

# LUTON TOWN



Burnett



Cripps



Allder



Possee



Dunphy



Wood



Smethurst



Dorney



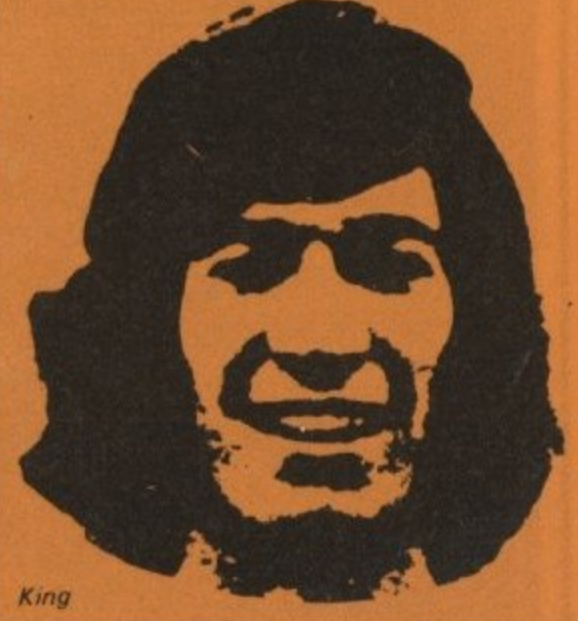
Brown



Bolland



Kitchener



King

# LUTON TOWN

FOOTBALL AND ATHLETIC CLUB LIMITED

KENILWORTH ROAD, LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE, LU1 1DH  
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# HARRY HASLAM



The event of the week for this club was undoubtedly the 'shattering' news that Luton had been drawn at home in the Cup! Such fortune may seem of insignificance to casual observers. But for me the radio beamed out real good news when they announced we had been paired with Crewe Alexandra at Kenilworth Road.

The F.A. Cup, its glamour, excitement and uncertainty has been a traditional part of a team's seasonal involvement ever since the first competition was held one hundred years ago. That chapter of soccer history seems like light years away—and I have no doubt that, for some of our fans, it seems almost as long since Luton had any of the breaks where the Cup is concerned.

There certainly appears to be some kind of hoodoo on Luton's luck of the draw because the last time our name came out first for the Third Round was way back in 1961.

It required diligent work among the record books by John Wilkinson, a member of the club's administrative staff, before that consoling gem of information was unearthed—no-one I asked had the remotest idea from memory. In the 11 years since that occasion Luton have come out second nine times—a daunting succession of away trips which no club on earth could enjoy.

But this time we are back at home again and providence has brought us a fixture to look forward to against a side controlled by a very old friend of mine, Jimmy Melia. It is funny how co-incidences occur. Last week I was in touch with Jimmy regarding the arrangement of a Luton player on loan to Crewe. The day that player, Terry Robinson, goes to Crewe we get the home draw we have been looking for against the same club.

The fact that our Northern opposition are in the lower half of the Fourth Division will in no way detract from the preparation we shall go through to ensure that Luton keep their Cup hopes alive.

I shall have Jimmy's side watched for obvious reasons. But it is unlikely that our scouts will report anything of consequence to make us change from the normal strict training build up to every game.

Promotion for Luton is of primary importance—a good Cup run is a bonus. No Third Round-tie will be treated as a bigger task than our League games because if that was so it would be tantamount to saying that we could put more into our League games and no-one who has any close knowledge of our set-up would subscribe to that opinion.

I must agree that there is some disappointment in circulation and that in certain respects we have so far let our fans down to a certain extent. But that is not for the want of trying. Anyone who fancies writing us out of the promotion stakes this season may be found wiping the egg from his face at the end of it.

We have just bought a player with the ability to put the spark into our attacking game which can trigger off the kind of success the lads deserve.

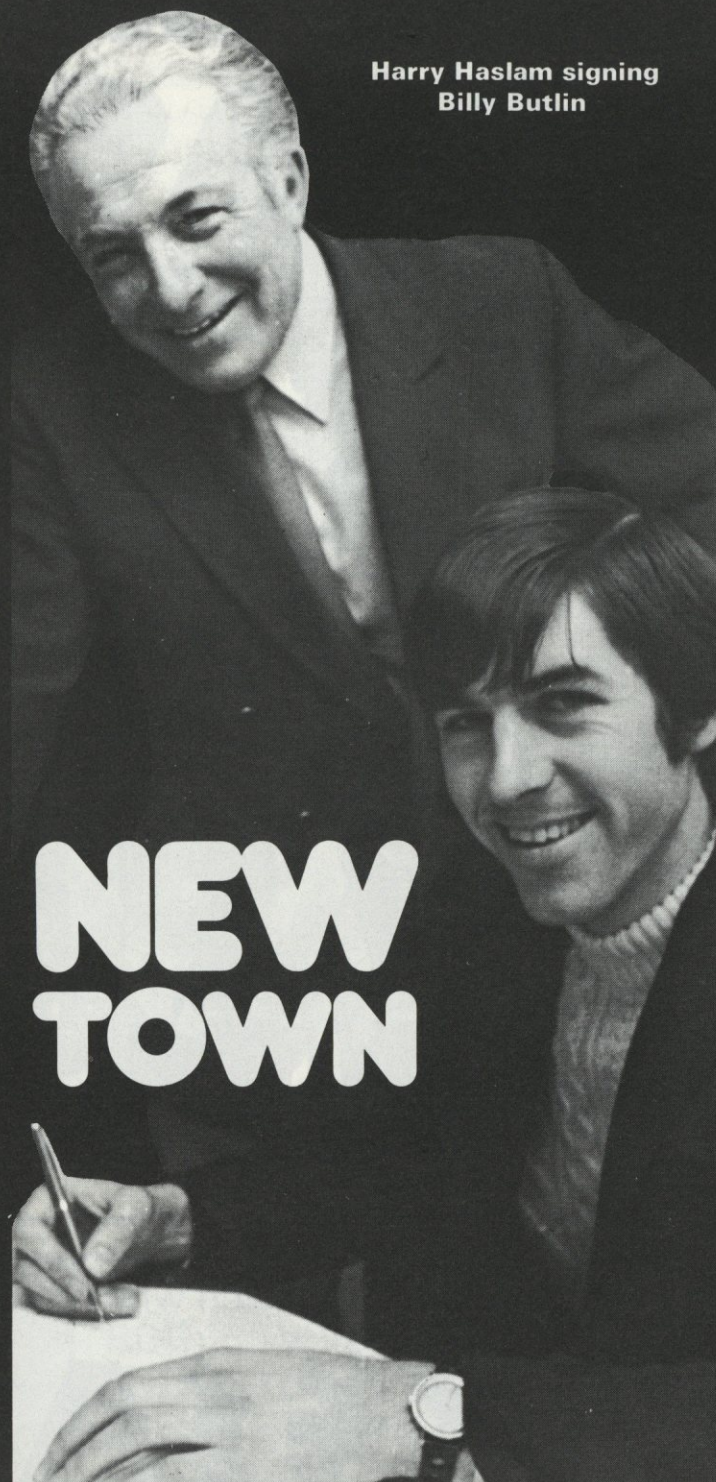
I found a lot of personal satisfaction from Barry Butlin's debut goal and if that was a sample of what is to come, a goal boost is very much on the cards.

