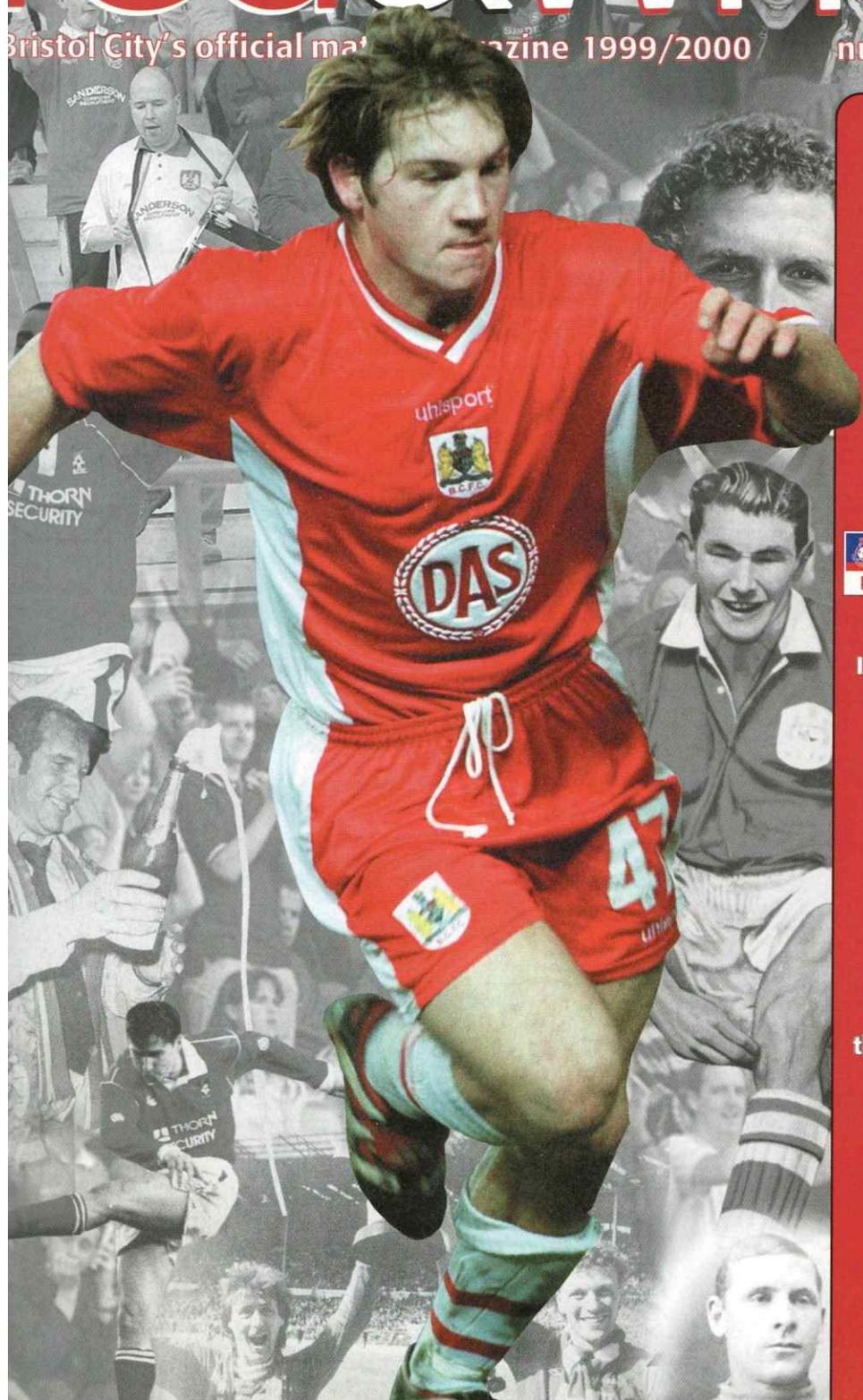


# red & white

Bristol City's official magazine 1999/2000 number 17 • £



## VERSUS LUTON TOWN

 Nationwide  
FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
Division Two

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Over The Gate – latest news
- Today's visitors
- Match to Remember
- Academy News
- Will the real Keith Millen please stand up?
- Action pics from the Wycombe game
- Female Pitch

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# the management

**T**he last home game against Wycombe Wanderers really summed up our season, with so much hard work and good football without enough end product.

Statistics supplied to Tony and myself on the game said we put in 50 crosses. And, with Mickey Bell and Brian Tinnion doing well on the left and Tommy Black enjoying an excellent debut on the right, many of them were of high quality.

Although we hit the post a couple of times, we did not force their goalkeeper into action nearly enough. In fact, Billy Mercer had more to do in terms of making testing saves and had to play well for

his clean sheet. It was very disappointing to take only one point when we should have had three. I thought the support on the night was terrific and that was due in no small part to young Tommy, who showed his ability from the start.

I first saw him play for Arsenal Reserves two years ago when going to watch another of their players in action. In the week leading up to the Wycombe game I went to Crystal Palace, this time specifically to look at Tommy.

Arsenal were 5-0 up by half time and he had scored one and been involved in three of the other goals. I didn't need to see more and I quickly made contact with their Academy man to see if he

might be available.

I was told we would probably only get him on loan by agreeing a fee first. But when Tony followed up the interest that didn't prove necessary.

What future Tommy has at Arsenal isn't clear and it may well be that Arsene Wenger will await reports on how he does here. There is also a possibility that other clubs might become interested if he continues to play as he did against Wycombe.

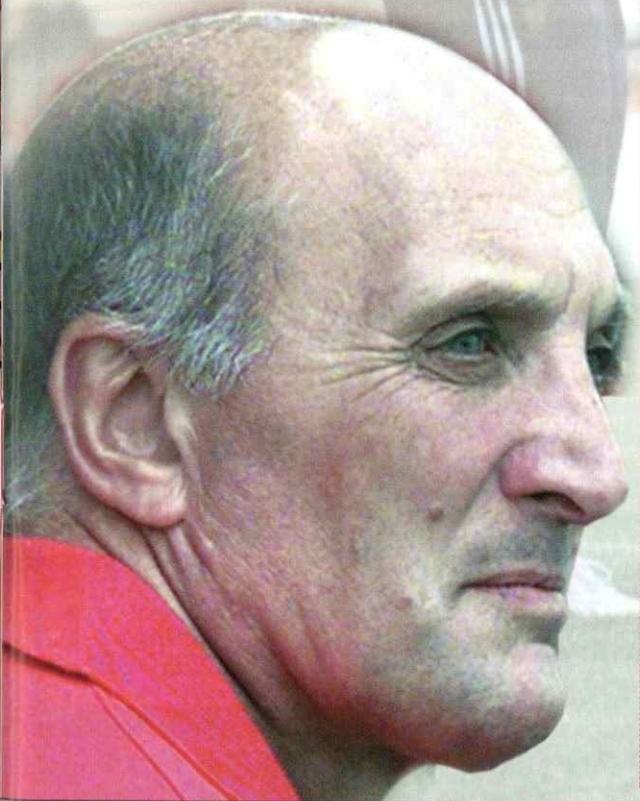
At the end of the month there may be a chance to extend the loan or even make the signing permanent. That will depend on Arsenal and Tommy himself, but in the meantime I know he will continue to excite supporters and put them on the edge of their seats.

He can play up front as well as on the wing and has done so quite often for Arsenal Reserves. So he gives us options in more than one position.

This afternoon we entertain Luton Town, a team renowned for playing attractive, open football. So there is every reason to expect another good game, hopefully with some goals as far as we are concerned.

Once again, thanks for your support over what is proving a frustrating season. May I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Lindsay Parsons



## contents

Over The Gate – Latest news and views .....Page 4

Today's visitors to Ashton Gate Stadium – Luton Town FC .....Page 7

BCFC Academy News .....Page 12

Young Reds .....Page 14

Action shots from the match against Wycombe Wanderers .....Page 16

Will the real Keith Millen please stand up.....18

City Links .....Page 22

Female Pitch .....Page 25

For the very latest news and views from Ashton Gate, call 09068 12 11 76

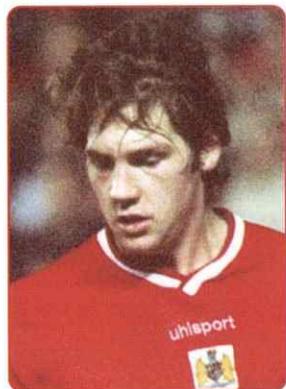
**ClubCall**

## Festive message – sticking together!

Healthy landowner had two very handsome sons, always used to one another and always arguing together. On the deathbed he called them and divided his property among them. He called for some sticks to be brought, tied into a bundle, and asked them one by one to begin with the bundle. So long as they were closely bound together, they could not break any of the sticks. 'No, no,' he said to the 'untie the bundle, to break the sticks gently! This was not what I wanted, and soon each stick, broken one by one, lay before them. The father taught them that: united they stood; divided they fell.' So 'united' into the millennium may this be the wish of all those associated with City Football Club. United We Stand – Divided We Fall. God Bless You In This Coming Year.

David Plumb (haplaincy Team)

## Welcome to the Gate Tommy!



As City debuts go, it was one of the best. So a belated warm welcome to Ashton Gate to Tommy Black, who made such an impact in the last home game against Wycombe Wanderers.

Tommy, 20, has been plucked out of Arsenal Reserves, just as a certain Andy Cole was when he joined us back in 1992.

Quite an act for the new winger to follow. But on the evidence of the Wycombe game Tommy is more than capable of building his own reputation with City fans.

Chigwell-born, he is the younger brother of Michael Black, who was also with Arsenal until moving to Tranmere Rovers earlier this year.

Tommy has made only one first team appearance for the Highbury giants, in a Coca Cola Cup match against Middlesbrough, but was rated highly enough to be given a two-year professional contract, which expires at the

end of the season.

He has come to Ashton Gate open-minded about his long-term future. "I'm not sure what plans Arsenal have for me and much will depend on that," he says.

"City have taken a liking to me and the backing I received from the fans against Wycombe made it a really enjoyable game for me.

"I'm really impressed by the set-up, but at the moment I am not looking beyond the next game."

Manager Tony Pulis said: "We have been aware of Tommy for some time and knew him to be someone who would excite the supporters. It would be nice to think we could keep him for longer than a month because he has a lot of ability."

## A purr-fect romance!

We told you City Cat has been wearing a silly grin recently. Now his secret is out. Our popular mascot will be bringing a friend to today's game. And don't be surprised if you catch them holding paws because rumour has it that he has been emptying the kitty to make the right impression.

