

# LUTON TOWN

## The Hatters

Official Matchday

Magazine Price: £2.00

Programme of the Year

2001 - 2002



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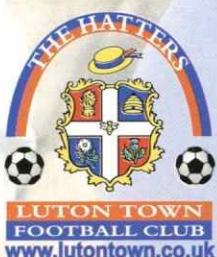
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### Official Matchday Magazine

#### Editor

Brian Swain

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**Photography**  
Gareth Owen

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

#### Cover Story



Up for it: Skipper Kevin Nicholls is the top man as he, Steve Howard, Tony Thorpe and Matt Spring celebrate after Thorpe put the Town ahead at Barnsley.

# Inside Forward

CLUB chairman Mike Watson-Challis delighted a full house in the Eric Morecambe suite on Wednesday when he headed a boardroom panel for an "Any Questions?" session with supporters.

It was a two-hour grilling for the chairman, and for his deputy Eric Hood, and Yvonne Fletcher, the fans' representative on the board, and at the end of it they were given an ovation.

The night's topics were wide-ranging, headed by questions about plans for the new stadium, team-building prospects, and, inevitably, money.

Luckily for Luton Town, Mike is a long-time fan himself, and is putting in £4.5million a year to cover current losses. Like most clubs in the Nationwide League gate receipts are well short of running costs – in the Town's case the shortfall during the season is £500,000 per month.

After taking control in the summer of 2000, the chairman and his colleagues mapped out a five-year plan for the club. It envisaged being back in a secure First Division place, and in a new stadium, with a chance of then being able to balance the books, and perhaps make a profit.

The plan included a budget, with the chairman knowing that he would have to cover a lot of losses before his dream of walking into the new stadium became reality. The club, he said, was being run within that budget.

The push for a return to the First Division was on target, but Eric Hood, who is in charge of the relocation project, admitted that the stadium scheme had "slipped a little."

Even so, it might well keep to the final schedule. More paperwork has to be done, and discussions are ongoing with various parties who might be part of the project to help funding. There might also be a ground sponsor, with the chairman, taking a swipe at a previous owner, promising that it would certainly not be called the Watson-Challis!

The plan is for a ground with a capacity of 15,000 to start with, but capable of being increased to 20,000 or 25,000 seats later. Other uses would enable it to earn revenue day by day, instead of being a once-a-fortnight operation. Building costs would be around £15million, but there would be other expenditure involved with groundworks and so on. For instance, to move the big electricity pylon on the site, near junction ten, will add £1.5million to the bill. But the club expects to receive a grant of around £2million from Sport England.

Mr Hood said he hoped that the planning application would be ready for submission to Luton Borough Council by Easter, but the Highways Authority would have to be consulted, and the application would automatically be referred to the Secretary of State. At the worst, Whitehall might need six months to think it over, at best a couple of weeks. Actual building work would take a year, and if all goes well the stadium could be ready for use two years from now.

## INSIDE TODAY...

The manager's column – P 5; The captain's views – P 7; Today's visitors – Pp 18-21; Latest injury news – P 8; Threat to close parts of the ground – P 25; Blast from the Past – Pp 22 & 23; Travel offers to Peterborough and Port Vale – P 10; Ticket office news – Pp 10 & 11; Match reports and pictures – Pp 37-39; Luton Belles latest – P 45; Junior Hatters – P 41; Thanks, Mr Curle! – P 53; All the stats: Pp 54-55



FACING THE FANS: Deputy-chairman Eric Hood, chairman Mike Watson-Challis and director Yvonne Fletcher debating Luton Town's prospects with supporters at Wednesday's fans' forum.

Fans were concerned about reports that Joe Kinnear did not have funds to strengthen the team. Cash is available, said the chairman. A supporter shot back: So why didn't we sign Cedric Berthelin for £20,000? Said the chairman: Joe will have money for another goalkeeper. At the time he wanted to sign Cedric we didn't have the money, and had two keepers under contract. Who's heard of a Second Division team with three goalkeepers? Mr Hood added that the deal would have cost £150,000, not the £20,000 quoted. The smaller sum was for a contract to the end of this season, but the goalkeeper would not accept that, and wanted a deal for the following season as well, and the board rejected that idea.

Mr Watson-Challis said he would not allow huge increases in the wages bill, which was why Matt Taylor went to Portsmouth. There he could earn £10,000 a week, and the Town were not willing to match that, much as they wanted to keep the wing-back.

He believed the current squad would win promotion again this season, and had already planned for that. The team that gets you up might have to be strengthened to stay up, and allowances have been made for that. "It's no good getting back into the First Division and then coming straight back down again," said the chairman. "I would look for us to be eighth or tenth in the First Division if we get promoted."

He also confessed that he dropped a clanger when he appointed his first manager, but made up for it by hiring Joe Kinnear – "the best thing this club has done for many years."

The boss's contract runs to the end of next season, but within three months, said the chairman, talks will be organised to try to persuade Joe to sign an extension to the deal.

And the chairman summed up why he has so far put £17million into the club: "Luton Town is a wonderful club to follow, and I am proud to be here, and to be a supporter of Luton Town. We are confident we can be in the First Division next season."

"I want to walk up the steps to a new stadium before I die, and I want this club to be successful."

Brian Swain

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THIS being our first home game of 2003, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year, with the hope that all our wishes are granted, especially when the final league table is compiled in five months time!

The postponement of two home games at the start of the month means we will have a very busy February, with four games at home in 15 days, including the two we have in hand over most of the other promotion chasers.

Obviously they must be turned into points, and if we perform as well as we did at Barnsley we will be all right. We looked a little rusty in the early stages, but then settled down to do a thoroughly professional job, despite being down to ten men.

The two-week break from league football was welcome so far as I was concerned. We had been down to the bare bones recently because of our injury list, and needed time to get players back to fitness, to regroup and to recharge the batteries.

The players enjoyed the luxury of a mid-season break, and while I have always been ready to let rip when they have deserved it, they have for the most part performed with great distinction so far this season. We took a long

time to come to terms with this division, but we have demonstrated that we need fear no-one in our fixture list. Since my last column we have proved the point against Cardiff City, when our victory was clear cut and very well deserved. We followed up with a great win at Wycombe, but then, on New Year's Day, we paid a high price for failings in both boxes, losing a game we know we should have won. That put greater pressure on us to get something out of the Barnsley game. Once more we made life difficult for ourselves by gifting the opposition a goal, but after that we were by far the better team and scored three well-taken goals, a brilliant left foot strike by Matt Spring which put us back in the game, and two excellent goals by Tony Thorpe to seal it. And here's a question for the anoraks: has any Luton Town side ever scored three goals away from home while down to ten men, or did we set another club record at Oakwell?

The major lesson to be learned from the first half of the season is that we must be more ruthless and kill teams off when we are in control of games. All too often we have let teams off the hook and thrown games away when we have been in winning positions. It is

something we have spoken about and are determined to put right. Even so, we have to be fairly satisfied with our progress so far.

I am confident our squad is capable of mounting a serious challenge. If we have to win promotion via the play-offs, so be it.

Our players deserve every credit for the way they have conducted themselves in the campaign so far, and I can promise you that we are all hungry for success. There is an excellent dressing room atmosphere, and I cannot fault any player on commitment and willingness to work.

We are determined to improve our home record, and if we do manage to bring it up to the level of our away form, which we must aim for, we will be flying.

We need to go through the rest of the season with no more failures on our own pitch. Against Wigan and Cardiff we have proved we can match or beat the best in the division. We now need to be more ruthless against every other visiting side that comes here, starting with today's game. With your fantastic support, we can do it.

Keep the faith, and enjoy the game.

*Joe Kinnear*



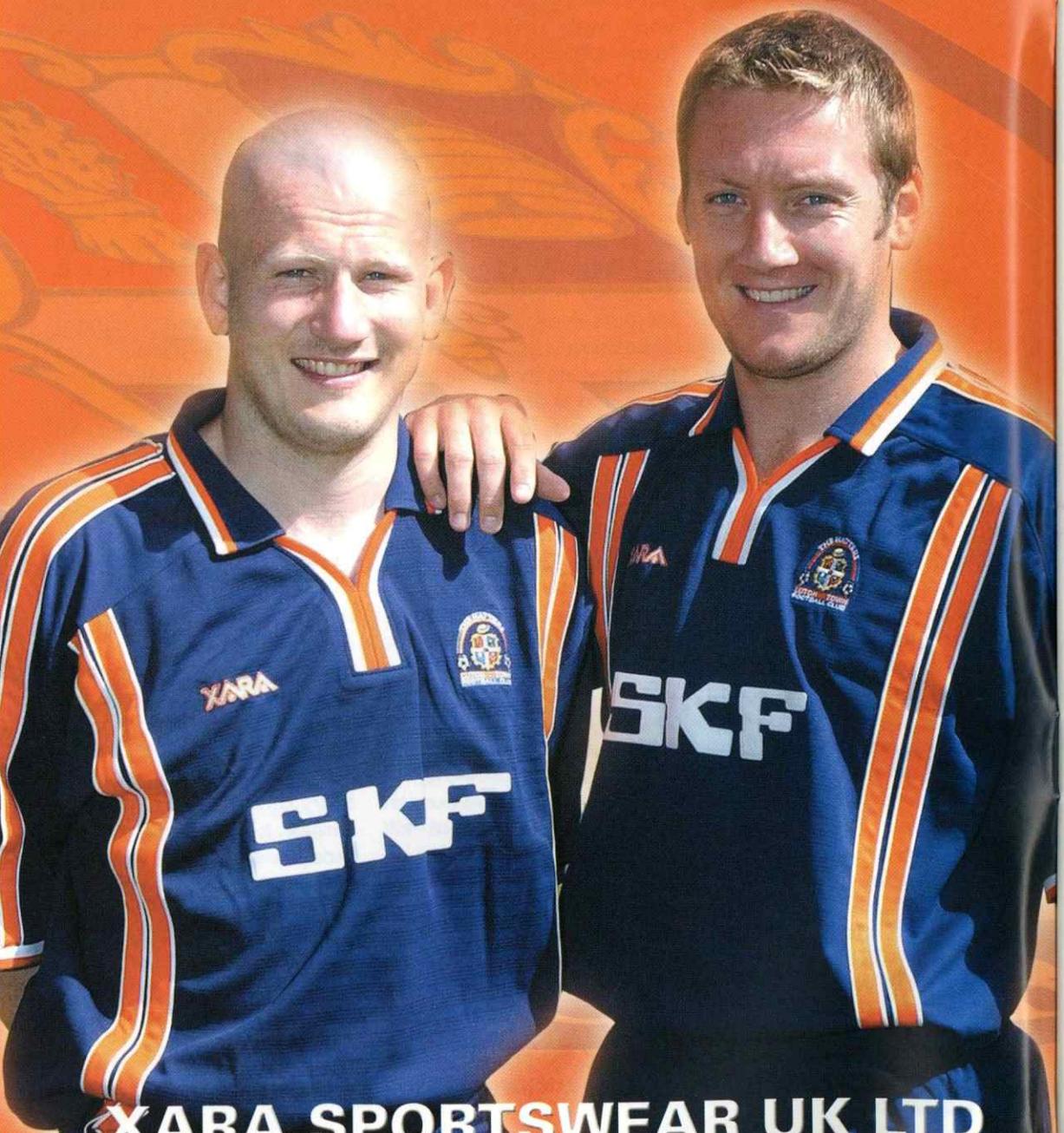
## Manager's View



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## Captain's View



IT FELT great to be back on a football field again at Barnsley – and our performance in very difficult circumstances made it all the more enjoyable as we came home with a victory which was much needed, and very well earned.

After missing the whole of December because of injury, I was looking forward to returning to league action against Plymouth a fortnight ago, and the postponement was a bitter disappointment. We were all in confident mood, having enjoyed a mini-break the previous week.

That had given several of us the chance to regain fitness, and I had worked as hard as I could to stay as fit as possible while I was getting over my thigh injury. It was a pleasure to be back in full training, but even better to be in the side at Oakwell.

The big talking point, of course, was the red card for Carl Emberson, and that was harsh. The question of whether he handled inside or outside the area was a very tight decision, and Embo was sure his hands and the ball were on the right side of the line. But if it was outside the area, we thought it deserved a yellow card at the most, and not a red.

But it made us all the more determined, and I could sense that everyone was

confident we could get a result. We always look good going forward, and Matt Spring produced a great strike to put us level just before the break. That added to our confidence, and our true character shone through in the second half, even though we were under a bit of pressure in the closing stages.

Other results on Saturday showed how important it was for us to get that win. The two postponements cost us our top six place, and we have a six-point gap to make up on QPR, with two games in hand. We are in a mini-league involving the teams in the top half of the table who all have a chance of a play-off spot.

We need to win again today because if teams around you win and you don't you can soon find yourself sliding down the table. With key players back I see no reason why we should not embark on another long unbeaten run, like we did a year ago. Realistically the play-off is the most likely route to Division One for teams like us. I know that some think the play-off system is unfair, and fans remind me that Luton finished third in the Second Division nearly five years ago, but lost out to a Crewe team who finished fifth. That must have been hard to take, and I don't want

to see it happen again! But the play-off system has been in force since before I became a professional, and I have no problems with it. In some ways, if you win the play-off final it must be more satisfying than going up as runners-up. It must be a wonderful day out for everyone, especially fans, when you win promotion through the play-off final.