I was very pleased with his first performance, especially after learning that after scoring Barry had a nasty kick in the throat. It only took a couple of days to clear up—but he was forced to go on a virtual starvation diet because it was too painful for him to swallow.

This afternoon we are looking forward to producing a performance which the fans will enjoy and digest for 90 minutes.

This being the last home game before Christmas I would like to wish the club, players and supporters of Luton Town a very merry Christmas and I hope to see one and all here on Boxing Day.

Harry Haslam was talking to Norton Jones



Harry Haslam signing Billy Butlin

# NEW TOWN

The determination of manager Harry Haslam to maintain a rigid belief in moulding a side which 'goes for goals' was clearly underlined when a record-sized fee of £50,000 was paid to Derby County for the delivery of Barry Butlin.

"It seems to have rained every day since I signed," said Barry after making his memorable debut. "But I have no regrets in leaving the League Champions," added the new Luton striker after being on the target on his first day in his new colours.

Barry joined Derby when he was 17 and, in the six years he spent at the Baseball Ground, success flowed through the club at virtually every level. "They won the First and Second Divisions, the Watney and Texaco Cups and are currently striding on towards the European Cup.

"They are a great club and Brian Clough is a great manager, but I should have the greatest of pleasure to get back to Derby with Luton and hammer a few goals past them. I could have waited longer for the possibility of a chance of capturing a regular spot in the League side. But there is always the danger of falling into a rut with constant reserve football, so I was delighted when I got the opportunity of joining Luton."

Under observation for two years by Luton's present boss, Barry's transfer amazingly brought his old club the biggest windfall they have ever received for one of their own players.

Barry's biggest asset is the aerial power he carries, so it was no surprise when he sprung above the Q.P.R. defence to knock home a corner for a prestige goal on his debut. "It was a great feeling and just what I wanted. I have scored goals in League football before—but last Saturday's was easily the most important so far."

Brian Clough picked him nine times for Derby, one of the best of which was against Manchester City at Maine Road in November. This was not long after Barry had recovered from his cartilage operation, a set-back which checked Luton's earlier interest.

Derby were in no rush to dispense with Butlin's ability. But the Hector O'Hare partnership, plus Roger Davies and John Sims, gave Brian Clough the kind of 'embarrassment' many managers would like.

Says Barry: "One cannot go on playing reserve football indefinitely and that's the way it was beginning to look at Derby. I have moved to Luton for the sake of my own ambition and to get first-team football. It's my big chance—and I don't aim to waste one crumb of it."

Millwall manager Benny Fenton can tell you all about the way football fortunes can turn upside down—almost overnight.

It doesn't seem long that he travelled across London, one night last May, to see the match which was to decide whether Millwall would enter the First Division for the first time in their history.

Orient had to beat Birmingham City to allow Millwall to join Norwich on the promotion path. They didn't. The Midlands won 1-0 and Millwall, after pace-making throughout the season, were denied their prize by a scant margin of one point.

Naturally, everyone assumed that the pride of London's dockland would be in there again, challenging for promotion this term. But, in a remarkable form-decline they have been in the lower half of the table for four months.

Just to emphasise how things have changed since the bright days of last season, we quote their record over the first 12 games of the two campaigns. Last year, they were unbeaten over this period and were in second place. This year, they lost eight of the first dozen fixtures—including five in a row—and found themselves second from bottom.

"It was infuriating," said skipper Dennis Burnett. "We kept losing by the odd goal and were just not taking our chances."

Confidence soared from the time they beat Brighton 3-0 on 11th November and was carried into a most difficult test at Queen's Park Rangers the following week. The Lions brilliantly smashed Rangers' unbeaten home record with a 3-1 victory and Burnett grabbed the final goal.

Burnett then made it three wins in a row by scoring the only goal against Huddersfield and things were really looking up when two goals from Gordon Bolland earned a well-deserved draw at Sheffield Wednesday.

It's probably too late for Millwall to deliver a promotion bid this term, but their recent results serve notice to all the First Division hopefuls that Mr Fenton's side are once again tough opposition.

As always, the essence of Millwall's power rested largely on their formidable home record at The Den. We all remember how they set an all-time League best of 59 unbeaten home games between 24th August, 1964, and 14th January, 1967—a period when they climbed from Division Four to Division Two.

Goal-scoring was a big problem during this worrying period for Mr Fenton, yet, during the summer, he had improved the

# TALKING ABOUT MILLWALL



attack by spending £45,000 on Alf Wood, who scored 40 goals for Shrewsbury Town last term. Wood has now settled down and is Millwall's top scorer so far.

Wood, in effect, has replaced Barry Bridges, the former England striker, though this was probably not the intention when the new man arrived from the Midlands. However, Bridges became in dispute over terms and was reluctantly sold to Brighton for £25,000 in August.

Bridges was one of seven players to return ever-present records last season. Indeed, the majority of the names on Millwall's staff have a familiar ring to Second Division observers. Centre-half Barry Kitchener has completed five full seasons without missing a game and Burnett and goalkeeper Bryan King have been on parade almost as often.

The consistency of the defence is obviously explained by their close, and almost unbroken, knowledge of each other's play. Mr Fenton has had to spend more time on building an attack with promotion possibilities.

