

Welcome to

Luton Town

CANON LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE
LUTON TOWN
v
STOKE CITY
MONDAY 7th May 1984



DAVID PLEAT AND THE TEAM
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
THIS SEASON

TODAY'S MATCH IS SPONSORED BY:

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Action



LUTON 1 WATFORD 2

Paul Walsh fires a fine shot at goal and forces a superb save from Sherwood. A powerful shot from Paul Walsh gives the Hatters a boost in the second-half.



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Team Check

LUTON TOWN



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- 2 KIRK STEPHENS
- 3 MITCHELL THOMAS
- 4 BRIAN HORTON
- 5 PAUL ELLIOTT
- 6 MAL DONAGHY
- 7 GARY PARKER
- 8 BRIAN STEIN
- 9 PAUL WALSH
- 10 TREVOR AYLOTT
- 11 FRANK BUNN
- 12

STOKE CITY



- 1 PETER FOX
- 2 STEVE BOULD
- 3 PETER HAMPTON
- 4 ROBBIE JAMES
- 5 PAUL DYSON
- 6 BRENDAN O'CALLAGHAN
- 7 IAN PAINTER
- 8 SAMMY McILROY
- 9 COLIN RUSSELL
- 10 ALAN HUDSON
- 11 MARK CHAMBERLAIN
- 12

Referee: M. L. JAMES (Horsham)
Linesmen: D. R. ELLERAY (Red Flag) M. G. RICHARDSON (Yellow Flag)

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MY VIEW

I start my notes this afternoon by reproducing a letter I received from Watford manager Graham Taylor after last Saturday's game. The contents illustrate the good feeling which has been generated through the two clubs and Graham's letter reads:

'Dear David,

'Perhaps you would be kind enough, through the pages of your matchday programme, to pass on my appreciation of the very kind welcome the Luton Town supporters gave me prior to the game between our two clubs.

'Although an unfortunate incident took place during the game, this in no way affected my feelings for what I thought was genuine and sincere applause for Watford reaching the FA Cup Final.

'I hope that this is a further indication that, whilst local rivalry will always remain, there is a place for it to be conducted in as sporting a manner as possible. Once again, please would you convey my thanks.

'Yours sincerely, Graham Taylor.'

Welcome to Stoke City, who complete our season here. I hope today's game brings nothing too controversial as last Saturday. There was obviously a wave of sympathy for Wilf Rostron, who will miss the FA Cup Final. We were even cast as villains by one Sunday newspaper, which shocked me. It was not an over-tough game by any means. All the injuries, including David Moss's broken collar bone, Paul Elliott's dislocated shoulder, and John Barnes' hamstring, happened by chance.

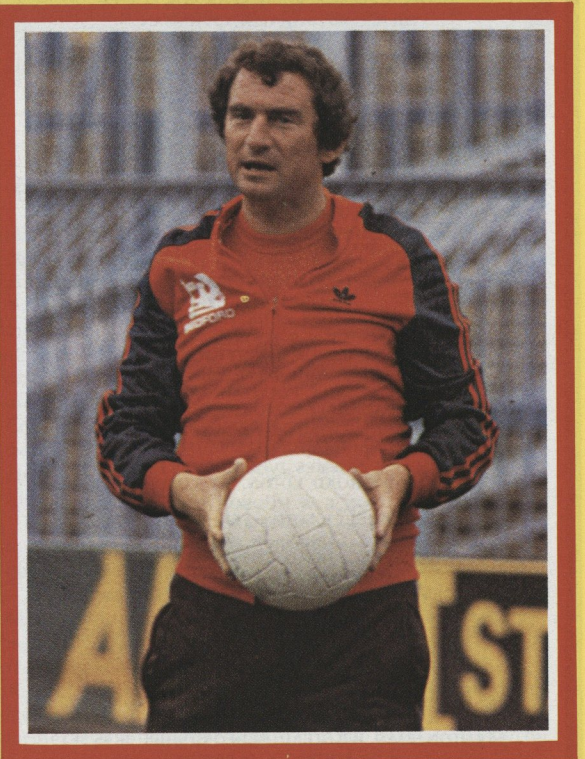
There was no intent. Obviously, my chief concern last week — apart from our poor first-half performance — was the two blatant penalty decisions which Mr Milford ignored because we had, in his view, the advantage! I do not believe referees should ever think about the reasoning of an advantage when inside that vital penalty area. A penalty is a penalty.

