

# LUTON TOWN

Monday, January 3, 2000, 3.00pm

Official Matchday Magazine £2.00



v Scunthorpe United

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Happy New Year



## Luton Town 1 Chesterfield 1 (H-T 1-0)

## Bristol City 0 Luton Town 0

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### Official Matchday Magazine

Editor

**Brian Swain**

Design & Layout

**Wolff Evans**

Printing

**Regal Litho**

Photography

**Gareth Owen**

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



#### Front cover:

Year of the youngsters - Gary Doherty, one of several young stars who made tremendous

progress in 1999, and who may make it a very happy new year for Luton Town. And that is what we wish everyone today.

### Brian Swain reports

THE FINAL home game of the century was not quite one to remember, but at least the Town came back from two consecutive 3-0 defeats to earn a point, and our goal was a real gem. Adam Locke's carefully-flighted shot into the top corner was the one moment of real quality on a Boxing Day match that promised more than it delivered.

Emmerson Boyce and Tony Thorpe were restored to the team after the FA Cup defeat, and while Boyce had a good match, Thorpe seemed to be showing the effects of the stalemated negotiations about his transfer. With no decent service to speak of, his final appearance in his third spell with us spluttered out, and he was subbed, to allow Phil Gray to return after injury. Within 48 hours Thorpe was not only back at Bristol City - he went on as a sub against us on Tuesday.

Matthew Spring, despite suffering the after-effects of flu, forced a good early save from Carl Muggleton, but with both teams looking anxious and mistake-prone, Locke's second goal of the season, in the 38th minute, was a moment of rare quality. He was playing after accepting another two-month contract.

Bottom of the table, and about to break a club record of 19 games without a win, Chesterfield roused themselves after the break, and equalised through David Reeves with 16 minutes to go. After that either side might have nicked it, with Gray shooting well wide twice, and Steve Blatherwick denied a late winner when Locke cleared his header, via the underside of the bar.

Visiting manager John Duncan complained of indecisive defending that led to Locke's opportunity, and claimed that it should have been 0-0 at half-time, which would have been a platform for his side to win for the first time since September.

Lennie Lawrence was more realistic. "We could have won, but could equally have lost it. We were on top in the first half, and got pushed back in the second. We have come into this off the back of two 3-0 whackings. You would love to think that because it is Chesterfield you would go out and win 4-0 in a display of wonderful attacking football. I'm afraid football is not like that. It would have been nice to win 1-0, but at least we have stopped the rot.

"We have defended soundly but we didn't do enough at the front. When teams have a go, as they usually do after we go ahead, we should catch them on the break and slaughter them, but we haven't been doing that in recent weeks."

### Match Details

**Luton Town:** Abbey, Boyce, Watts, Doherty, Johnson, George, Locke, Douglas, Spring (McLaren 73 mins), Thorpe (Gray 74 mins), Taylor. Unused subs: Fraser, Fotiadis, Tate.

**Booked:** Adam Locke, 35 mins, foul on Ryan Williams.

**Chesterfield:** Muggleton, Hewitt, Breckin, Blatherwick, Beaumont, Galloway, Curtis, Williams, Howard (Willis 74 mins), Reeves, D'Auria (Wilkinson 41 mins).

**The goals:** 1-0 38 mins - Chesterfield make a hash of clearing a Matthew Taylor corner, and Adam Locke takes possession and from the edge of the area, inside left position, curls a sweet shot over everyone into the far top corner; 1-1 74 mins - Chris Beaumont chips a delightful pass over the Town defence for David Reeves to collect and hammer in a close-range goal.

**Referee:** Philip Joslin, Newark

**Attendance:** 5,870, with only a small contingent of visiting fans.

AFTER losing four consecutive away matches in the league, Lennie Lawrence fielded a new formation at Ashton Gate, and demanded a more solid defensive show. He got it, and only a post stopped the Town coming home with the perfect finale to 1999.

Alan White has been recalled from his loan at Colchester following Efe Sodje's Nigerian squad selection, and the defender lined up in midfield, as a kind of "front sweeper." The scheme to tighten up at the back sacrificed an attacker - Liam George was on the bench - but it worked, with Bristol City rarely looking like scoring, despite an aerial threat and succession of crosses into the Town penalty area.

Our first 0-0 since the opening day of the season was the least the Town deserved for a performance which concentrated hardest on keeping a rare clean sheet. And the classic away formation, looking to feed Phil Gray and Stuart Douglas on the break, could have brought victory, because the major threats to goal came from the Town.

Douglas made an early chance for Gray, whose first touch was too strong, enabling the keeper to smother the danger in a one-on-one and after Julian Watts had cleared off the line from Peter Beadle's header, the Town roared back with Matthew Taylor cracking a thundering drive against a post. Heartbreakingly, the ball somehow rebounded off the inside of the upright and back into play, and relieved City cleared their lines.

City's second-biggest crowd of the season - only the local derby against Rovers attracted more - was getting more and more frustrated as their team struggled painfully to find a way through the Town, and there was a touch of pathos as manager Tony Pulis sought a match-winning change. After two substitutions were made at half time, Tony Thorpe, the striker who was on loan with us until Boxing Day, was sent on for the last 27 minutes. He arrived just in time to see Gray hit a clean 20-yard drive which Billy Mercer saved acrobatically.

Not surprisingly, in view of the uncertainty over his future, Thorpe made as much impression against us as he had done for us against Chesterfield. And although Beadle forced a good save out of Nathan Abbey, the Town might have had the telling last word in the final minute, but sub Andrew Fotiadis, still seeking match sharpness, shot wide of the far post after his pace had taken him into space in the inside left position.

Lawrence was well pleased with the professionalism the whole team displayed, so much better than the surrender jobs at Cambridge and Colchester. He is concerned about the lack of points from away games, but the team he put out on Tuesday was designed for a specific job. For today, he said, we can expect a more attacking formation. City manager Tony Pulis conceded that the Town had created the better chances on the break, and commented mournfully that his men had found it difficult facing four centre-halves.

Some of the locals were not best pleased to note that one of them was Julian Watts, a City discard, who shared man of the match honours with Gary Doherty, Marvin Johnson and White.

### Match Details

**Luton Town:** Abbey, Boyce, Watts, Doherty, Johnson, White, Locke, Douglas (Fotiadis 83 mins), Spring, Gray, Taylor. Unused subs: Fraser, George, Scarlett, Tate.

**Booked:** No-one.

**Bristol City:** Mercer, Bell, Taylor, Tinnion, Mortimer, Hutchings (Tistimetanu HT), Torpey (Thorpe 63 mins), Beadle, Lavin (Murray HT). Millen, Black. Unused subs: Holland, Phillips.

**Booked:** Shaun Taylor, 13 mins, foul on Phil Gray; Gerard Lavin, 39 mins, foul on Matthew Taylor.

**Referee:** Mike Ryan, Preston.

**Attendance:** 11,832, including about 450 Town fans.

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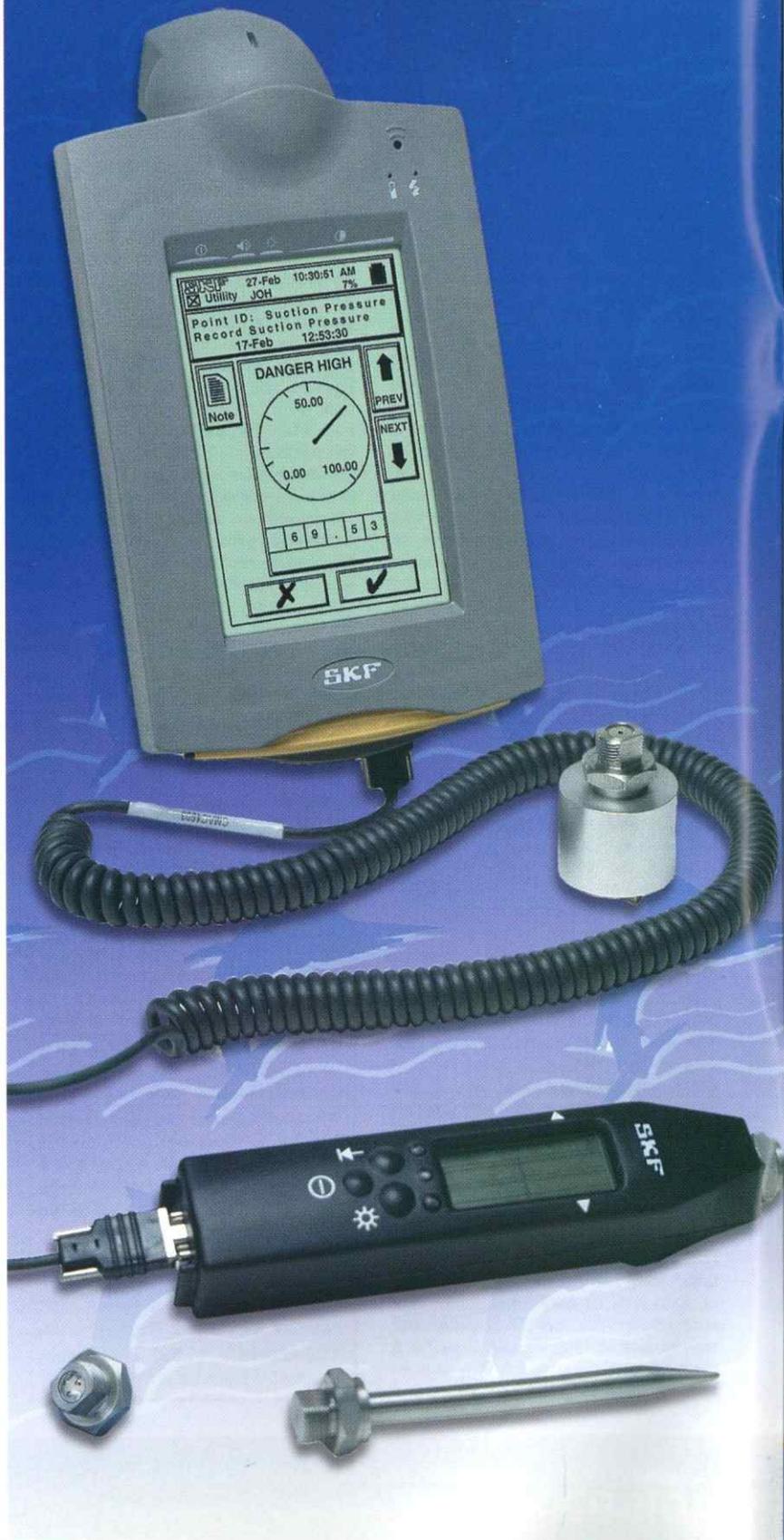
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# The Manager

Lennie Lawrence



WELCOME back to Kenilworth Road for the first game of the new year. I hope the holiday was everything you wanted it to be, and while we might be a touch disappointed that our two Christmas games brought only two points, I think the results against Chesterfield and Bristol City were important.

We had been wobbling a bit before Christmas, and our dressing room talk was about putting things right after two 3-0 defeats in a row. The performance at Colchester was not good enough, and against Fulham a class side punished us for mistakes. The lesson was obvious - cut out the mistakes, and defend properly.

We stopped the rot against Chesterfield, and were disappointed not to build on the first goal, but as so often in situations like that Chesterfield responded to their manager's pleadings, and opened up. Our failure was in not catching them on the break, but even so that game went some way to putting things right after the previous two matches.

At Bristol on Tuesday we took another big step forward. We were up against a team which had just lost at Brentford, but was unbeaten in its previous seven league outings. Bristol City wanted to put on a show for the home fans, and we were determined not to be lambs for the slaughter. We asked the players for another solid, professional performance, and we got it. I picked the team to do the job on the day, with Alan White brought back from his loan to play as a defensive midfielder.

We restricted City to very few chances, and our passing opened them up to such an extent that we might well have won - we created more scoring opportunities, and it was a pity we could not convert any of them. Matthew Taylor as dreadfully unlucky with a shot which hit the inside of a post, but still failed to go into the net.

White, incidentally, has been brought back from his loan at Colchester having been sharpened up by first team football there. One reason for his return is that Efe Sodje has been included in the final squad for Nigeria, in the African Nations Cup.

We don't know how long we will be without him, but the year has ended with others returning after injury, which gives me as manager more options than I have had for some time.

Phil Gray and Andrew Fotiadis are back in the squad, but Tony Thorpe has gone back to Ashton Gate - one of 47 players in the squad listed in their programme! - because we were unable to conclude a deal to bring him back here permanently.

Today, as we welcome Scunthorpe and their supporters, I think we are set fair after a very strange year in 1999. We started the year poorly, and things were not helped when the club had no leadership for a spell. Then came receivership, but that galvanised everyone, supporters as well as those of us within the club.

I suspect results early this season surprised a few people, and it was encouraging to see the players respond to demands that home results must be much better than they were the previous season. That has been achieved - only one home defeat in the league to the turn of the year is promotion form. Unfortunately, we could not match it in away games, and we are still concerned about that.

We had an enjoyable cup run in which we made a little money, were seen on live TV twice, and played five games before tasting defeat. But the manner in which we were knocked out, in a replay at home, was disappointing. However, after that, we steadied the ship with useful performances in our last two games of the year.

Some of the young players made enormous progress in 1999, and that gives the greatest satisfaction. I want to see this team develop and grow, although obviously financial considerations might come into the equation.

I would like this squad to stay together until the end of the season, and then we can see where we are, financially and in football terms. After a difficult old year, we have every reason to be hopeful about the new one. I hope all of us, on and off the field alike, have football to enjoy in the new millennium. Happy New Year to you all.

Lennie Lawrence

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(Calls charged at 60p per minute at all times)

## Today's Referee

ONE of the Football League's most experienced officials is this afternoon's referee. Clive Wilkes, a car trader from Gloucestershire, completes a decade as a League referee at the end of this season. He had charge of two of our games last season, both of which we won - Oxford away and Coventry at home in the Worthington Cup.

