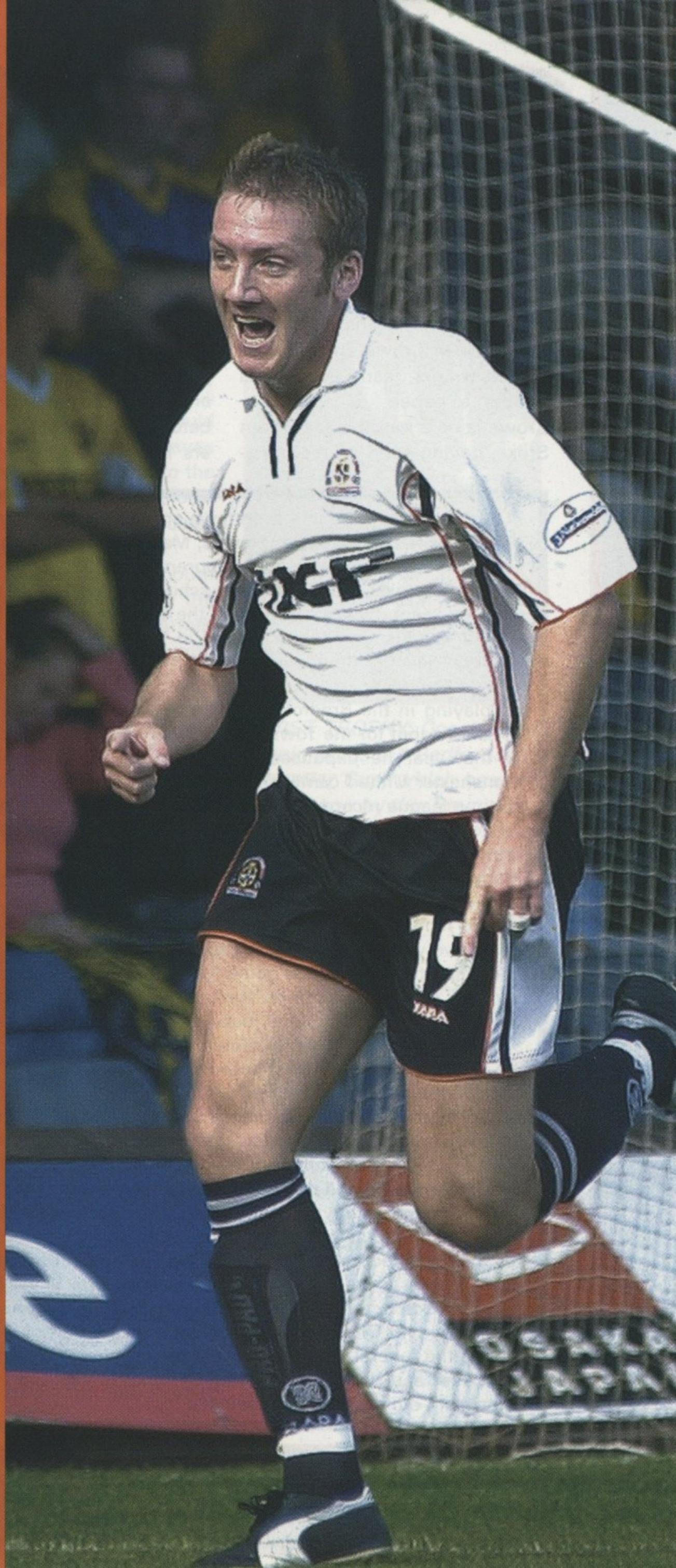


# Luton Town Football Club



LUTON TOWN  
FOOTBALL CLUB

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Official Matchday  
Magazine

Luton  
Town  
v  
Darlington

Friday  
October 5,  
2001

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7.45pm

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### Official Matchday Magazine

#### Editor

Brian Swain

#### Design & Printing

Regal Litho Ltd

#### Photography

Gareth Owen

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

### Front Cover



**HAPPY STRIKER:** Steve Howard had good reason to smile as the camera shutter clicked at Kenilworth Road - he had just scored his first goal of the season, against Torquay. He followed up with another in the win at Leyton Orient.

# Inside Forward

JOE Kinnear's promise in the summer to rebuild the Town squad is still being made good: he has just made his 11th signing since then, with the arrival of striker Dean Crowe shortly after French winger Jean Louis Valois put pen to paper.

Crowe is on a month's loan from Stoke, having been on the trans-

fer list since the summer. He turned down the chance of playing for Plymouth before returning there on Saturday to make a scoring debut for the Town. Aged 22 and born in Stockport, he joined Stoke as a trainee in 1996, and in 33 league and cup starts before an influx of Icelandic players he netted 13 goals. He has

FOR the second time in a month we are mourning the premature death of one of our former players, Marc North, who was a goalkeeper when he joined us as an apprentice in 1982, but eventually became a striker. Recruited from schoolboy football in Ware, he was our keeper when we reached the semi-finals of the FA Youth Cup for the first time in our history, in 1983.

He soon gave up the gloves, and his first taste of league football was while on loan to Lincoln - his month with them in 1985 included playing in the Bradford City fire disaster match. Marc's First Division debut for the Town was a much happier day - in October of that year he deputised for suspended Mick Harford when Manchester United came to Kenilworth Road trying to equal the all-time league record of 11 straight wins at the start of a season. David Pleat's lads succeeded where ten other sides had failed, drawing 1-1.

Marc went on to make 24 appearances for us, scoring five times, before going on loans to Scunthorpe and Birmingham. Grimsby signed him in the summer of 1987, and he joined up with Pleat again two years later when he signed for Leicester.

Your reporter saw his last game for Luton - he was on trial in the summer of 1991 on a pre-season tour of Scotland, and scored in a 1-0 victory at St. Johnstone, but was not taken on, and a succession of injuries led to his retirement.

His death at the age of 35 shocked all who knew him, and we send our condolences to his family.

NEWS of another death saddened us this week. Ian Tingey was a life-long Town fan, following a family tradition despite being blind. His dad used to bring him to games and describe the action to him, and later his wife and daughters did the same.

He had been battling against cancer for some time, and with his 25th wedding anniversary approaching the family asked the club for a signed football which would be the best present he could have. It was to be a big surprise for him at the Silver Wedding party on October 16. But Ian, of Hartsfield Road, Luton, died last week, aged 46. The party will now be a celebration of his life following the funeral, and the ball will be a lasting memento for his wife Sue, and daughters Sharon, 21, and 16-year-old Nikki. We offer them our sympathy in their sad loss.

also played on loan for Northampton and Bury, and wants a move to improve his chances of regular league football.

He had played a couple of times for the Town's reserves before the boss decided to offer him a loan deal, and the timing could not have been better because Crowe was able to come into the side as an immediate replacement for injured leading scorer Carl Griffiths.

Ironically one of the Plymouth subs who played against the Town was Lee Hodges, a former England youth international, who was released by Reading at the end of last season. The 28-year-old midfielder had trials with the Town shortly afterwards, but did not earn a contract.

Crowe is hoping for better luck, and as Marvin Johnson says elsewhere in this magazine he has slotted into the Town set-up remarkably easily.

The recruitment of Crowe came after the formalities were completed to tie Valois to the Town for 12 months. Joe Kinnear was a tad on edge when Valois made his wonderful debut against Torquay, because at that stage the Frenchman, formerly with Auxerre and Lille, was a free agent while he looked for an English club after taking a Bosman free transfer from Lille. He was a non-contract player when he made his league debut for us, which meant any other club could have snatched him away. But within 24 hours, having enjoyed his first game for the Town, and become an instant



*FIRST TROPHY: Coach Brian Stein holds the Bedfordshire Premier Cup, which has just been won by the Town when a team of reserve and youth players beat Barton 5-0 in the delayed final of last year's rain-lashed competition*

hero, he had a long Sunday lunch with the manager, over which a deal was sorted out. Our gain was Preston's loss - Valois went to Deepdale for trials in the summer, and Graham Alexander, for one, was surprised when Valois was allowed to leave. Marvin Johnson, who keeps in touch with his old pal, was delighted to rub it in a bit when he told the Preston full-back about the impact Valois made.

*Brian Swain*



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Joe Kinnear

## The Manager

IT WAS very disappointing that our unbeaten run came to an end at Plymouth, but the first defeat in eight games has not shaken my confidence in our ability to have a successful season and achieve our promotion ambitions.

You can't expect to win every game, and while I was critical about some aspects of our display at Home Park our record so far is satisfactory. We are the only team in the division to score in every league game, which suggests we are always capable of winning. And when we hit form, as we did against Torquay here a fortnight ago and at Orient a couple of days later, we can be devastating.

At Plymouth we deservedly took the lead, but there were question marks about our defending on both their goals - we were pulled out of shape for the first, and were done at a corner for the second. The fact that Plymouth were down to ten men hardly helped - we went to Devon as league leaders, so Plymouth, defending an unbeaten run of their own, were very much up for it. The red card for one of their strikers forced them to change tactics, and to be fair the ten men defended out of their skins to keep us at bay. My complaint was that we did not have the touch of class to get through them as they pulled men back behind the ball and settled for the occasional break.

That game is history now, and what matters most is that we bounce back and embark on another unbeaten run, and, very importantly, capitalise on home advantage. A big crowd shouting itself hoarse can be a tremendous help, and Luton supporters have amazed me with their backing at away games. At Leyton Orient it was phenomenal - more than 2,000, about a third of the gate, for a Tuesday night game, and we are all very grateful for that level of support.

Hopefully we will give you plenty to cheer about tonight. Darlington are well-placed in

the league, one of many teams who can believe they can be involved in the battle for promotion when the final points are totted up. For me, two defeats in 11 means that we too have genuine credentials. Tonight we pass the quarter-season mark, and with 21 points already in the bag, the mathematics are simple - keep up or improve the average and we will have at least 84 points for the season, which would make automatic promotion a very fair bet. I can't see any club running away with the title by a huge margin - several are capable, including ourselves. I would like the championship, and we will strive to win it, but the most important objective is to get out of this division this season.

It is encouraging to see how well we are doing despite injuries to some of our key players, and it was disappointing to discover that Aaron Skelton has cracked a bone in his foot and might be out for a month, while Carl Griffiths is out for two or three weeks and Paul Hughes will not play again for anything up to 12 weeks or more. Added to that, Liam George and Marvin Johnson are still out, and it is all the more remarkable that we still have good competition for places. The chairman has been excellent in giving me his backing on getting players in, and I know supporters have already taken to Jean Louis Valois, who has given us an extra dimension on the left flank. Indeed if his free kick at Plymouth had gone in instead of hitting the bar, his record for us would have been played three, scored three. I welcome him to the club, and also Dean Crowe, who has joined us on loan from Stoke. He was signed just in time to make his debut as replacement for Carl Griffiths, and while he enjoyed scoring his first goal for us, we all would have been a lot happier if we had come home with three points.

That is our target tonight, and with your continued support we have every confidence we can do the business.

Keep the faith!! And enjoy the game.

*Joe Kinnear*

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Marvin Johnson

## Club Captain

SATURDAY'S defeat at Plymouth was obviously a big disappointment to us all, because we went into the match in pretty confident mood on the back of two very good performances, against Torquay and Leyton Orient. I think our displays in those two were probably as good as anything we have produced back-to-back for some time, and the victories were both well deserved. At Plymouth it was a case of two in-form teams meeting - both undefeated in their previous seven outings, and in those circumstances you would normally think the odds favoured the home side. So it turned out, and we can but wonder how much difference it made when Plymouth had a man sent off. As so often happens, the ten left on the field put in that little extra effort, and for once our goal machine failed to deliver the goods. However, it was still only our second defeat in 11 games so far, and we all feel we are well capable of keeping up that sort of average for the rest of the season, in which case we will be all right. It is nice to see the team capable of hitting the net regularly, and we were all delighted for Steve Howard to see him knock in the first goal against Torquay and then score at Orient as well. His off day at York has been well documented, but I can tell you that in the dressing room it was all over and done with that same day. Steve is a good professional, and felt bad about what happened over the penalty incident at Bootham Crescent. Thankfully, it has not been allowed to interrupt our normal routine, and I was pleased that the crowd responded in the right way after his goal at Kenilworth Road in his first game back. Steve really is a gentle giant, and we all think a lot of him. We knew how badly he wanted to score, and we were all so glad for him that

he was the one on the end of the rebound after Griff shot against a post. At Plymouth Griff was out of the side through injury, but we were pleased to welcome Dean Crowe into the squad after he came in on loan. He has slotted into the squad easily, which is always the sign of a good pro, and it was nice for him to mark his Luton debut with a goal. Not nice enough, of course - none of us like losing, but we have to see that Plymouth result as one of those things. It is important that we get back to winning ways as quickly as possible, and also maintain our unbeaten home results. That, I think, is the key to winning promotion - this season Kenilworth Road has to be a fortress, and if we achieve that and pick up a few good results on our travels there is no reasons why we should not believe in our ability to take one of the automatic promotion places, perhaps even the title. Darlington will have other ideas, of course, and we have not forgotten that we needed two attempts to overcome them in the FA Cup last season, with a draw at their place and a 2-0 win in the replay. I think our home games in the next month or so will show just how justified our confidence is, because after tonight three of our next four at home are against other teams currently involved in the promotion battle - Rochdale, Shrewsbury and Hull. Before then, of course, we have six points to play for, at Kenilworth Road tonight and at Scunthorpe next week, and my feeling is that if we get somewhere near the quality of football we played against Torquay and Orient we will have our promotion challenge very much on course. With your backing, we can do it - and thanks, especially, to the 2,000 and more who went to Brisbane Road. Tremendous support like that deserves a tremendous result!

