

# LUTON TOWN

Saturday, January 22, 2000, 3.00pm

Official Matchday Magazine £2.00



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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:

Everyone up for it - the Town attack in action during the exciting 3-3 draw at Blackpool last Saturday.

For a report and more pictures see pages 38 & 39.



WE HAD hoped this afternoon to be able to report the latest new signing at Kenilworth Road, but an injury scuppered a deal hours before it was due to be completed. Lennie Lawrence thought he had an agreement to bring in a midfielder on loan, Scott Parker, 19, to play today after we were left without five first-team squad members. Matthew Spring, Matthew Taylor and Alan White are suspended. Paul McLaren is injured, and Efe Sodje is in Nigeria on international duty.

On Wednesday morning agreement had been reached with the player and his club, Charlton, and he was expected to report for training at Kenilworth Road 24 hours later. "He is young, with some league experience at a higher level than ours, and hungry for success," said Lawrence. "But then Charlton rang and said that another player had been injured, and our man was no longer available."

The boss had been trailing another player for some time, and attention was rapidly switched to him, but there was no news on that possible deal as we went to press.

It is ironic that the Town's disciplinary record this season has been better than the average, but has struck with a vengeance in terms of catching three players at once.

White started a three-match ban last Saturday, missing Blackpool, Reading and Cardiff, after being sent off while on loan to Colchester. Taylor's three-match suspension, for being sent off at Stoke, begins today. Spring is serving a one-match ban this afternoon for collecting five bookings.

Adam Locke, scorer of a wonderful goal at Bloomfield Road last week, will be suspended from the game at Cardiff a week tomorrow after collecting his fifth yellow card of the season at Bloomfield Road. Lucky Sodje has served a three-match suspension without noticing it, thanks to his African Nations Cup call-up.

For the record, four players are on the brink: Julian Watts, Paul McLaren, Stuart Fraser and Stuart Douglas are on four bookings each. One more before February 28 earns a one-match suspension. Players who reach five yellow cards after that date escape with a written warning about behaving themselves in future, and if they get to ten another one-game ban is automatic.

CHAIRMAN Cliff Bassett, the supporter who become the major shareholder in Luton Town earlier this season, is to have his first face to face meeting with the fans in a couple of weeks' time. He has agreed to be the guest at the next meeting of Luton Town Supporters Club, in the Eric Morecambe Suite on Thursday February 3rd. Tickets are selling fast, and if there are any left you can buy them today before and after the match, from the LTSC kiosk in Kenilworth Road. They cost £2 for members of LTSC and £3 for others, and free secure parking at Maple Road is included. A major part of the meeting will be a question and answer session, with Mr Bassett keen to hear fans' views. Doors open at 7 and the meeting will kick off at 7.30. Cash admission will be available only if there are any tickets unsold on the night.

THANKS, FANS. That is the message we have been asked to pass on today, by the chairman and directors of Blackpool. Before last Saturday's game there was a minute's silence for Ken Parr, a former Football League referee and a former director of Blackpool. The tribute was observed meticulously in every part of the ground, and Blackpool's chairman, Karl Oyston, has asked us to put on record his club's thanks to the travelling Luton supporters for the respect they showed. It was much appreciated.

OUR home game with Stoke City, postponed in December because we were busy with the FA Cup, will now be played on Tuesday, February 8, kick-off 7.45, and tickets are now available. It means a busy month for Kenilworth Road - we now have five league matches in the shortest month of the year, four of them at home. The addition of the Stoke fixture changes a slightly spooky list - until then every team we were to meet in February began with B.

WE ARE very sad to have to report the death at the age of 80 of Bud Aherne, who was a vital part of the first Luton Town side ever to reach the top division in the Football League. He and Seamus Dunne were one of the best pairs of full-backs the club has had in post-war years, both Irish, and both impressive in our promotion campaign which took us into the old First Division in 1955. Both played in every game in the 1954/55 season.

Bud's real name was Tom, and he had the distinction of being capped by both Irish teams, before FIFA decided that a man should be Northern Ireland or Eire. Bud played for Northern Ireland four times, and for the Republic 16 times, the first two occasions being before he joined the Town.

Born in Limerick, Bud joined us in 1948 from Belfast Celtic, and in nine seasons he made 288 league and cup appearances for us. He wore our No. 3 shirt for the first time at Tottenham in the old Division Two in March 1949, a few weeks after his 30th birthday, and was a regular in the Town side until the 1956/57 season.

Bud and his wife Eileen remained in Luton after his football career ended, and brought up their five children in the town. He worked at Vauxhall as a welder.

He was a staunch member of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, and did much to help St. Joseph's FC establish itself as one of the most successful in the town, at all age levels. We offer our condolences to the family - Bud was a marvellous player, and a real gentleman, who earned immense respect throughout his life.

CONGRATULATIONS to Derek Ludlow, one of our long-time loyal supporters, and a vice president of the club. He was awarded the MBE in the New Year Honours list for his contribution to business and the community in Luton. The football club has always been an important part of Mr Ludlow's life. He is now chairman of Ludlow Group Services, which he and his late brother Frank set up, but when he came to Luton as a hard-up teenager 40-odd years ago he became a programme seller at Kenilworth Road to earn pocket money. Another seller was a pretty girl young Derek fancied - and Pam is now his wife.

IT WAS a pleasure to come home from Blackpool without seeing the name Matthews on the scoresheet for the home side. Some of us feared the worst when we saw Rob Matthews lining up for the Seasiders. He made his league debut, as a university student, in the final game of the 1991/92 season, for Notts County and scored both goals at Meadow Lane which condemned us to a 2-1 defeat and ensured we and County were both relegated, and thus missed the start of the Premiership.

Three years later David Pleat bought him for £80,000, but Matthews made only 11 appearances before he was sold on to York, bombed out by Terry Westley. After a spell at Bury, Matthews, now 29, is with Stockport County, and joined Blackpool on loan just after Christmas. The Blackpool programme editor reported that Matthews had been their best player in the three games before we got to Bloomfield Road, making one goal and scoring twice, and to underline the point they gave pride of place on the front cover to a picture of Matthews. Inevitably, after the big build-up, he never looked like damaging us the way he did on his league debut.

*Brian Swain*

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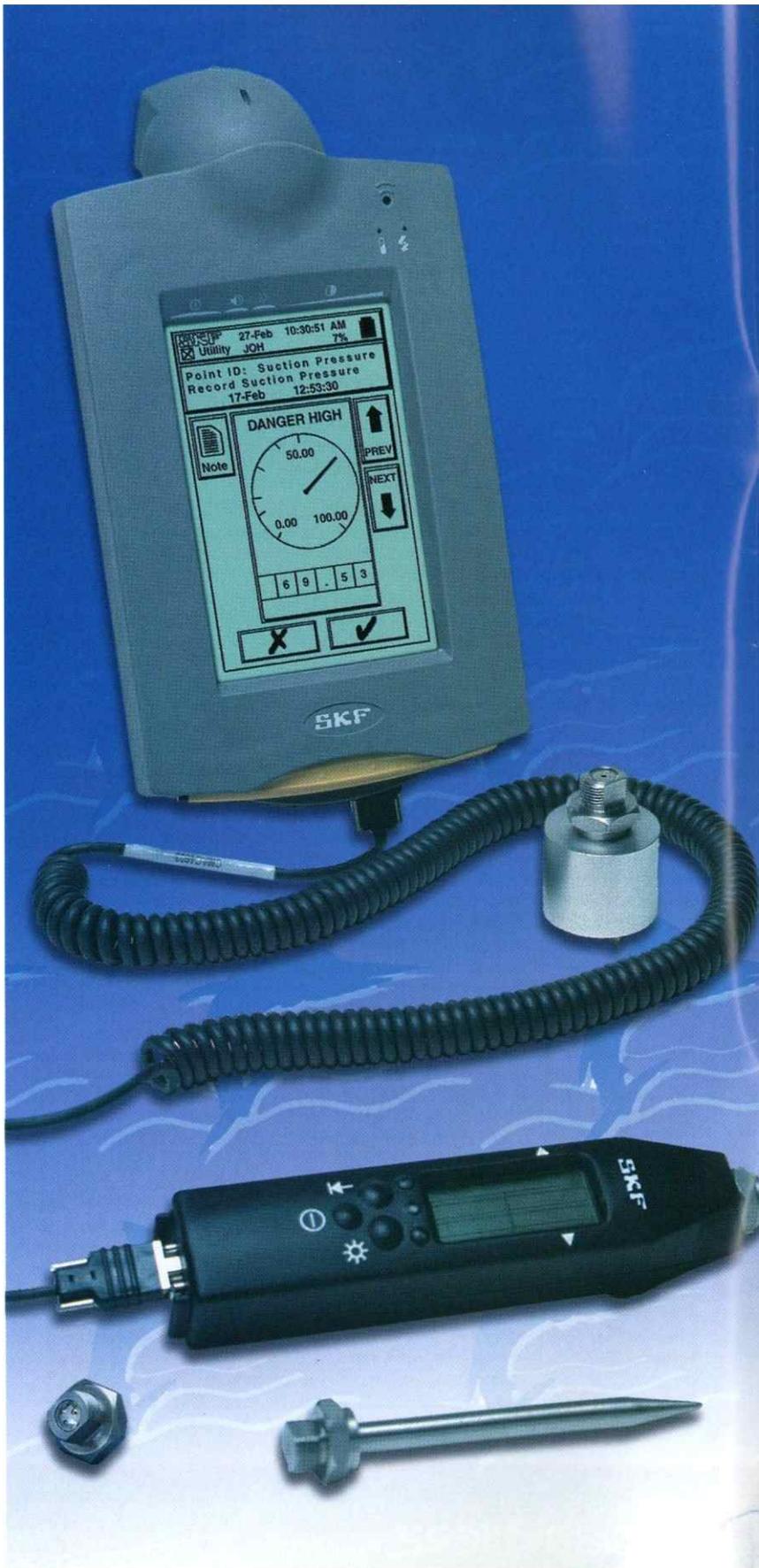
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# The Manager

**Lennie Lawrence**



WELCOME back to Kenilworth Road. It seems a long time since our last home game, which ended in a resounding 4-1 victory over Scunthorpe. After an even first 30 minutes three quick goals put us on top, and it

was satisfying to achieve a good win, especially after we had been on the opposite end of a similar scenario against Fulham.

The Scunthorpe result completed a decent Christmas and New Year for us, and was then followed by two away games. Not for the first time this season, we suffered contrasting fortunes, from two interesting team performances.

It was a very unlucky defeat at Stoke, against a team I strongly fancy for the play-offs. There was considerable doubt about the legality of Stoke's opening goal, an unfortunate sending-off, and then a lucky penalty which gave us an equaliser. There followed a resilient and brave rearguard action, which was undone by one late lapse against a long throw which everyone saw coming. Overall, though, we were hard done by to come home with nothing.

Blackpool was a different story. We had early chances and failed to take them, went a goal down, but controlled things after that and got a deserved equaliser. At half time I felt we wouldn't lose, but Blackpool began the second half strongly and got themselves into a winning position. I was not happy at the way we allowed them to go 3-1 up, but to their credit the players then showed excellent fighting spirit to come back with two late goals to earn a point from a game we looked like losing.

On our day, we are probably as good as any team in this division. The problem is that we have not had our day consistently. A draw at Blackpool, on the day their new manager was in charge at home for the first time, was perhaps not a bad result, but to move up from our mid-table position we have got to turn draws into victories, and today we need to take the chance to pocket three more points.

It was pleasing to get three goals at Bloomfield Road, from playing three forwards, and we have contributed entertainment aplenty to a lot of games, where four or more goals have been scored.

We have been involved in some good games with Reading. We were there when they opened their new stadium 18 months ago, and it was their day. We gained revenge on the same ground in August, and I suspect Reading might prefer playing away at present because high expectations and a magnificent ground conspire to put on pressure, and teams treat a visit to the Madejski as a bit of a cup final.

I have been surprised to see Reading struggling - they have good players, and sooner or later their luck will change and they will start getting better results.

We aim to ensure their fortunes do not start improving this afternoon. We will be below full strength through the enforced absences of Matthew Spring, Matthew Taylor, Paul McLaren, Alan White and Efe Sodje, but that means opportunity for players who come into the side.

I have also been looking at players who are available on loan, and by the time this column appears we may have brought in a new face. I was close to agreement on recruiting a player in midweek from a First Division club, but the deal fell through when new injuries arose at his club. I know the type of player I want - preferably with some experience of first team football and, more importantly, young and hungry for success.

We want success, of course, and although at present we are in the wrong half of the league table we are still only ten points adrift of the play-off zone.

It is a difficult but not impossible task to close that gap, and it has been done by other teams in recent seasons. Our requirement is to be more consistent, and to continue to build on the solid foundation of a good home record. After next week's trip to Cardiff, four of our five games in February are at Kenilworth Road, which means we are coming up to a crucial period in our season. At some stage before long we need to win three or four on the trot to give us a chance of moving up towards the top six. We haven't done that since August, when Reading were one of the three teams we beat in succession. We welcome them and their supporters this afternoon, but I trust we will earn the right to start another winning sequence.

*Lennie Lawrence*

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## Today's Referee

ENJOYING his first season on the national list of referees, Richard Beeby is this afternoon's man in the middle. A local government officer, working in property management, he comes from Abington Vale, in Northamptonshire, and like many involved in soccer his other great sporting love is cricket.

He qualified as a referee in parks football around Northampton in 1988, and within two years had reached class one, and became a linesman on the Southern League.

By 1996 he had worked his way up to become a panel referee and an assistant on the Football League, and has been in charge of two Conference Challenge Cup finals.

Mr Beeby is a life member of Northamptonshire County Cricket Club, and also plays in local cricket near his home town.

## 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 was the player we signed from West Ham for £580,000 in 1996?**

## Hatters Roll-Call Season 1999/2000

	APPEARANCES (as sub in brackets)					GOALS				
	League	FAC	WC	AWS	Total	League	FAC	WC	Total	
Nathan Abbey	26	5	2	1	34	0	0	0	0	
James Ayres	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	
Emmerson Boyce	8(4)	0(2)	2	1	11(6)	0	0	0	0	
Gary Doherty	24	5	0(2)	1	30(2)	1	2	1	4	
Stuart Douglas	20(3)	5	2	1	28(3)	3	1	0	4	
Andrew Fotiadis	6(3)	0	0(2)	0	6(5)	2	0	0	2	
Stuart Fraser	18	5	1	1	25	1	0	0	1	
Phil Gray	10(1)	1	2	0	13(1)	3	1	0	4	
Liam George	22(1)	5	0(1)	1	28(2)	10(1p)	2	0	12(1p)	
Marvin Johnson	25	5	0	1	31	0	0	0	0	
Tresor Kandol	1(3)	0	1	0	2(3)	0	0	1	1	
Adam Locke	12(4)	3(1)	1	1	17(5)	3	0	0	3	
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	26	5	1	1	33	5(1p)	2	0	7(1p)	
Matthew Taylor	25	5	1	0	31	2	1	0	3	
Tony Thorpe	3(1)	0	0	0	3(1)	1	0	0	1	
Julian Watts	26	5	2	0	33	0	0	0	0	
Alan White	3(1)	0	2	0	5(1)	0	0	0	0	
Landry Zahana-Oni	0(1)	0	0	0	0(1)	0	0	0	0	

# Captain's Log

## Marvin Johnson



IT'S NICE to be back at Kenilworth Road after two away games, and while we took only one point from the matches at Stoke and Blackpool I think there were some encouraging features from them.

