

# THE HATTER

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO  
Saturday 7th February 1981 — K.O. 3 p.m.  
LUTON TOWN v  
BLACKBURN ROVERS

OFFICIAL MATCH DAY MAGAZINE PRICE 30p



WHITBREAD



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A C T I O N . . A C T I O N

"I'm delighted" says Alan West as he prepares to congratulate Godfrey Ingram after scoring his goal.



DERBY COUNTY 2 LUTON TOWN 2

BBC Television viewers were treated to some excellent football when they watched our clash against Derby on Match of the Day.

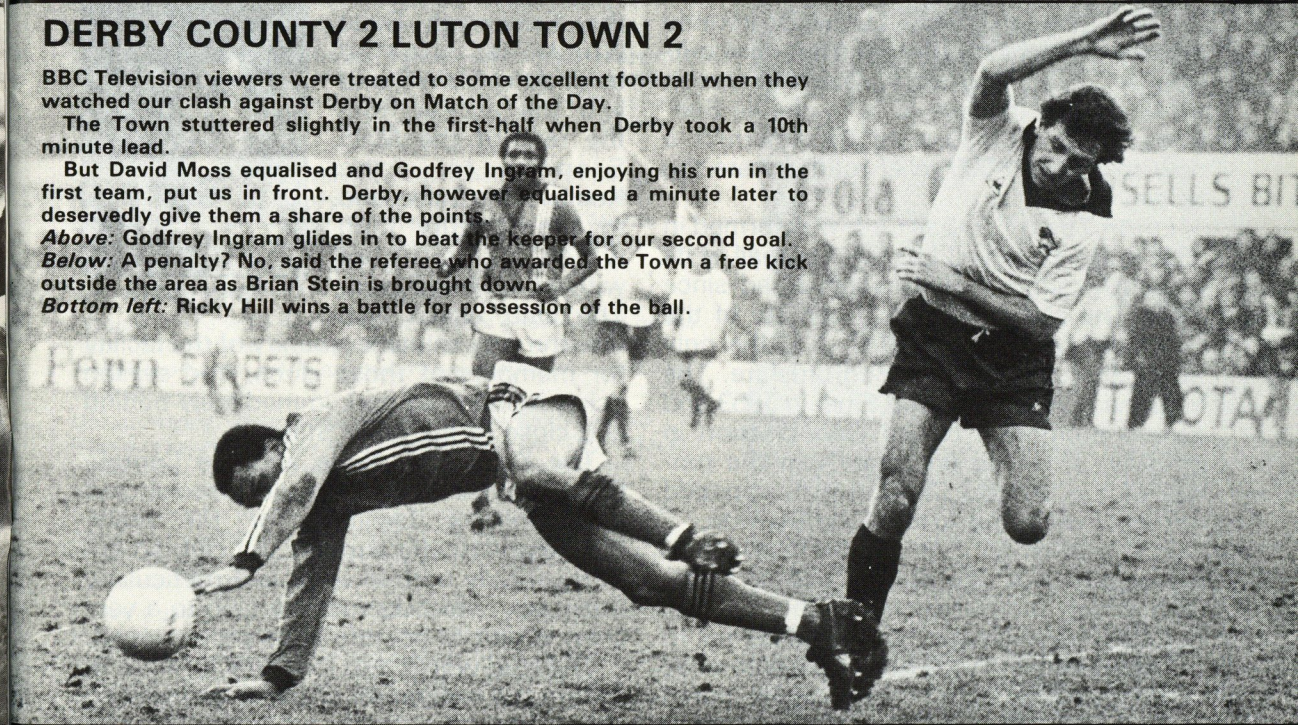
The Town stuttered slightly in the first-half when Derby took a 10th minute lead.

But David Moss equalised and Godfrey Ingram, enjoying his run in the first team, put us in front. Derby, however equalised a minute later to deservedly give them a share of the points.

*Above:* Godfrey Ingram glides in to beat the keeper for our second goal.

*Below:* A penalty? No, said the referee who awarded the Town a free kick outside the area as Brian Stein is brought down.

*Bottom left:* Ricky Hill wins a battle for possession of the ball.



A C T I O N . . A C T I O N

## A STATEMENT FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

The Member of Parliament for Luton West, Mr John Carlisle, has made an objection in Parliament to the second reading of a Bill promoted by British Railways in order to protect the interests of Luton Town Football Club.

This Bill, if enacted, would enable British Railways to acquire compulsorily from the club land along the south side of its ground in Kenilworth Road, Luton, in order to realign the existing Luton-Dunstable railway line which currently runs just outside the club's boundary. The sole reason for realigning the railway is to enable Bedfordshire County Council to construct a new road, the A505 relief road, where the railway is now.

Luton Town Football Club was formed in 1885 and has played League Football at its present ground at Kenilworth Road since 1905. The club has been a member of the Football League since 1920. It is the only Football League club in Bedfordshire. The club reached the FA Cup Final in 1959 and gained promotion to the First Division in 1973-74. The club is currently in the top-half of the Second Division with constant hopes of returning to the First Division.

The ground at Kenilworth Road comprises not only the stands and terraces, with which many people will be familiar, but also many related facilities essential to the operation and well-being of a club of its standing. The club has recently spent around £300,000 in improvements aimed at achieving high standards of crowd safety.

