



Sydney Owen.
A A

OFFICIAL JOURNAL



LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL
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WEDNESDAY, 19th AUGUST, 1953

Football League—Division II

Luton Town v. Oldham Athletic

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We are pleased with the number of supporters that have joined the Bobbers Stand Club during the close season. But we are hoping that now the football season has started we shall be having quite a lot of you wishing to become members. Now don't forget the trip we made to Manchester and the grand time we all had. We shall be having more of these, so send your 1/2 along to—

The Secretary,

Bobbers Stand Club,

Beech Hill Path,

Luton, Beds.

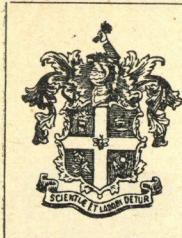
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CLUB NOTES

WELCOME to all our Supporters here this evening, also to those who through force of circumstances are not able to be here in person. At the commencement of yet another season. As always we start each season with high hopes and great enthusiasm, but in view of our successful season concluded last May, together with the two recent outstanding captures, we start this season with even higher hopes than usual. The enthusiasm of everybody is a joy to behold. We have just to go one better than we did last season and our greatest joy, apart from winning t' Cup, will be achieved. There have been many silly rumours that Luton Town do not want First Division Football, that it pays them better to remain at the top of the Second Division, etc. etc., but surely there cannot still be anyone interested in the Club who still holds such views after all the hard work put in during the close season in strengthening certain positions. At least we hope they have been strengthened, for a glance at the Table showing how the Clubs finished in the Second Division last May shows that only two clubs scored more goals than we did, and only one club had less goals scored against. It is because we managed to get so very near to success that we felt that perhaps with a little more experience in the forward line greater success would be achieved. It does not follow by any means that we have discarded the players who did so well for us last season. A season of 42 matches is a very strenuous affair; and if a Club has not the reserve strength to call on, good opportunities are allowed to slip by. The Public Practice Match held here last Saturday, showed that we have two very good teams to put on the field each week, and that every member of the First Team will have to play really well to keep his position with so much talent available in the background. That is as it should be, for everyone is then keen to keep his place in the senior side and undoubtedly plays better with just that little bit of incentive. It is purely psychological but it seems to work.

Our two most recent captures will be playing here this evening, and we give them a most hearty welcome to their new Club. We saw enough of

Johnnie Downie last Saturday, to realise that we have made a good capture here, and if George Cummins, who was not able to appear then, upholds similarly his good reputation we are going to see some lovely football this season. It is a great pity Jesse Pye is not able to turn out this evening, or indeed for the next two matches either due to the injury he received during training, but Bernard Moore will be there, and if Bernard is on form there will be nothing to fear here. He played splendidly last Saturday and showed he has lost none of his shooting ability during the close season.

It is very sad that Bert Mitchell will not be playing here tonight, but as he buried his wife only on Saturday last, it is obvious he could not turn out so soon after such a dreadful ordeal. Bert played quite a good bit of last season with his wife's illness on his mind and under the circumstances did very well. Our sympathies go out to him in his very sad loss.

We give a great welcome to our new friends, Oldham Athletic, on their first ever visit to Kenilworth Road. They won the Championship of Division 3 (Northern Section) last season, beating Port Vale, the Runners-up by one point after a most exciting struggle. Undoubtedly they were worthy Champions for they were somewhere near the top of the Table right through the season. They gave their supporters palpitations once or twice when it seemed they were slipping, but each time it was only to get a second wind so to speak, although in the end it was a very near thing. It must have been a most exciting season for all concerned with the Club, and it is nice to see them back in the Second Division. They were relegated at the end of Season 1934/35 along with Notts. County; so it has taken them nearly twenty years before their efforts to get back again have borne fruit. They now no doubt are hoping to continue that good work and regain their First League status, which they had to relinquish at the end of season 1922/23. They are most attractive opponents with which to begin a new season and so we are looking forward to a very interesting game.

Let us hope today's result will be a good augury to the rest of the season.

THE COVERMAN

Sydney William Owen

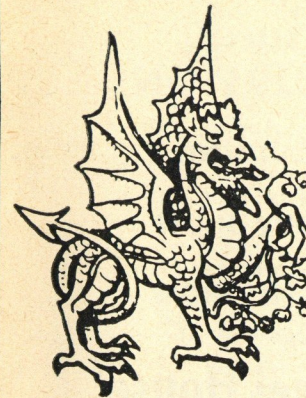
Sydney William Owen, who starts his third season as Captain of Luton Town, is recognised as one of the best Centre Half Backs in the country. Has been chosen twice to captain the England "B" team, toured Australia with the Football Association, 1951, chosen by the

Football League, last May, to play in their first combined team to play outside Great Britain when Denmark were the hosts and played an outstanding part in a meritorious victory, besides other honours in being chosen to play against Cambridge University, the Olympics Games XI, etc. If last season's form is maintained Sid can confidently look forward to even greater honours.

