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HARRY HASLAM

FACE TO FACE

ACTION '74



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# HARRYS TOWN



Last weekend we were at Newcastle and I had another chance to see Malcolm Macdonald play. What a good player he is. I am desperately sorry that Luton ever had to let him go. You can see why they call him Supermac at St. James's. To my way of thinking he IS Newcastle.

I know the deal was forced by circumstances, but I firmly believe that it was a sad day for Luton when Mac went north.

I just don't know how England can afford to leave him out of the side.

On Friday night Mac and I had a bit of fun at the Tyne Tees TV studios where we recorded a programme.

One of the producers came up to us with a list of prepared questions before we went on the air and told us what he was going to put to us. I told him not to bother. It ended with Mac and I doing a little chat show.

As we find ourselves in worse trouble week after week the strain becomes almost unbearable. And I feel sorry for the players. It is as bad for them as it is for me—perhaps worse.

They are trying like mad to do well, and I assure you that there is no lack of effort on anyone's behalf. They were all desperately upset about losing at Newcastle, and one of them came up to me afterwards and said: "It's going to be another lousy week, boss."

I know just how he felt. All the hard work, the training, the travelling and the game in which they might well have won a point and nothing. Just another defeat.

The lads worked hard at Newcastle. A lot of teams will go there and lose more than 1-0. The most annoying thing is that we went down to another daft goal. Silly mistakes in the goal-mouth are costing us dear. We are conceding too

many of these silly goals on the far post, and we are going to have to do something about it.

On the other hand all our best efforts met the sort of luck we have had all season. McFaul made two superb saves, and we went close on several occasions.

One of these days the ball will run for us and we'll have a win. Something's got to run for us sometime. Let's hope it's today. We could do with avenging that League Cup defeat at Sheffield earlier in the season.

It is a great problem getting new players without cash for this word is always cropping up, but I am sure that by hook or by crook we will secure some new faces. However, this will take time and with this in mind I would appreciate your backing of the lads which, to date, has been great. I hope that we can really give you something to shout about today.

I would like to register my disgust, along with many other people, at the B.B.C. screening of the Ali-Foreman fight at 2-50 pm on Saturday last. At the moment the game needs Supporters and, in my opinion, any organisation which takes Supporters and money away from football should be put in their place. I would have thought it would have been in the B.B.C's interests to assist football, not to hinder it. If we are going to get this lack of co-operation from organisations like the B.B.C. then it is time somebody put their foot down.

It seems to be common practice these days to take all you can out of football without giving anything back and here we have just another blatant example of how not to help professional football.

If any Supporters would like to write to me with their thoughts on this matter I would be grateful to receive your letters.



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# FACE TO FACE



**KEITH BARBER**

## Gerry Harrison of Anglia TV talks to Keith Barber



### **What was your background in amateur football, Keith?**

I played for Wandsworth Town in the Surrey Senior League and in a Sunday League as well. I was a lift engineer in those days, and we only trained on Tuesday nights. There were a few good players in the League; one or two permit players who had had experience with professional clubs. I had always played in goal. For about eight weeks I went down to Southampton for trials and played in the Hampshire League, but then they signed Sandy Davie—ironically enough from Luton—and they did not need another goalkeeper. Then I was asked to write to Harry Haslam and, through him, I was recommended to Dunstable Town.

### **What was life like for you at Dunstable?**

Busy! There was so much pressure on us each week that there was never a dull moment. We were stuck on the bottom of the League, although we did get one or two good results. However, it was a very good experience for me. The standard was higher than I had been used to and the game was more technical. I was doing a John Aston with them; training away from the club, in London. No, I did not mind travelling too much, but it was not an easy journey, particularly by train. I was at Dunstable for four months and then Luton offered to sign me full-time. As you can imagine, I was more than chuffed. I thought I had missed the boat because I was 22 then and most professionals are picked up straight from school. It was a great moment for me and life improved again when I moved to Luton. To get here for ten o'clock each morning for training was quite a sweat.

### **What do you remember about your League debut?**

Quite a bit. It was against Sheffield Wednesday at home ten weeks after I had signed professional. It was the year that Leicester City were promoted to the First Division and we had made a mess of things over Easter, losing three consecutive games. It was generally accepted that we couldn't go up and I was put into the side. I remember the butterflies; I had had them for 24 hours before the game. Shots were being hit at me from all directions and, of course, I well remember the shot which spun away from me and went in! But we drew 2-2 and I was pleased to be in a side which had not lost after such a bad run. I remember in particular the thousands of faces, all of them appearing to look at you when we went out. It was very different from amateur football and Dunstable Town!

