

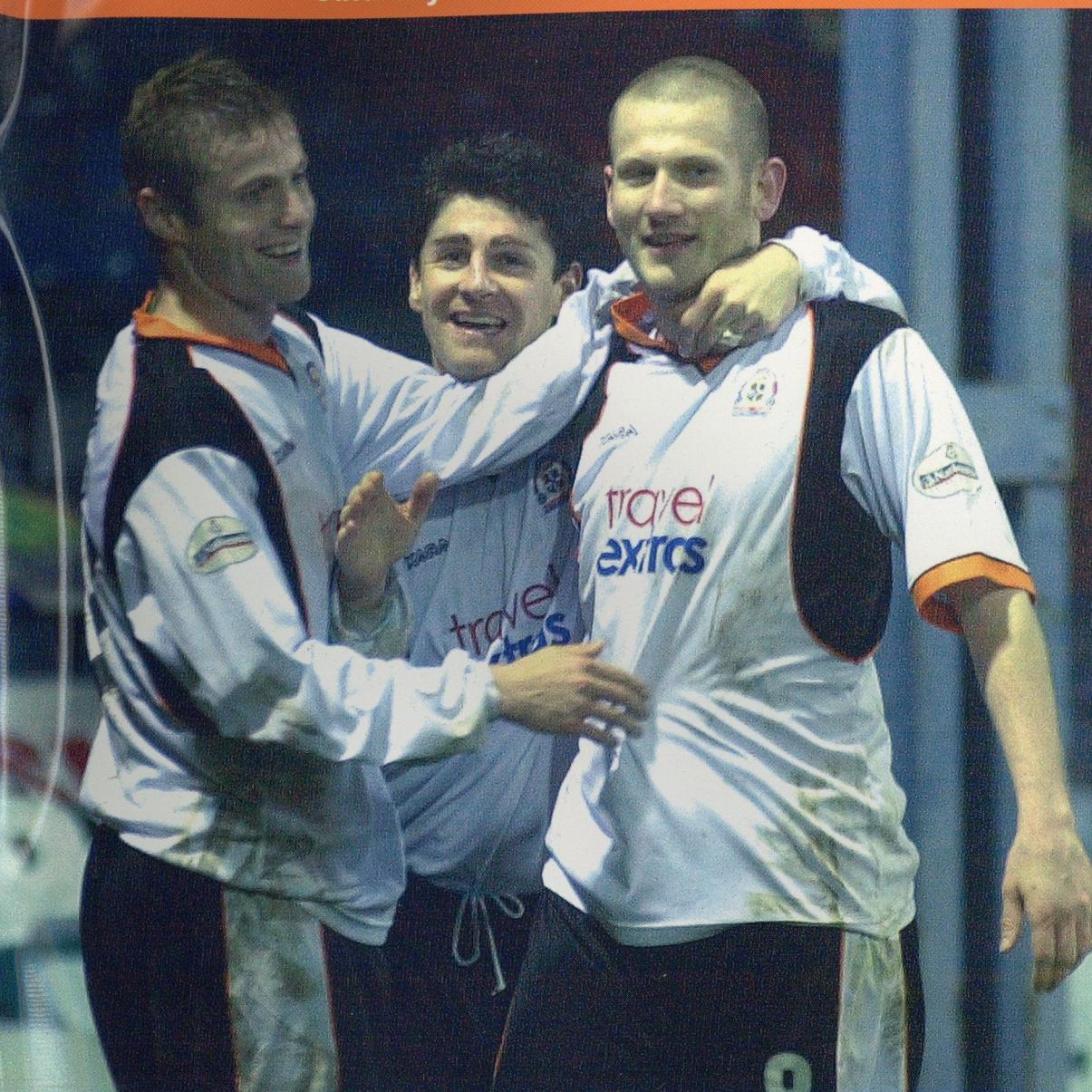


Luton Town Football Club

Official Matchday Magazine • Price £2.50

Nationwide League Division Two

Saturday 21st February 2004 • Kick Off 3.00pm



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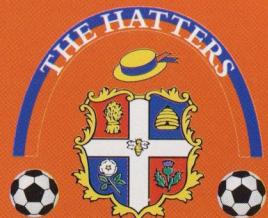
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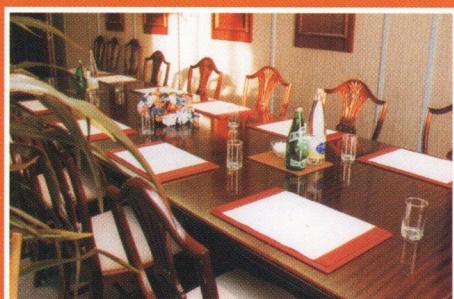
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email: commercial@lutontown.co.uk

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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

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Gareth Owen

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



Luton Town FC

Kenilworth Road Stadium
1 Maple Road, Luton
Bedfordshire LU4 8AW

Main Reception:
01582 411622
Fax: 01582 405070

Ticket Office: 01582 416976
Community Dept: 01582 391927

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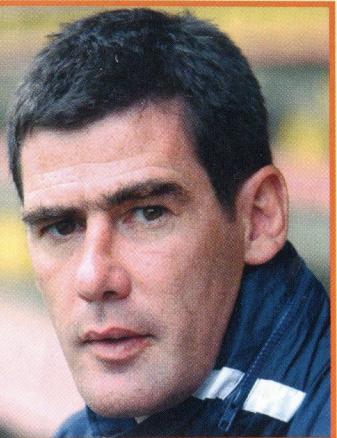
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The Manager's Message



HELLO and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for today's game against Brentford. Welcome also to Wally Downes and his staff, players, directors and supporters from Griffin Park. I have not known Wally for long, but he is someone you always look forward to seeing – a larger than life character who goes about his job with no fuss, and never seeks attention or the limelight. Brentford beat us comfortably down there, so from our point of view there is a score to settle.

Talking of larger than life characters, you will no doubt know by now that Mick has decided to stay at Luton, killing off the interest and approaches from Nottingham Forest. As far as I am aware Mick is under contract here, and while I can maybe understand Joe Kinnear's feeling of owing nobody anything after the events of the summer, I cannot allow Nottingham Forest the same excuse.

As I have said earlier in the season when we lost one player and could well have lost more as a result of unscrupulous agents and managers, there are rules to abide by set out by the governing bodies. I may be in the minority, or

might just be very naïve, but I intend to obey those rules, and also show people the common courtesy I would expect in return. If I fall or fail as a result I will be able to hold my head high.

The whole affair, particularly the outcome, has turned out to be a result, however, and could not have come at a better time.

We are on the verge of coming out of administration, and for Mick to commit himself to the club and show faith in what we believe will be a bright future can only help us when we eventually sit down with players and try to convince them to stay.

His heart was always telling him to stay, and although you usually follow your heart it is not always the case, especially in football.

I slept a lot easier after the reception he received from the fans who travelled to Wycombe. You may be surprised, but after a couple of days thinking things through, that will have gone a long way to convince him.

Whatever happens off the pitch, however, it's on it that is the priority, and after one of the best performances of the season at home against Brighton we were disappointing, to say the least, at Wycombe and were after more than a point.

We face a tough week, with two away trips, and a win today would be a great start.

Enjoy the game, and get behind the lads.

Mike Newell



AT FULL STRETCH: Enoch Showunmi in competition with Wycombe's Roger Johnson



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The Town Captain's View

WE ARE pleased to be back on our own pitch this afternoon, hopefully to recapture the form we showed in disposing of Brighton before turning in a very different standard of performance at Wycombe. It's impossible to know why a team can be so good one day, and so ordinary the next. We were delighted with the way things went in the Brighton game. As we expected they were worthy opponents, but even their manager agreed we deserved to win.

It was a good performance by everyone in the team, which made us all the more disappointed that we did not come home with three more points from the Causeway. If you have promotion ambitions you need to beat teams like Wycombe, but on the day we did not deserve victory. You can rack your brains to try to find explanations or excuses, but all that matters is the result.

There were some plus points: at least we did not lose, and we kept our third clean sheet on the trot. Not so long ago we used to shoot ourselves in the foot against teams from the lower levels of the league, so a draw on a day when we did not hit our real form was fair enough.

And we were well pleased with the way Keith Keane handled a difficult task on his league debut. At 17 he showed a lot of maturity. He was thrown in at the deep end at short notice to carry out a difficult role in the back four, and did well. But we did not have much penetration at the other end of the park.

Whatever the reasons for not beating Wycombe, I can promise you it was not over-confidence because we were facing the bottom team. We came off the pitch after the Brighton game on a high, and wanted to do it again at Wycombe, but it was not to be.

I don't think it was anything to do with the uncertainty over Mick Harford's future. Professional footballers take it in their stride when they hear rumours or speculation about people moving from one club to another. Transfers of players and changes among managers and coaches are part and parcel of our profession – everyone moves on eventually. It's hardly surprising if Joe Kinnear wanted to team up

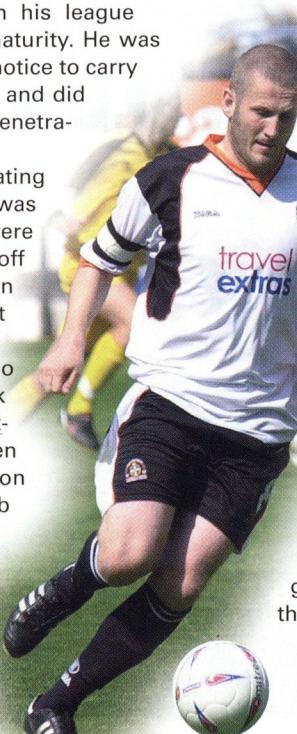
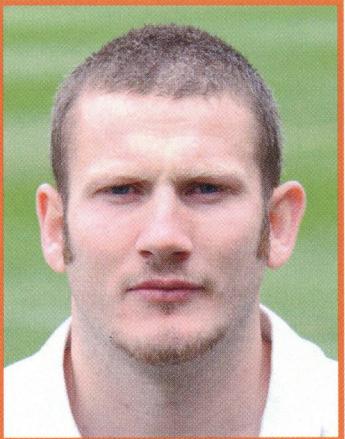
with Mick again, but the players are glad Mick is saying. We have a lot of respect for him and his coaching ability, and it was obvious from the supporters' reactions at Wycombe that the fans wanted him to stay as well.

We hear that we may be out of receivership in the very near future – perhaps by the time this column is printed – and that will be another good thing for the club. Considering the uncertainties and difficulties of recent months we have done pretty well, and it's good to be going into today's game knowing that we are now in with a great chance of breaking back into the play-off places. It is going to be a very big week for us, with three difficult games against teams fighting to escape the threat of relegation. We had no cause to complain about our defeat at Brentford earlier in the season, and we need to avenge that result to maintain our promotion ambitions.

Bristol City have set the pace recently – ten victories in a row, and that is the sort of form everyone in the chasing pack will be striving for. We have not been beaten in the league this year, and we need to keep that run going as long as possible. We need three wins in eight days, starting today, although we know that Brentford, Grimsby and Peterborough are all going to be up for it just as much as we are.

I am certainly optimistic about our prospects, and things will look even better when the off the field uncertainty is over. It will be good for the fans, especially. Players come and go, but the fans are there forever. I hope we give you plenty to cheer about today and through the rest of the season.

Kevin Nicholls



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www.lutontown.co.uk

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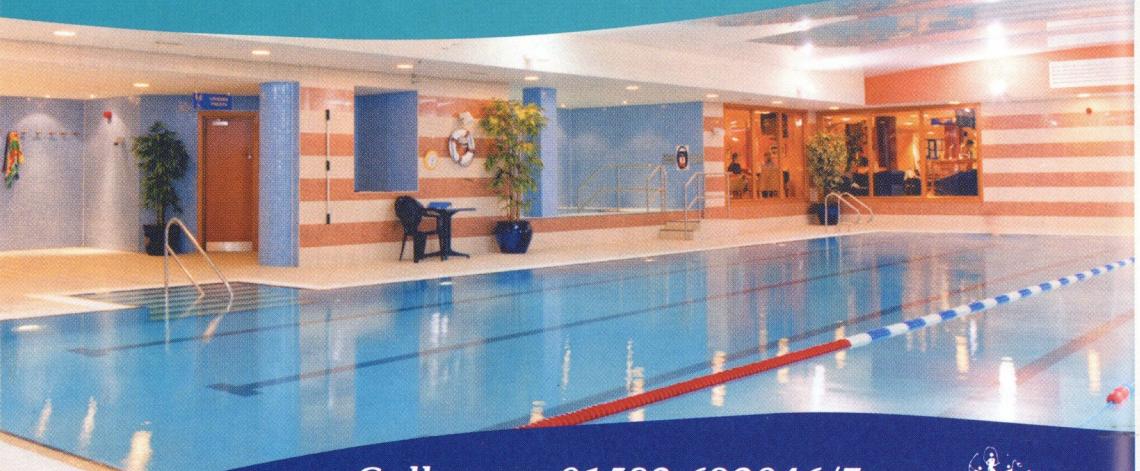
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From The Chief Executive

Good afternoon and welcome to Kenilworth Road as we continue to strive for a place in the top six of the Second Division.

With all the speculation and talk of Mick Harford leaving, it was great news that he has decided to stay here at Luton Town, it is where he belongs! You can understand other clubs being interested in him, but I know he has the same passion for this club as I have, and we are all looking forward to the new exciting era just around the corner. I am sure Mick's decision will be one he will never regret.

As I write these notes all the signs are that we are very close to coming out of receivership, and can look forward to seeing the club make great progress on and off the field alike and we all want to be part of it.

Following last weekend's game at Wycombe I met up with five other club secretaries for a couple of days break in Dublin. What a beautiful city it is. It was really good to meet up with the Luton Town Supporters Club of Ireland, who took us to enjoy some traditional Irish live music. A good time was had by all, so my thanks to everyone in Ireland for their hospitality!