If we are to get there – and we all think we can – we have got to be more consistent, especially at home. On our day, if we apply ourselves properly, we can beat anyone in this league. We have already proved that, by taking points off the likes of Wigan, Cardiff and Bristol City. We were also good value for our win at Wycombe four weeks ago, where the support was, as usual, fantastic. We and you need to do it again today. With 20 more league games to play our future is in our own hands. While everyone at the club and the fans can do their bit, in the end it is all down to the players. We are all in it together, which was the attitude we had last season. We need to bag three more points today, and as always you can help by giving your noisy backing to the lads.

*Kevin Nicholls*

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



## Treatment Room

THE RESULT was not the only good news from our trip to Barnsley: we came home with no more injuries, and the fortnight without competitive football before that was a Godsend for players previously in the treatment room.

The injury list became shorter than it has been since I got here, thanks to a lot of hard work involved by everyone involved, including the players.

Kevin Nicholls, Matt Spring, Alan Neilson and Alan Kimble were all back in full training, and returned to the team at Oakwell. But Sol Davis collected a thigh strain in training the day before and while he is doing OK he needs

more time to complete his recovery.

Emmerson Boyce missed the Barnsley match because of a stomach muscle problem. It was not serious, but affected his ability to accelerate, which is one of the strongest parts of his game, and he was left out of the side to help his recovery. At the time of writing, on Thursday, I thought he had a good chance of being able to return to the squad today, and Ahmet Brkovic was also hoping to be in with a shout, after having his foot stamped on during the reserves match on Wednesday.

David Bayliss, who made his second appearance as a sub at Barnsley, following a shoulder operation, has suffered a setback. He tore a calf muscle

playing for the reserves on Wednesday, and will be out for a while.

Russ Perrett's return plans have been interrupted by a hamstring pull collected during a private practice game against Arsenal last week, but it is not a major problem, and I expect him to resume training on Monday.

Aaron Skelton and Adrian Forbes continue to do well after their knee operations. The consultant who performed the surgery is very pleased with their progress, and they continue to get better day by day. Forbes is well ahead of schedule after his cruciate ligament injury and is now working to regain his thigh muscle bulk.

Lee Taylor

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## Club Secretary

FIRSTLY today, a belated but nevertheless sincere Happy New Year to everyone. It seems an extraordinary length of time since we played first team football here at Kenilworth Road, and I am sure, like me, you couldn't wait for today to come.

To confirm the re-arranged dates for the two postponed Nationwide League Division Two matches, we will entertain Blackpool on Tuesday February 11 and Plymouth Argyle on Tuesday February 25. Both games will have our normal kick-off time of 7.45pm, and tickets purchased for the original dates will still be valid. However, if you bought tickets but cannot attend on the new dates, refunds are available by returning your ticket to the ticket office before the relevant match is played.

I know a lot of supporters find it frustrating when Saturday matches are changed to mid-week fixtures. Like you, everyone here would also like to play on the scheduled dates. Both postponements were, of course, caused by circumstances beyond our control.

Blackpool's visit was called off because their FA Cup-tie took precedence, while the Plymouth match was postponed despite heroic efforts by the groundstaff to try to beat the frost. Both teams wanted to get the game played, but as you will recall bad weather affected the whole country, and hard though the groundstaff worked the referee had lit-

tle choice but to call the game off. The pitch was bone hard, and would have been a danger to players.

One supporter telephoned to tell me "My back garden is fine." However, the pitch is a great deal larger than normal back gardens, and does not benefit from wind or sunshine on the Main Stand side. And the stadium always seems to hold the cold once it gets in. Our youth team was the first to play on the pitch in 2003, and as you can read elsewhere they are still doing well in the FA Youth Cup, going through to the last 16 after beating Bradford. We will be at home to Barnsley or Middlesbrough in the next round. We do not have a date for that game yet because Middlesbrough had a dispensation to play at Barnsley after the scheduled date because they had a player on international duty. They will play at Oakwell on February 3, and we will not be able to sort out a date for the visit of Barnsley or Middlesbrough until that match is played. As soon as we have it, the date will be advertised through the media and local radio, in the match programme and on the website. And please do come and support the boys – it was good to see so many here when we played Bradford, and it does make a difference to have a good crowd.

Another date yet to be confirmed is the Beds Senior Cup match, away to Bedford Town. It is proving difficult to fit in

due to youth and reserve team games which are to be re-arranged. Again, we will publicise the date as soon as it is known.

Elsewhere in the programme today you can read about problems we are encountering with persistent standing, and the threat that it could lead to some sections of the ground being closed. I would ask all supporters to help us, although I do appreciate the problems that the location of some seats give to some supporters.

The Football Safety Authorities can take stringent measures against us, and have reminded us of that fact. None of us wants that to happen. Geoff Lovell, our Safety Officer, is attending a meeting on the subject of standing with the Authorities and other clubs in London next week, and I have asked him to bring up the question of why at some all-seater stadia it appears to be OK to stand while others, like ourselves, are being targeted to ensure we uphold the regulations. I find it totally frustrating, as you probably do.

Finally today, there is a bucket collection in the ground by the Luton North Rotary Club in aid of Polio Eradication, an organisation dedicated to wiping out a disease which is still common in many parts of the world. I am sure our supporters will give generously, as always.

Cherry Newbery

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

# Ticket Office News

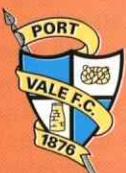


## Peterborough Utd v Luton Town

**Saturday February 1, 2003, KICK-OFF 12 NOON**

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

Prices: Seats - Adults £15, Senior Citizens, Students and Juniors £7 Terrace: Adults £10, Senior Citizens, Students and Juniors £7



## Port Vale v Luton Town

**Saturday February 8, 2003, 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 £17, Senior Citizens & Students £12, and Juniors £10

Terrace: Adults £10, Senior Citizens, Students and Juniors £7.



## Rearranged Luton Town v Blackpool

**Tuesday, February 11, 2003, kick-off 7.45pm**

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices

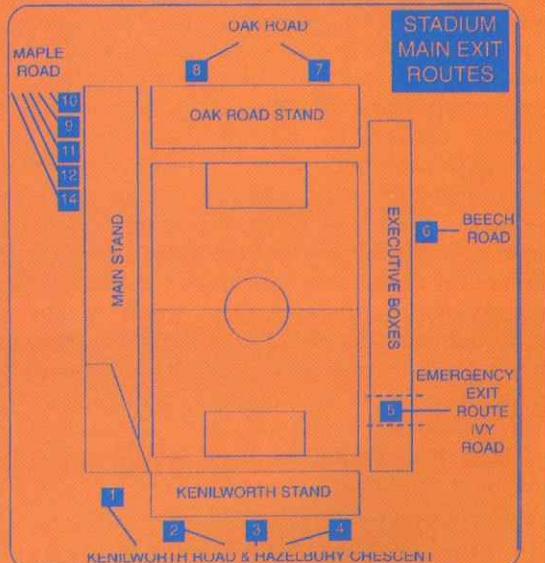
Cash turnstiles will be open on the day subject to availability, but please remember there are NO CONCESSIONS available on cash turnstiles.



## EVACUATION PROCEDURE

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

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



Geoff Lovell, Safety Manager.



## Luton Town v Northampton Town

**Saturday February 15, 2003, kick-off 3pm**

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 on the day.



## Luton Town v Brentford

**Saturday, February 22, 2003, kick-off 3pm**

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices Cash turnstiles will be open on the day subject to availability, but please remember there are NO CONCESSIONS available on cash turnstiles.



## Rearranged Luton Town v Plymouth Argyle

**Tuesday February 25, 2003, kick-off 7.45pm**

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. Tickets purchased for the game postponed on January 11 will be valid for this re-arranged date.

There will be no cash turnstiles available.



## Notts County v Luton Town

**Saturday March 1, 2003, 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 £14, Senior Citizens £8, 12-15-year-olds £5, under-12s free

Students and unemployed people can gain entry for £7 by producing relevant identification at the Notts County ticket office.



## Ticket Office Opening Hours

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

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

**SATURDAY**

9am to 5.15pm on match days; 10am until the away coaches depart on days when there is no game at Kenilworth Road.

## Luton Town Credit Card Hotline

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

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You can order tickets via email on  
[ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk)



# Hatters Away



London Road

THE TOWN'S hectic February fixture list starts with two successive away games, before four in a row at home. On Saturday we make the short trip to Peterborough and a fortnight today we take on Brian Horton's Port Vale. The Bobbers Travel Club and Town on Tour are both offering their usual services to the games.

Kick-off at Peterborough is at 12noon, so it will be a 9am start from Luton. Town on Tour's service includes a pick-up at Milton Keynes Coachway at around 9.20, and fares are £12 for LTSC members, £10 for junior members and £14 for others. The Bobbers fares are £8.50 for adults and £7 for senior citizens and under-16s.

For the trip to Vale Park the Bobbers departure time from Luton is 11am, and fares are £12, £10 for concessions. Town on Tour will leave Maple Road at 10.30am, calling at MK Coachway about 20 minutes later. Fares are the same as for Peterborough.

## Simple Drive to London Road

**Mileage from Luton:** 61

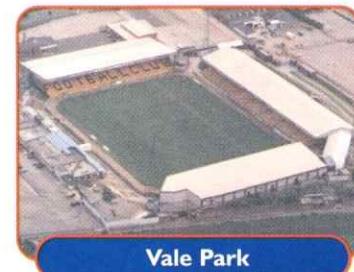
## The Road to Vale Park

IF YOU want to drive to Vale Park, it's an easy trip if motorway conditions are OK, and our

recent experience is that the M6 is not too bad on Saturdays.

An alternative route to the one that follows is straight up M1 to near the East Midlands Airport, and then to Stoke via the A50.

The shortest route is north up M1, then M6, leaving at junction 15 to take the A500. The Police recommend that you avoid traffic congestion in the centre of Burslem by taking this route: follow the signs to Stoke on the A500 dual carriageway for nearly four miles, before leaving the



Vale Park

A500 where it is signposted to Newcastle-under-Lyme and Leek on the A53. At the roundabout turn right, signposted towards Leek and Stoke, and where the road divides keep right, on the Leek Road, the A50. Continue for just under four miles after crossing a fly-over and the ground is signposted. There is ample parking space at the ground.

**Mileage from Luton:** About 145.

PETERBOROUGH is one of the easiest grounds to reach by car, and there is ample parking alongside the London Road stadium.

Bookings for away games travel can be made at LTSC or the Bobbers kiosks in Kenilworth Road, before or after today's match.

Paul Deason on 01234 750996 will take phone bookings for the Bobbers, whose service includes pick-ups at Cranfield, Marston Moretaine, Ampthill, Flitwick, Westoning and opposite the Travelodge Motel in Dunstable Road, Luton, close to the M1.

Town on Tour is an offshoot of Luton Town Supporters Club, and members get the best deals. You can book seats on the phone by calling 07960 567465.

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



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## Commercial Corner



TODAY'S match sponsors are the Bricklayers Arms, of High Town, a popular watering hole for Luton Town fans before and after games. They

ELEVEN-year-old Keiran Morris enjoys coming to Kenilworth Road with his dad, Lee, to support Luton Town. But today he will get even greater pleasure from his visit, because he is our commercial mascot, which means he is given VIP treatment, including tour behind the scenes and the chance to meet the players. He will join them in the dressing room, and go out onto the pitch with them before kick-off before meeting the opposing skipper and the match officials for the toss of the coin.

Keiran, of Cartmel Drive, Dunstable, attends Priory Middle School, and his favourite player is Paul Hughes. On Sundays he likes to watch Dunstable Old Boys FC in action, and his other major hobby is playing on his PlayStation.



particularly enjoy its ever-changing selection of real ales.

Joining mine hosts Alison Taylor and Nick Dale today are some of their friends and customers, including three Norwegians who are members of the Scandinavian Luton Town Supporters Club, and who have flown over especially for the game. We hope they all enjoy their time with us, and offer our thanks to Alison and Nick for their continued loyal support of the club and of its commercial activities.

A LONG-time supporter is today's match ball sponsor. John Chatterley, licensee of the Fox and Hounds at Clapham, has been a Town fan since he came to his first game as a lad in the 1957/58 season, and has been a member of the Century Club ever since it was inaugurated nearly 30 years ago. Today he is entertaining a number of friends, including some from Wycombe. Among them is Derek Vere, a Wycombe director, and John says he hopes he enjoys everything about his trip to Kenilworth Road except the result!

*Linda Layton*

## Golden Gamble

IF WE thought the result against Cardiff at our last home game was a bit tasty, one Town fan had an even bigger win to enjoy. Mr J. Causer, from Macaulay Road, Luton, collected a whopping Golden Gamble jackpot of £910, thanks to Matt Spring drawing his ticket out of the drum. We are beginning to wonder if we are soon to see the prize go into four figures for the first time. It depends on sales: tickets cost just £1, half going into the jackpot kitty and the other 50p going to club funds, so everyone who buys a ticket helps Luton Town.

So far this season 14 lucky fans have shared £9,575, an average of £684 each. As usual today's draw is made at half time, with the prize money available immediately.



