

BOLTON WANDERERS

FFICIAL PROGRAMME 100



SECOND DIVISION

LUTON TOWN

Saturday, 11th December, 1976 Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

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Welcome to today's visitors Luton Town who come to Burnden after the Wanderers had a blank Saturday last weekend.

The game at Hereford, as you know, was called off on the Saturday morning because the pitch was frozen. And in spite of the home club's attempts to get the game on by using braziers to try to soften the ground, the referee had no alternative but to call it off.

He did this in an attempt to prevent Bolton fans travelling. We did manage to stop the coaches leaving and I hope that none of you travelling by road made a needless journey.

For it was a really bad weekend with road conditions dreadful and it would not have been to our advantage if the game had been on judging by what I saw on television.

Football is not really meant to be played on grounds where there is not a studhold for the players.

Since my last programme notes the youth team beat Manchester United 3-0 in the FA Youth Cup at Burnden and they gave a very good performance indeed.

And, of course, the first team won their way into the semi-finals of the League Cup by beating First Division

Derby County at the Baseball Ground

One of the youngsters, 16 years old

Mike Carter made the trip south for

the Hereford game as part of the first-

There is a long time between now and the first leg of the semi against Everton at Goodison Park in mid-

And we want to get our priorities right. I have banned the players from even talking about the League Cup until the week before the game.

Today we have a tough task on our hands against Luton and we will be doing our best to give our fans a treat.

There will not be another chance before Christmas for me to pen these notes, so I would like to wish you all, on behalf of the players, staff and directors of Bolton Wanderers, a very merry Christmas and — thanks for coming!

The Front Page picture is by courtesy of the Bolton Evening News

Ian Greaves

Bolton Wanderers F. & A. Co. Ltd.

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Telephone: BOLTON 21101

Telegrams: "Wanderers", Bolton

Second Division

Tuesday, December 21st, 1976

Bolton Wanderers v Luton Town

Tonight we play the game against Luton Town which was postponed a couple of weeks ago because of heavy snow on the Burnden Park pitch.

As well as welcoming our visitors I would like to say how well our fans did in supporting us at Hereford in spite of the match being called off twice because of the weather.

These notes are written as a supplement to the original programme for the Luton game since we have only played once since the December 11th postponement and that was at Hereford.

There are a number of ticket arrangements over the Christmas and New Year holidays which fans should know about.

The home game against Nottingham Forest on 27th December is all-ticket for the Centre and Burnden Stands only. These are on sale now, so don't be disappointed by missing out.

Tickets will be on sale shortly for the game at Sheffield United on 28th December, and this game starts at 7-30 p.m. with the Forest one at 3 p.m.

On 1st January, Carlisle are visitors and there are no special ticket arrangements being made.

The FA Cup third round takes us to West Ham on 8th January, and I have been asked to point out that Bolton supporters should use the South Bank End at Upton Park with the turnstiles in Castle Street. Entry costs 70p.

There will be some stand seats available for the game at West Ham, but these will be few in number because of the limited seating accommodation there.

Back to tonight's game. I look forward to an entertaining match as a prelude to our hectic programme over the next few weeks.

Ian Greaves

RESULTS FOR SATURDAY, 18th DECEMBER, 1976. Week No. 19

CL 128 — 1st Prize £100. Mr. K. Grime, 36 Conniston Ave., Farnworth. Agent: Mr. Kirby receives £10.

AR 317 - 2nd Prize £40. R. Harper, 7 Chorley New Road, Horwich

Agent: Mr. Harper receives £4.

BC 078 — 3rd Prize £20. Mrs. S. Rose, 18 Vernon Street, Farnworth.
Agent: D. J Edwards receives £2.

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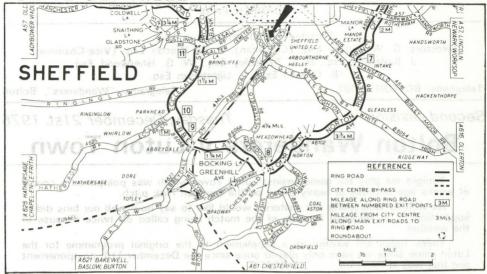
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HOW TO GET THERE



Fans travelling to Sheffield United by road on Tuesday, 28th December, are advised by the RAC to take the following route:—

A666(M)/M61/M62/M63 (follow 'Stockport' signs) to Cheadle junction A560 (18 miles).