The sale of Keith Weller to Chelsea for £100,000 two and a half years ago broke up a highly-successful partnership with Derek Possee, but this was compensated by the ready supply of goals from Bridges after his move from Q.P.R. Derek Smethurst, the young South African from Chelsea, and Gordon Bolland also gave striking power in Millwall's 4-4-2 style.

Some people criticised Mr Fenton's policy in using this system even in home matches, but, in fact, it was not rigidly operated. Rather like the current Luton tactics of quick breaks from midfield, Millwall were equally effective in defending or going forward.

They had the fourth best scoring record last season—netting four goals more than the widely-feared Birmingham attack—and also had the fourth best defensive figures.

Luton were one of the few sides to make much profit from Millwall's super organisation. Two goals by Peter Anderson earned us a point at The Den and Anderson was again on target, along with Chris Nicholl, when we won 2-1 at Kenilworth Road on 1st January this year. That was only Millwall's third defeat of the season.

(Back): Dennis Burnett, Harry Cripps, Gordon Bolland, Bryan King, Barry Kitchener, Derek Smethurst, Alan Dorney. (Centre): Billy Holmes, Doug Allder, Barry Bridges (now Brighton), Brian Brown, Steve Brown, Tommy Sampson, David Coxhill, Eamonn Dunphy. (Front): Derek Possee, Billy Neil, Frank Saul, Alf Wood.

## MILLWALL HISTORY . . .

Founded: 1885. Original members of Division Three South: 1920. Ground: The Den, Coldblow Lane, London SE14. Record Attendance: 49,000 against Derby County (F.A. Cup), February, 1937. Division Three South Champions: 1927-28, 1937-38. Division Three Runners-up: 1965-66. Division Four Champions: 1961-62. Division Four Runners-up: 1964-65. F.A. Cup Semi-finalists: 1900, 1903 and 1937.

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## Millwall's Six Year Record . . .

Season	Div	Posn	W	P	Season	Div	Posn	W	P
1971-72	2	3rd	19	55	1968-69	2	10th	17	43
1970-71	2	8th	19	47	1967-68	2	7th	14	45
1969-70	2	10th	15	44	1966-67	2	8th	18	45

## Luton v Millwall (Past League Results) . . .

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	Best Win:
HOME	17	7	8	230	14	22	6-0	at (home in 1926-27).
AWAY	17	3	6	81	63	12	7-0	(away in 1925-26 & 27).
TOTAL	34	10	14	1046	51	34		

# MANAGER CAPTAIN

Benny Fenton started as a 17-year-old professional with West Ham before the war, his first contact with Millwall, where he now reigns supreme, being in 1945 when he was transferred to them as a budding inside-forward.

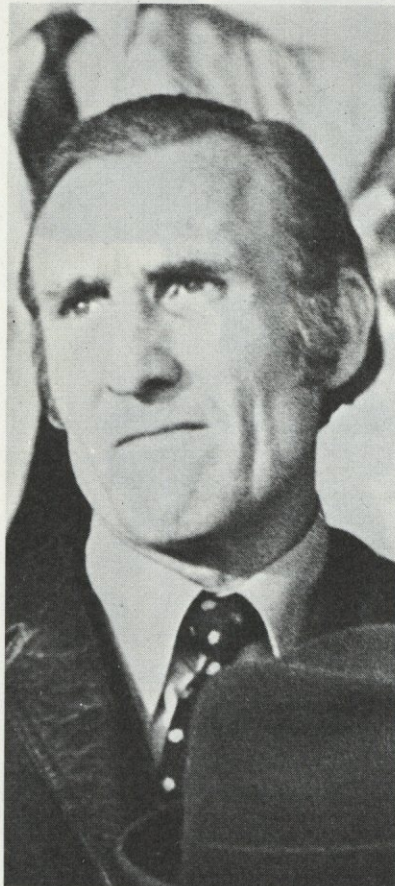
Charlton paid £6,000 for him in January, 1945 and while with them he converted to wing-half, the position in which most fans best remember him. He became Colchester United's player-manager in 1955.

But, my, how Benny used to anger the crowds with his shouting, gesticulating and boundless energy when playing away! And we're sure he enjoyed every moment of it!

Fenton was appointed manager of Orient in October, 1963, shortly after they had lost their First Division place. Brisbane Road was a depressing place then; the club was dangerously debt-ridden, the spirit was low and it needed more than Benny's tremendous enthusiasm to revive it. The necessary backing wasn't forthcoming and he left only after 13 months.

He took charge of Millwall in May, 1966 and four seasons ago almost took them into the First Division. But they couldn't quite stay the course on that occasion. Last season they held one of the two top points almost continuously from October until they had completed their fixtures. Then Fenton had the galling experience of watching Birmingham win their last game, and overhaul his club.

Mr Fenton contends: "If you are to be a good manager you mustn't worry about losing leisure hours. You've got to put your back into the work and can't bother about hobbies or outside interests."



MANAGER  
BENNY FENTON

Dennis Burnett is one of the most reliable defenders in the Second Division, his record speaking for itself—since joining the Lions from West Ham in 1967 he has missed only one of 231 League games played by the club.

West Ham gave him his chance in their first-team in 1965-66 and he crowned his first season of senior football by playing in the Football League Cup final against West Bromwich Albion. That was the last time the final was played on a two-legged basis and the Hammers felt confident of success after winning their home game 2-1. But they were beaten 1-4 at The Hawthorns to go down 3-5 on aggregate. Dennis played in both games.

The following season he gained an unwanted record when he finished level top of the country's own-goal scorers. He put two past his own goalkeeper.

The move to Millwall in 1967 meant he stepped down from First Division football but he wasted no time settling down at The Den and for quite a while it seemed he might return to the top division quicker than he could have imagined. For Millwall made a bold bid for promotion which fell down right at the end of the season.

Though Burnett has now played almost 300 League games for West Ham and Millwall he had scored only one goal until last month when he went completely mad and scored in successive games against Queen's Park Rangers and Huddersfield!

Dennis has switched his roles over the past year or so. He had been playing in midfield until Harry Cripps was injured, when he fell back into defence. This season he has been operating in midfield again.

# POINTS ON PLAYERS

**BRYAN KING, goalkeeper.** Born at Bishops Stortford, Herts. Age 25. Joined Chelmsford City as a youth and was transferred to Millwall on 12th June, 1967. Made his debut in the Football League in October, 1967, against Blackpool, taking over as regular goalkeeper in the 1968-69 season. Reckoned by many to be the best in the Second Division, he did not miss a game last season.

