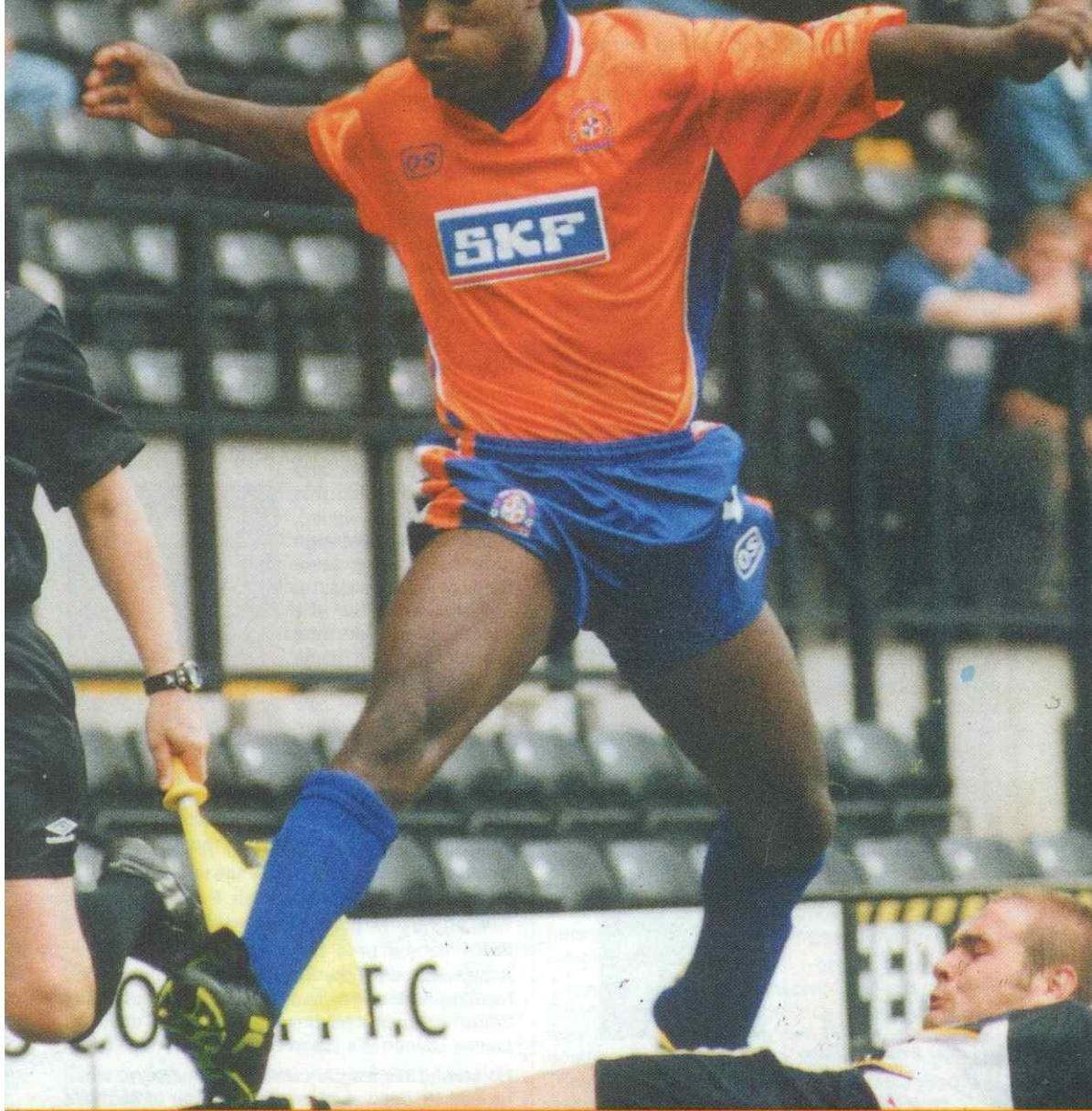


# LUTON TOWN

Saturday, August 14, 1999, 3pm

Official Matchday Programme £2.00



v Blackpool

**SKF**

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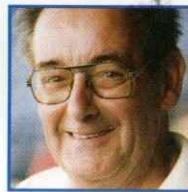
Nationwide

FOOTBALL LEAGUE

2

# Inside Forward

## welcome to kenilworth road



THE long-awaited end to the receivership saga, effectively settled just hours before the new season kicked off, has freed Lennie Lawrence from the financial straitjacket that prevented him from doing his job properly through the summer.

Technically, Luton Town is still in receivership, with the formalities expected to take another week before the deal is completed for Cliff Bassett to replace David Kohler as majority shareholder.

But there was an immediate effect this week, when the manager was able to do two deals that the receiver had blocked on financial grounds: defender Effy Sodje and midfielder Ray McKinnon are now both under contract, although Sodje cannot play today because of suspension.

For him it is second time lucky - he came to Luton for trials as a youngster and sort of impressed then manager David Pleat. On Pleat's advice, Sodje signed for non-league Stevenage. Come back in a year, said Pleat. Not likely, said Stevenage at the end of the 12 months.

Born in Greenwich, British but also qualified to play for Nigeria - the bandanna he always wears is a sign of his mother's culture - the young centre-half did so well, helping Stevenage to the

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The views expressed in this programme are not necessarily those of Luton Town Football Club.



#### Front cover:

Stuart Douglas in typical best-foot-forward action during the draw at Meadow Lane in our first game of the season.

Conference title, that they would not let him return to Luton.

Eventually, he moved to Macclesfield for £30,000, playing a big part in their rise through the Conference, via the championship and into the Football League and instant promotion through the Third Division. He refused a new contract last season, after Macclesfield were relegated, and came to Luton to agree a one-year deal with Lennie Lawrence.

It should have been signed before the start of the season, but the receivers put it on ice, saying they could not commit unknown future owners of the club. This week, Cliff Bassett gave the go-ahead for that commitment.

It was thought that the delay - Sodje signed on Tuesday - would cost him games. He had a three-match suspension, and the Town expected that to start after he signed, which would have kept him out of the team today, next Saturday at Reading and for the second leg of the Worthington Cup game at Bristol. But after poring over the rule books, the Town have had FA confirmation that technically, for disciplinary purposes, Sodje was still a Macclesfield player, so two matches were served when the Silkmen played on Saturday and Tuesday, and the ban ends after today's match.

One deal that was allowed by the receivers was to bring in Julian Watts on loan from Bristol City, where they seem to have coachloads of players available.

A big mate of Tony Thorpe, who might also be heading back to Kenilworth Road before too long, Watts is hoping he is not the kiss of death to Lennie Lawrence's Luton career.

He started his league career at Rotherham, when he was 18, but was always a supporter of Sheffield Wednesday and was well pleased when Trevor Francis signed him at Hillsborough. Then came a change of manager, and David Pleat promptly flogged the centre-half to Leicester, for £200,000.

Unable to claim a regular place in the Premiership, Watts took advantage of the Bosman ruling a year

ago, and moved on to Bristol City. John Ward did the deal - and three months later he was sacked. "It soon went pear-shaped," said Watts, "For me, Tony Thorpe and several others. We thought the new manager was an idiot."

Relegated a year after winning promotion to the First Division, City hired their third manager in less than 12 months, and Watts hoped for better things under Tony Pulis.

"He doesn't fancy me," said the centre-half. "I got the message in a pre-season game when he put on the right wing... in the reserves."

At 28, Watts knows he cannot afford to hang around, and has come to Luton determined to prove he is worth a place in a league team.

The manager will consider the next move when the month's loan is complete. He will also then be talking again to Ray McKinnon, who was among the players released at the end of last season, partly because he wanted to be free to consider his options, and partly because the receivers wanted as many names as possible scrubbed from the wages list.

As pre-season dawned, the manager was refused permission to sign McKinnon, but at the weekend, with the ban lifted, it took player and boss little time to agree a month's deal for the time being, giving the midfielder the chance to claim a regular place in the first team.

### Easy Rider?

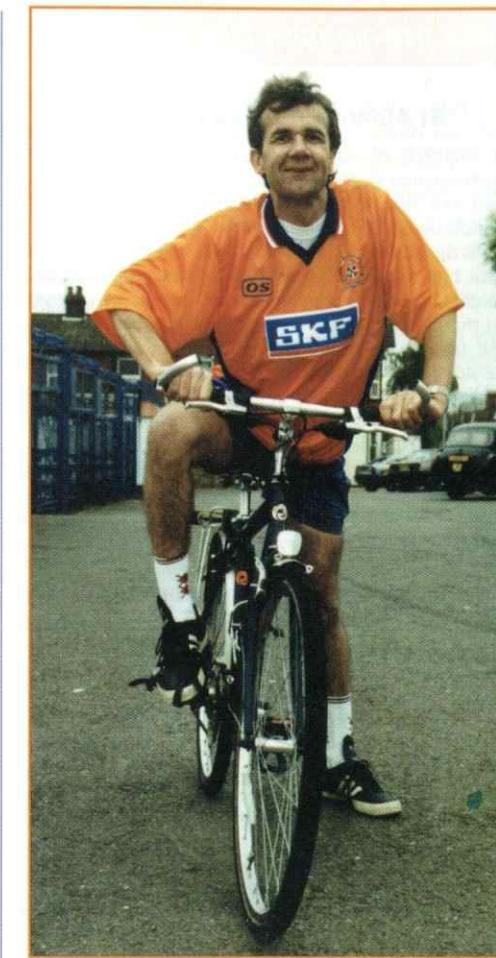
MOST of us going to Reading next week will sit in some comfort, in coach, car or train, but one group of dedicated fans will be on their bikes.

They are cycling across country to the Madejski Stadium, just for the fun of it and to raise money for charity.

It was the brainchild of the fan in the picture, Norman Gray, a 43-year-old print worker from Northview Road, Luton, a Town supporter since, as a young boy, he watched the 1968 team win the Fourth Division championship. He rarely misses games home or away.

"I like cycling, as a recreation to keep fit," he said. "Normally I do 40 or 50 miles a week, including going to and from work."

"Last year I cycled to the match at Wycombe to raise money for leukaemia research, and thoroughly enjoyed it. This year, I thought Reading might be a nice place to ride to, and I wanted to support FLAG as well as leukaemia research."



"In view of the good news about receivership I am not sure if it is right to still raise cash for FLAG, but certainly I am looking for charity sponsorship, and because of the FLAG involvement we have ten riders signed up so far."

The group will leave Kenilworth Road at 8 am next Saturday, and even if they become strung out they intend to meet at a pub on the outskirts of Reading so that they ride the last leg together. They are hoping for a cool and dry day, and we wish them well in their endeavours.

If anyone else wants to get involved, you can contact Mr Gray out of working hours on Luton 721924.

*Brian Swain*

# Action Replay

the pre-season friendlies

## St Albans City 0 Luton Town 3

A COUPLE of late goals completed a competent performance in the first pre-season fixture, when we had our first look at trialists Mark Cartwright and Efetobore Sodje among others.

Both did all right, but Adam Locke, released by Bristol City, had a bigger say in matters after going on as a midfield sub for the last half hour.

At the time the Town were comfortably holding on to the lead given them by Matthew Spring's powerful drive after 21 minutes.

We used five subs, and in the last six minutes incisive passing by Locke led to goals for Andrew Fotiadis and David Pearson, formerly of Coventry City.

**Luton Town:** Cartwright, Sodje, Taylor, Spring, White, Johnson, Gray (Pearson 68 mins), McLaren (Locke 60 mins), Douglas (Fotiadis 65 mins), McIndoe (George 71 mins), Fraser (MacKay 60 mins).

## Barnet 1 Luton Town 0

ONE mistake by Marvin Johnson, who otherwise had a tremendous game in a back three alongside Efetobore Sodje and Alan White, settled a less than inspiring encounter at Underhill. Barnet bombed their way down the hill in the second half, but their only opening came when the skipper under-hit a back pass and Gary Ansell nipped in to score. Earlier a narrowly-wide header by Johnson, and a tipped-over drive by Matthew Spring, had been the Town's best attacking efforts.

A harsh penalty, for hands against Liam George, gave Barnet an injury-time chance to double the score, but Mark Cartwright dived the right way to stop the kick by John Doolan.

**Luton Town:** Cartwright, Sodje, Taylor (Fletcher 68 mins), Spring, White, Johnson, Gray, McLaren (Pearce HT), Locke (O'Connor 72 mins), Fotiadis (George HT), Fraser (Davis 63 mins).

## Luton Town 2 Crystal Palace 2

AN EYE-catching display by Matthew Taylor gave the first hint that he could jump straight into the first team squad from the youth side. He was the best player on view in a first half the Town dominated, cracking in a ninth-minute opener after fastening on to a long clearance by Mark Cartwright, and crossing from the left for Phil Gray to add the second on 21 minutes, after Stuart Douglas's header came back off the bar.

Palace stirred themselves after the break, and made a match of it, but it was poor far post defending which led to a last-minute equaliser. Lee Bradbury had thumped in a 51st-minute goal to start the Palace revival, and James Hibbert scrambled in the late second.

**Luton Town:** Cartwright, Sodje (Boyce 73 mins), Taylor, Spring, White, Johnson, Gray (George 75 mins), Locke (McLaren 17 mins), Douglas, McIndoe, Fraser (Futcher 71 mins).  
Attendance: 1,900

## Northampton Town 2 Luton Town 1

AN EXPERIMENTAL formation at Sixfields made little impression on a full-strength Cobblers side which was desperate to put on a show for the home fans after relegation last season. Marvin Johnson, Matthew Spring and Phil Gray were left out of the starting line-up.

Lee Howey was unmarked from a free kick to head Northampton into a sixth-minute lead and Dave Savage bundled his way through a fragile defence to make it 2-0 on 72 minutes. Guy Kipoua, on trial from Bristol Rovers, did the major work in laying on an 85th-minute consolation for sub Emmerson Boyce.

**Luton Town:** Abbey, Sodje, Stirling (Fraser 76 mins), McLaren (Kipoua 62 mins), Doherty, White (Boyce HT), George, McKinnon, Douglas (Gray 62 mins), McIndoe, Futcher.

## Luton Town 3 QPR 1

WITHOUT getting carried away - the visitors did not field their full strength team - Town fans had cause for optimism about the display which was more than good enough for First Division opposition. The Town came back strongly after an awful start and left Rangers manager Gerry Francis most unhappy as he saw heads go down.

The defence stood around when Keith Rowland slung in a far post cross after only 64 seconds. He admitted later that he was not expecting to score, but the ball bounced into the net.

With Matthew Spring and Matthew Taylor doing well in midfield, the Town picked themselves up. Rangers thought Phil Gray was offside before laying on a 36th-minute equaliser for Stuart Douglas, and although Taylor took his chance expertly, the opening to make it 2-1 on 51 minutes came from a mis-hit shot by Michael McIndoe. The clincher, ten minutes later, was even more distressful for Francis, who watched in horror as Stuart Wardley's headed back pass looped gently over the advancing keeper for a cracking own goal.

Julian Watts, on trial from Bristol City, on his Luton debut, probably wished Rangers had given him more chance to demonstrate his abilities.

