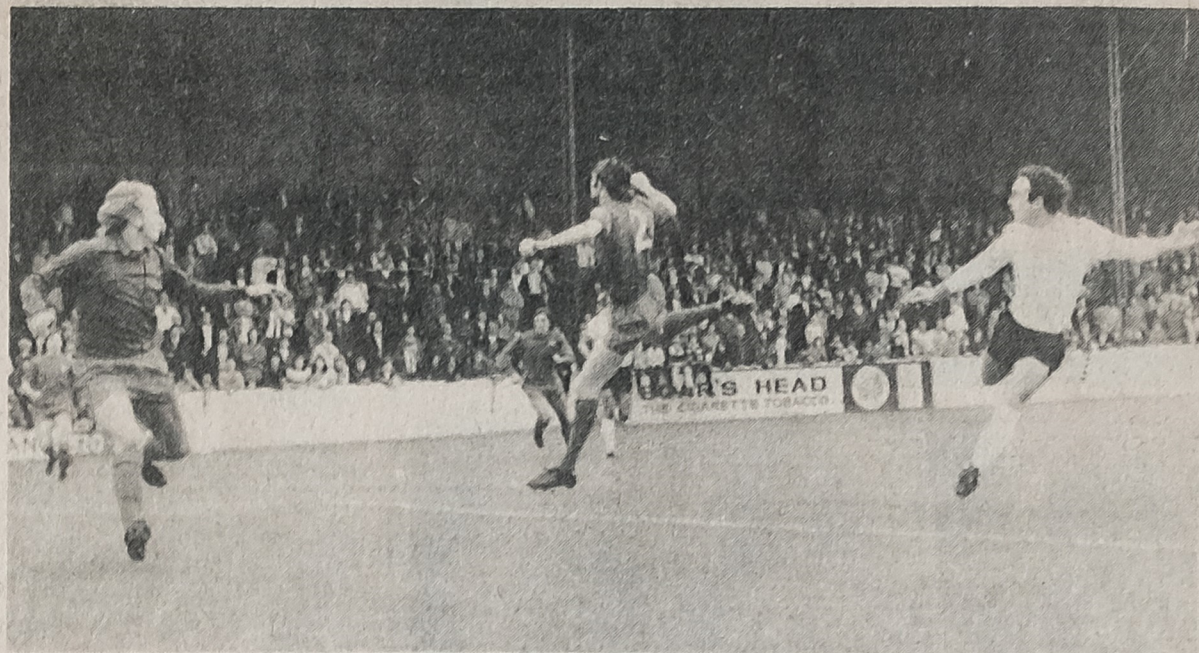


BUSBY'S BOOST - TOWN VICTORY



Bobby Arber, of Orient, clears as Town's John Aston runs in



Heading duel between Luton's John Faulkner and Orient's Barry Dyson

VIV BUSBY was Luton's hero at Brisbane Road this afternoon, giving the Town a vital lead with a cleverly taken goal after 56 minutes.

The goal, stemming from a poor back pass, enabled Luton to regain control of the match after a good first-half display.

Luton were unchanged, fielding the side that beat Preston 1-0 last week.

This meant that again Alan Slough was substitute.

Luton goalkeeper Keith Barber, who had shaken off a cold during the week, was called into action in the first seconds of the game to collect a long back-pass from Thomson and to make a hefty clearance upfield. It was chased enthusiastically by Busby but he was foiled.

After a frantic period of settling down in midfield Luton began to play some intelligent, constructive foot-

ball. A long ball out to the right by Anderson gave Jim Ryan a good chase.

He beat his man and got over a fine cross which Arber was grateful to head behind for a corner.

Over the top

Luton won another quick corner which was taken by Aston and Anderson headed over the top.

Anderson was popping up everywhere. He was tenacious in midfield and ready to help both attack and defence. There was also some crisp full-back work from John Ryan.

Then Garner nipped in to foil Bowyer of a shooting chance after a defensive mix-up in the box.

Orient began to get more into the game and Barber was called upon to make a good catch over the head of Bullock, as the Londoners' centre-forward leaped to a cross from the dangerous Bowyer.

Luton were in further trouble when Hoadley got in a good centre from near the left-hand corner flag and Faulkner came to the rescue with a hurried clearance from the goalmouth.

