

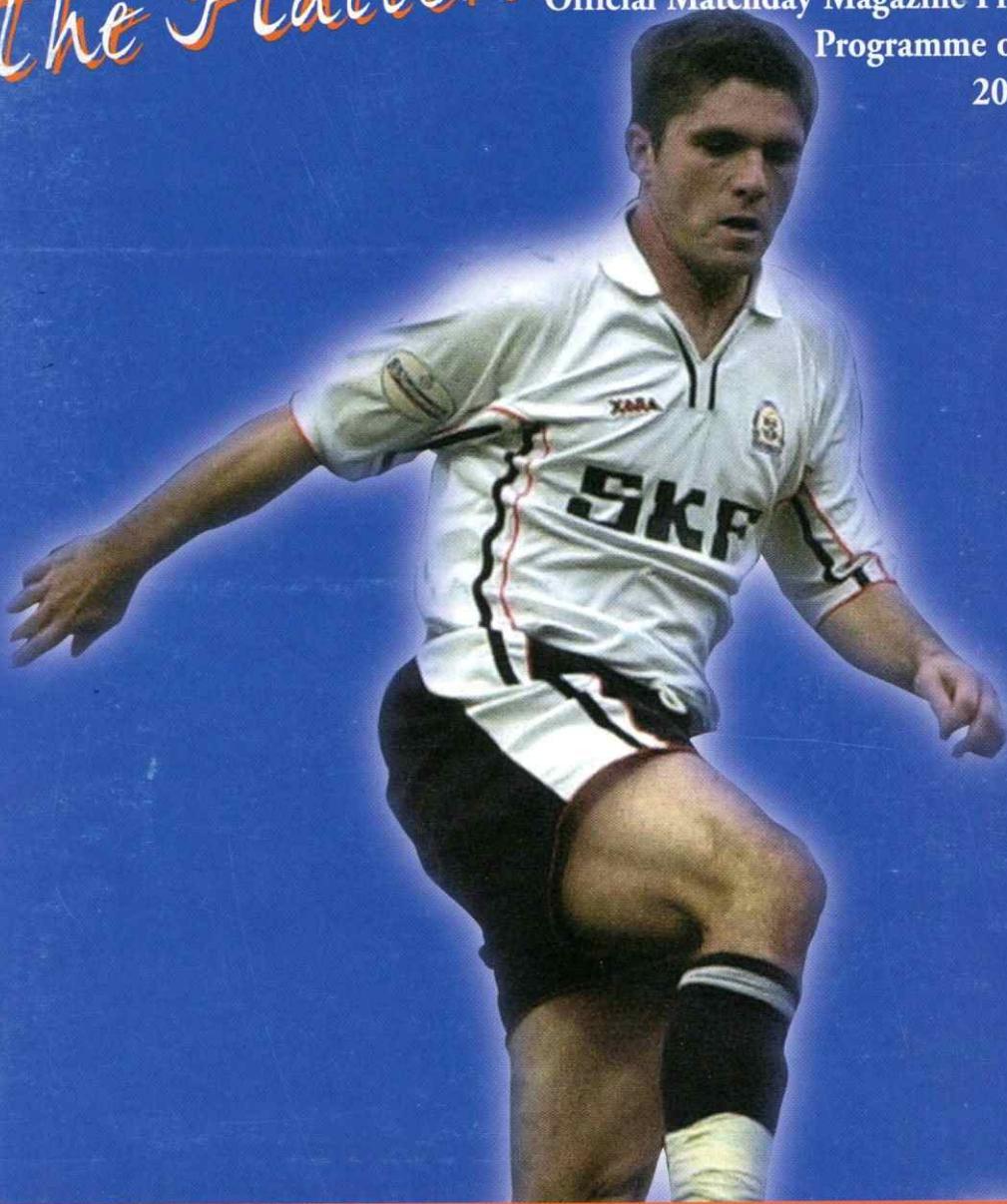
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The Hatters

Official Matchday Magazine Price: £2.00

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2001 - 2002



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v

Guiseley AFC

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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



Still on the goal standard – Tony Thorpe whose quality header put the Town on their way to victory at Stevenage on Tuesday.

Inside Forward

MANAGER Joe Kinnear was yesterday enjoying the rare luxury of having almost a full squad of first-team players available for this afternoon's cup-tie.

Matt Spring can return in midfield after suspension, and Andrew Fotiadis was ready to challenge for a recall in attack after recovering from injury.

The boss rested some of his key players for the midweek LDV Vans Trophy victory at Stevenage, and in some ways, he said, that win might be a mixed blessing. "Extra games are a drain on the team," he said. "Goodness knows what I will do in the next round of the LDV. The only reason I put out the side I fielded at Stevenage was because of the supporters, and the proximity of the two clubs. If it had been Plymouth away I would have sent the youth team!"

"I kept eight players back at Stevenage, because I wanted to field the best possible team in the FA Cup. Spring, Howard and the entire back four were kept safe for this game, because I couldn't afford to risk any more injuries."

One matter that was excising the manager's mind as he prepared for today's game was the telling contribution Ahmet Brkovic made at Stevenage, where he was used as the striking partner for Tony Thorpe. The Croatian enjoyed the experience, especially his hat-trick collected in five minutes with three expert strikes.

Since joining the Town just over a year ago he has been used as a midfield player, with occasional games as a striker in the reserves. He said: "I like playing up front. When I was at Leyton Orient they used me as a right winger, but with the freedom to move forward regularly. On Tuesday I enjoyed being alongside Tony Thorpe, and I was really pleased with the goals because I know I hit all of them just right."

The match ball, signed by the Town squad, joins two others in Brkovic's personal trophy cupboard, but is the first he has won in this country. "I have scored twice in a game a few times in England, but my only other two hat-tricks were in Croatia," he said. "One was for Dubrovnik, when we lost 4-3, and the other for Varteks, in a 4-1 win."

Two Cup-Ties In Four Days?

The draw for the LDV area quarter-final was due to be made this morning, so by now the Town should know who and where they are playing on Tuesday December 10. The draw for the next round of the FA

INSIDE TODAY...

The manager's column – P 5; The captain's views – P 7; Today's visitors – Pp 17- 21; Match action - reports and pictures on two games – Pp 36-39; FA Youth Cup delight – P 51; Latest injury news – P 8; Blast from the Past – Pp 22 & 23; Luton Belles are prize guys – P 45; Junior Hatters – P 41; Play-off chase goes on – P 53; Christmas gift ticket offer – P 50.



OUR TOP HATTER: Andrew Fotiadis was the winner of the Century Club's Personality of the Month prize for October. It was to recognise his all-round performances, including a spell of four goals in as many matches on his recall to the league side.

Cup is to be made tomorrow, for games to be played three weeks today, on December 7.

If today's game needs a replay, it will be at Valley Parade, Bradford, on Monday November 25.

Search Trip Blocked Out!

THE boss is still scouring the country for players who might be signed on loan to increase the depth of his league squad. He even tried his luck with Manchester United, to ask if Luke Chadwick fancied a game or two for the Town. No harm in asking, said Joe, but he was serious enough when he added that he was in touch with Alex Ferguson about other possibilities.

He also has an interest in a fringe player or two at Arsenal, and went to Highbury on Monday to have a look at a reserve game to run the rule over potential recruits. But the game never took place – a power cut blacked out the floodlights. It was not a wasted evening though, with the Town manager speaking to pals in the game who might be able to help him out.

Joe said his major requirement was for players with pace – the quickest players in Kenilworth Road are Dean Crowe and Adrian Forbes, and both are still on the long-term injured list.

Brian Swain



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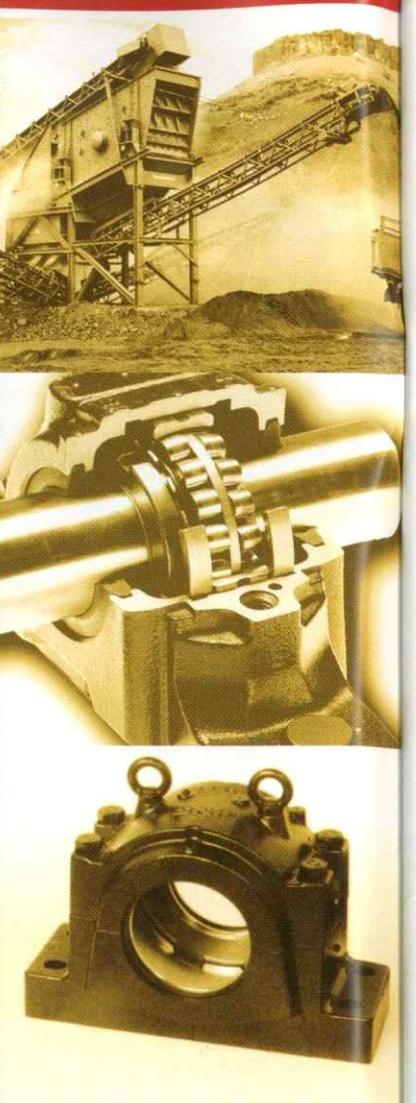
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Manager's View



WE HAVE a welcome distraction from our league campaign this afternoon, and at last a home tie in a knock-out tournament, the first since I became manager here nearly two years ago. Supporters have been tremendous in their willingness to travel the country to back us, and a cup-tie at Kenilworth Road was long overdue for them as well as for me.

I have enjoyed some good experiences in the FA Cup, both as player and manager, and I hope we are set for more this season, starting this afternoon. It's a big day for our visitors, and they come here with nothing to lose. We must be wary of not being one of the teams that will make headlines tomorrow for suffering shock defeats. It always happens, but if we go about our business properly we should be all right.

I certainly want to see a goal or two after Saturday's disappointment against Port Vale. As so many visiting sides do, they set out their stall to defend in numbers and made it difficult for us to play. But without taking anything away from them, we really should have beaten them. They hardly threatened our goal while their keeper was the busiest man on the park, on a day when we had no luck at all in front of goal. It became "just one of those days" when we couldn't buy a goal. I would have settled for one bouncing in off a backside, because the way the game was going I had no doubt that if we could make a breakthrough we would have gone on to win convincingly.

I was not too critical of the players afterwards:

they did almost everything right, and I always feel we have goals in our locker.