### **Keith, how difficult is life for you on the field in the First Division?**

There is pressure on us, naturally. Most people did not expect us to do well and, let's face it, we haven't done so well. So, there's a lot of "I told you so's" round at the moment, but we have all learned a great deal and the spirit is good. No team will work harder than Luton, and what happens during the remainder of the season is, of course, up to us. I do not think we will go down, but we must take each match as it comes and try to avoid the fear of losing which gets you down in bad times. As a goalkeeper in the First Division, I suppose the same things apply as to the other players; any mistakes are punished. I mean, if you pushed out a shot in the Second Division, there is always a chance that one of your defenders will clear it, or you will be able to collect it yourself. But in the First Division you do not even get the chance to recover. There are players like Alan Clarke who live off these tap-ons and pick up 15 goals a season like that. There is obviously more technique in the First Division and players are quicker in the box.

### **Which part of your game are you most anxious to improve?**

Well, there is obviously one which has got to be improved and that is my dead-ball kicking. I just don't understand it. I have worked very hard on it and have had plenty of coaching from the training staff. I have watched how good kickers do it—players like Don Shanks and John Ryan, who hit a really good, long ball. I have put in many hours on this one, but I still can't guarantee to kick well every time. It all depends on the first one. If I get that one away well then things are usually okay. But if it is a bad one then I am in trouble. I never have been able to kick a dead-ball. The Boss is pretty good about it. He tells me not to take it to heart; just to get on with the game, but it is a worry for me and I dare say the team as well. It hasn't led to a disaster yet, but if I am kicking badly it is obviously very difficult for me not to let it affect the rest of my game.

### **What are your hobbies?**

Not decorating, I am certain about that! We have only recently moved into a new house and there is quite a bit of work that we want to do on it. Quite frankly, I would rather get someone in to do the job properly. The garden was a jungle when we moved in; grass and weeds three feet high. I got some terrible blisters trying to sort that out! I like watching all sports. I don't play golf, although I do like watching it. I quite often go to mid-week matches in London. I know Don Givens, who plays for Queen's Park Rangers, pretty well and go there if they have a game.

### **Like a few other Luton players, you have had experience of football for fun and football as a profession. What are some of the drawbacks to being a professional footballer?**

There is no doubt about it, it is a very good life and I love it. But there is a lot of nonsense talked about professional footballers. People seem to assume that once you sign on the dotted line you are automatically a £100 a week man. This is ridiculous. Even my friends and my own family have got the wrong impression about how much footballers earn and what the job entails. When I first signed, it was for £40 a week. I was delighted with that, I would have signed for £4 a week because I was doing something I love doing: playing football; and someone wanted to pay me for it. There are pressures on you which you wouldn't feel in another job. If you are feeling rough and you have to go into the office, you can either hide away somewhere or even take a day off. But you can't hide in professional football. If you are having a bad day, everyone can see and they usually make a mountain out of it. You must watch what you are doing all the time.



# INTRODUCING SHEFFIELD UNITED



Between December 1967 and March 1974, Sheffield United paid out around £250,000 in transfer fees—just enough probably for one good player nowadays. Yet that sum of money bought the club no less than thirteen players, all of whom are currently in United's senior squad—a squad which is said to be one of the most skilful and fittest in the First Division, and one which it is hoped will bring European football to Sheffield in 1975-76.

Manager Ken Furphy, who moved to Bramall Lane from Blackburn in December, 1973, to take over the duties vacated by John Harris, has plenty of talent lying at his fingertips, and most of his stars still have many more years ahead of them as professional footballers. Men like schemer-in-chief Tony Currie, the club-captain and former Watford man, who has eight full England caps to his name, plus others at Youth and under 23 levels; Scottish Under-23 goalkeeper Jim Brown, a £60,000 signing from Chesterfield last March; outside-left Tony Field, the club's costliest buy when signed from Blackburn for £75,000 towards the end of last season; Steve Cammack, a striker, who won several Youth caps for England; full-backs Alan Ogden, born at Rotherham and Steve Goulding, who originates from Conisbrough, near Barnsley; Terry Garbett, another ex-Blackburn Rover, and manager Furphy's first signing (Feb 1974); like Currie he was previously with Watford, as was 20-year-old Keith Eddy, who came to United in August, 1972; Micky Speight, who signed schoolboy forms in 1966, and turned 'pro' three years later; and Terry Nicholl, the former Crewe midfielder man.