Mr Wilkes took up the whistle in parks football just over 25 years ago, and reached the Football League as a linesman within ten years, via the Gloucestershire County and West Midlands Regional Leagues.

He has been a good servant to the League, being chosen to referee play-off games in 1995, 1997, 1998 and 1999. He was in charge at Wembley for last season's Auto Windscreens Shield final.

Away from football, his hobbies are martial arts, all sports, and conservation.

## TOWN TEASER

OUR "Town Trivia" quiz offers a free prize to another supporter today. Before the game the PA announcer will ask the latest Town Teaser. If you know the answer, listen for your chance to have a go.

### THE QUESTION

**Who scored our goal when Everton luckily beat us 2-1 in the FA Cup semi-final of 1985?**

## Hatters Roll-Call Season 1999/2000

	APPEARANCES (as sub in brackets)					GOALS			
	League	FAC	WC	AWS	Total	League	FAC	WC	Total
Nathan Abbey	23	5	2	1	31	0	0	0	0
James Ayres	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Emmerson Boyce	5(4)	0(2)	2	1	8(6)	0	0	0	0
Gary Doherty	21	5	0(2)	1	27(2)	1	2	1	4
Stuart Douglas	17(3)	5	2	1	25(3)	2	1	0	3
Andrew Fotiadis	6	0	0(2)	0	6(2)	2	0	0	2
Stuart Fraser	18	5	1	1	25	1	0	0	1
Phil Gray	7(1)	1	2	0	10(1)	1	1	0	2
Liam George	20	5	0(1)	1	26(1)	10(1p)	2	0	12(1p)
Marvin Johnson	22	5	0	1	28	0	0	0	0
Tresor Kandol	1(3)	0	1	0	2(3)	0	0	1	1
Adam Locke	9(4)	3(1)	1	1	14(5)	2	0	0	2
Michael McIndoe	2(14)	0(2)	2	0	4(16)	0	0	0	0
Ray McKinnon	0(3)	0	1	0	1(3)	0	0	0	0
Paul McLaren	17(2)	4	1	0	22(2)	0	0	0	0
Neil Midgley	8(2)	0	0	0	8(2)	3	0	0	3
Paul Read	0	0	0	0(1)	0(1)	0	0	0	0
Andre Scarlett	0	0	0	0(1)	0(1)	0	0	0	0
Efetobore Sodje	4(4)	1(1)	2	1	8(5)	0	0	0	0
Matthew Spring	23	5	1	1	30	2	2	0	4
Matthew Taylor	22	5	1	0	28	1	1	0	2
Tony Thorpe	3(1)	0	0	0	3(1)	1	0	0	1
Julian Watts	23	5	2	0	30	0	0	0	0
Alan White	2(1)	0	2	0	4(1)	0	0	0	0
Landry Zahana-Oni	0(1)	0	0	0	0(1)	0	0	0	0

# Captain's Log

## Marvin Johnson



HAPPY New Year, everyone. As it is also a new millennium, I look upon today's match as the chance to make it a new start as well - in football terms, we're near half-time in the season, and we want to kick on and move up the

league table again.

For everyone connected with the club, 1999 was an unusual year, to say the least, and when I look back on it, especially events off the field between March and August, it has not been all bad.

A highlight was the spirit and attitude right through the club when we were reading reports that we might go out of existence. We were kept informed throughout, and like supporters we understood the need for the club to cut down on staff, and sell players to raise money. When we gathered for pre-season work, I looked at a bunch of youngsters, thought about those who had left, and wondered about our chances. We were favourites for relegation. The manager was restricted on new signings, and privately I worried about what the rest of 1999 would bring.

Now we know the answer, and while I would dearly love to see us much higher up the table, I think we have done pretty well so far. If a fairy godmother had appeared in early August and said we could get to the turn of the year with only one home league defeat and reach the third round of the FA Cup, I would have taken that. Mind you, I would have asked for better away results!

The 1999 highlight for me has been the progress and contribution made by boys who have been asked to become men. It has been difficult, and there have been disappointing days, but we have made progress.

The low point for me was the end of our FA Cup hopes, on our own ground. We were upset about it, so much so that we cancelled our Christmas fancy dress party which we had organised for the night after the Fulham replay. We had planned to meet for a meal at Kenilworth Road, and then go around the Town in our fancy dress gear, to have a lemonade or two with supporters in local pubs.

It never happened - the atmosphere was very subdued after the Fulham game, and we were not in the mood for living it up.

The Fulham result was all the harder to take because we had shown we could be at least the equals of a very good First Division side, but made

basic errors to destroy our own dreams. We have to learn from the experience. In the whole of the game at Craven Cottage, and for nearly an hour at Kenilworth Road, we were a match for Fulham. At half time in the replay I thought there would be perhaps one goal in it, with either side capable of snatching it, or possibly extra time and penalties. But then, as the manager said, we self-destructed - and Fulham were ruthless.

Overall, however, we have not done too badly over the first half of the season, and things will get better as our team develops. It is the youngest first team squad I can ever remember at Luton Town, and the determination and effort has been gratifying.

Results in the last month of the old year slipped a bit, but we are in good spirit, and still believe in ourselves. We are a confident bunch at home, but know we have to do something to improve away results if our ambitions are to be achieved.

Scunthorpe have achieved an ambition by winning promotion, and today will be the first time I have ever played against them. I will be delighted to wish Guy Ipoua a happy new year, starting at around 5pm. He was one of the many trialists we had here last summer, and looked pretty useful. He is scoring goals for Scunthorpe, so good luck to him except for the 90 minutes coming up, in which I naturally hope he doesn't get a kick.

It looks as though Tony Thorpe's spell with us is over now, and we were all sorry to have to say good-bye to him after the Boxing Day game. We have enjoyed his company, and I am sure he will get his career moving again - he is much too good a player to be stuck in a reserve team.

If that was a little sad, it was great to see Phil Gray and Andrew Fotiadis back in the first team squad after their injuries, and it is good for everyone to have competition for places. Gavin McGowan and Landry Zahana-Oni are also well on the road back, so perhaps we have good reason to think we might be in for a happy new year.

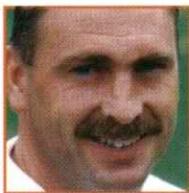
I am sorry our fancy dress expedition was called off - I looked wonderful as a Roman centurion! Phil Gray was something else as one of the three musketeers, and the gangster-look - pin-striped suit and dodgy hat over the brow - was tailor-made for Matthew Spring!

My hope for 2000 is that perhaps in May we can bring out all the costumes again - to have a party to celebrate a place in the play-offs at least. It might look a tall order, but we're in the mood to give it a go. Happy New Year!

*Marvin Johnson*

# Treatment Room

Clive Goodyear



THE Christmas holiday games have left us nursing one extra injury, and sadly Paul McLaren has very little chance of being involved in today's match.

Matthew Spring was playing against Chesterfield still suffering the after-effects of flu, and McLaren went on in place of him as a substitute midway through the second half. But he managed to pick up a comparatively rare football injury - he dislocated his big toe. The club doctor was quickly on the case in the dressing room, and managed to put the dislocation back in, but it ruled McLaren out of contention for the game at Bristol.

He was having an X-ray examination on Wednesday to ascertain the extent of the problem. It was possible that he might have cracked a bone, in which case he would be out of action for two or three weeks. It's a shame, because he had worked so hard to get back from his previous hamstringing injury.

Otherwise we got through the Chesterfield and Bristol City matches with nothing more than the usual bumps and bruises. Alan White got a couple of knocks at Bristol, and Stuart Douglas was kicked on the leg, but it was nothing serious, and obviously we were all well pleased to see Phil Gray and Andrew Fotiadis back in action after their long fights for fitness.

Gray had a short burst as a sub against Chesterfield, and then came through 90 minutes at Bristol, while Fotiadis had a short run-out in the closing stages at Ashton Gate.

Neither showed any signs of reaction, and both should be available for selection today. But after the amount of time they have been out, they are a little short of match fitness at present. That will come, and they have both worked hard to overcome their difficulties.

So have Gavin McGowan and Landry Zahana-Oni, and although they are now both fit again, they need more matches before they can be



Paul McLaren - could be out for two or three weeks

considered for the league side. Both have been out for four months, and it takes time to regain full fitness after such a long lay-off, however hard players work while under treatment.

You also need to be careful not to push them too hard, which was why McGowan's comeback appearance, in the reserves against Peterborough last week, was restricted to 75 minutes. It was long enough to give him a thorough testing and to prove to him as well as to me that his knee injury has completely cleared up. It has been a frustrating time for him, because the injury was sustained during pre-season training.

He and Zahana-Oni need more games to build up their fitness, but at least they can now take heart from seeing that they are getting very close.

Clive Goodyear

# Club Secretary

Cherry Newbery



WELCOME to Kenilworth Road at the start of a new century and a new millennium. In wishing everyone a very happy new year, I must say that in many ways I am glad to see the end of 1999, and

delighted that the club today is in pretty good shape compared to what it might be.

I have been a Luton Town supporter for many years, which means I have always known that life at Kenilworth Road has its ups and downs. But never can I remember a year like the one that has just ended, and I hope we never have another one like it.

It was, to say the very least, a difficult year, and a tiring one. At the end of this season I am going to take a holiday, which was out of the question last summer.

There were some very dark days for all of us in the club, and a lot of people put in an awful lot of work and effort to get us through them. It was a difficult atmosphere, because people feared for their jobs, and for the club itself. We always had confidence that we could get through it, but the effort that was made was superhuman.

The staff, to the last man and woman, was simply terrific. Fortunately our offices are staffed by people who are real Luton Town supporters, not just employees. They worked

far beyond the normal calls of duty to help the club survive, and the feeling of all pulling together to overcome adversity was tremendous.

We had mixed experiences with the receivers. I know they are experts in their field, in terms of accountancy and business management, but at times I was driven to distraction by problems caused by their lack of knowledge on the business of running a football club. They did not really understand our "Green Guide", the book of Football League regulations. They are quite complex.

Thankfully, we got through the very difficult summer, and to all of us here for whom Luton Town is much more than just a job, we were glad to see the season begin.

The summer for most of us was just a blur, over before we realised it. Often it was simply a case of getting through one day at a time, always believing the good days would come back. I gratefully put on record my appreciation of the way everyone buckled down to help Luton Town. The camaraderie was remarkable, and very encouraging, and I am glad to say that we still have the same team behind the scenes.

We all hope that the scene is now set for a brighter future for the club, and again, we wish all Luton Town supporters a very happy, peaceful and prosperous new year.

Cherry Newbery

## New Car Parking Facilities

SUPPORTERS have given a welcome to the news that we now have extra car parking available on match days. Starting with our game against Reading on January 22, supporters will be able to use the new facility at Dallow Road Junior School, which is only a short walk from the ground. The car park will be open from 1.30pm to 5.30 on Saturdays, and from 6.30 to 10 for midweek evening games.

We are now selling tickets at £35 for the rest of the season on a first come, first served basis, and a few are still left. Give me a ring on Luton 411622 for further details, or you can book your space immediately by writing to me, enclosing a cheque for £35 payable to Luton Town FC.

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# Tickets



## Nationwide League Division Two

### Stoke City v Luton Town

**Saturday January 8,  
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Admission at the Britannia Stadium is  
pay on the day only, and seating only  
Adults £15, Concessions £9  
Car parking tickets, £3 each, have to be  
bought in advance, and we have an  
allocation in the ticket office at  
Kenilworth Road.

### Blackpool v Luton Town

**Saturday January 15,  
kick-off 3pm**

Admission at the Bloomfield Road is  
pay on the day only, and terracing only.  
Adults £10,  
Concessions £5

### Luton Town v Reading

**Saturday January 22,  
kick-off 3pm**

Tickets are on sale at discounted prices.  
Cash turnstiles will be open on the day.  
Supporters are advised to come early to  
avoid disappointment.

### Cardiff City v Luton Town

At the request of Cardiff police this match  
will be now played on

**Sunday January 30,  
kick-off 12.15 pm**

It will be an ALL TICKET match for Luton  
Town supporters, and tickets must be  
bought in advance from the Luton Town  
ticket office. **None will be available on  
the day.** Seats only will be available:  
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Discounts for early purchase of match tickets are available until a fortnight before  
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**Saturdays:** 9am to 5.30pm on matchdays;  
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# Head-to-Head

### Matthew Spring



### Justin Walker



Our Carling Opta run-down on opposing players this afternoon looks at two class midfielders, the Town's Matthew Spring and Scunthorpe's Justin Walker

Matthew Spring's performances for the Hatters this season have won him nationwide praise due to his fantastic FA Cup goals against Fulham and Kingstonian. However, the stats show that his contribution to Luton's cause has been immense in all capacities.

He has made more passes than Scunthorpe's Justin Walker, but the Iron man has a pass completion rate that is higher by one per cent. Spring has put in more crosses, displaying his ability to play effectively in any position across the midfield. He also gets his foot in when need be, having made 49 tackles.

Justin Walker has also been effective across the midfield, although he has not had as much success in front of goal as Spring, as he is still waiting to hit the back of the net this season.

Spring's ability to stretch himself into filling any role has meant that he has conceded 37 fouls, although these appear to be for minor offences as he is yet to be suspended this season.

Walker has an impeccable disciplinary record as he is yet to receive a card this season.

These men are likely to be at the heart of all the best moves this afternoon, so sit back and enjoy watching these two playmakers in action.