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## Clubs Comparison

	Goals Scored
25	Shots
8	Headers
5	Volley
2	Penalties
0	Free Kicks
0	Own Goals

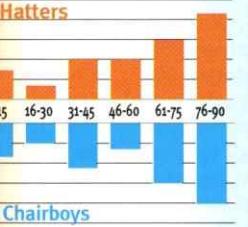
## Where Goals Scored



## Where Goals Conceded



## When Goals Scored



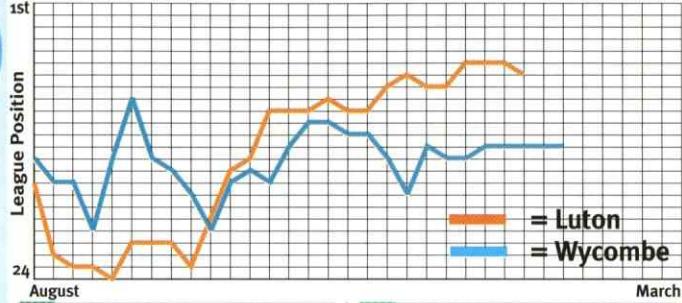
## Form Guide - Last 6

Won	2
Drawn	2
Lost	2
For	11
Against	7
Points	8
Goal Difference	4
Sequence	LLWWDD

## Yellow & Red Cards

Yellow	49
Red	2

## Seasonal Progress Comparison



## 2002-2003 Attendances

Hatters	Chairboys
82,098	Aggregate
9,477	Highest
5,890	Lowest
6,842	Average
69	% of Capacity

## 10 Year Record

Hatters	Avg Pos.	Chairboys
53.3	among 92 clubs	59
7,878	Avg Att 1993	5,448
6,842	Avg Att 2002	6,036
-13	+ / - %	11

## Top League Scorers



## Top League Scorers

## Howard

## Devine

## League Goals

## Games Played

## Lge Goals/Game

## Points Gained

## Scoring Run

## Hat-Tricks

## Close Range

## Inside Area

## Long Range

## Shots

## Headers

## Volleys

## Penalties

## Direct FKs

## Misc stats

## Highest Pos.

## Lowest Pos.

## Winning Run

## Unbeaten Run

## Losing Run

## No Win Run

## Ave All

## Season

## Leading Scorer

## Ave All

## Win

## Fin

## 01/02

## Rammell

## 6,68

## 00/01

## Rammell

## 5,54

## 99/00

## Devine

## 5,10

## 98/99

## Devine

## 5,12

## 97/98

## Stallard

## 5,41

## 96/97

## Carroll

## 5,23

## 95/96

## De Souza

## 4,57

## 94/95

## Garner/Regis

## 5,85

## 93/94

## Scott

## 5,44

## 92/93

## Scott

## 4,60

## 01/02

## Rd.1

## 11th

## Win

## Div 2

## 6th

## 12th

## 18th

## 14th

## 19th

## 12th

## 13th

## 11th

## Conf

## 1st

## 6th

## 4th

## 6th

## 18th

## 12th

## 13th

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## Conf

## 6th

## 18th



## Welcome To



**Back row (left to right):** Mark Rogers, Paul McCarthy, Steve Brown, Martin Taylor, Roger Johnson, Mark Osborn, Steve Williams, Craig Faulconbridge, Ryan Parsons, Keith Ryan.

**Middle Row:** Andy Rammell, Dave Jones (Physio), Lewis Cook, Sean Devine, Dannie Bulman, Darren Currie, Richard Harris, Andy Thomson, Adrian Cole (Youth Team Development Officer), Micky Forsyth (Youth Team Manager).

**Front Row:** Stuart Roberts, Martyn Lee, Michael Simpson, Terry Gibson (First Team Coach), Lawrie Sanchez (Manager), Pete Cawley (Reserve Team Manager), Danny Senda, Chris Vinnicombe, Ben Townsend, Gavin Holligan

### MANAGER

#### LAWRIE SANCHEZ

Started his career at Reading playing in the Third and Fourth Divisions. Moved to Wimbledon for £30,000 just before Christmas 1984 when Dave Bassett was Manager. In the 10 seasons at Wimbledon he played 317 games and scored 35 goals. Had a knack of scoring vital goals, got the winner against Huddersfield that took the Dons into the First Division (now Premiership) and the winner against Liverpool in the 1988 F.A. Cup Final. Went to Swindon for a short period before managing Sligo Rovers. Took Sligo into Europe in the Cup Winners Cup before losing to F.C. Bruges. Lawrie was enticed back to

Wimbledon by Joe Kinnear to manage the Dons reserve side. He won the Football Combination in his second year in charge, the only time Wimbledon have won the competition. He was appointed first team Coach in 1997-98. He played for N. Ireland. His Mother was from Belfast and his Father from Ecuador. Lawrie is 41 years of age and was appointed Manager of Wycombe Wanderers on 5th February 1999.

### GOALKEEPERS

#### 1. MARTIN TAYLOR

#### BORN TAMWORTH 9.12.66

Started his career with Mile Oak Rovers and after two seasons joined Derby County, where he made a total of 140 league and cup appearances. He made his

debut for Wycombe, whilst on loan from Derby County, at a home match vs Shrewsbury on the 29th March 1997. Kept 18 clean sheets during his first season and has now made over 150 appearances. Won the 'Player of the Season' award for 1999-2000. Scored the winning penalty at Selhurst Park when Wanderers defeated Wimbledon to reach the quarter finals of the F.A. Cup in 2001.

Martin collected the 'Player of the Season' award for the third successive season in 2001-02. He was the only player to appear in all 63 of Wanderers matches in season 2000-01.

#### 13. MARK OSBORN

#### BORN BLETCHLEY 19.6.81

Highly promising young goal-

## Wycombe Wanderers



keeper now a full time pro signed from the YT ranks. Made his Football League debut against Cambridge United on 9th October 1999. Had a loan spell with Marlow of the Ryman's League for a month in January 2000, and then spent a month with Hampton & Richmond in September 2000. Has gone on loan to Farnborough Town for the entire season.

#### 22. FRANK TALIA BORN MELBOURNE 20.8.72

Arrived on a three month loan deal in August 2002 as cover for Martin Taylor. The former Blackburn Rovers, Swindon, Wolves, Sheffield Utd and Reading keeper was out of contract at the end of last season. Made his first team debut for the Blues when Martin Taylor was out injured, earlier this season and continued with a run of good performances. Had his contract extended to mid February 2003.

### DEFENDERS

#### 5. PAUL MCCARTHY BORN 4/8/71 CORK

Joined from Brighton & Hove Albion for £100,000. He has 10 under 21's Caps for the Republic of Ireland. Started last season in fine form but was side lined with an ankle injury that kept him out for two months. Returned to the side but suffered further niggling injuries right to the end of the season.

Was the leading scorer in the F.A. Cup run of 2000-01 with five goals, also the leading goalscorer that season with a total of eight.

Paul is the current captain of the side now starting his sixth season.

to other defenders also enabled Mark to become a regular fixture in the back four. His displays called him into the Canadian squad for the Concacaf Gold Cup held in the USA where they reached the semi-finals. Can play as a right sided defender, but does prefer a central role. Made his Football League debut at Oldham 2nd November 1999 and went on to secure a regular place in the side. Signed a new contract in March 2002 that will keep him at the club until 2005.

#### 3. CHRIS VINNICOMBE BORN EXETER 20.10.70

Started as YTS at Exeter City, before moving to Glasgow Rangers for £150,000 in November 1989. Did not make too many appearances for Rangers before being transferred to Burnley for £200,000 in May 1994. A good left sided defender he made over 90 appearances for Burnley before joining Wycombe on a free transfer in the summer of 1998. Was a regular choice at left back last season and became one of the most consistent performers in the team. Scored his first goal for the club in the very last game of 2000-2001 against Colchester United.

### 4. ANDY THOMSON BORN SWINDON 28.3.74

Started his career at Swindon Town but did not get a chance of regular first team football and moved to Portsmouth in December 1995 for £75,000. He spent four seasons at Fratton Park before joining Bristol Rovers for £60,000 in January 1999. Captained the side that went close to gaining promotion to Division One. With his contract up, at the end of season 2001-02 he was released to join Wanderers just before transfer deadline day in March 2002. Made his debut for the Blues at Northampton on 6th April 2002.

### MIDFIELDERS

#### 30. STEVE BROWN

#### BORN NORTHAMPTON 6/7/66

Joined in February 1994 from Northampton Town, where he was team captain, for a fee of £40,000 when Martin O'Neill was manager at Wycombe. Made over 200 appearances for the Cobblers and 240 League appearances for Wycombe. Signed a new 2 year contract in June 98. Scored the important equaliser against Wimbledon at Adams Park in the 2-2 draw in the fifth round of the F.A. Cup. Signed an extension to his contract that will keep him at Wycombe until 2003.



# Welcome To

## 25. MARTYN LEE BORN GUILDFORD 10.8.80

Signed a professional contract May 99 having been a YT at the club.

Diminutive left sided mid fielder who made his Football League debut at Chesterfield 30 January 1999. Continued to impress in the Avon Combination side and played in the final three Nationwide League games of last season. His neat and skillful play earned him a new contract with the club through to 2003. Gave a great display at Grimsby in the Third Round F.A. Cup replay last season. Went on loan to Cheltenham Town at the end of last season and took part in the play off matches that saw them promoted to Division Two.

## 11. DANNIE BULMAN BORN ASHFORD 24.1.79.



Joined local club Ashford Town at 15 and made first team debut at 16. Spotted by John Gregory when manager at Wycombe and played four games for reserve side. Signed at start of 98-99 season for £10,000 and made first team debut against Bristol Rovers 31st August 98. Scored equaliser coming on as sub when Rovers keeper slammed ball against his backside. Forced his way into the

side during season 1999-2000, became a permanent fixture during 2000-01 with some excellent performances.

## 8. KEITH RYAN BORN NORTHAMPTON 25/6/70

Arrived from Berkhamsted during the 1990 close season after making some reserve appearances the previous year. A central midfielder who has also played in the defence and up front. He scored on his debut for Wycombe and was an FA Trophy winner in 1991 and 1993, and a Play-off winner in 1994. Made two successful comebacks from serious knee injuries. Played at centre forward in a handful of games in season 1999-2000 and scored 5 goals. Keith has signed a new contract that will keep at the club until the summer of 2003.

## 28. MICHAEL SIMPSON BORN NOTTINGHAM 28.2.74.

Signed by tribunal from Notts County in January 1997. Began as a YT with Notts County 1992 to 1997. Made his debut for Wycombe v Chesterfield on December 14th, 1996. Had his best season for the club in 1999-2000 with some sterling performances in the centre of midfield, continued his form through last two seasons, and he signed a new three and a half year contract at the start of January 2001 that will tie him to the club until 2004. .

## 23. IAN SIMPEMBA BORN DUBLIN 28.3.83.

Joined Wycombe from school is yet to make his first team debut. At 6'2" he is a dominant central midfield player who was selected to for the U18 Eire side to tour Japan in June this season. After excellent performances in the youth team he signed a one year

pro contract in June 2001. Went on loan to Woking for three months and became an important part of their Conference survival.

## 7. DARREN CURRIE BORN HAMPSTEAD 29.11.74.

Signed from Barnet for £200,000 on Tuesday 3rd July 2001. Scored 11 goals for the Bees during 2000-01, still unable to save them from relegation to the Conference. Darren plays wide right and will be looking forward to teaming up once more with former Barnet striker Sean Devine.

## 14. STUART ROBERTS BORN CARMARTHEN 22.7.80.

Joined Swansea City as a trainee and became a regular in the first team squad season 2000-01. Showed his versatility in a wide role before moving into the middle with real success. Five goals in seven games at the start of 2001-02 brought a £100,000 move to the Wanderers in October 2001. Has become an instant hit with the fans after supplying six assists in the first eight starts. Still only 22 he is a very good signing by Lawrie Sanchez. .

## 35. LEWIS COOK BORN HIGH WYCOMBE

Young left sided player who has come through the youth team ranks at the club. Made his first appearance for the team during pre-season. Made his first team debut coming on as sub against Mansfield Town at Adams Park 17th August 2002. This was followed by two appearances in the LDV Vans Trophy, the second claiming the golden goal against Cheltenham Town. Started against Tranmere Rovers 23rd November 2002 in a Division Two fixture, certainly a future prospect.

# Wycombe Wanderers

## FORWARDS

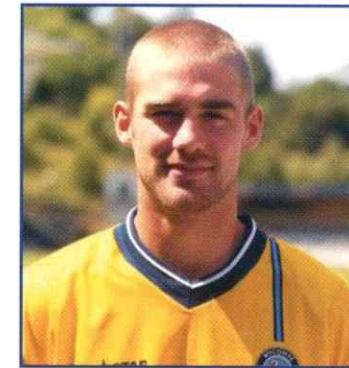
### 16. ANDY RAMMELL BORN NUNEATON 10.2.67

Experienced striker who joined Wanderers from Walsall 7th September 2000 for £75,000. Started his career with non league Atherstone United before moving to Manchester United for £40,000 in August 1989. A move to Barnsley for £100,000 in August 1990 resulted in six very successful seasons at Oakwell. Joined Walsall on a free in July 1998 and was a big part of their promotion season to Division One with 23 goals. Has continued to score goals at Wycombe since his arrival, finished season 2001-02 as the clubs leading scorer with thirteen goals.

### 2. DANNY SENDA BORN HARROW 17.4.81

A young striker who has been converted into a right full back by Lawrie Sanchez. Has played for England U17 side. Made Football League debut against Oldham March 27 1999 from the subs bench. Made his first full start against Chesterfield on 3rd January 2000, scored his first Football League goal for the club at Wrexham Feb 5th 2000. Received a nasty ligament injury in January 2001 but returned to play an important part in Wanderers run to the end of last season. Played most of last season at right back using his pace to push on down the flank.

### 9. CRAIG FAULCONBRIDGE BORN NUNEATON 20.4.78



Signed for Wycombe Wanderers 1st June 2002 on a Bosman from Wrexham. Started his career as a Birmingham City junior before commencing his professional career with Coventry City. Had loan periods with Dunfermline Athletic and Hull City before joining Wrexham in August 1999. Craig is a hard working front man who is good in the air and holds the ball up well on the ground.

