



Luton Town Football Club

Official Matchday Magazine • Price £2.50

Nationwide League Division Two

Saturday 20th December 2003 • Kick Off 3.00pm



Wishing
supporters a Very
Happy Christmas
from all at
Luton Town
Football Club

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Luton Town v Barnsley

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The Boardroom	50	30

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

www.lutontown.co.uk

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Honours

Littlewoods Cup

Winners 1987-88
Finalists 1988-89

FA Cup

Finalists 1958-59

Simod Cup

Finalists 1987-88

Division 2

Champions 1981-82

Division 3 (S)

Champions 1936-37

Division 4

Champions 1967-68

Official Matchday Magazine

Editor

Brian Swain

Design & Printing

Regal Litho Ltd

Photography

Gareth Owen

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



Luton Town FC

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Fax: 01582 405070

Ticket Office: 01582 416976
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Vice Presidents

R. L. Banks, D. Ludlow MBE,
R. Safranek, J. Sapsworth
Chief Executive/Secretary

Cherry Newbery

Manager

Mike Newell

Director of Football & First Team Coach

Mick Harford

Coach

Brian Stein

Youth Team Coach

John Moore

Assistant Youth Coach

Marvin Johnson

Youth Development Officer

Mark Ridgway

Medical Officer

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Football in the Community

Stuart Smith

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Catering Manager

Peter Saul

Safety Officer

Geoff Lovell

Ticket Office

Darren Bell

Financial Controller

Tania Buonpane FCCA

Club Dentist

A. Chris BDSA (Syd)

Club Chaplain

Rev Catherine Moss

Log on to Luton Town's official website at www.lutontown.co.uk

Wondering what to give for Christmas?

How About a Luton Town half-season ticket at only £108?

Whether it's a Christmas gift for somebody, or a treat for yourself, we are again offering season tickets at a pro-rata rate for the second half of the season.

Starting with our match against Notts County on Sunday December 28, 2003, prices for 23 league games are:

MAIN STAND

Blocks A-E: Adults £199, Concessions £97 • Blocks F: Adults £167, Concessions £87

Block G: Adults £108, Concessions £76

KENILWORTH UPPER & LOWER

Adults £167, Concessions £87

ENCLOSURE

Blocks C-G: Adults £167, Concessions £87 • Blocks A, B, H, J: Adults £108, Concessions £76

FAMILY STAND

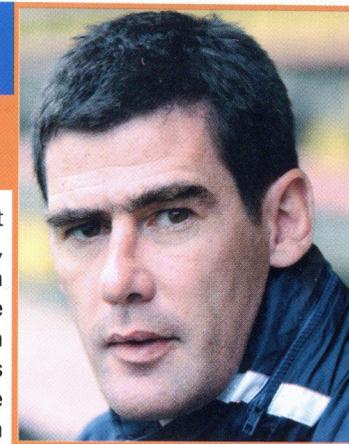
Two adults and one child: £376

One adult and two children: £313

Extra child: £65

**For further information contact the Ticket
Office on Luton (01582) 416976**

The Manager's Message



HELLO, and welcome to today's game against Barnsley. Welcome also to Gudjon Thordarson, his staff, players, directors and supporters.

Barnsley are a club that have also been in administration of late, but have had a decent first half of the season, and will provide a good test for us.

Since our last home game we have managed to progress to the third round of the FA Cup, after a good win at Rochdale. The reward was yet another away draw – that's now six out of seven so far this season – to Bradford. I say so far, because we would obviously like to progress further, and although it is not the glamour tie we would have wished for, it may just be more worrying for Bradford than for us.

Our exit from the LDV Vans Trophy to Southend was disappointing, but may prove to be a blessing in disguise. That's not how

we viewed it on the night, however. With a stronger side out than in previous rounds, we expected a better result, or certainly performance, but it wasn't to be. The last two league performances were in stark contrast, 1-0 wins against Chesterfield and Blackpool. We knew Chesterfield would make it difficult for us, and Blackpool are capable of beating anyone on their day, so two clean sheets are testament to how hard the lads worked over the two games. It now puts us into a top six position, which I think is a fair reflection of how the lads have performed until now. Our aim must be to stay there, and even put pressure on the teams above us.

A lot will depend on how long the restrictions remain on us, but if it was purely down to the lads' attitude I would have no fear.

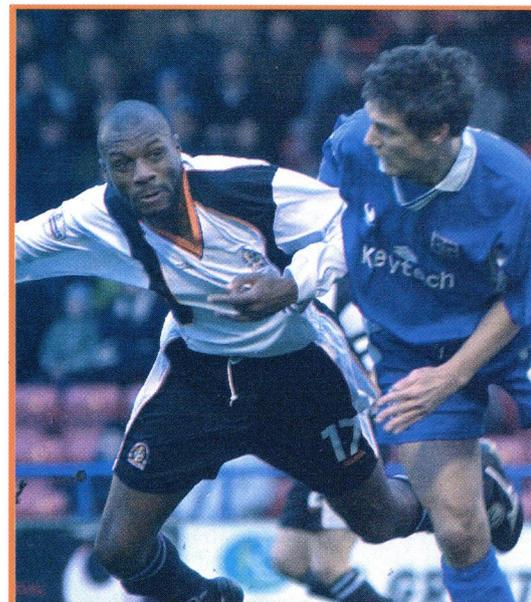
Many of you may have read that John Moore is due to retire at the end of the month. Most of you will remember him steering the club to its highest-ever league position as manager in 1986-87, a feat that will never be underestimated. But not everyone will know of his unselfish service as a player and coach at all levels for many years now.

John is not the type of man who likes the limelight or attention, but there is no doubt that he has contributed enormously to the development of players over the years, and kept up the club's great reputation for producing home-grown youngsters.

On behalf of everyone at the club, and particularly on the playing staff, we wish John a happy retirement, and thank him for his tremendous service.

Enjoy the game, and get behind the lads.

Mike Newell



DEFENDER ON THE ATTACK: Emerson Boyce up against Simon Grand in the FA Cup victory at Rochdale which earned the Town a third round trip to First Division strugglers Bradford City next Saturday.



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From The Chief Executive



FIRST of all this afternoon, on behalf of everyone at the club, we welcome you to Kenilworth Road and wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous, peaceful and promotion-winning New Year. And I would like to offer my special thanks to the Club's football management and players for the success we have had so far this season. Who could have imagined it! In administrative Receivership, with a limited squad and injuries to key players, we are 6th in the table and in the third round of the FA Cup – what a Christmas present they have given to all of us supporters!

As it is our last game before the holiday, there will be traditional Christmas features for supporters to enjoy. Our thanks are due again to the Luton Salvation Army Band, who are making their annual pre-Christmas visit. I know supporters thoroughly enjoyed their music on previous occasions, and it is always good to hear traditional Christmas tunes played live. It wouldn't be Christmas without Father

Christmas, and he will be here today, and for one lucky supporter there might be a fantastic present, because we are staging the first final of the Win a Ka Competition, which has been running at home games. Three lucky finalists are in with a chance to win a brand new Ford Ka, which will be here at half time for the lucky winner to drive away, if successful at the final stage. Watch out for this competition at half time! The competition is sponsored by SKY Ford, of Hemel Hempstead, and our thanks go to them. Still on the Christmas theme, today there is a bucket collection for the Mayor's Christmas Appeal, which you have always supported generously in the past. The charities the Mayor has chosen for this year are Oxfam, MIND and Diabetics UK, and all donations will be distributed between the three charities.

Our holiday festivities began early this week, with the Junior Hatters enjoying their annual Christmas party on Monday, and our annual Carol Service taking place at Luton Parish Church on Thursday. Our thanks to Hillborough Junior school choir, and John Williams the headmaster for their lovely singing. This beautiful service is enjoyed by everyone who attends each year and it hardly seems possible that this one was the seventh. It only seems like yesterday when we thought holding the first one. How the years fly by! Finally I would like to particularly welcome Sean Brennan and his family, who are guests of the club here today, Sean has not been well recently, and we are pleased that he has made a full recovery.

Season's Greetings

The management, players and all staff of Luton Town FC wish all their supporters a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. We thank everyone of you for your support throughout 2003.

Cherry Newbery

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

Kenilworth Suite Members

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of this Match Day Programme

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8 Interested in becoming a Kenilworth Suite Member
contact the Commercial Department on 01582 411622

Boxing Day Trip To Colchester

THE USUAL coach services will be running for fans who want to see the Town's all-ticket match at Colchester on Boxing Day. The Bobbers Travel Club start their run at Cranfield at 10.30am, leaving Luton an hour later, and their fares are £10 for adults and £8 for senior and junior citizens.

Town on Tour will leave Leighton Buzzard at 11.15 am, calling at Houghton Regis ten minutes later and then leaving Luton at 12noon. Fares are £12 for adults who are members of Luton Town Supporters Club, £10 for senior and junior members, and £14 for non-members.

Choice Of Routes

THE QUICKEST drive to Colchester is go south on M1, then M25 east towards Dartford, leaving at junction 28 to take the A12, signposted towards Chelmsford. On the A12 follow the signs to Colchester, although you do not need to go into the town centre.

As you approach Colchester, watch for a turn to the right, signposted to Colchester West and Halstead. Take

roundabout take the second exit, still heading towards Mersea, into London Road, and if you stick with the Mersea signs you will soon see a sign to Layer. Follow that, and at a double roundabout turn left, signposted towards the town centre and you are in Layer Road, with the ground a mile further on. On a good day you can do the trip in not much more than an hour and a half.

If you prefer scenery to speed, the two-hour cross-country route is shorter. Head out of Luton through Hitchin, to Baldock town centre, where you take the A1 south briefly before turning left onto the A507 towards Buntingford. Near there turn right on the A10 then south towards Puckeridge, where you turn left onto the A120, which runs all the way to Colchester, passing Bishops Stortford, Braintree and Coggeshall on the way. You pick up the A12 at Marks Tey for the last few miles, and join the route outlined above.

Mileage from Luton: 90 via M1, M25 and A12; 75 on the cross-country route.

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, Amptill, 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 Leighton Buzzard and Houghton Regis. The Bletchley service has been dropped due to lack of demand.

Army Of Fans On The Road

SUPPORTERS who went to Blackpool deserved a medal by the time the game ended. They were warned in advance that the away seats were uncovered, and discovered to their cost just how uncomfortable that can be. More than 400 made the trip, and in the closing stages of the match a bitterly cold win drove torrential rain into their faces, but they kept cheerful throughout as a hard-won victory put the Town into the play-off zone.

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
Sheffield Wed	1,462
Rochdale (FAC)	562
Southend (LDV)	216
Blackpool	458

Total: 13,905
Average: 818

Visitors to Luton

Rushden	922
Yeovil (CC)	493
Grimsby	318
Hartlepool	573
Port Vale	344
QPR	1,872
Tranmere	170
Wycombe	414
Peterborough	579
Wrexham	176
Thurrock	239
Chesterfield	168

6,268
522



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.

CONNECT WITH YOUR CLUB



Luton Town

09068 121 123

TELETEXT On TV p521

Calls cost 60p/min. ClubCall EC2A 4PF



Luton Town Football Club

Present a



Sporting Dinner

Thursday 19th February 2004

at the Riverside Suite, Vauxhall Recreation Club, 20 Gipsy Lane, Luton LU1 3JU

with special guests

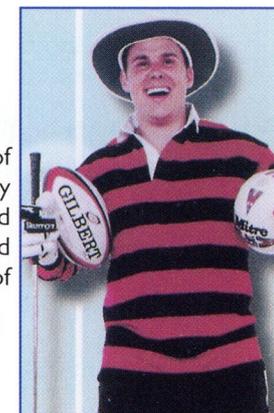


GARETH CHILCOTT

As one of Rugby Unions and the sporting medias greatest characters, Gareth "Cooch" Chilcotts, achievements are legendary. With over 400 1st Team Games for Bath and with 5 League Winners Medals, plus 7 Cup Winners Medals, this England International and British Lions player, was guaranteed to strike terror into the opposition. The demand for Gareth's service's within the game, particularly from the media, continue unabated, where his BBC, ITV Sport, Sky and radio work, including his role as front-line commentator during the 2003 Rugby World Cup in Australia have made him an International Celebrity. As an after dinner speaker you could not be entertained by a funnier or warmer individual.

AARON JAMES

Sporting impressionist and comedian extraordinaire, Aaron is without doubt one of the funniest men ever to grace the after dinner speaking circuit. He is regarded by fellow professionals as a "top drawer" speaker and one of the finest sporting and celebrity impressionists around today. Aaron is a regular on TV after he first appeared on the original "Big Breakfast Show" and his hilarious video ranks as one of funniest of its style ever produced.