	Spring	Walker
Minutes On Pitch	1,871	1,552

### Goal Attempts

Goals	2	0
Shots On Target (inc goals)	9	3
Shots Off Target	16	2
Blocked Shots	7	4

### Passing

Goal Assists	3	1
Total Passes	868	629
Pass Completion	72%	73%

### Crossing

Total Crosses	90	53
Cross Completion	29%	49%

### Dribbling

Dribbles & Runs	58	45
Dribble Completion	76%	64%

### Defending

Tackles Made	49	35
Tackles Won	69%	60%
Blocks	22	8
Clearances	57	53
Interceptions	11	11

### Discipline

Fouls	37	19
Offside	1	0
Yellow Cards	3	0
Red Cards	0	0

Courtesy of Carling Opta

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# Commercial



**John Bailey**



OUR match sponsors today are the Ludlow Group of Luton, a name that will be familiar to most people in Luton, and especially Town supporters. Chairman Derek Ludlow has been a staunch Luton Town fan for 30 years or more, and is currently a vice president of the club.

He tells us that like the football club the Ludlow Group enters the new millennium in a spirit of confidence and optimism. The company, based in Thistle Road, Luton, has made remarkable progress since it was formed by Derek and his late brother Frank nearly 30 years ago and Derek is determined to see the growth continue into the new century. He says: "We aim to grasp opportunities, to expand and change our businesses as necessary, and to ensure that we maintain our customer-driven objectives."

Sounds exactly the same as our business plan at Kenilworth Road!

The Ludlow Group now comprises Ludlows of Luton, industrial paints and welding suppliers;

Frank Ludlow Ltd, motor body repairers; and Premier Bodyshops, for executive marque motor body repairs.

As always, we appreciate the long-standing support of sponsors like Ludlows, and hope they have an enjoyable day with us. Knowing Derek, it will be even better if we get the right result.

He said: "As long-standing supporters, we wish Luton Town FC every success in the new millennium - Division One here we come!"

WE ARE also delighted to welcome more regular and loyal supporters of the club as today's match ball sponsors. David and Pauline Cain run DAP Consulting, which is based in Bishops Stortford, but have never given up their connections with Luton, and it is always a pleasure to see them at Kenilworth Road. Their business is providing specialist consultancy services to governments, and their pleasure is watching Luton Town. "We wish the team lots of luck against Scunthorpe today, and look forward to a great young team enjoying a successful season," said David.

*John Bailey*



WHAT'S the perfect birthday present for a young Luton Town fan? Graham Randall will find out today, because he is celebrating his ninth birthday by being mascot at Kenilworth Road.

It will be a day to remember - he is a VIP guest of the club,

and will meet all the players, and run out onto the pitch with them before kick-off. He will also have photographs as souvenirs of the occasion. Graham comes from Brooklands Close, Leagrave, and attends Pirton Hill Junior School. As well as watching Luton Town alongside his dad he likes swimming.

Like us, he is hoping that the Town manage to complete negotiations to bring back Tony Thorpe on a permanent basis, because the striker is Graham's favourite footballer.

We are sure Graham will have a very happy birthday with us today, and if you have a youngster who deserves a very special treat we will be happy to talk to you about how a boy or girl can be commercial mascot at a Town game. Ring Luton 411622 and ask for the commercial department.

## GOLDEN GAMBLE

THE LAST Golden Gamble jackpot of 1999 was paid out on Boxing Day, and we apologise that because of production schedules we are unable to bring you full details of the winner today. But when the holidays are over we will publish details of the winners from the Fulham and Chesterfield matches.

Meanwhile, one lucky supporter can be sure of a very profitable start to the new millennium this afternoon - the pound-a-ticket Golden Gamble lottery has already paid out over £6,000 to lucky winners this season, with some jackpots topping £500.

Today, as usual, sellers will be on duty all around the ground offering you the chance to win a handful of cash. The prize is 50 per cent of the takings, handed over at half-time. Club funds benefit from the other half of the take, so even if your ticket is not a winner, you are helping Luton Town FC.

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LENNIE LAWRENCE	Luton Town Supporters Club, Milton Keynes
JOHN MOORE	Ian Smith
CLIVE GOODYEAR	Christopher O'Toole, Luton Student Union May Ball 2000

### The sponsorship package includes:

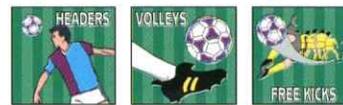
- Publicity within the matchday programme for every league and club fixture for season 1999/2000.
- Invitation to a VIP day to one match during the season 1999/2000 along with other sponsors.\*
- Presentation evening at the end of the season, to include wine reception, 3-course dinner, entertainment and the presentation by your sponsored player of his match shirt.\*

For both the VIP day and presentation evening, this package includes yourself only, but additional tickets will be available at an extra cost of £45.00 (inc. VAT) for any guests you may wish to bring along. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

The Total Cost of the package is £230 (inc. VAT) per sponsorship for the remainder season 1999/2000.

# Hatters v Irons

## Irons' Goals For & Against



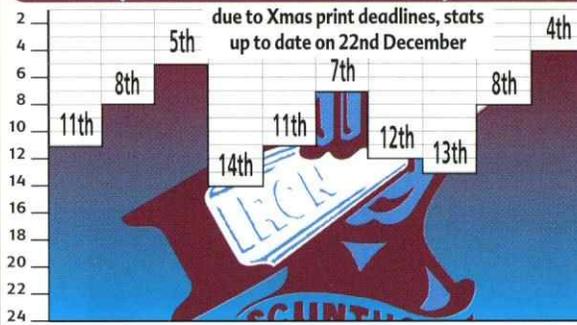
## Irons' Hard Men

Ipoua.....5	nb. League Details Only
Dawson...3	
Logan...3	
Graves...2	
Harsley...2	
Hodges...2	
Wilcox...2	
Calvo-Garcia...1	
Gayle...1	
Fickling...1	

## Hatters' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



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



Div.	89/90	90/91	91/92	92/93	93/94	94/95	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99
F.A.	2	3	1	1	3	2	2	2	3	3
W.C.	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	1
L.S.	Founders	Founders	White	Helliwell	Carrichael	Eyre, Jureff	McFarlane	Clarkson	Forrester	Forrester
Goals	18	23	11	13	18	8	16	13	11	20
Ave Att	3,522	3,114	3,215	3,147	3,181	2,917	2,434	2,606	3,006	3,741

## Irons' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



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

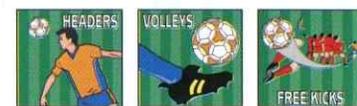
W	L	D	L	S	W	S	W	L	L	L	S	L
7	7	8	8	11	12	15	16	19	19	19	20	20
17	20	20	20	18	17	14	14	14	14	17	16	19

Ground:	Glanford Park	8,775 v Rotherham United, Division 4, 1 May 1989	8-1 v Torquay United, Division 3, 28 Oct 1995
Capacity:	9,183	Record Receipts: £44,481.50 v Leeds	Record Cup Win: 9-0 v Boston United
Pitch Measurement:	110 x 71	Rumbelows Cup 2nd round 1st leg, 24 Sept 1991	FA Cup 1st round, 21 Nov 1953
Record Attendance:	23,935 v	Year Formed: 1899	Record Defeat: 0-8 v Carlisle United
Portsmouth, FA Cup 4th round, 30 Jan 1954 (Old Showground)	Record League Win: 8-1 v Luton Town, Division 3, 24 April 1965	Record League Loss: 1-5 v Luton Town, Division 3 (N), 25 Dec 1952	Most Capped Player: None
		Most League Goals: 88, Division 3 (N), 1957-58	Most League Appearances: Jack Brownsword, 595, 1950-55

## Irons' last line up

- 13 **Lionel Perez** Goalkeeper 11 Apps 0 Goals Age 32 Ht 5'11" Wt 13:04 Prev Club: on loan from Newcastle Int.:-
- 6 **Chris Hope** Defender 21 Apps 1 Goal Age 27 Ht 6'1" Wt 12:08 Prev Club: Forest Int.:-
- 3 **Andrew Dawson** Defender 18 Apps 0 Goals Age 21 Ht 5'10" Wt 10:02 Prev Club: Forest Int.:-
- 15 **Ashley Fickling** Defender 13(3) Apps 1 Goal Age 27 Ht 5'10" Wt 11:08 Prev Club: Grimsby Int.: Eng Sch
- 18 **Nathan Stanton** Defender 5(5) Apps 0 Goals Age 18 Ht 5'11" Wt 12:00 Prev Club: - Int.: Eng Yth
- 2 **Paul Harsley** Midfield 21 Apps 2 Goals Age 21 Ht 5'10" Wt 11:03 Prev Club: Grimsby Int.:-
- 8 **Lee Hodges** Midfield 21 Apps 4 Goals Age 21 Ht 5'5" Wt 10:02 Prev Club: West Ham Int.: Eng Sch
- 7 **Justin Walker** Midfield 18(1) Apps 0 Goals Age 24 Ht 6'0" Wt 13:03 Prev Club: Forest Int.: Eng Yth
- 4 **Richard Logan** Midfield 15 Apps 0 Goals Age 30 Ht 6'0" Wt 13:03 Prev Club: Plymouth Int.:-
- 19 **Darryn Stamp** Forward 2(2) Apps 0 Goals Age 21 Ht 6'1" Wt 11:10 Prev Club: - Int.:-
- 12 **Gary Bull** Forward 1(1) Apps 0 Goals Age 33 Ht 5'10" Wt 12:02 Prev Club: York Int.:-
- 9 **Gareth Sheldon** Forward 2(5) Apps 0 Goals Age 19 Ht 5'11" Wt 11:10 Prev Club: - Int.:-
- 11 **Alex Calvo-Garcia** Midfield 18 Apps 1 Goal Age 27 Ht 5'11" Wt 11:10 Prev Club: Eibar Int.:-
- 25 **Guy Ipoua** Forward 16(1) Apps 8 Goals Age 23 Ht 6'1" Wt 13:10 Prev Club: Bristol Rovers Int.:-
- 5 **Russ Wilcox** Defender 12 Apps 0 Goals Age 35 Ht 6'0" Wt 12:13 Prev Club: Preston Int.:-
- 1 **Tom Evans** Goalkeeper 10(1) Apps 0 Goals Age 22 Ht 6'1" Wt 13:02 Prev Club: Palace Int.:-

## Luton's Goals For & Against



## MATCH

The UK's Biggest Selling Football Magazine!  
**Matchmen of the Month!**  
 Blackpool's John Hills took the overall Matchman of the Month award for November with an impressive 3 star ratings and an average of 8.00.

Player	Team	GP	SR	AVI
1 John Hills	Blackpool	5	3	8.0
2 Ryan Williams	Chesterfield	3	2	8.0
3 Sean Gregan	Preston	5	3	7.8
4 Mick Bell	Bristol City	5	3	7.6
5 John Mullin	Burnley	5	1	7.6
6 Robert Taylor	Gillingham	4	2	7.5
= Richard Wilkins	Colchester	4	2	7.5
8 Craig Dudley	Oldham	4	1	7.5
9 Neil Harris	Millwall	7	3	7.4
10 Chris Swailes	Bury	5	2	7.4
= Neil Mustoe	Cambridge	5	2	7.4

Form Guide shows last 15 results.  
 W = Won, L = Lost, S = Score Draw, D = No Score Draw.

Key: GP = league games played during month; SR = no. of star ratings achieved during month; AVI = average, sum of divd total ratings points by number of games played during month.

# Today's Visitors

welcome to Scunthorpe United



## BRIAN LAWS (MANAGER)

First United Manager to take them to promotion in 16 years, Laws will be looking to consolidate their new found position in Division Two. Played under Brian Clough at Nottingham Forest, Joined the Iron from Tarhington in

1997. Played his part in United Reserves Championship win last season in Pontins League Division Three.

## RUSS WILCOX (COACH)

25.3.64 Born Hemsworth Joined Scunthorpe from Preston to bolster their defence.

Was offered coaching post following departure of Mark Lillis last season to Halifax Town, Tough tackling defender, good in the air. Celebrated first appearance last May with Play-Off victory over Leyton Orient.



Scunthorpe United



the players

## TOMMY EVANS

31.12.76 Born boncaster

Agile young keeper signed from Crystal Palace. Took over the number one jersey before Christmas '98 and kept his place throughout the rest of the season. Late save from Inglethorpe at Wembley ensured a capital clean sheet and promotion to Division Two.

## ASHLEY FICKLING

15.11.72 Born Sheffield

Began his career at Sheffield United, moved to Grimsby Town then to Scunthorpe on a free transfer. Versatile defender who can play anywhere across the back line. Injuries restricted appearances in 98/99. Reliable centre half or full back.

## RICHARD LOGAN

24.5.69 Born Barnsley

Signed from Plymouth Argyle last season Logan undoubtedly made a giant contribution to Scunthorpe's promotion challenge. Commanding in defence and dominant in midfield he has the uncanny ability to be in the right place at the right time, be it in defence or attack. Invaluable member of the team.

## STEVE HOUSHAM

24.2.76 Born Gainsborough

Local lad come through the ranks. Can play full back or midfield. Tough tackling defender with an eye for the overlap. Another injury hit season 95/99, but all turned out well when he played his part in the Wembley victory over Leyton Orient. Also plays local league cricket during close season.

## CHRIS HOPE

14.11.73 Born Sheffield

Club captain. Outstanding defender, solid and dependable. Originally at Nottingham Forest.

Joined United on a free. Popular with Iron fans. Scunthorpe turned down £150,000 bid from Reading for his services so highly thought of at Glanford Park. Appeared in Division Three Team of the Season in 98/99, chosen by fellow professionals.



Alex Calvo Garcia

## ANDY DAWSON

20.10.78 Born Northallerton.

Initially joined United on loan from Nottingham Forest last season, then signed for £50,000 before deadline day. Exciting prospect at full back, firm in the tackle, outstanding on the overlap, excellent crosser of the ball, Helped to plug the leak in the Iron's defence when he arrived. Hugely popular with Iron fans.



Chris Hope

## LEE MARSHALL

1.8.75 Born Nottingham

Youngster signed from non-league Eastwood Town. Can play full back or midfield. Began career at Nottingham Forest. Limited first team outings last term, but played a big part in Reserves Pontin's League Division Three title victory.