**Luton Town:** Abbey, Fraser (Boyce 79 mins), White, Spring (McLaren 75 mins), Watts, Johnson, Gray, McKinnon, Douglas (Kipoua 54 mins), McIndoe (George 64 mins), Taylor (Davis 82 mins).  
Attendance: 2,296

# The Manager

Lennie Lawrence



WE NEED to bounce back quickly today from the disappointment of Tuesday's cup result. There might be a case for thinking the defeat was a bit harsh, but the fact is that the goals underlined our major weakness.

I thought we started brightly, but that spell, in the first 20 minutes, was not translated into goals and the major criticism I have is that we did not look likely enough to score.

Bristol Rovers were well organised, and we were not able to put consistent pressure on them. The strength and pace of Jason Roberts, and his ability to take a goal was the key difference between the sides.

Having said that, we could have equalised early in the second half, but a good chance went begging, and they punished us quickly by scoring their second.

So we are disappointed, but most definitely not down-hearted. Our task in the second leg will be difficult, but not impossible. Memories on Tuesday night immediately went back 12 months, and to the matches against Oxford and Ipswich in the Worthington Cup, when the odds were also stacked against us after losing in the first legs. But to do it again, we must produce a lot more goal threat.

We will be working on that today as well, as we welcome Blackpool and their supporters to Kenilworth Road. They should be in good heart after two victories in their first two matches, and doubtless will be hoping to produce better away results this season than they did last. They had a decent home record, but were not so good on their travels. Honours were even between us and Blackpool last season, each side winning 1-0 at home. I hope the trend continues today!

Nigel Worthington has done a steady job as manager at Blackpool, and while they may well travel with some confidence after their good start, we should be able to field a stronger team than the one that faced Bristol Rovers.

Marvin Johnson looks set to return, and his absence was a blow, particularly when we also lost Alan White at half-time through injury.

Our young players do their best, but experience counts for a lot in football, and that is why I was pleased this week to finally complete agreements with Effy Sodje and Ray McKinnon.

It was a real bonus when we discovered the quirk of FA regulations about Sodje's suspension, as is reported on page 2 today, and he will now be available to play at Reading next week.

The contracts for McKinnon and Sodje were top of my priorities when I knew we were coming out of receivership, and hopefully I will soon be able to bring in more players.

We are actively exploring several avenues, and to return to the lesson of Tuesday, and the lack of attacking power, Tony Thorpe is one of the players under active consideration.

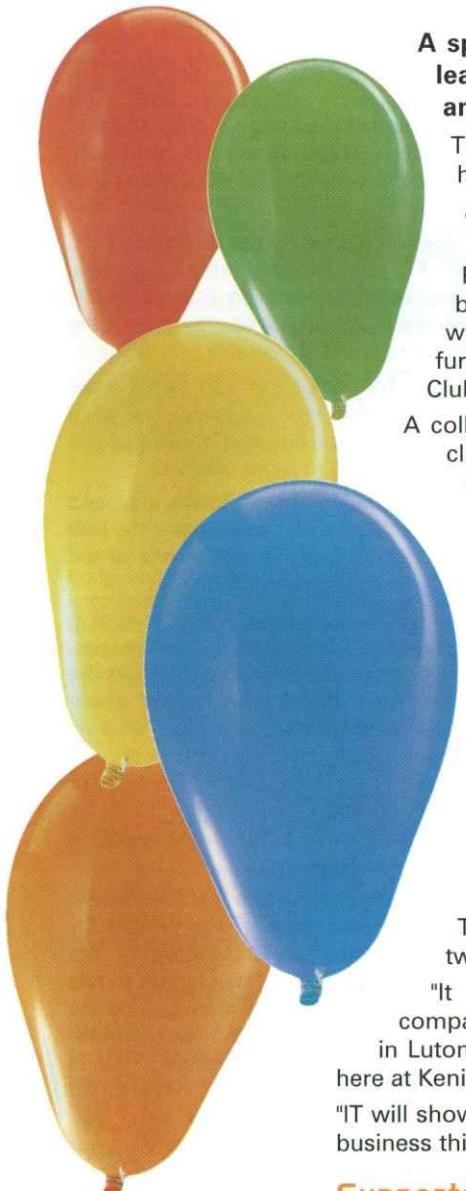
He wants to come back here, and after seeing how he responded to a return last season, when he was on loan I am rather keen on the move as well! We have to be careful about transfer fees and wages, but if a deal is possible we will do it. It might well be a case of mutual benefit - Tony Thorpe could do a job for Luton Town, and just as importantly from his point of view a return to Luton might well be a good career move for him.

I am sure supporters would be glad to see him back, but in the meantime it is important for them to have some understanding of the unusual circumstances that have led up to this season. Thankfully, we have a team behind the scenes, including in the boardroom, determined to build a better future. That is what we all want, but we may have to be patient. That goes for supporters too - you have a big part to play, and your encouragement can work wonders. And if you can persuade others to come to games, that too will be very much appreciated by all of us at Luton Town.

Lennie Lawrence

# Today's Event

balloon race launches SKF - Luton Town FC deal



A sponsored Balloon race will mark the start of the league football season at Kenilworth Road today and launch SKF's sponsorship of the Hatters.

The Sundon-based ball and roller bearings manufacturer has signed a two year deal to back the club

and this will be celebrated with the release of up to 1000 balloons carrying the SKF logo.

Fans will be able to join in the fun by buying a helium balloon featuring the SKF logo for 50pence each. These will be released and the owner of the balloon that travels furthest, will win a V.I.P match day at Luton Town Football Club. All proceeds from the race will go to Luton Town F.C.

A collection of balloons will be released by a club player, a club official, a junior mascot and a SKF representative to signal the start of the season and the club's sponsorship deal.

"I am extremely excited about the start of the season for Luton Town F.C and particularly our association with them," said Jerry Truman, Marketing and Communications Manager of SKF. "The first home league game of the season is always a big event and SKF are delighted to be a part of the celebrations.

WE hope the balloon race will be a great success and raise a lot of money for Luton Town F.C. May Luton's successes rise as high as the balloons themselves."

John Bailey, Sales and Marketing Manager of Luton Town F.C. voiced similar sentiments, "There is always something special about the start of the new season. Today marks our first home Nationwide League Division two match with SKF as shirt sponsors.

"It is particularly pleasing to have a world renowned company as our sponsor - especially a company which is also in Luton. This balloon race is symbolic, in that the race starts here at Kenilworth Road and the finish is at an unknown destination.

"IT will show our fans and friends all around the area that we mean business this season."

**Supporters can purchase balloons for 50p from 1.30pm at the top of Kenilworth Road near the ticket office.**

All proceeds go to Luton Town Football Club

For all the latest news, views and interviews call

**CLUBCALL - 09068 121 123**

(Calls charged at 50p per minute at all times)

# Captain's Log

Marvin Johnson



WELCOME back for another new season, and if you are anything like me, you will be glad to see us kick off the first home game in the league this afternoon.

I had a good summer with a holiday in Portugal, and little rest and relaxation, and a little fitness work. When you get to May, you are often tired, and perhaps more than ready for a break from football. But within a few weeks I find myself counting the days to the start of the new campaign. It's been like that for me ever since I came to Luton Town as an apprentice way back in the summer of 1985, and this year has been just the same.

I am lucky in that I can eat well without putting on too much weight, but I still watch my diet throughout the summer, and make sure that in terms of fitness I keep ticking over - I play a bit of tennis and go to the gym to work out two or three days a week.

Naturally we keep an eye on the papers, to see who is going where (and how much he's getting!) and of course this summer we also kept watch for news of what was going on at the club.

Footballers tend not to worry about who is running a club, so long as they are left to get on with their jobs, but when you have played for a club as long as I have you get a deep feeling for Luton Town.

So I shared the feeling of relief when news came through, with perfect timing before the first game of the season, that the club was out of receivership at long last. It's nice to know it has been sorted out, and we know Cliff Bassett, without being an in-your-face director, is a genuine Luton Town supporter.

So were the 1,500 who turned up at Meadow Lane - our thanks to every one of you. I don't think I have experienced that sort of atmosphere from our fans in a league game since we were in what is now the Premiership. They created a tremendous atmosphere, and while we wanted to win, I think everyone felt reasonably satisfied with the draw.

We might have got a late winner, because we had a good shout for a penalty when Phil Gray was going for goal. To be honest, at the time and from my position, I didn't think it was a penalty. Tippy thought it was, and when I saw replays on TV, I agreed with him. So spare a thought for the ref - he gave what he saw, and perhaps had the same view of it as I did during the game, and TV replays after that make no difference at all.

I got clouted, accidentally I am sure, early in the match when County had a goal ruled out for offside. There was a clash of heads, but I was OK after treatment, and able to carry on. I was not knocked out, but on the way home I had a head-ache and felt sore. On Monday, in training, the first time I headed a ball I felt dizzy, so it was back to the treatment room and a thorough medical examination.

The verdict was that there was no serious damage, but as a precaution I was pulled out of the side for Tuesday's cup-tie, and sat and suffered with the rest of you as I watched from the stand.

I thought we were doing OK early on, and looking good for a result, but Jason Roberts had other ideas. He's a bit of a handful, but I would have enjoyed doing battle with him.

I hope I will face him in the second leg, and I promise we haven't given up hope of making further progress in the Worthington Cup. Twice last year we were behind on first legs, against Oxford and Ipswich, and twice we came back to win. Modesty forbids that I mention the scorer of the wonderful, very late, winner against Ipswich!

Before the trip to Bristol there are six points to play for, and we will do our best to pocket the first three this afternoon. I hope to be back in the side, and if you give us the kind of support we had at Nottingham last week, we must start as favourites. Whatever happens, I hope we all enjoy the game, and have a season to remember for all the right reasons.

Marvin Johnson

For the latest ticket and travel information call the Luton Ticket Office on  
**01582 416976**

# Treatment Room

**Clive Goodyear**



WE HAVE had one or two fitness concerns this week, after the first games of the season, but generally I was well pleased with the overall state of health of the squad when the players reported back for pre-season training.

They all came back in decent shape, which means that they had taken note of the programme of work they were given for the summer. It was designed to maintain a general level of fitness, and most of them seemed to have kept to it.

We draw up a full programme of overall fitness work to be done from the first day of pre-season right through to next May and the objective is to reach the ultimate peak of fitness at the most important time of the season, in the spring.

That is how all clubs do it - think back, for instance, how Manchester United and Arsenal were both able to make their late surges towards the title. In today's highly professional world of football, fitness has become a science.

## Recent injuries...

But strains and sprains will always be part of football, and Gavin McGowan was unlucky in pre-season training. He fell awkwardly, and strained a hamstring tendon, and has not yet fully recovered. He is training at about 75 per cent capacity, but you have to be careful not to over-do it, and he is not yet ready for consideration for a competitive match.

## Farewell...

Finally, a little news about one of my most regular customers last season. Paul Showler, who was given a free transfer, is a qualified physio-therapist, and has put his experience to good use - he took a job as physio at Peterborough United on Monday. He will see it from the other side of the fence from now on, and we wish him well in his new career.

*Clive Goodyear*

# Club Secretary

**Cherry Newbery**



WE WERE expecting an upsurge of paperwork in the office this week as Lennie Lawrence started to work on bringing in new recruits. As is reported elsewhere today, Efetobore Sodje is now a Luton Town player, with the formalities completed. Welcome also to the three players who joined us last week: Tanny Abbey, back with us after a brief visit to Antwerp, David Pearson, and Ryan Davis. I hope they all enjoy their time with Luton Town.

We also have a different sort of "signing" to tell you about. We thought it would be nice to have a club chaplain again, and we found the perfect answer to our prayers on our own doorstep, and today I would like to give a formal welcome to Kenilworth Road to the Rev Catherine Bell.

I first met her when we were making arrangements for our carol service at St. Mary's Parish Church, and she made an immediate impression. It was a bonus to discover that she is also an ardent football fan. Most clubs have chaplains, but to the best of my knowledge we are the only one to have a woman priest doing the job.

Within the club Catherine will be available to all the staff to give advice, doubtless offer encouragement,

and, when necessary, be a shoulder to cry on. She is also available to help supporters and you can contact her through the club.

Speaking of Tuesday, our apologies to supporters in the enclosure who may have been inconvenienced when an exit had to be closed at short notice, for safety reasons.

Nowadays safety regulations are rigorous, as they should be, so we had no choice, but hopefully things should be right for this afternoon's game. But if, by any chance, they are not, thank-you in advance for your patience and understanding. We have plenty of stewards on duty to help supporters, and the system in operation means that we can comply with the regulation stipulating a time limit on evacuation of the ground if it became necessary in an emergency.

Our next home game is against Cardiff City a fortnight today, and once again can I remind supporters that it is an ALL TICKET match for ALL. It is not something we like to impose, but we felt that it made sense for this game. It means, of course, that for once there will be no cash turnstiles in use, and there will be NO TICKET SALES on the day of the match.

*Cherry Newbery*

NEW club chaplain, the Rev Catherine Bell, gets an official welcome to Kenilworth Road. She has been one of the assistant clergy at St. Mary's, Luton's parish church, for the past two years, but most of her duties revolve around ministry to the 15,000 students of Luton University.

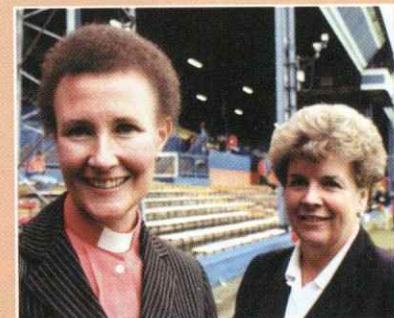
"I love the job, and they have got a pretty good football team as well," she said.

Born in the North East of England, Catherine, 35, spent most of her early life at Harrow, and had relatives in the Luton area, so has known the town well for many years.

"I was always a football fan, and when I was about eleven I fell in love with Kevin Keegan," she confesses. I joined the London branch of the Liverpool Supporters Club, and went to Anfield quite a lot because I also had family up there."

Catherine went to work for the NatWest Bank at Harrow when she left school, but felt a calling to the ministry, and that came at a time when the Church of England was moving towards acceptance of women clergy. She trained at Bristol, and then spent eight years as an associate vicar in Portsmouth. Her move to Luton, two years ago, gave her a job which she calls "hugely satisfying" in working with students, and she was delighted when the call came to include Kenilworth Road within her parish.

"My first impression was that Luton Town was a very friendly club, with a good family atmosphere, and I think that is important," she said. "The only thing I didn't enjoy on Tuesday was the result, but I remember Luton lost at home a year ago in the first round of the Worthington Cup, but still went through by winning the second leg. I think they can do it again." — Amen to that!



# TOTAL FOCUS

SKF (U.K.) Limited – the world's leading manufacturer of rolling bearings.