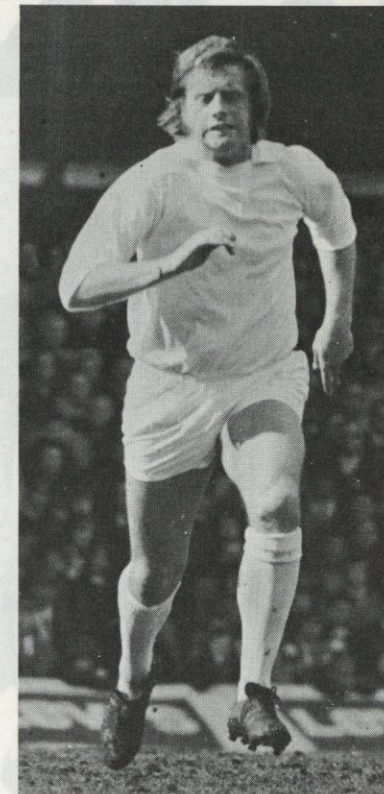
**BRYAN BROWN, full-back.** Born at Shoreditch, London. Joined Chelsea as an apprentice in 1964, turning professional in 1966. Signed by Millwall in March, 1968, and now, at 22, he is firmly established in the Millwall side. An ever-present last season.

**HARRY CRIPPS, full-back.** Born at Plaistow, London. Joined West Ham in 1959 and was signed by Millwall in 1961. The club's longest-serving player, he was given a testimonial last season and holds the club record for the number of first-team appearances, now numbering around 350.

**ALAN DORNEY, half-back.** Born in Bermondsey, London. Age 25. Joined the club as a schoolboy and then as an amateur in 1963. After two years, he signed part-time professional whilst continuing his apprenticeship as a Printer. Turned full-time in 1968 and made his debut against Carlisle United on 13th September, 1969, and has been regular right-half ever since. An ever-present last season.

**BARRY KITCHENER, centre-half.** Born Dagenham, Essex. Joined the club as an apprentice on 10th August, 1964, and turned professional a year later. Made his debut against Birmingham City in February, 1967, and, the following season, took over as the regular centre-half. Age 24, he did not miss a single League game in the last four seasons.

**BILLY NEIL, half-back.** Born Roslin, Midlothian. Age 27. Formerly with Hibernian and Bonnyrigg Rose. Signed for



HARRY CRIPPS

Millwall in March, 1964. Originally a left-winger, he was recently converted to midfield.

**DEREK POSSEE, forward.** Born at Southwark, London. Joined Tottenham Hotspur in 1963 and was transferred to Millwall in August, 1967, for a five-figure fee. Age 26. He was the club's leading

goalscorer in the last two seasons, but is currently on the transfer list.

**EAMONN DUNPHY, forward.** Born in Dublin, Ire. Age 27. Commenced his career with Manchester United in 1960. Moved to York City in 1965, and was transferred to Millwall in 1965, becoming an important midfield player winning many international caps for Ire. Was in dispute with the club early this season and did not train with the team for some weeks. Recently won back his place.

**GORDON BOLLAND, forward.** Born Boston, Lincs. Age 29. Has played for Chelsea, Orient, Norwich City and Charlton Athletic. Transferred to Millwall in October, 1968, and has been an ever-present for the last two seasons.

**DOUG ALLDER, forward.** Born Hammersmith, London. Age 20. A product of Millwall's youth side. Signed apprentice in 1968 and became a full-time professional in October, 1969. A former England Youth international, he has been a regular since making his debut at 17.

**FRANK SAUL, forward.** Born Canvey Island, Essex. Age 29. Started his career with Tottenham Hotspur in 1960 and, after six seasons with Spurs, moved on to Southampton. After two seasons with Saints, he went back to London to join Queen's Park Rangers, from whom he was transferred to Millwall in March, 1972. While with Spurs, he scored in the 1967 F.A. Cup Final.

**DEREK SMETHURST, forward.** Born Durban, South Africa. Age 25. Joined Chelsea as an amateur and, after qualifying residentially, turned professional. Transferred to Millwall in September, 1971.

**ALF WOOD, forward.** Born Macclesfield. Age 26. Started his career with Manchester City as a centre-half in 1962. After four years at Maine Road, he moved on to Shrewsbury Town. Last season he was converted to lead the attack and broke the club record with 40 goals in a season. Transferred to Millwall at the start of the season for £45,000, and is now the Lions' top goalscorer.

We regret that owing to the building strike the hotel will not now open until APRIL 1973



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Strathmore Hotel, Arndale Centre, Luton.  
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POST

# MEN ABOUT TOWN

Luton's reserve squad look bang on target to make it third time lucky in the Mid-week League competition—a prize in prospect for the consistency shown over the last two seasons.

Ken Whitfield, assistant coach and the man responsible for these table 'toppers'—and the juniors in the South Eastern Counties League—is drilling Kenilworth Road's shadow eleven with all his expertise to make sure they do not inherit a hat-trick of runners-up credits.

"The side has finished second in the table in the first two seasons since I came here," he says. "It's my third attempt with the team and with only one defeat suffered so far, I think this will be Luton's year."

The attacking policies, which manager Harry Haslam has laid down for his senior side, also apply to his reserves and, judging by some of the results—7-0, 5-0, 5-1, 4-2—the opportunities have arrived quicker for them during the week.

The goals and points have put the second-team on top—"and this is where I hope they will finish," adds Ken. "But my job is not to aim to win this League—though its a nice bonus if we can—but to mould future first-team players."

Ken, who cut his teeth in football with Wolves and Manchester City told us: "My final words to the lads is try to play football. The result is of secondary importance to me. I want to cultivate footballers and if I get the emphasis on developing skill, I think it's far more beneficial for Luton in the long run than aiming to win any minor League or trophies."

The methods employed during the week have meant a spectacular goals haul by top striker, Derek Hales, a player with 14 'bull's-eyes' in his first 13 games. "He has done very well. But his chances have been created by the side, in general, each concentrating on breaking down the opposition with a great deal of thought backing their ideas.