I was even stopped in Grafton Street by some supporters who were on holiday in Ireland, enquiring what was going on at the club back home!

Back to club matters. The kick-off for The Football League Under 19 Southern Merit Division Two home match with Torquay on April 10 has been put back until 12.30pm to allow Torquay more travelling time for their long journey.

For those supporters travelling to Peterborough next week, please be aware that Peterborough will be holding a one minute's silence in respect of one of their former players, Steve Cooper who passed away in his sleep aged 41. We have a great

tradition at Kenilworth Road of observing such occasions impeccably and I know our supporters will as usual be a credit to our club.

Thank you to all who have supported our "Names on Seats" initiative. Many have given a donation as well as paying for the seat, so an extra big thank-you to those supporters. We have now received nearly 400 seat names orders. The lead-in time is approximately three weeks, so if your plaque is not on your seat yet, it will be very shortly. And for those of you who have not yet ordered, application forms are in the club shop and ticket office, and are also available on the official web site www.lutontown.co.uk. With Mother's Day coming up next month, perhaps this is an ideal opportunity to give a present with a difference!

Several supporters have asked about the play-off dates for The Nationwide League. Due to international call-ups for the European Championships, the final for the First Division will be played on Saturday May 29, the Second Division on Sunday May 30 and the Third Division on the day after, all at the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff. I do hope I have not tempted fate by mentioning the play-offs – I am sure I haven't!

A final reminder that the re-arranged game against Grimsby is next Tuesday, February 24, kick-off 7.45pm. At the time of writing we haven't confirmed a new date with Hartlepool United, but we will of course let you know as soon as the date is agreed.

Cherry Newbery



Hatters Away For A Game In Hand

THE Town complete a busy February with two away games in five days, using one of their games in hand at Grimsby on Tuesday, followed by the shorter journey up to Peterborough next Saturday

The midweek trip to Blundell Park results from the Town's run in the FA Cup, because the game was originally scheduled for January 24, when we played Tranmere instead. The road journey can be a pain, but as usual two reliable coach services are on offer to take supporters to Grimsby, and to Peterborough on Saturday.

For Tuesday evening's match, the Bobbers Travel Club will begin their trip at Cranfield at 1.15pm, picking up at their usual village stops en route to Kenilworth Road, with a Luton departure time of 2.15. Fares are £13.50 for adults and £11 for junior and senior citizens.

Town on Tour, an offshoot of Luton Town Supporters Club, will leave Leighton Buzzard at 1.15 and Maple Road at 2pm, and have a pick-up at Milton Keynes Coachway at about 2.30. Fares will be £16 for LTSC members, £14 for junior and senior citizen members, and £18 for others.

For Peterborough Town on Tour will leave Leighton Buzzard at 11.15am, Luton at noon and MK Coachway at 12.30, and fares will be £12 for members, £10 for concessionary members and £14 for non-members.

The Bobbers begin their Peterborough trip at Cranfield at 11am, leaving Luton an hour later, and fares are £9 adults, £7.50 concessions.

Choice Of Route To Grimsby

GRIMSBY FC's ground is in Cleethorpes, and the journey can be a bit of a drag, with the direct route including a lot of country roads once you leave the A1. For faster average speeds use the longer route: take the M1 north from Luton and stay on it to junction 32, near Sheffield. There, join the M18 and continue to junction 5 where you take the M180. This becomes the A180 to Grimsby. On the approach to

the town follow the signs towards the docks, then to A180 Cleethorpes. The ground is just under three miles from Grimsby town centre, on the left of the main road, tucked away behind a McDonalds.

The shorter route is to leave Luton on the A505 through Hitchin and Letchworth to Baldock, where you take the A1 north. Leave A1M at junction and turn right to Peterborough. Stay on the dual carriageway around Peterborough until you see a roundabout with a turn onto the A15 heading north. Take the A15 until near to Market Deeping, where you turn right onto the A16 towards Spalding. Stay on the A16 through Boston all the way to Grimsby. About four miles short of Grimsby turn right at Scartho to follow the signs to Cleethorpes, and from the centre of Cleethorpes follow the signs towards Grimsby and you will soon see Blundell Park signposted on your right.

Mileage: 150 on the "scenic route", 180 via the motorways.

Posh Ride Is Nice And Easy

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

The best route is up the A1, reached by leaving Luton on the A505 east, through Hitchin and then to Baldock to take the A1 north. A couple of miles beyond Norman Cross junction turn off right on the A1139, which is signposted to Peterborough. This road becomes the Fletton Parkway, which you leave at junction 3 to follow signs towards the city centre. Follow those signs until you run onto the Nene Parkway, and then follow the signs towards Woodston Industry until you find yourself in Shrewsbury Avenue. At the next T-junction turn right onto Oundle Road, and at the next roundabout turn right into London Road and the ground is on your left.

Mileage from Luton: 61

BOOKINGS for away games travel can be made at the LTSC or Bobbers kiosks in Kenilworth Road, before or after home games. Paul Deason on 01234 750996 will take phone bookings for the Bobbers, whose service includes pick-ups at Cranfield, Marston Moretaine, Ampthill, Flitwick, Westoning and opposite the Travelodge Motel in Dunstable Road, Luton, close to the M1.

Town on Tour offers LTSC members the best deals, and seats can be reserved at the Supporters Club kiosk or by phoning 07960 567465. They offer additional pick-ups at Leighton Buzzard and Houghton Regis.

Town Fans Set A Wycombe Record

FOR THE third consecutive away game, the Town took a four-figure following to Wycombe, and the Wanderers were pleased to welcome our fans – the 1,838 visitors was the highest away crowd seen at The Causeway Stadium so far this season.

The previous best in the league was 1,627 supporting Brighton, and those South Coast fans deserve some credit because more than a thousand also travelled to Kenilworth Road four days later.

Wycombe have checked in four-figure away crowds on five other occasions this season: 1,677 from Aston Villa in the Carling Cup, 1,478 from Sheffield Wednesday, 1,340 from Plymouth, 1,078 from Brentford and 1,127 for an FA Cup game against Swindon.

The away following for Wycombe, by contrast, is much lower. They brought 414 fans to Luton in October, compared to their average of 286, and for their midweek game at Tranmere in September Prenton Park accommodated just 58 visiting supporters to cheer for a team which had failed to win in its nine league games after the season's opener in August.

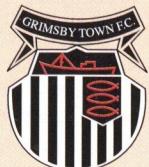
Latest figures for awayday fans who have seen Town games this season:

Town Travellers

Stockport	671	Rushden	922
Brighton	727	Yeovil (CC)	493
Notts Co	1,215	Grimsby	318
Plymouth	449	Hartlepool	573
Charlton (CC)	2,407	Port Vale	344
Oldham	487	QPR	1,872
Swindon	412	Tranmere	170
Stevenage (LDV)	1,028	Wycombe	414
Brentford	1,468	Peterborough	579
Bournemouth	462	Wrexham	176
Bristol City	496	Thurrock	239
Rushden (LDV)	876	Chesterfield	168
Thurrock (FAC)	509	Notts County	363
Sheffield Wed	1,462	Stockport	364
Rochdale (FAC)	562	Tranmere(FAC)	1,344
Southend (LDV)	216	Colchester	367
Blackpool	458	Brighton	1,107
Colchester	941		
Bradford	1,620		
Rushden	2,319		
Wycombe	1,838		

Total: 20,623 10,171
Average: 982 565

News From The Ticket Office



Nationwide League Division Two

Grimsby Town v Luton Town

Tuesday February 24, 2004,
kick-off 7.45pm

Prices: Adults £16, Senior Citizens and Juniors £10

No student concessions available.

This match is pay on the night only for Luton Town supporters, with no tickets available in advance at Kenilworth Road. Please note that adults should pay at the turnstiles, but supporters wishing to buy concessionary tickets should obtain them from the Grimsby Town ticket office.



Nationwide League Division Two

Peterborough Utd v Luton Town

Saturday February 28, 2004,
kick-off 3pm

Prices – Terracing: Adults £11,
Senior Citizens, Students and Juniors £8

Seating: Adults £16, Senior Citizens, Students and Juniors £8

This match is pay on the day only for Luton Town supporters, with no tickets available in advance at Kenilworth Road. We have been allocated 3,500 terracing places and 775 seats.



Nationwide League Division Two

Luton Town v Bournemouth

Tuesday March 2, 2004, kick-off 7.45pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.

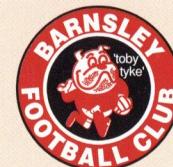
Cash turnstiles will be open on the day subject to availability.

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



Match tickets can be ordered on credit or debit cards by telephoning the ticket office on 01582 416976

News From The Ticket Office



Nationwide League Division Two

Barnsley v Luton Town

Saturday March 6, 2004, kick-off 3pm
Prices: Adults £16, Senior Citizens and Juniors £9

No student concessions available

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



Nationwide League Division Two

Luton Town v Blackpool

Saturday March 13, 2004, 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



Nationwide League Division Two

Port Vale v Luton Town

Tuesday March 16, 2004,
kick-off 7.45pm



Prices: Adults £15, Senior Citizens and Students £8, Juniors £6

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

Please note: supporters wishing to claim a student concession must purchase a ticket from Port Vale's ticket office and produce their student ID

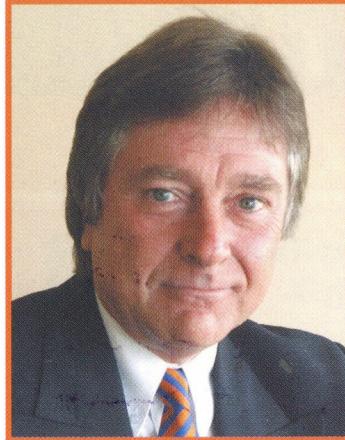
Ticket Office Opening Hours

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.



Commercial Corner

GOOD afternoon, and may I take the opportunity of bidding a very warm welcome to all of today's sponsors, together with all of our commercial partners, to this afternoon's match.

JOINT MATCH SPONSOR



In their first season with us as multi-event sponsors, the commitment to the club from Stanley Casino continues to grow from strength to strength. Stanley Casino are currently executive boxholders, stadium advertisers, contributors to the match programme and co-sponsors of our latest Sporting Dinner – and this is just part of the story. They are joining us today as joint match sponsors, this being part of a series of additional high-profile events that they have introduced as part of their local marketing strategy. The casino offers a comprehensive choice in modern gaming, together with quality dining at superb prices in their refurbished restaurant, late



JOINT MATCH SPONSOR

CP Contracts

We also welcome back today our old friend Chris Park, managing director, and the management and guests of Ampthill-based CP Contracts. Specialising in the creation of new business environments CP Contracts provide the all-in-one solution for the complete refurbishment of commercial property, including a design and build service to individual office specification. Some of their most recently completed projects include office fit-outs and external redecoration for Barnfield College, construction of warehouse units at Meppershall, creation of office accommodation for Signature Flight Support at Luton Airport and various refurbishment works for Luton-based Whitbread plc. CP Contracts have enjoyed an association with the Hatters for over 20 years, numbering the sponsorship of the ball retaining nets, above the executive boxes, as just one of many Luton Town projects they support. CP Contracts can be contacted on 01525 405430 or via their web site at www.cpcontracts.co.uk

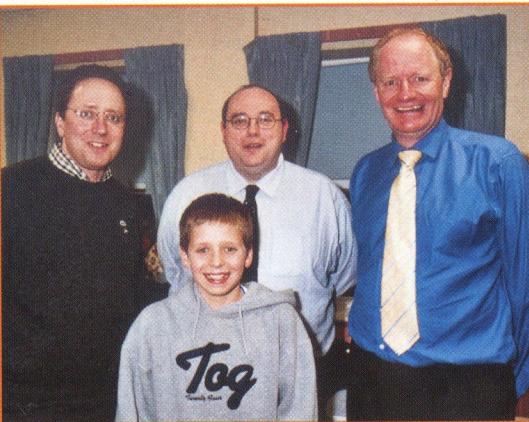


Clare Maitheson, marketing manager of Travel Extras, receiving the match ball sponsors certificate and matchball at the Brighton game.



Adrian Duffy, sales director of Travel Extras, presenting the man of the match trophy to Enoch Showunmi

Welcome to All Our Sponsors and Guests



Martin Ellis and Jon Deverick, of Grant Thornton, together with their guests in the sponsors lounge at the Seagulls match



Travel Extras marketing team receiving the match sponsors certificate from squad members at the Brighton match.

We all hope that George and his family have a tremendous and memorable afternoon with us.

SPECIAL OCCASION

Gordon Sapsworth - Happy 40th Birthday

It's with every best wish from all at the club that we welcome today the Sapsworth family, and in particular Gordon, who celebrates his 40th Birthday on February 26.

Son of Jack Sapsworth, a Vice President of Luton Town, Gordon is a director of the Luton-based family glazing and decorating business, and has been an avid fan of the club since his father first introduced to Kenilworth Road, at the tender age of five. Having held a season ticket and latterly Century Club membership, Gordon is no stranger to the highs and lows of being a dedicated follower of the Town, with warm memories of the "dream team" that lifted the Littlewoods Cup at Wembley in 1988. Joining Gordon today are various friends and family members, including wife Karen and children Aaron and Zoe.



COMMERCIAL MASCOT

George Bell

We welcome today as our commercial mascot seven-year-old George Bell. He and his family live in Luton, with George attending Bushmead Junior School. His hobbies include art, computer games, swimming and reading. He's a regular visitor to Kenilworth Road, with his favourite Town player being Chris Coyne.

