

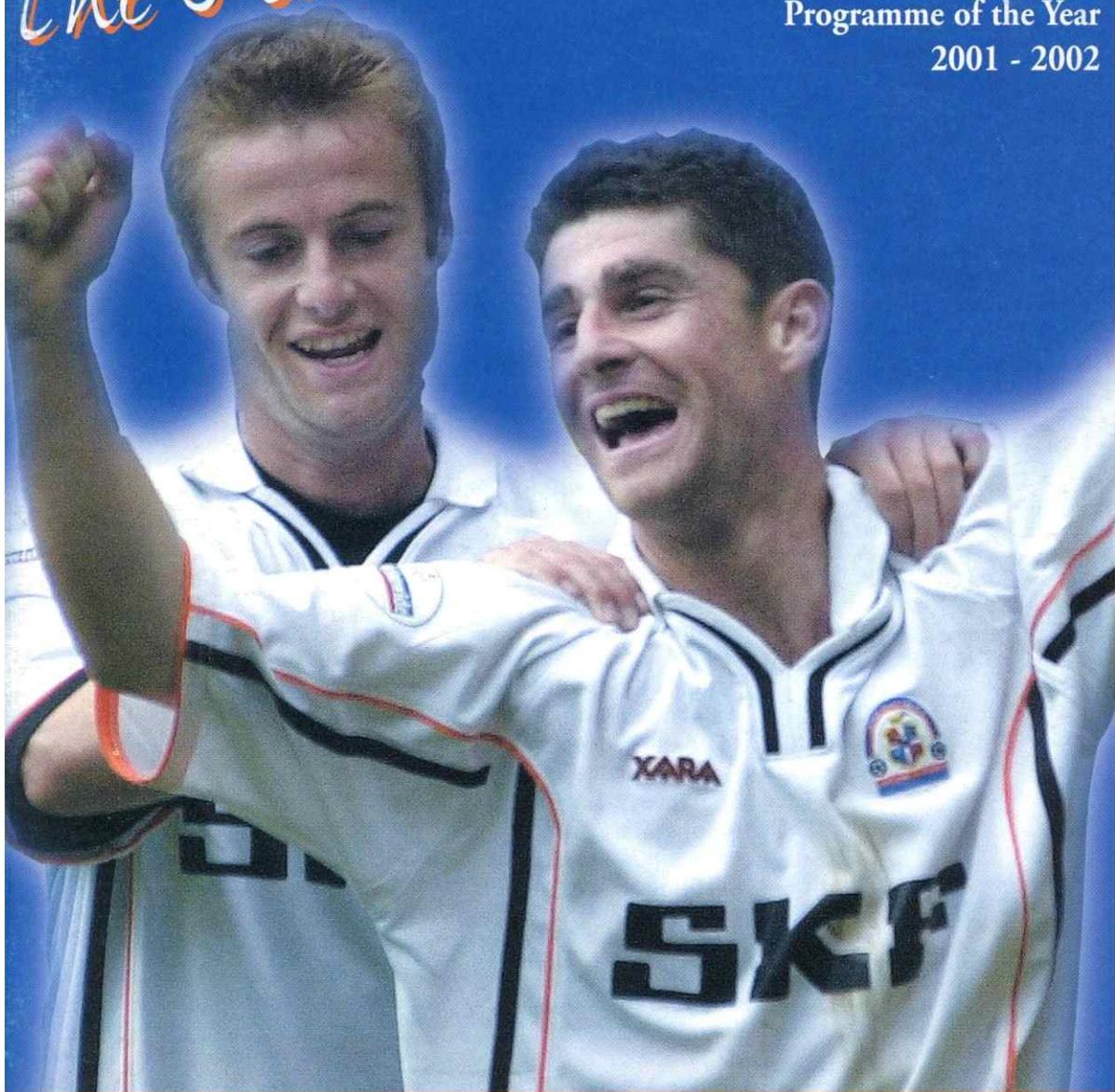
# LUTON TOWN

## *The Hatters*

Official Matchday Magazine Price: £2.00

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2001 - 2002



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### Official Matchday Magazine

#### Editor

Brian Swain

#### Design & Printing

Regal Litho Ltd

#### Photography

Gareth Owen

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

#### Cover Story



WINNERS: Steve Robinson has just netted his first goal for the Town, a penalty against Swindon, and Peter Holmes is quick to share his pleasure.

JOE Kinnear was "totally delighted" as he drove back to Luton from Walsall on Wednesday evening after a Football League tribunal fixed the transfer fee for Sol Davis at £60,000 down, rising to £105,000 after the left back has made 60 appearances. Swindon, who failed to persuade the young defender to accept a new contract, had asked for £150,000 when he decided to leave the County Ground to join the Town. The Kenilworth Road counter-offer was £50,000.

Just turned 23, Davis was too young to be a Bosman. Born in Cheltenham, he joined Swindon as a trainee, and soon became a regular in their first team. He has been ever-present since his move to Luton, which means that Swindon stand to pick up their first of three £15,000 "appearance fees" next month. A further £15,000 will be due when Davis has made 40 league appearances, with the final tranche to be paid when the total is 60 games.

The left back has settled in easily at Kenilworth Road, and has turned in some impressive performances, leaving Joe pleased at a very astute piece of transfer business.

He said: "I am delighted with the outcome because if he had not been out of contract we would have paid the asking price of £150,000. So we have saved nearly £50,000 by going to the tribunal."

Davis is on a three-year contract, and the manager forecasts his value will probably treble by the time it ends.

A financial windfall is the consolation for the Town after the loss of Matt Taylor to Portsmouth in the summer, when he, like Davis, chose to leave under freedom of contract.

The Town boss said: "Having sold him for £750,000, there was no-one at the club capable of filling his shoes. In Sol Davis we have a player with real potential, and it means we have made a profit of nearly £650,000 on the left back position."

#### Window Is A Pain!

THE latest recruit to the Town squad is 24-year-old goalkeeper Cedric Berthelin, who made his debut for the club in last week's

#### INSIDE TODAY...

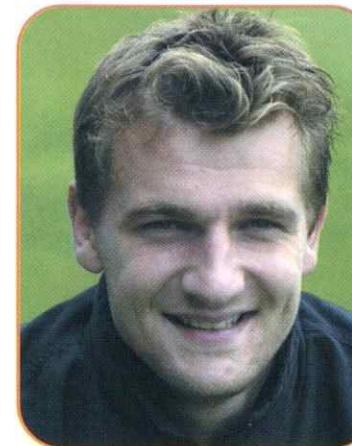
Local derby will be all-ticket – P 11; Oldham and Woking travel offers – P 27; The manager's column – P 5; The captain's views – P 7; Match action - reports and pictures – Pp 28-9 & 35-39; Latest injury news – P 8; Reserves thrash Plymouth – P 49; Blast from the Past – Pp 22 & 23; Junior Hatters – P 41; Chasing the play-offs – P 53.

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# Inside Forward



SOL DAVIS



CEDRIC BERTHELIN

victory at Stockport. But his arrival proved to be a tricky business because of the FIFA transfer windows edict, even though the player, as a free agent, was allowed to sign for any Nationwide League club.

The goalkeeper impressed in training with the Town, and the manager was under a bit of pressure when Carl Emberson joined Mark Ovendale on the injured list, leaving him with the youth team's Dean Brill as the only fully-fit keeper. The situation has since eased – Emberson was able to play at Aston Villa, and Ovendale began his comeback on Wednesday with his first game of the season, in the reserves 4-0 win at Plymouth.

Berthelin was available after being released by Valence. Under the transfer windows system, he could sign for the Town, but that would mean the window was shut for him until December. Joe offered the player a contract for a month, effectively as a trial – "I want to see players in matches before I sign them long-term."

The goalkeeper, however, turned down that idea, asking for a minimum of a three-month deal to keep him in work until the transfer window opens. The boss understood the player's predicament. If he accepted a month, and was not taken on, he would be left in limbo, unable even to return to play in France, where the window does not open until just before Christmas. A compromise was reached, and Berthelin has accepted a two-month deal, after which both sides can consider their options. And if it does not work out for him at Kenilworth Road, he will not have long to wait for the chance to chase a new job.

Brian Swain

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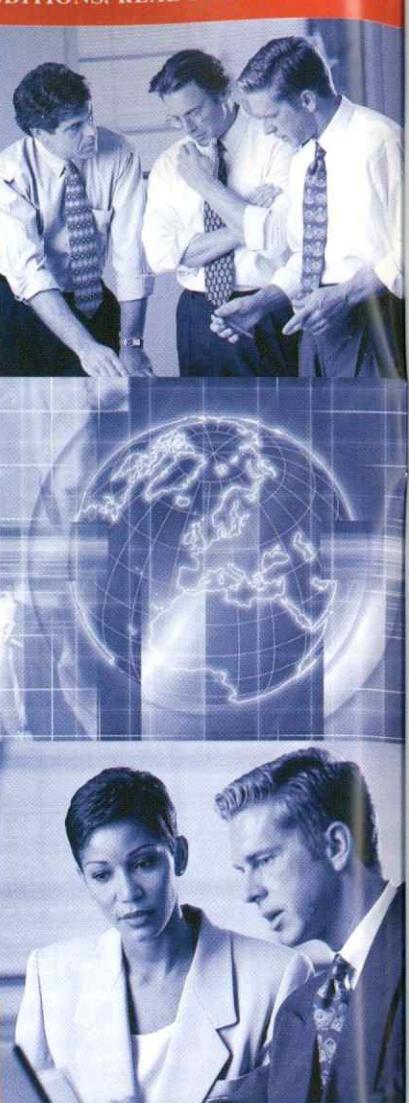
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## Manager's View



THREE consecutive league victories have improved our league position considerably, and underlined a point I made in an earlier column this season that despite our poor start to the campaign we are capable of doing well in the Second Division.

All teams have spells when they do not hit top form or get the results they want, and I trust that in our case we have now had our bad spell for the season, and that we can build on the good work of recent weeks and keep pushing onwards and upwards.

Because of illness in the family I was unable to go to Stockport, but I was delighted to hear from Mick Harford that the team played very well, and the result was certainly no fluke.

That game, of course, followed our Worthington Cup-tie at Aston Villa, and our players deserve great credit for the way they conducted themselves at Villa Park, and in the way they bounced back from that defeat.

I had hoped that we would give Villa a better run for their money, but on the night it became a case of money talking – Villa are able to spend millions on one player while we have built our team according to our means.

We were certainly not disgraced at Villa Park, and it was pleasing to see the way we kept going and refused to give in, even when we were

A few weeks ago some might

three down. I had felt all along that we would respond to the occasion in the right way, and I think we did that. Teams with less character would have been intimidated before they started, but we always tried to play our football, and it was no disgrace to be beaten away by a well-established Premiership team.

The facilities, of course, were superb, and made us realise yet again that for Luton Town to have a real chance of competing a new modern stadium is an absolute necessity.

I hope our supporters were able to enjoy the experience to some degree, despite the result, and everyone in the club was very impressed by our turn-out. To have over 4,000 fans at a midweek match where we were hardly expected to win was tremendous, and the backing you gave was almost beyond belief. We heard you, of course, and it helped us in a contest where we were always going to be the under-dogs.

Cup-ties, of course, are a pleasant diversion if they do not get in the way of winning league points, and it says much for our players that having lost on a Wednesday they could come back so strongly to win three days later.

We were never going to win the Worthington Cup, and the major objective has to be to try to win promotion from this league.

have felt that was already impossible. I remember writing here that the time to judge our prospects would be when we had played a dozen league games. That mark was reached at Stockport on Saturday and a look at the table shows we have started to find our feet in this division.

Suddenly we are within two victories of the play-off zone, and we have now proved we can put together a winning run. The need now is to ensure the good work of recent weeks is not wasted. It is ironic that you have to look at the top five places in the league to find any other clubs with an away record better than ours. Unfortunately, our home results so far have been disappointing, and we cannot afford to throw away any more points on our own park.

The performance against Swindon was just what we needed, and today I expect us to match that display, if not better it.

These have been testing times, with injuries forcing team changes, but we all feel that we are now on our way. There is a lot of work to be done if we are to make a serious challenge, but the recipe for success is simple: chalk up another long sequence of victories like we did last season. We achieved our ambition then, and we can do it again.

Keep the faith, and enjoy the game.

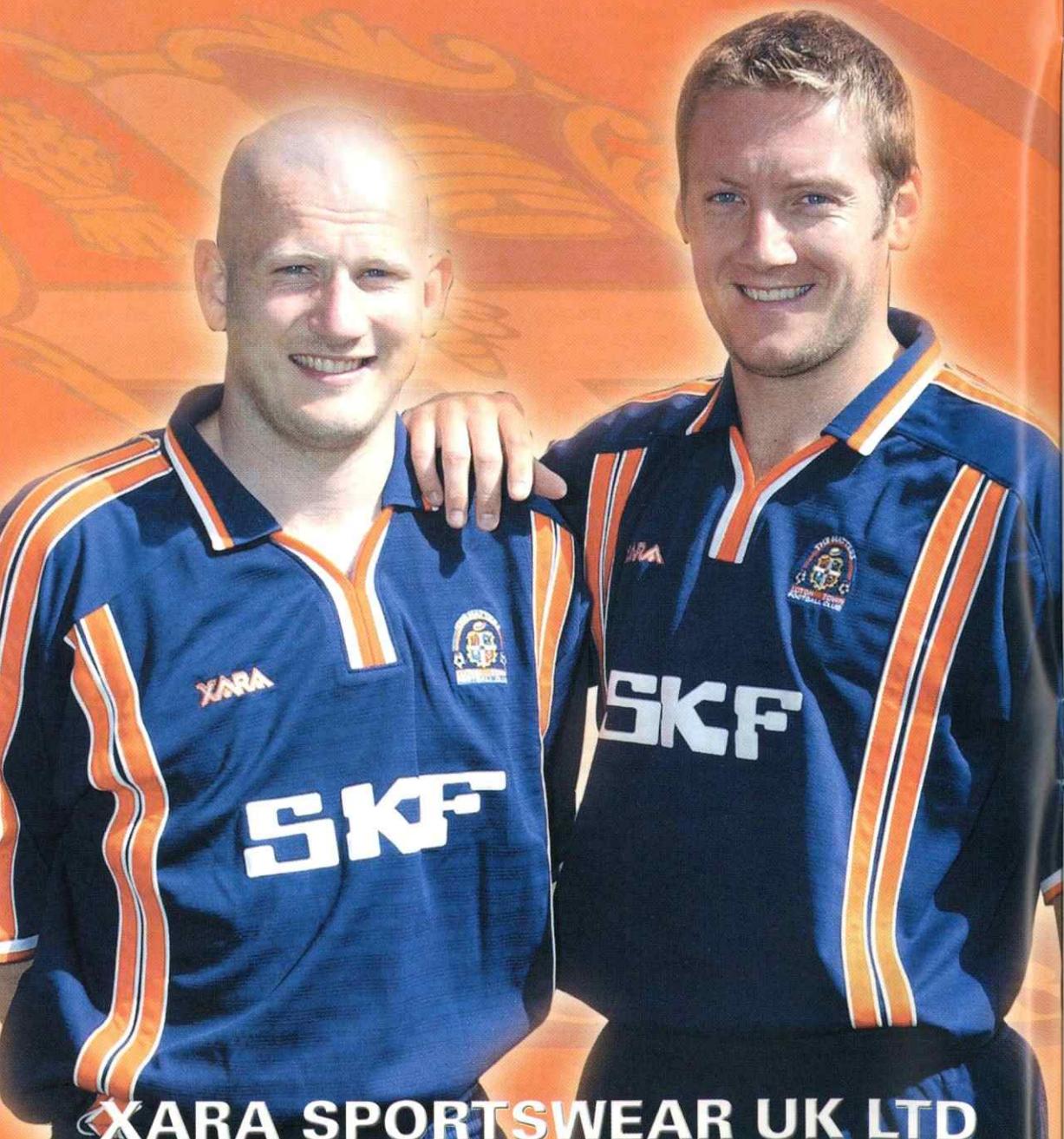
**Joe Kinnear**



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## Captain's View



I AM going through a bit of a tough time at present – well cheesed off because I am out of the side through injury, but delighted for the club, and for all the lads, at the run of three consecutive league victories.