We proved the point at Stevenage on Tuesday, where I was more concerned with our defending. I selected a team to suit our purposes - I wanted it to be good enough to win without risking too many players who will be needed for more important occasions, including today's game.

That was why I put out a reserve back four, and only one recognised striker in Tony Thorpe. I would have rested him as well if it were possible, because it is a worry to me that at present we have so few fit strikers available. In recent games we have suffered for lack of pace, which Adrian Forbes and Dean Crowe offer when they are fit. A manager needs to have options when he comes to pick his team, and at present mine are a little limited. That is why I have been busy trying to bring in fresh faces. The requirement is for someone quick, ready for immediate first team action, and if he is left-footed so much the better. There are players about who would fit the bill, but I don't have a few hundred grand to spend, so I am haggling with managers to try to sign men on loan. It's difficult: other managers are providing fierce competition for players who are available, and in view of our expectations I usually find that the players who are offered to me do not match up to my required standard.

I will keep looking, but in the meantime the squad we have has shown that it is capable of doing well. My worry is that it might be stretched too far as we approach a busy and crucial part of the season. Injuries and suspensions

are part and parcel of the game, and we cannot afford many more!

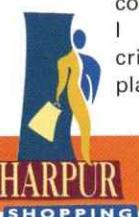
The game at Stevenage gave me the chance to look at what we have in reserve, and I thought it was a very good football match. Stevenage were keen to take us down a peg, but we should have had it well under control when we went 4-2 up with half an hour to play. Instead we failed to put up a proper wall at a free kick, and were made to sweat in the closing stages as they bombarded us. In the circumstances it was a good result.

Making progress in the knock-out tournaments can be a mixed blessing in terms of the extra strain it can put on squads, but to be in the area quarter-finals of the LDV opens up some interesting possibilities. We are in it to win it, although not, of course, at the expense of our drive for promotion.

The FA Cup has much more glamour, of course, and a decent run could do wonders for our finances, so there must be no slip-up this afternoon. Home advantage has to be made to count, and we know the fans shared our disappointment at drawing a blank a week ago. Hopefully, we have put a few goals in the bank, and can cash in today. Your support at Stevenage was tremendous again, and helped to create a great atmosphere. Do it again today, and we will try to reward you with another victory.

Keep the faith, and enjoy the game.

Joe Kinnear



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Captain's View



AFTER a mixed bag of a week, with a home draw in the league and a victory in a terrific game at Stevenage, we are hopefully well set to begin a decent FA Cup run this afternoon.

As you might expect I was delighted to be back in action last Saturday, after a month on the injured list, but not entirely happy with the way the game went.

I know fans get frustrated when we don't win, but believe me no-one could be more frustrated than we were on the pitch as Port Vale went home with a point. We had a lot of the ball, but now and again our final pass let us down, and sometimes the wrong options were taken in their penalty area. Even so, it was a much better performance than in the defeat at Northampton, and we felt we were desperately unlucky not to get the three points we wanted.

You have to give Port Vale some credit. They defended well and employed a lot of stoppers who were adept at being in the right place at the right time. But it was a mystery how we did not manage to find at least one goal – even I went close! With Alan Neilson in midfield instead of suspended Matt Spring, I had more responsibility for attack than usual, and I enjoyed it. I would have been over the moon if I had scored, but I had one scrambled away and another deflected round a post.

In the end it added up to disappointment as well as frustration, because for us it was a case of two points being

lost just as much as one gained. However, the league table shows we are doing OK – only three points off the play-off zone, and there is still a long way to go before the season ends.

I felt fine in my first game back, and felt I got more into the game the longer it went on. You need to play competitive games to regain sharpness, and for that reason it was good to play 45 competitive minutes. I enjoyed the evening, not only playing for the first half, but also watching the second. My best moment, of course, was when I fed Tony Thorpe with the ball that enabled him to score. It was a great finish on his part, placing his header very cleverly, having got into the right position to receive the ball because he knew where I was going to put it. My worst moment, needless to say, was when I scored the early own goal without knowing anything about it as the ball bounced in off the back of my head.

The second half was an exciting game to watch, and we knew we had to pull out all the stops to win. I was particularly pleased with the young lads who came into the side, and of course for Ahmet Brkovic. I don't think I have ever seen a better quality hat-trick than his, each goal a real gem. And what a pleasure to see the oldest "youngster" of them all, Marvin Johnson, going on as a sub to calm the nerves in the closing minutes.

We needed quality to overcome a very spirited Stevenage side. They were up

for it, because it was a big game for them, and they played well.

There is a lesson to be learned: this afternoon Guiseley come here as under-dogs, but doubtless seeing this game as their cup final. We must be determined not to be complacent, and not to make the mistake we made at Stevenage – you can't afford to take 20 minutes or more to settle, and I will look to us to get into our stride early.

We all want a good cup run. I for one am still waiting for my first taste of FA Cup glamour, because Wigan never had any cup success when I was there, and we have very bitter memories of our brief FA Cup experience last season, when we lost at Southend in the middle of a very good run of league form. As I recall I was one of five players who missed that game when we were hit by suspensions and injuries.

Today, thankfully, we are much closer to full strength, and we have a stronger, deeper squad than 12 months ago. We might well be glad of that this afternoon: I am expecting Guiseley to play above themselves. But we have home advantage, and that can be crucial. We are confident, but aware of the danger of underestimating the opposition. That is a mistake we will not make, and hopefully we will play as well as we did here a week ago, and this time get the goals.

Kevin Nicholls



Treatment Room

A SECOND good result from the game at Stevenage on Tuesday was that we came through with no further injury worries, and the treatment room is now nowhere near as busy as it was a few weeks ago. The latest to be "signed off" was Andrew Fotiadis, who has had to miss a couple of games with a minor hamstring problem. He was able to resume full training on Thursday, and the indications then were that he could have a chance of being considered for the squad today. Our other injured men - Dean Crowe, David Bayliss, Carl Griffiths and Adrian Forbes - face much longer spells out of action as they work to overcome more serious injuries. Crowe is probably the nearest to

a return to football, but not in the very near future. He is doing well after the hamstring tear he suffered a month ago, and working hard to aid his recovery. It was good to see him increase the speed of his running this week, but it is too early to allow him to sprint at full pace. We will have to build up the strength in the muscle first.

Griffiths had to rest up for a few days after having an injection to cure a problem in his calf muscle. There was not enough blood flow, but the treatment should have cured that, and this week he was able to resume running. He was still a little bit sore, but that should clear up quite quickly.

Adrian Forbes keeps remarkably cheerful despite the frustration of what can easily be a boring

routine as we work to help him overcome his cruciate knee ligament injury.

He looks good when he runs in a straight line, and he has built up to sprinting speed. The next stage will be to gradually introduce a little twisting and turning, but that will have to be done very gingerly, and he knows that a return to full fitness is still a long way off. Even so, he is doing extremely well. Finally, David Bayliss continues to work on his recovery following a shoulder operation. He is running at nearly full pace, but we have to be careful not to put too much strain on the shoulder joint, to give it time to recover completely from the surgery.

Bruce Hobbs

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Club Secretary

FIRST today, a very warm welcome to Kenilworth Road to the officials, players and supporters of Guiseley AFC. Thank you to all supporters who again gave so generously to the Mencap collection at last Saturday's match. Mencap were delighted to raise £388.02, and Ruth Allison, the Administration Officer, has also thanked the club for allowing their members to watch the match - some of them had never been to a football game before. As I write these notes, Wednesday's reserves match with Queens Park Rangers has been postponed, due to the pitch being waterlogged, which is not surprising with the amount of rain we have all suffered over the past few days. I have no

new date for that match yet. A date we do have is the FA Youth Cup third round tie. We play Stoke City on Wednesday December 4 at Kenilworth Road, with a 7pm kick-off. Price of admission is £3 adults and £1 concessions, with entry via Kenilworth Road. Please do come and support the youngsters who are playing some very attractive football. There are no replays in the FA Youth Cup competition, with extra time and penalties to be taken if necessary on the night.

That game displaces our reserve match which was due to be played at Southend that day. The new date is Wednesday February 12, kick-off 2pm. The reserves, incidentally, have a cup-tie of their own

Cherry Newberry

FIRE SERVICE DISPUTE

AS EVERYONE is now aware, the Fire Service strikes have commenced, and over the coming weeks and months there will be occasions when there will be no regular fire service cover at the stadium.

It is for this reason that we have banned smoking in the Enclosure, and we would ask everyone to co-operate in helping to reduce the risk of fire in or around the Main Stand area. As was so tragically seen at Bradford, a fire in a wooden stand can have very serious consequences.

Geoff Lovell, Safety Officer, Luton Town FC

You can e-mail Cherry Newberry on
clubsec@lutontown.co.uk



LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS CLUB

The annual Christmas quiz will be held on Monday December 9 at the Eric Morecambe Suite, at 7.30pm



Tickets are on sale, at present to LTSC members only, at the Supporters Club kiosk before and after today's match. Price: £3.

Subject to availability a limited number of tickets may later be offered to non-members at £5.

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(No tickets for that day's match against Cardiff City will be available)

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Ticket Office News



Luton Town v Queens Park Rangers

Saturday November 23, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This is an ALL-TICKET match for ALL SUPPORTERS, with no tickets available on the day of the game.

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices and supporters are advised to book early to avoid disappointment.



Tranmere Rovers v Luton Town

Saturday November 30, 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 £15, Senior Citizens £8.50, 16 and under £3

PLEASE NOTE: If you are aged between 17 and 22, Tranmere Rovers offer a young persons' discount, with tickets costing £13. However, this is not available on the cash turnstiles. If you wish to take advantage of this offer, you must apply at the Tranmere Rovers ticket office and produce valid ID.



Saturday December 7, 2002

This date is reserved for the second round of The FA Cup



Luton Town v Colchester Utd

Saturday December 14, 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



Bristol City v Luton Town

Saturday December 21, 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.

KID A QUID

Bristol City are using this game for their "Christmas Special Offer" with reduced admission prices: Adults £10, Senior Citizens, Students and under-19s £5, under-16s £1.



Luton Town v Cardiff City

Thursday December 26, 2002, kick-off 12 noon

This match is ALL TICKET for ALL SUPPORTERS, with no tickets available on the day of the game.