On the experienced side Furphy has the evergreen Alan Woodward, a teenage discovery and a man with dynamite in his boots. United's top scorer last term when he took his testimonial. Has over 400 senior outings behind him.

At centre-half United have Eddie Colquhoun, a bargain at £25,000 when signed from West Bromwich Albion in 1968. A Scottish international and a native of Prestonpans (Bay City Roller country) Eddie started off with Bury and was unlucky to miss a League Cup Final (Cup-tied) and an F.A. Cup Final (injury) whilst with Albion. To date he has over 350 appearances under his belt for his three clubs.

Len Badger and Ted Hemsley form the full-back pairing. Len made his debut for United way back in 1963. A former Sheffield Boys and Young England player, he has made more than 400 League appearances for the 'Blades'. Ted is the cricketer of Worcestershire fame, and was signed from Shrewsbury in 1968. Has played in over 200 League games.

Centre-forward Billy Deardon spent all his early career in the Third and Fourth Divisions with Oldham Athletic and Chester, and he arrived at Bramall Lane in 1970.

And last but not least there is 'sweeper' John Flynn, who was lured from Workington in 1969. Another cricketer, who has made 130 senior appearances.

Those men then are out to bring long-awaited success back to Bramall Lane, a ground which first had a football kicked on it some 90 years ago—in 1884.

Sheffield United F.C., however, did not take up residence there until 1889—the year the club was



(BACK ROW) S. Goulding, E. Hemsley, S. Faulkner, S. H. Conroy, J. Brown, T. McAlister, L. Badger, T. Garbett, C. Franks, A. Ogden (FRONT ROW) A. Woodward, D. Bradford, T. Field, K. Eddy, A. Currie, E. Colquhoun, W. Dearden, T. Nicholl, M. Speight, G. France

formed. And it was not until 1892 that they became members of the Football League, being one of the original clubs which started off Division Two. Within a year they had won promotion to the First, where they remained undisturbed until 1934. Since then, though, they have been up, down, up, down, up, down and up again, living a strangely similar 'yo-yo' existence since the last war as their near neighbours, Wednesday.

Details of United's honours are worth recalling. They took the First Division title, for the only time to date, in 1897-98, were runners-up in 1896-97 and 1899-1900; Captured the Second Division title in 1952-53, and gained promotion as runners-up in 1892-93, 1938-39, 1960-61 and 1970-71.

It's perhaps in the F.A. Cup where United have flourished best. The coveted trophy found its way to Bramall Lane in 1899, 1902, 1915 and 1925, while in 1901 and 1936 they took the runners-up prize. United have reached the semi-final stage ten times.

But if one looks at all these dates carefully you will not find it hard to put your finger on United's greatest days—1897 to 1902—six seasons which saw them win the League once, finish second twice, take the F.A. Cup twice and lose in another final.

In 1904 Sheffield United had 12 internationals on their books—Foulke, Thickett, Boyle, Johnson, Morren, Needham, Wilkinson, Brown, Common,

Bennett, Priest and Lipsham. The first three named formed a mighty defensive trio. Foulke, the goalkeeper, weighed anything from 15 to 26 stone during his career which began with Sheffield United in 1894 and ended with Bradford City in 1907.

The immortal Ernest 'Nudger' Needham was an English giant of the game, a superb half-back who never intended to do a wrong deed. His nickname arose from his skill and tenacity in the tackle. He won 16 caps and served the 'Blades' for 22 seasons.

Later, in the 1920's, there followed the masterly left-wing partnership of Billy Gillespie, the tantalising Irishman who served the club from 1913 to 1931, winning 25 caps, and the elegant Fred Tunstall, winner of seven England caps and whose quick eye, speed and deadly shooting caused many a disturbance in even the most respected defences. In the same forward line was Harry Johnson, scorer of 205 League goals—a club record.

