourites to secure his signature.

"I was told by Harry Haslam that a bid had been put in for me and I assumed that it was from Villa. It was



STEVE Buckley scores from the spot during the 3-0 win over Chelsea at Kenilworth Road in 1975/76.

only as we were nearing the Watford Gap services on the M1 that I asked who we would be meeting and I was told "Tommy Docherty." It then dawned on me that I would be going to Derby!"

After almost four years, 123 league appearances and nine goals, Buckley left in exchange for £163,000 which was a large fee at the time. Docherty stated afterwards that he now had the two best young full backs in the country at the Baseball Ground in Buckley and David Langan. It took the Town several years to adequately replace him!

Steve became a cult hero at Derby, and in almost nine years at the Baseball Ground enjoyed a remarkably injury free run, and made 323 league appearances for the Rams scoring 21 goals.

Unfortunately Derby were going through a period of decline and eventually ended up in the old Division Three for a spell, and I suppose Steve often thinks of what might have been had he joined Villa who won the League Championship and the European Cup over the same period.

Leaving the Baseball Ground in August 1986, Steve had a couple of seasons at Lincoln and helped them out of the Conference in the process, before finishing his playing career at Boston United at the age of 37.

After a coaching contract at Boston came to an end Steve took a job as an H.G.V driver in the East Midlands but still sees a lot of football scouting for his brother Alan, who has recently taken the managerial hot seat at Grimsby.

5 YEARS AGO

24/10/92: We went into a 3-1 half-time lead in an away game at Peterborough, with two goals from Phil Gray and one from Paul Telfer. The eventual 3-2 win came as a relief following three straight defeats.

10 YEARS AGO

24/10/87: With Liverpool top of the table after dropping only one point at that stage of the season, it was no real surprise that we went down 1-0 to the Reds at Kenilworth Road, in front of a crowd of 12,452.

15 YEARS AGO

23/10/82: It was back to earth for the Town, after six games without defeat in the old Division One, when we went down 1-0 in a dismal game at West Bromwich in front of a Hawthorns crowd of 16,345.

20 YEARS AGO

29/10/77: We dropped down to seventh place in the old Division Two, following a 2-1 defeat at Bolton. Ron Fitcher was the Luton marksman in front of the 'Match of the Day' cameras.



Tony Thorpe (10) puts Luton 1-0 in front against Plymouth, having been sent clear by Gary Doherty.

Heads we win! Goalmouth action from the second-half.

Substitute Simon Davies clips the ball over Argyle keeper Jon Sheffield for his first goal for Luton Town.

Paul McLaren, Tony Thorpe and Gary Doherty celebrate Thorpe's second which put the Hatters 2-0 in front.



ACTION STATIONS

Luton Town 3 Plymouth Argyle 0

(Thorpe 2, Davies)

Saturday, October 11, 1997 - Nationwide League Division Two

Attendance: 4,931

Pictures by Gareth Owen



47

OPENING TIMES

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

10am to 4pm

EVENING MATCHDAYS

10am to 10pm

SATURDAYS - MATCHDAYS

10am-3pm & 4.45-5.15pm

- non matchdays 9am until
coaches leave for away game

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NEW leisurewear items for all the
family, including coats, jackets,
shirts and T-shirts..... plus

Littlewoods Cup 1988
'headlines' T-shirt - £15.00

NEW 1997/98 official team
poster - £2.95

NEW individual photos of all the
Luton Town players - £1.20

Look out for our new Autumn '97
Merchandise Catalogue - out soon!

LTFC KIT PRICES 1997/98 GET YER KIT ON!



AWAY SHIRTS

SB, B, LB - £29.99

Youths - £34.99

S, M, L, XL, XXL - £38.99

AWAY SHORTS

SB, B, LB - £15.99

Youths, S, M - £19.99

L, XL, XXL - £19.99

AWAY SOCKS

MB, LB - £5.99. Mens - £7.99

FOR THE STARS OF TODAY AND TOMORROW.....