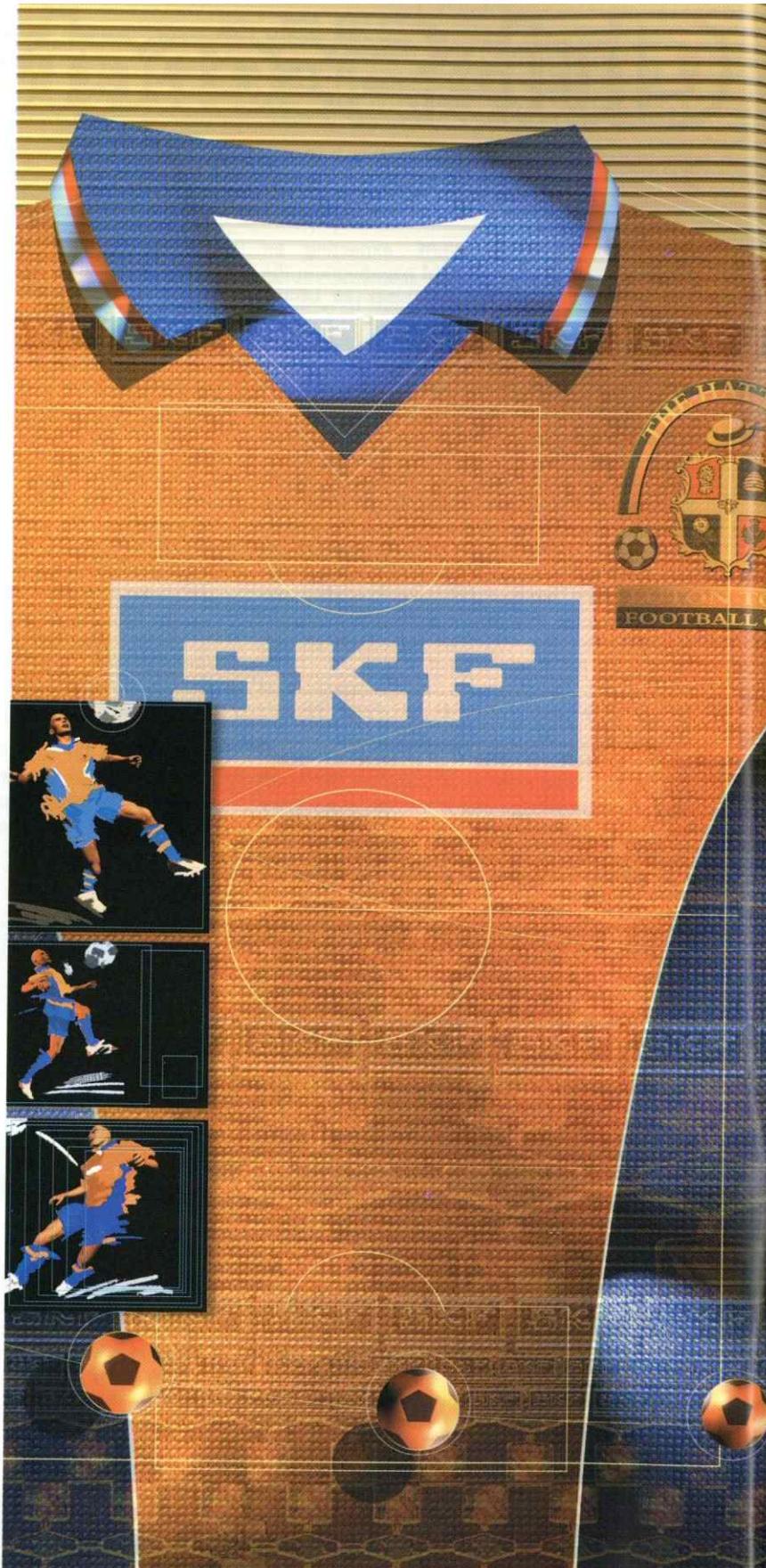
Today marks our first home match as the club's shirt sponsors. We look forward to a long and successful partnership.

May the balls fly in the net, then both our goals will be met, as Luton rolls on to promotion.

# SKF

Helping your world run smoother

[www.skf.co.uk](http://www.skf.co.uk)



# Tickets



## Nationwide League Division Two

### Reading v Luton Town

Saturday August 21,  
kick-off 3pm

Tickets can be purchased from the ticket office in Kenilworth Road until 4pm on Friday August 20, at a discounted price.

Tickets will also be available on the day at the Majedski Stadium South Stand ticket office.

Advanced tickets: £12 adults, £7 concessions (under-16s and over-60s). On the day: £14 adults, £8 concessions.

### Worthington Cup First Round Second Leg

### Bristol Rovers v Luton Town

Wednesday August 25,  
kick-off 7.45pm

This match is pay on the night only and terracing only. £8 adults, £4 concessions (under-16s and over-65s)

**It has never been easier to attend matches at Kenilworth Road, with cash turnstiles available on the day, except for all-ticket matches.**

## Nationwide League Division Two

### Luton Town v Cardiff City

Saturday August 28,  
kick-off 3pm

**This match is ALL TICKET for all supporters.**

No tickets will be available on the day of the game, and no cash turnstiles will be open. Tickets are now on sale, at the discounted price for LTFC members.

## Nationwide League Division Two

### Bournemouth v Luton Town

Tuesday August 31,  
kick-off 7.45pm

This match is pay on the day only. There is a small allocation of seating available to families only - one adult & an under-18 or over-65, or disabled supporter. Prices: £13.50 adults, £7 concessions, under-18s & over-65s Standing: £14 adults, £7 concessions - Luton supporters should use turnstiles 21, 24 and 25 on the Brighton Beach Terrace

## Nationwide League Division Two

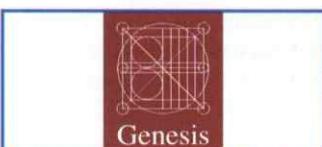
### Luton Town v Bury

Saturday September 4,  
kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale, and members can obtain them at the discounted price. Cash turnstiles will also be open on the day



## Executive Box Holders



## Tower Marketing

## Kenilworth Suite Members

Chris & Kim Clarke  
of the Wheatsheaf Ltd

Woburn Media Ltd

SKF UK

Corporate Coaching

J P Hygiene Supplies

DBF Crosswinds Ltd

R W Harvey & Son

Dr David Siegler

Regal Litho Ltd

Mr Malcolm Eade

Mr J Siegler

Mr D Ryder

Mr Roger Eade

Datapace Ltd

Mr P Mitchell

Space Display Systems Ltd

Neahurst Ltd

Grosvenor Casino

The Magic Touch (GB) Ltd

# Junior Hatters

## welcome

WE give a warm welcome back today to all our Junior Hatters, and while most of last season's young supporters have re-joined, we still have some vacancies for those who have not got round to it yet, and for new members.

We put on plenty of entertainment on match days, including, very often, value-for-money trips to away games.

We think Junior Hatters membership is a bargain - it costs £6 to re-join, or £10 for new members. And you get a lot for your money: a birthday card signed by your favourite player, a quarterly newsletter, the chance to be chosen as Luton Town mascot, home and away, and the chance to meet all the players at the Christmas disco.

Junior Hatters can also attend our very popular Saturday club before home games on Saturdays. It takes place at Dallow Road Junior School, from 12 noon. We play football and other games, and often entertain our counterparts from the visiting club. Whenever possible, we are visited by some of the Luton Town players. A lunch of sausage and chips, with a drink, is provided, and we have a quiz in our family room before the big match kicks off. We watch the game from the lower tier of the Kenilworth, and then go back to the family room



ONE FOR THE SCRAPBOOK: The Junior Hatters mascot at the cup-tie against Bristol Rovers was nine-year-old Charles Day, from Kershaw Close, Bramingham Park, Luton, and he is pictured meeting the game's top people before kick-off.

afterwards waiting for parents or guardians to meet up with us. Needless to say, the Saturday Club is fully supervised. The price for this is just £5 for Junior Hatters who have season tickets, or £9, which includes a match ticket, for members who do not have season tickets. It's a bargain!

For further information please contact the Luton Town ticket office, on Luton 416976.



## Today's Mascot

ELEVEN-year-old Thomas Miller, from Glenfield Road, Luton, is today's Junior Hatters mascot, looking forward to a day to remember.

Last season he went to Warden Hill Junior School, Luton, and was in the school football team, but he is just about to move up to start the new term at Icknield High School, Luton.

His main hobbies are watching Luton and playing football, and he also likes cross-country running. Phil Gray is his favourite player, and he will meet him this afternoon, because the mascot is part of the squad before kick-off, running out with the team, joining the pre-match kick-about, and then meeting both skippers and the referee at the toss-up.

Thomas watches the Town from a season ticket seat in the Kenilworth, and comes to games with his dad, fellow Junior Hatters Ross and Aaron Colbert, and their father Andy. We hope they all enjoy themselves today, especially Thomas.

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**MILLENIUM SUITE**

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**COMMERCIAL MASCOT**

..... **£200**

The Commercial Department is also taking bookings for non-match day use of the executive suites and lounges. These rooms are ideal for meetings, seminars, social events, etc.

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We can also offer you a wide selection of catering to meet your requirements ranging from light buffets to four course silver-served meals.

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# Commercial

**John Bailey**



OUR match sponsors today are the Loyal Luton Supporters Club. We welcome them to Kenilworth Road, under their chairman John Tiernan.

The Loyal Luton Supporters Club was formed in 1990, starting as a small group but now boasting a membership of over 500. Its major aim is to encourage new supporters and maintain the existing following, through good times and bad. In conjunction with NatWest Bank, the LLSC runs a scheme which encourages young supporters to follow their home team and watch live football, rather than growing up to be armchair, Premiership supporters.

If you would like to be involved, membership is only £5 for life. Meetings are before and after every home game, at the Kingsway Arms. If you want to go along and air your views, you will be made welcome.

The wish for Luton Town is simple: "Here's to a successful season - Cheers!"

Today officially marks the arrival of several changes regarding advertising around the ground.



A VERY special visit to Kenilworth Road today is a slightly late but much appreciated birthday present for Timothy Owen, who was seven earlier this month.

What he really wanted was to be mascot at his favourite football club, and as you will see when the players come out before kick-off he has got his wish.

Timothy attends Kislingbury Primary School, in Northamptonshire, and as well as supporting Luton Town he says his other big pleasure is reading the matchday magazines. We hope he will enjoy putting this one in his scrapbook!

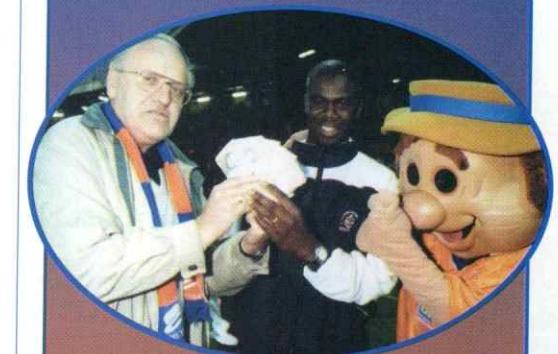
He comes to matches with his dad, and his favourite player is Matthew Spring. Today, he will meet his hero face to face, because mascots join in the pre-match preliminaries. There are lots of other little treats too, including souvenir photographs of the occasion. For full details please contact the commercial department, on Luton 411622.

One notable example underneath the Executive Boxes is easyJet – the value for money airline based at London Luton airport. Like many others, they have shown their faith in the club's ability to do well in the Nationwide League and we thank all of those who have done likewise.

*John Bailey*

## GOLDEN GAMBLE

THE RESULT might have been a big disappointment to Town fans on Tuesday, but one went home with considerable consolation: Mr. D. Hobbs, of Luton, was the lucky Golden Gamble winner. He collected £250 in cash at half-time - not bad for an outlay of just £1.



Tickets are on sale at every home game, and while the prize fund may not rival that of the national lottery, the odds of winning are a lot better - they were 500-1 on Tuesday.

The reason is that out of each £1 ticket sold, half goes to Luton Town FC and the other half into the jackpot, and doubtless today's prize will be bigger than Tuesday's. Mr Hobbs is pictured collecting his fistful of cash from the man who pulled his winning ticket out of the drum, Marvin Johnson.



# Hatters v Seasiders

## Seasiders' Goals For & Against



## Seasiders' Sinners

Bryan	9	Watts	3
Carlisle	9	Bent	2
Clarkson	7	Malkin	2
Bushell	6	Thompson	2
Butler	6	Banks	1
Hills	5	Blunt	
Hughes	5	Conroy	
Ormerod	5	Jarrett	
Shuttleworth	5	Lawson	
Brabin	4	Rogan	
Bardsley	3		
Nowland	3		
Patterson	3		

## Hatters' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



## Seasiders' Roll Call

1	Tony Caig
12	Marvin Bryan
5	Clarke Carlisle
6	Ian Hughes
4	David Bardsley
3	John Hills
16	Phil Thompson
15	Barry Shuttleworth
8	Phil Clarkson
10	Brett Ormerod
11	Junior Bent
9	Martin Aldridge
14	Adam Nowland
22	Mike Conroy
18	Steve Garvey

## Hatters Goals For & Against



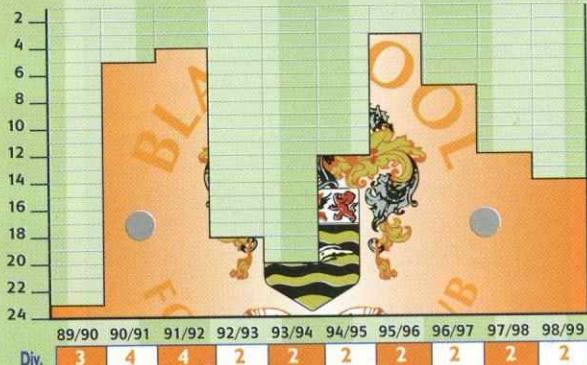
## MATCH

### Matchmen of the Month

As the season reached its climax, which players came to the fore? Here's the rundown of each club's top man in May.