## PAUL HARSLEY

29.5.78 Born Scunthorpe

Local born midfielder who celebrated his 21st birthday by winning with United at



Richard Logan



# Today's Visitors

## the players

Wembley. Good engine, excellent vision and strong in the tackle. Began at rivals Grimsby Town with Brian Laws who brought him back to his home town on a free transfer. Outstanding prospect.

### JUSTIN WALKER

6.9.75 Born Nottingham

Another player to begin his career at Nottingham Forest, Walker has improved since joining United and is now one of the mainstay of the Iron midfield. Good passer of the ball. Excellent when going forward.

### ALEX CALVO-GARCIA

1.1.72 Born Spain

Spanish midfielder who wrote himself into Scunthorpe folklore with his winning header at

Wembley. Joined from Ordiza in 1997, took a while to adjust to English soccer but now is right at home at Glanford Park. Good eye for a chance, scoring a dozen goals from the middle of the park last term.

### DARRYN STAMP

21.9.78 Born Hull

Twenty year old striker who had limited opportunities in the first team last term. Starred for Reserves in their Championship win. Has good close control and an eye for goal and will hope to make a breakthrough into the first team in 99/2000.

### GARETH SHELTON

31.1.80 Born Birmingham

Burst onto the scene at Glanford Park at the

latter end of 98/99 scoring a decisive winning goal at Southend and two extremely important goals to earn United a Play-Off Semi Final victory over Swansea City. Exciting prospect with bags of pace and a knack of finding the net.

### JOHN GAYLE

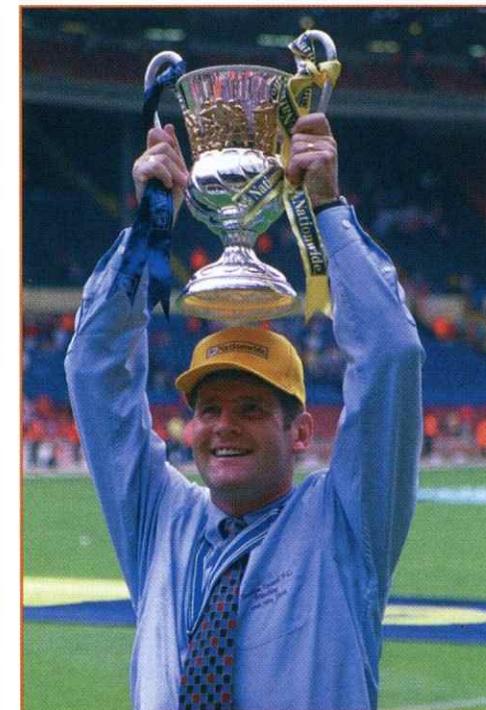
30.7.64 Born Bromsgrove

Giant striker with a whole host of ex-clubs including Premiership Wimbledon, Bristol Rovers, Shrewsbury and Northampton where Scunthorpe signed him from last season. Always a handful for opposition defenders his contribution last season was to take the pressure off top scorers Jamie Forrester and John Eyre, which he did to great effect.

### LEE HODGES

2.3.78 Born Newthorn

21 year old signed for a six figure fee from West Ham United for season 99/2000, that being a club record fee. The Hammers offered him a two year deal but Hodges chose first team football at Glanford Park instead. Ex England U16 International with pace and skill. Promises to be a huge asset for the Iron. Previously on loan at Southend.



Scunthorpe United manager Brian Laws, holds aloft the Division Three Play-Off Trophy after beating Leyton Orient at Wembley

# The Best

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# Hatters On Card

Alan Robinson

So far as we know, when the last millennium came around there were no football matches being played in the vicinity of Kenilworth Road. It was also the case 100 years ago, because Luton's first game in the 20th century was an away fixture against Woolwich Arsenal on January 6, 1900. It was in the Second Division of the Football League, this being Luton's third season as members. But they were finding it tough, and were struggling near the foot of the table.

Appearing at left back for the Town that day was Bill McCurdy, who was in the first of his two spells with the Hatters. It was during the second that the London tobacco firm of Taddy & Co included him and 14 other Town players in their second mammoth series of 400 Prominent Footballers, issued in 1908.

Scottish-born McCurdy first came to Luton from Vale of Clyde FC as a 22-year-old in the summer of 1899. He went straight into the first team, and by coincidence his first home was against the Arsenal.

Luton lost that day, and by the time of the return match in January had managed only two league victories.

The New Year, alas, did not bring a change in fortune because the Gunners won 3-1.

In the same team that day were forwards Tom McInnes and Billy Stewart, who both played in the Town's first-ever Football League fixture, against Leicester Fosse in September 1897. Luton eventually finished second from bottom at the end of the 1899/1900 season, and chose to return to the Southern League rather than apply for re-election to the Football League.

McCurdy stayed for the first half of the new season, but in February 1901 was enticed back into league football by Nottingham Forest. He

made 11 appearances for Forest over the next two years before moving on to Tottenham.

Luton, meanwhile, had consolidated in the Southern League, and in the summer of 1905 were preparing to move into their new ground - yes, Kenilworth Road - and were determined

to assemble a team capable of challenging for honours. And among the new signings that summer was their former tough-tackling defender, McCurdy. He came from Spurs along with forwards Alf Warner and Pat Gallacher.

McCurdy had the distinction of playing in the first-ever match at Kenilworth Road, a 0-0 draw with Plymouth. It is often referred to as the Green game. The official opening kick-off ceremony was performed by J. W. Green, whose name was immortalised for most of the rest of this century as "J. W. Green Noted Ales of Luton." The Town secretary at the time was Charles Green, the referee was named Green and Plymouth then, as now, played in green.

McCurdy was ever-present that season as Luton finished in a creditable fourth place in the league, behind Fulham, Southampton and Portsmouth. The defender was a regular in the Town side until 1910, making 147 Southern League appearances, plus another ten in the FA Cup. His only goal was in the cup, during his first spell here, in a 9-1 victory over the Civil Service in November 1900.

Also included in this Taddy series in 1908 were Bob and Fred Hawkes, Abe Jones, and forwards Bert Moody and Harry Stansfield.

Despite the large number of cards in this set they are now scarce, with examples from provincial clubs like Luton particularly hard to find. So although the catalogue lists items from this series at £12.50 each, you can expect to pay considerably more for Hatters cards.

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# Top Hatters Gallery



## Gary Doherty

**Born:** Donegal, 31.1.80

**Previous clubs:** None

**Joined Luton Town:** as a YTS boy, 1996

**Luton debut:** v Millwall (H) 2.9.97

**Luton Town record until Christmas, 1999:** 61 appearances, 10 goals

Autograph

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There are many benefits for the sponsoring organisation as well as helping the children.

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We also visit students in year 9 upwards in local schools and colleges. So the next time the team visits your school or college take the opportunity to get invaluable advice and guidance through group sessions and individual interviews.

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**Telephone Enquiries:** Mon. – Fri. 8.30am-5.30pm

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

# Blast FROM THE Past

Roger Wash

## Clashes with the Iron



Scunthorpe United were elected to the Football League in 1950, when the competition was extended, and joined Division Three (North) where they stayed until winning the championship in 1958.

They were therefore enjoying their third season in the old Division Two when they first clashed with the Town who had been relegated from the top flight in 1960.

The Hatters, anxious for a quick return back to the top, unfortunately did not start the 1960/61 season well and by the time of our first ever visit to the Old Showground, on 29th October, we had suffered five defeats from the previous six games.

Since ex-England international goalkeeper, Ron Baynham, had suffered a fractured skull during the game against Sheffield United at the end of September, two inexperienced goalkeepers had been tried with one, 16 year old Mike O'Hara, the youngest ever to pull on a Luton shirt. Manager Sam Bartram, himself an ex-goalkeeper, could see the weakness in this department and dipped into the transfer market and bought Jim Standen from Arsenal for £9,000.

Standen made his debut at Scunthorpe and had an absolute nightmare, spilling crosses and shots which luckily were not taken advantage of by the wasteful home forwards. Only one chance was taken with Barrie Thomas (more of whom we shall hear later) presented with an open goal after Standen failed to hold a shot from Brian Godfrey.

Despite all this the Town nearly forced an equaliser in the final ten minutes when Gordon Turner hit a post with a header and Alec Ashworth missed from point blank range.

After this the Hatters managed to struggle up the table and by the time of the return, on the final day of a season that had began full of hope, were glad to be safe from relegation. The game itself, watched by a crowd of 8,873, certainly had 'end of season' written all over it and with both sides forced to field makeshift forward lines because

of injuries, a scoreless draw was the only likely outcome. The Kenilworth Road pitch, which had been like a paddy field for most of the season and was blamed for many of the Town's poor home performances, was now grassless and bone hard and again seen as responsible for the abject spectacle.

In the following season the two teams met at Kenilworth Road in late October and by the admission of Sam Bartram, the Town were terrible in the first half. Scunthorpe were without an away win but were gifted an opener after centre half Mike Collins went off with an injured knee. The unmarked John Kaye was allowed all the time in the world to smash the ball home for an interval lead.

Collins returned in the second period but was merely a limping passenger on the right wing. Ten man Luton, however, tried to make a fist of it and forced Scunthorpe on to the defensive as shots rained in.

The deserved equaliser eventually came with 14 minutes left through Ashworth but as the Town pressed for the winner they were caught out with a sucker punch at the other end. Thomas seized on to a loose ball before drifting past John Groves and delicately placing a shot past Standen in the Luton goal. There was no answer to a blow of that kind!

By the time of the return in March, Scunthorpe were hot on the heels of Liverpool at the top of the table despite the sale of the prolific Thomas to Newcastle. Although this was to be their most successful season ever, only 7,911 turned up to see the home side score twice in two minutes midway through the first half to effectively kill the game off. The luckless Collins must have hated the sound of Scunthorpe as this was to be his final game for the Town.

Both games in 1962/63 were played over the Easter holiday with the Town in a desperate fight to avoid relegation. On Good Friday the Hatters travelled to the Old Showground and with the game scoreless were awarded a penalty after Fred Jardine was brought down in the area.

The normally deadly Gordon Turner had missed



Dave Pacey (left) clears the ball off the line at Scunthorpe with goalkeeper Jim Standen struggling to get back. October 1960.

a spot-kick at Walsall the previous week and was given the chance to make amends but shot wide. The Hatters never really recovered from this set back and went behind just before the interval when McGuigan sent in a speculative long range header that completely deceived Baynham and dipped into the net. The game was made safe when Archie Gibson netted from close range four minutes from the end.

The two teams lined up again on Easter Monday at Kenilworth Road. Scunthorpe had not played a game in between but made three changes to their side while the Town had played on the Saturday and had thrashed Norwich 4-2 with new goalscoring sensation Ron Davies bagging all four.

This time the Town attacked their weakened opponents from the start but it was not until six minutes from time that they made the vital breakthrough. A free-kick, 20 yards out was arrowed into the top corner of the net by Turner, to seal a vital victory.

Unfortunately, the win was not enough and the Town suffered the inevitable relegation but were joined a year later by Scunthorpe who had faced the drop after selling their two best players, John Kaye and John McGuigan.

The Hatters had gone 13 games without a win when they entertained Scunthorpe on 28th October 1964 but for the first 20 minutes played like worldbeaters without being able to put the

ball into the net. When they eventually scored, through Tom McKechnie after 32 minutes, the lead was immediately pegged back by Dick Scott and the confidence drifted out of the Town side who had to settle for a disappointing draw.

The final game in the series of clashes between the sides does not make pleasant reading for Luton supporters. The penultimate game of the campaign saw the Town clinging to hopes of avoiding the drop by winning at Scunthorpe and hoping that Oldham lost.

The match got off to the worst possible start with the Hatters going three down in the opening seven minutes with the defence a shambles. A goal was pulled back through John O'Rourke and by the interval it appeared that the Town were attempting to make a game of it by continually forcing their opponents back.

Luckless Luton had, however, not taken account of the fact that Barrie Thomas was now back from Newcastle and within a minute of the restart he decided to play and had the ball in the Hatters net. O'Rourke then went off injured and all the Town's hopes went with him leaving Thomas to play like a Brazilian and score four more including a hat-trick in only four minutes. Unsurprisingly, the 1-8 defeat sent us down to Division Four!

