

# Reading Football Club

Official Programme  
(Incorporating Football League Review)

Football League Division III

## Luton Town

Wednesday 11 March 1970

1/-

Season 1969/70



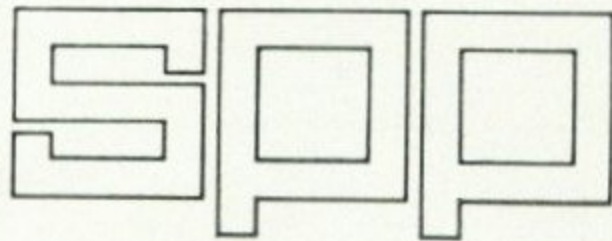
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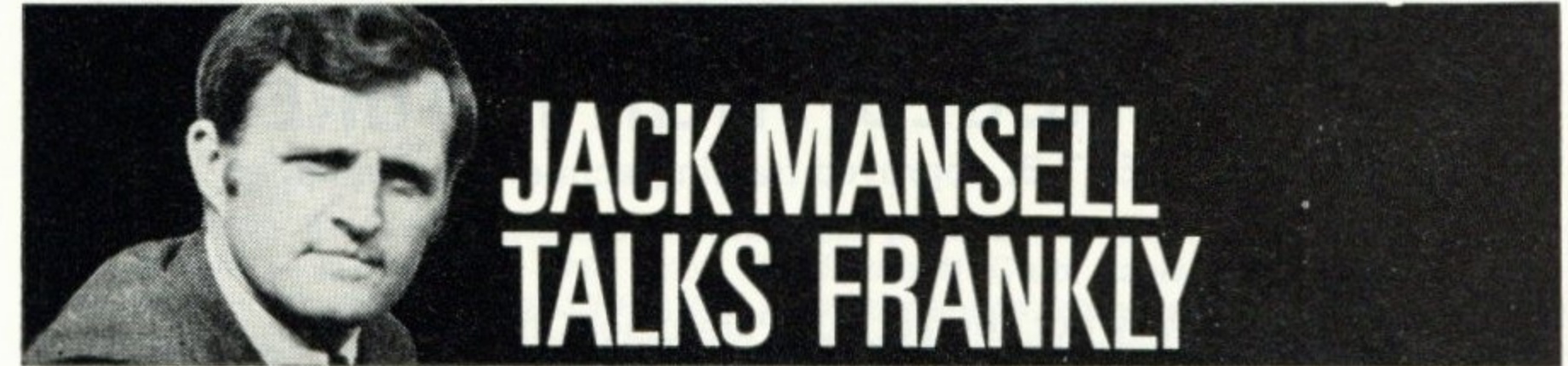
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Volume 24 No. 18

11 March 1970



With the postponement of the Fulham and Southport matches we must hope that the weather has improved enough to allow tonight's home game against Luton to be played.

Many people in Reading are eagerly discussing the possibility (and some even the probability) of promotion this season. Our last home performance against Rochdale was very disappointing for them even though the end result was in our favour. Frustration at crowd and player level set in for fairly long periods and our standard of play was nothing like as high as in previous matches. However, one must accept that as the season progressed and our successful run continued, we have rapidly become a leading contender. We are now obviously bracketed among the "teams to beat", and our opponents, whatever their own league position, will be raising their game at Elm Park.

Whatever happens between now and our final match, I am satisfied that our players have made good my promise to entertain. They are aiming at continuing to do so whilst winning. They need your backing. I have heard our few hundred away supporters give more encouragement to the team than was heard for long spells on Saturday. Our slower style of build up is not so conducive to excitement as the longer pass for forwards to chase, but we nevertheless need to feel that you are for us. Come on you "under the clock boys" see if you can start the ball rolling!!

On a last and very concerned note, may I point out to the very few unthinking people who first cheer and then jeer at injured players, they are not all shamming, as was so unfortunately shown against Rochdale.

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by  
**Arthur Best**

OUR Dance and Beauty Queen contest went off with a swing at the Top Rank Suite recently. It was the first time the Football Club itself had promoted such a function—the Supporters' Club used to hold dances from time to time—and there is no doubt that it will now become an annual event. Highspots of the evening were the crowning of the first-ever Miss Reading Football Club, and the presentation to Jack Mansell of the Manager of the Month award for the Third Division. Sandie Gallaway, a 20-year-old housewife from Earley was the lovely lady who caught the eye of the beauty-judging panel which included Denis Allen and Fred Sharpe. Jack Mansell did not merely catch the eye of the panel of sportswriters who choose the top managers—he fairly thumped them between the eyes with an indisputable claim! Pleased though we all were to see Jack collect that gallon bottle of whisky from Bell's, I can't help agreeing with the local newspapers whose sports reporters echoed everyone's amazement that Jack had not won the award the previous month. Anyway, that's all water under the bridge now. Jack's efforts have at last got the recognition they deserve—and we are all waiting for the day when he decides to open that bottle! The big hope is, of course, that we can crack it to celebrate promotion—but whatever our fate in that direction we shall still be able to look back on a successful season.

