



Luton Town Football Club

Official Matchday Magazine • Price £2.50

Nationwide League Division Two

Saturday 20th September 2003 • Kick Off 3.00pm



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Luton Town v Queens Park Rangers

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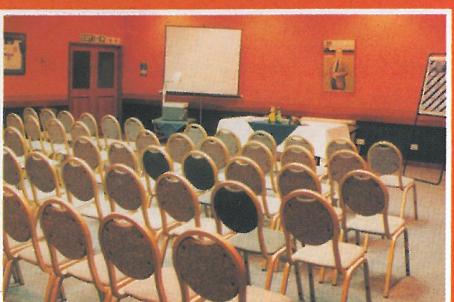
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Millennium Suite	70	35
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For more information call the Commercial Department on 01582 411622 or email: commercial@lutontown.co.uk

www.lutontown.co.uk

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Honours

Littlewoods Cup

Winners 1987-88
Finalists 1988-89

FA Cup

Finalists 1958-59

Simod Cup

Finalists 1987-88

Division 2

Champions 1981-82

Division 3 (S)

Champions 1936-37

Division 4

Champions 1967-68

Official Matchday Magazine

Editor

Brian Swain

Design & Printing

Regal Litho Ltd

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Gareth Owen

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



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Mike Newell

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Coach
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Youth Team Coach
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Assistant Youth Coach
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League saw an Increase in
Attendance of 13.5%;
Why...?



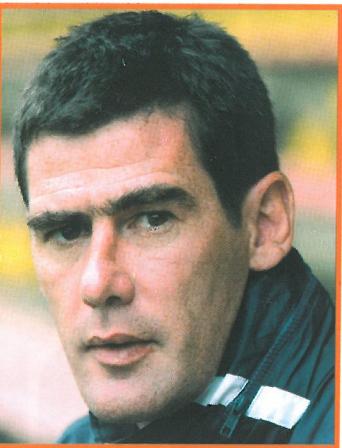
The authority...



The Quality of the Football

Image by Empics 0115 840 444 Digital Artwork by SentryBox 01895 251 220

The Manager's Message



HELLO again. Welcome to Ian Holloway and his players, staff, directors and supporters from Loftus Road. Queens Park Rangers narrowly missed out on promotion last season, with play-off disappointment against Cardiff City, and will be expected to be there or thereabouts again this season.

The transfer deal involving Tony Thorpe after only a couple of league games of the current campaign has been well documented, and I don't wish to cover old ground, except to say that it was not the way I would have chosen to do business.

We were delighted with the result against Port Vale on Tuesday, and particularly with the second-half performance.

The lads are setting themselves high standards, and achieving them regularly is the next aim. I am still seeing things in certain individuals that I had not seen previously since my arrival, and hopefully there is still more to come.

Some players take longer to settle than others when a new manager comes in, and that is only natural, but I have noticed in only the last week a better and more comfortable atmosphere about the place.

The big bonus for me is that in all the chaos of the last few months I have been able to play virtually every player available. It is impossible to judge players until you have seen them in competitive action.

We will, hopefully, have more to choose from in the coming weeks, with the return to fitness of a couple of the longer-term casualties. The fact that we have got points on the board early on means we have not been forced to rush those lads, and it also means that their hunger to get back and prove themselves will be greater.

You can never have enough good players to pick from, and although it makes selection more difficult, and leaves some disappointed, it's a long season, and to achieve any form of success it's a necessity. We will look forward to the game against Charlton in the week, and hope that many of you will be able to make the trip. But we will start thinking about that only after today's important game. I have said before that the league is our bread and butter, and that is what we will be judged on.

Enjoy the game, and get behind the lads.

Mike Newell



PUTTING ON THE PRESSURE: Ahmet Brkovic in competition with George Pilkington during Tuesday's game against Port Vale.

For the latest news, views & interviews call:
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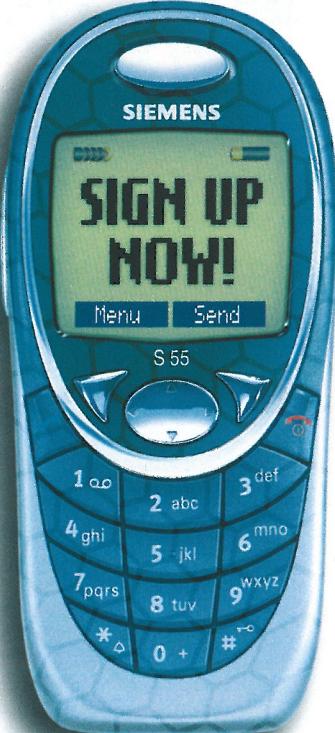


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The Town Captain's View

ALTHOUGH it is horrible to be out of action through injury, I have been feeling good this week, for two good reasons. For a start the surgeon who carried out my knee operation is pleased with the way it has healed, and he gave me the go-ahead to discard my crutches and start to do a bit of work towards regaining fitness.

And then the lads did the business against Port Vale – and how! I am not a good watcher of football, but I was at Kenilworth Road to lend my support, and to see how Port Vale were taken apart was a real tonic. I thought Port Vale looked pretty good for the first 20 minutes or so, and knocked the ball around quite well, and we were grateful that their best goal attempt hit the bar. But they hardly threatened us after that, and the lads deserve credit for that.

Vale came as league leaders, and we were a far better team on the night, so who knows what we might achieve this season. And what cracking goals they were, from Gary McSheffrey and Kevin Foley.

I was really pleased to hear that Gary's loan is being extended into a second month. I think it has been a case of the move being good for Luton Town, and for him. He is a lovely lad, and the longer he has been here the better he has got. He is a natural striker – his goal was an instinctive effort by a man who knew what he had to do without having to think about it. I am sure it is better for him to be playing first team football with us rather than being in the reserves at Coventry.

All things are possible, but we are where we are on merit, and while it might be hard there is no reason why we should not believe in ourselves. We all want to play at a higher level, and we have to aim high, and go for it.

Realistically, today's opponents are among the favourites for promotion, along with Brighton, Bristol City and Sheffield Wednesday. We have just soundly beaten the current leaders of the division, but I suspect we face a harder test this afternoon.

QPR are on a good run, but we are full of confidence. If we can find the form we showed on Tuesday we can give anyone a game, and I am sure the lads will rise to the challenge.

I don't know if we will be meeting up with Tony Thorpe again, because he has been out

of the side with injury. If he is in the squad he will doubtless get a bit of stick from our supporters, just as he did when he went to Bristol City with us.

He made a very personal choice when he decided to move to Loftus Road, and while we will do our best to give him a hard time if he plays against us, I will continue to count him as a friend. He did well for Luton, giving his all and scoring a lot of goals.

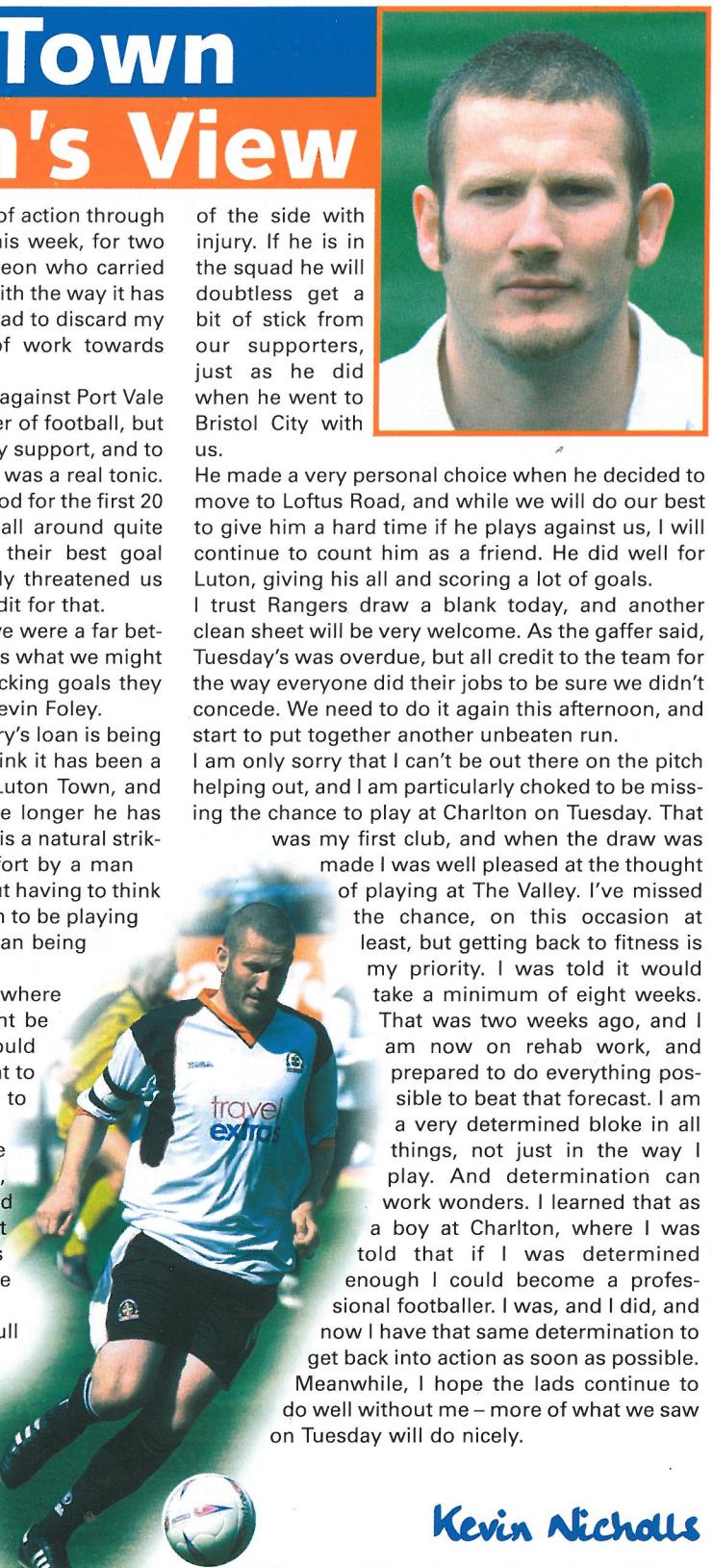
I trust Rangers draw a blank today, and another clean sheet will be very welcome. As the gaffer said, Tuesday's was overdue, but all credit to the team for the way everyone did their jobs to be sure we didn't concede. We need to do it again this afternoon, and start to put together another unbeaten run.

I am only sorry that I can't be out there on the pitch helping out, and I am particularly choked to be missing the chance to play at Charlton on Tuesday. That was my first club, and when the draw was made I was well pleased at the thought of playing at The Valley. I've missed the chance, on this occasion at least, but getting back to fitness is my priority. I was told it would take a minimum of eight weeks.

That was two weeks ago, and I am now on rehab work, and prepared to do everything possible to beat that forecast. I am a very determined bloke in all things, not just in the way I play. And determination can work wonders. I learned that as a boy at Charlton, where I was told that if I was determined enough I could become a professional footballer. I was, and I did, and now I have that same determination to get back into action as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, I hope the lads continue to do well without me – more of what we saw on Tuesday will do nicely.

Kevin Nicholls



Log on to Luton Town's official website at
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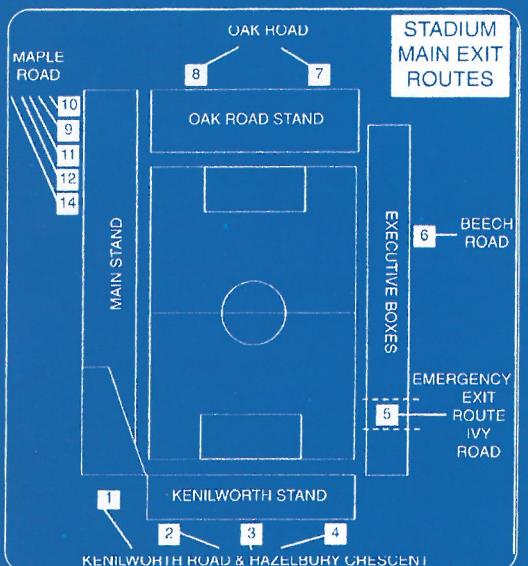
Mr & Mrs R Williams

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.



From The Chief Executive

GOOD afternoon and welcome to today's match.

The LDV Vans Trophy draw sees us once again playing Stevenage away, a repetition of last season's match. It will be played on Tuesday October 14, kick-off 7.45pm, and will be an all-ticket match as we have an allocation of only 1,400 tickets. Please see the ticket office news pages for further details.

My thanks today to those supporters who usually use the Eric Morecambe Suite but have been unable to do so this afternoon. This is due to the success of Peter Davis and the Commercial Department in selling the executive packages so that the larger facility of the Eric Morecambe suite has been brought into use (Oh for a new stadium with larger and better facilities for all!) As we all appreciate income is vital to the club, so the additional cash generated today is very welcome.

Speaking of additional income, today on the pitch we will be accepting a cheque for £418 which is money raised from raffle tickets, programme sales etc from a charity football match held between Hitchin Town Supporters Club and Loyal Luton Supporters Club. The game was played at Offley Football Club and was watched by about 100 people. I was one of them, and the result, although not important, was a 2-2 draw which left everyone happy. Our thanks to all those who helped organise the match. They are too numerous to mention individually, but they know who they are – Thank you.

The Football League have advised us that that once again they will not be implementing the transfer window system on a domestic basis. Consequently Football League clubs will be free to operate under the same 'open' system as last season.

Clubs will be able to trade freely with each other, and with clubs from leagues below The Football League until the transfer deadline on March 25. Clubs will also be able to make loan signings from clubs in the FA Premier League, and may make such moves permanent at any

time. Football League clubs will, however, be unable to sell or loan players to FA Premier League clubs, or trade with football clubs outside the domestic league structure until the window reopens on January 1.

The Football League understands that FIFA intends to review the effectiveness of transfer windows at the end of the current season. Therefore it is the League's intention to participate fully in this review in order to represent the views of its member clubs.

There is a lot of activity going on behind the scenes and we should shortly be able to give you full details of a new park and ride scheme from Luton railway station to help supporters get to and from matches.

We are looking at running a new half time competition on the pitch, with a great prize for the winner at the end of the season. It will all start at the next home match. Watch out for other new ideas, and if you have any please do let us know.

The Commercial department are also looking at new initiatives which I hope you will support, the first being a sportsman's dinner on November 19. Perhaps some of you could get together and book a table between you. I am sure you will have a great evening, and full details appear elsewhere in this programme.. Finally, it doesn't seem possible that this is the last home game before the start of the new month, and as you know our match with Tranmere has changed to Monday October 6, so there will be no "open house" on that evening. However when we meet on the first Monday of the next month, November 3, we will stay open until 9pm, so please do come and talk to us.