# Community & Schools Programme



## School Visit Project

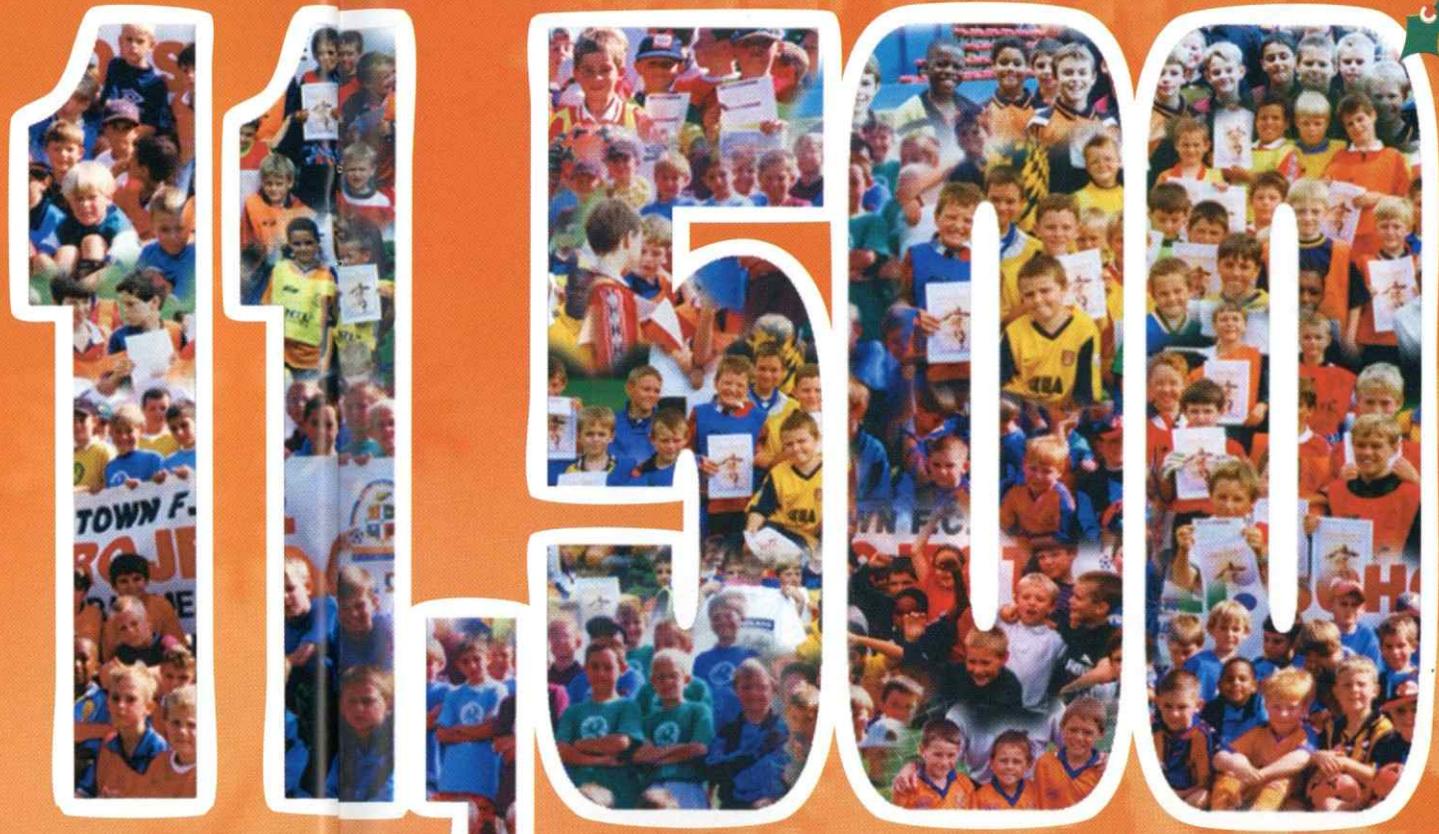
**"Yes, 11,500 is the unbelievable number of school children we have coached absolutely free of charge this year in schools throughout Beds Herts and Bucks."**

When we set up the School Visit Project with ntl at the beginning of the year we never set ourselves a target, however it soon became obvious that we would be coaching thousands of boys and girls this year so back in August we decided to set ourselves a target of 10,000.

We thought this was an ambitious target then, however as more and more schools contacted us the numbers just went up and up and as you can see from the list of schools we have covered, the ntl Schools Visit Project has been a huge success.

To help us build on this success ntl are once again providing sponsorship for next year and hopefully this will enable us to apply for further government funding from Sportsmatch. This is great news as the list of schools for next year is already pretty big and now our funding is secure we can begin to plan the hundreds of school visits for 2000.

If you would like to become involved in our School Visit Project or would like more information then simply ring the Community & Schools Programme at the Club on 01582 411622. Go on, make sure your school is on the list for the year 2000.



Heathfields Lower, Caddington  
Moorfields Prep, Luton  
Willowfields Lower, Caddington  
Pinchmill Lower, Bedford  
Sommeries Junior, Luton  
Emerson Valley, Milton Keynes  
Leedon Lower, Leighton Buzzard  
Harpenden Prep, Harpenden  
Edlesborough, Combined, Edlesborough  
Ramridge Juniors, Luton  
St Josephs Juniors, Luton  
Surrey St Junior, Luton  
Oughtonhead Lower, Hitchin  
Ashcroft High, Luton  
Bushmead Juniors, Luton  
Gilbert Inglefield, Leighton Buzzard  
Sundon Park Junior, Luton  
Icknield Junior, Luton  
Icknield Infants, Luton  
Sacred Heart Junior, Luton  
Sacred Heart Infants, Luton  
Stopsley Juniors, Luton

Oughtonhead Junior, Hitchin  
Stopsley Infants, Luton  
Thomas Whitehead, Houghton Regis  
Leighton Middle, Leighton Buzzard  
Streetfield Middle, Dunstable  
Robert Bruce Middle, Bedford  
Ashton St Peters, Dunstable  
Harlington Lower, Harlington  
Hawthorne Lower, Houghton Regis  
Whipperley Infants, Luton  
Doverly Down, Leighton Buzzard  
Warden Hill Infants, Luton  
Bramingham Primary, Luton  
Wigmore Junior, Luton  
Clipstone Brook, Leighton Buzzard  
Southfields Lower, Houghton Regis

Ashton Middle, Dunstable  
Warden Hill Juniors, Luton  
St Margarets Juniors, Luton  
Hadrian Lower, Dunstable  
St Georges Lower, Leighton Buzzard  
Beechwood Juniors, Luton  
Brewers Hill Middle, Dunstable  
Redborne Upper, Ampthill  
Shefford Middle, shefford  
Maulden Lower, Maulden  
Totternhoe Lower, Totternhoe  
St Martin de Porres, Luton  
Five Oaks Middle, Caddington  
Ferrars Junior, Luton  
Southcote Lower, Leighton Buzzard  
Lancot Lower, Dunstable  
Wood End Junior, Harpenden  
Chantry Infants, Luton  
Cottesloe Lower, Cottesloe  
Slip End Junior, Caddington  
Pirton Hill Infants, Luton  
Cottesloe Upper, Cottesloe

Foxdell Junior, Luton  
Arnold Middle, Barton  
Church End Lower, Marston Moretain  
Cardinal Newman, Luton  
Kings Houghton Middle, Houghton Regis  
Northfields Upper, Dunstable  
Maidenhall Junior, Luton  
Greenfields Lower, Dunstable  
Denbigh Junior, Luton  
Flitwick Lower, Flitwick  
Kingsmore Lower, Flitwick  
Tithe Farm Lower, Houghton Regis  
William Ransome, Hitchin  
Clophill Lower, Ampthill  
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# Junior Hatters

welcome

## Celebrate the Millennium

IT'S almost your last chance to buy a ticket for the Junior Hatters Millennium Party. It will be held on Wednesday, January 5 at the Ascot Room, at the Co-op Club, Round Green, Luton.

It will start at 7pm and lasts for a couple of hours or so, and there will be snacks and drinks as well as a disco. There will be plenty of fun and games, with the Town players joining in. Tickets cost £4 each, and are for Junior Hatters only. They are available at the Town ticket office on a first come, first served, basis. If you are not in the Junior Hatters, but would like to go to the party, you still have time to join. Visit or phone the ticket office on Luton 416976 for more information. You can call in after today's match, or tomorrow, when the ticket office opening hours return to normal.

OUR Saturday Club will resume in a couple of weeks, helping Junior Hatters enjoy football as a real day out. We meet at Dallow School at 12 noon, and if the weather is kind we use the Dallow pitch for football matches. If the weather is bad we have a foam ball for indoor soccer, and that is always popular. All sorts of other entertainment is on offer, and naturally the Saturday Club is fully supervised.

The Saturday Club has a few vacancies, so if you want to get everything possible out of coming to football at Luton Town, why not join us? The

## Today's Mascot



TWELVE-year-old Anthony Dumpleton goes down in Luton Town history today - the first Junior Hatters mascot of the new millennium.

The chance of having your name picked out by a computer is one of the benefits of Junior Hatters membership, and the Dumpleton family have two chances, because Anthony's younger brother, Kevin, is also a Town fanatic. Their parents are also keen Town supporters. Today Anthony, of Pottery Close, Luton, will be the centre of attraction, with very pleasant duties to perform.

Before the game he meets the Town team in the dressing room, and he will particularly like chatting to Stuart Douglas, because the striker is his favourite player. Having joined him and the rest of the team at the warm-up, Anthony will go to the centre circle with Marvin Johnson to meet the ref and assistants, and the Scunthorpe captain, for the toss-up.

Anthony knows all about the ritual, because his hobbies are watching and playing football, and he also likes the odd game of rugby.

It will give him plenty to talk about when he goes back to Cardinal Newman school after the holidays, and we hope he and his family enjoy their special day out at Kenilworth Road.

price is £5 for Junior Hatters who have season tickets, or £9 with a match ticket included. Very often we have visits by Town players, and we provide a lunch of sausage and chips, with a drink. We have a quiz in our family room, then watch the game from the Kenilworth lower tier and meet up with parents and friends after the game.

We also organise trips to a lot of away games, often to meet up with the juniors of other clubs, and sometimes we have mascots at away matches.

If you would like to join the Junior Hatters, call the Ticket Office on  
**01582 416976**

# Over the Bar

drink to the Hatters in these pubs

Tony and Rikki welcome you to

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# Hatters Away

travel information

## Stoke City v Luton Town



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THE END of our FA Cup dreams means that we will be going to Stoke on Saturday, January 8, for our second visit to the Britannia Stadium, and Stoke City plead with visiting fans to use coach or rail transport rather than private car.

As usual the Bobbers Travel Club and Town on Tour are offering reliable transport, and if you pick up their coaches at the ground, secure parking is available for £3 at Maple Road.

The Bobbers coach leaves Cranfield at 10am, with various pick-up points on the way to Luton, and departure time from Kenilworth Road is 11am. The fare is £10.50 adults, and £8.50 for junior and senior citizens and tickets can be bought at the Bobbers Travel Club kiosk before home matches, or by phone call to Paul Deason after 6pm on 01234 750996. He will also be pleased to enrol you into the Bobbers Travel Club - membership is obligatory to use the service, but life membership costs only £1.

Town on Tour's executive coach service will leave Maple Road at 11.30am. It will also pick up from Milton Keynes Coachway at about 11.50. The fare is £11.50 for adult members of Luton Town Supporters Club, £9.50 for concessions, and £13.00 for all others. You can book at the LTSC kiosk in Kenilworth Road before or after today's game, or through the club shop at other times. You might find it worthwhile joining the Supporters Club - it's £6 for adults, £5 for concessions, or £12 for families of up to two adults and two children, and they all get discounts on Town on Tour.

## DIY travellers

IF YOU want to drive to the Britannia Stadium, the two-hour trip is easy, but parking is not. Stoke City insist that to use the car park at the ground, you must buy a £3 ticket in advance. We have a limited allocation at the Kenilworth Road ticket office. Stoke will not take cash on the day. Their information includes a warning that if you get in without an official pass your car will be clamped and the release fee is £50. They also advise that while there is no street parking, other car parks are available, at the Booker Cash & Carry, £1 per vehicle, or at a pay and display council car park just beyond it. A shuttle coach service operates from there to the ground at £1 return. Our advice, based on last season, is to look for the Heron Cross car park, £1 a car, and then take a walk of about ten minutes to the stadium.

The road trip from Luton is north up M1, onto M6 and leave at junction 15 to take the A500. At the first exit take the A34 towards Stone, and follow the signs for Trentham. At the next roundabout turn left on to Trentham Road, the A5035 and that leads to the stadium. Don't be kidded by the A50 which runs close to the stadium - it gives 'no access to the car park. **Mileage from Luton:** 135.

## Blackpool v Luton Town

BLACKPOOL is the destination on January 15, another trip up the M6, a drive of a little over three hours. Town on Tour are charging £16.50 for adult LTSC members, £14 for junior and senior members, and £18 for all others. Departure time is 9.30 from Maple Road, and 20 minutes later at Milton Keynes Coachway. The Bobbers leave Cranfield at 8am and Luton an hour later, and the fare is £15.50 and £13 for concessions.

## DIY travellers

TO DRIVE to Bloomfield Road, head north up M1 and M6 all the way to junction 32. Take the M55 into Blackpool. Stay on that road, going straight ahead at a roundabout after 13 miles, and you are on the A5230 Yeadon Way. Carry on past Blackpool South railway station and the ground is ahead of you, with ample council pay and display parking within easy reach of Bloomfield Road. **Mileage from Luton:** 220.

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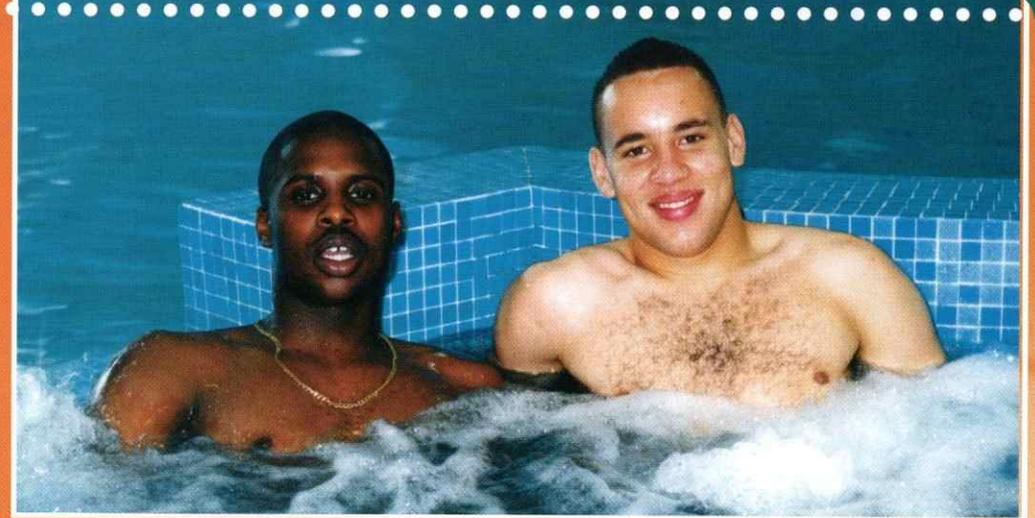
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# Hatters Chatter



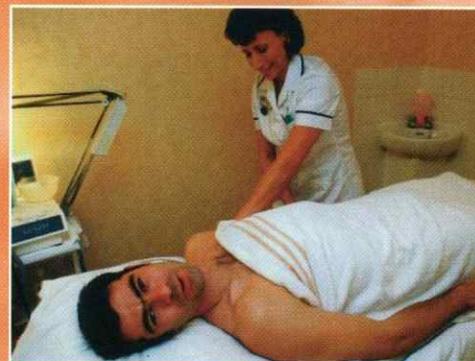
● Nathan Abbey and Liam George enjoy a tingling sensation in the Jacuzzi.