Marvin Johnson



**Bruce Sewell**

## Treatment Room

WE STILL have five members of the first team squad undergoing treatment, and not yet knowing when they might be able to

play again. For some it might be a couple of weeks, and for one it will be three months.

The good news is that Ian Hillier is back in training and could well be in contention for a place in the squad this evening.

Probably the happiest player in the club at present is Stuart Fraser, who is approaching the end of a very long and difficult road back to fitness after breaking a leg in January. He has worked very well, and wants to play for the reserves on Wednesday. He has a chance of doing so, but we will be very cautious before giving the go-ahead, and much depends on how he comes through training in the next few days.

Aaron Skelton is now known to have a broken toe. The crack did not show up on the first X-rays, but after a few days he was still

in pain, so we checked again, and confirmed the injury. There is no real treatment - just wait for nature to carry out its healing work, which I estimate will take three to four weeks. In the meantime, he can still train.

Marvin Johnson is still suffering from his thigh muscle problem, which is healing slower than he would like. He is getting on OK, but we need a week or two before deciding when he might play again.

Liam George has had bad luck - he recovered from his ankle injury, only to suffer one to the other ankle in training, so he is under treatment again. I hope it will be for two weeks at the most.

The prognosis is more gloomy for Paul Hughes. He has had an operation to repair ankle ligament damage, and faces three months of treatment. He will be in plaster for six weeks. If all goes well the cast will then be removed, but it will need another six weeks of rehabilitation work before he can think about playing again.

*Bruce Sewell*



**Cherry Newbery**

## Club Secretary

FIRSTLY this evening, a tremendous thank-you to all supporters for the magnificent amount collected in memory of

Les Sealey at the Torquay match. The buckets held a total of £1,040.25 for the British Heart Foundation, and I cannot remember any match day collection raising as much as that. The money has been forwarded to Elaine Sealey, Les's widow.

Sadly, we are mourning the death of another former player, Marc North, who lost a long fight against cancer, aged 34. We knew he was seriously ill, but it was still a shock, and our thoughts are with his family. We will be holding a minute's silence in his memory before kick-off this evening.

On a happier note, everyone in the club has been delighted with the marvellous support we have received in away games, and the 2,089 who went to Brisbane Road must have been a major reason for Leyton Orient having their biggest attendance of the season so far, their first over 6,000 - they had 4,414 at their next match, against Torquay on Saturday.

I have heard from several supporters about problems with the number of turnstiles open on the night, and the coach pick-up points after the game. We have taken up your complaints with Leyton Orient, and I will advise you in a later column about the response we get.

This evening's game has seemed to play ping-pong with the date and time. Most clubs have switched from the traditional Saturday 3pm kick-off to avoid clashing with England's World Cup qualifier against Greece, and as you know we had originally decided to go for a Saturday 1pm start. That was after we had suggested a Friday evening fixture, but were turned down by Darlington - the only move they were prepared to make was to 1pm on the same day.

I was very pleasantly surprised, therefore, when I phoned them again for one last time to find they were prepared to switch to Friday, so our thanks are due to Darlington for their co-operation.

I would apologise to supporters for the confusion, and for the fact that the final decision came too late for it to be reported in the programme a fortnight ago.

We know only too well about the difficult choices supporters face when England have an important match on the same day as we have a league game - Exeter City declined to switch our fixture down there just over a month ago, which meant that our supporters had little hope of seeing Exeter v Luton and the televised England game against Germany that same evening. This time, everyone will be able to enjoy watching both club and country.

Personally, I believe the Football League should give a directive to all clubs to change the date when an England match is played, although I do appreciate that this can incur additional costs for clubs. But the majority of supporters would like to see their own team and England as well. Even with changed kick-off times on the Saturday, in many cases, the away team's supporters will not be home in time to see all the England match.

As you may be aware, we have received a bye in the first round of the LDV Vans Trophy, which was due to be played on Tuesday October 16. Several supporters have talked to me over the past months and expressed an interest in knowing more about football regulations, international clearances, and generally what goes on behind the scenes on a match day.

If you are interested, why not come along to the club on Tuesday October 16 (7.30pm), in the Kenilworth Suite, to discover something about the administration side of football? All are very welcome.

*Cherry Newbery*

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# Ticket News

Nationwide League Division Three



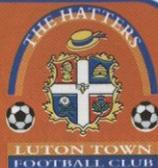
## Scunthorpe Utd v Luton Town

Saturday October 13, 2001, kick-off 3pm

This match is pay on the day only for Luton supporters.

No tickets are available at Kenilworth Road.

Admission prices: Adults £13, senior citizens and juniors £6.50



Nationwide League Division Three



## Luton Town v Rochdale

Saturday October 20, 2001, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices

SPECIAL OFFER: SEASON TICKET HOLDERS' GUESTS FOR A FIVER

Season ticket holders can bring a guest to this match for just £5

Cash turnstiles will be available on the day, subject to availability

Reminder: There are NO CONCESSIONS available on the cash turnstiles



Nationwide League Division Three



## Halifax v Luton Town

Tuesday October 23, 2001, kick-off 7.45pm

This match is pay on the day only for Luton supporters.

No tickets are available at Kenilworth Road.

Admission prices: Seats - Adults £11, senior citizens and juniors £5

Terracing - Adults £10, senior and junior citizens £5



Nationwide League Division Three



## Luton Town v Swansea City

Saturday October 27, 2001, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices

Cash turnstiles will be available on the day, subject to availability

Reminder: There are NO CONCESSIONS available on the cash turnstiles



Nationwide League Division Three



## Mansfield Town v Luton Town

Saturday November 3, 2001, kick-off 3pm

This match is pay on the day only for Luton supporters.

No tickets are available at Kenilworth Road.

Admission prices: Adults £12, senior citizens and juniors £6



### Luton Town Credit Card Hotline

By using our telephone hotline system you can order match tickets up to 48 hours prior to any game by ringing

**01582 730748**

24 HOURS A DAY

### Ticket Office Opening Hours

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

10am to 4pm, except on Fridays before Saturday home games when it is 10am to 6pm.

**SATURDAY**

9am to 5.30pm on match days;  
10am until the away coaches depart on days when there is no game at Kenilworth Road.

You can order tickets via email on:

[ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk)

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## Pre-Match Entertainment

This afternoon's pre-match and half time entertainment is managed by our PA announcers Justin Dealey and Steve Faulkner.

**6.45** Gates Open - music starts

### HALF TIME

**7.05** HMV Album of the Week - MACY GRAY with THE ID.

**8.35** Golden Gamble - Winning ticket picked by Luton Town Player.

**7.10** Club mascot Happy Harry runs out on pitch.

**8.40** Repeat of dedications.

**7.15** The UK's No1 single - KYLIE MINOUGE with CANT GET YOU OUT OF MY HEAD

**8.45** Run down of half time scores from around the country.

**7.20** Team line up to be announced.

**7.25** HMV Single of the Week - SUM 41 with FAT LIP

**9.35** FULL TIME

**7.30** Dedications announced.

Matchday music supplied by



**7.35** Town Teaser - Check out page 46 for tonight's question

Arndale Centre.

**7.40** Teams runout to our new song - The Blues Brothers " Gimme Some Lovin".

**7.43** Final run down of the teams.

If you would like your dedication read out, please contact the Club prior to matchdays.

**7.45** THE BIG KICK OFF

# The Best in post-match reports

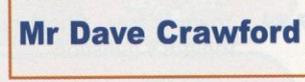
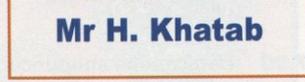
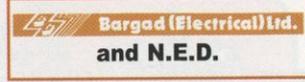
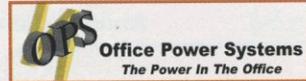
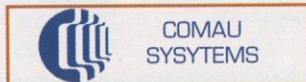
The Luton News The Dunstable Gazette



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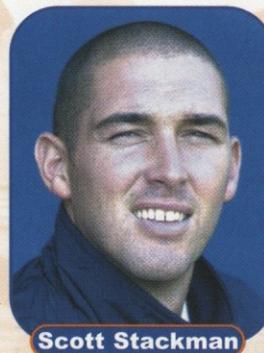


## Kenilworth Suite Members

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|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| C P Contracts      | Woburn Media Ltd     | DBF Crosswinds Ltd    |
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| RW Harvey & Son    | Dr David Siegler     | Protexx               |
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Kenilworth Suite Membership details can be found on page 14 or contact the Commercial Department on

**01582 411622**



Scott Stackman



# Football in the Community

## Competition Time!!!!!!

Open to all children aged 6-12(boys & girls).  
Just answer the following question to have a chance of winning a signed Luton Town 2001-2002 shirt!

**Question: What was the final score against Cheltenham Town on the first home game this season?**

Please fill in the reply slip below and post it back to:

Community Competition,  
Scott Stackman,  
Football in the Community Officer,  
Kenilworth Road Stadium,  
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Luton,  
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All enquires must be received by Friday 12th October, where there will be a competition prize draw.

The winner will be contacted via letter from the Community Office.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

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## With The Belles

VICTORIES over Watford are always sweet for Luton Town supporters, and no less so than for the Luton Belles, who carry the Hatters colours in women's football.

Having suffered an opening day 3-1 defeat against last season's champions Stevenage, an injury-hit Luton under-13 girls squad visited Watford for the first-ever meeting of the two clubs.

The young Hatters over-ran Watford in the first half, and felt unfortunate to be no more than two up at the break, with goals from Fay Rolls and Holly Flynn. In the second half the Belles defended brilliantly, and keeper Alice Burbury made sure Luton came home as winners, with a superb tip-over save when a Watford goal seemed certain.

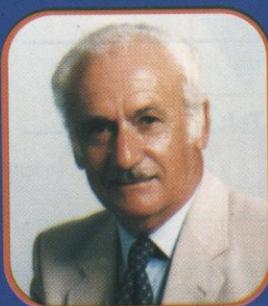
The under-16s outplayed Newport Pagnell, conceding two early goals but then hitting a dozen in reply. Rhiannon Morgan and Kim Hide both notched hat-tricks, Louise Evans scored twice, and further goals came from Sam Mather, Vicky Moody, Stacey Connell and Fay Howell.

The under-12s began their season with a 4-0 win over Shefford Saints, thanks to a goal by Nicola Shepherd and a hat-trick by Chloe Fensome.

The adult team beat Leighton United 4-0 and Godmanchester 10-4 in friendlies, but were out of luck in their first league outing, going down 3-1 to Stocklake Ladies. Rhiannon Morgan was the Luton scorer.

*Dave Baker*

## POLICY STATEMENT - SPECTATOR SAFETY



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

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

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

*Mike Watson-Challis* Chairman

Reviewed August, 2001.

## Commercial Corner

ONE of our major VIP visitors this evening is young Hatters supporter Tyler Buckley, who comes from Waterloo Road, Linlade.

He is tonight's commercial mascot, as a belated birthday present - he was nine on September 20 - from his mother and father, Jackie and Paul, who are also Town fans.