### DRASTIC EFFECT

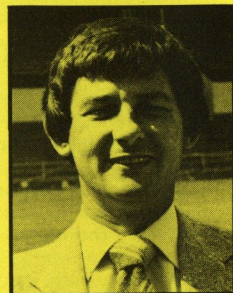
For the reasons already explained to the County Council, the club believes that the compulsory acquisition of the land would have a drastic effect on the club and lead to a down-grading of which would make it virtually impossible for the club to continue to function and to fulfil its ambitions at its present ground.

The club would lose the Kenilworth Suite which is situated behind the Main Stand and the access from the rear of the Main Stand to the Kenilworth Suite and to the Century Club which is situated within the Main Stand.

The club would also lose the very valuable amenity of the facility for members of those clubs, and season ticket holders, to park immediately behind and close to the Main Stand.

The Kenilworth Suite and the Century Club provide attractive club social and entertainment facilities for the many businessmen who support the club so enthusiastically both in spirit and particularly financially which assists the club to a very great extent to operate at its present level.

The club would also lose vital facilities to ensure the separation of home and visiting supporters who would otherwise have to park in nearby streets which would ob-



JOHN SMITH

*Continued on page 19*

# DAVID'S DIARY

The Newcastle defeats in both League and Cup has certainly taken the wind out of our sails after a splendid run. In seven days they have knocked our League progress and the dream of a good Cup run. There can be no doubt that we should have beaten them at Luton, but at Newcastle we faltered in too many departments, although the determination and fighting spirit cannot be faulted.

The ball is firmly in our court now to repay those tremendous travelling supporters who made the long and disappointing journey north. I am sure the effect of those massed Geordie fans helped unnerve one or two of our players, but the experience will stand them in good stead. If they are to reach the very top they will have to show their abilities in all circumstances.

The abolition of the yellow and red cards will, it is generally agreed, help minimise flare-up situations and stop terrace appeals for cards. The introduction of those cards was to enable the public and Press to see clearly when a booking had taken place. A referee now has the opportunity of threatening the player by getting his book out, without actually booking him. It might be an idea for the referee to raise the book above his head after he has actually recorded a name.

From a personal point of view, I have been most impressed recently with the refereeing standards. A referee recently invited the opposing manager and I into his room 20 minutes after the game — to discuss any incidents — I am a great believer in a closer relationship with officials.

Certainly, I have noted some excellent handling of our games recently by Messrs Ashley (Nantwich), Grey (Yarmouth), Hutchinson (Harrowgate), Shapter (Paignton) and Morris (Leeds). Of course, we haven't won all the games, but those officials were firm and fair. They all remark, rather interestingly, that we are an easy side to referee.

I would like to wish Andy Harrow sincere good wishes on his return to Scotland. He has joined a fine club — Aberdeen — and I hope he can settle quickly. I know he has the ability to do well.

Unfortunately, when we signed Andy from Raith we had hoped to recover money in the transfer market. This did not materialise. The improved form of Steve White and the emergence of Godfrey Ingram due to the increased competition for places left Andy competing for a first team place, as he adapted to the pace of the game. The Aberdeen offer was a good one for our club at this time, but we shall eye Andy's progress with interest.

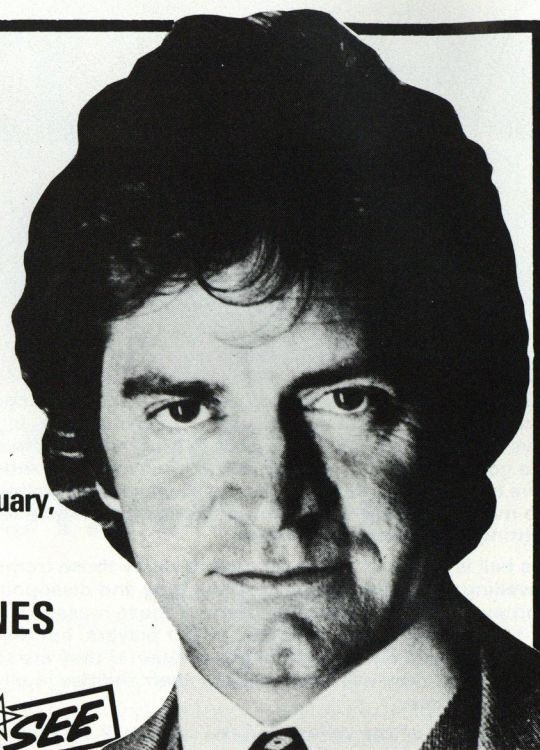
Today's game with Blackburn presents us with an opportunity to return to winning ways. Howard Kendall has cleverly organised the side on a limited budget. Their early season form was inspirational, but now they have come back to the pack with an outside promotion chance similar to ourselves. At Blackburn, they gave us our heaviest defeat — 3-0 — with two late goals. Today, we have that very reason to motivate us to win.

Enjoy the game.



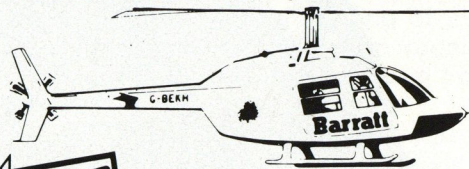
# Meet Patrick Mower

Star of TV's 'Special Branch' and 'Target' At 2pm Sunday 8th February, Patrick Mower will be opening the great new Barratt Development at TWO MILE ASH, MILTON KEYNES



★ SEE

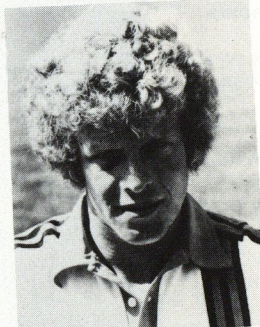
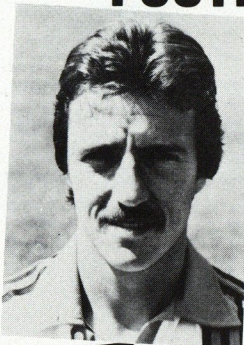
Patrick Mower arrive in the Barratt helicopter  
Arrival of helicopter subject to weather conditions.