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices and supporters are advised to book early to avoid disappointment.

There will be no cash turnstiles available



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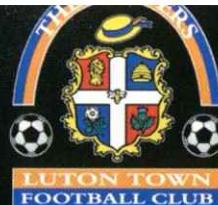
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Commercial Corner



WE ARE fortunate at Kenilworth Road in having a lot of very good supporters, not only in terms of shouting for the team, but also in backing our commercial activities, which are vital to the success of the club.

One of the companies who are regular and generous benefactors are CP Contracts, who are sponsoring this afternoon's match ball. The name will be familiar to supporters, because the company has an advert board in the ground, and also advertises regularly in the matchday magazine.

Based at the Old Coach House, Woburn Street, Ampthill, CP Contracts has been associated with Luton Town for many years, and Chris Park says it

is a matter of pride that his firm is today's ball sponsor.

CP Contracts have established themselves as a leading building company in the region, with a growing reputation for all kinds of building work, including refurbishment, interiors, design and build. Their list of clients bears testimony to their expertise and value for money, and refurbishment and new build works currently under way include projects for Mill Vale Middle School, Beechwood Junior School, and Whitbread plc.

For our part, we welcome Chris and his guests to today's match, and hope they enjoy their VIP day out with us.

Linda Layton

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It offers a unique experience of Kenilworth Road, including a look behind the scenes, a face to face meeting with the players in the dressing room, and - often the biggest thrill for young Town fans - the chance to run out onto the pitch with them before kick-off, to the roar of the crowd.

And mascots don't just go home with happy memories - we provide photographs as well. We have a few vacancies available for the rest of this season, and if you would like to know more, please contact the commercial department, by phone on Luton 411622, or by e-mail to commercial@lutontown.co.uk

Golden Gamble

MOST fans were probably disappointed that we were held to a draw last Saturday, but Town supporter Jim Weir still enjoyed a very good personal result - he pocketed £735 in the Golden Gamble lottery. He is pictured with Matt Spring, who drew his lucky ticket out of the drum.

It's not a bad return for a stake of £1, and the Golden Gamble has paid out £6,235 to nine winners so far this season, an average of £693 each.

Today's jackpot, as usual, will depend on sales: half of your £1 stake goes towards the prize, and the other 50p goes into club funds, so just by buying a ticket you are helping Luton Town. Another cash prize is on offer this afternoon, with the draw made at half-time, with the prize available immediately.



To advertise in the matchday magazine phone Luton 411622 or e-mail us at: commercial@lutontown.co.uk



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Ian Smith

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G.Owen Ceramic Tiling

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Century Club

Kevin Nicholls
WHOSH

Kevin Foley
The Regular Rabble

Carl Griffiths
Paul Deason

James Osborn
Michael Capp & Danny Clubb

Sol Davis
Personal Security Services



Odds-on An Upset?

MANAGER Neil

Parsley agrees that it is 10-1 against his Guiseley part-timers upsetting the formbook by winning this afternoon. But that will not stop him and his men believing that all things are possible. Boss for the past two years, and assistant manager before that, he said: "For most of our players this will be the biggest game of their lives. We are going to enjoy the weekend, and we are preparing properly. We are travelling the day before and we are coming to play a football game that is there to be won. I know that nine times out of ten Luton would beat us. But who knows: Saturday might be the tenth time..."

Guiseley AFC are in the Unibond (Northern) League Division One, four leagues below the Town. "We are all part-timers," said the part-time boss, who is a building site manager. "We don't pay wages, just expenses, petrol money, and that's minimal."

"We have the usual collection, schoolteacher, postman, salesmen and so on, and we have all gone to our bosses to ask for the day off on Friday so that we can do things properly in the run-up to the game. Most will be taking the day off as part of their holiday, although one or two might be asking for compassionate leave."

"I was a professional footballer, and felt privileged to be paid money to do a job I loved. I expect the Luton players feel the same. My boys play for the love of the game, because they want to, and we have had a few scouts from league clubs watching us because we have some good young players."

"For all of us, this is a very big game, and we will be up for it. Perhaps there will be scouts watching us again, and I hope

NEIL Parsley is hoping it will be third time lucky today. He has played here twice, while he was a fullback with West Brom. The Town won 3-2 in May 1994, and it was 1-1 in the first game of the following season.

"I remember the 3-2 game best," he said. "It was a relegation battle, and both teams survived. My biggest memory was of your Mr Hartson going in on our goalkeeper, Stuart Naylor, and breaking his cheekbone. The Luton skipper was Trevor Peake, and he came running up to Stuart. We thought he was going to commiserate with him, because they knew each other from when they played together at Lincoln, and it was a nasty facial injury. But Peakey just chuckled and told Stuart 'Your looks haven't changed, have they?'

"My other memory of Kenilworth Road was David Pleat having the pitch watered to make it fast. Luton were a good team, and I enjoyed the atmosphere in the ground."

For the record the Town marksmen in the 3-2 victory over Mr Parsley and his mates were David Preece, Julian James and Hartson. Scott Oakes got the goal in the draw three months later.

some of our lads will show them what they can do.

"I know Luton have had us watched, just as we have taken a look at them. Hopefully, we'll give them a few things to think about." Guiseley's cup run – they have had to play six matches to qualify for the first round – has left them with a fixtures backlog and perilously close to the two relegation places in the Unibond League. But the manager will not use that as an excuse.

"We have done well in the FA Cup, but our league form was dreadful until a couple of weeks ago," he said. "Thankfully it has been picking up recently, to match our cup form, and we have the potential to do well."

For their league games at the Nethermoor Stadium, capacity 3,000, Guiseley are rarely watched by more than 300 people, but today's cup-tie has caught the imagination of the old Yorkshire

mill town, which is between Leeds and Bradford.

They have known success – during the last decade Guiseley have been FA Vase semi-finalists three times in succession, and twice got through to the Wembley final, winning in 1991 and losing a year later.

Club Secretary Bruce Speller said: "We have often had 200 or less at games, but when we won promotion to the Northern Premier League Premier Division we used to have crowds of around 900. Our league results have not been too good until recently, and a few weeks ago we were bottom, four points adrift, but with games in hand because of our cup run.

"The game at Luton is our cup final, and there's lots of local interest in it. By the beginning of this week we had 400 tickets sold, and we're all determined to have a good day out."

Brian Swain



Welcome To



MANAGER

Neil Parsley

A 36-year-old Liverpudlian, Neil was a defender with Witton Albion when he became one of the first signings Howard Wilkinson made at Leeds, in 1988, but the majority of his Football League games were played for Huddersfield, West Brom and Exeter. In 1995 he returned to Witton Albion before becoming player and assistant manager at Guiseley. The second of two cruciate knee ligament injuries ended his playing career last year.

He became Guiseley manager in October 2000, and is now in his seventh season

with the club. He took his coaching badge while still a player, and works in the building trade as site manager. He is not sure if he would ever want to go full-time in football management

GOALKEEPERS

1. Chris Hill

28 year old signed at the beginning of October from neighbours Harrogate Town. Works as a Pneumatic Systems Engineer.Previously played at Hull City & Whitby Town

15. James Shutt

26 year old, School teacher,close season signing having rejoined the club for

a second time following a season with Ossett Town.

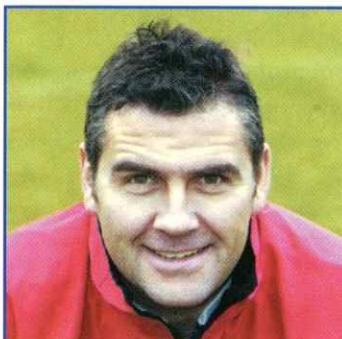
DEFENDERS

2. Peter Atkinson

34 year old who rejoined the club during the close season from Harrogate Town. Peter is the only surviving playing member of the clubs F A Vase winning side of 1991. Has made over 560 appearances for the club.Is a Tool Room assembler by trade.

3. Clive Freeman (Coach)

Experienced 40 year old player who joined the club last season from Goole Town.Previous clubs include Farsley and Altrincham where he scored a spectacu-



lar goal in front of the BBC Match of the Day F.A Cup cameras against Chester City, to earn the 'Goal of the Month' award for November 1992. Other clubs played for are Doncaster Rover, Swansea City, Bradford Park Avenue, Emley & Bridlington Town where he appeared at Wembley in the 1990 FA Vase final.

4. Gary Shaw

28 year old close season signing from neighbours Farsley Celtic.Versatile player who has settled well in the centre defence but is capable from leading at the front if called upon.

5. Simon Trevitt

Experienced 35 year old defender now in his fourth season with the club. Vast Football League experience with Huddersfield Town and Hull City.Also had a brief spell with Ossett Albion. Now a postman appeared at Wembley for Huddersfield Town against Bristol Rovers

Guiseley A.F.C.

in the 1995 Football League play-off final.

6. James Nettleton

Twenty three year old, signed in the close season of 1998 having been released by Bradford City where he had been a YTS apprentice and gained Northern Intermediate League Cup honours.Capable young defender who has adapted well in Unibond League football.Club Captain and works as an IT Technician.

James Elliott

22 year old local former youth/reserve team player who rejoined the club last season after spells with Emley and Alfreton Town.Currently studying at college.

Adam Cater

19 year old postman who has progressed through the reserve team ranks .Has played at under16 level for Leeds United and also his local home side,Otley Town.

MIDFIELDERS

7. David Cooke

25 year old school teacher who rejoined the club three seasons ago after a spell in the U.S.A.studying/coaching. Has also represented

both the British Universities and English Universities at senior level.

8. Dave Henry

Talented 22 year old who joined the club two seasons ago from Northern Counties East league side, Garforth Town . Previously with Blackburn Rovers & Burnley(YTS).Employed as a Recruitment consultant.

10. Richard Chattoe

30 year old school teacher signed at the end of last February.Talented midfield player who has previously played at Bristol Rovers, Weston-Super-Mare, Baldock Town and Histon. Has captained the England under 19 colleges side.

11. Mark Stuart

35 year old in his second season with the club having previously been at Southport.Experienced player who has seen Football League service with Charlton Athletic, Plymouth, Ipswich (loan), Bradford City, Huddersfield Town and Rochdale. Gained England international honours at 16,18 & under 21 level, employed as an accounts analyst.