Cherry Newbery



Comebacks behind by -2 -1			Fouls conceded/game			Caught offside/game			Throwaways ahead by +2 +1			
Port Vale	0	3	Port Vale	10.88	Swindon	12.88	Barnsley	1.50	Tranmere	3.75	Grimbsy	0
Blackpool	1	1	Blackpool	11.00	Bristol City	13.00	Bournemouth	1.63	Sheff Wed	4.13	Oldham	0
Hartlepool	1	0	Rushden	11.25	Wycombe	13.25	Notts County	1.75	Colchester	4.25	Peterborough	1
Bournemouth	0	1	Brentford	11.63	Plymouth	13.38	Brentford	2.38	Hartlepool	4.25	Wycombe	1
Brentford	0	1	Hartlepool	12.00	Wrexham	13.43	Port Vale	2.38	Blackpool	4.43	Barnsley	0
Brighton	0	1	Bournemouth	12.25	Chesterfield	13.75	QPR	2.88	Bristol City	4.50	Blackpool	0
Luton	0	1	Grimsby	13.88	Barnsley	14.50	Wrexham	3.00	Brighton	4.75	Colchester	0
Plymouth	0	1	Oldham	12.38	Luton	14.75	Plymouth	3.13	Stockport	5.00	Luton	0
Rushden	0	1	Peterborough	12.63	QPR	15.13	Grimsby	3.50	Chesterfield	5.13	Notts County	0
Swindon	0	1	Brighton	12.88	Colchester	15.25	Oldham	3.50	Peterborough	5.13	QPR	0
Wrexham	0	1	Sheff Wed	12.88	Tranmere	16.00	Wycombe	3.50	Rushden	5.75	Sheff Wed	0

Goals Per Game - The Division's Most Consistent Strikers

Player:	Lowe	Peacock	Robinson	Mooney	Taylor	Kuqi	Knight	Boulding	Andrews	Beckett	Ainsworth	Gabbia	Howard
Lge Gls:	6	5	6	6	4	5	6	6	4	4	4	4	3
CC Gls:	1	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	6	6	8	7	7
Games:	8	8	9	9	8	7	9	9	6	6	6	7	7
Gls/Game:	0.88	0.88	0.78	0.78	0.75	0.71	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.63	0.57	0.57

Goals from Outside Area

Williams	Kidderminster	3
Tarnat	Man City	2
Blake	Burnley	2
Sidwell	Reading	2
Hughes	West Brom	2
Defoe	West Ham	2
Lumsdon	Barnsley	2
Anderson	Grimsby	2
Strachan	Hartlepool	2
Ainsworth	QPR	2
Furlong	QPR	2
Lowe	Rushden	2
Currie	Wycombe	2
Stead	Huddersfield	2
Butcher	Lincoln	2
Whitaker	Macclesfield	2
Arteta	Rangers	2

Headers in 6 yard box

Fuller	Preston	3
Jones	Tranmere	3
Amoruso	Blackburn	2
Scowcroft	Leicester	2
Ellington	Wigan	2
Knight	Brighton	2
Coughlan	Plymouth	2
Paynter	Port Vale	2
Lowe	Rushden	2
Kuqi	Sheff Wed	2
Fortune-West	Doncaster	2
Dudfield	Northampton	2
Townson	Rochdale	2

Goals in last 10 mins

stats from Premiership, Nationwide and SPL	Hughes	West Brom	3
	Shearer	Newcastle	2
	Sheringham	Portsmouth	2
	Whelan	Millwall	2
	Friio	Plymouth	2
	Evans	Plymouth	2
	Lowe	Rushden	2
	Connell	Bury	2
	Lawrence	Mansfield	2
	Trundle	Swansea	2

Most Potent Attack - Shots On Target: Goals

Team	On T	Gls	Ave
Hartlepool	47	19	2.47
Port Vale	43	14	3.07
Sheff Wed	44	14	3.14
Grimsby	36	11	3.27
Luton	43	13	3.31
QPR	59	17	3.47
Brighton	46	13	3.54
Stockport	37	10	3.70
Colchester	41	11	3.73
Swindon	69	16	4.31
Rushden	65	15	4.33
Oldham	48	11	4.36

Tightest Defence - Shots On Target: Goals Conc

Team	On T	Gls	Ave
Plymouth	80	17	4.71
Peterborough	53	11	4.82
Barnsley	54	11	4.91
Wycombe	47	9	5.22
Blackpool	49	9	5.44
Bournemouth	50	9	5.56
Bristol City	68	12	5.67
Tranmere	51	7	7.29
Wrexham	43	5	8.60
Brentford	46	5	9.20
Chesterfield	46	5	9.20
Notts County	49	4	12.25

Team **On T** **Gls** **C** **Ave**

Barnsley	54	7	7.71
Wrexham	43	6	7.17
Bristol City	35	5	7.00
Hartlepool	57	9	6.33
Colchester	61	11	5.55
Bournemouth	44	8	5.50
Rushden	71	13	5.46
Sheff Wed	59	11	5.36
QPR	35	7	5.00
Brentford	63	13	4.85
Brighton	42	9	4.67
Grimsby	81	18	4.50

Team **On T** **Gls** **C** **Ave**

Peterborough	41	10	4.10
Luton	44	11	4.00
Plymouth	52	13	4.00
Wycombe	60	15	4.00
Notts County	62	16	3.88
Blackpool	58	15	3.87
Tranmere	34	9	3.78
Oldham	52	14	3.71
Chesterfield	44	12	3.67
Stockport	51	14	3.64
Swindon	36	10	3.60
Port Vale	35	12	2.92

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Fans on the Road

THE FOLLOWING for the Town continues to run at around 50 per cent more than the numbers who have visited Kenilworth Road to support away fans, but the situation might well change this afternoon as QPR are likely to be the first to be able to fill the away end. The figures so far:

Town Travellers

Stockport

671

Rushden

922

Brighton

727

Yeovil (CC)

493

Notts Co

1,215

Grimsby

318

Plymouth

449

Hartlepool

573

Total:

3,062

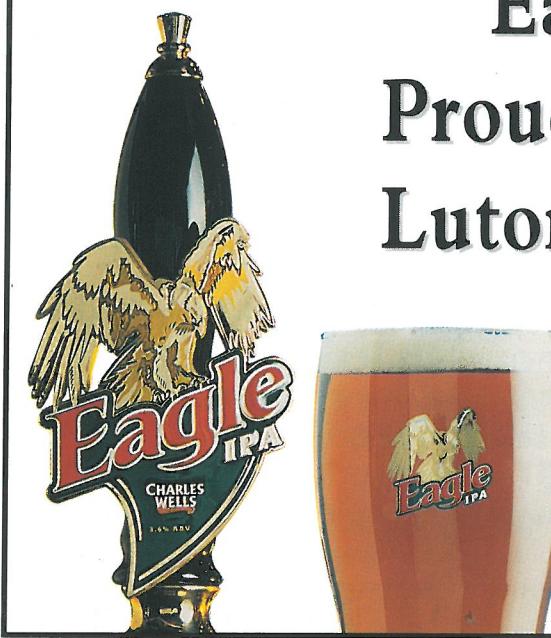
Average:

765

2,650

530

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News From The Ticket Office



Carling Cup, Second Round Charlton Athletic v Luton Town

Tuesday September 23, 8pm

Prices: Adults £10,

Senior Citizens and Youths aged 16-18 £5, Under 16s £1

We have been allocated the South Stand that holds 3,000 and whilst this is not an all ticket match for Luton supporters it is advisable to purchase tickets in advance from the ticket office in Kenilworth Road before travelling.



Nationwide League Division Two Oldham Athletic v Luton Town

Saturday, September 27, 2003, kick-off 3pm

Prices: Adults £16, Senior Citizens and Juniors £8.

Pay on the day only, at Boundary Park.

No advance tickets are available from Kenilworth Road



Nationwide League Division Two Swindon Town v Luton Town

Wednesday October 1, 2003,
kick-off 7.45pm

Prices:

FROM LUTON TICKET OFFICE KENILWORTH ROAD

Adults £19, Senior Citizens and Students £12, Juniors £6.

OR ON THE DAY AT SWINDON

Adults £21, Senior Citizens and Students £13, Juniors £7.

This is not an all-ticket match, but there will be tickets available to purchase in advance from Kenilworth Road at a discounted rate.

These prices are for covered seats at The County Ground.

Swindon Town have yet to confirm if the uncovered section will be open to away supporters.



News From The Ticket Office



Nationwide League Division Two Luton Town v Tranmere Rovers

Monday October 6, 2003, kick-off 8pm

This match has moved to the above date from the previously publicised date of Saturday October 4, due to the game now being televised by Sky Sports.

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.

Cash turnstiles will be open on the night subject to availability. Remember there are no concessions available on cash turnstiles.



Nationwide League Division Two Luton Town v Wycombe Wanderers

Saturday October 11 2003, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.

Cash turnstiles will be open on the day subject to availability.



Remember there are no concessions available on cash turnstiles..

LDV Vans Trophy, Southern Section First Round Stevenage Borough v Luton Town

Tuesday October 14 2003, kick-off 7.45pm

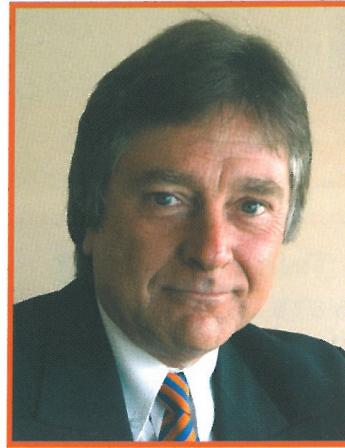
Prices: Adults £12, under-18s and senior citizens £9.

This is an all-ticket match for Luton Town supporters, with no tickets available on the evening of the match. Our allocation is 1,300 tickets and they will go on sale as follows:

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS: One ticket per season ticket holder, subject to availability, on sale after today's match, and until kick-off time, 8pm, on the night of our next home game, against Tranmere on Monday October 6.

Telephone bookings will be accepted.

MEMBERS: If any tickets remain after sales to season ticket holders, they will go on general sale directly after the game against Tranmere on October 6. Telephone bookings will be accepted from 10am on Tuesday October 7, subject to availability.



Commercial Corner

MAY I bid a very warm welcome to all of our sponsors and commercial partners to today's match with QPR.

Traditionally it is one of our highest-attended fixtures of the season, and no less so than within our commercial sector, where we have converted the Eric Morecambe suite into an executive restaurant for the day in order to meet the extra demand.

JOINT MATCH SPONSOR
Critical Research



IT'S WELCOME today to Derek Farr and Critical Research, our joint match sponsors, for the second of their visits this season to Kenilworth Road.

Established in 1990, Critical Research is a Luton-based market research company with offices in Luton, Watford and Reading. They have sponsored many Luton Town games over the years, as well as having an involvement with youth football.

Critical Research are a well-known and firmly-established name in market research, and employ many staff locally, working from telephone interview centres. They are always on the look-out for people who want to train as telephone interviewers and who are able to work mornings, afternoons, or evenings for at least 18 hours a week. Whether it is for an opportunity to join their team, or to employ their services, contact **Critical Research on 01582 480588**.

JOINT MATCH SPONSOR
HiB Limited



THE CLUB also extends a very warm welcome

to the management and guests of Home Improvement Bureau Ltd.

HiB are delighted to be sponsoring a match at Kenilworth Road for the first time. Following on from their ground advertisements last season, the company are hoping that their first sponsored game will prove to be lucky for the Hatters.

With their head office in Barnet, and a national distribution centre in Tamworth, HiB are one of the leading bathroom distributors in the UK. Their range of mirrors and mirrors with lights, bathroom furniture and bathroom cabinets is available from all leading bathroom retailers and builders merchants.

Their Managing Director Warren Ginsberg and his family are long-time supporters of Luton Town and wish "Mike, Mick, the players and all the staff, all the very best for the season ahead, and congratulate them on their start to the season in what have been very difficult circumstances." **Contact HiB Ltd on 020 8441 0352, or go to www.hib.co.uk for further information and details.**

MATCH BALL SPONSOR
Silverlink Trains



IT IS also the first sponsor's visit to Kenilworth Road by Silverlink Trains, and we therefore bid Steve Newlands and his management team a very warm welcome. Joining us as match ball sponsors, Silverlink Trains operate fast, frequent rail services between London and Birmingham, via Milton Keynes and Northampton, as well as integrated routes across West, North and East London.

Their services obviously provide tremendous travel options for all of our travelling fans who can link nationwide through Silverlink services. For further information call the **Silverlink information line on 08705 125 240, or visit www.silverlink-trains.com**

Welcome to All Our Sponsors and Guests

COMMERCIAL MASCOT
George Pruden



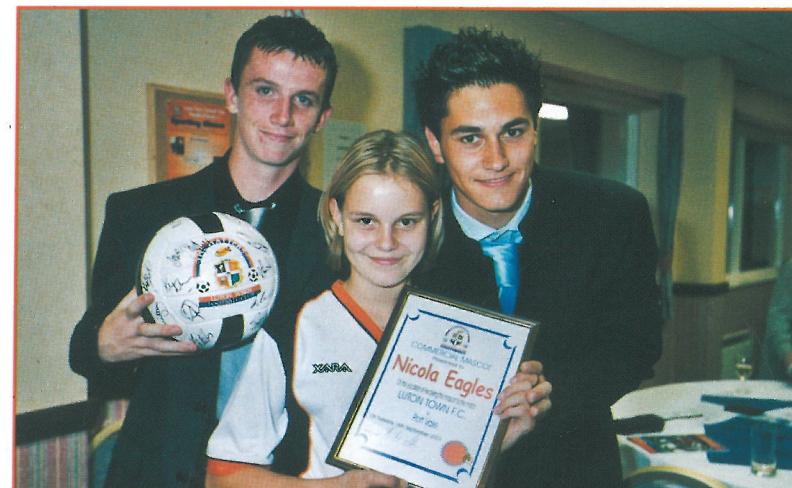
ELEVEN-year-old George Pruden joins us today as commercial mascot, and we all wish him and his family a great and memorable time. George and his family are local, based here in Luton and are season ticket holders in the

Kenilworth Stand. George attends St George's School in Harpenden, and numbers among his hobbies golf and skiing. His favourite player is Steve Howard, who he hopes to meet during his visit with us today.