★ ★ ★

I BET that very few of our supporters who stand at the Tilehurst End realise that a radio station is on the air under their very feet! It's true—the studio of the Reading Hospital Broadcasting Service is situated underneath the terracing, and broadcasts are made six evenings a week to all the local hospitals and several local nursing homes. The announcers, disc-jockeys and technicians all work on a voluntary basis to provide a wide variety of local-flavoured entertainment for those unlucky enough to be ill. Sports fans are catered for by commentaries on every Reading home match, and a programme of sports news and views on a Friday night. One recent programme, for instance, consisted of a 45-minute interview-and-records session with Jack Mansell answering questions from Reading Chronicle sportswriter Roger Ware.

★ ★ ★

EVEN THE best-looking fixtures on paper can turn out to be flops in reality—as we found out when our match against Rochdale fell well short of expectations. With two of the top-scoring sides in the country at opposite ends of the park a cracker of a match looked certain, with plenty of goals into the bargain. But all we had at the end of 90 minutes was one goal—and that a penalty which only just made it! I'm sure you will join me, by the way, in wishing a speedy recovery to Rochdale centre-forward Tony Buck. A broken leg is just about the unluckiest thing that can happen to a footballer, and poor Tony copped a double break, snapping the large and the small bone in his right leg. He spent all last week in Battle Hospital—let's hope he makes a speedy recovery.

★ ★ ★

AND SO to tonight's competition for a novelty transistor radio, a football-shaped receiver which can pick up a wide variety of stations—Simply write to me, care of Elm Park, Norfolk Road, enclosing a 1/- postal order, with the answer to this question:- Two members of the present Reading team were with Jack Mansell at Rotherham. Who are they?

# MEET THE VISITORS



## LUTON TOWN F.C.

LUTON began the season as red-hot favourites for promotion—and until Christmas they did little to dampen anyone's belief in their ability to reach Division Two at a canter.

But on Boxing Day Alec Stock's men were beaten at Orient, and the following day they surrendered their long, long unbeaten home record—36 games—to Gillingham.

Since then Luton have gone through a difficult spell, and have found points hard to come by. Teams like ourselves, Brighton, Orient and Bristol Rovers went by them. In fact when Brighton went to Kenilworth Road and took a point recently some papers were rash enough to say that it spelled the end of Luton's promotion hopes—but, of course, this view is totally premature, and there is no doubt that Luton are still a top class side.

The arrival of Alec Stock a year or so ago injected consistency into them,

and they were unlucky, really, not to go up last season.

One of the men he bought, of course, was Reading's **John Collins**. Our leading scorer last season, John switched from Elm Park to Kenilworth Road for a five-figure cheque.

Another player bought was Fulham's **Malcolm McDonald**. Again a five-figure fee was involved, but both Collins and McDonald have proved well worth the investment, both figuring prominently in the scoring charts.

Another investment was a reputed £30,000 for Halifax centre-half **Chris Nicholl**, who was attracting the big clubs with his solid and powerful play.

The defence around him is founded on experience, and few players in the Third Division can match **Mike Keen** on that score. Leader of the successful Queen's Park Rangers team in Mr. Stock's days there.

**John Ryan** came from Fulham in the Summer, **Alan Slough** has been with Luton for some years, while **Jack Bannister** was formerly with Crystal Palace. Goalkeeper **Sandy Davie** moved down from Scotland at the start of last season and quickly made his mark this side of the border.

Alongside Collins and McDonald up front Luton have a spectacular front runner in **Graham French**. Formerly with Shrewsbury and Swindon, the burly French emerged from a spell in the doldrums to display the sort of form which earned him rave notices in his younger days.