12. Peter Sumner





Welcome To

22 year old who has also progressed through the youth and reserve teams and with his 100% effort forced his way into the first team squad last season. Scored his first goal for the club with his cracking equaliser in the replay at Tamworth in 4th qualifying round. Works as an air conditioning engineer.

16. Clayton Flower

20 year old signed during September having played for Goole Town & Ossett Town last season. Also had youth experience with Leeds Utd and Hull

City. Works as a meter reader for the YEB.

Gary Birchall

Local based 18 year old currently on work experience with the club from Halifax Town. Currently studying at college, has captained West Riding at schoolboy level.

Ben Thackwray

22 year old bank employee who has progressed through local youth & the Reserve team ranks with great promise. Had a brief spell with Farsley Celtic three seasons ago. Spent part of last close season climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in South Africa.

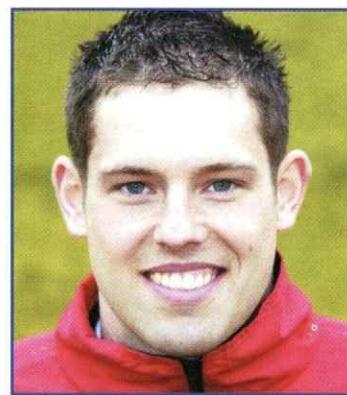
FORWARDS**9. Ryan Senior**

20 year old strong running forward who joined the club during the last close season having previously played with Bradford

Guiseley A.F.C.



based, Eccleshill United in the Northern Counties East League. Scored the stunning 90th min. winner in last round at Tamworth. Has been on Sheffield Wednesday's books and now employed as a claims negotiator.

14. Kevin Newhouse

20 year old promising player who has progressed through the clubs youth and reserve sides before breaking into the first team last season. Had a previous spell at Morecambe as a YTS player but was released after breaking a collar bone. Former triallist with York City & Grimsby Town works as barman.

17. Lee Reilly

Promising 22 year old office worker who broke into the first team last season following good performances and progress through the reserve and youth sides. Has represented the West Riding County youth side on a number of occasions in the past

and was with Bradford City at an under sixteen level.

Nicky Hey

30 year old who signed in October last season from neighbours, Thackley. Employed as a fireman has also played for Bradford Park Avenue and Harrogate Town

Andy Watson

35 year old close season signing having been released by Walsall where he had some unfortunate injuries that had restricted his appearances.

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Blast From the Past

In 1963, following our relegation to the old Division Three, we had to take part in the opening rounds of the F.A.Cup for the first time since the war and also for the first time in 25 years we had to take on non-league opposition. Our first round opponents were Bridgwater of the Western League, and on November 16th we travelled down to Somerset on a wet, miserable day on a hiding to nothing.

The West Country side put the Luton defence under a great deal of pressure, but a fluke goal from Gordon Turner when he tried a speculative long shot which the goalkeeper palmed into the net, gave us a first half lead. Superior fitness eventually told and two goals from Tom McKechnie in the last half hour gave us a flattering 3-0 win.

Two years later we were drawn away to Romford, then a powerful Southern League outfit, in the first round and a good many Luton supporters made the short trip to the old Brooklands

Ground.

The game was fairly even until 30 minutes from the end when Tony Read hammered in a free-kick which was going hopelessly wide until a deflection off a Romford defender took it into the net. We looked to be keeping our lucky record against non-league opposition going, but ten minutes later Romford equalised when Tom Barnett scored from a seemingly offside position.

A crowd of 11,061 turned up at Kenilworth Road on a cold night for the replay, but in a hard game a single header from John O'Rourke took us through to the second round where we had to travel to Corby.

Corby were enjoying their first ever season in the Southern League premier division, included ex-Hatters Alan McBain and Bob Riley in their side and took the lead in the 17th minute through George Jagger, but the Town eventually clawed their way back and equalised after 62 minutes when

Jim

Gibson stabbed the ball home from close range.

Back came the 'Steelmen' and when Maurice Goodall scored with ten minutes to go a cup shock was on the cards. Rather fortunately we managed to draw level just before the end when Ray Whittaker converted a penalty which had been mysteriously awarded by the referee for an infringement that only he saw.

In the replay, a Kenilworth Road crowd of 13,284 witnessed the Town suffer a humiliating, albeit deserved, defeat against a side that chased and harried throughout. The Town were content to throw predictable long balls into the box after Goodall had given Corby a 35th minute lead but never looked likely to save the match.

Another two years passed before we were drawn out of the hat against non-league opposition, with this time a trip to Oxford City of the Isthmian League seen as a diversion from the rigours of Division Four. On the day of the game with the supporters already on the coaches in Oak Road, word came through that the snow covered pitch had not passed an inspection by the referee.

The Luton officials had been happy(ish) to use the Oxford floodlights for the second half of an afternoon game, but refused to play under them in the evening. Oxford, realising that a mid-week afternoon kick-off would not be a money spinner reluctantly agreed to switch the tie to Kenilworth Road, where the game was played on the following Thursday evening.

A crowd of 13,394 saw the Town win 16 corners in a one sided first half, but a mixture of poor finishing and inspired goalkeeping by amateur international John Shippey kept the game scoreless at the interval.



Steve Davis and Gary Doherty in the thick of the action during our F.A.Cup trip to Borehamwood four years ago.

A mixed bag of results against non-league opposition.

As so often happens, the team applying all the pressure concedes a soft goal, with the Town going one down early in the second period to a John Woodley effort. A 30 yard free-kick from Bruce Riach on the hour finally brought us level, and we then scored what turned out to be the winner five minutes later, when hero turned villain Shippey dropped the ball, with Ian Buxton stabbing home.

We did not have to wait long for non-league opposition again, as the first round draw the following season paired us with Ware at Kenilworth Road. A crowd of 10,952 squirmed with increasing impatience as the players huffed and puffed through a scoreless first-half, before George Potter broke the deadlock after 58 minutes.

Substitute Keith Allen then entered the fray, and within three minutes had laid on the Town's second goal for Alan Slough. He then went goal crazy himself, netting three times in ten minutes to become the first substitute to score a hat-trick in league or cup football. Ware

scored a consolation with three minutes to go, but Slough completed an emphatic 6-1 scoreline in the final seconds.

Our most embarrassing clash with a non-league side came in 1969 when we had to travel to Hillingdon for a second round tie. Hillingdon were third from top of the Southern League at the time but we were pushing for promotion to the old Division Two and boasted such players as Malcolm Macdonald, Matt Tees and Chris Nicholl in our side.

A record attendance of 9,330 crowded into the Leas Stadium to see Tees give us an early lead with a towering header, but the home side gradually fought back as the Town surprisingly sat on their advantage.

The Southern League outfit, who had gone over 50 games unbeaten at home, levelled the score through Eddie Reeve just before the interval and then had the cheek to go ahead after 54 minutes when substitute Gary Townsend netted. The Town tried to fight back but Hillingdon, ably led by player-man-

ager Jim Langley who was way past 40, managed to hold on for a famous victory.

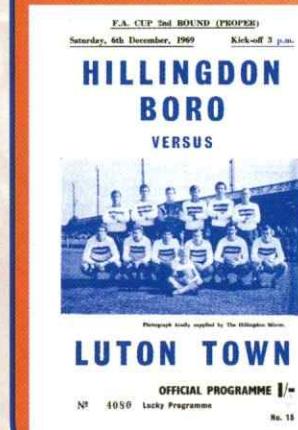
It was to be another 27 years before we encountered non-league opposition again in the F.A.Cup but then clashed four times in five years starting with Borehamwood in 1996 who we saw off at Kenilworth Road courtesy of two goals from Dwight Marshall.

Amazingly we met the same opposition again two years later, this time in Hertfordshire, where we shaded a 3-2 win in front of the Sky cameras. Kingstonian then caused a few scares the following campaign before we won through 4-2 at Kenilworth Road.

Finally, Rushden and Diamonds were the visitors to Kenilworth Road two years ago during their final season as a non-league club. A crowd of 5,771 saw the Diamonds miss a host of chances before Liam George scored the only goal of the game and send the lucky Hatters through to a meeting with Darlington in the next round.

Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages



Our infamous trip to Hillingdon for a second round tie produced a special programme due to the fact that our hosts had never reached that stage of the competition before.

"It is not just a pleasure but a privilege to receive Alec Stock and his Luton team here today" said the opening notes in the programme. We were seen as the prize draw due to the fact that we were two points clear at the top of the old Division Three at the time.

Ominously, although Hillingdon were third from top of the Southern League, they were only two points away from the leaders but with a massive six games in hand due to their cup exploits.

When it had been pointed out that Hillingdon had gone over 50 home games without defeat Alec Stock was unimpressed and had retorted by asking the programme reporter to look at the Town's away record. The comments by Stock certainly smacked of arrogance and perhaps this permeated through to the team who did not perform on the day and deservedly lost 1-2.



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Hatters Abroad

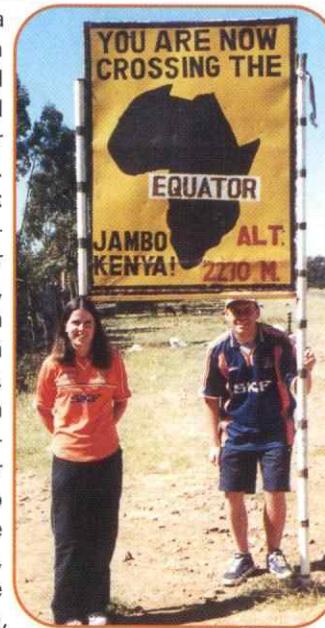


TOWN supporters enjoy being in sumptuous football surroundings, as two of our pictures show. Dave Roberts and Colin Cattermole posed in their Luton shirts at the Ajax Stadium in Amsterdam, and Dave, from Berners Drive, St. Albans, said: "We were just dreaming of how Luton's new facilities will one day compare!"

Pictured in the orange shirt, he has been a season ticket holder for 30 years, and Colin, his step-son, has been accompanying him for the past four seasons. They sit in the Kenilworth. In the snap taken in the ground of Deportivo la



WE ARE always pleased to receive photographs of Hatters supporters in their club colours anywhere in the world. If you have an interesting snap you would like to see published please send it, with a few details, to the editor at Luton Town FC, or by e-mail to brian.swain@btinternet.com. Please include your home address and a day-time phone number. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want the photographs back, but don't offer us anything which is irreplaceable, because with the best will in the world items sometimes go astray.