Welcome return of our Master of Ceremonies and Host for the Evening

STEVE TANDY



Join us for another fabulous evening of sporting nostalgia, brilliant comedy, superb hospitality, plus a very special auction of sports memorabilia, which will include, fabulous collectors pieces from the:

England World Cup Squad 2003, England Captain supreme, Martin Johnson and the living legend himself Jonny Wilkinson

Cost - Just £450.00 plus VAT for a table of 10 guests - £45.95 plus VAT for individual tickets.

Reception 7.00pm - Dinner 8.00pm - Last Orders midnight
Contact Luton Town FC on 01582 411622 or email commercial@lutontown.co.uk for bookings or more details

Freelance Environmental Services Limited
Are the sponsors of this evenings event and can be contacted on 07802 603065
Luton Town Football club thank them for their generous support this evening

News From The Ticket Office



Nationwide League Division Two Colchester Utd v Luton Town

Friday December 26, 2003, kick-off 3pm

Prices:

Seating: Adults £16, Senior Citizens and Juniors £9. There is no student concession for seating tickets
Terrace: Adults £13, Senior Citizens, Students and Juniors £7.

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

Luton Town have been allocated 846 terrace tickets and up to 396 seats, and tickets will be sold as follows:

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

Season ticket holders can purchase one ticket per season ticket on production of Special Match Voucher B up until kick-off time today, subject to availability. No telephone bookings will be accepted.

GENERAL SALE

If any tickets remain, they will be on general sale directly after today's match.



Nationwide League Division Two Luton Town v Notts County

Sunday December 28, 2003, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.

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

Remember there are **no concessions** available on cash turnstiles.

SPECIAL OFFER - KIDS FOR A QUID

Children under 16, accompanied by a paying adult can attend this match for just £1.00



Ticket Office Opening Hours

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

10am to 5pm, 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



FA Cup, Third Round Bradford City v Luton Town

Saturday January 3 2004, kick-off 3pm

Prices: Adults £15, Senior Citizens £8, Juniors £5.

This match is not all ticket for Luton Town supporters, however there will be tickets available to purchase in advance from the ticket office in Kenilworth Road
If supporters wish to pay on the day, the prices are the same.

IN THE EVENT OF A REPLAY

The replay would take place at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday January 10, 2004, kick-off 7.45pm.

Normal matchday prices will apply and tickets would be sold as follows:

SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

Season ticket holders who completed a cup match authorisation form in the close season would have their tickets forwarded to them automatically. All other season ticket holders would have from 10am on Sunday January 4 until 12 noon on Saturday January 10 to claim their seats.

NON SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

Non season ticket holders would be able to purchase any other seat not held by a season ticket holder from 10am on Sunday January 4, and any unclaimed season ticket seats from 10am on Monday January 12.

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



Nationwide League Division Two Rushden & Diamonds v Luton Town

Saturday January 10, 2004, kick-off 3pm

Prices: Adults £14, Senior Citizens, Students

and Under-16s £9, Under-12s accompanied by an adult £4

This is an ALL TICKET match for Luton Town supporters, with no tickets available on the day of the game.

Luton Town have been allocated 2,300 seats and tickets will be sold as follows.

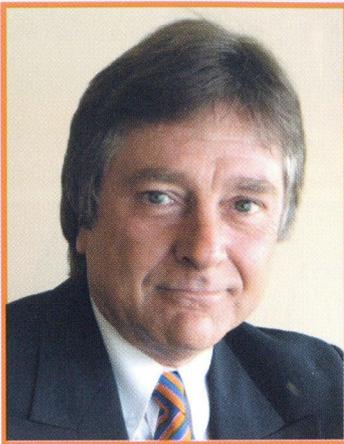
SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

Season Ticket holders can purchase one ticket per season ticket on production of Special Match Voucher C until 3pm on Sunday December 28, 2003, when we are at home to Notts County, subject to availability. No telephone bookings will be accepted.

GENERAL SALE

If any tickets remain, they will go on general sale directly after the game versus Notts County on Sunday 28th December 2003.





Commercial Corner

WELCOME to all of our sponsors and commercial partners, to the first of this season's "Festive Fixtures." May we take the

opportunity of thanking you all for your tremendous support this year, and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy plus Prosperous New Year.



STAR GIFT: Paul Madden receiving the sponsorship certificate from Town squad members

This season, we added an invitation to sponsor the players' away kits, and as part of this package, we shall be entertaining the sponsors at a VIP matchday hospitality programme during the Town's visit to Wycombe Wanderers on Saturday February 14th. May we take the opportunity of thanking all of our kit sponsors here today for their support, and wish them and their guests a memorable afternoon with us.

MATCH BALL SPONSOR



MacDonalD Humfrey (Automation) Ltd

MACDONALD Humfrey (Automation) Ltd join us today as match ball sponsors for the first time this season,

and we hope they have an enjoyable afternoon with us. With proven experience as a leading turnkey systems integrator specialist, they have established an impressive portfolio of international clients in the airport, automotive, process and logistics industries. Luton-based, the company was established in 1988, and employs 160 personnel at its local head office and a further 15 at its Chester office, and generates an annual turnover of £16m. They can be contacted on 01582 405741, or at their web site www.mhalt.co.uk



WE ARE delighted to welcome and devote the full match sponsorship to the 45 individual sponsors and their guests who have bought this season's Players Kit Sponsorships. This valuable addition to the club's commercial income is provided via the independent sponsoring of 24 current Luton Town players. Today's hospitality programme is part of this sponsorship package, which will also include an end of season gala dinner, where as sponsors, they will be presented with their individual players' shirts.

Welcome to All Our Sponsors and Guests



YOUNG FAN: Commercial Mascot Timothy Owen with squad members

COMMERCIAL SPONSOR

Living Well

THE Living Well health and fitness complex in Regent Street, Luton, covers over 31,000 sq ft, representing £3.5m worth of state of the art facilities. Features include an air-conditioned gymnasium, a swimming pool and two spacious aerobics studios. As part of Living Well's holistic approach to health and fitness,



TOP HATTER: Paul Madden of Storeaway presenting the sponsor's man of the match trophy to Steve Howard at the Chesterfield game.

members are able to wind down in one of two saunas, team rooms, spa pools, or even the bubble pool. To find out more about the full range of facilities offered at Luton's premier health club, call Living Well on 01582 692100 or visit www.livingwell.com

Peter Davis



BEHIND THE SCENES: Match ball Sponsor Tom Bambrick with family members enjoying a visit to the dressing room

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Hatters

Form Guide:

Won: 3
Drawn: 3
Lost: 0
Scored: 7
Conc: 4
Points: 12
Goal Diff: 3
Last 6: DDWDWW
Last 5 Home: WWDWW
Last 5 Away: LDDW

Miscellaneous

Players Used: 32
Clean Sheets: 4
Failed to Score: 3

The Guys to Watch

Headed goals	Howard, Perrett	2
Long range shots	McSheffrey	2
Inside 6 yards	Perrett	2
Shots from 6-18 yards	Forbes	6
Volleyed shots	McSheffrey, Robinson	1
Penalties	Nicholls, McSheffrey	1
Scored 1st Goal in match	Howard	3
Most goals in last 10	5 players	1
Points gained from goals	Howard	7.5



Goalkeeping

Opp. attempts on target	119
Goals conceded	33
On target/goals scored	3.61
Division 2 rating	22

Goalscoring Strike Rate

Shots on target	126
Goals scored	34
On target / goals	3.71
Division 2 Rating	3

Goals in last 10 mins

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

Fouls & Offsides

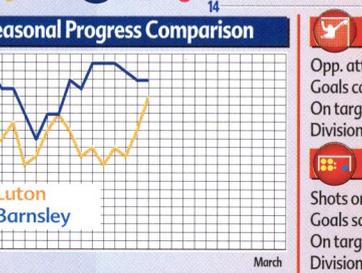
Average fouls per game	13.19
Div 2 Rating (1=least, 24=most)	18
Average Offsides per game	4.76
Div 2 Rating	22

Where Goals

Close Range	6
Inside Area	19
Outside Area	4

How Goals

Shots	19
Headers	10
Volleys	2
Penalties	2
Free Kicks	0
Own Goals	1



Set Piece Goals

Scored from C	4
Conceded from C	2
Scored from FK	4
Conceded from FK	4

Cards

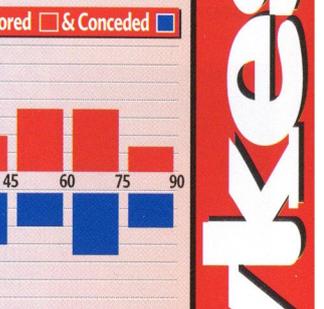
Yellow	42
Red	5

Swings

WON when behind	3
DRAWN when behind	2
LOST when ahead	2
DRAWN when ahead	4
WON 2 down	1
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

The Guys to Watch

Headed goals	Betsy	2
Long range shots	4 players	1
Inside 6 yards	Betsy	3
Shots from 6-18 yards	Gorre	5
Volleyed shots	Kay, Fallon, Rankin	1
Penalties	Gorre	2
Scored 1st Goal in match	Gorre, Betsy	3
Most goals in last 10	Fallon	1
Points gained from goals	Gorre	9.33



Goalkeeping

Opp. attempts on target	135
Goals conceded	26
On target/goals scored	5.19
Division 2 rating	4

Goalscoring Strike Rate

Shots on target	131
Goals scored	29
On target / goals	4.52
Division 2 Rating	13

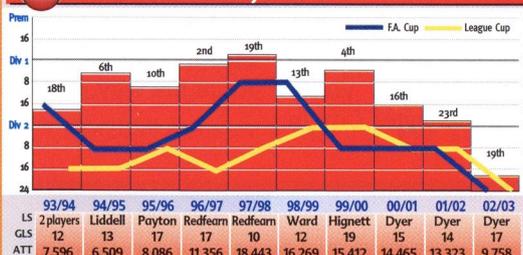
Goals in last 10 mins

Goals For, last 10	1
Points won	0
Goals Against, last 10	2
Points lost	3

Fouls & Offsides

Average fouls per game	13.71
Div 2 Rating (1=least, 24=most)	20
Average Offsides per game	1.90
Div 2 Rating	1

Barnsley's 10-Year Record



Check out the stats at www.soccer-stats.com



Tykes

Form Guide:

Won: 3
Drawn: 3
Lost: 0
Scored: 10
Conc: 9
Points: 9
Goal Diff: 1
Last 6: WLWLDD
Last 5 Home: DDWDD
Last 5 Away: LWWLL

Miscellaneous

Players Used: 22
Clean Sheets: 7
Failed to Score: 3

Welcome to Today's Visitors

1. SASA ILIC

FORMER Charlton Athletic, West Ham and Portsmouth keeper signed in August 2003. Ilic made his Reds debut against Colchester United on the opening day of the 2003/2004 season.



2. NEIL AUSTIN

YOUNG defender Neil Austin signed a professional contract at Oakwell in 1999 after impressing through the junior ranks.

The Barnsley born youngster has been a regular at youth level for the Reds and broke into the reserve team during the 2001/2002 season. He is highly rated at Oakwell and by the English FA winning caps for the national team through to Under 19 level. Neil was handed a squad number for the 2002/2003 season and made his first team debut at Swindon on August 10. Neil went on to make 35 appearances in his debut season and won the club's coveted Young Player Of The Year award.

3. TONY GALLIMORE

EX-Grimsby Town full back signed at the start of the 2003/2004 season. Gallimore had trained with the Reds throughout pre-season and made his full debut against Colchester United on the opening day of 03/04.

4. PETER HANDYSIDE

Former Grimsby and Stoke City defender signed just before the start of the new season. A cultured centre back, Peter has captained the Reds this season.

5. LEE CROOKS

The Wakefield-born former England youth international signed from Manchester City in March 2001.

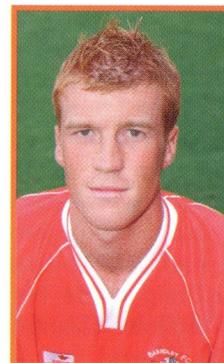
He is a versatile player and can play in the centre of defence, midfield or at right back. Reports had linked Crooks with a move to Yorkshire rivals Huddersfield Town, but Nigel Spackman nipped in to steal his man from under the noses of the Terriers. Lee played 85 games for Manchester City, making his debut against Port Vale in 1996, scoring four goals. A knee injury has meant that Lee missed the rest of the 2000/01 campaign, featured regularly through the 2001/02 and 2002/03 seasons.