Along with Tyler's cousin Luke they are regulars in the New Stand, but this evening Tyler will be part of the entertainment, and will have a very close look at what goes on behind the scenes, touring the dressing room area before kick-off, meeting the players, and joining them on the pitch for the warm-up and toss of the coin.

A four-course meal for four, and seats in



**Tyler Buckley**

the directors' box are all part of the package which makes it a birthday present to remember.

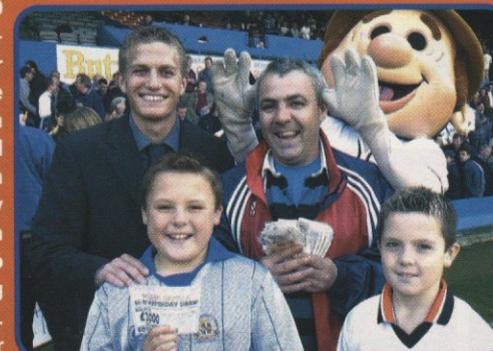
A pupil at Linlade Lower School, Tyler plays football for Leighton Utd under-nines, and also likes swimming, cycling and his PlayStation.

This evening one of his biggest thrills will be the chance to meet his football hero - his favourite player is Stuart Douglas.

We welcome the Tyler family to Kenilworth Road this evening, confident they will enjoy themselves immensely, and we thank them for their support. The mascot package is one of many we offer, to supporters of all ages, and we are always willing to produce deals tailored to meet budgets of all sizes. You might be surprised to discover what very good value for money we offer. If you would like to enjoy your football with a touch of class, why not give us a ring. The commercial department is on Luton 411622, or you can e-mail us at [commercial@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:commercial@lutontown.co.uk)

## Golden Gamble

THE GOLDEN Gamble continues to bring delight to supporters, and at the last home game another £520 was paid out in readiness to the fifth winner of the season. Dave Marsh, from Plumpton Close, Luton, pictured with his son Adam and friend Danny Hogwood. With them is Lee Mansell, who picked the winning ticket out of the drum. Dave's lucky number came up after he paid just £1 for the winning ticket, and this evening sellers are on duty in all parts of the



ground offering you the chance of a similar prize. The jackpot depends on sales, from

each £1, 50p goes into the prize fund and the other 50p to club funds, so even losers are helping the Town. The club needs every penny of income it can get, and we are grateful for your support.

The draw is made at half-time, and the money is handed out there and then. So far this season winners have collected £2,570 at five home games, an average of £514 each.

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# Head 2 Head

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## Goals Info:



## Where



10 Goals



10 Goals



3 Goals

## How

Shots.....10  
Headers.....9  
Volleys.....4  
Penalties.....0  
Free Kicks.....0  
O.G.s.....0

## Top Scorers

Griffiths.....7  
Taylor.....4  
Howard.....2  
Hughes.....2  
Valois.....2

## 2001-2002

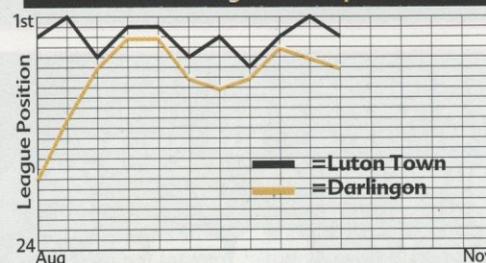
Highest Gate 6,736 vs Oxford  
Lowest Gate 5,066 vs Lincoln  
Average Gate 6,173  
Players Used 25  
Clean Sheets 2  
Failed to Score 0  
Consec. Wins 2 games  
Consec. Defeats none

## Hatters' Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	Opp Pos
L	Plymouth	A	7th
W	Orient	A	9th
W	Torquay	H	18th
S	Lincoln	H	19th
W	York	A	10th
S	Oxford	H	11th
S	Exeter	A	24th
W	Southend	H	2nd
L	Bristol Rovers	A	2nd
W	Cheltenham	H	11th

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## Seasonal Progress Comparison



## Quakers' Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	Opp Pos
D	Rushden	H	17th
S	Macclesfield	A	15th
W	Exeter	H	24th
W	Orient	H	4th
L	Torquay	A	21st
S	Carlisle	H	23rd
S	Lincoln	A	11th
W	Bristol Rovers	H	1st
W	Hartlepool	A	3rd
W	Kidderminster	H	7th

## Goals Info:



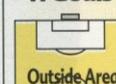
## Where



5 Goals



11 Goals



1 Goal

## How

Shots.....10  
Headers.....1  
Volleys.....4  
Penalties.....2  
Free Kicks.....0  
O.G.s.....0

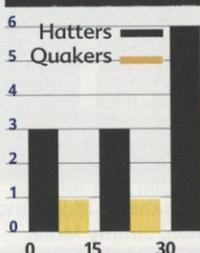
## Scorers

Ford.....4  
Conlon.....4  
Mellanby.....3  
Harper.....1  
Atkinson.....1  
Hodgson.....1  
Convery.....1  
Wainwright.....1  
Hekkingbottom.....1

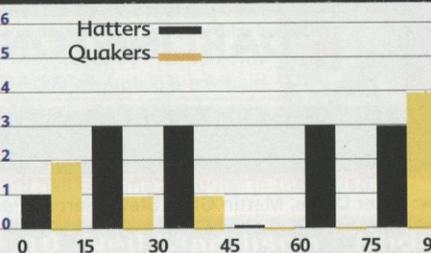
## 2001-2002

Highest Gate 4,677 vs Carlisle  
Lowest Gate 3,357 vs Orient  
Average Gate 4,100  
Players Used 18  
Clean Sheets 5  
Failed to Score 2  
Consec. Wins 3 games  
Consec. Defeats none

## When Goals have been Scored



## When Goals have been Conceded



## Carl Griffiths (Luton) Top Scorers Comparison Barry Conlon (Darlington)

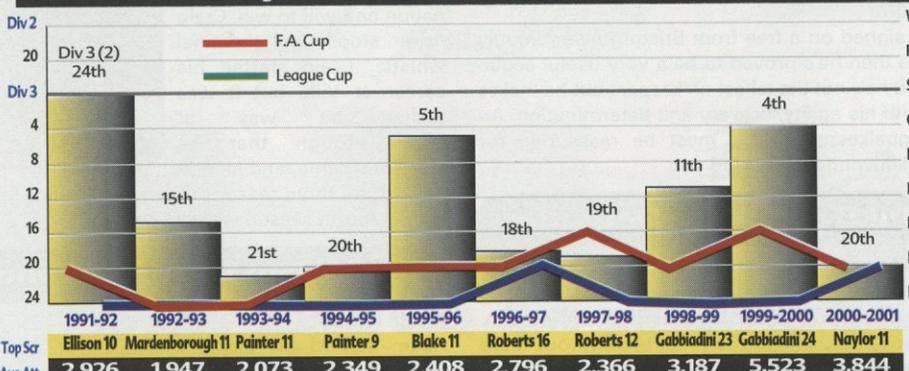
**Griffiths 10**  
Goals.....7  
Games.....10  
Average.....0.70

5 games.....Total Games Scored In.....4 games  
4 games.....Games Scored 1 Goal.....4 games  
0 games.....Games Scored 2 Goals.....0 games  
1 game.....Hat-tricks.....0 games  
W->L.....0 (0pts) Season's Results and W->L.....0 (0pts)  
W->D.....2 (4pts) (loss of points) without W->D.....1 (2pts)  
D->L.....0 (0pts) the two goalscorers goals D->L.....2 (2pts)

**Conlon 13**  
Goals.....4  
Games.....11  
Average.....0.36

Luton Goals.....23	1.....Shot.....3	Darlington Goals.....17
Luton Games.....11	5.....Header.....0	Darlington Games.....11
Luton's Goal Ave.....2.09	1.....Volleyed Shot.....1	Darlington's Goal Ave.....1.55
	0.....Penalty.....0	
	0.....Direct free Kick.....0	

## Darlington's Last 10 Years - The Complete Record



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Rotherham United v Portsmouth  
Friday 12 October, ITV Sport Channel

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# Welcome to Darlington F.C.



**Back Row:** Peter Darke, Martin Gray, Steve Harper, Paul Campbell, David Brightwell, Graham Liddle, Andy Collett, Frank, Keith Finch, Craig Liddle, Adam Reed, Kirk Jackson, Neil Maddison, Barry Conlon, Jimmy Mont.

**Front Row:** Mark Ford, Richard Hodgson, Paul Heckingbottom, Alex Jeannin, Adam Marsh, Mick Tait, Gary Bennett, Mark Convery, Phil Brumwell, Brian Atkinson, Clint Marcelle.

## Gary Bennett - Manager

Gary was originally the coach of the reserve team that went on to win the Durham County Challenge Cup of 1999/2000. Following David Hodgson's departure last season Gary has stepped into the managerial role with confidence. He originally came to Darlington in the close season of 1998 but began his career as a defender with his hometown team, Manchester City. He also spent time at Sunderland, Scarborough and Cardiff City. Gary's experience is proving to be a valuable asset to the club and will undoubtedly help him in his managerial career.

## 1. Andy Collett - Goalkeeper

**DOB:** 28/10/73

Andy was signed on a free from Bristol Rovers in July 1999. Since then he's proved to be a very useful acquisition. At 6ft he's not the tallest of 'keepers but he makes up for it with his agility, bravery and determination. An excellent goalkeeper and it must be reassuring for defenders knowing he's behind you.

## 2. Phil Brumwell - Defender

**DOB:** 8/8/75

Phil originally came to us from Sunderland back in 1995 but left to go to Hull at the beginning of last season. Fortunately, for us, things didn't quite work out there and Phil came back to Darlo some four months later. A superb right-footed defender who can come forward and score the occasional goal.

## 3. Paul Heckingbottom - Defender

**DOB:** 17/7/77

Another who started their playing career with Sunderland. Paul is another defender who likes to come forward and get a goal or two. Paul is a good height for a defender (6ft) and uses it to his advantage winning many aerial battles. He can play at left back or through the middle.

## 4. Craig Liddle - Defender

**DOB:** 21/10/71

This central defender is always a favourite with the fans because of his determination and will to win. Craig never stops until the final whistle. Craig started his career at Villa but it was whilst he was at Middlesbrough that he made his name, and he was at Blyth for three seasons in-between. He is now entering his fourth season with the club.



## 5. Adam Reed - Defender

**DOB:** 18/2/75

Adam started his career with us but was sold to Blackburn Rovers after only two seasons with us. However it didn't quite work out at Blackburn and Adam came back to us. Again another defender who can use



# Tonight's Visitors



his height to it's full potential and likes to score goals.

## 6. Alex Jeannin - Midfielder

**DOB:** 30/12/77

Alex arrived at Darlington last season with two other French trialists, however Alex succeeded where they failed and landed a full time contract. Alex is a midfielder who can either sit back and defend or get forward to help with the attack.

## 7. Gary Himsworth - Midfielder

**DOB:** 19/12/69

Gary is another who can act as a utility player but is more of a defensive midfielder. Gary first began his career with us back in 1993 but left for York. However, now he's back he has become an ever present in the squad and is always willing to work hard for the team.

## 8. Martin Gray - Midfielder

**DOB:** 17/8/71

Martin is the sort of midfielder that every club wants. He is tenacious, strong willed and has an overwhelming desire to win every game. His passion for the team and the game are obvious. Another who started at

Sunderland but came to us via Oxford. A crowd favourite because of his determination and aggression.

## 9. Mark Ford - Midfielder

**DOB:** 10/10/75

Mark began his career as a trainee with Leeds United and was there for three seasons before moving on to Burnley. We bought Mark from Torquay United for £15,000 though his midfield abilities alone would rate him much higher. Mark has settled easily into the squad and has become a regular in the squad.



## 10. Neil Maddison - Midfielder

**DOB:** 2/10/69

A close season acquisition from our Premiership neighbours Middlesbrough. Neil has abundance of talent and we are very lucky to have him as there were many higher division clubs after his services. A Darlington born player Neil should fit into the squad.

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### 11. Brian Atkinson - Midfielder



**DOB:** 19/1/71  
Another local lad who must surely be one of the longest serving players at the club. He joined us back in 1996 and, again, began his career at Sunderland where he made over 200 appearances. A dynamic central midfielder who has become an ever present in the squad.

