

PROGRAMME

ARADE

Luton Town have visited Turf Moor eighteen times since our first meeting back in 1897-98 and have only won twice, once in 1957-58 2-1 and in 1976-77 again 2-1. In cup games we defeated Town 3-1 at Turf Moor in a F.A. Cup fourth round tie back in 1935 and in 1947 on our way to Wembley we drew 0-0 at Kenilworth Road. Burnley won the replay 3-0 thanks to a Ray Harrison hat-trick.

The match we look at took place at Kenilworth Road on November 30th, 1974. Luton had been promoted to Division One, after finishing as runners-up in Division Two but had made a dreadful start to their first season in Division One since 1960. At the time they were bottom of Division One having only one victory and nine points. Burnley on the other hand were in a mid-table position and in their last game had beaten Newcastle United 4-1 with Peter Noble scoring a hat-trick, so it was no surprise when manager Jimmy Adamson named an unchanged side. Luton had recently sold full-back Don Shanks to Queens Park Rangers for £35,000.

Heavy rain meant the match was played on a muddy pitch but with Alan Stevenson, Peter Noble and Leighton James in fine form, the Clarets took the lead when James found Ian Brennan on the left wing and his cross was met by Ray Hankin who headed past Luton Town goalkeeper Keith Barber, to score his 50th league goal. Burnley continued to outplay Town but Luton got back into the match when Keith Newton misheaded John Aston's corner and John Faulkner equalised with a header. The sides went in level at half time.

Burnley started the second half by scoring in the 49th minute when James played a one-two with Billy Ingham. The Welsh international then hit a low shot from eight yards past Barber. Luton refused to lie down and again equalised when Jim Ryan's far post cross was met by Peter Spiring who headed past Stevenson.

In the 53rd minute Burnley regained the lead as James, in brilliant form, beat two defenders and his pass found Hankin who scored from ten yards out with a right foot shot, to make it 3-0. Luton brought on substitute Adrian Alston for the last fifteen minutes and the Australian had an effort cleared off the line by Noble, whilst Alan Stevenson made excellent saves from Spiring, Jim Ryan and in particular from ex-Claret Alan West's twenty yard rocket shot. 11,816 saw the Clarets victory and the two teams lined up: Luton Town — Barber, John Ryan, Faulkner, Garner, Thomson, John Ryan, Anderson, West, Husband, Spiring, Aston. Sub: Alston (replaced Husband — 75 minutes).

Burnley — Stevenson, Newton, Waldron, Rodaway, Brennan, Ingham, Noble, Collins, Hankin, Fletcher, James. Sub — Flynn (not used).

Luton's programmes had a bright orange, blue and white cover, contained 16 pages and was priced at 10p. The content included a two page feature on Alan West, two pages on Burnley and two pages of statistics.