HOME SHIRTS

SB, B, LB - £29.99

Youths - £34.99

S, M, L, XL, XXL - £39.99

HOME SHORTS

SB, B, LB - £15.99

Youths, S, M - £19.99

L, XL, XXL - £19.99

HOME SOCKS

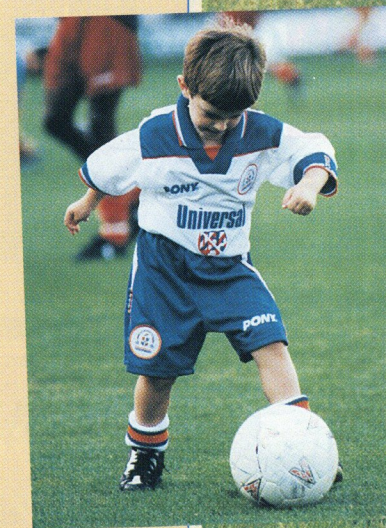
MB, LB - £7.99.

Mens - £9.99

Home long sleeved shirts
(from Oct 97)

S, M, L - £42.99

XL, XXL - £42.99



HATTERS SHOP

enquiries
01582

411622

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Calls cost 50p per minute at all times

COMMERCIAL NEWS

THIS afternoon we welcome match sponsors JOHN EASTAFF (BUILDERS MERCHANTS) LTD.

They are suppliers of heavyside building materials to trade and DIY.

They also operate a plant hire service, and can be contacted at the Elstow Storage Depot, Kemspton Hardwick, in Bedford.

The company are regular supporters of the club, and we trust they and their guests have an enjoyable afternoon.

I am also delighted to welcome a party from the MILTON KEYNES & DISTRICT MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS BRANCH.

Their visit here has been made possible by the very generous support of a number of companies and individuals, whose support is greatly appreciated.

They are: ANACHEM, GENESIS HOMES, MURTAGH DEMOLITION, DEREK FARR, and REGAL LITHO.

The Milton Keynes MS branch has 140 members, and the committee raise funds to help them and their families. They have recently purchased an adapted minibus to take sufferers on outings and trips such as this. We hope they enjoy their day with us.

This afternoon's Matchball Sponsors are



with **KATHY LEATHER**

KEITH AND RICHARD HARVEY. Both are avid Luton supporters, and Keith operates the family haulage company of RW Harvey and Son at Sandy, in Bedfordshire, and serves the local building and agricultural industries.

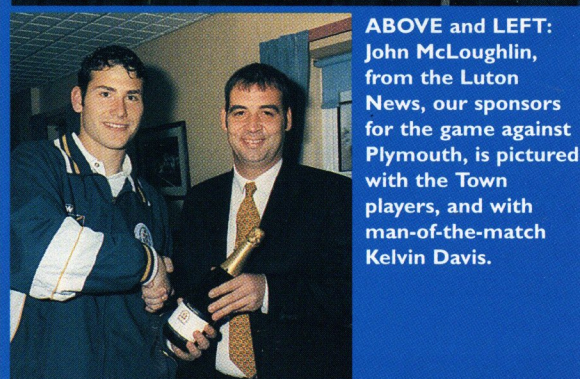
If you or your company would like details of match or matchball sponsorship, please contact the Commercial Department on (01582) 411622.

We in the Commercial Department are always willing to talk to you about how you and your company can get involved with Luton Town.

We have packages to suit all budgets, and a variety of ways in which your company can get involved.

For full details, or to arrange a visit, please contact the Commercial Department on Luton (01582) 411622.

This afternoon's CableTel kids are: James Brooks, Robert Brooks, Sam Boylan-Jones, Joe Boylan-Jones, Jamie Cooper, Mathew Cooper, James Castle, Lucy Castle, Marc Franklin, Stuart Curtis and Peter Hanson.



ABOVE and LEFT: John McLoughlin, from the Luton News, our sponsors for the game against Plymouth, is pictured with the Town players, and with man-of-the-match Kelvin Davis.

