



Luton Town Football Club

Official Matchday Magazine • Price £2.50

Nationwide League Division Two

Saturday 15th November 2003 • Kick Off 3.00pm



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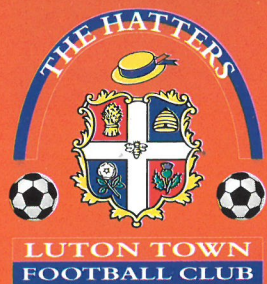
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Official Matchday Magazine

Editor
Brian Swain

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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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Last Season
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League saw an Increase in
Attendance of 13.5%;
Why...?

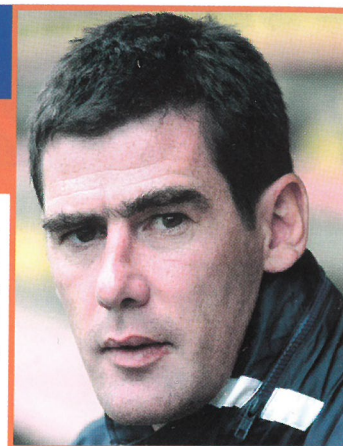


The authority...

The Quality of the Football

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

The Manager's Message



HELLO, and welcome again to Kenilworth Road. Welcome also to Denis Smith and his players, staff, directors and supporters.

He is another experienced manager who has done a good job in getting Wrexham out of the Third Division last season, and has also started well in the Second. Today will be a good test for us.

The last few weeks have been difficult in terms of what we have available, and as I said early on in the season it is only when injuries and suspensions kick in that you find out how strong your squad is.

We are just about hanging on at the

moment, although without setting the world alight. But we are unbeaten in four games, and with help

from a lot of the younger players we have managed to get results away from home.

We are still in the FA cup after a very unconvincing performance at Thurrock, and through to the next round of the LDV Vans Trophy, having beaten Rushden with ten men for the majority of the game.

It will be a massive boost for us to get some of the more experienced players out of the treatment room and back into the frame, but we must not be forced to rush those players, or we will be back to square one.

We are currently picking everyone we have available, regardless of form or experience, and that is not an ideal situation.

Having said that, it is when you are up against it that you find out about people, whether they be staff, players, media or indeed supporters. The strong ones will always come through for you, and their character will always come to the fore.

We would hope that there will be some light at the end of the tunnel soon in terms of the club coming out of administration, but until that time we must dig in and stick together. The backing of supporters at this time is vital.

Enjoy the game, and get behind the lads.

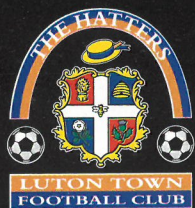


HOTSHOT WINNER: Adrian Forbes has collected the Umbro Isotonic Division Two player of the month award for October, just reward for his sterling efforts as an emergency striker, which saw him net six times in as many games.

Mike Newell

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The Town Captain's View



WE'VE experienced just about every emotion possible since we last played at Kenilworth Road. I was disappointed that we only drew at home to Peterborough, because I felt they were the sort of team that should be beaten by any side with promotion ambitions.

The draw at Bristol City wasn't a bad result, and the win by our young side at Rushden in the LDV was great. But then came Thurrock, and it's difficult to explain my feelings about that one. We know we are lucky that we are still in the cup, with a chance to put things right in the replay on Tuesday.

It was strange that the Peterborough and Bristol matches were both games of two distinct halves. Barry Fry teams are always ready to attack, and when we went down to ten men late in the first half that encouraged them to push forward even more. I felt sorry for Ian Hillier. He got two yellows just for trying to do his job, on a day when he was keen to do well to push his claims for a more regular place in the team. Even with ten men I felt we were not going to be beaten, which is important, and I think if we had kept 11 on the pitch we would have taken all three points against Peterborough.

By the same token, I think we could have got a victory at Bristol if we had had a full strength team available. There again we had to defend well in the second half, but we are coming to a point where the absence of experienced injured senior players – Steve Howard, Russell Perrett, Paul Hughes, David Bayliss, Alan Neilson and yours truly – is putting a great strain on our resources. Add suspensions, and it means we are down to the bare bones, so the earlier we come out of administration the better.

But I was very encouraged

by the game at Rushden. It was good to see some of the young players get their chance, and take it. But what a shame that unlucky

Sol Davis got two yellow cards, again just for trying to do his job.

I expected us to do another professional job at Thurrock, but that game was a huge disappointment. My mind went back to a year ago, when we came up against another non-league outfit, Guiseley. We made our higher status count on that occasion, and won 4-0. At Thurrock, anyone not knowing which team was which would probably have thought that we were the non-

league outfit. Everyone knows the performance was not good enough, and on the night we deserved nothing from the game. It should be a real warning when Thurrock come here on Tuesday.

But at the moment we are concentrating on today's game, because it is much more important that we pick up three points this afternoon. It is a ludicrous Second Division, with no-one racing away at the top, and teams down to below half way still very much in with a shout of breaking into the top six. All it needs is a decent run, but so far no club has been able to produce a long winning sequence.

Today's games will be tough, because Wrexham have one of the best away records in the division.

Kevin Nicholls



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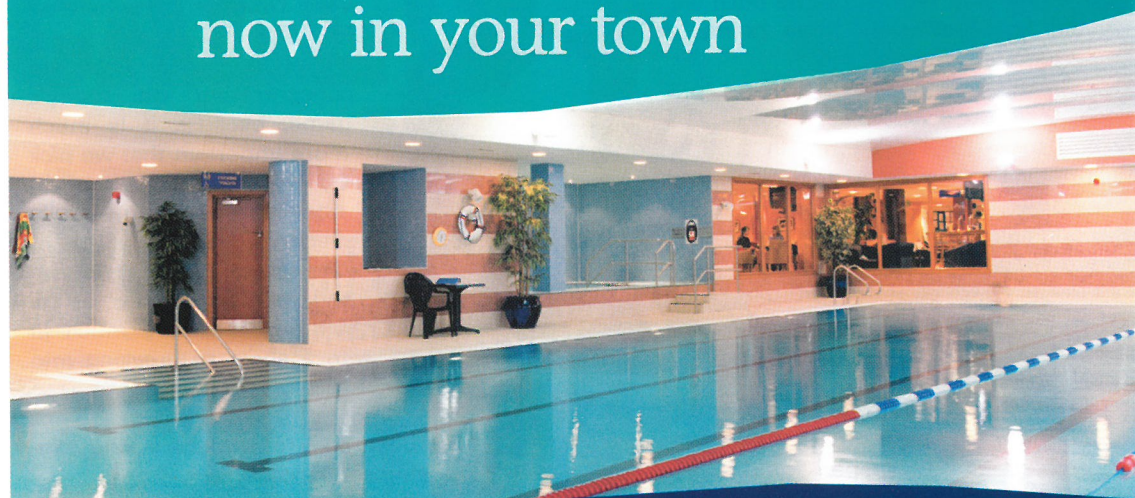
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From The Chief Executive



GOOD afternoon, after what again appears to have been a long break away from Kenilworth Road.

The Breast Cancer Appeal Research collection held at the Peterborough match raised £310, so our thanks to you for once again giving so generously.

Supporters will remember that Charlton were extremely apologetic when our supporters could not purchase programmes at our Carling Cup match at The Valley. (I don't think they could believe the magnificent support we received that night). Well, they have re-printed the programme, and any supporter who needs a copy should contact the ticket office in Kenilworth Road. Those who have ordered already should receive their programmes within the next day or two, depending on the post!

You probably know that each year The Football Association makes a charity donation to clubs from the proceeds of the Community Shield match. This year the sum is £7,900, and as a club we can nominate up to three charities to receive this money between them. The criteria is as follows:

1. The Charity must be registered with the Charity Commission, and we must provide their registration number. The only exceptions to this are organisations that are officially exempt from registration, some educational, health or religious organisations.
2. The charity must operate specifically in our locality, and nominations cannot be made for national charities or their local branches.
3. The charity must serve the wider local community, beyond the football club itself. This year, nominations will not be accepted for club community schemes etc, but if you would like to nominate a charity that satisfies the above criteria, please contact

me here at the club.

Next Tuesday sees our replay with Thurrock in the FA Cup, and I am

sorry to advise you that I was unable to get agreement for A Quid a Kid for the match from Thurrock FC. We felt it would encourage more supporters to come to the game, bearing in mind the attendance at Thurrock, but both clubs have to agree on admission prices and our suggestion was turned down.

Hopefully we will get through to the Second Round, away to Rochdale on December 6, and if we win on Tuesday ticket details will be published once the game is confirmed.

In the LDV Vans Trophy, the Southern Area quarter final sees us drawn away again, this time to Southend, and that match will be played on Tuesday December 9, kick-off 7.45pm.

The Club again opened its doors, until 8pm, on Monday November 3 for supporters to come and talk to us, and it was odd that whilst we had very few people actually come to the club, my e-mail was very busy with people wanting to "talk." My e-mail address is always available to supporters, and anyone who has used it knows that I will always reply, even if I cannot give you the answer you want.

Enjoy the game, and please come and support the team on Tuesday.

Cherry Newbery

Margins of Victory

| Games WON by | 1 gl | 2 gls | 3 gls | 4 gls | 5+ gls |
|--------------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Plymouth | 2 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| QPR | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Wrexham | 7 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Barnsley | 5 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Brighton | 2 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Colchester | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Port Vale | 5 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Brentford | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Bournemouth | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Rushden | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hartlepool | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Blackpool | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Grimsby | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Swindon | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Luton | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sheff Wed | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Bristol City | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Oldham | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Notts County | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Tranmere | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Stockport | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chesterfield | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Peterborough | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Wycombe | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

Comebacks

| WON from | -3 | -2 | -1 | Total |
|-------------|----|----|----|-------|
| Blackpool | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Bournemouth | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Port Vale | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Rushden | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Wrexham | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Luton | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |

Throwaways

| LOST from | +3 | +2 | +1 | Total |
|--------------|----|----|----|-------|
| Grimsby | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Oldham | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Peterborough | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Wycombe | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Blackpool | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Luton | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Rushden | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Swindon | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |

Scoring Chances per Game

| No. of Shots per game | ON Target | OFF Target |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Plymouth | 9.82 | 6.12 |
| Blackpool | 6.94 | 5.24 |
| Notts County | 5.88 | 6.24 |
| QPR | 6.29 | 5.71 |
| Swindon | 6.47 | 5.35 |
| Rushden | 7.35 | 4.41 |
| Bournemouth | 6.18 | 5.47 |
| Colchester | 5.94 | 5.35 |
| Wrexham | 6.35 | 4.94 |
| Grimsby | 5.88 | 5.35 |
| Tranmere | 6.35 | 4.82 |
| Oldham | 5.41 | 5.71 |
| Brighton | 6.35 | 4.65 |
| Bristol City | 6.06 | 4.82 |
| Port Vale | 4.94 | 5.76 |
| Luton | 6.12 | 4.41 |
| Wycombe | 5.53 | 4.65 |
| Barnsley | 6.29 | 3.71 |
| Stockport | 4.94 | 4.88 |
| Peterborough | 5.65 | 4.06 |
| Sheff Wed | 5.35 | 4.18 |
| Brentford | 5.35 | 3.82 |
| Hartlepool | 5.35 | 3.65 |
| Chesterfield | 4.82 | 4.00 |

Scored in last 15 mins

| FOR | 76-90 | Total | % |
|--------------|-------|-------|----|
| Notts County | 5 | 16 | 31 |
| Tranmere | 5 | 18 | 28 |
| Stockport | 5 | 20 | 25 |
| Rushden | 7 | 29 | 24 |
| Grimsby | 5 | 21 | 24 |
| Hartlepool | 6 | 28 | 21 |
| QPR | 6 | 28 | 21 |
| Plymouth | 8 | 38 | 21 |
| Bristol City | 4 | 19 | 21 |
| Wycombe | 4 | 19 | 21 |
| Port Vale | 5 | 24 | 21 |
| Luton | 6 | 29 | 21 |
| Against | 76-90 | Total | % |
| Brentford | 9 | 25 | 36 |
| Brighton | 6 | 18 | 33 |
| QPR | 4 | 13 | 31 |
| Grimsby | 7 | 25 | 28 |
| Peterborough | 7 | 26 | 27 |
| Wycombe | 8 | 31 | 26 |
| Luton | 7 | 31 | 23 |
| Oldham | 6 | 28 | 21 |
| Chesterfield | 5 | 24 | 21 |

Set Piece Goals

| Scored from | Corner | Free Kick | Total |
|---------------|--------|-----------|-------|
| Plymouth | 5 | 6 | 11 |
| Hartlepool | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| QPR | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| Luton | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Port Vale | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| Stockport | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Conceded from | Corner | Free Kick | Total |
| Brentford | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| Blackpool | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Oldham | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Rushden | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Wycombe | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| Bristol City | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Chesterfield | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| Stockport | 3 | 4 | 7 |