I am not a very good spectator, and it was a choker to have to drop out of the side after collecting a calf muscle injury during the well-earned victory over Swindon a fortnight ago. That's the down side of being a professional footballer, but we have given ourselves a lift with recent performances and results. We won't be carried away with the current run, because we know there is a lot more to do yet.

We have adopted a policy of taking the season stage by stage, after we had a team meeting to thrash out what was going wrong in our poor start to the season. The first objective, after we found ourselves in the relegation zone, was to aim for a mid-table place. We have just about achieved that, and hopefully will take another step on that road this afternoon.

Having done that, we can start to think about reaching for the play-off zone. It's not too far away, although plenty of other teams are in a similar position. Last season the players held a meeting to debate what had to be done after we lost to Scunthorpe. The answer was to redouble our efforts and try our best to get through the rest of the season without being beaten again. We did it, and got the promotion we

desperately wanted.

It was a tall order, and now we have another similar one. For starters, we want to build on the recent good run by going through October without losing.

At least we have got one half of the promotion equation right. Look at every division in the country, including the Premiership, and the top teams have one thing in common – good away results. Ours are pretty good so far, and we think we can match last season's away form. What we have not done yet is reproduce the home results of last season, but we are determined to put that right.

We were sorry to go out of the Worthington Cup at Villa Park, but it was a great occasion for us, and for the fans. I sat in the stand kicking every ball. We played quite well, but were up against a very good side. The fans responded well and thanks for that, and I guess that so far as the Worthington Cup is concerned this season we did you the biggest favour possible by beating Watford!

I was unable to go to Stockport because I was undergoing treatment at Kenilworth Road on Saturday morning, so I took the chance to go and support my brother, who plays in goal for Chelmsford. They beat Weymouth 3-1, with Phil Gray scoring two good goals and my brother Paul saving a penalty. But what really made my day was speaking to the lads after the game and getting a full run-down on the

match. We were all well pleased to get the three points, and I was delighted to hear that Andrew Fotiadis scored again, his second goal in three starts. It is like having a new signing when a player comes back into the squad after a longish absence. Foty has had problems with injuries in the past, but he has what it takes to do well – he's strong, powerful and quick, and when he is fit and on song it means the gaffer has more competition to places in the attack.

There is also more competition in midfield, as I realise only too well! I have heard how well Alan Neilson played at Stockport, and that is good news for the club. Obviously when I am fit I will try to win back my place, but I am pleased for Alan. He is a great lad and a good pro, and has played at the highest level. It will be a week or two before I will be fit enough to challenge for a return to the side, but I have no problem with that. If someone is playing well and you can't get back into the team, that is part and parcel of football. Competition for places is very important.

So today I have two main wishes: for everyone to get fit again as soon as possible, and for the lads to keep up the good work and get three more points in the bag.

*Kevin Nicholls*

Log on to Luton Town's official website at  
[www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk)



## Treatment Room

THERE have been some rewarding features of our work in the treatment room this week, headed by the return to football of Mark Ovendale. He played his first match of the season, following his hip operation, and we were all delighted for him when he kept a clean sheet for the reserves in Wednesday's win at Plymouth, and has also reported no after-effects.

He needs more games to regain match fitness, but he is well on the way. The surgeon's original forecast was that the goalkeeper would be looking at Christmas for a return to playing, and to reach this stage in his recovery so quickly is testament to a lot of hard work on his part.

There is also excellent news on Adrian Forbes, who is another who is showing every sign of doing better than the forecast

with his determination to get over his cruciate ligament injury. He was able to resume jogging again this week, which is very good news.

As you may know, it was thought he might miss the whole of this season after picking up the injury in a pre-season friendly, but his attitude and willingness to work hard is helping his cause no end, and he is coming along very well. David Bayliss underwent surgery on Monday to stabilise his left shoulder, and the operation was a complete success. He was then sent home for rest and recuperation. It will be the start of a very long road for him, anything up to four months, but he is another who is very determined to do everything possible to aid his recovery. He is coming to watch today's game, and will have a session in the treatment room so that we can assess his

condition, and decide where we go from here.

Carl Griffiths is still feeling soreness from a minor calf muscle tear, and he is not yet running, so he will not be available today.

Nor will Kevin Nicholls. He had a scan which showed a slight calf muscle tear, but that is coming along very well and will not be a big problem. However, he has a touch of tendonitis in his Achilles, and that will need treatment and time, probably another week or two, before he can think about playing again.

Tony Thorpe missed the reserves game on Wednesday because of a sore back, but it is not a serious injury. He was soon back in training, and he should be available for selection for this afternoon's game

*Bruce Sewell Hobbs*

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## Club Secretary

I FEEL I must start today by putting on record the club's appreciation of the fantastic support we had yet again for the Worthington Cup match at Aston Villa. The vocal support throughout the game was quite overwhelming, and more often than not our fans outshouted the home supporters. Congratulations too, to Town on Tour, part of the official Luton Town Supporters Club, who again put on a double-figure fleet of coaches to the match. Well done to everyone who helped.

There have been a lot of changes at Villa Park since we were last there, and some of us were a little envious at their set-up and facilities. It was another reminder of just how important to Luton Town are the club's plans for a 21st-century stadium.

It has been a month since our Worthington Cup victory at Watford, a wonderful night marred only by the actions of small minority within the stadium.

You may be wondering why there has been no apparent word on what has happened to those involved. We would assure supporters that the Hertfordshire Police, along with Bedfordshire Police, are still working hard on a full and extensive enquiry into this incident, and others that occurred on the night.

Hertfordshire Police have brought in Greater Manchester Police to assist in their own internal investigation. Luton Town are co-operating

fully with the enquiries, which will identify those involved, and bring them before the courts.

Under current legislation any persons involved in football-related offences are liable to three-year bans from all football matches, and we will extend that ban in relation to matches at Kenilworth Stadium.

At the time of writing I am about to travel with the manager and Sol Davis to a Football League Tribunal at the Bescot Stadium, Walsall, to decide a compensation fee to be paid to Swindon Town for the defender.

The panel was made up of representatives from the Managers' Association, the Professional Footballers Association, the Football League and an independent chairman. Each club put its case explaining what fee it believed to be right, and the panel then made a decision.

Hopefully the result has been announced in time for it to be reported elsewhere in today's matchday magazine. One football announcement made this week concerned our under-19 team in the Football League Youth Alliance. As has been reported in an earlier programme, John Moore's lads have won through to the second round of the Alliance League Cup. They will be away to Brighton, and the date has been fixed for November 16. It

means that the team's League match at home to Peterborough will have to be postponed. The new date will be notified as soon as we have it.

We received notification this week that our Second Division match at Northampton on November 2 has been designated an all-ticket game. I regret that a lot of our supporters are likely to be disappointed, because our allocation of just 1,250 seats means that demand is sure to be far greater than supply. In such circumstances, the fairest method of ticket distribution is to give first chance to season ticket holders, which is what we are doing. Turn over the page for full details.

Last Sunday's local rag, thought it "bizarre" when I passed on a request asking them to ensure that a report went out correctly. Far be it from me to suggest they would never make a mistake, but as it happened it was no surprise to me on opening the paper last Sunday to find that a large photograph from Saturday's game quite clearly showing Steve Robinson and Matthew Spring celebrating one of the goals should have the caption "Andrew Fotiadis gets a hug from skipper Matt Spring." I rest my case!

Finally, I expect like me you will want to get home quickly after today's match to see the European qualifying game, Slovakia v England. We wish the England team very success.

*Cherry Newbery*

You can e-mail Cherry Newbery on  
[clubsec@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:clubsec@lutontown.co.uk)

# Latest News From

# The Ticket Office



LDV Vans Trophy – First Round

## Woking v Luton Town

Tuesday October 22, 2002, kick-off 7.45pm

This match is pay on the night only for Luton Town supporters, with no tickets available in advance from Kenilworth Road.

Prices, standing and seating: Adults £9, Senior Citizens £7, Under-16s £4

### TOWN TEASER

IF YOU know your Luton Town trivia, you might win a pair of match tickets this afternoon. They are on offer in our Town Teaser competition. For your chance to have a go listen to the PA announcer before kick-off and be ready with your answer.

At the last home game we asked about a former Swindon winger who spent nine years of trying before getting into the top flight with the Town, and how he later spoiled a party at Kenilworth Road. The answer was David Moss, who is now manager of Macclesfield, whose team ended our record-breaking run of consecutive victories late last season. We think this afternoon's question may be a little easier.

### TODAY'S QUESTION

TODAY is only the third time we have met Cheltenham in the Football League. What were the results of the first two games?

## Fans on the road

CHAIRMAN Mike Watson-Challis sends his thanks to the magnificent supporters who went to Villa Park for the Worthington Cup-tie last week. It was not just the tremendous number of Town fans, but also their spirited support throughout the 90 minutes, despite seeing Aston Villa win the game. It was remarkable, and the players appreciated it too. Latest figures on travelling fans:

### Hatters Away

Blackpool	781
Plymouth	773
Cardiff	314
Brentford	1,493
Watford(WC)	4,404
Huddersfield	700
Aston Villa (WC)	4,588
Stockport	680
<b>Total:</b>	<b>13,733</b>
<b>Average:</b>	<b>1,717</b>

### Visitors to Luton

Peterborough	990
Barnsley	504
Chesterfield	366
Notts County	341
Mansfield	160
Swindon	404
<b>2,765</b>	
<b>461</b>	

## Nationwide League Division Two



### Oldham Athletic v Luton Town

Saturday October 19, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match is pay on the day only for Luton Town supporters, with no tickets available in advance from Kenilworth Road.

Prices: Adults £16, Senior Citizens, Students and Juniors £7.



### Luton Town v Wigan Athletic

Saturday October 26, 2002, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices

Cash turnstiles will be available on the day, subject to availability, but please remember there are NO CONCESSIONS available on cash turnstiles



### Crewe Alexandra v Luton Town

Tuesday October 29, 2002, kick-off 7.45pm

This is not an all-ticket match for Luton Town supporters. However, there are 500 seating tickets on sale in advance from Kenilworth Road

Prices: Adults £16, Senior Citizens £13, Under-16s £4

Unfortunately there are no student concessions available for this game. If supporters wish to pay on the night prices remain the same.



### Northampton Town v Luton Town

Saturday November 2, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This is an ALL TICKET match for Luton Town supporters, with no tickets available on the day of the game. Our allocation is 850 seats behind the goal and 400 seats in the Family Stand

Because of the small allocation of tickets, they will be sold as follows:

### SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

Tickets go on sale to season ticket holders only, one per season ticket, on production of cup match voucher C after today's match, and until, subject to availability, 6pm on Friday October 25. No telephone bookings will be accepted, but season ticket holders can make postal application

### MEMBERS

In the event that any tickets remain after Friday October 25, they will go on sale, one per member, on production of membership cards, at 9am on Saturday October 26

Prices: Behind the goal: Adults £14, concessions £9.50

Family Stand: Adults £15, concessions £8



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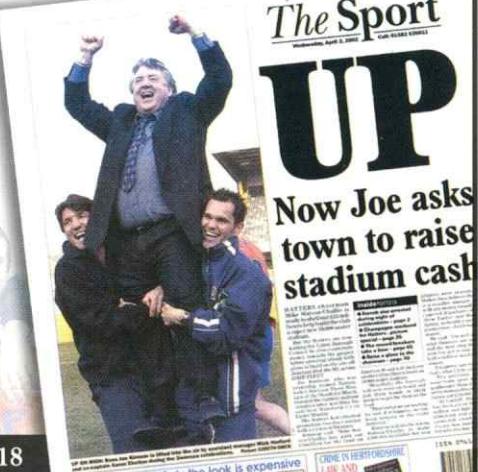
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\*See site for details, terms and conditions apply.

## Commercial Corner

OUR match sponsors are just about always Luton Town supporters, and a real bunch of Hatters fans are back with us today, on another of their regular visits to the executive lounges. They call themselves Don't Wait Up, which is the kind and

SIX years old last week, Scott Clark will enjoy his visit to Kenilworth Road today even more than usual. He comes to games with his mum, dad and grand-dad, but this afternoon he will be much closer to the action than usual, because he is our commercial mascot.

He lives at Osborne Street, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, and goes to Bishop Parker School, and when he is not cheering for the Town he enjoys fishing.