★ SEE

## LUTON TOWN FOOTBALLERS

David Moss & Kirk Stevens



★ MEET

Meet Ann Amey, Miss Milton Keynes



★ COLLECT

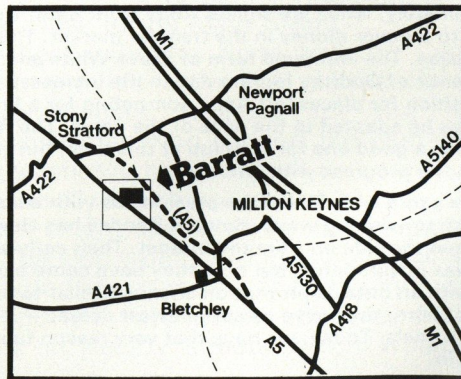
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# John's Journal

On our last visit to Newcastle, Fylde – the Rugby Union team playing Gosford in the John Player Trophy – were staying overnight in our hotel.

Their team included Bill Beaumont, the current England captain, and I must say I wouldn't fancy him running at me at full speed! It must be like being hit by a train. After the players of both sides had gone to bed, officials of both sides had an interesting conversation about each other's sport. They were very surprised about the contents of our pre-match meals, and what to drink, and not to drink, before a match.

The two coaches were also interested in each other's preparation for matches. The informal talk went on until the

early hours of the morning, but I thought it was a good exercise to be able to talk to other people involved in a sport, although I still believe that if the ball was meant to be picked up, it would have handles on it.

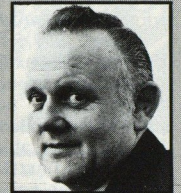
We welcome our visitors today from Blackburn. The club was formed in 1874, and they have the honour of winning the FA Cup six times. Incidentally, when the FA Cup competition was founded, among the regulations was a rule which stated that any club winning the trophy three times in succession should keep the trophy.

The old Wanderers side performed the feat before professional football was born and the Football Association, in their wisdom, decided to

change that rule. Unfortunately for the Rovers, they did the hat-trick in 1884, 1885 and 1886, and their consolation was a special shield.

Many famous players have worn the blue and white halve jersey – Bob Crompton, Syd Puddefoot, Bill Eckersley, Ron Clayton, Brian Douglas and Matt Woods, to name but a few.

Now under the leadership of Howard Kendall, they will be a difficult hurdle for us today, but let's hope that we can avenge the 3-0 defeat we suffered at Ewood Park earlier in the season.



JOHN WILKINSON Secretary

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# JUNIOR HATTERS



We haven't had a home game for three weeks, and it seems an age since my last column. Unfortunately, I have to prepare these notes before being able to comment on what happened at two recent events — our January Junior Hatters meeting and our first "Awayday" trip to see Town play Derby County.

I can say, however, that the response was excellent and at the time of writing, two coaches were booked to transport Junior Hatters and parents to the Baseball Ground at Derby. I shall be able to comment more fully in the next Match Magazine.

I must apologise and offer very late, but nonetheless, sincere, birthday greetings to Junior Hatter, Paul Brandreth (8081342) of 10 The Close, Harpenden, whose birthday was overlooked in one of our earlier Match Magazines. Sorry, Paul, and many happy returns of 7th January 1981, your 13th birthday!

A mention of birthdays brings me to a problem — that of an ever-increasing list of members celebrating their birthdays. This means we are getting bigger every day — in fact we are approaching our first magic target of 1,000 members. I can tell you in advance that a very special treat is in store for our 1,000th member, and for the Junior Hatter who introduces him or her to our Club. So collect an enrolment form today and, if you are already a member, help to enrol a friend, or if you are a Mum or Dad with an eligible youngster, boy or girl, encourage them to be a "Junior Hatter" and support our team. Your support is vital in helping to ensure the future of Luton Town.



Our sponsored laps of the Kenilworth Road pitch was a great success and was an event we hope to repeat to raise money to improve Junior Hatters facilities in the special *Evening Post-Echo* enclosure at the Oak Road of the ground. The *Evening Post-Echo* are one of several local companies to continue to help the football club. Pictured are some of the youngsters who took part with Mike Saxby, Tony Grealish and Colin Ball.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
Please note I have a new telephone number now — Luton 37079.

Happy birthday to the following members: Timothy Parr (8081272) aged 13, 21st Jan; Damien Prior (8081571) aged 10, 21st Jan; Tony Brooks (808190) aged 12, 22nd Jan; Andrew Goodman (8081584) aged 9, 22nd Jan; William Josling (8081260) aged 11, 22nd Jan; Colin Berry (8081503) aged 14, 23rd Jan; Gerado Rosa (8081723) aged 14, 23rd Jan; Jay Leader (8081626) aged 10, 24th Jan; Clinton Genas (8081197) aged 12, 24th Jan; Alan Bigg (8081451) aged 12, 25th Jan; Craig Fookes (8081528) aged 10, 26th Jan; Brian Wood (8081197) aged 11, 26th Jan; Kevin Clancy (8081244) aged 14, 28th Jan.