Player	Team	GP	SR	Ave
Marvin Bryan	Blackpool	6	2	7.16
Ian Cox	Bournemouth	7	6	8.00
Jason Roberts	Bristol Rovers	4	1	7.50
Andy Payton	Burnley	4	2	7.75
Mark Williams	Chesterfield	7	3	7.14
Warren Aspinall	Colchester	6	2	7.00
Chris Coleman	Fulham	6	2	7.83
Paul Smith	Gillingham	7	2	7.42
John Finnigan	Lincoln	5	1	7.00
Matthew Spring	Luton	7	3	7.14
Steve Payne	Macclesfield	4	1	7.25
Paul Dickov	Man. City	5	2	7.20
Neil Harris	Millwall	5	0	7.40
Carlo Corazzini	Northampton	5	2	7.60
Darren Ward	Notts County	7	2	7.28
Lee Duxbury	Oldham	5	2	7.40
David Eyres	Preston	6	1	7.00
Darren Caskey	Reading	5	2	7.40
David Oldfield	Stoke	7	2	7.00
Robert Steiner	Walsall	7	3	7.28
Colin Greenall	Wrexham	6	2	7.50
Brian Carey	Wycombe	7	4	8.00
Martin Taylor	York	6	1	7.16
Chris Fairclough		7	1	7.85

## Blackpool's Last Ten Years - The Complete Record



## Seasiders' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



## Blackpool's Form Guide - Result, Points, Position

L	S	D	W	L	W	L	S	W
41	41	42	43	43	46	46	49	49
13	14	13	13	12	14	14	13	14

1	12	14	13	14	12	14	17	16	14
13	14	13	13	12	14	14	13	14	12

Ground:	Bloomfield Road	Cola Cup 2nd round 1st leg, 18 Sept 1996	Record Cup Win: 7-1 v Charlton Athletic, 25 Sept 1963	Top League scorer in a season: Jimmy Hampson, 45, Division 2, 1929-30
Capacity:	11,295	Year Formed: 1887	League Cup 2nd round, 25 Sept 1963	1-10, v Small Heath, Division 2, 2 Mar 1901
Pitch Measurement:	112 x 74	Record League Win: 7-0 v Reading, Division 2, 10 Nov 1928	Most Capped Player: Jimmy Armfield, 43, England	Most Lge Goals: 98, Division 2, 1929-30
Record Attendance:	38,098 v Wolves, Division 1, 17 Sept 1955 <th>7-0 v Preston, Division 1, 1 May 1948</th> <th>Most Lge Appearances: Jimmy Armfield, 568, 1952-51</th> <th>7-0 v Sunderland, Division 1, 5 October 1957</th>	7-0 v Preston, Division 1, 1 May 1948	Most Lge Appearances: Jimmy Armfield, 568, 1952-51	7-0 v Sunderland, Division 1, 5 October 1957
Record Receipts:	£73,046 v Chelsea, Coca Cola			

# Today's Visitors

## welcome to Blackpool



**NIGEL WORTHINGTON**  
MANAGER

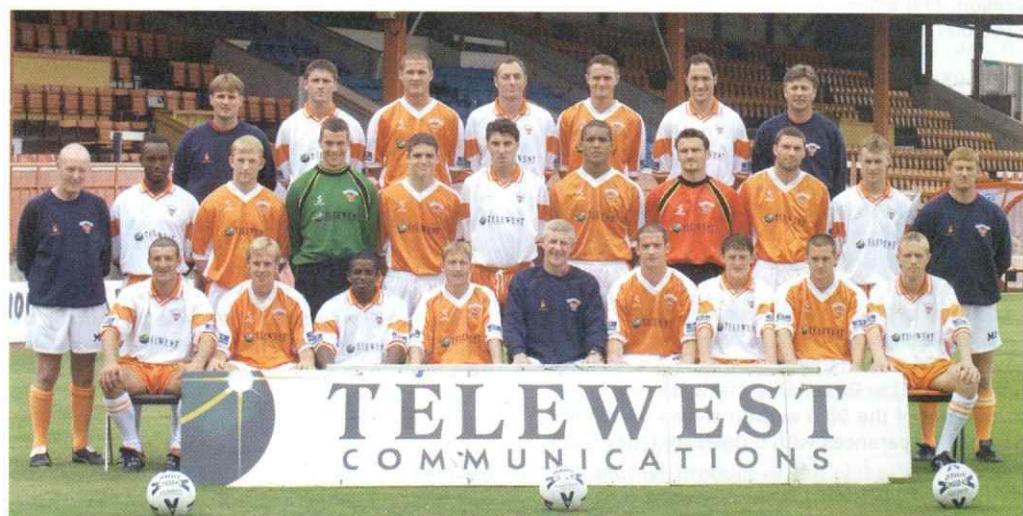
Nigel Worthington was appointed on July 8th 1997 to his first managerial post. Nigel, was an experienced Northern Ireland International with 66 caps together with being their captain on a number of occasions. During his illustrious playing career he played at left back or in midfield but although signing as player manager he played only a handful of games in the early part of his first season with the club before hanging up his boots to concentrate on his management roll.

He comes from Ballymena and was a Youth International and captain before joining Notts. County in 1981. In 1984 he was transferred to Sheffield Wednesday and spent 10 years there in which time tile)' were Coca Cola Cup winners and runners up. They were also F.A. Cup runners up. He then moved to Leeds United for £325,000 in 1994 and on to Stoke City in 1996. He made over 600 Football League and Cup appearances.

He has been busy in the transfer market since his arrival selling established players like Tony Ellis, James Quinn and Micky Mellon. He also released the experienced Andy Preece, Chris Malkin, Jason Lydate, Dave Linighan and Anton Rogan. His shrewd moves into the transfer market have seen the capture of Ian Hughes, John Hills, Junior Bent, Steve Bushell, Martin Aldridge, Andy Cousins and Tony Caig. He has also proved himself very shrewd in his ability to bring in young players and blend them into the team.

The 1998/9 season saw many ups and downs but Nigel did manage to collect a Manager of the Month award. He gave many more youngsters their chance and some are now a regular fixture in the side. With Bosman transfers of established stars Steve Banks and Tony Butler he acted swiftly on deadline day to bring in both cash and replacements.

Nigel signed a two-year extension to his contract at the end of the 98/9 season that will keep him at Bloomfield Road till the end of season 2000/2001.



Back row (left to right): P. Kelly, Steve Bushell, Martin Aldridge, Dave Bardsley, Phil Robinson, Richard Forsyth, Alan Crawford

Middle row: Mick Hennigan, Marvin Bryan, Mark Lazenby, Phil Barnes, Phil Thompson, Paul Beesley, Clarke Carlisle, Tony Caig, John Murphy, Adam Nowland, Mike Davies.

Front row: Phil Clarkson, John Hills, Junior Bent, Nigel Worthington, Ian Hughes, Barry Shuttleworth, Andy Couzens, Brett Ormerod.

For the latest ticket and travel information call the Luton Ticket Office on  
**01582 416976**

# Today's Visitors

## the players

### MARTIN ALDRIDGE

Striker signed on a two-year contract in August 1998 after impressing in the pre season games. He scored 10 goals in league and cup despite two long injury lay-offs. He previously played at Northampton Town and Oxford United.



### DAVID BARDSLEY

Very experienced defender who signed in July 1998 after being released by Q.P.R. He actually started his career at Blackpool before going to Watford and Oxford United and finally Q.P.R.

David is a former England International who has proved invaluable in helping our young defenders.

### PHIL BARNES

A young goalkeeper who continues to improve, he made two first team appearances last season to add to the one the previous season and will be a serious contented for the leading role this season. Phil signed from Rotherham United for £100,000 in the summer of 1997.

### PAUL BEESLEY

Very experienced defender who signed on a free transfer from Port Vale in the summer of 1999. He has close on 600 league and cup appearances for his previous club's that include Sheffield United, Leeds United, Manchester City and Port Vale of course.

### JUNIOR BENT

Speedy and tricky winger signed from Bristol City in August 1997. He started his career at Huddersfield Town then after a few loan spells he finally moved to Bristol City. His Blackpool career to the end of the 98/9 season shows 54 full and 31 sub. appearances with 5 goals.

### MARVIN BRYAN

Defender signed from QPR in August 1995 for £20,000. Currently on a week to week contract after refusing the new terms offered to him. Kept up his record last season of scoring 1 goal in each of his seasons with Blackpool. This time a last minute effort at Reading that earned a point. Very much a fans favourite for his ability to support

the attack. His Blackpool record to the end of the 1998/9 season shows 186 full and 8 sub. Appearances with 4 goals.

### STEVE BUSHELL

Came from York City in June 1998 on a three-year contract under the Bosman ruling. A very hard working midfielder who settled well and was missed for the last two months of last season with a broken foot. His Blackpool record is 36 appearances with 3 goals.

### TONY CAIG

Goalkeeper signed from Carlisle United for a small fee on deadline day in March 1999 to replace Steve Banks. He came through the youth system at Carlisle and made over 250 appearances for them before his move to Blackpool. He will face stiff competition from Phil Barnes for the goalkeeping shirt this season that should help both keepers improve. Blackpool appearances 10 to the end of 1998/9.

### CLARKE CARLISLE

Very strong young defender who has attracted the attention of several Premier League clubs. He came through the clubs strong youth policy and looks to have a bright future in the game if he continues to improve. Despite his young age for a central defender he has already made 46 full and 9 sub appearances and also added three important goals to his general play.

### PHIL CLARKSON

Midfielder who moved back home to play for Blackpool when he signed from Scunthorpe United in February 1997 for £80,000. Started at non-league Fleetwood before being picked up by Dario Gradi at Crewe and on to Scunthorpe. He was top scorer in the league last season with 9 goals and now has 30 goals from 117 full and 3 sub. appearances.

### MICHAEL CONROV

Experienced striker who joined the club from Fulham for £50,000 in March 1998. He has previously played at Clydebank, St Mirren, Reading, Burley and Preston North End. To date he has not figured much in the senior team with 14 full and 3 sub. appearances bringing just 1 goal. Last season he spent two loan spells at Chester City.

### ANDY COUZENS

Defender/midfielder who came to Blackpool from Carlisle United in March 1999 and made 6 appearances before injury ended his season. Carlisle United paid his first club, Leeds United, £100,000 for his services in July 1997. He has looked very strong in the preseasong games so far now he is fit again.

### RICHARD FORSYTH

Midfielder who signed under the Bosman Ruling from Stoke City in July 1999. Birmingham City, who brought him into the league, spotted him playing for non-league Kidderminster Harriers. He then moved on to Stoke prior to his move to Blackpool. He will be looking to add vital goals from his midfield role.

### STEVE GARVEY

Signed on a free transfer from Crewe Alex. in July 1998. He is happy in either flank and can provide some excellent crosses. Opportunities were limited in his first season with us with only 6 full and 8 sub appearances being made. Those appearances brought him 1 goal.

### JOHN HILLS

Another defender who started his career at Blackpool and moved away before returning later. John signed for Everton prior to making a first team appearance at Blackpool but returned in February 1998 when he failed to get regular first team football with the Premiership side. He is a local lad who played his youth football for the YMCA club. He has proved an excellent purchase and has now made 52 full and 1 sub. appearance with 1 goal.



### IAN HUGHES

Ian signed from Bury in December 1997 as part of the Tony Ellis deal. He has been used in both midfield and defensive roles and has proved to be one of the most popular players with the fans who recognise his ability as a hard working and determined player. He scored his first goal for the club to earn a point at Colchester United last season and now has made 59 full plus 3 sub. appearances.

### ADAM NOWLAND

Young striker who has been top scorer at both Reserve and Youth levels. He broke into the first team squad early last season and scored his first senior goal in the last minute of the game with Luton Town after coming on as a sub. He came through the clubs YTS scheme. He has now 13 full and 26 sub. appearances with goals.



### BRETT ORMEROD

Another young striker, he joined the club from non-league Accrington Stanley in March 1997. He finished the season as second top scorer in the league with 8 goals. If he continues the improvement he made last season he has a bright future in the game. Signed an extended contract for the club in the summer of 1999. Appearances to the end of 1998/9 41 full plus 19 sub, with 11 goals.

### PHIL ROBINSON

A young local defender who came through the club's YTS scheme and now his second season as a pro. To date he has 3 full and 5 sub. appearances.

### BARRY SHUTTLEWORTH

Left sided defender who signed a two-year contract after an initial three-month trial in the summer of 1998. He started his career at Bury before moving to Rotherham United from where he was released at the end of the 1997/8 season. The form of John Hills has limited his opportunities but he still made 15 full and 2 sub appearances with 1 goal in 1998/9.

### PHIL THOMPSON

Yet another product of the clubs YTS scheme, Phil is a central defender who signed a three-year contract in September 1998. He did well when in the senior team last season and has made 21 full and 4 sub. appearances adding 2 goals to the end of 1998/9. Much is expected of Phil if he continues to progress.



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- Publicity within the matchday programme for every league and club fixture for season 1999/2000.
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**The Total Cost of the package is £400 (inc. VAT) per sponsorship for season 1999/2000.**

# Hatters Chatter

## players merry-go-round

SOMETHING like 600 footballers were on the move in the summer as the Bosman transfer ruling continued to have its effect on the game.

The European court decision enabling players to walk out at the end of their contracts, and offer their services for signing-on cash instead of transfer fees, has made a few of them very, very rich.

The vast majority have suffered a very different after-effect. Clubs everywhere have had to slim down and good players have been out and about seeking new employers.

Remember Chris Allen, the Nottingham Forest player we had on loan for three months 18 months ago? At 26, he was given a free transfer by Forest at the end of last season, and is still looking for a new chance elsewhere.

The huge free transfer list was peppered by names familiar to Town fans, with more than a dozen ex-Hatters figuring on it.

Two are heading for retirement from league football: Tony Adcock, freed by Colchester, and Garry Parker, released by Leicester City. Parker was in one of our best-ever youth teams, in the early eighties, but had the misfortune to be understudy to Ricky Hill, and had to move on. After a spell at Hull (we collected £72,000 in 1986) Parker became an under-21 international, and a popular midfielder at Nottingham Forest, Aston Villa and Leicester.

Hill, incidentally, has gone to Spurs as a youth coach, in a similar job he did with David Pleat at Sheffield Wednesday.

Not all of our ex-players who moved in the summer went for free - Mark Pembridge, who had two years in our first team before a £1.25million move to Derby County in 1992, has just come back to this country from Benfica, joining Everton for £800,000. He went to Portugal, as a Bosman, from Sheffield Wednesday last summer. Three years earlier Pleat had splashed out £900,000 to take him from the Baseball Ground to Hillsborough. In view of last week's changes in the boardroom perhaps now we can be excused for telling a tale previously kept well under wraps. As transfer deadline day loomed in 1992, Pleat knew that Derby wanted Pembridge, but figured the Town's need was greater. David Kohler wanted the money, but on deadline day, with Derby waving their cheque, and the chairman wanting to grab it, Pleat ensured that Pembridge was well out of the way. He sent him to

play golf. As the minutes towards the deadline ticked away the manager had to tell his chairman that it was impossible to find Pembridge to get him to sign for Derby. He was playing golf somewhere... It ensured we kept Pembridge until the end of the season, with the deal then being completed to everybody's satisfaction.

Another deal that wasn't was recalled by another name in this summer's free transfer bumper bundle. Goalkeeper Steve Sutton, who might have kept us up in the old First Division and therefore into the first season of the Premiership, has retired after finishing his career at Notts County and is taking up coaching. We had him on loan from Nottingham Forest, but would not pay the £300,000 asking price to keep him.

A couple of former Town players left Cambridge United on free transfers: Jamie Campbell to Brighton, and Kofi Nyamah to Exeter.

Striker Dwight Marshall has dropped out of the league, with a free from Plymouth to Kingstonian, and so has another veteran marksman, Mike Newell, who left Crewe to join Doncaster Rovers.

Rory Allen, the best loan signing Lennie Lawrence has ever made, is now a Portsmouth player, after a £1million move from Spurs, and his new teammates include goalkeeper Andy Petterson, who has joined on a free transfer from Charlton.

News of a £150,000 move for Sean Dyche from Bristol City to Millwall was a blow for Lawrence, but the centre-half left a lovely message on the club's answerphone before signing at the New Den. He explained that much as he would have liked to come to Luton, as the club was in receivership and unable to make him an offer, he felt he had to take the chance offered by Millwall.