Today Scott gets a close look at what goes on behind the scenes, meeting the players in the dressing room before the game, and then joining them on the pitch for the pre-match routines, including meeting the match officials and skippers at the toss of the coin for choice of ends. Scott hopes Dean Crowe will find time for a word or two, because the striker is his favourite player.



considerate message they send to wives and girlfriends when they have important matters on their minds, like going to matches or meeting to talk about Luton Town. As usual Grant Janes, from Stapleford Road, Stopsley, has gathered a group of like-minded football lovers for today's match sponsorship, and he asks for a special mention for Joe McHugh – "He retired recently and we would all like to wish him many years of happy retirement."

We are pleased to pass on that message, and also to put on record our grateful thanks for the Don't Wait Up group's continued support of our very important commercial efforts.

TODAY'S match ball sponsorship is also the result of a long-running love of Luton Town. The ball sponsors are Grant Penniston Energy Services, a small, friendly plumbing and heating business based in Maulden. Grant has been working in the gas engineering industry for over 35 years, and has been a keen Hatters supporter throughout those years. He and his wife are season ticket holders in the Kenilworth Stand, and their niece Rachel is engaged to Town winger Adrian Forbes, and like all Town fans they wish him a very speedy return to match fitness and to the first team squad.

*Linda Layton*

## Golden Gamble

THE Golden Gamble is becoming more and more popular with supporters, and our picture shows one Luton Town fan who enjoyed the 50-50 flutter most of all, at our last home game. Tracey Dixon, of Abingdon Road, Luton, collected £705 in cash after her ticket was pulled out of the drum by David Bayliss.

Not bad for a stake of £1, which is what Golden Gamble tickets cost. Tracey was the season's sixth winner, and the total jackpot pay-outs have amounted to £4,020, an average of £670 each.

The prize depends on sales: out of the £1 stake, half goes to the jackpot and the other half to club funds, so even if you are not lucky enough to win, you are helping Luton Town, for which we are grateful. Another cash prize is on offer this afternoon, and Golden Gamble ticket sellers are on duty all around the ground. The draw is made at half-time, with the prize available immediately.



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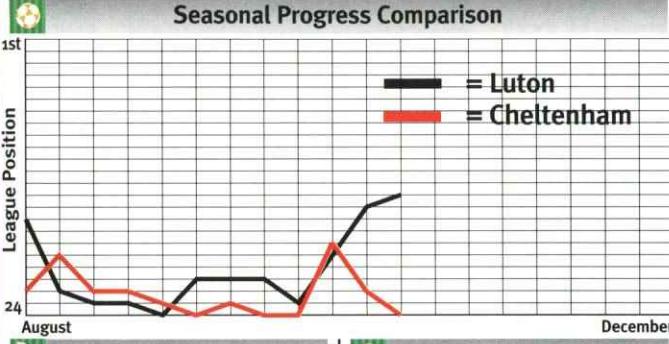
**Luton Town v Cheltenham Town**

Location <http://www.soccer-stats.com/headtohead>


For/Against Goalscoring Home/Away Top Scorer Form Guide Discipline Attendances Swings/Margins Miscellaneous



**Seasonal Progress Comparison**



**Clubs Comparison**

	Luton	Cheltenham
Goals Scored	10	24
Shots	8	8
Headers	3	3
Volleys	1	1
Penalties	0	0
Free Kicks	0	0
Own Goals	0	0

**2002-2003 Attendances**

	Hatters	Robins
Aggregate	39,003	30,467
Highest	7,860	5,895
Lowest	6,004	4,395
Average	6,501	5,078
% of Capacity	65	69

**10 Year Record**

	Hatters	Robins
Avg Pos. among 92 clubs	53.9	94.5
Avg Att 1993	7,878	919
Avg Att 2002	6,501	5,078
+ / - %	-17	453

**Where Goals Scored**



**Where Goals Conceded**



**Average Goals per game**

	For	Against
Home For	1.00	1.17
Away For	1.17	0.83
Home Against	1.58	1.67
Away Against	2.00	1.83

**When Goals Scored**

	0-15 mins	16-30 mins	31-45 mins	46-60 mins	61-75 mins	75-90 mins
1	1	3	3	0	3	2

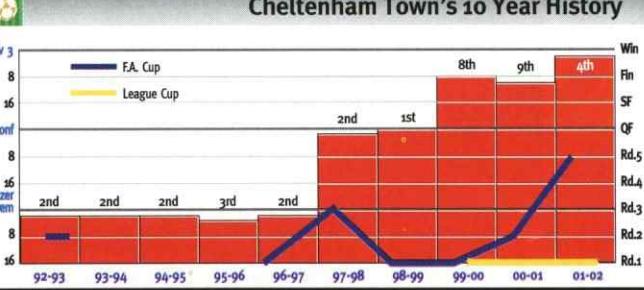
**Form Guide - Last 6**

	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points	Goal Difference
3	2	1	3	9	11	7	-2

**2002-2003 Figures**

	Players Used	Clean Sheets	Failed to Score	Goals scored from...	Corners	Free Kicks	Goals conceded from...	Corners	Free Kicks
22	19	2	3	3	2	2	...	3	4
5	12	3	3	1	2	4	...	0	0
2	0	3	3	1	2	4	...	0	0

**Cheltenham Town's 10 Year History**



**Yellow & Red Cards**

	Yellow	Red
25	9	0
1	0	0

**Misc stats**

	Highest Pos.	Lowest Pos.	Winning Run	Unbeaten Run	Losing Run	No Win Run
14	18	24	2	2	3	8

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# Welcome To

## MANAGER

### GRAHAM ALLNER



A tricky left-winger during his playing days with Walsall, Stafford Rangers, Worcester City and Alvechurch, Graham first joined Cheltenham Town as assistant manager to Allan Grundy in the Southern League in 1980. He left to manage AP Leamington, whom he guided to the Southern League title in 1983, before embarking upon a hugely successful 15-year spell in charge of Kidderminster Harriers in the Conference.

## GOALKEEPERS

### 1. STEVE BOOK

**Born: 7.7.69, Bournemouth**

Long-serving goalkeeper who joined Cheltenham Town at the start of their rise through the leagues in 1997. A confident, bubbly character and an agile goalkeeper with excellent reflexes, Steve has fought off competition from the other goalkeepers at the club to remain virtually ever-present for the past five seasons. Since joining Cheltenham he

has won a Conference championship, an FA Trophy at Wembley, a third division play-off title and England semi-professional representative honours.

### 12. SHANE HIGGS

**Born: 13.5.77, Oxford**

6ft 3ins goalkeeper, signed from Worcester City for £10,000 in the summer of 1999. Shane began as a trainee with Bristol Rovers, signing a professional contract in 1995 and going on to make 10 League appearances for the Pirates before being released in 1998. He then spent a season with Worcester City and has been understudy to Steve Book for the past three seasons.

## DEFENDERS

### 2. ANTONY GRIFFIN

**Born: 22.3.79, Bournemouth**

Last season was easily the most successful of Antony Griffin's three campaigns with Cheltenham Town to date. He joined Cheltenham in the summer of 2000 for a tribunal-set

# Cheltenham Town F.C.



## 20. STEVE JONES

**Born: 25.12.70, Bristol**

Steve re-joined Cheltenham Town from Swansea City in the summer of 2001, having originally left Whaddon Road in 1995. A natural athlete with great stamina and heading ability, Steve began his career in the Gloucestershire County League with Wotton Rovers. He moved on to Fairford Town then Forest Green Rovers before joining the Robins in the summer of 1993.

## 3. JAMIE VICTORY

**Born: 14.11.75, London**



One of Cheltenham Town's most highly-rated players, Jamie re-established himself last season as one of the best left-backs in the lower divisions after missing much of the 2000-2001 campaign through injury. Jamie began his career as a trainee with West Ham but was then released to join AFC Bournemouth in 1995. He made a number of appearances for the south coast club before joining Cheltenham Town in 1996 and winning the supporters player of the year award in his first season at Whaddon Road.

## 6. MICHAEL DUFF

**Born: 11.1.78, Belfast**

Michael became the first Cheltenham Town player ever to gain full international honours when he lined up for Northern Ireland against Poland in a friendly last season. His rise to prominence coincided with a move to the centre of defence after spending the early part of his career at either right-back or in midfield. A tall, athletic defender who continues to make excellent progress, Michael joined Cheltenham Town as a youth team player in 1996.

## 15. RICHARD WALKER

**Born: 9.11.71, Derby**

A solid and dependable defensive player, Richard has bounced back from a series of injuries to become a regular selection in the Cheltenham back line. A versatile player who can operate at left-back or in the centre of defence, he joined the Robins from Hereford United in October 1998.

## 17. NEIL HOWARTH

**Born: 15.11.71, Bolton**

Neil is a tall, versatile defender who can play at either full-back or in the centre of defence. He began his career with Burnley but made just one League appearance before joining Macclesfield Town in the Conference. He captained The Silkmen to success in the FA Trophy, two Conference championships and promotion from Nationwide League Division Three, finally leaving Moss Rose to join Cheltenham for a £7,500 fee in time to help the Robins attain promotion to the Football League.

## 5. JOHN BROUGHT

**Born: 8.1.73, Ilkeston**

John is relishing the chance to play

## MIDFIELDERS

### 7. LEE HOWELLS

**Born: 14.10.68, Fremantle, Australia**

Cheltenham Town's longest serving player joined the club for a nominal fee from Australian club Brisbane United in December 1991. Since arriving at Whaddon Road Lee has remained loyal to the club despite offers from elsewhere and is now the third highest appearance maker in Cheltenham Town history with over 400 games to his credit.

### 8. MARK YATES

**Born: 24.1.70, Birmingham**

Another player to have won the supporters player of the season award in the past, Mark is a central midfielder with a non-stop workrate, whose tackling, passing and box-to-box running have been a key feature of the Cheltenham side for the past three and a half seasons. He began his career as a striker with Birmingham City but had dropped back to midfield by the time he joined Burnley. A brief spell with Doncaster Rovers followed before spending a number of years in the

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# Welcome To

Conference  
with  
Kidderminster Harriers. He joined Cheltenham for £25,000 in early 1999 and has missed only a handful of matches since then.

## 11. RUSSELL MILTON

**Born: 12.1.69, Folkestone**

Russell is a creative left-footed midfield player with delicate touch, vision and passing ability. He joined the Robins in the summer of 1997 from Dover Athletic and went on to help Cheltenham achieve success in the FA Trophy and Conference. He made his Football League debut the following season (1999-2000) and was voted supporters' player of the year.

## 14. HUGH McAULEY

**Born: 13.5.77, Plymouth**

Hugh is a talented midfield ball player who was released by former manager Steve Cotterill and then resigned by his successor, Graham Allner. The son of Liverpool coach Hugh McAuley Snr, he began his

career as a trainee at Anfield and was a regular in the youth and reserve set-up without making the first team. He played in the Conference for Northwich Victoria and in the League of Wales and UEFA Intertoto Cup for Conwy United before settling at Leek Town, joining Cheltenham for a £20,000 fee in July 1999.

## 23. DAVID BIRD

**Born: 26.12.84, Gloucester.**

David made his senior debut for Dr Martens League Cinderford Town at the age of only 15 and was subsequently offered the chance to join the Cheltenham Town Centre of Excellence programme. After only a short time at Whaddon Road he was offered a professional contract and became a regular starter in the centre of midfield for the reserve team.

## 27. LEE WILLIAMS

**Born: 3.2.73, Birmingham**

Lee is a skilful wide player signed from Mansfield Town in December 2001. Lee is a former England youth

international who began his career as a trainee with Aston Villa. He left Villa Park without making the first team and joined Peterborough United, later playing for Shamrock Rovers in Ireland before joining Mansfield Town.

## 28. JOHN FINNIGAN

**Born 29.3.76, Wakefield**

John is a hard-working central midfield player and good passer of the ball, who was signed from Lincoln City in March 2002. He has signed initially until the end of the 2001-2002, his arrival being necessitated by a serious injury to Lee Howells. His performances in the final third of the season and spectacular goal in the Division Three play-off final helped to earn him an extended two year contract at Whaddon Road.

## FORWARDS

### 9. PAUL BRAYSON

**Born: 16.9.77, Newcastle**

Paul became the first new signing made by Robins boss Graham

# Cheltenham Town F.C.



Allner when he joined the club from Cardiff City in July 2002. A former England youth international, he began his career with boyhood heroes Newcastle United and made two first team appearances at St James's Park as well as being named in the first team squad on numerous other occasions. He followed coach Tommy Burns to Reading in 1998 for a £100,000 fee but found himself playing out of position in midfield. A small, sharp striker with skill on the ball and a keen eye for goal, Paul then moved to Cardiff City.

## 10. TONY NAYLOR

**Born: 29.3.67, Manchester**



A diminutive but skilful and intelligent player who makes and scores goals, Tony joined Cheltenham Town in the summer of 2001. His signing proved an inspiration as the Robins, who had struggled to score goals in their first two seasons as a Football League club, began to find the net regularly. Tony helped himself to 18 goals in all competitions but his influence on the team, particularly in bringing out the best in the players around him, was huge.

## 16. MARTIN DEVANEY

**Born: 1.6.80, Cheltenham**

An exciting young striker now in his fourth season with Cheltenham Town, Martin scored the club's first ever Football League hat-trick in the 5-2 defeat of Plymouth Argyle in 2000. Born in Cheltenham of Irish parents, Martin trained with the Republic of Ireland at under-16 level and began his career as a schoolboy with Birmingham City. He switched to Coventry City and spent two years at Highfield Road before joining Cheltenham in 1999.

## 18. DAMIAN SPENCER

**Born: 19.9.81, Ascot**

A tall, powerful front man with pace and ability on the ball, Damian is an excellent prospect. He began his career in the Ryman League with Windsor & Eton but it was not long before the professional clubs came banging on his door. A move to Bristol City followed, his chances at Ashton Gate were limited after the arrival of Danny Wilson as manager and Damian was released at the end of last season.

## 19. JULIAN ALSOP

**Born: 28.5.73, Nuneaton**

Without doubt the Cheltenham Town success story of season 2001-2002, 'Big Jules' ended the season as top scorer with 26 goals in all competitions and was named supporters player-of-the-year. Cheltenham beat off interest from several other clubs to capture the 6ft 5ins target man on a 'Bosman' free transfer in the summer of 2000. A powerful physical presence and useful finisher in the opposition box, he is also a very useful player to have when defending set piece situations.