Refereeing decisions were crucial at Stoke, and overall we came out on the wrong side of them. I was flat out when the first goal was scored, and I had a little word with the ref because their man caught my ankle and tripped me before running past. The ref said he thought I slipped. And to be fair to Paul Connor, I don't think he did it on purpose. There was no point in moaning - the ref gave the goal and we had to get on with it.

Obviously, it was a major blow when Matty Taylor got sent off just before half-time. We had every sympathy with him, because he is not a malicious player, and he is adamant that he was not guilty of kicking an opponent, which was the referee's verdict. It was impossible to make a judgement at the time as the two players went down in a tangle, and the video evidence proves nothing either way. So Matty has to take his punishment, fair or not, and I am sure it will not harm his career.

He has been a revelation this season, having made the considerable leap from the youth team straight into the league side. In different circumstances I think the gaffer would have liked to give him a rest by now, so perhaps the ref at Stoke did us a favour. We thought he did exactly that when he awarded us a penalty for the equaliser, and it was choking to hold on with ten men until the last few minutes before giving away a silly goal from a set piece.

Blackpool was a different sort of game. We might have taken an early lead, went behind, and then drew level with a top class goal by Adam Locke - brilliantly made, and brilliantly taken. But our defending was not too clever as Blackpool went 3-1 up, although their second from a flick-on after a well-delivered corner, was one of those that are almost impossible to stop.

Even when we were two goals behind we all felt we could get something out of the game. Phil Gray underlined his value with a brave header from a corner, with a good delivery again an important element. Tippy, like me, is a bit of an old man in Luton Town terms these days, but he gives us strength up front, and his experience is a useful addition to the youthful enthusiasm of others.

Matty Taylor signed off before suspension with a cracking equaliser in injury time - and with his "wrong" foot - and I am claiming an assist, of sorts, for that goal. I had gone up with the keeper for the corner, and was beaten to it. The keeper's punch dropped nicely for Matty, and as he hit the ball it was heading my way. I got out of the way sharpish, and I swear that is the main reason the goalkeeper was wrong-footed!

With Matthew Spring and Alan White joining Taylor in the "sin bin", Paul McLaren injured, and Efe Sodje away in Nigeria, we are going to look a bit thin in the ground today. But as always, disappointment for some players means a welcome chance for others who want to get into the team, and I don't see any reason why we should not keep up our good home record.

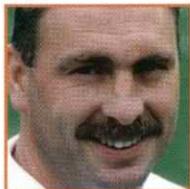
Whoever comes in, we all train for the same team pattern, and we all realise how important it is for us to win this afternoon. I think Reading may be a better side than their league position suggests, but we look longingly at the the top of the table and realise that a consistent run of good results is an absolute must if we are to have a chance of reaching the play-offs. It's a very difficult task, but not beyond us. We have played every team in the division, and so far not one has really outplayed us, with the possible exception of Preston at Kenilworth Road in November. But we do need more consistency, and that will come as the younger players gain more experience.

So today we are very determined to do well, and enjoy a good day with our supporters. And my last word today must be for the fans - the backing we received at Stoke and Blackpool was tremendous. It plays a part in the team effort, and we appreciate it. Do it again, today, please!

*Marvin Johnson*

# Treatment Room

Clive Goodyear



AT A TIME when we have been hit by suspensions, it is fortunate for the club that today we have only one member of the first team squad out of action through injury.

The games at Stoke and Blackpool were physically very demanding, but everyone came through with nothing more than the usual bumps and bruises. Stuart Douglas took a heavy fall at Stoke and was badly winded, but he is a very resilient character, and was able to carry on after treatment.

But it is still frustration time for Paul McLaren as he gets over a dislocated big toe on his right foot. It's the first time I have ever seen such an injury here, and we have involved the club doctor and a surgeon in getting the treatment right.

You might think that injury to a toe is a minor matter, but in fact the big toe plays a major role in running and walking. All your body weight goes through it when you run.

I considered the possibility that the toe might have to be pinned, but the surgeon decided that was not necessary, and as with so many injuries time is the greatest healer of all. The joint in McLaren's toe is still badly inflamed so he is on a course of non-steroid anti-inflammatory tablets. Along with ice-pack and ultra-sound treatment, our efforts seem to be on the right lines, and he is improving all the time.

The doctor and surgeon are as happy as I am with his progress so far, and he is able to do a little jogging, though he has to take it gently. On general fitness work, he is on the exercise bike, and doing some swimming - boring, I know, but effective.

Overall, the squad is standing up well to the challenges of league football, and that is a bonus for us. For me, it means I can concentrate more on

general fitness training as part of our day by day preparations.

I was pleased to watch the reserves on Wednesday and see Gavin McGowan come through the game without any adverse reaction. He was subbed at the interval, having proved that he is ready for a recall this afternoon, if selected. He has now played in three reserve matches, and having been injured in pre-season, he has every reason to be pleased that at long last he is in line for his first league game of the campaign.

Landry Zahana-Oni, another who has missed a big part of the season so far, also came through his fourth reserve game, and he is very close to full fitness.

*Clive Goodyear*



● **FIRST AID:** Even the Stoke goalkeeper was concerned for the well-being of Stuart Douglas, after he had been clattered at Stoke. But the striker was only winded, played on after treatment, and was bright as a button again for the trip to Blackpool last week.

# Club Secretary

Cherry Newbery



ALWAYS trying to improve our service to customers, we have now put our new credit card hotline into operation, and I am sure supporters booking tickets by phone will find it an improvement. The phone

number is the same - 01582 730748 - but the technology is improved. It works 24 hours a day, and can be used to order tickets up to 48 hours before any match. To help yourself when you use it, have your credit card to hand before you dial the number.

Shortage of car parking has always been a problem at Kenilworth Road, but I am pleased to inform you that we still have some spaces available at our new facility at Dallow Road Junior School, which became available for the first time today. Please see the notice on this page for full details, and if you are interested get your application in early because the spaces are being sold on a first come, first served, basis.

Next week's Second Division game for us is at Cardiff, and I am sorry that there was nothing we could do about the choice of a 12.15 kick-off time at Ninian Park. I know a lot of supporters are unhappy that it means a very early start from Luton, but the decision on day and time was made in South Wales, on the advice of the police. And may I remind you that it is an ALL TICKET game for Luton supporters, with Cardiff City stressing that on police advice they will not be selling any on the day. Our allocation is available now, and the last chance to buy will be the day before the game, next Saturday, January 29, when the ticket office will be open between 10 am and 12 noon.

On the subject of all-ticket games, I can give advance warning today that our home match with Millwall on March 11 will be ALL-TICKET for supporters of both teams, with none on sale on the day. It means, of course, that cash turnstiles will not be open for that game. I am sure supporters realise that such decisions are taken for good reasons, with safety considerations the most important.

Incidentally, the opening of cash turnstiles at Kenilworth Road has proved to be very popular, so much so that we have heard from supporters who have been disappointed to find that the seats they wanted to pay for on the turnstiles were not available. The reason is simple: those who want the best chance of the seats they like book them prior to the day of the game. And it underlines the point we make on our ticket news page - arrive early to avoid disappointment. The days of turning up at 2.50 with cash in your hand and expecting to walk straight in to take the seat of your choice have gone.

Season tickets, of course, are the best guarantee of all, and perhaps it is not too early to remind season ticket holders that their last date for renewal at discount rates will be June 15.

Finally, and back to parking problems, I went on a family trip to the Millennium Dome, and thoroughly enjoyed it, even if the body zone was disappointing. But Kenilworth Road has one facility better than the Dome's - our car parking might be limited, but it's worse at Greenwich, where there is not a single spot available for the general public!

*Cherry Newbery*

## Extra Car Parking Facilities

EXTRA car-parking space is now available for supporters in Dallow Road Junior School on match days. A short walk from the ground, the new car park, fully stewarded, will be open on Saturday match days from 1.30pm to 5.30pm and for midweek evening games from 6.30pm to 10pm.

The cost is £35 for the rest of the season, and spaces can be booked by writing to Cherry Newbery, Club Secretary, at Luton Town, with a £35 cheque payable to Luton Town FC.

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# Tickets



## Nationwide League Division Two

### Cardiff City v Luton Town

At the request of Cardiff police this match will now be 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.** The last opportunity to purchase will be on Saturday, January 29, between 10 am and 12 noon.

Covered seating only is available.  
Prices: Adults £14, Juniors £10

### Luton Town v Bristol Rovers

**Saturday February 19, kick-off 3 pm**

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

### ADVANCE NOTICE

#### Luton Town v Millwall

on March 11 will be  
ALL TICKET for ALL SUPPORTERS  
No tickets will be sold on the day and there will be no cash admission.

### Luton Town v Bournemouth

**Saturday February 5, kick-off 3 pm**

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

### RE-ARRANGED GAME

#### Luton Town v Stoke City

**Tuesday February 8, kick-off 7.45 pm**

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

### Bury v Luton Town

**Saturday February 12, kick-off 3 pm**

Admission will be pay on the day only, to the West Stand.  
Adults £14, Junior & Senior Citizens £8

## LUTON TOWN CREDIT CARD HOTLINE RELAUNCH

As promised, we have upgraded our Telephone Hotline system, and you can now order tickets (up to **48 hours** prior to any match), using the same telephone number as before,

**01582 730748**

But we do promise you a much more effective service, and we will be looking to utilise this improved service next season.

Further information will follow.

Discounts for early purchase of match tickets are available until a fortnight before each match. Cash turnstiles are open at all games, EXCEPT all-ticket matches.

### TICKET OFFICE OPENING HOURS

**Monday to Friday:** 10am to 4pm,  
except on Fridays before Saturday home matches when it is 10am-6pm.  
**Saturdays:** 9am to 5.30pm on matchdays;  
10am until the away coaches depart on days when there is no game at Kenilworth Road.

Luton Town Ticket Office Credit Card Hotline  
**01582 730748** (available 24 hours)



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# Head-to-Head

### Luton Town



Luton Town will be hoping to continue their high-scoring form this afternoon against a lowly Reading side, whose poor form led to the fans protesting on the pitch after their 0-0 draw at home against Cambridge last weekend.

### Reading



Luton began the campaign with a goalless draw at Notts. County, but then surged up the table with impressive wins at home to Blackpool, Wrexham and Oxford, as well as a win at Reading.

Impressive performances at Kenilworth Road have not been enough to keep Lennie Lawrence's side at the top of the table as away from Bedfordshire. Away form has been dire, with their only other away win occurring at the Manor Ground against Oxford, Liam George securing the points after three minutes.

It has been a promising start on the New Year on the goal scoring front - eight in three games - with Matthew Spring at the forefront of the action with three of them, ably assisted by on-form Phil Gray with two strikes to his name.

One note of hope is the 3-3 draw at Blackpool in which Matthew Taylor equalised in the dying seconds of the game. If the Hatters continue to show such resolve away from home then surely their league position will improve as the play-offs approach.

Judging by the statistics this afternoon's fixture features two evenly matched sides when it comes to shots at goal. Considering the good publicity that Taylor and Fraser have got in the press this season it is interesting to see that Reading have been better crossers of the ball. This has been helped by the performances of former Hatter Martin Williams who has crossed the ball 50 times and laid off 545 passes with 67 per cent success.

Williams currently stands on four goals for the current season. Who'd bet against him scoring this afternoon?

	Luton	Reading
Matches Played	26	25

### Goal Attempts

Goals	34	28
Ave Goals Scored (per game)	1.31	1.12
Shots (excluding blocked shots)	253	240
% Shots on Target	47%	46%
% Goals to Shots	13%	11%

### Passing

Short Passes	5530	5119
Long Passes	2215	2117
Overall Pass Completion%	63%	66%

### Crossing

Total Crosses	483	539
Cross Completion	28%	34%

### Defending

Goals Conceded	37	43
Ave Goals Conceded (per game)	1.42	1.72
Tackles	488	418
Tackles Won %	52%	47%
Blocks, Clearances, Interceptions	1868	1781

### Discipline

Fouls	349	367
Yellow Cards	30	46
Red Cards	2	2

Courtesy of Carling Opta

# Hatters On Card

Alan Robinson

Around ten years ago one of the more popular magazines on newsagents' shelves was the weekly, *Ninety Minutes*, now, sadly, no longer published. Often brash and irreverent, it often gave away off-beat free gifts, such as a pack of playing cards in 1993 which portrayed top players in amusing - and sometimes compromising! - situations.

And both teams involved in today's game have good cause to remember the youthful-looking man who appeared on the nine of hearts. Kerry Dixon was enjoying a spell with Luton, his home-town club, when this set was produced.

Born in July 1961, around the time that his father Mike made a handful of appearances at centre-forward for the Town, Kerry eventually broke into league football with Reading, during the 1980/81 season.

Before that he had suffered one disappointment after another - he was on Luton's schoolboy books, but rejected for an apprenticeship, and was also turned down by Tottenham. But he made his name in non-league football, with our neighbours Dunstable Town.

Regular goals saw him given a chance at Elm Park, and he took it in style, hitting more than 50 goals over the next three seasons. The big clubs checked him out, and eventually he joined Chelsea, then in the old Second Division, in the summer of 1983. His 28 goals in the following season helped fire the Blues back into the top flight, and Dixon soon proved he could do it at the highest level.

Speed off the mark, power in the air, and deadly shooting brought him a total of 192 goals in his nine-year stay at Stamford Bridge, putting him second only to Bobby Tambling in Chelsea's all-time scoring lists. He was capped by England eight times and was a member of

the squad for the 1986 World Cup in Mexico.

Just before the 1992/93 season kicked off Southampton tempted him away from Chelsea, paying £750,000, but he never really settled on the south coast.

It was seen as a bit of a coup by David Pleat when he came to Luton on loan in February 1993 for the rest of that season. It was a matter of considerable pride for Dixon that at last he was playing for the team he had supported from the Oak Road terrace as a boy.