Scorer's Points Gained & Scoring Run

| | Gl | Gl/Gm | Pts | Run | 1st Gl |
|------------------|----|-------|-----|-----|--------|
| Wayne Andrews | 8 | 0.53 | 10 | 3 | 5 |
| Leon Knight | 12 | 0.71 | 9 | 2 | 2 |
| Scott Taylor | 9 | 0.53 | 9 | 2 | 1 |
| Warren Feeney | 6 | 0.40 | 8 | 2 | 1 |
| Steve McPhee | 8 | 0.47 | 7 | 3 | 3 |
| Dennis Lawrence | 5 | 0.29 | 7 | 2 | 3 |
| Michael Boulding | 9 | 0.53 | 6 | 4 | 4 |
| Lee Peacock | 8 | 0.57 | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Gary McSheffrey | 8 | 0.53 | 6 | 3 | 2 |
| David Frio | 8 | 0.62 | 6 | 3 | 2 |
| Tommy Mooney | 8 | 0.47 | 6 | 4 | 5 |
| Aaron Wilbraham | 6 | 0.40 | 6 | 2 | 2 |
| Dean Gorre | 5 | 0.38 | 6 | 2 | 3 |
| Sheffi Kuqi | 5 | 0.71 | 6 | 3 | 2 |

eg if player scores the goal in a 1-0 win, the goal is worth 2 pts as score would have been 0-0, or if 2 goals in a 2-1 win, goals worth 3 pts. Also shown is goals per game figure and number of games player scored 1st goal

Headed Goals

| Most headers scored | | |
|---------------------|--------------|-------|
| Player | Club | Goals |
| Friio | Plymouth | 5 |
| Lawrence | Wrexham | 5 |
| Peacock | Bristol City | 4 |
| Evans | Plymouth | 4 |
| Fletcher S | Bournemouth | 3 |
| Knight | Brighton | 3 |
| Keith | Plymouth | 3 |
| Coughlan | Plymouth | 3 |
| Paynter | Port Vale | 3 |
| Lowe | Rushden | 3 |
| Kuqi | Sheff Wed | 3 |
| Mooney | Swindon | 3 |
| Jones | Tranmere | 3 |

Fouls & Offsides per game

| FOULS | Games | Fouls | Average |
|--------------|-------|----------|---------|
| QPR | 17 | 284 | 16.71 |
| Tranmere | 17 | 271 | 15.94 |
| Colchester | 17 | 244 | 14.35 |
| Barnsley | 17 | 239 | 14.06 |
| Wycombe | 17 | 235 | 13.82 |
| Brentford | 17 | 233 | 13.71 |
| Bristol City | 17 | 229 | 13.47 |
| Notts County | 17 | 228 | 13.41 |
| Grimsby | 17 | 227 | 13.35 |
| Luton | 17 | 227 | 13.35 |
| Swindon | 17 | 222 | 13.06 |
| OFFSIDES | Games | Offsides | Average |
| Rushden | 17 | 92 | 5.41 |
| Peterborough | 17 | 81 | 4.76 |
| Bristol City | 17 | 79 | 4.65 |
| Luton | 17 | 76 | 4.47 |
| Oldham | 17 | 75 | 4.41 |
| Tranmere | 17 | 72 | 4.24 |
| Chesterfield | 17 | 68 | 4.00 |
| Colchester | 17 | 67 | 3.94 |
| Stockport | 17 | 67 | 3.94 |
| Brighton | 17 | 66 | 3.88 |
| Blackpool | 17 | 65 | 3.82 |

Average is number of Fouls/Offsides per game. Clubs are ordered by highest number of Fouls/Offsides per game.

Close Range Goals

| Most goals scored inside 6yd box | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Player | Club | Goals |
| Knight | Brighton | 5 |
| Keith | Plymouth | 5 |
| Taylor | Blackpool | 4 |
| Paynter | Port Vale | 4 |
| Lowe | Rushden | 4 |
| Wilbraham | Stockport | 4 |
| Feeney | Bournemouth | 3 |
| Peacock | Bristol City | 3 |
| Robinson | Chesterfield | 3 |
| Robinson | Hartlepool | 3 |
| Gabbiadini | Hartlepool | 3 |
| McKenzie | Peterborough | 3 |
| Coughlan | Plymouth | 3 |
| Friio | Plymouth | 3 |
| McPhee | Port Vale | 3 |
| Ainsworth | QPR | 3 |
| Kuqi | Sheff Wed | 3 |
| Barlow | Stockport | 3 |
| Jones | Tranmere | 3 |

Hatters Away At Hillsborough

THE TOWN play their first league visit in 11 years to Hillsborough on Saturday – David Preece and Scott Oakes scored as we lost 3-2 in the old First Division, in February 1992, in the season that ended in the Town's relegation and missing out on the formation of the Premiership.

Town on Tour and the Bobbers Travel Club will be operating supporters' coaches to Saturday's match, with 10.30 departure time from Luton. Town on Tour's trip starts from Bletchley at 9.30, and includes a pick-up at Milton Keynes Coachway at about 10.50. Fares are £14 for members of Luton Town Supporters Club, £12 for senior and junior members and £16 for non-members.

The Bobbers, who start from Cranfield at 9.30, offer seats at £12.50 for adults or £10 for senior and junior citizens.

GIVEN a clear run, you can drive from Luton to Sheffield in about two hours, but it's a good idea to arrive early at Hillsborough because parking around the stadium is difficult. Even in the Second Division Sheffield Wednesday are regularly attracting gates of well over 20,000.

The route is simple: up the M1 all the way into Yorkshire, leaving at junction 35a to follow the signs towards Manchester on the A616. After just over a mile, make a left turn at a roundabout to go onto the A61, which is signposted to Sheffield North. Follow those signs and they lead to the ground, which is just under seven miles from the motorway. The road drops down a hill on the approach to the stadium, and just beyond the Leppings Lane roundabout it's time to search for somewhere to park.

Mileage: 145

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 be run until the turn of the year. Its future will depend on demand.

HALF TIME CHALLENGE WIN A Ka

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Three lucky match day spectators who each purchase a match programme, at our selected matches to the end of the season, that contains a special message in the box below will be invited onto the pitch at half time to compete in a penalty shoot out eliminator. The winner will then go forward to the final, where he or she will meet the winner of two other rounds. The three finalists will then take part in a penalty shoot out

against each other. The winner of this contest will then be given opportunity of proving their football skills with a final test for the car. Succeed and they will be given the keys on the spot and drive themselves triumphantly home in the brand new Ford Ka.



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News From The Ticket Office



FA Cup First Round Replay Luton Town v Thurrock

Tuesday November 18, 2003,
kick-off 7.45pm



SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

Season ticket holders who completed a cup match authorisation form

during the close season will have their tickets forwarded to them automatically. Other season ticket holders can claim their seats now.

NON SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

Supporters without season tickets can purchase any seats not held by season ticket holders now.

PRICES

Main Stand blocks A to E: Adults £15, Concessions £7

Main Stand block F: Adults £12, Concessions £6

Main Stand block G: Adults £8, Concessions £4

Main Stand Enclosure Blocks C to G: Adults £12, Concessions £6

Main Stand Enclosure Blocks A, B, H & J: Adults £8, Concessions £4

Kenilworth Upper and Lower Tiers: Adults £12, Concessions £6

Family Stand: Family groups: Adults £10, first child £6, extra children £4

Individual season ticket holders: Adults £12, Concessions £6

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

Ticket Office Opening Hours

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

10am to 4.00pm, except on Fridays before Saturday home games
when it is 10am to 6pm

SATURDAY

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

News From The Ticket Office



Nationwide League Division Two Sheffield Wednesday v Luton Town

Saturday, November 22, 2003, kick-off 3pm

Prices: Purchased in advance

Adults £16, senior citizens and under-16s £9.

On the day at Hillsborough

Adults £17, senior citizens and under-16s £10

This is not an all-ticket match, but tickets are available for advance sale, at the discounted price, from the Luton Town ticket office.



Nationwide League Division Two Luton Town v Chesterfield

Saturday November 29, 2003, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal
matchday prices.

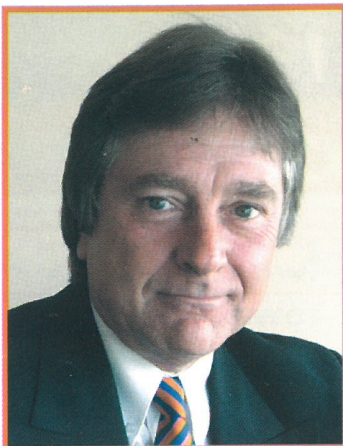
Cash turnstiles will be open on the day subject to availability.

Remember there are **no concessions** available on cash
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Back in Business

*We are pleased to advise supporters that
we can once more accept payment by
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Commercial Corner

MATCH SPONSORS Danny & Elsie Clubb

IT IS with very great pleasure that we announce that today's match sponsors are two

dedicated Luton Town supporters, Danny and Elsie Clubb, who are celebrating their 15th wedding anniversary with us here at the home of the Hatters this afternoon.

If the celebrating of 15 blissful years together were not enough, Danny and Elsie – she should have recovered from the shock by now! – will also be renewing their wedding vows today at a small private service for friends and family, conducted by our Club Chaplain, the Rev Catherine Moss, in the Joe Payne Sponsors Lounge.

Danny and Elsie were married on November 18, 1988, and the first day of their honeymoon saw them here at Kenilworth Road, watching the Town's 3-0 demolition of West Ham. A blissful week together was then spent enjoying the delights of East Anglia a destination chosen so that it ended with them cheering on the Town in a 2-2 draw against Norwich City at Carrow Road.

What an example Danny sets to all us men, in ensuring that the ultimate balance of serious business and un-paralleled pleasure is maintained at all costs!



HAPPY HATTERS: Danny and Elsie Clubb – 15 Years of marital bliss

Further evidence of how Danny ensures that Elsie copes admirably well with her husband's "football mistress" are the immortal words engraved inside her wedding ring – "See, I do think more of you than Luton."

Since then Danny and Elsie have proved to be among the most stalwart supporters Luton Town have ever had, regularly backing our commercial efforts. They follow the club home and away, and that despite trips to Kenilworth Road entailing a 400-mile round trip each time, because they now live in Blackpool.

We all wish them a wonderful day with us, lifelong happiness with each other, and many more memorable days out in their support of Luton Town.

COMMERCIAL MASCOT Shawn Borrett

AS PART of this very special occasion for Danny and Elsie we welcome to Kenilworth Road for the first time their two-year-old grandson Shawn Borrett as today's commercial mascot. The Clubb family's support and following is legendary, so we hope that Shawn's first Town game today will be the start of many hundreds of trips, as he follows in the steps of grandma and grandpa. All of us at the club wish Shawn and his family a truly memorable day with us.



MATCHBALL SPONSORS



Ad-Connect Media

IT IS with great pleasure that we welcome here today Peter Devaney and the guests of Ad-Connect Media as this afternoon's matchball sponsors. Ad-Connect Media are a national advertising company who specialise in the servicing of local media requirements. They have many contracts with Football League clubs, and have been contracted by Luton Town to service local business's advertising needs throughout the concourse and restroom areas within the stadium. This is a new and unique opportunity for local business and associations to become involved in the support of the club, while also servicing their own promotional needs at extremely cost-effective

Welcome to All Our Sponsors and Guests

prices. For further information please contact Ad-Connect Media on 0870 750 3737.

NET SPONSORS CP Contracts

IT IS a pleasure today to express our thanks to one of the more unusual sponsors of our club. The cost of provision and maintenance of the nets that are required to catch stray footballs booted skywards over our executive boxes is very generously sponsored by CP Contracts of Amptill.

Chris Park, managing director, formed CP Contracts in 1984 and the company has developed an out-

standing reputation within the commercial property, new build and refurbishment sector. Through schemes as diverse as the conversion of derelict farm buildings to offices and the refurbishment of school buildings CP Contracts have unrivalled experience, and the ability to provide a quality building service. CP Contracts are Quality Assured to ISO 9000:2000, members of the National Federation of Builders, Eastern Builders Safety Group Ltd and the Association of Interiors Specialists, demonstrating the company's commitment to quality of workmanship, health & safety and customer care. CP Contracts can be contacted on 01525 405430. Have a great day.

Peter Davis



Loyal Luton Supporters Club are long-time backers of Luton Town, and some of their party are pictured when they were our joint sponsors against Peterborough.



The Peterborough match ball was sponsored by Freelance Environmental Services Ltd.



Enjoying a day to remember was commercial mascot Karl Moy



Joint match sponsors at the Peterborough game were Charles Wells, and their party is pictured at Kenilworth Road.