6. STEVE HAYWARD

Steve was Nigel Spackman's second signing and proved to be a shrewd acquisition and an excellent midfielder. Born in Walsall, Steve joined Derby County from school and spent seven seasons at the Baseball Ground without ever becoming a first team regular. He joined Carlisle United for a reported £100,000 in March 1995 and captained the Cumbrian side that won promotion in 1997. He also scored Carlisle's winning goal in the 1997 Auto Windscreen Shield Final at Wembley. Steve moved south to Fulham in August 1997 for £175,000 and made 110 full league appearances for the Craven Cottage side. He was ever present for Fulham during 1999/2000 and began in the first team the following season – he played in the Fulham side that defeated Barnsley 5-1 in September 2001. Steve suffered a knee injury against Tranmere on March 17 and missed the entire 2001/02 season. Came back in 2002/03 but struggled with a foot problem and could not force his way into Glyn Hodges' midfield.



Barnsley Football Club



8. CHRIS LUMSDON

Chris Lumsdon signed for Barnsley in early December 2001 after impressing new boss Steve Parkin during a two-month loan spell.

He scored twice in 13 games on loan and the former Sunderland youngster became a firm favourite with the Oakwell faithful following some exceptional performances in the middle of the park.

A supremely talented midfielder, Chris was initially signed on the longest contact ever offered by the Black Cats, but found his opportunities to impress at the Stadium Of Light limited.

The Newcastle-born player slotted into the Reds midfield and has the ability to turn a game in an instant with the range and quality of his passing. Chris struggled to hold down a regular place in the starting eleven under Glyn Hodges and was limited to 28 first team appearances during 02/03.

10. KEVIN BETSY

KEVIN agreed to make the switch North from Fulham in Feb 2002 and made his debut against Millwall on March 2, 2002, following a successful loan spell.

The Seychelles-born winger was signed by Fulham from non-league Woking in 1998 and made his debut at Anfield

the following October. He is a tall, fast player with huge potential who can be used as a wing back, winger or up front.

Kevin had loan spells at Hull City and Bournemouth during the 1999/2000 season.

He made 20 appearances in the Fulham first team. Was a major part of the side during 2002/3 and played both on the right wing and up front, scoring his first goal for the club against Wigan Athletic at Oakwell on September 28, 2002.

11. STEPHEN CARSON

Former Rangers winger signed in September 2003 after impressing during a trial with the club. Can play on either flank.

15. ANTONY KAY

Antony has been at Barnsley since Junior School and has progressed through the ranks at the Academy.

A member of the successful Barnsley U15 team, he signed for Barnsley despite the interest of a lot of other clubs. Kay made his first team debut against Norwich in August 2000 and made a number of additional appearances throughout the 2000/01 season. His performances for both the reserves and the Academy saw him called up for England Under 18s, even though he was unfortunate not to get a game in their friendly with Belgium. He again won international recognition in May 2001, when he made his England U18 debut against Switzerland.

Originally a central midfield player, Antony switched to defence during the 2002/03 season and put in some assured performances.

16. ALEX NEIL

With injuries decimating the Barnsley midfield during the 2000/01 season, Alex stepped in to the fray and virtually established himself as first choice in the middle of the park.

He has proven to be one of Dave Bassett's shrewdest purchases during his time at Oakwell, costing just £25,000 from Airdrie in the summer of 2000.

Alex was originally brought in as a winger, but the 19-year-old has matured into a tough tackling, combative midfielder. His hopes of making the start of the 2000/2001 season

Welcome to Today's Visitors

were blown when he was made to see out a three match ban served on him after he was sent off in a Scottish youth game.

But with a string of injuries taking out the majority of the Reds midfield during the campaign he stepped into the breach and made the position his own, quickly winning over the supporters. Tough in the tackle and full of running, Alex has a big future at the club and penned a new deal keeping him at Oakwell for another two years at the end of the 2000/01 season. Was a first team regular during the 2002/3 campaign, appearing in 34 straight matches.

17. BRIAN O'CALLAGHAN

Youngster who made his debut as a first half substitute against Norwich on the opening day of the 2000/2001 season.

Has come through the ranks of the Barnsley Academy and proved to be a very versatile player, putting in excellent displays through-

out the defence and midfield. Many at the Academy believe he is a natural centre half – and Brian showed this with superb displays in that position under Nigel Spackman. He impressed many with his cultured play and it surprised supporters with his maturity under pressure.

20. CRAIG IRELAND

A tough tackling defender, Craig made his name in English football with Notts County. Signed prior to the 2003/2004 season.

27. NATHAN JARMAN

Nathan Jarman is a young striker coming through the Academy at Oakwell. He joined the club as a 16-year-old in July 2003 and immediately impressed. Nathan was handed a squad number for the start of the 2003/4 campaign.

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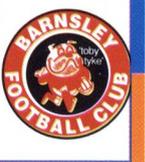
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Barnsley Football Club



29. ASHLEY SCOTHERN

Young striker coming up through the ranks at Oakwell.

Made his first team debut against Nottingham Forest in January 2002. Ashley saw his chances to impress during 2002/2003 ended by a broken leg but will be looking to make a big impact upon his return to fitness. Ashley has made one first team appearance.

30. ADAM OLDHAM

Adam is a versatile defender currently impressing on his way through the Barnsley Academy. An England youth international, Adam has been a regular at reserve team level during the 02/03 campaign and was handed a squad number in February 2003.

31. NICKY WROE

Nicky was handed a first team squad number in late March 2003 after impressing for the Academy and reserves. The Sheffield-born youngster is currently in his first year with the Academy and is rated as one of the most promising midfielders at Oakwell. Nicky made his first team debut at Wigan Athletic on the final day of the 2002/3 season.

32. ISAIAH RANKIN

Isaiah Rankin was Nigel Spackman's first signing in January 2001.

A former Arsenal trainee, Isaiah moved to Valley Parade in August 1998 for a fee of £1.3 million - a club record for Bradford City at the time. He is a quick forward with an eye for goal and will cause opponents problems.

Isaiah made his debut for the Reds against Burnley in January 2001 and quickly established himself in Nigel Spackman's first team. He scored his first goal for the club against Tranmere Rovers – a last minute winner that cost John Aldridge his job.

Has struggled with injuries and been out of the side for long periods. However, Isaiah scored the goal that kept the Reds in Division

Two in stoppage time at the end of the final home game against Brentford on April 26, 2003.

33. DEAN GORRE

DEAN Gorre signed for the club on July 25, 2001, for an undisclosed fee from local rivals Huddersfield Town.

He started his career with SVV Schiedam in Holland before moving to Feyenoord Rotterdam, where he helped win the league title in 1993. A brief loan spell at FC Groningen followed before Dean made the move to Dutch giants Ajax in 1997.

Born in 1970, Dean won one cap at Under 21 level for Holland, before signing for Huddersfield Town in September 1999. He went on to make 68 appearances for the West Yorkshire side, scoring seven goals, before making his move to Oakwell. Dean is capable of providing the creative spark needed in the Reds midfield. Scored his first goal for Barnsley in the 2-0 victory over Crewe in September 2001.

34. ROBBIE WILLIAMS

A YOUNG full back who progressed rapidly through the Academy and reserve set up, Robbie made his first team debut at Brentford in October 2002.

The youngster made nine first team appearances in his debut season and impressed at all levels during the campaign. Scored the decisive penalty in the FA Youth Cup Quarter Final at Old Trafford in March 2002.

37. SCOTT FLINDERS

Young goalkeeper currently coming up through the Reds Academy. Handed a squad number in August 2003 and made his first appearance on the substitutes bench on the opening day of the 03/04 campaign.



Blast From The Past

As soon as the Hatters won promotion from Division Four with style in 1968, Kenilworth Road became a hive of activity the

a revitalised youth set-up the future looked rosy. The optimism off the pitch spread to the playing side and some impressive pre-season results added to the general euphoria around Kenilworth Road.

In friendly games Second Division Oxford were seen off 3-0 at Kenilworth Road, while a fighting 2-2 draw at Norwich, also of Division Two, gave ample evidence that the Town had nothing to fear from the new higher status.

Despite all this, the supporters needed to see the proof in proper competitive action and the first game of the new campaign saw Oldham visit Kenilworth Road on a hot, sunny August afternoon, in front of a shirt-sleeved crowd of 14,747. The fans were not disappointed as the new look side gelled immediately with Harrison and Lewis on the scoresheet, along with old favourites Fred Jardine and Keith Allen, in a 4-0 win that could have been a lot more.

The next visitors to Kenilworth Road were old enemies Watford, in a mid-week League Cup tie, and a crowd of 20,167 saw Harrison, with two, and Lewis score in an emphatic win to please new supporter Eric Morecambe. Watford manager, Ken Furphy, was not so pleased saying: "It is impossi-

ble to play football at such a small ground." After a hard fought 0-0 draw at Barrow, the following week it was the turn of Tommy Docherty's Rotherham to visit Kenilworth Road and another large crowd was present to see Bruce Rioch put the Town two-up in the first 15 minutes.

Rotherham, relegated the previous season, fought back to halve the deficit, but Lewis scored a third just before the break and that is how the score remained as the Town went top of the first league table of the campaign.

Four days later the Town were at home again, this time to Barnsley who had followed us out of Division Four the previous season. On a wet evening that guaranteed a greasy surface a crowd of 15,899 gathered to see if the team could extend its lead at the top of the table still further.

The game turned out to be an absorbing clash of styles with the Town's use of the long ball pitted against the short passing game of Barnsley. Due to the wet pitch the slick passing movements of the Tykes looked likely to embarrass the Town's defence but after weathering the early storm a goal out of the blue from 'wonder boy' Rioch turned the game on its head.

Collecting the ball in his own half, Rioch surged forward and, with the Barnsley defenders backing off, advanced into the penalty area before unleashing a rocket shot that gave Brian Arblaster in the Tykes' goal no chance.



The Hatters line up at the start of the 1968/69 campaign.

Five-goal Blast Settles Top Hatters

'Rioch for England' chanted the crowd, little knowing that he would eventually captain Scotland! Barnsley refused to lie down and the Luton goal came under a fair bit of pressure before Town skipper Terry Branston headed home a Graham French corner after 28 minutes.

The scoreline was extended even further when Lewis took advantage of another accurate French corner five minutes later, and the half ended with the Luton forward line in full flow against a beleaguered Barnsley defence.

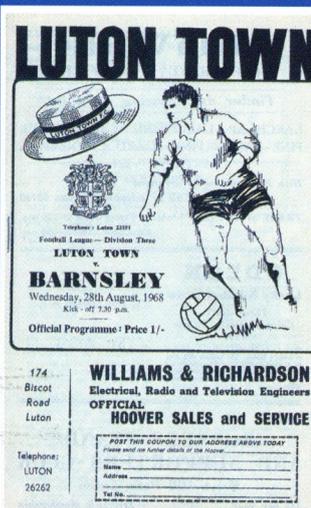
The Town started the second period as they had ended the first but it was Barnsley who drew first blood when Bob Earnshaw, who was played outside by a hesitant Town defence, netted in the 51st minute.

The Town's three goal advantage was restored though a few minutes later when Lewis blasted the ball home, after Harrison touched a free-kick to him, and the night was complete when Keith Allen hit another rocket into the top corner of the net.

This was a happy time to be a Luton Town supporter and the month of August 1968 was seen out in style when the Hatters went to Gillingham on the following Saturday and returned with a 3-1 win to go two points clear at the top.

Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages



At the start of the 1968/69 season the Town changed their programme style for the first time since 1961. Unfortunately, we seemed to get little more for our money despite a doubling in price to 1/- (5p).

The front cover drawing featured a strangely shaped player who I always thought bore more than a passing resemblance to Gerry King who had turned out for the Hatters a couple of seasons before.

The 'Club Notes' section talks about the excellent start to the season by the first team but fails to mention that the reserves had lost their opening three games conceding 14 goals in the process.

Elsewhere, an advert announced that a brand new Vauxhall Viva could be bought for £650!

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Today - The First Ka Competition Final

The First Final of the Ka Competition takes place at half time today and the three finalists taking part are:

Micky Boyle

E.O'Neill

Phil Pratt

The first part of the competition will be a penalty shoot-out between the three finalists to find a winner who will then be asked to perform another shoot-out in order to win a brand new Ford Ka.