### 12. David Brightwell - Defender

**DOB:** 7/1/71  
A tall, much travelled defender who began his career with Manchester City as a junior. No matter where he's been, though, David has always been able to influence a game and his height and determined nature have been valuable assets at whichever club he's been playing for.

### 14. Paul Campbell - Midfielder

**DOB:** 29/01/80  
Paul is a young, attacking midfielder with enormous potential. He's been with Darlington since 1997 and although he hasn't made a great many appearances for us he does have a very high goal ratio and will invariably get on the scoresheet if he's playing.

### 15. Adam Marsh - Forward

**DOB:** 20/2/82  
Adam is a big, powerful forward that we got from non-league Worksop at the beginning of December last year. Adam's height and aggression mean that Adam can be a handful for any defence and, given half a chance, he will score goals.

### 16. Mark Convery - Midfielder

**DOB:** 29/5/81  
Despite being born in Newcastle Mark actually began his playing career with Sunderland. Mark's a young forward with a great future ahead of him. Though he's not the tallest of strikers he has quick feet and can confuse defenders with his skills.

### 17. Kirk Jackson - Forward

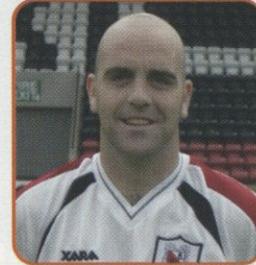
Another acquisition from Worksop, though he came some three months after Adam. Kirk arrived at the club when our other forwards were having a bit of a drought and he made an immediate impact. Another big and aggressive forward who isn't afraid to get back to challenge for the ball.

### 18. Glenn Naylor - Midfielder

**DOB:** 11/8/72  
Glenn can play in a variety of roles but is probably most comfortable in midfield. He began his time with us in

1995 when he was loaned to us from York City. However, his skills were soon realised and we signed him permanently a few months later. He was Darlington's top scorer last season with 15 goals. Unfortunately, Glenn picked up an injury towards the end of last season, which will keep him out of the squad for the beginning of this campaign.

### 19. Barry Conlon - Forward



**DOB:** 1/10/78  
Irish U-21 international. A close season signing from York City. Barry went on loan to Second Division Colchester United for six months last season and ended up being their second highest scorer so, obviously, we expect more of the same. Barry is a tall forward, 6.3, so will be a handful for any defenders.

### 20. Clint Marcelle - Forward

**DOB:** 9/11/68  
Clint joined us in February from Hull City. Clint is not the tallest of forwards but, again, what he lacks in height he

makes up for in skill. He can most commonly be seen twisting away from defenders in an effort to get his name on the scoresheet. A quality signing who brings a great deal of experience to the club.

### 21. Richard Hodgson - Midfielder

**DOB:** 1/10/79  
A real crowd favourite. Richard began his career with Nottingham Forest then Scunthorpe before joining us towards the end of the 99/00 season. Richard has now made the left wing position virtually his own and regularly contributes to goals. His first full time appearance came in the Worthington Cup where he helped set up a goal that knocked Forest out of the competition.

### 22. Steven Harper - Defender

**DOB:** 3/2/69  
Another much travelled player and vastly experienced defender whom we signed in February this year from Hull. Has spent much of his career playing for lower league northern clubs so he knows all about the sort of football that is played in the Third Division. His experience will be a valuable asset to us in this his first full season with the club.



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## Hatters Away

THE TOWN are away to Scunthorpe on Saturday, hopefully to repeat the 2-1 victory on our last visit, 18 months ago. That was our first visit to Glanford Park, and Phil Gray and Gary Doherty got the goals in our 2-1 victory, to complete a good double following a 4-1 success at Kenilworth Road which ushered in the new millennium. Matt Spring (2), Stuart Douglas and Gray were the marksmen that time.

As usual the Bobbers Travel Club and Town on Tour are running coaches to the game. The Bobbers service leaves Cranfield at 9.30 am and Kenilworth Road

an hour later, and the fare is £13 for adults and £10.50 for pensioners and under-16s.

Town on Tour, part of Luton Town Supporters Club, leave Maple Road at 10.30am, and call at Milton Keynes Coachway about 20 minutes later. The fare is £13 for LTSC members, £11 for junior and senior members, and £15 for others.

The Bobbers and the Supporters Club have kiosks in Kenilworth Road where seats can be booked this evening. Town on Tour also sell through the club shop in Kenilworth Road. Their mobile number for out of office hours is 07960 567465.

Bobbers Travel Club seats can be booked by phoning Paul Deason on 01234 750996.



Glanford Park

### DIY travellers

THE easy drive to Scunthorpe is motorway all the way. Leave Luton on the M1 going north up to junction 31, and then take the M18 to junction 5, where you turn onto the M180. At junction 3 leave to join the M181. At the end of the motorway take the third exit at the roundabout, and the ground is on your right.

**Mileage from Luton:** about 170.

## Special Ticket Offers

### Kids for a Quid

Luton Town Football Club is delighted to announce the continuation of its ever-popular Kid a Quid Offer.

This offer will be available for the following home matches:

**Luton Town v Hartlepool United**  
**Saturday 22nd December 2001 Kick-off 3.00pm**

### Friends for a Fiver

Season Ticket Holders will be able to bring a friend for a fiver to see:

**Luton Town v Rochdale**  
**Saturday 22nd October 2001 Kick-off 3.00pm**

**Both of these offers are subject to availability.**  
**For further details contact the ticket office**  
**on 01582 416976 or email: [ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk)**

## Top Hatter Kevin Nicholls

**Born:** Newham, London, 2.1.79

**Joined Luton:** Summer 2001 from Wigan.

**Previous clubs:** Charlton, Brighton on loan.

**Good at school ?** PE was my best subject! I always wanted to be a professional footballer and I never thought about any other career. I played for the school, district and county, and Charlton offered me a YTS place - Arsenal and West Ham said I was too small.

**Home and family:** My girlfriend Kay and I have been together for eight years and have a ten-month old daughter Kaylea, whose name is tattooed on my calf. My mum and dad have supported me all the way through my life and career. They understood my desire to be a footballer and always encouraged me to go for it. My brother Paul plays football too - he is goal-keeper for Havant and Waterlooville, and they're top of their league, trying to get into the Conference. We're hoping we both win promotion this season!

**Why join Luton?** I was not very happy in my two years at Wigan. I knew a bit about Luton, and their ambitions. The set-up was more professional - here the chairman has appointed his manager, and lets him get on with the job. Joe Kinnear impressed me, and so has Mick Harford. Things didn't work out well at Wigan, and I was pleased when the chance came to come here. We've a good dressing room, and we're all good friends. I travel in each day with Water Rat - Carl Griffiths

**Greatest pleasure from football:** Playing for England - I won seven under-18 caps, and then three at under-20 level in the Little World Cup in Nigeria. That trip was one to remember, although we didn't qualify for the final, and I got sent off playing against Japan - two bookings for miss-timed tackles.

**Greatest pleasure in life so far:** Seeing my daughter born - that was something special.

**Worst football experiences:** Injuries. I am only 22, but have missed two years of my career because of injuries and surgery to both knees - I was out for a year at Charlton, and didn't know how to handle it. I got stressed and overweight, and I doubt if any-one except other pro footballers can understand the misery you go through when you are out for such a long time. When it happened to me again at Wigan I coped a lot better.



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## All our **yesterdays**

### The comeback of all time?

When Luton supporters of a certain age look back over the years to argue over the best game seen at

Kenilworth Road many hark back to an amazing clash with Newcastle United in November 1946 which had every Hatters fan plumbing the depths of despair and then reaching seventh heaven over 90 minutes.

The Town had been top of the old Division Two as war broke out and when competitive football was resumed in 1946 the players seemed to be starting as they left off when recording a resounding 4-1 home win over Sheffield Wednesday on the opening day.

Unfortunately, although local boy Hugh Billington still continued to bang in the goals as he had done seven years before, the away form and the lack of another proven goalscorer to share the load up front meant that the Town struggled to rise above mid table.

The home record was the saving grace, however, with only one defeat suffered from the first seven games. In the home match prior to the visit of Newcastle the league attendance record had been broken when near neighbours Tottenham visited Kenilworth Road and returned to North London at the end of a 3-2 beating.

Newcastle were a different proposition though, and sat proudly at the top of the division having suffered only two reversals from the opening 16 matches. They also boasted a forward line which included Jackie Milburn, Roy Bentley, Charlie Wayman and Tom Pearson.

As if this was not enough they had added to this firepower by bringing Len Shackleton from Bradford Park Avenue to Tyneside a few weeks before. Shackleton, who had netted six goals on his debut as the Magpies demolished poor Newport 13-0, had been signed for a post-war record £13,000 (or more precisely, £13,000-0s-3d as Bradford wanted to beat the previous record which had been set a couple of months previously when Albert Stubbins went from Newcastle to Liverpool!!)

Naturally this particular 'circus' attracted the crowds wherever it went and Luton was no exception with 25,410 packing the terraces and all turnstiles locked

well before the start.

As all older supporters will tell you the pitch used to slope slightly towards the Oak Road end with the result that from about October onwards that particular, goalmouth was a muddy morass. Whichever side was defending that end was at an instant disadvantage which was the Town's lot in the first half.

The conditions meant that defenders had difficulty in turning and when this was added to the slick inter-passing of the Newcastle forwards and far too much respect given we were always going to up against it. Goals from Bentley after 12 minutes, Wayman after 26 and an absolute cracker from Shackleton on the half hour put the Town in a seemingly impossible position. As the players trudged off at half time, the supporters must have wondered what the final Newcastle tally would be.

Left winger, and future manager, Dally Duncan when interviewed some years later shed some light on the half time team talk given by George Martin. Beside himself with anger, Martin started off by kicking over a full bucket of water on entering the dressing room. After calming down, he pointed out that the Town had not played badly in the first half, Billington had caused some scares in the Newcastle defence as well as hitting a post and the Town would now be attacking the swamp-like Oak Road end. Also the undue reverence given to the Magpies had to stop forthwith!

Suitably chastised the players set out in the second half with a vengeance feeling that one goal could start an avalanche. This one goal was not long in coming with Billy Waugh getting on the end of a Duncan cross in the 54th minute and when Mel Daniel headed in an accurate Duncan corner two minutes later the crowd suddenly began to believe that a major upset was on the cards.

When Billington ploughed through the mud to thunder home the equaliser on the hour the crowd was in uproar and apart from a brief flurry from the Magpies when a penalty appeal for handball against Horace Gager was turned down, there was only going to be one winner.

The Town left it a bit late for the final goal as there were only seven minutes remaining when Allen Driver slammed the ball home following further excellent play from Duncan but Newcastle were



The Town line up for the camera on the Saturday following the Newcastle win. Les Lake replacing Doug Beach was the only change from the previous week's team.

Back row (left to right); Pembleton (trainer), Soo, Lake, Bywater, Cooke, Gardiner, Duggan (12th man).  
Front row (left to right); Waugh, Daniel, Billington, Driver, Duncan, Gager.

dead on their feet by then as they watched the remarkable comeback completed.

Under a headline 'Town's most sensational win' Eric Pugh wrote in the 'Luton News' that the second-half rally had to be seen to be believed and if there was one certain thing in an uncertain world that this game would be remembered and talked about for years to come.

As a postscript to this particular tale, when Newcastle were looking for a new manager the following summer they remembered the 'pep talk' served up by George Martin and invited him to take over at St James Park where he enjoyed a successful time.

*Roger Wash*

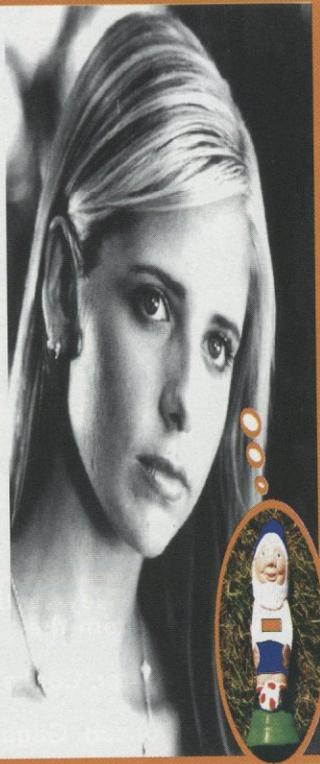
## Yesterday's pages



Compared to the wonderful immediate pre-war offering from the Town the post-war programme was a pale imitation although paper shortages caused major problems and all clubs were forced to produce utility issues.