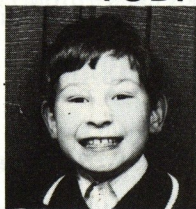
Michael Doyle (8081445) aged 13, 28th Jan; John Finch (8081307) aged

11, 28th Jan; Mark Vasey (8081116) aged 13, 28th Jan; Nicholas Goldie (8081101) aged 13, 30th Jan; Stephen Gray (8081292) aged 12, 30th Jan; David Manton (8081642) aged 11, 30th Jan; Peter Lacey (8081543) aged 9, 31st Jan; Carl Sandy (8081222) aged 11, 31st Jan; Julian Dennis (8081381) aged 10, 1st Feb; Paul Skinner (8081728) aged 14, 1st Feb; Adam Stephenson (8081138) aged 7, 1st Feb; Stephen Smith (8081231) aged 14, 1st Feb; Simon Fookes (8081552) aged 9, 2nd Feb; Malcolm Atkins (8081784) aged 10, 3rd Feb; Gary Fortune (8081752) aged 10, 3rd Feb.

Nicholas Josling (8081249) aged 15, 3rd Feb; John Waterfield (8081152) aged 10, 3rd Feb; Andrew Carr (808169) aged 11, 3rd Feb; Steven Barrett (808191) aged 12, 4th Feb; Allan Baxter (8081114) aged 14, 5th Feb; Jeffrey Durn (808188) aged 11, 5th Feb; Mark Payne (8081412) aged 10, 5th Feb; David Smith (808150) aged 13, 5th Feb; Tenna Buckingham (8081323) aged 8, 6th Feb; Christopher Harper (8081524) aged 7, 6th Feb; Owen Mackney (8081786) and David Mackney (8081785) aged 13, 6th Feb; David Trood (8081498) aged 10, 6th Feb; Anthony Welbourne (8081753) aged 7, 6th Feb; Mark Kempson (8081705) aged 14, 7th Feb; Kevin Lilywhite (8081401) aged 12, 7th Feb.

**COLIN BALL**  
Youth Development Officer

## TODAY'S MASCOT



Our mascot today is Mark Payne, of 43 The Park, Redbourn, Herts. He is one of nearly 100 members signed as Junior Hatters from Redbourn Youth Club who have supported us on several occasions as a club group during this season. Paul is a pupil at Redbourn Junior School and plays football for his team. His hobbies are stamp collecting, model making and model trains, and he enjoys swimming. He is another of David Moss's fans.

## WHICH SIDE WAS HE ON?

EPISODE SEVENTEEN by Ray Aspden

**THE STORY SO FAR ...**  
YOUNG "BOBBIN" DINO, LEATOWN'S FOREIGN SIGNING, WAS ON THE RUN FROM M.I.6. AND A TERRORIST GANG FROM HIS HOMETOWN.

IN THE GETAWAY VAN HIS BOOT SLIPPED OFF THE BREAK ONTO THE ACCELERATOR WHILST DRIVING ON THE DOCKSIDE, AND ...

DISASTER! I'M HEADING FOR DEEP WATER!

YEOW, THE WATER'S COLD! IF I DON'T DROWN, I'LL FREEZE!

THERE'S SQUID! I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE GLAD TO SEE M.I.6!

THE WAREHOUSE IS EMPTY, VORGE'S GIVEN US THE SLIP!

SQUID TO HQ, I WANT A CORDON ROUND THE DOCKS! AND AN AMBULANCE FOR A HALF-DROWNED SOCCER RAT!

SATURDAY EVENING: VORGE HAD ESCAPED, LEATOWN HAD LOST AND BOBBIN WAS IN HOSPITAL BEING INTERROGATED BY SQUID.

FIRST THE BAD NEWS: I'VE GOT EVIDENCE THAT COULD GET YOU DEPORTED FROM BRITAIN!

NOW THE GOOD NEWS - YOU'VE GOT A 50:50 CHANCE OF SURVIVING OUR PLAN TO TRAP VORGE!

NEXT EPISODE: THE BIG MATCH MEETS POLICE FIVE AS BOBBIN GOES ON T.V.!

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THE LUTON v GRIMSBY MATCH

1. FULL-TIME SCORE .....
2. HALF-TIME SCORE .....
3. LUTON SCORERS .....
4. NO. OF CORNER CORNER KICKS TO LUTON .....
5. ATTENDANCE .....

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

TEL NO: .....

*Entries to be sent to:*

**Mike Beevor, Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road, Luton**

For those not wishing to deface their programme, entries will be accepted on a separate sheet of paper

**CLOSING DATE: 20th FEBRUARY 1981**

Please ensure all entries include name and address of participant

**ONE ENTRY ONLY PER PERSON**

**PRIORITY GIVEN TO ANSWERS CORRECT IN NUMERICAL SEQUENCE,  
I.E. TO WIN YOU MUST HAVE SCORE (QUESTION NO. 1) CORRECT**

WILL THIS be the season when our Second City finally claims a football first?

It is a long time since Birmingham – more famous of late for its Spaghetti Junction than its glittering Soccer prizes – welcomed home the F.A. Cup Winners. Or better still, the First Division Champions.