Later there came others in the distinguished procession. Irishman Jimmy Dunne replaced Johnson and netted more than 150 League and Cup goals before moving to Arsenal for £8,000 in 1933. His 41 First Division goals in 1930-31 is still the club record. Jimmy Hagan, an immensely skilful inside-forward, who acquired a reputation which put him alongside the all-time greats, was with United from 1938 to 1957. And not too long ago these were heroes in

United's line-up—goalkeeper Alan Hodgkinson, who totted up over 600 appearances, and the Shaw brothers, Graham the full-back and Joe the pivot, who between them amassed more than 1,000 senior appearances.

Up front the flying Colin Grainger, an entertainer in many ways, wore the number 11 shirt, and leading the attack was 'Doc' Pace, a never-say-die battler.

There is no getting away from it—Sheffield United have always had top notch players, and the reference books state that the club has always tried to play neat and attractive football.

Their 1974-75 team is living up to past standards and this afternoon it comes to Kenilworth Road full of confidence.

## FOR THE RECORD . . .

The results of our last two League meetings with United were as follows:

League Division Two—5th December, 1970  
LUTON TOWN 2, SHEFFIELD UNITED 1  
Scorers: Luton—Macdonald, Jim Ryan. United—Currie (penalty). Attendance: 19,655

League Division Two—6th February, 1971  
SHEFFIELD UNITED 2, LUTON TOWN 1  
Scorers: United—Woodward (2), Luton—Jim Ryan. Attendance: 30,386.



1

# ACTION

NEWCASTLE 1, LUTON 0

1. John Aston sets up an attack of his own.
2. Peter Anderson waltzes through the Newcastle defence closely watched by Brian Chambers.
3. So near—yet so far, Brian Chambers commiserates with Peter Anderson.



2

3



# SOUVENIR SHOP

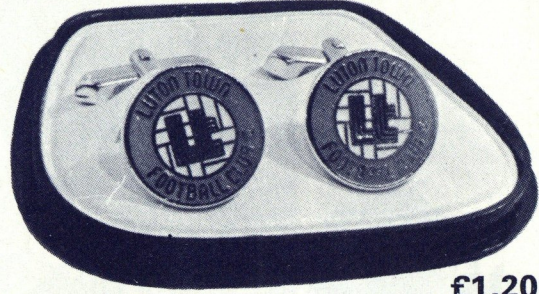
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'Luton Town' printed on one side and printed on the other: 'Promoted to Division One' — 'Oak Road' — 'Morecambe's Marauders' — Team Names.

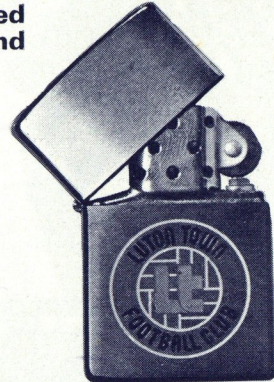
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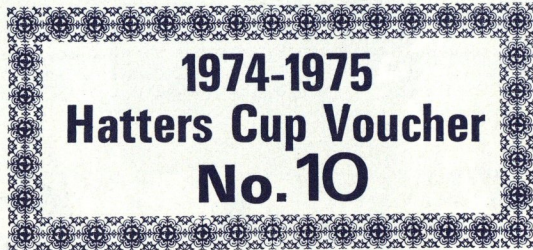
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# TOWN TRAVEL

**STOKE CITY  
v  
LUTON TOWN**

**SATURDAY, 16th NOVEMBER, 1974**

Leave Luton via Dunstable Road to M1 motorway. Follow signs Birmingham M1, at intersection 19 follow signs M6 the North West. Continue along M6 until intersection 15, A5006 Stoke and Newcastle. Leave motorway and proceed along A5006 to the Hanchurch intersection (A5006 and A519). At roundabout B5041 follow signs Stoke-on-Trent. Football ground is situated on the right hand side of the B5041, one-and-a-half miles past the Hanchurch roundabout. Total mileage: 114 miles.

Details kindly provided by the R.A.C.

*after the match why not visit*

# CÉSARS

TONIGHT  
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# RESERVE FOCUS

Football Combination—Saturday, 26th October  
**TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR 2, LUTON TOWN 2**

Scorers: Luton—Buckley (pen), King.

Team: Horn; John Ryan, Buckley; Pollock, Futcher P, O'Connor; Alston, Futcher R, Fuccillo, Russell. Substitute: Coyne.