The story we heard was that they met on the dance floor at a function organised by National Deposit Friendly Society, who kindly sponsor City Cat and are now to do the same for his new girlfriend.

It's well known that he has always had an eye for the birds. As they danced to the strains of "Purr-fect day", you didn't need cats' eyes to see romance was in the air.

So, even without writing to Santa Claws, our beloved moggy got the present he most wanted. A fish supper and a night on the tiles was all it took to ensure this was no puppy love.

Please give the happy couple a warm welcome this afternoon. City Cat is a bit shy about naming his friend so perhaps our younger supporters can come up with a nickname.

Thanks again to National Deposit, whose generous backing has allowed us to announce such good mews, I mean news. And may our two Cats enjoy a long and happy nine lives together.



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## Making it a happier Christmas . . .



Brian Tinnion and Scott Murray made it a happier Christmas for some of the young patients at Southmead Hospital by paying a surprise visit.

The two City players handed out tee-shirts, match magazines and other gifts to occupants of the hospital's kidney unit.

Among the patients who enjoyed their visit was City fan David Holmes, who lives in Portishead, pictured here with City stars Brian and Scott.

Supporter Martin Tonkin has certainly clocked-up the miles watching his beloved City over the years.

His association with the club began as a child in the early 1960s when his family moved to Bristol from Cornwall. But six years later came another move to Nottingham.

Despite the distance involved, he reckons to have watched 50 per cent of all City games, home and away, over the past 20 years and now travels from Leicester to watch the team in action at Ashton Gate.

Today the loyalty has been rewarded. When chairman Scott Davidson met Martin at a game this season he invited him to be a guest of the club at this afternoon's fixture against Luton Town.

Martin said: "It's a great gesture. When I first came to Bristol my dad took me to see Rovers beat Plymouth 4-3 and then to watch City beat Northampton 1-0 before asking which side I would like to support.

"In view of the respective scorelines, you'd think I would have chosen Rovers. But there was something about City that grabbed me straight away."

Martin shares the driving from Leicester with season-ticket holder Mark Swinford after meeting him on the terraces at Chesterfield two seasons ago. His father John is also attending today's game as a guest.

Many Happy Returns to City general manager Ian Wilson, who is celebrating his birthday today. We're under strict instructions not to reveal his age. But he has been drinking legally for 14 years, is only 33 years away from his old age pension and feels twice as old as he did when he was 16!

A big thank-you to all of you who took advantage of our family ticket offer for today's game with Luton Town. It proved very popular.

The next ticket promotion will be especially for season

ticket holders. Watch this space next month for further details.

## BE A RADIO STAR WITH 107.3 THE EAGLE!

Today's free prize draw for supporters offers you the chance to become a radio star!

The prize has been donated by Bristol's new radio station 107.3 Eagle, which is proving so popular with listeners.

Our lucky winner will be invited to a VIP tour of the state-of-the-art station and have the chance to introduce two records live on air, as well as reading a weather bulletin and doing a dedication.

To enter the free competition simply fill in one of the coupons available at various outlets around the ground and post it in one of the boxes provided.

Thanks to 107.3 Eagle for offering such an unusual and attractive prize.



## Bristol City Football Club

Ashton Gate Stadium, Bristol  
BS3 2EJ Tel: 0117 963 0630  
Fax: 0117 963 0700

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Vice-Chairman: **John Laycock**  
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Club President: **Marina Dolman D.S.L., JP**  
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General Manager: **Ian Wilson**

First Team Manager: **Tony Pulis**  
Assistant Manager: **Lindsay Parsons**  
Director of Academy: **David Burnside**  
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**LENNIE LAWRENCE**  
*Manager*

Born: Brighton, 14.12.47.  
The former Charlton boss knows all about running clubs on shoestring budgets, making his name by taking impoverished and homeless Addicks side into what is now the Premiership, and keeping them there for four years. Lawrence was a non-league player, with Croydon, Carshalton and Sutton United before starting his managerial career as assistant at Plymouth and then Lincoln. He joined Charlton in the early eighties – initially as reserve team coach before leaving in 1991 after nine years to take over at Middlesbrough, leading them to promotion to the Premiership a year later. His reign at Ayresome Park came to an abrupt end when they were relegated after only one season and he was replaced by Bryan Robson. Bradford City offered the next opportunity, but he left

after 18 months to return south to become Luton's 21st manager. The Hatters were relegated in his first season and, apart from reaching the Play-Offs in his first full season, have spent the rest of his reign in the middle reaches of Division Two. Lawrence has had to rely on all his managerial experience to achieve success on the field as the club continue to struggle financially – going into receivership in the closing weeks of last season.

**NATHAN "TANNY" ABBEY**

Born Islington, 11.7.78.  
Originally understudy to England under-21 goalkeeper Kelvin Davis during his first spell at the club, before a disastrous deal to a Belgian club. By the time he returned to England The Hatters had sold Davis to Wimbledon and Abbey returned to Kenilworth Road five years after joining the club as a YTS boy.

**JAMES AYRES**

Born Luton, 18.9.80.  
Promising young centre-half who joined his home town club as a YTS trainee in 1996, two years later skipping the youth team to the South East Counties League Championship. Made his debut at Oxford in December 1999 in the Auto Windscreens Shield and has regularly made the bench this season.

**EMMERSON BOYCE**

Born: Aylesbury, 24.9.79.  
Defender who has progressed through the club's schools and youth development programme, signing as a YTS trainee in the summer of 1995. Made his first team debut in January 1999, and had by the end of the season was a regular in the first team squad.

**GARY DOHERTY**

Born: Donegal, 31.1.80.  
Brave centre-half who can also operate as a centre-forward. A Republic of Ireland youth international Doherty played in central defence for the youth side that clinched the South East Counties League championship last season. Became a temporary striker to help an injury crisis, and did well enough to make the switch permanent.

**STUART DOUGLAS**

Born: London, 9.4.78 Made his league debut as a 17-year old trainee striker against Oldham in 1995, but

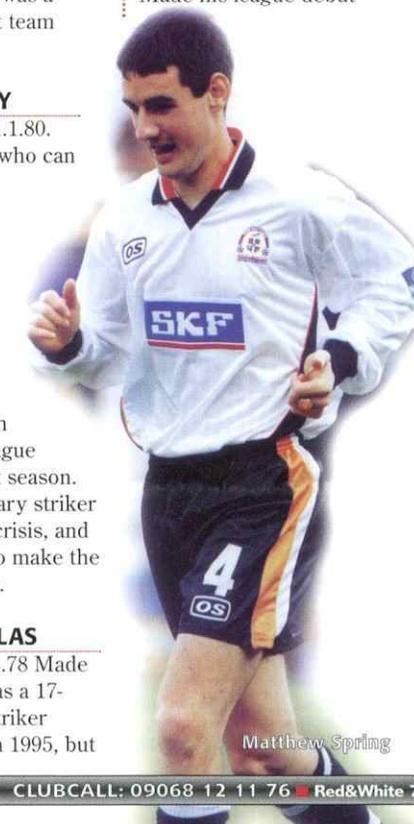
had to battle to overcome injuries before winning a regular place in the first team last season in which he played 50 games.

**ANDREW FOTIADIS**

Born: Hitchin, 6.9.77.  
Another local discovery, Fotiadis chose to stay at school to gain GCSE A-levels before being a full-time soccer professional. Has won England Schools caps at under-15 and under-18 level as an old-fashioned physical centre-forward.

**STUART FRASER**

Born: Edinburgh, 9.1.80.  
Stylish defender and skipper of the Luton youth team which ran away with the South East Counties League championship last season. Made his league debut





LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB



Julian Watts

Carlisle on the final of the 1997/98 season. Thin a year was ting hard with the stable Mitchell for the left back

**GEORGE**  
Luton, 2.2.79. The club's leading scorer has attracted attention from Premiership scouts this season after impressing widely as a member of the Republic of Ireland squad progressed to the European Youth Championship Final in the summer of 1998. Made his debut against Bristol in September 1997, and last season as an established first choice breaking his leg.

**GRAY**  
Belfast, 2.10.68. Signed on for the second time in September 1997, the Northern Ireland international striker was in the reserves when David White took over as boss at White Hart and then in his second season as Luton manager - £75,000 for him in September 1991. Two years later

he moved on to Premiership football with Sunderland, for £800,000, and after three years in the North East gained experience on the continent with Nancy of France and Founa Sittard of Holland. He needed little encouragement to return to Kenilworth Road in exchange for £400,000.

**MARVIN JOHNSON**  
Born: Wembley, 29.10.68. Longest-serving player at Kenilworth Road, Johnson is a versatile defender, normally a centre-half but capable of filling in on the flanks or in midfield. Johnson is starting his 12th season as a first-team regular at Luton, and is skipper of the team he joined as a schoolboy.

**TRESOR KANDOL**  
Born 30.8.81, Banga, Zaire. Spotted playing in schoolboy football in London, the striker joined Kenilworth Road as a YTS trainee in the summer of 1997. Made his first team debut in January 1999 during a season in which he netted 21 goals in 31 appearances for the Luton youth side which won the South Eastern Counties League title. Has been on the fringe of the first team ever since.

**ADAM LOCKE**  
Born: Croydon, 20.8.70. A familiar face at Ashton Gate after forming part of John Ward's promotion-winning side in 1997/98. Out-of-contract in the summer the versatile defender/midfielder opted to join The Hatters at the start of the season on a month-to-month basis. Has



Stuart Fraser

previously spent the majority of his career in and around London with Crystal Palace, Southend and Colchester, from where he signed for City.

**GAVIN MCGOWAN**  
Born: Blackheath, 16.1.76. Former Arsenal right-back signed for Luton for the third time in June 1998 on a free transfer after two previous loan deals - one in March 1997 ending prematurely through injury. He rejoined Luton on loan again for three months, at the start of the 1997/8 season.

**MICHAEL MCINDOE**  
Born: Edinburgh, 2.12.79. Former YTS trainee who made his senior debut last season when injuries in the wide left midfield slot. Was a member of the youth team which won the South East Counties League championship and the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup in the 1997/98 season.

**PAUL MCLAREN**  
Born: High Wycombe, 17.11.76. Midfielder who played in the youth team as a schoolboy and became a

professional at 17. Forceful and always ready to back up attacks, he soon became a regular after a 1994 debut.