The 'Club Notes' section referred in the main to the previous week's defeat at Swansea and the performance of the referee. The attack on the official in print would bring the club into disrepute today but the writer was obviously aggrieved especially with the dismissal of Dally Duncan in the 0-2 defeat. It was very rare to see a sending-off in those days!

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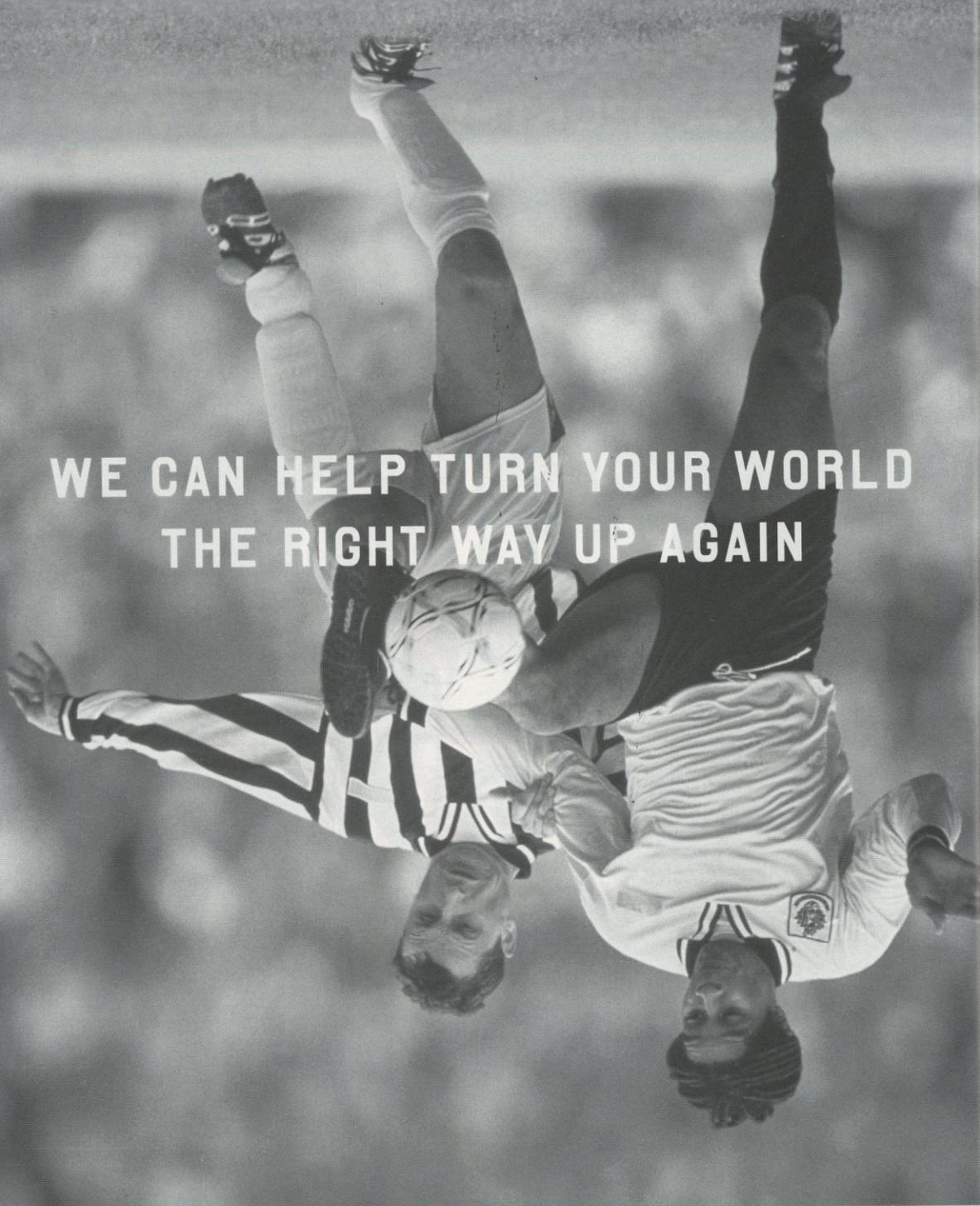
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Happy Harry

## Junior Hatters

THE change to our first Friday night game of the season means that Junior Hatters miss their Saturday Club fun this week, but I am sure there will still be plenty of young fans using our family room this evening, and cheering on the team again.

We also expect a good turn-out next Saturday, when we have a trip to Scunthorpe, leaving at 9.30am. We have been invited to join our Scunthorpe counterparts for football and fun before the game, so if you want to take part, bring your football kit. The price of the trip is £10 for Junior Hatters including a match ticket, and £13 for adults, not including the admission price.

You can book at the club shop, and if you are a Luton Town fan no more than 16 years old that is also where you can find out about joining the Junior Hatters. Come and join us - the more the merrier!

Two weeks tomorrow the Town play Rochdale, and the Saturday Club will be in business again. It starts at 12 noon at Dallow School, and the price is just £5 for Junior Hatters with season tickets, or £9 including a match ticket. A sausage and chips lunch is included, and sometimes there are visits to the cinema and bowling alley, for £3 extra.

*Happy Harry*

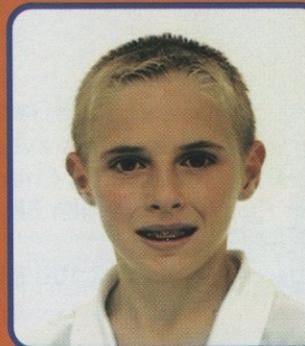


**ALL PRESENT AND CORRECT:** Mascots at the Torquay match meet the skippers and match officials in the centre circle before kick off - Todd Beasey-Webb was representing the Junior Hatters and Aaron Bradley was commercial mascot.

## Tonight's Mascot

TWELVE years old, James Alexander George Tapping, from Bunyans Walk, Harlington, has a match to remember tonight, because his name has been picked out of the computerised drum to be the Junior Hatters Mascot.

His duties will include meeting the players in the dressing room before kick-off, and that means he will be able to talk to his favourite star, Matthew Taylor.



James goes to Parkfields Middle School, Toddington, and as well as supporting the Town - he comes to games with his mum and dad - he likes playing football for Harlington under-13s. He also enjoys tennis, athletics and snooker.

Tonight's ball boys are James Dickinson, from Tameton Close, Luton, and Joe Anderson, of Elmwood Crescent, Luton.

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## Action Replay



Luton Town 5 Torquay Utd 1 (HT 3-1)



LEFT: ON OUR WAY: Carl Griffiths heads the second of his treble, having got goalside of his marking defender to leave Luton lad Kevin Dearden with no hope of saving.

BOTTOM: INSTANT HERO: Jean Louis Valois, who capped a remarkable debut with a stunning goal against Torquay, and then produced another against Orient in midweek.

CARL Griffiths netted a hat-trick of headers as the Town hit five goals for the first time since Swansea came here last February, but it was new signing Jean Louis Valois who pinched the headlines. His debut was a virtuoso display of soccer skills, capped by a 35-yard strike which even the Torquay fans applauded.

The Town turned on the style and only once did Torquay have a hope of getting back into the game - an own goal by Kevin Nicholls brought it back to 2-1 five minutes before the interval, but in stoppage time the two-goal advantage was restored, and that, said visiting boss Roy McFarland, just about finished it.

With the Town the better side in every department, the best win of the season was no more than they deserved. Steve Howard enjoyed his first goal of the season, reinstating himself in front of the home crowd. The bad news was that Paul Hughes was injured early on, and so was Ian Hillier, who replaced him.

#### Match details

**Luton Town:** Owendale; Boyce, Perrett, Coyne, Taylor; Hughes (Hillier 25 mins, Forbes, 45 mins), Spring, Nicholls, Valois (Douglas 82 mins); Howard, Griffiths. Unused subs: Dryden, Ward

**Booked:** No-one

**Torquay:** Dearden; McNeil (Holmes HT), Wozzley, Douglin; Tully (Bedeau 52 mins), Rees, Nicholls (Williams 67 mins), Hill, Russell; Richardson, Graham. Unused subs: Williamson, Northmore.

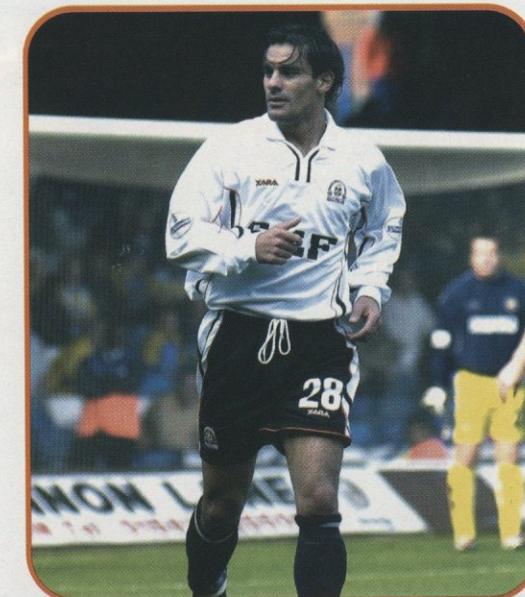
**Booked:** Nicholls, Wozzley and Williams, all for fouls.

**The goals:** 1-0 18 mins - Steve Howard shot from

the rebound after Carl Griffiths hit a post; 2-0 31 mins - Griffiths header from left wing cross by Matt Taylor; 2-1 40 mins - Kevin Nicholls heading a cross by Jason Rees into his own net; 3-1 stoppage time end of first half - Griffiths header from right wing cross by Jean Louis Valois; 4-1 61 mins - Valois, 35-yard strike out of the blue into the top corner; 5-1 79 mins - Griffiths header from another left wing cross by Taylor.

**Referee:** Lee Cable, Surrey.

**Attendance:** 6,392, including 326 visiting fans.



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# Action Replay



## Leyton Orient 1 Luton Town 3 (HT 0-1)

IT PAYS to be attack-minded said a happy Joe Kinnear in East London after the Town followed up their five-star five-goal romp against Torquay with another irresistible display to shatter Leyton Orient's unbeaten home record.

The Orient were sterner stuff defensively than Torquay had been, but the Town's success was built on the perfect mixture - Chris Coyne and Russ Perrett have rapidly dovetailed into a dependable central partnership at the back, and the addition of the flair of Jean Louis Valois has put new life into attacking ideas.

Add to that a midfield which had the right blend of defence and attack, and it was little wonder that long before the end Orient were as shell-shocked as their turnstile operators had been as more than 2,000 Town fans poured into the ground.

They had reason to cheer throughout, because Orient were never a match for the Town's combination of talents, in which the midfield power of hyper-active Kevin Nicholls cannot be over-estimated.

On the night Orient were also-rans, with their front two never close to causing upsets, and their defence getting more and more jittery by the minute as the Town took control.

Valois had a quiet first half, seeing little of the ball and unluckily collecting a booking for dissent, but after the break he reprised his debut day delights. Juggling, back-heels and whipped-in pacy corners were the major items in the repertoire, backed up by another stunning goal, to

finish off Orient early in the second half after Matt Taylor had whacked in the opener.

The script should have called for a goal by Carl Griffiths, against the club he left last summer. He went close several times, but when he was subbed Orient fans made it clear they knew what they were missing - they cheered him off the field.

Equally cheering for the Town was another goal by Steve Howard, his second in two games, and as the boss says while we would like more clean sheets - only two from the first ten league games - so long as the attacking power is potent, there is not too much to worry about.

And it was all done at Brisbane Road despite an injury list that took eight players out of the reckoning. That would have slaughtered the Town last season. This time, it just gives opportunities for players who have to fight for places, so all credit to the way Peter Holmes came into the side for his first start of the season, and looked class. Perhaps it is easier to do that when everyone around you is also looking better quality, man for man, than the opposition. The same goes for Mark Ovendale, under much greater pressure this season for his place, and it was tough on him that a dodgy penalty was awarded to give Scott Houghton the chance to score against one of his former clubs. It still wasn't much of a night for him, though, nor for Scott Oakes, a forlorn shadow of the player he used to be before injuries wrecked his Sheffield Wednesday career.

## Match Details

**Luton Town:** Ovendale; Boyce, Perrett, Coyne, Taylor; Holmes (Mansell 87 mins), Spring, Nicholls, Valois; Howard, Griffiths (Forbes 87 mins).