One of the most famous names in Luton Town's history figured in the summer free transfers - Rioch, from Hull to Macclesfield. Not the brilliant Bruce, of course, but his son Greg, a steady defender who joined us in 1992 to complete the second year of his YTS. He had been at Millwall, but left after his dad was sacked as manager there. Rioch Jnr went to Barnet on loan, and made a league debut at Underhill, but never made it to our first team, leaving on a free transfer to Peterborough four years ago. He had a year there, before three at Hull, and was in the Hull squad, but injured, which came to Kenilworth Road and embarrassed us in the FA Cup last season.



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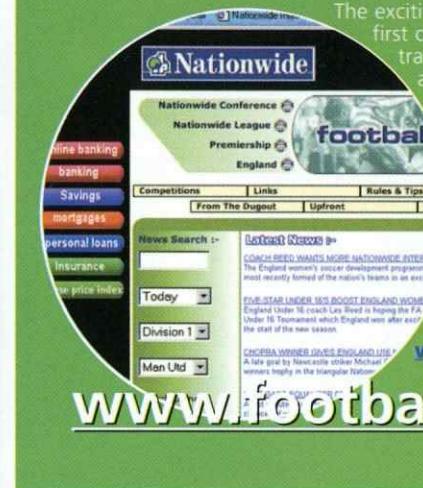
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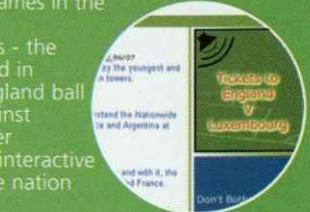


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# TOP HATTERS GALLERY

## Matthew Taylor

Born: Oxford, 27.11.81

Previous clubs: None

Joined Luton Town: 1998 as a YTS boy, signed as a professional

February 1999

League debut: v Notts County (A) 7.8.99

Luton Town record: 2 appearances



Autograph

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THE CLUB will again be running its matchday magazine subscription service next season. It guarantees you all first team league and cup programmes for the whole of the 1999/2000 season.

The price will be held at this season's charges: for £38 we will post every home matchday magazine to anywhere in the UK. Away programmes can be ordered for £35, postage included. For the combined package, to offer a collection of the whole season's magazines, the price is £70.

To take up the offer, please forward your name, address and a cheque or postal order payable to Luton Town Football Club to: Matchday magazine subscriptions, Luton Town FC Ticket Office, Kenilworth Road, Luton LU1 1DH.

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# Hatters Away

### travel information

THERE ARE two consecutive away matches before the Town play at Kenilworth Road again, and once more supporters have the choice of two coach services to follow the team.

Longest-established is the Bobbers Travel Club, and their first trip is next Saturday, to Reading, followed by a trip further west on Wednesday August 25, for the second leg of the Worthington cup-tie against Bristol Rovers.

**TOWN ON TOUR**, which advertises its service as more luxurious than the average, will also be on the road to Reading next week, but as we went to press had not booked a coach to the Memorial Ground for the cup-tie.

**THE BOBBERS TRAVEL CLUB** is a members-only service, but the price is modest: life membership costs just £1, or 50p for under-16s and pensioners.

#### Reading v Luton Town

Saturday August 21, kick-off 3pm



For the trip to Reading, Town on Tour coaches leave the club at 12.30 and the fare is £8 for LTSC members and £7 for members who are under 16 or over 65. Non-members can get on board for £12.50. The Bobbers Travel Club service leaves Cranfield at 11 am and Kenilworth Road at noon. The fare is £7.50, £6 for concessions.

#### Bristol Rovers v Luton Town

Wednesday August 25, kick-off 7.45pm



For the trip to Bristol with BTC the fare is £10.50, or £8.50 for concessions and departure from Luton is at 3.30. For further information, visit the Bobbers Travel Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road before kick-off on any match day, or contact Paul Deason on 01234 750996.

The BTC's service includes pick-up points at Cranfield, Ampthill, Flitwick, and Westoning. Coaches depart from the top of Kenilworth Road, and also pick up near the hotel next to the M1 junction with Dunstable Road.

Town on Tour completed its first season's operations in May, having been set up by a sub-committee of members of Luton Town Supporters Club. Its best deals are offered to LTSC members, who have a kiosk in Kenilworth Road on match days and will be able to offer membership and travel tickets. Application forms to join LTSC are available at the kiosk, and the annual rate has been pegged at last year's, £6 for adults, £5 for under-16s and pensioners, or £12 for family membership of up to two adults and two children.

Part of the Town on Tour service is a secure car park at Maple Road, from where their coaches depart. That costs £3, but has to be pre-booked, either at the kiosk on match days, or during the week at the Luton Town shop.

### DIY travellers

IF YOU want to drive yourself to Reading and Bristol, the journeys are quite simple. For both destinations, leave Luton on the M1 south, then make a right turn onto the M25 west. Near Heathrow leave M25 to join the M4.

For the Madejski Stadium, leave M4 at junction 11, and turn right, following the A33, signposted to Reading. Keep to the left hand lane, resisting any temptation to take the right fork. Go straight ahead at the first roundabout, and left at the next. The route to the stadium is signposted. There are 2,000 parking spaces, at £3 per vehicle, but beware: for Saturday's opening game, against Bristol City, the car park was full by 2pm. More parking is available close by, at the speedway stadium, priced at £2.

**Mileage from Luton: 64.**

FOR Wednesday week's game at the Memorial Ground, home of Bristol RFC, head towards Reading as outlined above, but carry on beyond junction 11 to junction 19, and there turn left on the M32. Leave the M32 at junction 2, and turn right, signposted to Fishponds and Horfield. Where the road forks bear right, and at the sixth set of traffic lights, about a quarter of a mile further on, turn left into Filton Avenue. The ground is on your left, and there is ample street parking in the area.

**Mileage from Luton: 150.**

# Blast from the Past

Roger Wash

## Luton Town v Blackpool

The Hatters, so full of confidence as they travelled to Nottingham Forest on the opening day of the 1973/74 season, were brought down to earth with a bump as they were well and truly thrashed by a rampant home side.

It was back to the drawing board for manager Harry Haslam but, after a great deal of soul searching, he made only one change for the next game, at Kenilworth Road against Carlisle. Young Tom Finney, a close season buy from Northern Ireland side Crusaders, was given his full debut and he turned out to be a revelation.

Aided by the man with the famous name the Town ripped Carlisle apart and came off at the interval to a standing ovation leading 6-0. Although the players were unable to maintain their first half brilliance, finally finishing up 6-1 victors, the season had now well and truly started.

Finney was on target again as the Hatters followed up their demolition of Carlisle with a 3-1 win at Bristol City, scored the Luton goal in a 1-1 draw at newly promoted Notts County and made it five goals from four starts when netting in a crazy, but highly entertaining, 3-3 home draw with Portsmouth.

The next test came at the home of F.A.Cup holders Sunderland. The Hatters did not need reminding that they had failed to perform in a quarter-final tie at Roker Park only a few months before leaving the way open for the Weariders to upset all the odds and beat mighty Leeds at Wembley.

A crowd of 27,334 turned up at Roker Park to see the Town put in a far more committed performance this time around and a single effort from Barry Butlin was enough to seal both points.

After their disastrous start the Town were now up to seventh position and looked forward to welcoming Blackpool to a Kenilworth Road bathed in late autumn sunshine. The Seasiders were unbeaten at home at that stage in the campaign but had yet to win on their travels.

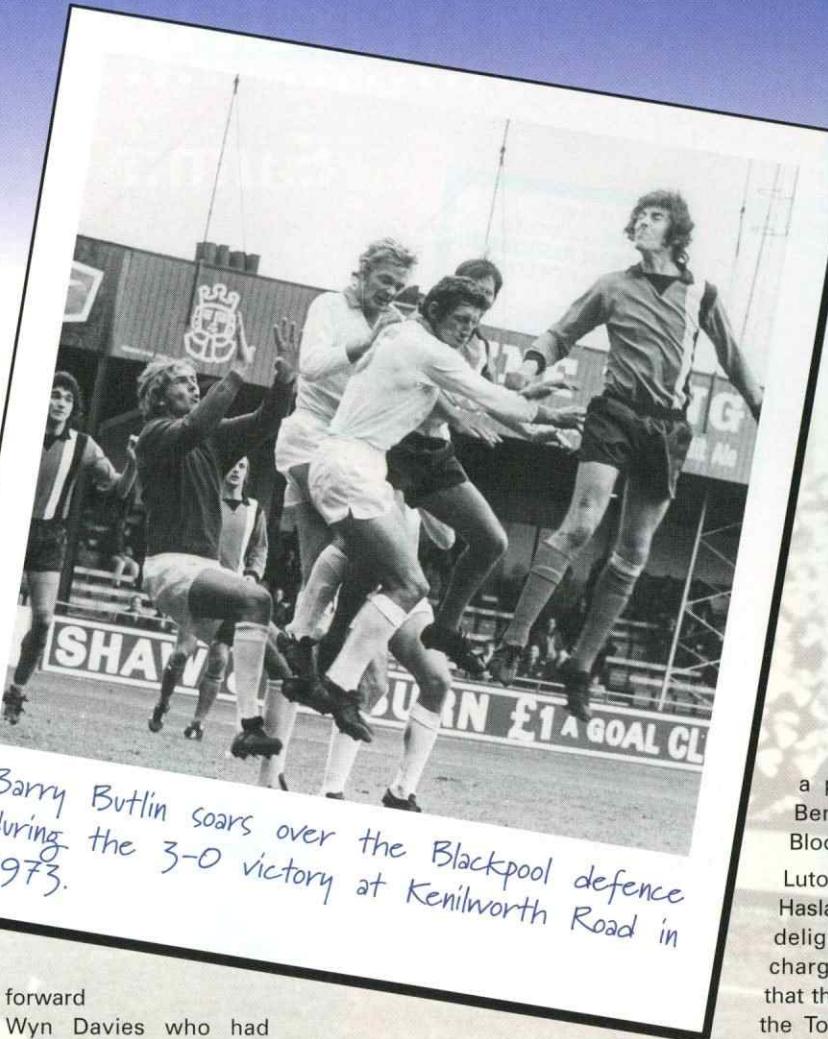
In a manner reminiscent of their early season battering of Carlisle the Town set about Blackpool from the start and it was no surprise when Butlin slammed the ball into the net after 13 minutes to open the scoring. Swift interpassing between Don Shanks and Finney was finished with a clever backheel flick from John Aston which made the scoring space for Butlin.

'Bullet' Butlin needed no help from his teammates for goal number two which came only ten minutes after his first. Collecting the ball in midfield he beat the challenge of Blackpool defender, Peter Suddaby, before unleashing a tremendous drive from 25 yards which streaked into the net.

From then on it was carnival football time from the Hatters and only an eccentric performance from referee lowerth Jones prevented a goal avalanche. John Ryan and Aston both had goals disallowed for offences that only the official spotted and two confident penalty appeals were turned down much to the surprise of everyone in the ground.

Peter Anderson hit the woodwork and both Ryan and Aston had efforts cleared off the line before goal number three killed the game shortly after the interval. Butlin flicked on a corner from Jim Ryan leaving Anderson to score from close range.

Blackpool were almost non-existent in attack with Luton centre-half John Faulkner effectively shackling ex-Wales and Newcastle



Barry Butlin soars over the Blackpool defence during the 3-0 victory at Kenilworth Road in 1973.

forward Wyn Davies who had been a close season target of the Hatters.

The referee caused a rumpus by refusing to allow the trainer on to attend to the injured Jim Ryan and Anderson was booked for complaining. A little later Blackpool defender Bill Bentley went down after a collision with Finney and again the official refused to let the trainer on.

Unfortunately Bentley was found to be suffering from severe concussion and had to be rushed to hospital leaving the Seasiders down to ten men for the final 15 minutes as they had already used their substitute. The press had a field day over the referees failure to stop play, leaving the official having to make

a public apology to Bentley and all at Bloomfield Road.

Luton manager Harry Haslam was obviously delighted with his charges and the fact that the run had pushed the Town up to second position but was disappointed that 'only'

10,365 had bothered to turn up at Kenilworth Road. "If we keep winning and scoring goals the supporters must surely come back" said Haslam believing that a team hitting the net 14 times in their previous five games was certainly deserving of bigger crowds.

**Luton:** Horn, Shanks, Thomson, Anderson, Faulkner, Garner, Jim Ryan, John Ryan, Butlin (Holmes), Finney, Aston.

**Blackpool:** Wood, Hatton, Bentley, Alcock, James, Suddaby, Burns, Suddick, Davies, Rafferty, Walsh (Curtis).

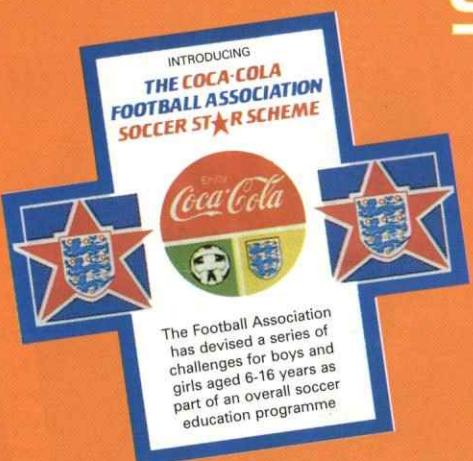
# Community & Schools Programme



The Dunstable Gazette



The Luton News



## NEXT WEEK!

Monday to Friday  
16th to 20th August  
10.00 am to 3.00 pm each day  
**Parkfields Middle School,  
TODDINGTON**  
**Icknield Junior School,  
LUTON**  
Price £38.00 for the week

Monday to Friday  
23rd to 27th August  
10.00 am to 3.00 pm each day  
**Hadrian Lower School,  
DUNSTABLE**  
Price £38.00 for the week

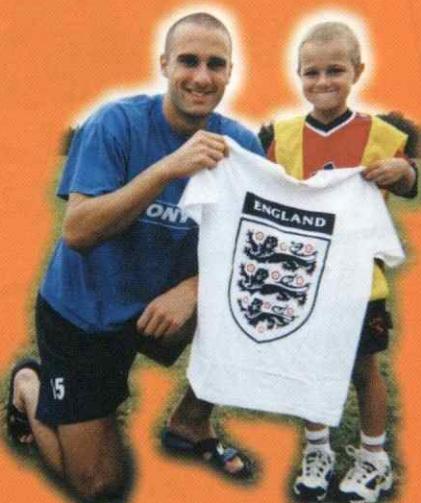
Tuesday to Friday 31st  
August to 3rd September  
10.00 am to 3.00 pm each day  
**Southfields Lower School,  
HOUGHTON REGIS**  
Price £32.00 for the week

## Summer Holiday Coaching Courses

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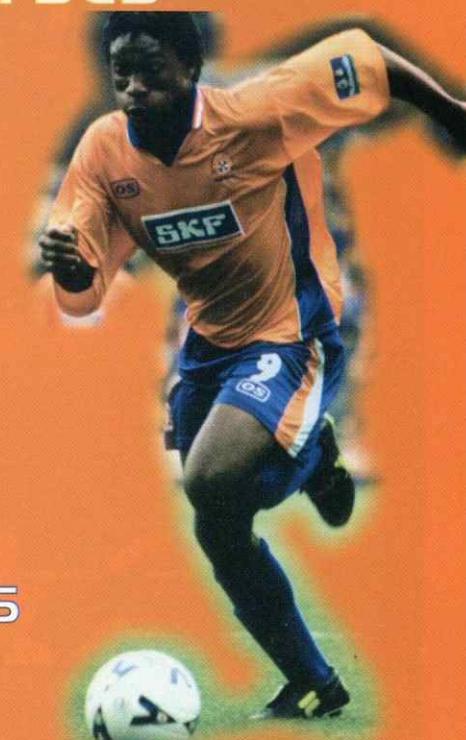
Coaching courses offer a well organised programme supervised by our Football

Association qualified coaches. The programme is designed to improve the boys' and girls' game with our skills and technique coaching whilst encouraging good attitudes and behaviour. The course is open to all children regardless of ability and will include small sided games and competitions.