Coruna in Spain is 16-year-old Anthony Tisdall, from College Road, Margate. "I have followed Luton for eight years," he said. "The picture was taken by my dad, who has been a Luton supporter all his life. We travel to Luton to watch the Town, and I would love to see Luton play Margate one day, because there are a lot of Luton fans down here."

A TRIP to Africa celebrated a special match for Michelle and Dennis Townsend – it was their honeymoon. Michelle told us: "Dennis has supported Luton for over 14 years, while I have been supporting them for the past five. Luton's first win of the season coincided with our wedding day, so unfortunately we had to miss it, along with the Watford game, but we made sure we kept up to date with the scores."

"While we were in Kenya we managed to recruit a couple of new supporters, and now we e-mail them regular updates on the Hatters' progress."



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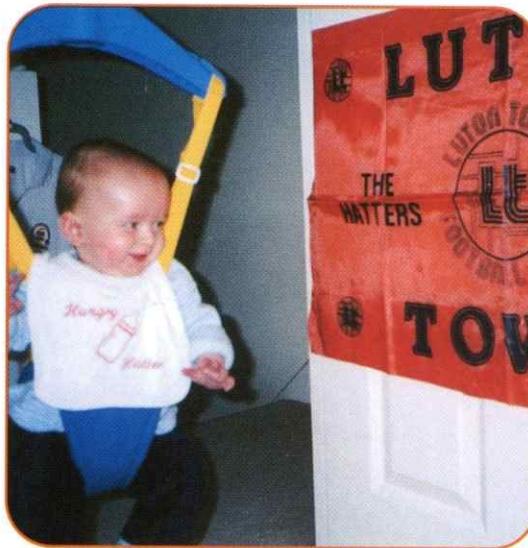
SKF

Mini Hatters

THERE is something special about being a grandfather for the first time and we thought this picture of two different generations was well worth publishing.

Peter Bullock, a life-long Luton fan, and season ticket holder in the Kenilworth Upper Stand, is making sure Samuel Hasler gets an early taste of wearing the colours.

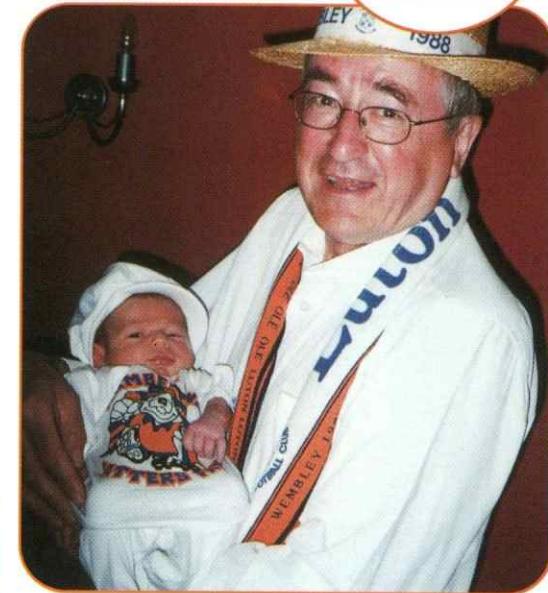
Peter is wearing his Wembley '88 hat and scarf, and John Hasler, who is the doting dad of little Samuel, said: "He is hoping for another good cup run. I know Peter would be very proud if you could include this picture of him and his first grandchild."



TODAY'S other young Luton fan is six-months-old Adam Boustred, whose father Neil said: "As you can see, he is already excited about the Hatters."

THIS SERIES runs as an occasional feature when space permits. 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

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.



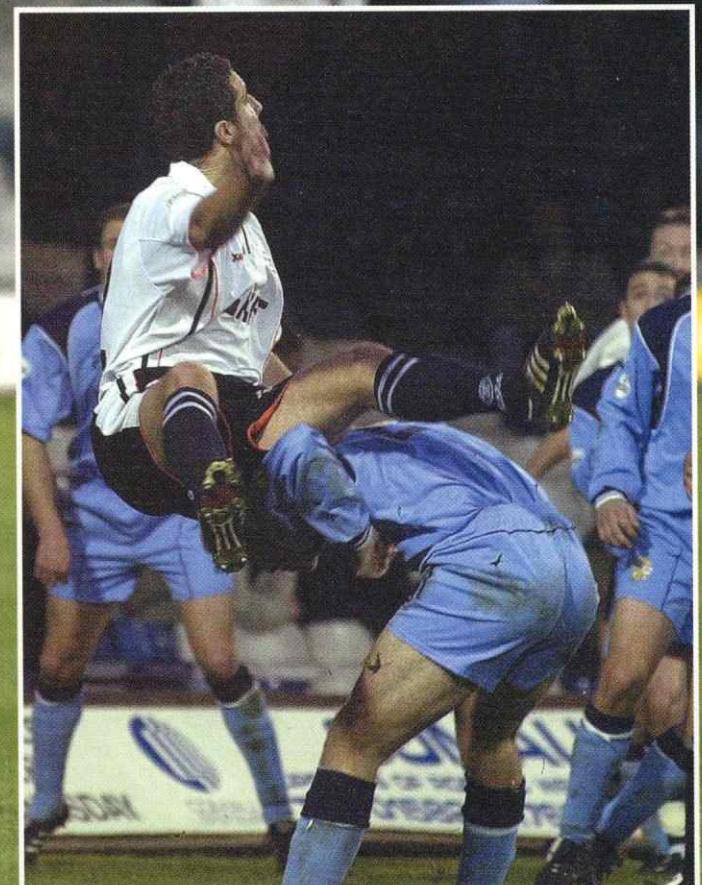
"As with many 'Mini Hatters' he was born into a true Luton family. I have followed the Town since the late seventies, when I first had the honour of sitting with my dad in the Bobbers Stand. He is Dougie Boustred, who has been watching the Town since the 1930s, when he used to walk from the family home in Russell Rise to stand on the Kenilworth terrace.

"He was also involved in the Century Club, as well as being a member of the Bobbers Club for a number of years. He still attends the odd game from his retirement in Bexhill-on-Sea.

"We are all looking forward to the new era at Luton Town, with the move to the new ground. That, no doubt, will provide Adam's first memories of Luton matches."

Action Highlights

Luton Town 0 Port Vale 0



ALL-OUT ATTACK: Even the defenders were able to add to the pressure on Port Vale's goal as Brian Horton's men put up a barrier of bodies to protect their keeper. Emmerson Boyce, who won the man of the match award, is pictured on one of his many attacking runs, in this instance taking on Steve McPhee.

Above: Tony Thorpe receiving very close attention from Ian Brightwell.

Left: Chris Coyne finds that heading clear as Vale attack on the break can be an uplifting experience!



LTFC in the Community

Working in conjunction with Bedfordshire Football Association

AS I HAVE mentioned in previous columns the Community Department is involved in a series of long-term projects. In recent weeks one such project has become a reality.

Our under-8' development group has seen its initial sessions take place. As you may or may not know, our Centre of Excellence has its youngest playing group at the under-9 level, and it is always difficult for the Youth Development Officer to find the necessary talent to fill this group in the early stages of the season.

Knowing this I approached Mark Ridgway with the idea that I could form an under-8 Development Group. It seemed a logical thing to do, because I probably see more players of this age than anybody else in the club.

Mark agreed with the idea, and suggested that it would be an ideal base for certain players who were already being recommended to him through the club's scouting network.

With this in mind I approached the scouts and



FUTURE TOP HATTERS?
The development group working under the expert guidance of Community Coach Noel Blackwell



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asked for recommendations to add to the handful of players we already knew about. The aim is to consistently have a group of no more than 16 players who will be encouraged to develop their skill and techniques.

The development group will work in the same way as the Centre of Excellence. Children will be invited to attend training for a six-week trial period, at the end of which I will make a decision as to whether the player has reached the required standard.

Any players invited to return will be able to benefit from the coaching available in the Development Centre until the end of the current season.

Then Mark Ridgway will assess the players, and make decisions as to whether trials can be offered in the Centre of Excellence for the following season. Hopefully, we will discover one or two outstanding young talents who might one day go all the way to our league squad.

Stuart Smith



On the adjacent page you can see a table showing the two latest courses available from the Community Department. One is for 8-11 year old boys at Putteridge Recreation Centre, and the other for 5-11 year old girls at Dunstable Leisure Centre. There is also a booking form should you wish to enrol your child.

LTFC in the Community



COMMUNITY DONATION: As reported on these pages last week, the club is supporting a Space For Sport and Arts project at Farley Junior School, Luton. The ceremonial presentation of a cheque for £20,000 from FLAG – Fans of Luton Action Group – took place on the pitch before last week's match.

Course Code	No. of Days	Venue	Start Date	Time	Cost	Course Type
DSC 1	10	Dunstable Leisure Centre Court Drive DUNSTABLE	Fri 22nd Nov	4.30pm - 6.00pm	£2.50 per week	5-11 yrs Girls Only
LSC 1	2	Putteridge Leisure Centre Putteridge Road Stopsley Luton	Mon 2nd Dec	4.30pm - 6.00pm	£2.50 per week	8-11 yrs

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

Name Age D.O.B.