The Ford Ka will be here for the lucky winner to drive away in should he be successful - with Chris Green, Director, Sky Ford Hemel Hempstead here to hand over the keys.

Our thanks to SKY Ford Hemel Hempstead for sponsoring all of this seasons competitions.



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GOOD afternoon and season's greetings from all of us in the Community Department. You may remember that earlier in the season I told you how a young lady named Rosie Spence had reached the national finals of the Adidas Supernova Goal Striker Challenge.

It took place at the new City of Manchester Stadium, and Rosie was lucky enough to be taken on a ground tour. This stadium has to be seen to be believed. An example of the quality of the facilities is that just behind each dressing room is another room about

25 metres square which is carpeted in the state of the art Prozone synthetic surface. It is where players warm up before games. How the other half lives!

In the final, which was a shooting challenge at a computerised goal where points were awarded for power and for hitting optimum areas of the goal, Rosie scored 4,545 points. This means nothing in itself but the significant factor was that this score was enough to see Rosie finish second.

And that is no mean achievement – second in the whole of the country from an entry of well over 4,000 children.

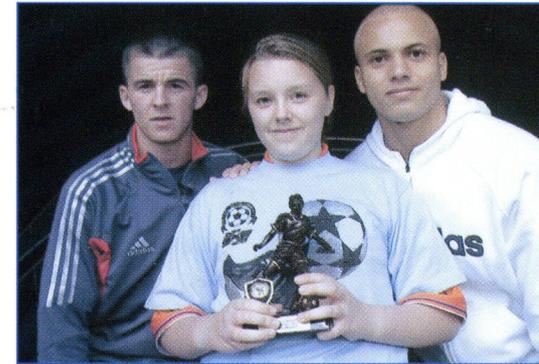
Well done, Rosie – what a brilliant achievement. You were a credit to yourself, your family and this football club. I know your parents are proud of what you have achieved, and I'm very proud to have been able to support you along the way.

The picture shows Rosie in Manchester, receiving her trophy from Manchester United and England star Wes Brown, along with of Manchester City player Joey Barton.

The Community Department would like to welcome Stotfold Under 10 Football team who are the departments guests at today's game.



Stuart Smith



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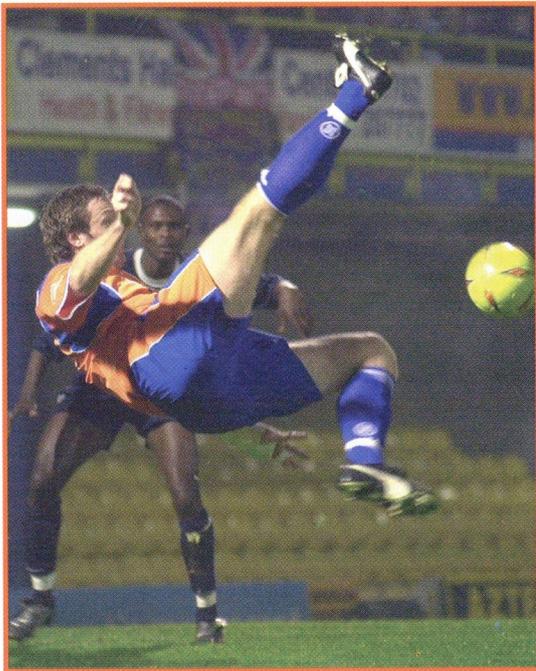
No Excuses As LDV Campaign Is Ended

Southend Utd 3 Luton Town 0

DREAMS of an LDV Trophy trip to the Millennium Stadium in the spring were shattered on a damp, murky night at Roots Hall. The Town were collectively out of sorts, second best to Third Division opposition, and afterwards there were no excuses from the manager. The home side, 91st in the League, but recently going well, deserved their victory.

The Town put out a strong side, but rested Emmerson Boyce to enable him to get over a strain before the game at Blackpool, and without the centre-half's commanding presence and sharp tackling the back four was strangely hesitant. It was tough on 16-year-old David Deeney to be given a debut on such an occasion: men with a lot more experience than him were below par, and Southend's enthusiasm and confidence grew from the first minute.

With the pitch wet and greasy, Leon Constantine tried his luck with a drive from 25 yards or more,



PUTTING HIS BACK INTO IT: Steve Howard lets fly with an overhead kick which brought a save out of the Southend keeper.

and the ball skidded into the corner of the net to give the home side the lead after only 80 seconds. Twenty-five minutes later the Town defence lost possession near the half-way line, and Michael Kightly ran through to score.

The Town made one or two half-chances, and Steve Howard had a headed goal disallowed for offside, and saw another effort cleared off the line, but there was not a lot of conviction about the Town's play. Southend sub Drewe Broughton finished it off with a near-post conversion on 83 minutes from a left-wing run and cross by Steven Clark.

No-one in the Town camp could explain why so many men were below their normal form when we had a golden opportunity to move a step closer to the Millennium Stadium. It will have to be the play-offs instead!

"I didn't feel that we did anything tonight," admitted Mike Newell. "We were certainly second best, and that is something I can't accept. We rested Boyce, which was a big factor, because he has been playing well but he was struggling with his groin and we had to make a decision about which was the more important, the league or the LDV. If it had been a game we desperately wanted to win, we would have picked Boyce.

"League points are more important, but the young lads did it for us in the LDV at Stevenage and Rushden, so it is disappointing that a lot more of the experienced lads have played tonight and yet we have failed to get a result."

TOWN: Beresford; Deeney (Leary 89 mins), Hillier, Coyne, Davis; Mansell (Forbes 62 mins), Spring, Holmes, Robinson; Crowe (Showunmi 62 mins), Howard. Unused subs: Brill, O'Leary

SOUTHEND: Flahavan; McSweeney, Cort, Hunt, Wilson; Kightly (Husbands 82 mins), Maher, Smith, Gower (Clark HT); Bramble (Broughton 723 mins), Constantine. Unused subs: Emberson, Warren.

REFEREE: David Crick, Surrey, who kept his cards in his pocket.

ATTENDANCE: 2,027, including 216 Town fans.

One Goal Regains Top Ten Place

Luton Town 1 Chesterfield 0

A GOOD goalkeeper in a poor team prevented a more emphatic win, but the Town were well worth a victory which sent them back into the Second Division's top ten. Steve Howard, in his third game back after injury, headed the goal in the third minute, and for the rest of the first half the Town pummelled Chesterfield without getting past Carl Muggleton again. His saves included a couple to deny Gary McSheffrey a swansong goal as his loan came to an end.

The Town went off the boil in the second half, when Chesterfield looked a little more threatening, but they never looked like improving the worst away record in the division.

Their manager, Roy McFarland, praised his resolute defence, but admitted his team lacked

quality in attack. Their defending didn't look too clever in the first half-hour, when the Town should have buried the opposition. Steve Robinson was inspirational in midfield, and the Howard/McSheffrey combination, with Adrian Forbes back on the right wing, was always menacing.

Chris Brandon missed Chesterfield's only real chance, shooting over the bar with 20 minutes to go.

At that stage the Town were struggling to find their first-half form, but it returned for the last ten minutes, when Robinson, Howard and Matt Spring all went close to the second goal the Town deserved.

Mike Newell said: "We should have put it out of sight of Chesterfield in the first 20 minutes. With the chances we had. Give Chesterfield credit because they kept at it, and made things difficult for us, and we had to work harder in the second half to keep them out. But we didn't create anything of note again until the last few minutes. So we have to be pleased – a couple of months ago we might have conceded a goal and thrown points away. Games like this can be very difficult. You have to stick at it, and grind out a result, and we did."



THE WINNER: Steve Howard heads his seventh goal of the season to end three more points.

TOWN: Beresford; Hillier, Boyce, Coyne, Davis; Forbes, Robinson, Spring, Brkovic (Holmes 73 mins); McSheffrey, Howard. Unused subs: Mansell, Leary, Crowe, Brill.

Booked: Adrian Forbes, Emmerson Boyce and Ian Hillier

Chesterfield: Muggleton; Dawson, Blatherwick, Evatt, O'Hare; Uhlenbeek, Allott, Howson, Innes (Rushbury 80 mins); Reeves (Robinson 65 mins), Brandon. Unused subs: Davies, Warne, Richmond

Booked: Steve Blatherwick and Marvin Robinson.

Referee: Ray Olivier, West Midlands.

Attendance: 5,453, including 168 in the away end.

Cup Victory Is Sweet Revenge

Rochdale 0 Luton Town 2

THE TOWN earned their place in the Third Round of the FA Cup for the first time in three years with a victory at Spotland which was at times less comfortable than the scoreline might suggest. But over the 90 minutes there was no doubt the result was well-deserved, by a team which once again was, on paper at least, much weakened by injuries and suspension.

Matt Spring was serving a one-match ban, and Gary McSheffrey had left to rejoin Coventry, and it is no criticism of either of them to say that they hardly seemed to be missed at Spotland.

Adrian Forbes reverted to the role of emergency striker, Steve Howard played with a lightweight cast to protect a broken bone in his hand, and Peter Holmes and Steve Robinson were both excellent as the Town controlled the game easily except for a short spell early in the second half.

Livewire Forbes was too tricky for a side which had won at Bury in the first round, but had lost its last six games in the Third Division.

The Town were solid at the back to earn a second consecutive clean sheet, inventive in midfield, and menacing up front. Forbes's skill and pace made the breakthrough, with defenders twice bringing him down at the expense of penalties. Robinson, in the absence of Kevin Nicholls, took responsibility for the spot kicks, putting one away on 19 minutes but hitting the second, nine minutes later, at almost the same spot. Neil Edwards dived to his left to save.

The let-off gave Rochdale hope, and when they put on pacey Kevin Townson for the second half they enjoyed a spell when they looked capable of getting back into the game. Emmerson Boyce, magnificent in defence like the rest of the back four, head-

ed over from close range following a free kick ploy when he might have got the goal to kill the game. But the Town gradually re-asserted their authority, Rochdale's huffing and puffing came to nothing, and the second goal in the 77th minute finished them off. Lee Mansell enjoyed scoring it, putting away the rebound after a slick move begun by Ahmet Brkovic ended with Robinson's angled shot being parried by the keeper. A minute earlier Mansell had put a free header over the bar from a cross by Brkovic.

The two penalties had also come at the end of smart work by the Town. Mansell, on the right, fed Forbes, who was twisting and turning inside the box when Simon Grand brought him down. The second penalty came when Forbes took them on at pace, and covering midfielder Gary Jones tripped him.

And for the 562 Town fans in the sparse crowd, it was a day to relish. In the promotion season a couple of years ago Rochdale were the only side to take all six points from the Town. This time, they were very much second best.

But Mike Newell demands high standards. "We weren't particularly happy with the way we played in the second half, but we are in the hat for the Third Round, and that is what matters," he said. "I was pleased with the way we went about it in the first half, and Rochdale didn't pose too many problems. We kept the ball OK, and hit them on the break."

He had no complaints about the missed penalty – "Taking two in a match is always difficult," said the boss. "It was a bit worrying for 20 minutes or so at the start of the second half when Rochdale were more of a threat, but we have done enough to win."

Match Details

TOWN: Beresford; Hillier, Boyce, Coyne, Davis; Mansell, Robinson, Holmes, Brkovic; Forbes, Howard. Subs, all unused: Crowe, Deeney, Leary, O'Leary, Brill.

BOOKED: Steve Robinson and Peter Holmes.

Rochdale: Edwards; Evans, Burgess, Grand, Simpkins; McCourt, Beech (Patterson 80 mins), Jones, Doughty; Connor (McEvilly 66 mins), Bishop (Townson HT). Unused subs: Warner, Gilks.

BOOKED: Gary Jones and Michael Simpkins.

REFEREE: Andy Hall, West Midlands.

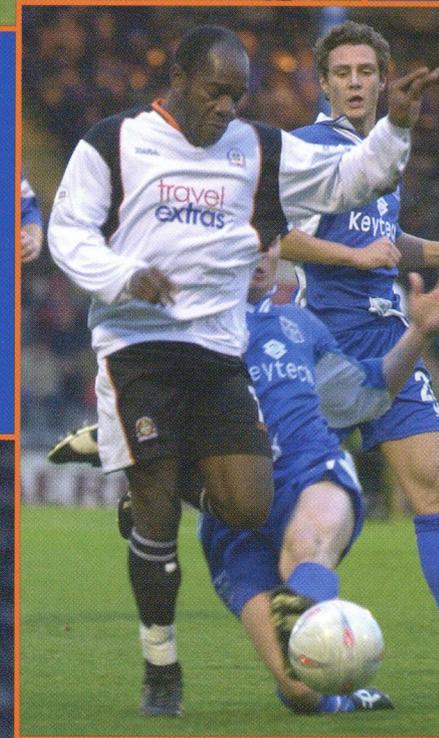
ATTENDANCE: 2,807, including 562 Town supporters.