1981 could change all that. More and more, the omens are looking good for the long-awaited big Brummie breakthrough.

No one is more optimistic than Ron Atkinson, flamboyant, friendly and knowledgeable boss of West Bromwich Albion.

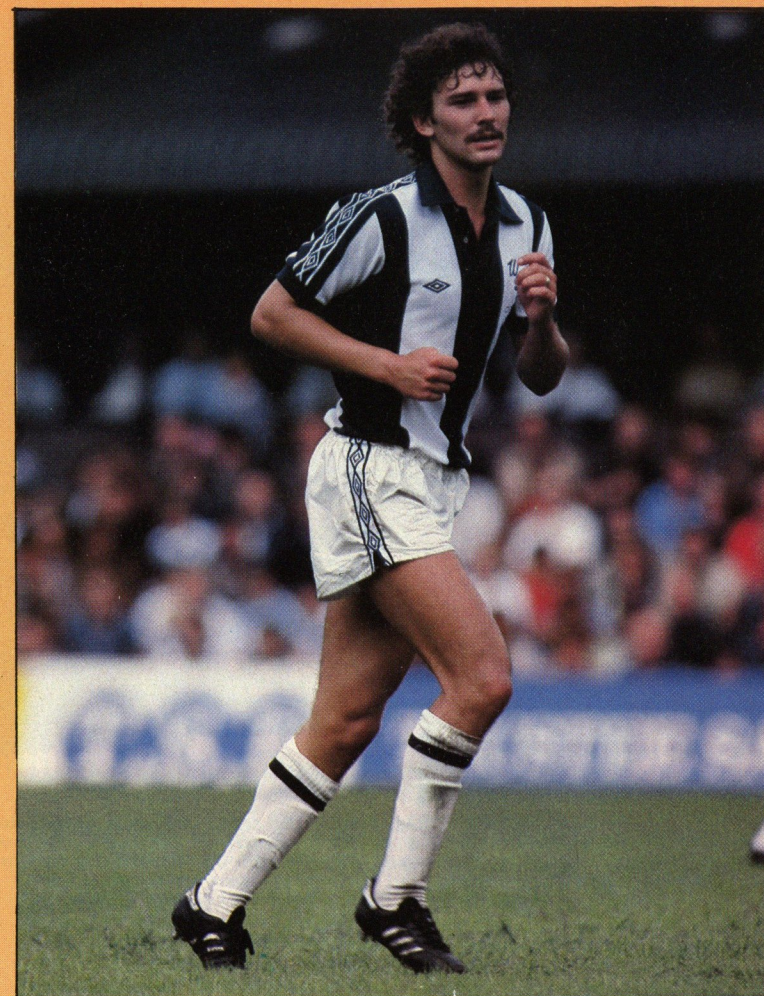
He told me: "You must fancy Aston Villa to have chances of taking the Championship away from Liverpool – AND I DON'T RULE OURSELVES OUT, EITHER. It's wide open, and up for grabs."

It is a long time since Birmingham could boast not just three teams in the First Division, but three teams playing well simultaneously.

ASTON VILLA have set a cracking pace at the top of the table. Ron Saunders has built a brilliant young side, superbly led by that mature and under-rated skipper Dennis Mortimer.

In slim-line midfield starlet Gordon Cowans, and blond striker Gary Shaw, they have two of the country's most exciting young talents.

Villa have a proud pedigree. Formed back in 1874, they are original members of the Football League. They have won the First Division title six times, the last in 1910. They have also lifted the F.A. Cup a staggering seven times – but



Bryan Robson – W.B.A.

# It's Wide Open

again, their last success was back in 1957.

Shrewd judges, including Ipswich manager Bobby Robson, are convinced that Villa are close to the big breakthrough. And of Gary Shaw, Robson forecasts: "Once he learns to finish, he'll be a sensational striker. He's some player as a teenager – the mind boggles at what he's likely to be like at 21."

WEST BROMWICH ALBION were formed in 1879, and haven't done too badly, either, thank you very much. They were Champions in 1920, and have won the F.A. Cup five times – the last in 1968.

This season, with Bryan Robson and Remi Moses driving them from midfield, veteran skipper John Wile and Scottish terrier Alistair Robertson steadying them at the back, and big Cyrille Regis leading their attack with more aggression than ever, they have emerged as one of the most

attractive sides in the land.

Ron Atkinson deserves much of the credit for that. He is a manager who hates to be bored by negative football – especially from his own side!

BIRMINGHAM CITY, on paper, have been the least successful of our Second City's three clubs. Formed in 1965, they are still awaiting their first Championship. Their best First Division position was 6th in 1956. They have never won the F.A. Cup either, although they were beaten finalists in 1931 and 1956.

Gradually, they are gaining consistency with a colourful side created by their popular manager, Jim Smith, a man who learned his trade in the lower Leagues with Colchester and Blackburn.

"The Golden Oldies" is what some scribes have christened City – due, no doubt, to the presence in their side of veteran Scottish inter-

national skipper Archie Gemmill, and former England stars Colin Todd and Frank Worthington.

All three are well past their 30th birthdays. But they are all playing well this season, and are as responsible as any of their young colleagues for Birmingham becoming a side most teams now respect.

Not for a long time have football fans in England's Second City looked forward to a New Year with more optimism.

They have two teams with a chance of taking the Championship. They have three sides well capable of lifting the F.A. Cup.