**Unused subs:** Douglas, Dryden, Ward

**Booked:** Jean Louis Valois, dissent by kicking the ball away, 12 mins; Matt Taylor, 44 mins, foul on Matthew Joseph which was innocuous until Joseph retaliated and everyone else threatened to join in a fracas.

**Leyton Orient:** Bayes; Joseph, Smith, Downer, Harris; McGhee, Minton, Oakes (Gough 57 mins), Martin (Houghton 57 mins); Constantine (Fletcher 65 mins), Ibehre.

**Unused subs:** Beall, Morris.

**Booked:** Dean Smith, for getting involved too

much in the incident involving Taylor and Joseph.

**The Goals:** 0-1 31 mins - Matt Taylor, slamming in an angled drive from the left following a superb cross-field free kick by Matt Spring; 0-2 52 mins - Jean Louis Valois, another goal out of nothing, a 20-yard drive into the top corner from the left angle of the penalty box after a short solo run made the space; 0-3 66 mins - Steve Howard, brave header from one of many whipped-in corners by Valois; 1-3 85 mins - Scott Houghton penalty after the ball bounced off Spring's arm in a head tennis session.

**Referee:** Paul Rejer, Worcestershire.

**Attendance:** 6,540, Orient's best of the season, because 2,089 Town fans were there.

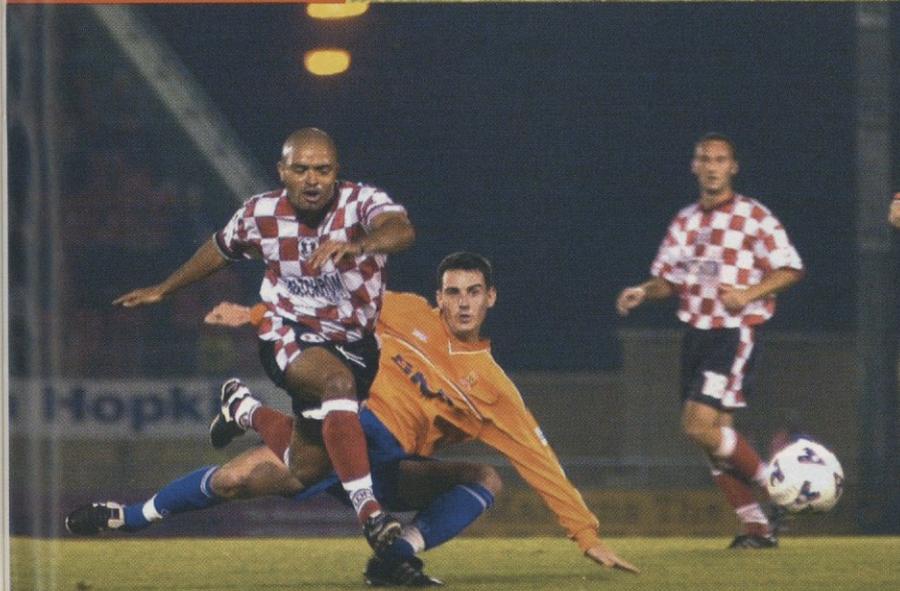


**DOUBLE DELIGHT:** Two of the scorers at Brisbane Road have every reason to be happy - Matt Taylor's grin says it all after he greets Steve Howard, who has just netted his second goal in consecutive matches.

**HERE IT COMES:** Jean Louis Valois, another two-goals-in-two-games man, leaves Matthew Joseph helpless before lashing in the Town's second goal.



**DRIVING FORWARD:** Matt Spring backs up the attack to have a crack at goal.





# Action Replay



## Plymouth Argyle 2 Luton Town 1 (HT 2-1)

AFTER seven games without defeat took them to the top of the table, the Town mysteriously failed to find recent form, and came home pointless after a game that was often too much about passion, and not enough about creative flair. Plymouth were down to ten men after 36 minutes, and perhaps that did them a favour - they felt aggrieved, fought furiously, and not only held on, but also snatched a winning goal.

It was a strange turn-round: the Town had looked bright likely lads in the opening exchanges, took the lead through new signing Dean Crowe, but failed to build on that.

Both managers were critical of the refereeing - even-handed, but pernickety. Eight yellow cards and one red makes it sound like a kicking match. It wasn't, but the constant interruptions did little to help the flow of the match, and added frustration for players of both sides. However, the ref didn't lose the game for the Town. It was down to their inability to reproduce the excellent form which had taken care of Torquay and Leyton Orient.

The manager complained about sub-standard defending at both Plymouth goals, and an unusual lack of sharpness in attack after eight goals had been bagged in the two previous matches.

Plymouth responded to the sending off of centre-forward Mickey Evans by pulling back four midfielders into a line just ahead of the back four, scrapping for every ball, and looking for the chance to break quickly. Their game plan worked because the Town could not find the invention needed to break it down. "On the

second half Plymouth deserved it," said Joe Kinnear. "We got off to a good start, got an early goal, and dominated. But then we gave away two cheap goals. We switched off and were punished.

"They got everybody behind the ball and we didn't have enough about us to break them down. We didn't shift the ball early enough - we gave them the time to get eight or nine men behind the ball.

"We should have had enough about us to beat ten men, but sometimes it doesn't happen. I think we beat ourselves."

Striker Crowe, on loan from Stoke City, was brought in as replacement for injured Carl Griffiths, and he "did a Griffiths" for his goal, a close-range poaching job. It came from a corner which Crowe had won with a thundering drive which was knocked round a post by the keeper.

The equaliser, by Martin Phillips, exploited a huge gap on the Town's right after they were caught stretched by a counter-attack, and what turned out to be the winner came from a corner in stoppage time at the end of the first half.

Jean Louis Valois was much quieter than he had been in his first two games, but was out of luck with a sweet free kick which hit the bar while it was still 1-1. Jason Bent hit a post at the other end, and eventually Plymouth held out fairly easily for the win that put them level on points with the Town. Two saves from Steve Howard headers, and one from a drive by Matt Taylor, were the only occasions when the ten men looked even slightly vulnerable.



**DEBUT GOAL:** Dean Crowe, despite being surrounded by defenders, twists acrobatically to give the Town the lead at Home Park.

**HAPPY HATTERS (but not for long!):** Kevin Nicholls, Steve Howard and Emmerson Boyce share Crowe's delight with his goal.



## Match Details

**Luton Town:** Ovendale; Boyce, Coyne, Perrett, Taylor; Holmes (Forbes 52 mins), Spring (Mansell 89 mins), Nicholls, Valois (Douglas 85 mins); Howard, Crowe.

**Unused subs:** Dryden, Emberson.

**Booked:** Holmes, Perrett, Howard for fouls; Taylor for delaying a free kick; Valois for dissent.

**Plymouth Argyle:** Larrieu; Worrell, Coughlan, Wotton, McGlinchey; Bent (Banger 85 mins), Adams, Friio, Phillips (Hodges 53 mins); Evans, Stonebridge.

**Unused subs:** Wills, McCormick, Beswetherick

**Sent off:** Mickey Evans, using an elbow in a

36th-minute challenge on Chris Coyne

**Booked:** Bent, Friio, Wotton for fouls.

**The Goals:** 0-1 14 mins - Dean Crowe, close-range hooked shot after corner by Jean Louis Valois led to Steve Howard getting in a header which was parried by the keeper; 1-1 22 mins - Martin Phillips, given loads of space on the Town's right flank, to take a pass from Ian Stonebridge and place his shot carefully into the far corner; 2-1 three minutes into stoppage time at the end of the first half - David Friio, near-post header from a left wing corner by Paul Wotton.

**Referee:** Andy Hall, West Midlands.

**Attendance:** 5,782 including 461 Town fans



**MIDFIELD BATTLE:** Kevin Nicholls gets in a shot despite the close attentions of David Friio. The Plymouth man had the last word, with their winning goal.

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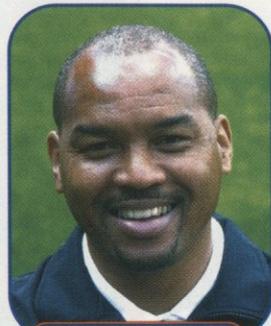
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Brian Stein

# In Reserve



## Luton Town 0 Gillingham 0

THE result was a grave disappointment - the performance was all right except for the fact that it was a case of murdering the opposition, but

not burying them under a stack of goals. If we had scored five or six Gillingham could hardly have complained, on an afternoon when our defence achieved its fourth clean sheet in five outings.

Gillingham's goalkeeper played quite well, but the main story was that our finishing was very poor. It makes me angry to see so many good chances wasted, and the 0-0 scoreline in this game was unbelievable, entirely down to failures in front of goal. We work on it in training, but it must be carried through to matches. Our inability to turn so much good possession and clear scoring chances into goals detracted hugely from an otherwise good team performance.

**Luton Town:** Ward, Foley, Gillman, Dryden, Stirling, Brkovic, Locke, Bruce, Brennan, Fotiadis (Thomson HT), Crowe.

## Cardiff City 2 Luton Town 1

IT IS tempting to blame the ref for Tuesday's first defeat of the season, but the truth was that we turned in a poor performance, well below the standard we have set ourselves. We had equalised with five minutes to go, and three minutes later as Cardiff attacked the linesman flagged for a foul on Andrew Fotiadis. Some of our players stopped, but the ref ignored the signal, and the winner was knocked in. It was a cruel lesson

about playing to the whistle, something professionals should not have to be told about.

Overall we were not strong enough mentally or physically, and the major difference was that Cardiff's front two always looked more dangerous than ours.

We went a goal down on 50 minutes, when the midfield let an opponent find space to score with an excellent finish. The equaliser was scored by Fotiadis after good work by Michael Leary and Darryl Murphy - a brave header and persistence in blocking the centre-half. The young lads in the side deserve credit for their efforts, but more experienced men let us down.

**Luton Town:** Emberson; Foley, Bruce, Gillman, Dogbe (Leary 79 mins); Brkovic, Locke (Osborne 80 mins), Mansell, Brennan; Thomson (Murphy 55 mins), Fotiadis.

OUR NEXT Avon Insurance Combination fixture is at home to QPR on Monday. Kick-off at Kenilworth Road is 2pm.

**Appearances (as sub in brackets):** Brennan 6, Foley 5, Fotiadis 5, Holmes 4, Stirling 4, Gillman 4, Brkovic 3(1), George 3, Ovendale 3, Locke 3, Thomson 2(3), Osborne 2(1), Everitt 2, Ward 2, Bruce 2, Murphy 1(2), Douglas 1(1), Crowe 1(1), Emberson 1, Dogbe 1, Mansell 1, Dryden 1, Spring 1, Ofori 1, Iagnostal 1, Hogg 1, Bouchuers 1, Djorkaeff 1, Valois 1, Maher 1, Hodges 1, Leary 0(2), O'Leary 0(1), Okai 0(1), Jeffrey 0(1), Hall 0(1).