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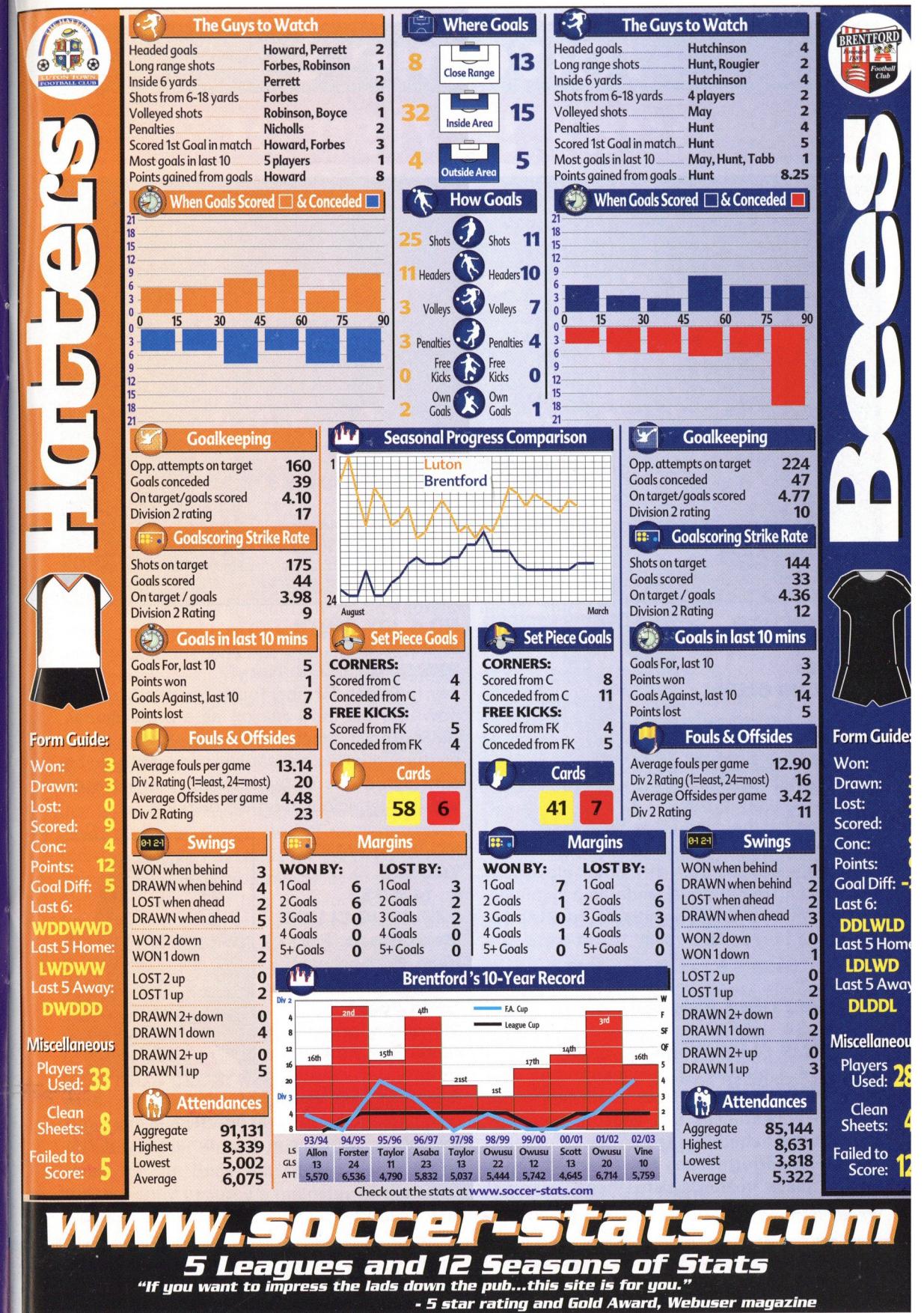
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Welcome to Today's Visitors

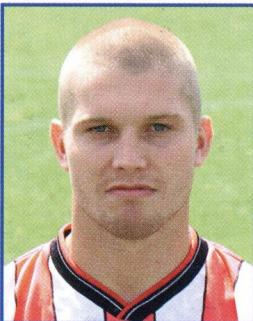


NO 2 MICHAEL DOBSON
B. 9.4.81
PREVIOUS CLUB:
None

Michael who has been with the Club since his Centre of Excellence days, was handed the captaincy of the side last season and made more appearances than any other player. He has shown tremendous leadership qualities, and together with his insatiable appetite for the game he has the ability to progress still further.

NO 3 MATTHEW SOMNER
B. 8.12.82
PREVIOUS CLUB: None

Matt, like a number of his teammates, has graduated through the Bees youth team, and with 45 appearances last season, has now firmly established his place on the team sheet. His performances have earned him a regular place in the Welsh Under 21 squad this season.



NO 4 JAY SMITH
B. 29.12.81
PREVIOUS CLUB: None

Jay, another former Youth team captain, is now into his third season as a professional. Having now increased his appearances tally by thirty plus last season, he can justifiably be considered one of the mainstays of the side with his tenacious midfield displays

NO 5 STEWART TALBOT
B. 14.6.73
PREVIOUS CLUBS:
Moor Green, Port Vale, Rotherham United, Shrewsbury Town (loan).

Stewart, a former club captain of Rotherham United, joined Brentford on a free transfer in February 2004 on a two-and-a-half year contract. Is expected to feature strongly in the remainder of the season.



Brentford Football Club



NO 6 IBRAHIMA SONKO

B. 22.1.81

PREVIOUS CLUBS: FC Grenoble

Ibu, as he is affectionately known, became a crowd favourite at Griffin Park last season and scored six goals from his central defensive position. His performances have earned him both Full and Under 21 international (where he is captain) call-ups for his native Senegal. training and is expected to be sidelined for around eight months, meaning he is unlikely to see action again until March 2004.

NO 7 STEPHEN EVANS

B. 25.9.80

PREVIOUS CLUB: Crystal Palace, Swansea City (loan).

Stephen, a former Welsh Under 21 international, will be looking to gain a regular place in the side after a number of niggling injuries which prevented him from establishing a regular place in the side last season. He can perform equally well in central defence, midfield and as a wide running player.

NO 8 JAY TABB

B. 21.2.84

PREVIOUS CLUB: None

Jay is another player who is a product of the Bees Youth set up. In the all too infrequent appearances he has made for the Bees he has shown himself to be a player of tremendous ability. However he has now forced his way into the reckoning on a regular basis, and grabbed the headlines when scoring his first five goals for the Club in the space of eight days in October.

NO 9 KEVIN O'CONNOR

B. 24.2.82

PREVIOUS CLUB: None

Twenty one year old Kevin has made tremendous progress since signing pro forms as a seventeen year old. He made over 50 appearances for the Bees last season and he has subsequently become a mainstay of the side. His performances have earned him deserved

recognition with a regular place in the current Republic of Ireland Under 21 squad.

NO 10 STEPHEN HUNT

B. 1.8.80

PREVIOUS CLUB: Crystal Palace

Steve, a former Republic of Ireland Under 21 international, joined the Bees from Crystal Palace in the summer of 2001. His bubbly personality has enamoured him to teammates and supporters alike, and was exemplified in his exciting performances for Brentford last season which yielded ten goals, the second highest at the Club. He currently leads the Club's scoring charts having equalled last season's total.



NO 11 MARK PETERS

B. 4.10.83

PREVIOUS CLUB: Southampton

Mark joined the Bees from Southampton towards the end of the 2001/2 season, where he had top scored for their Under 17 Academy side for each of the two previous seasons. It is expected that he will feature more this season as his natural goal-scoring ability begins to manifest itself.

NO 12 ANDY FRAMPTON

B. 3.9.79

PREVIOUS CLUB: Crystal Palace

Another former Crystal Palace player, Andy joined the Bees in October 2002. Injury prevented him from staking a regular place in the side last season, but the left sided defender or midfielder will be looking to make amends this season.

NO 13 ALAN JULIAN

B. 11.3.83

PREVIOUS CLUB: None

Alan has graduated through the youth ranks

Welcome to Today's Visitors

at Griffin Park, and during the past two seasons has earned international recognition with the Northern Ireland Under 19 and Under 21 squads. Highly rated by Bees goalkeeping coach Jim Stannard, Alan has proved to be more than competent cover when called into the first team.

NO 14 MATT HARROLD
B. 24.7.84
PREVIOUS CLUB: Wingate & Finchley Harlow Town

Matt was signed from Ryman's League side Harlow Town prior to the start of this season after impressing in two reserve outings for Brentford last season. He hit the headlines when scoring a hat trick in the FA Cup 1st Round tie this season, only his third start for the Bees.

NO 15 DANNY THOMAS
B. 16.6.84
PREVIOUS CLUB: None

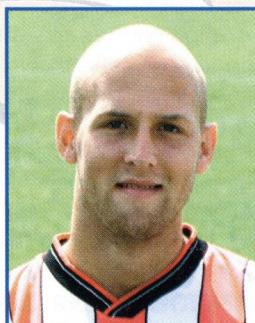
Danny is in his first year as a professional, having progressed through the Junior ranks at Griffin Park.

NO 16 LEE FIELDWICK
B. 6.9.82
PREVIOUS CLUB: None

Lee, a graduate of the youth squad, made his League debut last season and is hoping to make further progress this season as he looks to secure a regular full back berth.

NO 17 EDDIE HUTCHINSON
B. 23.2.82
PREVIOUS CLUB: Sutton United

Eddie, signed three seasons ago from Sutton United, is expected to feature strongly for the Bees this year, having



played in 50% on Brentford's League games last season. A strong running midfielder, his ability in the air is rarely equalled.

NO 18 BEN MAY

B. 10.3.84

PREVIOUS CLUB: Millwall

Ben joined the Bees on loan on August Bank Holiday Monday, having come up through the ranks at Millwall. His progress had been followed for some while prior to his joining the club.



NO 19 TOMMY WRIGHT

B. 18.9.84

PREVIOUS CLUB: Leicester City

Tommy Wright has now joined the Bees on a season long loan following recommendations from both Micky Adams and Dave Bassett at Leicester. Tommy made his debut in the Premiership as a seventeen year old in March 2002. He has represented England at both Under 18, 19 and 20 levels.

NO 20 STEPHEN HUGHES

B. 26.1.84

PREVIOUS CLUB: None

One of a number of former Youth team players who have progressed into the First team, and may be expected to add to his experience this term.

NO 21 DANNY ALLEN-PAGE

B. 30.10.83

PREVIOUS CLUB: None

Danny, another former Youth team player at Griffin Park, has yet to make a start in the First team but has shown enough in his reserve outings for the Club that he has what it takes to succeed in the game.



Brentford Football Club



NO 22 LLOYD BLACKMAN

B. 24.9.83

PREVIOUS CLUB: None

Yet another former Youth team player who was blooded last season. Lloyd possesses the ability required to become a successful striker and this season he will be hoping to add experience to his list of attributes.

NO 23 BOBBY TRAYNOR

B. 1.11.83

PREVIOUS CLUB: None

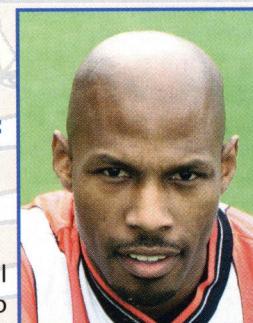
Bobby Traynor has progressed through the Youth team and into the first team squad. He has spent some of the current season on loan initially at Chelmsford City and currently at Crawley Town, to add experience to his undoubtedly ability.

NO 24 RONNIE BULL

B. 26.12.80

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Millwall, Yeovil (loan)

Joined Brentford at the beginning of 2004 and made his debut for the Club against Tranmere.



NO 25 TONY ROUGIER

B. 17.7.71

PREVIOUS CLUBS:

Raith Rovers, Hibernian, Port Vale, Reading, Brighton (loan)

The 6 foot tall Trinidad & Tobago International striker joined the Bees just one week into the current season. His experience has proved invaluable to the young squad and his style of play has enamoured him to the Brentford fans.

NO 26 JIM STANNARD

B. 6.10.62

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Fulham, Southend United, Gillingham.

The Bees Goalkeeping Coach has come out of retirement to don the keeper's jersey as cover. As a player he made over 600 League appearances and holds the record for the most clean sheets in one season.

NO 27 JOEL KITAMIRIKE

B. 5.4.84

PREVIOUS CLUB: Chelsea.

Joined the Bees on loan from Chelsea for whom he had made one appearance, in the UEFA Cup, at the age of seventeen. His performances with Brentford have marked Joel as a player with plenty of potential, and has also secured him a season long loan with Brentford.

NO 28 DEAN WELLS

B. 25.3.85

PREVIOUS CLUB: None

Promoted up from the ranks of the YTScheme and was on the bench for the Hartlepool match.

NO 29 JOSH LENNIE

B. 23.3.86

PREVIOUS CLUB: None

Promoted up from the ranks of the YT Scheme and was on the bench for the LDV Vans match at Barnet and the League match against Brighton.

NO 31 ALEX RHODES

B. 23.1.82

PREVIOUS CLUB: Newmarket Town

Signed by the Club From Newmarket Town in November having scored 20 goals for the Eastern Counties Premiership club this season, including four hat tricks.

NO 32 STUART NELSON

B. 17.9.81

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Millwall, Oxford City, Doncaster Rovers, Hucknall Town

Brentford signed the keeper from Unibond Premier side Hucknall Town.



Blast From The Past

After the narrow and disappointing failure to win promotion back to Division One in 1997, the bookies made the Town 8-1 favourites to win the title in the new campaign and it was reported that one supporter had placed £6,000 at those odds such was the optimism running through the streets of the town. Hatter's manager Lennie Lawrence, however, knew that he had a tough job to galvanise the players to go one stage further as the new campaign unfolded, especially as he knew that his previous season's good luck on the injury front could not possibly hold out and that there was a lack of strength in depth in the squad.

