

Luton Town Football Club



LUTON TOWN
FOOTBALL CLUB
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Official Matchday
Magazine

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v
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Official Matchday Magazine

Editor
Brian Swain

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Regal Litho Ltd

Photography
Gareth Owen

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

Front Cover



Another win chalked up - Matt Taylor and Adrian Forbes greeting the victory over Kidderminster.

Inside Forward

PREPARING to re-build his squad for a second time, Joe Kinnear this week released defender Stuart Fraser on a free transfer, and the former Scotland under-21 international, who was born in Edinburgh, has gone to Dundee United on trial. The holder of the Town's No. 13 shirt had been unable to reclaim a place in the league side after breaking his leg in an FA Cup replay at QPR in January last year. His only first team appearance since then was in the LDV Vans Trophy defeat at Dagenham, when the manager opted to field a mainly reserve side.

Another defender, Jude Stirling, has turned his loan move to Conference club Stevenage Borough into a full transfer, again on a free. The manager there is Wayne Turner, and he has also recruited a couple of other former Town players, Jamie Campbell and Scott Houghton.

More departures are in the pipeline, with Adam Locke, Richard Dryden, Stuart Douglas and Scott Ward being told that their contracts will not be renewed at the end of the season.

The manager said: "I put together a squad at the start of this season to do a job in this division. I know how many of the side are capable of doing another good job next season, in the Second Division, but I will want more new men in the club because I want another promotion in 12 months' time..

"I hope to do some business before Thursday's deadline day, although as things stand the requirement is not urgent. This is a time of year when managers try to get silly money for players, and while I want to bring in one or two before the deadline I am not prepared to throw away money now which can be put to better use afterwards."

Strikers Are Targets

HOPES of signing 20-year-old Wolves striker Adam Proudflock vanished when First Division Nottingham Forest moved in and gave him a better wages deal than the Town were prepared to offer. But attackers are still high on the manager's hit list. He has had a look at Hartlepool's Gordon Watson, who hit his 15th goal of the season in their 2-0 win at Carlisle on Tuesday.

The boss is also keen on Bolton's Dean Holdsworth. The 33-year-old was with Joe at Wimbledon for five years. Joe bought him from Brentford for £720,000 and sold him to Bolton for £3.5million in 1997. Holdsworth is still under contract at The Reebok, but is trying to negotiate a pay-off to enable him to move back down south - he is a Londoner, whose first club was in Hertfordshire. He will have to take a pay cut if he is to come here to team up with his old boss again.

Michael Proctor of Sunderland, approaching the end of a long-term loan to York City, is another on Joe's list, and in that case he might have a big advantage if other clubs are interested.

Sunderland manager Peter Reid has made an offer for Matt Taylor, with 21-year-old Proctor in part-exchange. "Peter Reid's valuation of the two players

INSIDE TODAY: New stadium plans - P 27; Joe Kinnear's column - P 5; Club captain - P 7; Treatment room latest - P 8; From the Secretary's Office - P 9; News of the reserves - P 49; Schools of Excellence news - P 39; Top Hatter Brian Stein - P 28/9; Junior Hatters - P 41; Football in the Community: P 31; Ticket news: P 11; Blast from the Past: P 22/23; Kidderminster report and pictures: Pp 44-5; Town Teaser P 40; Promotion - nearly there!: P 53.

For all the latest news, views and interviews call

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HAPPY HATTERS: Paul Hughes has just struck the winner against Kidderminster, and is hidden among the players rushing to congratulate him: David Bayliss, Dean Crowe, Kevin Nicholls, Steve Howard and Matt Spring.

is not the same as mine," said Joe. Proctor has hit ten goals in a struggling York side, including a beauty when they were beaten at Kenilworth Road last month.

Offers Below The Mark

THERE was little sign this week that Matt Taylor or Matt Spring would be moving before transfer deadline day on Thursday, although the manager thinks that more approaches are likely between now and then. So far, nothing has measured up to his valuations. Apart from Sunderland, Spurs are among the Premiership clubs known to be keeping tabs on Taylor, and assistant manager John Gorman was in the stands last Saturday.

No firm offer has been made, but the boss said: "Taylor's agent has told me Spurs will offer £500,000. I suggested he should go away, or words to that effect, and come back with something much more sensible."

First Division Millwall tried their luck with a cheeky £250,000 bid for Spring, and were given a similar short answer. "It's half of what he is worth," said the boss.

Records Tumbling

HAVING set a club record for the most away wins in a season, and now in sight of the longest-ever winning sequence, the Town could be poised for another entry in the "best-ever" list by Easter Monday. Dave Newman, who does our stats pages, reminds us that the most points racked up in any season stands at 88, by David Pleat's team which won the old Second Division championship exactly 20 years ago.

Some anoraks might suggest it is a slightly false record. Before the change to three points for a win, introduced that season, the Town's best previous total was 66 points, by the team that won the Division Four championship in 1968. It was two points for a win in those days, and if you convert the figure to today's three-point system, John Moore and Co would have racked up 93 points.

Brian Swain

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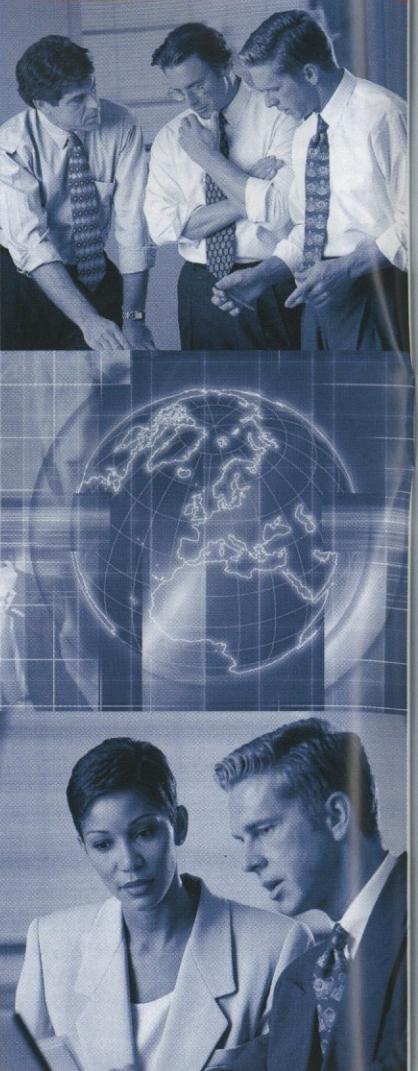
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Joe Kinnear

WE START the final month of the season today, in good shape, in good heart, and looking good for promotion. There is still plenty of work to be done, but thankfully our fate is in our own hands. My demand is the same as it was when we had 13 games to play: win them all!

It was asking a lot, but eight wins in a row have suggested that we are capable of anything, and if we keep going promotion will be a certainty. High hopes, of course, bring about high expectation, on and off the field alike, and while we all share the same desires for this club, we have seen in recent weeks just how hard it is to keep the winning run going against visiting teams. Last Saturday was typical: Kidderminster obviously had huge respect for our capabilities, and once more we were up against a side which kicked off with a very defensive formation. They also had pride to play for – they wanted revenge after we caned them 4-1 at their place in January.

Opposing teams know what to expect from Luton Town, and set out their stalls accordingly. First and foremost, every manager, including me, looks for a solid defence. Then he hopes his team will do damage at the other end of the park. That was Kidderminster's hope, and in the end we had to be pleased that we were able to grind out a result. We want to entertain, of course, but the first objective has to be maximum points.

Kidderminster defended quite well, and my only criticism of our performance was that we should have been more ruthless in our finishing. We made chances through good football, but did not take enough of them. Having said that, it was a tremendous strike from Paul Hughes to win the game, and a pity that his day should turn sour with his second yellow card.

As it turned out one goal was ample, because Kidderminster were never allowed to threaten our goal, and that was a very pleasing aspect of our performance. It is no co-incidence that in our eight consecutive victories, six clean sheets

have been achieved. You may think we could have played better. Perhaps so, and if we had won by three or four that might have been a fairer reflection of how the game went. But you cannot expect to achieve the highest possible level of performance week in, week out. Points matter more!

The fact that we can equal an all-time club record by winning today gives us an extra talking point in the dressing room, and perhaps a little more incentive to do well, although we have had no problems with motivation as the promotion prize draws nearer.

We have a good squad, united in the common cause, and, thankfully, deep enough to ensure everyone is kept on his toes. I have options in team selection, and I have not been afraid to change a winning side, nor have I worried when changes had to be made through suspensions and injuries. We had men good enough to come in and do a job just as well as those who dropped out, and that is one of the biggest differences between the Luton Town of today and the one of 12 months ago.

Naturally, we will be well pleased if we do equal the run of nine wins on the trot, but setting records is only a welcome by-product of the drive for success.

On form, we will be seen as favourites to win today, because Halifax are very much up against it at the wrong end of the table. But the form book doesn't win matches, as Kidderminster and Cheltenham will confirm. Both are decent sides, and Cheltenham have realistic ambitions of a play-off place at the very least. So who would have expected Halifax to dish out a 4-1 bashing to them last week, seven days after Halifax beat Kidderminster?

It's a reminder that in football anything can happen. The key today, as always, is that we must not wait for things to happen, but must make things happen.

At the moment, everyone at the club has a smile on their face. Let's make sure we are still smiling at the end of the season. So crank up the volume, and let's get ready to rock and roll!

Keep the faith, and enjoy the game.

Joe Kinnear

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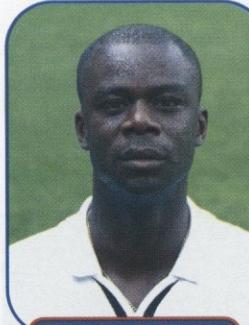
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Marvin Johnson

Club Captain

WE ARE on the last lap of the long race towards promotion, and while no-one takes anything for granted, the general feeling in the dressing room is that while we are not there yet, we are well capable of completing the job in the next two or three weeks.

There is a tremendous feeling of confidence: we go into every game believing that we will not be beaten. We don't expect to concede goals, and we know that we are pretty sure to score one or two in most games.

We are also well aware that players in the team cannot afford to make mistakes, because if they do the gaffer has someone in mind to come in as a replacement. Carl Emberson has been the latest to suffer from our depth of squad: he had done nothing to deserve to lose his place, having kept five clean sheets in the run of seven victories before he went down with flu a week ago. So Mark Ovendale got his chance, and, he too kept a clean sheet as we made it eight wins in a row at the expense of Kidderminster.

Embo has recovered now, and obviously wants his first team place back. But Gloves never put a hand wrong in the Kidderminster game. Which of them will play today? I have no idea, and if it might seem to be a difficult choice, I bet the gaffer is very happy to have to make it. Far better to make team selection decisions that are tough on certain players, than to know that you have to change the side because this one or that one did not do the business.

The key to our recent success is that we are looking very solid as a team. I suspect the only complaint Gloves might have had from the Kidderminster match was that the men in front of him did not allow him to have too much to do. I felt we always had too much for Kidderminster, and on the day we ought to have chalked up a much bigger win.

On team selection matters, I am glad that I am fit again. I enjoyed a full game in the reserves at Southend on Wednesday, and I very much hope to be involved with the first team squad

for this afternoon's match. But, having been forced to be a spectator, I know any player who had to drop out to make way for me to return could consider himself very unlucky. Knowing that you cannot afford to make a mistake helps to keep you on your toes, and I have to say that the team has been brilliant even without me! I enjoyed seeing Paul Hughes cracking in a very good goal. He has had to fight back after injury, but is now proving that he is a very good footballer. He is very enthusiastic, which sometimes gets him into trouble with referees, but he made no excuses for his second yellow card on Saturday. You may be surprised to know that it has hardly been mentioned in the dressing room this week – each match is consigned to the memory bank, and we immediately start looking forward to the next. But Paul Hughes will pay a price for his dissent, because he will be suspended for the game at Swansea next week, and might then become yet another player desperately watching from the sidelines as someone else holds down the team spot he would like for himself.

The way we feel at present, we are going into every match believing we will not be beaten. And that is no disrespect to the opposition. As you know we equal a club record if we win today, and while they say it's impossible to win every game, we are beginning to think we can – we want to equal the record today, beat it at Swansea next week, and then win the last four as well. It will be very difficult, and we know that we are in for another tough assignment today. Halifax are fighting for their lives, and if there was ever any danger of us taking them lightly, we have been reminded that football is always capable of giving you a lift one day and a kick in the teeth the next – I wonder if Cheltenham, on a roll of 16 games without defeat, ever thought that run would end at Halifax, and with a 4-1 thrashing at that? Today, of course, we have home advantage, and that can be very important, and with your help from the stands I think we can take another step towards promotion.

Marvin Johnson



Treatment Room

THERE is mixed news from the treatment room today, with disappointment for Alan Neilson and Ahmet Brkovic, who cannot play this afternoon, but confirmation of a return to match fitness for Marvin Johnson and Aaron Skelton.

Brkovic was sent for a bone scan on Thursday to help us diagnose the injury to his fibula, the thinner of the two bones which run down the lower leg. He has been making progress after being kicked near the ankle, but we need to know more about why his running is OK one day, and painful the next. The scan should give us the answer, so that we can plan the next stage of his treatment, but in the meantime he will not be able to play this afternoon.

The same verdict has had to be made in the case of Neilson, who has a problem with the calf of his left leg. It is not torn, which would be more serious, but he has strained a few fibres. He is working out, on pain-free stretching and other exercises, and while he is ruled out of contention for today's game, he has a good chance of being ready for action again for the Easter games.

Two of the reserves have also been under treatment this week. Lee Mansell has picked up an ear and throat infection, which the club doctor is checking out. As a precaution he has not trained much, while Stuart Douglas also had to miss training on Thursday after playing for the reserves the previous day. He has a touch of tendonitis at the base of his right hamstring, near the knee. I don't think it is a serious problem.

Perhaps two of the happiest men around Kenilworth Road this week have been Johnson and Skelton, who both came through the 90 minutes in the reserves' draw at Southend.

Neither showed any signs of their previous injuries, a hamstring in Johnson's case, and a knee ligament problem for Skelton. Wednesday's game gave them match practice which they needed, and unless there were unexpected developments yesterday both were available to the manager for this afternoon's game.