Have a great and enjoyable day

Peter Davis

Gary Deards, managing director of Milton Keynes Developments Ltd, and party, our match sponsors at Tuesday's game with Port Vale



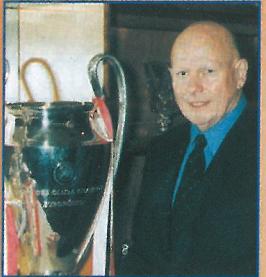
Nicola Eagles, commercial mascot on Tuesday, receiving her certificate from Man of the Match Kevin Foley and Robert Beckwith.





Luton Town Football Club Proudly Presents a **Sporting Dinner**

on Wednesday November 19th 2003
at the Vauxhall Recreation Club 20 Gipsy Lane Luton LU1 3JU
in the company of



Master of Ceremonies and your Host for the evening

Steve Tandy

From winning his heat on 'New Faces' in 1988, both the studio and telephone votes, the career of Steve has never looked back. His talents have earned him an enviable reputation in the field of after dinner speaking and following Steve's appearance on Carlton TV's impressionists show 'Who Do You Do' the demand for his services has stretched beyond our shores onto the continent and into the far east.



Join us for what is going to be a tremendous night of football nostalgia, brilliant comedy, great food, plus a superb auction of sporting and celebrity memorabilia, including some very special pieces from:

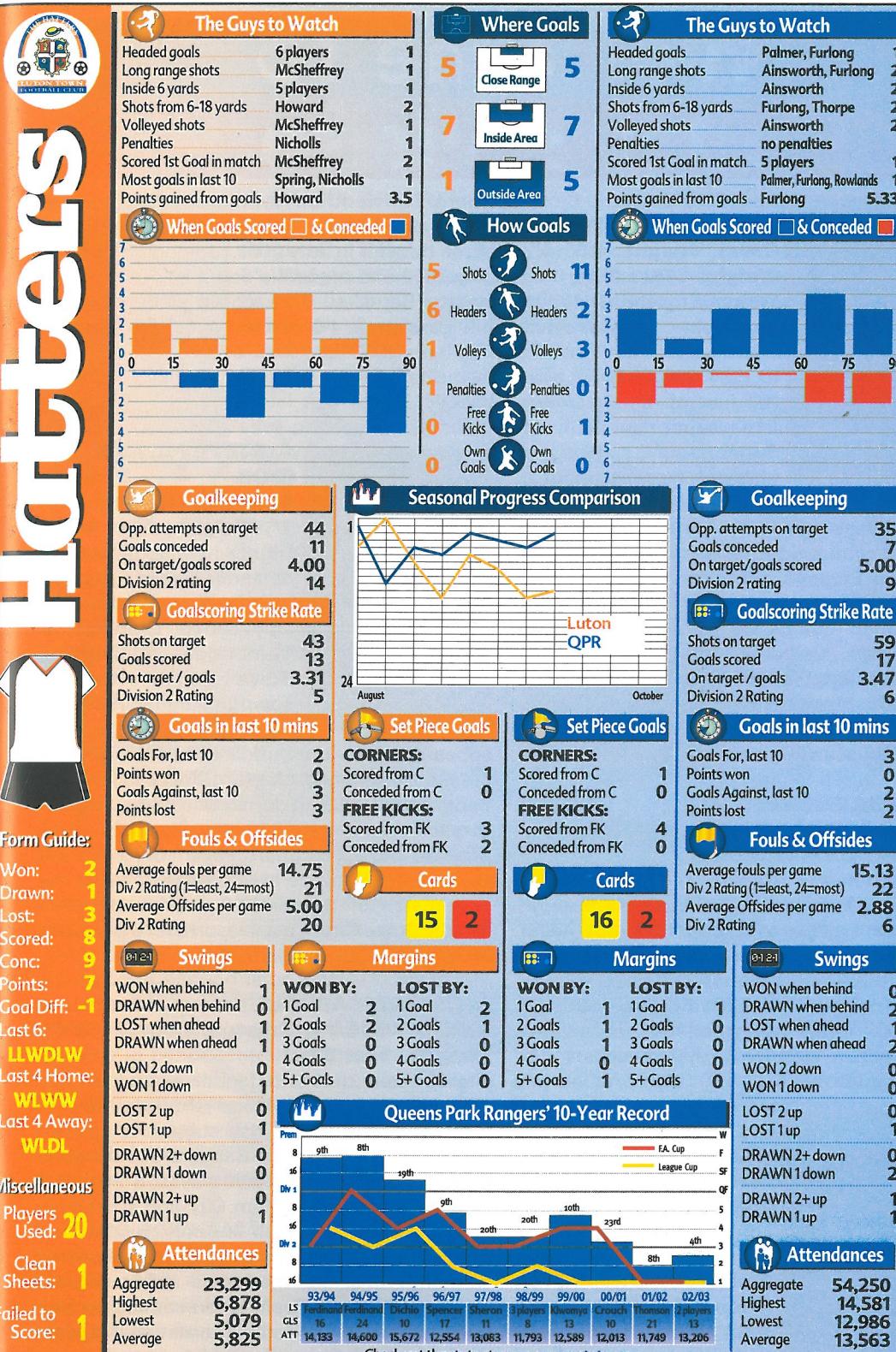
**England 1966 World Cup Squad Members • Michael Owen • Michael Schumacher
and the Greatest of them all - Muhammad Ali**

**Cost - Just £450.00 for a table of 10 guests -
£47.50 for individual tickets.**

Reception 7.00pm - Dinner 8.00pm - Last Orders midnight

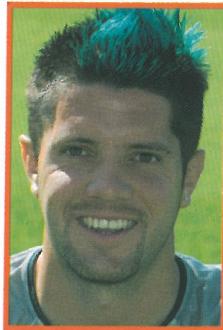


This event is generously sponsored by Critical Research the regions foremost market research company. They can be contacted on 01582 480588. Luton Town Football Club thank them for their support for this evening.



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Welcome to Today's Visitors



1. CHRIS DAY
(DOB - 28/7/75, Whips Cross, Height - 6' 4", Weight - 14st 6lbs)

Former England Under 21 goalkeeper signed on a free transfer from Watford in July 2001. Chris won the first of his six Under 21 caps whilst at Tottenham Hotspur although he never made a

First Team appearance for them. He moved to Crystal Palace for £225,000 in August 1996 where he continued to be the number one for the young England team and broke into the Eagles First Team making 24 appearances in what turned out to be his only season at Selhurst Park. Joined Watford in July 1997 in a deal that took Kevin Miller in the opposite direction. Made his Rangers debut at Loftus Road against Stoke City on the opening day of the 2001/02 season.

2. TERRELL FORBES
(DOB - 17/8/81, Southwark, Height - 5'10", Weight - 12st 5lbs)

Versatile defender signed on a free transfer from West Ham in July 2001. Came through the youth system at Upton Park but never made a first team appearance for the Hammers in his two seasons there. Made three appearances on loan at AFC Bournemouth in 1999/2000. Terrell was voted the Club's Player of the Year in 2001/02 for his consistent displays at right back.



3. GINO PADULA
(DOB - 11/7/76, Buenos Aires, Height - 5' 9", Weight - 12st 1lbs)

Left back who was first signed by Ian Holloway for Bristol Rovers from Xerez in Spain in October 1999. Gino then joined Walsall a month later

where he went on to make twenty seven appearances before joining Wigan Athletic on a free transfer in July 2000. Joined Rangers in July 2002 and made his debut in August 2002 away at Barnsley. Gino scored his first goal for the Club in a 4-0 victory over Port Vale in February 2003 and has become a real fans favourite with his attacking displays from left back.



4. STEVE PALMER
(DOB - 31/3/68, Brighton, Height - 6' 1", Weight - 13st 6lbs)

Highly experienced defender signed on a free transfer from Watford in July 2001. Graduate of Cambridge University, Steve joined Ipswich Town in August 1989 and went on to make 130

appearances for the Suffolk club, scoring three times. He joined Watford for £135,000 in September 1995 and during one particular season for the Hornets actually played in every position including goalkeeper. Current Club Captain, Steve made his Rangers debut in the first match of the 2001/02 season at Loftus Road v Stoke City. Last season Steve played in all 53 games for Rangers.

5. CLARKE CARLISLE
(DOB - 14/10/79, Preston, Height - 6'3", Weight - 14st 3lbs)

Highly rated central defender signed in May 2000 from Blackpool for an initial fee of £250,000 which could rise subject to appearances. Clarke made his Rangers debut on the opening day of the 2000/01 season at Loftus Road against Birmingham City and scored his first goal for the club in only his second appearance against Crystal Palace. Less than a month later he made his debut for the England Under 21 Team when coming on as a substitute in the Friendly International against Georgia at the Riverside Stadium.



Queens Park Rangers F.C.



6. DANIEL SHITTU
(DOB - 2/9/80, Lagos (Nigeria), Height - 6' 2", Weight 16st 3lbs)

Powerfully built central defender signed in January 2002 from Charlton Athletic for an initial fee of £250,000, after previously spending two months on loan at Loftus Road. Daniel never

played a competitive match for Charlton but made 19 appearances on loan at Blackpool towards the end of the 2000/01 season, scoring two goals. Daniel has now established himself in the heart of the Rangers defence and his impressive displays earned him an International call-up in March 2002 when he made his debut for Nigeria in a friendly International v Paraguay at Loftus Road.

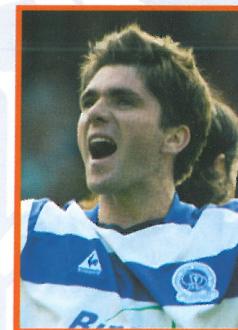
7. MATTHEW ROSE
(DOB - 24/9/75, Dartford, Height 5'11", Weight - 12st 2lbs)

Signed from Arsenal in May 1997 for a fee of 500,000. Matthew captained Arsenal's FA Youth Cup winning team of 1994 before going on to make his full debut for them in March 1997. Has been capped twice at England Under 21 level playing against Georgia in November 1996 and later Italy. He made his debut for Rangers in the opening match of the 1997/98 season against Ipswich Town. Equally at home in either central defence, midfield or at right wing back he has matured into a very accomplished player who looks comfortable in possession and reads the game very well. Scored his first goal for Rangers in a 1-1 draw at Barnsley in February 2000.

8. MARC BIRCHAM
(DOB - 11/5/78, Wembley, Height - 5' 10", Weight - 12st 4lbs)

Lifelong Rangers fan Marc joined Rangers on a free transfer from Millwall in July 2002. Marc was a Trainee at Millwall before he first broke

into their team in the 1996/97 season when he made six appearances for the Lions. Established himself in the Millwall team at the start of the 1998/99 season and his energetic midfield displays also earned him a call up to the Canadian National Team for whom he has now made thirteen full appearances and scored one goal. A member of the QPR Loyal Supporters Association from a youngster, Marc turned down offers from several higher division clubs to realise a lifelong ambition when he signed for Rangers at the start of last season. Marc's all-action displays in the heart of the Rangers midfield have made him a firm favourite with the Loftus Road fans.



9. TONY THORPE
(DOB - 10/4/84, Leicester, Height - 5' 9", Weight 12st 6lbs)

Experienced striker who began his professional career at Luton Town after initially coming through the youth ranks at his native Leicester City. Made his debut for Luton in November 1993

but failed to establish himself in the side until 1996/7 when he scored 31 times in the side that narrowly missed out on promotion to the First Division. After 145 appearances and 60 goals for Luton Tony moved to Fulham for £800,000 in February 1998 where he made just fifteen appearances before moving for £1M to Bristol City in June 1998. Tony played 151 games for Bristol City scoring 62 goals before returning to the Hatters on a free transfer in July 2002. Whilst at Bristol City he spent brief loan spells back at Luton (twice) and Reading in 1999. Rangers signed the striker from Luton in August 2003.

10. KEVIN GALLEN
(DOB - 21/9/75, Hammersmith, Height - 5' 11", Weight - 12st 10lbs)

Former England Youth and Under 21 striker

Welcome to Today's Visitors



who rejoined Rangers in November 2001 on a free transfer from Barnsley. Kevin left Rangers at the end of the 1999/2000 season to join Huddersfield Town where he scored ten goals in thirty nine appearances for the Terriers. Barnsley signed him at the start of the 2001/02 season but less than four months later Kevin returned to Loftus Road where he had previously been brought up through the Clubs Youth system. During his Youth career Kevin broke Jimmy Greaves's goalscoring record in the South East Counties League. A Rangers fan from boyhood, Kevin is now playing the best football of his career back at Loftus road where he was voted Player of the Year for 2002/03 by the fans.

11. GARETH AINSWORTH (DOB - 10/5/73, Blackburn, Height - 5' 9", Weight - 12st 5lbs)



Gareth joined Rangers on a free transfer in July 2003 after being released by Cardiff City. Gareth began his career as a Trainee in his home town of Blackburn before joining Preston in 1992. Although he spent a very brief spell at Cambridge at the start of 1992/3 season, Gareth remained at

Preston until 1995 when he left to sign for Lincoln City for £25,000. After making 83 appearances for Lincoln and scoring 37 goals, Port Vale paid £500,000 for his services in October 1995. Wimbledon then paid £2M for Gareth in November 1998 but he struggled to make an impact with the Dons, making only 24 appearances in four seasons there. Gareth was loaned out to Preston towards the end of the 2001/2 season before being released by

Wimbledon. Gareth's debut for Rangers was in the first match of the 2003/04 season at home to Blackpool where he also scored two goals in a 5-0 victory.

12. ERIC SABIN (DOB - 22/1/75, Paris, Height - 6'1", Weight 12st 4lbs)

Striker signed in July 2003 on a free transfer from Swindon Town after he made 58 appearances and scored seven goals in his two seasons at the County Ground. Eric originally joined Swindon from French side Wasquehal on a free transfer in July 2001 after making 28 appearances and scoring three goals playing in his native country.

13. NICK CULKIN (DOB - 6/7/78, York, Height - 6'2", Weight - 14st 3lbs)

Nick joined Rangers on a free transfer from Manchester United in July 2002. Goalkeeper who began his career at York City before the Reds signed him for £250,000 in September 1995. Unable to break into the United side, Nick played four matches on loan at Hull City during the 1999/2000 season and then spent the entire 2000/01 season on loan at Bristol Rovers where he made fifty four appearances. Returned to United for 2001/02 but then went out on loan again, this time to Scottish Club Livingstone where he benefited from more first team football. Made his debut for Rangers in the opening match of the 2002/03 season at Loftus Road v Chesterfield.



14. MARTIN ROWLANDS (DOB - 8/2/79, Hammersmith, Height - 5'9", Weight 10st 10lbs)

Rangers signed Martin on a free transfer from Brentford in August 2003 after the locally born midfielder had made 186



Queens Park Rangers F.C.



appearances for the Bees, scoring 23 goals. Martin originally cost Brentford £45,000 when they signed him from Farnborough Town in August 1988. Martin suffered a broken leg in April which cut his final season at Griffin Park short, but he is now fully recovered and should be a vital part of Rangers midfield this season.