Loose midfield marking enabled Spurs to take an early hold on the game and the expensive Alfie Conn and Irish international McGrath, looked dangerous. During this spell Horn made several good saves. However, his one mistake was punished when he misjudged a corner and Gibbons scored. Slowly we got back into the game and Ron Futcher was most unlucky with two tremendous drives just before half-time. Our display in the second-half was exhilarating to say the least. Getting on top from the word go, we bewildered Spurs with some superb attacking football. Lee, in the Spurs goal, was fantastic as shots rained in from all angles. Alston, John Ryan, King and Pollock were all desperately unlucky before Fuccillo was pulled down and Buckley tucked away the penalty. Almost immediately, King scored from Ryan's cross. Ron Futcher had a goal disallowed; and O'Connor missed an open goal.

With only seconds remaining, and Spurs in Luton's half for possibly the fifth time in the half,

Paul Futcher handled. Holder's free-kick was deflected by O'Connor past the stranded Horn.

Football Combination—Saturday, 2nd November  
**LUTON TOWN 4, BRISTOL ROVERS 1**

Scorers: Luton—Alston (2), Husband, O'Connor

Team: Horn; Coyne, Buckley; Pollock, Faulkner, Futcher P, O'Connor; King, Alston, Husband, Jim Ryan. Substitute: Fuccillo for Futcher after 35 minutes.

An enthusiastic and determined Bristol side ensured that we never had things easy despite the score-line. A goal in nine minutes gave us an early boost, followed by an Alston goal from a corner taken by Jim Ryan. Then Alston headed in his second goal and Buckley brought a super save out of Dick Sheppard with a 30-yard blockbuster. Towards half-time, a little casualness crept in and Fuccillo—substituting for Paul Futcher, who retired with a swollen ankle—was adjudged to have tripped Britten, a tricky outside-right, inside the penalty area. Britten scored to make the half-time result 3-1.

The second-half was brightened by some skilful Alston runs and some good overlapping by young Coyne, although Bristol had their fair share of the attacking. However, with two minutes to go Husband drove home a low shot.

# TOWN TALK

## F.A. YOUTH CUP

First Round—Wednesday, 30th October  
**ICKNIELD HARTS 0, LUTON TOWN 8**

Scorers: Luton—Russell, King (2, 1 pen), Simon, Ron Futcher (2), Chalmers (2).

Luton: Prosser; Coyne, Mead; Russell, Paul Futcher, King; Simon, Stewart, Ron Futcher, Biley, Chalmers. Substitute: Reed for Stewart after 72 minutes.

Harts: Dring; Butt, Weston, Maxwell, Hough; Haddow, Nicholson, Marvell, Clements, Barker, Andrews. Substitute: Nutting.

The First Round of the F.A. Youth Cup was held on 30th October at Hitchin Town's ground, with our boys competing against Icknield Harts.

The most pleasing feature of the game was the tremendous attitude and discipline shown by the lads, who completely outclassed their opponents. They are now beginning to work and play as a unit. They have a complete understanding and this result is surely a pointer to the future.

Whilst the local Press thought that as professionals the result was hardly surprising, we must take into account the fact that any form of Cup football is difficult and teams such as Icknield Harts were determined prior to the game to beat us. They certainly pulled out all the stops and

gave a very good account of themselves. Their young goalkeeper, Dring, whilst conceding eight goals, played extremely well and no doubt kept the score down and, but for him, it would surely have been double figures.

Another pleasing feature of the victory was the fact that Phil Prosser, our amateur goalkeeper from Cheltenham, kept a clean sheet and looked composed throughout the game. Also, young Phil Reed, our substitute, was playing against his old team, and when he came on for Iain Stewart he did well in his first competitive game for Luton Town.

Everyone at the club feels that we will do very well in the competition if we can continue to play as we did in the First Round.

It is also hoped that David Carr will be fit again soon after being out of the game with a knee injury. His return would certainly give even more strength to the side.

## TODAY'S MASCOT

Today's mascot is Matthew Ryan, of 3 Field End Close, Luton, who is eight years of age.

## HALF-TIME SCOREBOARD

This week we will not be using the half-time scoreboard, but we will endeavour to announce the scores over the public address system.