**ANDRE SCARLETT**  
Born: Brent, London, 11.1.80. Made an immediate impact when making his debut as an 18-year-old winger versus Oldham last season scoring the winner in a 2-0 win after coming in with 20 minutes to go with the scores level.

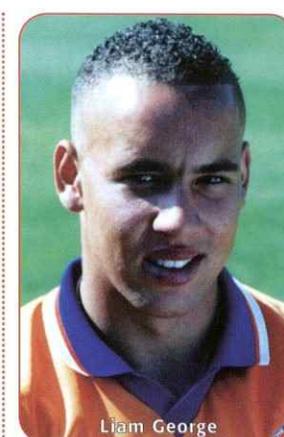
**EFETOBORE SODJE**  
Born: Greenwich, 5.10.72. Signed at the start of this season after declining a new contract at Macclesfield, who had just been relegated back to Division Three. British, but qualifying for Nigeria, where he spent much of his boyhood, "Effy" came back to England in 1994 to try his luck in the Football League. The then Luton boss David

Pleat advised him to join neighbouring Stevenage Borough, whom he helped clinch the Conference championship, before moving to Macclesfield for £30,000, playing a major role as they came up from the Conference and won Third Division promotion in their first season. Currently on international duty with Nigeria.

**MATTHEW SPRING**  
Born: Harlow, 17.11.79. A competitive midfielder, Spring was a driving force in the Luton side which reached the FA Youth Cup semi-finals in 1997, and it was no surprise when he was called up for a League debut at the age of 17, as a sub against Bristol City in September of that year. Topped Hatters' appearance charts with 54 games last season.

**MATTHEW TAYLOR**  
Born: Oxford, 27.11.81. In receivership throughout the summer Luton had to look at the young talent coming up through the ranks, and midfielder Taylor, though still only 17, has been given his chance. Made his League debut on the opening day of the season, at Notts County.

**JULIAN WATTS**  
Born: Sheffield, 17.3.71. The central defender is another member of the ex-City contingent at Kenilworth Road. Signed on an initial month's loan at the start of the season, before making the deal permanent in September. Rotherham gave the defender his first taste of league football before signing for home town club Sheffield Wednesday. Was sold to Leicester for £200,000 in 1996 where he played in the Premiership under



Liam George

Martin O'Neill before being snapped up by John Ward as an out-of-contract player two years later.

**ALAN WHITE**  
Born: Darlington, 22.3.76. Lennie Lawrence went back to Middlesbrough, one of his old clubs, when an injury crisis robbed him of three of his back four in September 1997. Centre-half White was

a prospect Lawrence knew well: Lennie had signed him as a 17-year-old at Ayresome Park. White was unable to force his way into Middlesbrough's Premiership squad after the advent of Bryan Robson and big-money signings, and grabbed the chance to rejoin Lawrence in a £40,000 transfer.

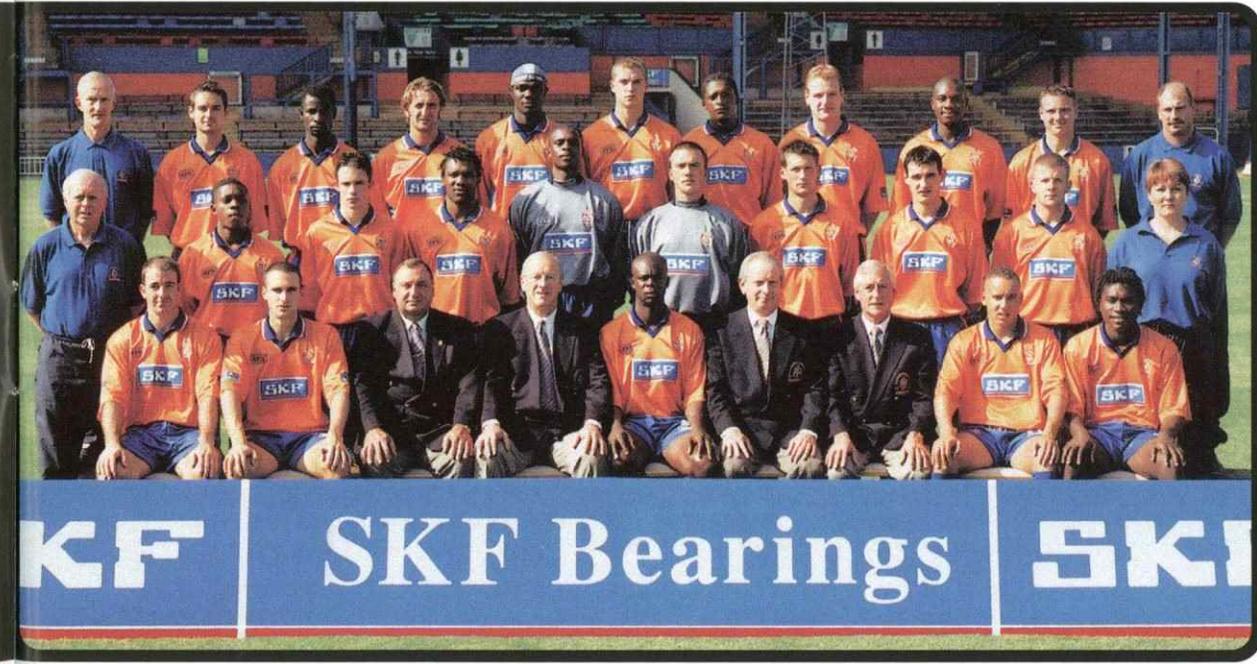
**LANDRY ZAHANA-ONI**  
Born Ivory Coast, 8.8.76. Old-fashioned left winger who signed in January 1999, from Ryam Premier League side Bromley. A French national, he had six years with Le Havre before crossing the Channel to try to make the grade in British football. Spent eight months at Stirling Albion before joining Bromley, and Luton paid £25,000, with more to follow depending on the player's progress.

**LUTON TOWN FC 1999/2000**

Back row: John Moore (Coach), Ray McKinnon, Landry Zahana-Oni, Adam Locke, Efetobore Sodje, Alan White, Tresor Kandol, Gary Doherty, Emmerson Boyce, Matthew Taylor, Clive Goodyear (Physio)

Middle row: Trevor Hartley (Coach), Andre Scarlett, Michael McIndoe, Gavin McGowan, Nathan Abbey, Daniel Tate, Paul McLaren, Matthew Spring, Stuart Fraser, Mandy Malins (Fitness Trainer)

Front row: Phil Gray, Andrew Fotiadis, Chris Green (Director), Cliff Bassett (Director), Marvin Johnson (Captain), Lennie Lawrence (Manager), Nigel Terry (Director), Liam George, Stuart Douglas.



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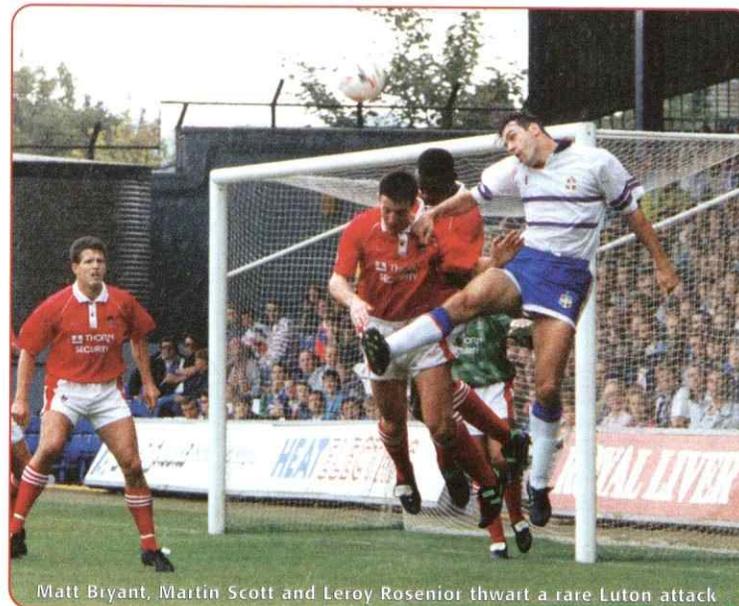
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# match to remember . . .

**Luton Town 0 Bristol City 3**  
**Saturday, 22nd August 1992**  
**League Division One**



Matt Bryant, Martin Scott and Leroy Rosenior thwart a rare Luton attack

**C**ity met Luton Town four times during the course of the 1992/93 season – twice in the Football League Division One and in both the Anglo-Italian and FA Cup competitions.

The Hatters won the FA Cup-tie 2-0 at home and drew 0-0 here at Ashton Gate in the League encounter while City shared the spoils at Kenilworth Road in the Anglo-Italian by drawing 1-1.

The other League tussle – the first one at Luton – went in favour of City by three goals to nil and it should have been more!

Fielding a very young team Luton, who were managed by David Pleat, never got to grips with City's front men nor did they ever look like swinging the balance in their favour in the midfield region. Denis Smith had wound his players up before kick-off and they went out and won the game decisively.

City took the lead on 13 minutes.

Andy Cole broke clear to expose the Luton's vulnerable flat back four and his precise pass was easily put away by on the onrushing Micky Mellon.

City had other chances before the break but Hatters' keeper Andy Pettersen saved well from Cole (twice), Leroy Rosenior and Gary Shelton.

Five minutes after half-time Cole again broke free from his marker and his low, intelligent cross into the crowded goalmouth was diverted past his own 'keeper by John Dreyer.

After two more close shaves at the Luton end, City scored a third goal on 75 minutes when, following a clever flick on by Rosenior, the alert Cole pounced to send his low shot through the legs of the exposed Pettersen. City's Gerry Harrison was booked in the last minute.

There were around 2,000 City supporters in the 7,926 crowd and they appreciated a fine performance by Denis Smith's men.

**Tony Matthews**

## facts on the hatters . . .

- Joe Payne scored 10 goals as the Hatters won 12-0 versus Bristol Rovers on 13 April 1936! His name did not appear in the matchday programme as was a replacement in the side for the injured Scottish international Billy Boyd.
- When Luton Town reached the 1959 FA Cup Final they fielded an unchanged team in every round of the competition.
- Syd Owen skippered the Hatters in that 1958/59 Final defeat by Nottingham Forest. The following season he was the club's manager.
- Striker John Hartson was transferred from Luton Town to Arsenal for a club record fee of £2.5 million in January 1995. Luton Town drew their first-ever League game 1-1 at Leicester Fosse in September 1897.
- Luton Town went to Wembley twice in 1988. They beat Arsenal to win the League Cup and lost to Reading in the Final of the Simod Cup. As holders of the League Cup they returned to Wembley the following year but lost out to Nottingham Forest.
- The Hatters went 16 League games without a win during the first half of the 1964/65 season. In 1947/48 Dally Duncan was player-manager of Luton Town and Frank Soo was player-coach – but out on the field of play Horace Gager was the team skipper!
- Between 1931 and 1935 Harry Wightman was Luton Town's manager. When he resigned in 1935 he became a scout for Derby County and in January 1936 he took over as boss at Mansfield Town. He stayed at Field Mill for only a short while before holding a similar position with Nottingham Forest from May until the outbreak of World War II in 1939.