Although a little slower by then, his class and experience were vital to a Town side which was in danger of a second successive relegation. Thankfully, that threat was avoided, and Dixon returned to Luton for the start of the following season, and signed permanently in November 1993.

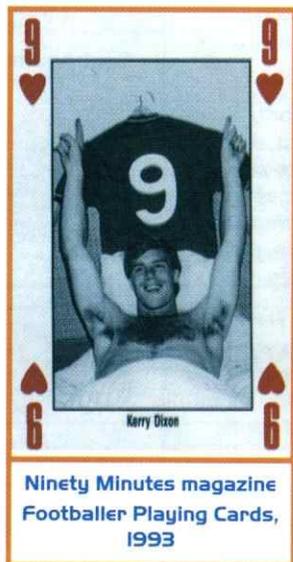
Soon afterwards the Town embarked on an epic FA Cup run, and for Dixon that culminated in an emotional reunion with Chelsea, in the semi-final at Wembley.

Few will forget the wonderful reception he got from the Chelsea supporters that day, although that was about the only highlight for Dixon and his team. The Town never got going and were beaten 2-0.

After playing his part in the development of the up and coming John Hartson, Dixon was allowed to leave for Millwall on transfer deadline day in March 1995.

After brief spells at Millwall and Watford, he had a traumatic year as player-manager at Doncaster, and later took coaching jobs with Boreham Wood and Letchworth.

As for these *Ninety Minutes* playing cards, the 56-card set is now valued at £17.50 in Murray of Hendon's latest catalogue.



# Commercial

John Bailey



We give a very warm welcome today to our match sponsors, Vauxhall Aftersales Distribution Centre. The company will be familiar to our supporters as a division of Vauxhall Motors located at Chalton, where its Parts Distribution Centre is the

second-largest warehouse building in the country. It employs 600 local people, many of whom are Luton Town fans. The operation ships 250,000 Vauxhall parts every day to Vauxhall dealers throughout the country, boosting the best service in the motor industry.

The manager is Peter Johnson, who is one of the club's most loyal supporters, and today he has brought along a number of his warehouse staff as a recognition of their part in some outstanding business performances last year. We hope they all have a very enjoyable afternoon at Kenilworth Road.

We are also pleased to welcome more old friends as today's match ball sponsors - Critical Research Ltd. They have been valued supporters of the club and



HAVING celebrated his 11th birthday earlier this month, James Falconer has another day to remember today, when he is one of the stars of Kenilworth Road. He is commercial mascot, which means that the Luton Town fan will be much closer to this

afternoon's events than usual. He comes to matches with his parents, brothers and uncle, but today he gets a close-up view of the entertainment. He is meeting the players in the dressing room before the game, and joining them for the pre-match routine on the pitch, including the toss-up for choice of ends. James, of Rosslyn Crescent, Luton, goes to Icknield Junior School, Luton, and plays football for Bushmead Wanderers. He also likes swimming. His favourite player is Stuart Douglas, and today he meets him face to face as part of a very special VIP day out at Luton Town.

If you have a youngster who deserves a similar 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.

its commercial activities for a long time, including sponsoring our youth team last season. Based in Alma Street, Luton, Critical Research provides a specialist service to all kinds of companies, from all over the country.

For instance, they obtain and collate information and opinions through surveys which can help companies target sales drives and marketing tactics, and a wide range of companies have had good cause to be thankful for Critical Research's expertise.

*John Bailey*

## GOLDEN GAMBLE

THE Golden Gamble paid out over £1,000 to two lucky winners at our games over Christmas and the New Year, and another jackpot is on offer today, for an outlay of just £1.



The winner at the Fulham match, pictured with Happy Harry collecting his fistful of cash, was Michael Lancaster, from Baker Street, Leighton Buzzard. He

collected £525. At the Chesterfield game, when the attendance was lower, the prize was £490, and happy winner Rhys Lee, from Knaves Hill, Linslade, received the money from Dawn Keveren, the Golden Gamble supervisor.

The first jackpot of 2000 was £520, and went to Gillian Pearce, of Dallow Road, Luton, whose ticket was drawn out during the game against Scunthorpe.



Today, as usual, sellers will be on duty all around the ground offering you the chance to win. The prize is 50 per cent of the takings, handed over at half-time. So far this season, 18 winners have gone home with £7,313, an average of £406 each. 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, and your support is appreciated.

# Kit Sponsors

NATHAN ABBEY	Paul Deason
GAVIN McGOWAN	Luton Town Supporters Club
MATTHEW SPRING	Brian Hall
ALAN WHITE	Rob Stringer, Epic Records
MARVIN JOHNSON	Space Display Systems
PHIL GRAY	G & S Ceramics
PAUL McLAREN	Elsie Clubb
STUART DOUGLAS	Les & Sue Miller
MICHAEL McINDOE	The Bobbers Travel Club
LIAM GEORGE	WHOSH
GARY DOHERTY	Peter Johnson
STUART FRASER	David & Jonathan Siegler
ANDREW FOTIADIS	Sally Mayne & Family
MATTHEW TAYLOR	Mick Garbutt, Inside Media
LANDRY ZAHANA-ONI	Elsie & Danny Clubb
EMMERSON BOYCE	In discussions
TRESOR KANDOL	Danny Clubb
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JERRY MOSES	Century Club
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SCOTT WARD	G. Owen Ceramic Tiling Ltd
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EFETOBORE SODJE	Graham Group Plc
JULIAN WATTS	Les Miller, Miller & Company, Bedford
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 Royals

## Royals' Goals For & Against



## Royals' Rogues

Gurney ...8	Williams ...2
Hunter ...6	Crawford...1
Caskey ...5	Gray ...1
McIntyre...4	Primus...1
Parkinson...4	
Bernal ...3	
Casper ...3	
Polston...3	
Scott ...3	
Grant ...2	
Whitehead...2	

n.b League Details Only

## Hatters' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



## Royals' last line up

- 1 Scott Howie** Goalkeeper 16(1) Apps 0 Goals Age 28 Ht 6'3" Wt 13:07 Prev Club: Motherwell Int.: Scot U21
- Andy Gurney** Defender 23 Apps 2 Goals Age 25 Ht 5'11" Wt 12:02 Prev Club: Torquay Int.: -
- Andy Bernal** Defender 18(1) Apps 0 Goals Age 33 Ht 5'10" Wt 12:05 Prev Club: Sydney Olympic Int.: Australia
- Linvoy Primus** Defender 16 Apps 0 Goals Age 26 Ht 6'0" Wt 13:07 Prev Club: Barnet Int.: -
- Stuart Gray** Defender 11(2) Apps 0 Goals Age 26 Ht 5'11" Wt 11:02 Prev Club: Celtic Int.: Scot U21
- John Polston** Defender 10(2) Apps 1 Goal Age 31 Ht 5'11" Wt 11:12 Prev Club: Norwich Int.: Eng Yth
- Darren Caskey** Midfield 23(1) Apps 6 Goals Age 25 Ht 5'8" Wt 11:09 Prev Club: Tottenham Int.: Eng Yth
- Phil Parkinson** Midfield 15 Apps 0 Goals Age 32 Ht 6'0" Wt 12:09 Prev Club: Bury Int.: -
- Martin Williams** Forward 21(1) Apps 4 Goals Age 26 Ht 5'9" Wt 11:12 Prev Club: Luton Int.: -
- Keith Scott** Forward 13(5) Apps 3 Goals Age 32 Ht 6'2" Wt 14:07 Prev Club: Wycombe Int.: -
- Mark Nicholls** Forward 3 Apps 1 Goal Age 22 Ht 5'10" Wt 10:04 Prev Club: on loan from Chelsea Int.: -
- Mass Sarr** Forward (3) Apps 0 Goals Age 26 Ht 5'8" Wt 11:13 Prev Club: Hajduk Split Int.: Liberia
- Nicky Forster** Forward 10(5) Apps 3 Goals Age 26 Ht 5'9" Wt 11:05 Prev Club: Birmingham Int.: Eng U21
- Chris Casper** Defender 14(1) Apps 0 Goals Age 24 Ht 6'0" Wt 12:02 Prev Club: Man Utd Int.: Eng U21
- Barry Hunter** Defender 13(3) Apps 1 Goal Age 31 Ht 6'3" Wt 13:02 Prev Club: Wrexham Int.: N Ire
- Peter Grant** Midfield 11(2) Apps 1 Goal Age 34 Ht 5'10" Wt 11:08 Prev Club: Norwich Int.: Scotland

## Luton's Goals For & Against



## MATCH

The UK's Biggest Selling Football Magazine!  
**Matchmen of the Month**  
 Top performer for Luton last month was Gary Doherty. The Hatters' defender claimed 1 star rating and an average of 7.25. For Reading it was midfielder Darren Caskey, with an average of 7.25 and 2 star ratings.

Team	Player	GP	SR	Ave
Blackpool	Clarke Carlisle	4	2	7.50
Bournemouth	Steve Robinson	5	2	6.80
Brentford	Martin Rowlands	5	1	7.20
Bristol City	Thomas Black	3	1	7.00
Bristol Rovers	Lee Jones	5	2	7.20
Burnley	Payton / Thomas	3	1	7.33
Bury	Chris Swales	3	1	7.33
Cambridge	Ian Ashbee	4	1	6.75
Cardiff	Jeff Eckhardt	4	0	7.25
Chesterfield	Ryan Williams	4	2	7.75
Colchester	Gavin Johnson	3	0	7.33
Gillingham	Andy Hesselthaler	3	1	7.33
Luton	Gary Doherty	4	1	7.25
Millwall	Lucas Neill	4	1	7.25
Notts County	Darren Ward	5	2	7.00
Oldham	Lee Duxbury	4	1	7.00
Oxford	Leslie Robinson	4	2	7.00
Preston	David Eyres	4	2	7.25
Reading	Darren Caskey	4	2	7.25
Scunthorpe	Lee Hodges	4	2	7.50
Stoke	Kevin Keen	3	0	7.33
Wigan	Andy Liddell	4	2	7.50
Wrexham	Neil Roberts	4	2	7.50
Wycombe	Martin Taylor	4	1	7.00

## Reading'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
Div.	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	2
F.A.	4	1	3	3	1	3	4	4	5	1
W.C.	2	1	1	2	2	2	QF	1	QF	2
L.S.	Senior	Senior	Maskell	Quinn	Quinn	Lovell	Quinn	Morley	Asaba	Williams
Goals	14	15	16	17	35	11	11	22	8	11
Ave Att	4,076	4,057	3,858	4,781	6,924	9,350	8,918	9,165	9,676	11,262

## Royals' Timing - Goals Scored & Conceded



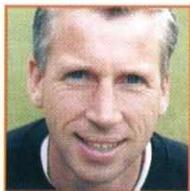
## Reading's Form Guide - Result, Points, Position

L	W	W	S	L	L	D	S	L	S	L	D	S	S	D
8	11	14	15	15	15	16	17	17	18	18	19	20	21	22
22	20	17	16	19	20	20	20	21	21	21	21	21	21	21

Ground: Madejski Stadium	City, Division 2, 27 March 1999	Record Defeat: 0-18 v Preston North End, FA Cup 1st round, 1893-94	Most Capped Player: Jimmy Quinn, 17 (46), Northern Ireland
Capacity: 24,200	Year Formed: 1871	End, FA Cup 1st round, 1893-94	
Pitch Measurement: 112 x 77	Record League Win: 10-2 v Crystal Palace, Division 3 (S), 4 Sept 1946	Most Lge Goals: 112, Division 3 (S), 1951-52	Most Lge Appearances: Martin Hicks, 500, 1978-91
Record Attendance: 33,042 v Brentford, FA Cup 5th round, 19 Feb 1927	Record Cup Win: 6-0 v Leyton, FA Cup 2nd round, 12 Dec 1925	Most Lge Points: 94, Division 3, 1985-86	
Record Receipts: £171,203 v Man		Top League scorer in a season: Ronnie Blackman, 39, Division 3 (S), 1951-52	

# Today's Visitors

welcome to Reading



## ALAN PARDEW (MANAGER)

FORMER reserve team manager at the Madejski Stadium, Alan was put in charge in October 1999 after a month as caretaker following the departure of Tommy Burns. Pardew came into the professional game from non-League Yeovil Town, and went on to enjoy a successful career with Crystal Palace (where he scored the winner in the epic 4-3 1990 FA Cup semi-final win over Liverpool), Charlton and Barnet. His coaching career began with Barnet, and when Bees boss Terry Bullivant was appointed manager at Elm Park in the summer of 1997, Pardew went with him to take charge of the reserve team. Less than a year later Bullivant was replaced by Burns, but Pardew retained the reserve manager position until the end of the 1998/99 season, when the reserve team was disbanded following the introduction of the new Youth Football Academy. Within months Pardew was back in Reading to take charge of the first team.

## JOHN GORMAN (ASSISTANT MANAGER)

Former England number two, John Gorman arrived at Madejski Stadium as Alan Pardew's assistant in September 1999, and he retained the position when Pardew was named permanent manager a month later. Gorman's playing career began with Celtic in the late 60's, but he moved to Carlisle to find regular first team football. He enjoyed six happy years with the Cumbrian club, during which time they were promoted to the top flight, and in 1976 he moved to London to join Spurs. His playing career was prematurely ended by a knee injury, and he went to America for seven years. He returned to be reserve team manager at Gillingham, and after four years he went to Leyton Orient to work with Frank Clark. In 1991 his old team-mate Glenn Hoddle took over as Swindon manager, and Gorman joined him as assistant. When Hoddle left for Chelsea two years later, Gorman opted to take the manager's position at Swindon, where he stayed for another 18 months before accepting a coaching job at Bristol City.

In the summer of 1996 he was reunited with Hoddle, this time as England assistant manager, and he worked with the national team for two and



READING FOOTBALL CLUB 1999/2000

the players

a half years, including qualification for France '98. After leaving the England position, Gorman had brief coaching spells with Ipswich and West Brom before teaming up with old friend Pardew at Reading.

## SCOTT HOWIE (GOALKEEPER)

Excellent shot-stopper who signed from Motherwell for £30,000 on transfer deadline day in March 1998. A former Scotland Under 21 who has enjoyed spells at Clyde, Norwich and Motherwell, he was also involved in the Scottish squad for World Cup qualifiers. Regular first team keeper last season, he was on the bench after the arrival of Phil Whitehead in early October but has been in very good form since regaining his place in the side following Whitehead's injury.

## JOHN POLSTON (DEFENCE)

An assured central defender who signed for the Royals in July 1998. Polston is a former Spurs trainee who won England under-19 honours while at White Hart Lane. He played 28 senior games for Spurs before his move to Norwich City in July 1990 for £300,000. He made nearly 250 League appearances for the Canaries. His first season at Madejski Stadium was ruined by injuries but he is fully fit now after a groin strain restricted his appearances earlier this season.