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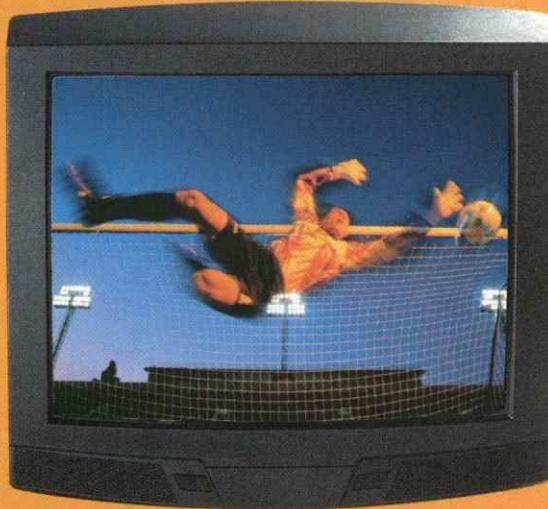
**NEXT WEEK!**  
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10.00 am to 3.00 pm each day  
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Price £36.00 for the week

Monday to Friday  
23rd to 27th August  
10.00 am to 3.00 pm each day  
**Linslade Middle School,  
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Price £40.00 for the week

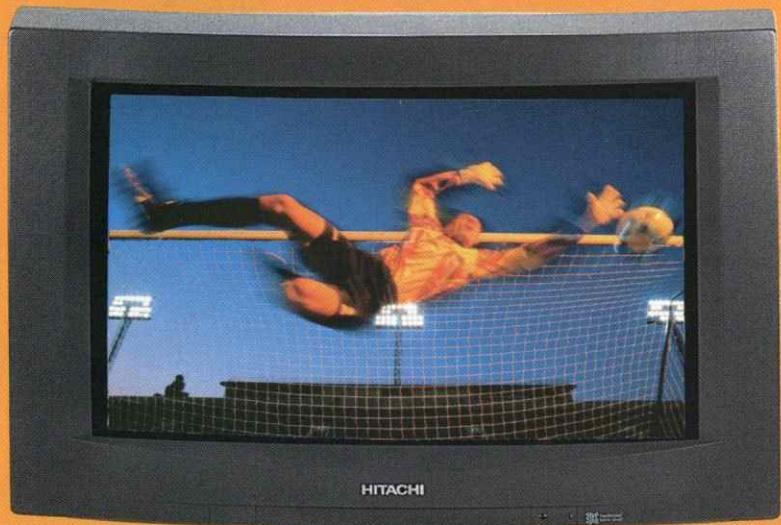
**Redborne Upper School,  
AMPTHILL**  
Price £36.00 for the week

Tuesday to Friday 31st  
August to 3rd September  
10.00 am to 3.00 pm each day  
**St Josephs Junior School,  
LUTON**  
Price £30.00 for the week

For further information or to register a place simply phone the LTFC Community & Schools Department on 01582 411622 or 0958 438322



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# Hatters Abroad

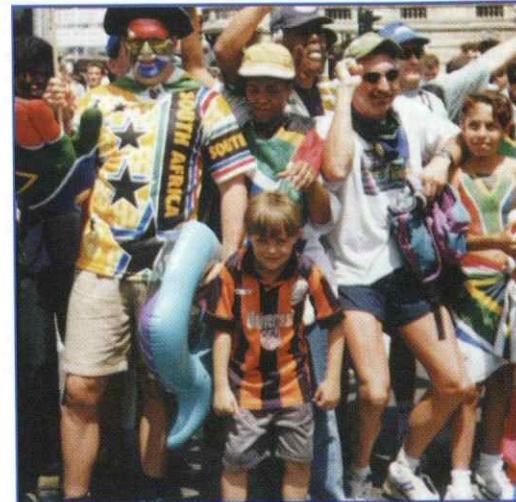
*carrying the colours*

THE FIRST of this summer's holiday snaps of Luton Town fans showing the colours have started to trickle in, and we welcome all contributions - tell us who, when and where, and a little bit about the subjects of the photos, and we will do our best to publish as many as possible.

We had a backlog from last season, and eight-year-old Ricky Blennerhassett, from Rutland Crescent, Luton, has waited patiently to see his picture in the programme.

It's a memory of France '98, when Ricky, his dad Virgil, and his uncle Brendan spent two happy weeks following England in the World Cup, and taking in several other matches.

They made friends from all over the world, and the picture shows young Ricky in Bordeaux with fans from South Africa.



ALTHOUGH Wembley Stadium is soon to be demolished and rebuilt, it is still a Mecca for football fans of all ages. These pictures of young Town supporter Ian Robinson were offered with a mixture of pride and prejudice, as you might say.

One in the famous stadium is nothing out of the ordinary, but look carefully at the other one, taken on the journey home. Yes, it's true - the Luton Town shirt worn so proudly is in a seat carrying the logo of our friends from Vicarage Road!

Ian's dad, Mark Robinson, of Layham Drive, Luton, admits he was a little ashamed to see his children on the Watford team coach. Ian and his sister Sarah had a lovely day at Wembley, taking in a full conducted tour, but on the way home the coach broke down. The vehicle sent on the rescue mission turned out to be the Watford team bus, and Mr

Robinson said: "The only excuse for getting on it was that it was a very hot day and the children were thirsty. We did get a few strange looks arriving in Luton!"



DO YOU fancy being in the matchday magazine? Whether it's "Hatters Abroad" pictures or any sort of fans' photographs that will be of interest to other supporters we would be delighted to consider them for publication. Send them, with a few details, to the matchday magazine editor at Luton Town FC. And please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want them back.

For the latest ticket and travel information call the Luton Ticket Office on  
**01582 416976**

# Over the Bar

drink to the Hatters in these pubs

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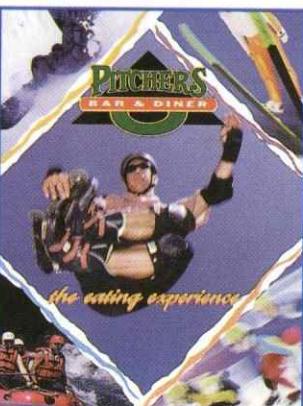
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# Hatters Chatter

## hatters' letters

WE WERE very sorry to hear of the tragic death during the summer of 39-year-old Dale Roberts, a life-long Luton Town supporter.

He grew up in Leagrave, and like most of his family began supporting the team as a youngster. At one time he was a programme seller at matches. His job necessitated a move to Cromer, in Norfolk some years ago, but he still managed to make regular trips to Luton, to see his family here and to watch his favourite team. He was buried wearing his Luton Town scarf.



There was a particular sadness for us when we heard of Dale's death. He had been taken into Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, and when his family made contact to tell us about his illness we made plans for a group of players to pay him a visit. He was looking forward to that immensely, but died suddenly before the visit could take place.

We send our heartfelt sympathy to the Roberts family, particularly his wife Debbie and their four young children. And we thank his cousin, Paul Roberts, from Turnpike Drive, for his words of appreciation in trying to set up the hospital visit to Dale.

THE EDITOR is always pleased to hear from Town fans, and during the summer a couple of letters came in from abroad asking for help from supporters here. They want pen-pals to give them closer contact with the club.

Fortune Moyo, from Zimbabwe, is 15, and does not explain why he chose to support The Hatters, but clearly has very good taste.

He writes: "I am a great Luton supporter. I started following Luton since 1997 without having any information about the club. I am attending O levels at school, and I play for the school under-16 team and also for East Rovers FC juniors.

"Please publish my name in the programme - I need Luton fans to be my pen-pals, female or male, who will keep me in touch with the club."

If you are interested the address is: 14286 Nkullimane 12, PO Nkullimane, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

The other request comes from Sofia, Bulgaria, from a road which sounds as though it was named after the team we beat at Wembley in 1988.

Jordan Andreev writes: "I am a 29-year-old Bulgarian, very keen on football, and am also a collector of football statistics.

"I am addressing you with a very special request. I regularly follow Luton Town. I remember them when they were playing in the top flight. They played very attractive football, and were a force to be reckoned with. It is sad they are in such a condition now.

"However I know almost nothing about the team, and would like to enlarge my knowledge. Can you please print my address in your pen-pal column? I would be proud to have Luton Town fans for pen-pals."

The address is: 105 Arsenalski Blvd, Ap 27, Sofia, Bulgaria 1421.

LETTERS to the matchday magazine editor should be sent to him at:

**Luton Town FC  
Kenilworth Stadium  
1 Maple Road  
Luton LU4 8AW**

Picture contributions, especially for  
Hatters Abroad, or of very young  
Town fans, are also welcome.

For all the latest news, views and interviews call

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(Calls charged at 50p per minute at all times)

# Action Replay

**Notts County 0 Luton Town 0**

Brian Swain reports

THE FOOTBALL was not quite scintillating - County are not like that - but rarely can a goalless draw have given so much pleasure to supporters. In April, at the tail-end of last season, we enjoyed watching two goals by Tony Thorpe prove to be one too many for County. The gate was 5,583, with 945 of them Luton fans.

On Saturday, for the opening league game of the season, a stand behind one goal at Meadow Lane was awash with bright orange, and full of exuberant happiness. Amazingly, out of 6,141 customers, 1,531 were Luton supporters. It was party day in the pubs before and after the game, spoiled only by a couple of idiots who let the club down by getting involved in skirmishes at the game which were completely out of character with our normal standards.

The cheering for a good result had started long before kick-off, and if the Town team was a touch makeshift, it did not show. It was, said the manager, a typical opening day fixture in the Second Division, full of effort and speed, and fierce competition. It was good to see the Town stand up to it, roared on incessantly by their fans. County had been able to strengthen their squad in the summer by signing the vastly experienced Clayton Blackmore. Luton Town's uncertain close season had seen two good players sold to Wimbledon, others given free transfers, and the numbers made up by loan and short-term contract signings.

We have taken to using three at the back, with wingbacks, because the manpower was not available for the 4-4-2 formation the manager prefers.

Saturday was a day to prove the old adage about good coming from adversity, as the Town more than matched County. Julian Watts, on loan from Bristol City, looked a battler when he started his Town career on the right. When he switched to the middle, he showed a lot more than battle, notably a calm and decisive authority about everything he did. With Marvin Johnson on his left, and Alan White on the right, it was a combination which was much too strong for County's respected strike force of Mark Stallard and Peter Beadle.

## Meadow Lane Details

**Luton Town:** Abbey, Fraser, Taylor (Boyce 70 mins), Watts, White, Johnson, Gray, McLaren, Douglas, Spring, McIndoe. Unused subs: George, Scarlett, Zahana-Oni, Tate (GK).

**Booked:** Matthew Taylor, mis-timed tackle on Richard Liburd.

**Notts County:** Ward, Holmes, Blackmore, Ramage, Warren, Redmile, Liburd (Robson 57 mins), Richardson (Bolland 86 mins), Beadle (Darby 80 mins), Stallard, Murray. Unused subs: Hughes, Gibson (GK)

**Booked:** Clayton Blackmore, late tackle on Stuart Douglas; Richard Liburd, dissent.

**Referee:** Tony Leake, Darwen.

**Attendance:** 6,141, including 1,531 in the away end.

Unfortunately, our own attack was also blunted, although Phil Gray came nearer than anyone else to scoring. A snap shot in the first half was held by the keeper at the second attempt, and in the closing minutes Duane Darby sent Gray sprawling. At the far end of the ground 1,531 voices were raised in unison for a penalty, but the ref was not up with play and the assistant kept his flag down.

Overall, said Lennie Lawrence, he had to be pleased with the first day's work. The Town had looked the better footballing side for much of the match, and had defended well to keep a rare clean sheet when County tried to shell in ammunition for the front two.

Tanny Abbey settled down after early nervousness to do all that was required, and while everyone else came up with dependable fighting spirit, it was particularly pleasing to see the fearless and busy work of two of the younger players, Stuart Fraser and 17-year-old Matthew Taylor, who has skipped the reserves in transition from youth team to league squad. If you're good enough, you're old enough - Taylor most definitely is, although the coaches will keep a wary eye on the danger of asking too many games from a young talent in his first season.



## ABOVE

**OUR SHOUT:** The moment when Town fans thought we should have had a penalty at Meadow Lane - Phil Gray went sprawling and Duane Darby made a last-ditch challenge, allowing the ball to run free to the goalkeeper.

## LEFT

**MORE NEW TALENT:** Emmerson Boyce, who went on as a sub at Meadow Lane, for his second taste of league action, and who added another full appearance on Tuesday, when he deputised for injured Marvin Johnson.

## BELOW

**FULL STRETCH:** Michael McIndoe, midfielder who likes to back up the attack, tries in vain to notch the first league goal of his career.



# Action Replay

**Luton Town 0 Bristol Rovers 2**

Brian Swain reports

HAVING seen a decent performance at Nottingham earn a well-deserved away point, a disappointing first home game of the season has left the Town with plenty to do if they are to progress in the Worthington Cup.

Burly striker Jason Roberts was the difference between the sides, netting both goals and also being a general nuisance to an under-strength defence through his power and pace.

The turning point was a matter of barely 60 seconds in the second half, when the Town were looking capable of cancelling out Roberts's first-half effort. But two reasonable chances were scorned in the Rovers penalty area, and within a minute of the second a classic away team's sucker punch delivered the night's knock-out blow.

Thankfully, we have another 90 minutes to put matters right, in the second leg at Bristol in ten days time, and all things are possible - a year ago we lost in the home leg to Oxford United in the first round, but did the business in the second leg.

The Town were hit before kick-off by the news that Marvin Johnson had collected a head injury in training, which enabled Emmerson Boyce to come into the side, with Julian Watts taking major responsibility at the heart of the back three. Then, at half time, Alan White limped off with an ankle injury, to be replaced by Gary Doherty, who is still not 100 per cent right after his latest stint with the Irish youth squad.

Last season Jamie Cureton led the Second Division scoring charts, with 29 goals in the league and cups. The Town kept him reasonably quiet - but at the expense of struggling against Roberts, who netted 23 times last season.