**Goals:** Fotiadis 4, Brkovic 2, George 1, Brennan 2(1 pen), Hodges 1, Gillman 1, Locke 1, Thomson 1

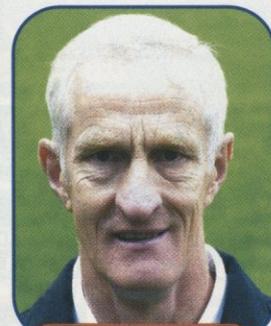
*Brian Stein*

## Avon Insurance Combination Results and Fixtures

AUG	Wed 15	Barnet	A	3-0	Fotiadis 2, Hodges
	<b>Wed 29</b>	<b>Millwall</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>1-0</b>	<b>Brennan pen</b>
SEPT	Wed 12	Leyton Orient	A	3-2	George, Brkovic 2
	Thur 20	Barton (BPC)	A	5-0	Gillman, Locke, Brennan, Thomson, Fotiadis
	<b>Wed 26</b>	<b>Gillingham</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>	
OCT	Tue 2	Cardiff	A	1-2	Fotiadis
	<b>Mon 8</b>	<b>QPR</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>	
	Mon 15	Crystal Palace	A	7.30pm	
	<b>Wed 31</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>	
NOV	Wed 7	Brentford	A	7pm	
	<b>Wed 14</b>	<b>Bristol City</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>	
	<b>Wed 21</b>	<b>Cambridge(LC)</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>	
	Wed 28	Norwich(LC)	A	7.30pm	
DEC	Wed 5	Oxford	A	2pm	
	<b>Wed 12</b>	<b>Swindon</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>	
	Wed 19	Portsmouth	A	7pm	
JAN	Wed 9	Brighton	A	7pm	
	<b>Wed 16</b>	<b>Wycombe</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>	
	<b>Wed 23</b>	<b>Bournemouth</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>	
FEB	Wed 6	Bristol Rov	A	7pm	
	<b>Wed 13</b>	<b>Norwich</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>7pm</b>	
	Wed 20	Cheltenham	A	2pm	
	<b>Wed 27</b>	<b>Colchester</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>7pm</b>	
MAR	<b>Wed 13</b>	<b>Peterborough</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>7pm</b>	
	Wed 20	Southend	A	2pm	
	Mon 25	Cambridge	A	2pm	
APRIL	<b>Wed 10</b>	<b>Northampton</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>	

## Avon Insurance Combination League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Q.P.R.	5	4	1	0	15	2	13
Millwall	6	4	1	1	12	7	13
Portsmouth	5	4	0	1	10	4	12
Wycombe	6	4	0	2	9	6	12
Cardiff	5	3	2	0	11	5	11
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>
Bristol Rovers	5	3	1	1	6	2	10
Leyton Orient	4	3	0	1	10	4	9
Reading	4	3	0	1	7	1	9
Crystal Palace	4	2	1	1	12	8	7
Gillingham	3	2	1	0	4	0	7
Bristol City	3	2	1	0	3	0	7
Brentford	5	2	1	2	7	6	7
Southend	6	2	1	3	8	10	7
Cheltenham	5	2	0	3	5	9	6
Oxford	4	1	2	1	3	6	5
Colchester	4	1	1	2	7	10	4
Norwich	4	1	1	2	4	8	4
Swindon	6	1	1	4	3	8	4
Barnet	6	1	0	5	2	13	3
Brighton	5	0	2	3	1	4	2
Northampton	4	0	2	2	2	7	2
Bournemouth	4	0	1	3	3	9	1
Peterborough	6	0	1	5	6	18	1
Cambridge	4	0	0	4	2	9	0



John Moore

# Youth Soccer



## Cambridge Utd 2 Luton Town 1

FAILURE to cash in when we were looking the better side - we missed two excellent one-on-one chances - cost us a last-

minute defeat in a game we did not really deserve to lose.

Three of our best players were on the bench - Rob Gillman and Kevin Foley had played for the reserves 48 hours earlier, and James Osborne had been ill for much of the week.

We started well, and a good move led to Matthew Judge shooting us into the lead after six minutes, and we ought to have built on that. But we were caught one short in the box when we conceded an equaliser on the hour. Substitutions were made so that we were back to our strongest side, but while we played well we wasted the opportunities to go 3-1 up. We had the better of the last 20 minutes, but Cambridge nicked a winner with almost the last kick of the game.

**Luton Town:** Chatfield, Dogbe, Carroll (Gillman 61 mins), Davies, Leary, Bruce, O'Leary, Murphy, Judge, Jeffrey (Osborne 71mins), Okai (Foley 71mins).

WE have two consecutive home matches in the

Football League Youth Alliance, against Northampton tomorrow, followed by a cup-tie with Colchester next Saturday, October 13. Home games are played at Luton Rugby Club, at Newlands Road, Farley Hill, and kick off at 11am. Spectators are welcome.

## Appearances (as sub in brackets):

Carroll 5, Leary 5, Murphy 5, Jeffrey 5, Osborne 4(1), Okai 4(1), Davies 4(1), Foley 3(2), Gillman 3(1), Bruce 3(1), Chatfield 3, Dogbe 3, O'Leary 3, Judge 2(2), Brill 2, Dillon 1(2), Burrell 0(1).

**Goals:** Osborne 2(1p), Murphy 2, Davies 2, Leary 1, Carroll 1, Judge 1

*John Moore*

## FL Youth Alliance South Central Conference League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rushden & D	5	3	1	1	10	7	10
Cambridge Utd	4	2	2	0	9	3	8
Notts County	3	2	1	0	4	2	7
Peterborough	5	2	1	2	10	10	7
West Brom	5	1	2	2	7	13	5
Northampton	3	1	1	1	4	2	4
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>
Kidderminster	4	1	0	3	5	7	3
Walsall	5	0	3	2	9	14	3

## Football League Youth Alliance Results and Fixtures

<b>AUG</b>	<b>25</b>	Rushden & D	H	1-2	Leary
<b>SEP</b>	1	Walsall	A	4-4	Osborne 2 (1p), Murphy, Davies
	8	L. Orient (Cup)	A	0-0	
	<b>15</b>	<b>Kidderminster</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3-1</b>	<b>Carroll, Davies, Murphy</b>
	22	Cambridge	A	1-2	Judge
<b>OCT</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Northampton</b>	<b>H</b>		
	<b>13</b>	<b>Colchester (Cup)</b>	<b>H</b>		
	20	West Brom	A		
	27	Peterborough	A		
<b>NOV</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Southend (Cup)</b>	<b>H</b>		
	<b>10</b>	<b>Notts County</b>	<b>H</b>		
	17	Kidderminster	A		
	<b>24</b>	<b>Cambridge</b>	<b>H</b>		
<b>DEC</b>	15	Northampton	A		
<b>JAN</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>West Brom</b>	<b>H</b>		
	19	Notts County	A		
	<b>26</b>	<b>Peterborough</b>	<b>H</b>		
<b>FEB</b>	9	Rushden & D	A		
	<b>16</b>	<b>Walsall</b>	<b>H</b>		

## Bedfordshire Premier Cup Final Barton Rovers 0 Luton Town 5

A MIXTURE of reserve and youth team players gave a good account of themselves at Barton, in what could have been a very tricky encounter. You can expect non-league players to raise their game against young professionals, but to their credit Barton played the game the right way, and in the right spirit, and perhaps the final result was harsh on them.

Three of our starting XI came from the youth squad - Kevin Foley, Rob Gillman and Darryl Murphy - and all five subs were YTS boys. Gillman has already made a good impression after being promoted to the reserves, and celebrated at Barton with his first goal at this level.

It was a good contest and we did a professional job, knowing that we could be on the proverbial banana-skin if we settled for anything less against opponents who never gave up.

Our other goals came from Adam Locke, Dean Brennan, Peter Thomson and Andrew Fotiadis.

**Luton Town:** Ward, Foley, Everitt (Okai 60 mins), Gillman, Stirling, Locke (O'Leary 70 mins), Brennan, Holmes, Murphy, Thomson (Jeffrey 80 mins), Fotiadis

visit our website at [www.soccer-stats.com](http://www.soccer-stats.com)

**Average Attendances**

	2000	4000	6000	8000	10000
<b>Bristol Rovers</b>	7,747				
<b>Carlisle</b>	3,462				
<b>Cheltenham</b>	3,367				
<b>Darlington</b>	4,100				
<b>Exeter</b>	3,577				
<b>Halifax</b>	1,965				
<b>Hartlepool</b>	3,592				
<b>Hull</b>	9,925				
<b>Kidderminster</b>	2,710				
<b>Orient</b>	5,014				
<b>Lincoln</b>	2,979				
<b>Luton</b>	6,173				
<b>Macclesfield</b>	2,059				
<b>Mansfield</b>	3,959				
<b>Oxford</b>	6,297				
<b>Plymouth</b>	4,629				
<b>Rochdale</b>	3,346				
<b>Rushden</b>	4,278				
<b>Scunthorpe</b>	3,438				
<b>Shrewsbury</b>	3,464				
<b>Southend</b>	4,119				
<b>Swansea</b>	3,932				
<b>Torquay</b>	2,639				
<b>York</b>	3,029				

**Goals - When Scored**

	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
<b>BR</b>	0	2	4	0	2	5
<b>CU</b>	1	3	3	1	0	3
<b>CT</b>	0	2	1	1	6	3
<b>Dar</b>	1	1	4	1	6	4
<b>EC</b>	5	3	1	1	1	1
<b>HT</b>	0	3	2	1	1	0
<b>HU</b>	1	0	1	2	3	2
<b>HC</b>	0	3	2	6	3	5
<b>Kid</b>	0	0	0	2	1	2
<b>LO</b>	1	2	2	3	1	4
<b>LC</b>	1	1	2	3	3	3
<b>LT</b>	3	3	6	4	3	4
<b>MT</b>	2	1	3	1	1	1
<b>NT</b>	2	4	3	3	2	4
<b>OU</b>	5	1	0	4	2	0
<b>PA</b>	2	2	4	2	4	1
<b>Ro</b>	4	5	1	1	4	4
<b>RD</b>	0	2	1	1	1	3
<b>SU</b>	4	4	4	1	3	1
<b>ST</b>	4	1	3	1	4	5
<b>SU</b>	0	1	2	3	1	4
<b>SC</b>	4	6	3	0	1	4
<b>TU</b>	2	1	2	0	1	3
<b>YC</b>	1	1	4	2	2	5

**Form Guide: Home & Away**

	Home Form	most recent results to left	Away Form
<b>DDWDW</b>	<b>Bristol Rovers</b>	<b>WLLW</b>	
<b>DWLDL</b>	<b>Carlisle</b>	<b>LLLDL</b>	
<b>WDL</b>	<b>Cheltenham</b>	<b>WLWLD</b>	
<b>DWWDW</b>	<b>Darlington</b>	<b>DLDWL</b>	
<b>DDLWD</b>	<b>Exeter</b>	<b>LLLD</b>	
<b>DWDL</b>	<b>Halifax</b>	<b>LLWLL</b>	
<b>WDL</b>	<b>Hartlepool</b>	<b>LDLW</b>	
<b>WWW</b>	<b>Hull</b>	<b>LDDW</b>	
<b>LDDW</b>	<b>Kidderminster</b>	<b>DLLL</b>	
<b>LLWW</b>	<b>Orient</b>	<b>DLWLD</b>	
<b>LWLDW</b>	<b>Lincoln</b>	<b>DDLDD</b>	
<b>WDDWW</b>	<b>Luton</b>	<b>LWWDL</b>	
<b>DDWDL</b>	<b>Macclesfield</b>	<b>DLWDL</b>	
<b>WWWWD</b>	<b>Mansfield</b>	<b>LDLDW</b>	
<b>WLWLL</b>	<b>Oxford</b>	<b>DDLWD</b>	
<b>WWWLL</b>	<b>Plymouth</b>	<b>DWDWW</b>	
<b>WWDWW</b>	<b>Rochdale</b>	<b>LLWWW</b>	
<b>WDL</b>	<b>Rushden</b>	<b>DDL</b>	
<b>WDDWD</b>	<b>Scunthorpe</b>	<b>DDLWL</b>	
<b>WWWL</b>	<b>Shrewsbury</b>	<b>LDLDW</b>	
<b>LWDLW</b>	<b>Southend</b>	<b>LLWLD</b>	
<b>DLWDD</b>	<b>Swansea</b>	<b>WDL</b>	
<b>DWLWL</b>	<b>Torquay</b>	<b>WLDDL</b>	
<b>DLWWL</b>	<b>York</b>	<b>WDL</b>	

**Records**

Highest Gate 10,755  
Hull  
v Plymouth  
Lowest Gate 1,556  
Halifax  
Macclesfield v Darlington  
Highest Agg Score  
Macclesfield...4  
Scunthorpe...3  
Biggest Home Win  
Darlington...4  
Exeter...0  
Hull...4  
York...0  
Luton...5  
Torquay...1  
Mansfield...4  
Macclesfield...0  
Shrewsbury...4  
Kidderminster...0  
Biggest Away Win  
Exeter...0  
Scunthorpe...4  
Consec. Wins  
Rochdale,  
Orient...4  
Games Unbeaten  
Hull, Plymouth...8  
Consec. Defeats  
Rushden...4  
Winless Run  
Kidderminster...7  
Total Games 130  
Home Wins 56...43%  
Away Wins 32...25%  
Draws 42...32%