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Hatters



Form Guide:

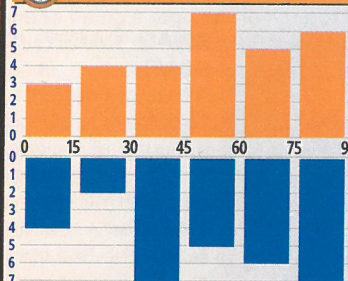
Won: 2
Drawn: 2
Lost: 2
Scored: 13
Conc: 14
Points: 8
Goal Diff: -1
Last 6: WWLLDD
Last 5 Home: WDWWD
Last 5 Away: LDLLD

Miscellaneous

Players Used: 31
Clean Sheets: 1
Failed to Score: 2

| The Guys to Watch | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Headed goals | Perrett | 2 |
| Long range shots | McSheffrey | 2 |
| Inside 6 yards | Perrett | 2 |
| Shots from 6-18 yards | Forbes | 5 |
| Volleyed shots | McSheffrey | 1 |
| Penalties | Nicholls, McSheffrey | 1 |
| Scored 1st Goal in match | Howard, McSheffrey | 2 |
| Most goals in last 10 | 5 players | 1 |
| Points gained from goals | McSheffrey | 7 |

When Goals Scored ☐ & Conceded ☐



Goalkeeping

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Opp. attempts on target | 104 |
| Goals conceded | 31 |
| On target/goals scored | 3.35 |
| Division 2 rating | 23 |

Goalscoring Strike Rate

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Shots on target | 104 |
| Goals scored | 29 |
| On target / goals | 3.59 |
| Division 2 Rating | 4 |

Goals in last 10 mins

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Goals For, last 10 | 5 |
| Points won | 2 |
| Goals Against, last 10 | 6 |
| Points lost | 7 |

Fouls & Offsides

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Average fouls per game | 13.35 |
| Div 2 Rating (1=least, 24=most) | 16 |
| Average Offsides per game | 4.47 |
| Div 2 Rating | 21 |

Swings

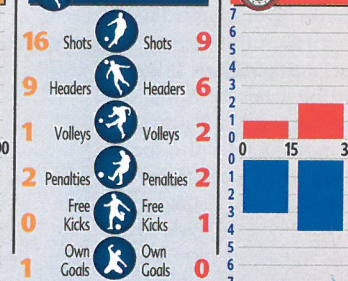
| WON BY: | LOST BY: |
|-------------------|----------|
| WON when behind | 2 |
| DRAWN when behind | 2 |
| LOST when ahead | 2 |
| DRAWN when ahead | 2 |
| WON 2 down | 0 |
| WON 1 down | 2 |
| LOST 2 up | 0 |
| LOST 1 up | 2 |
| DRAWN 2+ down | 0 |
| DRAWN 1 down | 2 |
| DRAWN 2+ up | 0 |
| DRAWN 1 up | 4 |

Attendances

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| Aggregate | 48,402 |
| Highest | 8,339 |
| Lowest | 5,002 |
| Average | 6,050 |

| Where Goals | | |
|-------------|--------------|----|
| 6 | Close Range | 4 |
| 21 | Inside Area | 11 |
| 2 | Outside Area | 5 |

How Goals



Goalkeeping

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Opp. attempts on target | 84 |
| Goals conceded | 17 |
| On target/goals scored | 4.94 |
| Division 2 rating | 12 |

Goalscoring Strike Rate

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Shots on target | 108 |
| Goals scored | 20 |
| On target / goals | 5.40 |
| Division 2 Rating | 20 |

Goals in last 10 mins

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Goals For, last 10 | 1 |
| Points won | 0 |
| Goals Against, last 10 | 1 |
| Points lost | 0 |

Fouls & Offsides

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Average fouls per game | 11.88 |
| Div 2 Rating (1=least, 24=most) | 5 |
| Average Offsides per game | 2.71 |
| Div 2 Rating | 5 |

Swings

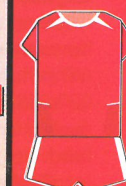
| WON BY: | LOST BY: |
|-------------------|----------|
| WON when behind | 3 |
| DRAWN when behind | 0 |
| LOST when ahead | 0 |
| DRAWN when ahead | 1 |
| WON 2 down | 0 |
| WON 1 down | 3 |
| LOST 2 up | 0 |
| LOST 1 up | 0 |
| DRAWN 2+ down | 0 |
| DRAWN 1 down | 0 |
| DRAWN 2+ up | 0 |
| DRAWN 1 up | 1 |

Attendances

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| Aggregate | 41,608 |
| Highest | 5,822 |
| Lowest | 3,945 |
| Average | 4,623 |



Dragons



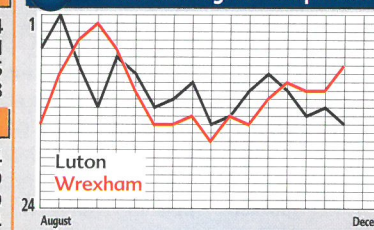
Form Guide:

Won: 3
Drawn: 1
Lost: 2
Scored: 9
Conc: 5
Points: 10
Goal Diff: 4
Last 6: DWLLW
Last 5 Home: DWDWL
Last 5 Away: WLWLW

Miscellaneous

Players Used: 22
Clean Sheets: 6
Failed to Score: 7

Seasonal Progress Comparison



Set Piece Goals

| | | |
|-------------|------------------|---|
| CORNERS: | Scored from C | 3 |
| | Conceded from C | 1 |
| FREE KICKS: | Scored from FK | 4 |
| | Conceded from FK | 4 |

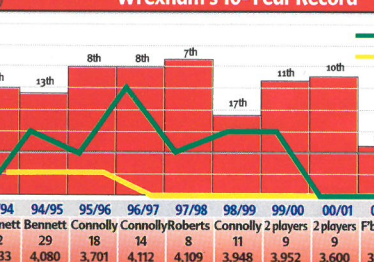
Cards

| | |
|----|---|
| 34 | 5 |
|----|---|

Margins

| WON BY: | LOST BY: |
|------------------|----------|
| WON by 1 goal | 7 |
| WON by 2 goals | 0 |
| WON by 3 goals | 0 |
| WON by 4 goals | 1 |
| WON by 5+ goals | 0 |
| LOST by 1 goal | 4 |
| LOST by 2 goals | 2 |
| LOST by 3 goals | 0 |
| LOST by 4 goals | 0 |
| LOST by 5+ goals | 0 |

Wrexham's 10-Year Record



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Welcome to Today's Visitors

CHRIS ARMSTRONG (FORWARD)

Returned to the Racecourse in the summer of 2003 when signing on a free from Bolton Wanderers. The Newcastle born forward was brought up in Wrexham and joined us from a local amateur team in 1989. Over the next two years he scored 13 goals in 40 starts and his blinding pace persuaded Millwall to sign him for £50,000. Twelve months later the fee had gone up to £1m and with it a switch to Crystal Palace, where he scored 45 goals in 118 league appearances. This record earned him a transfer to Spurs in a £4.5m deal and despite injury problems at White Hart Lane, he returned 48 goals in 117 Premiership starts, plus 10 more in 15 League Cup games. Bolton Wanderers was his next stop in 2002 and after just one game for the Trotters, he was happy to accept a deal from the Red Dragons.

PAUL BARRETT (MIDFIELDER)

Signed just prior to the transfer deadline in March 1999 on a free from Newcastle United. It was his performances in the Pontin's League, which alerted Wrexham to his talents and the Newcastle born player signed a three-year deal at the Racecourse. Paul was a schoolboy signing with his hometown team and progressed through their ranks before going professional at St. James Park. Back in the first team squad after pulling a hamstring in a reserve match in

mid January, he was offered a new one-year deal over the summer.



BRIAN CAREY (CENTRE-HALF)

A case of third time lucky for Wrexham, as the big Republic of Ireland international finally joined the Reds on a permanent transfer in 1996. Twice the Cork born centre-half had been on loan at the Racecourse, but on both previous occasions Wrexham could not raise the cash needed to buy him from Manchester United. He eventually joined Leicester City in 1993, but after three seasons at Filbert Street the Reds finally got their man. Injuries and suspensions blighted Brian's campaign two years ago and then a knee operation was required following the opening game of the 2002/03 season. More than played a captain's role in the campaign in leading the team to promotion in 2003.

MATTY CROWELL (MIDFIELDER)

After a successful youth career with his home town team Swansea City, Matty was among a number of



Wrexham Football Club



Welsh youngsters taken to the south coast of England by Southampton. Despite rising from the Youth team to being a regular member of the Saints' reserve side, as well as representing Wales a various age levels, he saw his chances of a first team place blocked. Recommended to Denis Smith, Matty arrived on trial at the end of the 2002/03 season and impressed the manager enough to be offer a deal for the current season.

ANDY DIBBLE (Goalkeeper)

A detailed history of Andy's career would fill a programme on its own, but safe to say that the South Walian has not missed on much in the last 20 years. Starting with Cardiff City, he made his name with Luton Town and won a League Cup medal with them. There were numerous ports of call during loan spells throughout the Football League and Scotland, and he also enjoyed a lengthy spell with Manchester City. Rangers signed him and he made his debut against Celtic, while also seeing service with non-league and League of Wales teams. After two seasons with Stockport County, Denis Smith saw him as the man to help Wrexham out in 2002 and to bring through our younger keepers, as coaching is another avenue of the game that Andy would like to pursue.

CARLOS EDWARDS (Winger)

Joined the club three years ago from Defence Force FC, Trinidad, when signed along with Hector Sam. A current international player for his country, Carlos was involved in their epic World Cup victories over Canada, Panama and Mexico, which saw T&T through to the last round of qualification for 2002 finals. A tricky winger, who can operate on either flank, he has added considerably to the manager's attacking options.

PAUL EDWARDS (Winger)

Manchester born, he was on City's books as a teenager, before being released and joining Doncaster Rovers as they struggled to stay in the Football League. After experience with several lower non-league clubs around the area, it was Altrincham who gave him his chance in the early part of 2001 and there followed a rapid rise back into professional football. After only six games at Moss Road, Conference club Leigh RMI took him on loan, but before he had played a competitive match for them, Swindon Town offered him a trial. That proved successful and within a few months he was an estab-

lished member of the County Ground team, becoming a firm favourite with the local supporters. Looking to get closer to his northern home, Paul accepted an offer from Wrexham in the summer of 2002 and become one of Denis Smith's three signings who sparked the club off on a promotion campaign.

DARREN FERGUSON (Midfielder)



Initially signed on a short-term contract following his return from a spell in Dutch football with Sparta Rotterdam in September 1999, Darren later committed himself to a two-year deal at the Racecourse, one that was later extended. Born in Glasgow, he joined Manchester United as a youngster and progressed through their system to eventually turn professional in 1990. After several years and five caps for the Scotland Under-21 side, Darren moved for £250,000 to Wolverhampton Wanderers in January 1994. A regular in the Wolves team for five seasons, he did have one spell out due to injury. In February 1999, he took up an option to play in Holland, but decided against extending his stay after helping Sparta avoid relegation. His first goal for Wrexham was our FA Cup winner against Middlesbrough in another third round giantkilling. Shares the captain's responsibilities with Brian Carey.

SHAUN HOLMES (Full-back)

Signed in the summer of 2001 from Manchester City. This current Northern Ireland international defender missed out on his senior debut at Maine Road and so decided to move on, despite still having a year left on his contract. Then manager Brian Flynn finally captured Shaun's signature at Manchester Airport, as the player was returning from international duty in the Czech Republic.

LEE JONES (Forward)

Now in his fourth spell of some description at the Racecourse. Originally spotted playing local football in the Wrexham area, he was given his chance at the Racecourse and proved such a hit that Liverpool quickly took him to Anfield a decade ago. While seeing limited first team action, Lee gained valuable experience on Merseyside before switching to First

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Welcome to Today's Visitors

Division Tranmere Rovers and then Barnsley. He left Oakwell last March 2002, after cutting short his deal with the Tykes and moved back to Wrexham on non-contract terms.

MARK JONES (Midfielder)

Locally born youngster who was promoted to the first team squad last season and has now earned himself a professional deal. Mark was also called up by Jimmy Shoulder to be part of the Wales U21 squad for the opening match in their qualifying group away to Finland and he has since been included against Italy and Azerbaijan. There followed a place on the bench against Bradford City in the Worthington Cup and a sub appearance against Exeter City in 2002/03. Out following a hernia operation, he returned to the action in January 2003 and will be looking to push on in the months ahead.

DENNIS LAWRENCE (Centre-Half)

Signed in March 2001 from the Defence Force club in Trinidad, Dennis stands at 6'7" and will not be hard to spot if selected. A seasoned performer on the international stage, Dennis had trials with both Newcastle United and Bolton Wanderers, before settling on Wrexham and joining up with our two other

T&T signings. After taking a little time to settle, he forced his way into the side and is now an established member of the team, who weighs in with his fair share of goals.

CHRIS LLEWELLYN (Forward)

Growing up in south Wales, Chris was spotted by scouts from Norwich City and came through the ranks at Carrow Road before being offered a full time deal by the Canaries. He was making steady progress in East Anglia until injury sidelined him in 2001. Fit again, he found it difficult to break back into the Norwich so he took the opportunity to join Bristol Rovers on loan in February 2003. An extended run with the Gas, which included two goals against Wrexham, alerted Denis Smith and the following summer Chris left Norwich to return to Wales. Already a full international and a former captain of the U21 side, he is looking forward to playing as striker once again and getting regular first team football.