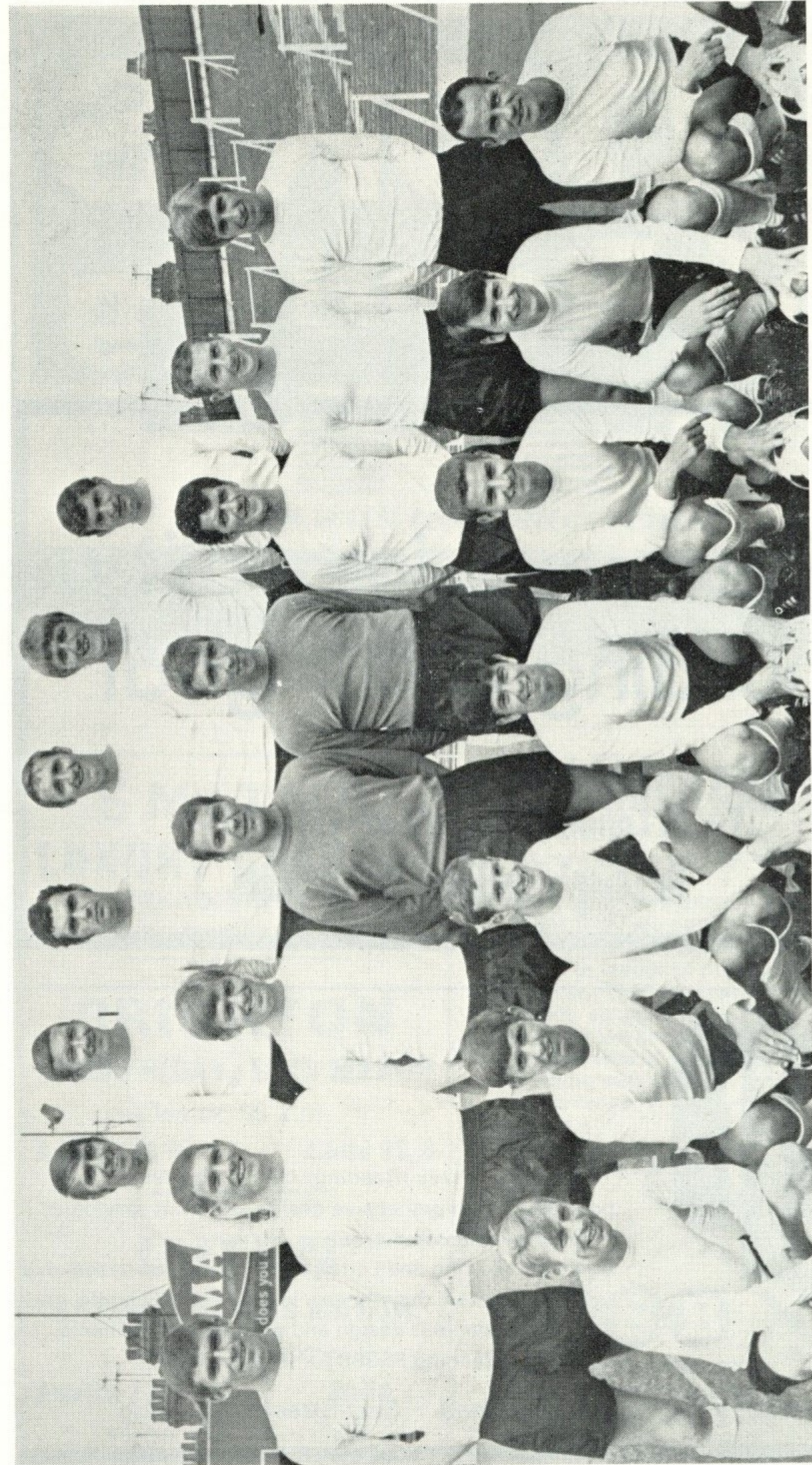
**Matt Tees** was signed in the Autumn from Charlton, while **Mike Harrison** has had experience with Blackburn and Portsmouth.

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LUTON: BACK ROW (left to right): Morris Stevenson, Fred Jardine, Graham French, Mike Keen, Keith Allen, Peter Phillips.  
MIDDLE ROW: John Ryan, Alan Guild, Neil Rioch, Sandy Davie, Tony Read, Max Dougan, Terry Branston, Robin Wainwright.  
FRONT ROW: Brian Lewis, Alan Slough, John Moore, Jack Bannister, Mike Harrison, Bruce Rioch (now Aston Villa), Laurie Sheffield (now Doncaster).  
Photo by courtesy of Luton News.