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## Blast From the Past

Followers of Luton Town of more than thirty years standing will go all misty eyed when recalling Tony Read, a showman goalkeeper who saw off many pretenders to his throne as well as displaying a more than adequate ability at centre-forward as proved when he once scored a hat-trick in a league game. Now 60 and retired, Tony lives in north Norfolk and seems to spend most of his time out on the golf course but still looks back with affection to his days at Kenilworth Road where he was a crowd favourite for seven years.

Born in Haydock in 1942, Tony had early trials with both Wolves and Liverpool but after rejection returned to an apprenticeship in engineering before being snapped up by Sheffield Wednesday, then one of the powers in the land.

Unfortunately, the Owls boasted England international Ron Springett between the sticks and as well as being

remarkably consistent he was also virtually injury free leaving little chance of a first team place for a third choice keeper.

Although admitting to learning a lot while at Hillsborough, Tony needed to move on if he wished to gain first team experience. His eventual move to Peterborough turned out to be a case of 'out of the frying pan' as Posh ended up with five goalkeepers on their books and the only way Tony could get a game was to display his hidden talents as a striker.

Although the Hatters signed Tony as a goalkeeper he is convinced that it was because of a goal he scored against Pat Jennings at White Hart Lane during a Tottenham versus Peterborough reserve game!

Coming to Luton in March 1965, just as the team was about to sink to the old Division Four, it was soon discovered that the new signing was suffering from a broken bone in his foot which was typical of the

luck, or more likely malaise, creeping through Kenilworth Road at the time.

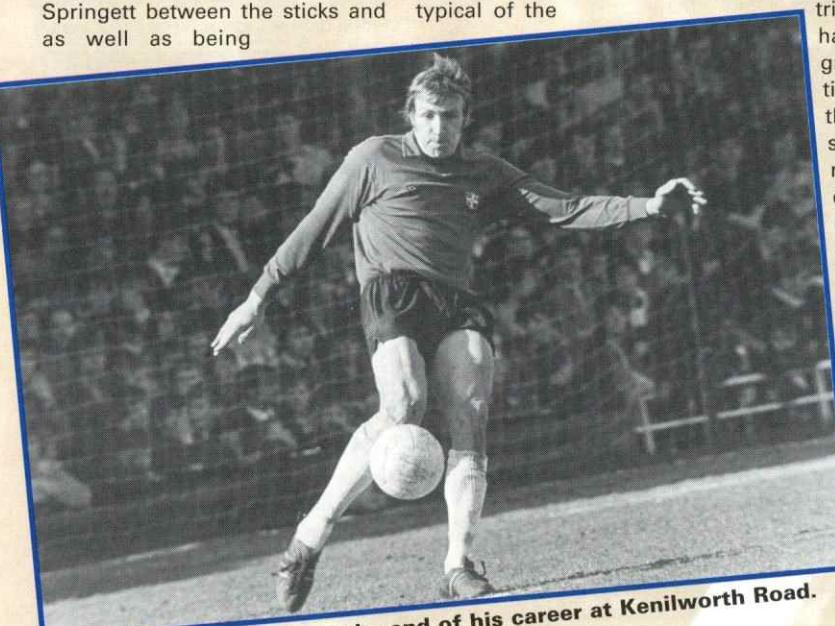
As the Town started the 1965/66 campaign in the football basement for the first time in their history, manager George Martin had managed to bring together a team blending youth and experience centred around tough ex-Blackburn centre-half, Matt Woods, and prolific goalscorer John O'Rourke.

With Colin Tinsley claiming the goalkeeping slot, Tony was left kicking his heels until the manager, feeling that O'Rourke needed someone to take the weight off his shoulders, decided to play him up front.

With this move a legend was born! Tony went goal mad and netted twelve in only twenty starts including a hat-trick against Notts County at Kenilworth Road in a 5-1 win.

"I remember miss-hitting a free-kick and seeing the ball somehow trickling over the line for my hat-trick goal with Matt Woods' groans turning to congratulations in an instant. Towards the end of the season the goal supply had dried up but I was now looking on myself as the complete centre-forward. After a game at Notts County where, looking back, I missed several sitters, George Martin announced in the changing room that I would never make a striker (or words to that effect!) and I moved back into goal where I stayed for the next six years apart from an emergency spell in the forward line over Easter 1967."

The Town should have won promotion in 1966 but a row over bonuses as the



Tony Read, towards the end of his career at Kenilworth Road.

## Tony Read - The ultimate showman



season drew to a close meant several senior players only went through the motions in a vital game at Newport which was lost and with it the chances of a quick return to Division Three.

With the Hatters offloading the dissenting players that summer, the following season was always going to be a struggle with no experience in the side but new manager Allan Brown, appointed in November 1966, was determined to take the club back to its former glories. This included seeking out a better goalkeeper. "Allan had a thing about Scottish goalkeepers, even though they were looked on as a joke at the time. Many a recruit came down for trial games and to a man they were all super fit athletes but could not come out for, or catch, crosses."

During his time between the posts at Kenilworth Road, Tony saw off goalkeepers Colin Tinsley, George Ramage, Ron Swan, Bob Taylor, Sandy Davie and Alan Starling who were all brought in as his

replacement.

It was, of course, a golden age for the Hatters with the championship of Division Four won in 1968, a near miss at further promotion in the following season, runners-up in Division Three in 1970 followed up by the narrow failure in a bid to return to the top flight twelve months later.

Tony was the regular goalkeeper throughout this time hence the affection held by all Luton supporters of that era. Extremely athletic and a spectacular shot stopper he also showed the ability to claim crosses and would be regarded as priceless today because he also possessed the additional talent of being very comfortable with the ball at his feet.

During his 229 appearances for the Town he witnessed the skills of Graham French (who was sent to live next door to Tony in a hopeless bid to curtail the errant wingers partying habits), Bruce Rioch and Malcolm Macdonald and became a bit of a legend him-

self with his ability to save penalties.

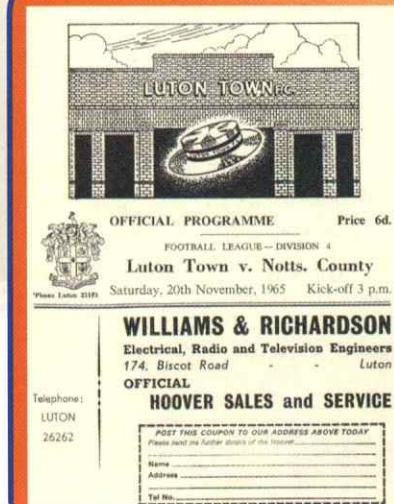
It was one such penalty save, against Geoff Hurst of West Ham in a cup tie at Upton Park, that bought belated national recognition for Tony with the flying dive being shown for weeks on television afterwards. It was soon after that Tony lost his place to Keith Barber and this time it was for good.

Although there was the chance to move to Millwall, Tony decided to concentrate on his many business interests and retire from the game completely.

Tony's last Kenilworth Road appearance took place during the club's centenary celebrations in 1985 when he turned out for an 'old' Luton XI against Watford. The lasting memory is of Tony, ever the showman, leaning against a goalpost being interviewed by a television reporter while the game was in full flow!

Roger Wash

## Yesterday's pages

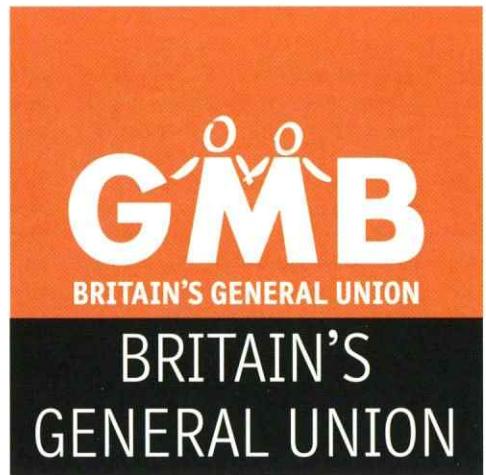


Tony Read's proudest moment came when the Town entertained Notts County at Kenilworth Road in November 1965 and he netted a hat-trick in a 5-1 win.

The programme for the game was the Town's normal 12 page effort which contained little of substance and was amongst the worst in the Football League at the time.

The Hatters stood in fifth place in the table before the match while Notts County were one place above and the 5-1 hammering is made to appear doubly remarkable as the team had to play out a hard fought 1-0 win in an F.A.Cup replay against Romford less than 48 hours before. Thursday evening was then the Town's preferred time for mid-week fixtures.

The reward for beating Romford was an away trip to Corby in the next round where only 150 seats at 4s (20p) would be available. Apparently this would only satisfy one in three of our season ticket holders which shows how much our season ticket base has grown over the years.



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A 3D cube graphic on a blue background. The cube is divided into six faces, each showing a different aspect of football: 'EDUCATION' (adults and children training), 'GRASS ROOTS' (children playing), 'COMMUNITY' (adults and children on a pitch), and 'FOOTBALL' (a large soccer ball). The cube is positioned in front of a large, stylized soccer ball.

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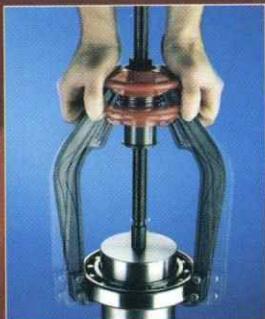
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#### EasyPull bearing puller

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.

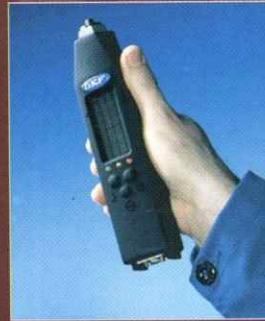
Some 16 per cent of premature bearing failures can be attributed to bad fitting. The most common fault is the use of brute force, while ignorance or laziness regarding use of the correct tools for the task is a major contributor. Available in three sizes to provide maximum withdrawal forces between three 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.



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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.

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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

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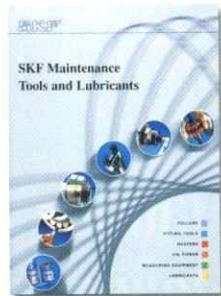
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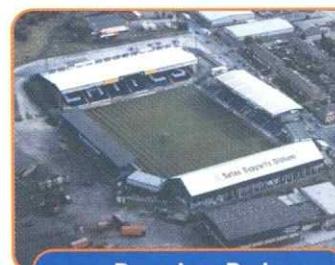
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## Hatters Away

### The Road To Oldham



Boundary Park

AFTER Saturday's trip to Oldham, the Town make their first-ever visit to Woking on Tuesday week, for the first round of the LDV Vans Trophy. The Bobbers Travel Club and Town on Tour will be offering travel to both games. For the Second Division game at Oldham, Town on Tour will leave Luton at 10am, with a pick-up at Milton Keynes Coachway about 20 minutes later. The fare will be £15 for members of Luton Town Supporters Club, £13 for concessions with LTSC membership cards. Others can buy tickets at £17.

The Bobbers set off from Cranfield at 8.30, calling at various villages en route to Luton, where departure time is 9.30. The fare is £14, £11.50 for pensioners and under-16s. The Bobbers service to Woking will leave Cranfield at 3.30 and Luton at 4.30, and the fares are £8.50 and £7 for concessions.

Town on Tour will leave at 5pm, and their fares are £10 for LTSC members, £9 concession members, and £12 for others.

Bookings for away games travel can be made at the LTSC and the Bookings for away games travel can be made at the LTSC and the Bobbers kiosks in Kenilworth Road before or after home matches. Paul Deason on 01234 750996 will take phone bookings for the Bobbers, who pick-up at Cranfield, Marston Moretaine, Ampthill, Flitwick, Westoning and opposite the Travelodge Motel in Dunstable Road, Luton, close to the M1.

Town on Tour offers its best deals to members of Luton Town Supporters Club. You can visit the club shop to book seats, or reserve them by phoning 07960 567465.

Maple Road car park, which will be stewarded, is available for coach passengers, at £4 per car.

stay on M62 to junction 20, where you leave to follow the A627(M), signposted to Oldham and Ashton. When the motorway ends at a roundabout, take the second exit, and you will see the ground, and its car park, on your left.

**Mileage:** Around 200 via M1 and M6, about 220 via M1 and M62.

### Driving Yourself To Woking

THE dreaded M25 in rush-hour is the problem to be overcome on the drive to Woking. Take the M1 towards London, then take the M25 west, towards Heathrow, and beyond to junction 10. Turn off there to take the A3, signposted towards Guildford, for just under four miles. Watch for a right turn onto the A247, signposted to Woking, and follow that road. It becomes Woking High Street, and at a mini-roundabout follow the right turn sign into Kingfield Road, towards the Leisure Centre, which is next to the ground.

**Mileage:** 50.

# Action Highlights

## Stockport County 2 Luton Town 3



**HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN:** Andrew Fotiadis is about to fire in his second goal of the season, to pull the Town level at Edgeley Park. Home player-manager Carlton Palmer has been by-passed by the through ball by Paul Hughes, and if you look closely the Town midfielder is already sporting a winning grin as he realises that Fotiadis is going to score.

Top right: Steve Robinson and Steve Howard congratulate Matt Spring after he gave the Town a 14th-minute lead.



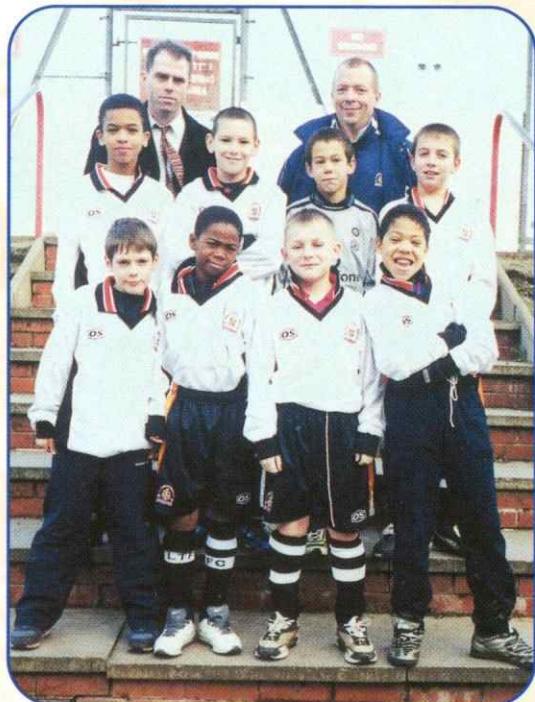
## LTFC in the Community

Working in conjunction with Bedfordshire Football Association

I WOULD like to use my column today to tell you about our half-term coaching courses and other tournaments the department is running.