HAPPY 65th birthday to Jack Houldsworth. Thanks for everything, from Neil, Helen and Emma. Also, love from Betty and Sue.

Just the ticket for Christmas...

LUTON TOWN F.C.
Kenilworth Stadium
1 Maple Road
Luton
Beds
LU4 8AW
Tel: 01582 411622



CLUB SHOP
Kenilworth Road
Luton
Beds
LU1 1DN
Tel: 01582 411622

Date 16.10.97	Voucher No 00001	Presented By LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB	Gift For MR. SUPPORTER	Amount £39.99
Amount in Words THIRTY NINE POUNDS AND NINETY NINE PENCE				

Gift Voucher
000500

ONLY THE COMPLETE VOUCHER WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR REDEMPTION AND MAY BE EXCHANGED FOR GOODS FROM THE CLUB SHOP ONLY

THE VOUCHER MAY NOT BE EXCHANGED FOR CASH OR PART CASH.

MANAGERS SIGNATURE *[Signature]*

Available now at the Club Shop!

Aussie golden boy!



WHAT with cricket and rugby, we're getting pretty used to people coming over from Australia and winning things.

So it should come as no great surprise to learn that long-time Luton Town sporter Tommy McGarry, back 'home' for a brief holiday from 'Down Under', should win the Golden Gamble at the home game against Plymouth.

Tommy is pictured with Town players Paul Showler, Marvin Johnson, Mitchell Thomas, Phil Gray and Dwight Marshall.

Guest hospitality at Wycombe Wanderers

ANYONE interested in guest hospitality at the forthcoming game at Wycombe, on Saturday, November 1, should contact Tim Arnold in their Commercial Department on 01494 472100.

They are offering a comprehensive package including an official car parking space, a guided tour of Adams Park, a four-course waitress served meal, a premium seat in the Main Stand, refreshments at half-time and the use of the Players' Bar after the game, in a package that costs £40 + VAT per person.

There are also Executive Hospitality Boxes available - each box has a capacity of 10 - and the package costs £500 + VAT with a buffet, or £550 + VAT for a seated meal.

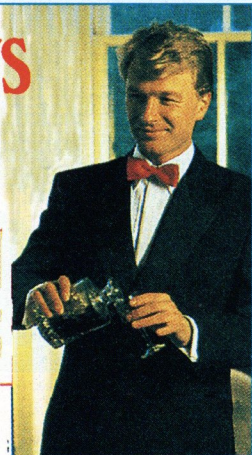
Wycombe also run a matchday creche for home and away supporters, which is open from 2.30 to 5pm, and details are available from Tim Arnold on 01494 472100.

Antony's Tailor

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Large garden, children
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Home of the Loyal Luton
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Disco music 1pm to 2.30pm, and
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Karen
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food and fine selection of cask
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Sat and Sun nights



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on (01582) 411622

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PLUS win £25,000 in our Premier Instant ticket on sale at
half-time.... Money from these tickets helps YOUR club, and
supports charities for children with special needs