Our long-term patient, Carl Griffiths, is still working and suffering frustration after nearly six months on the injured list. He is coming along slowly after the stress fracture to his leg, and while he is not running yet he is working hard on general fitness. He is confined to exercises which do not put too much weight on his legs, so he is probably the best swimmer in



SPEEDY TREATMENT: The physio shows his paces going onto the pitch to attend to another injury victim in the Kidderminster game. It could have been a lot more serious: Bruce Sewell has also been involved in the battle to get our marathon runner, Dave Suttle, fit for the big race, and had said that if we had to put in a sub, he would volunteer. After saying that, he redoubled his efforts to get Mr Suttle back to full fitness!

the club now. He is also putting in the miles on the exercise bike, and works out on our cross-trainer, a kind of ski machine which is a cardio-vascular aid, enabling him to exercise the rest of his body while not putting his full weight on his legs.

The hard work and frustration will pay off for Griff, who is already looking forward to the summer and a return to fitness by the time the players report back for pre-season training.

Finally, as you will read elsewhere today, Dave Suttle, the club's entrant in the London marathon, is back on the road again after knee problems.

In a moment of madness, when I was first asked to treat him, I said that if he were unable to run in the big race, I would volunteer to replace him. I am therefore exceedingly happy to report that Mr Suttle, brave man, will be there after all. I hope he does well, and that he raises a lot of money from our supporters - he will deserve it.

Bruce Sewell

Fancy a party or reception at Kenilworth Road?

Then e-mail us on:

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Club Secretary

FIRST today I wish to draw your attention to a change which has been made in the ticket allocation for our match at Hull. We can now offer a limited number of seats at Boothferry Park, having been told originally that our allocation would be standing terrace only.

As you will know there has been a heavy demand for tickets for our last three away games of the season, and the final one, at Shrewsbury, is already sold out.

I was very surprised a few days ago to receive a phone call from Hull City to tell us that following a meeting with the Humberside Police, they could now offer us 497 seats. Earlier we had been allocated 1,324 terrace tickets, and when we said we would like more than that, the reply was that there was no way any other places could be made available for away supporters.

They have now changed their mind, and seat tickets will be with us shortly. They will be priced at £16 for adults, and £8 for junior and senior citizens.

If you have already bought standing terrace tickets, and would like to upgrade to a seat, the ticket office will be happy to assist you, subject to availability. Either call in, with your terrace ticket and pay the difference to exchange it, or send the tickets back by post, with the extra payment, and enclose a stamped addressed envelope for the new tickets. I must stress that to upgrade you MUST return the standing ticket.

It has been a good week for good news: we have just heard that our application to the Football Association Charity Shield Fund has been successful. We have received two cheques, each for £3,825, one for the Keech Cottage children's hospice and the other for The Pasque hospice. We hope to make the presentations to the hospices this afternoon.

The money comes from the proceeds of the annual Charity Shield match, with all the profit being devoted to charities around the country. I am sure you will agree with me that our choices are for very deserving local organisations - they both depend on voluntary contributions to carry out their invaluable work.

And speaking of charities, Luton North Rotary

Club ask me to pass on their appreciation for your support at last week's home game, when they took a bucket collection for the NSPCC. It raised £570, and the Rotary Club was delighted with that result. The end of the season is fast approaching - it ends four weeks today - but we are still working on a couple of new dates for matches involving our reserve and youth teams. We were due to play the semi-final of the Avon Insurance Combination League Cup at Gillingham on Monday, but the match was postponed because the pitch was waterlogged. A similar fate had befallen the youth team on Saturday, when they were due to be away to Cardiff in the Football League Youth Alliance Merit Division. We are presently trying to find alternative dates, and I will advise you of them as soon as possible. Meanwhile, for those who like to watch our youth team in action, please note that there is a change from the usual routine next Saturday, when John Moore's side is at home to Plymouth. The game will be at Luton Rugby Club, Newlands Road, as usual, but in view of the travelling time Plymouth need to get to Luton, kick-off will be at 1pm instead of the usual 11am.

The end of season Presentation Evening organised jointly by Luton Town and the Supporters Club, which was such a resounding success last year, has sold out already - the tickets had barely time to dry before they were snapped up.

If you were unable to get tickets, I would like to remind you of our Open Day, again in conjunction with the Supporters Club, on Sunday, April 28, here at the ground between noon and 4pm. There will be lots going on, and of course players and management will be in attendance. There will be something for everyone, and all are welcome, so come and join the fun.

Finally, we now have confirmation of the fixtures for the pre-season tournament in which we will be involved in the Isle of Man. There will be two groups of three to decide the finalists. It will be Wrexham v Luton Town on Monday July 22 and Luton v Burnley the following day. The top two teams in each group will then play a semi-final on July 26, and the final will be on Saturday July 27. The three teams in the other group, from which the other finalist will come, are Darlington, Rochdale and the Isle of Man national side.

Cherry Newbery

You can e-mail Cherry Newbery on:

clubsec@lutontown.co.uk

Hatters Away

THE TOWN make the long trip to Swansea on Saturday for an all-ticket match, and there is no point in travelling without a ticket. As usual two coach services are on offer to take fans to the game.

The Bobbers Travel Club will depart from Cranfield at 8am, calling at various village pick-up points before leaving Luton at 9am. The fare is £16.50, or £13.50 for pensioners and children under 16.

Town on Tour, part of Luton Town Supporters Club, will leave Maple Road at 9 am and their fares are £16 for adult members of LTSC, £14 for pensioners and junior members, and £18 for others.

DIY Travellers

THE round trip to Swansea is over 400 miles, but it is nearly all motorway. Take the M1 south, and then the M25 westwards, towards Heathrow. Near the airport, take the M4 westwards, and follow that into Wales, paying a toll to cross the River Severn.

Leave M4 at junction 42 to follow the A483 towards Swansea. Stay on Fabian Way for 4.6 miles from the motorway, when you approach a big road junction. Take the left-hand lane signposted towards the city and docks, which takes you into Victoria Road, and then follow the signs towards Mumbles. In less than a mile you will see the Marina and County Hall on your left, and it's time to search for a parking spot. The Vetch is on your right, surrounded by side streets where parking is subject to restrictions. County Hall offers reasonably-priced parking.

Mileage from Luton: 232



The Vetch

THE Bobbers Travel Club and Luton Town Supporters Club both have kiosks in Kenilworth Road which are manned on match days, where seats can be booked to travel to away games. At other times Town on Tour seats are sold at the club shop, or via their mobile phone on 07960 567465. Bobbers Travel Club bookings can be made on the phone to Paul Deason on 01234 750996.

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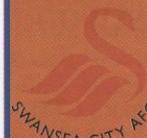
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Ticket News

Nationwide League Division Three

Swansea City v Luton Town

Saturday March 30, 2002, kick-off 3pm



This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters, with none available on the day. The restriction of sales to season ticket holders only is now over, and if any tickets are still available they are now on general sale, and until sold out will be on offer until 4pm on Friday March 29. Ticket prices: £10 adults, £5 senior citizens and juniors



Nationwide League Division Three

Luton Town v Mansfield Town

Monday April 1, 2002, kick-off 12.30pm



This is an ALL TICKET match, and none will be available on the day of the game. Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices, and supporters are advised to buy early, due to the strong demand for tickets. Please note that the kick-off time of this match will be 12.30pm



Nationwide League Division Three

Hull City v Luton Town

Saturday April 6, 2002, kick-off 3pm



This match is ALL TICKET for Luton supporters, with none available on the day. PLEASE NOTE WE NOW HAVE A LIMITED ALLOCATION OF SEATS. Supporters who have bought standing tickets and wish to upgrade to seats can do so. Either call at the ticket office personally, with your terrace tickets, and pay the difference, or apply by post, enclosing the standing tickets and the extra cost, and a stamped addressed envelope. Please note that to upgrade to a seat you MUST hand back the terrace ticket (subject to availability).

Ticket prices: Seats: £16 adults, £8 senior citizens and juniors
Standing: £12 adults, £6 senior citizens and juniors



Nationwide League Division Three

Luton Town v Macclesfield Town

Saturday April 13, 2002, kick-off 3pm



Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices. Supporters are urged to buy early, due to the strong demand for tickets.



Nationwide League Division Three

Shrewsbury Town v Luton Town

Saturday April 20, 2002, kick-off 3pm



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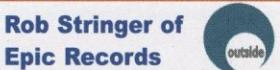
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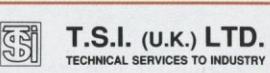
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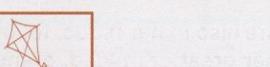
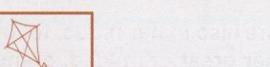
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Luton Belles

TODAY we focus on some of the Belles players who are also loyal Luton Town fans. Of the senior squad, Rhiannon Morgan, Nikki Baker and Louise Evans are regular supporters, and attend all home matches as well as a number away from home.

The younger squads also boast an increasing band of Hatters fans, including a number of season ticket holders, and it is not unusual for there to be 25 club members at every home match - fortunately most Belles games are played on Sundays.

Rhiannon Morgan is Belles' leading scorer this season, and has been following Luton since she was five. She is the third generation of her family to represent Luton, with her grandfather William Bates playing for the Town during the forties and mum Lynn turning out for the Ladies. Rhiannon is a long-serving member of the Junior Hatters, and has been team mascot on no less than four occasions.

Nikki Baker is one of the original Belles, and has now represented the club on over 100 occasions. Nikki has made most of those appearances as a goalkeeper, but has now developed into an accomplished defender. She first came to Kenilworth Road when she was six, and has rarely missed a home match since. Luton Town are also in her blood, following in the footsteps of her great granddad, grandma and her dad, who, unfortunately for her, is also team manager.

By comparison Louise Evans is a relative newcomer, but is nevertheless a keen Town fan. She also joined the Belles at the beginning, and has an enviable medal collection as a result. Louise is

the flying right winger of the team, providing numerous goals, and is also a regular on the score-sheet.

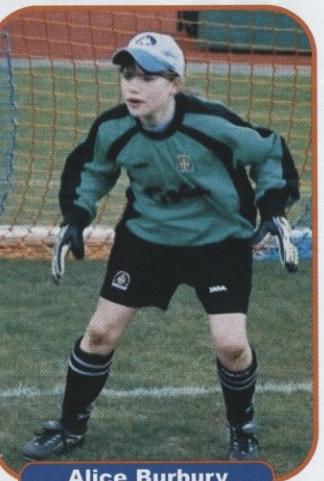
Louise and Nikki coach the under-10 squad with manager and goalkeeper Sarah Gailey, and can be justly proud of their efforts as their young charges look set to finish runners-up to Arsenal in their first season.

Two other regular fans are under-13 skipper Gemma Vale and goalkeeper Alice Burbury. Both have been with the club since they were just eight years old, and have recently passed the 100-appearance mark. They are widely tipped to make considerable progress in the game. Gemma is a central defender, but despite this she has an eye for goal, and with her powerful shooting she has netted on over 40 occasions. Alice looks to have a bright future as a goalkeeper who specialises in penalty saves, and has amazingly scored in her last seven matches. Barthez gone mad? No, Alice also plays as sweeper on Saturdays for the under-12s, and was on target in their recent cup final win.

Following on from that victory Luton entertained third-placed St Martin's, and took 15 minutes to break through a stubborn defence. When Nicola Shepherd opened the scoring the floodgates opened, with a hat trick from Chloe Fensome, a brace from Natalie Burchhall and three from Nicola, the pick of which was a last-minute header to complete a 9-0 win.

It was not all good news though, as the under-10s drew a blank at home to Royston Colts. Prolific goalscorers all season, it was one of those days when nothing would go in and the inevitable happened when Royston scored with only their second shot of the match to steal the points.

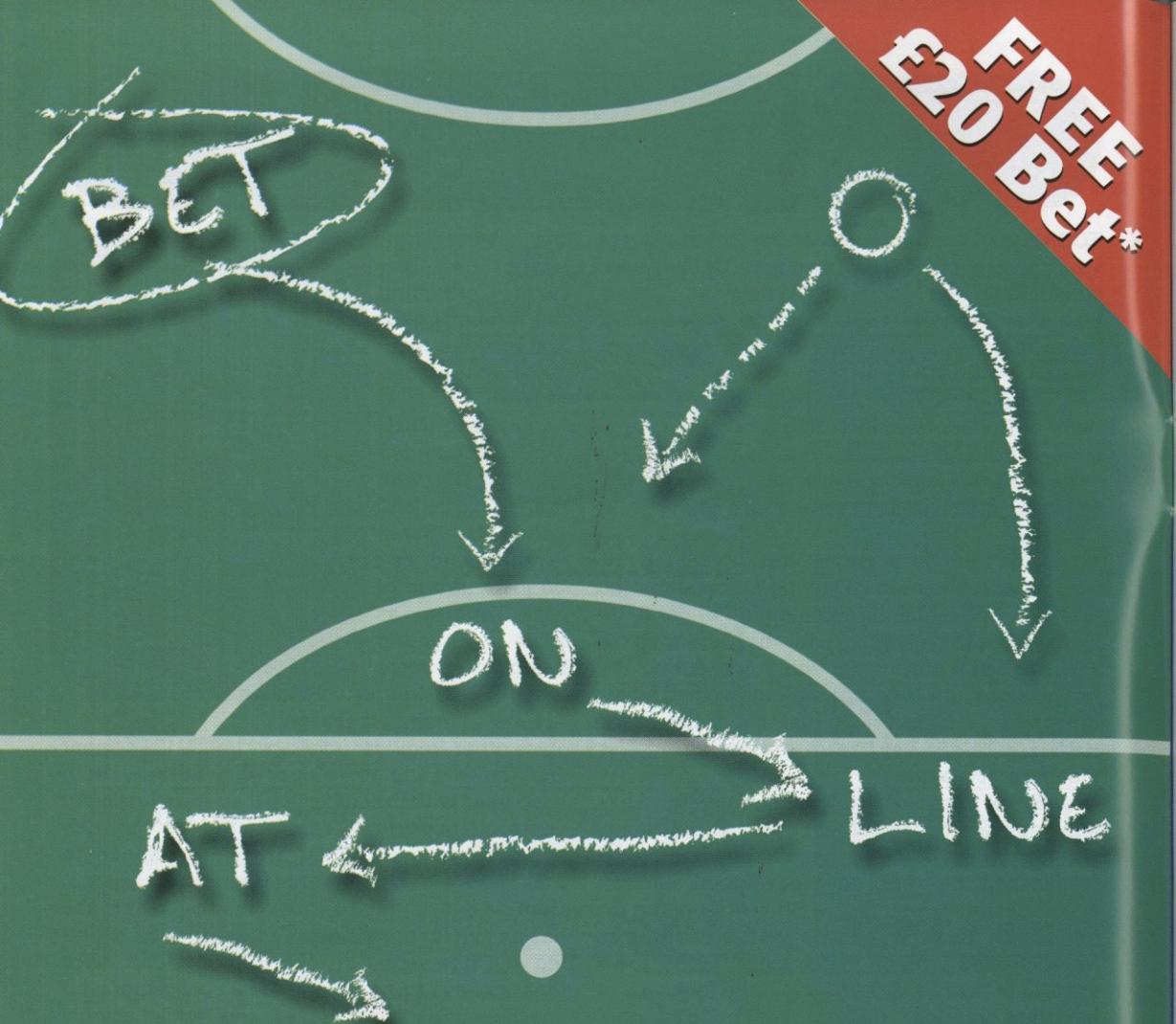
Dave Baker



Alice Burbury



Gemma Vale



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Linda Layton

WE HAVE two joint match sponsors this afternoon, and it is a pleasure to welcome them because they are both regular supporters of Luton Town.