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

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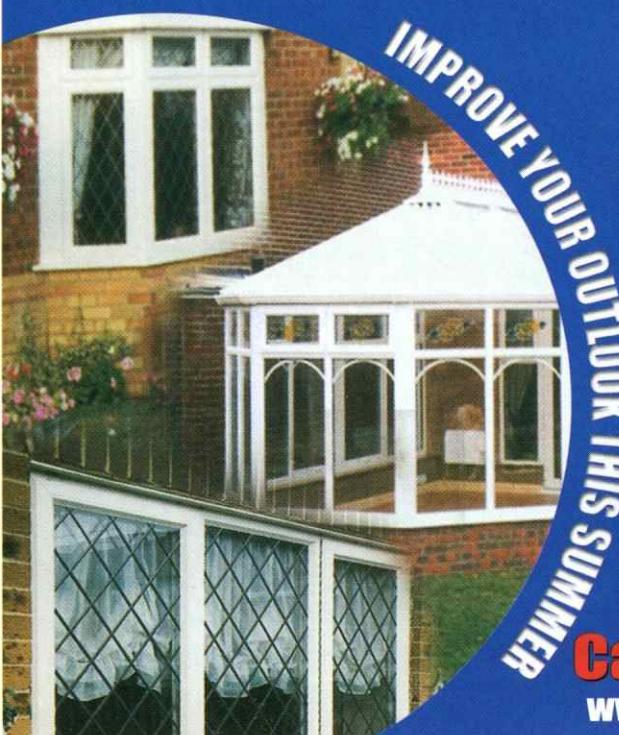
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Fans on the road

MORE than a thousand Town fans took the chance to see the first-ever competitive local derby at Stevenage on Tuesday, the fifth time this season a four-figure following has supported the team. The figures so far:

Hatters Away

Blackpool	781
Plymouth	773
Cardiff	314
Brentford	1,493
Watford(WC)	4,404
Huddersfield	700
Aston Villa (WC)	4,588
Stockport	680
Oldham	610
Woking (LDV)	262
Northampton	1,250
Stevenage (LDV)	1,199

Total: 17,054
Average: 1,421

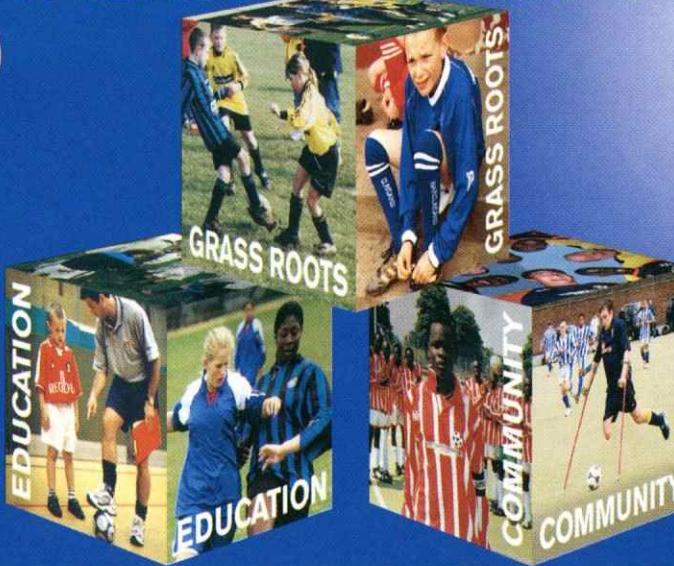
Visitors to Luton

Peterborough	990
Barnsley	504
Chesterfield	366
Notts County	341
Mansfield	160
Cheltenham	328
Wigan	425
Port Vale	247

3,361
420

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FAMOUS
two decades

ago as the skipper who led a buccaneering Luton Town side into football's top flight, Brian Horton came back as a manager with a very different game plan. He set out his Port Vale team to concentrate on defence, and they did their job so well, aided by a little luck and perhaps some iffy Town finishing, that they became the first visitors this season to go home with a clean sheet.

He was the happier of the two managers afterwards, but said the draw was not quite as pleasing as it might have been. He reckoned that if Vale had passed the ball better on their rare counter-attacks they could have embarrassed the Town still further.

It would have been an injustice, because in the 90 minutes Cedric Berthelin had only one serious save to make, from a rising first-half drive by Marc Bride-Wilkinson, while at the other end there was a siege-like air around the Port Vale goal.

The Town were able to pile on the pressure, but more often than not they were faced by eight men plus the goalkeeper behind the ball, and there was no way through, despite a lot of narrow squeaks.

"I was very disappointed that we didn't win," said Town boss Joe Kinnear. "I have never seen so much one-way traffic all season. They rode their luck and it was an injustice we didn't get the three points we deserved. Goodness knows how many chances we carved out.

"We hit the woodwork, they kicked one off the line, Thorpe was clean through and dragged it wide... It was just one of those

Action Replay

Luton Town 0 Port Vale 0

days really.

"Defensively we looked very sound. I can't remember them really troubling our keeper. I am just so disappointed that we didn't get maximum points. We just needed one goal and if we had got it I could see us running in two, three, four or five. We didn't get what we deserved, but I am delighted with the way we played, except for the finishing. Our effort and commitment was no problem."

The Town were nearer full strength than they had been for some time, with skipper Kevin Nicholls returning after a months' absence through injury in place of suspended Matt Spring. Peter Holmes was recalled in place of Ahmet Brkovic, and Alan Neilson also went into midfield, replacing Aaron Skelton. Russ Perrett was fit again to resume in central defence, with Ian Hillier returning to the bench.

The pattern of the game was set from the first minute, with Port Vale using five at the back, and pulling almost everyone behind the ball when they lost possession. Their hope was that they would draw the Town in and then hit on the break.

They got the first half of the formula right, although Steve Howard will rarely win so many headers as he did against Sam Collins without collecting a hat-trick at least.

Emmerson Boyce's surging runs down the flank were thrilling but ultimately came to nothing, with Mark Goodlad making an excel-

lent full-length save from the full-back's booming 21st-minute 20-yarder.

Boyce also provided the cross from which Neilson's glancing header came back off a post, with Goodlad beaten.

Nicholls looked a touch rusty after his injury lay-off, but twice went close to scoring, with a first-half close-range effort blocked by a desperate last-ditch tackle by Liam Burns, and a second half shot deflected away by Collins, with Goodlad beaten.

Horton enjoyed his return. "I had some of the best days of my career here," he said. "I played in a good team, and learned a lot from David Pleat. He would have said the same as I just have to my players – well done to get the point, but I am disappointed with your passing. We could have got something out of the game if our final ball had been better. But that's being hyper-critical. I am pleased with the draw, and our third clean sheet in a row."

Luton Town: Berthelin; Boyce, Perrett, Coyne, Davis; Robinson, Nicholls, Neilson, Holmes (Hughes 73 mins); Howard, Thorpe. Unused subs: Emberson, Skelton, Brkovic, Hillier.

Booked: Steve Howard for dissent.

Port Vale: Goodlad; Carragher, Burns, Brightwell, Collins, Rowland; Durnin, Bride-Wilkinson, Cummins; McPhee, Paynter (Brooker 80 mins). Unused subs: Boyd, Armstrong, Charnock, Delaney

Booked: Marc Bride-Wilkinson and Steve Rowland, both for fouls.

Referee: Paul Robinson, Hull.

Attendance: 6,112, including 247 visiting fans.



GOING CLOSE: Returning skipper Kevin Nicholls trying to force a way through a packed defence, foiled on this occasion by a last-ditch block by Liam Burns.

RIGHT: Steve Howard rises high to get the better of Ian Brightwell.

BELOW: Tony Thorpe is outnumbered in the Vale penalty area, with four defenders swarming around him.



Action Replay

A FIVE-minute hat trick by Ahmet Brkovic settled a cracking cup-tie at Broadhall Way on Tuesday. It not only fired the Town into the last 16 of the LDV Vans Trophy, but also suggested that there might be another option available to the manager as he tries to cope with a shortage of fit senior strikers.

The Croatian was pushed into the front line alongside Tony Thorpe, and revelled in his new role. After three goals in his 42 previous appearances, his quick-fire treble, all neatly taken, turned the game round after the struggling Conference outfit threatened to cause an upset.

The Town fielded a much stronger side than the one that beat Woking in the first round, but it was still a makeshift outfit, said Joe Kinnear. He was not willing to risk too many first team regulars, seeing today's game as more important but, as at Woking, he selected a team that he believed could do the job, and was vindicated after a few alarms.

Stevenage were big and bustling, and obviously up for it, on a special occasion for three men in particular: manager Wayne Turner and players Stuart Fraser and Jude Stirling.

The game ebbed and flowed, with the Town classier in style, but Stevenage threatening to be more effective with their direct approach. They were a little flattened to be 2-1 up at the interval, and missed a glorious chance to make it 3-1 before Brkovic demonstrated the night's best finishing.

Joe, naturally, was perturbed at some of the defending, but delighted for Brkovic, and with the overall team display. Kevin Nicholls was glad to get another

Stevenage Boro 3 Luton Town 4 (HT 2-1)

45 minutes under his belt, before making way for Michael Leary, with Kevin Foley and Joe Deeney taking their chance to show again what is on the way through from the youth department.

For Town fans – nearly half the crowd, which made for a tremendous atmosphere – it was a brilliant match, thanks to first-half worries being dispelled by second-half goals. Managers are never likely to see it like that after a 4-3 scoreline.

Turner said: "I was very pleased with our commitment and the way we took the game to Luton, but disappointed to lose. Luton had a purple patch when we were ravaged, and it was a fantastic hat-trick by Brkovic. If we had taken the chance to go 3-1 up early in the second half it might have been comfortable for us. Instead, within five minutes we were 4-2 down."

For the Town, worries started after only six minutes, with what the boss called "another Mickey Mouse goal." Stirling hurled the first of his many long throws into the box, Carl Emberson tried to punch clear above a crowd of lanky opponents, and the ball rebounded off the shoulder of Deeney, and then off the back of Nicholls's head into the net.

The Town came back strongly, with Peter Holmes and Thorpe extending goalkeeper Mark Westhead before Thorpe equalised with a clever looping header from a high ball floated to him by Nicholls. We thought the Town would take over after that, but in stoppage time at the

end of the first half Richard Pacquette muscled his way past Skelton and hit a powerful drive into the net.

After that each team had its spells of superiority. Sub Michael Blackwood was the man who missed a near-sitter when he should have made it 3-1, but the hat-trick by Brkovic changed everything. His first came on 56 minutes, after good work by Holmes and sub Matthew Judge, the second a minute later from a pass by Paul Hughes and the third on 61 minutes, after Thorpe's work saw the ball run loose on the edge of the box.

Stevenage stuck to their game plan, and a deficient wall at a free kick led to Richard Scott blasting in a 25-yarder with 19 minutes to go.

The home side scented a chance, but the Town held out, although Joe confessed that at times they were riding their luck.

Luton Town: Emberson; Foley (Johnson 72 mins), Deeney, Skelton, Kimble; Mansell (Judge HT), Nicholls (Leary HT), Holmes, Hughes; Brkovic, Thorpe. Unused subs: Ovendale, Barnett.