CRAIG MORGAN (Centre-Half)

Still only 18 years of age, Colwyn Bay born Craig made his first team debut last season and when scoring at Cambridge United, made the record books

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Wrexham Football Club



by being the youngest Football League scorer in the club's history. He has been a regular in the reserves for two seasons and in the summer was offered a full professional contract. Called up by Wales at U19 level and on standby for the U21s, the central defender looks to have a bright career ahead of him in the game.

SHAUN PEJIC (Defender)

Made his debut at Port Vale in 2001, but had to wait until a visit to Peterborough United in January 2002 for his second appearance in a Wrexham shirt. Retained his place over the next few weeks, until a dead leg sidelined him. His performances were enough to earn him a full professional contract and he will be sure to see more action in the season ahead.

STEVE ROBERTS (Defender)

Now a regular member of the first team, Steve scored his first goal for the club with the opener at Kettering, in a televised FA Cup first round replay in 1999. A Welsh U21 international, he was called up to the senior squad in May 2003 for a friendly in the USA, but had to miss out due to an operation on a heel injury. Made his first team debut in October 1998, in a Welsh Premier Cup game with Swansea City, lining up alongside brother Neil, to become the eighth pair of brothers to have turned out for the club. Born in Wrexham, Steve came through the junior ranks at the Racecourse and has established himself at centre half with over 100 appearances for the club.

HECTOR SAM (Forward)

The third of our Trinidadians, he signed in 2001. Played for a team in Port of Spain and has been capped by his country at several levels including full international. Only 23, he opened his account for Wrexham with a goal in his first game, a friendly against Sheffield Wednesday. Not the tallest of strikers, Hector certainly has pace and has already proved himself more than a handful for opposing defenders. Six goals in his first seven competitive matches was an impressive return and saw him called up to the T&T side for their World Cup games against Mexico and Panama.

STEVE THOMAS (Midfielder)

A former YTS trainee and now in his fifth season as a professional, making his senior debut at Newtown in the FAW Invitation Cup and followed that up by

being on the bench for several Football League games. A native of Hartlepool, Steve has Welsh qualifications and has played for his adopted country many times at Youth and Under-21 levels. Made his Football League debut against Stoke City in September 1998 and scored our winning goal against Caernarfon Town in the FAW Premier Cup that year. Broke his ankle in December 1999, but returned to the senior squad towards the end of that season, before suffering several injuries during 2000/01. He finished the following year on a much more positive note by securing a regular first team place and gaining further U21 caps.

PAUL WHITFIELD (Goalkeeper)

Now into his second season as a professional, the Wales U21 keeper from Llandudno made his senior Wrexham debut against Everton in the 2002/03 Worthington Cup. Due to injuries to the club's other keepers, Paul enjoyed an extended run in the side and is showing just why he is so highly thought of at the Racecourse. A cartilage operation forced him out of the team over Christmas 2002, but he has returned to action and played for Wales U21s against Azerbaijan in April 2003. Despite his age, Paul has played on loan with both Newtown and Connah's Quay Nomads in the Welsh Premier. This coming after a similar spell with TNS, which saw him travel to Estonia as cover for their European Cup tie with Levadia Maardu.



JIM WHITLEY (Midfielder)

Joined the Racecourse staff on non-contract terms in October 2001, after an abortive attempt was made to sign him in the previous summer. Released by Manchester City a season ago, Jim is a Northern Ireland international who was raised in Wrexham before learning his trade with City. He has also been

on loan to several teams over the years including Norwich City and Northampton Town, but found himself a new role as full back with the Red Dragons. After winning the club's 2001/02 Player of the Season trophy, he signed a contract that will take him through until the end of the present season.



Blast From The Past

Forty-eight years ago this month was a good time to be a Luton Town supporter with the Hatters the talk of every pub

and club in the land and even keeping Manchester United and Wolves off the back pages.

After the Town won promotion to the old Division One for the first time in 1955, manager Dally Duncan proclaimed that he would not be making any summer signings and would instead rely on the players who had earned the prize. Luton supporters were not so sure!

They need not have worried, however, as the team made a steady start to the season, losing only one of its first five games and beating highly fancied Preston and Tottenham at Kenilworth Road along the way, as well as winning 1-0 at Everton.

The national press really began to sit up and take notice of this small club from Bedfordshire when FA Cup holders

Newcastle were seen off at Kenilworth Road, closely followed by Stanley Matthews' Blackpool.

When Wolves were hammered 5-1 before a record Luton league crowd of 27,911, with England centre-half Billy Wright given the runaround, the Town pushed up to ninth position in the table and the players were beginning to believe that a realistic tilt at the title was a distinct possibility.

The biggest test of these 'upstarts' was surely to come when the Division One leaders, Sunderland, came to Kenilworth Road on November 19th 1955 and another large crowd of 25,802, which included most of Fleet Street, gathered to see if the bubble would burst.

Sunderland, at that stage, had never been out of the top flight and boasted an expensive side which included Wales captain Ray Daniel. England's Len Shackleton and mercurial winger Billy Bingham, who was later to play for the Hatters. They had also achieved a run of six games without defeat.

Considering what was about to happen, the first half hour passed fairly gently without a goal being scored, although it took a brilliant save from Town goalkeeper Ron Baynham to keep out a wicked shot from Shackleton.

The breakthrough came in the 31st minute when Sunderland 'keeper Willie Fraser pulled down Luton winger Mike Cullen from behind, and the ever reliable Gordon Turner scored from the spot.

This was to prove the turning point as, by the time the half-time whistle sounded, the Town were 4-0 up. Firstly Cullen, normally a goal provider rather than a scorer, hit home a 25 yard shot followed by close range efforts from Jim Adam and Bob Morton.



The Town line up on the Saturday before their 8-2 thrashing of Sunderland in November 1955.

Hatters the toast of Fleet Street

The Wearsiders had no answer to the rampant Luton forward line and their square defence was cut to ribbons as short through passes on the ground more often than not found their man and created danger.

The second period opened quietly before Daniel had a mad spell during which he failed to find his goalkeeper with a back pass leaving Morton to nip in and then handled a corner giving Turner the chance to increase the lead even more from the spot.

Sunderland hit back with a goal from Ted Purdon, before Cullen netted from an acute angle, with Morton completing the Luton goal tally ten minutes from the end, running 40 yards before beating Fraser to complete his first hat-trick.

Purdon hit home a consolation in the final minute, following a rare lapse of concentration in the Luton defence but that was soon forgotten as the players left the field to a standing ovation, 8-2 winners.

For a short time afterwards the Town were

the most talked about team in the country, and the newspaper reports spoke about "the most attractive team in the land" and "the slaughter of Sunderland had to be seen to be believed" as well as "never was there a humiliation like this."

Spare a thought for poor Willie Fraser who, apart from letting in eight in 1955/56, conceded six the following season and seven in 1957/58. He did make one more appearance at Kenilworth Road, in the colours of Nottingham Forest shortly before the 1959 FA Cup final, and picked the ball out of the net five times! One for the record books?

Luton: Baynham, Dunne, Aherne, Pemberton, Owen, Shanks, Cullen, Turner, Morton, Cummins, Adam.

Sunderland: Fraser, Hedley, McDonald, Anderson, Daniel, Aitken, Bingham, Fleming, Purdon, Chisholm, Shackleton.

Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages

The Town produced their normal eight page issue for the visit of Sunderland in

November 1955 and the person who wrote the 'Club Notes' section seemed to go overboard regarding the merits of the visitors. Referring to them several times as the 'Team of all the Talents' he glossed over the fact that this title had been earned in the 1890's when Sunderland won the League championship three times.

What was not in dispute, however, was the fact that Sunderland had been ever present in Division One since joining the League in 1890, were currently top of the table and were leading goalscorers in the division.

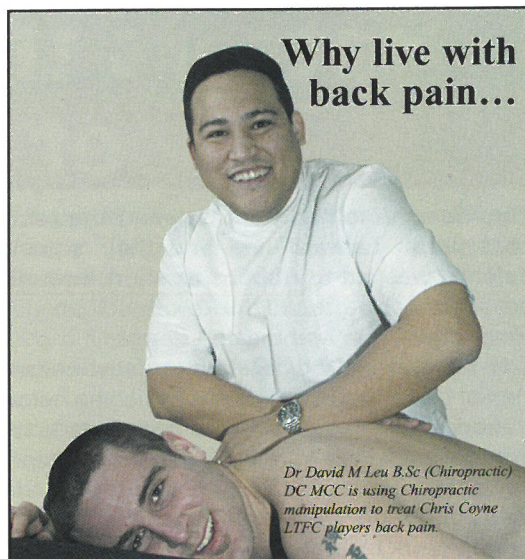
Elsewhere in the programme was an advert for the Oxford v Cambridge Varsity match at Wembley where the cheapest admission price was 6d (2.5p)! It was all of 11/- (55p) for travel to Portsmouth the following week with coaches leaving Luton at 9am in those pre-motorway days.

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. At the last home game, we asked why Peterborough should remember Steve Howard, Ahmet Brkovic and Dean Crowe from last season. The answer was that they all scored against the Posh.

TODAY'S QUESTION

Who is the Wrexham goalkeeper who has a special place in the history of Luton Town, and why?



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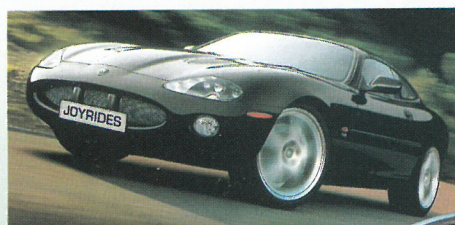
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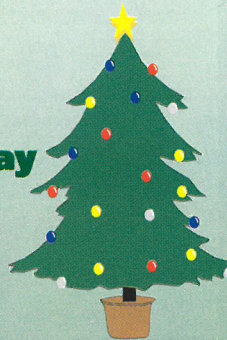
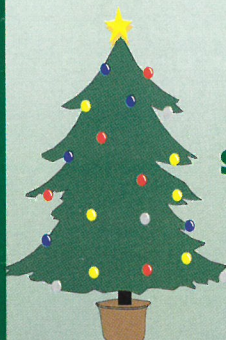


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Town Fans Boost A Cup-tie Gate

ALTHOUGH they are going well and chasing promotion in the Ryman Premier League, Thurrock have only twice this season attracted more than 400 fans to their home games in the league. Between 250 and 300 is more usual, but the Town's FA Cup visit produced a double boost for the non-leaguers. The Town following was over 500, which meant that the home fans total was just over 1,000. And that was despite the fact that the game was shown live on television. Latest figures for travelling fans:

Town Travellers

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Stockport | 671 |
| Brighton | 727 |
| Notts Co | 1,215 |
| Plymouth | 449 |
| Charlton (CC) | 2,407 |
| Oldham | 487 |
| Swindon | 412 |
| Stevenage(LDV) | 1,028 |
| Brentford | 1,468 |
| Bournemouth | 462 |
| Bristol City | 496 |
| Rushden (LDV) | 876 |
| Thurrock (FAC) | 509 |

Total: 11,207
Average: 862

Visitors to Luton

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| Rushden | 922 |
| Yeovil (CC) | 493 |
| Grimsby | 318 |
| Hartlepool | 573 |
| Port Vale | 344 |
| QPR | 1,872 |
| Tranmere | 170 |
| Wycombe | 414 |
| Peterborough | 579 |

5,685
632

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Ten Men Battle To Earn A Point

Luton Town 1 Peterborough Utd 1

BOTH managers agreed that things might have been different if the Town had kept 11 men on the pitch for the whole game, instead of losing Ian Hillier for his second yellow card in the 38th minute. The Town were deservedly leading, but Posh staged a second-half revival, equalised, and were denied a winner by a mixture of good defending, an impressive display by debut goalkeeper Marlon Beresford, and poor finishing.

Mike Newell's view was that the ref might have livened up the game by dismissing Hillier, but he had also ruined it. It was a welcome point gained, he said, and perhaps on the second-half run of play Peterborough would think they should have won. Barry Fry agreed, saying he was most disappointed at not collecting a victory which would have been Peterborough's first in 12 games. What we will never know, said the Town boss, was how things might have panned out had it stayed 11 v 11. He suggested David Crick had made a rod for his own back with an early yellow card for Ahmet Brkovic, who had won the ball cleanly.

Neat passing and the persistence and enthusi-

asm of Adrian Forbes gave the Town the lead on 29 minutes. Gary McSheffrey flicked on a header down the middle for Forbes, who switched the ball to the right for overlapping midfielder Lee Mansell to return it quickly. Forbes had continued his run, and although Matthew Gill made a strong tackle that left both grounded, Forbes swung a boot to register his sixth goal in as many games.

The manager had made four changes to reshuffle the team after ten goals had been leaked in the two previous games, and the shape looked right. But Mansell had to be sacrificed so that Alan Neilson could replace Hillier at left back, and inevitably Peterborough started to have more say in midfield. But they were getting nowhere until Fry sent on two subs and switched to a 3-4-3 formation. One of the new men, David Farrell, managed to get round Kevin Foley to lay on Leon McKenzie's headed equaliser on 64 minutes, and although Peterborough drove forward with more willingness than wit after that, the Town held firm, and almost nicked a victory when Matthew Spring surged into the box and drove an angled shot against a post.