WE reported in the matchday magazine a few weeks ago that our players had been invited to a health farm for a spot of pampering, thanks to the hospitality of Stephen Purdew. Our photographer managed to slip in to catch them with their boots off, so to speak, and here is the proof that our boys certainly know how to give themselves a real treat. When a bit of rest and relaxation is called for, the team heads for Henlow Grange Health

Farm, and the pictures show them enjoying its excellent modern facilities.

They had massages, and were given a free run of everything else, including a Life Fitness gym, a 25-metre half-Olympic swimming pool, and could ease their aching limbs in the sauna and steam rooms.

They were also very appreciative of a delicious lunch, full of healthy options of course!



● Julian Watts stays well covered for the camera while getting a massage. The lads voted it considerably better than Clive Goodyear's ministrations!



● Skipper Marvin Johnson has every reason for his bright smile as his right foot gets expert attention. We wondered if it was a dummy run for a spot of beauty treatment!

For all the latest news, views and interviews call

**CLUBCALL - 09068 121 123**

(Calls charged at 60p per minute at all times)

# Mini Hatters

our youngest fans

WITH the new millennium just dawned, it seemed appropriate today to carry a picture of what we believe to be the youngest-ever Luton Town fan to appear in the matchday magazine.

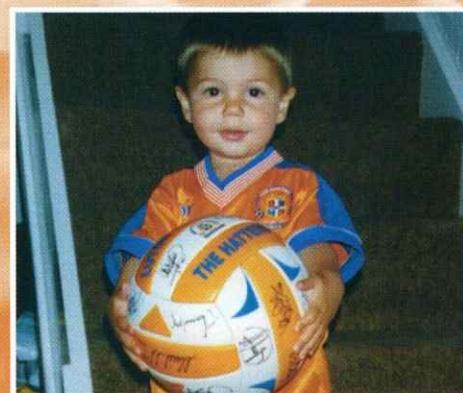
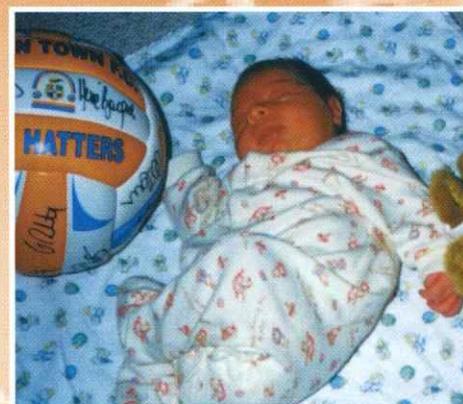
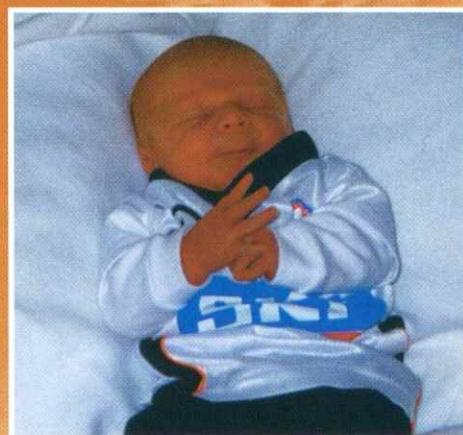
**Danny Boon** is the baby wearing the natty Luton Town top, and the family is obviously a little keen on the Town, because Danny was all of four hours old when he was registered as a member of the Junior Hatters.

He lives at Cuffley Court, Woodhall Farm, Hemel Hempstead, and we look forward to the day when he can toddle into Luton to see the Town in action!

Pushing hard for the title "youngest ever" is **Sophie Louise Eggleton**. She was less than two days old when the picture was taken, but it may be a while before she comes to Kenilworth Road to shake a rattle for the Town. Her parents are Lesley and Mark Eggleton, once of Luton but now living in Dallas, Texas. Proud grandmother Mrs Nancy Newberry, from Hemel Hempstead, sent the picture to us, explaining that Mark is still an avid Luton supporter despite being on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean.

"He rings each week for the latest result and match report," she added. Thanks to a loving grandmother, we hear that Father Christmas went to Dallas and delivered a smart Luton Town sleeping suit for young Sophie Louise.

Our other mini-Hatter is a real grown up in comparison to Louise and Danny. Proudly wearing his Luton Town shirt, and holding his signed club football, is two-year-old **Reece Boutwood**. His grandfather is a real Town fanatic, season ticket holder Dave Boutwood, who is sure that little Reece is destined for similar pleasures. "He is already looking forward to granddad taking him to his first game," he said.



# Hatters Abroad

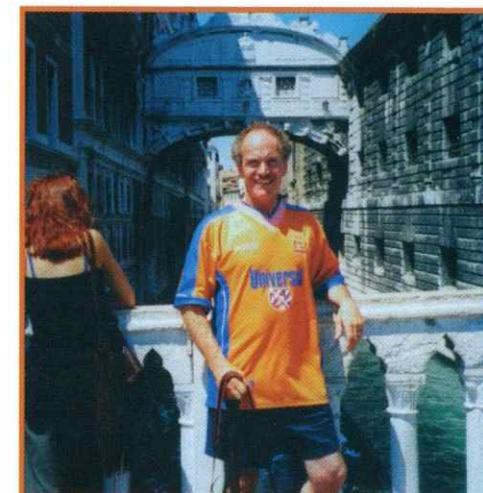
carrying the colours

PART of a holiday trip to Honolulu went off track for Town season ticket holder Alan Wheatley, of Sundon Park, but it led to him visiting an unusual war memorial.

He went to the Pacific to celebrate his 40th birthday and to see a special invitation Indy Car three-day race. But the race was cancelled, so he had time to visit other parts of the Hawaiian island, and the picture of him in his Town kit was taken on board the USS Missouri, otherwise known as "Mighty Mo." The battleship is now part of an American heritage memorial to the Pearl Harbor raid, which led to the USA joining the second world war.

Launched in 1944, the Missouri saw active service in the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa, and in September 1945 was the stage for the formal ceremony at which Japan surrendered. Later, the ship was part of the UN forces in the Korean war, and also served in the Gulf war before being decommissioned in 1992. The ship is now preserved, in fighting trim, as a war memorial.

OUR other Hatters Abroad picture is from nearer to home, and was sent in by Daniel Musson, who is the Town fan on the right. He comes from Great Barr, Birmingham, and his pal pictured with him is Matthew Jennison, of



Hitchin. If you know your football grounds, you might recognise the stadium - Hampden Park, Glasgow.

The photograph was taken on Saturday November 13, on a day when the two Town fans enjoyed the result a lot more than they had done the previous evening.

Daniel explained: "We made the trip to Cambridge on the Friday to see the Town lose at the Abbey Stadium, then travelled up to Glasgow to see England beat Scotland in the first leg of the Euro 2000 play-off."



OUR Hatters Abroad feature is open to all fans - if you have an interesting snap of Town kit in far-flung places, or even close to home if the subject or location is picturesque, we would like to consider it for publication. Please send it, with a few details, to the matchday magazine editor at Luton Town FC. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want the photographs back.

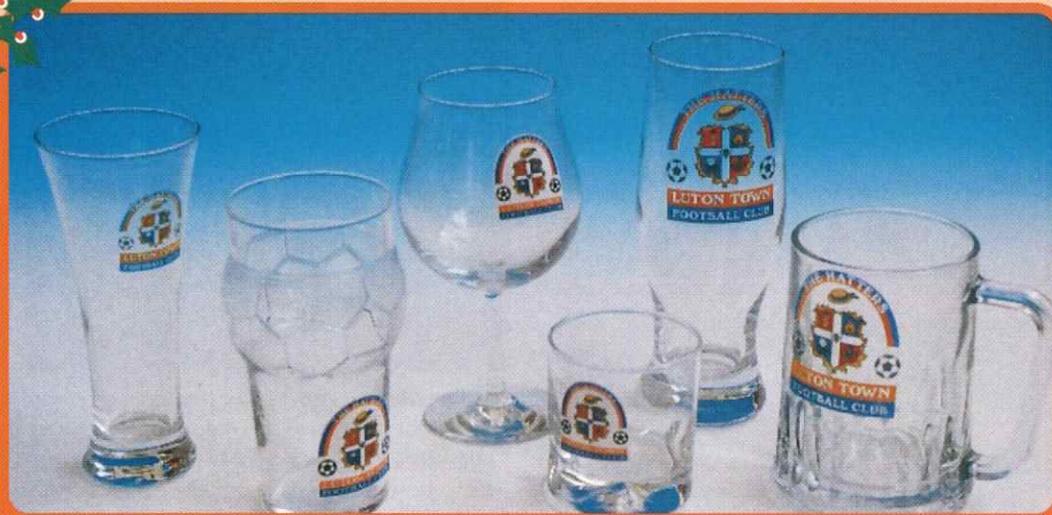
We are also interested in hearing about our very young fans sporting the Town's colours for our occasional "Mini Hatters" series.

# HATTERS SHOP

Merry Christmas and a very Happy

# HATTERS SHOP

New Year from all at the Club Shop



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Football Logo V-Neck S-XL £15.00	Football Logo Ringer S-XL £15.00	Football Logo Fleece S-XL £49.00	Football Logo V-Neck Polo S-XL £22.50	Football Logo Sweat Shirt S-XL £26.00
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**Large Kit Teddy**  
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**£29.95**



These are just a selection of the many new lines of clothing and souvenirs now available at the Club Shop

## CLUB SHOP HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS

Monday and Tuesday, December 27 and 28: Closed  
 Wednesday and Thursday, December 29 and 30: 10am - 4pm  
 New Year's Eve: 10am - 2pm  
 Friday and Saturday Jan 1 and 2: Closed  
 Monday Jan 3: 9am - 5.30pm  
 Thereafter as normal



# Goodbye 1999....

WE HAVE had a few funny old seasons in the past, but rarely have the Town given their fans so much to worry about as in 1999. But we got through, and the very fact that we are still alive and kicking was a huge relief after the uncertainties of the summer. Brian Swain offers a very personal view of the past 12 months.

## January

The old year has gone, and so has Steve Davis, back to Burnley for £800,000 - his decision, not the club's. The new year starts with a 2-2 draw at Colchester and the task of filling Davis's boots goes to Sean Dyche, 28, on loan from Bristol City. On his debut we are stuffed 3-0 at home by Walsall on a night when Emmerson Boyce and Tresor Kandol make debuts in a largely-reserve side.

We are 14th in the table after eight league games without victory, still suffering a Worthington Cup hang-over. Luckily, out of form Wycombe are the next visitors. We win 3-1, including Matthew Spring's first-ever goal. Phil Gray and Paul McCarthy have a handbag punch-up and are sent off, and Keith Ryan follows, leaving Wycombe down to nine men. Manager Neil Smillie is ordered out of the referee's room after the game, and is sacked a few hours later. Serves him right for scoring for Reading when they beat us at Wembley in 1988 before we lifted the one that really mattered! Landry Zahana-Oni comes from Bromley for £25,000, Herve Bacque leaves. Wigan win 4-0 at Kenilworth Road after Kelvin Davis is sent off at 1-0.

## February

Steve Davis is a loser as we win 2-1 at Turf Moor, Nathan Abbey making a debut, but then Wrexham win 2-1 at Kenilworth Road. Events off the field are more worrying: a threatening letter and unlit Molotov cocktail are shoved through David Kohler's letter box at home, and he decides to sell his stake and quit. Three days later the grandiose Kohlerdome scheme is finally rejected in the High Court. We lose at home to Notts County, but Stuart Douglas gets the only goal as we beat Blackpool on the day Chris Willmott makes his debut.

## March

A boardroom split becomes public. Cliff Bassett tries to break the deadlock by calling in the receivers. That evening we draw 1-1 at home to Reading - Spring scores, Alexander misses a penalty and Paul McLaren is sent off for two yellow cards.

Receiver John Kelly moves in. Kohler is sacked as MD to save his salary and perks. Deadline day sees the receiver smiling: Alexander goes to Preston for £50,000 with add-ons to come; Reading sign Sean Evers for £500,000. Gerry Harrison's three-month loan ends and the receiver will not spend the £50,000 Sunderland are asking. (He's back with us now, looking for another club after falling out with Peter Reid). Lawrence brings back Sean Dyche and Tony Thorpe on loan.

## April

Gavin McGowan is sent off for two yellows in a 1-1 home draw with Oldham and at York we come back from a goal down to win. But we are more worried at still being in receivership, and wonder if we can kick off the next season. Fans flock to launch FLAG and £10,000 is raised in one evening as more than 1,000 cram into a hall at Vauxhall Toddington to discuss ways of buying the club. Emmerson Boyce makes a debut as we slump 1-0 at home to Lincoln, who are on their way to relegation.

## May

The season ends with a 1-0 win at Millwall, Thorpe netting his fourth goal in eight appearances. The last home game is another flop - our ninth league defeat at Kenilworth Road is doubly embarrassing because Macclesfield are already relegated and Simon Davies, a misfit among the Hatters, scores a cracking winner. But we all enjoy seeing our 1959 FA Cup final heroes take a bow. We wish Syd Owen was still alive to join them.