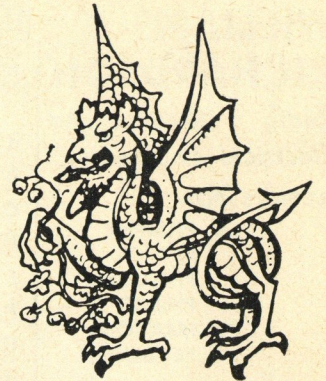
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LUTON TOWN (2) 4

Shirts White
Knickers Black
Stockings Black with White Tops

2 **Aherne**
Right Back
4 **Morton**
Right Half
7 **Davies**
Outside Right
8 **Downie**
Inside Right

Referee—
Mr. L. RICHARDSON
(Doncaster)

11 **Ormond**
Outside Left
6 **Brierley**
Left Half
10 **McIlvenny**
Inside Left
3 **Hardwick**
Left Back

OLDHAM ATHLETIC (3) 4

Shirts Blue and White Stripes
Knickers White
Stockings Blue and White

Baynam
Goal

5 **Owen or Hall**
Centre Half

Moore
Centre



9 **Gemmell**
Centre

5 **Whyte**
Centre Half

Burnett
Goal

Football League—Division II

3 **Pemberton**
Left Back

6 **Shanks**
Left Half

10 **Cummins**
Inside Left

11 **Adam**
Outside Left

Linesmen—
Red Flag: Mr. L. H. FREAKE
(West Croydon)

Orange Flag: Mr. A. L. SIMMONS
(Dartford)

8 **McKenna**
Inside Right

7 **Adams**
Outside Right

4 **Smith**
Right Half

2 **Brook**
Right Back

Kick - Off 6.45 p.m.

SPECTATORS ARE ASKED NOT TO CROSS THE PLAYING FIELD AFTER THE MATCH

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TODAY'S HALF-TIME SCORES

NOTE. The letter in the Programme corresponds with the letter on the Board—thus A 0-1 means that the first-named club has scored 0 and their opponents 1.

FIRST LIST

A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
K
L
M
N

SECOND LIST

A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
K
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M
N

THIRD LIST

A
B
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G
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K
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M
N