Intasport, which has offices at Stafford, Derby and Stoke, is an energetic sports promotion and corporate hospitality company which prides itself on giving excellent service to a rapidly expanding client base. Its high reputation within sporting circles has been earned as publishers of fixture charts, year planners, desk pads, team sheets and brochures for football, rugby and cricket clubs, and racecourses. We are delighted to greet the company's two representatives and their guests, from a dozen local companies which have supported production of fixture charts and desk pads. They are from Solar Graphics, GMH Air Conditioning Services Ltd, De-Grey Estates Ltd, Steve Ansell & Co Ltd, A Plan Insurance Group, Shepherd Interiors, NQA, Neves Solicitors, A. Waters & Son Ltd, Reliance Security, A. E. Meeks Ltd and Ella & White Ltd. Our other very welcome guests are with Steve Ayres, a local builder from Studham, who is one of the many supporters getting particular enjoyment out of this season.

He says he is having a break from sleepy village life, along with 14 of his friends who, along with Steve, have managed to prise themselves away from their friendly village pub, The Bell, to join us here today sponsoring their local league football club.

We thank them all for their continued support - not just of the team, but also of our commercial efforts, which are vital to the success of Luton Town.

Halifax March 02

TODAY'S match ball sponsor is another local company

which is a good supporter - Forward Motors, which is based in Dallow Road just round the corner from the stadium. The company is owned by John Thompsett, and is the local Skoda dealership. John is from Warwick, and his local club is Coventry City, so the Sky Blues were his first love, but being in business in Luton has led to him becoming a Kenilworth Road regular as well. And, like us, his business is on the up as Skoda has thrown off its old image to become one of the major successes of the motor industry.



Adam Norman

A REGULAR in the Family Stand at Town matches, Adam Norman will get extra enjoyment out of attending today's game, because he is commercial mascot, which gives him a VIP insight into what goes on behind the scenes on match days.

Adam will be nine in a couple of weeks, so today is an early birthday present. He lives at Downs View, Bow Brickhill, and goes to Swallowfield Lower School, Woburn Sands and comes to games with his dad.

As mascot, Adam will join the players in the dressing room before the match, which means he will be able to meet his two big favourites, Matt Taylor and Ahmet Brkovic. Then he will join the team on the pitch for the pre-match rituals, including the warm-up and kick-about, and meet the skippers and match officials at the toss-up.

Football is a big part of Adam's life: he plays for Woburn Lions under-9s, and he also enjoys hockey and his PlayStation 2.

Linda Layton

Commercial Corner

Golden Gamble

OUR Golden Gamble gets better and better, and we are beginning to wonder if we might be in sight of our first-ever four-figure pay-out. We got closer at the last home game, against Kidderminster, when the jackpot prize was a magnificent £810, thanks to wonderful support from fans. The prize is entirely dependent on sales, with tickets costing only £1 each.

John McBride, from Rook's Close, Welwyn Garden City, was the lucky winner, and is pictured with his young nephew, Gary Connell, who comes to games with

him, and with Aaron Skelton, who picked out the winning ticket.



20 winners.

As usual, Golden Gamble sellers are on duty in all areas of the ground this afternoon, and once more one ticket costing £1 will scoop the jackpot. Half of each £1 stake goes towards the prize, and the other 50p goes to club funds. The draw is made on the pitch during the half time interval, and the cash is available for collection immediately. The Golden Gamble has now paid out a total of £12,825 this season to

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Goals Info:



Where

Close Range

29 Goals

37 Goals

11 Goals

How

Shots

Headers

Volleys

Penalties

Free Kicks

O.G.s

Top Scorers

Howard

Crowe

Taylor

Griffiths

Nicholls

Spring

Forbes

Valois

2001-2002

Highest Gate

9,585

vs Plymouth

Lowest Gate

5,066

vs Lincoln

Average Gate

6,734

Players Used

34

Clean Sheets

13

Failed to Score

3

Consec. Wins

8 games

Consec. Defeats

2 games

Hatters' Last 10

Res Opp Ven Opp Pos

W Kidderminster H 10th

W Exeter H 14th

W Rushden A 9th

W Orient H 22nd

W Torquay A 22nd

W Lincoln A 20th

W York H 20th

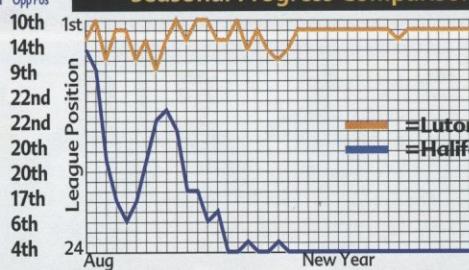
W Bristol Rovers H 17th

L Scunthorpe H 6th

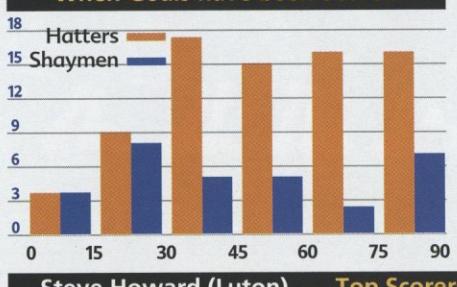
L Rochdale A 4th

check out the stats @ www.soccer-stats.com

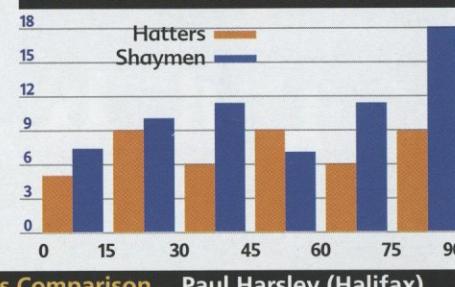
Seasonal Progress Comparison



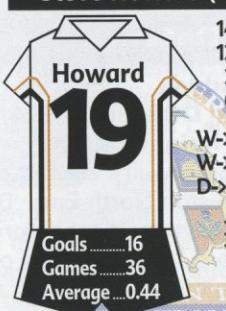
When Goals have been Scored



When Goals have been Conceded



Steve Howard (Luton)



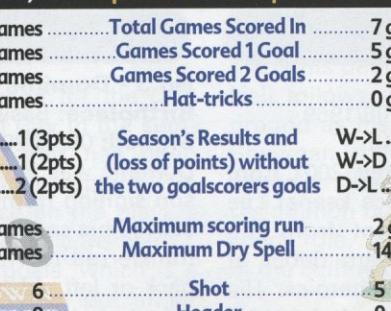
Goals

Games

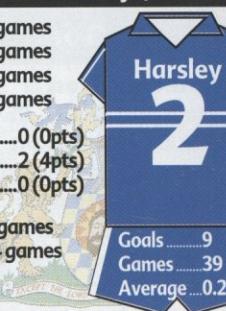
Average

2001-2002

Top Scorers Comparison



Paul Harsley (Halifax)



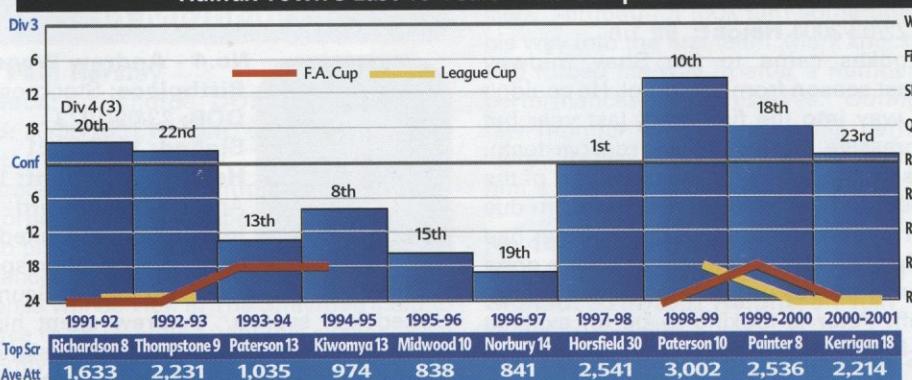
Goals

Games

Average

2001-2002

Halifax Town's Last 10 Years - The Complete Record



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Sunday 24 March, ITV Sport Select

Newcastle United v Everton

Friday 29 March, Sky Sports 1

Sheffield Wednesday v Coventry City

Friday 29 March, ITV Sport Channel

Leeds United v Manchester United

Saturday 30 March, Sky Sports 1

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Welcome to Halifax Town F.C.



In Goal

No.13 - Barry Richardson

Birthplace: Wallsend **DOB:** 05/08/1969
Signed: 21/12/2001 **Height:** 6ft 1in

Barry joined the club in December 2001 from Doncaster Rovers after first choice keeper Lee Butler announced his retirement from the game. Barry made his first team debut at Macclesfield Town and performed heroics. His league experience should prove vital in the Shaymen's quest to avoid the drop.

No.22 - Peter Crookes

Birthplace: Liverpool **DOB:** 07/06/1982
Signed: 22/03/2001 **Height:** 6ft 1in

Peter Crookes came to the Shay midway through last season from Liverpool. He couldn't force his way into the first team last year but gave impressive displays in the reserve team. Peter was on the bench for the most part of the season but got his chance in the first team due to the early retirement of Lee Butler. Peter had a debut that he will never forget as after a good performance he was unfortunately, and wrongly sent off. Peter is looking to be an excellent prospect for the future.

In Defence

No.3 - Dominic Ludden

Birthplace: Basildon **DOB:** 30/03/1974
Signed: 06/06/2001 **Height:** 5ft 7in

Dominic was Paul Bracewell's second pre-season signing from Preston North End. Dominic started his career at Leyton Orient before being transferred to Watford. Dominic can play left back or left sided midfield. Although not the tallest of players his style of play is sure to be a big hit with the Shay followers. Ludden has missed all but 3 games this season through injury but if he can stay fit then he could be a valuable asset to the club.



No.4 - Andrew Woodward

Birthplace: Stockport
DOB: 23/09/1973
Signed: 13/06/2001

Height: 6ft **Weight:** 12st 8lb
 Andrew Woodward signed from Sheffield United in the close season after spending a spell on loan at Scunthorpe

United last season. Andrew spent his early years at Crewe Alexandra before signing for Bury. A no-nonsense defender whose signing for the club will bring the added quality



Today's Visitors



required to bolster the Halifax Town defence.

No.6 - Paul Stoneman

Birthplace: Whitley Bay **DOB:** 26/02/1973
Signed: 09/02/1998 **Height:** 5ft 11in

Paul is the clubs longest serving player and is a model of consistency. Supporters Club Player of the Year 1998/1999. Paul is a good leader who rarely misses a game, he also has a tremendous shot and enjoys going up and joining in with the attack, a firm crowd favourite. and is now back in his favoured central defensive role after a period in midfield. Paul is equally at home in Midfield or Defence but prefers a central defensive role where he excels.



No.15 - Graham Mitchell

Birthplace: Shipley
DOB: 16/02/1968
Signed: 20/07/1999

Height: 6ft
 Graham signed for the club from Cardiff City in the summer of 99' and has been installed as club captain. He has been a steady influence on the players around him and he is a model of consistency. Last season he scored three goals, which is a career best in one season. When put under pressure Graham does not panic. So far this season Graham has been outstanding and has picked up numerous Man of The Match awards.

In Midfield

No.2 - Paul Harsley

Birthplace: Scunthorpe **DOB:** 29/05/1978
Signed: 30/05/2001 **Height:** 5ft 10in
Weight: 11st 5lb

Paul Bracewell's first summer signing from Scunthorpe United. A competent defender who can also play in midfield. With over 150 league appearances to his name at Scunthorpe Paul's experience will be vital in The Shaymen's bid to be a force to be reckoned with this season. Paul is currently our top goal scorer with eight goals to his name and is a dead ball specialist and has been exceptional all season.

Up and Running!

Luton Town's very own official website.

www.lutontown.co.uk

No.7 - Craig Middleton

Birthplace: Nuneaton **DOB:** 10/09/1970
Signed: 16/03/2000 **Height:** 5ft 11in

Craig emerged last season to be a real hero with his goal scoring exploits towards the end of the season. His goal at Lincoln City sparked huge celebrations amongst the Town following besides scoring the winner in Town's 1-0 victory against Darlington in April. A tenacious ball winning player who covers most ground on the pitch. Although missing the early part of this season Craig's performances of late have earned him a place in the starting 11

No.8 - Neil Redfearn

Birthplace: Dewsbury **DOB:** 20/06/1965
Signed: 15/03/2001

Neil is an experienced midfield player who joined the Shaymen from Wigan Athletic on deadline day. His previous clubs include Charlton, Barnsley and Bradford City. Neil made his debut for Town away at Cheltenham. Neil follows in his families' footballing background as his father Brian also played for the Shaymen in the 1960's. Neil has had a spell as caretaker manager following Paul Bracewell's resignation but is now back enjoying his player coach role. Neil is joint second top goal scorer at the club with three to his name.