### 20. GAVIN HOLLIGAN BORN LAMBETH 30.6.80.

Signed just prior to the start of 2001-02. Released from West Ham during the summer after spending one season at Upton Park having signed from Kingstonian. A series of injuries kept him out of the Hammers pecking order and he was keen to rekindle a career if football when Lawrie Sanchez

signed him. Has been put on one year contract with a view to improving it if he performs well.

### 12. RICHARD HARRIS BORN CROYDON 23.10.80

Signed from Crystal Palace where he joined when he was 7 years old. After coming through the YT scheme Richard was a regular in the reserves and made 18 appearances in the first team. Was spotted by Lawrie Sanchez while playing against Wanderers for Palace reserves. Scored in his first appearance for Wycombe against Brentford in the Avon Insurance Combination. Made his debut against Peterborough at London Road on 30th March 2002 coming off the bench to use his prodigious throw to great advantage. Started the next home game against Tranmere Rovers on Easter Monday before pulling up with a ham string injury just before half time. Returned for the last game of the season at Swindon to impress Lawrie Sanchez enough to be offered terms. Signed a one year contract until the end of June 2003, scored his first league goal against Oldham at boundary Park 31st August 2002.

### 36. JONNY DIXON BORN MERCIA, Spain

Another 18 year old who has come up via the youth scheme. Jonny has scored goals for the youth team and reserve side. He is a quick and lively striker who can play through the middle or in wide positions. Made his first team debut coming on as sub against Northampton Town 13th August 2002. Went on to score three goals in four appearances before being injured at Northampton in early January 2003.



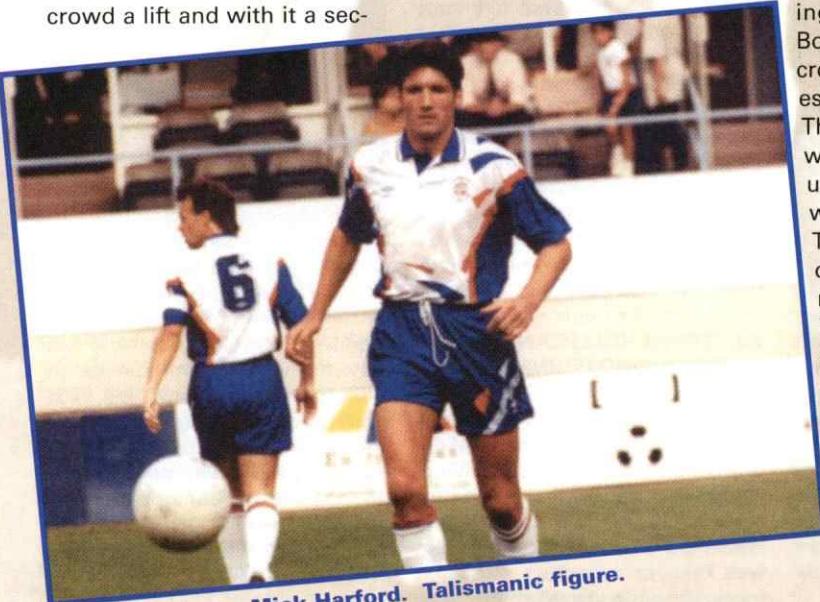


## Blast From the Past

The Town had done remarkably well to stay in the old Division One for nine seasons but as the clamour for a 'premier' league, with all its promised riches, grew it left clubs like ours increasingly marginalised.

For three years running we had escaped the drop by the skin of our teeth on the final day and as the 1991/92 campaign got under way the loss of Kingsley Black, the promising Matt Jackson and the eccentric Lars Elstrup with no adequate replacements left most supporters fearing the worst as the internal and external pressures grew.

It took the Town 407 minutes to score their first goal and six games to record their first win. Firepower was obviously needed and the return of Mick Harford to the fold gave the crowd a lift and with it a sec-



Mick Harford. Talismanic figure.

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

ond win of the season as he made his second debut in a home game against Oldham. Unfortunately, although Harford was a talismanic figure he was now 32 years old with a history of injury and as autumn turned to winter it became obvious that he could not carry the team on his own. Manager David Pleat tinkered with the side but the players brought in were, frankly, not of top flight quality being either bargain basement buys because of the financial constraints, over the hill or too wet behind the ears. The victory over Oldham, in mid-September, proved to be a flash in the pan as, by 20th December another eleven games had been played with only four points gained in the process.

Quite rightly the Town were, by now, rock bottom of the table and needing miracles to

Next up was the visit of reigning champions Arsenal on Boxing Day with the all-ticket crowd rising to 12,665 the highest of the season at that stage. The first half was very scrappy with neither side gaining the upper hand but the supporters were heartened to see that the Town were not in any way overawed by their lofty opponents.

With the game entering its final quarter Pleat took the gamble of sending on a fresh pair of legs against the tiring Gunners by introducing Scott Oakes to the fray. Oakes immediately lifted the tempo of the game by running at the Arsenal defence and within four minutes his long diagonal

## Hatter's happy holiday

pass was met on the volley by Harford with the ball whistling past a helpless David Seaman. Arsenal desperately tried for an equaliser but with Trevor Peake holding new scoring sensation Ian Wright the Luton defence held firm to eventually pick up another unexpected three points. "We were rubbish" said Arsenal manager George Graham afterwards, "That was our worst performance for a long time." He failed to point out, however, that the Town had simply not allowed them to play the way they wanted!

Confidence was now flowing

through the Town side and the players were up for the game unlike Chelsea who took a long time to settle. By then they were two goals down and chasing shadows.

Firstly a clever free-kick routine involving David Preece, Paul Telfer and Mark Pembroke left full-back Richard Harvey with a clear sight of the target from 25 yards out and his left foot shot arrowed into the net leaving Dave Beasant in the Chelsea goal flat footed.

Shortly afterwards, Pembroke was pulled down in the area by Beasant and after a couple of minutes protestations John Dreyer, with his famous and heartstopping two step run up, slotted the ball home from the spot.

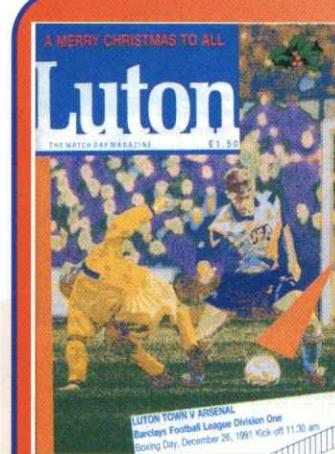
Beasant under newly announced rule changes should have been sent off but he got away with a caution. His colleague Tommy Boyd, though, was not so lucky

when, with fifteen minutes to go, he chopped down Telfer in the area when he was clear on goal and was immediately red-carded.

At the interval Pleat, never happy with Dreyer's penalty taking style, had ordered that Harford should take any further spot-kicks. Harford, therefore, stepped up to take this latest offering and promptly hit the bar with his effort!

Nine points from nine, three clean sheets and finally off the bottom of the table was the Town's Christmas haul but Pleat sounded a note of caution pointing out that there were some tough away games looming on the horizon and with only two points picked up on our travels he was right to be wary.

Roger Wash



should have been spared the photos of the player's Christmas fancy dress party particularly Marvin Johnson as Andy Pandy (I think).

## Yesterday's pages

For the 1991/92 season the Town reverted to a standard size programme after six years of small page issues. The front cover featured an action photo from a recent match using a strange photographic method that sometimes worked but was never used again after that campaign!

For the Arsenal game manager David Pleat used his column to talk about the need for regionalising football at the lower levels, something that has been talked about since regionalisation disappeared in 1958, and the thorny subject of groundsharing.

Elsewhere interviews with new signing Chris Kamara and ex-Hatter and Gunner Ian Allinson make interesting reading and, as to be expected in a game against Arsenal, a re-run of the 1988 Littlewoods Cup final is featured.

All in all this was a decent programme for the time although we





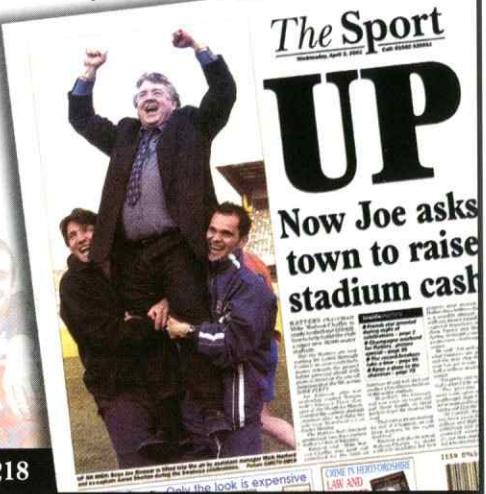
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## Please be seated!



LUTON Town today appeals to its supporters to help keep all sections of the Kenilworth Stadium open during games, by abiding by the law that insists all spectators are seated during games. The Football Licensing Authorities have threatened to close parts of the Main Stand and of the Enclosure if the club is unable to enforce regulations that prohibit standing.

As the club's safety officer, I am determined to head off that scenario, but it needs the co-operation of all supporters.

As we are all aware, the Kenilworth Stadium is an all-seater venue. This is because of an Act of Parliament which followed the Hillsborough Disaster of 1989.

A condition of our Safety Certificate, issued under the Safety at Sports Ground Act of 1975, is that all spectators must sit during any designated football match.

At present we are experiencing difficulties in blocks H and J in the Enclosure, and Main Stand blocks F and G, where supporters persistently stand throughout games. There is also a problem in the away area.

This is a breach of ground regulations, and could result in people being ejected from the stadium. The law is clear. Ground regulation states: "Nobody may stand in any seated area whilst play is in progress. Persistent standing in seated areas whilst play is in progress is strictly forbidden, and may result in ejection from the ground."

The licensing authorities have the power to close sections of the stadium, and they have intimated that they will use that power if standing persists.



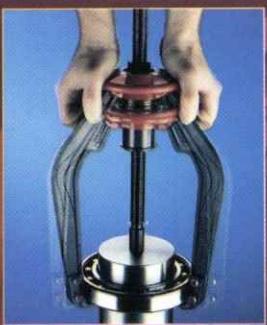
**EXCEPTION TO THE RULE:** Everyone appreciates that there are some moments in a football match when excitement and delight bring fans to their feet, as here, as Steve Howard celebrates a goal.

Naturally, we do not want this to happen. It could cause a considerable loss of income, and force us to refuse admission to supporters who want to see us play. The danger of spectators falling forwards onto the heads and upper bodies of those in front of them, which has a potential for causing serious injury.

We appreciate that there are times during a game when people will stand in moments of excitement and in support of the team. That is not a problem, so long as when the excitement subsides supporters return to their seats.

We do not want to see parts of our ground closed, which would mean turning away fans. Nor do we wish to have to eject supporters for refusing to sit down. But safety is paramount, so the message to everyone who comes to football at Luton Town is simple: please help us to maintain our safety standards.

**Geoff Lovell**  
Safety Officer,  
Luton Town FC

**EasyPull bearing puller**

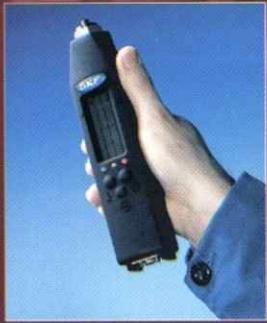
A new lightweight design of bearing jaw puller with a spring mechanism for faster gripping behind the component is reckoned to be one of the easiest and most efficient pullers currently available and has now been launched by SKF. As part of the design, a shear pin has been included, to ensure operator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

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

**SYSTEM MultiPoint automatic lubricator**

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

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

**MARLIN condition detector (MCD)**

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

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

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

**OilCheck monitor**

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

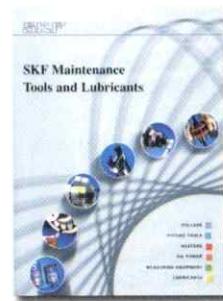
The hand-held monitoring device is a comparative instrument, which enables optimised intervals to be maintained between oil changes. It detects and measures the dielectric constant in a used oil sample, which is compared against results taken from an unused lubricant of the same type and brand.