## LINVOY PRIMUS (DEFENCE)

Powerful and quick centre-half who excels in the air. Began his career as a trainee at Charlton Athletic and made four League appearances for them before joining Barnet on a free transfer in summer 1994. He played nearly 150 games over three seasons for the Underhill side, scoring seven goals. He then followed manager Terry Bullivant to Reading in July 1997, forming £400,000 of a £500,000 deal which also took Lee Hodges to Elm Park. He was a regular again last season, and although injury restricted his involvement in the last few weeks he is back to his best now.



## STUART GRAY (DEFENCE)

Son of former Leeds and Scotland legend Eddie Gray, this left-sided wingback arrived from Celtic, his first club, on transfer deadline day 1998 for £100,000. A good passer of the ball who looks comfortable in possession, Stuart is now

well established in the team and has started every game this season. Brought up in Yorkshire but a Scotland U-21 international.

## BARRY HUNTER (DEFENCE)

Northern Ireland international centre-back who cost £400,000 from Wrexham in July 1996 three years after they paid Irish club Crusaders £50,000 for him. Made an immediate impact at Reading, replacing Adrian Williams as captain, but missed the whole of 1997/98 season and most of last season with a knee injury. Worked his way back to fitness on loan at Southend, and recently regained his place in the Northern Ireland team.

## ANDY GURNEY (DEFENCE)

Signed from Torquay in January 1999 for £100,000, this attack-minded right-sided defender started his career at home-town Bristol Rovers, where he spent four seasons before moving to Torquay for one year and impressing during their surge to the play-offs. Established a regular starting place this season and made a good impression with his surging forward runs.

## ANDY BERNAL (DEFENCE)

Australian international who's enjoying his second spell in English football, having made his League debut for Ipswich Town during the 1992-93 season but being forced to leave after one year because of work permit problems. Began his career with Spanish side Sporting Gijon, and joined Reading in July 1994 after a spell with Sydney Olympic.

## JOHN MACKIE (DEFENCE)

Central defender signed from non-league football in October 1999 after impressing Alan Pardew during an earlier trial period. Previously with Sutton United.

## PHIL PARKINSON (MIDFIELD)

Arrived from Bury in July 1992 for a bargain £37,500. Started his career as a Southampton apprentice but didn't get a first team chance and £12,000 took him to Gigg Lane during the 1987-88 season where he played more than 150 games. He was the runaway winner of the Reading supporters' player of the year award in 1997/98 and again last season.



# Today's Visitors



## the players



**DARREN CASKEY (MIDFIELD)**  
Influential playmaker in midfield whose £700,000 move from Tottenham in February 1996 smashed Reading's transfer record. An FA School of Excellence graduate, he skipped an

England Under 18 team containing Sol Campbell and Robbie Fowler to victory in the 1993 UEFA Championships, his penalty beating Turkey in the final. Made his at Premiership debut in January 1994, but couldn't command a first team place at Spurs, and after a loan spell at Watford he decided to join the Royals.

**NEIL SMITH (MIDFIELD)**

Midfielder who was a key part of Fulham's Second Division championship success last

season. Neil joined Reading for £100,00 in August 1999. Started his career with Tottenham before moving to Gillingham in 1991, where he was a member of the 1995/96 promotion-winning team. He joined Fulham at start of the 1997/98 season and made 75 League appearances for the Cottagers.

**PETER GRANT (MIDFIELD)**

Midfielder who joined Reading on a free transfer from Norwich City last month after two seasons at Carrow Road. But it was with Celtic, where he spent fifteen years and made nearly 400 League appearances, that Grant enjoyed the best days of the career. Grant was an instrumental figure for the Parkhead giants as they won numerous cups and championships, and he was also rewarded with two Scotland caps in the late eighties.

**SEAN EVERS (MIDFIELD)**

The dynamic midfielder was a Tommy Burns deadline day capture from Luton for £500,000 in March last year after being tracked by Burns for several months. The start of his Reading career was delayed by stomach and thigh problems, but he has since returned to fitness.

**LEE HODGES (MIDFIELD)**

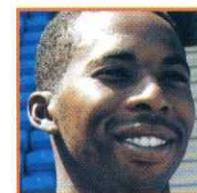
Midfielder/striker with a natural goalscoring instinct, Lee began his career at Tottenham before joining Barnet on a free transfer in summer 1994. His three years at Underhill included loan spells at Plymouth Argyle and Wycombe Wanderers. Hit 27 goals in 107 games for Barnet then joined Reading for £100,000 in July 1997.

**JIMMY CRAWFORD (MIDFIELD)**

A battling midfielder player who joined the Royals on transfer deadline day in March 1998 from Newcastle United for £50,000. Although born in the USA he qualifies to play for the Republic of Ireland and is a former Under 21 international.

**KEITH SCOTT (ATTACK)**

Experienced striker bought from Wycombe for an undisclosed fee in March 1999. The former Swindon and Norwich targetman made an immediate impression by scoring on his debut, the 3-1 defeat against Man City at Madejski Stadium. A big player with excellent aerial ability, he has become a big favourite with the fans.



**MARTIN WILLIAMS (ATTACK)**

Winger-cum-striker who signed from Luton Town on a free transfer in July 1995. Was with Leicester City as a youngster before joining Luton in 1991, going on to play 40 League games for them.

**MARK NICHOLLS (ATTACK)**

Talented young Chelsea striker who has struggled to establish a first team place among the foreign superstars at Stamford Bridge, and joined the Royals on loan just after Christmas. Scored a stunning goal on his debut at Gillingham.

# The Best in post-match reports

*The Luton News The Dunstable Gazette*



On sale every Wednesday still only 25p

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**KIDS AT KENILWORTH**  
Kids at Kenilworth is a new sponsorship package soon to be introduced at the Club. It is designed for organisations to provide disadvantaged children and young supporters with an opportunity to watch Luton Town play at Kenilworth Road for Nationwide League matches for the 1999/2000 season.  
There are many benefits for the sponsoring organisation as well as helping the children.  
SPONSORED BY  
SKF BARCLAYS  
Sainsbury's

# Hatters Abroad

carrying the colours

OUR apologies are due to two Luton Town supporters who must have wondered why this page in the Scunthorpe matchday magazine had a report on one of them, and a picture of the other.

The picture that should have appeared is of Town season ticket holder Alan Wheatley, of Sundon Park, visiting an unusual war memorial while on holiday in Honolulu.

It was taken on board the USS Missouri, otherwise known as "Mighty Mo." The battleship is part of an American heritage memorial to the Pearl Harbor raid, which led to the USA joining the second world war.

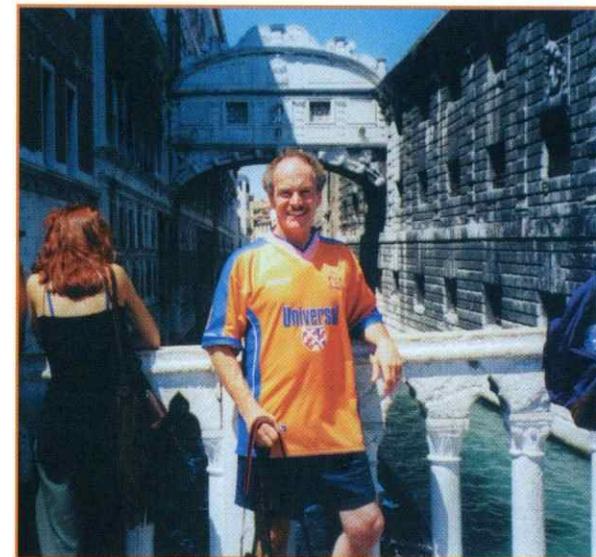
The Missouri saw active service in the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa, and in September 1945 was the stage for the formal ceremony at which Japan surrendered. Later, the ship was part of the UN forces in the Korean war, and also served in the Gulf war before being decommissioned in 1992. The ship is now preserved, in fighting trim, as a war memorial and attracts thousands of visitors every year. We suspect Mr Wheatley is the first to add to its lustre by sporting a Luton Town kit on one of its gun decks!



OUR other Hatters Abroad picture is from one of the world's most famous landmarks, the Bridge of Sighs in Venice. Dave Boutwood, a season ticket holder at Kenilworth Road, thought it was the perfect background for a photograph of him in his Luton kit.

He went to Croatia for his summer holiday, and was able to enjoy a day trip to Venice.

Having posed in front of the Bridge of Sighs, Town fanatic Dave says he is hoping that there will be no sighs to come at the end of the season when the promotion issues are sorted out.



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.

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# Top Hatters Gallery



## Andre Scarlett

Born: Brent, 11.1.80

Previous clubs: None

Joined Luton Town: As a YTS boy in 1996

Luton debut: v Oldham (H) 17.10.98

Luton Town record: 9 appearances, 1 goal



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# Hatters Away

## travel information

THERE will be some bleary-eyed fans at our next game - we are away to Cardiff a week tomorrow, and as kick-off time is 12.15, by order of the local police, Town fans will have to hit the road early. As usual Town on Tour and the Bobbers Travel Club 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 6.15am, with various pick-up points on the way to Luton, and departure time from Kenilworth Road is 7.15am. The fare is £12 adults, and £10 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 7.30am. The fare is £14 for adult members of Luton Town Supporters Club, £11

for concessions, and £15.50 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

MOTORING to Cardiff on a Sunday morning should be pretty quick, but you will need to set off by 8 am at the very latest. The route is easy: M1 south, M25 west and M4 west, and over the Severn Bridge. Leave M4 at junction 33, and at the roundabout follow the signs to Cardiff West, on the A4232. Keep going for just over six miles, and make a left turn, signposted towards the city centre onto the B4267 Leckwith Road, and the ground is half a mile down the road, with a good car park.

Mileage from Luton: 190

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# Blast FROM THE Past

Roger Wash

## Macdonald Crowns the Royals



The Town narrowly failed to win promotion from the old Division Three in 1969, finishing third behind Watford and Swindon at a time when only two teams went up.

Determined not to let that happen again the players started off the following campaign like potential champions and it was not until the 14th game, at Doncaster, that we finally tasted defeat. New signing from Fulham, Malcolm Macdonald, was proving a real handful to Division Three defences and certainly looked like proving the bargain of the century at only £17,500.

Unfortunately, the promotion push took a bit of a dive over Christmas when we lost four games in a row including our first home defeats for twenty months. A 1-5 defeat at Shrewsbury during this period was probably the low point of the campaign, but the 0-2 reversal at home to Plymouth, in front of the 'Match of the Day' cameras was highly embarrassing especially as it was our first time as the main feature match.

Although we managed to come out of this terrible run with a 3-1 win at Bury, followed by a 4-0 home thumping of Doncaster, only one point was picked up from the next three away games and by the time of our visit to Reading on March 11th, our chances of promotion to the old Division Two were looking slim as we had been pushed back to fifth position in the table.

At this time Reading were going through a purple patch and had not lost for fifteen games in a run going back to the previous November, and sat in fourth position. Manager Jack Mansell, who had just picked up the 'Manager of the Month' award, had carried out a clearout

at Elm Park during the close season, with the result that only Dennis Allen was left of the regular side from the previous campaign.

Such was the interest in the game, especially from a Reading point of view, that a crowd of 18,783 turned up, which was never to be bettered in the league at Elm Park. The attendance would doubtless have been even higher were it not for the atrocious weather that saw the pitch quickly turn into a quagmire.

The game kicked off with Reading fielding only ten men, as goalkeeper Steve Death had been held up in traffic, but stand-in Dennis Butler did not have chance to save a shot before being replaced by the breathless latecomer.

Most of the early play belonged to the Town who boasted physically bigger and stronger players more suited to the conditions, and Macdonald was unlucky with a header that cannoned off the bar.

Gradually, however, Reading came more into it with their close passing style, and Luton full back, Fred Jardine, was forced to head off the line from Dick Habbin with goalkeeper Sandy Davie out of position.

The second half continued to be an absorbing contrast of styles, with Reading winning the corner count by a considerable margin, but the Town looking the more dangerous on the break with their powerful front runners Macdonald and Matt Tees.

It was these two players that eventually turned the game into the Town's favour when, with only twenty seconds remaining, Tees hammered a long ball down the middle to Macdonald who ploughed through the mud, fighting off his marker, before skipping past Death to plant the ball into an empty net. The promotion bandwagon was rolling again.



Malcolm Macdonald taps in his hat-trick goal during the 5-0 home win over Reading in 1970.

The return game was played two weeks later, over Easter, and by this time the league positions had been reversed with the Town also having games in hand over the leaders.

Rotherham had been seen off 2-1 at Kenilworth Road the previous day when league debuts had been given to goalkeeper Alan Starling and forward Viv Busby, and it was decided to retain these two for the visit of Reading.

A crowd of 14,401 was present to see an even first half which was punctuated by a goal from Macdonald after eleven minutes, when he played a wall pass with Busby before slamming the ball past Death.

The second period was only a minute old, however, when Macdonald doubled his tally after running fifty yards with the ball before hitting it home with, what was now becoming, typical power.

The inevitable hat-trick came shortly afterwards when Macdonald scored from close range, and he then set up Busby on the

hour for a simple tap-in for his first Luton goal.

The scoreline was extended to 5-0 just before the end when winger Mike Harrison finished off a smart move thereby pushing the Town up to second place in the table, a position we kept until the end of the season.

### First game:

**Luton:** Davie, Ryan, Jardine, Slough, Branston, Moore, Collins, Macdonald, Tees, Keen, French (Allen).

**Reading:** Death, Dixon, Butler, B.Wagstaff, Allen, Sharpe, Cumming, Chappell, Habbin, T.Wagstaff, Williams.

### Second game:

**Luton:** Starling, Ryan, Bannister, Slough, Branston, Moore, Collins, Busby, Macdonald, Keen, Harrison.

**Reading:** Death, Morgan, Butler, B.Wagstaff, Allen, Sharpe, Harley, Bell, Habbin, T.Wagstaff, Williams.

# Community & Schools Programme



## INDOOR UNDER 10's FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

The Luton News



The Dunstable Gazette



What a great afternoon we spent up at the Luton Regional Sports Centre just before Christmas when teams from all over Bedfordshire met up to compete in our under 10 indoor five a side tournament. Our main picture shows all four semi finalists, Kempston West End, Icknield Youth, Houghton Conquest and Leighton Royals football clubs.

It was Icknield youth and Houghton Conquest who made it to the

finals, after two epic semi-finals, which due to poor weather prior to the Scunthorpe game we were unable to hold on the pitch. But the boys initial disappointment was soon forgotten as the first team put on a great display to win 4-1. With all four semi-finalists invited to the game everyone had a great afternoon. We still have to play our final and the boys will be visiting us again to play this out on the pitch before an upcoming home game - lets hope we follow it with another 4-1 victory. Watch this space!