A560 (fork right in half mile at Farmers Arms traffic lights) to Stockport junction A6 (20 miles).

A6 via Disley and Whaley Bridge to Chapel-en-le-Frith junction A625 (35 miles).

A625 via Mam Tor, Castleton, Hope and Hathersage to Sheffield (53 miles).

Follow A625 (Eccleshall Road) into Sheffield. Sheffield United football ground (Bramall Lane) is on your right at St. Mary's roundabout.

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Wolves	19	6	94/	3	24	11	3	5	1	21	14	24	
Notts Forest	19	6	3	1	31	15	3	3	3	10	7	24	
Blackpool	19	5	1	3	14	11	4	5	1	18	12	24	
BOLTON WANDERERS	18	7	0	1	16	7	3	3	4	15	16	23	
Sheff. Utd.	19	4	5	1	14	9	2	3	4	8	14	20	
Fulham	19	5	3	2	18	10	1	4	4	11	16	19	
Bristol Rovers	19	5	3	2	18	12	2	2	5	10	16	19	
Oldham Athletic	17	6	3	0	18	9	1	2	- 5	5	16	19	
Charlton	17	6	1	2	25	14	1	3	4	11	17	18	
Millwall	17	- 5	1	3	16	8	3	1	4	11	14	18	
Blackburn	18	5	1	2	12	5	3	1	6	6	19	18	
Luton Town	17	4	2	2	12	10	3	1	5	15	16	17	
Hull City	17	5	3	0	17	6	0	4	5	4	15	17	
Southampton	19	3	5	2	17	15	2	1	6	14	21	16	
Notts County	17	3	1	4	7	10	4	1	4	18	20	16	
Carlisle	20	4	4	2	16	13	2	0	8	8	25	16	
Cardiff	19	3	3	4	12	16	2	2	5	13	17	15	
Burnley	18	3	5	2	16	14	1	1	6	6	15	14	
Plymouth	19	2	4	4	13	12	1	4	4	10	19	14	
Orient	17	1	2	4	7	9	2	4	4	10	15	12	
Hereford	18	102	3	4	14	20	1	2	6	12	21	11	

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Pen Pics

LUTON TOWN

TONY KNIGHT - Only 17, but already given the responsibility of understudy to Keith Barber. Luton signed him as an apprentice in the summer of 1975 after he had aroused the attentions of several clubs while playing for Romford Schoolboys.

STEVE BUCKLEY - He was a freescoring left winger with Southern League club Burton Albion when Luton stepped in to buy him for the bargain price of £2,000 in the summer of 1974. Within six months he had been converted into a First Division fullback, and has been Luton's left back ever since his impressive debut.

PAUL FUTCHER — Luton equalled their record transfer fee when they paid £100,000 for Futcher in the summer of 1974. He was still only 17, and with only a handful of Fourth Division games behind him with Chester, his home town club.

RON FUTCHER — Twin brother of Paul, and identical in looks. When Luton paid £25,000 for him, it was generally reckoned that he had been transferred from Chester just because the boys wanted to stay together. But Ron soon made his mark. He was thrown in at the deep end when Luton were struggling in the First Division and marked his debut with a winning

ALAN WEST - Luton broke all club records when they splashed out to buy West from Burnley in October, 1973, and he and Jim Husband, who was signed a few weeks later, helped the club to win promotion to the First Division within six months.

PAUL PRICE — Another player snapped up as a youngster, defender Price has had to fight harder than most to break through - he broke a leg early in the 1974-75 season, fought his way back to fitness, then broke it again. Made his League debut last season.

PASQUALE FUCCILLO - Son of Italian parents who settled at Bedford, players and supporters at Kenilworth Road give this strong midfield player the nickname of "Lil" to overcome their difficulties with his tonge-twisting nickname. He scored on his debut in February, 1976, and shows every sign of being a regular marksman.

BRIAN CHAMBERS - A Geordie, Chambers made his name and reputation as a midfield player at Sunderland, and they collected £70,000 for him when he was transferred to Arsenal in 1973. But he never broke through to the First team at Highbury, and Luton got him for £30,000 only a year later, when he was 25.