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

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# Fans on the road

WE HAVEN'T had a home game this year yet, but already nearly 2,000 Town fans have seen the team in action in 2003. In the four-figure following on a wet day at Chesterfield 551 Town fans chose to stand on the terrace behind the goal, with 525 opting for seats in the stand. Latest figures for visiting supporters home and away:

**Hatters Away**

Blackpool	781	Peterborough	990
Plymouth	773	Barnsley	504
Cardiff	314	Chesterfield	366
Brentford	1,493	Notts County	341
Watford(WC)	4,404	Mansfield	160
Huddersfield	700	Cheltenham	328
Aston Villa (WC)	4,588	Wigan	425
Stockport	680	Port Vale	247
Oldham	610	Guiseley (FAC)	467
Woking (LDV)	262	QPR	1,851
Crewe	585	Cambridge (LDV)	571
Northampton	1,250	Colchester	527
Stevenage (LDV)	1,199	Cardiff	1,090
Tranmere	839		
Wigan (FAC 2)	769		
Bristol City	709		
Wycombe	2,039		
Chesterfield	1,076		
Barnsley	858		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>23,929</b>	<b>7,867</b>	
<b>Average:</b>	<b>1,259</b>	<b>605</b>	

**building**



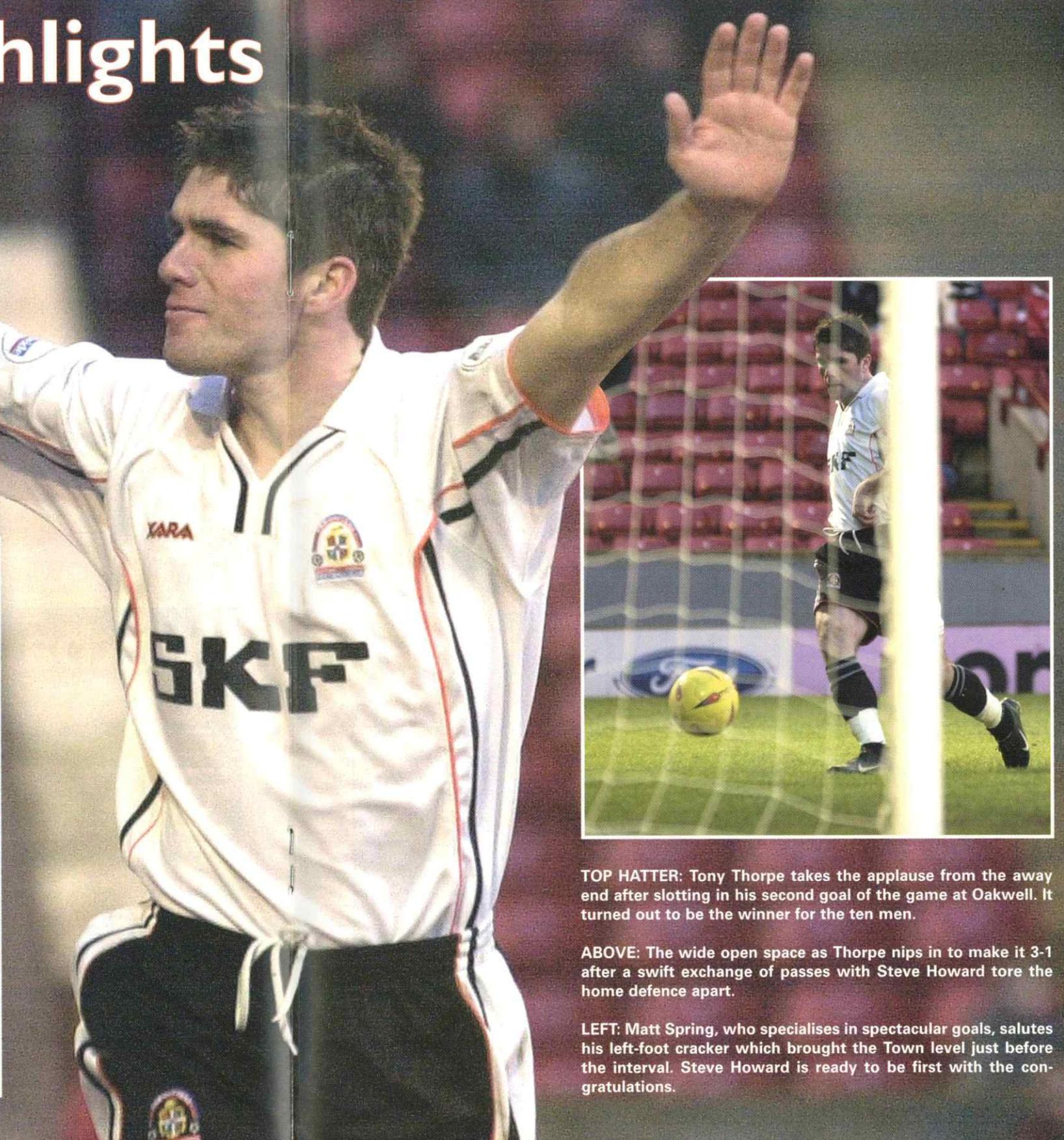
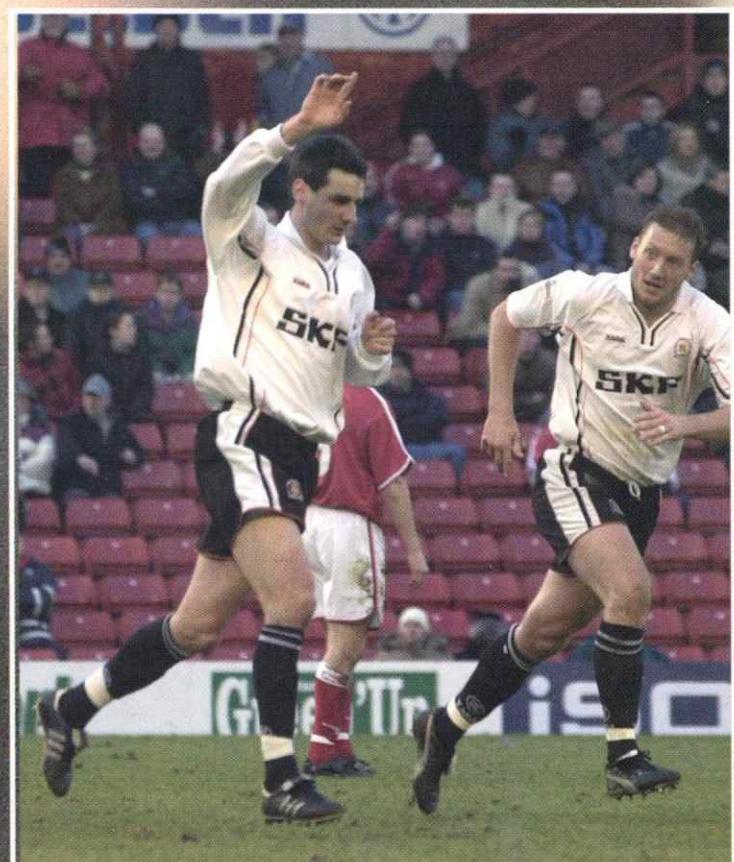
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# Action Highlights

Barnsley 2

Luton Town 3



**TOP HATTER:** Tony Thorpe takes the applause from the away end after slotting in his second goal of the game at Oakwell. It turned out to be the winner for the ten men.

**ABOVE:** The wide open space as Thorpe nips in to make it 3-1 after a swift exchange of passes with Steve Howard tore the home defence apart.

**LEFT:** Matt Spring, who specialises in spectacular goals, salutes his left-foot cracker which brought the Town level just before the interval. Steve Howard is ready to be first with the congratulations.



## LTFC in the Community

Working in conjunction with Bedfordshire Football Association

GOOD afternoon and as this is our first home game in 2003 I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year from the Community Department. I would like to start today by explaining a little about the presentations taking place before today's game.

As part of the continuing work the department undertakes in conjunction with the Bedfordshire Football Association we are pleased to be able to offer them the opportunity to make the presentations.

These will be made to three junior football clubs based in Bedfordshire that have recently achieved the FA Charter Standard Community Club Award. They are three of only a hundred in the country to have achieved it so far, so congratulations to Crawley Green Youth, Leighton United Youth and Kempston Colts/Rovers. The award shows they have attained a high standard in providing football for all ages, and both sexes. Our guest of honour will be Richard Robinson, chairman of Beds FA, who will present the awards.

The Charter Standard was introduced as part of the Charter for Quality produced by The Football Association in 1997. The Charter for Quality places the players central to all football developments.

The Football Association, through its Charter Standard scheme, seeks to establish, reward and encourage good practice at grass roots levels so that parents and children can demand a minimum provision from

schools, clubs and holiday courses. There are Charter Standard awards for Clubs, schools and holiday courses.

To achieve the Charter Standard award, the clubs present today have had to satisfy a number of requirements, including ensuring that all coaches have a minimum level of qualification. Volunteers must have attended child protection and emergency aid courses, and the clubs adopt codes of conduct, and each must appoint a Child Protection Officer.

Senior Football Development Officer for the Bedfordshire FA, Simon MacQueen, said: "By achieving Charter Standard status, parents and children will know that a club has been recognised by the Football Association for providing safe and quality football provision.

"The high quality of applications for these awards was amazing, and all the clubs that achieve them should be immensely proud of their hard work, and the fantastic service that they are providing to local children and their community."

Finally today, welcome to Ampthill Boys under-12 B squad, who are the first winners of the new Beds FA/Luton Town youth fair play award.

Additionally I would like to welcome St.Johns Special Needs School from Bedford who are our guests today. They are involved in the new coaching initiative we have set up in that town.

Stuart Smith

# LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

## FOOTBALL AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMME

DIAL - A - COACH allows you to complement your club's training /coaching sessions. Professional Football Association and UEFA qualified coach's from The Luton Town F.C. Football in the Community Department can deliver the session required. We can deliver sessions for your whole club, or just the one team that you think needs a little extra help. The coach can offer a structured course over a period of ten weeks (more or less if you require). Or maybe he can just come to you and deliver a one off session on that problem area. For further information please call Stuart Smith, the clubs Football and Community Development Officer on 01582 411622. Or return the form overleaf.



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## LTFC in the Community

### SMOBY TABLE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2003

Free table football tournament on Tuesday 18th February. This competition is open to boys and girls under 11 years old (must be under 11 by 27-3-03), whether able-bodied, disabled or even wheelchair bound. Approximate start time 10.00 am. To enter and for more details please ring the Community Office on 01582 391927

### Half-Term Coaching Courses Available

Course Code	No. of Days	Venue	Start Date	Time	Cost	Course Type
LSC 1	3	Icknield High School Riddy Lane <b>LUTON</b>	Mon 17 - Wed 19 Feb	10.00 am - 3.00pm	£30	5-7 yrs 8-11 yrs 12-15 yrs
LSC 2	1	Icknield High School Riddy Lane <b>LUTON</b>	Mon 17 Feb	10.00 am - 3.00pm	£10	Specialist Strikers Course 8-11 yrs
DSC 1	3	Queensbury School Meadway <b>DUNSTABLE</b>	Wed 19 - Fri 21 Feb	10.00 am - 3.00pm	£30	5-7 yrs 8-11 yrs
DGK 1	1	Queensbury School Meadway <b>DUNSTABLE</b>	Fri 21 Feb	10.00 am - 3.00pm	£10	Goalkeepers 8-13 yrs
TOD 1	1	Parkfield School Park Road <b>DUNSTABLE</b>	Fri 21 Feb	10.00 am - 3.00pm	£10	5-7 yrs 8-11 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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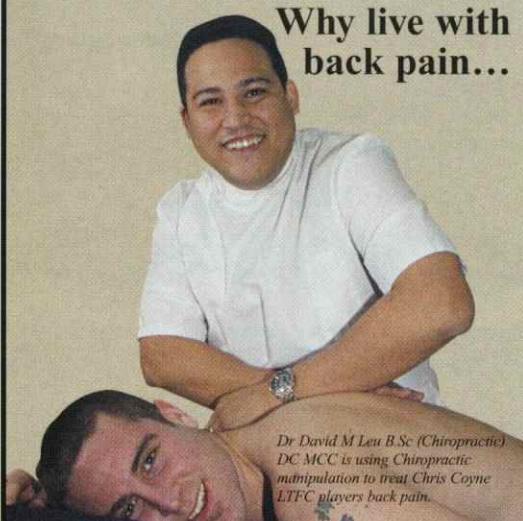
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*Paul Kenny*

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### TOWN TEASER

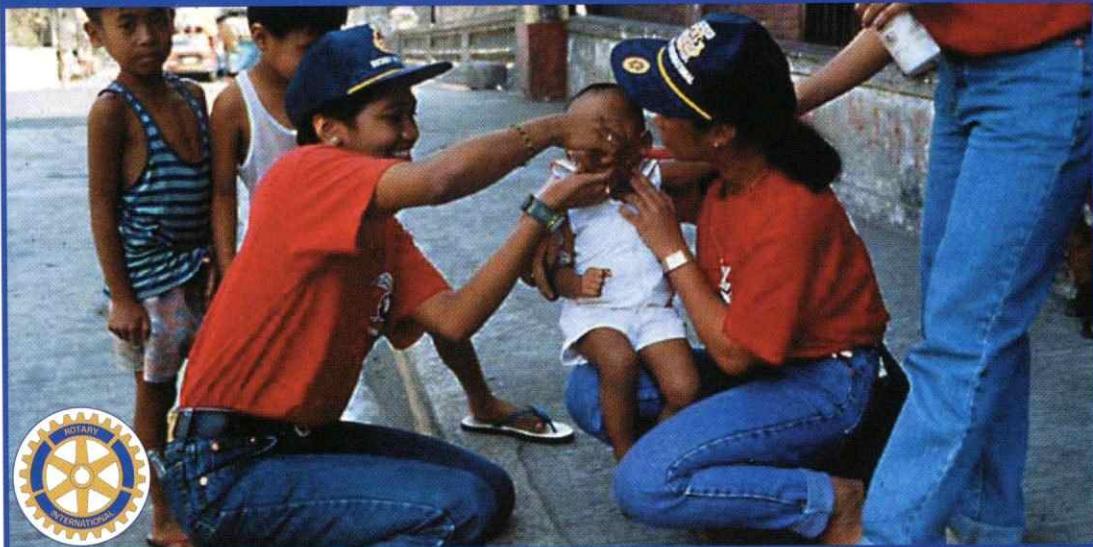
A PAIR of match tickets will be won by a lucky supporter this afternoon. Listen to the PA announcer before kick-off for your chance to have a go in our Town Teaser competition. At the last home game we asked who was the former Luton goalkeeper who played for Cardiff when we beat them 7-1, and the answer was Keith Barber. We have come more up to date with today's brain-teaser.

### TODAY'S QUESTION

WHO enjoyed double delight the last time we played Wycombe, and why?