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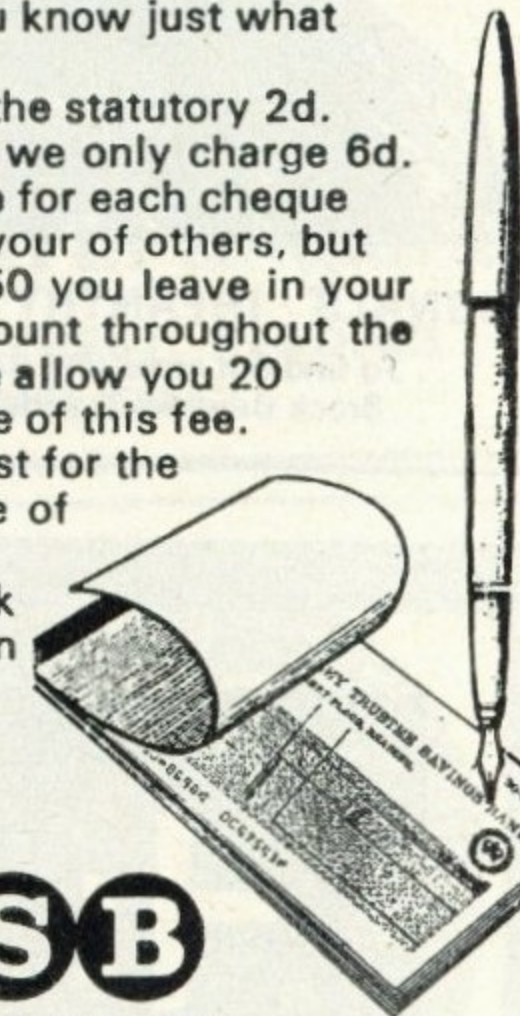
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**LUTON TOWN**

LAST SEASON'S CORRESPONDING MATCH (March 12th, 1969) DRAWN 1-1

ROY BROWN	1	SANDIE DAVIE	
DAVE BACUZZI	2	MAX DOUGAN	
COLIN MELDRUM	3	JACK BANNISTER	
ERNIE YARD	4	BILLY McDERMENT	
DICK SPIERS	5	ALAN SLOUGH	
ROD THORNHILL	6	JOHN MOORE	
JOHN DOCHERTY	7	GRAHAM FRENCH	
JOHN SAINTY	8	KEITH ALLEN	
PETER SILVESTER	9	LAURIE SHEFFIELD	
JOHN COLLINS	10	BRIAN LEWIS	
GEORGE HARRIS	11	DOUG JARDINE	

The goalscorers were Silvester for Reading and Sheffield for Luton.  
 The attendance was 5,973!

AWAY RESULTS		GOALSCORERS		Total Lge FAC LC H A Pen								
Bournemouth	1-0											
Gillingham	2-0	McDonald	20	17	1	2	15	5	5			
Bradford City	1-1	Tees	13	11	2	0	5	8	0			
Southport	3-0	Collins	11	9	2	0	7	4	0			
Plymouth	3-1	Allen	7	5	0	2	4	3	0			
Walsall	3-1	French	4	4	0	0	1	3	0			
Doncaster	0-2	Harrison	2	2	0	0	0	2	0			
Brighton	2-1	Keen	2	2	0	0	2	0	0			
Rotherham	1-1	Lewis (now Oxford U.)	2	0	0	2	2	0	2			
Orient	0-1	Nicholl	2	2	0	0	1	1	0			
Shrewsbury	1-5	Sheffield (now D'caster)	2	0	0	2	1	1	0			
Bury	3-1	Slough	2	2	0	0	2	0	0			
Stockport	1-1	Branston	1	0	0	1	1	0	0			
Bristol Rovers	0-3	Own Goal	1	1	0	0	0	1	0			
Barrow	1-2											
Torquay	2-2											
			69	55	5	9	41	28	7			

TRANSISTOR RADIO: Winner of the last competition was;  
**Mr. M. C. STENNING, of Caversham.**

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**GOALSCORERS**

**Football League**

Chappell 16, Williams 12, Jenkins 5, B. Wagstaff 4, Allen 4, Habbin 4, Smee 3, Cumming 3, Harris 2, Thornhill 1, Docherty 1, Sharpe 1, Spiers 1, Harley 1, T. Wagstaff 1, Own Goal 2.

**League Cup**

Harris 1.