TOWN: Beresford; Foley, Boyce, Coyne, Hillier; Mansell (Neilson 42 mins), Robinson, Spring, Brkovic; McSheffrey, Forbes. Unused subs: Perrett, Leary, Judge, Brill.

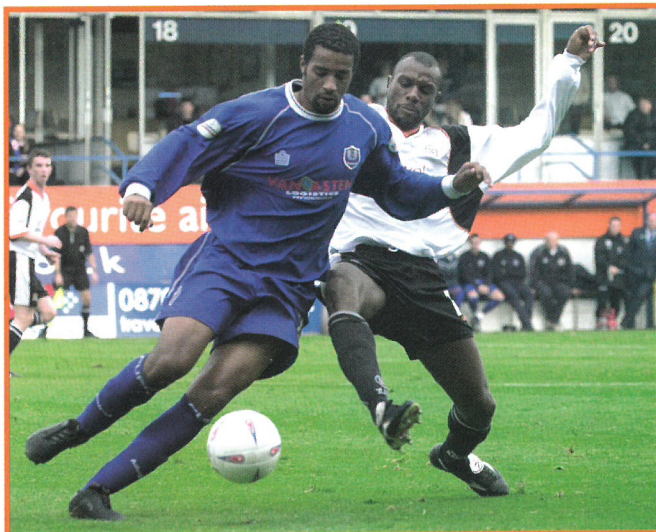
BOOKED: Ahmet Brkovic, and Ian Hillier twice, all three for fouls on Callum Willock.

PETERBOROUGH: Tyler; Gill (Newton 59 mins), Arber, Burton, Jellyman; Willock, Woodhouse, Thomson, Clarke (Farrell 59 mins); Logan (Fotiadis 72 mins), McKenzie. Unused subs: Legg, Kanu

BOOKED: Curtis Woodhouse for a foul on Steve Robinson.

REFEREE: David Crick, Surrey

ATTENDANCE: 6,067, including 579 Peterborough fans.



FIFTY-FIFTY CLASH: Emmerson Boyce and Sagi Burton battle for possession.

Boys Step In And Do A Man's Job

Rushden & Diamonds 1 Luton Town 2

RARELY has victory been so sweet for Town fans as success against all the odds that took them into the third round of the LDV Trophy. With an FA Cup-tie three days ahead, the Town used five youth team players, and were down to ten men for the whole of the second half.

Rushden put out a full league side, but were stunned by two early goals, lifted briefly by a reply, and then demoralised as the ten men settled to keep out attacks that became more and more ragged as the boys did a man's job perfectly.

Enoch Showunmi, a 21-year-old off parks football trying to earn a contract, enjoyed his best game yet, bustling through two challenges and firing in his first Town goal after seven minutes. Eleven minutes later he looked like doing it again, but John Dempster brought him down and 20-year-old Michael Leary calmly knocked in the penalty.

Rushden were stung, and seemed to be getting on top after Rodney Jack capitalised on the Town's only moment of indecisive defending,

with a goal from a far post corner. Jack was the danger man, and Sol Davis paid a high price for two tackles on him that earned yellow cards, on ten and 44 minutes. Both seemed harsh, but the depleted team grew in stature after that. Curtis Davies, 18, was sent on to partner 17-year-old Leon Barnett in central defence, and they were magnificent. So was Dean Brill, another 17-year-old, with several top class saves that helped to knock the confidence out of Rushden.

Keith Keane, 16, did remarkably well on his debut at right back, and the Town's second-half defiance and determination was more than enough to keep Rushden at bay.

Mike Newell said: "It's never easy when you go down to ten men, but I am delighted with the players' efforts, and the way they applied themselves in the second half. It would have been very disappointing if the referee had ruined it for us."

TOWN: Brill; Keane, Barnett, Hillier, Davis; Mansell, O'Leary (Davies HT), Leary, Brkovic; Crowe, Showunmi. Unused subs: Deeney, Judge, Okai, Beresford.

BOOKED: Leary, Crowe and Davis twice, and sent off on 44 minutes.

RUSHDEN: Evans; Bignot, Edwards, Dempster, Underwood; Mills (Hall HT), Hanlon, Burgess (Talbot 81 mins), Gray; Kitson, Jack. Unused subs: Sambrook, Story, Okoungbae.

BOOKED: Paul Evans and John Dempster, with Town fans baffled that the ref chose yellow for the keeper's foul outside the box on Showunmi, and offered no card at all for Dempster's penalty offence.

REFEREE: Iain Richardson, Berkshire

ATTENDANCE: 2,746, including 876 magnificent Town fans.



ONE FOR THE SCRAPBOOK: Enoch Showunmi has just scored the first senior goal of his career, and Michael Leary, who later added the Town's second from a penalty, is first to offer congratulations.

Solid Defence Makes Its Point

Bristol City 1 Luton Town 1

RESILIENT enough to come back after an early reverse, and determined enough to withstand pressure, the Town looked a very good professional outfit at Ashton Gate. Home fans were moaning that City had more than enough of the play to have snatched their first win in five league outings. But the Town looked just as likely to nick a late winner, so perhaps the draw was right.

Things looked bleak when City took the lead after only 90 seconds. Luke Wilshire's low cross was cleared to the edge of the box, and City skipper Joe Burnell fired in the first goal of his league career. But the Town kept their shape, which was more than the home side could. A classic goal on the break levelled matters after 18 minutes, with Emmerson Boyce surging out of defence with the ball before sending it on to Matt Spring. The midfielder weighted and directed his pass perfectly for Gary McSheffrey to outpace his marker, draw the keeper and slide in his ninth goal of the season.

It was City who wobbled after that, and manager Danny Wilson was concerned enough to change his formation five minutes before the break. By then McSheffrey had been denied by a goalkeeper's block, and Ahmet Brkovic shot a yard wide from another incisive pass by Spring. Wilson responded by taking off wingback Kevin Amankwaah and sending on Leroy Lita, to change from a 3-5-2 formation to 4-4-2.

It made his defence more secure, and for much of the second half City attacked with occasional skill, but precious little conviction. Their finishing was poor, and when they looked like getting to close quarters the Town defended as a team and kept them out with ease.

We had a worrying moment on 75 minutes when City had loud claims for a penalty as Lita tumbled under a challenge by Alan Neilson. The decision caused delight among some of us in the Pressbox, and incredulity by the home contingent, because Lita was booked for diving.

It was frustration all the way for City after that. The Town were without injured Kevin Foley, but with Sol Davis returning after suspension and Alan Neilson filling in at right back, the pressure was soaked up with something to spare. Indeed the Town might have won it late on, but McSheffrey put a shot wide of the far post, Spring had a 25-yarder saved, and sub Enoch Showunmi failed to make contact with an 86th-minute cross by McSheffrey which fizzed across the goal.

Mike Newell had few complaints about the result. "I felt at the end of the first half we had a chance of winning," he said. "It seemed to me that Bristol City were low on confidence. If you come away and concede a silly goal, you can be up against it, but we could have hurt them more after the equaliser when we had a little more belief in ourselves.

"In the second half we were a bit negative at times, but we defended very well. I can see Bristol City turning over teams here, so at the end of the season we might look back and say this looked like a good result. It was a good draw, but if we had been more incisive we might have won."

Danny Wilson said: "In the second half we played well but we are not getting the rub of the green. It was nearly all one-way traffic, but we tried to over-elaborate and the chances were gone. I feel for our boys: they gave everything, but couldn't get the break they needed."

Match Details

TOWN: Beresford; Neilson (Hillier 85 mins), Boyce, Coyne, Davis; Mansell, Robinson, Spring, Brkovic; McSheffrey, Forbes (Showunmi 60 mins). Unused subs: Crowe, Leary, Brill.

BOOKED: Sol Davis, Matt Spring and Emmerson Boyce.

BRISTOL CITY: Phillips; Coles, Butler, Hill; Amankwaah (Lita 41 mins, injured, Miller 87 mins), Wilshire, Burnell, Tinnion, Woodman; Roberts, Peacock. Unused subs: Doherty, Fortune, Stowell.

BOOKED: Tony Butler and Leroy Lita.

REFEREE: Tony Peake, Lancashire

ATTENDANCE: 9,735, including 496 Town supporters.



ONE ON ONE: Adrian Forbes in competition with Tony Butler.

RIGHT: Gary McSheffrey races past Matthew Hill on his way to scoring his ninth goal of the season.

BELOW: Ahmet Brkovic trying to force a way through the attentions of Tony Butler and Danny Coles.



TIMELY CONTRIBUTION: Emmerson Boyce hadn't scored since helping the Town to a 3-1 win at Swindon in February 2001, but his strike at Thurrock in the FA Cup last week turned out to be crucial. He flicked the ball into the net with the outside of his right boot following Matt Spring's cross to give the Town a lead which was cancelled out ten minutes from time.



Hatters Pic of the Week

Boss Grateful For Second Chance

FA Cup, Round 1: Thurrock 1 Luton Town 1

THE MOOD was pensive and relieved as the Town escaped from Essex with their FA Cup hopes still intact. Mike Newell admitted the final whistle couldn't come soon enough for him as the Ryman League part-timers went close to pulling off a shock win.

Thurrock were determined to enjoy their moment in the Sky TV spotlight for their first-ever appearance in the first round. They had already caused one upset, beating Dagenham & Redbridge of the Conference, a division above their own. The Town, after a performance that fell short of their capabilities, were grateful to earn the chance to set the record straight at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday.

Even the first goal failed to settle the Town, or dampen Thurrock's enthusiasm, and although their equaliser came late, it was no more than they deserved. With better finishing, and a lesser performance by Marlon Beresford, the Town would have suffered the embarrassment of defeat.

They were fortunate that the home side's attempts to supply long-ball service to Tresor Kandol and Kris Lee were regularly thwarted as the two front-runners failed to escape from the Town's offside trap.

Kandol, and midfielder Cliff Akurang, had a point to prove, having both been shown the door at Kenilworth Road before making much of an impact. Akurang ran his heart out, and fortunately for the Town Kandol was as frustrating for home fans as he used to be here: he got into good positions, but was unable to capitalise. He had Thurrock's best opportunity to win the game as they staged a grandstand finish following an 80th-minute equaliser. He was put through down the middle, tried to chip Beresford, and lobbed the ball tamely into the keeper's outstretched arms. Kandol had missed an earlier chance to equalise, when a one-on-one chance was snuffed out by Beresford's excellent save.

For Town fans, it was frustrating to see their team

waste possession too often, and fail to make class count. Coventry refused to allow Gary McSheffrey to be cup-tied, and with little decent service Enoch Showunmi and Adrian Forbes could not do much damage.

The Town's goal came after 39 minutes. A free kick by Sol Davis was met by a strong header from Chris Coyne, and Paul Gothard did well to finger-tip the ball around his post. The corner by Matt Spring on the Town's left was half-cleared back to the midfielder, who whipped in a fierce low cross to the near post and Emmerson Boyce went in bravely to register his first goal of the season. Coyne's pleasure was temporary – he was booked later, and faces a suspension as a result.

Thurrock's football improved after the break. A fierce drive by Spring might have finished them off, but the keeper made a finger-tip save, and slowly the home side increased their attacking momentum, with the crowd roaring them on. They felt they had the Town on the ropes, and with ten minutes to go joyous scenes greeted the night's top display of clinical finishing. Midfielder Terry Bowes ran through from deep to chase a ball down the inside left channel, and his equalising drive was an example to everyone else on the field. If Kandol had been as clever five minutes later it would have been all over.

"All I wanted was for the referee to blow the final whistle, because I didn't want to watch any more," said the Town manager. "Thurrock created better chances and if it hadn't been for our goalkeeper we would be out of the cup by now. We didn't want enough of the ball, and we weren't brave enough to go and get it and pass it."

Colin McBride, manager of Thurrock, was proud of his side's effort, but worried that perhaps they had passed up their best chance of winning the tie. It will be a lot harder, he said, at Kenilworth Road.

Match Details

TOWN: Beresford; Hillier, Boyce, Coyne, Davis; Mansell (Leary 58 mins), Spring, Robinson, Brkovic; Forbes (Crowe 73 mins), Showunmi. Unused subs: Judge, Barnett, Brill.