Matthew Spring took over the captaincy, and produced his usual whole-hearted performance, while Matthew Taylor almost got the early breakthrough that might have made a difference, with a blistering free kick which narrowly missed the far post, and the outstretched legs of defenders and attackers alike.

For 20 minutes it was an even contest, and to their credit Rovers were positive as well as ready to mix it - David Pritchard collected the game's only yellow card after just two minutes, for unloading Phil Gray.

Tanny Abbey made a good save with his legs to deny Robbie Pethick, and slowly the match turned into the sort of pattern that explains why there are so many away victories in the Second Division.

The art is in the counter-attack, and the Rovers had the edge there as the Town tried to put on attacking pressure.

## Cup Tie Details

**Luton Town:** Abbey, Fraser, Watts, White (Doherty HT), Boyce, Gray, McLaren, Douglas (Fotiadis 61 mins), Spring, McIndoe (George 61 mins), Taylor. Unused subs: Zahana-Oni, Tate (GK).

**Booked:** No-one

**Bristol Rovers:** Jones, Pritchard, Challis, Foster, Thomson, Tilson, Mauge (Trees 88 mins), Hillier, Cureton (Ellington 78 mins), Roberts, Pethick. Unused subs Bennett, Leoni, Kuipers (GK)

**Booked:** David Pritchard, foul on Phil Gray

**Goals:** Jason Roberts both, 39 and 60 minutes.

**Referee:** Peter Jones, Loughborough

**Attendance:** 2,984, including 240 away fans.

The visitors' spearhead was sharper than ours, but it ought to have been Rovers chasing the game after 34 minutes when Spring set up Stuart Douglas with a clear sight of goal. Lee Jones was off his line, but the chip went over the bar as well as over the keeper.

Four minutes later Roberts taught a devastating lesson: it was sheer power and pace as he muscled through the middle for a solo run and drive expertly placed to leave Abbey helpless.

The half-time break seemed to have done the Town more good than Rovers, because for 15 minutes Rovers were forced onto the back foot.

Michael McIndoe's pass opened up the defence for Gray, but the shot went too high, and Taylor sent another effort fizzing narrowly wide. The crucial spell was in the minute or two after the 59th. Gray robbed Andy Tilson on the edge of the box and rolled an inviting pass into the path of Douglas. But the first touch was below par, and a relieved Jones was able to make an easy pick-up when he must have thought he was about to be tested to the limit. Play swung back to the other end, and with the Town caught too far upfield - they had induced Rovers to stray offside ten times - a long ball over the top sent Roberts racing clear to lob his second goal with another expert finish.

That just about finished it, although Gray saw a header cleared off the line, while Roberts was denied the hat-trick he should have completed by Abbey's late save.



TOP LEFT

EVERYBODY UP: Rovers goalkeeper Lee Jones rises highest to the occasion as the Town search for a late goal.

TOP RIGHT

FLYING WING-BACK: Stuart Fraser on the ball.

BELOW

SPRING-TIME FOR THE CAPTAINCY: The skipper for the night backs up a Town attack.

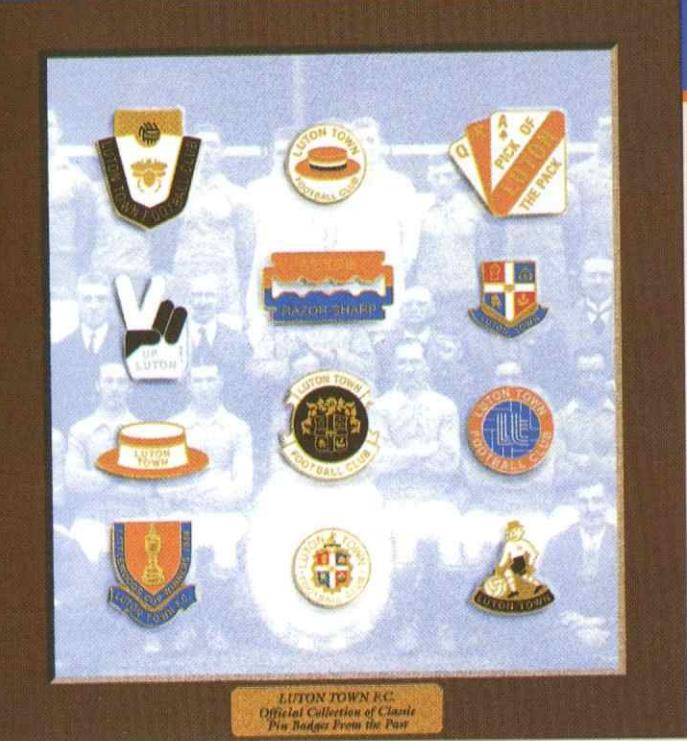


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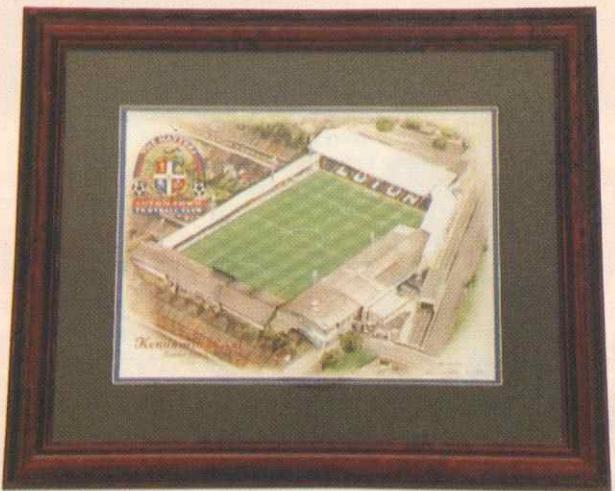
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# The RESERVES

Trevor Hartley



John Moore



WE KICK off a new season in a much-changed Avon Insurance Combination at Kenilworth Road on Wednesday, when Bristol City are the visitors, kick-off 2pm. Clubs in the FA Premiership have withdrawn their teams from the Combination and other reserve leagues all over the country, to form their own Premiership competition for reserve sides.

It cuts our league down to 22 teams, compared to 29 last season, so the fixture list is reduced to 21 games. Fortunately Avon Insurance have remained as generous sponsors, and teams in the league will again benefit from a series of award schemes.

Starting their sixth season as sponsors, Avon Insurance have introduced several initiatives open to every club.

The first is an enterprise award which will go to the club which makes the greatest efforts in opening its doors to local spectators. Ours are open to season ticket holders for free, and admission for others is only £2, half-price for concessions. Avon will give £1,000 as a prize, to be spent on a community project of the winning club's choice.

A similar award is on offer for a Fair Play Trophy, for the lowest number of disciplinary points over the season, and there will also be a trophy for the top scorer in the Combination.

We know from readers' feedback that supporters like to keep in touch with the reserves, if only through the matchday magazine, but perhaps the start of a new season is the right time to remind you that in the reserves you see the football stars of tomorrow - especially at a club like ours!

Games are often of surprisingly high quality, an ideal opportunity for families to watch good football, and quite often involve leading players who are returning from injury, or working to regain first team places after loss of form. Come along on Wednesday, to see what we mean!

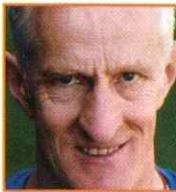
## PRE-SEASON FRIENDLIES

### Arlesey 1 Luton Town 5

TWO trialists who have since earned short contracts with the Town made scoring debuts when we were the visitors to formally open a new ground at Arlesey. David Pearson netted twice, and Ryan Davis completed the victory after we had led 3-0 at half-time.

Our other goals came from two more trialists, Graham MacKay, formerly with Kilmarnock, and Andy Futter, who has been released by Wimbledon.

More familiar names in our line-up were Daniel Tate in goal, James Ayres, Jude Stirling, Andre Scarlett and Landry Zahana-Oni. Four subs were used: Moses Jerry, Ryan Moran, Alex Minton and Lee Mansell.



### Baldock 0 Luton Town 2

TWO first-half goals settled the game at Baldock. Our team again included several trialists, but the marksmen came from the established reserves squad, Landry Zahana-Oni and Emmerson Boyce.

### Boreham Wood 0 Luton Town 2

GUY Ipoua, a rangy striker released by Bristol Rovers, marked his trial debut with the first goal, after Baldock kept us out for the first 45 minutes. Pearson got the other, and as in the previous games there was not too much wrong with our defensive work.

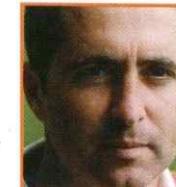
## FIXTURES

Avon Insurance Combination 1999/2000

August	<b>Wed 18 Bristol City H 2pm</b>
September	<b>Wed 1 Portsmouth A 7pm</b> <b>Wed 8 Swindon H 2pm</b>
October	<b>Wed 22 Oxford A 7.30pm</b> <b>Mon 4 Wycombe H 2pm</b>
November	<b>Wed 13 Brighton A 7pm</b> <b>27 Bristol Rov A 7pm</b> <b>Wed 3 Norwich H 2pm</b>
December	<b>17 Ipswich A 2pm</b> <b>Wed 1 Colchester H 2pm</b> <b>Wed 8 Southend A 7.45pm</b> <b>Wed 22 Peterborough H 2pm</b>
January	<b>Wed 12 Cambridge Utd A 2pm</b> <b>Wed 19 Northampton H 2pm</b>
February	<b>Wed 2 QPR H 2pm</b> <b>Wed 9 Barnet A 2pm</b> <b>Wed 23 Millwall H 2pm</b>
March	<b>Wed 1 L. Orient A 2pm</b> <b>Wed 15 Fulham A 2pm</b> <b>Wed 29 Gillingham H 2pm</b> <b>Wed 5 Bournemouth H 2pm</b>
April	

# Youth Soccer

Paul Lowe



WITH another new intake of boys who want to be professional footballers, our youth team faces a new and potentially tougher challenge this season.

We will report later on the latest lads to join us after leaving school, and on today's opening fixture, at home to Walsall.

Regular followers of youth soccer will know that Walsall have not normally figured on our league fixture list, but they are one of several new names on our schedule this year.

Having won the South East Counties League championship again last season, we were very keen to make another successful title defence, but because of changes at all levels of football, many caused by the Premiership's growing influence, the South East Counties League has gone out of existence.

After so many years of providing us with good competitive football, we were sorry to see it go, but at the same time we relish the new challenges about to face us.

We have become part of the Football League Alliance, which includes all clubs in the Nationwide League. They have been divided into six regional conferences, with nine clubs in each, and each club will play the others home and away, giving a league programme of 16 games.

In the South East Counties League many of our games were against clubs from London and the south of England, but in the Alliance we have been put into the South Central Conference, in which the biggest names are West Bromwich Albion and Wolverhampton Wanderers. Our longest journeys will be to Shrewsbury and Notts County.

In the second phase of the competition, the top three clubs from each of three conferences will form a Merit One league, and next three will form Merit Two and the bottom three will form Merit Three.

For this stage, our other two conferences are South West and South East. To reduce the chance of long journeys in this phase, each team will play the other eight in its merit table once.



That makes sense, because the Alliance covers the whole country, so in the Merit League we could face, for instance, Plymouth, Exeter and Torquay.

We will keep you informed as to those possibilities as the season progresses. Meanwhile, our second fixture in the Alliance is next Saturday, at home to West Brom. Our youth matches are normally played on Luton Rugby Club's ground at Newlands Road, kick-off 11 am, and spectators are welcome. Admission is free and if you have not watched the youth team in action before, we can recommend it - the boys on view, after all are the cream of young football talent.

## Football League Youth Alliance

### South Central Conference Fixtures

August	<b>Sat 14 Walsall H</b> <b>Sat 21 West Brom H</b>
September	<b>Sat 28 Cambridge Utd A</b> <b>Sat 4 Notts Co H</b> <b>Sat 18 Oxford Utd H</b>
October	<b>Sat 25 Wolves A</b> <b>Sat 2 Northampton H</b>
November	<b>Sat 16 Shrewsbury A</b> <b>Sat 23 Cup prelim 1</b> <b>Sat 30 Cup prelim 2</b> <b>Sat 6 Cup prelim 3</b> <b>Sat 13 Cup prelim 4</b> <b>Sat 20 Cup prelim 5</b>
December	<b>Sat 27 Notts Co A</b> <b>Sat 11 Oxford Utd A</b> <b>Sat 18 Wolves H</b>
January	<b>Sat 8 Shrewsbury H</b> <b>Sat 15 Northampton A</b> <b>Sat 22 Walsall A</b> <b>Sat 29 Cup rd 2</b> <b>Sat 5 West Brom A</b>
February	<b>Sat 12 Cambridge Utd H</b> <b>Wed 1 Cup quarter-final</b> <b>Wed 22 Cup semi-final</b> <b>Sun 16 Cup final</b>
March	
April	

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## BIGGEST WINS & DEFEATS ; TOP SCORERS

Goals Player League / World Cup / FA Cup

	5-0	Burnley	
	1-3	Chesterfield	
	21	Stein	15 / 5 / 1
	3-0	Oldham Athletic	
	0-4	Fulham	
	10	Aldridge	7 / 2 / 1
	6-0	Reading	
	1-3	Northampton Town	
	28	Cureton	25 / 1 / 2
	4-0	Colchester United	
	0-6	Manchester City	
	23	Payton	20 / 1 / 2
	3-0	Notts Co. / Lincoln City	
	0-2	Eight times	
	11	Reeves	10 / 1 / 0
	4-2	Wrexham	
	0-4	Burnley	
	13	D. Gregory	11 / 2 / 0
	4-0	Burnley / Luton / Blackpool	
	0-3	Manchester City	
	17	Horsfield	15 / 0 / 2
	5-0	Burnley	
	1-4	Wigan Athletic	
	20	Asaba	20 / 0 / 0
	3-1	Colchester United	
	0-5	Preston North End	
	9	Battersby/Thorpe	7-8 / 10 / 1-1
	2 gols	Six times	
	0-4	Fulham / Wigan Ath.	
	13	Gray	8 / 3 / 2
	2-0	York / N'hampton / Colchester / Cheshire	
	0-3	Wycombe Wanderers	
	8	Tomlinson	4 / 0 / 4
	6-0	Burnley	
	0-3	Fulham	
	20	Goater	17 / 2 / 1
	3-0	Wrexham	
	1-4	Fulham	
	15	Harris	15 / 0 / 0
	3-1	Bristol Rovers	
	0-3	Preston North End	
	16	Corazzini	16 / 0 / 0
	2 gols	Six times	
	0-4	Gillingham	
	7	Richardson	7 / 0 / 0
	3-0	Blackpool	
	1-4	Gillingham	
	8	Allott	7 / 1 / 0
	5-0	Wrexham / Lincoln C.	
	0-3	Fulham	
	21	Nogan	18 / 0 / 3
	4-0	Wrexham / Stoke City	
	0-6	Bristol Rovers	
	11	Williams	11 / 0 / 0
	4-3	Preston North End	
	0-4	Bournemouth / Reading / Fulham	
	12	Kavanagh	11 / 0 / 1
	3-0	Millwall	
	1-4	Fulham	
	19	Rammell	18 / 1 / 0
	5-0	York City	
	1-3	Luton Town / Millwall	
	21	Barlow	19 / 1 / 1
	3-0	Reading	
	0-5	Preston North End	
	17	Connolly	11 / 1 / 5
	4-1	Lincoln City	
	0-3	York City / Gillingham	
	9	Devine	9 / 1 / 0
	3-0	Wycombe Wanderers	
	0-5	Wigan Athletic	
	7	Thompson	6-7 / 14-0 / 0-2

