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Charlton Athletic FC, The Valley, London, SE7 01-858 3711/2

LUTON TOWN are our welcome visitors this afternoon and we shall be hoping for the tonic of a much needed victory to end our recent bleak spell.

The Hatters have been on the fringe of the Second Division promotion race for most of the season but suffered a setback when they lost at home to Oldham Athletic on Saturday.

On Monday the Colts drew 1-1 with Croydon in the third round of the FA Youth Cup and the replay will take place at Croydon on Wednesday, January 25. The winners are away to Peterborough in the next round.

After a goalless first half Charlton took the lead through Michael McCarthy but Croydon equalised from a penalty scored by Tony Welsh.

As a result of the replay the reserves Midweek League Cup replay with Brighton and Hove Albion at the Goldstone Ground on Wednesday had to be postponed. The reserves have a match at The Valley on

Tuesday when Cambridge United are the visitors.

Last Saturday the Colts beat Watford away in a South East Counties League game and this morning they entertained Norwich City at New Eltham.

In the London Youth Cup the Colts have been drawn away to West Ham United.

On Saturday, February 4 we make the short journey to Brisbane Road to play Orient and we then have two matches against Oldham on Friday night, February 10 and Millwall on Saturday, February 18. The Millwall match is subject to their Cup result against Luton at The Den next week as the fifth round is scheduled for this date.

We would like to take this opportunity of welcoming our new player Terry Brisley to The Valley. Terry who is 26 joined us on Wednesday from Millwall and previously played for another London club Orient.

Terry and his wife Jill live near Brentwood, Essex and have a 2-week-old daughter, Gemma.

FOCUS ON DIVISION TWO

Second Division "gates" are booming

SINCE we last reported, over a month ago, the average attendance at Second Division matches this season has increased from 13,713 to 14,033.

If this current average is maintained, aggregate attendances for the season will total nearly 6,500,000-a figure that has only been exceeded once in the past five seasons, and over 230,000 more than last term.

It's nice to report that The Valiants have participated in the boom! Our average home League "gate" is 13,651 which is over 2,500 up on last season, and the highest average we've achieved for several seasons. We are one of only nine clubs in the Division who, on average, play in front of higher crowds at home than away.

Seven Clubs, including Charlton, have housed at least one crowd in excess of 30,000.

In all, there have been seventeen 30,000 plus "gates" in Second Division League football to date, and the 'Spurs have participated in all, barring four, of the big crowd pulling games.

The highest League crowds up to last Saturday are: 48,613 Spurs v Brighton, 40,277 Crystal Palace v Spurs, 37,873 Spurs v Southampton, 36,288 Spurs v Mansfield, 33,211 Spurs v Crystal Palace.

Bob Hatton - new top Divisional scorer

FOLLOWING his "hat-trick" against you-know-who last Saturday, Blackpool striker Bob Hatton went one goal ahead of our own Mike Flanagan to become the Second Division's current leading scorer with 17 goals.

It was the third "hat-trick" of the season for Bob, having hit three against Orient at Brisbane Road in August, and another treble at home against Cardiff in October.

Another player Charlton are glad to see the back of for another season is Hatton's colleague Micky Walsh. The Eire International

has played six times against The Valiants and has scored in every match, and his personal tally against us now stands at eight goals.

The following players have hit the most goals in Second Division football this season:

Bob Hatton (Blackpool) 17; Mike Flanagan (Charlton) 16; Peter Kitchen (Orient) 15; Neil Whatmore (Bolton) 13; John Duncan (Spurs) 12; Steve Taylor (Oldham) 12.

Second Division attendances (number of games shown in brackets)