'Player of the Tournament' sponsored by McDonald's Restaurant Limited



## ntl: SCHOOL VISIT PROJECT

We are only a couple of weeks into the new year and already our coaches have been to lots of schools in our area and with all our old friends contacting us, as well as a few new ones, the School Visit Project 2000 is well and truly under way.

As many schools now know, the Project is jointly funded by NTL and Sportsmatch and aims to provide curriculum time PE and football coaching in schools to pupils of all abilities. What some schools may not know, however, is

that we are able to stretch the curriculum, which we know is overloaded, to include early morning sessions and lunchtimes. We already run two breakfast clubs in Luton and Toddington which sees our coaches and pupils playing at 7.30 in the morning - we are really impressed with their attitude and dedication and also to the mums and dads who make the school run even earlier than normal!

If you would like your school to take part in the School Visit Project 2000 or would like further information then simply contact the Community & Schools Dept, at the Club and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have or to book a visit for the school. The number to ring is 01582 411622 - we look forward to hearing from you.



## INDOOR WINTER COACHING PROGRAMME

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Luton Regional Sports Centre  
School Years 1 to 3  
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#### WEDNESDAYS

Luton Regional Sports Centre  
School Years 4 to 8  
at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

#### FRIDAYS

Cardinal Newman High School  
School Years 1 to 3  
at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm  
School Years 4 to 8  
at 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

Lealands High School  
(times as above)

### DUNSTABLE

#### THURSDAYS

Manshead Upper School  
School Years 1 to 3  
at 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm  
School Years 4 to 8  
at 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm

#### FRIDAYS

Northfields Upper School  
School Years 1 to 3  
at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

School Years 4 to 8  
at 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

### HARLINGTON

#### THURSDAYS

Harlington Upper School  
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at 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm

School Years 4 to 8  
at 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm

### LEIGHTON BUZZARD

#### MONDAYS

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School Years 1 to 3  
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School Years 4 to 8  
at 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

#### THURSDAYS

Vandyke Upper School  
School Years 1 to 3  
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### AMPTHILL

#### TUESDAYS

Alameda Middle School  
School Years 1 to 3  
at 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

School Years 4 to 8  
at 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

### HOUGHTON REGIS

#### WEDNESDAYS

Houghton Regis Sports Centre  
School Years 1 to 2  
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# Junior Hatters

## welcome

WE have a run of three home matches in the four February weekends, plus a midweek game against Stoke, so there will be plenty of opportunities for Junior Hatters to get together in the next few weeks.

Always popular is our Saturday Club, and we think it is very good value for money for all young supporters of the Town.

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.

If you want to get everything possible out of coming to football at Luton Town, why not join us? The 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.

Contact the ticket office in Kenilworth Road for more information.



• There were two mascots on duty for our first game of the new year, against Scunthorpe. Twelve-year-old Anthony Dumbleton was the Junior Hatters choice, and the other youngster in the picture with the captains and match officials before toss-up is Graham Randall, who was commercial mascot on his ninth birthday.



• Our other picture is from the Chesterfield game, with eight-year-old Junior Hatter Jamie Cooper enjoying a close encounter with Marvin Johnson in the centre circle.

## Today's Mascot



THERE IS a nice early birthday present today for Jay Norman, of Churchfield Road, Houghton Regis - he will be five on February 2, and the luck of the draw has pulled out his name to be today's Junior Hatters mascot.

His dad Tony, who brings him to games, has been a supporter for a long time, and today Mr Norman will doubtless be enjoying seeing his young son run out onto the hallowed Kenilworth Road turf with the Town team.

Jay goes to Beecroft Lower School, Dunstable, and as well as watching football he likes playing it too, and also enjoys snooker. This afternoon he will join the Town team

in the dressing room before the game, and join them for the traditional kick-in and choice of ends formalities before the game starts. Most of all, he says, he will enjoy meeting Liam George, his favourite player.

If you would like join the Junior Hatters, call the Ticket Office on  
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# Action Replay

Luton Town 4 Scunthorpe Utd 1 (HT 3-0)

Brian Swain reports

## Match Details

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

**Booked:** Phil Gray, 41 mins, foul on Andrew Dawson; Matthew Spring, 53 mins, foul on Nathan Stanton.

**Scunthorpe:** Evans, Harsley, Dawson (Wilcox HT), Logan, Fickling, Graves, Walker (Sparrow 85 mins), Hodges, Ipoua, Omoyimni, Stanton (Housham 55 mins). Unused subs: Bull, Stamp.

**The goals:** 1-0 35 mins - Stuart Douglas, getting ahead of his marker to head in a right wing cross by Matthew Spring after a corner was not properly cleared; 2-0 36 mins - Phil Gray, carbon copy header from a tremendous delivery by Matthew Taylor; 3-0 39 mins - Matthew Spring, low right foot drive after the ball broke to him on the edge of the box as a run by Liam George was stopped; 3-1 78 mins - Lee Hodges, side-stepping Adam Locke and blasting in a 25-yarder; 4-1 79 mins - Matthew Spring, carefully-curled shot into the top right corner after Stuart Douglas's short pass.

**Referee:** Clive Wilkes, Gloucester

**Attendance:** 5,574, including 501 visiting fans.

THE first win in two months gave us a near-perfect start to the new century, with the Town rediscovering the teamwork and attacking sharpness that will be needed to sustain a promotion challenge. Luckless Scunthorpe, still finding Division Two life difficult after winning promotion last year, were hit by three goals in a four-minute spell which settled the game before the interval.

It was reminiscent of our defeat in the cup against Fulham, except that this time we were the team with the extra touch of quality which could punish mistakes. It was more satisfying for the coaching staff because the first two goals came from training ground routines at corners, with headers by Stuart Douglas and Phil Gray outwitting would-be markers from close range. A cracker by Matthew Spring made it 3-0 before the break, and when Scunthorpe belatedly reduced the arrears Spring replied again within a minute.

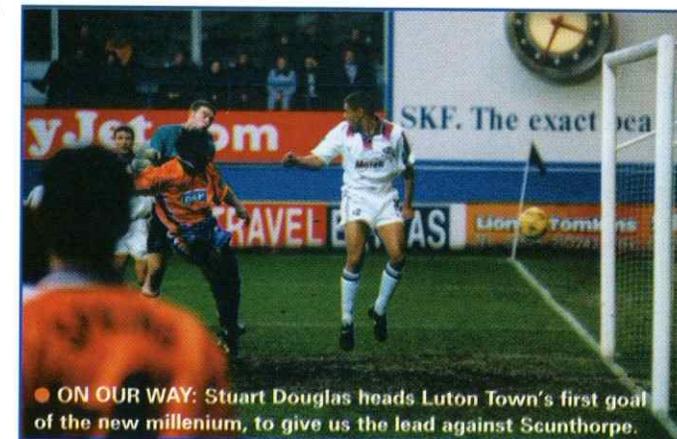
The last time Irons boss Brian Laws came to Kenilworth Road he was in a rage in the Grimsby dressing room, and injured one of his own players with a well-directed tray of sandwiches. He was sacked as a result.

This time Laws kept his anger private, but confirmed he had let his defenders know that their work had fallen well short of what he wanted.

"The result flattered Luton," he said. "But I expect a lot more from my team. We were very poor at defending corners when Luton scored, and after two goals in a couple of minutes we went to pieces for a while."

Scunthorpe tightened up for the second half, but by then the Town were able to cruise, and Lennie Lawrence was delighted with the number of chances his men created.

Some of us who were young men the last time the Town met Scunthorpe appreciated the New Year's delight - we were stuffed 8-1 at Glanford Park in April 1965, on the day we were condemned to relegation to Division Four. We have waited a long time for revenge!



● ON OUR WAY: Stuart Douglas heads Luton Town's first goal of the new millenium, to give us the lead against Scunthorpe.

# Action Replay

Stoke City 2 Luton Town 1 (HT 1-0)

Brian Swain reports

ON A day when the referee took more limelight than some of the players, the Town's second visit to the Britannia Stadium was as painful as the first, just over a year ago. Then we were beaten 3-1 in a game which saw Graham Alexander sent off for two yellows. This time Marvin Johnson complained in vain that he was pushed off the ball as Stoke netted their first goal, before Matthew Taylor was sent off a minute before the interval for allegedly kicking an opponent.

Referee Chris Foy, a policeman from St. Helens, seemed to be trying to re-balance the scales of justice when he awarded us a penalty which should have been worth a point, but the bottom line was that we were caught out yet again by a set piece, and lost to a scrambled goal by Stoke sub Kyle Lightbourne.

The most critical Town fan must have felt some sympathy for players who had given their all after Taylor's red card. You could argue that on the day neither side deserved to win, with both giving the ball away too easily.

The Town reverted to a tighter shape, with Alan White in midfield and Liam George on the bench, and they looked comfortable at the back and menacing on the break until Mr Foy's first crucial decision on 23 minutes. Paul Connor was chasing a flick-on by Peter Thorne, with Johnson covering. The skipper was adamant that Connor knocked him over before shooting into the net, but the ref did not see it that way.

Nathan Abbey made a smart save from Graham Kavanagh before the Town were reduced to ten men in the 44th minute. Taylor was trying to break clear past Micael Hansson, and the Stoke man went down in a heap. The Town man looked shocked and amazed when Mr Foy, who was very close, reached for the red card. His view was that Taylor had kicked the Stoke man on the ground. Taylor was bemused by the decision - he said he was simply trying to extricate himself from a two-man tangle.

Protests were in vain, but the Town's depleted team refused to buckle, and for a long time Stoke did not look as though they had the wit to make the extra man count. The equaliser, on 58 minutes, was a well-struck penalty by Matthew Spring after Stoke's turn to wonder about the referee - he was one of the very few who spotted a nudge in the back by Nicky Mohan on Phil Gray, wide on the angle of the penalty area.

We thought we had got the point we deserved but five minutes from time Kavanagh launched the last

of a series of long throws he had demonstrated earlier. It sailed towards the near post, and despite all the cover Lightbourne managed to get in a back header to take out Abbey. The ball looped into the net from the tightest of angles.

We were left to take what little consolation we could from a day that might have been so much happier. "It was good in terms of spirit the players showed in the face of adversity," said manager Lennie Lawrence. "I don't know whether Marvin was pushed for the goal, and it looked like he was. And that was the only shot they had in the first 45 minutes.

"The red card looked harsh, but we were fortunate to get the penalty in the second half, and we were dealing well with what little Stoke offered until the very disappointing late goal. It was disappointing for everyone not to get a point, and we don't have too many things to blame ourselves for. The spirit and commitment was lovely in the second half. But we have got ourselves to blame for the goal that mattered most. Every player except Andrew Fotiadis was in the penalty area when it went in.

"One moment of loss of concentration, and it was all over. We were unfortunate, and Stoke must think themselves very lucky to win."

## Match Details

**Luton Town:** Abbey, Boyce, Watts, Doherty, Johnson, White (George 87 mins), Locke, Douglas (Fotiadis 70 mins), Spring, Gray, Taylor. Unused subs: Scarlett, Fraser, Tate.

**Sent off:** Matthew Taylor, 44 mins, serious foul play on Mikael Hansson.

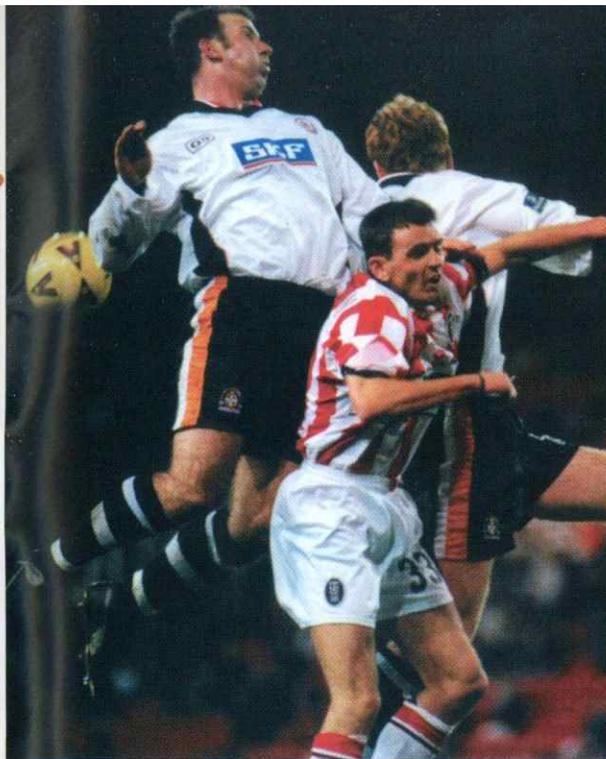
**Booked:** Adam Locke, 59 mins and Andrew Fotiadis, 85 mins, both for kicking the ball away to use up time.

**Stoke:** Ward, Mohan, Kavanagh, Thorne (Lightbourne 70 mins), Hansson, Connor, O'Connor, Petty (Gunnarsson 79 mins), Clarke (Danielsson 70 mins), Jacobsen, Kippe. Unused subs Gislason and Stuart Fraser (goalkeeper)

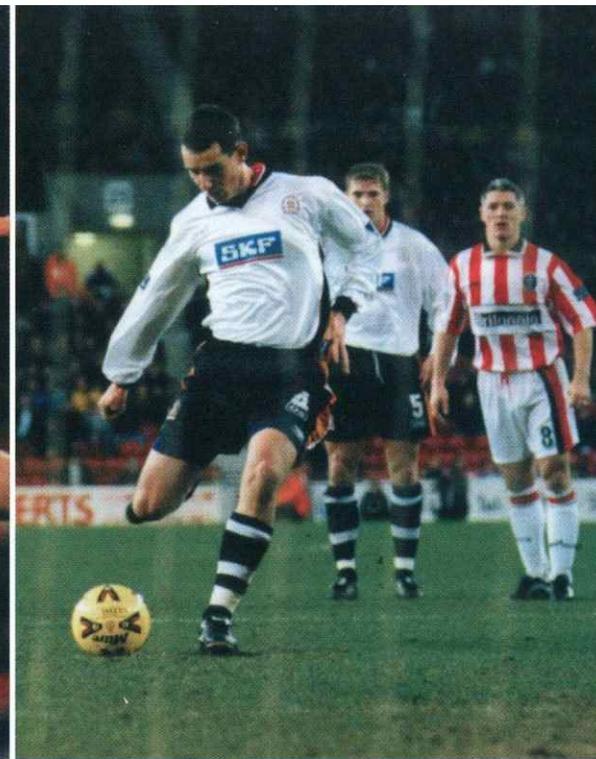
**The goals:** 1-0 23 mins - Paul Connor, with the Town protesting in vain that he had pushed Marvin Johnson off the ball before shooting home; 1-1 58 mins - Matthew Spring penalty after an eagle-eyed ref spotted a nudge by Nicky Mohan on Phil Gray; 2-1 86 mins - Kyle Lightbourne, back-header on the near post from a long throw by Graham Kavanagh.