**Clubs' top scorer & the points their goals have won**

see key below	Leading Scorer	GS	Sc1	Sc2	HT	Gms/Gls/Gm	Pts	Run
<b>Shrewsbury</b>	Luke Rodgers	9	6	0	1	11	0.82	6 4
<b>Mansfield</b>	Chris Greenacre	7	7	0	0	11	0.64	6 4
<b>York</b>	Michael Proctor	4	2	1	0	11	0.36	6 1
<b>Hull</b>	Gary Alexander	6	2	2	0	10	0.60	5 2
<b>Macclesfield</b>	Lee Glover	6	4	1	0	11	0.55	5 2
<b>Torquay</b>	Alex Russell	3	3	0	0	8	0.38	5 2
<b>Luton</b>	Carl Griffiths	7	4	0	1	10	0.70	4 2
<b>Carlisle</b>	Ritchie Foran	4	4	0	0	7	0.57	4 3
<b>Darlington</b>	Barry Conlon	4	4	0	0	11	0.36	4 1
<b>Rochdale</b>	Clive Platt	4	2	1	0	11	0.36	4 2
<b>Bristol Rovers</b>	Kevin Gall	3	3	0	0	10	0.30	4 2
<b>Halifax</b>	Paul Harsley	3	1	1	0	11	0.27	4 1
<b>Plymouth</b>	Martin Phillips	3	3	0	0	11	0.27	4 1
<b>Exeter</b>	Sean McCarthy	2	2	0	0	7	0.29	3 1
<b>Swansea</b>	Stuart Roberts	4	4	0	0	11	0.36	2 2
<b>Cheltenham</b>	Julian Alsop	3	1	1	0	8	0.38	2 1
<b>Orient</b>	Leon Constantine	3	3	0	0	8	0.38	2 2
<b>Southend</b>	Daniel Webb	2	2	0	0	8	0.25	2 1
<b>Kidderminster</b>	Mark Blake	2	2	0	0	10	0.20	2 1
<b>Oxford</b>	Martin Thomas	2	2	0	0	11	0.18	2 1
<b>Scunthorpe</b>	Martin Carruthers	5	3	1	0	10	0.50	1 1
<b>Rushden</b>	Duane Darby	4	0	2	0	6	0.67	0 2
<b>Lincoln</b>	Lee Thorpe	4	2	1	0	10	0.40	0 1
<b>Hartlepool</b>	Mark Tinkler	3	3	0	0	10	0.30	0 2

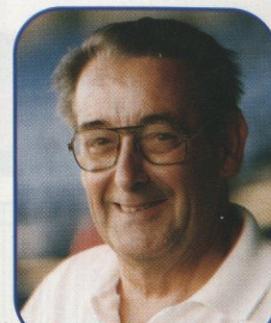
**Biggest Wins & Heaviest Defeats**

Club	Win - vs.	Defeat - vs.	Numbers
<b>Bristol Rov</b>	3-2 Luton	1-3 Orient	21 3 2
<b>Carlisle</b>	2-1 York	1-3 Hartlepool	28 2 4
<b>Cheltenham</b>	2-0 Carlisle	2-3 Mansfield	22 3 1
<b>Darlington</b>	4-0 Exeter	1-2 Torquay	18 5 2
<b>Exeter</b>	3-2 Oxford	0-4 Scun, Darl	27 1 4
<b>Halifax</b>	2-0 Swansea	1-4 Southend	18 4 6
<b>Hartlepool</b>	3-1 Shrb, Crls	0-2 Ornt, Linc	22 1 5
<b>Hull</b>	4-0 York	2-4 Mansfield	22 5 3
<b>Kidderminster</b>	1-0 Scun, Torq	0-4 Shrwbsry	21 4 6
<b>Orient</b>	3-1 Bristol Rov	0-3 Darlntgn	24 3 3
<b>Lincoln</b>	3-0 Swansea	1-3 York	17 3 2
<b>Luton</b>	5-1 Torquay	2-3 Bristol R	25 2 0
<b>Macclesfield</b>	2-0 Oxford	0-4 Mansfield	19 5 6
<b>Mansfield</b>	4-0 Maccsfield	1-3 Rochdale	17 3 3
<b>Oxford</b>	2-0 Hlfx, S'end	0-2 Maccsfd	21 4 4
<b>Plymouth</b>	3-1 Swansea	1-2 Rochdale	19 5 4
<b>Rochdale</b>	3-1 Mansfield	1-3 Hull	22 3 1
<b>Rushden</b>	1-0 York, Chelt	2-3 Plym, Oxf	25 6 5
<b>Scunthorpe</b>	4-0 Exeter	3-4 Maccsfd	21 4 3
<b>Shrewsbury</b>	4-0 Kidderminster	1-3 Hart, Scun	18 5 1
<b>Southend</b>	4-1 Halifax	0-2 Lutn, Oxf	21 4 5
<b>Swansea</b>	4-2 Exeter	0-3 Lincoln	20 2 3
<b>Torquay</b>	2-1 vs 3 clubs	1-5 Luton	29 2 6
<b>York</b>	3-0 Torquay	0-4 Hull	23 3 3

Key: GS=Goals Scored; Sc1=Games Scored 1 Goal; Sc2=Games Scored 2 Goals; HT=Hat-Tricks; Each club's leading league scorer and avg. goals per game (Gls/Gm). Next column shows taking off their goals, how many Points (Pts) lost. Last figure show best scoring Run in consecutive games. NUMBERS: PU=Players Used CS=Clean Sheets FS=Games Failed to Score

**To watch these games call 0808 100 0101**

<b>Sheffield Wednesday v Sheffield United</b> Sunday 7 October, ITV Sport Channel	<b>Celtic v Rosenborg</b> Wednesday 10 October, ITV Sport Channel
<b>Coventry v Chelsea</b> Tuesday 9 October, ITV Sport Channel	<b>Rotherham United v Portsmouth</b> Friday 12 October, ITV Sport Channel



**Brian Swain**

**Third Division Scene**

AFTER a brief taste of being top of the table - we got there with the win at Orient, then lost the leadership with the defeat at Plymouth - the Town go into tonight's match with a chance of regaining first place in the Third Division. But the visitors have every reason to try to prevent that - Darlington could return to the top three for the second time this season if they win. The promotion scrap so far suggests there is no-one capable of running away with the title. No team has been able to stay in the top three automatic promotion places all season, and the Town were the fourth to hold top place so far. Five points cover the top eight, and any run of consistent results, good or bad, can be worth several places in the table. In the very early days we were top for a week until the first defeat of the season, at Bristol Rovers, who took over first place. They held it for only three days, and have since slipped out of the play-off frame. Plymouth were 19th at the start of September, but their win over the Town extended their current run to

eight games without defeat, taking them up to fourth, and level on points with us. It also won the divisional manager of the month award for Paul Sturrock. Rochdale have been the most consistent team since then, top for all but six days - Shrewsbury supplanted them for three days by beating them at Gay Meadow, with the Town taking over with their win at Orient ten days ago. Rochdale reclaimed top spot on Saturday with a 3-1 win over Mansfield which took their home record to 15 games without defeat. Shrewsbury were beaten at Scunthorpe, and one point from the last six knocked them down to fifth place. The Scunnies, incidentally, did it without Kim Grant, who joined them at the start of the season, but failed to win an extension to a short-term contract, and was given a free transfer. Hull City, pre-season favourites for the title, have been moving up steadily, and took second place, their best of the season so far, with a 3-0 home win over Halifax. Two of the goals came from Michael Reddy, who chose Boothferry Park instead of Kenilworth Road when Sunderland made him available on loan. Darlington come to Luton tonight knowing a win will put them at least one place higher - they would overtake the Town, for a start. Like us they are unbeaten at home, and have lost only twice away. And their current form is a touch better than ours, four without defeat since a 2-1 reverse at Torquay in mid-September. Their other away defeat was 1-0 at Southend on the opening day of the season. Their only away victory so far was 2-1 at Hartlepool in August, while they drew at Lincoln and Macclesfield, 1-1 on each occasion. On Saturday they were held to a 0-0 draw by Rushden and Diamonds, who became the first visiting team to keep a clean sheet at Feethams in the league this season.

*Brian Swain*

**Nationwide League Division Three**

	HOME					AWAY					Pts
	P	W	D	L	F	W	D	L	F		
Rochdale	11	4	2	0	12	4	3	0	2	7	23
Hull City	10	5	1	0	14	3	1	2	1	5	21
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9 21</b>
Plymouth	11	3	0	2	8	5	3	3	0	7	4 21
Shrewsbury	11	4	0	1	11	6	2	2	2	7	8 20
Darlington	11	4	2	0	12	2	1	2	2	5	6 19
Mansfield	11	4	1	0	12	4	1	3	2	6	8 19
Bristol R	10	3	3	0	9	6	2	0	2	4	5 18
L. Orient	11	3	1	2	9	7	1	2	2	4	7 15
Scunthorpe	11	2	3	1	8	6	1	2	2	9	7 14
York	11	2	1	2	4	4	2	1	3	11	12 14
Southend	11	3	1	2	9	6	1	1	3	2	6 14
Oxford	11	2	0	3	6	7	1	4	1	6	5 13
Swansea	11	1	3	1	6	9	2	1	3	9	11 13
Cheltenham	10	1	2	1	7	6	2	1	3	6	7 12
Macclesfield	11	1	3	1	6	7	1	3	2	3	7 12
Torquay	11	2	1	2	4	6	1	2	3	5	10 12
Halifax	11	1	3	1	2	3	2	0	4	5	11 12
Lincoln	11	2	1	3	8	7	0	4	1	5	6 11
Rushden & D	11	1	2	2	3	4	1	3	2	5	6 11
Kidderminster	11	2	3	1	3	3	0	1	4	2	11 10
Hartlepool	10	1	2	2	6	6	1	1	3	3	6 9
Carlisle	11	1	2	2	5	7	0	2	4	6	12 7
Exeter	11	1	3	3	9	15	0	1	3	3	11 7

**Tonight's other Third Division fixtures**

**Cheltenham v Lincoln**  
**Halifax v Scunthorpe**  
**Mansfield v Leyton Orient**  
**Rushden & Diamonds v Hartlepool**  
**Shrewsbury v Hull**  
**Torquay v Southend**

**Tomorrow**

**Carlisle v Bristol Rovers**  
**Oxford v Plymouth**  
**York v Exeter**

**Sunday**

**Macclesfield v Kidderminster**



# Tonight's Squads

## Luton Town

1	Mark Ovendale	1
2	Aaron Skelton	2
4	Matthew Spring	4
5	Russell Perrett	5
6	Marvin Johnson	6
7	Adrian Forbes	7
8	Kevin Nicholls	8
9	Stuart Douglas	9
10	Carl Griffiths	10
11	Liam George	11
12	Chris Coyne	12
13	Stuart Fraser	13
14	Andrew Fotiadis	14
15	Matthew Taylor	15
16	Carl Emberson	16
17	Emmerson Boyce	17
18	Adam Locke	18
19	Steve Howard	19
20	Peter Holmes	20
21	Richard Dryden	21
22	Dean Brennan	22
23	Jude Stirling	23
24	Scott Ward	24
26	Peter Thomson	26
27	Paul Hughes	27
28	Jean Louis Valois	28
32	Lee Mansell	32
33	Ian Hillier	33
34	Dean Crowe	34

## Darlington

1	Andy Collett	1
2	Phil Brumwell	2
3	Paul Heckingbottom	3
4	Craig Liddle	4
5	Adam Reed	5
6	Alex Jeannin	6
7	Gary Himsworth	7
8	Martin Gray	8
9	Mark Ford	9
10	Neil Maddison	10
11	Brian Atkinson	11
12	David Brightwell	12
14	Paul Campbell	14
15	Adam Marsh	15
16	Mark Convery	16
17	Kirk Jackson	17
18	Glenn Naylor	18
19	Barry Conlon	19
20	Clint Marcelle	20
21	Richard Hodgson	21
22	Steven Harper	22
23	Mark Kilty	23
24	Keith Finch	24
25	Graham Liddle	25
26	Simon Betts	26
27	Gary Pearson	27
28	Neil Wainwright	28
29	Danny Mellanby	29
30	Frank van der Geest	30

tick if playing  tick if substitute

## Tonight's Officials

**Referee:** John Brandwood, Staffordshire

**Assistants:** Tim Howes, Norfolk (red flag) Geoff Russell, Buckinghamshire (yellow and red flag)

**Forth Official:** Paul Vosper, London

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30 Day Exchange Plan

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HPI Check

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- 30 day exchange pledge

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