No.12 - Mark Jules

Birthplace: Bradford **DOB:** 05/09/1971
Signed: 22/06/1999 **Height:** 5ft 8in

Mark has been a consistent performer at the club. Although it took him some time to force his way into the first team, Mark knuckled down and forced his way in after a number of good performances in the reserves. During the last few months of the season his performances were impressive to say the least, which earned him a new one-year contract.

No.14 - Steve Swales

Birthplace: Whitby **DOB:** 26/12/1973
Signed: 30/07/2001 **Height:** 5ft 10in
Weight: 10st 6lb

Steve signed for Halifax Town in July 2001 from Hull City. Steve started his career at Scarborough before being transferred to

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Reading and although not a prolific goal scorer he scored a tremendous goal for The Shaymen on his full league home debut in the 1-1 draw against Exeter City. A tenacious ball-winning player who can adapt in a number of positions as he has proved so far this season as either a wing back or central midfielder. Currently injured.

No.17 - Alan Reilly

Birthplace: Dublin **DOB:** 22/08/1980
Signed: 03/12/1999 **Height:** 5ft 11in

Alan joined the club from Manchester City and has got a cultured left foot. A skilful player who scored a cracking goal against Scunthorpe United last season. A exceptional crosser of the ball who creates several goal scoring opportunities for his team mates from set pieces. Alan has been sidelined for most of the season due to a nasty ankle injury sustained in a reserve fixture.

No.19 - Robert Herbert

Birthplace: Durham **DOB:** 9/08/1983
Signed: 15/10/2000 **Height:** 5ft 10in

Robert has come through the youth system at the club and is the clubs' youngster ever player, aged 16, to make his debut, which was against Brighton & Hove Albion two seasons ago. Robert's appearances have been limited due to a number of little injuries, but once he overcomes them he has a bright future ahead of him. One of the quickest players at the club, Robert will be hoping that this coming season is injury free and he can make a name for himself. Currently in the first team squad and looking to hold down a place

No.23 - Peter Wright

Birthplace: Preston **DOB:** 15/08/1982
Signed: 01/08/2001

Peter is another one of our young players who impressed sufficiently after initially being awarded a one month deal. Peter started his career as a trainee at Newcastle United and he is a lively and skilful player. Peter has come off the substitutes bench in our opening games of the season and will be looking to force his way into the first team. Peter was given a chance to impress under Alan Little and in the games he has played has looked very lively.

No. 24 - Craig Smith

Birthplace: Bradford **DOB:** 08/06/1984

Signed: 07/09/2001 **Height:** 5ft 8in

Craig Smith is definately one for the future. He is currently in his second year apprenticeship. Craig was handed a first team squad number under the caretaker managerial partnership of Tony Parks and Neil Redfearn. Craig is a player who can play in a number of positions, in midfield and up-front and has been a regular scorer for the youth team this season.

No.26 - Nathan Winder

Birthplace: Barnsley **DOB:** 17/02/1983

Signed: 01/08/1998 **Height:** 6ft 1in

Nathan has yet to make his first team debut but has been impressive for the reserves. He is an excellent ball winner and is definately one to watch for the future. With news of Chris Clarke's possible move we could soon be seeing Nathan making regular first team appearances

No.27 - Steve Bushell

Birthplace: Manchester **DOB:** 28/12/1972

Signed: 23/11/2001 **Height:** 5ft 9in

Steve joined the club on a Non-Contract basis from Stalybridge Celtic after the Manager knew his capabilities from his time spent at York City. Got off the goal scoring mark at Macclesfield Town on Boxing Day. Has just signed on extended one month contract at the club and will be looking to make a permanent deal.

Up Front

No.9 - Steve Kerrigan

Birthplace: Baillieston **DOB:** 09/10/1972

Signed: 23/03/2000 **Height:** 6ft 1in

Steve Kerrigan was signed from Shrewsbury Town and has led the Halifax Town line of attack in great style. His goal scoring feats throughout last season attracted a lot of interest from other clubs. A scorer of 19 goals, this made Kerrigan one of the leading goal scorers in the Third Division, which was a marvellous achievement. An exceptional header of the ball whose general all round play has marked him down as a crowd favourite. Although he is yet to get off the mark this season his aerial ability is second to none. Steve has struggled this season with niggling groin injury.

No.10 - Gary Jones

Birthplace: Huddersfield **DOB:** 06/04/1969

Signed: 18/07/2000 **Height:** 6ft 1in

Experienced centre forward who we signed from Hartlepool United at the start of last season after spending an initial spell on loan. Gary has proved a useful foil for Steve Kerrigan and is a non-stop worker who closes down opposition defenders in an instant. Gary is the proud owner of the Golden Boot after scoring over 30 goals for Notts County. Opened his account for the season with the only goal in our 1-0 home win against Mansfield Town

No.11 - Craig Midgley

Birthplace: Bradford **DOB:** 24/05/1976

Signed: 12/06/2001 **Height:** 5ft 7in

Craig was signed in the closed season from Hartlepool United on a free transfer and marked his debut for the Shaymen with a well-taken goal at Sincil Bank on the opening day of the season. A skilful player who has spent most of this season on the bench. Former Scarborough and Bradford City player Craig will be looking to force his way into the starting line up on a regular basis. Craig has made sporadic appearances this season.

No. 16 Matthew Clarke

Birthplace: Leeds **DOB:** 18/12/1980

Signed: 11/07/1999 **Height:** 6ft 3in

Matthew played a number of games mainly coming on as substitute during his first season at the club, which was good experience for him. Last season again he found opportunities limited but when he was converted to a centre half, he ironically scored at Southend United in February as Town won 3-0 to open his goal scoring account for the club. Matthew is currently excelling at centre back in the first team.



No.18 - Ian Fitzpatrick

Birthplace: Manchester

DOB: 22/09/1980

Signed: 01/03/2000

Height: 5ft 9in

A talented youngster signed from Manchester United two seasons ago. Ian has been in and out of the first team and scored two goals last season, the one at Torquay in September being particularly impressive. An attacking midfielder who will be

looking to make a greater contribution to the team this season. Ian is now back in favour with the new management team and will be looking to prove himself. Second top goal scorer with three to his name this season.

No.20 - Steven Oleksewycz

Birthplace: Halifax **DOB:** 24/02/1983

Signed: 15/10/2000 **Height:** 5ft 8in

Steven spent his schoolboy years at Huddersfield Town however he has always had a strong affection for Halifax Town FC and voluntarily trained with the youngsters. His amazing year last year culminated in him being awarded a 2 1/2 year professional contract. Steven made his debut against Hull City and will be looking to further his progress. Steven was loaned out to Frickley in September before making a similar move to Worksop Town

No.21 - Jamie Wood

Birthplace: Salford **DOB:** 21/09/1978

Signed: 09/08/2001 **Height:** 5ft 10in

The former Manchester United trainee was signed by the Shaymen from Hull City in the Summer. Wood initially joined the Club on a one-month deal but impressed sufficiently to earn a one-year contract. Wood will be looking to link up with Steve Kerrigan, Gary Jones and Craig Midgley. A strong player who has an eye for goal. Missed part of the season with an injury but is now fully fit and scoring frequently for the reserves. Unfortunate to be sent off in the away defeat at Oxford, which will result in Jamie missing part of January

No.29 - Andy Farrell

Birthplace: Co. Durham **DOB:** 21/12/1983

Signed: 07/03/2002 **Height:** 6ft

Andy Farrell signed as a YTS player in July 2000 and is in his second year at the club. He has been a regular in both the Youth Team and in the Reserves.

Farrell was handed a first team squad number on Monday 4th March and was on the bench the following night for the game against Rochdale.

Farrell is a hot prospect who could make an immediate impact and will no doubt make his first team debut in the near future.



All our yesterdays

Struggles with the Shaymen

Roger Wash

We welcome today another of those teams who we have only met infrequently in the past, but although we have clashed only eight times in the league before this season one of the games holds a special place in the hearts of a whole generation of Luton supporters. But more of that later!

Our first league meeting came at Kenilworth Road in November 1965 during our first season in the old Division Four. We had now become acclimatised as to what was expected in the football basement and a strong run of six games without defeat had just come to an end with a 0-2 defeat at Tranmere.

Our home record was good, with 13 goals being scored in the previous three games at Kenilworth Road leading to a respectable crowd of 7,879 turning up to see the Shaymen but more likely to watch sharpshooting John O'Rourke who had netted 11 times for the Hatters at that early stage in the campaign.

The Town ripped in to Halifax from the start with goals arriving at regular intervals after John Moore thundered in the first after ten minutes. When the score got to 4-0 the players eased off leaving Michael Balmer to net a consolation for the Shaymen just before the end. The victory was all the more praiseworthy when it was remembered that new winger, Graham French, was injured early on and in this the first season of substitutes, he was replaced by a defender, Alan Rivers.

By the time of the return, in mid May, the Hatters were still in the promotion frame with games in hand on their rivals at the top. Fresh from a 5-0 mauling of Port Vale at Kenilworth Road on the Saturday evening, with all the goals coming in the opening 23 minutes, the players travelled to Halifax 48 hours later in confident mood.

The Shaymen, in their final game of the season and with nothing to play for, were bound to be easy opponents but in a first half of one way traffic the Town could not put the ball in the net. In the second period Halifax, realising that the Hatters were not going to score in a month of Sundays, came out of their shell and showed how it was done.

Inspired by Jim Smith, a head of hair away from being called 'Bald Eagle', the Shaymen opened the scoring just after the hour mark and as the Town pushed forward in a vain attempt to get something

out of the game they were twice caught on the break in the closing minutes.

The Town failed to win promotion on goal average that season but had a chance to exact quick revenge on Halifax as they were the visitors to Kenilworth Road on the opening day of the next campaign.

Many of the experienced players who had seen the Town go close such as John O'Rourke, Matt Woods and John Reid had left during the summer leaving the squad threadbare. It was therefore heartening for the 6,149 in Kenilworth Road to see Gerry King, a free transfer from Torquay, and local youngster Bruce Rioch each net within two minutes of the start of the second half to see off the Shaymen.

Unfortunately, this proved to be a false dawn as by the time of the return, just before Christmas, the lack of quality in the side was self evident with only one point to show from 11 away games including a 1-8 thrashing at Lincoln.

New manager Allan Brown introduced his new signing, ex-England centre forward Derek Kevan, to the few Luton supporters who made the trip to the Shay and he responded by heading the Hatters into the lead in the 59th minute. Two minutes later French was sent off after tangling with Halifax's Jeff Lee and from then on it was backs to the wall. John Parks eventually headed an equaliser for the home side after 73 minutes but the Town held on for a point that was looked on as a major triumph for us success starved supporters!

We avoided the embarrassment of needing to apply for re-election that season and after a summer of astute signings by Allan Brown we looked a 100% better side as the new campaign unfolded.

Halifax were the visitors to Kenilworth Road in late November and a crowd of 11,572 assembled to see if the Town could extend a run of seven straight wins. The Shaymen came for a point, as admitted by manager Alan Ball afterwards, and pulled everyone back behind the ball from the start.

The breakthrough eventually came mid-way through the first half when Ian Buxton squeezed the ball home from a tight angle and after Moore scored the second just after the interval it was all plain sailing.

The return, the following April, is the game referred to in the opening paragraph. For people of my generation the Division Four championship win of 1968 was the first piece of success we had seen as the



Keith Allen watches as the ball flashes narrowly wide during the 1-1 draw with Halifax at Kenilworth Road in August 1969.

Hatters slid from the top to the bottom in five years. A thunderous free-kick from Rioch eight minutes from the end of largely forgettable game at the Shay confirmed promotion and the first step back on the road to former glories.

The final pair of games between the sides took place two years later following the Shaymen's own promotion to the old Division Three. In an early season clash at Kenilworth Road, on a wet pitch, the Hatters were held to a 1-1 draw by a Halifax side for whom their centre half, Chris Nicholl, was outstanding.

Straight after the game negotiations were started to

bring the player to Kenilworth Road and the following day he signed for £34,000 which represented a record fee for Halifax and a tidy profit on someone they had signed for £750 a year earlier.

Nicholl did not play in the return, an untidy 0-0 draw at the Shay as the Town stuttered and stumbled to eventual promotion, with the experienced Terry Branston taking his place in the run-in. He eventually regained his place and became the backbone of the side that almost won promotion back to the top flight twelve months later.

Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages



**Halifax Town
THE SHAY HALIFAX
Association
OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 6d.
Football Club**

The Halifax programme for the visit of the Town in May 1966 was typical of that produced by the vast majority of clubs in the Football League, including ourselves, in being almost completely devoid of anything interesting.

The only page which did not feature adverts, league tables or fixture lists was the 'Club Chatter' section which referred to the Hatters two previous visits to the Shay. In 1933 we attracted a then record crowd of 29,235 to Halifax for an F.A.Cup fifth round tie which we won 2-0 in a game interrupted by snowstorms. Snow was also a feature of our next visit- it caused the postponement of the game in April 1966!

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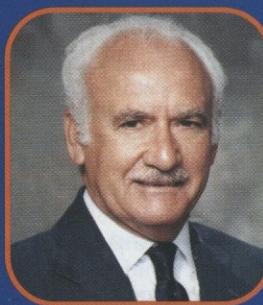
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POLICY STATEMENT - SPECTATOR SAFETY



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.

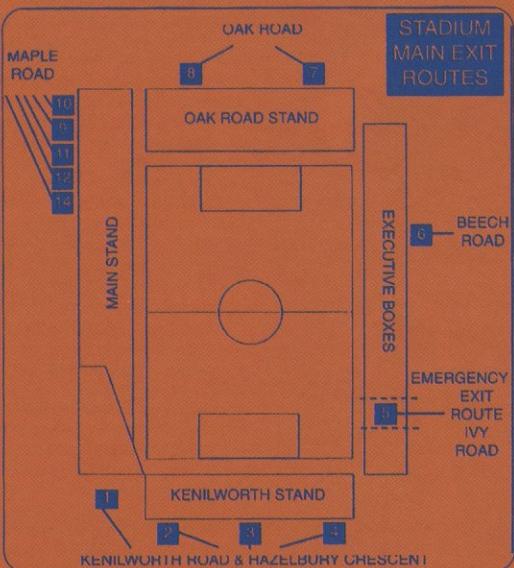
Mike Watson-Challis Chairman

Reviewed August, 2001.