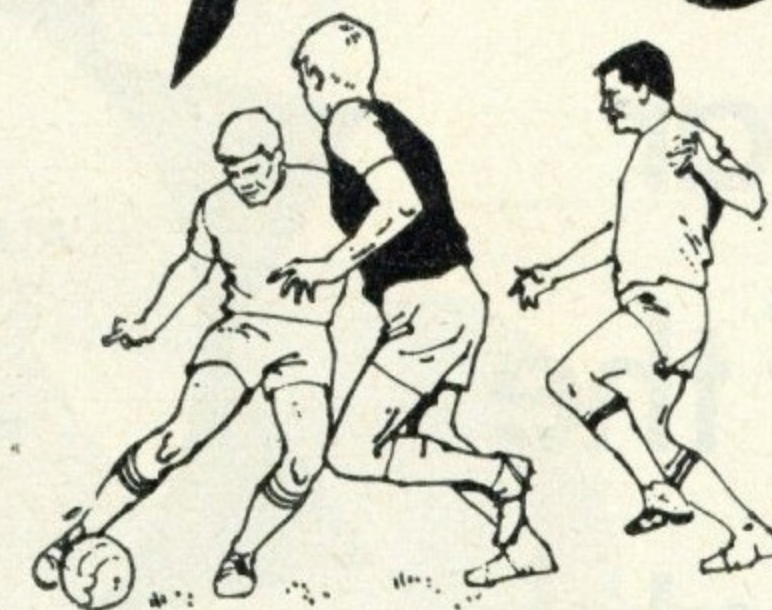
**Football Combination**

Harley 4, Docherty 3, Habbin 3, Harris 2, Smee 2, Rowan 1, Silvester 1, Sainty 1, Dixon 1, Percy 1, Hitchcock 1, Morgan 1, Bence 1, Butler 1, Own Goal 1.

**Combination Cup**

Smee 2, Harley 2, Bence 2, Harris 1, Hitchcock 1.

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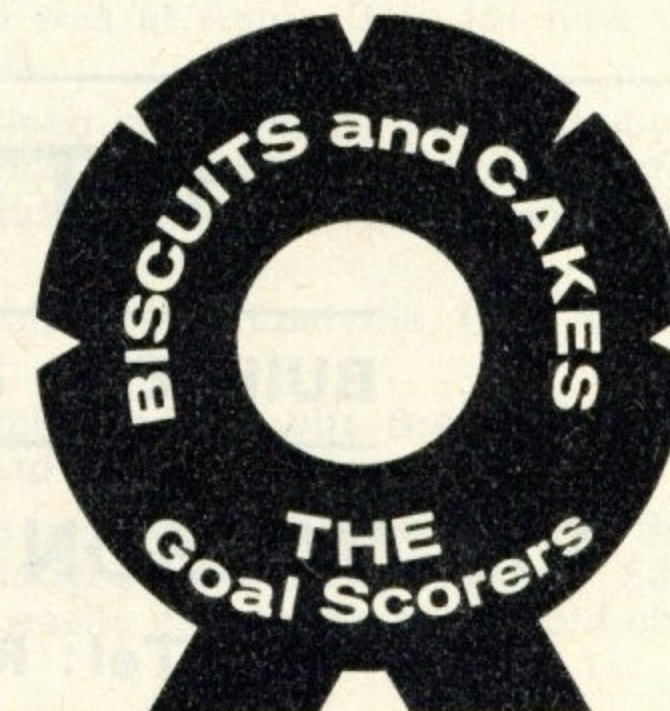
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## MEET A PERSONALITY



Photo by courtesy of the Berkshire College of Art

### *This week...* **BOBBY WILLIAMS**

Nicknamed "The Shadow" because he appears from nowhere to score his goals, Bobby is a West Country man born and bred.

Although he went to a rugby playing school Bobby was so keen to play soccer that his father organised and ran a boys team just to provide him with a game.

On leaving school he joined Bristol City and was at Aston Gate for nine years before being transferred to Rotherham for £10,000.

Shortly after this move Jack Mansell also arrived at Millmoor, where Bobby had started in grand style with 8 goals in 10 games. However he then developed cartilage trouble and a subsequent operation kept him out of the game for the rest of the season.

Within two years he was back in Bristol but this time at Eastville, from where he joined Reading at the beginning of this season.

Because their roots are so deep in Bristol Bobby and his wife Brenda (they also have a three years old son Nicholas) are reluctant to move at the moment.

So while Brenda occupies her time by doing a part-time secretarial job, dress-making and sewing her good looking husband lodges with Chris and John Sainty. However if Bobby thinks that this means he can easily escape the household chores he is very much mistaken.

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Gordon Cumming in a duel with Rochdale 'keeper Chris Harker.

Photo by courtesy Reading Chronicle



# How they stand . . .

## FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION III

Up to and including Saturday, 7th March

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Brighton	36	18	10	9	43	30	45
Orient	32	17	10	5	48	25	44
Bristol Rov	35	16	12	7	67	45	44
<b>Reading</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>43</b>
Luton	33	16	10	7	57	34	42
Barnsley	36	15	11	10	55	46	41
Bradford C	35	15	9	11	48	39	39
Rochdale	33	15	6	12	53	42	36
Halifax	34	13	10	11	41	44	36
Rotherham	35	11	13	11	50	41	35
Fulham	33	11	13	9	55	46	35
Torquay	34	11	13	10	48	44	35
Shrewsbury	33	11	13	9	47	43	35
Doncaster	35	12	8	15	40	41	33
Mansfield	31	13	7	11	42	36	33
Bury	36	13	6	17	65	69	32
Plymouth	34	12	7	15	38	41	32
Bournemouth	35	9	11	15	38	59	29
Walsall	31	11	6	14	33	48	28
Southport	32	9	9	14	38	41	27
Barrow	37	7	11	19	33	62	25
Tranmere	32	7	10	15	37	61	24
Gillingham	31	7	6	18	34	50	20
Stockport	35	5	9	21	22	54	19

## SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE

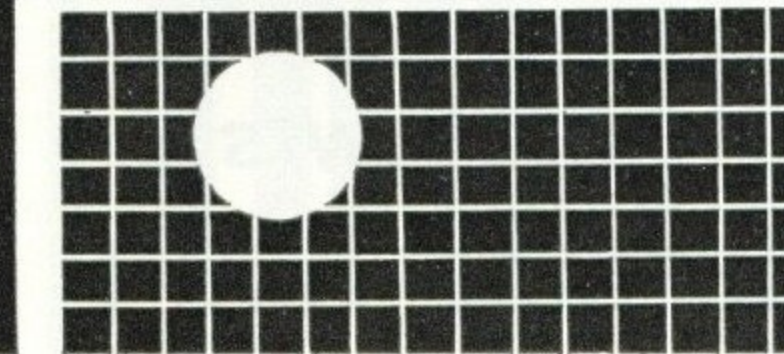
Up to and including Saturday, 7th March

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tottenham	25	22	2	1	82	15	46
Millwall	27	19	5	3	82	21	43
Ipswich T	25	16	4	5	68	34	36
Q.P.R.	26	11	8	7	46	33	30
Orient	23	12	5	6	56	38	29
Charlton	23	10	7	6	49	33	27
West Ham	25	12	3	10	55	46	27
Colchester	23	12	2	9	46	44	24
Arsenal	25	9	4	12	41	41	22
Watford	26	8	6	12	48	62	22
Crystal P	26	8	5	13	40	46	21
Chelsea	25	5	6	14	36	59	16
Luton	25	6	3	16	30	75	15
Gillingham	24	3	8	13	30	71	14
Fulham	24	3	7	14	34	65	13
<b>Reading</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>7</b>

## Football Combination

Aug. 22—Plymouth Argyle	A	2	1
„ 27—Oxford United (Cup)	A	1	1
Sept. 3—Chelsea	H	3	1
„ 6—Bristol Rovers	A	1	0
„ 20—Bournemouth	A	2	2
„ 24—Tottenham	H	0	2
Oct. 1—Norwich City	H	1	1
„ 4—Swindon Town	A	2	1
„ 15—Birmingham City	H	2	2
„ 22—Fulham (Cup)	A	1	4
„ 29—West Ham United	H	0	0
Nov. 4—Bristol City	A	1	3
„ 12—Fulham	H	2	2
„ 19—Bournemouth (Cup)	H	2	2
„ 22—Leicester City	A	0	5
„ 26—Queens Park Rangers	H	3	2
Dec. 2—Northampton Town	A	2	2
Jan. 10—Southampton (Cup)	A	0	4
„ 19—Peterborough United	A	P	
„ 24—Luton Town	A	0	2
„ 28—West Ham United (Cup)	H	2	0
Feb. 4—Southampton	H	1	1
„ 7—Bournemouth (Cup)	A	1	3
„ 10—Swansea Town	A	1	3
„ 18—Cardiff City	H	P	
„ 21—Arsenal	A	1	5
„ 28—Ipswich Town	A	0	1
Mar. 2—West Ham United (Cup)	A	1	3
„ 4—Southampton (Cup)	H	P	
„ 9—Gillingham	H	P	
„ 16—Fulham (Cup)	H		
„ 23—Oxford United (Cup)	H		
„ 25—Crystal Palace	A		
April 1—Oxford United	H		
„ 6—Walsall	H		

