

The Moore the merrier...



GLORIOUS FLASHBACK: John Moore is soaked in champagne as Hatters celebrate their championship success in traditional style after their 4-0 win over Crewe.

ON APRIL 20 1968 a solitary goal from golden boy Bruce Rioch, scored at Halifax, was enough to earn the Hatters a victory that confirmed promotion from Division Four.

After tumbling from the top flight in 1960 to the football basement only five short years later this was the first sign Luton were on the way back.

Only a couple of coachloads of Luton supporters witnessed the win at Halifax, but rather more were

expected four days later when the Hatters entertained Crewe at Kenilworth Road in a bid to clinch the championship.

As it turned out, a massive crowd of 18,904 filled the terraces on a balmy evening and, to be quite honest, there was only going to be one winner from first whistle to last.

Town were 4-0 up at the interval playing the scintillating brand of attacking football that had been their

trademark all season, with Rioch seemingly involved in every move.

It was a blinding shot from Rioch which could only be parried by the Crewe goalkeeper that enabled John Moore to open the scoring. A Rioch special from a short free-kick doubled the lead, Alan Slough banged in number three following a goalmouth scramble and the goal of the night came just before half-time when Rioch raced through the

middle and hammered the ball into the roof of the net from near the penalty spot. "Rich for England" chanted the crowd, little knowing that he would eventually opt for Scotland, his father's birthplace!

Quite naturally the second-half failed to match up to the first as the game was already won and it must be said that Crewe, who were in second spot before the match, never gave up. At the final whistle the fans

heeded the appeal to keep off the pitch and skipper Terry Branstom was chaired round shoulder high on a lap of honour.

The biggest cheer of the night, however, was reserved for manager Allan Brown who, realising that the crowd would not go home until he had taken a bow, reluctantly came out on to the pitch.

After the most miserable period in the club's history Hatters were back!

Memories every week throughout summer



THE popular Memories column by Luton Town historian Roger Wash (above) appears every week in the News-Gazette throughout the summer.

What Roger doesn't know about the Hatters isn't worth knowing.

He writes a regular column in the Luton Town matchday programme, but his News-Gazette column looks at Hatters' colourful history in an altogether different way.

He brings back memories by writing about an old picture of a special event.

As well as writing the matchday programme for Hatters and keeping all the club's facts and figures, Roger has also written books about Luton.

Luton Town The Modern Era - A Complete Record is still on sale now and he's currently writing another book about his beloved Hatters.

And don't forget, if you would like to drop us a line about the big events featured in Memories, please do so. Write to: Memories, News-Gazette, Sports Desk, Media House, 38 Upper George Street, Luton, LU1 2RD.



GLORIOUS FLASHBACK: John Moore opens the scoring against Crewe as the Hatters clinch the title in '68.