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## Luton Town Supporters Club Present AN AUDIENCE WITH JOE KINNEAR On Monday January 27, 2003, 7.30pm, at the Eric Morecambe Suite



Tickets, at £2 each, go on sale to LTSC members only, first come, first served, at the Supporters Club kiosk, Kenilworth Road, at 1.45pm today, and, subject to availability, also after the match. LTSC membership cards MUST be produced. Free stewarded parking and bar facilities will be available on the night.



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## For the Record



REPORTS and pictures from three games around the turn of the year were due to appear in the matchday magazine a fortnight ago, but that, of course, was not published because the Plymouth game had to be postponed. However, this page is included today for readers who like to know the full details of all Town matches.

### Luton Town 2 Cardiff City 0

THE goals came late, from Tony Thorpe on 80 minutes and Steve Howard nine minutes later, but the Town were deserving winners for a tremendous display against the promotion favourites. "A great match," said Joe Kinnear, while visiting boss Lennie Lawrence said: "Luton deserved to win. In all my time at Cardiff I have never seen us made to concede so many chances."

#### MATCH DETAILS

**Luton Town:** Emberson; Boyce, Hillier, Coyne, Kimble; Robinson, Hughes, Brkovic; Crowe, Howard, Thorpe. Subs, all unused: Ovendale, Fotiadis, Mansell, Osborn, Deeney.

**Booked:** No-one.

**Cardiff:** Alexander; Weston, Prior, Zhiyi, Barker; Boland, Kavanagh, Legg (Bowen 85 mins), Campbell (Fortune-West 75 mins); Earnshaw, Thorne, Unused subs: Croft, Maxwell, Margetson.

**Booked:** Kavanagh, Prior, Weston, Boland for fouls, Barker for dissent.

**Referee:** Paul Armstrong, Berkshire.

**Attendance:** 7,805, including 1,090 away fans.

### Wycombe Wanderers 1 Luton Town 2

THE sixth away win of the season was due reward for a team that outplayed the home side in the first half, but then seemed to tire a little in the second, without looking in too much danger despite a mistake by Carl Emberson which led to Wycombe pulling a goal back through Jonny Dixon.

Steve Howard ended a magnificent year for him with two more goals, a right foot shot on 21 minutes and a header 13 minutes later. That made it 14 for Howard this season, and 33 in the calendar year.

#### MATCH DETAILS

**Luton Town:** Emberson; Boyce, Hillier, Coyne, Davis; Crowe (Mansell 43 mins), Robinson, Hughes, Brkovic (Kimble 52 mins); Howard, Thorpe, (Fotiadis 90 mins). Unused subs: Ovendale, Deeney.

**Booked:** Ahmet Brkovic, foul.

**Wycombe:** Talia; Senda, McCarthy, Rogers, Anderson; Roberts (Cook 77 mins), Simpson, Bulman, Brown; Dixon, Rammell (Faulconbridge 72 mins). Unused subs: Currie, Ryan, Johnson.

**Booked:** Paul McCarthy, for trying to undress Steve Howard.

**Referee:** Peter Walton, Northamptonshire.

**Attendance:** 7,740, including 2,039 Town supporters.

### Chesterfield 2 Luton Town 1

IT WAS not so much Chesterfield winning as the Town throwing away the points in the first game of the New Year. They led from the eighth minute, when Ahmet Brkovic right-footed a left wing corner directly into the far top corner of the net, and missed several other good chances. But gruesome defending gifted the home side two goals in four minutes just before the hour mark. "We should have won it 1-0 at the very least," said a disappointed Joe Kinnear. "We threw the game away."

#### MATCH DETAILS

**Luton Town:** Emberson; Boyce, Hillier, Coyne, Davis; Robinson, Hughes, Brkovic; Fotiadis (Bayliss 60 mins), Howard, Thorpe. Unused subs: Ovendale, Mansell, Leary, Deeney.

**Booked:** Fotiadis, Coyne, Brkovic for fouls, Davis for dissent

**Chesterfield:** Williams; Davies, Blatherwick, O'Hare, Howson; Brandon, Ebdon, Booty, Edwards; Hurst, Reeves (Bradley 72 mins). Unused subs: Richmond, Rushbury, Warne, Allott.

**Booked:** O'Hare, Davies, fouls on Howard and Hughes.

**Referee:** Michael Ryan, Lancashire.

**Attendance:** 4,638, including 1,076 Town fans.

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**01582 416976**

DELICIOUS irony put the finishing touch to the Town's first game since New Year's Day, when the seventh away win of the season was buttoned up to avenge the home defeat the Town suffered against Barnsley early in the season. On that occasion it was the Town unable to find a way to win against ten men, after Russell Holt was sent off. At Oakwell, Barnsley had to swallow their own medicine as the Town came back from a goal down to win by the same 3-2 scoreline.

Comical defending at both ends contributed to the entertainment, but the loss of Carl Emberson on 36 minutes was no laughing matter. He was red carded after an assistant referee, not the man in the middle, ruled that he had handled outside his area. He had advanced over the line, but then back-pedalled, and seemed to have a god claim that his hands and the ball were inside the area when they made contact even if the rest of his body was outside. The keeper and Chris Coyne had already suffered humiliation and a public falling-out. The game was just 49 seconds old when they misunderstood each other's intentions and allowed a long ball to bounce into space between them to gift a goal to Kevin Betsy. Keeper and defender blamed each other for not going for the ball. Joe Kinnear's verdict was that Coyne should have cleared.

When the keeper was sent off 35 minutes later, Mark Ovendale went on, with Steve Robinson withdrawn from midfield, and the key to success after that was that the Town's three in that department were more than a

## Action Replay

### Barnsley 2 Luton Town 3 (HT 1-1)

match for Barnsley's four.

But the Town lived dangerously at times, when they looked a touch rusty in the first half. Gary Jones volleyed a good effort against a post, and Alan Neilson cleared off the line from Chris Morgan following Barnsley's first corner, on 44 minutes. Within a few seconds the Town had switched to attack, and Matt Spring hit a peach of an equaliser, a left-footer from 25 yards. The Town looked more like their old selves in the second half, despite the numerical disadvantage, with Barnsley very kindly conceding a silly goal to Tony Thorpe on 49 minutes. It was almost a carbon copy of Barnsley's opener, with Robbie Williams out of tune with his keeper to let in the striker. The outcome was in little doubt after that. Barnsley are in disarray on and off the pitch alike after being in administration and the sacking of manager Steve Parkin to save money.

Their third consecutive defeat, confirmed when Thorpe struck his second goal after a neat 63rd-minute move between himself and Steve Howard, and the Tykes are now in the relegation zone, five years after being in the Premiership.

They were gifted a second when Jones tumbled over a rash challenge by Alan Neilson. Bruce Dyer tucked away the penalty, but the Town were comfortable on and off the ball alike after that. Barnsley manager Glyn Hodges was scathing about his team's performance, apparently believ-

ing the result was more about Barnsley's shortcomings than the Town's better and more solid football.

Joe Kinnear was pleased that his side's defending was much better in the second half, and was not to concerned about seeing Emberson and Coyne having a go at each other after the opening goal. It was a brief and temporary moment of anger, a welcome sign of how much players care about what happens to the team.

And the excellent performance was despite the absence of suspended Sol Davis and Ahmet Brkovic, and of the injured Emmerson Boyce. The re-shaped defence took time to settle, as did Spring and Kevin Nicholls on their returns after injury, but the longer the game went on the better the Town looked as contenders for promotion.

**Luton Town:** Emberson; Hillier (Bayliss 75 mins), Neilson, Coyne, Kimble; Robinson (Ovendale 36 mins), Spring, Nicholls, Hughes; Howard, Thorpe (Crowe 89 mins). Unused subs: Mansell, Leary.

**Sent off:** Carl Emberson for handling outside his area.

**Booked:** Kevin Nicholls and David Bayliss for fouls.

**Barnsley:** Marriott; Austin, Morgan, O'Callaghan (Crooks HT), Williams; Donovan (Barrowclough 70 mins), Hayward, Jones, Neil (Fallon 70 mins); Betsy, Dyer. Unused subs: Lumsdon, Ghent.

**Booked:** Gary Jones dissent, Kevin Betsy delaying free kick; Lee Crooks, foul.

**Referee:** Scott Mathieson, Cheshire.

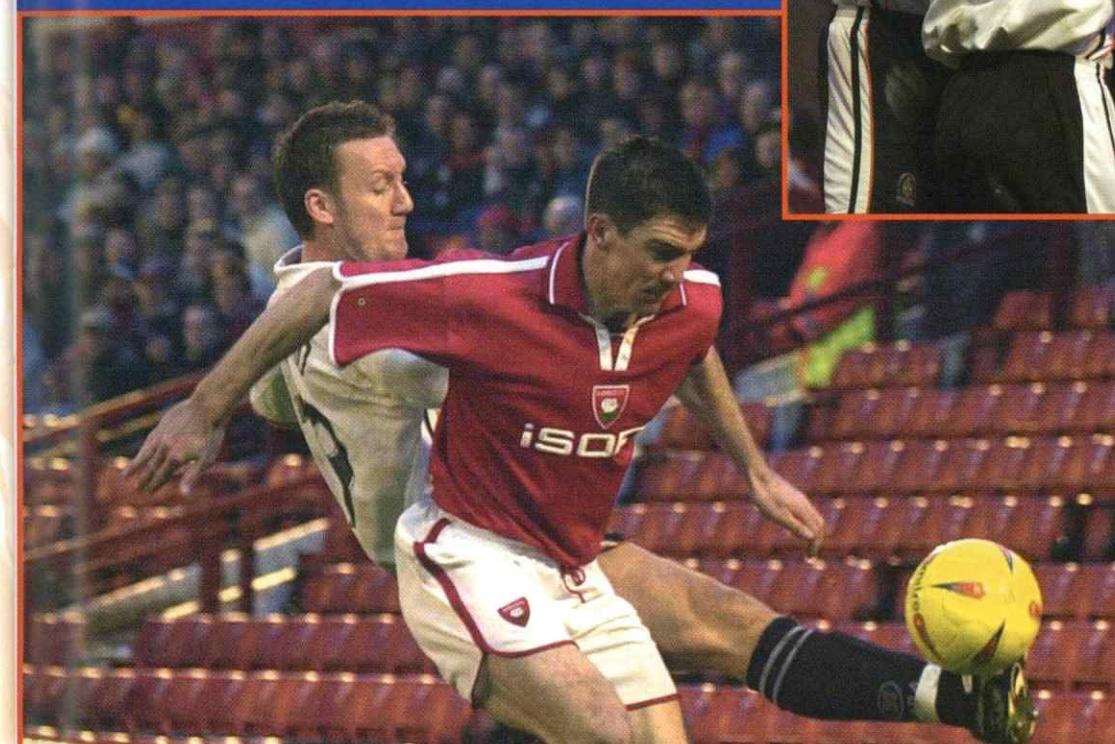
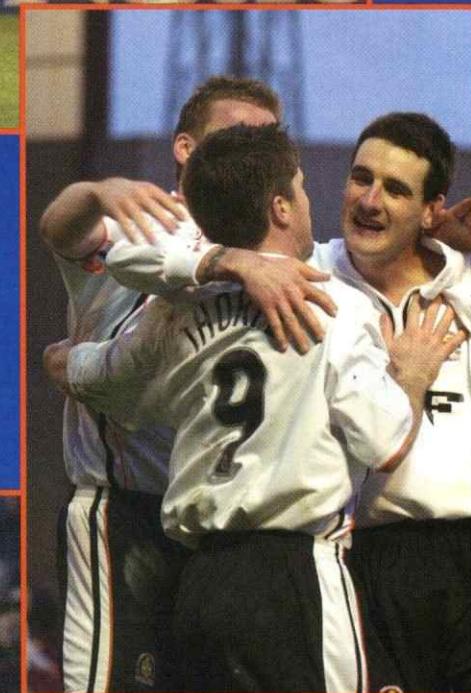
**Attendance:** 9,079, including 858 Town fans.



IN THE LEAD: Tony Thorpe leaves Barnsley skipper Chris Morgan trailing before putting the Town ahead with a goal which was almost a carbon copy of Barnsley's opener.

RIGHT: Happy Hatters celebrating the goal with Thorpe are Steve Howard and Matt Spring.

BELOW: Putting his best foot forward is Steve Howard, tussling for possession with Neil Austin.



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MODEL FEATURING JEEP CHEROKEE 2.4 SPORT. £17,995. PRICE IS ON THE ROAD AND INCLUDES ONE YEAR'S ROAD FUND LICENCE (£155) AND £25 FIRST REGISTRATION FEE. PRICES AND SPECIFICATIONS ARE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS (06/02).

## Junior Hatters



WELCOME back to Kenilworth Road for the first game of 2003, and we wish a very happy new year to all young supporters, including those who are here today to support Wycombe. We enjoyed their hospitality at Adams Park, and we are sorry they were unable to organise a similar trip for their young fans today.

Our trips to away games are always popular, but neither Peterborough nor Port Vale can accommodate us, so if you want to go to those matches by coach, you will have to use Town on Tour or the Bobbers Travel Club – see page 12 for details.

But we hope there will be a Junior Hatters outing to Notts County on February 1, and we will give more information when it becomes available.



### TODAY'S MASCOT

ONE OF our keenest members, six-year-old Luke Griffin, is today's mascot. He lives at Mendip Way, Sundon Park, and is a regular at our Saturday Club. Today he will meet the team – including his favourite Kevin Nicholls – in the dressing room before the game, and then go out onto the pitch with them for the pre-match rituals.



