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SEASON 1968-69

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Football League

Third Division

HARTLEPOOL

VERSUS

LUTON TOWN

Saturday, 14th December, 1968

Kick-off 3-00 p.m.

News and Views

This afternoon we welcome Luton Town who are making their fourth visit to the Victoria Ground.

Luton were founded in 1885 by amalgamation of Luton Wanderers with Luton Excelsion. They were the first club in the South to employ professionals and gained election to the League (Division Two) in 1897. Luton's most successful period was from 1955 to 1960 when they were in the First Division. During that time, in 1959, they appeared in the F.A. Cup Final but lost 1-2 to Nottingham Forest. The Bedfordshire club holds the unenviable record of having dropped from Division One to Division Four in five years—1960 to 1965. Last season they finished as Fourth Division Champions with 66 points.

This season Luton are placed 8th in the Third Division table. At home they have scored 28 goals and dropped only one point in 10 games, but in away fixtures they have scored only 4 goals which has brought them one win, two draws, and six defeats on opponents' grounds. It is their poor away form which is preventing them from occupying a higher place in the League.

This is our second League meeting with Luton Town this season—in the first fixture at Kenilworth Road on 12th October Luton won 3-0.

Previous results against Luton have been as follows:

	Hor	ne	Aw	ay
	F	Α	F	Α
1965-66	2	0	- 1	2
1966-67	2		2	0
1967-68	2	1	0	- 1
1968-69			0	3

One of the stars of the Luton team is inside forward Bruce Rioch who is rated in the £100,000 class.

After the disappointing display in our last home game against Tranmere Rovers we

hope to get back on the winning trail again to-day. A couple of wins now would lift us well clear of the danger zone in the League

Today we may see our new signing Malcolm Thompson making his League debut. He was in the side which played at Gateshead last Monday night and manager Mr. McLean may well have decided to give him a chance in the League side today.

Our Youth Team have been rewarded for their great victory over Newcastle United with another home draw in the third round of the F.A. Youth Cup competition. The date for this game has not yet been fixed, but we will be hoping for a good crowd to come along and see the side as they are playing some really good football. Their latest success was a 3-2 win over the Durham County Youth side at the Victoria Ground last Monday night.

Our reserve team won I-0 at Reyrolle last Saturday and are still in second position in the Wearside League.

Our next Third Division game is away to Barnsley on Saturday, 21st December, and this is followed by a visit to Mansfield on Boxing Day, 26th December. The next League game on this ground will be on Saturday, 28th December, kick-off 3 p.m., when Orient will be making their first ever

On Monday night, 16th December, we will be at home to Northern Premier League side Gateshead in the second leg of the semifinal Durham Senior Professional Cup tie. The score in the first leg at Redheugh Park last Monday night was 0-0.

The records played before the game and during the half-time interval are available from Bruce Moore Ltd., of York Road and Lynn Street, Hartlepool.

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Introducing . . . LUTON

Ground Kenilworth Road, Luton, Bedfordshire.

Record Crowd 30,069 v Blackpool (Cup), 4th March, 1959.

Record Gate £6.159 v Arsenal (Cup), 8th March, 1952.

Colours Shirts: White, Shorts: Black, Stockings: White.

Manager Allan Brown.

PEN PICTURES

KEITH ALLEN Centre Forward

Signed from Stockport County in exchange for Derek Keven and has previous spells with Portsmouth and Grimsby Town.

TERRY BRANSTON Centre Half.

For him last season was a personal triumph because he fulfilled his ambition of making the full quota of League appearances.

IAN BUXTON Inside Right.

When Rodney Green went down with cartilage trouble early last season, there had to be an immediate search for another striker, and Buxton was signed from Derby County for about £11,000.

MAX DOUGAN Right Back.

With the arrival of Terry Branston, the idea was to convert Dougan into a right-half, but he finally settled in at right-back where he was a regular for the greater part of last season.

LUTON TOWN

GRAHAM FRENCH Outside Right.

Has previously played for Shrewsbury, Swindon, Watford and Wellington before joining Luton in October 1965. Has several Youth International Caps for England.

MIKE HARRISON Outside Left.

Began his first-class career with Chelsea, from which club he moved on to Blackburn Rovers where he established a first-team place.