HOME	Total	Average	AWAY	Total	Average
Spurs	386,351(12)	32,196	Spurs	288,754(13)	22,212
Sunderland	323,008(12)	26,917	Bolton	224,717(13)	17,286
Brighton	292,925(12)	24,410	Brighton	223,215(13)	17,170
C. Palace	275,184(12)	22,932	Luton	197,662(12)	16,472
South'm'ton	241,652(12)	20,138	South'm'ton	204,437(13)	15,726
Bolton	239,150(12)	19,929	Burnley	184,755(12)	15,396
Sheff. Utd	221,966(13)	17,074	Fulham	177,903(12)	14,825
Stoke	182,868(12)	15,239	Sunderland	188,994(13)	14,538
Charlton	150,165(11)	13,651	C. Patace	185,311(13)	14,255
Burnley	147,534(13)	11,349	Blackburn	182,645(13)	14,050
Blackpool	141,656(13)	10,897	Sheff, Utd	156,415(12)	13,035
Blackburn	126,748(12)	10,562	Cardiff	141,017(11)	12,820
Mansfield	126,770(13)	9,752	Bristol R.	153,683(12)	12,807
Fulham	124,308(13)	9,562	Mansfield	150,949(12)	12,579
Millwall	112,413(12)	9,368	Oldham	162,144(13)	12,473
Notts, Co	120,020(13)	9,232	Hull	149,004(12)	12,417
Luton	119,238(13)	9,172	Notts, Co	145,754(12)	12,146
Oldham	107,811(12)	8,984	Orient	142,692(12)	11,891
Orient	107,805(13)	8,293	Millwall	154,516(13)	11,886
Hull	103,609(13)	7,970	Blackpool	140,802(12)	11,734
Cardiff	98,702(13)	7,592	Stoke	149,091(13)	11,469
Bristol R.	95,141(13)	7,319	Charlton	140,564(13)	10,813
TOTAL	3,845,024(274	1) 14,033	TOTAL 3	3,845,024(274	14,033

Peter Burrowes BEHIND THE SCENES

MR DENIS FOLLOWS, one of the club's directors, who is chairman of the British Olympic Association, will be leaving on February 7 on a short trip to South America to raise money to help finance Great Britain's participation in the Olympic Games which will be held at Lake Placid, USA (Winter Games) and Moscow (Summer Games) in 1980.

He hopes to increase the individual membership of the BOA (annual subscription £2.50p) and to raise at least £1,000 from the British Community in each of the cities of Lima, Bogota, and Caracas which sum is estimated to pay for the cost of participation of one competitor in the Olympics.

This initial venture organised in co-operation with British Caledonian Airways, the flag-carrier in South America is in the nature of a pilot scheme which if successful will be repeated in other parts of the world.

At least £500,000 is required to finance participation in the Olympic Games — much more if the team is to receive the sort of preparation training which is common to competitors from other countries.

If anyone wishes to help by becoming a member they may do so by writing to the British Olympic Association, 1-2 John Princes Street, London W1.

OLDER supporters will share our sadness following the recent death of one of our former players Fred Whitlow who died recently at the age of 73 on Barry Island.

Fred was one of the most dynamic strikers to wear a Charlton shirt. In his two spells at The Valley he hit 60 goals in only 95 League matches and was a member of our 1929 Third Division South Championship team.

When Fred left The Valley in 1931 to join Exeter City he was no less successful amassing another 62 goals in 86 League matches. In all Fred played 190 League games and scored 123 goals.

ON SOME recent travels to other League grounds I have met up with some former Charlton favourites.

A visitor to the recent Orient—Norwich FA Cup tie at Brisbane Road was Eddie Firmani our former player and Manager who is now boss of the largest American club,

Cosmos of New York. Eddie who is looking as fit as ever is hunting for new players before the start of the American soccer season.

At Millwall I spotted our former midfield player Dennis Booth who is now captaining Fourth Division leaders Watford. Dennis who played for Southend and Blackpool after leaving The Valley joined Watford from Lincoln City a few weeks ago.

DUE MAINLY to a lack of interest by other clubs the proposed football tournament to Majorca in May which would have included supporters has had to be postponed. We are sorry for any inconvenience or disappointment this may cause to those Charlton fans who intended making the weeks trip.

SEASON TICKET holders should note that tickets for the Football League Cup Final at Wembley Stadium on Saturday, March 18 are now available.

Seats are priced at £7, £6 and £5 and standing tickets are £2.

Any season ticket holders interested should make

application by January 27. A stamped addressed envelope should be included with all postal applications.

Application should also be made for the England v Brazil match at Wembley on Wednesday 19th April. Seats priced at £8, £6, £5, £4, standing £2. Applications must arrive at The Valley not later than January 27th.

THERE WILL be a collection at today's match for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and you are asked to contribute as generously as possible.

WE REGRET to announce the recent death of a Charlton supporter Mr James Palmer who attended almost every match at The Valley during the past 41 years and was a familiar figure behind the open end goal.