The season got off to a lacklustre start with a 0-1 defeat at Blackpool and from there things got steadily worse as Lawrence's privately predicted injury list grew longer with each passing week.

At one stage ten recognised first-teamers were on the treatment table and the situation got so bad that in late September, 40 year old coach Trevor Peake was recalled to the side in the 2-5

home defeat at the hands of Wrexham to make him the oldest player in the Town's history, while three teenagers made their debuts in a 0-3 defeat at Bristol City.

The most humiliating defeat of a so far depressing season, however, came at Kenilworth Road against Watford who were 4-0 up at half-time. If the Hornets players had not taken their feet off the pedal in the second period there may possibly have been a riot given the highly charged atmosphere.

Mercifully, this turned out to be the low point in the opening half of the season as some of the more experienced players slowly started to return to the side while youngsters such as Gary Doherty, Liam George and Matthew Spring acquitted themselves well.

By the time of the visit of Brentford at the end of October the Watford debacle was (almost!) forgotten as we had picked up seven points from the three intervening games.

The Bees were also having a season to forget after reaching the play-offs the previous campaign and a win for Hatters would lift them out of the relegation positions at the expense of their opponents.

Most of the early play belonged to the Town and it came as no surprise when Graham Alexander opened the scoring after 20 minutes. Phil Gray

headed a superb cross from David Oldfield back across goal into the path of Alexander who coolly lobbed Bees goalkeeper Nick Colgan.

Despite a lot of huffing and puffing we had to wait until the hour mark for the second goal with Tony Thorpe heading an Oldfield flick in at the far post. There was now no way back for the Bees as the Town were happy to sit back on their lead and gather another welcome three points to push them further up the table.



Rory Allen and David Oldfield congratulate goalscorer Dwight Marshall during the 2-2 draw at Brentford in 1998.

Allen Saves The Hatters

Unfortunately, the mini-revival did not last long and after a winter of struggle and wildly inconsistent performances the Hatters were one place off the bottom as Easter approached. Desperate for the loan of a proven striker before deadline day Lennie Lawrence was thwarted at every turn until ex-Hatters manager David Pleat offered a lifeline in the shape of 20 year Rory Allen.

Although Allen had been touted as a star of the future he was just getting back to fitness after a serious ankle injury. Lawrence had struggled with enough injured players during the season without taking risks on another but did not wish to look a gift horse in the mouth. We are all eternally grateful that he did not!

Allen was a revelation and galvanised the Town side with his enthusiasm and goalscoring, leading to a run of four wins from six wins following his arrival. With two games to go the Hatters knew that a point at fellow strugglers Brentford would ensure survival for another year. Unfortunately, this would also open the trapdoor for the Bees.

In another highly charged game a crowd of 6,598 turned out to see the more experienced and physically stronger Bees attempt to intimi-

date the Town but it was Dwight Marshall who fired us into the lead after 13 minutes when he was quickest to react to a bouncing ball in the box following a corner.

Ten minutes later Brentford were level when poor marking from a long throw allowed Andy Scott to steal in and head home at the near post. The game swung from end to end and it took a piece of brilliance from that man Allen to break the deadlock on the hour mark. Taking a long punt from goalkeeper Kelvin Davis in his stride he cleverly held off Brentford defender Jamie Bates before hammering home a low shot.

The game threatened to boil over a couple of minutes later when the burly Warren Aspinall went through on Kelvin Davis leading to an ugly 20 man brawl which took some time to sort out. Wisely Bees boss Micky Adams decided to substitute Aspinall but this did little to diffuse the overall situation as the home side laid siege on the Luton goal.

Carl Hutchings, who caught the eye, as he seemed to want to play football, equalised with ten minutes to go bringing about a nerve-jangling finale but we just about managed to hold on thus securing the point needed at the end of a very traumatic season.

Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages



The Town produced their normal, colourful 56-page programme for the visit of Brentford in October 1997. A great deal of reading material made this one of the better offerings around at the time.

The club's severe injury problems were highlighted by the fact that despite only 13 games being played we had used 28 different players with no one ever present.

Matthew Spring had made his debut for the Hatters in the previous home game against Plymouth and had received his marching orders to make it a day of highs and lows for him. Julian James, in a player profile, reminded us all that Spring was not the first Hatter to suffer a dismissal on his debut as the same thing had happened to him in a Littlewoods Cup tie at Leeds in 1988!

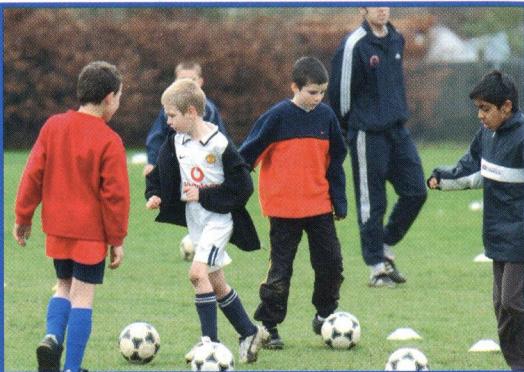
LTFC in the Community

working in conjunction with Bedfordshire Football Association and Luton Borough Council

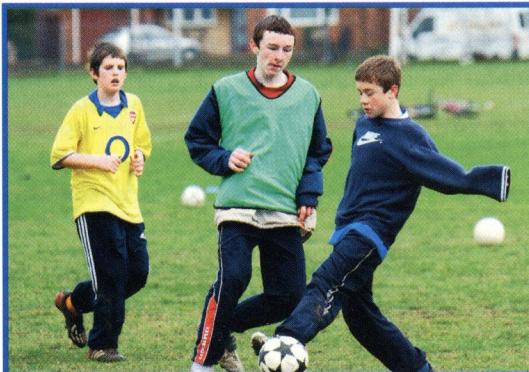


OUR coaching courses for local schoolchildren during the half-term holiday were a huge success, and I would like to thank all the boys and girls who enjoyed themselves so much, and everyone who helped make sure that everything went smoothly.

Every available place was taken, with 220 children enjoying a wide range of football activities each



day, with three-day courses at Barnfield, a two-day course at Farley Junior School and a "World Cup Day" at the Regional Sports Centre, Stopsley. Our pictures give an indication of how popular the courses were, and how much they were enjoyed. One of our major selling points is that our courses are the only ones which offer personal contact with Luton Town players, and the children were thrilled to receive their end-of-course certificates from



Coaching Courses Are A Big Hit



Hatters stars they watch on Saturdays.

As you probably know, we also run courses during term time, at evenings and weekends, and we will shortly be announcing our next ventures on those – watch this space, as they say!

Parents can be sure their children are in safe hands, with all our coaches fully qualified with FA and/or UEFA qualifications, and also vetted by the authorities to work with youngsters.

Our Community Department is based in Oak Road, and we can be contacted by phone on Luton 391927.

Stuart Smith



Well Done Hillborough!

LUTON'S Hillborough Junior School year 6 under-11 football team has achieved great things on a national scale.

They participated in the Luton Town FC Football in the Community local heat of the Kellogg's Frosties national six a side tournament and came top out of 18 participating schools. That took them to the midlands regional finals at Pride Park Derby.

There they represented Luton Town FC in a tournament involving 15 schools representing their local professional clubs.

In the group stages Hillborough set the initial running with good wins against Walsall and Birmingham and a draw against Wolves, but



defeat to Kidderminster dropped them to third place in the group. But they went into the next stage as the best third-placed team, and there was no looking back after that.

In the quarter final Jordan Patrick's hat-trick and a goal by Martin Collins guided them to a 4 - 2 win over Coventry City.

In the semi-final a 2-1 victory was secured against Derby with goals from the same two players.

But the best was saved till last in the final, in which Rushden and Diamonds were brushed aside with a brilliant 6-1 victory. Goals from Martin Collins (4), Jordan Patrick and Jack Lewsey secured the title of Midland Champions. Jordan Patrick scored a total of 12 goals and Martin Collins eight in only seven games.

It was a marvellous effort from the whole squad, expertly guided by Liam O'Donnell (Mr O). Hillborough are now in the last eight in the country. They will now go on to play in the southern area finals on Swindon Town FC's ground in mid March, facing schools representing Wycombe Wanderers, Oxford United and Tottenham. Should they win this, they will go on to play the winners of the four-team northern area final in April. It is hoped that will be played at The Millennium Stadium in Cardiff.

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Club Call

Last Season
The Nationwide Football
League saw an increase in
Attendance of 13.5%;
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Mitre >

The authority...

The Quality of the Football

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Audio On Web Is A Big Draw

RECENT figures have confirmed that the official website's sister site, Hatters World, is the most popular audio subscription site in the lower divisions, and has been since the season started.

For those who haven't yet signed up yet, you'll be pleased to know if you purchase AOL or NTL's broadband service you can get a twelve-month subscription to Hatters World absolutely free. Current AOL and NTL broadband subscribers may also qualify for a free subscription, so please log on to lutontown.co.uk for further details.

Hatters World takes you behind the scenes at Kenilworth Road with interviews from those who make things happen, on and off the field. In recent weeks we have had exclusive interviews from Kevin Nicholls, Enoch Showunmi, Adrian Forbes, Emmerson Boyce, Morten Hyldgaard and Marvin Johnson. We also bring you regular updates from the Football in the Community and commercial offices to keep you abreast of their latest developments.

Either side of every game, manager Mike Newell's pre-match press conference is available to listen to at lunchtime the day before the match and of course we bring you his post-match reaction within half-an-hour of the final

whistle.

But that's not all you can enjoy, the match highlights are available 24 hours after the game has finished. In

the video library you can look back at the action from the 2001/2002 season onwards, as well as a selection of great games from years gone by.

It doesn't end there though, because if you can't make it to a game you can listen to action unfold live on Hatters World. As well as tuning in to hear BBC Three Counties Radio commentary of Luton's games you now have access to over 4,000 audio commentaries through Hatters World.

The commentary is complimented by real-time stats from around the grounds, so you won't miss a thing. A twelve-month subscription to Hatters World costs £34.99, which is less than 70p a week but as I mentioned earlier it might not cost you a penny, so please check out the official site to see if you qualify for a free subscription.

Chris Rivett

Plymouth 0 : 1 Luton

GOAL: Evertton 1:1 (Revolti (68'))

NEWS FLASH

LIVE FLASH

LIVE GOALS

GOAL Attempts: 7 6 Goal Attempts: 3

On Target: 5 3 On Target: 3

Offside: 2 3 Offside: 2

Corners: 4 6 Corners: 6

Free kicks: 19 6 Free kicks: 2

Yellow cards: 2 2 Yellow cards: 1

Red cards: 0 0 Red cards: 0

Possession: 63 47 Possession: 47

LINE UPS

STATISTICS

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OFFICIAL CLUB BETTING

CHANGE MATCH

TEXT COMMENTARY: Plymouth 0 : 1 Luton

61:04 Inswinging corner from right-by-line taken right-footed by Lee Hedges (Plymouth) to out of play, resulting in ball out of play.

62:34 Cross by Gary McSheffrey (Luton), clearance by Graham Coughlan

63:41 Cross by David Worrall (Plymouth), resulting in open play.

65:17 Cross by Kevin Foley (Luton), resulting in ball out of play.

Currently broadcasting: Luton

STATUS:

New England Shirt Offer

The new England change shirt will be launched at the beginning of March, and if you're interested in getting your hands on the top as soon as you can you'll be pleased to know that we've teamed up with leading online retailer Kitbag to allow you to do just that. If you pre-order your shirt through lutontown.co.uk it will be delivered on the day the shirt is launched and a percentage of the price you pay will benefit Luton Town directly.

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



Keeping Cool Pays Dividend

Luton Town 2 Brighton 0

THERE was immense pleasure in the Town camp after the tenth home win of the season. It kept the Town in the play-off chasing pack, it pegged back close rivals, and it settled an old score on a night of high-pressure and sometimes over-heated competition.

Mike Newell recalls the game at Brighton in August as one of the very few occasions when players let themselves down, mainly because so much was going on off the field in terms of receivership and cost-cutting.

This time the pressures were all on the field, and Brighton were found wanting, reduced to ten men for the last 17 minutes when leading scorer Leon Knight lost the plot. A penalty clincher followed, leaving Mark McGhee with two major thoughts: Luton deserved to win, but the red card and penalty decisions were "very poor."

The Town took the game to Brighton from the start, and Enoch Showunmi enjoyed another excellent game, full of unpredictable enthusiasm and confidence. His cross led to Peter Holmes sweeping in the opener on 27 minutes, and four minutes after Knight's departure Showunmi was tripped by Brighton skipper Danny Cullip and Kevin Nicholls converted the penalty.

Mike Newell said: "We played some decent stuff in the first half particularly. It is always nice to get a goal, but we felt we needed another one. It was also about keeping our discipline, because we felt somebody somewhere was going to be sent off after the way things went in the first half and the little bit of tension we saw at half time." Brighton players were still arguing with the ref

as they came off at the interval because he denied them a penalty when Knight and Sol Davis tangled, and booked Knight for diving.

"At half time I was worried if our lads got involved in anything and got themselves into trouble," said the Town manager. "Knight dived, and he did a lot of it down there when we played them."

Knight earned his second yellow card on 73 minutes, for a late tackle on Davis and a solid professional display ensured Brighton were punished further. "We did what we had to do: defended properly and hit them on the break," said the Town boss.

Mark McGhee said: "We were beaten by a more determined side. Luton started by closing us down quickly and didn't let us play. Then we allowed a couple of very poor decisions to influence us, and put us on the back foot and by that time the game was won."

He felt Davis's challenge on Knight was "a stone-wall penalty" and the booking for a dive was ridiculous. His players were convinced the penalty in the second half should not have been awarded, but the Brighton manager added: "We had already lost a slack goal, so we were probably going to lose 1-0 anyway."