EVACUATION PROCEDURE

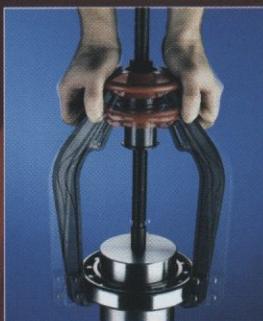
IN THE event of any emergency in the stadium, Luton Town FC and the emergency services have agreed on an evacuation procedure which is designed to ensure the safe and controlled evacuation of the crowd, and to ensure their safe dispersal from the area, to allow the emergency services to carry out their tasks.

In the event of evacuation from all or part of the stadium, you will receive instructions over the public address system on how you should leave. In an evacuation of the main stand you will be instructed to use the pitch. Stewards will direct you to the nearest exit. It may be that your normal exit route will not be available. On leaving the stadium, you will find some roads closed to pedestrians, to enable swift and unobstructed access for the emergency services. Please leave the area of the ground as quickly as possible, by the route directed. Your co-operation will be most appreciated.



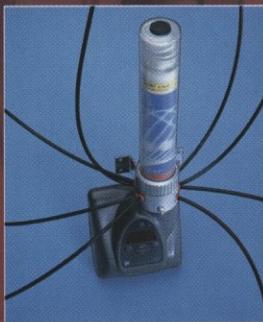
Geoff Lovell, Safety Manager.

For the latest ticket information call
the Luton Ticket Office on:
01582 416976

**EasyPull bearing puller**

A new lightweight design of bearing jaw puller with a spring mechanism for faster gripping behind the component is reckoned to be one of the easiest and most efficient pullers currently available and has now been launched by SKF. As part of the design, a shear pin has been included, to ensure operator safety in the event of excessive force being applied.

Some 16 per cent of premature bearing failures can be attributed to bad fitting. The most common fault is the use of brute force, while ignorance or laziness regarding use of the correct tools for the task is a major contributor. Available in three sizes to provide maximum withdrawal forces between three and eight tonnes (30 kN to 80 kN), the pullers have been designed in a modular fashion to allow simple replacement of worn or damaged parts.

**SYSTEM MultiPoint automatic lubricator**

SKF's SYSTEM MultiPoint is a new, automatic lubricator for multiple grease lubrication points. It can automatically lubricate each point simultaneously with the correct amount of lubricant and therefore removes human error and neglect in installations where multiple lubrication points prove to be time consuming and liable to be forgotten. With research showing that 36% of all bearings fail prematurely due to incorrect lubrication, SYSTEM MultiPoint will facilitate longer bearing life and increased uptime.

SYSTEM MultiPoint's high-pressure capability, of 40bar / 600psi, allows grease to be dispensed at the high rates required in multiple bearing applications. Feed lines can be run to five metres in length, with up to eight lines connected to the lubricator. An alarm function warns of blocked feed lines and empty cartridges, and it also stops the lubricator operating when a machine isn't running.

**MARLIN condition detector (MCD)**

The MCD from SKF enables a simple but extremely effective means of checking the health of a machine. Vibration and temperature are measured to assess the machine's state.

Providing an inexpensive, easily learned first step into condition monitoring, the MCD is ideal for users unfamiliar with machine diagnostic measuring techniques. At the same time, when coupled with an extensive range of sister units and accessories, the condition detector can be integrated into broader plant-wide condition monitoring strategies.

By measuring vibration velocity the user can identify problems such as imbalance, misalignment, mechanical looseness or wear. SKF employs a vibration monitoring technique within the MCD that involves the use of acceleration enveloping, which makes gear and bearing wear easier to detect.

**OilCheck monitor**

A new hand-held and extremely simple to use method of determining the degree of degradation and contamination of mineral and synthetic oils is now available from SKF, along with the facility to provide a full diagnostic service through detailed lubrication analysis procedures.

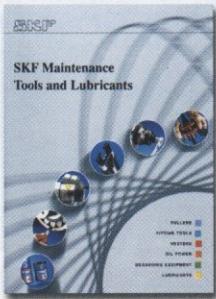
The hand-held monitoring device is a comparative instrument, which enables optimised intervals to be maintained between oil changes. It detects and measures the dielectric constant in a used oil sample, which is compared against results taken from an unused lubricant of the same type and brand.

All that is required is for a few drops of sample oil to be placed in a circular recess from which a sensor will determine the appropriate value. The display is via a green/red grading indicator and a 1-100 numerical readout.

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Fans Scene



FIVE architects are involved in a competition to design the new stadium for Luton Town, and the directors will decide in the next few weeks which scheme they will accept. The news was given to a well-attended fans' forum held by Yvonne Fletcher, the supporters' representative on the board.

Other subjects came up in the "Any Questions?" format, but the new ground was top of the agenda. The main talking points on the night:

Why is it taking so long? Because the club is involved in confidential discussions with various companies who may become involved in the overall development – possibilities include a hotel, restaurants, fast food outlets, a pub, leisure and conference facilities, a swimming pool, park and ride operation, a National Express coach station, and so on. Complex negotiations have to be completed before a planning application can be submitted to Luton Borough Council.

How will the club benefit from all those other operations around the stadium? They are vital to finance the club's ambitions. The development needs anchor tenants whose presence will attract people to the area every day of the week, to generate money not currently available at Kenilworth Road. In today's football climate, even full houses at Kenilworth Road cannot pay the bills.

What size stadium are we thinking of? The planning application will probably be for a 25,000-seat ground, but when it is first built the capacity will likely be 15,000, which is big enough for current needs.

Will it be a multi-purpose stadium? Definitely not! It will be a stand-alone football ground, with good car



Yvonne Fletcher

parking. It will not be used for such things as pop concerts.

Will it include a training ground? No. There will not be space for one on the Junction 10 site. But the board is concerned that the club has no training facilities of its own, and is keen to put that right. A consultant has been hired to investigate possibilities, and three potential sites have been identified, but it will take time to turn plans into reality.

Will it be a battle to get planning consent? The planning application will have to go through the normal channels, which gives opponents the opportunity to have their say. But the council is being very supportive. They agree that the location is right, and they are keen to get onto the site of the present ground, which they own, to redevelop it, with a mixture of "green land" and housing. The council would like a park and ride scheme at Junction 10, and they might also put a new swimming pool there, to replace the dilapidated facility at Bath Road.

Fans at the forum had the chance to give their opinions in a survey carried out on the night, by filling in their answers to such questions as should it be a wholly no-smoking stadium? Should ticket prices vary depending on what level of the Football League we are in? Should there be standing areas? Should there be season tickets and match day tickets for unreserved areas of the ground so you can choose your seat each game on a first come, first served basis?

Supporters' views, promised Yvonne, would be taken back to the board to be considered.

Prize Night Sold Out

ALL TICKETS have been sold for the annual end of season presentation evening run jointly by the football club and the Luton Town Supporters Club. There is also plenty of interest in Town on Tour's trip to the Isle of Man to watch the Town in a pre-season tournament from July 21 to 27 which also involves Burnley, Wrexham, Darlington, Rochdale, and the Isle of Man national side. For more details call at the LTSC kiosk today, or contact Mark Chapman by fax on 01296 714073 or e-mail to markchapman65@hotmail.com. You can also leave a message on Town on Tour's mobile at 07960 567465. Prices, with bed and breakfast accommodation, are expected to range from £249 using a guesthouse to £399 for a five-crown luxury hotel.

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Luton Town's very own official website.
www.lutontown.co.uk



Top Hatter Brian Stein

Born: Cape Town, 19.10.57

Joined Luton: As a player, October 1977 until May 1988; rejoined for a year, summer 1991. Returned as a coach, September 2000.

Were you good at school? I was pretty reasonable. My father always drummed into us – I have six brothers and two sisters – the need to have a good education. Mine started in South Africa until we came to England when I was eight.

What other career might you have had? I always wanted to be a footballer, but when I got to 16 it wasn't happening, and I knew I had to get a real life. I took my A levels and planned to go to university after taking a gap year working as a clerical officer for the health authority in Edgware. I played non-league football for Edgware, as a right winger, and in one game we smashed Dunstable. Soon afterwards Luton made an approach for me and Martin Sperrin. I went to see Harry Haslam, and spent a whole day in his office – not on contract talks, it was just that he made me laugh so much. I signed, and took a pay cut compared to what I was earning as a full-time clerk and part-time player. The first time because it was a great opportunity and I was determined to take it. Martin Sperrin was a decent player too, but he didn't stick at it like I did. The second time I signed for Luton was for David Pleat after I had had three years in France. But that was a miserable season, when we were relegated and missed the start of the Premiership. It shouldn't have happened, but too many players had been sold off, and we were done for when the club refused to spend £300,000 on Steve Sutton, after he had been on loan with us and done well. I left after that season, but when I was offered a coaching job last year, I was delighted. I have always had a great feeling for this club.

Do you like other sports? I like watching just about any sport, and when I have time I like playing tennis, table tennis and golf.

Your family life? I'm married to Yvonne, a Londoner. We have been together since 1976, and have a daughter Kimberly, who is 18, and son Holden, 16.

Your greatest memories from football? Two days are up there together: Wembley 1988 and Maine Road, Manchester, 1983. It was a great footballing side which won the old Second Division championship in 1982. David Moss a wonderful winger, Raddy Antic a great passer and striker of the ball. We played "total football" but I think the Maine Road experience reminded us that we had to go to another level, and needed more steel in the side. We had to get a Harford and a Foster to enjoy the Littlewoods Cup final in 1988. My other happy memory is playing for England alongside Paul Walsh, although it was disappointing how it ended – England lost and I never got another international chance.

Your future plans? As a coach I am still on the learning curve, but one day I would like to become a manager.



Football in the Community



TODAY the Community Department has delivered its very first Saturday Soccer Club, a facility that I hope we will be offering for every home game next season. I am confident it will

become very popular. What does this club involve? Our first participants are Luton Irish Youth FC, and I give them a warm welcome to today's game. This morning they received two hours of professional soccer coaching, followed by a buffet lunch before coming to watch the first team in action against Halifax.

The package, due to the size of venue, has to be restricted to players aged between 16 and 18. The price is only £19 for the day, including the buffet and match ticket. I would hope to be able to maintain that bargain price for next season. If you or your club are interested in participating, bearing in mind that there will be only 23 opportunities next season, please give me a call on 01582 411622. The first 23 to book will be guaranteed the opportunity of participating in the Saturday Soccer Club for one of next season's home games.

I would also like to welcome to today's game St Martin's Junior Football Club. They are one of many local clubs who have expressed the desire to forge closer links with us. To this end, they decided to take advantage of the



PLAYING AND LEARNING: Youngsters enjoying their football on one of our many coaching courses.

expert professional coaching we can offer.

I am pleased to be able to tell you that in conjunction with the club we have put together a course of evening sessions for around 90 of their players. Should any other local club wish to construct similar sessions for their players, please call me. We are able to offer these courses during the evening, or during the daytime in school holidays.

On these pages today you will find all details of the current evening and weekend courses now under way, and the courses we are running during Easter. Come and join us!

Stuart Smith

EVENING AND WEEKEND COURSES

VENUE	AGE GROUP	START DATE	DAY & TIME	TOTAL WEEKS	WEEKS REMAINING	COST
Bramingham Primary Boys & girls	7 - 11	12/1/02	Sat 10.00 -11.30am	10	2	£2.50pw
Ashcroft High Boys	12 - 15	1/2/02	Fri 4.30-6pm	7	1	£2.50pw
Luton Regional Sports Centre Boys & Girls	5 - 6	25/2/02	Mon 4 - 5pm	10	6	£2.50pw
Luton Regional Sports Centre Boys	7 - 11	28/2/02	Thurs 4-5pm	10	7	£2.50pw
Luton Regional Sports Centre Girls	7 - 11	28/2/02	Thurs 5-6pm	10	7	£2.50pw

EASTER HOLIDAY COURSES.

All courses available are set out on the facing page along with a form for you to return if you wish to enrol. This Easter course takes place at venues in Luton and Dunstable between 28/3/02 and 4/4/02. The courses cater for children from the ages of 5 to 15 yrs and include a specialist 2 day goalkeeping course and an Elite one day session (for the more advanced player). This course will be delivered by a top UEFA 'A' Licence Coach.

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COURSE CODE	NO OF DAYS	VENUE	DATE	TIME	COST	COURSE TYPE
LSC 1	2	Hillborough Primary School Luton	Thur 28 - Fri 29 Mar	10.00am - 3.00pm	£20.00	7 - 11 yrs
LSC 2	3	Bushmead Primary School Luton	Tue 2 - Thur 4 Apr	10.00am - 3.00pm	£30.00	7 - 11 yrs
LSC 3	1	Bushmead Primary School Luton	Thur 4 Apr	10.00am - 3.00pm	£10.00	5 - 6 yrs
DGK 1	2	Queensbury School Meadoway Dunstable	Thur 4 - Fri 5 Apr	10.00am - 3.00pm	£20.00	8 - 13 yrs
DSC 2	3	Queensbury School Meadoway Dunstable	Wed 3 - Fri 5 Apr	10.00am - 3.00pm	£30.00	7 - 11 yrs
DSC 3	2	Queensbury School Meadoway Dunstable	Wed 3 - Thur 4 Apr	10.00am - 3.00pm	£20.00	12 - 15 yrs
DSC 4 ELITE	1	Queensbury School Meadoway Dunstable	Fri 5 Apr	9.00am - 3.00pm	£12.50	14 - 17 yrs

TO RESERVE A PLACE ON A COURSE

1. Please return completed application form. One form per child must be signed by a parent or guardian. Extra forms can be obtained from Stuart Smith at the Football Club on 01582 411622.
2. Please make cheques payable to: Luton Town Football in the Community.
3. Please enclose stamped, self addressed envelope for confirmation of your booking.
4. Send application forms together with your cheque, to reach club before 5pm 27/3/02, To:

Stuart Smith
Football and Community Development Officer
Luton Town FC
Kenilworth Stadium
1 Maple Road
Luton
Beds

PLEASE NOTE TO SECURE A PLACE ON ANY COURSE CHILDREN MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE COMMUNITY OFFICE AND ALL PAYMENTS MADE BY 27/2/02.
NO REGISTRATION OR PAYMENT ACCEPTED ON THE DAY UNLESS BY PRIOR AGREEMENT WITH STUART SMITH AT LUTON TOWN FC.