JOHN FAULKNER - Don Revie was the first man to give Faulkner a League chance, he was the centre-half in the Sutton United team that played Leeds in an FA Cup-tie, and Revie immediately bought him. But he was unlucky at Leeds, and a broken leg threatened to end his career. He overcame it, joined Luton for £6,000, and has been a regular member of Luton's defence ever since.

JOHN "DIXIE" DEANS - Luton Town's major close-season signing, they paid £20,000 to bring Deans over the border after he had had four spectacular seasons with Glasgow Celtic. His sharpness in front of goal soon earned him the inevitable nickname of Dixie at Celtic, where he scored 83 League goals in 110 appearances.

JOHN ASTON — Like his famous father before him, also named John Aston, John broke into professional football with Manchester United, and achieved international fame on United's left wing in their European Cup Final triumph against Benfica at Wembley in 1968. A broken leg interrupted his career at Old Trafford and Luton stepped in to secure his services for £30,000 in July, 1972.

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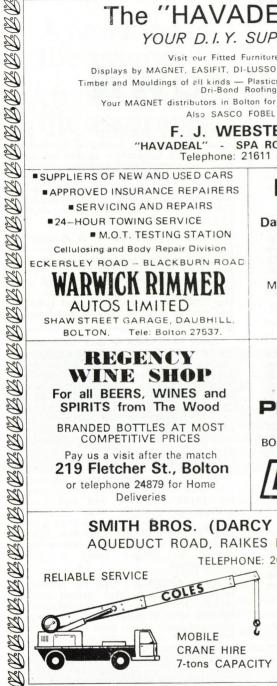
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Today's Visitors

Luton manager Harry Haslam, who led the club into the First Division in 1974 has one of the most unenviable iobs in soccer-the more he succeeds. the more likely he is to have his team broken up!

Over the past 12 months or so he has been forced to sell no fewer than 14 players, simply to keep the club's creditors at bay. In spite of this, he still has a team playing the sort of football which could win promotion again this season.

But here is the crunch. Because of the performances of two players in particular - defender Paul Futcher and midfield man Alan West - the club may be tempted to accept an offer like Newcastle's £300,000 for the pair.

While such a deal would virtually solve all Luton's financial problems, it would only lead to more frustration for Mr. Haslam, who complains: "Iwant to build another promotion team and to do that I need these players".

Luton are thus in a most difficult situation but if Mr. Haslam has been able to persuade his board - and, through them, the bank - that the long-term interests of the club would be better served by Luton returning to the First Division we may today still see Paul Futcher lining up with John Faulkner or Graham Jones at the centre of Luton's defence.

Jones, who was tried in the closing match last season, was given another chance against Millwall last month.

The departure of John Ryan to Norwich gave Mr. Haslam the opportunity to give an extended run at right back to Paul Price who was rewarded for his long wait in the reserves when he was called up for first-team duty for the closing matches of last season. Left-back Steve Buckley first made his way into the Luton side as understudy for England defender Bobby Thomson in October, 1974.

Luton's goalkeeper is Keith Barber who has been holding the position, with one break, since 1971. But he was injured at Notts County a fortnight ago when striker Dixie Deans went in goal. Luton still won 4-0!

The midfield choice will probably rest between Alan West - if he is

still at Kenilworth Road - Pasquale Fuccillo Brian Chambers and Ricky

Luton's level top scorer, with six goals, is Dixie Deans, a striker signed from Celtic this summer for the amazingly modest fee of only £20,000. Dixie was a scoring sensation with the Celts, topping their scorers in two of his first three seasons when his lowest tally was 27. He was in three Cupwinning teams for Celtic, scoring hattricks in two finals and a single in the other, and he won three Scottish championship medals. Dixie played for Scotland against East Germany and Spain in 1974.

Luton's other forwards are Jimmy Husband, Ron Futcher and John Aston.

Luton have won three away games this season — at Burnley (2-1), Wolves (2-1) and Notts Co. (4-0). They collected a point from a 1-1 draw at Carlisle, but lost at Hull (1-3), Charlton (3-4), Plymouth (0-1), Blackburn (0-1) and Millwall (2-4).

The Hatters also lost 1-3 at Sunderland in the Legue Cup.

It is only 2½ years since Luton last won promotion to the First Division. They struggled from the beginning in the higher section but then made such a magnificent late recovery that it seemed they might survive. In the end a win by Tottenham, over Leeds in their last game, put Luton down.