"Progression is the keyword which I have to try and maintain with players, who, as they grow, must retain and show consistent all-round improvement. Two fine examples of such a pattern are youngsters Paul Price and Nicky Sparks.



Back (from left): Derek Hales, Peter Anderson, Willie Carrick, Tony Castiello, Terry Robinson, John Moore.  
Front: Steve Litt, Bob Hatch, Paul Price, Brian Ealing, Gerry Jones, Les Harfield.

## MID-WEEK LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
LUTON TOWN	13	7	5	1	33	12	19
BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	11	5	4	2	19	14	14
WATFORD	12	6	2	4	16	19	14
SOUTHEND UNITED	10	4	4	2	18	18	12
NORTHAMPTON TOWN	10	4	2	4	20	13	10
CHARLTON ATHLETIC	9	5	0	4	16	15	10
ORIENT	9	4	2	3	12	13	10
CAMBRIDGE UNITED	10	4	2	4	15	19	10
GILLINGHAM	10	2	3	5	9	20	7
MILLWALL	11	1	2	8	15	26	4
COLCHESTER UNITED	9	2	0	7	7	21	4

Mid-week Goalscorers: Derek Hales 13, Steve Litt 4, Gordon Hindson 4, Gerry Jones 2, Les Harfield 2, John Moore 2.



## SOUTH-EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	16	13	1	2	45	16	27
CHELSEA	15	11	2	2	45	17	24
ARSENAL	15	10	4	1	44	17	24
MILLWALL	17	8	3	6	41	27	19
CHARLTON ATHLETIC	14	7	3	4	26	22	17
IPSWICH TOWN	16	7	2	7	23	29	16
FULHAM	17	7	2	8	21	29	16
WEST HAM UNITED	15	6	3	6	31	21	15
QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS	13	5	4	4	19	19	14
CRYSTAL PALACE	14	5	3	6	26	21	13
BRENTFORD	15	4	5	6	17	21	13
SOUTHEND UNITED	14	4	4	6	13	19	12
ORIENT	13	4	3	6	20	19	11
WATFORD	15	3	3	9	18	28	9
GILLINGHAM	13	3	3	7	21	35	9
LUTON TOWN	15	2	5	8	11	36	9
READING	15	2	0	13	13	58	4

Last season they were being coached through a critical time in the youth squad.

"Now they are showing up with the same kind of promise, but only a step higher up. If they can continue to put their minds to the task of reaching the first-team, the breakthrough will be reached. The more of these lads who do earn that elevation, the more satisfaction I get out of my job."

The Luton nursery side who play in the South-Eastern Counties is the first collection and training point for young amateurs and apprentices who seek a future with the club. Their guidance and grooming is also Ken's responsibility.

But, though the youngsters had the best season since 'guvnor' Whitfield arrived, a new approach for 1972-73 has been adopted which has made it tough going for them this time.

"We are concentrating on encouraging and developing local talent in a bigger way this season. Previously we had too many trialists from all parts of the country and the club has gained the impression that we should offer greater inducement to lads on our own doorstep."

The new policy has meant a few stiff encounters with the hand-picked youngsters of Arsenal, West Ham and Chelsea. "It is a strong League and, generally, we field the youngest side of any because, quite often, five of our lads are no more than 15. It's a team chosen purely from the apprentices and amateurs who come to training.

"It's a big disadvantage when we might be playing against Arsenal who could have eleven full-time players. Yet Luton's juniors held them to a draw recently and our side is only in its very early formative stage, with most of the players still with two years to run at youth level."

It lends itself to the belief that Luton could have a side ready to offer a real challenge for the F.A. Youth Cup in a couple of seasons. Certainly Ken Whitfield has sufficient confidence and pride in the Luton Babes—without wishing to specify any individuals—to believe that the future is being taken care of in a quietly impressive way at Kenilworth Road.

# TOWNNTALK

*Pickwick International, of Leighton Buzzard*, again offer six L.P. records for 'Guess the Gate' Competition on our next home game against Sheffield Wednesday on Boxing Day, 26th December. Entries should go to: Luton Town Promotions, 70-72 Kenilworth Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, and should be received by Saturday, 23rd December, 1972.

Winners of the competition for the Q.P.R. game were: J. A. Smith, 264 Dallow Road, Luton. P. R. Garner, 40 Napier Street, Bletchley. J. Taylor, 34 Ludwick Way, Welwyn Garden City. T. W. Paulley, c/o Flat 1, Hall Place, St. Peter's Street, St. Albans. P. Gauigan, 77 Nelson Road, Leighton Buzzard. J. Bower, 63 Manor Road, Caddington.

**Your Road Route to Middlesbrough on 23rd December, 1972 . . .**

Leave by Dunstable Rd A505. M1 motorway, follow sign 'Birmingham M1', Newport Pagnell service area, Watford Gap service area, Leicester Forest service area, continue M1. Trowell service area, follow sign 'North, Leeds, Sheffield M1', Woodall service area, intersection M18, follow signs 'North, Doncaster M18', intersection A1 (M), follow signs 'North, Doncaster 1A(M)' to end of motorway, Roundabout, take 2nd Rd A1, Micklefield by-pass, keep R. Wetherby by-pass, roundabout, take 2nd Rd. End of by-pass. Boroughbridge by-

pass, leave as for Darlington, along by-pass A1. End of by-pass, roundabout, take 3rd Rd A168. Dishforth by-pass, 2½ miles on, turn R. Topcliffe, Thirsk by-pass ahead, bear L as signed 'Thirsk B1448'. Thirsk, leave as for Stockton-on-Tees A170 after ¼ mile on turn L A19. South Kilvington, Jeater Houses, Cleveland Tontine, leave as for Stokesley A172, Swainby on R. After 2½ miles on bear L, further 2½ miles on turn R, entering Stokesley. Leave as for Middlesbrough A172, Stokesley by-pass, roundabout take 2nd Rd, after 3¼ miles on, roundabout take 2nd Rd, Marton, mainly on R. After ½ mile on, cross A174. Middlesbrough—(Marton Road)—223½ miles.



**Middlesbrough travelling by rail . . .**

Train departs Luton at 8-55 and Bedford at 9-17 to arrive at Middlesbrough at 13-55. Departs Middlesbrough at 17-40 to arrive at Bedford at 21-58 and Luton at 22-20. Fare: £1.35.