"Luton were as good as any team we have played since I have been at Brighton. They played some good football, were quick, good on the counter, and had a lad up front who gave us problems all night. Many Second Division teams would have lost against them the way they played tonight."

Match Details

TOWN: Hyldgaard; Foley, Boyce, Coyne, Davis; Nicholls (Leary 88 mins), Robinson, Spring, Holmes (Brkovic 88 mins); Showunmi (Crowe 85 mins), Howard. Unused subs: Davies, Brill.

BOOKED: Sol Davis and Kevin Nicholls.

BRIGHTON: S. Jones; Virgo, Cullip, Butters, Mayor; Oatway, Hart (Robinson 86 mins), Carpenter, Watson (N. Jones 9 mins, McPhee 62 mins); Knight, Benjamin. Unused subs: El-Abd, Keeley.

BOOKED: Adam Virgo, and Guy Butters for fouls on Enoch Showunmi; Leon Knight twice, and sent off, dive in the first half, foul on Sol Davis in the second.

REFEREE: Trevor Parkes, Birmingham.

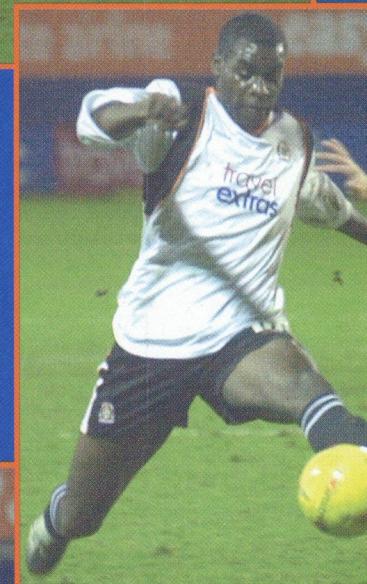
ATTENDANCE: 6,846, including 1,107 away fans.



THE CLINCHER: The ball is in the back of the net with the goalkeeper well beaten by Kevin Nicholls's penalty.

RIGHT: Enoch Showunmi at full stretch on a night when his efforts led to both goals.

BELOW: Chris Coyne was close to his third goal of the season with this header, which bounced over the bar.



Hatters Pic of the Week

EMERGING TALENT: Seventeen-year-old Keith Keane made his league debut at Wycombe, after injury ruled out Kevin Foley and Ian Hillier. Wycombe made great efforts to exploit Keane's inexperience, with such limited success that Jermaine McSporran got a little shirt!



Relieved To Take A Point

Wycombe Wdrs 0 Luton Town 0

THE third consecutive clean sheet, a point, and the unbeaten league run taken to seven games was the nearest to good news from The Causeway Stadium. The bad news was that the Town performance was well short of what we have come to expect recently. Bottom of the table and ten points short of the safety mark, Wycombe could hardly believe their luck as the Town fumbled ineffectively, and in the end the Wanderers should have enjoyed their first-ever home win over the Town.

Fortunately their finishing let down flashes of decent approach play, with Dannie Bulman getting on the end of a smart 88th-minute move, only to scoop his shot over the bar from five or six yards. The Town attack was almost non-existent, with the midfield unable to provide any real service to Steve Howard and Enoch Showunmi. But the defence looked solid again, and one reason was that 17-year-old Keith Keane, on his league debut, rode out a spell when he could have been destroyed to emerge with huge credit. He was in the side because Kevin Foley and Ian Hillier were both injured, Hillier in the warm-up as he prepared to play at right back.

Wycombe decided to pressurise the youngster, and for a spell Jermain McSporran's pace threatened to embarrass him. Keane tackled hard, collected a booking, came through the ordeal like a man, and eventually had the pleasure of seeing McSporran forced to try his luck elsewhere, and he got no more change out of Sol Davis.

At the interval we were shaking heads in disbelief: the Town had not managed a single effort at goal. Things improved a little after the break, but in 90 minutes the sum total of threat came down to a single header by Howard which was finger-tipped over the bar in the 62nd minute.

So for the huge Town following it was a relief to set-

tle for the draw, although Mike Newell admitted that he was "not at all happy."

He said: "We felt we could come here and get something the way we have been playing, particularly after the performance against Brighton. But although we have taken a point and have not been beaten we are bitterly disappointed with the way we played."

As usual, it was impossible to know why the Town's form had vanished. "You can make all sorts of excuses," said the boss when asked if the players might be tired after their efforts against Brighton. "At the end of the day, particularly in midfield, we could not put a pass together, couldn't keep the ball and didn't get forward enough. If you don't do that it makes it very difficult to hurt teams."

"In the first half we didn't even get the ball into areas where you can have efforts at goal. We messed about with it in midfield and went back, never attempting to hurt them. Wycombe gained a bit of impetus after about half an hour and had a little bit of belief that maybe they could take something out of the game. Before that they looked like a side that was bottom of the league, nervous and not going to hurt us."

"They could have nicked it, and it wouldn't have been unfair because we can't claim to have played any good stuff at all. The second half was marginally better than the first – but it would have been impossible to be as bad!"

Wycombe manager Tony Adams was also unhappy "It is frustrating, because I felt that the boys deserved three points," he said. "They are putting in some good performances and it would be nice to turn those into results. It was lovely to keep a clean sheet, because Luton are very direct, but we dealt with that very well. I told our players well done."

Match Details

TOWN: Hyldgaard; Keane, Boyce, Coyne, Davis; Nicholls, Robinson, Spring, Holmes (Brkovic 74 mins); Showunmi, Howard. Unused subs: Leary, O'Leary, Davies, Brill.

BOOKED: Keith Keane and Sol Davis for fouls.

WYCOMBE: Bevan; Senda, Johnson, Nethercott, Vinnicombe, Currie, Simpson, Bulman, Brown; McSporran, Tyson. Subs, all unused: Williams, Bloomfield, Philo, Simpemba, Roberts.

BOOKED: Roger Johnson and Nathan Tyson for fouls, Jermain McSporran for a dive over Chris Coyne.

REFEREE: Steve Bennett first half, injured, replaced by Lee Cable for the second.

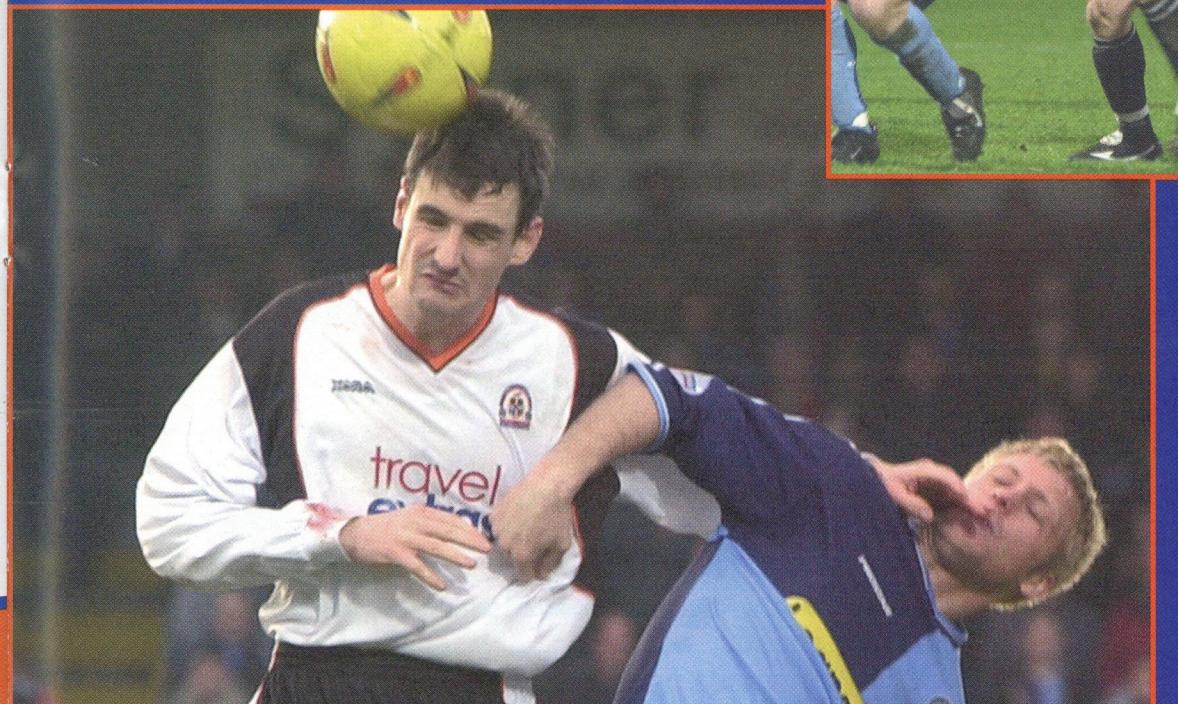
ATTENDANCE: 6,407, including another magnificent Town following of 1,838



AIMING HIGH: Steve Howard and Stuart Nethercott in competition.

RIGHT: Steve Robinson concentrating on the ball, with Nethercott also keeping an eye on it.

BELOW: Matthew Spring in a tangle with Darren Currie.



Town Teaser

IF YOU know your Town Trivia, you could win a pair of match tickets in our Town Teaser competition. Listen to the PA announcer before kick-off for your chance to have a go. At the last home game we asked about the Danish player who was our leading scorer in the 1990/91 season, and the answer was Lars Elstrup. Today we stay with the subject of foreign players who have appeared for the Town.

TODAY'S QUESTION

AFTER a defeat against Brentford 12 months ago, the Town gave a debut in the following game, a 1-0 home win over Plymouth, to a goalkeeper signed on loan from Spurs. Who was he and what was his nationality?

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Golden Gamble Delights Fans

SIX points out of six from our last two home games delighted all Luton Town supporters, but two who came to see us beat Colchester and Brighton in the space of four days had even more reason to celebrate – between them they went home £1,300 richer.

The explanation, of course, is that John Wheeler and Michael Daly were the winners of the Golden Gamble, our 50/50 lottery which offers a fistful of cash for an outlay of just £1.

Mr Wheeler, from Tattenhoe, Milton Keynes, has been a Town fan since the old Fourth Division days in 1967, so he has plenty of good memories of Kenilworth Road. The Colchester game added another, because not only did the Town take maximum points, but also he won £705 after Paul Hughes picked his winning ticket out of the drum.

Mr Wheeler watches games from the Kenny End nowadays, but no matter where you sit



you have a chance of striking it lucky. Mr Daly, from Norman Road, Barton, sits in the Main Stand, and his Golden Gamble prize for the game against Brighton was £610, with his lucky ticket picked out by Town vice-president Richard Banks.

Today another wedge of cash is on offer, all ready to be collected at half-time. The size

of the jackpot depends on ticket sales: from each £1 ticket 50p goes into the prize fund and other half goes to Luton Town FC, so even if you are not a winner you will be helping the club.

The Golden Gamble has paid out £11,710 this season to 18 winners, an average of £651 each. Ticket sellers are on duty in all parts of the ground again this afternoon, and as usual the draw will be made on the pitch in front of the main stand at half-time, and the cash prize will be available for immediate collection.



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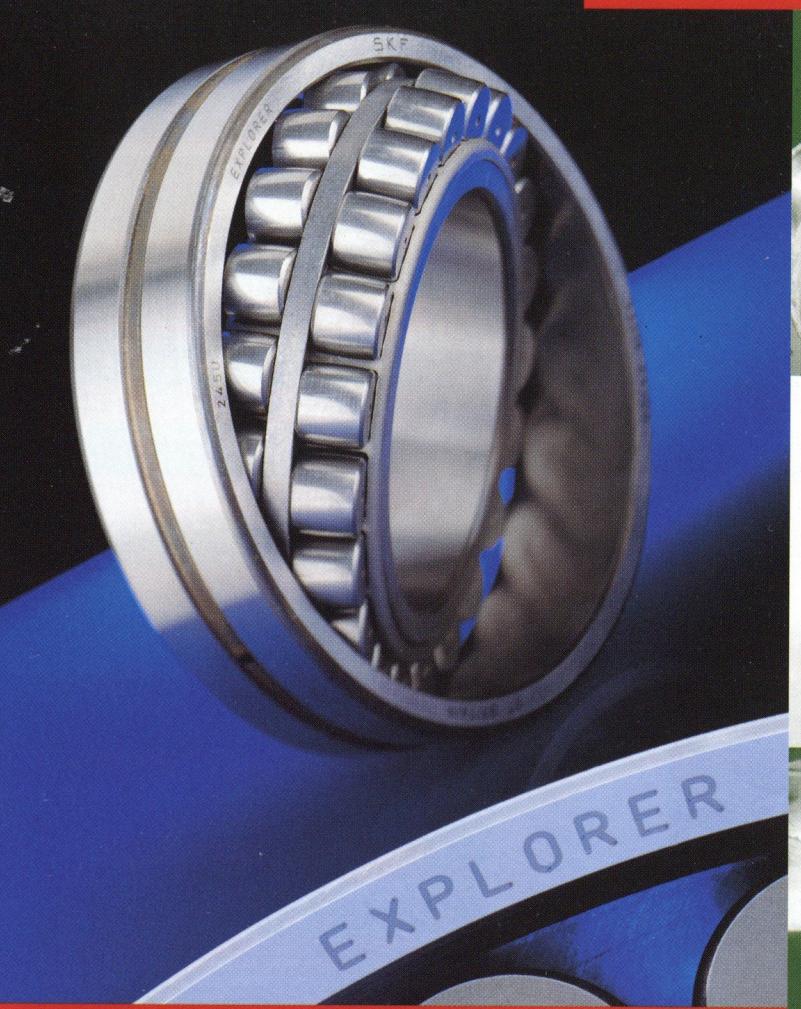
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Youth Soccer The under-17s

Luton Town 2 Rushden & Diamonds 1

HAVING enjoyed this victory, I was delighted to hear that Marvin Johnson had also won for the first time in charge of the under-19s, especially against a Premiership club, and I am sure it will be the first of many.