15. RICHARD PACQUETTE (DOB - 28/1/83, Paddington, Height - 5' 11", Weight - 13st 12lbs)

Local player who progressed through the Youth ranks and signed professional on his seventeenth birthday. Strongly built striker who was a regular goalscorer during his youth team days. Richard made his debut for Rangers as an eighteen year old but will remember it with mixed emotions as it came on the day Rangers were relegated from the First Division at Huddersfield in April 2001. Was voted Young Player of the Year by the fans last season.

16. WESLEY DALY (DOB - 7/3/84, Hammersmith, Height - 5'6", Weight - 11st 7lbs)

Wesley joined the club as a ten year and has progressed through the youth system to the First Team squad. Made his debut two weeks after his eighteenth birthday against Colchester United in March 2002. Another youngster who will be pushing hard for a first team place this year.

17. MARCUS BEAN (DOB - 2/11/84, Hammersmith, Height - 5' 11", Weight - 11st 6lbs)

Marcus came through the youth ranks at Rangers after first joining the Club as an eleven year old. His first team debut in August 2002 is one that he will want to forget though, as not only did Rangers lose 4-1 at Wycombe, but he was sent off only eight minutes after coming on as a substitute. Marcus made a further seven appearances for the First Team last season and having had a taste of the action will now be looking to establish himself as a regu-

lar this season.

18. DENNIS OLI (DOB - 28/1/84, Newham, Height - 6'0", Weight - 12st)

Striker who joined the Club in August 2000 whilst still attending college on a full-time basis. In February 2002 he set a remarkable record, when aged just eighteen, of playing for the Youth Team, Reserves and made his debut for the First Team against Wigan Athletic all the space of eight days. Signed professional in July 2002 and will be looking to add to his appearances next season.

29. PAUL FURLONG (DOB - 1/10/6875, Wood Green, Height - 6' 1", Weight - 13st 8lbs)

Experienced striker who joined Rangers in September 2002 on a free transfer from Birmingham City after an initial loan spell at Loftus Road. Paul began his career in the non-league ranks at Enfield Town before Coventry City snapped him up for £130,000 in July 1991. A year later he moved on to Watford for £250,000 where he enjoyed two very successful seasons scoring thirty seven goals in seventy nine appearances. Chelsea paid £2.3M for Paul in May 1994 but just two seasons later Paul was on the move again, this time to Birmingham City for £1.5M. An initial three month loan spell at Loftus Road in season 2000/01 was cut short by injury. After a total of one hundred and thirty one appearances for the Blues and fifty goals, Paul rejoined Rangers on loan in August 2002 before signing permanently a month later. His 'debut' as a fully fledged Rangers player came away at Mansfield where he scored the first goal in a 4-0 victory for the R's. Paul has now established himself as a first choice striker at Loftus Road and he endeared himself forever to all the Rangers fans by scoring the goal against Oldham Athletic that took Rangers to the Second Division Play Off Final last season.



Blast From The Past

David Pleat's first season in charge at Kenilworth Road was almost a disaster with the Town narrowly avoiding relegation from the old Division Two at the death.

Pleat had made wholesale changes to the side he inherited, intent on altering the playing style to that of his own principles, but a terrible run of injuries meant that he had to make do and mend as the campaign drew to an ultimately successful close.

The summer of 1979 was spent in adding a couple of names to the squad. Mike Saxby from Mansfield and Tony Grealish from Orient were signed as immediate first team players which meant that, sadly, some long serving squad members had to leave to balance the books, but Pleat would not deviate from his beliefs and his stated aim to take the Hatters back to the top flight.

The season opened with a two leg defeat to Gillingham of Division Three in the League Cup, a home draw with Cambridge and a 2-3 reversal at Bristol Rovers.

Supporters were quite naturally beginning to doubt Pleat's expertise but after a narrow home win over Orient, a brilliant 3-1 televised victory at Leicester made them alter their views a little. This was followed by a 5-0 thrashing of Swansea and suddenly the Town were top of the pile when the first league tables were published.

What a manager this Pleat was turning out to be!!

By the time of the visit of Q.P.R. to Kenilworth Road on 10th November 1979 the Hatters were still in top spot while Rangers were second. Rangers were in a rich vein of form which included a 7-0 win over Burnley at Loftus Road two weeks before and a 3-1 victory at Bristol Rovers the previous Saturday.

The top of the table clash attracted a crowd of



Hoping for better things. David Pleat lines up with squad of 1979/80.

Honours Even In Televised Clashes

Despite the disappointment of the draw, the Luton supporters were at last witnessing a side that looked like it could be going places after several mediocre seasons. Form dipped after Christmas but the Town were always hovering around the top three and hit top spot again in mid-February before a run of five games without a win sent them tumbling out of the promotion places.

On the weekend before the return game with Rangers the Town had lost at home to Cardiff on a miserable night where the pitch was barely playable. Injuries to David Moss and Kirk Stephens added to a game to forget and supporters thought that, although it had been fine while it lasted, the promotion dream was over.

Rangers were in fourth spot, one place above the Town, after a run of six games without defeat but even though we thought the season had finished the BBC 'Match of the Day' cameras were there feeling that the clash was still a 'four pointer'.

Because of the injuries caused in the Cardiff match the Town had to re-shuffle with Graham Jones coming into the side at right-back for his first game in over a year.

Naturally, Rangers looked on Jones as a weak link and attacked down that flank from the start taking the lead after only two minutes when Steve Burke left the defender stranded before firing the ball

across for Paul Goddard to tap home.

After 31 minutes Rangers were two up with Goddard again the scorer after Jones was left exposed to another left-wing attack. The interval came with Luton supporters fearing the biggest defeat of the season but surprisingly Rangers eased off after the break allowing the Town to come back more into the game.

Docherty then made a strange decision in taking off Roeder, leaving more midfield space for the Town's West and Grealish to operate in and the game was slowly turned around.

Paul Price smacked a shot against the bar and Brian Stein shot against a post before Pleat gambled by taking off Steve White and replacing him with debutant Andy Pearson, to give the attack more width.

It was now all Luton as the Rangers defence retreated, and it came as no surprise when Stein headed a picture goal on 73 minutes from a Hatton cross.

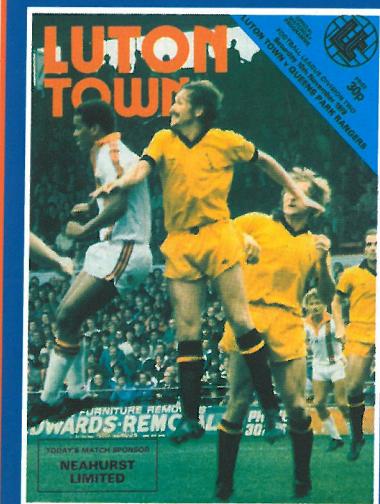
The deserved leveller came eight minutes later when, after a spell of panic in the Rangers defence, Ricky Hill looped a header into the net.

Suddenly us doubting Luton supporters could see promotion on the agenda again after such a brilliant fight back, but the winner would not come leaving Pleat again satisfied with the draw.

Docherty was spitting nails!

Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages



The Hatters produced their normal 30p programme for the visit of Q.P.R. in November 1979. The programme only consisted of 16 pages but was bulked out by a national insert, similar to 'Football League Review' of ten years before, which was only of passing interest. Under 'ticket office news' it was revealed that the Town allocated 100 OAP seat tickets at 85p for each game and had received many complaints from disappointed supporters who could not obtain one for the recent Sunderland game. Similarly, there were complaints from supporters that they could not obtain stand tickets for the previous week's game at Cambridge where the allocation was tiny. Who would be in charge of a ticket office! The league table makes nice reading with the Town perched in top spot although there were plenty of clubs breathing down their necks.

Hatters Away: Nine Days in

AFTER TWO home games in five days, the combination of the luck of the draw and the Football League fixtures computer gives the Town three games on the trot before the next Kenilworth Road game a fortnight on Monday. We entertain Tranmere Rovers on October 6, a match which has been switched from the previous Saturday to accommodate SKY's television schedules. We are then at home again, to Wycombe, five days later. By the time we gather for the Tranmere game, Town fans who travel to support the team will have clocked up over 700 miles, to Charlton for the Carling Cup game on Tuesday, Oldham next Saturday and Swindon on the following Wednesday.

The usual coach services will be running to all three games, thanks to the efforts of the Bobbers Travel Club and Town on Tour, and they are now taking bookings.



Carling Cup, Second Round
Charlton Athletic v Luton Town
Tuesday September 23, kick-off 8pm

THE road journey to The Valley is fairly easy, as we outline below, but parking near the Charlton ground is very difficult, which means it makes a lot of sense to go by coach. You can book today.

The Bobbers service will leave Cranfield at 3.30pm and Luton an hour later, and fares will be £8.50 for adults, £7 for senior and junior citizens.

Town on Tour will depart from Bletchley at 3.30, and Luton at 4.30, and as always their best deals are for Luton Town Supporters Club members. Their fares will be £10 for members, £8 for members' concessions, and £12 for others. You can, of course, join the Supporters Club today, and immediately qualify for the discount.



Driving to The Valley

THE shortest route to Charlton is almost straight through London, but that risks a lot

of traffic jams, and the possibility of being hit by the congestion charge.

Our man will put on a few extra miles but almost certainly get there quicker, although evening on the M25 can be a little dodgy.

He will leave Luton on the M1 going south, then take the M25 east, towards Dartford. Leave M25 at junction 27 to take the M11 southbound, signposted to London NE. After just over seven miles bear left to take the A12, signposted to London E and then follow the signs to go under the River Thames through the Blackwall Tunnel. Within half a mile of emerging from the tunnel take the A102, which is signposted to Greenwich, and the route to The Valley is signposted from there. It will take you into Bugsby's Way, which you follow until you go under a railway bridge before coming to a T-junction where you make a right turn into Anchor and Hope Lane. At a set of cross roads you will see a huge Victorian pub, the Antigallican, facing you. Go straight on, with the pub on your left, into Charlton Church Lane, and Floyd Road, which is your destination, is the second on the left. But be careful where you park – a lot of streets around the ground are for residents only.

Mileage from Luton: 60.



Nationwide League Division Two
Oldham Athletic v Luton Town
Saturday September 27, kick-off 3pm

FOR the game at Boundary Park the Bobbers will set off from Cranfield at 8.30am, calling at various villages on the way to Luton, with departure from Kenilworth Road at 9.30. The fare is £14.50 adults, £12 for children and pensioners.

Town on Tour's trip begins at Bletchley at 9am, with a 10am departure from Luton after pick-ups at Linslade, Leighton Buzzard and Houghton Regis. They will also call in at Milton Keynes Coachway at around 10.20. Fares are £16 for members of Luton Town Supporters Club, £14 for concessions, or £18 for passengers who are not in the supporters club.

Choice Of Routes For Drivers

THE shortest road route to Oldham is via the M6, but our man finds the quickest is up the M1 and then over the Pennines. He stays on M1 into

Three Trips in League And Cup

Yorkshire, then takes the M62 heading west. The alternative is taking M1 and M6 north, and in Lancashire, after crossing the Thelwall viaduct over the Mersey and the Manchester Ship Canal, take M62 east, towards Leeds.

However you get there, leave the M62, at junction 20. If you have got there via the M6, the M62 becomes the M60 for a short stretch, part of the Manchester Orbital. At junction 18 the M60 swings right, and the road ahead reverts to M62, which is the road you want. Don't be kidding by signs to Oldham via M60 – stay on M62 to junction 20, where you leave to follow the A627(M), signposted to Oldham and Ashton. When the motorway ends, take the second exit, and you will see the ground, and its big car park, on your left.

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



Heathrow, before joining the M4 west. Leave at junction 15, following the signs towards Swindon for just under two miles, when you come to a roundabout from which the County Ground is signposted. Bear left at that roundabout, and take the third exit at the next and the ground is on your right. It has a big pay and display car park.

If you have time to spare and prefer a scenic route, and slightly shorter in miles, head for Dunstable and stay on the A505, going on to Aylesbury, then to Oxford, and then follow the signs to Swindon.

This takes you into Swindon on the A420. At the Gable Cross roundabout, on the edge of Swindon, follow the signs towards Swindon and Motorway M4. At the White Hart roundabout take the third exit, signposted towards Swindon, into Oxford Road. Go straight on, following the signs towards Swindon Centre over two more roundabouts, and



then at the third turn right. It is signposted to the County Ground, which you will see on your right.

Mileage (motorway route): 105

Nationwide League Division Two
Swindon Town v Luton Town
Wednesday October 1, kick-off 7.45pm

IT'S AN afternoon departure for coaches heading for the County Ground, where for the second consecutive match we take on a team managed by a former Luton Town star.

Town on Tour will begin their journey from Bletchley at 3pm, leaving the Town ground an hour later. Fares are £12 for adult members of Luton Town Supporters Club, £10 for junior members, and £14 for others.

The Bobbers will set off from Cranfield at 2.30, with a 3.30 departure from Luton, and their fares are £11 adults, £9 for concessions.

Quick And Easy By Car

SWINDON is easy to reach by road, and you can expect to get there in well under two hours. Take the M1 south from Luton, then the M25 towards

Bookings for away games travel can be made at the LTSC or Bobbers kiosks in Kenilworth Road, before or after home games. 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 offers LTSC members the best deals, and seats can be reserved at the Supporters Club kiosk or by phoning 07960 567465. They offer additional pick-ups at Bletchley, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard and Houghton Regis, as an experiment which will run until the turn of the year. Its future will depend on demand.



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Are You A Hatters Fan? Then Come And Join Us!



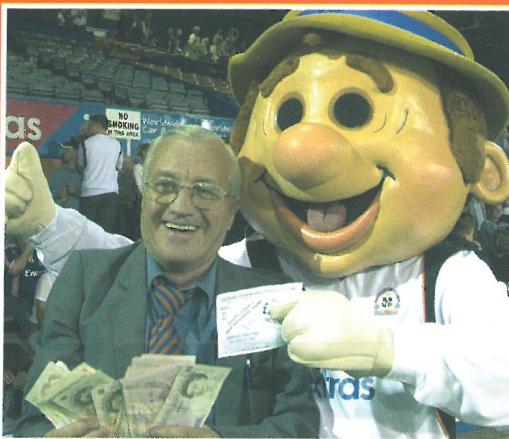
Luton Town Supporters Club is the official Hatters fans' club, but is independent and run by its members. Benefits include discounts on away match travel, and reduced admission charges to regular meetings with players and staff, and to the end of season presentation night.