## June

All is quiet on the receivership front, but the squad is reduced dramatically. Free transfers are given to Mitchell Thomas, Nathan Abbey, Jimmy Cox and Paul "sicknote" Showler. Julian James, who gave so much to Luton Town, regrettably accepts his career is over, ended by a dodgy tackle by Barry Hayles at Bristol Rovers in April 1998 which left James with his right leg broken in two places. Chris Willmott (£350,000) and Kelvin Davis (£600,000) are sold to Wimbledon. In receivership, transfer income is now £1.5million, with another £200,000 to come depending on Kelvin Davis's appearances at Wimbledon. He hasn't actually made one in the Premiership yet. Total outlay on new players: not a bean.

# Welcome 2000

## July

Boardroom row rumbles on and Football League is threatening to chuck us out if a deal is not reached. Nathan Abbey hears about Davis leaving, extricates himself from Germinal Beerwchott of Antwerp, and returns on a short-term contract, later to be extended for the rest of the season. Receivers keep the purse-strings tight, and we are about to field the cheapest team in the league, costing precisely nothing, but full of very good value players - thank God for a good youth policy!

Efe Sodje wants to sign on a free from Macclesfield, but the receivers will not have him on the wages bill, so he must wait. Enough trialists flock to Kenilworth Road to fill two teams, but Lawrence decides to put his faith in the kids, like 17-year-old Matthew Taylor, who is about to go straight from youth to league football.

## August

With league status at risk, the three directors lined up against Kohler eventually get their way minutes before the deadline, 15 hours before kick-off. Kohler takes something over £1million, and Bassett is a reluctant chairman and majority shareholder. He is owed £3million by the club, and wants support from other investors.

A 0-0 draw at Notts County is not the best game you have ever seen, but the 1,500 Town fans are in high spirits at the survival of the club. Pity one or two get themselves arrested. Sodje signs a one-year contract, as does Abbey, and experienced Adam Locke joins after being released by Bristol City. They also give us Julian Watts on loan, later to be signed on a free. Ray McKinnon declines a short contract, and chooses Livingston and the Scottish League Division One. (My wife remembers it well - knowing how to treat a lady, I took her on honeymoon on the Town's '96 pre-season tour. She quite liked Stirling Albion where they gave her a blanket to keep warm in August.)

Liam George, back from a broken leg, scores his first-ever league goals in a 3-2 home win over Blackpool. Tresor Kandol gets his first-ever senior goal in a 2-2 draw at Bristol Rovers, but we are out of the Worthington Cup, 4-2 on aggregate after losing at home. We end the month second in the league, our best in 1999.

## September

Taylor registers his first league goal in a 3-1 home win over Wrexham, but Phil Gray and Andrew Fotiadis

suffer serious injuries and will see little more action before Christmas. We sign 20-year-old Ipswich reserve Neil Midgely on loan. His debut is in a 4-2 win at home to Oxford, in which Stuart Fraser is the latest youngster to score his first-ever league goal. We are in third place in the league. Great expectations!

## October

Midgely's turn to break his duck in the league, but we lose 2-1 at Oldham, a week after a 1-0 defeat at Wigan, and drop to tenth. We are green with envy at Wigan's new stadium. It's a proper football ground, no roof and a pitch designed to lay there and do nothing dramatic like hover-crafting itself out into the car park.

Receivership ends at last, after seven months, with the final documents signed and Bassett now in charge. He's a genuine fan, proud of the town where he developed his business to become a millionaire. The club owes him £3million. We celebrate by coming back from one down to beat Gillingham 3-1 at Kenilworth Road to climb to seventh place in the table.

## November

Home results in the league are impeccable, but away failures are gnawing away at promotion hopes. Losing by the only goal at Millwall was bad enough, but 3-1 away to lowly Cambridge was hard to take. A £250,000 FA Cup run is some consolation - after beating Kingstonian we get through in a replay at Lincoln, both games on Sky TV.

Midgely's loan ends, and we get Tony Thorpe back, on another loan. We need him - impressive Preston, second in the table, win 2-0, our first home league defeat of the season.

## December

First Division moneybags Fulham are given a fright at Craven Cottage in the FA Cup. More than 2,000 Town fans see a 2-2 draw on a day we might have snatched victory, but in the replay Fulham are ruthless at punishing mistakes and cruise through 3-0 after being made to struggle for nearly an hour. The gate is the season's highest - hardly the occasion to demonstrate the frailties of a team which has also been knocked out of the Auto Windscreens Shield by two penalties at Oxford. The heroes of Craven Cottage are also fall-guys at Colchester, where we lose 3-0. We are now out of the top ten, but not to worry - five or six straight wins will make it a very happy new year, which is what I wish to everyone north of Vicarage Road!

## Biggest Wins & Defeats; Top Scorers

Goals	Player	League / Lge Cup / FA Cup
4-0	Oxford & Colchester	
1-5	Notts County	
10	Stein	7 2 1
2-0	Wycombe	
0-5	Bury	
8	Murphy	8 0 0
3-0	Colchester	
1-4	v Bournemouth / 0-3 v Bristol Rovers	
9	Owusu	8 0 1
5-2	Blackpool	
0-3	v Gillingham & Oxford	
5	Tinnion	3 0 2
3-0	v Brentford & Luton	
1-3	Wigan	
14	Roberts	11 3 0
5-0	Wrexham	
0-1	v Bristol Rovers / 1-2 v Luton & Scunthorpe	
10	Payton	10 0 0
5-0	Blackpool	
4	games by a 2 goal margin	
11	Lawson	10 1 0
5-2	Colchester	
4	games by a 2 goal margin	
18	Butler	14 3 1
3-0	Colchester	
1-3	v Wycombe / 0-2 v Millwall & Wigan	
8	Nugent	5 1 2
4-2	v Cambridge / 2-0 v Preston	
0-3	Wigan	
9	Reeves	7 2 0
3-0	Luton	
0-4	Bournemouth	
7	Tresor Lua Lua	5 1 1
5-1	Wrexham	
0-2	v Preston / 1-3 v Luton	
18	Taylor	15 1 2
3-1	v Gillingham & Wrexham / 4-2 v Oxford	
0-3	v Colchester & Bristol Rovers	
12	George	10 0 2
5-0	Reading	
1-3	v Stoke / 0-2 v Preston & Gillingham	
12	Harris	12 0 0
5-1	Bournemouth	
0-2	v Preston & Bristol Rovers	
10	Stallard	10 0 0
2-0	Bury	
0-2	v Preston & Brentford	
8	Allott	7 1 0
3-0	Bristol City	
0-4	Bournemouth	
12	Murphy	6 3 3
3-0	v Blackpool & Bournemouth	
1-4	Wigan	
15	Macken	12 2 1
2-0	Bury	
0-5	Millwall	
10	Caskey	5 2 3
3-1	v Cambridge & Bournemouth	
4	games by a 3 goal margin	
8	Ipoua	8 0 0
4-0	Wycombe	
5	games by a 1 goal margin	
8	Thorne	7 1 0
3-0	v Chesterfield & Scunthorpe / 4-1 v Preston	
No	defeats as yet	
20	Barlow	16 2 2
4	games by a 1 goal margin	
0-5	Burnley	
9	Faulconbridge	8 0 1
3-1	v Cardiff / 5-3 v Reading / 2-0 v Brentford	
0-4	Stoke	
14	Devine	12 1 1

## 1999-00 Season Division 2 Campaign Records

Highest Gate	16,821	Preston v Blackpool 18-Dec
Lowest Gate	2,254	Chesterfield v Bristol City 7-Dec
Highest Aggregate Score	Wycombe 5-3 Reading 2-Oct	
Biggest Home Win	Burnley 5-0 Wrexham 2-Nov	
Biggest Away Win	Blackpool 0-5 Bury 16-Oct	
Consecutive Wins	Millwall 6	
Games Unbeaten	Wigan 21	
Consecutive Defeats	Oldham 5	
Games without a Win	Chesterfield 16	

### Current Sequences

Consecutive Wins	Millwall 6
Games Unbeaten	Wigan 21
Consecutive Defeats	Cambridge, Cardiff 3
Games without a Win	Chesterfield 16

## How Clubs have scored... and conceded

(The UK's Biggest Selling Football Magazine)

H	CR	OB	V	FK	P	IB	OG	H	CR	OB	V	FK	P	IB	OG
7	3	6	4	1	2	8	2	Bournemouth	10	6	5	2	0	4	6
7	2	1	3	0	1	7	0	Blackpool	10	8	4	1	1	1	12
7	2	9	5	0	0	9	0	Brentford	5	1	5	1	1	4	10
3	4	4	6	0	1	7	1	Bristol City	4	3	5	3	1	0	10
8	2	2	2	1	3	11	0	Bristol Rovers	1	1	4	2	1	0	4
12	5	2	1	0	2	6	0	Burnley	0	4	5	0	0	2	1
8	7	3	2	0	2	7	2	Bury	4	4	5	2	0	0	12
11	5	2	2	0	3	5	2	Cambridge United	11	6	4	7	0	3	8
5	5	5	5	0	1	1	1	Cardiff City	9	4	4	7	0	2	4
3	1	3	1	0	3	1	0	Chesterfield	8	2	4	1	0	2	6
5	7	3	2	1	2	5	0	Colchester United	11	9	5	3	1	1	13
6	2	7	8	1	2	12	0	Gillingham	6	6	1	4	0	3	3
5	6	3	2	0	1	8	0	Luton Town	12	5	2	5	1	0	5
9	6	1	6	0	2	11	0	Millwall	3	2	5	1	1	4	5
14	5	4	0	1	0	10	1	Notts County	9	4	1	4	0	2	3
10	1	2	2	1	0	7	0	Oldham Athletic	8	7	2	3	0	3	5
3	3	2	2	0	3	5	1	Oxford United	5	6	1	6	0	2	8
9	8	3	4	1	2	7	2	Preston North End	6	2	2	1	1	2	4
7	4	1	3	1	3	6	0	Reading	9	3	5	6	1	2	11
3	3	3	1	0	3	8	0	Scunthorpe United	11	0	4	7	0	1	11
12	3	6	4	0	1	5	0	Stoke City	7	3	2	1	0	0	5
10	3	8	5	0	4	10	1	Wigan Athletic	5	0	3	0	4	7	0
7	3	2	5	0	1	3	0	Wrexham	10	4	7	1	0	1	11
3	6	3	3	1	3	6	0	Wycombe Wanderers	11	5	2	7	0	2	2

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

Referee	G	R	Y	Ave	Club	Y	R	Points
Tomlin	15	3	65	4.33	Millwall	45	2	51
Hill	13	2	56	4.31	Reading	42	2	48
Wilkes	14	5	57	4.07	Wrexham	34	4	46
Bates	15	5	60	4.00	Wycombe	33	4	45
Fletcher	15	2	58	3.87	Oxford	33	2	39
Parkes	14	2	54	3.86	Bristol Rovers	32	2	38
Wilkie	5	0	19	3.80	Notts County	35	1	38
Ryan	13	7	49	3.77	Blackpool	31	2	37
Bennett	8	1	30	3.75	Bury	30	2	36
Lynch	15	11	55	3.67	Cambridge	32	1	35
Warren	11	1	40	3.64	Stoke	28	2	34
Foy	15	5	53	3.53	Wigan	31	1	34
Gallagher	5	3	17	3.40	Bristol City	26	2	32
Knight	8	3	27	3.38	Colchester	28	1	31
Jordan	13	1	44	3.38	Brentford	24	2	30
Cable	14	6	47	3.36	Cardiff	23	2	29
Laws G	14	1	44	3.14	Luton	24	1	27
Beeby	13	4	40	3.08	Oldham	24	0	24
Walton	13	2	39	3.00	Scunthorpe	21	1	24
					Burnley	23	0	23
					Gillingham	20	1	23
					Preston	17	2	23
					Bournemouth	20	0	20
					Chesterfield	17	1	20

Referees who've officiated more than 4 games  
Key: G = Number of games  
R = Number of red cards  
Y = Number of yellow cards  
Ave = Number of yellow cards per game

## NATIONWIDE DIVISION 2 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Stats compiled by FOOTBALL INFORMATION SERVICES  
Tel: 0151-632 5679

In association with MATCH

# 2nd Division Scene

## Brian Swain



READY for the bright New Year, the league table at Christmas was not quite the present we all wanted, but a look back at recent history shows that the promotion and relegation game is not all over with half a season to play.

As we went into Christmas 1998

we were in 11th place in the league, just as we were before we played Chesterfield a week ago. Manchester City were just below us - and they went on to clinch promotion by finishing third in May, and then beating Gillingham in the play-offs.

But Wigan and Preston must be favourites to take the top two promotion places - Fulham and Walsall led the Second Division at Christmas last year, and stayed there all the way.

So realistically we are now one of the teams whose only hope of promotion is to nick a place in the play-offs. It can be done - being in the top six at Christmas is no guarantee you will still be there in May. Stoke and Bournemouth were in two of the coveted spots as 1999 dawned, but were replaced by Manchester City and Wigan by the time the season ended. We're not out of it yet!

Teams at the bottom also have plenty to play for - Wycombe and Oldham were in the relegation places at Christmas 1998, but escaped narrowly when the final league table was compiled. Northampton flirted with danger all season before dropping, but the experience of

York City should worry a few teams who are currently near mid-table. They held 14th place a year ago, but were relegated five months later. And just for the record, history says Watford haven't much chance of staying in the Premiership. Wouldn't a local derby be nice for season 2000/2001! Happy New Year, Hatters.