THE OPENER: Steve Robinson tucks away the penalty to set the Town on their way to victory.

RIGHT: Adrian Forbes was a real handful for Rochdale, who often had two men trying to stop him.

BELOW: Lee Mansell, who netted the second goal, battles for midfield possession.





Season's Greetings From All At Luton Town

Everyone at Kenilworth Road sends good wishes for a Happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year to all supporters. The players have been doing their bit to help others enjoy the holiday, and our picture was taken when they visited the children's ward at the Luton and Dunstable Hospital to give out presents from the football club. Left to right are Emmerson Boyce, Ian Hillier, Sol Davis, Steve Howard behind Adrian Forbes, and Chris Coyne. The children made it obvious that they very much appreciated the players' visit.

Right At Both Ends For Top Six Place

Blackpool 0 Luton Town 1

A SUPER goal at one end and staunch defending at the other gave the Town their second away win of the season and pushed them into the play-off frame for the first time in nearly four months. Even Blackpool boss Steve McMahon agreed that the Town deserved great credit for the way they went about their work.

The return of Kevin Foley and Emmerson Boyce transformed a defence which had looked so vulnerable a few days earlier in the LDV at Southend.

Town fans, however, were on the edge of their rain-swept seats – why on earth are away fans condemned to such discomfort at the new Bloomfield Road? – in a second half dominated by the home side. They battered away, but fortunately for us without much invention. For the last ten minutes Steve Davis, remembered with affection at Kenilworth Road as an imposing centre-half and set-piece attacker, was sent on as sub to become a third centre-forward. Steve Howard negated that ploy by becoming a third centre-half, to join the watertight pairing of Emmerson Boyce and Chris Coyne.

The Town were the brighter starters, and with a touch more luck might have scored three or four in the opening 25 minutes. Adrian Forbes had a shot blocked, and Howard saw three headers go close. Steve Robinson, very much back on song, was clattered cruelly by the keeper yards outside the area when he burst down the right wing. He still managed to fire off a long-range lob which passed agonisingly close to the unguarded goal. Brad Jones was lucky to escape with just a yellow card for that offence, but Robinson had the last laugh on 35 minutes. A slick passing move saw Matt Spring knock the ball down the middle to Howard, and although he was crowded out Robinson pounced on the loose ball to hit a cracking 25-yarder between the grasping hands of Jones and the crossbar.

Blackpool stirred themselves briefly, and Mike Sheron was unlucky with a header which came back off the bar, and for all their second-half desperation attacks, Blackpool could not get that close again.

"We created chances early on, and would have expected to score a couple from them," said Mike Newell. "In the second half we were put under pressure, and dealt with it. Blackpool hit the bar in the first half, but didn't create anything really clear-cut to worry us after that. But they had the whole of the game in the second half. We didn't pass as well as we had done in the first, but if it is your day you hang on.

"Robinson scored an excellent goal. He is only just finding his full fitness. I believe it takes ten games for any player to regain match fitness, and he is nearing that now.

"In the first half we were comfortable. In the second the effort was still there, but we lacked a little bit of composure. Blackpool were throwing the kitchen sink at us but we worked to keep them out."

We all enjoyed the day out, despite awful wind and rain in the second half but for the Town boss it was a happy return to the club where he ended his playing career 18 months ago. But he admitted: "I am not sure that enjoyed is the right word to describe the 94 minutes play! It was difficult to enjoy the second half when we were under so much pressure, but we didn't concede, and if you keep a clean sheet you always have a chance, because we know we will always score goals."

Blackpool boss McMahon said: "It was a case of us being so near, yet so far. It all became a bit harum-scarum, and Luton didn't have a shot at our goal in the whole of the second half. But give credit to them for sticking at it. They defended very well, although I thought a draw might have been a fair result on the day."

Match Details

TOWN: Beresford; Foley, Boyce, Coyne, Davis; Mansell, Robinson, Spring, Brkovic (Leary 89 mins); Forbes, Howard. Unused subs: Crowe, Hillier, Showunmi, Brill.

BOOKED: Matt Spring and Emmerson Boyce

BLACKPOOL: Jones; Grayson (Burns 55 mins), Flynn, Elliott, Evens; Bullock (McMahon 80 mins), Coid, Wellens, Johnson; Sheron (Davis 80 mins), Taylor. Unused subs: Hilton, Jones.

BOOKED: Gary Jones and Michael Simpkins.

REFEREE: Mark Warren, West Midlands.

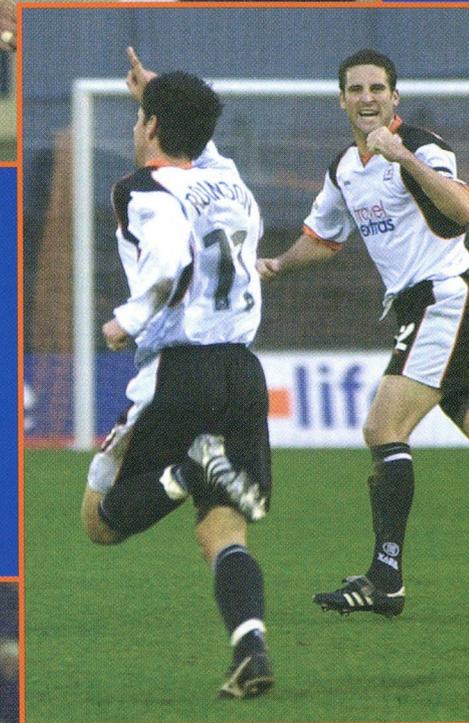
ATTENDANCE: 5,739, including 458 soaked, cold, but happy 458 Town supporters.



CLOSE CONTEST: Lee Mansell getting stuck in on a day when every Town man had to work hard to extend the run to six league games without defeat.

RIGHT: The day's happiest moment – Steve Robinson has just scored a top quality winner, and Chris Coyne shares his delight.

BELOW: Adrian Forbes takes off some of the second-half pressure with a run for goal on the break.



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 Chesterfield match we asked why it was a first for us when the sides last met. The answer, of course, was that our first win of last season came at the expense of the Spireites.

TODAY'S QUESTION

OUR last meeting with Barnsley was at Oakwell in January, when the Town came back from an early goal to win 3-2. Why was that victory even more meritorious than usual?

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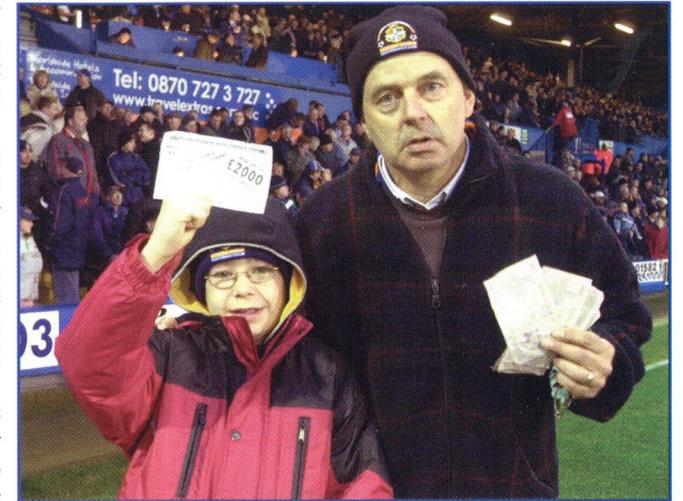
Cash Windfall Is An Early Xmas Present

CHRISTMAS shopping is a little easier for Town fan Andrew Masson this year, because he went home from our last game at Kenilworth Road with an extra £700 in his pocket.

It was the Golden Gamble jackpot on the day we played Chesterfield, and his winning ticket cost him only £1. Mr Masson is a regular in the Main Stand, and lives at Willsheres Road, Biggleswade. His lucky ticket was picked out of the drum by 11-year-old Andrew Jackson, a supporter selected at random from the crowd.

Another wedge of cash is on offer this afternoon, just in time to help another supporter with the Christmas bills. The size of the prize depends on how many tickets are sold: each costs £1, out of which half goes to the jackpot prize and the other half to club funds. So far this season the 50/50 lottery has paid out £7,230 to a dozen winners, an average of £603 each.

Golden Gamble sellers are on duty in all parts of the ground again today, offering you the chance to cash in for a modest outlay. The draw will be made on the pitch at half time, and the money will be handed over there and then.



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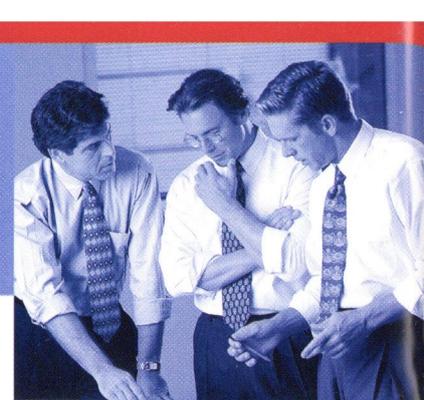
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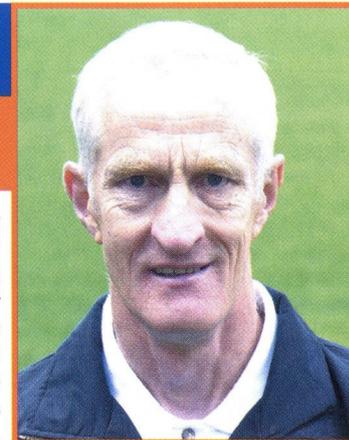
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Youth Soccer: The under-19s



Northampton Town 0 Luton Town 2

THIS WAS not a great game, because conditions were against good football, but I was delighted with the way our lads went about their work. There was no doubt we deserved to win.

The weather was awful, with rain being driven across the greasy pitch by high winds. Controlling passes was very difficult: if they were hit across the pitch with the wind behind them they usually went straight out of play, with the ball gathering pace off the wet surface.

That meant we had to adapt our game. You felt that any slip at the back was likely to be punished, so it was a case of choosing the right time to control and pass. The instruction was to get it into the opposition half first, then try to play football.

Calvin Andrew, a left-footer, gave us a 15th-minute lead with a well-taken right foot shot, and the clincher came eight minutes from time with a clean strike from the edge of the box by Sean Ridgway. It was a day for shooting as soon as you had a sight of goal, and while we had one or two minor scares defensively, we created more chances than Northampton.

I always enjoy clean sheets, and sixteen-year-old goalkeeper Michael Eade made good saves when he had to. He is developing well, and if he works hard he has a chance of following Rob Beckwith and Dean Brill.

Luton Town: Eade, Deeney, Mountford, O'Leary, Davies, Howell, Hanley (Magadah 76 mins), Ridgway, Jones (Judge 76 mins), Andrew, Mansell.

OUR match against West Brom had to be postponed because we could not field a full team, due to injuries and four of our under-19s being called up to the subs' bench for the first team's cup-tie at Rochdale. We then suffered another postponement, when we were due to be away to Rushden and Diamonds, because they had been hit by injuries. We now have a break from the Alliance, with our next scheduled game at home to Cambridge on January 10.

APPEARANCES (as sub in brackets): Mountford 15, Deeney 13(2), Ridgway 13, R. Mansell 12(1), Barnett 12, Keane 12, Howell 12, O'Leary 11, Davies 10(1), Okai 8, Andrew 7(1), Judge 6(1), Freeman 6(1), Eade 6, Jones 5, Barrett 4, Maitland 3, Magadah 2(5), Godfrey 2, Hanley 1(1), Pendleton 1(1), Brill 1, Beckwith 1, Green 1, Lambu 1, S. Sinclair 0(2), Wright 0(2), Burrows 0(1).