## Under-17 fixtures 1999/2000

Team	Score	Date	Opposition	Score
QPR	1-1	Sat 4	Southampton	3-1
QPR		Sat 11	NOTTINGHAM F.	1-2
TOTTENHAM H.	0-3	January		
BIRMINGHAM CITY	0-1	Sat 22	ARSENAL	
COVENTRY CITY	4-0	Sat 29	Reading	
Nest Ham United	0-0	February		
		Sat 5	CRYSTAL PALACE	
Millwall	1-0	Sat 12	Fulham	
SOUTHAMPTON	1-1	Sat 19	Wimbledon	
Manchester City	1-0	Sat 26	BOLTON WANDERERS	
READING	1-4	March		
QPR		Sat 4	Leeds United	
Arsenal	1-5			
Crystal Palace	2-1			
FULHAM	2-1			
MILLWALL	2-0			

**ALL HOME MATCHES** to be played at Clifton College Training Ground, Bristol. Kick-off 11.00am

## Under-19 fixtures 1999/2000

Team	Score	Date	Opposition	Score
QPR	0-0	Sat 28	Southampton	4-0
		Sat 11	CHELSEA	3-1
Peterborough United	3-0	Sat 4		
Birmingham City	1-0	Sat 11		
COVENTRY CITY	3-1	Sat 18		
WEST HAM UNITED	1-1	Sat 25		
Millwall	2-1	Sat 2		
SOUTHAMPTON	1-2	Sat 16		
Chelsea	1-3	Sat 23		
READING	0-1	Sat 30		
Arsenal	0-0	Sat 6		
Crystal Palace	1-1	Sat 13		
FULHAM	0-1	Sat 20		
MILLWALL	0-1	Sat 27		

**ALL HOME MATCHES** to be played at Clifton College Training Ground, Bristol. Kick-off 11.00am

## Schoolboy fixtures 1999/2000

Team	Under 9	Under 10	Under 11	Under 12	Under 13	Under 14	Under 15	Under 16
Southampton	A 8-2	A 6-4	A 3-1	A 2-6	H 3-2	H 1-1	H 1-3	
Reading	H 9-10	A 4-3	H 2-3	A 2-4	H 3-1	A 4-4	H 2-0	A 1-0
Fulham	A 2-7	H 5-5	A 1-4	H 4-5	A 2-1	H 2-4	A 4-4	
Chelsea	H 4-0	A 5-6	H 1-5	A 7-1	H 1-4	A 1-8	H 4-3	A 4-3
Charlton	A 2-0	H 4-2	A 1-2	H 5-2	A 1-2	H 7-4	A 0-1	H 1-1
In Service Training at the Club								
Reading	A 4-2	H 4-6	A 5-0	H 6-1	A 0-0	H 2-4	A 2-3	H 1-0
Birmingham	H 2-2	A 1-5	H 2-5	A 2-3	H 1-3	A 2-3	H 4-1	
Southampton	H 1-2	H 3-3	H 7-3	H 1-5	A 1-0	A 0-4	A 4-2	
Aston Villa	A 8-5	H 2-2	A 4-4	H 2-2	H 1-4	A 3-1	A 3-1	H 1-0
QPR	H 1-1	A 1-0	H 0-2	A 0-0	H 0-2	A 0-4	H 2-3	A 1-1
Wimbledon	A 1-6	H 2-5	A 1-2	H 0-1	A 0-5	H 0-2	A 0-9	
Crystal Palace	H 6-1	A 8-4	H 2-0	A 2-3	H 1-3	A 3-7	H 1-3	
Millwall	H 1-0	A 2-2	H 1-2	A 0-9	H 1-1	A 2-3		
In Service Training by the FA								
In Service Training at the Club								
Southampton	A	A	A	A	H	H	H	
Reading	H	A	H	A	H	A	H	
Fulham	H	A	H	A	H	A	H	
Chelsea	TBC							
Charlton Athletic	H	A	H	A	H	A	H	
Reading	A	H	A	H	A	H	A	
Birmingham	A	H	A	H	A	H	A	
Southampton	H	H	H	H	A	A	A	
Aston Villa	H	A	H	A	H	A	H	
QPR	A	H	A	H	A	H	A	
Wimbledon	H	A	H	A	H	A	H	
Crystal Palace	A	H	A	H	H	H	A	
In Service Training by the FA								
Easter - possible small sided Regional Festivals								
Bank Holiday Weekend								
Millwall	H	A	H	A	H	A	H	
Available date for re-arranged fixture								
Available date for re-arranged fixture								
Available date for re-arranged fixture								
Small Sided Regional Festivals								

**W**hen I first became involved in the Development Programme I said it would take five years to fulfil our long-term plan and give the club the best possible set-up for producing and educating young players.

As it is now about two and a half years since I began work at Ashton Gate, it's fair to say we are at a halfway point in terms of assessing the progress made.

I'm delighted to say that I feel we are ahead of the schedule I foresaw when taking the job, both in terms of our elite training and coach education programmes.

It was always going to be vital to develop coaches as well as footballers so that the people working with our youngsters were themselves of the highest possible standard.

They also needed to be united in recognising the assets in young players we are looking for and the methods we believe are best for improving them and integrating them into a successful team.

We now have an excellent group of coaches at the various age levels and some terrific talent for them to work with.

The overall philosophy is simple as far as our tactical and technical approach is concerned. We basically set to win matches while playing entertaining football, the latter of those two being extremely important in my view.

I have said many times in this column that results are not all-important at Academy level, but I think some of those achieved recently by our under-19 and under-17 sides speak for themselves.

For the under-19s to beat two Premiership clubs in Southampton and Chelsea by a combined score of 7-1 in successive

games is outstanding and proves we can compete with the top clubs in the country, as has been evident in numerous other games.

While developing football ability is clearly a prime objective, we also have a responsibility to look after the education and welfare of our young players.

In that respect, I would say the association we have forged with Clifton College ranks as an outstanding boost to our standing as an Academy and is already proving hugely beneficial.

The first examination results of players we sent to the College were outstanding. Gone are the days when youngsters were discarded by professional football clubs having sacrificed education and the chance of an alternative career in pursuit of the game we all love.

So the halfway point report, if you like, is very satisfactory and very encouraging. I remain convinced that the Board's decision to be at the forefront of the Academy programme in this country will prove of huge significance to the future success of the club.

May I take this opportunity to wish all supporters a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.



## U-21/Reserve fixtures 1999/2000

August		
Wed 18	Luton Town	3-1
September		
Wed 1	BARNET	0-0
Tue 7	Millwall	0-0
Wed 15	BOURNEMOUTH (LC)	0-3
Wed 29	Bishop Sutton (SC1)	4-1
October		
Wed 13	FULHAM	2-4
Wed 20	BRISTOL R.(GFA C)	1-0
Wed 27	NEWCASTLE UTD. (FNF)	3-3
November		
Wed 3	SWINDON TOWN	4-4
Tue 9	Brislington (SC2)	2-1
Tue 16	Oxford United	3-1
December		
Wed 1	Wycombe W. (LC)	2-1
Wed 8	Brighton & HA	p-p
Wed 15	Bristol Rovers	p-p
Wed 22	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	1-0
January		
Wed 5	WYCOMBE W.	
Wed 12	Bristol Rovers (LC - 7pm)	
Wed 19	NORWICH CITY	
Wed 26	LEYTON ORIENT	
February		
Wed 2	Ipswich Town	
Wed 9	COLCHESTER UNITED	
Wed 16	Portsmouth (7pm)	
Wed 23	Southend U. (7.45pm)	
March		
Wed 1	PETERBOROUGH U.	
Wed 8	Gillingham	
Wed 15	NORTHAMPTON T.	
Wed 29	Cambridge United	
April		
Tue 4	QPR	

Kick-off time: 2pm unless stated otherwise.  
**TBC** = To Be Confirmed Home matches in  
**BOLD CAPS**. LC = League Cup; SC =  
 Somerset Cup; GFA C = GFA Cup;  
 FNF = Family Night Football.

## bcfc football academy

Director of Academy: **David Burnside** Assistant Director 17-21 and Under-19 Team Manager: **Peter Amos** Under-21 Coach/Manager: **Leroy Rosenior** Assistant Director 9-16 and Under-17 Team Manager: **Mark O'Connor** Education and Welfare Adviser: **Peter Coleman** Academy Co-ordinator and Recruitment: **Adrian Riddiford** Academy Doctor: **Dr S. Dasgupta** Physiotherapists: **Caroline Woods** and **James Marshall** Coaches/Managers of Schoolboy Age Groups Under-16: **Mark O'Connor** Under-15: **John Clayton** Under-14: **Peter Coleman** Under-13: **Frank Jacobs** Under-12: **Graham Muxworthy** Under-11: **Matthew Hale** Under-10: **Ian Tincknell** Under-9: **Ellis Wilmot** Goalkeeper Coach: **Len Bond** Local Scouts: **Jock Rae** and **Roger Barton** Academy Clerical Assistant: **Laura Pearce**

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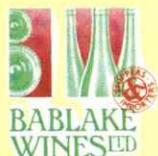
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young reds

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**today's mascots**

**LUKE HADDOW** is aged nine and attends Abbotswood Junior School in Yate. His hobbies are playing football for Yate United under-10s and his Playstation. His favourite City player is Mickey Bell.



**JAKE CASELEY** is ten years old and also attends Abbotswood Junior School in Yate. He enjoys watching Bristol City and swimming. His favourite City players are Mickey Bell and Shaun Taylor.



**JOE KINGTON** attends St. Mary Redcliffe & Temple School in Bristol and lists his hobbies as football, rugby and tennis. The 11-year-old's favourite City player is Shaun Taylor.



**LUKE THOMPSON** is 14 and attends Northwich School in Cheshire. His interests are football, cycling and computers and Luke's favourite City player is midfielder Brian Tinnion.