Relegation accentuated the club's financial problems and revelations of huge debts put the club's future in grave doubt. But by slashing administrative staff, selling players and coming to special arrangements with creditors, the club was able to carry on.

In view of all that has happened it is something of a miracle that Luton are not in deep trouble at the bottom of the table. The shock of learning about the club's true position did. however, strengthen the resolve of manager Haslam and his players.

They would not allow Luton Town to die; not even subject the club to a living death. Today Luton hold their heads high for they are still sufficiently well placed to win one of the three promotion places.

WHAT A CHOICE SATURDAY

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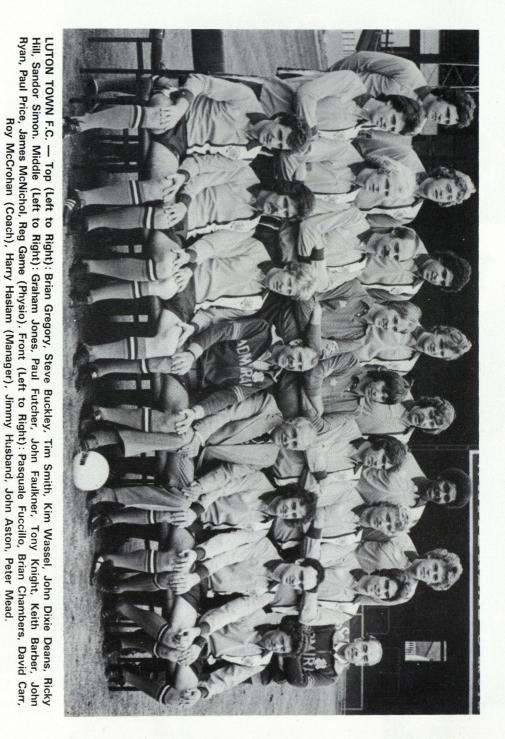
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Wanderers' midfield man Brian Smith (top) lays on the first goal in the 2-1 League Cup quarter final win at Derby County. And (below) Neil Whatmore has a shot blocked by Derby County's Henry Newton with Steve Taylor (left) looking on.







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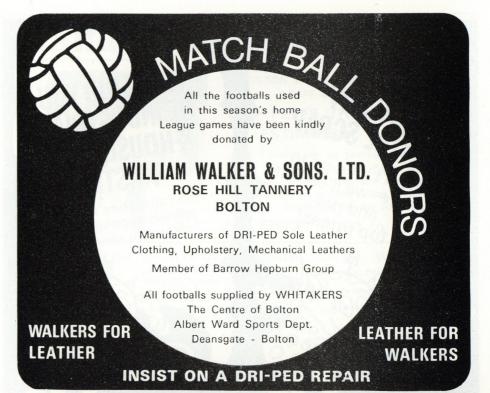
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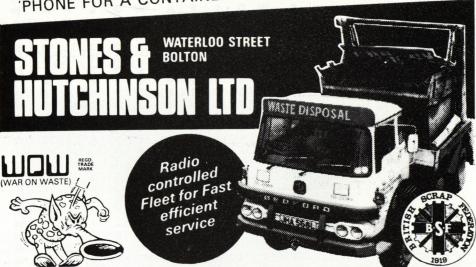




SECOND DIVISION

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Blackpool	18	5	1	3	14	11	4	4	1	15	9	23
BOLTON WANDERERS	16	7	0	1	16	7	3	2	3	12	12	22
Wolves	17	5	1	3	23	11	3	4	1	18	11	21
Notts Forest	17	6	2	1	30	14	2	3	3	8	7	21
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Carlisle	18	3	4	2	12	10	2	0	7	7	23	14
Plymouth	17	2	3	4	13	12	1	3	4	9	18	12
Hereford	16	2	2	3	9	14	1	2	6	12	21	10
Orient	15	1	1	4	7	9	1	4	4	7	13	9





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BURNDEN DATES

CENTRAL LEAGUE:- RESERVES v HUDDERSFIELD

SATURDAY, 18th DECEMBER, 1976

Kick-off 3 p.m.

SECOND DIVISION:-WANDERERS V NOTTINGHAM FOREST

MONDAY, 27th DECEMBER, 1976

Kick-off 3 p.m.

Admission for the Forest game will be by ticket only to the Manchester Road and Burnden Stands.