We are doing our best to keep a regular supply of young talent coming through, and our young side played very well against Rushden. We had two under-14s in the starting XI, and they both scored, with finishes of excellent quality.

Rushden had a lot of trialists from Premiership clubs, which makes our performance all the more creditable.

An early goal helped to settle us down, and it was a nice moment for Dean Hamilton, a 13-year-old from Sandy, who marked his debut with an excellent finish after good work by Ryan Charles and Mutsa Magadah.

That was after only three minutes, and we had much the better of things for the rest of the first half. Rushden never looked like scoring, while Magadah missed a chance when he beat the offside trap but shot at the keeper.

We needed a second goal, and got it on 64 minutes, with Charles hitting a very good half-volley from a pass by Matt Kenneford.

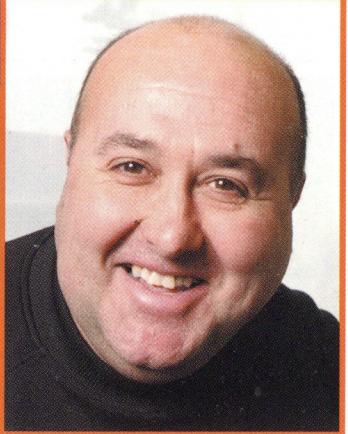
Rushden looked well beaten at that stage, but we gave

them a lifeline on 75 minutes, with Harrison Tague giving away a penalty for shirt-tugging. It was silly, especially as the opponent had his back to goal, and the ref's decision was quite right.

The penalty was converted and that gave Rushden a lift, and I expected the last 15 minutes to be tough. But we dug in and kept it together, and could have extended our lead when Magadah did well to turn on a half-chance, before shooting into the goalkeeper's arms.

Luton Town: Barrett, R. Quinn, Asafu'Adjaye, Kennet, Tague, Green, Hamilton, Reynolds, Charles, Kenneford, Magadah.

WE WILL be at home again next Saturday, with Portsmouth the visitors to Luton Rugby Club at Newlands Road, Farley Hill, kick-off 11am.



APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets: Green 17, Pendleton 16(1), Tague 15(1), Smyth 15, S. Sinclair 15, Hanley 13, R. Sinclair 12(2), Barrett 12, Preston 11(4), Burrows 10, Asafu'Adjaye 6(6), Magadah 6, Clark 6, Richardson 5(1), Goodchild 5, Ridgway 4, Andrew 3, Mountford 3, Jones 3, Kenneford 2(4), Reynolds 2(1), Freeman 2, Keane 2, R. Quinn 2, Charles 1(1), Deeney 1, Farrell 1, Potter 1, Kelly 1, Field 1, McNally 1, Port 1, Kennet 1, Hamilton 1, Charles 1, Robinson 0(3), Eade 0(2), K. Quinn 0(2), Cowley 0(2), Maitland 0(1), Foley 0(1), McGuinness 0(1), Marsiligo 0(1),

Goals: Preston 7, Burrows 6, Freeman 4, Andrew 4, S. Sinclair 3, Richardson 3, Hanley 3, Maitland 2, Magadah 2, Tague 1, Smyth 1, Kenneford 1, R. Sinclair 1, Keane 1, Ridgway 1, Green 1, Jones 1, Hamilton 1, Charles 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

December

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

January

17	Gillingham	H 3-1	Preston 3
24	Wycombe	A 3-0	Andrew 2, Hanley
31	Brentford	H	Postponed

February

7	Brighton	A	Postponed
14	Rushden	H	2-1 Hamilton, Charles
17	QPR	H	

March

21	Cambridge	H	
28	Portsmouth	H	
6	Southend	A	
13	Northampton	H	

Umbro Isotonic FL Youth Alliance Under-17 South East Conference

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Brighton	21	17	0	4	63	23	40	51
QPR	20	14	5	1	69	22	47	47
Cambridge	20	12	3	5	43	21	22	39
Portsmouth	23	10	7	6	43	35	8	37
Colchester	23	10	6	7	50	39	11	36
Luton Town	18	10	0	8	44	26	18	30
Rushden	21	7	8	6	39	43	-4	29
Gillingham	23	8	5	10	40	57	-17	29
Southend	19	8	4	7	41	34	7	28
Brentford	21	6	7	8	34	40	-6	25
Oxford	22	6	2	14	30	57	-27	20
Wycombe	20	4	7	9	30	56	-26	19
Northampton	22	3	3	16	30	63	-33	12
L. Orient	21	2	3	16	30	70	-40	9

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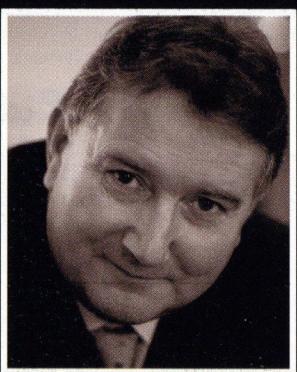
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Youth Soccer: The under-19s

Kidderminster Harriers 2 Luton Town 1

I TAKE some of the blame for this result, because I used our final Alliance game to experiment. We knew the result would make no difference to our final league table place, but we should have won. Individual errors were costly on a day when it could have been at least 5-2 in our favour, because we had something like 70 per cent of the game. Poor defending cost us two goals in the first 20 minutes and although Matthew Judge pulled one back six minutes before the interval we missed a string of chances to wrap up the points.

Luton Town: Eade, Howell, Mansell (Pendleton 70 mins), Barnett, Mountford, Hanley, Deeney, Ridgway, S. Sinclair (Okai 75 mins), Judge, Maitland (Andrew 55mins).

Portsmouth 2 Luton Town 3

I WAS really delighted to start the Merit Division campaign with a win – it was not just a good result, but also a very good performance, with victory well deserved after we came

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 Davies
15 Oxford A 1-1
22 Swindon (LC) H 0-4
29 Northampton A 2-0 Andrew, Ridgway

December

6 West Brom H 1-0 Andrew

January

10 Cambridge H 0-1 Green
17 Rushden A 1-1

February

7 Kidderminster A 1-2 Judge
Merit Division S. Section Div II

March

14 Portsmouth A 3-2 Judge, Andrew, Hanley
28 Swansea H

April

13 Swindon A
27 Oxford Utd H
10 Torquay H
17 Brentford A
24 Cheltenham H

back from two down. Portsmouth were big and strong, and although we started brightly we conceded two goals in the first 27 minutes, completely against the run of play. The first goal came after a weak headed back pass put a striker through. Michael Eade brought him down and Portsmouth scored from the penalty. Three minutes later we gave an opponent a free header from a free kick, and it was 2-0. Eade did well after that, with two great saves as we were caught on the break. Thankfully our heads did not drop, and just before the break Matthew Judge beat his man on the edge of the box and slotted in an excellent goal.

Calvin Andrew equalised from a good cross by David Deeney on 63 minutes, and the game could have gone either way after that. I would have been pleased with a draw after being two down, but seven minutes from time schoolboy Ross Hanley got the winner with a goal to remember with a flick-on and a left foot volley into the top corner – a magnificent strike.

Luton Town: Eade, Mountford, Mansell, Deeney, Howell, Barnett, Hanley, Ridgway, S. Sinclair (Robinson 68 mins), Judge, Andrew.

WE ARE at home next Saturday to Swansea City, with kick-off at Luton Rugby Club, Newlands Road, scheduled for 11am. Spectators are welcome.

APPEARANCES (as sub in brackets): Mountford 19, Ridgway 18, Deeney 17(2), R. Mansell 17(1), Howell 17, Barnett 15, Keane 13, O'Leary 12, Andrew 11(2), Davies 11(1), Okai 11(1), Judge 11(1), Eade 10, Freeman 6(1), Maitland 5(1), Jones 5, Hanley 4(2), Barrett 4, Magadah 2(7), S. Sinclair 2(3), Brill 2, Godfrey 2, Green 2, Pendleton 1(2), Tague 1, Beckwith 1, Lambu 1, Wright 0(2), Burrows 0(1), Robinson 0(1).

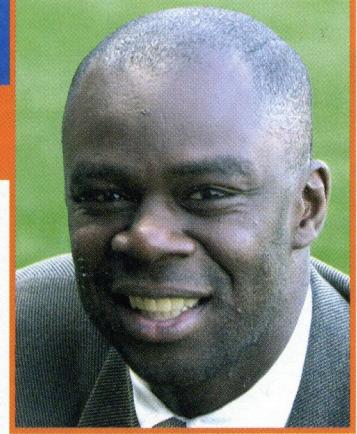
GOALS: Judge 7, Andrew 4, O'Leary 3, Barnett 3, Magadah 2, Okai 2, Freeman 2, Ridgway 2, Davies 2, Deeney 1, Mansell 1, Green 1, Hanley 1.

Marvin Johnson

Umbro Isotonic Youth Alliance Under-19 South Central Conference The Final Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Walsall	16	13	1	2	41	22	19	40
Cambridge	16	9	3	4	36	16	20	30
West Brom	16	9	2	5	37	24	13	29
Luton Town	16	7	4	5	27	23	4	25
Cheltenham	16	6	2	8	27	39	-12	20
Oxford	16	5	4	7	35	34	1	19
Rushden	16	5	1	10	26	31	-5	16
Northampton	16	4	3	9	24	48	-24	15
Kidderminster	16	3	2	11	18	34	-16	11

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at our Saturday Club, and his favourite footballer is Chris Coyne.

Jack, who goes to Cheynes Infants School, had the pleasure of going onto the pitch with the players before kick-off, and as you can see from the picture he also met the skippers and match officials for the toss of the coin. We swapped pennants with Wycombe, adding another one to our growing collection.

The other group picture is from the Colchester home game, when ten-year-old Emily Lynch was our mascot. The other young Town fan in the centre circle when the skippers and officials met is Dean Hardware, who was the commercial mascot.

We have been in touch with clubs we have yet to visit this season to see what trips we can organise to away games. If possible, we like to get to grounds early and spend time with our young counterparts in official clubs, but no facilities for such trips are available at Grimsby, where it is a midweek game, or Peterborough, where we play next Saturday.

We are talking to Tranmere about a Junior Hatters excursion to Prenton Park, and we have already had an invitation to visit our opposite numbers at Wrexham later in the season. We will give more information as soon as it becomes available.

Today's Mascot

FOURTEEN-year-old Peter O'Connell will enjoy today's game even more than usual, because he has been chosen to be our Junior Hatters mascot. He will be at the ground early to meet the players in the dressing room before the game, and then join them on the pitch for the pre-match formalities. Peter, of Willenhall Close, Luton, is a pupil at Cardinal Newman High School, and as well as football he enjoys playing pool.

He watches games with his friend Kevin Dumpleton, and they sit in the Main Stand. Naturally. Both are Luton Town fanatics, but out of all the players Peter's favourite is Emmerson Boyce.

Our ball boy this afternoon is Matthew Fleckney, from Atterbury Way, Great Houghton.



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.

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League And Cup Joy For Luton Town Belles

LUTON Town Belles will be in the Southern Region Premier League next season after clinching promotion on the south coast by completing a league double over close rivals Portsmouth with a 3-0 win.

Debatable decisions prevented them from scoring until late in the first half. Kaylee Owen had a shot blocked on the line, with the Belles convinced it was a handball, but the penalty appeals were waved aside, as they were when Fay Howell went sprawling. Rhiannon Morgan drilled in a shot past two defenders and the keeper and that effort was inexplicably ruled out for offside, as was another effort by the same striker a few moments later.

Luton were not to be denied though, and the breakthrough came after 42 minutes. Fay Howell floated a corner to the near post and Sam Mather's deflected volley low into the net made it 1-0 at the break.

With promotion at stake Belles continued to stretch Pompey at every opportunity, and Fay Howell was proving a real handful down the left. From one of her runs Town extended the lead. Having outpaced her marker she got to the bye line and sent a low cross into the danger area where Kim Hide arrived to finish well from five yards. With the home side unable

to make any impression on a well-organised defence, Luton made the points safe when Rebecca Kane played in Michelle Byrne and she raced through to get in between two defenders and the keeper to find the net from just outside the area.

The previous week Town's League Cup campaign continued when they travelled to Premier League Burghfield. The first half heavy wind proved no barrier to Luton who played some superb football effectively finishing the tie by breezing into a 4-0 half time lead. Kim Hide scored twice, with the other goals coming from Fay Howell and Rhiannon Morgan. The second half was equally one way traffic, but the substitute keeper proved to be quite a barrier until the last ten minutes when Kim Hide completed her hat trick and Fay Howell added her second with a shot into the top corner to round off a fine 6-0 victory.

Overall, it was a great week for the Belles with promotion and a League Cup quarter final place secured in spite of a mini injury crisis which the players coped with brilliantly, showing their undoubted versatility and team spirit.