## FIXTURES



## Football League - Div. III

Aug. 9—Plymouth Argyle	H	2	1	9,139
„ 13—Colchester (LC 1)	A	1	1	5,165
„ 16—Gillingham	A	3	1	5,795
„ 20—Colchester (LC replay)	H	0	3	11,065
„ 23—Bristol Rovers	H	1	5	8,105
„ 26—Barnsley	A	3	4	8,013
„ 30—Shrewsbury Town	A	0	0	3,970
Sept. 6—Doncaster Rovers	H	1	0	6,489
„ 13—Stockport County	A	2	2	3,057
„ 17—Torquay United	H	1	1	8,177
„ 20—Bournemouth	H	2	0	6,972
„ 27—Bury	A	1	2	3,799
Oct. 1—Bradford City	A	0	4	8,962
„ 4—Walsall	H	2	3	5,684
„ 8—Gillingham	H	1	0	5,987
„ 11—Orient	A	1	0	9,809
„ 18—Mansfield Town	A	1	2	5,174
„ 25—Rotherham United	H	1	1	5,617
Nov. 1—Rochdale	A	2	3	7,977
„ 8—Brighton	H	1	0	7,420
„ 15—Brentwood (FAC1)	A	0	1	3,047
„ 22—Southport	A	2	6	2,303
„ 24—Tranmere Rovers	A	5	1	3,970
Dec. 5—Torquay United	A	1	1	6,003
„ 13—Stockport County	H	3	1	4,892
„ 26—Bristol Rovers	A	1	1	12,035
„ 27—Shrewsbury Town	H	3	1	8,336
Jan. 10—Bournemouth	A	2	1	4,147
„ 14—Bradford City	H	1	0	10,897
„ 17—Bury	H	3	2	10,449
„ 20—Doncaster Rovers	A	3	2	6,483
„ 24—Barrow (4)	A	2	2	2,834
Feb. 7—Orient (5)	H	3	2	17,886
„ 11—Halifax	H	4	1	15,160
„ 14—Plymouth Argyle	A	1	1	10,095
„ 21—Rotherham United (6)	A	1	1	12,829
„ 28—Rochdale	H	1	0	14,166
Mar. 4—Fulham	A	P		
„ 6—Southport (L.C.F.)	H	P		
„ 11—Luton Town	H			
„ 14—Halifax Town (S.F.)	A			
„ 18—Barrow	H			
„ 21—Fulham	H			
„ 27—Brighton	A			
„ 28—Luton Town	A			
„ 30—Mansfield Town	H			
April 4—Barnsley	H			
„ 8—Tranmere Rovers	H			
„ 11—F.A. Cup Final				
„ 14—Walsall	A			

## South East Counties

Aug. 9—Tottenham Hotspur	A	0	6
„ 16—West Ham United	H	0	5
„ 23—Crystal Palace	A	0	1
„ 30—Queens Park Rangers	H	2	2
Sept. 6—Arsenal	A	2	0
„ 13—Chelsea (League Cup)	H	1	2
„ 20—Orient	A	0	7
„ 27—Fulham	H	4	1
Oct. 4—Gillingham	A	0	7
„ 11—Chelsea	H	2	1
„ 18—Colchester (League Cup)	H	0	4
„ 25—Millwall	A	0	6
Nov. 1—Ipswich Town	H	0	6
„ 8—Colchester United	A	1	4
„ 15—Maidenhead (FA Yth Cup)	H	2	2
„ 19—Maidenhead (Replay)	A	3	1
„ 22—Watford	H	0	3
„ 29—West Ham United	A	0	3
Dec. 6—Orient	H	P	
„ 8—Slough (FA Yth Cup 2 Rd)	A	1	0
„ 13—Chelsea	A	2	3
„ 17—Slough (2 Rd Replay)	A	4	1
„ 20—Crystal Palace	H	1	3
„ 27—Queens Park Rangers	A	1	5
„ 29—Charlton Ath. (3 Rd Yth)	H	3	2
Jan. 3—Fulham	A	0	4
„ 10—Arsenal	H	P	
„ 21—Tottenham (FA Yth Cup)	H	0	2
„ 24—Charlton Athletic	H	0	3
„ 31—Luton Town	H	0	3
Feb. 14—Millwall	H	P	
„ 21—Gillingham	H	0	2
„ 28—Ipswich Town	A	2	5
Mar. 14—Tottenham Hotspur	H		
„ 21—Charlton Athletic	A		
„ 28—Colchester United	H		
Apr. 4—Watford	A		

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# Reading Chronicle

EVERY FRIDAY 6d.

## SUPPORTERS' CLUB NOTES



Chairman: Mr. J. H. Brooks  
Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Habbitts  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. H. C. Challice

Good Evening All,

Welcome tonight to Luton Town. Lets hope success continues. The promotion challenge is well under way, all top teams fighting hard. Congratulations to Jack Mansell on his award of Manager of the Month. I am sure all will agree this was most deserved.

It was good to read of the good conduct of our Supporters on Special Trains. Our supporters always orderly at matches, must surely be in line for an award.

We the Supporters' Club need your help. Members and Agents are required in our Weekly Schemes, also sellers for our match day Golden Goal scheme.

Don't forget to visit our Blue Streaks Shops for good purchases.

Back to the game, keep the enthusiasm and cheering going.

### TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

## SPECIAL TRAIN

British Railways are again running a special train for the Halifax match on Saturday.

#### DETAILS ARE:

Depart Reading General: 8.40 a.m.  
Arrive Halifax: 1.32 p.m.