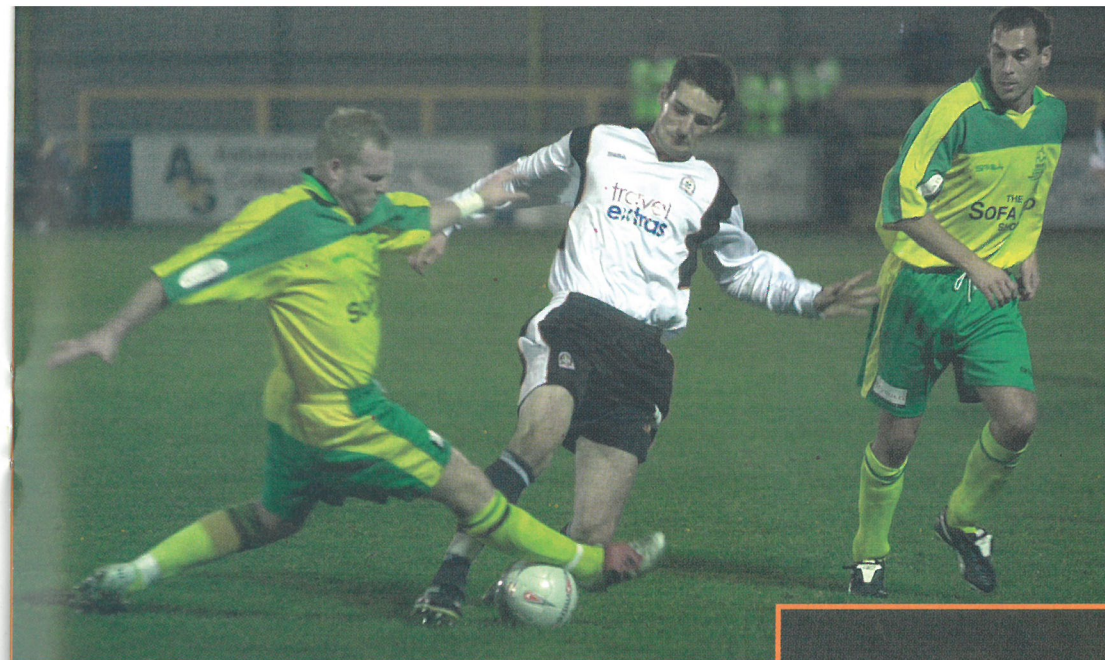
BOOKED: Chris Coyne and Enoch Showunmi

THURROCK: Gothard; Collis, McFarlane, Purdie, Goodfellow; Akurang (Allen 83 mins), David Lee, Heffer, Bowes; Kris Lee (Linger 69 mins), Kandol. Unused subs Basham, O'Brien, Howard.

BOOKED: John Purdie, David Collis, Steve Heffer, Tresor Kandol.

REFEREE: Mike Thorpe, Suffolk.

ATTENDANCE: 1,551, five times Thurrock's usual league attendance, and including 509 anxious Town supporters.



MIDFIELDER ON THE ATTACK: Matt Spring tries to get the Town moving.

RIGHT: The night's highlight for the Town, as Adrian Forbes shares Emmerson Boyce's pleasure after the defender's goal.

BELOW: Sol Davis helping to make sure that former Town man Tresor Kandol is kept at bay, with Chris Coyne covering.



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Jackpot Joy Makes For A Happy Family

IVOR Brimble and his sons always enjoy coming to Kenilworth Road, but it was even more of a pleasure than usual when they came to see the Peterborough game. Mr. Brimble, from Staveley Road, Dunstable, went home richer by £695, and as you can see from the picture sons Elliott, 13, and Reece, 11, also thought it was an excellent result.



The cash was the day's prize in our Golden Gamble competition, and the winning ticket cost only £1. The Brimble family watch games from the main stand, but the Golden Gamble sellers visit all parts of the stadium, and another fan will pick up a nice wedge of cash this afternoon.

The lottery is a 50-50 affair: half of each £1 spent goes into the jackpot, and the other 50p goes to club funds, so winners and losers alike are supporting Luton Town with every ticket they buy. So far this season the Golden Gamble has paid out £5,505, an average of £612 to each of nine winners.



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





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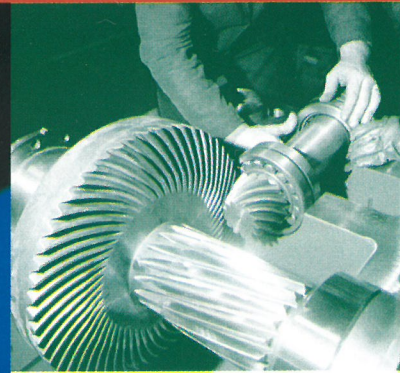
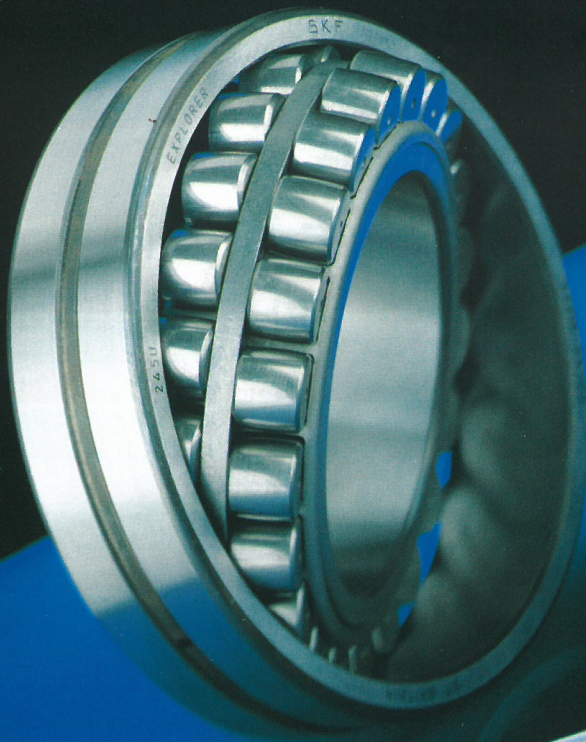
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Youth Soccer: The under-19s

Cheltenham Town 2 Luton Town 4

A DECENT performance gave us a good win after a poor start. Cheltenham looked very alert and sharp from kick-off, and we were hit by a goal in the first two minutes. Fortunately we got straight back into the game, with an equaliser two minutes later from Tom Freeman, and after that we settled down. The pitch was very hard and fast, and tested players' control of the ball and the ability to hit passes accurately.

Sean Ridgway gave us the lead on 29 minutes, to round off a good move which saw Parys Okai get to the by-line before pulling the ball back. But Cheltenham showed good spirit as well, and within a couple of minutes they equalised following a goal-mouth scramble.

In the second half, playing down a slope, we had more control. Mutsa Magadah was sent on as sub for trialist striker Danny Jones, and put away two headers, on 72 and 84 minutes.

The final goal came when Cheltenham were down to ten men. Their keeper was sent off for handling outside the box, but we had been on top against 11 men, and might have taken one or two more goals.

Luton Town: Eade, Howell (Davies 85 mins), Mountford, O'Leary (Mansell 40 mins), Deeney, Barnett, Keane, Ridgway, Jones (Magadah 66 mins), Freeman, Okai.

Luton Town 0 Walsall 3

WE DIDN'T deserve to beat the league leaders, but this result flattered Walsall. One goal came from a free kick, the second was a freak, and the third a penalty. The sending-off of Tom Freeman after 73 minutes completed our miserable day. Our major problem was that we were not strong enough in attack against a good side who made the most of their lucky breaks.

The goal that hurt us most was the second, because it made it 2-0 a minute before the interval. A good free kick saw Walsall go ahead, but their second was a fluke - their keeper punted a long clearance down field and it bounced over our goalkeeper and into the net. We conceded again on 67 minutes, when a harsh penalty was awarded. A defender threw himself at the ball to charge down a shot, and was penalised for hands, although I felt it was ball to hand, and accidental.

Freeman was sent off for two yellow-card tackles, but the first annoyed us because the opponent went down as though he had been murdered, waited for Freeman to be booked, and then got up laughing. I felt he too should have been booked for his unsporting conduct.

Luton Town: Eade, Deeney, Mountford, O'Leary,

Davies, Barnett, Keane, Ridgway, Jones (Magadah 48 mins), Freeman, Okai.

WE ARE at home next Saturday, in the Umbro Isotonic Youth Cup. Swindon Town are the visitors and kick-off at Luton RFC will be at 11am.

APPEARANCES (as sub in brackets): Barnett 12, Mountford 12, Keane 11, Deeney 10(2), O'Leary 10, Ridgway 10, R. Mansell 9(1), Howell 9, Davies 8(1), Judge 6(1), Okai 7, Freeman 5(1), Andrew 4(1), Barrett 4, Eade 4, Maitland 2, Jones 3, Godfrey 2, Magadah 1(4), Pendleton 1, Brill 1, Lambu 1, Wright 0(2), Burrows 0(1), S. Sinclair 0(1).

GOALS: Judge 5, O'Leary 3, Barnett 3, Magadah 2, Okai 2, Freeman 2, Andrew 1, Mansell 1, Davies 1, Deeney 1, Ridgway 1.

John Moore

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 3-3 | O'Leary 2, Okai |
| October | | | |
| 4 | Northampton | H 3-0 | Judge 2, Okai |
| 11 | Southend (LC) | A 1-0 | Barnett |
| 16 | Brighton (FAYC1) | A 0-2 | |
| 18 | West Brom | A 3-1 | Freeman, Deeney, Barnett |
| 25 | Cheltenham | A 4-2 | Freeman, Ridgway, Magadah 2 |
| November | | | |
| 1 | Walsall | H 0-3 | |
| 15 | Oxford | A | |
| 22 | Swindon (LC) | H | |
| 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



Gillingham 1 Luton Town 4

AN EXCELLENT game gave our young side a thoroughly-deserved result. Our defence restricted Gillingham to one shot, which went wide, in the first half, after we took a 28th-minute lead through a header by Stuart Richardson. He and Russell Preston missed chances which would have made it 3-0 by the interval, and that would have been a fair reflection on the game.

The worry was that we might pay for those misses, and sure enough Gillingham, with a sharp breeze behind them, equalised on 55 minutes after the referee chose to ignore an offside flag. But we refused to let that rattle us, and ten minutes later Liam Smyth scored after the keeper parried the ball from a header by Rob Sinclair. Matt Kenneford was sent on as a sub and enjoyed his first goal for us, an 80th-minute volley into the far corner, a top drawer finish.

The goals all came from good build-up play, including the last, five minutes from time, by Ross Hanley, and it was satisfying to see us put them away after threatening to do it so often in previous games.

Luton Town: Barrett, Pendleton, Asafu'Adjaye, Smyth, Green, Tague (Kenneford 72 mins), Hanley, S. Sinclair,

Richardson, Preston, R. Sinclair.

Luton Town 8 Wycombe 0

WITH no under-19 game on the same day, I was able to put out our strongest possible team, and this performance showed what we are capable of. Wycombe are not the worst team we have seen this season, and made a bright start without looking likely to hurt us.

We were two up at the break, when it could have been four or five, and by the end we could have got into double figures. The team performance was top class as we caused the opposition problems in all aspects of the game.

Stuart Sinclair fired in the opener on 15 minutes, and Mutsa Magadah netted from the rebound on 38 minutes after a Tom Freeman header came back off the bar.

We ran Wycombe ragged after that. I wanted an early third goal after the interval to snuff out any chance of a Wycombe revival and Sean Ridgway nearly got it, but his shot hit a post. However, Freeman finished Wycombe off with a ten-minute hat-trick, starting in the 55th minute. He and Calvin Andrew were terrorising the Wycombe defence, and it was a mystery how Andrew was not on the score sheet.

We took him off to give Luke Maitland a run, and he scored twice before Sinclair completed the rout with his second goal of the game.

Luton Town: Barrett, Smyth, Pendleton, S. Sinclair, Green (Tague 75 mins), Mountford, Hanley, Ridgway, Freeman (Richardson 80 mins), Andrew (Maitland 55 mins), Magadah.

WE WERE due to be at home to Southend on Saturday, but as John Moore's boys have been drawn at home in the league cup, our fixture will be played at Southend. We will be at home to Northampton the following week, November 29, kick-off 11am at Luton RFC.

APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets: Smyth 12, Green 12, Pendleton 11(1), S. Sinclair 11, Tague 10(1), R. Sinclair 9(1), Hanley 9, Preston 8(3), Burrows 7, Barrett 6, Goodchild 5, Clark 5, Richardson 4(1), Asafu'Adjaye 3(4), Mountford 2, Ridgway 2, Freeman 2, Andrew 2, Magadah 2, Kenneford 1(2), Charles 1(1), Deeney 1, Keane 1, Farrell 1, Potter 1, Kelly 1, Field 1, McNally 1, Jones 1, Robinson 0(3), Cowley 0(2), Maitland 0(1), Foley 0(1), McGuinness 0(1), Marsiligo 0(1).

Goals: Burrows 5, Preston 3, Freeman 4, Maitland 2, Magadah 2, S. Sinclair 2, Richardson 2, Andrew 2, Tague 1, Smyth 1, Kenneford 1, Hanley 1.