FREDDIE JARDINE Left Back.

Given a free transfer by Dundee it was after showing his paces in practice matches that he was finally converted into a highly useful defender.

BRIAN LEWIS Right Half.

In the temporary absence of lan Buxton, Lewis is destined to start at inside-right where he had considerable experience at Portsmouth and Coventry.

BILLY McDERMENT Left Back.

At one time last season he was almost the permanent substitute and in all, managed 20 first team appearances which qualified him for a championship medal.

TONY READ Goalkeeper.

Begins the season, as he did last time, when he missed only three matches, as the first choice goalkeeper.

BRUCE RIOCH Inside Left.

ls a natural footballer whose skill developed quickly last season, when he was easily the Club's leading scorer even though he was used as the midfield link.

LAURIE SHEFFIELD Centre Forward.

One of the Town's big close season signings from Oldham Athletic. Born in Swansea has previously been with five League clubs.

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GILL John

PARRY Tony

BLOWMAN Peter

CUMMINGS Bobby

THOMPSON Malcolm

WRIGHT Cliff

YOUNG Ron

DAVIE

DOUGAN Max

JARDINE Freddie

SLOUGH Alan

BRANSTON Terry

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FRENCH Graham

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	Burnley		Tottennam Hotspur	
Α	Stoke City		Manchester City	
-	Chelsea		West Brom. Albion	
В	Wolverhampton W.		Leicester City	11/10
	Everton		West Ham United	
C	Southampton		Leeds United	
-	Manchester United		Cardiff City	10.0
D	Liverpool	- K	Millwall	
	Newcastle United		Middlesbrough	1.1
E	Ipswich Town	L	Sheffield United	177
F	Nottingham Forest		Preston North End	
F	Sunderland	_ M	Derby County	
	Sheffield Wednesday		Bournemouth & B. A.	
G	Queens Park Rangers	- N	Mansfield Town	
			Rochdale	
			Darlington	

FIXTURES 1968-69

	THIRD DIVISION				-	WEARSIDE	LEAG	UE	1	*
1968 Aug. Setp.	IO—Bournemouth & B.A. h 14—Bradford City (F.L.C.) a 17—Crewe Alex. 24—Swindon Town h 30—Reading a 6—Bristol Rovers a 13—Shrewsbury Town h 16—Watford h	F 1 2 0 0 0 0 1 0 2	A I 3 I 0 7 2 0 I	1968 Aug. Sept.	24 28 31 3 7 11 14 21	Annfield Plain Murton South Shields I Blackhall Reyrolle Ryhope Silksworth Hylton C.W.	Res.	a h h a h a h	F 5 3 2 5 4 3 2 2	A 0 2 0
Oct.	21—Northampton Town a 25—League Cup 3 28—Stockport County h 4—Mansfield Town h 9—Plymouth Argyle a 12—Luton Town h 4—Plymouth Argyle h 16—League Cup 4	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 1 3 3 1	Oct.	28 5 7 12 19 26 28 2	Roldon C.W. Roker Thornley C.W. Wingate Gateshead Res. Gateshead Res. Blackhall C.W. Washington		a h h h h a	2 0 5 2 2 1 3 1	2 3 0 2 1 4 1
Nov.	18—Barnsley h 26—Orient a 30—League Cup 5 I—Barrow h 6—Southport h 9—Rotherham United a 16—F.A.C. I Rotherham h 19—F.A.C. I Rotherham a 20—League Cup Semi-Final	2 1 2 1 0	1 0 4 2 1 1 3	Dec.	9 11 16 23 30 7 14 2! 28	Washington Morrison Busty	c.w.	h	0 6 1 2 P 1	2 4 2 6 1 P
Dec.	23—Oldham Athletic a 29—Tranmere Rovers h 4—League Cup Semi-Final 7—F.A. Cup 2 14—Luton Town h 21—Barnsley a 26—Mansfield Town a 28—Orient h	2 2	4							
1969 Jan.	4—Torquay United h II—Barrow a I8—Rotherham United h									
Feb.	25—Southport a I—Gillingham a 8—Oldham Ahtletic h 14—Tranmere Rovers a 22—Brighton & Hove A. h									
Mar.	I—Bournemouth & B.A. a 3—Torquay United a 7—Crewe Alexandra h 10—Gillingham h						ï			
Apr.	15—Swindon Town a 19—Brighton & Hove A. a 22—Reading h 28—Bristol Rovers h 4—Walsall h 5—Stockport County a 7—Watford a 11—Northampton Town									
	II—Northampton Town h I5—Walsall a I9—Shrewsbury Town a			* / 						