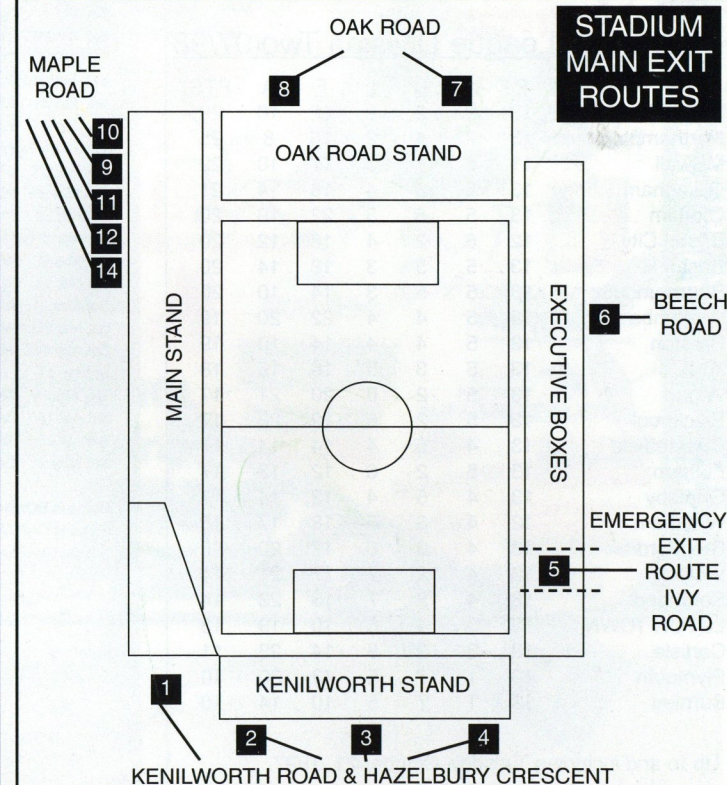
LTFC EVACUATION PROCEDURE

IN the event of any emergencies at Luton Town Football Club, the emergency services and the club have agreed on an evacuation policy which is designed to:

- Ensure the safe and controlled evacuation of the ground.
- Ensure the dispersal of the crowd from the area to allow the emergency services to carry out their tasks.

In the event on an evacuation of all or part of the stadium, you will receive instructions over the public address system on how you should leave the stadium. Stewards will direct you to the nearest exit. It may be that your normal exit route will not be available. On leaving the stadium, you will find some roads closed to pedestrian traffic, to enable swift and unobstructed arrival of the emergency services.

Please leave the area of the ground as quickly as possible by the route directed. Your co-operation will be most appreciated.
GEOFF LOVELL, Safety Manager.



TEAMStatistics

LUTON TOWN 1997/98

PLAYER (figure in bracket = sub app.)	LGE APPS	LGE GLS	CUP APPS	CUP GLS	LTC career apps (league & cup, incl subs) & goals, as at start 97/98
Nathan ABBEY			1		
Graham ALEXANDER	7		2		101 3g
Simon DAVIES	7 (3)	1	3 (1)		
Kelvin DAVIS	10				21 0g
Steve DAVIS	10	1	4	1	100 11g
Andy DIBBLE	1		2		
Gary DOHERTY	1 (3)				
Stuart DOUGLAS	4 (5)	1	3 (1)	1	20 1g
Sean EVERS	2 (4)		2		4 0g
Ian FEUER	2		1		98 0g
Andrew FOTIADIS	1				23 3g
Liam GEORGE	1		(2)		
Phil GRAY	4	1	1		67 26
Richard HARVEY	3 (1)		2 (1)		181 5g
Julian JAMES	7 (1)		1		309 14g
Marvin JOHNSON	7		3		289 6g
Robert KEAN	(1)				
Dwight MARSHALL	7 (2)	1	2		115 33g
Gavin MCGOWAN	6 (2)				2 0g
Paul McLAREN	11 (2)		4		44 1g
David OLDFIELD	12		4		125 21g
Trevor PEAKE	(1)				201 0g
Paul SHOWLER	(1)				33 6g
Bryan SMALL	8				
Matthew SPRING	3 (1)				
Mitchell THOMAS	4		2		273 5g
Tony THORPE	9 (1)	3	2 (1)	3	110 41g
Gary WADDOCK	11 (1)		4		133 3g
Alan WHITE	5	1	1		

Nationwide League Division Two 97/98

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Watford	13	9	2	2	22	10	29
Northampton	13	7	4	2	15	8	25
Millwall	11	7	1	3	17	10	22
Gillingham	13	6	3	4	18	14	21
Oldham	13	5	5	3	22	19	20
Bristol City	12	6	2	4	18	12	20
Bristol R	13	5	5	3	18	14	20
Bournemouth	13	5	5	3	14	10	20
Wycombe	13	5	4	4	22	20	19
Preston	13	5	4	4	14	10	19
York	13	5	3	5	16	16	18
Wigan	13	5	2	6	20	21	17
Blackpool	13	5	2	6	19	23	17
Chesterfield	13	4	5	4	14	14	17
Fulham	13	5	2	6	12	13	17
Grimsby	13	4	5	4	12	14	17
Wrexham	12	4	3	5	18	17	15
Brentford	13	4	3	6	17	20	15
Walsall	13	4	2	7	17	21	14
Southend	13	4	2	7	13	23	14
LUTON TOWN	13	3	4	6	10	19	13
Carlisle	13	3	2	8	14	23	11
Plymouth	13	1	7	5	13	20	10
Burnley	13	1	7	5	10	14	10

Up to and including Tuesday, October 21, 1997.