Please reserve a place on the above course (pls put course code in the box on right).

Name: Age:

Address:

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Home Tel No: School:

Any Health Problem Disorders or Medication? Please ring to give details.

I acknowledge and accept that Luton Town FC, their football in the community scheme, or the organisation providing facilities and their respective agents, servants and employees, are not under any liability whatsoever in respect of personal injury, loss or damage however caused whilst in attendance on the above course.

Signature of Parent / Guardian:

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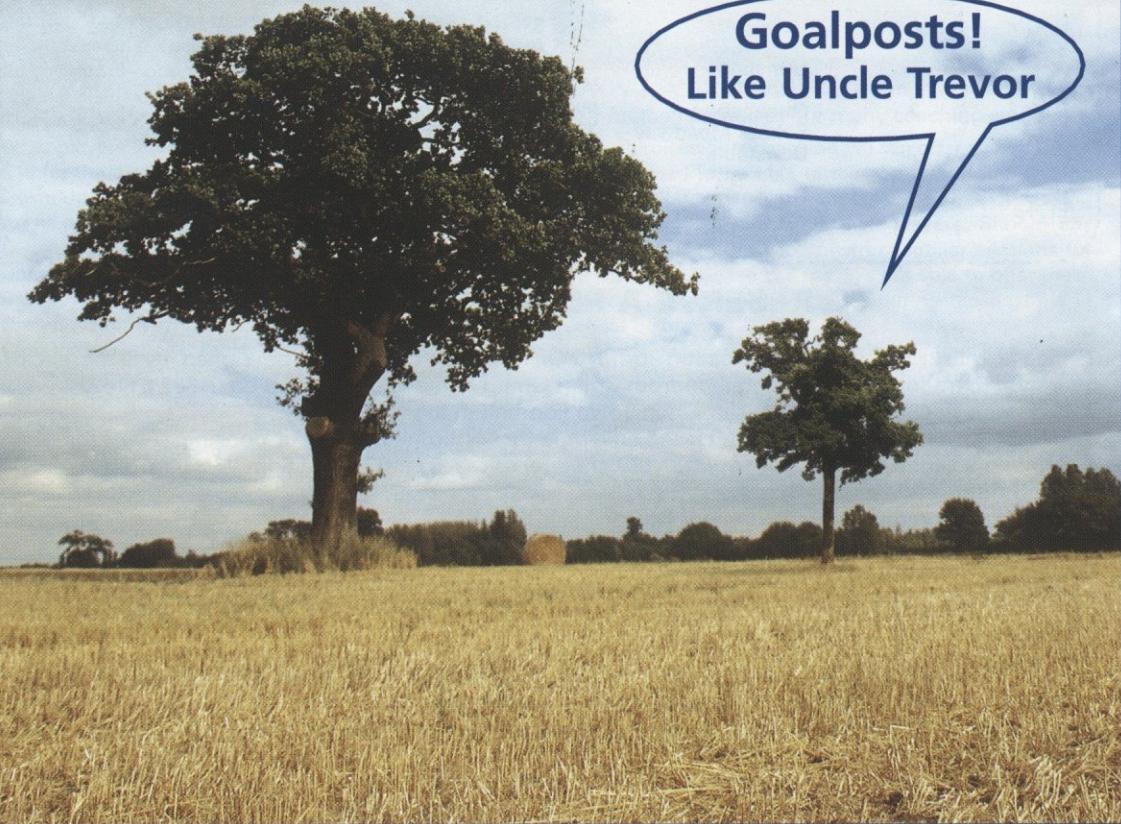
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The Luton News

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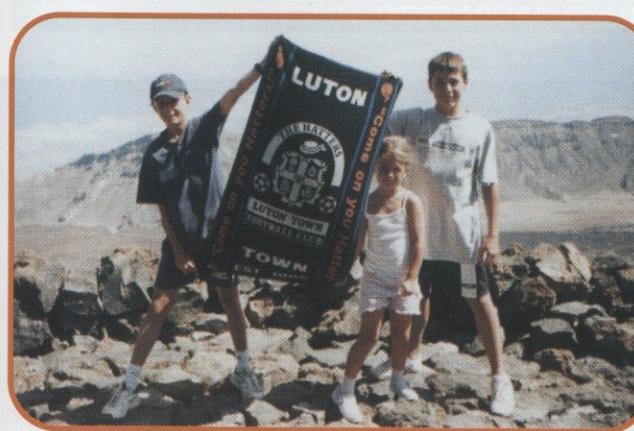
Premier League pay-per-view matches are available individually.

Hatters Abroad

IT'S NOT only the Town kits which will interest supporters in our picture taken in Majorca. Look carefully, and you should recognise at least one of the three guys at the back, and quite possibly two. But there is a bit of a mystery about the front row: we know that the two boys on the extreme left are five-year-old Drew Freeman, and his brother Glen, who is 11. Standing behind them in the Town gear is their dad, Ron Freeman, from Handcross Road, Luton, who sent in the photograph.

It was taken during a family holiday last summer, and to their delight guests staying at the same hotel included Kenny Sansom and Kerry Dixon, who were running a football coaching course in Palma.

The other three boys in the photograph are obviously more Town fans who were delighted to have the chance to be in the same photograph as the former Town centre-forward and his pal, but Mr Freeman has no idea of their identities, so if they see themselves in the programme today it will be a complete surprise. "They came from Dunstable," he said. "Their Christian names were Ryan, Joe and Lee, but that is all I know about them. We had never met before, but it was great to see someone else who supports Luton Town."



OUR other picture is to illustrate Luton Town being on top of the world. It comes from 12-year-old Darren Ward, of Boyce Crescent, Old Farm Park, Milton Keynes, who explained: "That's me in the baseball cap, holding my Luton Town towel 3,718 metres up on top of Mount Teide, Tenerife. Also in the picture is my sister, and my friend Robert Wilks, who is 14 and lives at Barkham, near Wokingham. Robert and I are season ticket holders in block C of the main enclosure. My sister Charlotte is six, and has been to her first Luton game. Robert and I come to every home game, and to some of the away matches as well. We go with Robert's dad Steve, and his grand-dad, Bernard."

FOR THIS occasional series we are pleased to receive pictures of Town colours anywhere in the world. If you have an interesting snap of Hatters gear in far-off places, please send it, with a few details, to the editor at Luton Town FC. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want the photographs back, but please remember that with the best will in the world they sometimes go astray.

We are also pleased to hear about very young Town supporters - our "Mini-Hatters" feature will appear occasionally, and any photo of youngsters in the appropriate Hatters kit will be welcome. If you prefer, you can e-mail your items, including pictures, direct to the editor, at brian.swain@btinternet.com

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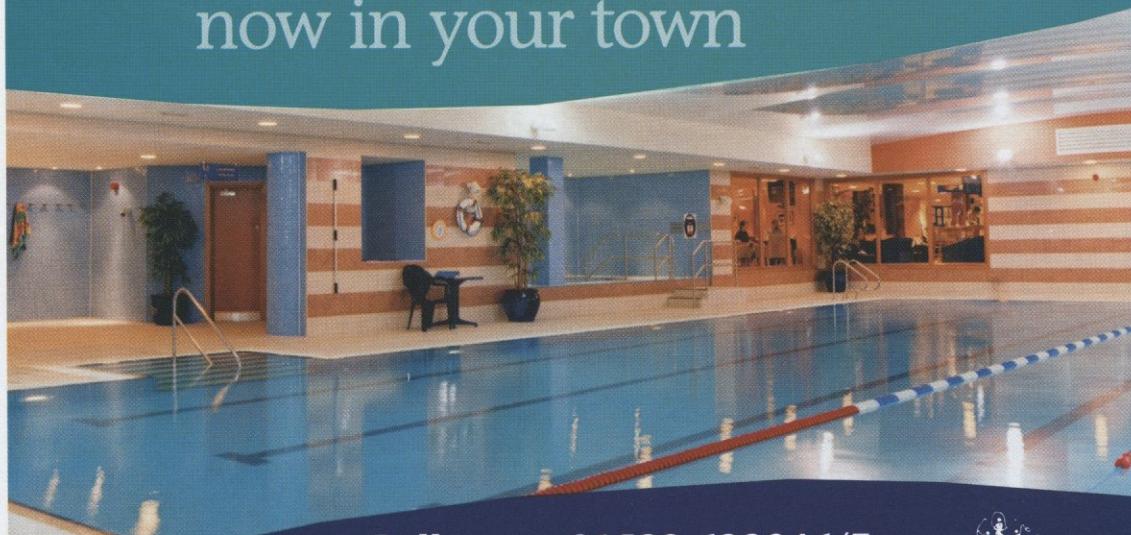
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Youth Development

STANDARDS of coaching we offer to the young players involved in our youth development schemes are guaranteed to be the best.

possible. They have to be, because we have to operate with the approval of the game's two major governing bodies, the Football Association and the Football League..

The coaching programme in each age group has to conform with the FA Charter for Quality, which lays down the requirements of the technical coaching programme which our staff must deliver to the youngsters.

Parents need to be assured that their children are not only in safe hands, but are undergoing training and teaching programmes that are designed specifically for young players.

for young players. I thought today you might be interested in the broad outlines of how we deal with boys in our under-8 to under-11 section.

The technical programme has to conform to FA guidelines, and we also have a programme of physical training and conditioning

for all players. This is under the guidance of Rob Carr, the UK Athletics Coach, while Julie Frost educates the young players on their diet, nutrition and any medical issues.

In coaching our youngest groups, we concentrate on simple, basic techniques in small groups, of two, three or four. We set enjoyable and rewarding tasks in the form of drills, technique practices and games. The aim is to ensure that the players are stimulated and challenged, but not pressured. It means covering topics in a clear way so the young players can master and succeed in their practice, and we allow the youngsters to discover how to play the game properly, through guidance.

We spend a lot of time on very basic topics, like developing a feel for the ball, and how to master

OUR youth development department offers expert coaching for young players from the ages of 8 to 16, all under the guidance of qualified FA coaches. The youngsters involved are associated with Luton Town, and at 16 are eligible if they reach a high enough standard for places on the club's scholarship list, which is the first step towards becoming a professional footballer. If you would like more information, please contact Dean Rastrick at Luton Town FC, telephone Luton 411622.

and we set targets for them to achieve each week. Our aims are:

- (1) to develop their knowledge of how to evaluate their performance;
- (2) to educate them in their preparation for games and training;
- (3) to improve their knowledge of training methods and sports science;
- (4) to help them to develop a competitive mentality.

They also learn about the importance of a good warm-up and cool down routine.

At this young age, it is about creating an environment where the players can practice, learn and enjoy their football under the guidance of a coach.

Dean Rastrick

**Ever thought about being a match ball sponsor?
Call the Commercial Department on:
01582 411622**

TOWN TEASER

ANOTHER pair of match tickets is on offer today in our Town Trivia quiz, and as usual the question is not too difficult to answer. Listen to the PA announcer before kick-off for your chance to have a go, and if you don't know, you can find out from this programme.

At the Kidderminster game we asked who scored in our 4-1 win at the Aggborough in January, and the answer was Matt Spring (2), Matt Taylor and Steve Howard.

TODAY'S QUESTION

Who scored twice for us when we beat Halifax 4-2 at The Shay in October?

The New Look Official Website

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Junior Hatters

WELCOME to all young supporters to see a match which we hope will put us very close to promotion. It could well be wrapped up within the next week or two, which means that our last game of the season, at Shrewsbury, could be a real party day out.

That game is four weeks today, but if you want to be on the Junior Hatters trip you need to look lively. We have a ticket allocation for one coach-load only, and seats are selling very quickly. Departure will be at 8am, because we are having a football match against the Junior Shrews that morning, before having lunch with them. Tickets are the usual bargain: £10 for Junior Hatters and £13 for others. You can buy them from the club shop, which is where you can also find out other information about the Junior Hatters. Membership benefits include being able to attend our Saturday club, which starts at noon and makes every home game an extra-special day out for junior fans.

Happy Harry



VIP GROUP: Mascots always meet the skippers and officials in the centre circle before kick-off, and at the Kidderminster game 11-year-old Tom Falconer, from Rosslyn Crescent, Luton, did the honours for the Junior Hatters, while Paul Deards, also 11, from High View, Deanshanger, Milton Keynes, was the commercial mascot.

Today's Mascot

NINE-year-old Leon Denton is the latest young supporter to receive a bonus treat this afternoon, thanks to being in the Junior Hatters. His name was picked out of the membership list to be our mascot, which makes his visit to Kenilworth Road even more memorable than usual.

He has to be here well before kick-off, but that will be no problem because he is a regular at our Saturday Club. The mascot's duties are all very pleasant: before the game Leon, from Corbridge Drive, Wigmore, Luton, will be taken into the Town dressing room to meet the players,



including his favourite, Dean Crowe. Then he will run out onto the pitch with them for the traditional pre-match warm-up and kick-about, before joining the skippers in the centre circle to meet the referee and other match officials for the toss of the coin.

When he is not supporting Luton, Leon, who goes to Wigmore Primary School, enjoys swimming as his other main sport.

Today's ball boys are Jack Niven, from Pasture Way, Letchworth, and Joe Bradbury, from Aylesbury Road, Ampthill.

If you would like to join the Junior Hatters, call the Club Shop on:
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19.03.02 Hatters' target down to 88 points
Luton's target to achieve automatic promotion went down two points to 88 tonight as Mansfield Town lost 2-0 at Leyton Orient. The Hatters already have 81 points with six games to go, so two wins and a draw means we can only lose out on goal difference.

...more

19.03.02 Isle of Man tournament fixtures
We now have the fixtures for our pre-season tournament in the Isle of Man in July. Luton have been drawn in Group A with Burnley and Wrexham. Group B contains Darlington, Rochdale and the Isle of Man.

...more

19.03.02 Extra 497 tickets for Hull game
Luton learned today that we have been allocated an extra 497 tickets for our game at Hull City on Saturday April 6. Our original allocation was for 1,324 terrace

The new allocation is for seats.

...more

soccer courses: dates and costs
chance to sign up for our

JOE KINNEAR

We could have cashed in but were solid at the back, says Joe

Manager Joe Kinnear felt that his side could have cashed in but that Kidderminster were not allowed to do so. He had complaints with either red card, thought Paul Hartley, who praised him for taking his goal well.