The Centre Stand and the rest of the ground will be pay at the turnstiles. Tickets will be on sale from Monday.

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WHARFEDALE

LEAK CELESTION YAMAHA

NATIONAL

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Westhoughton - Bolton

SHEET METAL & PLATE

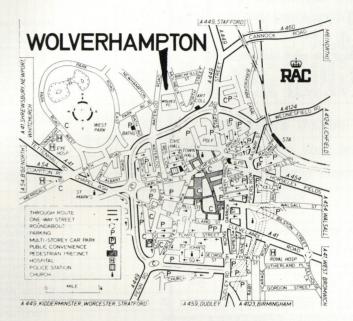
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How to get there...



The R.A.C. have issued the following route for fans travelling by road to the Wanderers' game at Wolverhampton next Saturday.

Leave Bolton on A666(M)/M61/M62 (follow 'Liverpool' and 'M6 South' signs) to intersection 21a, M6 at Croft, (16 miles).

M6 south to intersection 12, junction A5. (76 miles).

A5 for 1 mile (follow 'Wellington' signs) to Gailey, junction with A449. (77 miles).

A449 to Wolverhampton. (85 miles).

Entering Wolverhampton on the A449 (Stafford Road) take the second exit at the roundabout into Waterloo Road North. Wolverhampton Wanderers' ground. Molineux, is on your left in about half a mile.

Meet the Referee...

BERT NEWSOME (Broseley, Shropshire). - Started refereeing in the Army, then progressed through local Shropshire Leagues, Midland Intermediate and Central Leagues to the Football League. Refereed the 1974 England v Wales vouth international and lined the France v Spain international in Paris in 1961. Officiated in Italy for the 1972 Anglo-Italian competition. His interests are Gardening, home decorating, cooking, most sports and antiques. He is a national distribution manager.

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CENTRAL LEAGUE 1976-77

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1977

Teams in CAPITALS Denote Home Games

The Goldfish Bowl

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Lancashire dishes for Lancashire folk and friends visiting Burnden Park

GOOD FOOD **GOOD PRICES**

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HALF-TIME SCOREBOARD

FIRST DIVISION

- A-Birmingham v Sunderland
- B-Coventry v Everton
- C-Derby v West Ham
- D-Leeds v Aston Villa
- E—Liverpool v Q.P.R.
- F-Man Utd v Bristol City
- G-Middlesbro v Arsenal
- H-Newcastle v Ipswich
- I-Norwich v Stoke
- J-Spurs v Man. City
- K-West Brom, v Leicester

SECOND DIVISION

- M-Blackburn v Sthampton
- N-Blackpool v Hereford
- O-Bristol Rov v Carlisle
- P—Cardiff v Hull
- Q-Chelsea v Wolves
- R-Millwall v Notts Forest
- S-Notts Co. v Burnley
- T—Oldham v Charlton
- U-Orient v Fulham
- V-Plymouth v Sheff. Utd.
- W-
- X—Bury v Shrewsbury

WANDERERS

Shirts: White Shorts: Blue

- 1. McDONAGH, Jim
- 2. NICHOLSON, Peter
- 3. DUNNE, Tony
- 4. GREAVES, Roy
- 5. JONES, Paul
- 6. ALLARDYCE, Sam
- 7. MORGAN, Willie
- 8. WHATMORE, Neil
- 9. TAYLOR, Steve
- 10. REID, Peter
- 11. SMITH, Brian

Sub.:

LUTON TOWN

Shirts: Orange Shorts: Blue

- 1. KNIGHT, Tony
- 2. PRICE, Paul
- 3. BUCKLEY, Steve
- 4. CHAMBERS, Brian
- 5. FAULKNER, John
- FUTCHER, Paul
 DEANS, John
- 8. WEST, Alan
- 9. FUTCHER, Ron
- 10. FUCCILLO, Pasquale
- 11. ASTON, John

Sub.:

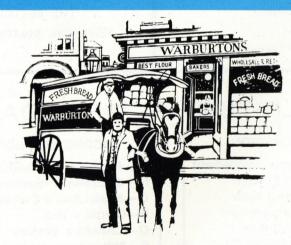
Referee:

C. L. NEWSOME (Broseley, Shropshire)

RED FLAG S. LEAVER (Preston) LINESMEN

YELLOW FLAG

C. J. RILEY (Stafford)



1876 - 1976

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