**HAPPY NEW MILLENNIUM!**

Christmas is over! We hope all our young members are having a great holiday and they got all the presents they were hoping for. We are all looking forward to an exciting new Millennium. If half our hopes for the new year are fulfilled then City will be up there amongst the Division Two leaders when the end of the season comes around.

**TODAY'S VISITORS**

It's a pleasure to welcome a party of Luton Town's junior supporters as our guests today. Sadly, because of the holidays, we were unable to offer them a friendly match to start the day but we hope that we'll be able to challenge them on our return visit, at Kenilworth Road in April.

**THANKS FROM READING**

We have received a letter from our recent guests from Reading in which they expressed thanks for a "a most successful and memorable visit." It is lovely to receive such praise and we would like to thank all our members who took part for helping to make the visit a good one. A copy of Reading's letter is displayed on the notice board.

**COMING UP ...**

The hectic holiday schedule means our turn to be guests comes around very quickly. Our next hosts are the youngsters of Wrexham for

our first match of the Millennium on Monday, January 3rd. The coach is already nearly full so we would ask those of you who have reserved a place to confirm your seats with Claire in the clubroom today. Claire will also be on hand to allocate any spare places to those of you who are interested or to take your bookings for any future trips: Bournemouth (January 15th), Bury (January 29th) and Blackpool (February 12th). Details of our trip to Millwall (March 4th) will follow shortly.

**COMPETITION DEADLINE**

Today was due to be the closing date for entry to our Pool and Penalty contests but for some reason the entries are well down on last year. It may be that with the Millennium and all other activities you may have overlooked what proved to be popular events last year. We are still determined to go ahead with the contests and are extending the deadline for entries to Saturday, February 5th - the date of our home game with Chesterfield. This will give you another month to get your entry forms in. There are plenty available in the Young Reds Clubroom.

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www.nationaldeposit.co.uk

**young reds birthdays december**

**28** Joshua Crook 8, Mitchell Green 4, Nicky Jones 15, Thomas Kavanagh 9, D Lansdown 7, Sam Mundy 15, Michael Ro Maggs 12, Lee Monelle 0, Michael Marshall 11, Jack Rutter 7, Thomas Rossiter 8, George Smith 11, Jay Sherwood 13, Robert Staples 14, Kyle Selman 7, Christopher Tucker 14, Ann-Marie Taylor 10, Marc Williams 10, Luke Weston 11, Vicki Weber 9.

**29** Rosie Allen 6, Jasmin Allen 6, Charlotte Allison 5, Lee Baginski 12, Chris Edwards 13, Joe Fry 13, Christine MacKay 9, Thabo Miller 16, Tom Pollinger 14.

**30** Mark Cox 7, Jordan Guest 11, Aaron Horner 8, Philip Horner 8, Michael Henderson 15, Robert Hook 13, James Lerway 14, Jodie Mann 8, James Norman 10, Dean Perry 13, Lee Redman 14, Patrick Smith 15, Dominic Sheppard 9, Niall Spencer 9, Chris Venn 14, Joshua Weldon 10, Daniel Budd 12, Charlie Bedford 12, Owen Conway-Hughes 16, Ben Errington 13, Holly Jones 10, Natasha Nunn 13, Michael Palmer 16, Philip Pincott 11, Terri Sarkozi 7, John Sayers 13, Michael Turner 14, Jason Williams 12.

**january 2000**

**1** Michael Bartlett 15, Emma Carpenter 16, Ben Gudge 15, Sammi Ben Hassen 15, Michael Holland 13, Joseph Perry 6, Joel Mines 14, Sam Owen 16, Joanne Payne 12, Daniel Studley 8, Sebastian Stone 11, Shane Weston 16, Nicholas Burge 12, James Martini 16.

**2** Amy Herbert 10, Chris Hall 14, Laura Mallick 12, Christopher Reading 13, James Sharley 9, Peter Ward 11, Lee Bremner 14.

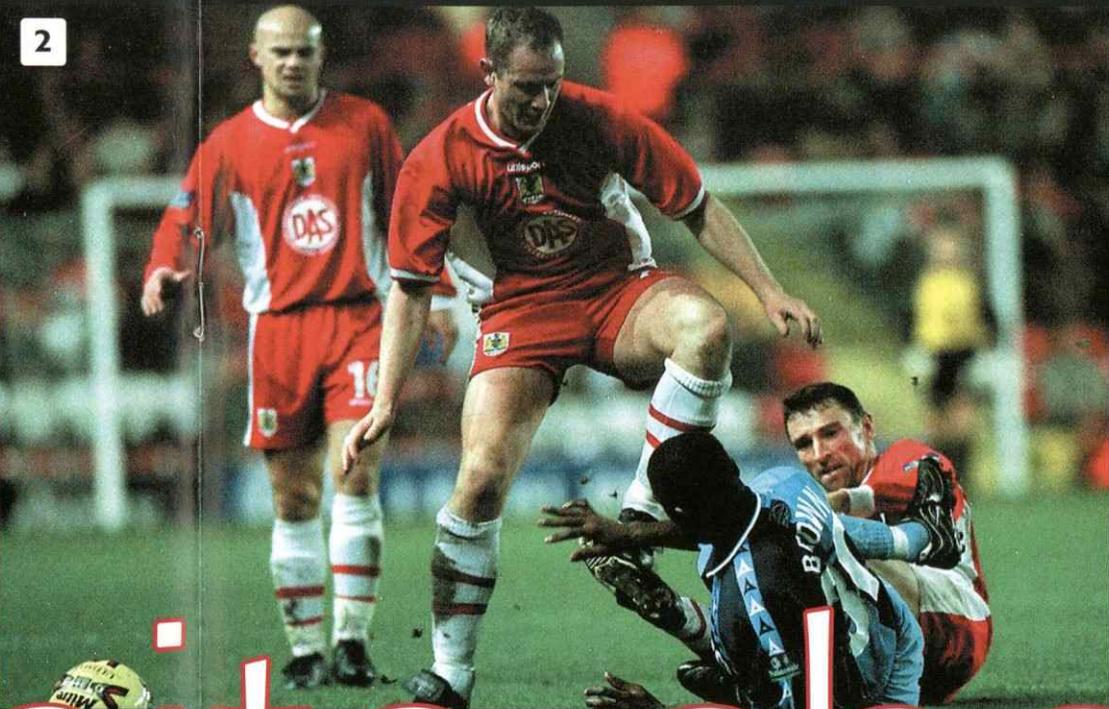
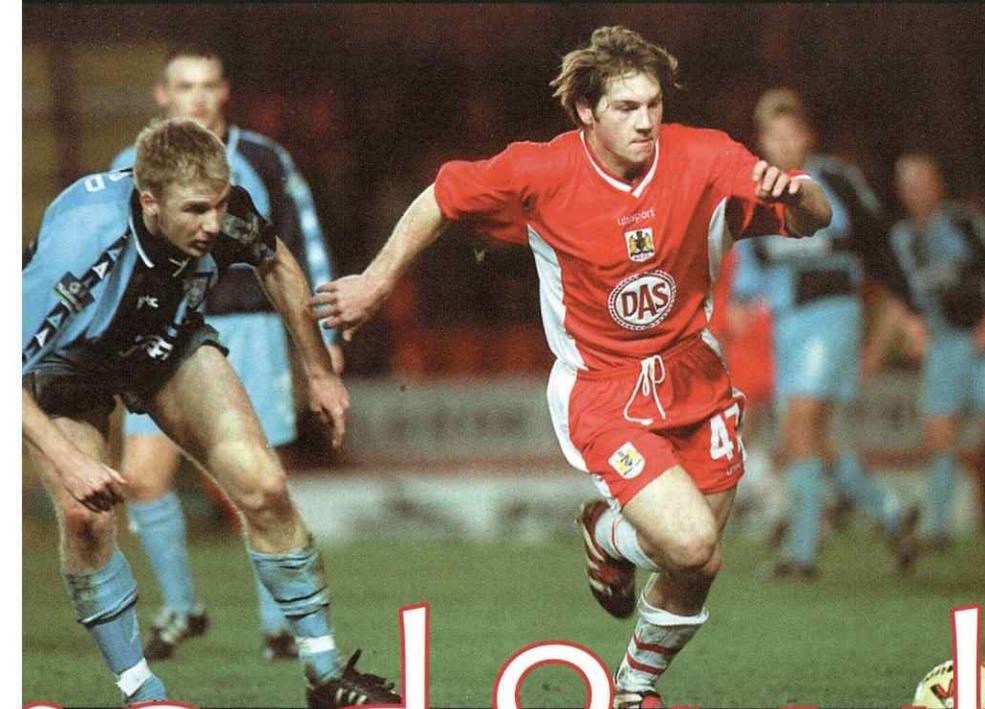
**3** Michael Callen 12, Mitchell Dodsworth 13, Craig Down 10, Paul Furlong 15, Natasha Hallett 11, Tobias Kennedy-Hall 8, Martin Martin 10, F Simmonds 9, Carlie Shute 14, Daniel Vinnicombe 14, Matthew Young 14.

**4** Hannah Birch 13, Scott Bray 15, Cheryl Baber 15, Nathan Burrows 11, Megan Farmer 12, Barbara Hawkins 8, Lucy Hill 14, Robyn Iles 9, George Nicholls 16, Joseph Poole 10, Jamie Perry 15, David Slade 11, C Smith 15.

**5** Tom Alner 14, Daniel Barry 16, Kane Fowles 9, Paul Glen 7, Nicholas Haddow 12, Henry Ivall 6, Laura Jarvis 12, Ryan Lancaster 9, Dean Mereweather 16, Sara Needham 13, Shawn Reed

**1** Andrew Underwood 9.  
**6** Liam Boundy 10, Chris Blunt 16, Ben Clevely 13, Nathanael Catt 12, Nicholas Dyer 8, Michael Edwards 16, Michael Grove 16, Kirsty Giles 14, Richard Ireland 15, Nathan Johns 11, Chris Leach 13, Luke Matthews 15, Bradley Saunders 12, Michael Thomas 12, Graham Wright 13, Lewis Williams 12, Alan Allward 11, Tom Lane 12, Daniel Wiltshire 11.  
**7** Samantha Baile 12, Brian Cochrane 7, Kayleigh Futcher 13, Georgina Hurwood 10, Charlie Harvey 9, Spike Massey 2, Aaron Pullin 13, Danielle Ricketts 14, Alexander Woodham 16, Michaela Hamblin 12, Ben Whittock 7.  
**8** Matthew Bluff 15, Amanda Blakeley 14, Nadia Dunn 10, Emma Hopegood 12, Jordan Lovell 10, Sheridan Leech 7, Cerys Morgan 15, Samuel King 6, John Wood 14, Ann Harris 14, Gareth Morgan 8.