Mark Ridgway

Football League Youth Alliance Under-17 South East Conference

August

| | | |
|-------------|-------|--------------------|
| 9 Brentford | A 1-2 | Burrows |
| 16 Brighton | H 1-2 | Burrows |
| 23 Rushden | A 3-1 | Burrows 2, Preston |

September

| | | |
|---------------|-------|-------------------|
| 6 Cambridge | A 0-2 | |
| 13 Portsmouth | A 0-3 | |
| 20 L. Orient | H 3-1 | Andrew 2, Freeman |
| 27 Southend | A 2-6 | Magadah, Tague |

October

| | | |
|---------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| 4 Northampton | A 4-1 | Preston 2, S. Sinclair, Burrows |
| 11 Colchester | H 0-2 | |
| 18 Oxford | A 0-1 | |

November

| | | |
|--------------|-------|---|
| 1 Gillingham | A 4-1 | Richardson, Smyth, Kenneford, Hanley |
| 8 Wycombe | H 8-0 | Freeman 3, Maitland 2, S. Sinclair, Magadah, Richardson |

| | | |
|----------------|---|--|
| 15 L. Orient | A | |
| 22 Southend | A | |
| 29 Northampton | H | |

December

| | | |
|--------------|---|--|
| 6 Colchester | A | |
| 13 Oxford | H | |
| 20 QPR | H | |

January

| | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| 10 QPR | A | |
| 17 Gillingham | H | |
| 24 Wycombe | A | |
| 31 Brentford | H | |

February

| | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| 7 Brighton | A | |
| 14 Rushden | H | |
| 21 Cambridge | H | |
| 28 Portsmouth | H | |

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Fans Support Drive For New Minibus

SUPPORTERS are rallying to the cause after an appeal was launched to raise £20,000 before the end of the season to buy the club a new minibus which is needed mainly to ferry the youth team to training and matches. The first £1,500 is in the bank, with another £1,000 expected shortly.

Luton Town Supporters Club is running the appeal, and has been encouraged by the early gifts of cash, and suggestions on how to raise more money.

The appeal received an excellent kick-start, when the bucket collection at the game against Wycombe brought in £858. Our grateful thanks go to all fans who contributed, and it was a reminder that while we will look for ways of raising large amounts of money, a lot of small contributions can add up to something big.

One fund-raising idea is to offer individual sponsorships to supporters and companies, who will have their names listed as sponsors on the new vehicle when it goes into service.

Commercial companies can become sponsors of the minibus for a minimum donation of £1,000. The price for individuals is £200, and we gratefully acknowledge the first contribution received from fans. It came from Maureen Ingram, a stalwart of Luton Town Supporters Club – she is on the committee, and with her husband Paul is a regular at Town matches.

Our thanks also go to Keith Haywood, another committed Town fan. With a group of like-minded people, he produces the Mad As A Hatter fanzine, which has made a welcome reappearance this season. He has promised a £1,000 gift.

We know there are a lot more dedicated fans who find it difficult to give £200, but smaller amounts will be just as valuable over the next few months – "Many a mickle makes a muckle" as the old saying goes. Car boot sales, jumble sales, coffee mornings – the list is endless, and anything you can raise will be very gratefully received. Maureen Barrett, who is co-ordinating ideas for the Supporters Club, tells us she has several potential money-making projects in the pipeline, and we will be giving more information in future match programmes.

LTSC contributes cash to Luton Town FC in various ways, but is particularly keen on the minibus appeal because it feels fans would respond if they know exactly how their donations would be spent. Proceeds from the appeal will be ring-fenced and put into a separate bank account.

Any gifts, large or small, will be very gratefully received, not just by LTSC but also by the next generation of young footballers – the current minibus is a tad dilapidated, to put it mildly! Mickles and muckles alike will be very welcome. Please make your cheque payable to Luton Town Supporters Club, and send it, with your details if you wish to be a sponsor, to LTSC, c/o Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton, LU4 8AW.

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Derby Delight For Luton Town Belles

BELLES recorded their biggest win in any competition for two years with a resounding 9-1 derby success over Leighton Linlade. Luton were rewarded for their quick passing in the 10th minute when Rhiannon Morgan coolly slotted in from the edge of the area. Ten minutes later Lyndsey McKeown headed in from a corner, and that signalled a goal rush as Rhiannon Morgan increased the lead further by lifting a 35-yard shot over the keeper, who was stranded after slicing a clearance. Stacey Connell then did superbly to fight her way out of the corner before delivering a pinpoint cross to Kim Hide, whose shot made it 4-0 after half an hour. Leighton pulled a goal back on 40 minutes in a scramble but that stung Town into restoring their four-goal cushion through Kim Hide. Shortly after half time Leighton won a penalty but Sarah Gaitely flung herself to her left to save. Minutes later Fay Howell was chopped and Kim Hide scored her tenth goal of the season to complete her hat-trick from the penalty. A fine ball from Sam

Mather put Vicky Moody through one on one with the keeper, and she confidently rolled the ball into the corner to make the score 7-1. Town continued to pour forward and Fay Howell burst past four defenders before crossing to Rhiannon Morgan who scored from close range for her second hat-trick of the season. Sam Mather added the ninth with a 30-yard volley in the last minute, returning the keeper's goal kick straight back over her head.

Last week Belles travelled to AFC Bournemouth for a vital promotion clash but the hoodoo which has haunted Luton Town since 1969 was again in evidence as Belles did enough to earn a point but conceded a very dubious penalty goal with ten minutes left and then conceded a second as they went in search of an equaliser.

The under-13s continue to impress, defeating reigning champions Enfield Town 2-1 by fighting back from a goal down to win through a double from Brittany Murtagh. Brittany was again on target last week from the penalty spot, and with strike partner Nicky Shepherd scoring again and other strikes from Sian Doherty and Kerry Stratton, they won 4-0 win at Garston, their eighth consecutive victory.

An injury-ravaged under-12 squad fought out a five-goal thriller to win against QPR, with two goals from Lauren Bruton and a well-timed first goal of the season from Jade McEntaggart.

With players returning last week Belmont United were swept aside by a superb display of attacking football with Town winning 7-0 to climb into second place in the table. Lauren Bruton fired a hat-trick and further goals came from Jasmine Hall (2), Livi Robinson and Yasmin Hickling.

The incredible under-10s are in unstoppable form, racking up double figures without reply three matches in a row. The latest victims were Hatfield (13-0), Barking (10-0) and Hitchin Town (15-0). Of the 38 goals scored, captain Maisie Wyatt notched 16, including eight against Hitchin and five at Hatfield. Olivia Dacosta has weighed in with eight, Tricia Gould seven, Bethany Smith six and a second goal of the season for Lily Knowles.



CROWDED AREA: the Garston keeper punches clear from Michela Taylor, with Sian Docherty (12) Nicky Shepherd (14) and Kerry Stratton also in the picture.

Dave Baker

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 luton-belles@hotmail.com The Belles also have a website - pay a visit to www.luton-townbelles.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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WELCOME to all young fans, especially members of the Junior Hatters and our guests from our Wrexham counterparts, Tony and his Young Robins. We will be taking them on at football and entertaining them in our clubhouse before the big game.

We are pleased to be at home again for the first time in three weeks, and as usual our Saturday Club is back in business this afternoon.

We had an enjoyable trip to Ashton Gate, where the Bristol City Junior Strikers made us very welcome. We now look forward to an extra-special away day next week: to Hillsborough. Most of our members weren't born the last time the Town went there to play Sheffield Wednesday, so for a lot of supporters it will be a new ground to visit. We are now taking bookings to go to Sheffield to watch the

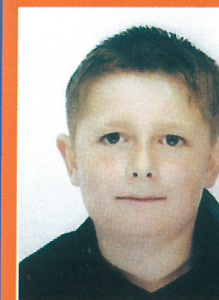
match. The coach will leave at 10.30 and fares will be £12 for Junior Hatters, £16 for under-16 guests, and £20 for adults, and that includes a match ticket. Seats are sold on a first come, first served basis, so my advice is to book early, and at the very latest by noon on Friday. To reserve your seat, or to book for Saturday Club, contact Junior Hatters headquarters at the Community Office.



JUNIOR Hatters mascots do duty at home and away, as these pictures show. Above is the group in the centre circle for the toss of the coin before our match against Peterborough. Conor Smith did the honours for the Junior Hatters, and the other young Town fan is Karl Moy, who was commercial mascot. The other photo was taken at Ashton Gate, where Bristol City invited us to field a mascot, and the choice, made on the coach on the way to the west country, was nine-year-old Sam North, from Dunstable Road, Toddington. He was delighted with his good fortune, because it was his first-ever Junior Hatters trip, although he hopes to become a regular.

JUNIOR Hatters membership is open to boys and girls aged from 0 to 16 who support Luton Town. There are lots of advantages, including the Saturday Club, organised trips to away games, and the chance to be a mascot at home matches – the choice is made at random from the membership list. For more information call Junior Hatters headquarters in the Community office, on 01582 391927.

Today's Mascot



EIGHT-year-old Tyler Smith is the Junior Hatter whose name has been picked out of the hat to be today's mascot. He lives at Tudor Drive, Houghton Regis, and attends Chantry Primary School. His main hobbies are football and computer games, and he comes to matches with

his dad, sitting in the Kenny End. Tyler's favourite player is Steve Howard.

Today's ball boys are Connor Lambert, from Bancroft Road, Luton, and Alex Collins, of Silver End Road, Haynes.

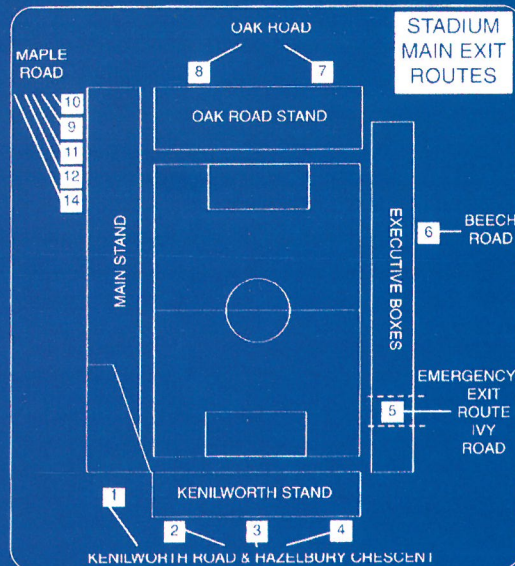


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Geoff Lovell, Safety Manager.





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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.

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|----------|------|------|-----------|
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| March | 6th | 13th | 20th 27th |

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Stuart Smith

To contact the Community Department call Stuart Smith on 01582 391927

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Scene In the Second: Wrexham Revival

FA CUP embarrassment at Yeovil a week ago – they were beaten 4-1 by the Third Division newcomers – was the end of a dismal run for Wrexham. It was their fourth successive defeat as they dropped out of the top half of the Second Division table, although they may not be too concerned about the third reverse in that sequence, a 4-5 loss at Stockport in the LDV Vans Trophy.

It was a run that could not go on, and sure enough Wrexham started to put the record straight on Tuesday, with a single-goal victory at Blackpool. In a league table which is still very tight, that enabled them to rise five places, to seventh, and only a point adrift of the play-off zone.

It was Wrexham's fifth league away win of the season, and West Brom, in Division One, are the only other club in the whole of the Nationwide League or Premiership with that many to their name. The Town go into today's game five points short of the top six.

The old cliché about concentrating on the league after cup disappointments was heard in some unlikely quarters this week. Perhaps Wrexham's knock-out was not a huge shock. The Town beat

Yeovil at Kenilworth Road in the Carling Cup in August, but they have found their feet since then in their first season in Division Three, where they are in the top six.

And if we were a little peeved coming home from Thurrock, we could at least enjoy the fact that we were still in the FA Cup. Within 24 hours Brighton had been knocked out at Lincoln, Plymouth lost at home to Northampton and Rushden were beaten at Swansea.

QPR, complete with their star strikers, lost at Grimsby, but like Wrexham they bounced back with a valuable victory on Tuesday. Their one-goal success at home to Brentford put the Loftus Road side back into second place in the table, behind Plymouth on goal difference.

They overtook Barnsley, who share with Rangers, Bournemouth and Hartlepool the distinction of still being unbeaten at home in the league this season.

Bournemouth's run includes their victory over the Town, but the Town have not lost in four outings since that dismal night.

But in league terms, the Town need a win today to match Wrexham recent form. Our last six in Division Two have been two wins, two defeats and two draws.

Wrexham's run has been three wins, one draw and two losses. Their five away victories in the league so far were 1-0 at Notts County and 3-2 at Sheffield Wednesday in August, 2-1 at Tranmere in September, 3-2 at Rushden three weeks ago, and 1-0 at Blackpool on Tuesday. They have yet to draw an away match, and their three defeats were 0-1 at Swindon and 0-2 at Hartlepool in September and 1-2 at Barnsley last month.