Firstly the tournaments: the department will again be hosting the local heats of the Railtrack Playsafe Trophy for under-11 schoolchildren. This is an annual six-a-side competition organised by Football in the Community and sponsored by Railtrack and supported by Sportsmatch, the Government's Business Sponsorship Incentive Scheme. The competition promotes the awareness of the dangers of railway crime, particularly the fact that playing on or near railways is extremely dangerous.

Last season's competition was won by Farnborough Road Junior School, representing



Everton. They had a 3-1 win in a fantastic final over Cranbourne Primary school, representing Barnet.

Last year Luton Town were superbly represented by Hillborough Junior School (pictured below) in the area finals at Walsall, I know for a fact they are relishing the opportunity to defend the honour of representing Luton Town FC again.

This year's local heats will take place at Luton Regional Sports Centre on Saturday November 16. The competition is expected to start at around 9.30am and last most of the day, finishing around 4pm. The competition is open to only current Year 6 (under-11) school teams. The teams of course be boys, girls, or mixed. Schools may enter more than one team, and entry is totally free of charge. It is an outdoor tournament.

I would also like to tell you about three tournaments that the department is running. On December 23 we will be running a tournament for teams falling into this season's under-9 age bracket. In addition on December 27 there will be a competition for the under-10s, and finally on December 30 there will be a tournament for the under-11's. These tournaments are open to all schools and clubs, and will all take place indoors at Luton Regional Sports Centre. Again the tournaments will probably start at 9.30am and finish at around 4pm. This, as with the Railtrack tournament, will depend on the number of entrants. There will be an entry cost of £20 per team for these three tournaments.

All you need to do to enter any of them is to give me a call on 01582 391927.

On the adjoining page you will see a table showing the wide range of half term courses available. As is always the case if you wish to book, either return the form or give me a call.

*Stuart Smith*



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## LTFC in the Community

Course Code	No. of Days	Venue	Date	Time	Cost	Course Type
LSC 1	2	Hillborough Primary School <b>LUTON</b>	Mon 21st & Tue 22nd Oct	10.00am - 3.00pm	£20	5-7 yrs 8-11 yrs
LSC 2	2	Kempston Rovers F.C. <b>KEMPSTON</b>	Mon 21st & Tue 22nd Oct	10.00am - 3.00pm	£15	5-7 yrs 8-11 yrs
DCS 1	2	Queensbury School Mead Way <b>DUNSTABLE</b>	Wed 23rd & Thur 24th Oct	10.00am - 3.00pm	£20	5-7 yrs 8-11 yrs 12-15 yrs
DGK 1	1	Queensbury School Meadway <b>DUNSTABLE</b>	Thur 24th Oct	10.00am - 3.00pm	£10	Goalkeepers
LSC 3	2	Bushmead School <b>LUTON</b>	Wed 23rd & Fri 25th Oct	10.00am - 3.00pm	£10 per day or £17.50 for both	5-7 yrs 8-11 yrs
LSC 4	2	Icknield High School <b>LUTON</b>	Thur 24th & Fri 25th Oct	10.00am - 3.00pm	£15	5-7 yrs 8-11 yrs 12-15 yrs

Please reserve a place on the above course (please put course in the box on right)

Name ..... Age ..... D.O.B. ....

Address.....

..... Postcode.....

Home Tel No. .... School.....

Any health problems  Disorders  or medication.  Please ring to confirm details

I acknowledge and accept that Luton Town FC, their football in the community scheme or the organisations providing the facilities and their respective agents, servants and employees, are not under liability whatsoever in respect of personal injury, loss or damage however caused whilst in attendance on the above course. I authorise the coaches employed by Luton Town Football in the Community to administer first aid treatment should it be required.

Signature of Parent / Guardian: .....

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## Our Mini-Fans



CHILDREN of all ages are welcome to have their pictures published on this page, and this afternoon there is an extra reason for including Hayley Keveren. Today is her third birthday, and, naturally, is celebrating by coming to Kenilworth Road to cheer on her favourite team.

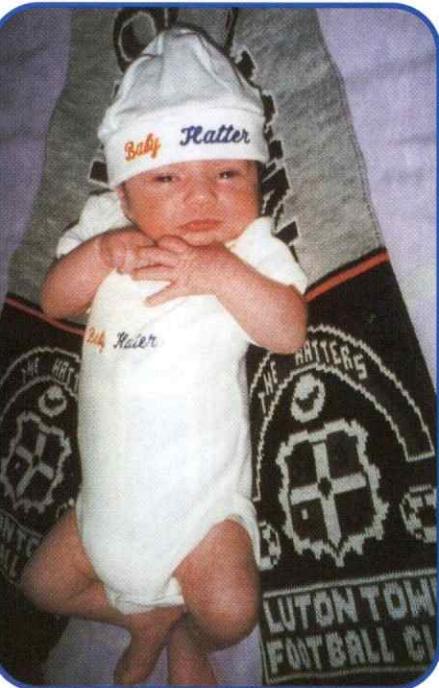
She was born to be a Luton supporter. Her dad Mark, from Dovetree Road, Leighton Buzzard, said: "She has been a Junior Hatter since she was 12 hours old and has been to a few games. She will be at the Cheltenham match on her birthday with her mum and dad.

"The whole of the family are Luton fans – I was a ball boy many years ago, and my sister Dawn sells Golden Gamble tickets."

As is the right of any pretty young lady, Hayley has recently switched one of her football affections – her favourite player used to be Matt Taylor, but now she likes Happy Harry best of all.

THIS afternoon's other mini-supporter is still some way off attending his first game at Kenilworth Road, but you can be pretty sure he will be here one day. His father and grandfather are both regulars at Kenilworth Road. The photo of baby Oliver Acton was taken when he was four weeks old, and his dad, Graeme Acton, from St. Michael's Avenue, Houghton Regis, has been a Town supporter, home and away, for the past 20 years. He said: "I enrolled Oliver as a Junior Hatter when he was just 25 hours old, and he will be getting a season ticket as soon as he is old enough."

THIS series will be an occasional feature in the matchday magazine this season. If you have a nice photo of a very young Town fan, and would like to see it published, all you have to do is to get in touch with the programme editor. Please send it, with a few details, either by post to Luton Town FC, or by e-mail to [brian.swain@btinternet.com](mailto:brian.swain@btinternet.com). Whatever method you use, please include your home address and a day-time phone number. If sending by post, please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want the photographs back, but don't offer anything which is irreplaceable, just in case letters go astray.



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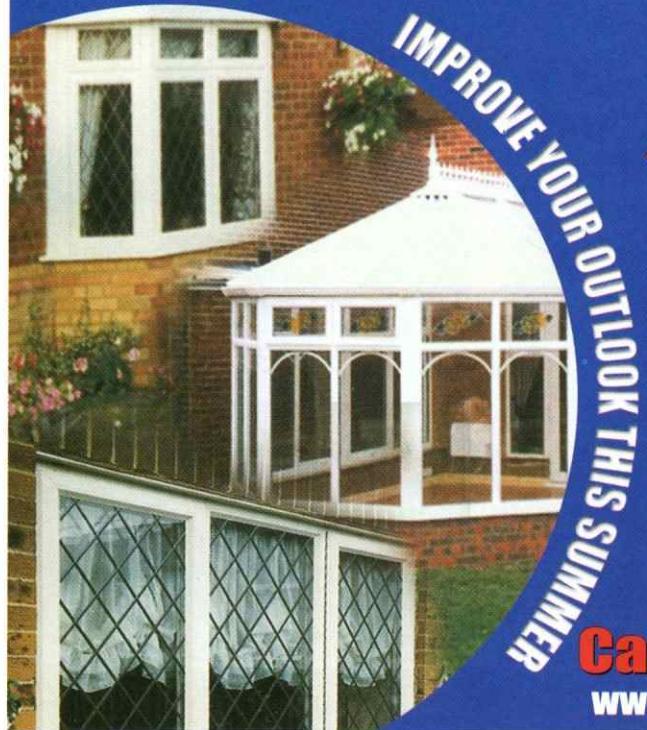
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## Action Replay



ANDREW Fotiadis, making his first start in over a year, nicked the Man of the Match trophy by responding to Joe Kinnear's demands to be more positive in his attacking approach. On a day when he might have had four goals, the one he took with quickness of eye and foot finished off a poor visiting side.

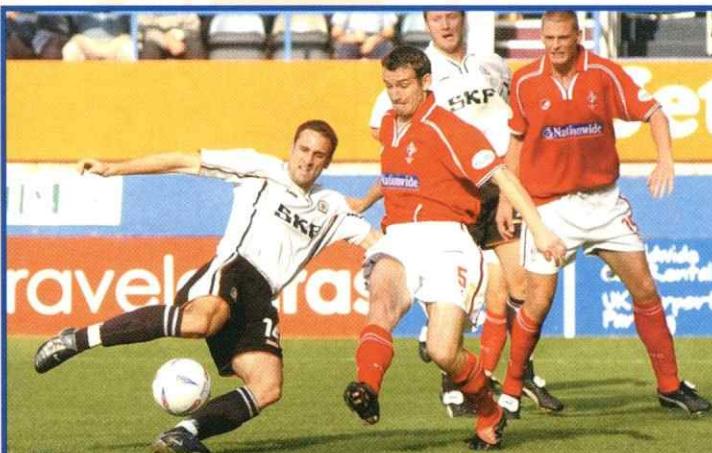
But while there was plenty of praise for Fotiadis, who is in a make-or-break season which ends with the expiry of his current contract, both managers felt the remarkable Steve Howard had done most to settle the match.

His eighth goal of the season, after 13 minutes, left Joe speaking of "a phenomenal player." Andy King, not enjoying his return to Kenilworth Road as a manager, said: "He was too much for us – we let him bully us out of it and I can't believe we folded

**Luton Town 3  
Swindon 0  
(HT 1-0)**

so easily." The only worry for the Town at the interval was that Swindon had been put on the rack almost solidly for the first 45 minutes, but were only one down. Bart Griemink made three point-blank reflex saves from Fotiadis, and the crossbar kept out an early pile-driver by Howard.

"I was disappointed we had only scored one," said the Town boss. "I was pleased with 1-0," said King. "It meant we were still in it. My instructions were to make sure Luton didn't score again, and we might then be able to get something out of the game." Joe's orders were to grab a goal as soon as possible after the break, and Fotiadis delivered, swivelling and shooting



**KILLER GOAL:** Andrew Fotiadis shoots to make it 2-0 to the Town just 64 seconds after the interval to snuff out any hopes Swindon had of a revival. Adam Willis and Matty Heywood are the defenders unable to do anything about it.

to finish an attacked fashioned by Sol Davis and Howard. That was that, as King admitted, and the Town made the result closer to the performance when Dean Crowe, sub for Fotiadis, enticed Andy Gurney into a rash challenge and Steve Robinson calmly collected his first goal for the club from the penalty.

The only bad news on a happy day for the Town was that skipper Kevin Nicholls limped out of the game in the first half with a serious Achilles injury. The good news was that the defence kept another clean sheet, and the first back-to-back win of the season put daylight between the Town and the relegation zone.

**Luton Town:** Emberson; Boyce, Perrett, Coyne, Davis; Robinson, Spring, Nicholls (Holmes 36 mins), Hughes; Howard, Fotiadis (Crowe 78 mins). Unused subs: Neilson, Brkovic, Hillier.

**Booked:** Hughes, foul.

**Swindon:** Griemink; Gurney, Heywood, Willis, Duke; Robinson, (Edds 58 mins), Hewlett, Jackson; Invincible (Young 78 mins), Parkin, Sabin. Unused subs: Farr, Edwards, Reeves.

**Booked:** Adam Willis, foul.

**Referee:** Phil Joslin, Nottinghamshire.

**Attendance:** 6,393, including 404 away fans.

Log on to Luton Town's official website at  
[www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk)



## Action Replay

WHEN your team has been beaten 3-0 there has to be a good reason to stand and cheer them off the pitch at the end. But that's what over 4,000 Town fans did at Villa Park, having kept up a barrage of noise and encouragement throughout, even though the Town were second best to Premiership opposition in the second round of the Worthington Cup.

We felt for them: there wasn't too much wrong with the Town's performance and effort, but the gulf between the Second Division and the Premiership was cruelly exposed.

We are good enough to take care of First Division teams, but mid-table Premiership is a different matter. Graham Taylor had sussed out that the biggest danger for his side was that they might be tempted to be complacent, and much of his pre-match work and words were on that subject.

The combination of multi-million pound and multi-national talent – Villa used the same starting eleven a few days later to draw with Leeds – was always going to load the game in Villa's favour, and so it proved. Liverpool are the only visiting team to go home with a win from Villa Park this season, and for the Town and their supporters the cup-tie was a chastening experience.

Villa's speed and accuracy was streets ahead of what we see in the Second Division. They were also muscular and powerful when need be, and the Town had to stand tall to avoid humiliation.

They did, and the army of visiting fans rose in appreciation of the fact that the team, never gave up, not even at three down. Character

### Aston Villa 3 Luton Town 0 (HT 2-0)

counted, and it was there by the bucketful, with a determination to keep going against the odds. Lesser teams would have buckled, but Villa were forced to keep their effort and performance going throughout the 90 minutes. And if you think this is being too kind to a losing team, thank your good luck in being a Hatter – other second-round games included Crystal Palace whacking Cheltenham 7-0, Southampton thrashing Tranmere 6-1, and Cambridge losing 7-0 at home to Sunderland.

The Town's spirit ensured they were never going to suffer that sort of beating, even though the home goalkeeper was never seriously tested. Villa might just have been put on the back foot early on. In the fourth minute Peter Holmes, replacing injured Kevin Nicholls, pulled back a corner which Town man of the match Chris Coyne met with a thundering volley. A deflection off Andrew Fotiadis sent it narrowly wide, and that was the first and last real threat to the Villa goal.

Four minutes later a free kick to the near post, followed by Gareth Barry's instantaneous switch of the ball to the other upright gave Ecuadorian Ulises de la Cruz an easy tap-in for the first goal.

Dion Dublin, fighting for his place, craftily ghosted in for a headed goal on 29 minutes, and four minutes after the break produced a moment of athletic skill to swivel and hit the third goal. He thought he had completed a hat-trick nine minutes later, when he pounced on the rebound after

Carl Emberson parried a drive by Lee Hendrie. An offside flag was waving before he shot.