Mr Palmer who was 68 was buried recently and the floral tributes were in red and white, the colours of his favourite football team.

Our Guests

Luton Town

MILIJA ALEKSIC (Goalkeeper): Luton paid £20,000 to Plymouth in January 1977 for Aleksic's services, and the fee turned out to be a bargain. Aged 24, he is the son of Yugoslav parents, but born in the north of England, he broke into football as a parttimer with Stafford Rangers.

PAUL PRICE (Defender): His hopes of a career in League soccer had to overcome a double disaster before he made the grade — recruited by Luton as a youngster he was on the verge of success when he broke his leg. He fought his way back to fitness, only to break it again. He battled back again, and his performances at right back have made him Luton's first-choice ever since.

JOHN FAULKNER (Defender): Has given Luton sterling service since they paid £6,000 for him in March 1972. He emerged from obscurity as centre-half in the Sutton United team that played Leeds. Don Revie signed him on, but a broken leg interrupted his career at Elland Road. He has been a regular member of the Luton defence for five years.

PAUL FUTCHER (Defender): One of the brightest prospects in League football today, Luton paid a record transfer fee when they paid £100,000 for him in the summer of 1974, from Chester, his home town club. He has already been capped by England at under-21 level. Paul is now almost fit after a serious car crash.

DAVID CARR (Defender): After learning his trade in defence or midfield in youth and reserve teams, Carr is now competing for regular first-team football following Steve Buckley's recent departure to Derby. He comes from Margate, and became an apprentice at Luton when he left school in 1973.

GRAHAM JONES (Defender): Signed as an apprentice in the summer of 1975. Big and brave, he made rapid strides through Luton's lower teams, and made his League debut at the age of 17. Originally played as a back four defender, he has also sampled League soccer in midfield.

PASQUALE FUCCILLO (Midfield): Son of Italian parents who settled at Bedford, midfield dynamo Fuccillo — "Lil" to his friends and the Luton fans — joined Luton as a 16-year-old apprentice in the summer of 1973. Marked his League debut with a goal and has been a regular marksman ever since.

ALAN WEST (Midfield): Out of the side with an injury, he is Luton's club captain and is one of the many stars to emerge from the "production line" of Burnley. An England under-23 international, he joined Luton for £100,000 from Burnley in October 1973.

RICKY HILL (Midfield): Had a fairy-tale start to his League career. Signed as an apprentice from schools football in North London, he made it into the League team within a year and celebrated his debut by

scoring once and laying on another goal. Now 19, he has been capped by England at youth level.

JIM HUSBAND (Striker): Joined Luton in November 1973 with a string of honours already collected with Everton, A Geordie, he was capped by England as a schoolboy, as a youth, and at under-23 level, and hit 75 goals for Everton before moving to Luton for a £70,000 fee.

PHIL BOERSMA (Striker): It was the end of a patient search for talent by Luton boss Harry Haslam when he signed striker Boersma from Middlesbrough in July 1977. Three years previously Haslam had tried to persuade Liverpool to part with the player. He failed, and later went to Middlesbrough, and Haslam finally got his man two years later.

RON FUTCHER (Striker): Twin brother of Paul and identical in looks. When Luton paid £25,000 for him it was thought that he had been transferred from Chester because the boys wanted to be together, but Ron soon made his mark with a hat-trick in his second First Division game.

BRIAN STEIN (Striker): Signed as a professional on 19 October 1977 and in less than three weeks had made his debut at Old Trafford in the League Cup replay against Manchester City. Born in Cape Town but educated in London, Brian previously played for Edgware Town in the Athenian League.



Standing (left to right): Reg Game (Physio), David Carr, Graham Jones, Jimmy McNichol, John Faulkner, Milija Aleksic, Tony Knight, Paul Futcher, Paul Price, Steve Buckley (now with Derby County), Roy McCroham (Coach) now in USA). Seated (left to right): Ricky Hill, Jimmy Husband, Tim Smith, Phil Boersma, Harry Haslam (Manager), Alan West, Ron Futcher, Pasquale (Lil) Fuccillo, Gary Heale





ACTION FROM THE CUP TIE WITH NOTTS COUNTY

Top left: Mike Flanagan gets in a cross despite the attentions of a defender.