Annual membership costs a minimum donation of £7 for adults, £6 for pensioners and under-16s, or £12 for families.

For more information call at the LTSC kiosk in Kenilworth Road before or after any home game.

Golden Gamble Sets The Record Straight!

A WEEK ago Town fanatic Danny Fallon was grumbling that although he was a joint winner of the competition to name the new Trust in Luton beer, Goalden Hatter, he didn't receive a prize, not so much as a free pint. Fortunately Danny is well used to buying pints, and he can now afford a lot more, because he was one of the three-man syndicate that picked up Tuesday's Golden Gamble jackpot. The trio, regulars in the pressbox, invest £10 between them at every game, and they are enjoying a nice dividend because Tuesday's prize amounted to £520. The size of the jackpot is linked to sales of tickets, which cost only £1 each. Half of the income goes towards the prize and the other 50p to club funds, so even if you don't win, you are helping Luton Town and as you know we need every penny we can get.



The five prizes paid out so far this season have totalled £2,890, an average of £578 each. Golden Gamble ticket sellers are everywhere within the stadium again this afternoon, and another jackpot will be drawn at half time, and paid out in readiness there and then.

LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS CLUB

Presents



AN AUDIENCE WITH MIKE NEWELL

The manager will be our guest for an "Any Questions?" evening on Monday September 29, at the Eric Morecambe Suite, kick-off 7.30pm.

Ticket prices are £3 for members of LTSC, £6 for others, but supporters can qualify for the discount if they join LTSC at the time they buy their tickets.

Tickets are on sale, in the first instance to members only until kick-off this afternoon at the Supporters Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road.

If any are still available after then, they will go on general sale immediately after the match.



Out Of Luck At Home Park



Plymouth Argyle 2 Luton Town 1

EVEN Plymouth boss Paul Sturrock agreed that the Town had been dreadfully unlucky to be beaten by two late goals at Home Park. "If I were the Luton manager, I would be pig sick," he said. "When we went one down in the second half we didn't look like coming back. Luton must be wondering how they could possibly have lost that game."

Until Plymouth's last frantic and desperate revival, the Town's better football had looked good for all three points. It was still 1-1 as the clock reached 90 minutes, when the winning goal was conceded as the fourth official hoisted a two-minutes-to-play board.

Plymouth had never been allowed to take charge, with the Town working hard to draw their sting in the first half, and then turning on the style in the second. A neat goal, cleverly created and taken, gave the Town the lead they deserved on 58 minutes, and they stayed ahead on merit until the 82nd minute. Only then did Plymouth and their fans rouse themselves for a grandstand finish which made the result a mockery of the way the game went.

With Steve Howard suspended and only 16 fit players available, the Town gave a debut to 21-year-old Londoner Enoch Showunmi at centre-forward. He was fired up, and rapidly got into trouble with the ref and the home fans for the way he got stuck in. The ref, who did not have much of a game, booked the striker for persistent infringements of the rules in the 27th minute, and most people in the ground thought a red was to be shown ten minutes later when Showunmi and Graham Coughlan collided with some force. As Coughlan stayed down, apparently mortally wounded after the clash of heads, the referee opted for a long lecture to Showunmi rather than a red card, and his manager subbed him four minutes later.

Dean Crowe and Gary McSheffrey thus became what was probably the only pint-sized attack in the Football League, but their mobility and switching, and good service from defence and midfield, made the Town a smooth passing unit. Sol Davis had come in for injured Alan Neilson, and when David Bayliss had to go off with a hip injury the back four was shuffled again, with Ian Hillier going on at right back and Emmerson Boyce moving into the middle alongside Chris Coyne.

By then, Bayliss had seen a goal-bound effort cleared off the line and Rob Beckwith had made a good save at the feet of David Norris. In the second half the Town were well on top, and after blazing a decent chance over the bar after taking a pass from Hillier and bamboozling Coughlan, McSheffrey made amends on 58 minutes. Crowe sent Kevin Foley on a right wing overlap, and his cross to the near post was met by McSheffrey's deft header.

That should have been that, but Plymouth threw on three subs, switched to a 4-3-3 formation, and tried to batter their way to goal. Overlapping full back Dave Worrell provided the 82nd-minute cross from which Mickey Evans headed the equaliser, and suddenly Plymouth were on fire – with effort if not skill. Perhaps that was when the height of Howard was most missed, with David Friio heading the late winner from a free kick by Paul Wotton.

"I thought we had the game won, but you have to keep going for the full 90 minutes," said the Town manager. "The goals were avoidable, but otherwise the lads did everything we asked of them. With a little more concentration and a greater desire to keep the ball out of our net we would have won, but I can't fault the lads for the effort they put in. They are feeling a bit sorry for themselves because they did a decent job and got nothing."

Match Details

TOWN: Beckwith; Boyce, Coyne, Bayliss (Hillier 4 mins), Davis; Foley, Hughes, Spring, Brkovic; Showunmi (Crowe 40 mins) McSheffrey. Unused subs: Mansell, Leary, Brill.

BOOKED: Chris Coyne for dissent, Enoch Showunmi for persistent fouling, Robert Beckwith for handling inches outside his area.

PLYMOUTH: McCormick; Worrell, Wotton, Coughlan, Gilbert (Sturrock 68 mins); Norris, Adams (Bent 68 mins), Friio, Hodges; Evans, Stonebridge (Keith 60 mins). Unused subs: Beresford, Capaldi.

BOOKED: Paul Wotton for a foul on Gary McSheffrey.

REFEREE: Tony Bates, Staffordshire.

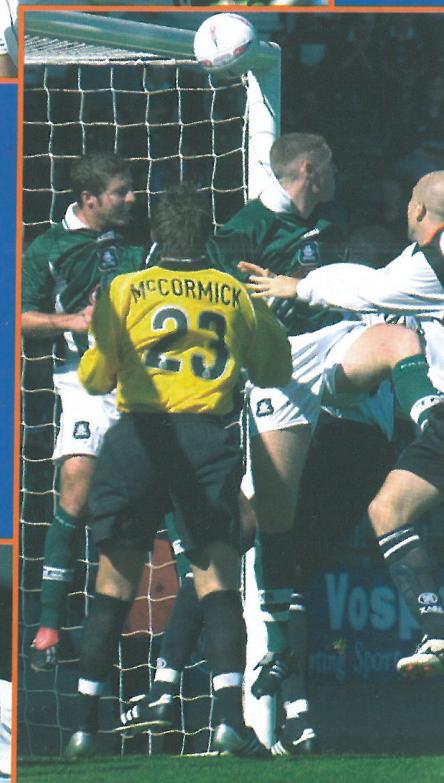
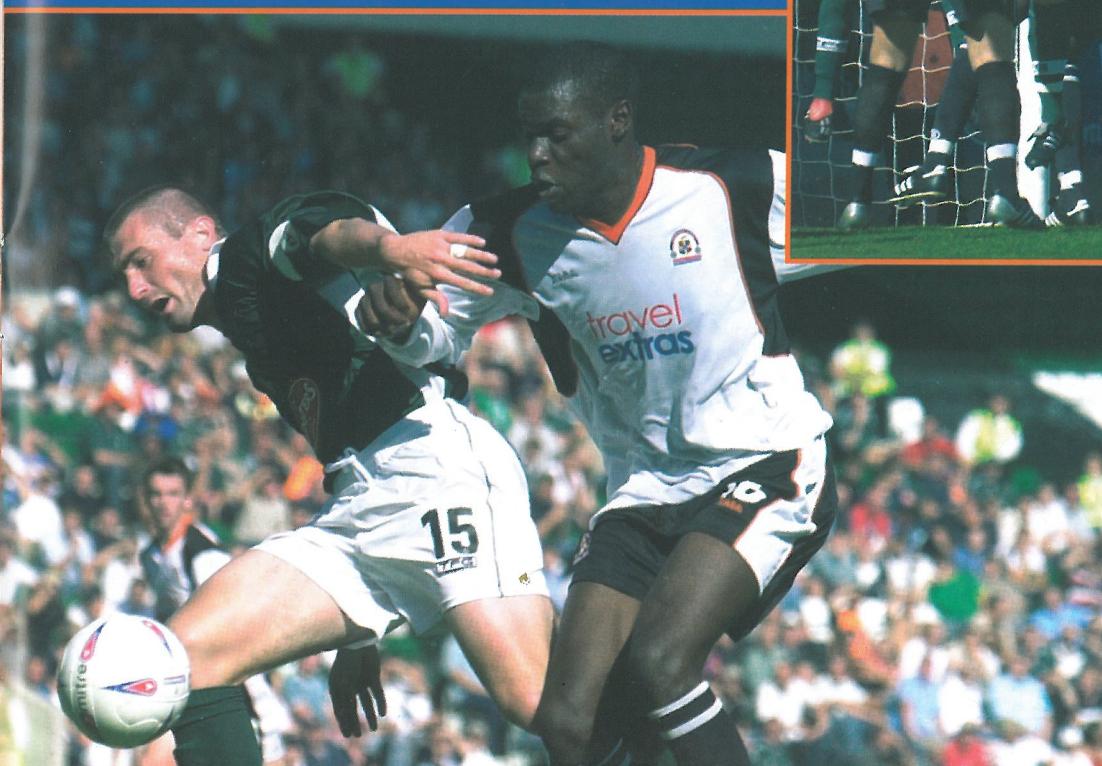
ATTENDANCE: 9,894 including 449 shouting for the Town.



ONE UP: Gary McSheffrey gets goal-side of Plymouth skipper Paul Wotton to head the Town into a well-deserved lead.

RIGHT: Putting on the pressure is Paul Hughes as the Town midfield gets up in support of the attack.

BELow: Proving to be a hot handful was Enoch Showunmi, who relished the physical battle with Wotton much more than the Plymouth man did!



Hatters Pic of the Week



SHOOTING STAR: Kevin Foley enjoys the moment after scoring the first league goal of his career, a cracker to finish off Port Vale on Tuesday. Still only 18, he was the unanimous press-box choice as man of the match, playing in a midfield role after breaking into the team as a right back at the start of the season.



League Leaders Are Demolished



Luton Town 2 Port Vale 0

MIKE Newell said after the unlucky defeat at Plymouth that if his team kept playing the way they did at Home Park, with the addition of more concentration in defence, they would be all right. The players proved it at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday, with a thrilling second-half display to demolish the Second Division leaders, and with the season's first clean sheet a welcome bonus.

Both managers agreed that Port Vale shaded the first half, despite being a goal down at the interval, but were well beaten in the second.

Brian Horton enjoys coming back to Luton, where he had "the happiest three years of my playing career" two decades ago, and congratulated the Town on their performance. "Teams lift themselves when they play the leaders, and I suspect that's as good as Luton have played this season," suggested the man who skippered the Town to the Second Division championship in 1982. "Their back four won it for them, staying up the backsides of our two front men and giving them no room at all."

The other major reason for the Town's success in a match which offered huge entertainment under the floodlights was the quality of the finishing, with Gary McSheffrey and Kevin Foley expertly putting away two of the many chances the Town created.

Vale contributed to an excellent match, and in the first half looked well organised and always willing to attack. But after the break Sol Davis got tighter on Steve McPhee, who had threatened to be man of the match, and that just about snuffed out Vale's attacking threat.

They were not helped when Liam Burns crashed over an advert hoarding and down onto the concrete at the Oak Road end. As he was stretchered away with an ankle injury, right back George Pilkington had to be switched to the middle of defence, and that cut out the quality service to McPhee.

After Plymouth the Town manager asked his men to

show more determination and concentration to keep the ball out of their net, and his request could not have been answered more emphatically. We were lucky when Mark Boyd smashed an early drive against the bar, but Vale had their slice of good fortune when the excellent Matt Spring curled in a clever goal which was chalked off for a marginal off-side decision.

Vale looked class for the first half hour or so, but the Town kept them out, and then grabbed the lead with a real striker's goal, McSheffrey delivering an instant shot into the bottom corner after taking a pass from Foley on the edge of the penalty area.

In the second half the Town were unstoppable, and it was a mystery how Vale kept them out until the 70th minute, when after a wonderful pass by Matt Spring man of the match Foley carefully placed his shot into the net for the first league goal of his career. It showed the composure and expertise of a striker – not bad for a teenager who looks top class in defence or midfield.

Said the Town manager: "We weren't on top of the game in the first half, but in the second we passed the ball about, pushed up, and didn't let Port Vale have anything. Rob Beckwith hardly had a save to make and that's the way we like it. We were due a clean sheet. I can't believe we have gone ten games, including pre-season, without one, and you can't get anywhere until you keep clean sheets. That was really pleasing, and so was the way we passed it around in the second half, and the way we took our goals." The other bonus for the Town was the return after knee surgery of Adrian Forbes, who jumps far higher than he has any right to, and who looked good in a roving role, sometimes alongside and sometimes just behind McSheffrey. But for the full list of man of the match contenders, just see the Town line-up below!

Match Details

TOWN: Beckwith; Boyce, Coyne, Bayliss, Davis; Foley, Hughes, Spring, Brkovic; Forbes (Showunmi 82 mins), McSheffrey. Unused subs: Hillier, Mansell, Crowe, Brill.

BOOKED: Sol Davis for a foul on Steve McPhee.

PORT VALE: Delaney; Pilkington, Collins, Burns (Briscoe 28 mins), Brown (Rowland 73 mins); McPhee, Boyd, Lipa, Littlejohn (Armstrong 61 mins); Brooker, Paynter. Unused subs: Reid, Brain.

BOOKED: Mark Boyd for a foul on Paul Hughes.

REFEREE: Joe Ross, London.

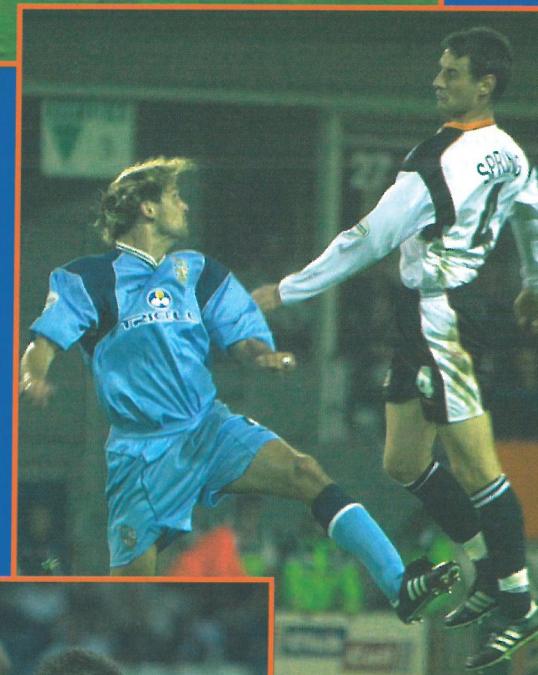
ATTENDANCE: 5,079 including 344 Port Vale fans.