**Referee:** Chris Foy, St Helens.

**Attendance:** 10,016, including 651 visiting fans.



● **DOUBLE SPEARHEAD:** Phil Gray and Gary Doherty rising to the occasion together.



● **PERFECT POISE:** Matthew Spring concentrates on tucking away his first penalty goal in the league, to put us level at Stoke.



● **TWO AT A TIME:** Adam Locke gets past a double challenge at the Britannia Stadium.



● **PUTTING HIS BACK INTO IT:** Andrew Fotiadis is manhandled out of contention by Stoke's Anders Jacobsen.

# Action Replay

**Blackpool 3 Luton Town 3 (HT 1-1)**

*Brian Swain reports*

TEN minutes from time on Saturday we were heading for our tenth away defeat of the season, 3-1 down to a Blackpool side which was well fired up to put on a show in the first home game for new manager Steve McMahon. He had put new life and enthusiasm into a club that had sunk into the relegation zone and left previous manager Nigel Worthington so demoralised that he resigned two days before Christmas.

The gate was nearly double what it had been in Blackpool's run of six league games without a win, and the locals were in good humour as they anticipated the first victory in the league since last November.

But then the Town found an 81st-minute goal to revive their hopes, and the value of sticking at it to the bitter end was rarely better illustrated as Blackpool suffered a collective loss of confidence.

Nearly three minutes into stoppage time Matthew Taylor hit a spectacular equaliser to give Town fans the perfect finale to a game that had not been too brilliant in terms of football entertainment.

A draw was always the right result, unlikely though it looked until the last ten minutes. It was a day for hard work and honest endeavour, and the rare flashes of skill came from the Town, particularly in the making and taking of a brilliant first equaliser by Adam Locke.

We were unlucky not to score in the first minute, when a short corner routine ended with Phil Gray hitting the bar and Stuart Douglas firing the rebound off target.

McMahon put his faith in experience to try to save Blackpool's flagging fortunes, and Gary Ablett, on loan from Birmingham, and Kevin Richardson, still a good player at 37, and on loan from Barnsley, looked capable at times of carrying a poor team to success.

They struck after eight minutes, with Richardson accepting a second chance to deliver a cross after his corner was half-cleared, and Ablett heading in to mark his home debut.

It scarcely settled Blackpool nerves, and the 27th-minute equaliser was sheer class. Locke intercepted a Blackpool pass in midfield, moved forward with the ball, swapped passes with Gray, took on two defenders who seemed scared to challenge, and hit a sweet right foot drive into the net. Nathan Abbey made a good save to keep out Steve Bushell's deflected shot seven minutes later, but for long stretches neither goalkeeper was called into serious action as stalemate developed around the centre circle.

But within ten minutes of the second half starting, we were struggling. Phil Clarkson scored when

Richardson's corner was flicked on by Clarke Carlisle, and a poor clearance by Julian Watts enabled Bushell to lash in a 20-yarder.

Perhaps Blackpool could not believe it - they hadn't scored three in a league game since September 1998, when Worthington was manager of the month. Whatever the reason, the Town became more and more threatening, and with nine minutes to go Gray headed us back into contention from a corner by Matthew Spring.

Blackpool were on edge from then on: the Town realised the game was not all over, and the home side was reduced to desperate defence as the clock ticked away. The crowd groaned as the board was held up for three minutes of stoppage time - McMahon groaned and grumbled about that even louder later on - and 21 seconds before the three minutes was up the last of a series of corners led to a goalkeeper's punch which sent the ball to the edge of the area, and Taylor belted it straight back into the net, through a crowd of players. The late determination and effort helped us forget the disappointment of much of what had gone before.

## Match Details

**Luton Town:** Abbey, Boyce, Watts, Doherty, Johnson, George (Fotiadis 75 mins), Locke, Douglas, Spring, Gray, Taylor. Unused subs: Scarlett, Fraser, Ayres, Tate.

**Sent off:** Matthew Taylor, 44 mins, serious foul play on Mikael Hansson.

**Booked:** Adam Locke, 76 mins, foul on Rob Matthews.

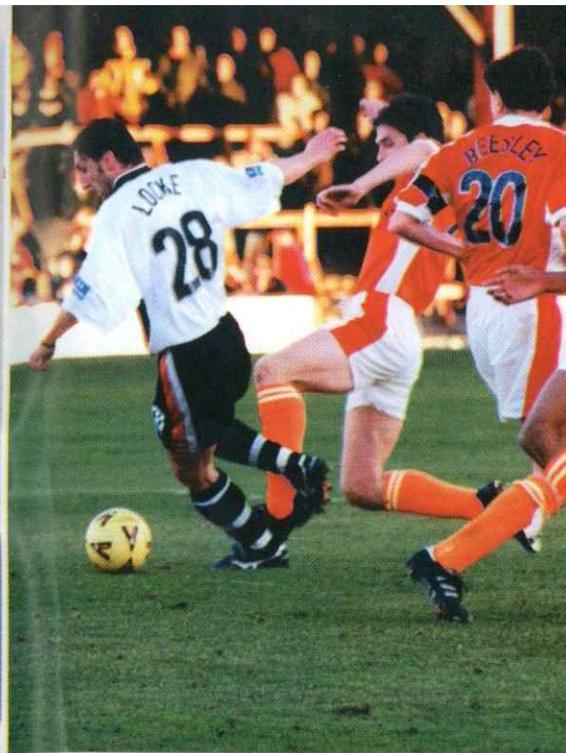
**Blackpool:** Caig, Bardsley, Carlisle, Bent, Clarkson, Bushell, Beesley, Matthews, Murphy (Coid 52 mins), Ablett, Richardson. Unused subs Nowland, Garvey, Rachel, Couzens (gk).

**Booked:** Paul Beesley, 44 mins, foul on Emerson Boyce.

**The goals:** 1-0 8 mins - Gary Ablett header from a cross by Kevin Richardson; 1-1 27 mins - Adam Locke, careful drive after working his way through from midfield, swapping passes with Phil Gray on the way; 2-1 46 mins - Phil Clarkson after corner by Richardson was flicked on; 3-1 55 mins - Steve Bushell 20-yard drive after a cross by Rob Matthews was played out to him by Julian Watts; 3-2 81 mins - Phil Gray header from Matthew Spring's corner; 3-3 third minute of stoppage time - Matthew Taylor 25-yard cracker from a half-cleared corner.

**Referee:** Trevor Parkes, Birmingham.

**Attendance:** 5,624, including 450 visiting fans.



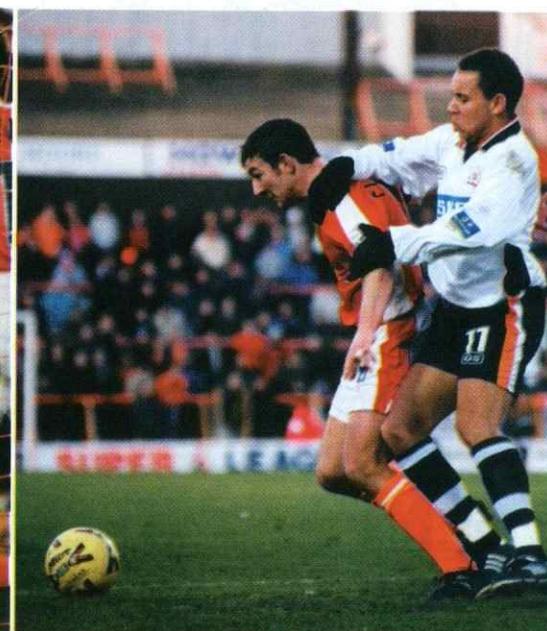
● **THEY SEEK HIM HERE...** but there was no stopping Adam Locke, on his way into the penalty area before striking our first equaliser at Bloomfield Road.



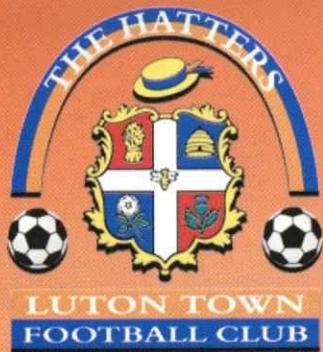
● **AND NOW IT'S THERE...**disconsolate goalkeeper Tony Caig sits it out as Locke takes a well-deserved salute from the visiting fans.



● **RECOVERY BEGINS:** Phil Gray tumbles after heading the Town back into contention in the 81st minute.



● **HANDED OFF:** Liam George battling for possession.

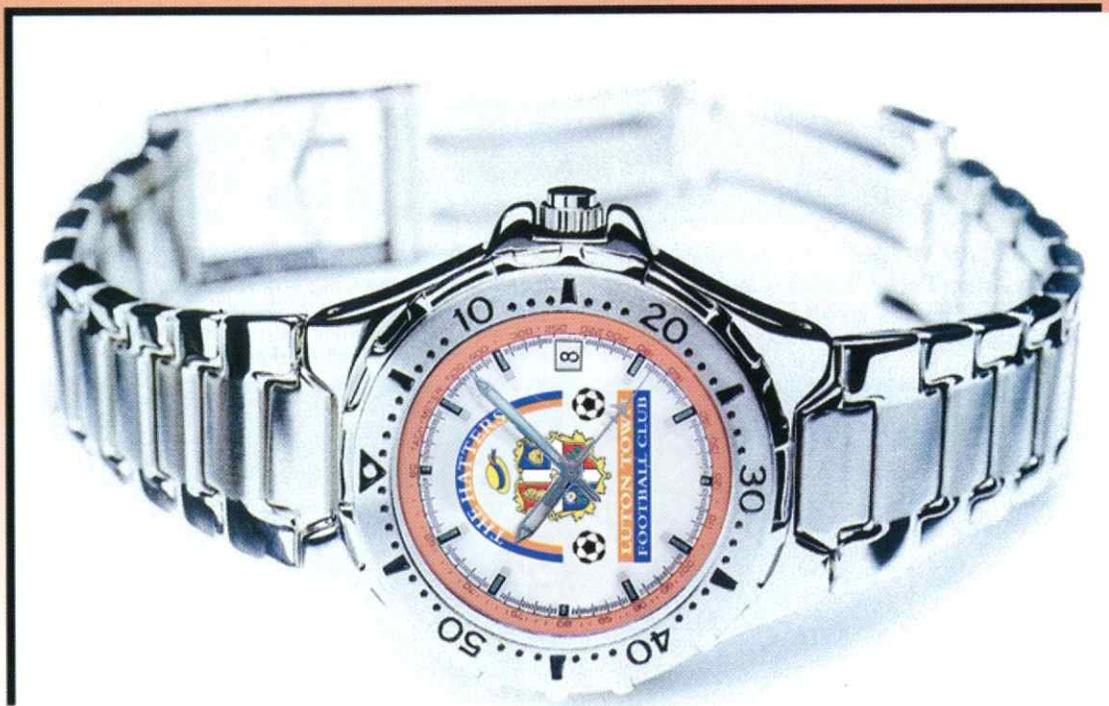


# Luton Town Football Club

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# The Reserves

Trevor Hartley and John Moore



## Cambridge Utd 3 Luton Town 1

HAVING taken an early lead, two penalties were needlessly given away to gift Cambridge victory in the Avon Insurance Combination. The failure to turn threatening attacking play into

goals compounded our problems.

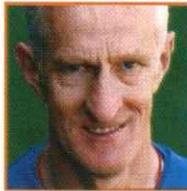
A bright start brought us a tenth-minute goal, with a good passing move involving several players leading to a cross by Landry Zahana-Oni and a decisive header by Andrew Fotiadis.

But ten minutes later Daniel Tate brought down a forward when he did not need to, and Cambridge scored from the penalty. We recovered from that reasonably well, but in the second half, when we looked capable of getting something out of it, we were caught by a goal on the break, and defeat became almost inevitable when Gavin McGowan conceded another penalty. As with the first one, we could have no complaints with the referee's decision.

We threatened in attack, but were not ruthless enough in finishing, and the penalties were needless, both the result of reckless challenges that should not have been made.

On the plus side Stuart Fraser did well in the centre of the back three, which is not his normal position, and Fotiadis, Zahana-Oni and McGowan got more competitive football under their belts to continue their progress after injuries.

Our team included Brian Quailey, a trialist who is available from West Brom, but he did not make a major impact. Gerry Harrison, who had been training with us hoping to come back on loan from Sunderland, did OK in the first half, but could not sustain it in the second.



Overall, we had too many players who must do much better if they are to get into the frame for the first team - when you are swarming all over the opposition, as we sometimes were at Cambridge, you have got to finish them off, and we failed on that score. Giving away reckless, unnecessary penalties just made it worse.

**Luton Town:** Tate, Stirling (Moran 70 mins), Fraser, Ayres, McGowan, Zahana-Oni, Harrison, Scarlett, Jerry, Fotiadis, Quailey. Unused subs: Minton, Mansell, Carroll, Ward.

## Luton Town 0 Northampton 1

WITH six youth team players in the side, there was commendable effort from everyone in a game we should not have lost at Kenilworth Road on Wednesday. It was a good hard-working performance, but we missed too many relatively easy chances, and paid for a lack of quality in finishing.

We conceded a goal just before the interval, but after that closed the door on them, and a number of our players failed with opportunities in front of goal.

Gavin McGowan was subbed at the interval because he might well be needed for the first team this afternoon, and replaced by Ian Whitby, who was a trainee at Nottingham Forest and is looking for a club.

Luton Town: Tate, Stirling (Kandol 70 mins), Fraser, Ayres, McGowan (Whitby HT), Zahana-Oni, Moran, Scarlett, Jerry, Fotiadis, Minton (Barriteau 83 mins). Unused sub: Ward.

**Reserve team appearances, including as sub:** Kandol 11, Ayres 11, Stirling 11, Scarlett 11, Jerry 10, Boyce 10, Tate 8, Sodje 7, McIndoe 7, Moran 6, White 6, Locke 5, Ward 5, Zahana-Oni 4, Mansell 3, O'Connor 3, Graham 3, Minton 3, McGowan 3, Fotiadis 3, Read 2, Gray 2, Pearson 2, Davis 2, Brkovic 2, Dogbe 2, Clarke 2, Mortara 2, Fraser 2, Barriteau 2, Harrison 2, Carroll 1, Cummings 1, Thorpe 1, Jones 1, Hunt 1, Bowes 1, O'Brien 1, Ryan 1, Jack 1, Antunes 1, McKinnon 1, Esteban 1, Quailey 1, Whitby 1.