Booked: No-one.

Stevenage: Westhead; Travis, Stirling, MacDonald; Fraser, Howell (Blackwood HT), Scott, Wormull (Jackson 70 mins), Riddle; Midson (Sigere 58 mins) Pacquette. Unused subs: Wilson, Boyd.

Booked: Louis Riddle for an awful last-minute tackle on Tony Thorpe.

Referee: Paul Rejer, Worcestershire.

Attendance: 2,601, easily Stevenage's highest of the season so far, mainly because it included 1,199 visiting fans.



CHEERIO, PAL: Ahmet Brkovic gets clear of former Hatter Stuart Fraser to hit his first goal of the night, the Town's second equaliser.

Right: Having a ball – Berko takes the cheers from the big Town following after his first hat-trick for the club.

Below: Not this time – Tony Thorpe, who netted the Town's first goal with a brainy header, is denied on this occasion by Mark Westhead.



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Junior Hatters

the club shop, which is the Junior Hatters headquarters, and the price is £10 for Junior Hatters and £13 for guests, including a match ticket.

Happy Harry

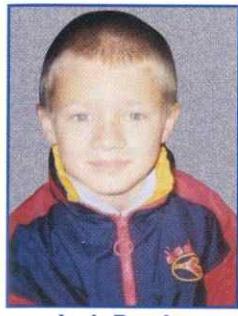
CHRISTMAS PARTIES

OUR Christmas parties last year were over-subscribed, which meant some Junior Hatters were disappointed. So this year we will be doubling up on the party season. On Thursday December 5 we will hold the party for Junior Hatters aged 10 at the Century Club. The party for Junior Hatters aged 11 and above will be on Thursday December 19.

Both will run from 7pm until 9pm, and there will be the usual festive fun and games, including, we hope, a visit from Father Christmas.

Tickets will cost £5, and each member can buy one for a guest, at £6. Tickets will be available from the club shop from Monday onwards.

Parents will be welcome to use the Maple Road car park, and if they wish to stay while the parties take place the Eric Morecambe Suite will be open, with bar facilities.



Jack Parsley

TODAY'S MASCOT

OLIVER Dagless, from Galston Road, Luton, is this afternoon's Junior Hatters mascot. He comes to games with his uncle, Robert Murphy, and they watch from the Kenilworth Stand. When he is not supporting the Town, Oliver likes playing football, golf, tennis and computer games. He plays for Sundon Park Rangers, and goes to Sundon Park Junior School.

Today he enjoys a treat, meeting the players - hopefully including his favourite Matt Spring - in the dressing room, and running out onto the pitch with them for the pre-match formalities. Today's ballboys are Alexander Wiltshire, of Biscot Road, Luton, and Craig Price, of Saxon Road, Luton.



Two mascots were on duty at the home game with Port Vale last week. Pictured with the skippers and match officials before kick-off are ten-year-old Lee Ephgrave, who was representing the Junior Hatters, and Curtis Sage-Passant, 9, who was the commercial mascot.

Junior Hatters membership is open to any boy or girl aged from 0 to 16 who supports Luton Town, and if you want to know more please contact the club shop. There are lots of advantages, including value for money trips to away games, and the chance to be picked out as mascot at home matches - the choice is made at random, with names drawn out of the computerised drum..

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

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2.15 Team line up to be announced
2.20 HMV Single of the week
Sugerbabes - Stronger/Angels With Dirty Faces
2.35 Dedications announced
2.40 Town Teaser - See Page 55
2.45 Player Track
See Right
2.55 Teams runout to - The Blues Brothers
"Gimme Some Lovin"
3.00 THE BIG KICK OFF

HALF TIME

3.50 Golden Gamble -
Winning ticket drawn on pitch

3.55 Run down of half time scores from around the country

4.00 Dedications

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

4.55 - FULL TIME

Player Track



Armet Brkovic
ROBBIE WILLIAMS
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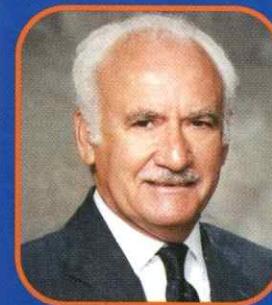


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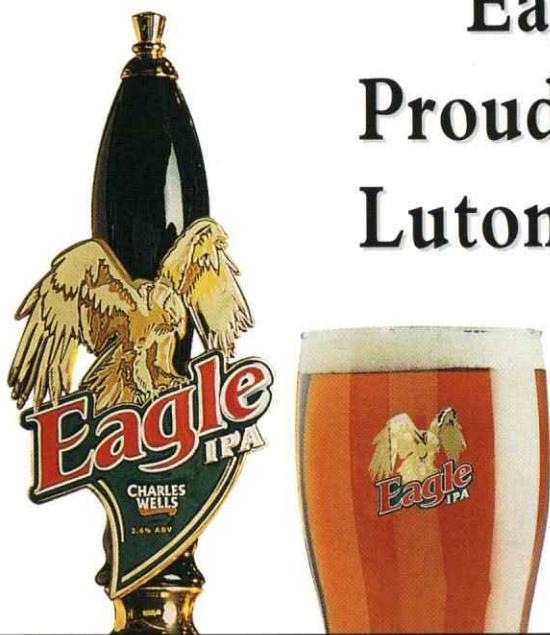
The Chairman and Directors of Luton Town Football Club undertake to ensure as far as humanly possible that all activities that take place at the Kenilworth Road Stadium are conducted in such a way that as far as is reasonably practical the safety of everybody at the stadium is assured.

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.



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Luton Belles



WITH the recent bad weather interrupting our fixtures, this is an ideal opportunity to reflect on how we have developed in such a short space of time.

In past years a couple of different women's teams have carried the Town's name, and older fans will remember how one of those teams provided the pre-match entertainment in the early 80s on the artificial pitch as a curtain-raiser to some home league matches. One of those players was a very young Sarah Gaitley, who is now the Belles goalkeeper and the senior member of the current squad by more years than I would dare reveal.

As is often the case those teams had no infrastructure and eventually folded or wandered off in search of pastures new. With the growth in the popularity of women's football on the horizon the first Belles squad formed in 1997 with ten girls aged 10 and

11. They were obviously very talented and it was no surprise when the first trophy arrived shortly afterwards. It was to be the first of many.

The picture shows, left to right, Stacey Connell, Emma Ellis, Becky Clark (standing), Nicole Emmanuel and Nikki Baker.

Stacey, Becky and Nikki have progressed into the first team squad, and Nicole is now part of the England set-up, studying at Loughborough University and looking forward to the 2007 World Cup having already represented England at under-17 level.

Many will recall Kenilworth Road hosting an international against Spain, and Nicole was team mascot on the night. The England captain advised her to make the most of her night, and Nicole confidently replied to the effect that she would, but also intended to be out there playing alongside the team within a few years. With the nec-

essary luck, she will achieve her aim, and with the talent that now runs through all the teams in our club it is very likely that she will not be the last to find her way into an England shirt.

Since 1997 Belles have won over thirty trophies and received a number of honours from the local community. Luton Sports Council has named the Belles Sports Club of the Year for the past two years. Great credit must go to this organisation and the Belles will be eternally grateful to them for having the foresight and generosity to provide funding for their very first kit in 1998.

Almost two years ago The Belles officially became part of Luton Town, and we now have in place a sound infrastructure with teams in every age group from under 10 to adult. With a thriving youth section, the Belles have a sustainable future.

The senior team are now in their second season in the Southern Region Women's League, and vying for promotion, whilst our eleven a side and youngest squads play in the very competitive Hertfordshire Girls League which draws teams from seven counties north of the Thames. We still retain development squads in the under 10, 12 and 14 age groups.

We work closely with Stuart Smith of the Community Department, and plans are underway to develop a Luton Town Centre of Excellence for Girls which will further strengthen girls football in Luton and the surrounding area.

Dave Baker

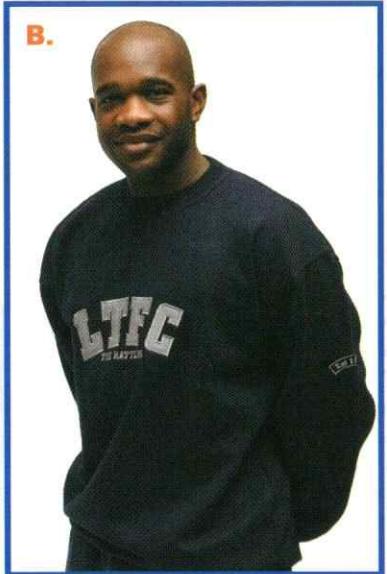


LUTON Belles organises football for girls of all ages, from ten upwards. If you want to know more, or fancy being involved, e-mail Dave Baker at lutonbelles@hotmail.com The Belles also have a website – pay a visit to www.lutontownbelles.com

For the latest news, views and interviews call:
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Available in The Club Shop

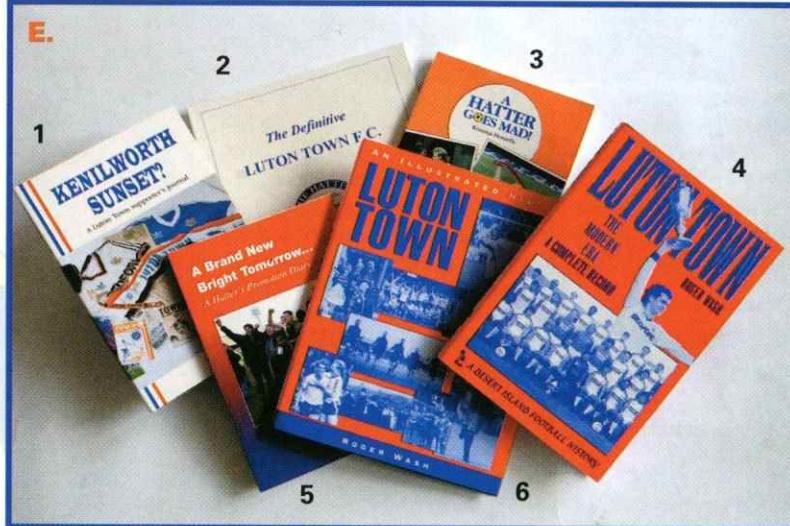
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5. A Brand New Bright Tomorrow	£7.99
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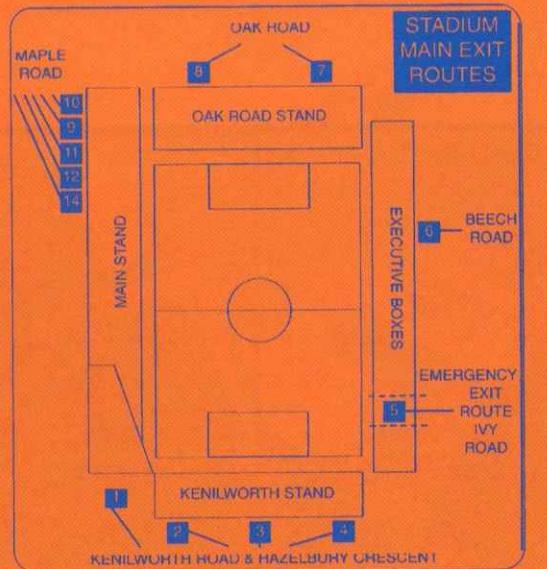
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IN THE event of any emergency in the stadium, Luton Town FC and the emergency services have agreed on an evacuation procedure which is designed to ensure the safe and controlled evacuation of the crowd, and to ensure their safe dispersal from the area, to allow the emergency services to carry out their tasks.