ON THE BALL: Gary McSheffrey, who netted his third goal in the last four games, proves a handful needing to be watched by three defenders. Kevin Foley is the man backing up.

RIGHT: Spring-heeled versus a Lipa – Matt Spring well up in competition with Vale's Greek midfielder Andreas Lipa.

BELOW: Mass celebrations as Town players share the delight of Kevin Foley after his goal finished off Vale.



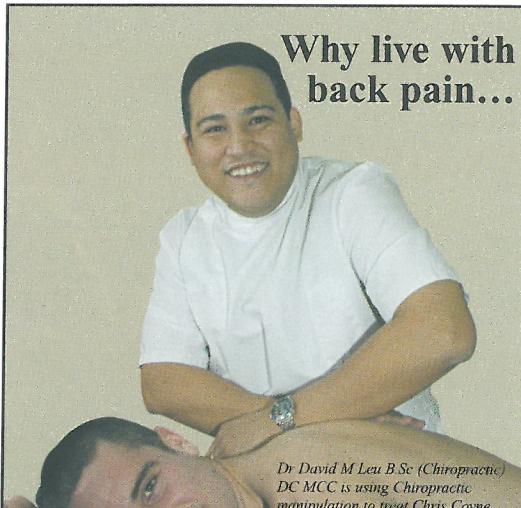
Town Teaser

IF YOU know your Town Trivia, you could win a pair of match tickets in our Town Teaser competition. Listen to the PA announcer before kick-off for your chance to have a go. On Tuesday we asked who, where, when and why did the Port Vale manager get a public hug from his then Town boss. The answer was that Brian Horton had skippered the Town to a famous victory at Maine Road in May 1983, to avoid relegation at Manchester City's expense. It led to a memorable jig of delight across the pitch by David Pleat.

Your memory needs to go back a little further to answer today's Town Teaser.

TODAY'S QUESTION

WE HAVE had some great games over the years with QPR, but one, played at Loftus Road in September 1981, made football history. Why? And who won that match?



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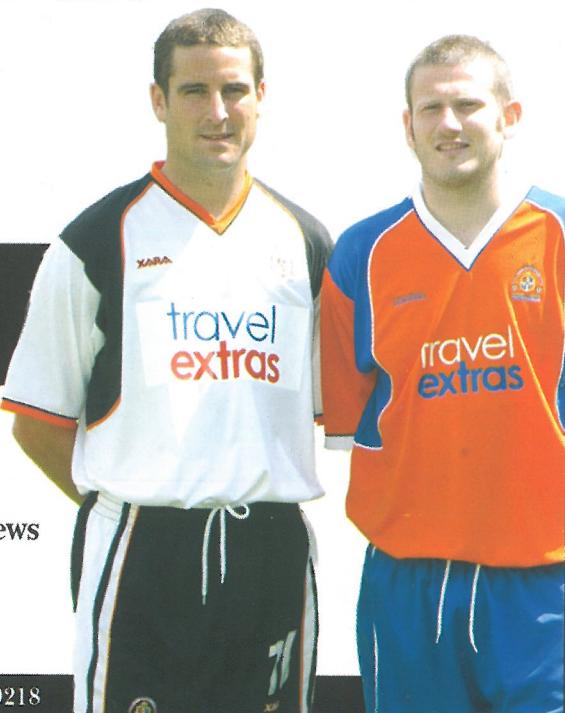
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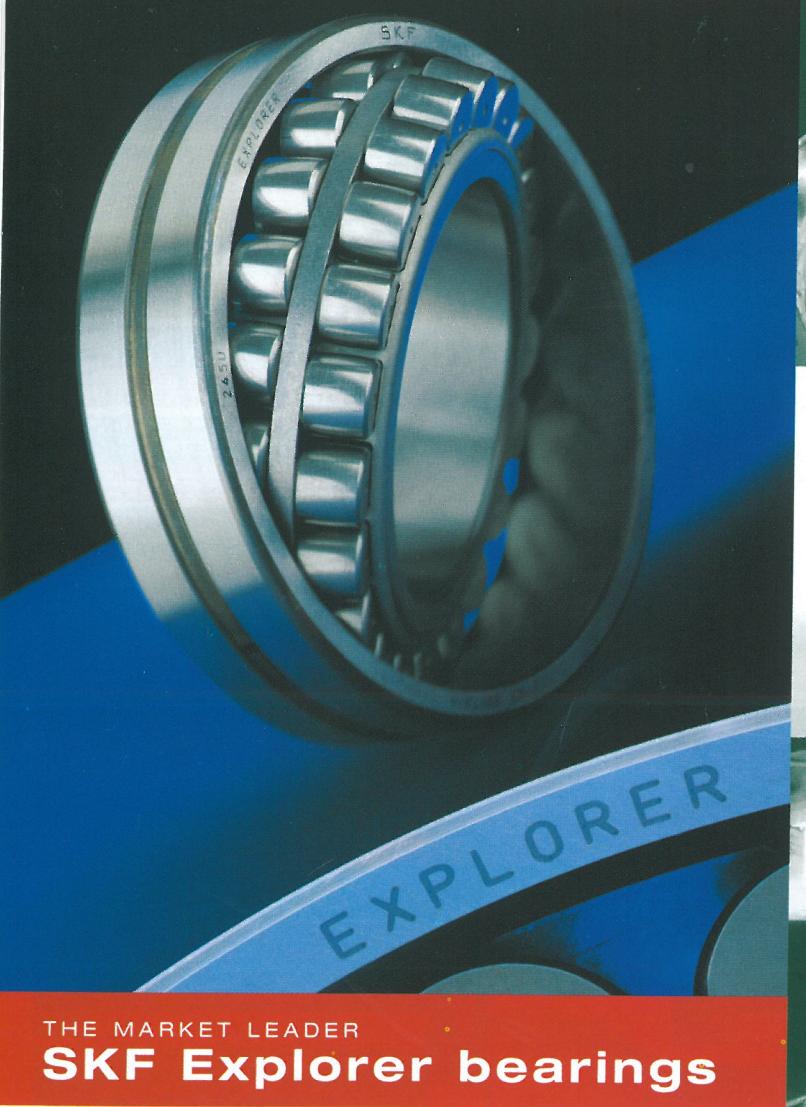
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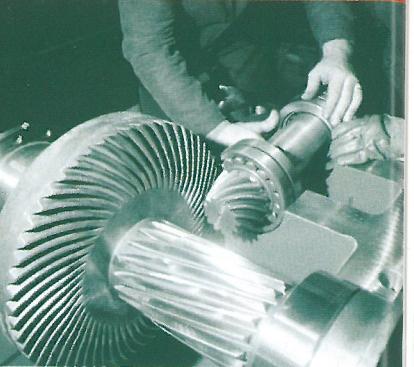
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Youth Soccer: The under-19s

Walsall 4 Luton Town 1

WHEN not one member of your team is playing up to scratch you are liable to take a beating, and that is what happened to us at Walsall. We were below strength because of suspensions and injuries, which meant the team included two second-year boys and four first years, including the front two.

Zak Barrett, still a schoolboy, played in goal because Robert Beckwith and Dean Brill were both with the first team at Plymouth, and the defeat was not his fault.

It was a day when our players did not do well enough as individuals or as a team, and I certainly expected a much better performance.

We had no power or guile to frighten the opposition, and most of the game was a defensive battle. I knew it wasn't going to be our day when we conceded a bizarre goal after 11 minutes. Barrett made a good blocking save, but the ricochet hit one of our defenders and the ball rebounded into the net.

The tide ought to have been turned when we

equalised on 22 minutes. Tom Freeman was upended for a clear penalty. Steven O'Leary's spot kick was saved, but the referee ordered a re-take. Once more the keeper managed to keep the ball out, but O'Leary followed up to put away the rebound.

It was still 1-1 at half time, and I thought that perhaps we had weathered the storm. I felt we could only get better in the second half, and perhaps get something out of the game. But it didn't happen, with too many players going through the motions. We gave away three bad goals, and the team performance was not up to the standard we require. There was not enough desire, commitment or concentration, and the players know they must work a lot harder in future.

We didn't get going at all until the last ten minutes, when it was already 4-1, and in the closing stages Parys Okai had a chance to reduce the deficit, but the keeper made a good save with his legs.

Luton Town: Barrett, Howell, Mountford, Davies, Deeney, Barnett, O'Leary, Freeman, Andrew, Okai, Mansell.

Football League Youth Alliance Under-19 South East Conference

August

9	Rushden	H	3-2	Judge 2, Andrew
16	Cambridge	A	1-2	Barnett
23	Kidderminster	H	1-1	Judge

September

6	Cheltenham	H	2-0	Mansell, Davies
13	Walsall	A	1-4	O'Leary
27	Oxford	H		

October

4	Northampton	H		
11	Alliance Cup 1			
18	West Brom	A		
25	Cheltenham	A		

November

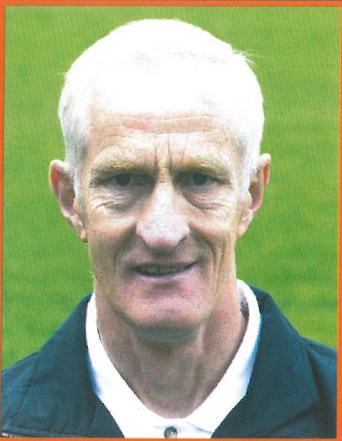
1	Walsall	H		
15	Oxford	A		
22	Alliance Cup 2			
29	Northampton	A		

December

6	West Brom	H		
13	Rushden	A		

January

10	Cambridge	H		
17	Alliance Cup 3			
24	Kidderminster	A		
31	Merit Division starts			



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Youth Soccer The under-17s

Portsmouth 3 Luton Town 0

THE result sounds bad, but in terms of development it was a good day for us, and I was gutted for the boys because they played well against one of the most powerful teams in our league. An awful decision by the referee led to Portsmouth scoring with 20 minutes to go, and we conceded two more in the last five minutes when we were chasing the game.

My opposite number from Portsmouth commiserated, saying we had murdered Pompey until they got their first goal. Our big failing, needless to say, was that for all our good play we failed to score, but if we keep playing our football the goals will come.

We had an iron grip on much of the game, and for the first 70 minutes Portsmouth were not allowed a single shot at our goal. Russell Preston was out of luck twice in the first half, hitting the bar and then being brought down for what should have been a penalty.

The worry at half time was that for all our good play

it was unlikely that the opposition would complete the game without creating a single chance. Sure enough, Portsmouth scored on 70 minutes, but not

from an opening they created. Liam Smyth went in at full stretch for a sliding tackle, and the ball broke to our goalkeeper. He collected and cleared, and we could hardly believe it when the ref ruled that it had been a back pass. It was a shocking decision, and the indirect free kick led to a goal being smashed in from ten yards, the first shot Portsmouth had had.

We went gung-ho after that, looking for an equaliser, and were caught on the break twice, on 85 and 88 minutes, to give Portsmouth a scoreline that flattered them immensely.

Our lads should not be disheartened, and it was good to see three under-14s involved in a squad which also included three under-15s. We have good groups at this level, and will give a lot of youngsters their chance this season.

Preston, an under-15, did well until he was injured in a clash of heads, which led to Jamie McGuiness, an under-14, making his debut. Unfortunately it lasted only 18 minutes, when he was stretchered off with a leg injury. We feared it might be serious, but it has turned out to be just heavy bruising. He in turn was replaced by Ryan Charles, another under-14, and he, like McGuiness, looked very lively on his debut.

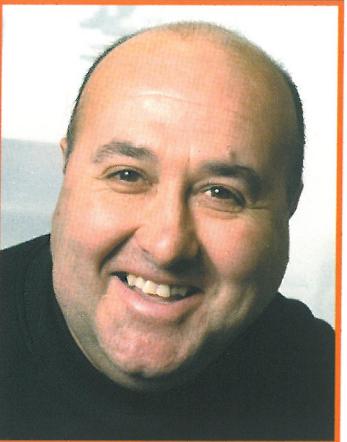
Luton Town: Goodchild, Smyth, Pendleton, Burrows, Green, Tague, Hanley, S. Sinclair, R. Sinclair, Preston (McGuiness 60 mins, Charles 78 mins), Clark (Asafu'Adjaye 70 mins).

WE WERE at home to Leyton Orient this morning, and our next two games are both away, to Southend and Northampton, before we return to Luton RFC on October 11 to entertain Colchester, kick-off 11am.

APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets: Smyth 5, Green 5, Tague 5, Pendleton 5, S. Sinclair 5, Burrows 5, R. Sinclair 4, Goodchild 4, Preston 3(2), Hanley 3, Clark 3, Richardson 3, Farrell 1, Potter 1, Kelly 1, Field 1, McNally 1, Asafu'Adjaye 0(4), Foley 0(1), Robinson 0(1), McGuiness 0(1), Charles 0(1)

Goals: Burrows 4, Preston 1

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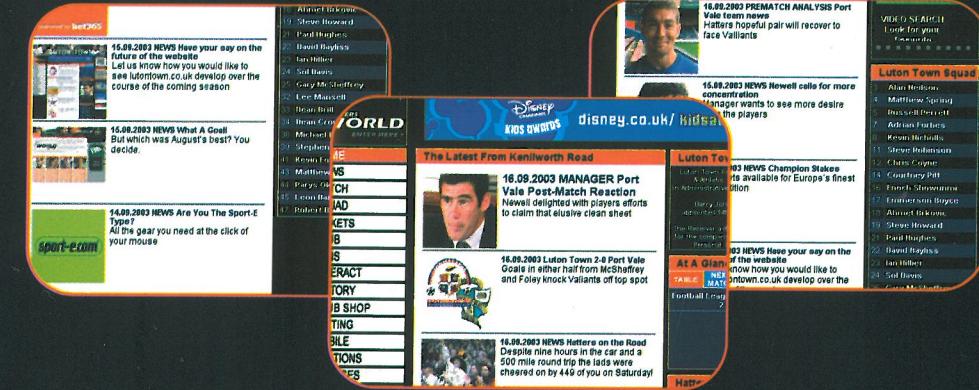


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The Luton Town Belles Go Top

TOWN went to the top of the first league table of the season with a comprehensive 4-0 win over Rover Oxford.

The match could not have started in better fashion when Sam Mather's looping shot gave them a first-minute lead and Oxford rarely threatened after that. Luton were awarded a penalty mid-way through the half, but Kim Hide blasted her shot against the underside of the bar and although she netted the rebound the goal was disallowed for an infringement.