The Town re-shaped their side twice, with Russ Perrett leaving at half-time with a groin strain. Ian Hillier replaced him. Just before the interval, Holmes made way for Alan Neilson as the Town bench looked for a winning formula. Paul Hughes, having started on the left of midfield, was switched inside, and while the damage limitation job might have been OK there was never really much sign that the Town would be allowed to do much damage of their own. Even when the Town had possession, Villa's covering and closing down was so expert that time and time again the only passing options were at best square, and more often backwards.

Disappointed Joe Kinnear said: "I thought we did well but it's a massive gap between the two sides and it showed. I was pleased we didn't cave in."

**Luton Town:** Emberson; Boyce, Perrett (Hillier HT), Coyne, Davis; Robinson, Spring, Holmes (Neilson 44 mins), Hughes; Howard, Fotiadis (Crowe 73 mins). Unused subs: Brkovic, Berthelin.

**Booked:** Russ Perrett and Steve Howard, both for fouls.

**Aston Villa:** Enckleman; Mellberg, Johnsen, Staunton (Leonhardsen 68 mins), de la Cruz, Hendrie, Kinsella, Barry, Samuel; Dublin (Allback 83 mins), Vassell (Moore HT). Unused subs: Crouch, Postma.

**Booked:** No-one

**Referee:** Colin Webster, Tyne & Wear

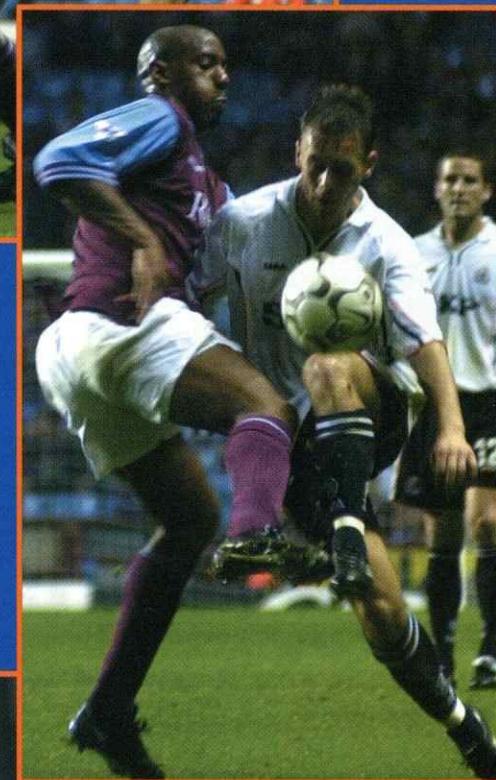
**Attendance:** 20,833, including a magnificent Town following of 4,588.



ABOVE: Steve Howard on the ball, in competition with Ronny Johnsen.

**RIGHT:** Sol Davis in close-quarter competition with Dion Dublin.

**BELOW:** Steve Robinson up against it, taking them on two at a time.





## Action Replay

### Stockport County 2 Luton Town 3 (HT 2-1)

A MARVELOUS second-half performance turned the game round at Edgeley Park, as stand-in skipper Matt Spring led perhaps the best team display of the season to wrap up the third consecutive league victory in some style.

The margin may have been narrow, but the difference between the sides was considerable, and Stockport, previously unbeaten at home, escaped lightly. That was despite the fact that on paper the Town were below full strength: Kevin Nicholls and Russ Perrett joined the injured list, and new signing Cedric Berthelin played in goal.

Ian Hillier deputised for Perrett, and except for a poor clearance that led to Stockport's first goal, settled into a well-drilled back four. Spring took over the captain's armband and led by two-goal example, and Alan Neilson dropped into the "front sweeper" role normally given to Nicholls, and was a model of composure and positioning, with the bonus of laying off the ball sensibly.

Berthelin had a mixed game in his first taste of Football League action, and accepted the blame for the goal that sent the Town in with a deficit at half time. But the defensive strength in front of him helped the Frenchman enjoy the rest of the afternoon.

So did Andrew Fotiadis, who took another step to a more regular place in the squad by helping to create one goal and scoring another, his second in consecutive league appearances.

Stockport finished the game looking demoralised, second best all over the park, and were fortunate not to suffer a real drubbing, despite a moment of good luck that saw them 2-1 up at the

interval.

The Town had an early let-off when Carlton Palmer headed over the bar from a left wing cross, but the midfield contest was soon running the Town's way, and the major difference between the sides was that the Town were passing the ball through that department. Stockport accepted defeat there, and opted for a longer-ball game, and the Town's quality overcame that minor problem.

The opening goal, on 14 minutes, was a case in point. Spring won a midfield tackle and laid off a pass to Neilson, who released Emmerson Boyce for a run down the right wing. The cross was hit deep, but Fotiadis got into the right place and defied flying boots to head the ball back towards the centre of goal, and Spring, having carried on his run, knocked in his third goal of the season. Four minutes later a rare misplaced clearance by Hillier enabled Ali Gibb, Stockport's best player – and that is not much of a compliment – to cross for Luke Beckett to head an equaliser. The Town refused to be ruffled, and Steve Robinson was inches out with a flicked shot after another cracking move, involving Spring and Steve Howard. It came as a huge surprise when Stockport took the lead 90 seconds into stoppage time, with Jon Daly accepting the gift after Berthelin spilled a long-range shot by Aaron Lescott.

The Town's response in the second half was to take complete command. Stockport were seen off as an attacking force, with the midfield dominant. Fotiadis netted on 63 minutes, from another move begun by Neilson, but Howard was adjudged to have fouled the keeper in heading the ball back across goal.

It mattered little: Robinson and Paul Hughes carved out an opening expertly finished by Fotiadis on 71 minutes, and two minutes later Palmer and his keeper got into a tangle as they tried to deal with a through-ball by Neilson, and Spring nipped in to hit the winner.

With Joe Kinnear unable to travel because of a family illness, Mick Harford had the pleasure of looking after the squad, and then meeting the press afterwards. His verdict was spot on: "Even in the first half we controlled the game, and over the 90 minutes we played the best football of the season," he said. "We battled when we had to, but the best thing was that we got the ball down and played it. It was a good all-round performance, with a lot of good individual performances as well."

**Luton Town:** Berthelin; Boyce, Hillier, Coyne, Davis; Robinson, Spring, Neilson, Hughes; Howard, Fotiadis (Crowe 80 mins). Unused subs: Brkovic, Holmes, Thorpe, Emberson.

**Booked:** Sol Davis foul, Steve Howard dissent over disallowed goal.

**Stockport:** Jones; Goodwin, Palmer, Challinor; Gibb, Briggs, Lescott, Hardiker (Ellison 80 mins), Tonkin; Beckett, Daly. Unused subs: Lambert, Ross, Clare, Ingham.

**Booked:** John Hardiker and Jim Goodwin, both for fouls.

**Referee:** Mark Cowburn, Lancashire.

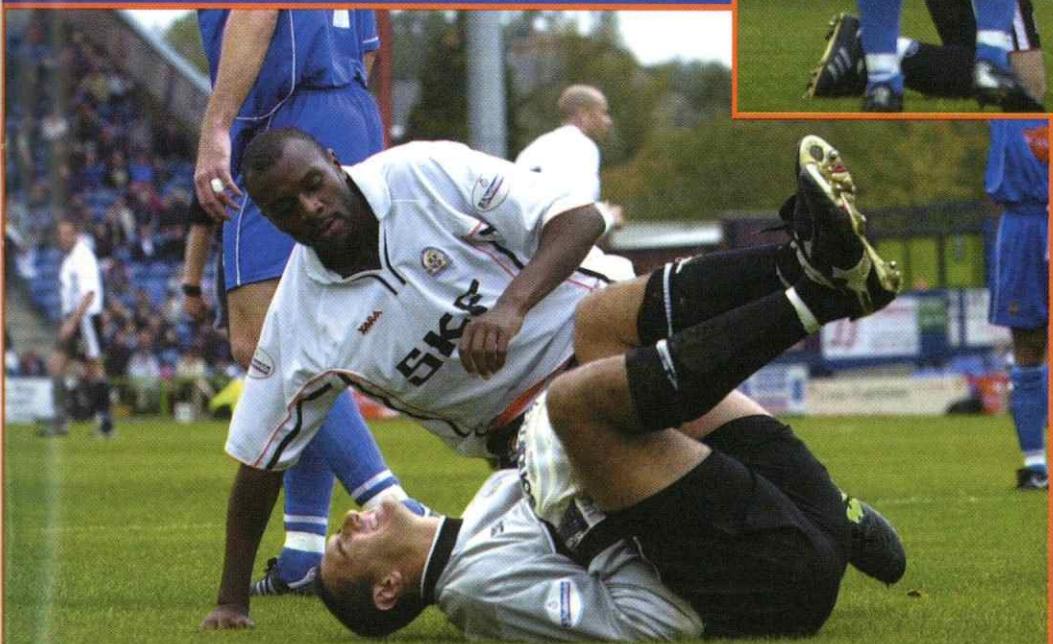
**Attendance:** 5,932 including 680 Town fans.



ABOVE: Skippers at the double – man of the match Matt Spring too quick for Stockport's Dave Tallinn.

RIGHT: "Not me, ref!" seems to be the plea from both players after a tangle between Matt Spring and Anthony Tonkin.

BETWEEN: Facing a crunch – Emmerson Boyce is kept at bay with some difficulty by Stockport goalkeeper Lee Jones.



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## Junior Hatters



EIGHT-year-old Thomas Heywood, from Westminster Gardens, Houghton Regis, is today's lucky Junior Hatter, because his name was picked out of the computerised drum to be this afternoon's mascot. It will give him the chance to meet the players in the dressing room, which means he can say hello to his favourite, Steve Howard, before going out onto the pitch with the team for the pre-match rituals.

Thomas goes to Houghton Regis Lower School, and his hobbies are football, PlayStation and buses.

Today's ballboy is Darren Pullen, from Bassett Road, Leighton Buzzard.

*Happy Harry*



ONE OF the perks on Junior Hatters away trips is that very often the host club allow us to nominate a mascot, and the choice is always made by lucky dip on the journey to the game. The centre-circle picture from Edgeley Park shows the mascots, skippers and match officials before kick-off, and our Junior Hatter in the limelight was nine-year-old Matthew Hodges, from Lorrimer Close, Bushmead.

For the home game with Swindon there were two Luton mascots – Joe Anderson, for the Junior Hatters, and David Groom, who was the commercial mascot.

If you would like to join the Junior Hatters, call the Club Shop on **01582 411622**

## GARETH OWEN Photography

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## PRE-MATCH AND HALF TIME ENTERTAINMENT

With Justin Dealey and Steve Faulkner

### TODAY'S MATCH:

2.15	Team line up to be announced	3.50	Golden Gamble - Winning ticket drawn on pitch
2.20	HMV Single of the week The Foo Fighters - All My Life	3.55	Run down of half time scores from around the country
2.35	Dedications announced	4.00	Dedications
2.40	Town Teaser - See Page 10	4.05	Teams arrive back on pitch to theme song "Gimme Some Lovin"
2.45	Player Track See Right	4.55 - FULL TIME	
2.55	Teams runout to - The Blues Brothers "Gimme Some Lovin"		
3.00	THE BIG KICK OFF		

### Player Track



**Ian Hillier**  
THE  
STEREOPHONICS  
JUST LOOKING

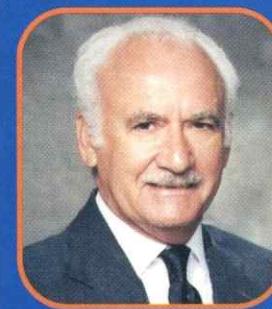


Matchday music supplied by:  
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Justin Dealey is sponsored by:  
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95.5 FM (BEDS) 104.5 FM (BUCKS)  
103.8 FM (HERTS)

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

## 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, 2002.

# HATTERS WORLD

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## Luton Belles



LUTON Belles fired their way into the First Round Proper of the FA Cup for the second season running with a battling 4-2 away win against MK Wanderers. Despite dominating the match for long spells and creating numerous chances Belles trailed 1-0 at half time to MK's only worthwhile effort of the half.

The second half followed much the same script as Luton struck the woodwork four times, had two efforts cleared off the line, and were repeatedly denied by some inspired goalkeeping. With just 11 minutes left substitute Vicky Moody notched a vital equaliser after winning the chase for a through ball and firing into the empty net. Five minutes later a cross shot from Amy Gray found the far corner to give Luton the lead but as is often the

case Belles were vulnerable after scoring and found themselves level again within two minutes. Town dominated extra time and took the lead in the first period thanks to a thumping header from Samantha Mather. With the tie all but over Rhiannon Morgan made it 4-2 with a glancing header from a near post cross from Fay Howell.

Belles will be regarded as giantkillers if they progress further, as their reward is a home tie against Denham United, who are two leagues above.

The surprise package so far this season is the newly-formed under-13 side, who have taken their league by storm winning their first five matches.

Two weeks ago Brittany Murtagh scored twice to inspire a well-earned 3-1 win against third-placed Hemel Hempstead, but

the visit of title favourites QPR was always going to be a tough test, and they fell behind to an early goal. But Laura Massey earned Belles a penalty that was converted by Natalie Burchall and then Ann Folan scored her first goal for the club. Brittany Murtagh added the third and Luton survived a late Rangers rally to hold on for a 3-2 win.

The under-11s are also going great guns and followed up their 1-0 home win over Enfield (Lauren Bruton) with a fine 3-0 away win against second-placed Stevenage Borough. The first half was goalless and it was going to take something special to break the deadlock. It arrived in the shape of Livi Robinson, who smashed a brilliant cross shot into the top corner. A Borough defender then struck a Jade McEntaggart cross into her own net and Yasmin Hickling rounded off an excellent performance up front with the third goal in the last minute.

Scraping with Cambridge United for the lead in their league, the under-14s were done a great service by Watford who beat Town's rivals 2-0. Belles grabbed the chance to open up a three-point lead by winning 3-0 at Belmont United thanks to another brilliant solo effort from Rebecca Kane, a Fay Rolls header and a tap-in from Michelle Byrne.



CLASS ACT: The Belles under-13s, who have kicked off the season by winning their first five games.