## 1998-99 Season Division 2 Campaign Records

Highest Gate	32,471 Man City v York City 8-May
Lowest Gate	1,868 Macclesfield Town v Gillingham 9-Mar
Highest Aggregate Score	Preston NE 3-4 Stoke City 22-Aug
Biggest Home Win	Bournemouth 5-0 Burnley 21-Nov
Biggest Away Win	Reading 0-6 Bristol Rovers 16 Jan
Consecutive Wins	Burnley 0-6 Manchester City 9 Mar
Games Unbeaten	Fulham 8
Consecutive Defeats	Gillingham 17
Games without a Win	Lincoln City, Macclesfield Town 6
Current Sequences	Wycombe Wanderers 12
Consecutive Wins	Gillingham 3
Games Unbeaten	Burnley 11
Consecutive Defeats	Millwall 3
Games without a Win	Chesterfield, Millwall 5

## NATIONWIDE DIVISION 2 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Statistics compiled by FOOTBALL INFORMATION SERVICES Telephone: 0151-632 5679

### How Clubs have scored goals... and conceded them

H	CR	OB	V	FK	P	IB	OG	H	CR	OB	V	FK	P	IB	OG	
15	9	8	6	2	4	17	2	Bournemouth	9	11	7	3	0	1	9	1
9	8	4	8	2	2	10	1	Blackpool	12	6	11	5	0	6	13	1
6	11	9	3	1	6	29	0	Bristol Rovers	15	10	4	3	3	5	15	1
9	9	7	13	0	2	14	0	Burnley	12	18	14	4	0	4	20	1
13	10	6	3	0	3	10	1	Chesterfield	12	6	8	3	1	1	11	2
20	2	7	1	1	8	12	1	Colchester United	12	8	11	14	0	8	14	3
23	12	4	8	1	4	27	0	Fulham	11	6	2	3	4	1	5	0
15	14	14	10	3	2	16	1	Gillingham	12	9	5	3	2	2	10	1
10	11	5	2	0	2	11	1	Lincoln City	16	16	6	6	1	3	24	2
11	13	5	5	1	2	14	0	Luton Town	11	7	6	7	2	3	23	1
11	10	9	4	0	1	8	0	Macclesfield Town	8	11	9	10	3	4	16	2
16	9	11	7	6	1	18	1	Manchester City	8	4	3	2	0	5	11	0
11	12	7	6	0	2	13	1	Millwall	17	5	8	5	2	4	18	0
11	10	6	3	1	6	5	1	Northampton Town	17	5	9	7	1	5	9	2
15	8	3	7	2	6	10	1	Notts County	14	8	5	8	1	3	21	1
21	8	5	5	1	1	6	1	Oldham Athletic	17	13	8	7	1	3	17	0
23	16	8	8	0	1	20	2	Preston North End	16	9	5	4	1	5	8	2
15	14	4	4	2	4	10	1	Reading	14	15	8	4	2	6	13	1
21	5	5	7	0	5	14	2	Stoke City	21	13	6	7	0	1	15	0
15	11	7	5	0	4	18	3	Walsall	14	13	4	3	1	2	10	0
16	13	8	9	0	7	20	2	Wigan Athletic	8	2	9	7	1	0	18	3
6	7	4	6	0	3	13	4	Wrexham	19	10	1	12	1	4	15	0
16	3	7	7	1	3	15	0	Wycombe Wanderers	15	13	5	5	3	5	11	1
8	3	7	5	6	6	20	1	York City	27	11	6	7	0	4	23	2

Key to chart: H = Header  
V = Valley  
R = Range  
CR = Close Range  
FK = Free Kick  
P = Penalty  
IB = Inside Box  
OG = Own Goal

Referee	G	R	Y	Ave	Club	Y	R	Points
Styles	35	16	181	5.17	Millwall	85	11	118
D'Urso	33	9	135	4.09	Wycombe Wanderers	87	7	108
Pierce	23	8	94	4.09	Burnley	80	7	101
Bennett	32	10	128	4.00	Wigan Athletic	87	4	99
Wiley	31	5	124	4.00	Bristol Rovers	71	9	98
Bates	34	3	136	4.00	Gillingham	75	6	93
Dowd	28	3	109	3.89	Manchester City	75	6	93
Cable	28	6	109	3.89	Oldham Athletic	69	7	90
Hall	33	16	125	3.79	Reading	70	6	88
Wilkes	31	7	117	3.77	Northampton Town	75	4	87
Knight	35	10	131	3.74	Luton Town	62	8	86
Hill	27	11	98	3.63	Blackpool	85	0	85
Messias	35	16	122	3.49	Colchester United	71	3	80
Jordan	28	8	96	3.43	Lincoln City	64	4	76
Walton	26	6	88	3.38	Stoke City	68	2	74
Taylor	30	9	98	3.27	Chesterfield	52	7	73
Crick	29	3	90	3.10	Macclesfield Town	56	5	

date	opposition	result	league place	attendance	team	substitutes
Sat 7	Notts Co	A 0-0	-	6,141	Abbey Fraser Taylor Watts White Johnson Gray	McLaren Douglas
Tue 10	WC1 (1) Bristol Rov	H 0-2	-	2,984	Abbey Fraser Taylor Watts White Boyce Gray McLaren	Douglas Spring McIndoe Taylor
Sat 14	Blackpool	H 3pm				Boyce for Taylor, 70 mins. Unused: George, Scarlett, Zahana-Oni, Tate
Sat 21	Reading	A 3pm				Doherty for White HT; Fotiadis for Douglas 60 mins; George for McIndoe 60 mins. Unused: Zahana-Oni, Tate
Tue 24	WC1 (2) Bristol Rov	A 7.45pm				
Sat 28	Cardiff	H 3pm				
Mon 30	Bournemouth	A 3pm				
Sat 4	Bury	H 3pm				
Sat 11	Wrexham	H 3pm				
Tue 14	WC 2 (1)	7.45pm				
Sat 18	Brentford	A 3pm				
Tue 21	WC 2 (2)	7.45pm				
Sat 25	Oxford Utd	H 3pm				
Sat 2	Wigan	A 3pm				
Sat 9	Oldham	A 3pm				
Tue 12	WC 3	7.45pm				
Sat 16	Gillingham	H 3pm				
Tue 19	Wycombe	H 7.45pm				
Sat 23	Oxford Utd	A 3pm				
Sat 30	FA Cup 1	3pm				
Tue 2	Millwall	A 7.45pm				
Sat 6	Burnley	H 3pm				
Sat 13	Cambridge Utd	A 3pm				
Sat 20	FA Cup 2	3pm				
Tue 23	Preston	H 7.45pm				
Sat 27	Bristol Rov	A 3pm				
Sat 30	WC4	7.45pm				
Sat 4	Notts Co	H 3pm				
Tue 7	AWS 1	7.45pm				
Sat 11	Stoke City OR FA Cup 3	H 3pm				
Tue 14	WC 5					
Fri 17	Colchester	A 7.45pm				
Sun 26	Chesterfield	H 3pm				
Tue 28	Bristol City	A 7.45pm				
Mon 3	Scunthorpe	H 3pm				
Sat 8	Stoke OR FA Cup 4	A 3pm				
Tue 11	AWS 2 OR WC semi(1)	7.45pm				
Sat 15	Blackpool	A 3pm				
Sat 22	Reading	H 3pm				
Tue 25	AWS 3 OR WC Semi (2)	7.45pm				
Sat 29	Cardiff OR FA Cup 5	A 3pm				
Sat 5	Bournemouth	H 3pm				
Sat 12	Bury	A 3pm				
Tue 15	AWS Semi	7.45pm				
Sat 19	Bristol Rov OR FA Cup 6	H 3pm				
Sat 26	Brentford	H 3pm				
Sun 27	WC Final	3pm				
Tue 29	AWS area final (1)	7.45pm				
Sat 4	Wrexham	A 3pm				
Tue 7	Burnley	A 7.45pm				
Sat 11	Millwall	H 3pm				
Tue 14	AWS area final (2)	7.45pm				
Sat 18	Preston	A 3pm				
Tue 21	Cambridge Utd	H 7.45pm				
Sat 25	Chesterfield	A 3pm				
Sat 1	Colchester OR AWS Final	H 3pm				
Sat 8	Scunthorpe	A 3pm				
Sun 9	FA Cup semi-final	3pm				
Sat 15	Bristol City	H 3pm				
Sat 22	Gillingham	A 3pm				
Mon 24	Wigan	H 3pm				
Sat 29	Wycombe	A 3pm				
Sat 6	Oldham	H 3pm				

The FA Cup final will be on May 20

### Town Teaser

WE are running our popular "Hatters Trivia" competition again this season, just for fun. If you know your Luton Town, you will find it easy, but it is matter of luck if you get the chance to win a prize. Listen to the PA announcer before the game, and if you know the answer to today's Town Teaser watch and listen for your chance to have a go.

#### Today's question

Who scored for us just 66 seconds into the final game of the 1989/90 season, when we needed (and got) a good result at Derby County in the old First Division?

### Today's Referee

STARTING his second season on the Football League's referees' list, Ray Olivier, the man in the middle this afternoon, is a personnel manager who took up the whistle on the parks in Birmingham 19 years ago.

He reached the linesman's list on the Football League in 1993, via the Dr Martens League, and a year later was a linesman in the Premiership. He then served his non-league apprenticeship as a referee with the Vauxhall Conference and Pontins League, before joining the Football League's refs list for the start of last season.

He has run the line in many big games, at home and abroad, including the 1996 FA Umbro Trophy final, England B v Chile B and an under-21 international between Armenia and Germany.

A licensed FA referee instructor, his hobbies outside football include the theatre and fitness training.

### Welcome

THE AGEING hack who puts the programme together wishes to offer a very warm welcome today to Allan Brown, one of the players who played a big part in our first period of success, in the old First Division. He later became Luton Town's manager. He had similar success at his other club, Blackpool, and supporters might remember that at the final game of last season he was among the old favourites who were the club's guests on the 40th anniversary of our FA Cup final appearance.

Like the rest of the veterans, Allan enjoyed the day immensely, and as today his two old clubs are meeting he is once more among the spectators.

He is the guest of Danny Clubb, one of our Century Club stalwarts, who lives in Blackpool but travels to every Town match, home and away, and has very kindly brought Allan Brown here today.

Incidentally, wasn't that a lovely occasion last May, to see the old Wembley stars back on the pitch? Our thanks to Marilyn Fussell of Luton Town Supporters Club, who had the original brain wave to set it up, and then worked for many long hours to see her dream become wonderful reality.

### The Full Hatters Roll-Call for Last Season

League	Appearances (as subs in brackets)					Goals		
	WC	FAC	AWS	Total	League	WC	FAC	Total
Tanny Abbey	2	0	0	1	3	0	0	0
Graham Alexander	28(1)	7	2	0	37(1)	4(2p)	2p	0
Herve Bacque	2(5)	1(2)	0	1	4(7)	0	0	0
Emmerson Boyce	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
Jimmy Cox	3(5)	1(1)	0	0	4(6)	0	0	0
Simon Davies	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kelvin Davis	44	7	2	0	53	0	0	0
Steve Davis	20	7	2	0	29	6	2	10
Gary Doherty	5(15)	0(1)	1(1)	0(1)	6(18)	6	0	6
Stuart Douglas	42	6	1(1)	0	49(1)	9	2	0
Sean Dyche	14	0	0	1	15	1	0	1
Sean Evers	27	7	2	1	37	3	1	4
Andrew Fotiadis	8(12)	1(1)	0	1	10(13)	2	1	3
Stuart Fraser	5(3)	0	0	1	6(3)	0	0	0
Phil Gray	32(3)	6	2	0	40(3)	8	3	2
Liam George	6(6)	0(2)	0	0	6(8)	0	0	0
Gerry Harrison	14	0	0	1	15	0	0	0
Marvin Johnson	42	7	1	0	50	0	1	1
Tresor Kandol	2(2)	0	0	0(1)	2(3)	0	0	0
Gavin McGowan	27(4)	7	2	0	36(4)	0	0	0
Dwight Marshall	3(1)	3	0	0	6(1)	1	0	1
Michael McIndoe	17(5)	2(1)	0(2)	1	20(8)	0	0	0
Ray McKinnon	29(1)	4(1)	2	0	35(2)	2	0	2
Paul McLaren	14(8)	1(3)	2	1	18(11)	0	1	0
Kofi Nyamah	0	0(1)	1	0	1(1)	0	0	0
Andre Scarlett	2(4)	0	0(1)	0(1)	2(6)	1	0	1
Paul Showler	2(1)	0	0	0	2(1)	0	0	0
Matthew Spring	45	7	1(1)	0	53(1)	3	0	3
Mitchell Thomas	26(6)	3	0	0	29(6)	0	0	0
Tony Thorpe	7(1)	0	0	0	7(1)	4	0	4
Alan White	18(15)	0(3)	1	1	20(18)	1	0	1
Chris Willmott	13(1)	0	0	0	13(1)	0	0	0
Landry Zahana-Oni	4(4)	0	0	0	4(4)	0	0	0

# Today's Visitors



## Luton Town

TANNY ABBEY	1
STUART FRASER	13
JULIAN WATTS	40
GARY DOHERTY	12
MARVIN JOHNSON	6
LIAM GEORGE	11
PAUL McLAREN	8
STUART DOUGLAS	9
MATTHEW SPRING	4
MICHAEL McINDOE	10
MATTHEW TAYLOR	15

### Substitutes

RAY MCKINNON	27
EMMERSON BOYCE	17
LANDRY ZAHANA-ONI	16
ANDREW FOTIADIS	14
DANIEL TATE (GK)	20

## Blackpool

21	PHIL BARNES
2	ANDY COUZENS
3	JOHN HILLS
4	DAVID BARDSLEY
5	CLARKE CARLISLE
6	IAN HUGHES
7	JUNIOR BENT
8	PHIL CLARKSON
11	BRETT ORMEROD
16	PHIL THOMPSON
26	JOHN MURPHY

### Substitutes

14	ADAM NOWLAND
12	MARVIN BRYAN
18	STEVE GARVEY
25	RICKY LAMBERT
1	TONY CAIG(GK)

### Tonight's Officials

Referee: Ray Olivier, Sutton Coldfield

Assistants: R. P. Griggs, Cambridge (yellow flag)

S. G. Clingo, King's Lynn (yellow and red flag)

Reserve official: T. A. S. Foster, Ely

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V



...Raising the standard

• 114 point service  
• 30 day exchange pledge

OPENING HOURS

Mon-Fri 9am-7pm

Sat 9am - 5pm

Sun 10.30 - 4.30pm