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

John Moore

Umbro Isotonic FL Youth Alliance Under-19 South Central 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	1-1	Davies
22	Swindon (LC)	H	0-4	
29	Northampton	A	2-0	Andrew, Ridgway

December

6	West Brom	H	Postponed	
13	Rushden	A	Postponed	

January

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

Umbro Isotonic FL Youth Alliance Under-19 South Central Conference

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Walsall	14	12	1	1	38	20	18	37
West Brom	12	8	2	2	30	15	15	26
Cambridge Utd	14	7	3	4	29	15	14	24
Luton Town	12	6	3	3	24	19	5	21
Oxford Utd	15	5	4	6	34	31	3	19
Cheltenham	14	4	2	8	23	38	-15	14
Rushden & D	13	4	0	9	21	25	-4	12
Northampton	13	2	3	8	19	42	-23	9
Kidderminster	13	2	2	9	15	28	-13	8

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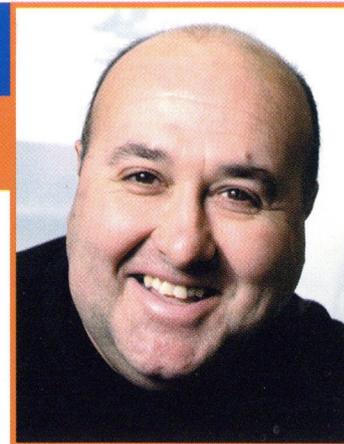
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Youth Soccer The under-17s



Colchester 1 Luton Town 0

I WAS not too happy at half time, when we were trailing to a fluke goal, having been denied a perfectly good one at the other end. There was some blunt speaking at the interval, but when the lads came off the field at the end of the game I told them "Well done" even though they had lost.

Colchester were better than us in the first half, when they were lively and came at us. Our keeper made some decent saves, and was unlucky when we conceded the goal on 25 minutes, because he had a long-range shot covered until it took a deflection and looped over him.

As half time approached I was thinking I would be happy to see us no worse off than one down, but two minutes before the break we thought we had equalised with an excellent goal. But the ref, who had a poor game, took play back three phases to rule

it out for offside.

At the start of the move the assistant put his flag up for offside, then put it down again, and play continued. We kept the move going, and Mutsa

Magadah had a shot parried, with Ross Hanley converting the rebound. We then discovered that the assistant had jogged back towards the half-way line, and raised his offside flag once more and the ref chalked off the goal.

We didn't let it get to us, and I was well pleased with the lads' response to my half-time demands to improve their game. Colchester were not allowed to create any real chances, and we dominated the play, but did not have that little bit of quality to produce a goal. The workrate and commitment was fine, and we should have got something out of the game to reward our second-half showing.

Luton Town: Barrett (Eade HT), Smyth, Pendleton, S. Sinclair, Green, Mountford, Hanley, Ridgway, Magadah, Jones, R. Sinclair.

WE MORE than made amends for the defeat at Colchester by thrashing Oxford 6-1 on Saturday. A full report will be in the matchday magazine for our game against Notts County. We are now on our mid-season break, and our next home game is not until January 17, when we entertain Gillingham at Luton RFC, Newlands Road, Farley Hill, kick-off 11am.

APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets: Smyth 15, Green 15, Pendleton 14(1), S. Sinclair 14, Tague 12(1), Hanley 12, R. Sinclair 11(1), Preston 9(4), Barrett 9, Burrows 8, Richardson 5(1), Goodchild 5, Clark 5, Ridgway 4, Magadah 4, Asafu'Adjaye 3(6), Mountford 3, Jones 3, Freeman 2, Andrew 2, Keane 2, Kenneford 1(3), Charles 1(1), Deeney 1, Farrell 1, Potter 1, Kelly 1, Field 1, McNally 1, Robinson 0(3), Eade 0(2), Cowley 0(2), Maitland 0(1), Foley 0(1), McGuinness 0(1), Marsiligo 0(1),

Goals: Burrows 6, Preston 4, Freeman 4, S. Sinclair 3, Richardson 3, Maitland 2, Magadah 2, Hanley 2, Andrew 2, Tague 1, Smyth 1, Kenneford 1, R. Sinclair 1, Keane 1, Ridgway 1, Green 1, Jones 1.

Mark Ridgway

Umbro Isotonic FL 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
R. Sinclair, Burrows, Richardson, Preston

15 L. Orient A 4-0
29 Northampton H Postponed

December

6 Colchester A 0-1
13 Oxford H 6-1 Ridgway, Keane, S. Sinclair,
Hanley, Green, Jones

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

March

6 Southend A

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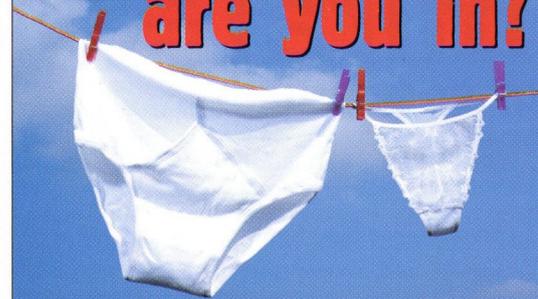
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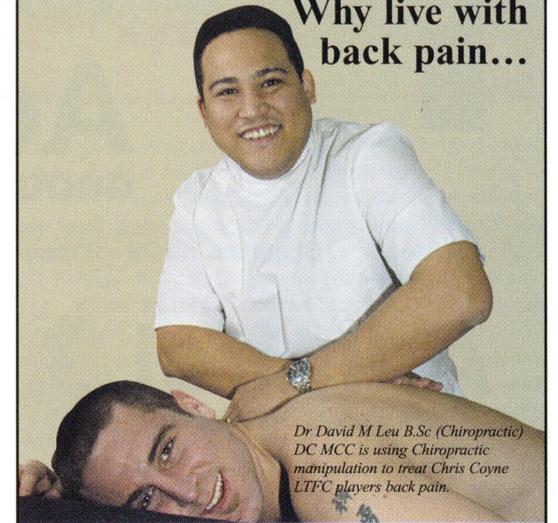
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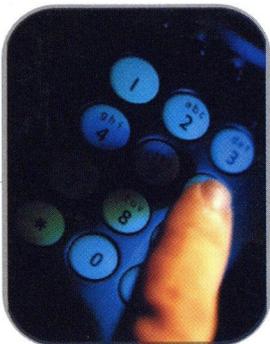
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Young Luton Town Belles Are The Tops

IT GIVES me immense pleasure to report on Belles youngest squad, who have this year taken the under-10 league by storm, scoring 103 goals and conceding only two. They are not surprisingly league leaders and cemented their position last weekend with an excellent 3-0 away win over close rivals Watford. Bethany Smith gave Town the lead, and two goals from midfield dynamo Tricia Gould made sure of the points.

The under-15s and under-12s were also in Watford derby action, with the under-15s winning a fierce encounter 1-0 with a tremendous strike from Lizzie Randall. They followed that up with a strong performance against QPR, winning 8-0 with Janine Daly firing a hat trick and braces for Fay Rolls and Rebecca Kane. Michelle Byrne added the other goal but the most incredible statistic of the day was the six shots that struck the woodwork.

The under-12s began slowly, conceding two goals, but showed great strength of character to fight back

to equalise with goals from Lauren Bruton and Robyn Wilfort and they were close to snatching a win. In the local league Belles continue to stretch their lead at the top of the table with an 11-0 thumping of Crawley Green. Scorers were Yasmin Hickling (4), Robyn Wilfort (2), Jade Mansfield and Kelly Moss. Kirsty McIntosh scored her first ever hat-trick in response to her younger sister's earlier outstanding strike in the Tangerines' 4-1 cup win against Sundon Park. Leanne Lizaitis, Kerry Stratton and Natasha Butler added the other goals. To emphasise their continuing improvement as a new squad, they followed up by defeating Potton United 2-1, fighting back from a goal down with goals from Leanne Lizaitis and Alice O'Shea.

Comeback of the season will surely be that of the under-13s, who were trailing 2-4 to Stevenage Borough Vixens with just seven minutes to go. Natalie Burchnall and Brittany Murtagh had scored earlier, but as the game seemed to be slipping away Natalie Burchnall thundered a 25-yard free kick into the top corner and Brittany equalised almost immediately. Most teams would then settle for a point but not this one. In the last minute Town won a corner which was only half cleared and skipper Amanda Scott shot through a crowded penalty area to pull off the most unlikely of wins.

After the disappointment of a 0-5 home defeat to champions QPR, the under-14s bounced back to complete the league double over Denham United with a 3-0 win courtesy of another hat trick from Nina Hale.

The senior squad have also hit the goal trail with an incredible 10-0 away win against Oxford-based Mansfield Road. Luton played quick passing football, using the wet surface to their advantage, and blew away their opponents with eight goals before half time. The encouraging fact was that there were seven different goal scorers with captain Kim Hide leading the way with four. Vicky Moody, Sam Mather, Rhiannon Morgan, Kaylee Owen, Fay Howell and Stacey Connell were the other scorers.



LEAGUE LEADERS: The under-10s who besat Watford 3-0. Back row: Olivia DaCosta, Sophie Clark, Nicole Jennings, Bethany Smith, Lilly Knowles. Front Row, Shauna Keers, Laura Pethybridge, Alexia Mouriadias, Tricia Gould, Maisie Wyatt

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 lutonbelles@hotmail.com The Belles also have a website - pay a visit to www.lutontownbelles.com Home matches are played at Stockwood Park athletics stadium, under-10 to senior on Sundays and under-10 and under-12 mini soccer on Saturdays. Fixtures details can be found on the website.

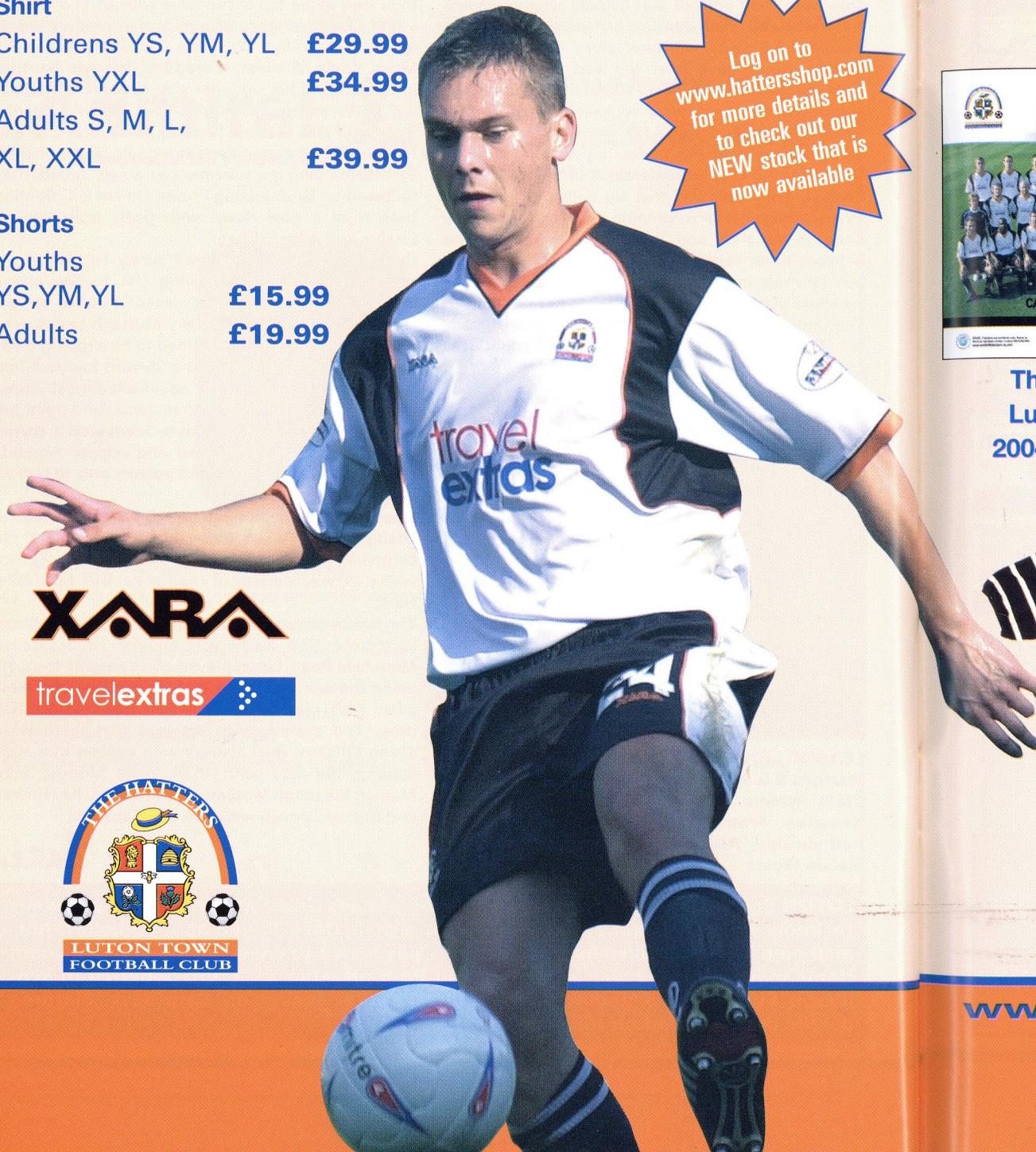
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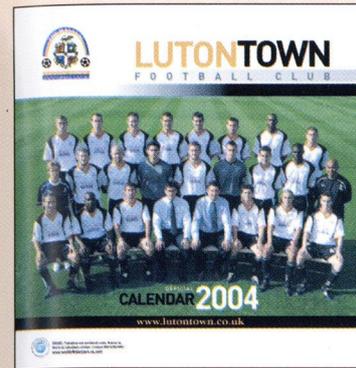