Nationwide League Division Two

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| QPR | 17 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 16 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 12 | 11 | 15 | 31 |
| Barnsley | 17 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 9 4 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 13 | 16 | 2 | 29 |
| Brighton | 17 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 15 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 11 | 14 | 8 | 28 |
| Bournemouth | 17 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 16 10 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 28 |
| Colchester | 17 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 9 6 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 12 | 14 | 1 | 28 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wrexham | 17 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 9 7 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 11 | 10 | 3 | 27 |
| Port Vale | 17 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 17 11 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 12 | 1 | 27 |
| Hartlepool | 17 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 14 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 14 | 18 | 7 | 25 |
| Bristol City | 17 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 14 6 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 24 |
| Swindon | 17 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 16 9 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 12 | 4 | 24 |
| Sheff Wed | 17 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 11 12 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 8 | 2 | 24 |
| Rushden | 17 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 17 15 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 12 | 14 | 0 | 24 |
| Luton Town | 17 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 17 9 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 12 22 | -2 | 23 | |
| Brentford | 17 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 15 14 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 11 | -5 | 23 |
| Oldham | 17 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 15 11 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 14 | 17 | 1 | 22 |
| Grimsby | 17 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 14 7 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 18 | -4 | 22 |
| Blackpool | 17 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 12 12 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 10 | 15 | -5 | 21 |
| Tranmere | 17 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 13 9 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 17 | -8 | 19 |
| Notts County | 17 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 10 9 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 18 | -11 | 16 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stockport | 17 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 10 17 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 10 | 12 | -9 | 15 |
| Peterborough | 17 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 13 18 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 8 | -6 | 14 |
| Chesterfield | 17 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 10 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 14 | -11 | 12 |
| Wycombe | 17 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 12 14 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 17 | -12 | 11 |

Today's Other Second Division Fixtures

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

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The Official Luton Town Website www.lutontown.co.uk



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



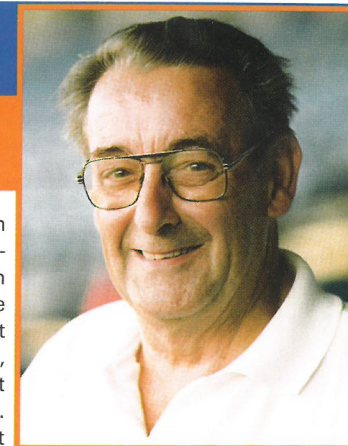
**Luton Town Supporters Club is the
official Hatters fans' club, but is independent
and run by its members.**

**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.**

Chattering Hatter



I HAD hoped that this column would be able to report the announcement that Luton Town have completed arrangements to come out of administration. Speculation has been intensifying recently, and things are certainly moving in the right direction. But as we went to press there was nothing official to report, and Barry Ward, the insolvency practitioner who is running the club, feels it is better to say nothing until a deal has been sorted out. We can, however, confirm that negotiations have been going on, and have been making progress.

Mike Newell, for one, will be delighted when it happens, not least because he might be able to get things moving on strengthening his injury-hit squad. The Football League's transfer embargo stays in force until the club comes out of administration, and the boss hopes that will be very soon.

For a start, he will lose another player if it does not happen quickly. The third month of Gary McSheffrey's loan from Coventry City runs out in a fortnight. The embargo prevents it being extended further, but when the Town are out of administration Coventry are willing to talk business about making the striker's move permanent. But while he is still on loan, the Town's leading scorer will not be able to play in Tuesday's game. Coventry would not allow him to be cup-tied as a loan player so he was not allowed to line up against Thurrock. With luck, he will help us demolish Rochdale in three week's time! Considering the difficulties caused by administration, plus the potentially crippling injury list, the Town have done remarkably well so far this season. And the feeling around Kenilworth Road, as well as at many other clubs, is that there will rarely be a better opportunity to win promotion from the Second Division in a season when the chase is wide open, with more than half its clubs still in with a chance with a third of the season completed.

Three Face Suspensions

ONE ITEM of the news the manager certainly did not want to hear was that the injury to Paul Hughes turns out to be a stress fracture of the shin, which means that he is added to the list of players unavailable for some weeks.

Kevin Foley, a revelation in his first season in the team, is getting over a thigh strain that has kept him out of the side for the last three games, and the manager still waits for the recovery of his long-term injury absentees, Kevin Nicholls, Steve Howard, Russell Perrett, David Bayliss and Alan Neilson, The Town will lose the services of three more players

this week. Ian Hillier, yellow-carded twice in the last home match, against Peterborough, has to sit out today's game. Sol Davis, sent off at Rushden

for two cautions, receives a two-match ban, one for that offence and another for reaching five yellow cards so far this season. He will be available today, but will miss Tuesday's FA Cup replay against Thurrock, and the trip to Hillsborough next Saturday. Chris Coyne's ever-present record in the league this season will be ended next week, because he is also suspended for the Sheffield Wednesday game. His one-match ban is for collecting five yellow cards. The manager has been asked if he is taking action to reduce the number of cautions received by his players. Yes, and no, is the answer, with each case treated on its merits. He is critical of some of the refereeing we have seen this season, and says if the whistler makes a mistake by getting the occasional booking wrong, why should the player be hit twice, once by the FA's disciplinary code and then by a club fine.

Kevin Nicholls, the club captain who has never been known to shirk a tackle, makes a similar point in his column today. Players ought not to be punished for trying to do their job, he says, and he has immense sympathy for Hillier and Davis.

Change Of Date

THE Town's Southern Area Quarter-Final in the LDV Vans Trophy will be at Southend on Tuesday December 9 (7.45) and because of that Luton Town Supporters Club have changed the date of one of their most popular annual "fixtures," the pre-Christmas quiz night. Players and fans take part together, and the evening had been set for December 9. As that is only 24 hours before a game which could see the Town take a step towards the Millennium Stadium at Cardiff in March, the quiz night has been moved to Thursday, December 11, still at the Eric Morecambe Suite. Tickets are on sale today at the LTSC kiosk in Kenilworth Road, £4 to members of the Supporters Club, and £7 for others.

Brian Swain

Today's Squads



Manager: Mike Newell

| | | | |
|----|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3 | Alan NEILSON | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | Matthew SPRING | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | Russell PERRETT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | Adrian FORBES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | Kevin NICHOLLS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | Steve ROBINSON | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | Chris COYNE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 | Enoch SHOWUNMI | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 | Emmerson BOYCE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 | Ahmet BRKOVIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 | Steve HOWARD | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 | Paul HUGHES | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 | David BAYLISS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 | Ian HILLIER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 | Sol DAVIS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 | Gary McSHEFFREY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29 | Marlon BERESFORD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 32 | Lee MANSELL | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 33 | Dean BRILL | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 34 | Dean CROWE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 38 | Michael LEARY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 39 | Steven O'LEARY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 41 | Kevin FOLEY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 43 | Matthew JUDGE | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 44 | Parys OKAI HOLMES | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 45 | Leon BARNETT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 47 | Rob BECKWITH | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Manager: Denis Smith

| | | | |
|----|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Andy DIBBLE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | Jim WHITLEY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | Shaun HOLMES | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | Steve ROBERTS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | Brian CAREY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | Dennis LAWRENCE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | Carlos EDWARDS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | Lee JONES | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 | Chris ARMSTRONG | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | Darren FERGUSON | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | Chris LLEWELLYN | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | Paul BARRETT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 | Paul WHITFIELD | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 | Paul EDWARDS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 | Craig MORGAN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 | Matt CROWELL | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 | Mark JONES | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 | Shaun PEJIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 | Steve THOMAS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 | Simon SPENDER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 | Levi MACKIN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 | Jimmy MCNULTY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 | Hector SAM | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 | Kieran QUINN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 | Bradley THOMAS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Today's Officials

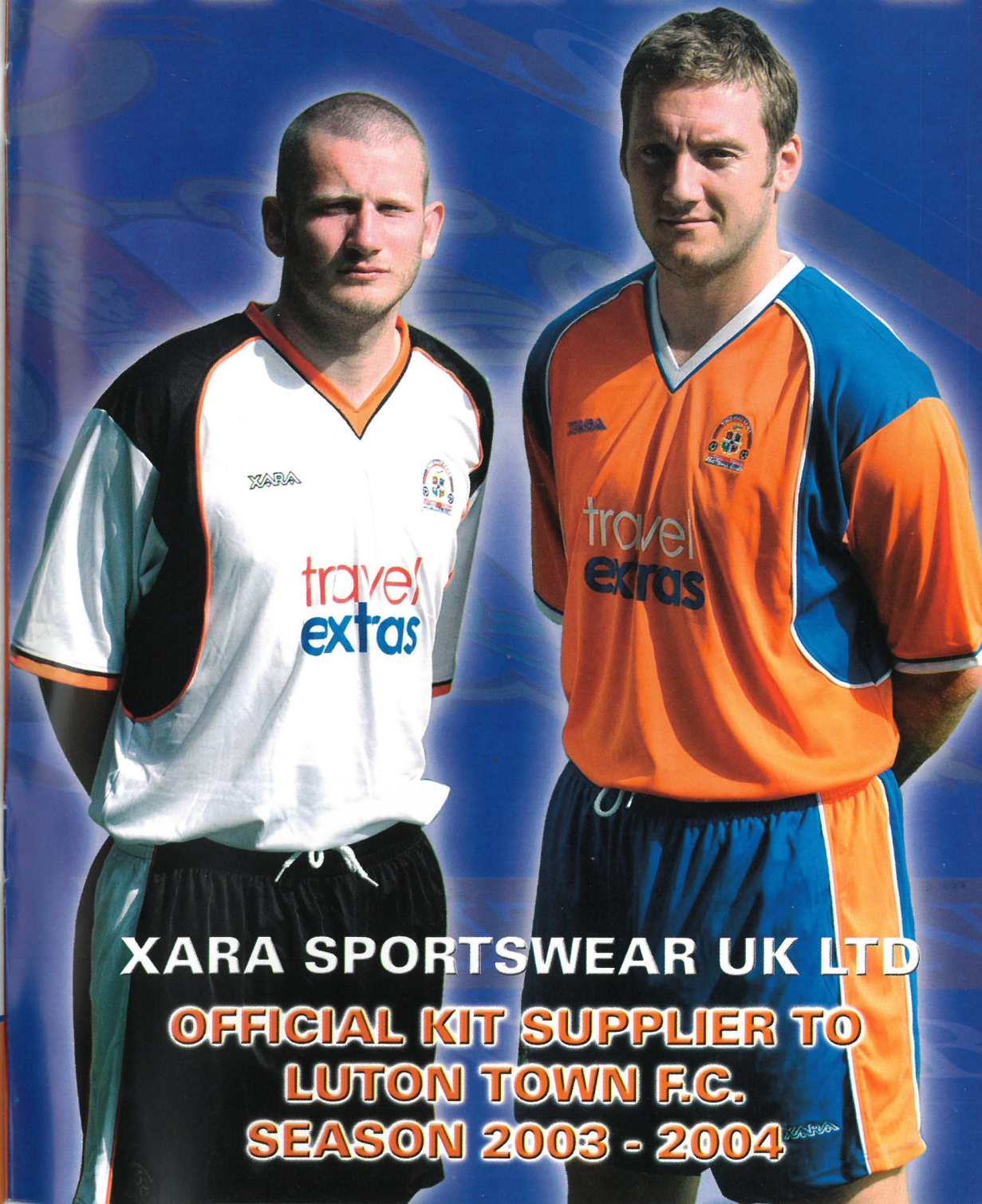
Referee: Trevor Kettle, Berkshire

Assistants: Jon Beadle, Kent (red and yellow flag);

Glenn Hambling, Norfolk (yellow flag)

Fourth official: Gary Lewis, Cambridgeshire

XARA



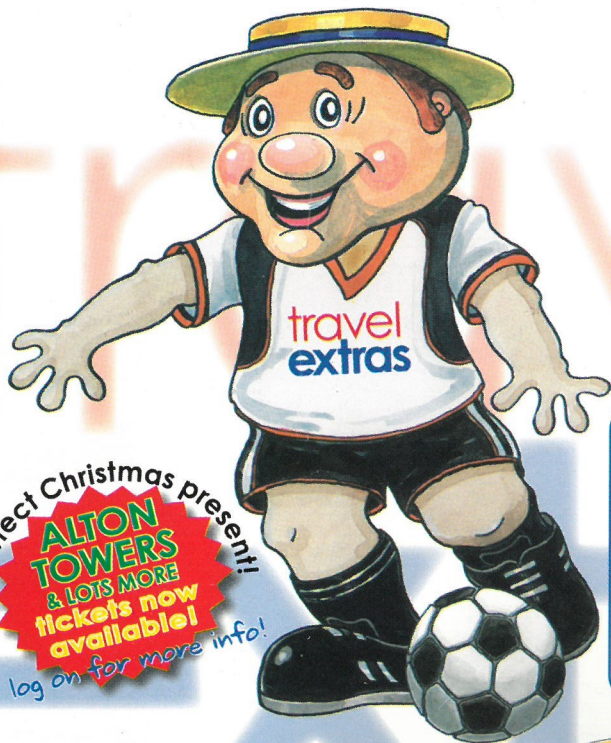
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Hatters Travel's £1 sign up has been extended due to popular demand! Visit the dedicated Hatters Travel site at www.travelextras.com/lffc and sign up for exclusive special offer. And, register before 31 December 2003 and the club gets £1 per person who signs up! Everyone who signs up will be placed into the free prize draw to win an LTFC signed shirt, or one of Travel Extras' goodies! So everyone is a winner!



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