Bunty EXCURSIONS

Thursday, August 20th
SOUTHEND

Thursday, August 27th
SANDY SHOW

Thurs., September 17th
THAME SHOW

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FIXTURES, 1953-54

FIRST XI Division II	1952/53	F. A.	RESERVE FIXTURES	Combination Cup	1952/53	F. A.
Wed., Aug. 19	Oldham Athletic ...	...	Tues., Aug. 25	Watford ...	...	0 3 A
Sat., .. 22	Everton ...	4 2 H	Sat., .. 29	Northampton Town ...	...	1 1 A
Wed., .. 26	Nottingham Forest ...	3 0 H	Wed., Sept. 2	Birmingham City ...	...	3 0 H
Sat., .. 29	Plymouth Argyle ...	1 2 A	Sat., .. 5	Norwich City ...	...	1 4 A
Wed., Sept. 2	Nottingham Forest ...	3 4 A	Wed., .. 9	Ipswich Town ...	...	5 1 H
Sat., .. 5	Swansea Town ...	3 1 H	Sat., .. 12	Watford ...	...	1 2 H
Wed., .. 9	Birmingham City ...	2 2 A	Wed., .. 16	Ipswich Town ...	...	1 4 A
Sat., .. 12	Rotherham United ...	3 1 A	Wed., .. 23	Northampton Town ...	...	3 3 H
Wed., .. 16	Birmingham City ...	0 1 H	Sat., .. 26	Leicester City ...	...	4 1 H
Sat., .. 19	Leicester City ...	2 0 H	Wed., .. 30	Coventry City ...	...	3 3 H
Sat., .. 26	Stoke City ...	...	Sat., Oct. 3	Leicester City ...	...	3 2 A
Sat., Oct. 3	Fulham ...	2 0 H	Mon., .. 5	Coventry City ...	...	1 1 A
Sat., .. 10	Hull City ...	3 2 H	Sat., .. 10	...	...	...
Sat., .. 17	Notts. County ...	2 1 A	Wed., .. 14	Norwich City ...	...	3 1 H
Sat., .. 24	Lincoln City ...	4 0 H	Wed., .. 21	Birmingham City ...	...	2 3 A
Sat., .. 31	Bristol Rovers ...	...	Football Combination			
Sat., Nov. 7	Brentford ...	0 1 H	Sat., Oct. 17	Ipswich Town ...	...	3 2 H
Sat., .. 14	Derby County ...	...	Sat., .. 24	Bournemouth & Boscombe ...	...	3 3 A
Sat., .. 21	Blackburn Rovers ...	6 0 H	Sat., .. 31	Portsmouth ...	...	...
Sat., .. 28	Doncaster Rovers ...	0 1 A	Sat., Nov. 7	Cardiff City ...	...	...
Sat., Dec. 5	Bury ...	4 1 H	Sat., .. 14	Millwall Athletic ...	...	...
Sat., .. 12	Oldham Athletic ...	...	Sat., .. 21	Arsenal ...	...	...
Sat., .. 19	Everton ...	1 1 A	Sat., .. 28	Chelsea ...	...	...
Fri., .. 25	West Ham United ...	1 0 A	Sat., Dec. 5	Reading ...	...	...
Sat., .. 26	West Ham United ...	0 0 H	Sat., .. 12	West Ham United ...	...	...
Sat., Jan. 2	Plymouth Argyle ...	1 0 H	Sat., .. 19	Leicester City ...	...	0 0 H
Sat., .. 9	F.A. Cup—Round 3 ...	...	Fri., .. 25	Plymouth Argyle ...	...	...
Sat., .. 16	Swansea Town ...	2 4 A	Sat., .. 26	...	...	...
Sat., .. 23	Rotherham United ...	2 1 H	Sat., Jan. 2	Leicester City ...	...	2 1 A
Sat., .. 30	F.A. Cup—Round 4 ...	...	Sat., .. 9	Norwich City ...	...	...
Sat., Feb. 6	Leicester City ...	1 1 A	Sat., .. 16	Plymouth Argyle ...	...	...
Sat., .. 13	Stoke City ...	...	Sat., .. 23	Fulham ...	...	...
Sat., .. 20	Fulham (5) ...	0 2 A	Sat., .. 30	Fulham ...	...	...
Sat., .. 27	Hull City ...	2 0 A	Sat., Feb. 6	Charlton Athletic ...	...	...
Sat., March 6	Notts. County ...	5 1 H	Sat., .. 13	Charlton Athletic ...	...	...
Sat., .. 13	Lincoln City (6) ...	2 1 A	Sat., .. 20	Tottenham Hotspur ...	...	...
Sat., .. 20	Bristol Rovers ...	...	Sat., .. 27	Norwich City ...	...	...
Sat., .. 27	Blackburn Rovers ...	1 1 A	Sat., March 6	Ipswich Town ...	...	2 0 A
Sat., April 3	Doncaster Rovers ...	1 2 H	Sat., .. 13	Bournemouth & Boscombe ...	...	1 2 H
Sat., .. 10	Brentford ...	1 1 A	Sat., .. 20	Portsmouth ...	...	...
Fri., .. 16	Leeds United ...	2 0 H	Sat., .. 27	Cardiff City ...	...	...
Sat., .. 17	Derby County ...	...	Sat., April 3	Millwall Athletic ...	...	...
Mon., .. 19	Leeds United ...	2 2 A	Sat., .. 10	Arsenal ...	...	...
Sat., .. 24	Bury ...	0 1 A	Sat., .. 16	Tottenham Hotspur ...	...	...
			Sat., .. 17	Chelsea ...	...	...
			Sat., .. 24	Reading ...	...	...
			Wed., .. 28	West Ham United ...	...	...

LEAGUE TABLE, 1952-53

FINAL POSITIONS

LEAGUE DIVISION II	Pld.	Won	Drn.	Lost	For	Agst.	P.
Sheffield United	42	25	10	7	97	55	60
Huddersfield	42	24	10	8	84	33	58
LUTON TOWN	42	22	8	12	84	49	52
Plymouth Argyle	42	20	9	13	65	60	49
Leicester City	42	18	12	12	89	74	48
Birmingham City	42	19	10	13	71	66	48
Notts Forest	42	18	8	16	77	67	44
Fulham	42	17	10	15	81	71	44
Blackburn Rovers	42	18	8	16	68	62	44
Leeds United	42	14	15	13	71	63	43
Swansea Town	42	15	12	15	78	81	42
Rotherham Utd.	42	16	9	17	75	74	41
Doncaster Rovers	42	12	16	14	58	64	40
West Ham United	42	13	13	16	58	60	39
Lincoln City	42	11	17	14	64	71	39
Everton	42	12	14	16	71	75	38
Brentford	42	13	11	18	59	76	37
Hull City	42	14	8	20	57	69	36
Notts County	42	14	8	20	60	88	36
Bury	42	13	9	20	53	81	35
Southampton	42	10	13	19	68	85	33
Barnsley	42	5	8	29	47	108	18

NEXT MATCHES

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—DIVISION II

Saturday, 22nd August, 1953
LUTON TOWN v. EVERTON

Kick-Off 3 p.m.

Wednesday, 26th August
LUTON v. NOTTS. FOREST

Kick-Off 6.30 p.m.

Prices of Admission

Centre Stand 7/6 : Wing Stands 5/-
Enclosure (standing only) 3/6, Boys 2/-
Bobbars Stand (covered) 2/-, Boys 1/3
Terraces (not covered) 1/9, Boys 1/-

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