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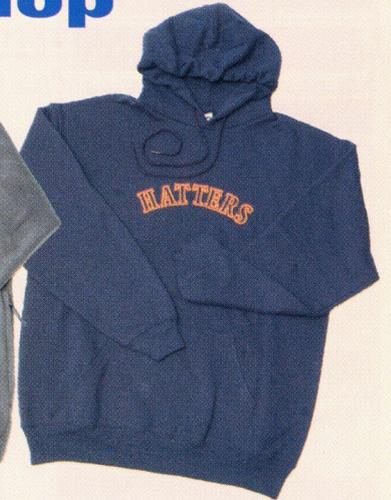
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Junior Hatters With Happy Harry

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WELCOME to all young football supporters, and a very Happy Christmas to all. We had our annual Christmas Party on Monday, and as usual it was a roaring success. We are grateful that so many players gave up their evening to join us, and we certainly enjoyed their company. There will be a full report, with pictures, in the next programme, when we play Notts County. Today we have been enjoying another Christmas treat, with an extension of our usual Saturday Club to make it last all day long, giving parents the chance to do Christmas shopping knowing that their youngsters are enjoying themselves in safe surroundings. The Saturday Club will not be available for the Notts County game, which is a week tomorrow, but it will be back in business in the New Year. We are working on plans for organised trips to away games for the second half of the season, and as soon as arrangements with host clubs

are finalised I will tell you about them on this page. Meanwhile, enjoy today's game and the holiday, and don't forget to come back and cheer on the team next Sunday!

Happy Harry



VIP PARTY: A close-up view of the toss of the coin ritual before kick-off is part of the pleasure of being a mascot, and two were on duty at our last home game, when we played Chesterfield. Steven Wallis did the honours for the Junior Hatters, and Timothy Owen was the commercial mascot

Today's Mascot



IT'S ALL happening this week for today's mascot, David Baverstock, from Gardners Close, Dunstable. Like everyone else he is looking forward to Christmas, and he celebrated his tenth birthday yesterday. The luck of the draw has given him an extra present

this afternoon, the chance to meet his heroes face to face – our mascots are chosen at random from the Junior Hatters membership list. David goes to Brewers Hill Middle School, Dunstable and comes to games with his dad and granddad, watching from the family enclosure. Football is top of David's hobbies list, followed by his computer, reading and pop music. His favourite player is Steve Howard.

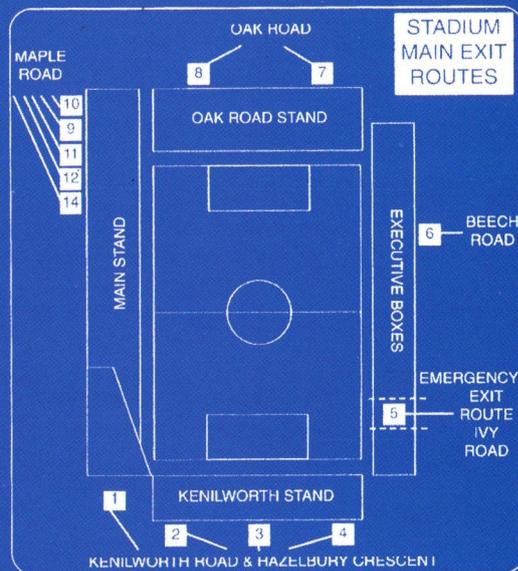
JUNIOR Hatters membership is open to boys and girls aged from 0 to 16 who support Luton Town. There are lots of advantages, including the Saturday Club, organised trips to away games, and the chance to be a mascot at home matches – the choice is made at random from the membership list. For more information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

EVACUATION PROCEDURE

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

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

Geoff Lovell, Safety Manager.



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Nationwide Division 2 Statistics

Margins of Victory

Games WON by	1 gl	2 gls	3 gls	4 gls	5+ gls
Plymouth	3	6	0	1	1
QPR	4	1	4	1	1
Brighton	3	5	2	0	0
Colchester	8	2	0	0	0
Blackpool	7	1	0	1	0
Wrexham	7	1	0	1	0
Barnsley	5	4	0	0	0
Luton	5	4	0	0	0
Port Vale	6	2	1	0	0
Hartlepool	4	3	0	0	1
Brentford	6	1	0	1	0
Rushden	4	3	0	1	0
Bournemouth	7	0	1	0	0
Bristol City	4	1	1	0	1
Grimsby	2	4	0	1	0
Swindon	4	2	0	1	0
Sheff Wed	4	1	1	0	0
Tranmere	5	0	1	0	0
Notts County	3	1	1	0	0
Oldham	2	1	2	0	0
Peterborough	3	0	1	0	0
Stockport	4	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield	1	0	1	0	0
Wycombe	1	0	1	0	0

Comebacks

WON from	-3	-2	-1	Total
Blackpool	0	1	2	3
Luton	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

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	9.10	6.24
Rushden	7.24	4.52
Swindon	6.19	5.43
Bournemouth	6.10	5.52
Notts County	5.81	5.76
QPR	6.19	5.29
Blackpool	6.38	4.95
Oldham	5.62	5.52
Colchester	5.86	5.24
Grimsby	5.86	5.05
Bristol City	6.10	4.76
Brighton	6.24	4.57
Wrexham	6.00	4.67
Luton	6.00	4.62
Tranmere	5.95	4.48
Barnsley	6.24	4.00
Port Vale	5.10	5.14
Stockport	5.10	4.86
Wycombe	5.24	4.52
Peterborough	5.38	4.14
Sheff Wed	5.10	4.14
Chesterfield	4.48	4.29
Brentford	5.05	3.67
Hartlepool	4.95	3.62

Scorer's Points Gained & Scoring Run

Player	Gls	Gls/Gm	Pts	Run	1st Gl
Scott Taylor	12	0.57	15	3	4
Leon Knight	16	0.76	13	3	4
Wayne Andrews	9	0.47	10	4	5
Steve McPhee	9	0.43	9	3	4
Michael Boulding	11	0.52	8	4	4
Leon McKenzie	10	0.53	8	4	4
Warren Feeney	8	0.42	8	4	1
Aaron Wilbraham	7	0.37	8	2	3
Dean Gorre	7	0.44	7	3	3
Dennis Lawrence	5	0.24	7	2	3

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 2-1 win, goals worth 3 pts. Also shown is goals per game figure and number of games player scored 1st goal

Headed Goals

Player	Club	Goals
Friio	Plymouth	5
Lawrence	Wrexham	5
Peacock	Bristol City	4
McKenzie	Peterborough	4
Evans	Plymouth	4

Shots from Long Range

Player	Club	Goals
Anderson	Grimsby	3
Strachan	Hartlepool	3
Wotton	Plymouth	3
Padula	QPR	3
Hunt	Brentford	2
Vine	Colchester	2
McSheffrey	Luton	2
Eyres	Oldham	2
Ainsworth	QPR	2
Furlong	QPR	2
Lowe	Rushden	2
Jack	Rushden	2
Currie	Wycombe	2

Fouls & Offsides per game

FOULS	Games	Fouls	Average
QPR	21	343	16.33
Tranmere	21	328	15.62
Colchester	21	295	14.05
Notts County	21	292	13.90
Barnsley	21	288	13.71
Wycombe	21	282	13.43
Brentford	21	277	13.19
Luton	21	277	13.19
Plymouth	21	276	13.14
Grimsby	21	275	13.10

OFFSIDES	Games	Offsides	Average
Luton	21	100	4.76
Peterborough	21	100	4.76
Rushden	21	100	4.76
Hartlepool	21	94	4.48
Tranmere	21	89	4.24
Bristol City	21	87	4.14
Chesterfield	21	84	4.00
Oldham	21	83	3.95
Stockport	21	83	3.95
Grimsby	21	82	3.90

Late Goals Scored

Player	Club	Goals
Boulding	Grimsby	3
Andrews	Colchester	2
Gabbiadini	Hartlepool	2
Heffernan	Notts County	2
Murray	Oldham	2
McKenzie	Peterborough	2
Friio	Plymouth	2
Evans	Plymouth	2
Collins	Port Vale	2
Furlong	QPR	2
Barlow	Rushden	2
Parkin	Stockport	2
Nicholson	Swindon	2
Nicholson	Tranmere	2

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

Scored in last 15 mins

FOR	76-90	Total	%
Stockport	8	28	29
Grimsby	7	25	28
Notts County	5	19	26
Swindon	7	29	24
QPR	9	39	23
Bristol City	6	26	23
Tranmere	5	22	23
Plymouth	10	45	22
Rushden	8	36	22

Against	76-90	Total	%
Brentford	12	31	39
Sheff Wed	8	27	30
Brighton	7	24	29
Wycombe	10	36	28
QPR	4	15	27
Swindon	7	27	26
Peterborough	8	31	26
Grimsby	7	28	25

Set Piece Goals

Scored from	Corner	Free Kick	Total
QPR	4	9	13
Plymouth	5	7	12
Stockport	3	8	11
Brentford	6	2	8
Hartlepool	1	7	8
Luton	4	4	8
Rushden	6	2	8
Swindon	2	6	8

Conceded from	Corner	Free Kick	Total
Brentford	6	5	11
Wycombe	7	4	11
Colchester	4	6	10
Oldham	5	5	10
Bristol City	3	6	9
Stockport	3	6	9
Bournemouth	4	4	8
Barnsley	4	4	8
Blackpool	4	4	8
Rushden	4	4	8

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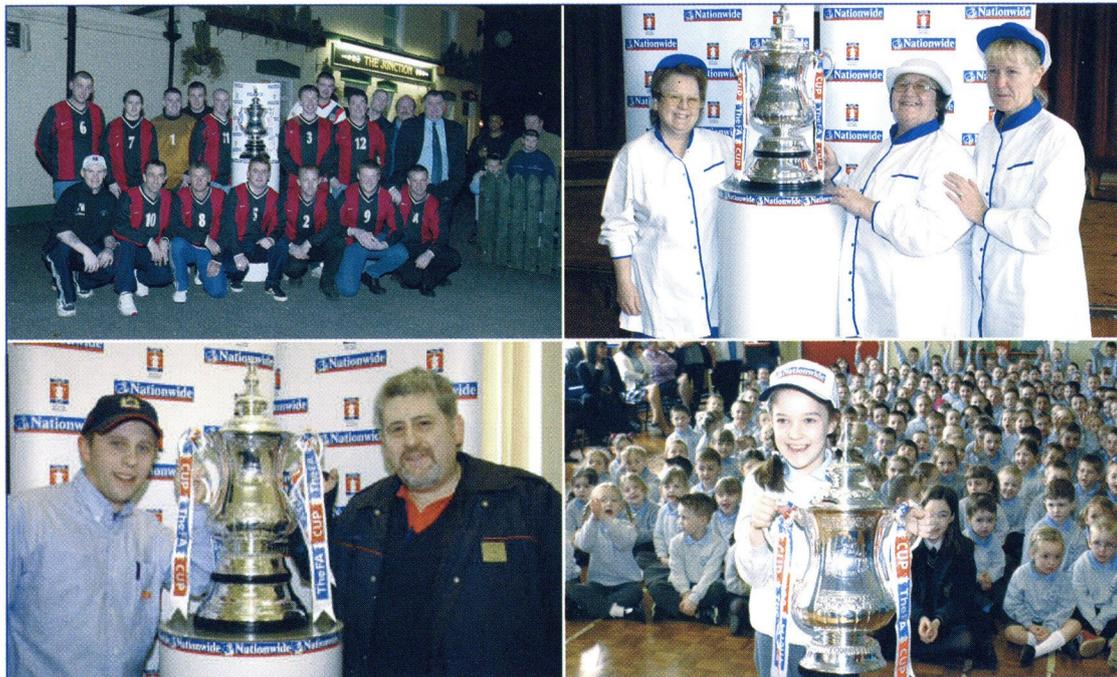
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The Second Division: Third Place In View

WE HAVE a six-pointer to watch this afternoon, with the Town and Barnsley both knowing that victory could put them into third place in the league. QPR and Plymouth are beginning to pull away from the pack, and will celebrate Christmas as the top two.