Luton Town's match with Fulham postponed on 2nd December, 1972, is rearranged for Tuesday, 27th March, 1973, kick-off: 7-30 pm.

Luton Town v Crewe on 13th January,

1973. Season Ticket Holders to apply for their seats by post sending stamped addressed envelope for reply plus Cup Match ticket number two. Tickets available for sale from 18th December, 1972. Prices: Centre Stand—85p. Wing Stand—70p.

Luton Town Football Club send their condolences to the family of the late Mr W. T. Marlow, B.E.M., 41 Five Springs, Marsh Farm, Luton, who died on 5th December, 1972, at the age of 71 years. He had been a Luton Town supporter for 51 years.

## FORTHCOMING MATCHES . . .

**Boxing Day, 26th December, 1972**

Football League, Division Two

**LUTON TOWN v SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY**

Kick-off: 3-00 pm

**Saturday, 6th January, 1973**

Football League, Division Two

**LUTON TOWN v ORIENT**

Kick-off: 3-00 pm

**Saturday, 13th January, 1973**

F.A. Cup—Third Round

**LUTON TOWN v CREWE**

Kick-off: 3-00 pm

# FIXTURES

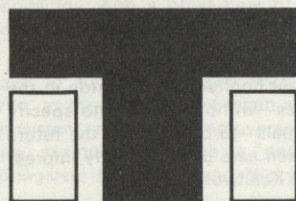
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO 72-73				MID-WEEK FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIXTURES—SEASON 1972-73					
Date	Opponents	Att	F A	Date	Opponent	F A	Date	Opponent	F A
Aug 12	Cardiff City	16,364	1 2	Aug 23	Gillingham	7 0	Dec 5	Northampton Town	1 1
19	Preston North End	11,507	1 0	30	Brighton & Hove A	1 0	13	Colchester United	
26	Orient	6,494	1 0	Sept 6	Cambridge United	5 0	Jan 3	Millwall	
30	Oxford United	10,891	0 1	27	Cambridge United	1 1	10	Brighton & Hove	
Sept 2	Huddersfield Town	8,133	4 1	Oct 11	Millwall	2 1	17	Orient	
5	Birmingham City (L.C.2)	20,962	1 1	18	Watford	1 1	24	Southend United	
9	Nottingham Forest	9,495	1 0	25	Watford	1 1	31	Charlton Athletic	
13	Birmingham City (L.C. first replay)	13,806	1 1	Nov 1	Gillingham	1 1	Feb 7	Watford L.C.	
16	Brighton & Hove Albion	11,627	2 1	8	Northampton T.	4 2	14	Watford L.C.	
20	Birmingham City (L.C. second replay)	11,139	0 1	15	Southend United	1 1	28	Northampton L.C.	
23	Sheffield Wednesday	18,913	0 4	21	Charlton Athletic	1 2	Mar 6	Northampton L.C.	
26	Swindon Town	8,469	2 0	29	Colchester United	5 1	14	Orient	
30	Burnley	12,197	2 2						
Oct 7	Blackpool	12,073	2 2						
14	Sunderland	13,394	2 0						
18	Portsmouth	9,813	2 2						
21	Hull City	11,560	1 2						
28	Bristol City	13,562	1 0						
Nov 4	Swindon Town	10,596	0 1						
11	Portsmouth	7,571	2 2						
18	Aston Villa	29,144	2 0						
25	Carlisle United	10,091	0 1						
Dec 2	Fulham	Postponed							
9	Q.P.R.	13,670	2 2						
16	Millwall								
23	Middlesbrough								
26	Sheffield Wednesday								
30	Preston North End								
Jan 6	Orient								
13	Crewe (F.A. Cup 3)								

## BACKTRACK

**MATCH:** LUTON TOWN v CARLISLE UNITED. **GROUND:** KENILWORTH ROAD. **DATE:** SATURDAY, 25th NOVEMBER, 1972. **ATTENDANCE:** 10,091. **COMPETITION:** FOOTBALL LEAGUE, DIVISION TWO. **TEAMS:** Luton: Barber; John Ryan, Thomson; Slough, Faulkner, Garner; Jimmy Ryan, Anderson, Fern, Halom, Aston. Substitute: Goodeve. Carlisle: Ross; Derrett, Gorman; O'Neill, Winstanley, Tiler; Train, Martin, Owen, Balderstone, Laidlaw. Substitute: Delgado. **SCORER:** Owen. **RESULT:** Luton 0, Carlisle 1. **PAPER TALK:** John Norman, *News of the World*: "It is getting beyond belief how Luton, who boast the finest away record in the League, continue to make such a hash of things on their own ground. Carlisle took advantage of Luton's home jitters by going out at them from the start." Roger Duckworth, *Evening Post*: "Carlisle looked more dangerous in possession, found their men better, and did a fine job in bottling Luton's frustrated attack with a well disciplined rearguard."