**Goals:** Kandol 8, Jerry 2, McIndoe 1, Fotiadis 1, OG 1.

OUR NEXT match in the Avon Insurance Combination is on Wednesday week, February 2, when we play QPR, kick-off 2pm at Kenilworth Road. Our away fixture with Southend, postponed in December, has been re-arranged for Wednesday February 16 (7pm) at Roots Hall.

# Youth Soccer

Paul Lowe

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
YOUTH ALLIANCE



## Northampton 0 Luton Town 2

FIELDING a makeshift defence, we well deserved our first win of the new year in the Football League Youth Alliance. James Ayres and Jude Stirling, our regular and consistent central

defenders, were taken away with the first team squad to Blackpool, and schoolboy Joe Deeney, normally a central midfielder, dropped back to partner Ryan Moran at the back, and they both did well.

Northampton were older, and a little more physical, but we coped well with their early pressure, and Graham Wraight hardly had a save to make as we kept a rare and very welcome clean sheet.

The opening goal, after 25 minutes, was a real pleasure for everyone: Alex Minton signalled to Ryan Moran that we would try a ploy we had worked on during training the previous day, and it came off brilliantly. Moran went to the near post, then as the ball was kicked, peeled off to the back post, and headed in.

He went close with two other good headers later, before our second well-worked goal came ten minutes from time. Dean Mortara crossed to Rene Barriteau, and he unselfishly switched the ball to Ezra Mentore, whose side-footed drive was curled around the goalkeeper.

**Luton Town:** Wraight, Deeney, Carroll, Moran, Dogbe (Mortara 50 mins), Mansell, Jerry, Minton, Crane (Mentore 60 mins), Jeffrey (Clarke 60m mins), Barriteau. Unused sub: Ward (GK).

## Luton Town 1 Shrewsbury 3

AFTER playing reasonably well for an hour, we paid the price for lapses in defence and for missing first-half chances in our first match of the new year in the Alliance. We were caught on the break twice in five minutes for well-taken goals by Shrewsbury midway through the second half. With five minutes to go we pulled one back when Lee Mansell's corner was headed down by James Ayres and Jude Stirling tucked away the chance. But straight from the kick-off a hopeful long-range drive sailed into the top of our net.

Luton Town: Wraight, Stirling, Carroll, Moran, Ayres, Mansell, Jerry (Minton 89 mins), Clarke, Barriteau, Dogbe (Mortara 65 mins), Jeffrey (Mentore 70 mins). Unused sub: Ward (GK).

## Southampton 4 Luton Town 0

HAVING done well to reach the fourth round, we went out of the Times FA Youth Cup on a night when too many of our team failed to perform to their best, against a strong and quick Southampton side. We had

a young team - only five second-year boys and the rest first-years and schoolboys - and they hopefully will have gained some benefit from a disappointing match. We conceded two goals in each half, and Sean Flaherty missed our best chance after being put through by Alex Minton for a one on one with the keeper. The brightest feature for us was the extra enthusiasm injected when we sent on schoolboys Darren Crane, Marcus Jeffrey and Joe Deeney as subs.

Luton Town: Ward, Mortara, Stirling, Carroll, Moran, Dogbe (Jeffrey 65 mins), Mansell, Minton, Flaherty (Deeney 80 mins), Clarke (Crane 65 mins), Barriteau. Unused subs: Mentore, Wraight (GK).

### Youth team appearances, including as sub:

Mortara 21, Moran 21, Clarke 21, Carroll 20, Stirling 19, Mansell 19, Barriteau 18, Dogbe 18, Ayres 15, Jerry 14, Deeney 12, Mentore 12, Wraight 11, Jeffrey 11, Ward 9, Minton 9, Flaherty 6, Kandol 5, Crane 4, Oughan 3, Thresher 3, Milton 2, Coktas 2, de Freitas 2, Talbot 2, Tate 1, Dosdogru 1, Cooper 1, Miller 1, Wilson 1, Osborn 1, Nurse 1.

**Goals:** Stirling 6, Clarke 4, Ayres 3, Jeffrey 3, Kandol 3, Moran 3, Flaherty 2, Jerry 1, Mentore 1, OG 2.

WE WERE away to Walsall this morning in the Football League Youth Alliance, and have no fixture next Saturday before a trip to West Brom on February 5.

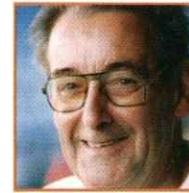
### Football League Youth Alliance South Central Conference

<b>AUG</b>	Sat 14	Walsall	H	0-0
	Sat 21	West Brom	H	2-1 (Kandol 2)
	Sat 28	Cambridge Utd	A	1-4 (Ayres)
<b>SEPT</b>	Sat 4	Notts Co	H	2-1 (Ayres, Stirling pen)
	Sat 18	Oxford Utd	H	1-1 (Jerry)
	Sat 25	Wolves	A	0-5
<b>OCT</b>	Sat 2	Northampton	H	3-1 (Jeffrey, Clarke, Stirling)
	Sat 16	Shrewsbury	A	0-2
	Wed 20	Sutton Utd (FAYC1)	H	2-0 (Moran, Flaherty)
	Sat 23	Southend (FLAYC)	A	1-2 (Ayres)
<b>NOV</b>	Sat 6	Cambridge (FLYAC)	H	1-2 (OG)
	Wed 10	Maidenhead (FAYC2)	H	5-0 (Clarke 2, Stirling 2, Jeffrey)
	Sat 13	Barnet (FLYAC)	A	0-1
	Sat 20	Colchester (FLYAC)	H	0-1
	Sat 27	Notts Co	A	0-0
	Mon 29	Welling (FAYC3)	A	3-1 (Flaherty, Jeffrey, Clarke)
<b>DEC</b>	Sat 11	Oxford Utd	A	2-2 (Stirling, Moran)
	Sat 18	Wolves	H	2-2 (OG, Kandol)
<b>JAN</b>	Sat 8	Shrewsbury	H	1-3 (Stirling)
	Tues 11	Southampton (FAYC4)	A	0-4
	Sat 15	Northampton	A	2-0 (Moran, Mentore)
	Sat 22	Walsall	A	
<b>FEB</b>	Sat 5	West Brom	A	
	Sat 12	Cambridge Utd	H	
<b>MAR</b>	Wed 1	Cup quarter-final		
	Wed 22	Cup semi-final		
<b>APR</b>	Sun 16	Cup final		

Avon Insurance Combination Results and Fixtures				
<b>AUG</b>	Wed 18	Bristol City	H	1-3 (Kandol)
<b>SEPT</b>	Wed 1	Portsmouth	A	0-1
	Wed 8	Swindon	H	0-1
	Tue 28	Oxford	A	2-4 (Jerry, Kandol)
<b>OCT</b>	Wed 6	Wycombe	H	5-2 (Kandol 4, OG)
	Wed 13	Brighton	A	2-1 (Jerry, Kandol)
	Wed 27	Bristol Rov	A	0-0
<b>NOV</b>	Wed 3	Norwich	H	1-1 (Kandol)
	Wed 17	Ipswich	A	0-2
<b>DEC</b>	Wed 1	Colchester	H	1-1 (McIndoe)
	Wed 22	Peterborough	H	0-4
<b>JAN</b>	Wed 12	Cambridge Utd	A	1-3 (Fotiadis)
	Wed 19	Northampton	H	0-1
<b>FEB</b>	Wed 2	QPR	H	2pm
	Wed 9	Barnet	A	2pm
	Wed 16	Southend	A	7pm
	Wed 23	Millwall	H	2pm
<b>MAR</b>	Wed 1	L. Orient	A	2pm
	Wed 29	Gillingham	H	2pm
<b>APRIL</b>	Wed 5	Bournemouth	H	2pm
	Wed 12	Fulham	A	2pm

# 2nd Division Scene

Brian Swain



READING come to Kenilworth Road today needing points just as much as we do, but for a different reason - while we have a ten-point gap to close between us and the play-off frame, the Royals are in the relegation zone. Some of their fans stayed on after Saturday's 0-0 home draw with Cambridge to complain about the quality of football they are seeing.

Reading's only away win in the league was 2-1 at Oldham in October, and they have played 12 Second Division games since then without a victory. Eight, including their last four league games, have been drawn. A change of management has had little effect - Tommy Burns left three weeks after we won 2-1 at the Madejski, to be replaced by Alan Pardew, but Reading's league position has improved only marginally. They managed FA Cup wins after Pardew took over, at home to Yeovil and away to Halifax, but lost in the third round in a replay at Plymouth. But there are signs of an improvement - their last four league matches have all been drawn, and on Tuesday they beat Barnet at Underhill in the Auto Windscreens Shield, thanks to an extra time golden goal by Keith Scott after Darren Caskey's 11th of the season gave Reading a first-half lead.

The latest change of manager in the Second Division has added another twist in the career of our old mate Tony Thorpe.

The striker, who wanted to rejoin us but could not do an

escape-clause deal with Bristol City, returned to Ashton Gate after his loan spell at Luton, still on the transfer list. He was all set to go out on loan again, this time to Burnley. But then Tony Pulis resigned as City manager, having taken the job at the start of this season, to become boss of Portsmouth, and suddenly Thorpe was back in favour. Caretaker boss Leroy Rosenior restored Thorpe to City's side at Bournemouth, and City won 3-2, with Thorpe netting twice, the second from a penalty after he was brought down. That makes it six goals in his seven starts for City this season, and he wants to stay at Ashton Gate.

While Bristol City fans wait to see what next is to come in their managerial not very merry-go-round, Bristol Rovers are much happier. They beat Gillingham 2-1 at the Memorial Ground to take advantage of slips by the two teams then above them, and regained second place. Wigan lost some of their advantage by drawing 1-1 at home to Millwall, but were glad of a point - they played much of the game with ten men after Stuart Balmer was sent off for handling on the line. Paul Moody had the penalty saved, but Millwall scored just after the interval before Michael O'Neill knocked in a very late equaliser.

Preston yielded second place to Bristol Rovers because they were beaten 2-1 at Stoke, their first reverse in 17 league games. Graham Alexander's 84th-minute penalty, his tenth goal of the season, seemed to have earned Preston a point, but James O'Connor struck Stoke's winner three minutes later to send Preston to their first away defeat of the season.

Our hopes of joining them in the play-off places might be optimistic in view of our current 13th place, but ever-improving Colchester did us a favour on Tuesday by beating Wycombe at Layer Road to peg back the team that overtook us in the table over Christmas and New Year. Tresor Lua Lua, cousin of our Tresor Kandol, netted the only goal after Wycombe had two players sent off, the first time that had happened to them since they were at Kenilworth Road last season.

## Today's other Second Division fixtures

- Brentford v Bury
- Bristol City v Wigan
- Burnley v Oldham
- Cambridge v Chesterfield
- Colchester v Bournemouth
- Gillingham v Blackpool
- Millwall v Stoke
- Oxford v Bristol Rovers
- Preston v Wycombe
- Scunthorpe v Notts County
- Wrexham v Cardiff

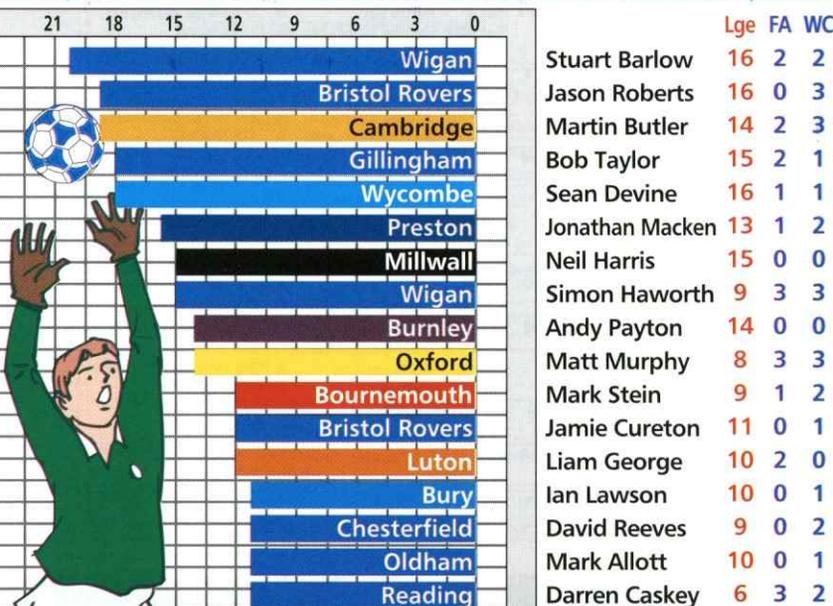
## Current form guide - the last six Division 2 games.