Dave Baker

LUTON Belles organises football for girls of all ages, from ten upwards. If you want to know more, or fancy being involved, e-mail Dave Baker at [lutonbelles@hotmail.com](mailto:lutonbelles@hotmail.com) The Belles also have a website – pay a visit to [www.lutontownbelles.com](http://www.lutontownbelles.com)

For the latest news, views and interviews call:  
CLUB CALL on 09068 121123 (calls cost 60p per minute at all times)

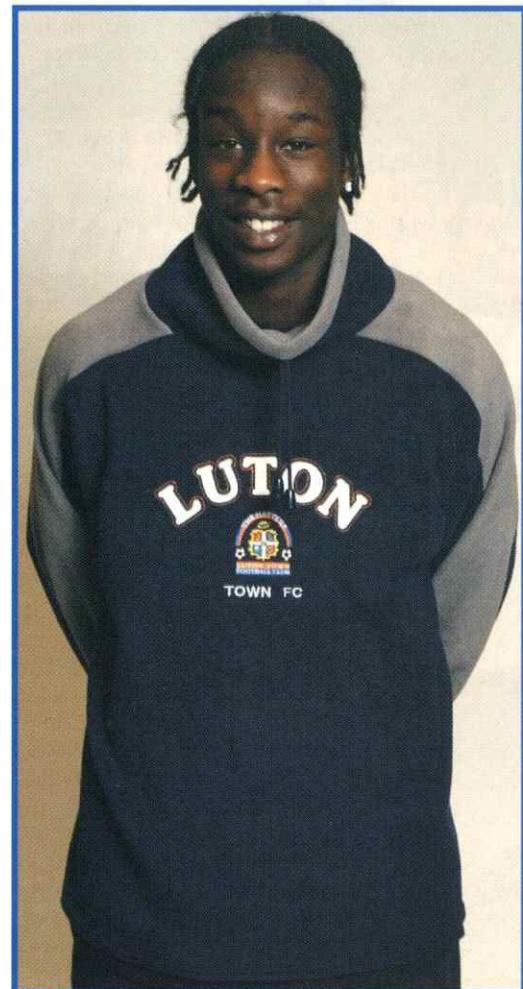


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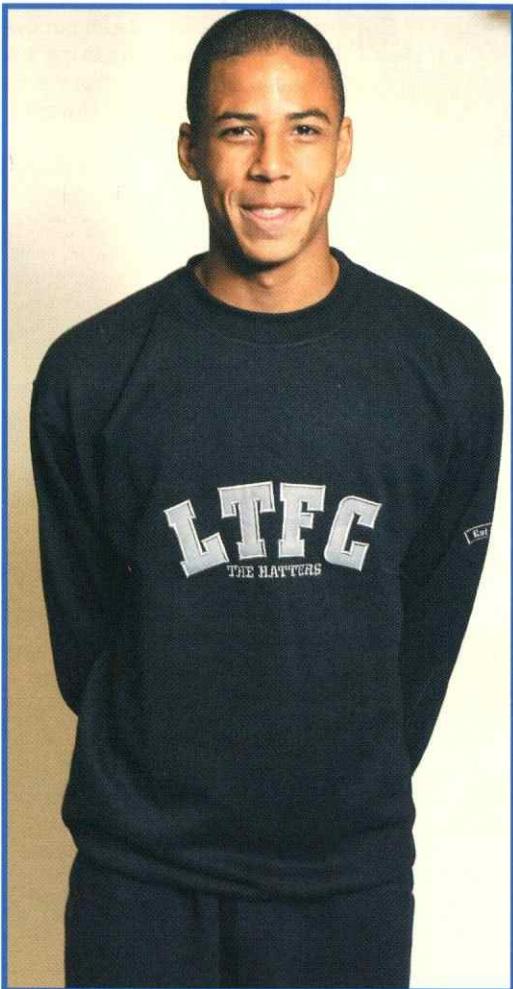
S,M,L,XL,XXL

**£29.50**

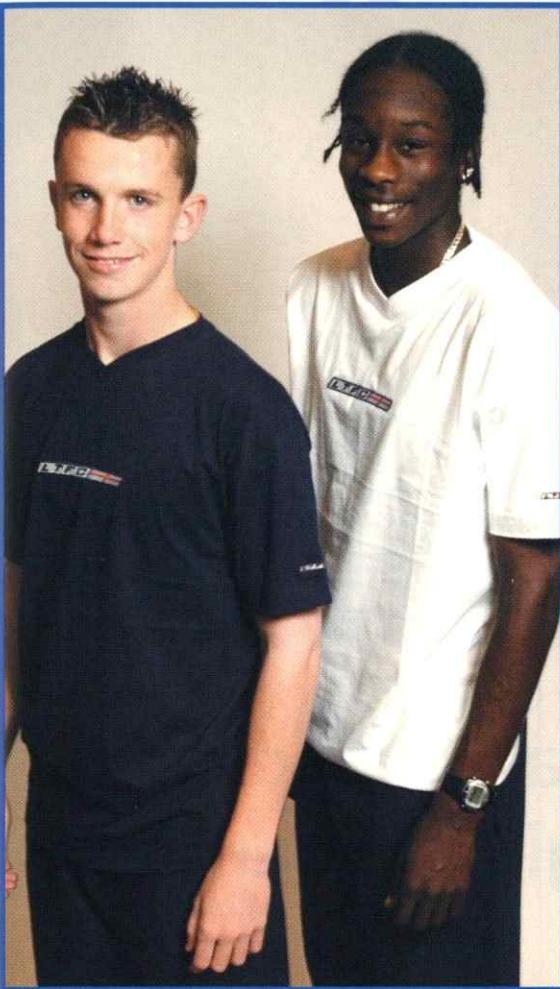
Adult size only

S,M,L,XL,XXL

**£26.00**



**LTFC Applique Navy Sweatshirt**

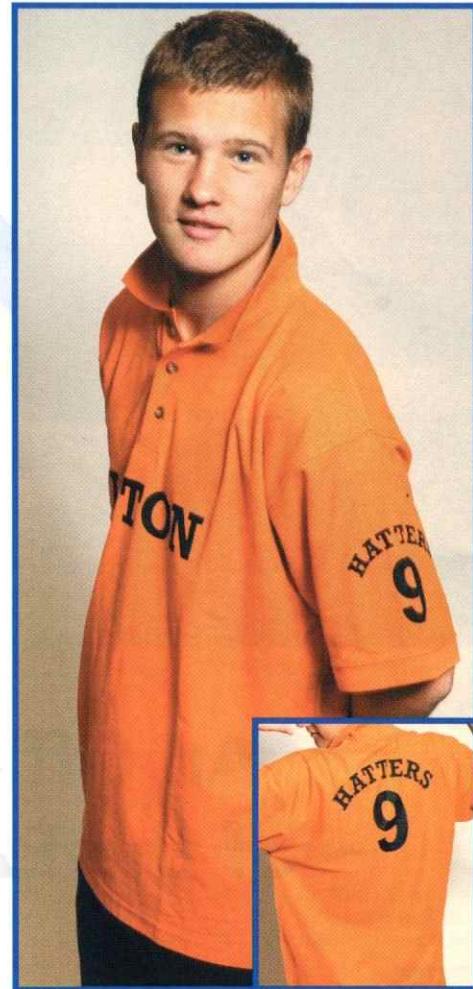


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## In Reserve



### Plymouth Argyle 0 Luton Town 4

THIS was a fantastic performance, all the more so because we had to meet at Kenilworth Road at 6.30 am before making a six-hour coach journey, and the squad included several youth players. I was very pleased with every aspect of our game: we were very professional and the attitude was spot-on.

I asked that we should start positively, and compete in every area of the pitch, and the team did exactly that against a big strong side.

We marked the good start with a super goal after ten minutes. The ball was won on the half-way line and moved crisply with about four passes before Peter Holmes, who was outstanding in midfield, fed Rob Gillman, who lashed in a rocket shot.

Ahmet Brkovic played up front, and showed what an intelligent player he is with a very good display, and while every player deserves credit for the team performance it was pleasing to see Aaron Skelton organising our defence excellently, and Plymouth rarely threatened.

Mark Ovendale played his first game of the season after his hip operation, and while he naturally looked a little rusty, he made one very good save on one of the rare occasions Plymouth got through us.

Lee Mansell looked bright, and might have had two or three goals, with his best effort hitting the

crossbar.

The second goal came on 25 minutes, with Brkovic picking up the rebound from a blocked shot, side-stepping a defender and then slotting the ball past the advancing keeper. It was a very cool finish.

Brkovic got his second 11 minutes after the break, to complete another excellent move, and six minutes from time Matthew Judge, who had just gone on as a substitute, headed another quality goal from a cross by Holmes.

It was a very encouraging team performance, and every player involved deserves every credit. They gave everything, and were all exhausted by the time we arrived back in Luton after a very long day.

**Luton Town:** Ovendale; Barnett (O'Leary 65 mins), Skelton, J. Deeney, Kimble; Osborn (Davis 65 mins), Leary, Holmes, Mansell; Brkovic (Judge 80 mins), Gillman.

WE ARE at home to Wycombe on Wednesday, with a 2pm kick-off at Kenilworth Road.

**APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets:** Skelton 7, Fotiadis 6, Holmes 6, L. Mansell 6, Hillier 5, Leary 4(2), Gillman 4(1), Foley 4, Barnett 3(1), Neilson 3, Griffiths 3, Okai 2(2), Eberendo 2(2), Hughes 2, Beckwith 2, Howell 2, J. Deeney 2, Brill 2, Thorpe 2, Brkovic 2, Osborn 1(5), Kovacevic 1, Emberton 1, De Souza 1, Howell 1, Berthelin 1, Ovendale 1, Kimble 1, O'Leary 0(4), Judge 0(2), Davis 0(1).

**Goals:** Griffiths 3, Fotiadis 3, Thorpe 2, Brkovic 2, Skelton 1, Eberendo 1, Howell 1, Holmes 1, Gillman 1, Judge 1.

*Brian Stein*

AVON COMBINATION TABLE							
P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	
Crystal Palace	7	6	1	0	23	6	19
Portsmouth	6	6	0	0	14	4	18
Brighton	7	5	1	1	16	6	16
Norwich	7	4	3	0	15	3	15
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>
Swindon	7	4	1	2	10	10	13
Cardiff	7	3	2	2	12	7	11
Brentford	7	3	2	2	11	14	11
Reading	5	3	1	1	8	3	10
Millwall	7	3	0	4	7	6	10
Colchester	5	3	1	1	4	4	10
Bournemouth	6	3	1	2	10	12	10
QPR	6	3	1	2	7	10	10
Bristol City	6	2	2	2	9	9	8
L. Orient	5	2	1	2	13	10	7
Bristol Rov	9	1	4	4	9	14	7
Oxford	6	2	0	4	7	10	6
Wycombe	7	2	0	5	9	17	6
Plymouth	7	2	0	5	8	16	6
Gillingham	7	1	2	3	9	10	5
Cambridge	6	1	1	4	3	13	4
Peterborough	6	1	0	5	7	13	3
Northampton	8	1	0	7	9	26	3
Cheltenham	4	0	2	2	6	8	2
Barnet	5	0	1	4	6	13	1

August		
Wed 14 Bristol City(LC)	A	0-3
Wed 21 Reading	A	1-2 Skelton
<b>Wed 28 Bristol Rov</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>1-1 Griffiths</b>
September		
<b>Wed 4 Millwall</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2-1 Griffiths 2(1p)</b>
Wed 18 Swindon	A	4-0 Fotiadis 2, Eberendo, Howell
<b>Wed 25 Peterborough</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>4-1 Thorpe 2, Fotiadis, Holmes</b>
October		
Wed 9 Plymouth	A	4-0 Brkovic 2, Gillman, Judge
<b>Wed 16 Wycombe</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>
Wed 30 Cambridge	A	2pm
November		
<b>Wed 6 Bournemouth</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>
<b>Wed 13 QPR</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>
Wed 27 Northampton	A	2pm
December		
Wed 4 Southend	A	2pm



## Youth Soccer - U19s

### Luton Town 0 Northampton Tn 1

A POOR first half performance was mainly responsible for our first defeat of the season. Northampton had much the better of it, and handled things better than us, and their two front men caused us a lot of problems. They had one big striker and one very quick one, and we were not doing well against them, nor well enough in terms of restricting the service to them. We were better in the second half, and passed the ball rather than just lumping it forward, which was the major mistake we made earlier.

The goal came after 25 minutes, when we failed to clear a corner properly, and a shot from the edge of the box flew into the net.

### FL Youth Alliance Under-19

August		
<b>17</b>	<b>Walsall</b>	<b>H 0-0</b>
31	Kidderminster	A 1-0 Freeman
September		
7	Brentford (LC)	A 2-0 Freeman, Okai
<b>14</b>	<b>Oxford (LC)</b>	<b>H 4-1 Osborn 2, Okai, Freeman</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>Wycombe (LC)</b>	<b>H 2-2 Judge, Barnett</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>Northampton</b>	<b>H 0-1</b>
October		
12	Peterborough	A
19	West Brom	A
<b>26</b>	<b>Rushden</b>	<b>H</b>
November		
<b>2</b>	<b>Oxford Utd</b>	<b>H</b>
9	Cambridge	A
<b>16</b>	<b>Peterborough</b>	<b>H</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>West Brom</b>	<b>H</b>
December		
7	Rushden & D	A
14	Oxford Utd	A
January		
<b>11</b>	<b>Cambridge</b>	<b>H</b>
18	Walsall	A
<b>25</b>	<b>Kidderminster</b>	<b>H</b>
February		
1	Northampton	A
8	Merit Division starts	

We had a few isolated chances of our own after that, but too many players were content to stand around, and although we might have snatched a draw, we didn't deserve any reward from this below par performance.

Luton Town: Beckwith, Howell, Barnett, O'Leary, Gillman (Davis HT), J. Deeney, Keane, Osborn, Freeman, Judge, R. Mansell (Maitland 60 mins).

THE UNDER-19s had no game last Saturday. The preliminary fixture list showed we should have had a match against Boston United, but the Football League newcomers decided not to enter the Alliance after all. This morning we were away to Peterborough and next Saturday we have another away game, at West Brom.