LEAGUE DIVISION TWO		Up to and including Saturday, 9th December, 1972		*League Games only			
HOME		AWAY		*HOME GATES		LEADING SCORERS	
P	WDLFA	WDLFA	P	Best	Average	(Including League and Cup Games)	
20	6 3 1 20 10	4 6 0 14 9 29	BURNLEY	14,804	12,445	Fletcher 10, James 8, Dobson 6	
21	6 4 1 20 8	4 3 3 15 13 27	BLACKPOOL	15,043	11,596	Ainscow 9, Suddick 8, Burns 6, Dyson 6	
21	5 4 1 22 11	4 5 2 15 15 27	QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS	17,356	12,723	Givens 13, Bowles 9, Leach 4, Francis 4	
20	6 3 2 12 6	3 3 3 9 12 24	ASTON VILLA	34,843	30,302	Rioch 7, Evans 5, Vowden 4	
<b>20</b>	<b>3 4 4 16 15</b>	<b>6 1 2 12 8 23</b>	<b>LUTON TOWN</b>	<b>13,670</b>	<b>11,105</b>	<b>Halom 10, Aston 7</b>	
21	4 3 3 9 7	5 2 4 11 11 23	PRESTON NORTH END	18,822	11,886	Tarbuck 5, Young 5, Bruce 4, Wilson 4	
21	5 3 2 11 9	3 4 4 9 14 23	MIDDLESBROUGH	24,145	12,484	Hickton 7, Mills 5, Smith 4	
21	6 1 3 17 10	3 3 5 9 12 22	OXFORD UNITED	13,412	9,490	Curran 10, Cassidy 5, Clarke D 5, Bray 4	
22	7 1 3 23 13	1 4 6 13 21 21	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	30,197	19,850	Joicey 9, Craig 5, Sunley 5	
21	1 5 3 8 10	6 2 4 17 16 21	BRISTOL CITY	15,648	13,053	Galley 7, Gow 6, Spiring 6	
21	5 4 2 14 11	2 3 5 8 15 21	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	18,082	10,132	Lyall 4, O'Neill 4	
20	4 4 2 15 9	2 4 4 11 15 20	FULHAM	17,576	10,549	Earle 7, Mitchell 7, Mullery 4	
21	4 5 1 15 12	2 3 6 14 19 20	SWINDON TOWN	15,304	10,492	Treacy 7, Peplow 7	
20	6 1 3 21 13	1 4 5 6 13 19	CARLISLE UNITED	10,969	7,347	Owen 9, Laidlaw 7, Balderstone 5	
21	5 4 2 21 11	1 3 6 7 16 19	HULL CITY	13,426	9,337	Pearson 10, Holme 7	
21	4 5 2 10 8	1 4 5 9 16 19	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	12,840	8,737	Gowling 8, Smith D 4	
21	5 2 3 13 9	2 2 7 14 17 18	MILLWALL	13,207	10,695	Wood 10, Bolland 7	
21	4 4 3 13 12	1 4 5 7 14 18	ORIENT	9,492	5,913	Downing 6, Queen 5	
20	3 4 2 12 10	2 3 6 14 22 17	SUNDERLAND	18,717	14,125	Lathan 7, Tueart 5, Kerr 4, Porterfield 4	
20	7 1 3 20 12	0 2 7 6 21 17	CARDIFF CITY	16,364	12,104	Woodruff 6, Bell 5, McCulloch 5	
21	3 1 7 11 16	2 4 4 11 15 15	PORTSMOUTH	16,419	10,633	Piper 6, Lewis 5, Reynolds 4	
21	1 6 3 14 18	1 3 7 9 23 13	BRIGHTON H.A.	18,699	15,922	Murray 7, Irvine 6, Beamish 4	

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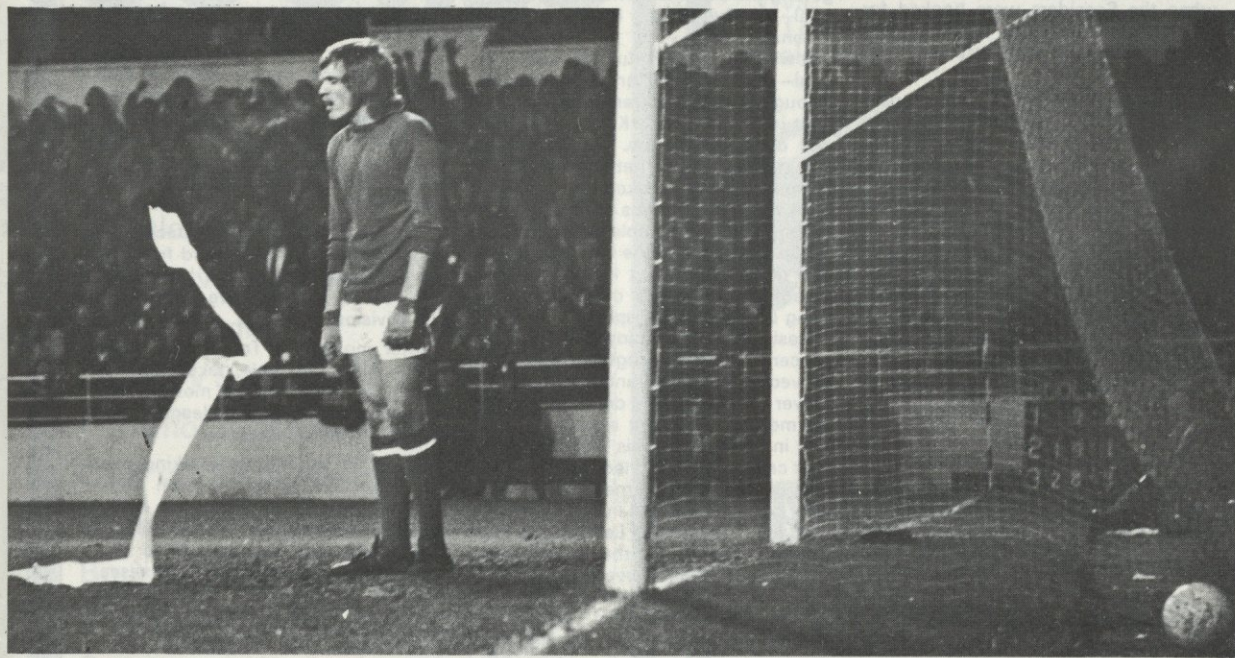
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# FIRST GOAL FOR LUTON



## TOWN IN ACTION

Who needs scaffolding? Barry Butlin certainly doesn't as he climbs high over a quartet of new friends and foes to head home his first goal for the Hatters and add impetus to the second half revival against Q.P.R. The Evening Post pictures (left) shows just how spring-heeled the former Derby man is. Pictures (above) display a near miss by Vic Halom—the goalkeeper, Phil Parkes looks almost frightened by the ferocity of his header—and (below) Vic's equaliser planted in the back of the net.



# MEMORY MAN

One of the finest and most gifted aristocrats of British football to spice the post-war years at Luton Town was Alan Brown, a Scottish International whose explosive action stamped him in a class of his own.

For ten years, Scotland's answer to Nat Lofthouse blasted his name into the goal charts for club and country. 'Bomber' Brown shelled them in for his local and first professional team, East Fife, and gave the English goal-keepers plenty of stick with his goals for Blackpool before being captured by Dally Duncan in 1956.

It was while he was at Kenilworth Road that Alan Brown clinched a life-long ambition to play in the F.A. Cup Final, but a 'blurred' team performance on the day left behind a bitter result for Luton.

For Alan Brown, however, the grief must have been far greater than for any other member of the side, for he could recall two previous occasions when his Cup luck ran out within shooting distance of the Twin Towers.