Bottom left: Keith Peacock volleying a shot watched by Willy O'Sullivan and David Campbell.

Right: Les Berry in a heading dual with a Notts County player

PHOTOS BY TOM MORRIS



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\$ 4 5 5 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 4 * 4 MIDWEEK LEAGUE As at 10/1/78 Peterborough U. Brentford Wimbledon Charton Athletic Milwall Gillingham Brighton & H.A. Portsmouth Northampton T. Warford Southend United Cambridge Utd.

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SOUTH EAST (Queen's P.R.	Fulham	Chelsea	Millwall	pswich Town	Norwich City	Gillingham	Fottenham H.	Portsmouth	Arsenal	Southend United	Orient	West Ham United	**Crystal Palace	Charlton Athletic	**Watford	**Points

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SOUTH-EAST COUNTIES LEAG 1977/78	Southend United	Gillingham	OPR	Chelsea	Watford (Cup)	Fulham	

MID-WEEK FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIXTURES 1977/78

	1977	5	II con III	(4)	7
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	Sep	20	Watford	Œ	3-5
		28	Peterborough U	8	0-5
	Oct	Ξ	Brighton	(A)	14
		18	Northampton T	(H)	3-5
		25	Peterborough U	(H)	24
200	Nov	-	Cambridge U (LC)	(A)	1-2
		8	Cambridge U (LC)	(H)	9
		17	Gillingham	(A)	4-0
		22	Southend U (LC)	(H)	2-0
		30	Southend U (LC)	(A)	7
	Dec	9	Portsmouth	Œ	3-5
	1978				
	Jan	10	Southend U	Œ	10
		24	Cambridge U	Œ	2.00
		31	Wimbledon	(A)	7.30
	Feb	2	Brighton (Cup Semi)	(A)	2.15
		00	Southend U	(A)	
		21	Brighton ·	Œ	2.00
	Mar	-	Northampton T	(A)	
		7	Wimbledon	(H)	2.00
		13	Cambridge U	(A)	
		28	Brentford	(A)	
	Apr	Ξ	Brentford	Î	2.00
		13	Portsmouth	(A)	7.30
		18	Millwall	Ê	2.00
		26	Gillingham	Œ	2.00

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Mr and Mrs John Mitchell pictured receiving their cheque for £1,100 before our match with Notts County.

Lucky agent John Mitchell the manager of a Blackfen newsagents bought lottery ticket No. 19383 in Lottery No. 2, and consequently won 1st Prize of £1,000 — plus Agents Bonus of £100.

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ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE No. (if any)	



PRIPER PRIPE

Lawrence Abrahams

Full name: Lawrence Adam Michael Abrahams

Height: 5' 10"
Weight: 11st 7/bs
Date of birth: 3 April

Birthplace: Mile End, London

Signed: May 1977 Previous clubs: Barking

League debut: v Fulham, August 20, 1977
Most difficult opponent: Sammy Chapman (Notts

County)

Most memorable moment: scoring on debut for

Charlton

Most disappointing moment: losing matches
My ambition in game: To make grade in League

football

Biggest influence on career: Dave King and Dave

Whitehead, who run youth teams

Favourite ground: *Turf Moor, Burnley* Total appearances: 13(4)

Goals: 2

Family: lives in lodgings in Charlton Hobbies: listening to records, cricket

Person I would most like to meet: Denis Law

LOOKING BACK

with Colin Cameron

40 YEARS AGO (1937/38)

DESPITE our magnificent 5-0 Cup victory over Cardiff, the Charlton team which entertained Liverpool (Jan 15) showed two changes with fit again John Oakes replacing Frank Rist, and Joe Jobling coming in for the injured Don Welsh.

Playing against a strong wind in the first half, we made little headway, missing several good chances. After the break, however, we showed excellent form, and goals by George Robinson (2) and Tom Owens gave us a resounding 3-0 victory.

Welsh for Jobling was the only change when we faced Leeds in a 4th Round FA Cup tie attended by over 50,000 at The Valley (Jan 22).

After making what was probably our best ever start in a Cup tie — George Tadman scoring twice in the opening four minutes — we failed to capture our recent fine form and found the going hard against Leeds.