Team	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Sequence	Team	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Sequence
Oldham	4	2	0	9	3	14	WWWDDW	Bury	2	1	3	9	10	7	LDWWLL
Colchester	4	1	1	13	8	13	WWWDLW	Luton	1	3	2	9	10	6	DLWDDL
Preston	4	1	1	12	3	13	LWWDWW	Wrexham	1	3	2	5	6	WLLDDD	
Stoke	4	1	1	8	5	13	WWWDLW	Chesterfield	1	3	2	4	8	6	DWLDDL
Wigan	4	1	1	8	3	13	DLWWWW	Cardiff	1	3	2	3	7	6	DDLWL
Bristol Rovers	4	0	2	11	9	12	WLWLWW	Oxford	1	2	3	6	11	5	DLLWLD
Wycombe	3	2	1	8	4	11	LWDWWD	Reading	0	5	1	5	6	5	DDDDL
Burnley	3	1	2	9	10	10	DLWLWW	Notts County	1	2	3	4	6	5	LDWDL
Gillingham	3	1	2	8	8	10	LDLWWW	Scunthorpe	1	1	4	5	11	4	LLWDL
Millwall	2	3	1	8	7	9	DDDWLW	Blackpool	0	3	3	6	11	3	DDDLL
Bristol City	2	3	1	5	4	9	WDWDL	Brentford	1	0	5	4	10	3	LLLLWL
Bournemouth	2	1	3	9	7	7	LDLWLW	Cambridge	0	2	4	2	7	2	DLDLLL

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

0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	
1	6	10	10	3	8	Bournemouth	7	9	5	7	8	4
6	3	5	6	0	7	Blackpool	1	5	7	9	8	16
3	5	5	8	8	7	Brentford	2	4	6	6	5	14
0	2	5	5	8	11	Bristol City	4	3	3	6	7	8
3	6	5	10	7	7	Bristol Rovers	2	1	1	2	8	7
5	3	8	5	5	8	Burnley	4	3	5	3	5	2
5	3	4	10	8	7	Bury	2	1	7	5	7	11
2	4	6	5	8	5	Cambridge United	6	6	4	9	4	12
2	3	4	5	6	5	Cardiff City	3	7	4	7	6	8
1	1	1	3	5	4	Chesterfield	3	2	6	9	5	4
1	3	5	9	7	10	Colchester United	7	5	8	11	8	13
5	11	4	6	8	9	Gillingham	4	2	1	6	9	8
4	3	7	7	4	9	Luton Town	2	5	3	11	9	7
4	5	3	11	6	13	Millwall	3	3	2	9	6	6
7	3	8	6	8	7	Notts County	0	5	4	6	6	8
4	3	4	2	6	10	Oldham Athletic	4	2	5	3	9	6
5	3	2	3	6	5	Oxford United	3	5	4	5	5	12
1	5	5	9	14	9	Preston North End	3	2	3	4	5	4
2	3	2	6	5	10	Reading	3	5	6	11	7	11
2	4	4	6	3	6	Scunthorpe United	3	4	13	10	3	9
2	7	1	9	6	13	Stoke City	1	5	1	5	2	9
5	3	8	9	10	13	Wigan Athletic	3	6	1	3	4	5
2	1	2	8	5	5	Wrexham	3	5	10	8	6	4
4	7	6	7	3	6	Wycombe Wanderers	3	2	5	10	6	7

## Nationwide Division Two Leading Goalscorers 1999-00



## 1999-00 Attendances

(Bands behind represent average gate as percentage of ground capacity)

100%	90%	80%	70%	60%	50%	40%	30%
Highest: 10,077	Lowest: 5,397	Average: 7,850	Capacity: 10,200	Highest: 7,453	Lowest: 5,884	Average: 6,583	Capacity: 10,600
Highest: 6,772	Lowest: 4,318	Average: 5,691	Capacity: 9,572	Highest: 16,821	Lowest: 8,506	Average: 12,153	Capacity: 21,412
Highest: 7,205	Lowest: 4,633	Average: 5,632	Capacity: 9,975	Highest: 7,042	Lowest: 4,345	Average: 5,333	Capacity: 10,000
Highest: 11,168	Lowest: 4,523	Average: 7,635	Capacity: 14,660	Highest: 14,218	Lowest: 8,944	Average: 10,754	Capacity: 22,546
Highest: 7,100	Lowest: 4,286	Average: 6,047	Capacity: 12,763	Highest: 16,011	Lowest: 7,777	Average: 10,067	Capacity: 21,479
Highest: 6,007	Lowest: 4,202	Average: 5,005	Capacity: 10,770	Highest: 6,211	Lowest: 3,162	Average: 4,314	Capacity: 9,617
Highest: 4,482	Lowest: 2,557	Average: 3,446	Capacity: 7,556	Highest: 5,336	Lowest: 3,137	Average: 4,089	Capacity: 9,183
Highest: 14,183	Lowest: 7,054	Average: 10,866	Capacity: 24,054	Highest: 7,872	Lowest: 2,473	Average: 4,102	Capacity: 9,200
Highest: 9,432	Lowest: 3,807	Average: 5,647	Capacity: 13,559	Highest: 5,274	Lowest: 2,819	Average: 4,255	Capacity: 11,295
Highest: 12,077	Lowest: 5,202	Average: 7,684	Capacity: 20,146	Highest: 9,115	Lowest: 3,293	Average: 4,310	Capacity: 11,841
Highest: 4,285	Lowest: 2,254	Average: 3,056	Capacity: 8,880	Highest: 13,348	Lowest: 5,393	Average: 7,685	Capacity: 24,200
Highest: 8,229	Lowest: 4,020	Average: 5,703	Capacity: 20,300	Highest: 11,986	Lowest: 4,338	Average: 6,618	Capacity: 25,000

## The Second Division

	HOME					AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A
Wigan	26	10	3	1	25	8	5	7	0	23	14	55
Bristol Rov	26	9	3	1	18	7	7	2	4	20	14	53
Preston	25	9	1	2	20	10	6	6	1	23	11	52
Millwall	27	7	5	1	21	11	6	4	4	21	18	48
Stoke	26	6	5	3	18	13	7	3	2	20	10	47
Burnley	25	10	1	1	25	9	2	7	4	9	13	44
Notts Co	27	6	3	5	21	16	6	4	3	18	13	43
Gillingham	24	8	2	2	25	12	4	4	4	18	18	42
Brentford	27	7	3	3	21	15	3	4	7	15	22	37
Wycombe	27	7	3	4	22	18	2	6	5	11	15	36
Bournemouth	27	8	3	3	26	12	2	2	9	12	28	35
Oldham	26	5	3	5	16	13	4	4	5	13	16	34
Luton Town	26	7	4	1	25	15	2	3	9	9	22	34
Bristol City	26	3	10	0	15	8	4	2	7	16	23	33
Bury	24	5	5	3	26	23	2	5	4	11	10	31
Colchester	27	5	3	5	20	24	3	4	7	15	28	31
Cardiff	26	3	7	3	13	16	2	3	8	12	19	25
Oxford	25	3	4	5	13	14	3	3	7	11	20	25
Wrexham	25	3	5	4	12	13	2	5	6	11	23	25
Scunthorpe	25	3	2	7	10	19	3	4	6	15	23	24
Reading	25	3	8	3	14	14	1	2	8	14	29	22
Blackpool	26	2	6	5	16	23	1	4	8	11	23	19
Chesterfield	25	2	4	6	7	12	1	5	7	8	17	18
Cambridge	25	3	4	5	20	21	0	4	9	10	20	17

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NATIONWIDE DIVISION 2 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

date	opposition	result	scorers	league place	attnd.	team	substitutes
<b>AUGUST</b>							
Sat 7	Notts Co	A 0-0		-	6,141	Abbey Fraser Watts White Johnson Douglas McLaren	Gray Spring McIndoe Taylor
Tue 10	WC1 (1) Bristol Rov	H 0-2		-	2,984	Abbey Fraser Watts White Boyce Douglas McLaren	Doherty for White HT; Fotiadis for Douglas 60 mins; George for McIndoe 60 mins. Unused: Zahana-Oni, Tate
Sat 14	Blackpool	H 3-2	George 2, Spring	7	5,176	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	McKinnon for Fotiadis 75 mins; Zahana-Oni for Douglas 83 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 89 mins. Unused: Boyce, Tate
Sat 21	Reading	A 2-1	Fotiadis, George	3	8,741	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	McIndoe for Fotiadis 79 mins. Unused: Sodje, White, McKinnon, Tate
Wed 25	WC1 (2) Bristol Rov	A 2-2	Kandol, Doherty	3	4,414	Abbey Locke Sodje Boyce White Watts Gray	McKinnon Douglas McIndoe Kandol
Sat 28	Cardiff	H 1-0	Gray	2	5,374	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	Doherty for Douglas 67 mins; Fotiadis for Kandol 67 mins. Unused: Scarlett, Davis, Ward
Tues 31	Bournemouth	A 0-1		2	4,797	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	Gray Spring Fotiadis Taylor
<b>SEPT</b>							
Sat 4	Bury	H 1-1	Fotiadis	5	4,633	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	Douglas for Fotiadis 73 mins; McIndoe for George 73 mins. Unused: McKinnon, Sodje, Tate
Sat 11	Wrexham	H 3-1	Taylor, Spring, George	3	5,121	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	Douglas Spring Fotiadis Taylor
Sat 18	Brentford	A 0-2		5	7,039	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Locke	Douglas Spring Kandol Taylor
Sat 25	Oxford Utd	H 4-2	George 2, Fraser, Locke	3	6,102	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Locke	Douglas Spring Midgley Taylor
<b>OCTOBER</b>							
Sat 2	Wigan	A 0-1		8	6,866	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Locke	Douglas Spring McLaren Taylor
Sat 9	Oldham	A 1-2	Midgley	10	4,532	Abbey Fraser Watts Sodje Johnson Gray Locke	Douglas Spring McLaren Taylor
Sat 16	Gillingham	H 3-1	George 2 (1pen), Douglas	7	6,394	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley	Douglas Spring McLaren Taylor
Tue 19	Wycombe	H 1-1	Douglas	7	5,820	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley	Douglas Spring McLaren Taylor
Sat 23	Oxford Utd	A 1-0	George	7	5,866	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley	Douglas Spring McLaren Taylor
Sat 30	Kingstonian (FA Cup 1)	H 4-2	Gray, George, Spring, Taylor	7	4,682	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Gray	Douglas Spring McLaren Taylor
<b>NOVEMBER</b>							
Tue 2	Millwall	A 0-1		9	6,181	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley	Douglas Spring McLaren Taylor
Sat 6	Burnley	H 2-1	Midgley 2	8	7,205	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley	McIndoe for Midgley HT. Unused: White, Sodje, Locke, Ward
Fri 12	Cambridge Utd	A 1-3	George	9	6,211	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson George Midgley	McIndoe for Douglas 73 mins; Locke for McLaren 79 mins; Kandol for Midgley 88 mins. Unused: Sodje, Ward
Fri 19	Lincoln (FA Cup 2)	H 2-2	Doherty 2	10	4,291	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Locke	Douglas Spring McLaren Taylor
Tue 23	Preston	H 0-2		10	5,124	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Sodje George Midgley	Douglas Spring McLaren Taylor
Sat 27	Bristol Rov	A 0-3		10	7,805	Abbey Fraser Watts Sodje Johnson George Doherty	McIndoe for McLaren 62 mins; White for Midgley 62 mins; Boyce for Fraser 75 mins. Unused: Locke, Ward
Tue 30	Lincoln (FA Cup 2R)	A 1-0	Douglas	10	3,822	Abbey Fraser Watts Sodje Johnson George Doherty	Locke Spring McLaren McIndoe
<b>DECEMBER</b>							
Sat 4	Notts County	H 2-2	Doherty, Thorpe	11	5,195	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George Thorpe	Douglas Spring Locke Taylor
Tue 7	Oxford (AWS 1)	A 0-2		11	1,220	Abbey Fraser Sodje Ayres Johnson George Doherty	Douglas Spring Locke Boyce
Sat 11	Fulham (FA Cup 3)	A 2-2	George, Spring	10	8,251	Abbey Fraser Watts Sodje Johnson George Doherty	Douglas Spring Locke Taylor
Fri 17	Colchester	A 0-3		11	3,049	Abbey Fraser Watts Sodje Johnson George Thorpe	Doherty Spring Locke Taylor
Tues 21	Fulham (FA Cup 3R)	H 0-3		11	8,170	Abbey Fraser Watts Doherty Johnson George McLaren	Douglas Spring Locke Taylor
Sun 26	Chesterfield	H 1-1	Locke	13	5,870	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson George Thorpe	Douglas Spring Locke Taylor
Tue 28	Bristol City	A 0-0		12	11,832	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson White Gray	Douglas Spring Locke Taylor
<b>JAN 2000</b>							
Mon 3	Scunthorpe	H 4-1	Spring 2, Douglas, Gray	11	5,574	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson George Gray	Douglas Spring Locke Taylor
Sat 8	Stoke	A 1-2	Spring (pen)	12	10,016	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson White Gray	Douglas Spring Locke Taylor
Sat 15	Blackpool	A 3-3	Locke, Gray, Taylor	13	5,262	Abbey Boyce Watts Doherty Johnson George Gray	Douglas Spring Locke Taylor
Sat 22	Reading	H 3pm					
Sun 30	Cardiff	A 12.15pm					
<b>FEB</b>							
Sat 5	Bournemouth	H 3pm					
Tues 8	Stoke	H 7.45pm					
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 3pm					
<b>MAY</b>							
Sat 6	Oldham	H 3pm					

### Travelling fans

#### OURS ON THE ROAD

Notts County	1,531
Reading	1,536
Bristol Rovers (WC)	134
Bournemouth	665
Brentford	1,704
Wigan	985
Oldham	451
Oxford	1,523
Millwall	688
Cambridge	2,152
Bristol Rovers	417
Lincoln (FAC2R)	294
Oxford (AWS)	126
Fulham (FAC3)	2,346
Colchester	384
Bristol City	461
Stoke	651
Blackpool	450
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,498</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>.916</b>

#### VISITORS TO LUTON

Bristol Rovers (WC)	240
Blackpool	464
Cardiff	992
Bury	198
Wrexham	307
Oxford	745
Gillingham	1,241
Wycombe	711
Kingstonian (FAC1)	571
Burnley	1,392
Lincoln (FAC2)	523
Preston	578
Notts County	328
Fulham	907
Chesterfield	274
Scunthorpe	501
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,972</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>.623</b>

## LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS CLUB PRESENTS...

An evening with...

# Cliff Bassett

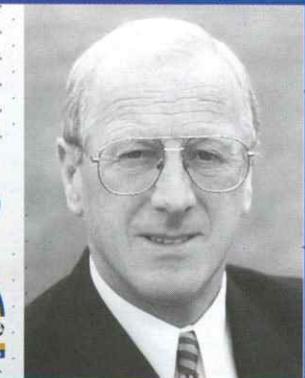
Chairman of Luton Town Football Club

Thursday 3rd February 2000 from 7.30 p.m.

At Luton Town F.C., Eric Morecambe Suite,  
Maple Road, LUTON

Free Secure Car Parking in Maple Road

Tickets: £2.00 Members + Joining on the night £3.00 Non-Members



Due to demand this is a Ticket ONLY Event  
BUT DUE TO THERE BEING ONLY ONE HOME GAME BEFORE THIS EVENT TICKET SALES ARE ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST SERVED BASIS  
On sale before and after LUTON V READING first team game from the LTSC kiosk in Kenilworth Road or on Town-on-Tour Away Coaches

# 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
GAVIN McGOWAN	2
PHIL GRAY	7
STUART DOUGLAS	9
STUART FRASER	13

### Substitutes

ANDRE SCARLETT	21
ANDREW FOTIADIS	14
JAMES AYRES	19
TRESOR KANDOL	18
DANIEL TATE (GK)	22

V



## Reading

1	SCOTT HOWIE
5	LINVOY PRIMUS
20	ANDY BERNAL
2	JOHN POLSTON
18	ANDY GURNEY
4	PHIL PARKINSON
8	DARREN CASKEY
15	SEAN EVERS
28	MARK NICHOLLS
12	KEITH SCOTT
17	MARTIN WILLIAMS

### Substitutes

26	NEIL SMITH
10	NICKY FORSTER
14	GRAEME MURTY
6	BARRY HUNTER
25	PETER van der KWAAK (GK)

## Today's Officials

**Referee:** Richard Beeby, Abingdon Vale.

**Assistants:** D. S. Bryan, Stamford (red flag)  
K. A. Woolmer, Northampton (yellow and red flag)

**Reserve official:** D. White, Royston

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Mon-Fri 9am-7pm  
Sat 9am - 5pm  
Sun 10.30 - 4.30pm