Alan, now manager of Bury, possessed great skill, judgment and ability but certainly no luck. His unenviable Cup hoodoo first caught up with him on the English circuit at Blackpool when the Seaside were booked for the second Wembley visit in the fantastic five-year spell between 1948 and 1953.

"Blackpool manager Joe Smith paid a reported £27,000 for my transfer from East Fife in 1950 and when the season was left with a few weeks to run in 1951, I was over the moon about my move because Blackpool were in the Final.

"What was more, I was booked to have a preview of Wembley only seven days before the game against Newcastle because I had been picked to play for Scotland. I never made either game. I remember feeling really sick at my luck the week before when I landed awkwardly at Huddersfield and ruptured a cartilage."

Alan's place went to an amateur—but only in status—Bill Slater, who later went on to captain Wolves to a Wembley triumph! Without Brown's firepower, Blackpool misfired and Newcastle won 2-0.

Little did Alan realise at the time that it was only the beginning of the jinx. Just two years later, Stanley



ALAN BROWN

Matthews and the 'tangerine terrors' had battled their way back again to probably the most gripping Final enacted at Wembley since the War when they overcame Bolton 4-3.

But fate again barred Alan from the distinction of a winners' medal after he had been largely responsible for getting the side there with the winning goal in the Sixth Round against Arsenal.

It was the most painful and expensive goal—from a career angle. "I slipped through Arsenal's defence and hit my shot just before Jack Kelsey came out and collided with me. The ball went into the back of the net and I went off to hospital with a broken leg.

"It was a tremendous day for me with Luton, in just being able to take part in a Cup Final after all the bad luck which had gone before. But I often wonder whether there was a curse or something on me in this respect."

Basically, Alan enjoyed a brilliant soccer role at the highest level and proved a personality and a stimulating player which the crowds readily warmed to. Alan first signed for East Fife in 1944. But in his first season he was called up and joined the Army.

"I immediately returned to East Fife after being demobbed in 1948 and the club won the Scottish League Cup and finished runners-up in the Scottish Cup. I wish my luck had stayed that way."

It was in 1949 that Alan first won international recognition when he played for the Scottish League side

against England. "The first of my 13 full caps arrived a year later when I was 23." Had it not been for the Services, 'bullet shot' Brown would have made it well before because, as Alan puts it. "I was three years away and then it took me another 12 months before I got back into the swing of things."

Life proceeded to move fast and favourable after that, with six successful years among club players of the Matthews, Mortenson, Mudie, Harry Johnston standard, and Billy Steel, Billy Liddell, George Young, Willie Woodburn, Jimmy Cowan, of the Scottish side.

"I thought the change would do me good in 1956 and though Luton were low in the First Division, I fancied my chance and I remember kicking off with them with two great wins over Leeds and Arsenal.

"Dally Duncan built a great side which should have won the Cup. But Luton failed and in the shake-up which followed in 1960, I went to Portsmouth for four years to play under the remarkable Jimmy Dickinson, who holds the record of 764 League appearances for one club."

It proved the final League club for Alan Brown, who then took a managerial 'apprenticeship' course with Wigan before being invited to become Luton's manager in 1967. "When I came, Luton were second from the bottom of the Fourth Division with gates around 4,000. It amounted to a huge challenge. But I knew the club and had confidence in it. My priority target was to avoid re-election and the team rallied to gain promotion the following year to the Third Division.

"On my dismissal in December, 1968, Luton were lying third from the top and I am convinced if I had been able to stay I could have taken them into Division Two."

After moving to Torquay for three years, Alan has now taken up the reins at Bury and his first move was to appoint a former Luton colleague, Jack Crompton, as his assistant.

His other signing since taking over has been George Heslop from Manchester City. "George played a big part in our nice League Cup run this season when we beat Manchester City before being unlucky against Chelsea. My aim is promotion for Bury this season and I still think we shall be one of the lucky four clubs."

# SCORES

## List One

Arsenal v W. B. Albion	A	
Coventry v Norwich	B	
C Palace v Man Utd	C	
Derby v Newcastle	D	
Everton v Tottenham	E	
Ipswich v Liverpool	F	
Leeds Utd v Birmingham	G	
Man City v Southampton	H	
Sheffield Utd v Leicester	K	
West Ham v Stoke	L	
Wolves v Chelsea	M	
Aston Villa v Orient	N	

# SCORES

## List Two

Blackpool v Sheff Wed.	A	
Bristol City v Burnley	B	
Carlisle v Brighton	C	
Fulham v Nottm Forest	D	
Hull v Cardiff	E	
Oxford v Swindon	F	
Portsmouth v Middlesbro	G	
QPR v Huddersfield	H	
Sunderland v Preston	K	
Bournemouth v Bristol R	L	
Charlton v Bolton	M	
Swansea v Watford	N	

# Viva wins 6-nil!

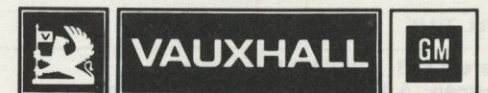
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# TEAMS

## LUTON TOWN

White Shirts, Black Shorts

- 1 KEITH BARBER
- 2 JOHN RYAN
- 3 BOBBY THOMSON
- 4 ALAN SLOUGH
- 5 JOHN FAULKNER
- 6 ALAN GARNER
- 7 JIMMY RYAN
- 8 PETER ANDERSON
- 9 BARRY BUTLIN
- 10 VIC HALOM
- 11 JOHN ASTON
- 12 RODNEY FERN

## MILLWALL

Red Shirts, White Shorts

- 1 BRYAN KING
- 2 DENNIS BURNETT
- 3 HARRY CRIPPS
- 4 ALAN DORNEY
- 5 BARRY KITCHENER
- 6 GORDON BOLLAND
- 7 STEVE BROWN
- 8 DEREK POSSEE
- 9 ALF WOOD
- 10 EAMONN DUNPHY
- 11 DOUG ALLDER
- 12

### GOALSCORERS

LUTON TOWN		MILLWALL	
HALF TIME		HALF TIME	
FULL TIME		FULL TIME	

Referee: R. B. KIRKPATRICK, Leicester

Linesmen: A. H. COOPER, Norwich, *Red Flag*  
I. J. MILLER, Swindon, *Orange Flag*

Mascot: Master J. Armstrong

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