1997/98 See page 47 for Division Two stats

DATE	OPPONENTS	F-A	ATT	POS
Sat Aug 9	Blackpool	0-1	6,547	-
Tue Aug 12	Colchester Utd CCC1 (1)	1-0	2,840	-
Mon Aug 18	SOUTHEND UTD	1-0	5,140	12
Sat Aug 23	Fulham	0-0	8,142	15
Tue Aug 26	COLCHESTER UTD CCC1 (2)	1-1	2,816	-
Sat Aug 30	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	1-1	5,404	12
Tue Sep 2	MILLWALL	0-2	5,781	15
Tue Sep 9	Northampton Town	0-1	7,246	18
Sat Sep 13	AFC Bournemouth	1-1	4,561	21
Tue Sep 16	WEST BROM CCC2 (1)	1-1	3,437	-
Sat Sep 20	WREXHAM	2-5	5,241	23
Tue Sep 23	West Brom CCC2 (2)	2-4	7,227	-
Sat Sep 27	Bristol City	0-3	8,509	23
Sat Oct 4	WATFORD	0-4	9,041	23
Sat Oct 11	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	3-0	4,931	23
Sat Oct 18	Wigan Athletic	1-1	4,466	22
Tue Oct 21	Carlisle United	1-0	4,341	21

Sat Oct 25	BRENTFORD
Sat Nov 1	Wycombe Wanderers
Tue Nov 4	BURNLEY
Sat Nov 8	PRESTON NORTH END
Sat Nov 15	FA Cup 1
Tue Nov 18	Grimsby Town
Sat Nov 22	WALSALL
Sat Nov 29	York City
Tue Dec 2	GILLINGHAM
Sat Dec 6	FA Cup 2
Sat Dec 13	Chesterfield
Sat Dec 20	BRISTOL ROVERS
Fri Dec 26	NORTHAMPTON TOWN
Sun Dec 28	Millwall
Sat Jan 3	Southend United
Sat Jan 10	BLACKPOOL
Sat Jan 17	Oldham Athletic
Sat Jan 24	FULHAM
Sat Jan 31	AFC BOURNEMOUTH
Sat Feb 7	Wrexham
Sat Feb 14	Watford
Sat Feb 21	BRISTOL CITY
Tue Feb 24	WIGAN ATHLETIC
Sat Feb 28	Plymouth Argyle
Tue Mar 3	Preston North End
Sat Mar 7	WYCOMBE W
Sat Mar 14	Burnley
Sat Mar 21	GRIMSBY TOWN
Sat Mar 28	Walsall
Sat Apr 4	YORK CITY
Sat Apr 11	Gillingham
Tue Apr 14	CHESTERFIELD
Sat Apr 18	Bristol Rovers
Sat Apr 25	Brentford
Sat May 2	CARLISLE UTD

Game in **BOLD** denotes home match.
Name in CAPITALS denotes goalscorer.
Name in (brackets) denotes player substituted or substitute used.