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Vauxhall  



# TEAMS

## LUTON TOWN

- 1 KEITH BARBER
- 2 DON SHANKS
- 3 BOBBY THOMSON
- 4 BRIAN CHAMBERS
- 5 STEVE LITT
- 6 ALAN GARNER
- 7 GORDON HINDSON
- 8 RODNEY FERN
- 9 PETER ANDERSON
- 10 ALAN WEST
- 11 JOHN ASTON
- 12

Colours: Shirts—Orange with a White & Navy Stripe.  
Shorts—Navy. Stockings—Orange

## SHEFFIELD UNITED

- 1 JIM BROWN
- 2 LEN BADGER
- 3 TED HEMSLEY
- 4 TERRY GARBETT
- 5 EDDIE COLQUHOUN
- 6 KEITH EDDY
- 7 ALAN WOODWARD
- 8 MICK SPEIGHT
- 9 BILL DEARDEN
- 10 TONY CURRIE
- 11 TONY FIELD
- 12

Colours: Shirts—Red & White Stripes. Shorts—Black.  
Stockings—White.

# SCORES

LIST ONE		SCORE
A	Burnley v Birmingham City	
B	Carlisle United v West Ham Utd	
C	Chelsea v Leicester City	
D	Coventry City v Leeds United	
E	Derby County v Q.P.R.	
F	Liverpool v Arsenal	
G	Manchester City v Stoke City	
H	Middlesbrough v Newcastle Utd	
K	Tottenham Hotspur v Everton	
L	Wolverhampton W v Ipswich T.	
M	Aston Villa v Notts County	
N	Hull City v Fulham	

LIST TWO		SCORE
A	Millwall v Bolton Wanderers	
B	Norwich City v Bristol Rovers	
C	Orient v Cardiff City	
D	Southampton v W B Albion	
E	Aldershot v Charlton Athletic	
F	Brighton H A v Swindon Town	
G	Bury v Crystal Palace	
H	Plymouth Argyle v Watford	
K	Brentford v Mansfield Town	
L	Crewe Alexandra v Southport	
M	Rochdale v Cambridge United	
N	Northampton Town v Chester	

## MAN IN THE MIDDLE

### M. V. SINCLAIR

(Guildford)

Malcolm Sinclair. Promoted to the referees' list after three years on the line. Began refereeing in the Isle of Wight and progressed through the Surrey Senior League and the Football Combination after moving to Guildford. Has refereed the England v Iceland Amateur international in 1970 and has officiated in the 1971 Anglo-Italian tournament. Linesman for the 1968 and 1970 F.A. Cup semi-finals and the European Cup in Russia. Married with two daughters he is chairman of the Guildford Referees' Society and a brick-layer by trade. His main interest outside the game is cricket.

Linesmen:

Mr K. J. CLARK, Chippenham, Orange Flag  
Mr E. M. L. JAMES, South Croydon, Red Flag

## FOOTBALL LEAGUE, DIVISION ONE

P	Home					Teams	Away					
	W	D	L	F	A		W	D	L	F	A	P
15	6	0	1	15	4	Liverpool	4	1	3	7	5	21
16	6	2	0	13	2	Ipswich Town	3	0	5	7	8	20
16	4	5	0	12	7	Everton	1	5	1	10	10	20
16	7	1	0	14	3	Manchester City	1	3	4	6	15	20
15	4	4	0	15	7	Stoke City	2	2	3	10	13	18
15	2	3	1	11	9	Middlesbrough	5	1	3	11	10	18
16	4	2	1	15	9	Derby County	2	4	3	9	13	18
16	6	2	1	16	10	Sheffield United	1	2	4	8	17	18
15	5	3	1	12	7	Newcastle United	1	2	3	8	13	17
16	5	1	2	20	9	West Ham United	1	3	4	8	16	16
16	5	1	3	17	13	Birmingham City	2	1	4	7	10	16
16	4	1	3	14	12	Burnley	3	1	4	10	13	16
16	2	3	2	11	9	Wolverhampton Wand	2	4	3	5	8	15
14	3	3	2	9	5	Leicester City	2	1	3	9	13	14
15	2	4	1	10	10	Coventry City	2	2	4	10	16	14
15	2	2	4	7	8	Queen's Park Rangers	2	3	2	8	9	13
16	3	1	3	5	4	Carlisle United	2	2	5	9	12	13
15	1	3	3	7	12	Chelsea	2	3	3	9	13	12
15	4	1	2	11	4	Leeds United	0	2	6	5	13	11
15	3	1	4	11	10	Tottenham Hotspur	1	2	4	8	13	11
15	2	3	2	11	6	Arsenal	1	1	6	4	14	10
16	1	3	4	8	13	LUTON TOWN	0	4	4	5	10	9

Up to and including Saturday, 2nd November, 1974

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