Depart Halifax: 5.40 p.m.  
Arrive Reading: 10.34 p.m.

\*The special train will continue on to Newbury arriving at 11.05 p.m. Supporters may travel from Newbury to Reading on Saturday morning on any normal service with their Excursion Ticket.

Tickets are 30/- return for adults and £1 return for children under 14, and can be obtained from the Supporters Club or from Reading and Newbury Station ticket offices.

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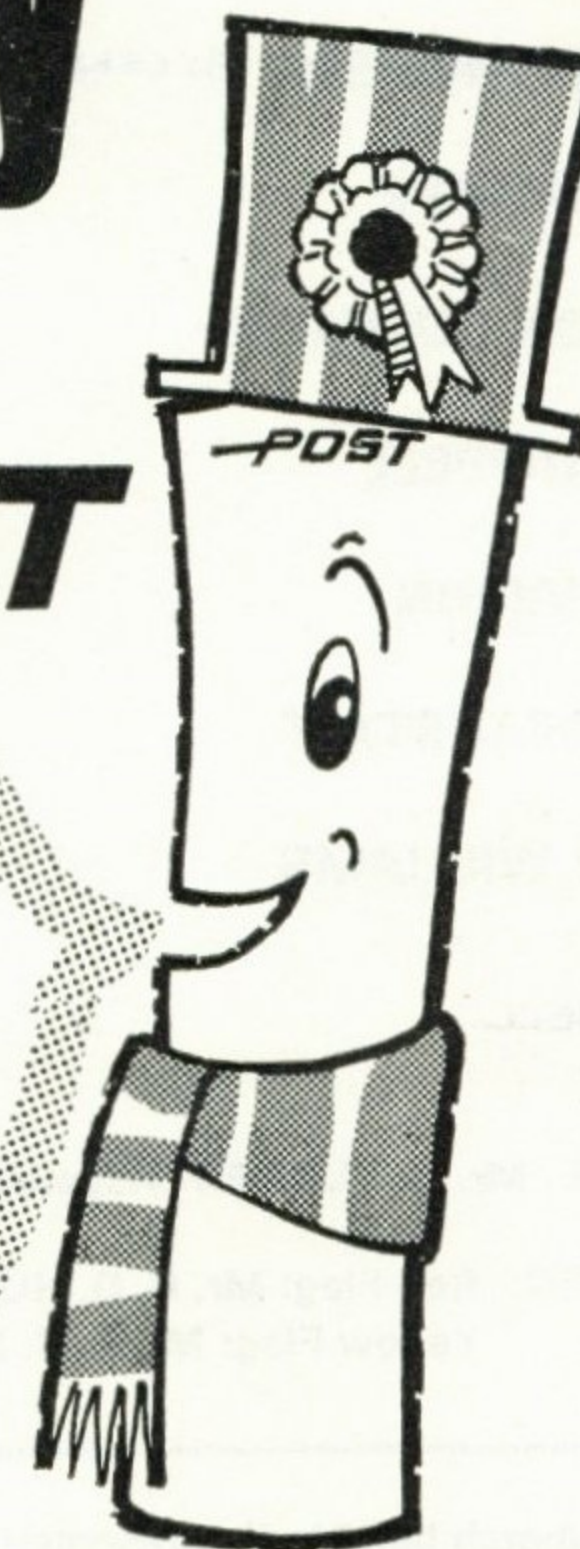
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STEVEN DEATH

WILL DIXON

~~DENIS ALLEN~~ BUTLER

BARRIE WAGSTAFF

~~STUART MORGAN~~ ALLEN

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GORDON CUMMING

LES CHAPPELL

DICK HABBIN

TONY WAGSTAFF

BOBBY WILLIAMS

BELL

**1****2****3****4****5****6****7****8****9****10****11****12****Luton Town**(r)

Colours: Red

SANDY DAVIE

JOHN RYAN

FRED JARDINE

ALAN SLOUGH

TERRY BRANSTON

JOHN MOORE

~~MACDONALD~~ \*  
JOHN COLLINSCOLLINS  
~~MALCOLM McDONALD~~

MATT TEES

MIKE KEEN

GRAHAM FRENCH

ALLEN

REFEREE: Mr. D. TURNER (Rugeley)

LINESMEN: Red Flag: Mr. P. D. HUNTER (Bexley Heath)

Yellow Flag: Mr. F. C. LANE (Horsham)

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 Today's match ball kindly presented by: Mr. H. R. Fraser, Holmcroft, Calcot, Reading
 

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★ **ELM PARK ATTRACTIONS**

SATURDAY NEXT, 14 MARCH

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE

**TOTTENHAM**

Kick off 3 p.m.