Belles eventually increased their lead when another corner was only half-cleared and Lyndsey McKeown powered her header in over the keeper.

Luton peppered the Oxford goal in the second period, and it was no surprise when Kim Hide collected a Sam Mather cross-field pass to drill the ball in under the diving keeper. The keeper then made a string of saves but could not hold Stacey Connell's hot shot and Rhiannon Morgan was on hand to shoot into the roof of the net to make it 4-0.

The seven youth teams were in their first action of the season at the weekend, and produced six wins. The new under-10s battling well to win 1-0 against Tottenham Hotspur with a goal from Bethany Smith.

But the under-12s were out of luck, going down 0-3 in a similar fixture.

Both of the Saturday under-12 sides won their opening matches 4-2, with the Oranges defeating Leighton United with goals from Robyn Britten (2), Robyn Wilfort and Danielle Carty. The inexperienced Tangerines performed equally well at Potton United, with their goals coming from debutantes Zoe Jenkins, Kirsty Scott, Leanne Lizaitis and Kerry Stratton.

Both the under-13s and under-14s got off to away-day flyers, with the 13s winning 6-1 at Hoddesdon with a hat trick from Brittany Murtagh, a brace from Nicky Shepherd and Natalie Burchnall and amazingly including three penalties. The 14s netted a 9-1 win over Northwood, with Ann Folan leading the way with four, two from Christina Hale and Stephanie Cowell, Emma Wells and Charlotte South also on target.

The under-15s went goal-crazy, hammering Enfield Town 16-0 with another debutante, Janine Daly leading the way with five goals. Rebecca Kane (4), Kelly Halsey (3), Michelle Byrne (2) and Shelly Miller (2) netted the others.

Dave Baker



HAMMERED: Rhiannon Morgan thumps home the fourth goal for the Luton Town Belles.

LUTON Belles organises football for girls of all ages, from six upwards. If you want to know more, or fancy being involved, e-mail Dave Baker at lutonbelles@hotmail.com The Belles also have a website - pay a visit to www.lutontownbelles.com Home matches are played at Stockwood Park athletics stadium, under-10 to senior on Sundays and under-10 and under-12 mini soccer on Saturdays. Fixtures details can be found on the website.

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ANC

EXPRESS



Mr Mick Connolly



SKF

Tel: 01582 490049



Danny &

Elsie Clubb

Focus On:

Stanley Casino
Executive box No 22



Free Membership

Today's focus on spot, is given over to Stanley Casino, one of this seasons new executive box holders. Stanley Casino based in Skimpot Road Luton offer a comprehensive choice in modern gaming, relaxed dining, late bars and live entertainment. They are open every day from 2pm until 4am and on Sundays from 2pm until 4am. They offer free membership and can be contacted on 01582 591148

Junior Hatters With Happy Harry



WE HAD a bit of a mixed day out at Plymouth, when we were able to run a trip for 26 Junior Hatters thanks to the help of Town on Tour – we shared a coach with them when we discovered we could not fill one on our own.

Unfortunately the M4 motorway was a bit of a nightmare, and the journey took six and a half hours. The result was that we did not arrive until half an hour before kick-off, so we could not enjoy all the pre-match hospitality our hosts had laid on for us.

However, they made us very welcome, and five-year-old Kieran Boylan, from Lyndhurst Court, Harpenden, managed to get changed quickly enough to be our official mascot after his name was picked out of the hat on the journey. As you can see from the picture, he was able to join in the warm-up before the game started, and met the match officials



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 Community Department. There are lots of advantages, including value for money trips to away games, and the chance to be picked out as mascot at home matches - the choice is made at random from the membership list. We often also have mascots at away games, and they are picked out of the hat during the journey. For more information please call the Junior Hatters headquarters in the Community office, on 01582 391927.



what goes on behind the scenes before kick-off, and his visit to the dressing room will enable him to meet his favourite players, Steve Howard and Kevin Foley. Our ball boys are Richard Healy, from Salisbury Road, Flitwick, and Christopher Lennon, from Rosslyn Crescent, Luton.

Happy Harry

and skippers at the toss of the coin.

The fixture list has robbed us of two of our usual trips to follow the Town. Swindon and Bournemouth are always kind hosts, but our visits to them are both midweek evening matches, so our next awayday will not be until we go to Ashton Gate on November 1. We will give more details nearer the day. Meanwhile, don't forget you can have a good day out at football when the Town are at home, thanks to our Saturday Club.

It lasts from noon until after the game, and the price is only £6 for Junior Hatters with season tickets, or £12 including a match ticket. There are occasional visits to the cinema and bowling alley, for a small extra charge. To book your place please call 01582 391927 before 12 noon on the Friday before the match.

Today's Mascot

NINE-year-old Daryl Fourniss, from Longcroft Road, Luton, is this afternoon's mascot. He attends St. Margaret's Junior School, and really loves his football. He comes to matches with his mum, and knows his soccer, because he plays for Memorial Park Steelmen. His other major hobby is playing pool.

Today Daryl gets a look at what goes on behind the scenes before kick-off, and his visit to the dressing room will enable him to meet his favourite players, Steve Howard and Kevin Foley. Our ball boys are Richard Healy, from Salisbury Road, Flitwick, and Christopher Lennon, from Rosslyn Crescent, Luton.

Happy Harry

FOOTBALL

 Nationwide

Something on your mind?

FA CUP FEVER COURTESY OF NATIONWIDE. IT'S ONLY NATURAL



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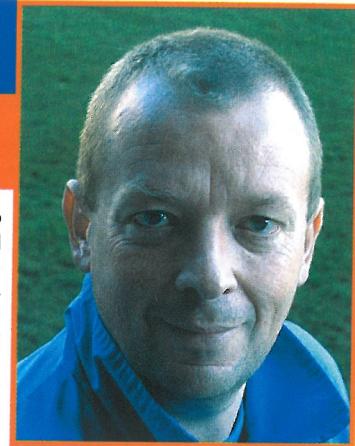
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LTFC in the Community



DID YOU know that girls and women's football is now the top female participant sport in the country, and that last season there were 85,000 affiliated players in England, an increase of 38% on the previous season? This is in no small part due to the fantastic sponsorship schemes such as the one run last year by The Nationwide Building Society under their banner of 'Nationwide Supporters of Tomorrow'. The good news for girls and women's football is that they are to repeat the scheme this year.

This season's Nationwide Supporters of Tomorrow Scheme will provide Luton Town and every other Football League club with considerable sponsorship so that schemes can focus on maintaining the momentum of the fastest-growing game in the UK. The criteria we are looking to achieve are as follows: increase the number of female supporters at football league matches, improve awareness of the women's game, and to increase participation still further in ladies football.

Here it is going to be the responsibility of the Community Department to implement and deliver the programme of activities.

Our plan includes various activities and opportunities. In the first instance we will offer to selected groups of about 80 schools and organisations around Bedfordshire the opportunity to receive free tickets for girls involved in football activities within them.

The schools will also be offered the chance to receive free curriculum time coaching one afternoon a week for a six-week period. Realistically over the period of the sponsorship we will be able to offer this to the first 20 schools to reply.

This will give at least 500 girls the opportunity to be involved in football activities under the guidance of professional coaches. These schools and organisa-

tions will also have first refusal to be involved in after-school football activities at a much-reduced price.

Secondly we will run a series of Ladies Days, based around a couple of themes. I will open up one or two of our few remaining Saturday Matchday Soccer Clubs to girl's football. These will be run on a fun-day basis, giving the girls the opportunity to be coached, have some lunch with us and then go to the game. We will look to involve them in an on-pitch activity at some time during the afternoon. We will also run a series of fun days, subject to the availability of the Kenilworth Road pitch, with one taking place here at the end of the season.

Finally we will continue to offer our support to Luton Town Belles, with free and subsidised use of our coaches to help them with the development of their teams and coaches. At this point I would like to offer Dave Baker and the Belles my congratulations on their magnificent achievement in being voted National Charter Standard Club of the year. I am sure Dave will be telling you much more about that in his column.

Nationwide Supporters of Tomorrow has also been linked to a Football Association national girls scheme called 'Get Involved.' This is a very simple scheme designed to help girls find football teams. All you have to do is ring the number below and the FA will send you a pack with information on all the local clubs. Alternatively you can ring me and I would be delighted to send you one of the cards, illustrated below.



GET INVOLVED

0845 310 8555

Stuart Smith

Stuart Smith



LTFC in the Community

Football and Community Department Saturday Soccer Clubs

The soccer clubs will consist of the following activities:

10am till 12noon:

Professional soccer coaching on the new state-of-the-art Pro Zone at Vauxhall Recreation Club.

12.30 till 1.30:

Buffet lunch in the Trophy Room at Vauxhall Recreation Club. During this time we will also run a mini quiz for the children, and the six best scorers will be invited to take part in an activity on the pitch at half-time during Luton Town's game.

**1.30pm:
2pm:**

Depart for Kenilworth Road. Arrive Kenilworth Road to watch the first team game.

The coaching part of the package will be limited to 20 children, due to the size of the facility, using either of the following two options:

Coaching, buffet and match.

(Child only)

£20.00

Coaching, buffet and match.

(Child + 1 Parent. Buffet and match)

£35.00

Up to a maximum of four additional places are available for the buffet and match for party organisers, at a cost of £15.

Any additional match tickets required will be on sale, subject to availability, at normal match day prices.



Bramingham Soccer School

WE HAVE instigated a new idea linked to our successful Saturday Soccer School at Bramingham School. It gives you the opportunity to purchase a season ticket for the two events planned, and of course they will offer reduced rates. You can still enroll for just one of the courses if you choose.

The first course will run for ten weeks on the following dates:

September	13th	20th	27th
October		4th	11th
18th	25th		
November	8th	15th	22nd

The price for each course is £3 per week or £25 for a block booking of all ten sessions..

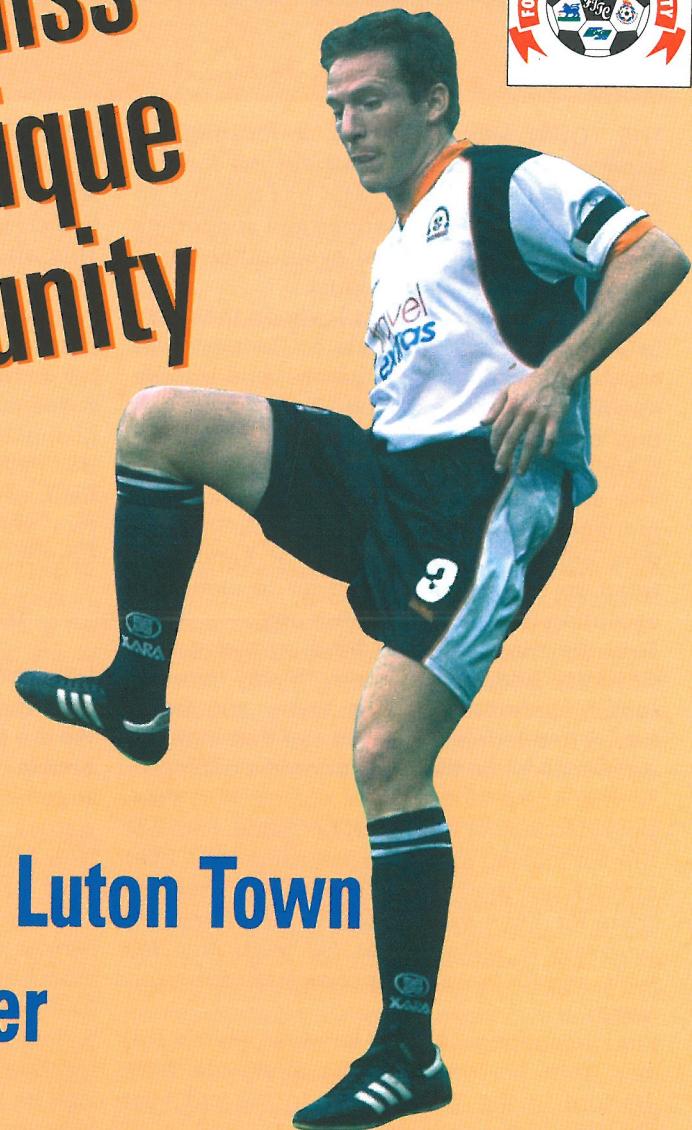
But if you block book for both courses, the price is only £40. If you book for two courses you will be issued with a proof of payment pass which you should bring to each session.



The second will also run for ten weeks on the following dates in 2004:

January	17th	24th	31st
February	7th	14th	28th
March	6th	13th	20th
27th			

Don't Miss This Unique Opportunity



Coaching From Luton Town First Team Player Alan Neilson

on the new Pro Zone 2 at Vauxhall Recreation Club

This is open to children between the ages of 8 and 11 years old and will run for 10 weeks at a cost of £5 per week.

Dates as follows:

Sept 22nd, 29th. Oct 13th, 27th. Nov 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th

Dec 1st, 8th

Only 16 places available. Book now to avoid disappointment.
Call the Community Department on 01582 391927

Chattering Hatter



THE TOWN were this week completing the paperwork formalities to extend the loan of striker Gary McSheffrey, who has become an instant hit with his colleagues and supporters alike by averaging a goal every other game since his arrival in late August.

His superb goal to put the Town on their way to victory against Port Vale on Tuesday was his third in his last four games, and skipper Kevin Nicholls believes the 22-year-old is getting better with every game as he and his team-mates get to know each other.

The style of passing football demanded by manager Mike Newell has helped McSheffrey, who enjoyed his first month at Kenilworth Road so much that he had no hesitation in accepting the offer of another one.

Said the manager: "We have agreed it with Coventry, and Gary is happy to stay here. He looks comfortable in the team, and he is happy in the dressing room and that makes a difference when they go out on the pitch.

"It was a real striker's goal against Port Vale, but I also look at the rest of his game, I am not one for looking just at the scoresheet and how strikers get their goals. That's what they are there for, but you look for more than that. His workrate is phenomenal. He leads the line well, and he looks like a complete centre-forward."

And the manager should know, as we remember from his days playing alongside Mick Harford in the Town attack in the old First Division in the eighties.

The possibility of Courtney Pitt returning for a second month is still under consideration.

But midfielder Adrian Forbes is now back in business after an operation to removed a screw that had worked loose following last year's surgery for a cruciate knee ligament injury. He made his first appearance of the season on Tuesday, playing alongside McSheffrey in attack, and the boss was well pleased with his contribution. "He's full of enthusiasm and we needed that up front against Port Vale to cause them problems. He

did that and his attitude was absolutely first class."