Liverpool, Nottingham and London would hardly grudge Birmingham a triumph after all those years in the wilderness. Let's wish our Second City a "Happy New Year". There have not been too many of them lately.

WORLD LEADER



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H.M. Government Health Departments' WARNING:  
CIGARETTES CAN SERIOUSLY DAMAGE YOUR HEALTH

# IN FOCUS



If ever an award was well deserved, it was the one made to manager David Pleat who received his Second Division Manager of the Month title for November before the game against Newcastle United at Kenilworth Road.

Some of the letters we have received from supporters suggest that David's award is long overdue and those are sentiments we lend our support to.

Take, for example, the letter received from a fan living in Broadoak Way, Stevenage, who wrote: "I am writing in sincere appreciation of what the manager and the board have done for Luton Town in the last few years."

"I have been a Luton supporter for the last 23 years and have never seen a better team at Luton than the present one."

Another fan, from Clifton Road, Shefford, said: "Congratulations to David Pleat. It was well deserved and long overdue and I can only think that the judges have been under the influence of their own product when it comes to handing out the managers accolades."

The Century Club sent their own congratulations, and another fan — 13-year-old David Fielder — wrote: "What a super performance by the team over Christmas. My dad and I have been regular supporters for seven years and your award was thoroughly deserved."

David is pictured receiving his whisky from a Bell's representative.

# HAVE YOU EVER TASTED TIGER?

Tiger Bitter is now at Luton Town Football Club.

Tiger from Everards. A cool and satisfying way to quench a thirst.

Next time you go to the bar, ask for a Tiger.

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**WELCOME TO**

# BLACKBURN ROVERS

Former Luton striker Viv Busby could be making a return to Kenilworth Road this afternoon after Blackburn manager Howard Kendall agreed to sell midfielder Duncan McKenzie to American club Tulsa Roughnecks.

McKenzie, Blackburn's record signing at £100,000 when they bought him from Chelsea where he made only 15 appearances after spells with Nottingham Forest, Leeds United, Anderlecht and Everton, recently returned from America after agreeing terms for his transfer.

Kendall hoped the deal would go through in time for Busby, who spent last season with Roughnecks in the North American League, to make his debut this afternoon. The Blackburn manager had negotiated a cash-plus-player deal and stood to receive about £40,000 in addition to Busby.

Luton fans will remember Busby easily. He joined the Town, his first professional club, before moving to Newcastle on loan and then had spells with Fulham, Norwich, Sheffield United and Stoke City who cancelled his contract last March.

Blackburn will look back on 1980 with great satisfaction after winning promotion from the Third Division and making an impact on their arrival in the Second.

The Lancashire club finished in second place after losing 12 games throughout the season and mounting a serious bid for promotion after Christmas. The so called experts predicted Blackburn would struggle this season but they shocked

everyone by leading the Division earlier this season and, although they slipped recently, will be perfectly happy to finish in the top half of the table.

But, at the beginning of last year promotion must have felt a million miles away for Blackburn. They lost 2-1 at Sheffield United on New Year's Day and were lying 14th in the Third Division with seemingly no hope of finishing in the top three.

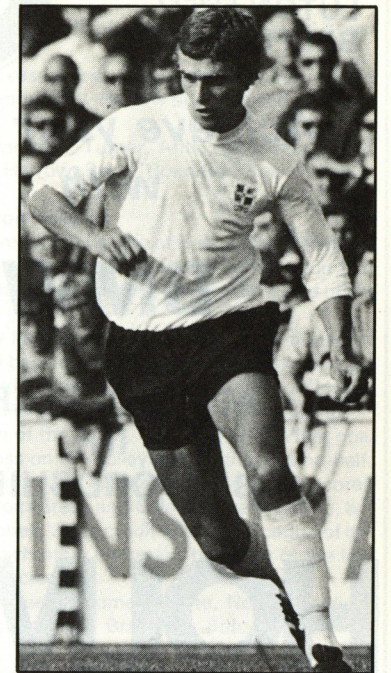
In the 17 matches that followed they lost only three times, and in one spell took an incredible 29 points out of 30. This superb run of results meant that Blackburn went up into Division Two along with Grimsby and Sheffield Wednesday.

The experience of Kendall, both on and off the field, was a telling factor in Blackburn's dramatic performances. He leads by example on the field of play and portrays a glowing and refreshing image off it.

Kendall appeared for Preston North End as a teenager in the 1964 FA Cup Final which they lost 3-2 against West Ham United. Many First Division clubs were impressed by this undoubted talent and it wasn't long before he moved to Everton where he joined up with Alan Ball and Martin Harvey to win the League championship.

After a spell at Birmingham City, Kendall became player-coach at Stoke before moving to Ewood Park.

In addition to attempting to strengthen his side by buying Busby, Kendall also brought Dave Hamilton to Ewood Park on a free transfer from Sunderland a few weeks ago.



*Flashback... Busby in action during his days with Luton*

*Back row, left to right: Rathbone, Fazackerley, Keeley, Speight, Round, Stonehouse, Craig.*

*Middle row: Heaton (First team coach), McKenzie, Parkes, Arnold, Butcher, Garner, Branagan, Cunningham (Physio).*  
*Front row: Brotherston, Coughlin, Kendall, De Vries, Crawford, Morley B.*



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# Reserve Report

## Luton Town 5 Orient 1

Our coaches took the opportunity in this South East Counties League game to phase out some of the older boys under their wing with a view to giving opportunities to youngsters to prove they have the ability to make apprentices at Kenilworth Road.