**UNDER-19 appearances, as sub in brackets:** Beckwith 6, Howell 6, Barnett 6, J. Deeney 6, Freeman 6, Okai 5, O'Leary 5, Maitland 4(1), Osborn 4, Judge 4, Gillman 4, Davis 3(2), Keane 2(2), R. Mansell 2(1), Foley 2, De Souza 1, Brill 0(2), Ridgway 0(1).

**Goals:** Freeman 3, Okai 2, Osborn 2, Judge 1, Barnett 1

John Moore

### FLYA UNDER-19 SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Northampton	4	3	0	1	6	3	9
Peterborough	4	2	0	2	10	4	8
West Brom	2	2	0	0	5	3	6
Kidderminster	4	2	0	2	8	8	6
Cambridge	3	2	0	1	6	6	6
Walsall	4	1	1	2	8	5	4
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>
Oxford	3	1	0	2	4	8	3
Rushden	3	0	0	3	2	12	0



## Youth Soccer - U17s

**HAVING** previously confined our competitive youth football to the under-19 level, the Town are now in their first season in the Football League Youth Alliance under-17 section, and the squad is being looked after by Mark Ridgway. A fully qualified coach, he has vast experience of developing schoolboy and youth talent. A 42-year-old Londoner, he admits, if pressed, that he began his coaching career at a club in Hertfordshire. He then worked in the youth department at Norwich City, before spending three years with the West Ham academy. He has been involved with our youth department for the past two years, before his recent appointment as Youth Development Officer.

### Cambridge Utd 0 Luton Town 0

ALTHOUGH this was our first dropped point since the opening day of the season, I was pleased with a good, hard-working performance, especially as we fielded a very young side, and finished the game with four 14-year-olds. The back four was tremendous, with David Deeney and Nick Mountford outstanding in the centre as we had to withstand an aerial bombardment. They did so well that Dean Brill did not have a serious save to make. The disappointment was that we didn't create an awful lot at the other end, although Jason Blythe brought a good save out of the home goalkeeper. It was, however, a good point against a big physical side.

**Luton Town:** Brill, Smyth, Shea (Pendleton 80 mins), De Souza, D. Deeney, Mountford, Blake (Sinclair 75 mins), Ridgway, Clark (Richardson 60 mins), Mugadah, Blythe.

### Luton Town 3 Colchester Utd 0

AN IMPRESSIVE team performance gave pleasure for all sorts of reasons. Colchester included seven first-year scholars in their team, while we had just two. We also played a different system, but had to change the side minutes before kick-off, and then had to change again at the interval. With the under-19s having no game, we brought in strikers Tom Freeman and Luke Maitland, to use a 4-3-3 instead of the usual 4-4-2. Maitland, however, was injured in the warm-up, so Mutsa Mugadah was promoted from the bench to play in attack alongside Freeman and Keith Keane.

A goal in the first minute settled us down, with Mugadah heading in at the far post from a cross by Keane. From then

on the result was never really in doubt, so long as we kept our discipline, which we did.

A glancing header by Keane, from a cross by Mugadah, doubled our advantage on 25 minutes, but at the interval Freeman was taken ill, and had to be replaced, which meant we reverted to 4-4-2. It was good to see that young players were able to cope with changes, and be flexible in their approach.

Good passing all over the park kept us on top, and while we make high demands of our players, they have learned that they must also make demands on each other during games. The third goal came five minutes into the second half when Jason Blythe scored direct from a corner, and after that it was exhibition stuff, playing keep-ball. We had a decent crowd and I think they enjoyed it.

**Luton Town:** Brill, Smyth, R. Mansell, Da Souza, D. Deeney, Mountford, Blythe (Blake, 80 mins), Ridgway, Keane, Freeman (Shea HT), Mugadah.

WE ARE at home to QPR on Saturday, and spectators are welcome at Luton Rugby Club, Newlands Road, Farley Hill. Admission is free and kick-off is at 11am.

**APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets:** D. Deeney 7, Ridgway 7, Blake 6(1), Brill 6, Blythe 6, Mountford 6, Shea 5(2), De Souza 5, Reid 5, Smyth 4(2), Clark 4(1), Mugadah 4(1), Freeman 2, Keane 2, R. Mansell 2, Green 1(3), McCarthy 1(2), Maitland 1(1), Barnett 1, Barrett 1, Howell 1, Sinclair 0(5), Richardson 0(1) Pendleton 0(1).

**Goals:** Ridgway 4, Blythe 2, Keane 2, Mugadah 2, Maitland 1, Shea 1, Barnett 1, Freeman 1, Clark 1, R. Mansell 1.

Mark Ridgway

### FL Youth Alliance Under-17

August		
17	Brighton	A 0-3
24	Peterborough	A 6-0 Shea, Barnett, Blythe, Freeman, Keane, Maitland.
September		
7	Southend	A 2-1 Ridgway 2 pens
<b>14</b>	<b>Portsmouth</b>	<b>H 1-0 Mugadah</b>
21	Gillingham	A 4-3 Ridgway 2, Clark, Mansell
28	Cambridge	A 0-0
October		
<b>5</b>	<b>Colchester</b>	<b>H 3-0 Mugadah, Keane, Blythe</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>QPR</b>	<b>H</b>
26	Wycombe	A

FLYA UNDER-17 SE CONFERENCE							
P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	
Peterborough	6	5	0	1	14	8	15
Brighton	6	4	1	1	12	6	13
L. Orient	6	4	0	2	14	7	12
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>
Colchester	6	3	2	1	8	7	11
Gillingham	6	3	1	2	22	17	10
Cambridge	6	2	1	3	12	13	7
Wycombe	6	2	1	3	11	21	7
QPR	5	1	1	3	5	9	4
Southend	6	1	1	4	11	21	4
Portsmouth	5	1	0	4	8	9	3
Brentford	6	1	0	5	10	14	3

## WINNING MARGINS

## FULL GROUNDS - ATTENDANCES

## CLEAN SHEETS

## FAILED TO SCORE

## SEQUENCES: ALL 4 DIVS

	1 gl	2 gls	3 gls	4+
Oldham	4	2	0	2
Bristol City	2	2	2	1
Cardiff	5	2	0	0
QPR	0	5	1	1
Wigan	1	5	1	0
Blackpool	3	1	2	0
Chesterfield	4	1	0	1
Crewe	2	3	0	1
Brentford	3	2	0	0
Port Vale	5	0	0	0
Stockport	3	1	1	0
Tranmere	3	1	1	0
Barnsley	4	0	0	0
Luton	2	0	2	0
Northampton	2	1	1	0
Plymouth	3	1	0	0
Wycombe	2	1	1	0
Colchester	3	0	0	0
Mansfield	2	0	0	1
Peterborough	1	1	0	1
Swindon	0	3	0	0
Cheltenham	0	2	0	0
Huddersfield	2	0	0	0
Notts County	0	0	2	0

## HEADERS SCORED

## PENALTIES SCORED

## GOALS FROM OUTSIDE THE AREA - ALL 4 DIVS



## GOALS PER GAME - THE MOST CONSISTENT STRIKERS

Player:	Clyde Wijnhard	Robert Earnshaw	Luke Beckett	Rob Hulse	Nathan Ellington	Scott Murray	Kevin Gallen	Andy Liddell	Steven Howard	Marco Gabbiadini
minimum of 4 goals scored	8	9	10	7	12	6	8	7	7	7
Lge Gls:	2	3	1	1	3	14	0	1	1	13
Games:	11	14	0.79	0.67	0.64	0.62	0.62	0.58	0.57	0.54
Gls/Game:	0.91	0.86								

## Second Division Scene



PETERBOROUGH failed on Tuesday where the Town succeeded on Saturday, and that cost the Town a place in the league table. Saturday's victory put the Town up to 14th place, but on Tuesday Stockport used up their game in hand, and beat Barry Fry's men 2-1. That sent Stockport shooting seven places up the table, to tenth, with the Town one of the teams they overhauled.

Luke Beckett, who scored against the Town, got both home goals on Tuesday to take him to second place in the division's top marksmen list – he has hit 11 goals, one fewer than Cardiff's Robert Earnshaw.

Results and the table are another reminder that any team is likely to beat any other on its day – and that consistency or lack of it can be crucial.

Congratulations are due to former Town striker Iain Dowie, in his first managerial role as boss of Oldham, who have gone top of the table for the first time this season after beating Andy King's men 1-0 at Swindon. Dowie was the division's manager of the month after Oldham won all five of their September games, and it is now a run of six on the trot, with 16 goals scored and only two conceded. It should be a bit of a ding-dong when we go to Boundary Park next Saturday!

Cardiff were knocked off the top because while Dowie's men were winning Lennie Lawrence's drew 2-2 in a top of the table clash at Wigan. Cardiff have not lost an away game in the league since Lawrence became manager in February, and have not lost in nine games this season – their only defeat was at

home to Northampton in August.

An illustration of the effects of inconsistency has been set by Brentford, who were top of the table and unbeaten when the Town went to Griffin Park and drew early last month. Wally Downes had just been named manager of the month but it has been downhill ever since. A home defeat against Barnsley dropped the Bees to ninth place, having lost four of their last five. Barnsley obviously like coming south – their only other away win this season was at Kenilworth Road.

Today's visitors are going through a rough time after winning promotion via the play-offs, and dropped to bottom of the table, for the third time this season, when they were beaten 3-1 at Blackpool last week.

Mansfield overtook them by producing the most freakish result for a long time, a 6-1 home win against Tranmere, and that after they were 1-0 down at half-time. For the team with the worst defensive record in the whole of the Nationwide League, that winning feeling was overdue – it was their second victory in 11 games. The other was here at Kenilworth Road.

Today Cheltenham are making only their second visit to Kenilworth Road – last season the Town enjoyed a 2-1 home win, and a 1-1 draw at Whaddon Road. This season's campaign has been hard for Cheltenham, who have managed only two wins from their first 12 matches, at home to Swindon last month, and 2-0 at Mansfield the following week. Those results took them up from bottom to 18th place, but they have

since lost twice on the trot, at home to Notts County and away to Blackpool. They also suffered a 7-0 hammering at Crystal Palace in the Worthington Cup second round, having produced a marvellous 3-0 home win over Norwich in the first.

Cheltenham's away record in the league reads 1-1 at Barnsley, 0-1 at Tranmere, 0-1 at Crewe, 1-1 at Colchester, 2-0 at Mansfield and 1-3 at Blackpool.

Brian Swain

## Today's Other Second Division Fixtures

Barnsley v Bristol City

Cardiff v Wycombe

Chesterfield v Tranmere

Huddersfield v Notts County

Northampton v Brentford

Peterborough v Mansfield

Plymouth v Wigan

Port Vale v Oldham

Stockport v Crewe

Swindon v Colchester

	Nationwide League Division Two												
	HOME					AWAY							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Oldham	12	4	0	2	14	5	4	2	0	6	1	14	26
Cardiff	12	4	1	1	10	5	3	3	0	9	6	8	25
Wigan	12	3	2	1	12	7	4	1	1	9	2	12	24
QPR	12	5	1	0	14	3	2	1	3	9	11	11	23
Crewe	12	4	1	1	7	3	2	3	1	10	5	9	22
Bristol City	12	5	0	1	15	3	2	0	4	6	10	8	21
Blackpool	12	4	2	0	14	5	2	1	3	4	6	7	21
Chesterfield	12	4	1	1	10	5	2	1	3	4	10	-1	20
Brentford	12	3	2	1	6	3	2	1	3	7	12	-2	18
Stockport	12	3	2	1	11	6	2	0	4	3	5	3	17
Plymouth	12	3	2	1	8	5	1	2	3	9	12	0	16
Northampton	12	3	2	1	8	3	1	2	3	3	11	-3	16
Port Vale	12	3	0	3	8	10	2	1	3	9	11	-4	16
Tranmere	12	4	1	1	8	5	1	0	5	5	16	-8	16
Luton Town	12	2	1	3	14	11	2	2	2	7	9	1	15
Wycombe	12	2	2	2	12	10	2	1	3	4	8	-2	15
Barnsley	12	2	3	1	6	6	2	0	4	7	12	-5	15
Peterborough	12	2	1	3	7	4	1	2	3	8	10	0	12
Notts County	12	0	3	3	6	11	2	3	1	11	6	0	12
Colchester	12	2	1	3	3	4	1	1	4	3	10	-8	11
Swindon	12	2	0	4	6	6	1	1	4	5	12	-7	10
Huddersfield	12	1	3	2	4	6	1	1	4	3	11	-10	10
Mansfield	12	2	0	4	10	17	1	1	4	9	18	-16	10
Cheltenham	12	1	1	4	7	12	1	2	3	5	7	-7	9

You can email the programme editor at  
brian.swain@btinternet.com

# Statistics and all the fixtures

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# SQUAD CHECK

## LUTON TOWN

Manager: Joe Kinnear

1	Mark Ovendale	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
2	Aaron Skelton	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
3	Alan Neilson	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
4	Matthew Spring	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
5	Russell Perrett	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
6	Marvin Johnson	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
7	Adrian Forbes	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
8	Kevin Nicholls	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
9	Tony Thorpe	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
10	Carl Griffiths	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
11	Steve Robinson	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
12	Chris Coyne	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
14	Andrew Fotiadis	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
15	Dean Crowe	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
16	Carl Emberson	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
17	Emmerson Boyce	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
18	Ahmet Brkovic	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
19	Steve Howard	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
20	Peter Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
21	Paul Hughes	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
22	David Bayliss	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
23	Ian Hillier	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
24	Sol Davis	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
31	Alan Kimble	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
35	Cedric Berthelin	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>

tick if playing ■ tick if substitute ●

## CHEL滕HAM TOWN

Manager: Graham Allner

1	Steve Book	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
2	Antony Griffin	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
3	Jamie Victory	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
4	Chris Banks	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
5	John Brough	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
6	Michael Duff	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
7	Lee Howells	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
8	Mark Yates	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
9	Paul Brayson	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
10	Tony Naylor	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
11	Russell Milton	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
12	Shane Higgs	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
14	Hugh McAuley	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
15	Richard Walker	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
16	Martin Devaney	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
17	Neil Howarth	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
18	Damian Spencer	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
19	Julian Alsop	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
20	Steve Jones	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
23	David Bird	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
24	Shane Duff	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
27	Lee Williams	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
28	John Finnigan	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>

### Today's Officials

Referee: Clive Penton, Sussex

Assistants: John Hayto, Essex (yellow flag); Dean Whitestone, Northamptonshire (red and yellow flag)

Fourth Official: Carl Couzens, Hertfordshire

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