Belated 14th Birthday wishes to Emma Shepherd for 29th November.

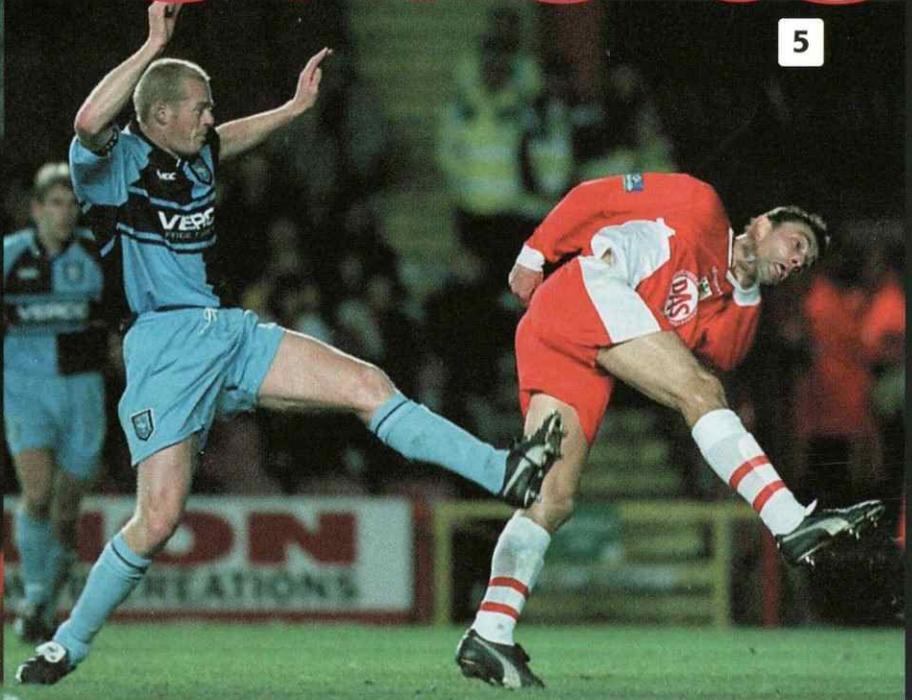
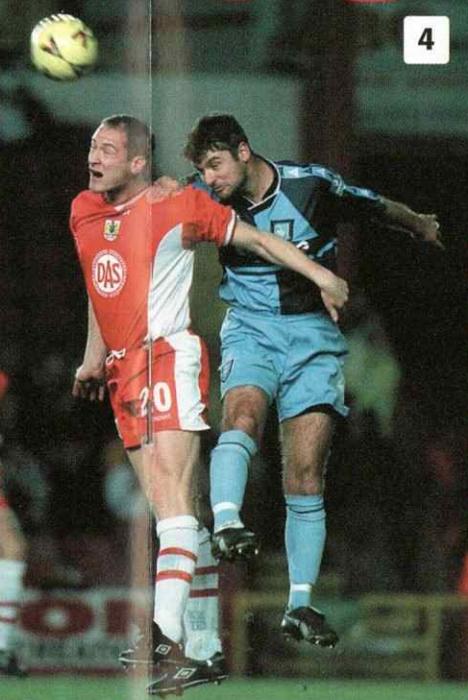


1: Cheerio! Debutant Tommy Black leaves Wycombe's Andy Baird behind as he takes off on another dazzling run – Baird was later sent-off for a late tackle on Black

2: 'Now, look here old chap!' Peter Beadle tangles with Wycombe defender Steve Brown. The pair were booked for their part in this incident

# red & white shots

tale of two strikers ...  
st there ... Torps heads  
e from Mickey Bell's deep  
cross in the second-half  
or it! Beads keeps a-head  
of the Wycombe defence  
ancing to Westlife? Torps  
ycombe's Andy Baird run  
through their Christmas  
party dance routine





## millen profile

**Name:** Keith Millen  
**Birth:** September 26th 1966  
**Place:** Croydon  
**Height:** 6ft 2ins  
**Weight:** 13st 4lbs  
**Ed from:** Watford £35,000  
**Previous clubs:** Brentford.  
**Debut:** November 1999 - Stoke City (away)  
**Home:** Swindon  
**Wife:** Fiancée Sue, daughter Amber  
**Car:** Land Rover

## Game for a laugh

**What song would you sing at a Karaoke evening?**

The Only Way is Up, by Yaz.

**Who would you most like to have to dinner and what would you cook?**

Cameron Diaz and I would give her oysters and champagne. If the oysters didn't do the trick at least the champagne would get her drunk!

**What size boots do you wear and does size matter?**

Size 8 – and you know what they say about men with small feet!

**Have you ever cried like Gazza?**

Yes, but not on the pitch. The last time was when my daughter Amber was born.

**Do you like Cider?**

Yes.

**What do you think of referees?**

Absolutely no comment!

**Should the goals be made bigger?**

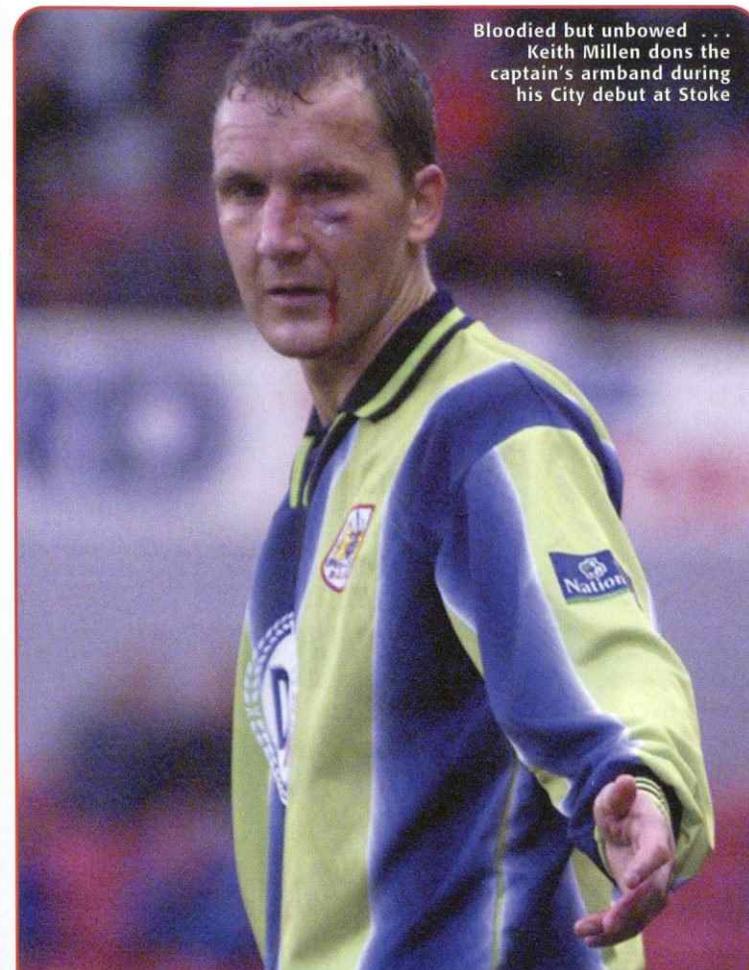
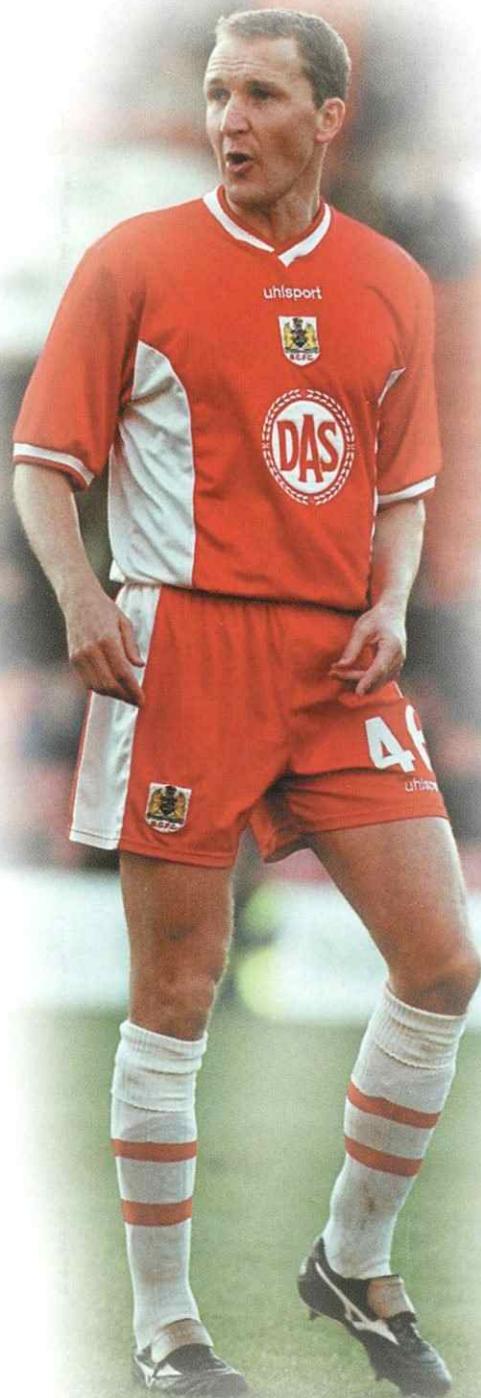
Certainly not. As a paid-up member of the defenders' union, I think five-a-side goals should be introduced for League games.

**Can women play football?**

Yes, they should be encouraged to play as much as they like – but only in their underwear!

**Which footballer would you not allow your sister to go out with and why?**

Former Brentford team-mate Jamie Bates. His nickname is "The Beast" and that says it all.



Bloodied but unbowed . . . Keith Millen dons the captain's armband during his City debut at Stoke

## My worst nightmare

Last season began really well for me at Watford. I played in the first dozen games, captained the team and was really pleased with my form.

Then came an away match at Tranmere Rovers. I injured my right knee in a sliding tackle and the problem was diagnosed as a torn cartilage.