Luke goes to Cheynes Infants School, and comes to games with his mum, nanna and granddad, shouting for the team from his seat in the Family Stand. As well as supporting Luton Town, Luke enjoys playing football, swimming, the Beavers and tae kwan do.

Today's ball boys are Steven Wallis from Thame and Jonathan Allen from Campton.

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 bargain- price trips to away games, and the chance to be mascot at home matches – the choice is made at random, with names drawn out of the computerised drum.

ONE of the big treats offered by Junior Hatters trips is the chance to be mascot at away games. A boy or girl is chosen by lucky dip on the coach journey to the match, and for the game at Wycombe the choice fell on Jamie Cullen, from Riddy Lane, Luton. He goes to Cardinal Newman School, Luton, and as well as football he likes rugby, swimming and boxing. He is pictured on the pitch at Adams Park as the skippers and match officials gathered for the toss of the coin before kick-off. The team's excellent win capped a very good day for all Junior Hatters who made the trip.

Pictured below is the official group at our last home game, against Cardiff City. The Junior Hatters mascot was ten-year-old Bradley Currington, from Riddy Lane, Luton, and the other young supporter is Conor Doyle, 11, of Kitchenend, Silsoe, who was the commercial mascot.

*Happy Harry*



# GARETH OWEN

## Photography

...working **PR** photography

**Tel: 07850 560289**  
**Fax: (01582) 616567**  
e-mail: [gareth@goto-photo.co.uk](mailto:gareth@goto-photo.co.uk)

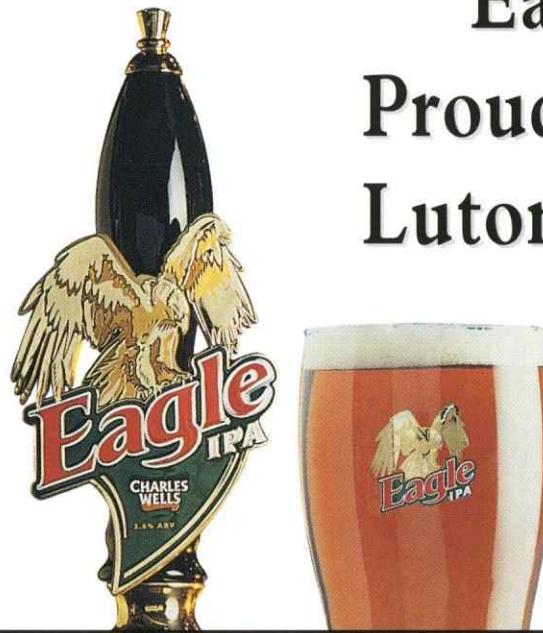
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## PRE-MATCH AND HALF TIME ENTERTAINMENT

With Justin Dealey and Steve Faulkner

### TODAY'S MATCH:

**2.15** Team line up to be announced

**2.20** HMV Single of the week  
Jay-Z - Bonnie and Clyde

**2.35** Dedications announced

**2.40** Town Teaser - See Page 34

**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"

### Player Track



**Ian Hillier**  
Stereophonics  
Just Looking

### 4.55 - FULL TIME

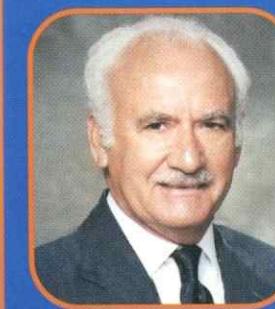
Matchday music supplied by:



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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.

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## Luton Belles



AFTER a break caused by bad weather Belles completed their first league double of the season with a 3-0 away win against Tring Athletic.

Luton's usual flowing style went missing but they still managed to create numerous chances in a first half they dominated. Stacey Connell came closest to scoring, hitting the outside of the post with a deflected shot and it wasn't until the 68th minute that Town finally made the breakthrough. The home keeper failed to deal with a Fay Howell free kick and the ball fell to Rhiannon Morgan, who crashed a 20-yard drive into the bottom corner of the net through a crowded penalty area.

Luton then got a grip on proceedings and it was no surprise when they increased their lead through Vicky Moody as she burst into the penalty area to shoot low into the net with eight minutes left. Rhiannon Morgan made sure of the points after 87 minutes, volleying in a near post cross from Fay Howell.

The Belles are also enjoying success at younger age levels. The under-12 and under-14 Saturday teams were formed as development squads, but within five months a vast majority of the players have forced their way into the reckoning for the Hertfordshire Girls League squads who play on Sundays.

The under-12s sit proudly at the top of their league with 10 wins from 10 outings. Their latest success came at the expense of Sundon Park Blues. Belles took the lead after three minutes when Micky Osman cut in from the left to fire in at the near post. Then a powerful run and cross from Natalie Burchnall was converted by Brittany Murtagh and Natalie grabbed the third herself, somehow finding room in a crowded area to slip the ball into the net. Micky Osman finished off another fine move to make it 4-0 at the interval.

It was then a matter of how many Belles would score, and within ten minutes of the restart Brittany

Murtagh had completed her hat-trick with two measured finishes from the edge of the area. At 6-0 Belles began to lose their shape a little and failed to score again until the five minutes from the end when Micky Osman completed her hat-trick, converting a rebound from the keeper. Suitably inspired

Brittany Murtagh scored the goal of the match, cutting in from the left and curling her shot high into the far corner of the net. In injury time Brittany shot her fifth goal, Town's ninth. So far this season this squad has hit 85 goals, and conceded just six.

After a slow start to their season the under-14s are beginning to get to grips with their situation, notching up their third consecutive win against Kempston West End B. They came to close to scoring several times before taking the lead after 15 minutes. Alice Burbury, who is normally 'found between the sticks on Sundays, was again dominating the centre of midfield and when the ball broke to her on the edge of the area she found the far corner of the net with a curling left foot shot. Anne Folan was also looking lively leading the attack, and had almost added to the lead on three occasions before she made the points safe with a well-placed finish.

At the half way point of the season Luton Town Belles hold the proud distinction of topping their respective leagues at under 11, 12, 13 and 14 as well as the adult team lying third but with games in hand over their rivals for the top spot.

*Dave Baker*



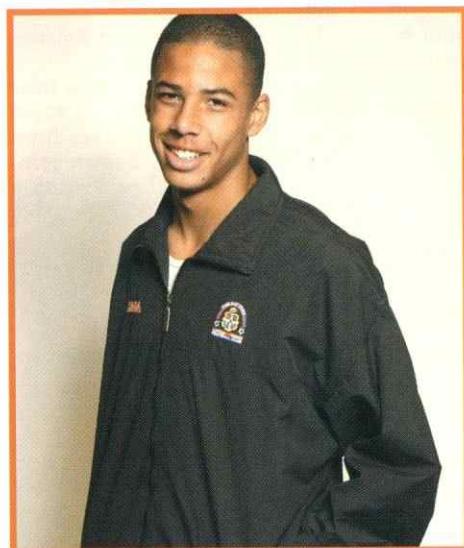
**HOT-SHOT:** Rhiannon Morgan scoring the second of her two goals against Tring Athletic.

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)

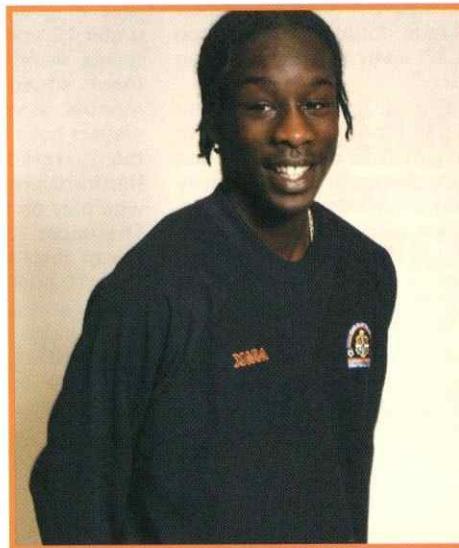


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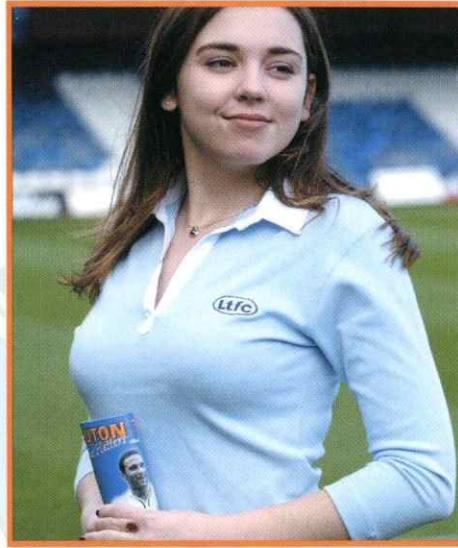
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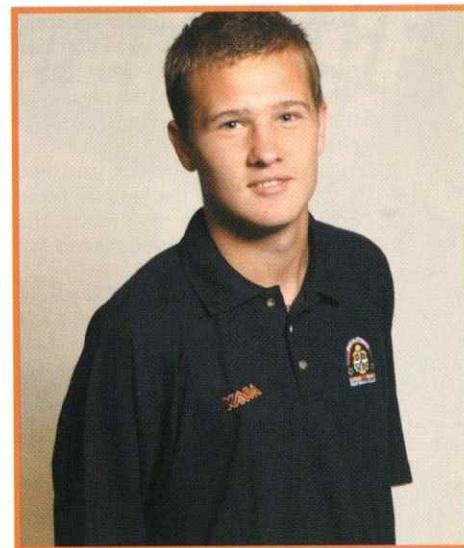
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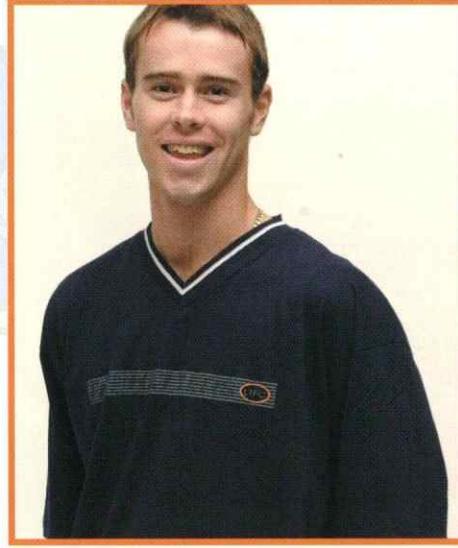
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Adults: S,M,L,XL,XXL

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Adults: S,M,L,XL,XXL

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## In Reserve



### Luton Town 4 Bournemouth 4

THE referee took centre stage at Wednesday's game at Kenilworth Road, and I have to be careful in speaking of his performance. Suffice to say I was not impressed by an official who sent off two goalkeepers and waved half a dozen yellow cards for what looked like minor offences.

I was very disappointed with our back four, while the attack looked threatening except for the old failing of not putting away chances. Bournemouth scored four times from perhaps half a dozen openings, while we would have run up double figures if the finishing had been better.

The game was a disaster for Jani Viander, a Finnish trialist who is looking or a club in this country. He was beaten three times in the first half-hour, with Dean Crowe replying for us after the first two goals.

The third was the end of the game for Viander: he thought he had saved a shot, but a linesman gave a goal, and the keeper was sent off for his protests to the referee. We sacrificed Carl Griffiths so that Dean Brill could take over in goal, and a clearance by him led to Ahmet Brkovic firing in to cut the deficit to 2-3 at the interval.

It went to 4-2 early in the second half before Crowe scored his second from a pass by Peter Holmes. I thought we looked better after that, but we missed chances to wrap it up.

We had to wait for stoppage time before Lee Mansell

got the equaliser, and by then Bournemouth were already down to ten men. Their keeper had been booked for a foul on Mansell and with seven minutes to go he dawdled over taking a goal kick. The ref didn't bother to warn him, but booked him for his second offence, time-wasting, and the boy was in tears as he left the field. I had every sympathy with him.

There were a lot of good things in our performance. The midfield slid some excellent passes through to use the pace of Crowe and the intelligence of Brkovic, but at the back we were too often outmuscled and outpaced. But overall the attitude was spot-on as we played for an hour with ten men.

**Luton Town:** Viander, Foley, Bayliss (Davies 77 mins), Barnett, Gillman, Mansell, Leary, Holmes, Brkovic (Marvin Johnson 89 mins), Griffiths (Brill 30 mins), Crowe.

WE ARE away to Leyton Orient on Wednesday, and our next home match is a week later, February 5, when we meet Bristol City at Kenilworth Road (2pm).

**APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets:** L. Mansell 11(1), Foley 10, Leary 9(2), Skelton 9, Holmes 8, Fotiadis 8, Hillier 7, J. Deeney 7, Gillman 5(2), Griffiths 5, Ovendale 5, Kimble 5, Okai 4(4), Barnett 4(2), Hughes 4, Neilson 4, Osborn 3(7), Brkovic 3, O'Leary 2(5), Judge 2(4), Eberendo 2(2), Brill 2(1), Barnett 2(1), Emberton 2, Beckwith 2, Howell 2, Thorpe 2, Bayliss 2, Howell 2, Michael Johnson 2, Davies 1(3), Kovacevic 1, De Souza 1, Berthelin 1, Nicholls 1, Maitland 1, Viander 1, Crowe 1, Marvin Johnson 0(1).

**Goals:** Judge 4, Fotiadis 3, Griffiths 3, Brkovic 3, Crowe 2, Howell 2, Thorpe 2, Skelton 1, Eberendo 1, Holmes 1, Gillman 1, Barnett 1, Maitland 1, Mansell 1.