While it was a good result for the Town, the standard of players on view will have to be raised if they have any ambition of becoming apprentice professionals.

In the second-half of the season, our coaches will endeavour to give our younger players ample opportunities to show their capabilities. When the final choice is made on the next intake of apprentices, no-one will be able to claim they weren't given their chance. Our scorers in this game were Judge (2), Daniel, Foote and McElroy.

*Team:* Phelps, Woodworth, North, Leather, Thomas, Goddard, Foote, Daniel, McElroy, Judge, Brammer. *Subs:* Beaumont, Beesley.

## Reading 1 Luton Town 0

On a heavy pitch, both teams found conditions unrewarding in this Football Combination game and, with few goalmouth incidents apart from Frank Bunn hitting a post with a vicious shot, the score remained at 0-0 until the 64th minute.

Reading then hit the winner after a scramble which seemed to last an eternity within the Town's penalty area, the ball

finally landing at Roger Joslyn's feet and he powered it past Alan Judge.

The tempo increased and Luton should have scored through Paul Price and Andy Harrow but we failed to secure the equaliser.

*Team:* Judge, Johnson, Turner, Antic, Goodyear, Price, Madden, Fuccillo, Harrow, Bunn, Brammer. *Sub:* Pearson.

## Bristol City 0 Luton Town 3

This was the first time we have won at Bristol City at Midland Youth League level since we entered the competition two years ago and it was a good result to celebrate the end of the year.

But we certainly had to earn it in muddy conditions and were often pushed back on defence against the wind in the first-half. But we defended well and, as our confidence grew, started to build our own attacks by good passing.

In our best move of the game, Brammer hit the first goal when he met a cross on the volley and, in the second-half, we defended stubbornly to keep a clean sheet. We scored two on the break from Green and Cole and the scoreline, according to our coaches, was a credit to the application of the team to work for each other and make the most of the few scoring chances we created.

*Team:* Beesley, Green, Thomas, Foote, North, Harding, Cole, Cosby, Bunn, Stevens, Brammer. *Sub:* Daniel.

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### PERSONAL

Congratulations to Pauline Brown and Richard Lancaster on the occasion of their marriage on 14th February 1981. From The Bobbers Travel Club.

Thanks Brian and Raddy for your time and help. Best of luck lads! Warden Hill Junior School.

Best wishes to Luton Town from Robert Bloomfield Middle School, Shafford.

David Gentle. Best wishes for your 18th today, Mum, Dad, Mick, Richard and Prince.

★ ★ ★

*You can get your message in Town Classifieds for only 15p per word, £1 minimum payment. Send details with payments to Mike Beevor, Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road, Luton.*

**Luton  
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# The Town in Brief

## FROM THE CENTURY CLUB

It seems a long time since we had a game at home — not since mid-January — so we are looking forward to a good game, with everyone in good voice to cheer our team on.

We welcome Blackburn Rovers today, who have rejoined us in the Second Division this season.

We do not have many more home games, but we suddenly have a full social programme.

On Thursday 19th February, we shall be holding our annual players v Century Club quiz, so don't forget we need a team. There may be a few surprises in store this year — we must avenge our defeat of last year.

Our annual Ball will be held in March, and fuller details of this will be available shortly. We are sure we shall have a difficult job to name our "Player of the Year" from such an excellent team.

Our end of season party will take place appropriately enough after the last home game, Saturday 25th April, when we shall know the name of the Young Player who receives our award. Plenty of dates for you all to note!

## COMPETITION WINNERS

The competition in our match day magazine for the Cardiff game produced a heavy response. Dozens of supporters managed to identify the ground in question — Wolverhampton Wanderers — and we picked the four winners out of the hat.

They were: Miss C. Toyer, River Way, Luton; Brendan McCullagh, Leagrave Road,

Luton; J. A. Piper, Marlborough Road, Luton; and Martin Shadbolt, White Horse Close, Leighton Buzzard. They all received two tickets each for this afternoon's game.

## THE AUSTRIAN CONNECTION

We are looking for a Luton supporter who is interested in writing to a young Austrian boy who takes a keen interest in the Town's fortunes.

Peter Liebeswar tells us he is a soccer fanatic who collects anything connected with the English game. His collection of lapel badges embraces most European clubs in addition to those over here but, to help him complete his collection, he needs a Luton badge.

He is also interested in collecting Luton Town souvenirs and wants to hear from a Luton fan. Anyone interested in corresponding with Peter can contact him at: Kienmayerg. 51-53/1/13, A-1140 Wien, Austria, Europe.

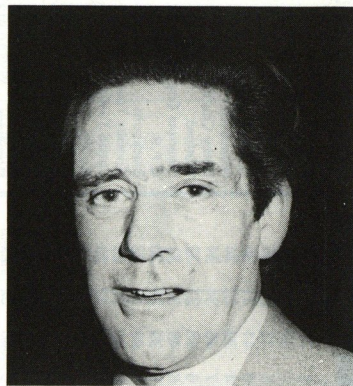
Happy writing . . .

## CALLING ROVERS' FANS

Blackburn Rovers fans living in the south will be interested to learn of the formation of a London branch for their supporters. Any Rovers fan interested in joining should write, enclosing a SAE to: A. Fell, 2 Parson Mead, West Croydon CR0 3SL

## BEHIND THE SCENES

This afternoon, we feature Chris Ellis, one of our backroom staff who spends most of his



time on the road.