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FORTHCOMING MATCHES

DURHAM SENIOR CUP Ist Round - 2nd Leg

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THIRD DIVISION

Up to and including 9-12-68

	HOME					AWAY				
	Ρ '	W		L F	Α	W	D	L	F A Pts	
Bournemouth Watford Stockport Swindon Barrow Tranmere Torquay Luton Plymouth Reading Northampton Walsall Rotherham Bristol R Barnsley Orient Gillingham Mansfield Hartlepool Brighton Crewe A Shrewsbury Oldham	19 20 18 19 20 21 19 20 21 20 20 20 20	1058777897744574455623541	032131113045314532273142	1 2 1 3 1 0 1 1 1 2 2 1 1 2 2 1 1 2 2 3 1 1 1 2 2 2 1 1 2 2 3 3 1 1 1 2 2 2 1 1 2 1 2	2 2 1 4 0 16 6 2 7 6 7 11 1 6 8 7 9 9 9 8 5 16 6 7	25244421213110112112201	334202322534434303122411	3234536654366766979 5 8588	11 11 27 13 8 26 4 9 26 14 13 25 15 15 25 8 15 24 4 12 23 5 11 23 12 16 21 7 16 19 8 16 19 11 24 18 8 11 21 18 9 23 17 9 26 17 9 26 17 9 26 17 5 20 15 8 23 15	

WEARSIDE LEAGUE Up to and including 7-12-68

	P W	D	L	F	Α	Pts
Darlington Res., 18	14	1	3	64	21	29
Hartlepool R. 20		2	5	46	33	
Washington 19		2	5	46	36	
Wingate16		4	3	38	20 25	
Murton C.W 15 M'son B. C.W 18		2	6	55 51	39	22
Stockton15		4	3	33	2í	20
Boldon C.W15		4	3	48	Ξi	20
S. Shields Res 16	9	1	6	55	37	19
Consett12	9	2	1	35	16	18
Ryhope C.W.	8	3 3 3	5	40	27	18
Gateshead Res. 15		3	7	30	34	13
Whitburn		3	9	42 28	52 37	13
Annfield Plain 15 Blackhall C.W 16		4	ŝ	28	44	iò
Horden C.W 16		2	ιó	24	38	iŏ
Reyrolle17		5	iŏ	35	49	9
RokerIS	5 2	4	9	28	43	8
Sunderland S.S. 14		0	10	29	50	8
Hylton C.W 13	3	1	9	23	40	7
Silksw'h C.W. 17		2	13	20	57	6
Thornley C.W. 16	5 2	ı	13	12	50	5

PLAYERS' APPEARANCES & GOALSCORERS

(Up to and including Friday, 29.11.68.)

	App	's.	Go	oals		Ap	p's.	Goa	als
	League		Leagu	е Сир		League	Cup	League	Cup
Atkinson, D.	7	-	-		Sheridan, J.	20	2	-	-
Bell, T.	12	1	-1	-	Smith G.	20	3	-	_
Bircumshaw, T.	16	3	I	-	Solan, K.	6	2	2	-
Blowman, P.	12	2	6	-	Somers, M.	- 1	I	-	-
Cummings, B.	17	2	2	-	Wright, C.	14	I	I	_
Drysdale, B.	20	3	_	-	Young, R.	14	2	4	ŀ
Gill, J.	20	3	_	-					
Goad, A.	12	I	-	-	Substitutes				
Hepplewhite, W.	13	2	-	-	Substitutes				
Hold, R.	_	ı	-	-	Blowman, P.	3	-	-	-
Joyce, J.	3	_	_	-	Cummings, B.		-	-	-
McGovern, J.	5	I	-	2	Hepplewhite, W.	1	ı	-	-
McLeod, B.	2	I	-	_	McLeod, B.	3	ı	-	-
Parry, T.	6	2	-	-	Oliver, D.	ı	-	-	-

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