*Brian Stein*

AVON COMBINATION TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Crystal Palace	12	10	2	0	38	8	32
Colchester	12	8	3	1	22	8	27
Portsmouth	9	8	0	1	19	6	24
Norwich	12	6	5	1	19	7	23
Brighton	10	7	1	2	20	8	22
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>20</b>
Reading	12	6	2	4	23	12	20
Cardiff	11	5	4	2	16	8	19
Bristol City	12	5	3	4	23	25	18
Millwall	12	5	2	5	15	12	17
Southend	11	5	2	4	15	16	17
Brentford	12	5	2	5	18	22	17
Swindon	11	5	2	4	14	18	17
Cheltenham	13	4	3	6	27	26	15
L. Orient	12	4	3	5	25	25	15
Plymouth	10	5	0	5	17	18	15
QPR	10	4	3	3	13	16	15
Gillingham	12	3	4	5	17	20	13
Bristol Rov	14	3	4	7	15	24	13
Bournemouth	11	3	3	5	19	25	12
Oxford	10	3	0	7	10	16	9
Peterborough	11	3	0	8	14	25	9
Northampton	11	3	0	8	15	30	9
Wycombe	11	2	1	8	13	30	7
Cambridge	10	1	2	7	8	21	5
Barnet	12	1	1	10	13	33	4

August			
Wed 14	Bristol City(LC)	A	0-3
Wed 21	Reading	A	1-2 Skelton
<b>Wed 28</b>	<b>Bristol Rov</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>1-1 Griffiths</b>
September			
<b>Wed 4</b>	<b>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</b>	<b>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</b>	<b>Wycombe</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3-1 Judge 2, Howell</b>
Wed 30	Cambridge	A	1-0 Barnett
November			
<b>Wed 13</b>	<b>QPR</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>postponed</b>
Wed 20	Wootton (BSC)	A	0-0 Won 4-3 on pens
Wed 27	Northampton	A	1-3 Judge
December			
<b>Wed 11</b>	<b>Barnet</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>1-2 Maitland</b>
January			
Wed 8	Brighton	A	Postpone
<b>Wed 15</b>	<b>C. Palace</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Postponed</b>
<b>Wed 22</b>	<b>Bournemouth</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>4-4 Crowe 2, Brkovic, Mansell</b>
Wed 29	Leyton Orient	A	2pm
February			
<b>Wed 5</b>	<b>Bristol City</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>
Wed 12	Southend	A	2pm



## Youth Soccer - U17s

### Brentford 1 Luton Town 1

TOM Freeman had a match to remember in our first game after the Christmas and New Year break. He scored our goal after only 40 seconds, but was sent off midway through the second half.

But we were good value for the point.

We looked fit and lively, which was a welcome sign because it was our first game for a month, and came after only one full training session. Both sides played well on a frozen pitch, which had been rolled flat. Our goal came from Brentford's kick-off. They knocked the ball forward and centre-half Nick Mountford cleared it long and over the top from the back, and Freeman outstripped the defence to run through and score.

Brentford replied after 30 minutes, when we failed to deal with a corner, and after that it was a very quick and even game.

Freeman's red card came on the hour mark, when he was through on goal again, and believed he had been fouled when his run was brought up short. It was impossible to judge the penalty claims from the bench, but when Freeman protested a referee's assistant claimed he had taken a dive. If that was true, the assistant should have flagged and the ref would have yellow-carded Freeman. Instead the comment invited argument, and Freeman was sent

off for swearing at the assistant.

We do not condone bad language, so Freeman will have to accept his punishment, and learn the lesson that however aggrieved he was at not getting a penalty the referee's decision is final, and being sent off for foul and abusive language is no help to your team.

We settled for a 4-4-1 formation after that, and the ten men showed great determination not to be beaten and we were rarely in trouble.

We might even have nicked it, because Luke Maitland, David Deeney and Keith Keane all went close to scoring as we defended solidly and threatened on the break.

**Luton Town:** Brill, Howell (Smyth 50 mins), Danaher, De Souza (Pendleton 80 mins), Deeney, Mountford, Keane, Ridgway, Freeman, Maitland, Blythe (Magadah 60 mins).

**APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets:** Ridgway 16, Mountford 16, D. Deeney 16, Blythe 15, Magadah 12(3), Smyth 12(3), Blake 11(1), Brill 11, Shea 9(3), Clark 9(3), De Souza 10(2), Reid 8, Keane 7, Danaher 5(3), Freeman 5, Skelton 4(1), Maitland 3(2), Howell 3, R. Mansell 3, Hurst 3, Barrett 3, Green 2(5), Pendleton 2(5), McCarthy 1(2), Barnett 1, Sinclair 0(11), Richardson 0(3), Kelly 0(1).

SATURDAY'S home game with Brighton was postponed because the pitch was waterlogged. We were due to be away to Peterborough today, and our next home match is in a fortnight, when we entertain Southend. Kick-off at Luton RFC, Newlands Road, Farley Hill, is at 11am and spectators are welcome. Admission is free.

**Goals:** Magadah 7, Ridgway 5, Freeman 4, Keane 3, Maitland 2, Blythe 2, Clark 2, Shea 1, Barnett 1, R. Mansell 1

*Mark Ridgway*

### FL Youth Alliance Under-17

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	<b>Portsmouth</b>	H	<b>1-0</b>	<b>Magadah</b>		
21	Gillingham	A	4-3	Ridgway 2, Clark, Mansell		
28	Cambridge	A	0-0			
October						
5	<b>Colchester</b>	H	<b>3-0</b>	<b>Magadah, Keane, Blythe</b>		
19	<b>QPR</b>	H	<b>0-2</b>			
26	Wycombe	A	4-1	Magadah 4		
November						
2	L. Orient	A	1-3	Ridgway		
9	<b>Brentford</b>	H	<b>0-0</b>			
16	<b>Cambridge</b>	H	<b>1-1</b>	<b>Maitland</b>		
23	Colchester	A	3-1	Freeman 2, Keane		
30	QPR	A	2-2	Magadah, Clark		
December						
7	<b>Wycombe</b>	H	<b>0-2</b>			
14	<b>L. Orient</b>	H	<b>0-1</b>			
January						
11	Brentford	A	1-1	Freeman		
18	<b>Brighton</b>	H	<b>postponed</b>			
25	<b>Peterborough</b>	H				
February						
8	<b>Southend</b>	H				
15	Portsmouth	A				
22	Gillingham	H				

### FLYA UNDER-17 SE CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Peterborough	16	11	3	2	34	16	36
L. Orient	16	10	3	3	37	15	33
Brighton	15	10	2	3	38	18	32
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>
Wycombe	16	8	2	6	31	37	26
Cambridge	16	6	4	6	32	26	22
Gillingham	15	5	1	9	33	43	16
Colchester	15	4	4	7	21	36	16
Portsmouth	14	3	5	6	28	25	14
QPR	16	2	8	6	20	33	14
Southend	16	3	4	9	27	47	13
Brentford	16	3	3	10	25	37	12

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## Youth Soccer - U19s

### FA Youth Cup, Fourth Round

#### Luton Town 1 Bradford City 0

OBVIOUSLY we were all very pleased with a result that took us into the last 16 of the FA Youth Cup, but I did not think it was a very good game. It took us too long to get going, and we didn't play as well as we had done in beating Stoke in the previous round.

But the boys deserve credit for being ready to battle and work hard, and while Bradford felt they should have got something out of the game the fact is you don't deserve to win if you don't score, and they rarely threatened our goal despite putting on pressure in the closing stages. Our major problem was that we had not played for a month, and you can't be at your best after that kind of lay-off. Our senior boys' squad is also a little thin, which means young players are pushed through quicker than is usual at some clubs. We had two schoolboys in the starting team, and by the end we had used five. Richard Mansell received a kick and had to be subbed at half-time, and Nick Mountford, his replacement, had to go off later when he too was injured.

I was glad to get to half-time still at 0-0, because we were not on song. We could not get our flowing football going, but we stood up strong, and stuck to the task and

worked very hard for the result.

The boys gave everything in terms of effort and will to win, and all credit to everyone. They also set aside their nerves – playing on the main pitch, under floodlights and in front of a bigger crowd than we get at Luton RFC on Saturdays can be daunting for youngsters.

The goal came on 49 minutes, with Kevin Foley heading in from a diagonal free kick by Max Howell. Bradford responded, and hit the bar with a header, but otherwise our defence was firm. Matthew Judge was pushed up from midfield to attack for the second half, and had a 25-yarder tipped over the bar.

We thought we had got another goal on 84 minutes, after one of the best moves of the match. It was ruled out for offside, which was unfortunate for Parys Okai because his strike was excellent. It may have been a doubtful decision, but I could not tell from the dug-out, and in some ways it was to our advantage to have the goal ruled out because it meant that with only a one-goal lead we had to concentrate hard to preserve it, and we did.

**Luton Town:** Beckwith, Howell, Mansell (Mountford HT, Keane 77 mins), Foley, Davies, Barnett, Judge, O'Leary, Freeman, Maitland (Ridgway 81 mins), Okai.

WE WILL be at home again in the fifth round, to Barnsley or Middlesbrough, who meet at Oakwell on February 3. Our Football League Youth Alliance game at Walsall on Saturday was postponed because of a waterlogged pitch.

### FL Youth Alliance Under-19

FL Youth Alliance Under-19						
August						
17	<b>Walsall</b>	H	<b>0-0</b>			
31	Kidderminster	A	1-0	Freeman		
September						
7	Brentford (LC)	A	2-0	Freeman, Okai		
14	<b>Oxford (LC)</b>	H	<b>4-1</b>	<b>Osborn 2, Okai, Freeman</b>		
21	<b>Wycombe (LC)</b>	H	<b>2-2</b>	<b>Judge, Barnett</b>		
28	<b>Northampton</b>	H	<b>0-1</b>			
October						
12	Peterborough	A	1-3	O'Leary		
19	West Brom	A	0-1			
23	Brentford (FAYC1)	A	3-0	Judge, Freeman 2		
26	<b>Rushden</b>	H	<b>3-1</b>	<b>Judge, Freeman, Osborn</b>		
November						
2	<b>Oxford Utd</b>	H	<b>5-1</b>	<b>Judge 3, Freeman, Osborn</b>		
7	Tooting (FAYC2)	A	3-1	Judge 2, Davies		
16	Brighton (LC1)	A	2-1	Barnett, O'Leary		
30	<b>West Brom</b>	H	<b>2-1</b>	<b>Judge, Maitland</b>		
December						
4	<b>Stoke (FAYC3)</b>	H	<b>1-0</b>	<b>Judge</b>		
7	Rushden & D	A	2-1	Maitland 2		
14	Oxford Utd	A	0-1			
21	Cambridge	A	0-0			
January						
11	<b>Cambridge</b>	H	<b>postponed</b>			
15	<b>Bradford (FAYC4)</b>	H	<b>1-0</b>	<b>Foley</b>		
18	Walsall	A	postponed			
25	<b>Kidderminster</b>	H				
February						
1	Northampton	A				
8	<b>Peterborough</b>	H				
15	Cardiff (LC2)	A				

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Brom	13	8	2	3	25	16	26
Peterborough	10	8	0	2	28	6	24
Northampton	12	7	3	2	17	11	24
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>
Walsall	13	5	2	6	19	17	17
Cambridge	12	4	3	5	16	15	15
Oxford	12	5	0	7	15	26	15
Kidderminster	10	2	1	7	12	24	7
Rushden	13	1	3	9	10	31	6

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



# Statistics and all the fixtures

## Happy Birthday, Kitty!

WE OFTEN pass on birthday greetings via the PA system at games, but today we would like to add our own best wishes to one of our most loyal supporters. Kitty Creamer, of Poynters Road, Luton, will be 80 tomorrow, and this afternoon expects to be in her usual season ticket holder's seat in the Kenilworth Road end. She has been supporting the Town for well over 60 years. When she and her husband Bob were married in 1941, they cut short their honeymoon so that they could watch a war-time game at Kenilworth Road. They were regulars ever after, and although Mr Creamer died a couple of years ago Kitty still enjoys watching her favourite team.

# 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"/>

tick if playing ■ tick if substitute ●

## WYCOMBE WANDERERS

Manager: Lawrie Sanchez

1	Martin Taylor	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
2	Danny Senda	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
3	Chris Vinnicombe	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
4	Andy Thomson	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
5	Paul McCarthy	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
6	Mark Rogers	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
7	Darren Currie	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
8	Keith Ryan	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
9	Craig Faulconbridge	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
11	Dannie Bulman	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
12	Richard Harris	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
13	Mark Osborn	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
14	Stuart Roberts	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
15	Jermaine McSporran	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
16	Andy Rammell	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
17	Roger Johnson	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
18	Ben Townsend	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
20	Gavin Holligan	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
22	Frank Talia	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
23	Ian Simpemba	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
24	Steve Williams	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
25	Martyn Lee	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
28	Michael Simpson	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
30	Steve Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
35	Lewis Cook	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>
36	Jonny Dixon	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="radio"/>

### Today's Officials

Referee: Clive Wilkes, Gloucestershire

Assistants: Dave Bryan, Lincolnshire (yellow flag); John Holbrook, Worcestershire (red & yellow flag)

Fourth Official: Ray Olivier, West Midlands

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 e-mail: sales@motorbodies.co.uk

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12 Months AA Assistance Mileage Check

30 Day Exchange Plan

Free MOT for life

HPI Check

- 114 point service
- 30 day exchange pledge

### OPENING HOURS

Mon-Fri 9am-7pm

Sat 9am-5pm

Sun 10.30-4.30pm

NETWORK

Q