Chris has been a Luton fan since he was five — although he refuses to tell us how many years ago that was — and has been with the club since 1972 after working for the Luton Laundry.

Former chairman Robert Keens recommended him to ex-manager Harry Haslam and, as a result, he's still with us. His main duties revolve around driving the reserve and youth teams to away matches in the club's own coach. When he's not on the road, Chris helps out on the pitch and with general maintenance.

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S STATEMENT

Continued from page 4

viously affect local residents, traders and public order. The club would also lose land on which it is proposed to provide vital facilities to ensure the separation of home and visiting supporters in accordance with crowd safety regulations and recommendations.

## PLANNING PERMISSION

In this connection, as regular supporters will know already, the club has been refused planning permission by the County Council to construct additional exits from the Main Stand and a walkway directly connecting the Kenilworth Road Terrace (the visitors' end) with the visitors' coach park because this would be on land needed for the scheme.

The club would also lose a large part of its all-weather practice area, which is additionally used extensively by the community. The club would also lose extensive car parking facilities and, in particular, the areas reserved for those using the Kenilworth Suite.

Since the Bill now before Parliament would authorise British Railways to acquire the club's land, the club is being put in the position of having to fight British Railways in relation to a scheme that is, in essence, a road scheme devised by the County Council.

In order to construct their road the County Council will still have to acquire compulsorily other land along the route and a public local inquiry will have to be held by the Secretary of State for the Environment into any objections to the Council's compulsory purchase.

## PUBLIC INQUIRY

But the club will not have the right to present its case at such a public inquiry because its land is going to be acquired by a different method. Indeed, by the time any public inquiry takes place, the Bill authorising British Railways to acquire the club's land could well have been passed.

The club, of course, intend to fight the proposals in every way possible because it wishes to remain at Kenilworth Road with all the facilities it has built up. It is lodging a Petition in Parliament against the Bill. The club believes that the County Council has underestimated the effect that the scheme will have on us. The club has been advised by leading Counsel that it has a strong case against the proposals.

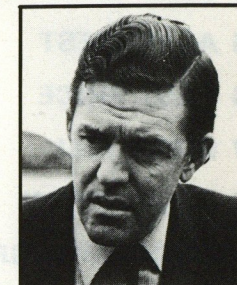
If, however, the scheme goes ahead and the club's land is compulsorily acquired, the club will, of course, be entitled to compensation. The club believes that the County Council has agreed to indemnify British Railways for any compensation paid to the club, although no copy of such agreement has been made available.

The club has obtained the advice of leading Counsel on the question of compensation; he has advised that the effect of the proposals on the club will be such as to entitle the club to utilise its statutory right to force British Railways to acquire not just the land required but the whole of the remainder of the ground and premises as well, and to pay compensation accordingly. No estimates have been given.

Mr John Carlisle, MP, has intervened in an endeavour to ensure that the rather unusual procedure being pursued by the County Council and British Railways is not prejudicial to the club nor to a fair and sensible judgement being reached between, on the one hand, the merits and effects of the road scheme and, on the other hand, the merits of all the objectors to the scheme including the club taken together.

The club is extremely grateful to Mr Carlisle for his help at this stage and his interest in the continued existence and well-being of Luton Town FC

**JOHN SMITH** *Chief Executive*



JOHN CARLISLE, MP

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Wallspan Bedrooms have long been champions of local causes, particularly when it comes to sport.

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Our chief executive, John Smith, said: "The relationship which has developed between Terry and the football club is one we cherish. He is a very successful young man and his assistance and involvement to local sport, and in particular with Luton Town, must be welcomed by our supporters."



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# WHO'S PLAYING



## LUTON TOWN

- 1 JAKE FINDLAY
- 2 KIRK STEPHENS
- 3 MAL DONAGHY
- 4 TONY GREALISH
- 5 ALAN WEST
- 6 PAUL PRICE
- 7 RICKY HILL
- 8 BRIAN STEIN
- 9 GODFREY INGRAM
- 10 MARK AIZLEWOOD
- 11 DAVID MOSS
- 12

TEAM CHANGES

## BLACKBURN

- 1 JIM ARNOLD
- 2 JIM BRANAGAN
- 3 MIKE RATHBONE
- 4 HOWARD KENDALL
- 5 GLEN KEELEY
- 6 DEREK FAZACKERLEY
- 7 NOEL BROTHERSTON
- 8 SIMON GARNER
- 9 JOHN LOWEY
- 10 MARSHALL BURKE
- 11 MICK SPEIGHT

TEAM CHANGES

# HALF-TIME SCORECHECK

Birmingham City v Brighton		Bristol City v Sheffield Wednesday	
Coventry City v Wolverhampton		Chelsea v Cambridge United	
Everton v Aston Villa		Derby County v Grimsby Town	
Ipswich Town v Crystal Palace		Newcastle United v Q.P.R.	
Leicester City v Manchester United		Notts County v Swansea City	
Manchester City v Nott'm Forest		Oldham Athletic v Bristol Rovers	
Middlesbrough v Sunderland		Orient v Wrexham	
Southampton v Norwich City		Preston v Watford	
Stoke City v Arsenal		Shrewsbury Town v West Ham Utd	
Tottenham v Leeds United		Burnley v Exeter City	
W.B.A. v Liverpool		Chester v Charlton Athletic	
Bolton v Cardiff City		Fulham v Brentford	



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