"We could have cashed in on the opportunity but it's hard to look back and think of 90 minutes. It's another clean sheet - that's consecutive wins.

"Kidderminster came here trying to get a win but we cashed them at their place 4-1. They came to the table. It could have been a different story that we created early on in the game. But we back. Besides them pumping long balls in best, lumping it forward and hoping that we remember them having a strike at goal. You chance from about two or three feet out. If you then lashed it in, it would have been all over another header just wide. Connie was un-

We just want to win every game, says Kevin Nicholls

To hear the interview, [CLICK HERE FOR AUDIO](#)

Seven games left of the season, so does Kevin Nicholls have a target of how many points the Hatters need to win promotion?

"Not really. After the Scunthorpe home defeat, which we weren't very happy about, we were in the Sunday and we watched the video, had a meeting and agreed that we wanted to win every game from then on, which we've done so far and hopefully it can be our eighth win on the trot on Saturday. We're not trying to break records, we just want to win every game that's left of the season.

"We've beaten a couple of records already this season, so why not get another one? But like I say our main objective is winning Saturday first and then hopefully if Plymouth can slip up we're right up their backsides now and they're looking over their shoulder. I know they've got two games in hand now but they've got to win those games and



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www.lutontown.co.uk



Action Replay



Luton Town 1 Kidderminster Harriers 0 (HT 1-0)

IT WAS another of those occasions when the result was more important than the performance as the Town took their run to eight wins in succession. But it was also a day when the score-line did not do justice to the superiority the Town exerted over opponents whose only ambition seemed to be damage limitation. In the whole 90 minutes, Kidderminster managed only two attempts at goal, a long-range shot which floated over the bar in the first half, and a weak header which went gently into the arms of Mark Ovendale in the second.

And if the Town were not as cavalier and fluent as some fans wished, they were much more positive and menacing in attack than the visitors. Harriers were lucky to escape a chasing. After Paul Hughes buried a stunning shot for the match-winner on 16 minutes, Steve Howard had a drive brilliantly saved and hit the bar with another effort, Dean Crowe came within inches of vital contact with a driven cross and Russ Perrett's belting head from a corner by Kevin Nicholls flashed inches wide of the target.

Kidderminster were angry with referee Grant Hegley when he sent off their goalkeeper, Stuart Brock, for handling the ball just outside his area to stop Matt Taylor going clear on goal on 65 minutes. They said Brock was so close to Taylor, that any handball must have been accidental.

Joe Kinnear took a different view, and also supported the ref in sending off Hughes in stoppage time for his second yellow card, for showing dissent by kicking the ball away.

Otherwise, the boss was pleased with another good day's work. "It was only 1-0, but we deserved to win," he said. "We should have scored more goals, but I don't think Kidderminster had one decent shot in the

whole game."

The sixth clean sheet in the run of eight victories was a nice occasion for Mark Ovendale, replacement for flu victim Carl Emberton. It was Ovendale's first appearance since the 3-2 defeat at Darlington in January. Kiddy manager Jan Molby had no complaints save for the one about the red card. The Harriers came to Luton with five regulars out through injury. The difference between the two sides, he said, was illustrated by the benches, where the Town have genuine first-team contenders available while his subs included an 18-year-old goalkeeper, who had to make his league debut when Brock was sent off, and three 19-year-olds.

The Town's team selection was proof of that difference. David Bayliss was recalled to play at right back, with Alan Neilson switching to the left, so that Taylor could be used as a winger again, in preference to Jean-Louis Valois. Hughes was preferred to Adrian Forbes, and if anyone wondered about that decision, they were answered by the midfielder's third goal of the season – and all three have led to victories.

Molby let his men down gently, feeling that it was no disgrace to be the 13th side to go home pointless from Kenilworth Road this season. "Luton were on top of their form," he said. "I'm disappointed with the result, but I thought we did well. We didn't create many chances, but that formation was not designed to create chances."

He started with 4-5-1, switched to 4-4-2 after the goal, then to 4-4-1 after the red card. But his midfield four were all defence-minded, in marked contrast to the Town's greater enterprise which deserved greater reward than it got.

Match Details

Luton Town: Ovendale, Bayliss, Perrett, Coyne, Neilson (Boyce 79 mins); Hughes, Nicholls, Spring, Taylor; Howard, Crowe (Forbes 79 mins).

Unused subs: Ward, Valois, Fotiadis.

Booked: Paul Hughes twice, to collect his second red card of the season, for a first-minute foul on Craig Hinton and a last-minute show of dissent; Alan Neilson also yellow-carded for dissent.

Kidderminster: Brock; Clarkson (goalkeeper Danby 65 mins), Hinton, Sall, Joy; Bird, Smith, Williams, Henriksen, Foster (Larkin 79 mins); Broughton

Unused subs: Shilton, Ayres, Davies.

Sent off: Stuart Brock for hands just outside the area to half Matt Taylor's run, following an quick free kick by Alan Neilson.

Booked: Ian Joy for a foul on Adrian Forbes.

The Goal: Paul Hughes, 16 mins, thumping drive from the edge of the box after the ball was worked to him by Dean Crowe and Matt Spring following a throw-in by Matt Taylor.

Referee: Grant Hegley, Hertfordshire

Attendance: 6,488 including 208 visiting fans.

If you would like a brochure or further information on Kenilworth Suite Membership please contact the Commercial Department on

01582 411622

HUGHES A CLEVER BOY:
Steve Howard is first to congratulate the Town's match-winner.



FLYER:
Adrian Forbes, who went on as a sub, gets airborne to evade a tackle.



MIDFIELD GENERAL:
Kevin Nicholls driving on, beating Bo Henriksen.





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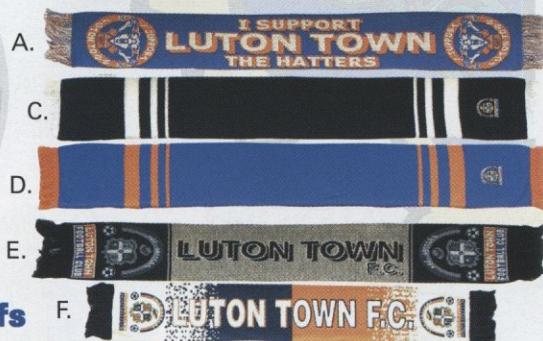
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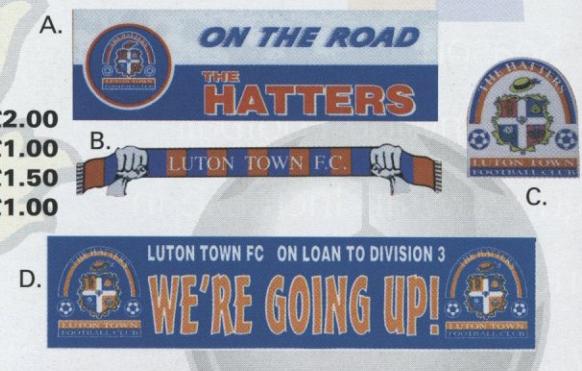
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Easter Monday: Match versus
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Shop will open at 9.00am till kick off
at 12.30pm. Closed for match duration
and then open for up to 1 hour
after the match.

Telephone: 01582 411622 Ext249
Email: clubshop@lutontown.co.uk

Shop online at
www.lutontown.co.uk

Fans on the road

Visitors to Luton

Cheltenham	467
Southend	912
Oxford	869
Lincoln	217
Torquay	326
Darlington	302
Rochdale	679
Swansea	395
Shrewsbury	351
Hull	887
Rushden	1,134
Hartlepool	220
Carlisle	356
Plymouth	1,900
Scunthorpe	359
Bristol Rovers	197
York City	280
Leyton Orient	580
Exeter	154
Kidderminster	208
Total:	10,793
Average:	540

Hatters Away

Carlisle	1,097
Reading(WC)	889
Bristol Rov	761
Exeter	712
York	849
Orient	2,089
Plymouth	461
Scunthorpe	961
Halifax	774
Dagenham(LDV)	330
Mansfield	2,166
Southend(FAC)	1,560
Macclesfield	741
Hartlepool	346
Oxford	2,646
Southend	1,710
Kidderminster	1,096
Cheltenham	1,597
Darlington	464
Rochdale	1,163
Lincoln	889
Torquay	1,100
Rushden	1,395
	25,796
	1,122

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Marathon Crisis Beaten

OUR entrant in next month's Flora London Marathon is back in training after suffering an injury problem which threatened to put him out of the big race. We are delighted to report that Dave Suttle has, as they say in the treatment room page, responded well to treatment and will be fit to take his place in the line-up on April 14. The 46-year-old headmaster from Blackheath was very worried when, for the first time in his life, he found that training runs left him in agony within a few hours, with both knees very painful. "I persevered, but now I know what is meant by going through the pain barrier," he said. "At one time it was so bad I thought I might not be able to run, and that was devastating because I did not want to let the club down."

We arranged for Town physio and sports therapist Bruce Sewell to have a look at Dave, and his expertise has brought the right result. The advice was to ease off the training schedule to some degree, and to switch to different running shoes.

Meanwhile, behind the scenes, we were wondering about trying to line up a sub to carry our colours in the race, and to his credit Bruce said that if he could not get Dave right, he would step in. He is an accomplished sportsman himself, and claims he would enjoy slogging round the streets of London for 26 miles! We will, of course, bear that claim in mind in a year's time when we have to choose our entrant for the 2003 race...

But for this year, Dave is still the man. "I will definitely be OK," he said. "I was able to put in a 15-mile run on Sunday, for the first time in a month, and it went well. The advice I have been given is that if I can get to 16 or 17 miles a fortnight before the race, everything will be all right, and I am confident I can do it. Bruce Sewell was very helpful, giving me advice, and some stretching exercises, and the pain is nowhere near as bad now as it had been. I went to watch the game at Torquay, and I was really hobbling that day.



"Originally my target was to run the race quicker than the three hours and 53 minutes I took when I did the Washington marathon in the USA a couple of years ago. I have decided I would be daft to try to do that, and my only target is to get round the course. The schedule is to run each mile in about nine minutes, which is quite leisurely, and that will get me round in about four hours. I am afraid that I won't be in contention to win the football section because last year's leaders were coming in at well under three hours, which means they must have been dedicated athletes. My dedication is to

Luton Town, and the charities I want to raise money for. I have read that one guy intends to run the race, if that is the right expression, wearing a full diving suit, complete with heavy boots, and he thinks his time will be six days. I promise that I will finish the race, and I won't be last!"

Dave raised £790 for the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust through sponsorship when he took part in the Washington race.

He is collecting sponsorship promises again, and we hope Luton Town fans will back him as he tries to raise money

for the CFRT again, and for our local Keech Cottage Hospice, which looks after seriously ill children. If you would like to support either (or both!) of the good causes, please complete the coupon below and send it, with your cheque payable to the charity of your choice – the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust or Keech Cottage Hospice (or two cheques, one for each) – to Marathon Appeal, Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton LU4 8AW.

Please post-date your cheque: it will not be banked until after the marathon has been completed. Supporters whose sponsorship is conditional on Mr Suttle completing the course can be assured that their cheques will be destroyed if that happens. He promises it won't.

FLORA LONDON MARATHON

I would like to sponsor Dave Suttle, the Luton Town runner, in the Football Challenge, and my post-dated cheque, payable to the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust or to the Keech Cottage Hospice, is enclosed.

Name.....

Address.....

Telephone.....

Amount pledged.....

*Please destroy my cheque if Mr Suttle completes less than 26.2 miles.

*I wish to make the donation in any event

*Please delete as appropriate.

Pre-Match Entertainment

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

1.45 Gates Open - music starts

2.00 Club mascot Happy Harry runs on the pitch.

2.05 A track from the HMV album of the week - RUDE BOY REVIVAL

2.10 The UK's No1 track - WILL YOUNG - EVERGREEN / ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

2.15 Team line up to be announced

2.25 HMV Single of the week - GEORGE MICHAEL - FREEK

2.35 Dedications announced

2.45 Town Teaser - Check out page 40 for today's question

2.55 Teams runout to - The Blues Brothers "Gimme Some Lovin".

2.57 Final run down of the teams.

3.00 THE BIG KICK OFF

HALF TIME

3.50 Golden Gamble - Winning ticket picked by Luton Town Player.

3.55 Run down of half time scores from around the country

4.00 Repeat of dedications

4.05 Teams arrive back on pitch to theme song "Gimme Some Lovin".

FULL TIME

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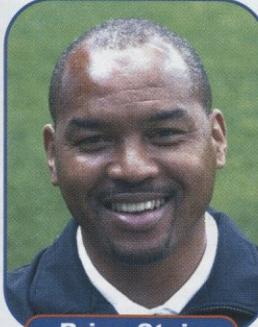
The Luton News The Dunstable Gazette



ON SALE EVERY WEDNESDAY



In Reserve



Southend Utd 2 Luton Town 2

WE CAME back from two down and comfortably held on for a point after being reduced to ten men for the last 13 minutes at Roots Hall on Wednesday, so I was pleased with the overall effort and improving attitude. In the circumstances it was a decent result.

I was not so happy about the Southend goals. They took the lead on 20 minutes, from their first corner. It was a silly one to give away, followed by poor defending at the set piece.

Before that moment of carelessness Stuart Douglas, Aaron Skelton and Andrew Fotiadis had all gone close to giving us a lead we deserved for our bright opening spell. Southend got better after their goal, and they scored again in the 65th minute after Peter Holmes was robbed in midfield.

Three minutes later we were back in it with an excellent goal: Douglas turned his man and the ball ran loose to Fotiadis on the edge of the box and he hit a good shot across the keeper into the far corner. We pressed hard after that and the equaliser was another very good strike by Fotiadis on 75 minutes, a half-volley after being set up by a header by Skelton.

I thought we would go on to win after that, but two min-

utes later Holmes was sent off for his second yellow. I felt sorry for him: it was a nothing tackle, although his first booking had been silly, for dissent. The ten men did well, and looked comfortable except on one occasion, when Southend hit a post with a good strike which might have given them a fortunate victory.

Luton Town: Emberson, Foley, Johnson, Dryden, Rosier, Skelton, Holmes, Leary, Locke (Osborn 75 mins), Fotiadis, Douglas.