The pressure built up late in the game when Hodgson scored for the visitors, and we survived one more bad moment when Armes hit a post before just deservedly scraping through 2-1.

20 YEARS AGO (1957/58)

A CROWD of 17,417, nearly 5,000 more than watched our sensational 7-6 victory over Huddersfield, was at The Valley when Doncaster Rovers, managed by Peter Doherty, visited us on Christmas Day 1957.

The one change from the Huddersfield epic was Gordon Jago at centre half instead of the injured Derek Ufton.

While the football in this particular encounter never reached a high standard, Charlton were always too good for their Yorkshire opponents, and a goal in each half, scored by "Buck" Ryan and Freddie Lucas, gave us a comfortable 2-0 win.

Manager Jimmy Trotter made two changes for the return match on Boxing Day against Doncaster. With Trevor Edwards and Ronnie White rested, it meant a further chance for Peter Firmani, at right back, and a debut for Sidcup born Eddie Werge, at right wing.

After suffering a 33rd minute setback when Nicholson scored for Rovers, Charlton settled down to play some fine football, and it came as no surprise when Johnny Summers equalised in the 43rd minute.

Two minutes after the break. Stuart Leary added a second for Charlton, and such was our superiority we should have scored more but nevertheless were well pleased with a 2-1 victory, and a four point Christmas haul.

10 YEARS AGO (1967/68)

FOLLOWING our fine point at Norwich,

manager Eddie Firmani made four changes, two positional, when we met neighbours Millwall in front of 25,714 fans at The Valley (Jan 6)

Paul Went was relegated to substitute, and lan King was switched to Went's centre half spot; Dennis Booth was moved to right half; and with Jimmy Mullen also dropping out, this meant a quick return to first team duty, on the flanks, for Alan Campbell and Keith Peacock.

Our previous three League meetings against The Lions had all been goalless, and although this encounter was a hard slog from start to finish, it did have tremendous atmosphere, and, more important, a goal to separate the two teams.

The all important goal, which cracked the stalemate and gave us a 1-0 victory, was a neat first half effort from Alan Campbell.

Three of the players who were on duty that day are still with their respective Clubs, i.e. Bobby Curtis and Keith Peacock (Charlton) and Barry Kitchener (Millwall), while Dennis Booth (Watford), Alan Campbell (Cardiff), and Keith Weller (Leicester) are still very active.

Boss at Millwall those days was our present Secretary Benny Fenton — a magnificent Charlton player, and skipper, of past years — while another former Charlton great, Charlie Vaughan, was on The Den coaching staff.

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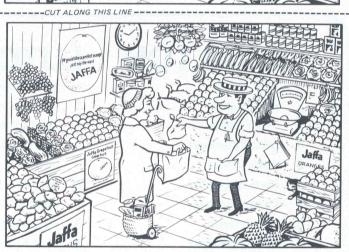
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Closing Date 31st January 1978

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- Steve Gritt
- Mike Flanagan
- 10 Keith Peacock
- 11 Hugh McAuley
- 12

Shirts: Red **Shorts: White** Socks: Red

- Miliia Aleksic
- Paul Price
- David Carr
- 4 Ricky Hill
- 5 John Faulkner
- 6 Graham Jones
- 7 Jimmy Husband
- 8 Brian Stein
- 9 Pen Futcher
- 10 Pasquale Fuccillo
- 11 Phil Boersma
- 12 Godfrey Ingram

Shirts: White Shorts: Navv Socks: White

HALF-TIME SCORES

Blackburn Rovers

В	Bolton Wanderers Hull City
C	Brighton & Hove A Mansfield Town
D	Bristol Rovers Blackpool
E	Crystal Palace Burnley
F	Oldham Athletic Orient
G	Southampton Notts County
Н	Stoke City Millwall
J	Sunderland Sheffield Utd
K	Tottenham Hotspur Cardiff City
L	Chelsea Ipswich Town

- Leeds United Coventry City ******************* Leicester City Queen's Park Rangers
- Liverpool Birmingham City
- Manchester United Derby County Middlesbrough
- West Bromwich Albion Nottm Forest
 - Arsenal West Ham United Newcastle United

OFFICIALS: Referee: Mr A McDonald (Birmingham). Linesmen: K D Guilder (Sussex)-red flag; Mr P Jackson (Somerset)-yellow flag