Dave Baker



WE'RE GOING UP: Sam Mather (left), skipper Kim Hide (right) and Fay Howell (19) celebrating after The Belles clinched promotion with a 3-0 win at Portsmouth last Sunday

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 lutontownbelles@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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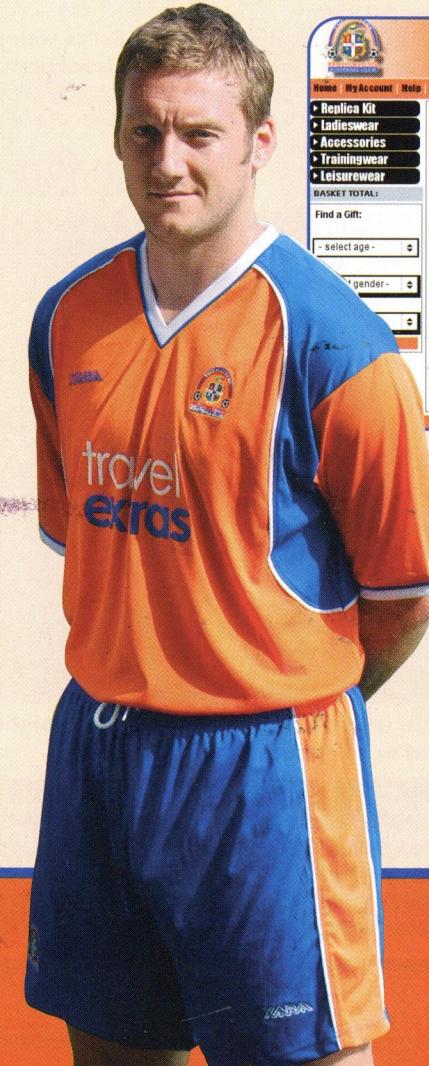
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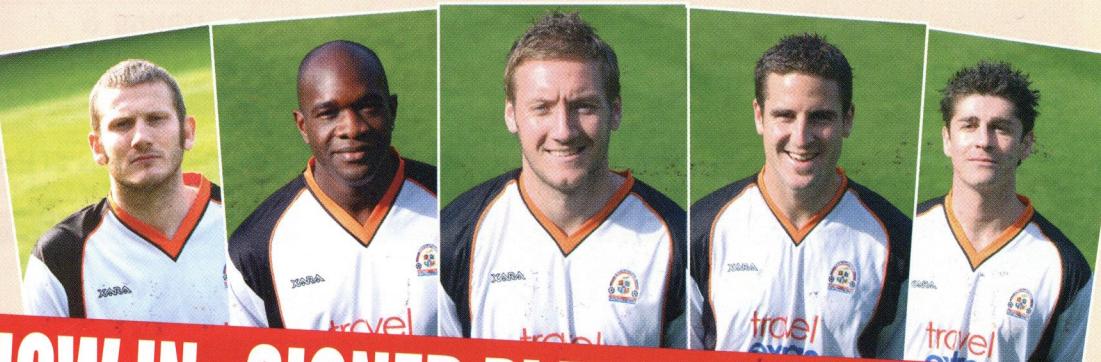


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Focus On: Box No 20 GMB

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LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS CLUB

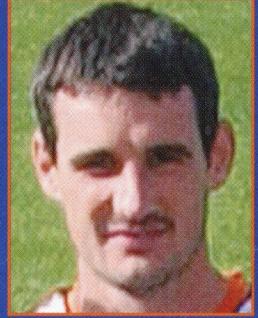
Presents



AN AUDIENCE WITH ALAN NEILSON AND MATTHEW SPRING

At an "Any questions?" evening on
Monday March 8, at the Eric
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Ticket prices: £3 to members of
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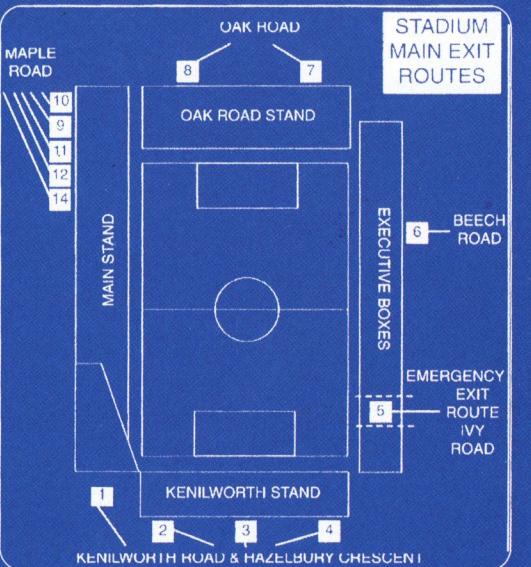
Scale Aircraft Monographs

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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TwoStats

Comebacks - Games won by teams who were trailing

Bournemouth	4	Barnsley	2	Brighton	1	Tranmere	1
Port Vale	4	Bristol City	2	Grimsby	1	Colchester	0
Blackpool	3	Chesterfield	2	Oldham	1	Notts County	0
Luton	3	Swindon	2	Peterborough	1	QPR	0
Rushden	3	Hartlepool	1	Plymouth	1	Sheff Wed	0
Wrexham	3	Brentford	1	Stockport	1	Wycombe	0

Nationwide Division 2 2003-2004 Season - The Stats So Far

Highest Attendance	25,296Sheff Wed v Chesterfield
Lowest Attendance	2,897Colchester v Oldham
Average Gate	7,319	
Aggregate Attendance	2,678,732	
Biggest Home Win	Hartlepool 8-1 Grimsby	
Biggest Away Win	Plymouth 7-0 Chesterfield	
Biggest Aggregate Score	Port Vale 1-5 Plymouth	
Total Games	Bournemouth 6-3 Luton,	
Home Wins	Hartlepool 8-1 Grimsby	
Away Wins	366	
Draws	163 (45%)	
1-1 Draws	92 (25%)	
0-0 Draws	111 (30%)	
Winning Sequence	47 (13%)	
Unbeaten Sequence	29 (8%)	
Losing Sequence	Bristol City10	
Winless Sequence	QPR, Bristol City11	
Total Yellow Cards	Chesterfield6	
Total Red Cards	Wycombe, Chesterfield, Peterborough 13	
Current Winning Sequence	1,145	
Current Unbeaten Sequence	Bristol City10	
Current Losing Sequence	Bristol City11	
Current Winless Sequence	Brighton, Notts County, Peterborough, ...	
	Rushden2	
	Colchester8	

Set Piece Power - Goals Scored & Conceded from Free Kicks

	Scored	All For	%	Conc.	All Agt	%	
Stockport	9	40	22.5	Bristol City	7	23	30.4
Wycombe	6	32	18.8	Peterborough	8	44	18.2
QPR	9	55	16.4	Bournemouth	6	33	18.2
Hartlepool	7	45	15.6	Stockport	9	53	17.0
Plymouth	10	65	15.4	Colchester	6	37	16.2
Barnsley	6	40	15.0	Tranmere	6	40	15.0
Bournemouth	5	34	14.7	Grimsby	6	52	11.5
Peterborough	5	35	14.3	Wycombe	6	52	11.5
Sheff Wed	5	35	14.3	Barnsley	4	35	11.4
Port Vale	6	48	12.5	Brighton	4	35	11.4
Brentford	4	33	12.1	Chesterfield	5	46	10.9
Swindon	6	50	12.0	Oldham	5	46	10.9
Luton	5	44	11.4	Hartlepool	4	37	10.8
Blackpool	4	37	10.8	Brentford	5	47	10.6
Colchester	3	29	10.3	Luton	4	39	10.3
Notts County	3	30	10.0	Sheff Wed	4	39	10.3
Chesterfield	3	31	9.7	Swindon	4	39	10.3
Brighton	4	43	9.3	Rushden	5	49	10.2
Bristol City	4	46	8.7	Plymouth	3	30	10.0
Wrexham	3	36	8.3	Wrexham	3	30	10.0
Rushden	4	49	8.2	Blackpool	4	43	9.3
Oldham	3	46	6.5	Notts County	4	53	7.5
Grimsby	2	34	5.9	Port Vale	3	42	7.1
Tranmere	1	36	2.8	QPR	2	29	6.9

Throwaways - Games lost by teams who were in the lead

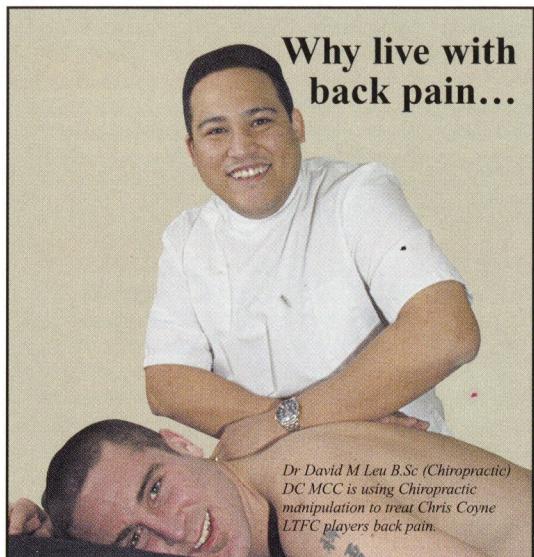
Peterborough	3	Blackpool	2	Wrexham	1	Stockport	1
Grimsby	3	Brentford	2	Bournemouth	1	Tranmere	1
Oldham	3	Luton	2	Barnsley	1	Brighton	0
QPR	3	Port Vale	2	Colchester	1	Bristol City	0
Rushden	3	Sheff Wed	2	Hartlepool	1	Chesterfield	0
Wycombe	2	Swindon	2	Notts County	1	Plymouth	0

Use Your Head! - Goals Scored & Conceded from Headers

	Scored	All Gls	%	Conceded	All Gls	%	
Plymouth	22	65	33.8	Brentford	19	47	40.4
Bristol City	15	46	32.6	Luton	14	39	35.9
Bournemouth	11	34	32.4	Barnsley	11	35	31.4
Brentford	10	33	30.3	Sheff Wed	11	39	28.2
Chesterfield	9	31	29.0	QPR	8	29	27.6
Rushden	14	49	28.6	Wrexham	8	30	26.7
Sheff Wed	10	35	28.6	Bristol City	6	23	26.1
Tranmere	10	36	27.8	Brighton	9	35	25.7
Wrexham	10	36	27.8	Colchester	9	37	24.3
Swindon	13	50	26.0	Hartlepool	9	37	24.3
Luton	11	44	25.0	Blackpool	10	43	23.3
Grimsby	8	34	23.5	Stockport	12	53	22.6
Stockport	9	40	22.5	Rushden	11	49	22.4
Port Vale	10	48	20.8	Chesterfield	10	46	21.7
Colchester	6	29	20.7	Oldham	10	46	21.7
QPR	10	55	18.2	Wycombe	11	52	21.2
Barnsley	7	40	17.5	Peterborough	9	44	20.5
Oldham	8	46	17.4	Tranmere	8	40	20.0
Peterborough	6	35	17.1	Bournemouth	6	33	18.2
Wycombe	5	32	15.6	Plymouth	5	30	16.7
Notts County	4	30	13.3	Swindon	6	39	15.4
Hartlepool	5	45	11.1	Port Vale	6	42	14.3
Blackpool	4	37	10.8	Notts County	7	53	13.2
Brighton	4	43	9.3	Grimsby	6	52	11.5

Goals Scored & Conceded from Corners as % of all corners for & agt.

	Scored	Corn For	%	Conc	Corn Agt	%	
Bristol City	9	182	4.95	Wycombe	10	158	6.33
Rushden	7	142	4.93	Brentford	11	254	4.33
Port Vale	7	143	4.90	Chesterfield	8	201	3.98
Brentford	8	173	4.62	Bristol City	5	130	3.85
Plymouth	9	200	4.50	Oldham	6	157	3.82
Tranmere	7	165	4.24	Bournemouth	5	152	3.29
Hartlepool	5	136	3.68	Plymouth	5	176	2.84
Brighton	6	182	3.30	Port Vale	5	185	2.70
Chesterfield	4	140	2.86	QPR	4	154	2.60
Sheff Wed	4	153	2.61	Colchester	4	158	2.53
Luton	4	155	2.58	Sheff Wed	4	159	2.52
Oldham	5	198	2.53	Barnsley	4	160	2.50
Wrexham	5	202	2.48	Rushden	5	205	2.44
Grimsby	4	167	2.40	Luton	4	165	2.42
Blackpool	3	133	2.26	Blackpool	4	170	2.35
QPR	4	178	2.25	Wrexham	4	174	2.30
Stockport	4	178	2.25	Stockport	4	185	2.16
Colchester	3	155	1.94	Hartlepool	3	149	2.01
Swindon	3	191	1.57	Notts County	3	154	1.95
Barnsley	2	156	1.28	Brighton	3	155	1.94
Bournemouth	2	180	1.11	Grimsby	4	207	1.93
Wycombe	1	169	0.59	Tranmere	2	163	1.23
Peterborough	1	188	0.53	Peterborough	1	148	0.68
Notts County	1	209	0.48	Swindon	0	156	0.00



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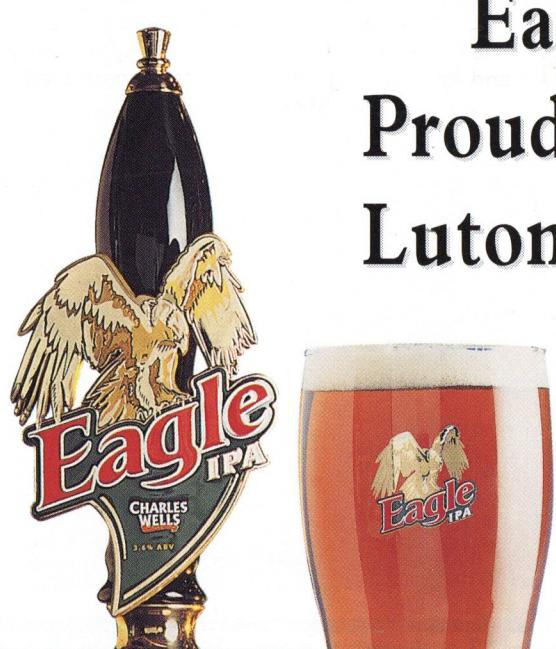
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Scene On Two: Top Six In View

TODAY sees the Town start a run of three games against teams in the bottom seven of the Second Division. Brentford will be looking for a double to increase the five-point gap between them and the relegation zone while the Town know that three good results in the next eight days will hoist them back into the play-off zone.