GK	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Feuer	McGowan	Thomas	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	McLaren	Alexander	Oldfield	Thorpe	(Davies)	(Douglas)	Evers	Harvey
Feuer	Douglas	Thomas	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	McLaren	Alexander	(Oldfield)	THORPE	Davies	Kean	(Harvey)	Evers
Feuer	James	Thomas	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	Davies	Alexander	(Fotiadis)	(Thorpe)	Marshall	(DOUGLAS)	(McLaren)	Harvey
K.Davis	James	Thomas	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	(Davies)	(Alexander)	Oldfield	(Douglas)	Marshall	(McGowan)	(Harvey)	(McLaren)
Abbey	James	Thomas	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	(Davies)	McLaren	Oldfield	THORPE	Marshall	(Douglas)	Showler	Evers
K.Davis	(James)	Thomas	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	(Davies)	McLaren	Oldfield	THORPE	(Marshall)	(Douglas)	(Showler)	(McGowan)
K.Davis	(James)	McGowan	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	McLaren	(Alexander)	Oldfield	Thorpe	(Marshall)	(Douglas)	(Doherty)	(Evers)
K.Davis	McGowan	Small	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	McLaren	(Evers)	Oldfield	Douglas	(Marshall)	Peake	(Davies)	(Doherty)
K.Davis	McGowan	Small	Waddock	S.Davis	Johnson	(Davies)	McLaren	Oldfield	(Douglas)	MARSHALL	(Evers)	Peake	(Doherty)
Dibble	Alexander	Harvey	Waddock	S.Davis	(Johnson)	(Evers)	McLaren	Oldfield	DOUGLAS	Marshall	Doherty	(Davies)	(George)
Dibble	McGowan	(Harvey)	(Waddock)	S.DAVIS	Small	GRAY	McLaren	Oldfield	Douglas	(Marshall)	(Thorpe)	(Evers)	(Peake)
Dibble	Evers	Harvey	Waddock	S.DAVIS	White	Gray	McLaren	Oldfield	(Douglas)	(Davies)	(THORPE)	Doherty	(George)
K.Davis	Evers	Harvey	(Waddock)	Small	White	Davies	McLaren	Oldfield	Thorpe	(George)	(Kean)	(Spring)	Omogbehin
K.Davis	(McGowan)	Harvey	Waddock	Small	White	Gray	McLaren	Oldfield	Thorpe	(Davies)	(Douglas)	Spring	James
K.Davis	Alexander	Small	Waddock	James	White	Spring	McLaren	Oldfield	(THORPE 2)	(Doherty)	(DAVIES)	Harvey	(Evers)
K.Davis	James	Small	(Spring)	S.Davis	White	(Gray)	McLaren	OLDFIELD	Thorpe	Alexander	(Davies)	Doherty	(Marshall)
K.Davis	James	Small	(Spring)	S.Davis	WHITE	(Gray)	McLaren	Oldfield	Thorpe	Alexander	Davies	(Waddock)	(Marshall)

Graham

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Expamet

RUBEROID

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RAWLPLUG

timloc

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AKZO NOBEL

BAXI

LIGNACITE

B.L.M.

RED BANK

CUPRINOL

Stelrad

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Caradon Bathrooms

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Galliford Roadstone

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Team Check



Luton Town **V** Brentford

Kelvin DAVIS	1	Nick COLGAN
Julian JAMES	2	Leon TOWNLEY
Bryan SMALL	3	Ijah ANDERSON
Gary WADDOCK	4	Carl HUTCHINGS
Steve DAVIS	5	Jamie BATES
Alan WHITE	6	Gareth HALL
Phil GRAY	7	Ryan DENYS
Paul McLAREN	8	Charlie OATWAY
David OLDFIELD	9	Marcus BENT
Tony THORPE	10	Kevin RAPLEY
Graham ALEXANDER	11	Robert TAYLOR

12

13

14



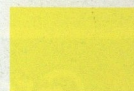
Today's referee is
JOHN KIRKBY
from Sheffield.

Mr Kirkby, a Senior Auditor with Bass Taverns, is one of the most experienced officials in the Football League, having joined the referees' list in 1987.

E.A. King



J.J. Ross



4th official: P.J. Gascoine

Next match at Kenilworth Road

The next visitors to Kenilworth Road are
BURNLEY,
in Division Two of the Nationwide League.

This game is on
Tuesday, November 4,
kick-off 7.45pm.

See page 9 for
ticket details.



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