## Christmas 1999

	HOME					AWAY					Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A		
Wigan	21	9	2	0	22	6	3	7	0	19	13	45
Preston	21	8	1	2	18	9	5	5	0	18	9	45
Bristol Rov	21	8	3	1	14	6	7	2	2	15	7	44
Millwall	22	6	4	1	17	8	6	2	3	18	14	42
Burnley	21	9	1	1	22	7	2	6	2	6	6	40
Gillingham	20	7	1	2	21	9	4	4	2	17	14	38
Notts Co	22	5	3	3	18	12	6	2	3	17	12	38
Stoke	21	4	4	3	14	11	5	3	2	17	9	34
Brentford	22	6	3	2	19	13	3	4	4	13	15	34
Bournemouth	22	7	2	2	22	8	2	2	7	11	25	31
Luton Town	21	6	3	1	20	13	2	1	8	5	17	28
Bury	21	4	4	2	20	17	2	5	4	11	10	27
Wycombe	22	4	3	4	15	16	2	5	4	10	15	26
Bristol City	21	3	8	0	15	8	2	2	6	11	19	25
Oldham	21	3	2	5	11	12	3	3	5	12	16	23
Oxford	21	2	4	4	11	12	3	2	6	8	16	21
Wrexham	21	3	4	3	12	12	1	5	5	9	22	21
Colchester	22	3	3	5	14	20	2	3	6	11	24	21
Scunthorpe	21	2	2	7	9	19	3	3	4	12	20	20
Cardiff	21	2	6	2	11	11	2	1	8	12	19	19
Reading	20	3	5	3	13	13	1	1	7	12	26	18
Blackpool	21	2	4	4	11	17	1	3	7	10	21	16
Cambridge	21	3	3	5	20	21	0	3	7	10	18	15
Chesterfield	21	1	3	6	5	11	1	4	6	7	13	13

## Christmas 1998

	HOME					AWAY					Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A		
Fulham	21	7	2	1	21	8	7	1	3	12	8	45
Walsall	22	8	2									

date	opposition	result	scorers	league place	attn.	team
<b>AUGUST</b>						
Sat 7	Notts Co	A 0-0		-	6,141	Abbey Fraser Watts White Johnson Douglas McLaren
Tue 10	WC1 (1) Bristol Rov	H 0-2		-	2,984	Abbey Fraser Watts White Boyce Douglas McLaren
Sat 14	Blackpool	H 3-2	George 2, Spring	7	5,176	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren
Sat 21	Reading	A 2-1	Fotiadis, George	3	8,741	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren
Wed 25	WC1 (2) Bristol Rov	A 2-2	Kandol, Doherty	3	4,414	Abbey Locke Sodje Boyce White Watts Gray
Sat 28	Cardiff	H 1-0	Gray	2	5,374	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren
Tues 31	Bournemouth	A 0-1		2	4,797	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren
<b>SEPT</b>						
Sat 4	Bury	H 1-1	Fotiadis	5	4,633	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren
Sat 11	Wrexham	H 3-1	Taylor, Spring, George	3	5,121	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren
Sat 18	Brentford	A 0-2		5	7,039	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Locke
Sat 25	Oxford Utd	H 4-2	George 2, Fraser, Locke	3	6,102	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Locke
<b>OCTOBER</b>						
Sat 2	Wigan	A 0-1		8	6,866	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Locke
Sat 9	Oldham	A 1-2	Midgley	10	4,532	Abbey Fraser Watts Sodje Johnson Gray Locke
Sat 16	Gillingham	H 3-1	George 2 (1pen), Douglas	7	6,394	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley
Tue 19	Wycombe	H 1-1	Douglas	7	5,820	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley
Sat 23	Oxford Utd	A 1-0	George	7	5,866	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley
Sat 30	Kingstonian (FA Cup 1)	H 4-2	Gray, George, Spring, Taylor	7	4,682	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Gray
<b>NOVEMBER</b>						
Tue 2	Millwall	A 0-1		9	6,181	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley
Sat 6	Burnley	H 2-1	Midgley 2	8	7,205	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley
Fri 12	Cambridge Utd	A 1-3	George	9	6,211	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley
Fri 19	Lincoln (FA Cup 2)	H 2-2	Doherty 2	10	4,291	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Locke
Tue 23	Preston	H 0-2		10	5,124	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Sodje George Midgley
Sat 27	Bristol Rov	A 0-3		10	7,805	Abbey Fraser Watts Sodje Johnson George Doherty
Tue 30	Lincoln (FA Cup 2R)	A 1-0	Douglas	10	3,822	Abbey Fraser Watts Sodje Johnson George Doherty
<b>DECEMBER</b>						
Sat 4	Notts County	H 2-2	Doherty, Thorpe	11	5,195	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Thorpe
Tue 7	Oxford (AWS 1)	A 0-2		11	1,220	Abbey Fraser Sodje Ayres Johnson George Doherty
Sat 11	Fulham (FA Cup 3)	A 2-2	George, Spring	10	5,905	Abbey Fraser Watts Sodje Johnson George Doherty
Fri 17	Colchester	A 0-3		11	3,049	Abbey Fraser Watts Sodje Johnson George Thorpe
Tues 21	Fulham (FA Cup 3R)	H 0-3		11	8,170	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren
Sun 26	Chesterfield	H 1-1	Locke	13	5,870	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson George Thorpe
Tue 28	Bristol City	A 0-0		12	11,832	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson White Gray
<b>JAN 2000</b>						
Mon 3	Scunthorpe	H 3pm				
Sat 8	Stoke	A 3pm				
Sat 15	Blackpool	A 3pm				
Sat 22	Reading	H 3pm				
Sun 30	Cardiff	A 12.15pm				
<b>FEB</b>						
Sat 5	Bournemouth	H 3pm				
Sat 12	Bury	A 3pm				
Sat 19	Bristol Rov	H 3pm				
Sat 26	Brentford	H 3pm				
<b>MARCH</b>						
Sat 4	Wrexham	A 3pm				
Tue 7	Burnley	A 7.45pm				
Sat 11	Millwall	H 3pm				
Sat 18	Preston	A 3pm				
Tue 21	Cambridge Utd	H 7.45pm				
Sat 25	Chesterfield	A 3pm				
<b>APRIL</b>						
Sat 1	Colchester	H 3pm				
Sat 8	Scunthorpe	A 3pm				
Sat 15	Bristol City	H 3pm				
Sat 22	Gillingham	A 3pm				
Mon 24	Wigan	H 3pm				
Sat 29	Wycombe	A pm				
<b>MAY</b>						
Sat 6	Oldham	H 3pm				
The FA Cup final will be on May 20						
TBA	Stoke City	H				

### Youth Soccer



THE Football League Youth Alliance programme resumes after the holiday break on Saturday, when we are at home to Shrewsbury (11am). The game is at Luton RFC, Newlands Road, and spectators are welcome. Admission is free.

### The Reserves



The reserves have no game this week. Their next is on Wednesday January 12, away to Cambridge, and the following Wednesday they meet Northampton at Kenilworth Road (2pm).

date	opposition	result	scorers	league place	attn.	team	substitutes
Gray	Spring	McIndoe	Taylor	Boyce for Taylor, 70 mins. Unused: George, Scarlett, Zahana-Oni, Tate			
Gray	Spring	McIndoe	Taylor	Doherty for White HT; Fotiadis for Douglas 60 mins; George for McIndoe 60 mins. Unused: Zahana-Oni, Tate			
Douglas	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	McKinnon for Fotiadis 75 mins; Zahana-Oni for Douglas 83 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 89 mins. Unused: Boyce, Tate			
Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	McIndoe for Fotiadis 79 mins. Unused: Sodje, White, McKinnon, Tate			
McKinnon	Douglas	McIndoe	Kandol	Doherty for Douglas 67 mins; Fotiadis for Kandol 67 mins. Unused: Scarlett, Davis, Ward			
Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Douglas for Fotiadis 66 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 81mins; McKinnon for George 84 mins. Unused: Sodje, Tate			
Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Douglas for Fotiadis 60 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 81mins. Unused: McKinnon, Sodje, Tate			
Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Douglas for Fotiadis 73 mins; McIndoe for George 73 mins. Unused: McKinnon, Sodje, Tate			
Douglas	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Kandol for Fotiadis HT; McKinnon for McLaren 62 mins; Sodje for Johnson 75 mins. Unused: Scarlett, Tate			
Douglas	Spring	Kandol	Taylor	Sodje for Kandol 70 mins. Unused: White, Boyce, Scarlett, Tate			
Douglas	Spring	Midgley	Taylor	McIndoe for Midgley 66 mins. Unused: Sodje, Kandol, Scarlett, Tate			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for McLaren 73 mins; Midgley for Locke 77 mins. Unused: Sodje, White, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Kandol for Gray 50 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 67 mins; Midgley for Douglas 67 mins. Unused: White, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Locke for Midgley 80 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 85 mins. Unused: Kandol, Sodje, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for Midgley 75 mins. Unused: Kandol, Sodje, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for Midgley 72 mins; Locke for Douglas 77 mins. Unused: Kandol, Sodje, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for Gray 30 mins; Boyce for Fraser 39 mins. Unused: White, Sodje, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for Midgley HT. Unused: White, Sodje, Locke, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for Douglas 73 mins; Locke for McLaren 79 mins; Kandol for Midgley 88 mins. Unused: Sodje, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Sodje for Boyce HT; Locke for McLaren 59 mins; McIndoe for Midgley 59 mins. Unused: Kandol, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Sodje for Locke HT; McIndoe for McLaren 83 mins. Unused: Boyce, Kandol, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for McLaren 62 mins; White for Midgley 62 mins; Boyce for Fraser 75 mins. Unused: Locke, Ward			
Locke	Spring	McLaren	McIndoe	Thorpe for Doherty 61 mins; Boyce for Watts 86 mins. Unused: Taylor, Douglas, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Locke for McLaren 50 mins. Unused: Boyce, Kandol, McIndoe, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	Boyce for Fraser 60 mins; Sodje for Douglas 81 mins. Unused: Kandol, Scarlett, Tate			
Douglas	Spring	Locke	Boyce	Read for Douglas HT; Scarlett for Locke 69 mins. Unused: Taylor, Jerry, Tate			
Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	All unused: Boyce, Scarlett, Jerry, Ayres, Tate			
Doherty	Spring	Locke	Taylor	McLaren for George 62 mins. Unused: Boyce, Scarlett, Read, Ward			
Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	Boyce for Fraser 59 mins. Unused: Scarlett, Kandol, Ayres, Tate			
Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	McLaren for Spring 73 mins; Gray for Thorpe 74 mins. Unused: Fraser, Fotiadis, Tate			
Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	Fotiadis for Douglas 83 mins. Unused: George, Fraser, Scarlett, Tate			

## The Second Division

OUR Boxing Day draw against Chesterfield saw us drop into the bottom half of the First Division for the first time this season but we climbed back a place, to 12th, with the point from Bristol City. Scunthorpe had a better holiday than we did - a 1-1 at Oldham on Boxing Day followed by a 1-0 home win over managerless Blackpool on Tuesday. Then winner was netted by Manny Omoyimni, who has already played against us once this season. His loan from West Ham to Gillingham caused problems when he played for both clubs in the Worthington Cup, and he nearly caused a problem at Kenilworth Road as well, laying on a goal which put Gillingham ahead before we saw them off 3-1.

	HOME					AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A		
Wigan	23	10	2	0	24	6	4	7	0	21	13	51
Preston	23	9	1	2	20	10	5	6	0	18	9	49
Bristol Rov	23	7	3	1	15	6	7	2	3	16	9	47
Millwall	24	7	4	1	20	10	6	2	4	18	15	45
Burnley	23	10	1	1	25	9	2	6	3	8	10	43
Gillingham	22	8	1	2	23	10	4	4	3	17	16	41
Notts Co	24	5	3	4	18	14	6	3	3	17	12	39
Stoke	23	4	5	3	14	11	6	3	2	19	10	38
Brentford	24	7	3	2	21	14	3	4	5	15	18	37
Bournemouth	24	8	2	2	23	8	2	2	8	12	27	34
Bury	22	5	4	2	24	19	2	5	4	11	10	30
Luton Town	23	6	4	1	21	14	2	2	8	5	17	30
*Wycombe	23	5	3	4	17	17	2	5	4	10	13	29
Bristol City	23	3	9	0	15	8	2	2	7	12	21	26
Oldham	23	3	3	5	12	13	3	4	5	12	16	25
Oxford	23	3	4	4	12	12	3	2	7	10	19	24
Scunthorpe	23	3	2	7	10	19	3	4	4	13	17	24
Cardiff	23	3	6	2	12	11	2	2	8	12	19	23
Wrexham	23	3	5	3	12	12	1	5	6	9	23	22
Colchester	23	3	3	5	14	20	2	3	7	12	26	21
Reading	22	3	6	3	13	13	1	1	8	12	27	19
Cambridge	23	3	4	5	20	21	0	3	8	10	19	16
Blackpool	23	2	4	5	12	19	1	3	8	10	22	16
Chesterfield	22	1	3	6	5	11	1	5	6	8	14	14

\*Not including Colchester v Wycombe, Wednesday 29.12.99

# Today's Teams



## Luton Town

NATHAN ABBEY	1
EMMERSON BOYCE	17
JULIAN WATTS	40
GARY DOHERTY	12
MARVIN JOHNSON	6
LIAM GEORGE	11
ADAM LOCKE	28
STUART DOUGLAS	9
MATTHEW SPRING	4
PHIL GRAY	7
MATTHEW TAYLOR	15

### Substitutes

ANDREW FOTIADIS	14
ANDRE SCARLETT	21
STUART FRASER	13
ALAN WHITE	5
DANIEL TATE (GK)	22

V



## Scunthorpe

1	LIONEL PEREZ
2	PAUL HARSLEY
3	ANDREW DAWSON
4	RICHARD LOGAN
15	ASHLEY FICKLING
6	CHRISTOPHER HOPE
7	JUSTIN WALKER
8	LEE HODGES
25	GUY IPOUA
28	MANNY OMOYIMNI
18	NATHAN STANTON

### Substitutes

27	JOHN CORNFORTH
17	WAYNE GRAVES
16	SEAN McAULEY
19	DARRYN STAMP
1	THOMAS EVANS (GK)

## Today's Officials

**Referee:** Clive Wilkes, Corse, Gloucester  
**Assistants:** N. F. Perkin, Gravesend (red flag)  
 W. Ramsay, Coventry (yellow and red flag)  
**Reserve official:** R. Woods, Bedford

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