We dropped a notch with the draw at Wycombe, overtaken by Wrexham, but with games in hand on all the teams above us, a top six spot is within reach.

The key, of course, is consecutive victories, and a remarkable run by Bristol City proves the point: they went top of the table for the first time this season on Tuesday by chalking up their tenth consecutive win, at Grimsby, where the Town play on Tuesday.

Plymouth were knocked off the top because they lost 3-0 at Tranmere. Unbeaten in ten games around the turn of the year, and top of the table for the last month, Argyle have taken only one point from the last nine. Danny Wilson's midweek success also hit QPR, who are out for the top two for the first time since early November.

Wilson is not the only former Town player in the

news recently. Andy King's Swindon are going well, eight games unbeaten and scoring freely to hold fourth place, but Brian Horton is out of work after resigning at Port Vale after five years in charge and despite keeping them in the play-off frame in a season when they suffered the pain of administration.

Grimsby have also had a change of manager: Paul Groves has reverted to playing duties only, and the caretaker boss at Blundell Park is Graham Rodger, a centre-half with the Town for three years in the earlier 90s. He signed Isiah Rankin on loan from Barnsley last week, and the striker celebrated his Grimsby debut with one of the goals in a 2-1 home win over Brighton which did the Town a favour.

Brentford come to Kenilworth Road after putting a spoke in QPR's promotion bid with a 1-1 draw at Griffin Park last week, and this week they added to their squad by signing midfielder Stewart Talbot from Rotherham.

Good value for their 4-2 win over the Town at Griffin Park in October, the Bees have not always buzzed on their travels. Won three, drawn four and lost eight is the story of their awaydays. The victories were 1-0 at Rushden and 2-1 at Chesterfield in September, and 2-1 at Wycombe in November.

The draws were at Colchester, Stockport, Oldham and Peterborough. Pointless trips were made to Tranmere, Wrexham, Port Vale, Notts County, QPR, Bournemouth, Plymouth and Bristol City.

Brentford's last six results: Tranmere H 2-2, Peterborough A 0-0, Wrexham H 0-1, Port Vale H 3-2, Bristol City A 1-3, QPR H 1-1.

Nationwide League Division Two

	HOME					AWAY					GD	Pts	
	P	W	D	L	F	W	D	L	F	A			
Bristol City	31	10	4	1	27	8	7	6	3	19	15	23	61
Plymouth	31	10	4	1	38	10	7	5	4	27	20	35	60
*QPR	31	12	3	0	34	6	4	7	5	21	23	26	58
Swindon	31	8	4	3	29	17	6	5	5	21	22	11	51
Port Vale	30	11	3	2	34	21	3	3	8	14	21	6	48
Wrexham	30	6	5	5	17	12	8	0	6	19	18	6	47
Barnsley	31	6	8	1	21	12	6	3	7	19	23	5	47
Brighton	31	10	3	2	26	10	3	4	9	17	25	8	46
Luton Town	2910	3	2	2814	2	7	5	16	25	5	46		
*Hartlepool	30	6	6	2	21	8	5	4	7	24	29	8	43
Bournemouth	30	8	5	2	22	15	3	5	7	12	18	1	43
Tranmere	30	8	6	2	24	14	1	7	6	12	26	-4	40
Rushden	30	7	4	3	30	19	4	2	10	19	30	0	39
Sheff Wed	31	4	8	4	18	17	5	4	6	17	22	-4	39
*Blackpool	30	6	2	7	19	18	5	4	6	18	25	-6	39
Colchester	29	6	6	2	17	13	4	2	9	12	24	-8	38
Oldham	31	7	3	5	25	17	1	9	6	21	29	0	36
Brentford	31	6	3	7	2327	3	4	8	1020	-14	34		
Chesterfield	31	6	6	4	24	19	2	4	9	7	27	-15	34
Grimsby	30	5	4	6	22	18	3	5	7	12	34	-18	33

*Peterborough 31 2 6 8 21 25 4 5 6 14 19 -9 29
Stockport 31 2 6 8 20 29 3 7 5 20 24 -13 28
Notts County 31 3 5 7 18 20 3 2 11 12 33 -23 25
Wycombe 31 4 4 8 21 25 0 7 8 11 27 -20 23

* Not including last night's results.

Today's Other Second Division Fixtures

Barnsley v Wycombe
Brighton v Bournemouth
Bristol City v Wrexham
Colchester v Grimsby
Notts County v Stockport
Oldham v Tranmere
Plymouth v Port Vale
Rushden & D v Sheff Wed
Swindon v Chesterfield

Last night:
Hartlepool v Blackpool
QPR v Peterborough

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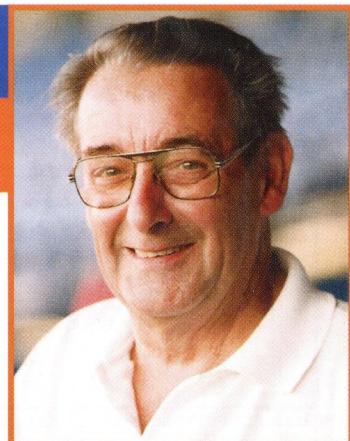
Around The Town - By The Editor

MICK Harford is staying at Kenilworth Road instead of taking a job offered at Nottingham Forest, and the administrative receivers at Luton Town are due to leave any day now. A consortium led by Bill Tomlins, who was successively secretary, commercial director and general manager for the Town for six years until 1992, is poised to take over the boardroom.

The consortium was the preferred bidder of Barry Ward, the administrative receiver, but after the sale was agreed various formalities had to be sorted out with The Football League. As we went to press Mr Tomlins said: "Everything should be done any day now. We have been putting money into the club since November, which shows our commitment. The final information requested by the League was sent to them on Tuesday. We have done everything we have been asked, and are waiting for the Football League's Board to give the final approval. They have told us it can be done with one conference call involving the board members. But I don't know when that call will be made, only that the League is on the job, and that we should have a reply shortly. I would

expect it to be next week at the latest."

Details of the consortium's members will be made public as soon as the League approves their ownership of the club.

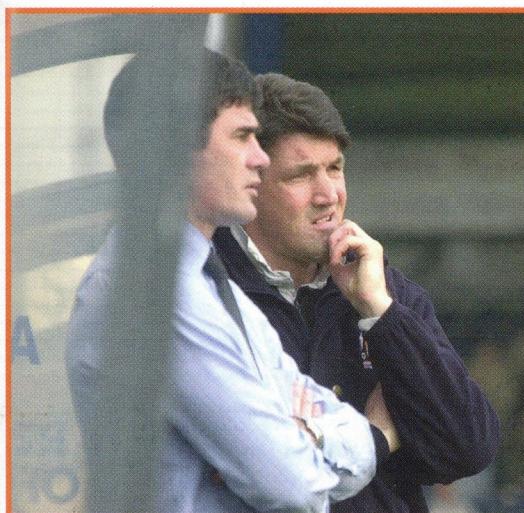


Fans Help Mick's Decision

SUPPORTERS who backed the Town at Wycombe played a big part in the decision of Mick Harford to stay at Kenilworth Road after he had been offered a First Division job at Nottingham Forest. Joe Kinnear, newly installed as Forest boss, wanted to team up again with his old pal - Mick was his assistant for five years at Wimbledon and then two at Luton until last summer's events split them up. Manager Mike Newell led the chorus of "Don't go" pleas as Mick considered the offer, and the Town manager was not happy with the way it was handled, as he explains in his column today. Bill Tomlins also spoke to Mick about the new owners' plans for Luton Town.

The Director of Football said a major reason for his decision to turn down Forest's approach was the reaction of fans on Saturday. They chanted his name incessantly, and unfurled a banner pleading "Don't Go."

The supporters' delight at Mick's decision was matched throughout Kenilworth Road. Mike Newell was the manager who ensured Mick could return after he and Joe Kinnear were sacked by previous owners at the end of last season. He said: "I could understand Joe Kinnear wanting to have Mick with him again, but I was keen to do everything possible to keep him here. If this club wants to go forward it is vital we keep our best assets, Mick as well as players."



TOP TEAM: Mick Harford and Mike Newell working together for Luton Town.

Brian Swain

Today's Squads



4(1)

(c)1



Manager: Mike Newell

1	Morten HYLDGAARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Alan NEILSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Matthew SPRING	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Russell PERRETT	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Adrian FORBES	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Kevin NICHOLLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Steve ROBINSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Chris COYNE	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Enoch SHOWUNMI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
17	Emmerson BOYCE	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Ahmet BRKOVIC	<input 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"/>
31	Curtis DAVIES	<input type="checkbox"/>
32	Lee MANSELL	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	Dean BRILL	<input type="checkbox"/>
34	Dean CROWE	<input type="checkbox"/>
38	Michael LEARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
39	Steven O'LEARY	<input type="checkbox"/>
41	Kevin FOLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>
43	Matthew JUDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>
44	Parys OKAI <small>KEITH KEANE</small>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
45	Leon BARNETT	<input type="checkbox"/>
47	Rob BECKWITH	<input type="checkbox"/>

Today's Officials

Referee: Paul Taylor, Hertfordshire

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

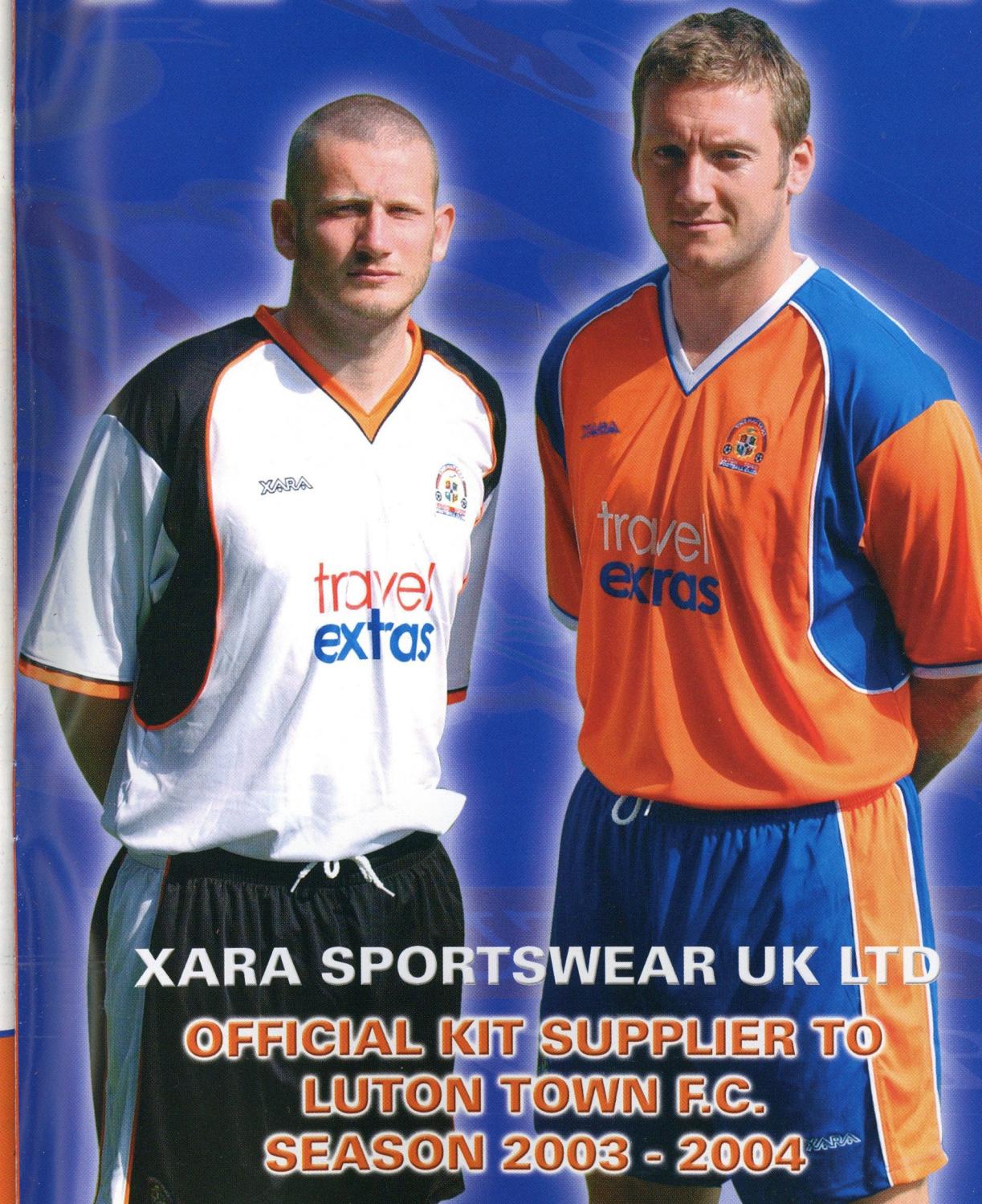
Michael Murphy, West Midlands (yellow flag)

Fourth official: Steve Chittenden, Hertfordshire

Manager: Wally Downes

2	Michael DOBSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Matthew SOMNER	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Jay SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Stewart TALBOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Imbrahima SONKO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Stephen EVANS	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Jay TABB	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Kevin O'CONNOR	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Stephen HUNT	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Mark PETERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Andy FRAMPTON	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Alan JULIAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	Matt HARROLD	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Danny THOMAS	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Lee FIELDWICK	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Eddie HUTCHINSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Ben MAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19	Tommy WRIGHT	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Stephen HUGHES	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Danny ALLEN-PAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Lloyd BLACKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Bobby TRAYNOR	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Ronnie BULL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
25	Tony ROUGIER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
26	Jim STANNARD	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Joel KITAMIRIKE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
28	Dean WELLS	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	Josh LENNIE	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	Alex RHODES	<input type="checkbox"/>
32	Stuart NELSON	<input type="checkbox"/>

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