But the play-off chase remains wide open – Blackpool, down in 12th place, are only three points adrift of the top six. The Town's remarkable progress illustrates the value of an unbeaten run. They were 14th in early November, but six league games without defeat has regained a top six spot for the first time since August.

Barnsley have also staged a revival after an early-season burst took them to the top of the table briefly in late August and early September before they slipped back to 12th by early October. They have enjoyed recent success off the field as well, coming out of administration just over a week ago following a take-over led by former Leeds United chairman Peter Ridsdale.

Like the Town they have fought through to the third round of the FA Cup, although they needed two attempts to overcome Bristol City. Mike Newell was among those who saw them win Tuesday's replay 2-1 at Oakwell after a 0-0 draw at Ashton Gate. It was sweet revenge: a couple of weeks before the cup-tie at Bristol Barnsley had been beaten there 2-1 in the league.

The cup victory left Barnsley enjoying the prospect of a tasty third-round tie, at home to Sheffield Wednesday, who were favourites to beat Third Division Scunthorpe in a replay at Hillsborough on Wednesday. A week ago 20,438 packed into Oakwell to see Barnsley take on their Sheffield neighbours, and a feisty contest ended with honours even on all counts

– 1-1 on goals and red cards.

But the dream of another local derby in the cup vanished 24 hours later – Scunthorpe ground out a 0-0 draw after extra time, and then embarrassed Chris Turner's men by winning the penalty shoot-out 3-1.

Barnsley have been in the top four since late October, but their promotion push seems to be built around consistent home form. The Tykes, QPR and Hartlepool are the only sides in the division yet to suffer a home defeat this season. Their away form is less impressive – four wins, one draw and five defeats. The victories were 2-0 at Blackpool in August, 2-0 at Chesterfield in early September, and two in four days in October, 2-1 at Wycombe and 3-2 at Peterborough. Their only away draw was 2-2 at Bournemouth, in their first away match of the season. Defeats were 1-3 at Port Vale, 0-2 at Plymouth and 0-4 at QPR in September, and two 1-2 reverses, at Brentford and Bristol City last month.

Barnsley's last six results in the league: Wrexham (H) 2-1, Brentford (A) 1-2, Tranmere (H) 2-0, Bristol City (A) 1-2, Stockport (H) 3-3 and Sheffield Wednesday (H) 1-1.

Between those games, they won 2-1 at York in the FA Cup first round, drew 0-0 at Bristol City in the second round and then won Tuesday's replay. They were knocked out of the LDV Vans Trophy in the second round by a single goal at Hillsborough.

Today's Other Second Division Fixtures

- Brentford v Swindon
- Bristol City v Stockport
- Grimsby v Wrexham
- Hartlepool v Colchester
- Oldham v QPR
- Peterborough v Rushden
- Plymouth v Notts County
- Port Vale v Blackpool
- Sheffield Wed v Chesterfield
- Tranmere v Brighton
- Wycombe v Bournemouth

Boxing Day Games

- Bournemouth v Plymouth
- Blackpool v Tranmere
- Brentford v Bristol City
- Brighton v Wycombe
- Chesterfield v Peterborough
- Colchester v Luton
- Grimsby v Oldham
- Hartlepool v Barnsley
- Notts County v QPR
- Rushden v Swindon
- Sheffield Wed v Port Vale
- Stockport v Wrexham

	Nationwide League Division Two						GD	Pts					
	HOME			AWAY									
	P	W	D	L	F	A							
QPR	21	8	3	0	26	3	3	5	2	13	12	24	41
Plymouth	21	6	3	1	23	10	5	4	2	22	15	20	40
Brighton	21	7	2	2	19	9	3	3	4	13	15	8	35
Barnsley	21	5	6	0	15	8	4	1	5	14	18	3	34
Colchester	21	6	3	2	14	10	4	1	5	12	18	-2	34
Luton Town	21	7	2	1	21	11	2	4	5	13	22	1	33
Bournemouth	21	5	5	1	18	12	3	3	4	10	11	5	32
Port Vale	21	7	2	1	19	12	2	3	6	8	14	1	32
Bristol City	21	5	4	1	16	7	2	6	3	10	11	8	31
Hartlepool	21	5	5	0	18	4	3	2	6	15	24	5	31
Wrexham	21	4	4	3	11	7	5	0	5	13	15	2	31
Blackpool	21	5	0	6	14	13	4	3	3	11	15	-3	30
Rushden	21	5	3	3	22	16	3	2	5	14	17	3	29
Swindon	21	4	4	3	19	13	3	3	4	10	14	2	28
Grimsby	21	4	2	4	15	9	3	4	4	10	19	-3	27
Brentford	21	5	1	4	16	17	3	2	6	8	14	-7	27
Sheff Wed	21	2	5	3	11	12	4	3	4	13	15	-3	26
Tranmere	21	5	3	2	14	9	1	5	5	8	21	-8	26
Oldham	21	4	2	4	15	13	1	6	4	16	20	-2	23
Stockport	21	1	5	5	14	20	3	4	3	14	16	-8	21
Peterborough	21	0	4	6	13	19	4	4	3	11	12	-7	20
Notts County	21	3	3	5	12	12	2	2	6	7	19	-12	20
Chesterfield	21	2	5	4	12	13	0	3	7	4	16	-13	14
Wycombe	21	2	2	6	14	18	0	5	6	8	18	-14	13

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Luton Town Football Club is delighted to announce the launch of "Names on Seats"

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Complete it and post it back to **Names on Seats**, Luton Town Football Club, Maple Road, Luton, LU4 8AW, enclosing your remittance for a minimum of £15.00, either by cheque payable to **Luton Town FC** or alternatively by completing the credit/debit card details section of the order form.



Club In Receivership: Progress Report

FURTHER important steps were taken this week to enable Luton Town to come out of administrative receivership. Plans to sell the club to new owners were well advanced yesterday.

In view of the great interest supporters have in the matter, Barry Ward, the insolvency practitioner who has been running the club since mid-July, and leading the efforts to find new owners and take the club out of receivership, released the following statement for publication in the match programme today:

"At the time of going to press, the administrative receiver was hoping to complete the sale of the Football Club by yesterday, Friday, to Kenilworth Road Football Club Limited, the company set up by the consortium led by Bill Tomlins Sports Management. That would then be subject to the approval of the Football League and the Football Association.

"The administrative receiver had an arranged meeting with executives of the Football League on Wednesday, December 17, to assist insofar as possi-

ble in obtaining that approval. A meeting was also arranged between the Football League executives and the prospective purchaser on Thursday, December 18.

"The Football League executives were then due to report to the Board of Directors of the Football League, who would be asked to confirm the transfer of the share in the Football League, thereby finalising the sale.

"By the time you read this press release, it is hoped the sale will have been completed, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of the Football League. The sale should safeguard the future of the Club.

"Arrangements are being put in place for the prospective purchaser to provide the necessary financial backing for the month of December to allow the club to trade until League approval is given.

"A further press release will be issued as soon as the sale has been completed."

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



For all the latest news on
Luton Town. Get online at
www.lutontown.co.uk

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

Today's Squads



0(0)

Manager: Mike Newell

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



1(0)

Manager: Gudjon Thordarson

1	Sasa ILIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Neil AUSTIN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Tony GALLIMORE	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Peter HANDYSIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Lee CROOKS	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Steve HAYWARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Jacob BURNS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8	Chris LUMSDON	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Kevin BETSY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Stephen CARSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	Jonathan WALTERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Danny ALCOCK	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Garry MONK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15	Antony KAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16	Alex NEIL	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Brian O'CALLAGHAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19	Paul WARHURST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20	Craig IRELAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22	Ryan LAIGHT	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Nathan JARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Ashley SCOTHERN	<input type="checkbox"/>
30	Adam OLDHAM	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	Nicky WROE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
32	Isaiah RANKIN	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	Dean GORRE	<input type="checkbox"/>
34	Robbie WILLIAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>
35	Griff JONES	<input type="checkbox"/>
36	Craig PARRY	<input type="checkbox"/>
37	Scott FLINDERS	<input type="checkbox"/>

Today's Officials

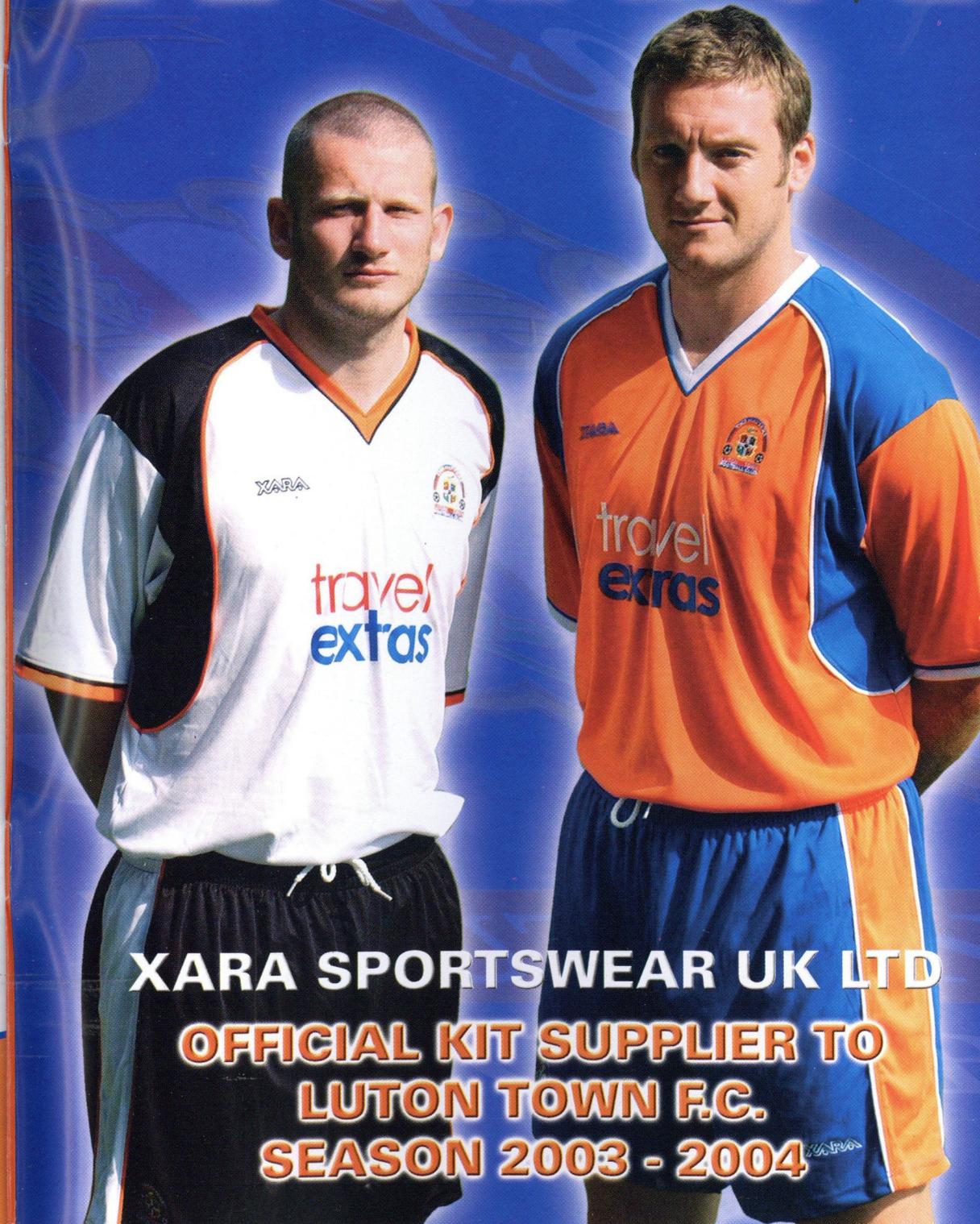
Referee: Paul Armstrong, Berkshire

Assistants: Danny McDermid, Hampshire (red and yellow flag);

Kevin Merchant, Surrey (yellow flag)

Fourth official: Gary Young, Bedfordshire.

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