Hoadley got in yet another accurate cross with his left foot and Barber made a good catch to a strong header from Bullock.

Good centre

A through-ball from Fern was chased by Aston, but his good-looking shot was blocked. Luton came back again and a fine pass from Busby was collected by Fern, whose fierce drive was well fielded by Goddard in the Orient goal.

A gutsy run through the middle by Anderson ended with a superb pass to Busby, who shot left-footed just wide of the right-hand post. Anderson received a kick for his trouble but Luton certainly looked full of ideas when going forward.

Fern and Aston worked a good move on Luton's left wing but the winger's cross was headed away a fraction before Halom could get his forehead behind it.

very shaken-looking Orient defence scrambled the ball away.

In the 37th minute Luton went within a whisker of taking the lead. A foul from behind by Harris on Busby just outside the penalty box gave Luton a free kick.

With the defensive wall looking well-placed, Fern pushed the kick to his right and Anderson raced in to smash the hardest shot of the match just outside the foot of the left-hand post.

HT: Orient 0, Luton 0

Luton had a fortunate let-off in the first minute of the second half, when a mis-cued volley out of defence by Thomson spun into the goal area, but Barber was well-placed and caught the spinning ball.

The Londoners continued to dominate the early part of the second half, and a good through ball from Harris was followed into the box by the racing Bullock. But Barber was just as quick off his line to make a good interception and clear the danger.

Then a shot from Allen was deflected for a corner off the chest of Garner.

In the 56th minute, Luton regained control and took the lead they had threatened to take for so long in the first half.

Some good wing play on the left touchline between Aston and Jim Ryan had the London defence in a tangle, and Allen tried to sort things out with a pass back to his goalkeeper.

But it lacked pace and Busby was quick to spot the opportunity. He nipped in to beat Goddard to the ball and turned to score from not the best of angles. It was a good goal.

Downing broke quickly and won a corner which was taken by full-back Hoadley. The ball bobbed around in the goalmouth before Bullock got in an effort with Barber beaten. Thomson came to the rescue by clearing off the line.

With 12 minutes left, Luton almost came unstuck in defence but Barber saved them by making a brave save at the feet of Bowyer when all seemed lost.

Orient 0 Luton Tn 1

By ROGER DUCKWORTH

MATCH FACTS

ORIENT: Goddard; Arber, Hoadley, Bennett, Harris, Allen, Downing, Brisley, Bullock, Dyson, Bowyer. Sub: Riddick.

LUTON: Barber; John Ryan, Thomson, Anderson, Garner, Faulkner, Jimmy Ryan, Fern, Busby, Halom, Aston. Sub: Slough.

Referee: Mr Harold Hackney (Barnsley).

Goalscorers: BUSBY (Luton) 56min.
Attendance: 6,494

VERDICT

HASLAM'S hustlers continued their attacking policy at Orient this afternoon, and well deserved their win.

They never relied on falling back to play for a point, even when they had taken the lead through Busby in the second half.

With Halom, Anderson and Fern always dominating the midfield, Luton's style made it a good, open and exciting game.

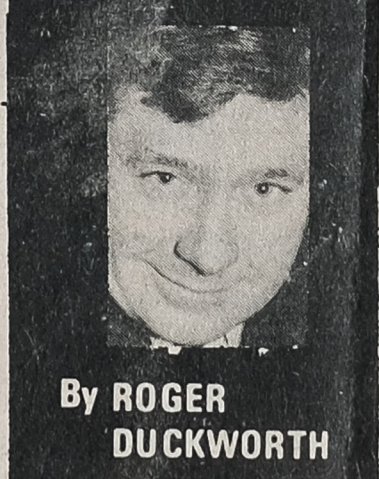
The goal came in the 56th minute and was brilliantly taken by Busby who followed up a defensive mistake,

took the ball out of the keeper's reach and banged it into an empty net.

Obviously Luton's open, direct style sometimes left them a man short at the back but Thomson, in particular, had a fine game at left-back and often kept a difficult situation at bay.

Wingers Aston and Jimmy Ryan were regularly used, but it was the midfield trio who were always in the thick of it that underlined Luton's dominance.

But this first away



By ROGER
DUCKWORTH

win of the season will give Luton bags of confidence for their two home matches next week. It was a win they fully deserved.