OUR League Cup semi-final at Gillingham was called off on Monday just as we arrived at the ground. Both teams wanted to play, but the ref had no choice, because the pitch was under water and if the game had started it would not have been completed.

Appearances (as sub in brackets): Fotiadis 18(2), Holmes 16(1), Brennan 14, Fraser 13(3), Mansell 12(2), Locke 11(3), Ovendale 11, Gillman 9(2), Skelton 9, Dryden 9, Hillier 9, Foley 8(1), Johnson 8, Leary 7(2), Emberson 7, Hughes 7, George 7, Stirling 6(3), Bruce 6, Murphy 5(7), Osborn 5(6), Thomson 5(4), Brkovic 5(1), Ward 5(1), Douglas 4(4), Mortara 4(1), Dogbe 3(1), Valois 3, Everitt 3, Coyne 2, Boyce 2, McSwegan 2, Bogaczyl 2, Okai 1(4), Jeffrey 1(3), Crowe 1(1), Forbes 1, Spring 1, Perrett 1, Deeney 1, Ofodile 1, Neilson 1, Jeffrey 1, Mendy 1, Dailly 1, Ofori 1, Iagnostal 1, Hogg 1, Bouchers 1, Djorkaeff 1, Maher 1, Hodges 1, Menetrier 1, Huck 1, Street 1, Martin 1, Fernandez 1, Hardy 1, Rosier 1, Davies 0(1), O'Leary 0(1), Dillon 1(1), Hall 0(1), Postan 0(1).

Goals: Fotiadis 12, Brennan 5(2 pens), Thomson 3, Brkovic 2, Murphy 2, Skelton 2, George 2, McSwegan 2, Ofodile 2, Holmes 2, Mansell 2, Leary 2, Dillon 1, Jeffrey 1, Locke 1, Gillman 1, Everitt 1, Bruce 1, Hodges 1.

Brian Stein

Avon Insurance Combination Results and Fixtures

			AUG	Wed 15	Barnet	A 3-0 Fotiadis 2, Hodges
			SEPT	Wed 29	Millwall	H 1-0 Brennan pen
			Wed 12	Leyton Orient	A 3-2 George, Brkovic 2	
			Thur 20	Barton (BPC)	A 5-0 Gillman, Locke, Brennan, Thomson, Fotiadis	
			Wed 26	Gillingham	H 0-0	
			OCT	Tue 2	Cardiff	A 1-2 Fotiadis
				Mon 8	QPR	H 3-3 Everitt, Brennan pen, Thomson
				Mon 15	Crystal Palace	A 0-1
			NOV	Wed 14	Bristol City	H 1-1 Fotiadis
				Wed 21	Cambridge(LC)	H 3-1 Skelton, Fotiadis, George
				Mon 26	Leighton Tn(BPC)	A 4-2 Brennan 2, Murphy 2
				Wed 28	Norwich(LC)	A 0-0
			DEC	Wed 12	Swindon	H 1-0 Holmes
				Wed 19	Portsmouth	A 7pm
			JAN	Wed 9	Brighton	A 0-1
				Mon 21	Wootton (BPC)	A 1-2 Thomson
				Wed 23	Bournemouth	H 2-1 Leary, Fotiadis
				Wed 30	Brentford	A 0-2
			FEB	Wed 6	Bristol Rov	A 1-2 Skelton
				Wed 13	Norwich	H 5-1 McSwegan 2, Ofodile 2, Holmes
				Wed 20	Cheltenham	A 3-2 Mansell, Jeffrey, Fotiadis,
				Wed 27	Colchester	H 1-0 Fotiadis
			MAR	Wed 6	Oxford	A 3-1 Leary, Mansell, Dillon
				Wed 13	Peterborough	H Postponed
				Mon 18	Gillingham(LC)	A Postponed
				Wed 20	Southend	A 2-2 Fotiadis 2
				Tue 26	Cambridge	A 2pm
			APRIL	Wed 3	Reading	H 2pm
				Wed 10	Northampton	H 2pm
				Tue 16	Wycombe	H 2pm

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION LEAGUE TABLE							
P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	
Portsmouth	18	11	4	3	32	17	37
QPR	18	10	6	2	42	19	36
Crystal Palace	17	9	3	4	38	19	33
Norwich	21	9	6	6	39	35	33
Luton Town	19	9	5	5	32	23	32
Brentford	17	9	4	4	35	25	31
Barnet	20	9	1	10	27	29	28
Reading	18	8	3	7	28	19	27
Southend	19	7	6	6	25	21	27
Gillingham	16	7	5	4	23	14	26
Cardiff	18	7	5	6	27	23	26
Millwall	17	7	5	5	27	27	26
Cheltenham	20	7	5	8	22	33	26
Oxford	20	6	7	7	22	32	25
Leyton Orient	19	8	2	9	32	47	25
Peterborough	17	7	2	8	27	30	23
Colchester	22	6	5	11	30	36	23
Bristol Rovers	17	6	3	8	20	22	21
Cambridge	18	5	4	9	22	26	19
Brighton	15	3	9	3	18	15	18
Wycombe	19	5	3	11	22	33	18
Bristol City	14	4	5	5	18	20	17
Northampton	20	3	8	9	20	35	17
Bournemouth	15	3	4	8	14	30	13
Swindon	16	2	4	10	13	25	10

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www.soccer-stats.com

Average Attendances

2000 4000 6000 8000 10000

Records

Average Gate

4,269

Highest Gate

16,369

Plymouth v

Exeter

Lowest Gate

1,227

Halifax v

Kidderminster

Highest

Avg Score

Rochdale 5

York 4

Biggest

Home Win

Scunthorpe 7

Darlington 1

Biggest

Away Win

Exeter 0

Scunthorpe 4

Consec. Wins

Luton 8

Games

Unbeaten

Plymouth 19

Consec. Defeats

Bristol Rovers,

Halifax 6

Winless Run

Bristol Rovers 14

Cheltenham

Rochdale

Exeter

Kidderminster

Southend

Torquay

Oxford

Macclesfield

Carlisle

Cheltenham

Rushden

Hartlepool

Lincoln

Luton

Plymouth

Swansea

Rochdale

Exeter

Kidderminster

Southend

Torquay

Oxford

Macclesfield

Carlisle

Cheltenham

Rushden

Hartlepool

Lincoln

Luton

Plymouth

Swansea

Rochdale

Exeter

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Rushden

Hartlepool

Lincoln

Luton

Plymouth

Swansea

Rochdale

Exeter

Kidderminster

Southend

Torquay

Statistics and all the fixtures

Date	Opponents	Venue	Kick Off	Time/Result	Score (LT first)	Attendance	Competition/Position	Referee	Yellow Cards (LT first)	Red Cards (LT first)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	Own Goals
Sat 11 Aug	Carlisle United	A	W	2-0	4,432	3rd	M Clattenburg	2/2	0/0																																				0									
Sat 18 Aug	CHEL滕HAM TOWN	H	W	2-1	6,177	1st	G Hegley	4/1	1/0																																0													
Tue 21 Aug	Reading	A	L	0-4	5,115	WC1	D Crick	2/1	0/0																														0															
Sat 25 Aug	Bristol Rovers	A	L	2-3	9,057	5th	C Penton	2/1	0/0																														0															
Mon 27 Aug	SOUTHEND UNITED	H	W	2-0	6,496	2nd	J Ross	1/4	0/1																														0															
Sat 1 Sep	Exeter City	A	D	2-2	3,088	2nd	B Curson	3/1	1/0																													0																
Sat 8 Sep	OXFORD UNITED	H	D	1-1	6,736	5th	C Penton	3/3	0/0																												0																	
Sat 15 Sep	York City	A	W	2-1	3,247	3rd	G Salisbury	4/2	0/0																												0																	
Tue 18 Sep	LINCOLN CITY	H	D	1-1	5,066	6th	S Baines	0/0	0/0	1x																									0																			
Sat 22 Sep	TORQUAY UNITED	H	W	5-1	6,392	3rd	L Cable	0/3	0/0																											0																		
Tue 25 Sep	Leyton Orient	A	W	3-1	6,540	1st	P Rejter	3/1	0/0																										0																			
Sat 29 Sep	Plymouth Argyle	A	L	1-2	5,782	3rd	A Hall	5/3	0/1																										0																			
Fri 5 Oct	DARLINGTON	H	W	5-2	7,219	1st	J Brandwood	4/2	0/0																										0																			
Sat 13 Oct	Scunthorpe United	A	W	2-0	3,939	1st	H Webb	3/0	0/0																									0																				
Sat 20 Oct	ROCHDALE	H	L	0-1	7,696	3rd	S Tomlin	2/1	0/0																									0																				
Tue 23 Oct	Halifax Town	A	W	4-2	2,140	3rd	M Pike	1/2	0/0																									0																				
Sat 27 Oct	SWANSEA CITY	H	W	3-0	6,705	1st	P Durkin	0/0	0/0																									0																				
Tue 30 Oct	Dagenham & Redbridge	A	L	2-3	2,433	LDVT2	D Crick	2/1	0/0																									0																				
Sat 3 Nov	Mansfield Town	A	L	1-4	5,973	4th	D Pugh	7/2	1/2																									0																				
Fri 9 Nov	SHREWSBURY TOWN	H	W	1-0	6,809	2nd	F Stretton	0/2	0/0																								0																					
Sat 17 Nov	Southend United	A	L	2-3	6,526	FAC1	B Knight	2/2	0/0																								0																					
Tue 20 Nov	HULL CITY	H	L	0-1	7,214	4th	D Elleray	2/3	0/0																								0																					
Sat 24 Nov	Macclesfield Town	A	L	1-4	2,250	5th	R Pearson	1/0	0/0																								0																					
Sat 8 Dec	Hartlepool United	A	W	2-1	3,585	4th	A Leake	5/2	1/0																								0																					
Sat 15 Dec	RUSHDEN & DIAMONDS	H	W	1-0	7,495	2nd	P Danson	4/1	0/0																								0																					
Sat 22 Dec	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	H	D	2-2	6,739	2nd	G Cain	1/0	0/0																								0																					
Wed 26 Dec	Oxford United	A	W	2-1	11,121	2nd	M Warren	3/2	0/0																								0																					
Sat 29 Dec	Southend United	A	W	2-1	5,973	2nd	M Ryan	1/2	0/0																								0																					
Tue 8 Jan	Kidderminster Harriers	A	W	4-1	4,147	2nd	J Ross	1/1	0/0																								0																					
Sat 12 Jan	Cheltenham Town	A	D	1-1	5,026	2nd	S Baines	1/1	0/0																							0																						
Sat 19 Jan	CARLISLE UNITED	H	D	1-1	6,647	2nd	P Alcock	1/2	0/0																							0																						
Sat 26 Jan	Darlington	A	L	2-3	3,564	2nd	E Wolstenholme	4/4	0/0																							0																						
Sat 2 Feb	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H	W	2-0	5,985	2nd	P Joslin	1/2	0/0																							0																						
Sat 9 Feb	Rochdale	A	L	0-1	4,306	2nd	M Messias	4/6	1/0																							0																						
Sat 16 Feb	SCUNTHORPE UNITED	H	L	2-3	6,371	3rd	R Oliver	4/3	0/0																							0																						
Tue 19 Feb	BRISTOL ROVERS	H	W	3-0	5,651	2nd	P Walton	1/2	0/1																							0																						
Sat 23 Feb	YORK CITY	H	W	2-1	6,188	2nd	R Harris	1/4	0/0																							0																						
Tue 26 Feb	Lincoln City	A	W	1-0	2,921	2nd	A Bates	1/0	0/0																							0																						
Sat 2 Mar	Torquay United	A	W	1-0	3,280	2nd	D Crick	2/2	0/0																							0																						
Tue 5 Mar	LEYTON ORIENT	H	W	3-0	6,683	2nd	C Penton	0/4	0/0																							0																						
Sat 9 Mar	Rushden & Diamonds	A	W	2-1	5,876	2nd	M Fletcher	3/0	0/0																							0																						
Tue 12 Mar	EXETER CITY	H	W	3-0	6,327	2nd	S Tomlin	3/0	0/0																							0																						
Sat 16 Mar	KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS	H	W	1-0	6,488	2nd	G Hegley	2/1	1/1																							0																						
Sat 23 Mar	HALIFAX TOWN	H	3pm			D3																											0																					
Sat 30 Mar	Swansea City	A	3pm			D3																											0																					
Mon 1 Apr	MANSFIELD TOWN	H	12.30pm			D3																												0																				
Sat 6 Apr	Hull City	A	3pm			D3																												0																				
Sat 13 Apr	MACCLESFIELD TOWN	H	3pm			D3																												0																				
Sat 20 Apr	Shrewsbury Town	A	3pm			D3																												0																				
Penalties		Home Avg Gate 6,734		Started Match																																																		

Today's Squads

Luton Town

1	Mark Ovendale
2	Aaron Skelton
4	Matthew Spring
5	Russell Perrett
6	Marvin Johnson
7	Adrian Forbes
8	Kevin Nicholls
10	Carl Griffiths
12	Chris Coyne
14	Andrew Fotiadis
15	Matthew Taylor
16	Carl Emberson
17	Emmerson Boyce
18	Adam Locke
19	Steve Howard
20	Peter Holmes
24	Scott Ward
27	Paul Hughes
28	Jean Louis Valois
30	David Bayliss
32	Lee Mansell
33	Ian Hillier
34	Dean Crowe
35	Ahmet Brkovic
43	Alan Neilson

Halifax Town

2	Paul Harsley
3	Dominic Ludden
4	Andrew Woodward
6	Paul Stoneman
7	Craig Middleton
8	Neil Redfearn
9	Steve Kerrigan
10	Gary Jones
11	Craig Midgley
12	Mark Jules
13	Barry Richardson
14	Steve Swales
15	Graham Mitchell
16	Matthew Clarke
17	Alan Reilly
18	Ian Fitzpatrick
19	Robert Herbert
20	Steven Oleksewycz
21	Jamie Wood
22	Peter Crookes
23	Peter Wright
24	Craig Smith
26	Nathan Winder
27	Steve Bushell
29	Andy Farrell

Today's Officials

Referee: Phil Prosser, Gloucestershire

Assistants: Paul Martin, Northamptonshire (yellow flag); Paul Melin, Surrey (red and yellow flag)

Fourth Official: Gary Evetts, Hertfordshire

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