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

Geoff Lovell, Safety Manager.



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THERE were two ways of looking at this performance: for much of it the football was excellent, but our finishing was woeful. We should have been four up before half time, and game over. Instead we wasted chance after chance, and were then left in a position where we might have been undone by one mistake. We dominated the first half, and played quite well in the second.

We were playing three up front, and Brentford couldn't cope with our pace, and we ran them ragged. To reach half time without any goals to show for an otherwise very good display was very disappointing. It was down to poor finishing on one of those days when good strikes went just wide.

But you know you are not going to dominate every minute of every game, and in the second half we got caught up in Brentford's game. It became a bit stop-start, with tackles flying in, and that distracted us from our football. Again we had chances to win the game, but also we could have lost it. Their keeper was constantly in action, but Dean Brill, in our goal, had to make two good stops in the second half.

The good thing is that we are making plenty of chances, and at the end Brentford were absolutely delighted to get away with a draw. We are becoming a bit of a scalp for other teams because of how well we are doing, and that also leads to us having higher expectations. We're glad we didn't lose, but so very disappointed that we didn't win, because we should have. If we keep playing like this I think someone is

going to suffer a heavy defeat at our hands.

There is not a lot wrong with our play, and we put together the sort of football that opens teams up. But Brentford were tough and niggly, and we will have to learn to cope with that.

Luton Town: Brill, Skelton, Shea, Deeney, Mountford, Reid, Mugadah, Ridgway, Freeman (Danaher 80 mins), Keane (Clark 86 mins), Blythe (De Souza 60 mins).

WE WERE at home to Cambridge this morning – report to be in next week's matchday magazine – and next Saturday we are away to Colchester.

APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets: D. Deeney 11, Ridgway 11, Blythe 10, Mountford 10, Blake 9(1), Shea 8(3), Mugadah 8(1), Reid 8, Smyth 7(2), Brill 7, Clark 6(3), De Souza 6(1), Keane 4, Hurst 3, Freeman 3, Green 2(4), R. Mansell 2, McCarthy 1(2), Maitland 1(1), Skelton 1(1), Barnett 1, Barrett 1, Howell 1, Sinclair 0(7), Richardson 0(2) Pendleton 0(2), Danaher 0(2).

Goals: Mugadah 6, Ridgway 5, Blythe 2, Keane 2, Maitland 1, Shea 1, Barnett 1, Freeman 1, Clark 1, R. Mansell 1

Mark Ridgway

OUR reserves have suffered another blank week, after Wednesday's scheduled game with QPR was postponed because the pitch was waterlogged. Their next match is at Wootton Blue Cross on Wednesday (November 20) in the Beds Senior Cup, kick-off 7.30pm.



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
14	Portsmouth	H	1-0	Mugadah
21	Gillingham	A	4-3	Ridgway 2, Clark, Mansell
28	Cambridge	A	0-0	
October				
5	Colchester	H	3-0	Mugadah, Keane, Blythe
19	QPR	H	0-2	
26	Wycombe	A	4-1	Mugadah 4
November				
2	L. Orient	A	1-3	Ridgway
9	Brentford	H	0-0	
16	Cambridge	H		
23	Colchester	A		
30	QPR	A		
December				
7	Wycombe	H		
14	L. Orient	H		
January				
11	Brentford	A		
18	Brighton	H		

FLYA UNDER-17 SE CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Peterborough	9	7	1	1	21	10	22
Luton Town	9	6	1	2	20	10	19
Brighton	9	6	1	2	18	9	19
L. Orient	9	5	2	2	21	11	17
Gillingham	9	4	1	4	25	25	13
Colchester	9	3	3	3	10	13	12
Cambridge	9	3	2	4	18	17	11
Wycombe	9	3	2	4	18	28	11
QPR	9	2	4	3	10	12	10
Portsmouth	9	2	1	6	18	18	7
Brentford	9	2	0	7	14	23	6
Southend	9	1	2	6	13	30	5

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- Seat availability guaranteed for all home cup-ties
- Priority treatment when tickets for away games are limited
- A ten per cent discount on purchases in the club shop

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Youth Soccer - U19s

FA YOUTH CUP: Tooting & Mitcham 1 Luton Town 3

WITH three schoolboys in the squad this was a very good result, and the boys deserve every credit for getting into the third round of the FA Youth Cup. Winning was the first priority, but I tend to be ultra-critical sometimes, and felt that not everyone showed he could raise his standard as high as he should. We suffered a blow by conceding the first goal, five minutes before the interval. It was probably the only serious mistake we made in the first half, but the home side deserve some credit for the way they punished us for it.

Tooting and Mitcham looked on this match as their cup final, and they had the better of the first half without looking really dangerous, which was a bit worrying to us. They were bound to make an extraordinary effort when meeting a professional club's team, and if any of our lads thought this was going to be an easy game they soon discovered how wrong they were.

Perhaps the opening goal was the shock to the system we needed. Certainly we responded well, scoring twice in three minutes to lead 2-1 at the interval.

The equaliser was down to the anticipation and quick reaction of Matthew Judge when a long ball was played into the box. He got on the move quickly, and beat the goalkeeper to it to score with a header. A good footballing move enabled him to put us ahead in the final minute of the first half.

Having taken those chances so well, Judge missed an easier one in the second half, when we played much better. We picked up Tooting's runners, and defended properly, always having three at the back, two marking and one covering.

We were fitter than Tooting, who couldn't keep up the pace they had set in the first half.

Richard Mansell put over some good corners, and one of them led to Curtis Davies heading in at the near post after 69 minutes, and we were never in danger after that. We had most of the possession, and probably should have added a goal or two more, but overall it was a satisfactory performance.

We will be at home to Stoke City in the next round, with the date still to be confirmed.

Luton Town: Brill, Howell, Barnett, Foley, Davies, Mountford, Keane, O'Leary, Freeman, Judge, Mansell (De Souza 82 mins).

OUR Football League Youth Alliance fixture at Cambridge on Saturday was postponed because of a waterlogged pitch. We were due to be away to Brighton this morning, but have no scheduled fixture for next Saturday.

APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets: Howell 12, Barnett 11(1), Freeman 11, Judge 10, O'Leary 10, J. Deeney 9, Okai 9, Davies 8(2), Foley 8, R. Mansell 7(2), Maitland 7(1), Osborn 7(1), Brill 6(2), Beckwith 6, Gillman 5(1), Keane 3(3), De Souza 1(2), Ridgway 1(1), Mountford 1.

Goals: Judge 8, Freeman 7, Osborn 4, Okai 2, Barnett 1, O'Leary 1, Davies 1.

John Moore

FL Youth Alliance Under-19

August

17	Walsall	H	0-0	
31	Kidderminster	A	1-0	Freeman
September				
7	Brentford (LC)	A	2-0	Freeman, Okai
14	Oxford (LC)	H	4-1	Osborn 2, Okai, Freeman
21	Wycombe (LC)	H	2-2	Judge, Barnett
28	Northampton	H	0-1	

October

12	Peterborough	A	1-3	O'Leary
19	West Brom	A	0-1	
23	Brentford(FAYC1)	A	3-0	Judge, Freeman 2
26	Rushden	H	3-1	Judge, Freeman, Osborn

November

2	Oxford Utd	H	5-1	Judge 3, Freeman, Osborn
7	Tooting(FAYC)	A	3-1	Judge 2, Davies
9	Cambridge	A		Postponed
16	Brighton (LC1)	A		

December

30	West Brom	H		
4	Stoke(FAYC)	H		

January

7	Rushden & D	A		
14	Oxford Utd	A		

February

11	Cambridge	H		
18	Walsall	A		
25	Kidderminster	H		

FLYA UNDER-19 SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Brom	6	5	1	0	12	5	16
Peterborough	6	4	0	2	17	6	12
Walsall	7	3	2	2	14	8	11
Northampton	6	3	2	1	8	5	11
Cambridge	6	3	1	2	12	9	10
Luton Town	7	3	1	3	10	7	10
Kidderminster	7	2	1	4	11	17	7
Oxford	7	1	0	6	5	21	3
Rushden	6	0	2	4	5	16	2

Statistics and all the fixtures

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SQUAD CHECK

LUTON TOWN

Manager: Joe Kinnear

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

tick if playing ■ tick if substitute ●

GUISELEY AFC

Manager: Neil Parsley

1	Chris Hill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Peter Atkinson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Clive Freeman	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Gary Shaw	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Simon Trevitt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	James Nettleton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	David Cooke	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	David Henry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Ryan Senior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Richard Chattoe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Mark Stuart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Peter Sumner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Kevin Newhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	James Shutt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Clayton Flower	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Lee Reilly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Today's Officials

Referee: Joe Ross, London

Assistants: Stephen Artis, Norfolk (yellow flag); Martin Harris, Lincolnshire (red and yellow flag)

Fourth Official: Martin Darlow, Bedfordshire

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