It should have meant no more than six weeks out of the game. But the pressure was on to get back quickly and I attempted a comeback too soon. As a result, complications

developed and I ended up missing the rest of the season.

It was particularly frustrating as the team reached Wembley in the play-offs and I had to watch from the bench as we beat Bolton Wanderers to win promotion to the Premiership.

The thought that I might have skippered the team to that triumph made the season as a whole my biggest nightmare.

● Squad caricatures (pictured on the right) by Richard Mundy are available as A4 framed portraits from the City SuperShop priced £24.99. Place your order now! STOP PRESS: Now also printed on T-shirts!



like, don't like . . .

**TV must-see:** Friends  
**Biggest switch-off:** Sunset Beach  
**Cinema classic:** Grease  
**Don't bother:** Scream  
**Most played CD:** Simply Red  
**Should be throttled:** B\*witched  
**Other sports played:** Golf  
**Most boring sport:** Bowls  
**Dream wheels:** Porsche 911  
**Secret fan of:** Baywatch  
**Love you to lose:** Bristol Rovers  
**Super stadium:** Wembley  
**Knock it down:** Barnsley's changing rooms at Oakwell  
**Best friend in football:** Terry Evans (ex-Brentford)  
**He always kicks me:** All centre-forwards.



# next up

## Ed Furniss previews City's up-and-coming matches

If any remaining proof is required that football is a game of two halves – as Jimmy Greaves rather annoyingly used to say – then Wrexham manager Brian Flynn provides it.

Just six weeks ago the League's third longest serving manager – after Sir Alex Ferguson and Crewe's Dario Gradi – was facing the chop as the Welsh side failed to win in eight matches.

Robins supporters held demonstrations calling for the dismissal of the former Burnley and Leeds midfielder.

Yet Flynn has now presided over the FA Cup giantkilling of Middlesborough and his side have gone five games without defeat in the League.

Former Wolves midfielder Darren Ferguson, son of the Manchester United boss, scored the winner against 'Boro in front of his dad but has yet to commit himself to the club. He joins top scorer Carig Faulconbridge and highly-rated defender Brian Carey in the squad.

Happily for City, who haven't a great record at the Racecourse Ground, Wrexham have lost three at home this season – and their finest moments in recent years have been confined to the Cup.

Continuing the Welsh connection are Cardiff City who visit Ashton Gate on Sunday, January 9th for a noon kick-off.

The Bluebirds – who feature ex-City stars Kevin Nugent and Jason Fowler in their squad – have had an indifferent start to the season since winning promotion from the Third Division last season. Before Boxing Day



they had lost their last three matches and sat just above the bottom four.

Their fortunes look bright off-the-pitch though as a couple of local businessmen are poised to invest £3 million in the club.

The Welsh side are poor travellers having lost eight out of their 11 away games so far – and City will be keen to take advantage.

The following Wednesday sees the arrival of Steve Cotterill's Cheltenham Town for the first competitive derby between the two West Country teams at professional level.

A full preview next issue – but remember to take advantage of the reduced ticket prices for this game: see the panel for details.

Food and drink for away travel sponsored by



### Nationwide League Division Two

#### WREXHAM Racecourse Ground Monday, January 3rd 2000, kick-off 3pm

This match is pay-on-the-day. Tickets are priced £12 adults and £7 OAP/juveniles. Disabled are free. Helpers £10. Ring direct on 01978 262129 for more details. CATS are running coaches to the game departing Ashton Gate at 9.30am. The return trip is £13 for non-members and £11 for members.

#### CARDIFF CITY Ashton Gate Stadium Sunday, 9th January 2000, kick-off 12 noon

This match is a Category B game. Tickets are now on general sale priced: Ateo Stand: £14 adults, £11 OAP/students, £9 juveniles

Dolman Stand/Family Enclosure: £16 adults, £13 OAP/students, £6 juveniles  
Williams Stand: £16 adults, £13 OAP/students, £9 juveniles.  
Members receive a £2 discount

#### AFC BOURNEMOUTH Dean Court Saturday, 15th January 2000 kick off 3pm

This match is pay-on-the-day. There will be 140 seats available priced £13.50 adults and £7.50 OAP/under-18s. Terrace admission is £12 adults and £5 OAP/under-18s. Disabled in wheelchairs/helpers are free. Ring direct 01202 395 381. CATS are running coaches to the game departing Ashton Gate at 11am. The return trip is £10 for non-members and £8 for members.

#### Auto Windscreen Shield CHELTENHAM TOWN Ashton Gate Stadium Wednesday, 12th January 2000 kick off 7.45pm

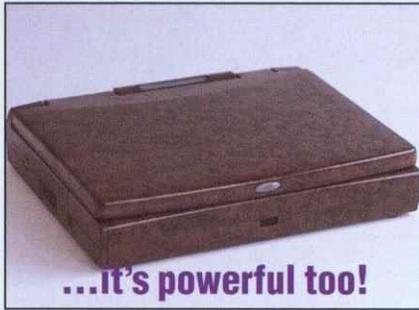
ALL PAY GAME. Tickets are now on general sale priced £8 adults, £5 OAP/students and £1 juveniles, with the exception of Platinum Seating which is £13 adults, £10 OAP/students, £5 juveniles. There are no members discounts available for this game. Season ticket-holders have until Wednesday, 5th January to reserve their seats.

**TO CLAIM MEMBERS DISCOUNTS, TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY THE DAY BEFORE THE GAME.**

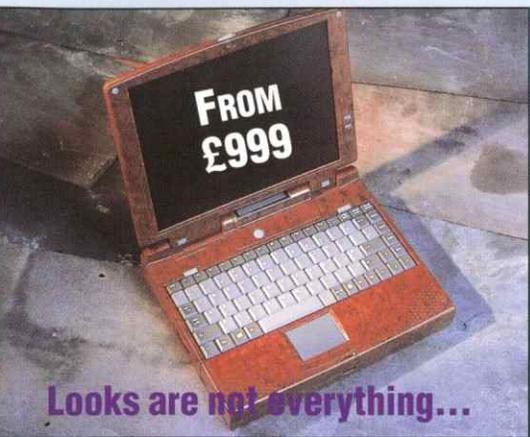
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### Directions to Racecourse Ground

Leave M32 at the junction with the M4 and follow signs for South Wales. Join the M5 at junction 20 and head for the Midlands. After 80 miles leave the motorway at junction 1, signposted A41/A452. After 1.5 miles take the right-hand lane and follow the signs for the North West. Join the M6 at junction 8 before coming off at junction 10a to join the M54 following the signs for Telford. Exit the motorway at junction 7 on the A5 and follow the signs for Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Llangollen. After 34 miles you will see signs for Wrexham and need to join the A483 before leaving the main road after eight miles at the junction with the A541. After 500 yards the Racecourse Ground will appear on your left.  
Total distance: 163.5 miles

Away from home? Stay at Travelodge Wrexham on the junction of the A483 & A5152 for just **£35** per room per night

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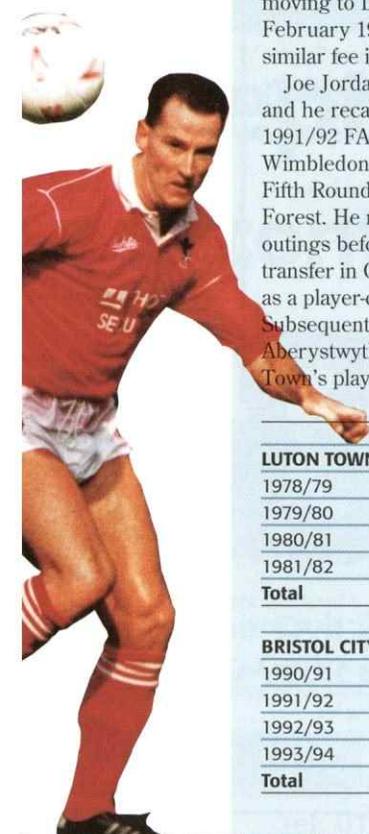
Rooms sleep up to a family of four (2 children under 12), and as prices are per room and not per person, you can afford to get away for less.

Travelodge Wrexham 30 mins drive to the Racecourse Ground

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# city links with the hatters

Leigh Edwards reviews the careers of players who have had a lot in both camps



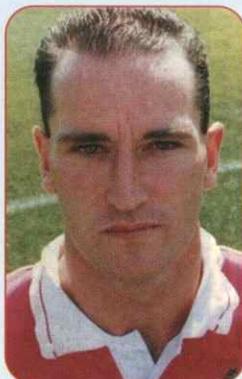
## MARK AIZLEWOOD

Experienced Welsh international defender Mark Aizlewood was capped 21 times whilst at Ashton Gate.

He initially joined his older brother Steve at Newport County and made his League debut before signing professional in October 1977. Sold to Luton Town for a record £50,000 in April 1978, he helped to win the Second Division title in 1981/82 and netted three times in 98 League games for today's visitors prior to joining Charlton Athletic for £50,000 in November 1982. He scored the goal that clinched their top-flight return in 1985/86, moving to Leeds United for £200,000 in February 1987, then Bradford City for a similar fee in August 1989.

Joe Jordan paid £125,000 for him a year later and he recalls the excitement generated by the 1991/92 FA Cup run as Bristol City beat Wimbledon and Leicester City en route to a Fifth Round tie at Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest. He netted three times in 101 League outings before moving to Cardiff City on a free transfer in October 1993, then Merthyr Tydfil as a player-coach in August 1995.

Subsequently with Newport AFC and Aberystwyth Town, he has been Cwmbran Town's player/coach since July 1997.



	L	FAC	LC	T
<b>LUTON TOWN</b>				
1978/79	39	1	4	44
1979/80	10		2 (1)	12 (1)
1980/81	23	2	1	26
1981/82	26 (3)	2		28 (3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>98 (3)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7 (1)</b>	<b>110 (4)</b>
<b>BRISTOL CITY</b>				
1990/91	42 (2)	1	4	47 (2)
1991/92	34 (1)	4	1	39 (1)
1992/93	20	1		21
1993/94	5			5
<b>Total</b>	<b>101 (3)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>112 (3)</b>

## MICK HARFORD

Leading marksman in Bristol City's fateful 1982/83 campaign, centre-forward Mick Harford twice played for England after leaving Ashton Gate.

Initially with Lambton Street Boys Club, he joined Lincoln City in July 1977 and was top scorer in three successive seasons. Sold to Newcastle United for £180,000 in December 1980, Bob Houghton signed him for £160,000 in August 1981 and he netted 11 goals in 30 Third Division outings for City prior to joining Birmingham in March 1982. He recalls that the £100,000 fee went directly to Newcastle in the wake of City's financial crisis.