This afternoon Steve Howard is available again after a two-month suspension for his red card at Brighton for giving a linesman a piece of his mind. But Paul Hughes will be missing from midfield, serving a one-match ban for receiving two yellow cards in the match at Notts County.

Travel Offer For Exiled Hatters

WE KNOW we have supporters spread all over the country, and abroad too, and today we are pleased to pass on an offer that might enable some of our far-flung fans to get together to share the cost of travelling to games.

The idea comes from Neil Nash, who lives near Telford, in Shropshire, and he wants to form an informal group, The Luton Exiles. The aim is to share lifts to get to Town games, home and away and if you are interested you can e-mail him at daisys@tiscali.co.uk

Leave an e-mail address, or a phone number, explaining where you live, and with luck you can be paired up with one or two others from the same area. Neil is already in contact with five Luton fans who live in his area.

Neil hopes to run the service without charge, and will be posting information on the appropriate message boards. He would welcome any ideas on how to promote the scheme. Neil posts messages under the name of Shropshire Hatter at lutonfc.com

Brian Swain

The Second Division: QPR On A Roll

TUESDAY'S cracking victory over the league leaders lifted the Town only one place up the table, but they go into this afternoon's match as one of ten teams within three points of first place. A victory will put them ahead of today's visitors, who in turn will fancy three points to have a chance of going top.

Rangers collected their first league away win of the season at Wrexham on Tuesday, 2-0 with goals by Marcus Bean and Martin Rowlands. They had Kevin McLeod sent off in the second half, in which they survived a heavy Wrexham onslaught. The win took QPR's current run to six games without defeat, which started on the day Tony Thorpe made his debut for them at home to Bournemouth. He has netted twice since, but missed the Wrexham match through injury. Rangers have lost only once so far this season, 2-1 at Brighton in the second league game of the season. Their other away results were 3-3 at Rushden and 2-2 at Colchester.

Gareth Ainsworth and Paul Furlong top their score-chart, with five goals each.

The Division's top marksmen, all with seven goals, are Tommy Mooney of Swindon, Onandi Lowe of

Rushden and Lee Peacock of Bristol City. With the league table so tight, Sheffield Wednesday's first away defeat of the season was a double shock to them: it came at Bournemouth, who had not enjoyed a home win all season until then. The defeat sent Wednesday tumbling from second place to seventh. Wade Elliott got the only goal in stoppage time.

Barnsley's chance of regaining the league leadership vanished when they were held to a 1-1 home draw by crisis club Oldham, and Hartlepool jumped into second place with a 2-1 win at Stockport. They are one of six teams who have lost only once this season, the others being QPR, Swindon, Barnsley, Bristol City and Plymouth. Of those, Andy King's Swindon, who entertain the Town in 12 days time, have the best current run – seven without defeat since a first-day reverse at Sheffield Wednesday.

At the other end, Chesterfield are still looking for their first win of the season after being beaten 1-0 at Brighton on Tuesday. The goal came from Leon Knight, who was a bit of a handful when the Town lost at Witdean, and was his sixth of the season, a total matched by Grimsby's Michael Boulding. Not that Boulding's marksmanship is doing the Mariners a lot of good – they have taken only one point from their last four games.

But it's worse for fans of Tranmere and Wycombe, who have not seen a victory since the opening day of the season. Oldham, Stockport and Notts County are the only other teams with only one win to their name but something might give this afternoon, with Tranmere at Notts County and Wycombe entertaining Oldham.

Nationwide League Division Two

	HOME					AWAY					GD	Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A		
Port Vale	8	4	0	0	10	5	1	1	2	4	6	2	16
Hartlepool	8	2	2	0	10	1	2	1	1	9	8	10	15
QPR	8	3	1	0	9	0	1	2	1	8	7	10	15
Swindon	8	2	1	1	9	5	2	2	0	7	5	6	15
Barnsley	8	2	2	0	4	2	2	1	1	7	5	4	15
Brighton	8	3	1	0	7	3	1	1	2	6	6	4	14
Sheff Wed	8	1	2	1	8	7	3	0	1	6	4	3	14
Bristol City	8	3	1	0	9	1	0	3	1	3	4	7	13
Plymouth	8	2	2	0	10	7	1	2	1	7	6	4	13
Rushden	8	2	1	1	7	5	2	0	2	8	8	2	13
Luton Town	8	3	0	1	9	5	1	1	2	4	6	2	13
Bournemouth	8	1	3	0	5	4	2	0	2	4	4	1	12
Colchester	8	2	1	1	5	4	1	1	2	6	7	0	11
Wrexham	7	1	1	2	1	3	2	0	1	4	3	2	10
Peterborough	8	0	1	3	6	9	2	2	0	5	1	1	9
Blackpool	7	1	0	2	4	6	1	2	1	5	9	-6	8
Grimsby	8	1	1	2	6	6	1	1	2	5	12	-7	8
Tranmere	8	1	2	1	6	4	0	2	2	1	5	-2	7
Oldham	8	1	1	2	7	9	0	3	1	4	5	-3	7
Brentford	8	1	1	2	3	7	1	0	3	2	6	-8	7
Stockport	8	0	2	2	5	7	1	1	2	5	7	-4	6
Wycombe	8	1	1	2	6	7	0	1	3	3	8	-6	5
Notts County	8	0	1	3	2	6	1	1	2	2	10	-12	5
Chesterfield	8	0	2	2	2	5	0	2	2	3	7	-7	4

Today's Other Second Division Fixtures

Barnsley v Swindon
Bournemouth v Rushden & Diamonds
Brentford v Hartlepool
Brighton v Sheffield Wednesday
Bristol City v Port Vale
Grimsby v Chesterfield
Notts Co v Tranmere
Peterborough v Colchester
Stockport v Blackpool
Wrexham v Plymouth
Wycombe v Oldham

Luton Town League & Cup

2003/2004 Date	Opponents	D2 Last Season (LT first)	Venue	Kick Off Time/Result	Score (LT first)	Attendance	Competition/Position	Referee	Goalkeepers			Yellow Cards (LT first)	Red Cards (LT first)
									47	33	3	41	12
Sat 9 Aug	RUSHDEN & DIAMONDS	D3 Team	H	W	3-1	6,878	5	I Williamson	3/0	0/0	0	0	0
Tue 12 Aug	YEOVIL TOWN	-	H	W	4-1	4,337	CC1	L Cable	3/2	0/0	1	0	0
Sat 16 Aug	Stockport County	W 3-2	A	W	2-1	4,566	1	P Joslin	1/1	0/0	0	0	0
Sat 23 Aug	GRIMSBY TOWN	D1 Team	H	L	1-2	5,827	7	G Cain	1/2	0/0	0	0	0
Mon 25 Aug	Brighton & Hove Albion	D1 Team	A	L	0-2	6,604	12	P Crossley	3/1	1/0	0	0	0
Sat 30 Aug	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	D3 Team	H	W	3-2	5,515	6	B Curson	2/1	0/0	0	0	0
Sat 6 Sep	Notts County	L 1-2	A	D	1-1	7,505	8	C Webster	3/3	1/0	0	0	0
Sat 13 Sep	Plymouth Argyle	L 1-2	A	L	1-2	9,894	12	A Bates	3/1	0/0	0	0	0
Tue 16 Sep	PORT VALE	D 0-0	H	W	2-0	5,079	11	J Ross	1/1	0/0	0	0	0
Sat 20 Sep	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	D 0-0	H	3:00pm			D2						
Tue 23 Sep	Charlton Athletic	-	A	8:00pm			CC2						
Sat 27 Sep	Oldham Athletic	W 2-1	A	3:00pm			D2						
Wed 1 Oct	Swindon Town	L 1-2	A	7:45pm			D2						
Mon 6 Oct	TRANMERE ROVERS	D 0-0	H	8:00pm			D2						
Sat 11 Oct	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	W 1-0	H	3:00pm			D2						
Tue 14 Oct	Stevenage Borough	A	7:45pm				LDVVT1						
Sat 18 Oct	Brentford	D 0-0	A	3:00pm			D2						
Tue 21 Oct	AFC Bournemouth	D3 Team	A	7:45pm			D2						
Sat 25 Oct	PETERBOROUGH UNITED	L 2-3	H	3:00pm			D2						
Tue 28 Oct	-	-	-	-			CC3						
Sat 1 Nov	Bristol City	D 1-1	A	3:00pm			D2						
Tue 4 Nov	-	-	-	-			LDVVT2						
Sat 8 Nov	-	-	-	-			FAC1						
Sat 15 Nov	WREXHAM	D3 Team	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 22 Nov	Sheffield Wednesday	D1 Team	A	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 29 Nov	CHESTERFIELD	W 3-0	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 6 Dec	-	-	-	-			FAC2						
Tue 9 Dec	-	-	-	-			LDVVT3						
Sat 13 Dec	Blackpool	L 2-5	A	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 20 Dec	BARNESLEY	L 2-3	H	3:00pm			D2						
Fri 26 Dec	Colchester United	W 5-0	A	3:00pm			D2						
Sun 28 Dec	NOTTS COUNTY	D 2-2	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 3 Jan	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	D1 Team	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 10 Jan	Rushden & Diamonds	D3 Team	A	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 17 Jan	STOCKPORT COUNTY	D 1-1	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 24 Jan	Grimsby Town	D1 Team	A	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 31 Jan	Hartlepool United	D3 Team	A	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 7 Feb	COLCHESTER UNITED	L 1-2	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 14 Feb	Wycombe Wanderers	W 2-1	A	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 21 Feb	BRENTFORD	L 0-1	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 28 Feb	Peterborough United	D 1-1	A	3:00pm			D2						
Tue 2 Mar	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	D3 Team	H	7:45pm			D2						
Sat 6 Mar	Barnsley	W 3-2	A	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 13 Mar	BLACKPOOL	L 1-3	H	3:00pm			D2						
Tue 16 Mar	Port Vale	W 2-1	A	7:45pm			D2						
Sat 20 Mar	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	W 1-0	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 27 Mar	Queens Park Rangers	L 0-2	A	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 3 Apr	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	D 0-0	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 10 Apr	Tranmere Rovers	W 3-1	A	3:00pm			D2						
Mon 12 Apr	SWINDON TOWN	W 3-0	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 17 Apr	BRISTOL CITY	D 2-2	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 24 Apr	Wrexham	D3 Team	A	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 1 May	SHEFIELD WEDNESDAY	D1 Team	H	3:00pm			D2						
Sat 8 May	Chesterfield	L 1-2	A	3:00pm			D2						
Attendance Statistics													
(All Competitions)													
Started Match													
9 0													
Substitute (Used)													
0 0													
Total 2003/2004 Apps													
9 0													
Total 2003/2004 Goals													
6 9 9													
Substitute (Unused)													
0 9													
Single Yellow Card													
1 0													
First YC leading to RC													
0 0													
Second YC = RC													
0 0													
Straight Red Card													
0 0													
Total LTFC Career Apps													
13 0													
Total LTFC Career Goals													
0 0													
Squad Number													
47 33													
Position													
Goalkeepers													
3 41 12													
Opponents													
Attendance Statistics													
1 (S)cored 0 (M)issed = 100% Success													
23 Aug K.Nicholls (S)													
Potential Cup Dates													
CC: Rd4 2Dec/Rd 5 16Dec/SF 20Jan & 27Jan/F 29Feb													

Todays's Squads



Manager: Mike Newell

3	Alan NEILSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Matthew SPRING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Russell PERRETT	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Adrian FORBES	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Kevin NICHOLLS	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Steve ROBINSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	Chris COYNE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16	Enoch SHOWUNMI	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Emmerson BOYCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Ahmet BRKOVIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19	Steve HOWARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
21	Paul HUGHES	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	David BAYLISS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
23	Ian HILLIER	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Sol DAVIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
25	Gary McSHEFFREY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
32	Lee MANSELL	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	Dean BRILL	<input type="checkbox"/>
34	Dean CROWE	<input type="checkbox"/>
38	Michael LEARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
39	Steven O'LEARY	<input type="checkbox"/>
41	Kevin FOLEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
43	Matthew JUDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>
44	Parys OKAI	<input type="checkbox"/>
45	Leon BARNETT	<input type="checkbox"/>
47	Rob BECKWITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(0)



Manager: Ian Holloway

1	Chris DAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Terrell FORBES	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Gino PADULA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Steve PALMER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Clarke CARLISLE	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Dan SHITTU	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Matthew ROSE	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Marc BIRCHAM	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Tony THORPE	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Kevin GALLEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Gareth AINSWORTH	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Eric SABIN	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Nick CULKIN	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Martin ROWLANDS	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Richard PACQUETTE	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Wesley DALY	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Marcus BEAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Dennis OLI	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Kevin MCLEOD	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Richard EDGHILL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24	Arthur GNOHERE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
29	Paul FURLONG	<input type="checkbox"/>

(0)

Today's Officials

Referee: Uriah Rennie, South Yorkshire

Assistants: Guy Beale, Somerset (red and yellow flag)

Paul Canadine, South Yorkshire (yellow flag)

Fourth official: Kevin Wright, Cambridgeshire

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SEASON 2003 - 2004

Support the Hatters by giving back to the club - join Hatter Travel!

Luton-based Travel Extras is proud to be the official shirt sponsor for Luton Town Football Club, offering great deals to football fans – home and away. What's more, if you book any product from Travel Extras' vast range, we will give 10% of **EVERY** booking straight back to the club!

How does the deal work?

Travel Extras will not compromise its' already unbeatable prices for holiday Travel. We will continue to offer fantastic travel deals "dedicated to the independent Traveller" with a vast portfolio of Car Rental, Hotels and accommodation, Travel Insurance, UK Airport Parking or VIP- style airport lounges.

This means that we have not added 10% onto our prices to compensate for the deal – we want to make sure that the club gets as much benefit as possible to take the Hatters forward.



Ray Mulford, Travel Extras Group Managing Director with Chris Coyne and Kevin Nicholls wearing the new Luton Town home and away strips

How do I get involved?

Continue to support your club!

To take advantage of Travel Extras' super Hatters deals, simply call your dedicated Hatters Travel Advisors on 08707 27 37 27 or visit www.travelextras.com/ltdc

What's more, our fantastic deals are for business or pleasure, sunshine or snow, offering a competitive price all year round.

Group Managing Director, Ray Mulford said: "Many of our staff are Hatters Fans and are getting behind the Club. Now is your chance to get involved and have a great holiday at the same time!"

SIGN UP FOR GREAT HATTERS TRAVEL OFFERS!

Fancy New York for shopping or Paris in the springtime? Travel Extras can offer great deals on any worldwide destination.

Simply register for fantastic up to the minute and on the ball Special offers! Just visit

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