Leading marksman as Birmingham reached the FA Cup Sixth Round in 1983/84, he moved to Luton Town for a record £250,000 in December 1984 and featured in their 1988 Littlewoods Cup Final triumph. He scored in the Wembley final a year later and joined Derby County for £450,000 in January 1990, then returned to Luton for September 1991 and netted 69 goals in 168 League games overall for today's visitors before being sold to Chelsea for £300,000 in August 1992. Subsequently with Sunderland and Coventry City, he joined Wimbledon in August 1994 and is now on their coaching staff.



	L	FAC	LC	T
<b>BRISTOL CITY</b>				
1981/82	30 (11)	5 (2)	5 (1)	40 (14)
<b>Total</b>	<b>30 (11)</b>	<b>5 (2)</b>	<b>5 (1)</b>	<b>40 (14)</b>
<b>LUTON TOWN</b>				
1984/85	22 (15)	8 (1)		30 (16)
1985/86	37 (22)	7 (3)	2	46 (25)
1986/87	18 (4)	5 (3)		23 (7)
1987/88	25 (9)	5 (3)	7(6)	37 (18)
1988/89	33 (7)	1	7(4)	41 (11)
1989/90	4	1		5
1991/92	29 (12)		1	30 (12)
<b>Total</b>	<b>168 (69)</b>	<b>27(10)</b>	<b>17(10)</b>	<b>212 (89)</b>

## PETER SPIRING

England Youth international midfielder Peter Spiring was a young member of Alan Dicks' squad in the early 1970s.

The son of former Bristol City player Gordon Spiring, he signed professional at Ashton Gate in June 1968 and made his debut as a substitute for Gerry Sharpe in the League Cup Second Round replay at Leicester City in September 1969. He was given his Second Division debut in Bristol City's 2-0 win at home to Birmingham a month later and recalls playing in the 1970/71 League Cup semi-final second-leg at Spurs when City lost 2-0 after extra-time to the eventual winners of the competition.

Scoring 16 goals in 63 Second Division games for City, he says that his £60,000 move to Bill Shankly's Liverpool in March 1973 came as a shock. He failed to secure a first-team slot with the League Champions but remained in the top-flight after joining Luton Town for £70,000 in November 1974, netting twice in 15 League outings for today's opponents before being reunited with Jon Sillett at Hereford United for £8,000 in February 1976. Helping to clinch the Third Division title that season, he spent seven years at Edgar Street and has been an electrical contractor in Hereford since October 1983.



	L	FAC	LC	T
<b>BRISTOL CITY</b>				
1969/70	4		1	5
1970/71	6		1	7
1971/72	31 (9)	1 (1)	1	33 (10)
1972/73	22 (7)	3	1	26 (7)
<b>Total</b>	<b>63 (16)</b>	<b>4 (1)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>71 (17)</b>
<b>LUTON TOWN</b>				
1974/75	7 (1)			7 (1)
1975/76	8 (1)			8 (1)
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 (2)</b>			<b>15 (2)</b>

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**T**he last cracker has long been pulled, and the final mince pie demolished. Christmas is over for yet another year, and suddenly all that late-night shopping seems like a waste of time.

However, no matter how much you dislike Christmas shopping, there is no excuse for not being able to find a suitable present for a football supporter.

Popular Christmas gift ideas for the footie fanatic are replica shirts and tickets to meaningful fixtures, such as big Cup-ties and Finals.

Of course, there are some football

supporters who don't want for anything at Christmas, except three points from every future game! These are the season ticket holders, members and die-hard fans who already have each item of memorabilia associated with their favourite team, from every scarf and shirt to every flag and fanzine.

Perhaps what these full-time supporters may really appreciate is a cash donation. Why? Well, the cost of supporting your favourite football team can seriously damage your bank balance - and that's official. According to a recent newspaper investigation, the cost of seeing your team through the 1999/2000 season is higher than ever. The study took the prices of the Premiership clubs' most expensive season ticket and shirt, as well as a matchday programme and food for half-time, and came up with the total amount needed to watch the teams for a year.

The most expensive Premiership side to watch regularly is Chelsea. Not only is their most costly season ticket an enormous £1,120, their match programmes are a staggering £3 each. Shirts are the second most expensive in the Premiership, priced at £42.99. Add the food at half-time, which can cost up to £22 per season more than at other Premiership grounds, and this makes the annual cost of 'supporting' Chelsea FC a huge £1,292. The teams in second, third and fourth place in the price league are also London-based. Arsenal,

Tottenham and West Ham all charge a reasonable £2 per programme, but West Ham have the most expensive shirt at £44.99. They do, however, charge less for food and drink than their counterparts.

In fact, the rankings of the top four teams have not altered since last season, and changes at the other end of the scale have been minimal. Bradford have entered at No.20, despite increasing the cost of their best seats by a massive 46% since their arrival in the Premiership. To put things into perspective, Bradford are the cheapest club to support by £56, and being a fan of the Yorkshire club costs a third of what it costs to support Chelsea.

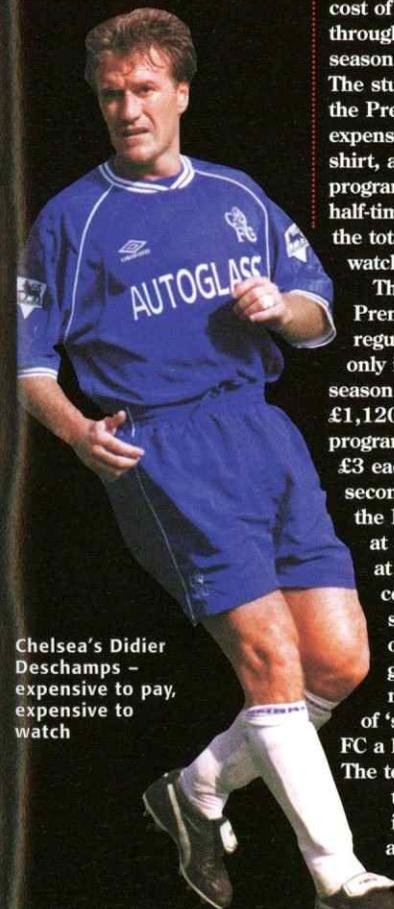
Sheffield Wednesday and Wimbledon are in eighteenth and nineteenth place, despite Wimbledon having their food in a higher than average bracket.

Perhaps the two most surprising placings are those of Premiership new-boys Watford, at No.8, and Treble winners Manchester United, at No.14. Watford fans are expected to fork out £2.50 for a programme, and £480 for a season ticket. Compare this to Manchester United, whose fans pay £66 less overall than those who support the London club.

Football is an expensive hobby, and this is without taking into account travelling to away fixtures.

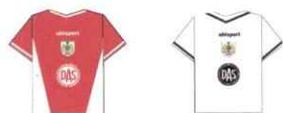
Count yourself lucky if you received a football shirt this Christmas, and if you haven't got one already, be thankful that Bristol City are offering 'half a season ticket' (3 for Free) for the rest of the season's matches!

**Female Pitch is a regular series by red&white's Emily Williamson concentrating on football from the feminine perspective**



Chelsea's Didier Deschamps - expensive to pay, expensive to watch

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## Bristol City FC

Manager: **Tony Pulis**

Red shirts and shorts with white trim, white socks



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| Billy Mercer      | 2  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mickey Bell       | 3  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Vilmos Sebok      | 4  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Shaun Taylor      | 5  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Louis Carey       | 6  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Greg Goodridge    | 7  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tom Doherty       | 8  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Steve Jones       | 9  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Paul Holland      | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Brian Tinnion     | 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mark Shail        | 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Paul Mortimer     | 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Steve Phillips    | 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ivan Tistimetanu  | 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Aaron Brown       | 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Carl Hutchings    | 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Steve Torpey      | 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Peter Beadle      | 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tony Thorpe       | 21 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Matt Hewlett      | 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Neil Ashley       | 23 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lorenzo Pinamonte | 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Kevin Langan      | 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Scott Murray      | 26 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Andrew Jordan     | 27 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Alex Meechan      | 28 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ben Wright        | 29 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Gerard Lavin      | 30 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Matt Hill         | 32 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Joe Burnell       | 33 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tynan Scope       | 40 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Marvin Brown      | 44 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| John Burns        | 45 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Keith Millen      | 46 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tommy Black       | 47 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## Luton Town FC

Manager: **Lennie Lawrence**

Orange shirts, blue shorts and socks



- |    |                          |                   |
|----|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Nathan Abbey      |
| 2  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Gavin McGowan     |
| 3  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Efetobore Sodje   |
| 4  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Matthew Spring    |
| 5  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Alan White        |
| 6  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Marvin Johnson    |
| 7  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Phil Gray         |
| 8  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Paul McLaren      |
| 9  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stuart Douglas    |
| 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Michael McIndoe   |
| 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Liam George       |
| 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Gary Doherty      |
| 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stuart Fraser     |
| 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Andrew Fotiadis   |
| 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Matthew Taylor    |
| 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Landry Zahana-Oni |
| 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Emmerson Boyce    |
| 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tresor Kandol     |
| 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> | James Ayres       |
| 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jerry Moses       |
| 21 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Andre Scarlett    |
| 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Daniel Tate       |
| 23 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Jude Stirling     |
| 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Scott Ward        |
| 28 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Adam Locke        |
| 31 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Paul Read         |
| 39 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tony Thorpe       |
| 40 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Julian Watts      |

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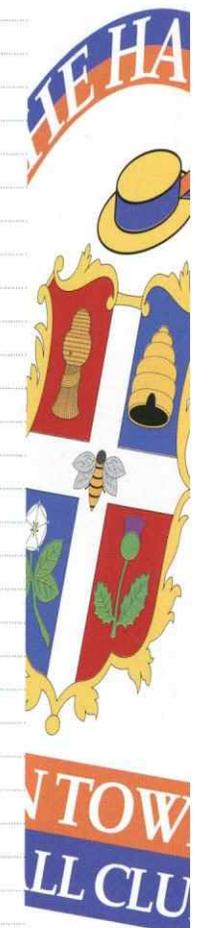
Fourth Official: Mr A. Smith (Bridgwater)

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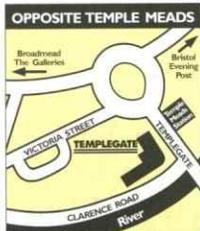
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