I would like to thank those kind gentlemen and companies who have been good enough to help sponsor our Youth team travel to Amsterdam in June. They are: B. Doherty; R. W. Unwin; Hertfordshire B.T.R. Limited; Sapsworth Glazing and Decorating; Broad Street Print; Priority Farm Foods; Mark James Salvage; Cheveralls Transport; Clarendon Hats; Robby's; Shorey's Travel.

Thank you most sincerely. This international Youth tournament has accelerated the football progress of our younger players.

It is always sad when we play our last game of the season. I do believe, however, that the last five weeks of a season played on hard, bumpy grounds with many teams having little to play for can be rather an anticlimax. Eight-and-a-half months is a long time to keep players in peak mental and physical condition. With freedom of contract, many are quietly seeking fresh pastures before the season's end. It can be a difficult time for the smaller clubs.

At the beginning of the season, I assessed that Liverpool would win the Championship, followed by Manchester



United. Thousands made the same prediction. It is going to take inspired management with an open purse and a brave Board for any town club to get among the challengers and stay there. It has been an eventful season, and the pattern for the future is taking shape.

It is possible that today we have players on the pitch who may not appear at Kenilworth Road for Luton again. Give the team the support they have earned. We have had the most successful era for many years, and these players have all made solid contributions. We have a flood of memories — 79-80 almost promoted; 80-81 almost promoted; 81-82 promotion as Second Division Champions; 82-83 First Division; 83-84 First Division. And it has been most stimulating.

Thank you all for your solid support. Enjoy the summer.

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Scene on One.. Scene on One.. Scene on One

CHANGES AT THE TOP

By Tony Pullein

Amid all the excitement of the Championship, promotion and relegation issues still to be settled there is already some hard talking going on in boardrooms and managerial offices about changes that will soon have to be made at the top.

History has proved that relegation need not always be disastrous — Lawrie McMenemy (Southampton) and Keith Burkinshaw (Spurs) — both suffered it at the end of their first season but, after being given a vote of confidence, led their clubs to great triumphs.

Ironically, these are two of the managers who have been thinking hard about their futures. Burkinshaw, of course, gave prior notice that he will resign at White Hart Lane at the end of the season and there are several clubs interested in offering him a job.

'I shall consider them all carefully and, providing I am given full control, I hope to stay in management,' he said.

McMenemy has been spending the past couple of weeks in deep thought. FA Cup semi-final defeat by Everton ended his hopes of returning to Wembley and he has been visibly disappointed.

NOTHING WRONG

'Let me make it clear there is nothing wrong with the club,' said the big Geordie. 'The problem is within myself. Eleven years is a long time to be with one club. Maybe we get tired of seeing each other sometimes.'

'I'm not after anyone's job. I may even remain at The Dell. I am undecided at the moment. I may decide to pack in football and go away and find a milk round!'

The Saints' board is keen to retain the man who led the club to unprecedented heights and who looked likely to lead them back into Europe for next season. But they are giving him the time he has requested to take stock.

McMenemy ended speculation about any rumours linking him with Arsenal and Tottenham. 'Don Howe has proved himself at Highbury and has done enough to get the Arsenal job permanently,' said Mr McMenemy. 'And I'm not Spurs' type.'

Several managerial vacancies remained as the season approached its close. Some clubs have installed acting-managers who may, or may not, be given the posts permanently.

RIVAL MANAGERS

Since club chairmen reached their agreement not to approach rival managers during the course of the season — and this has since been written into League regulations — many clubs are simply waiting to see who becomes available at the end of the season.

• Sadly, one manager under pressure was Graham Hawkins of Wolves. A run of six successive defeats, culminating in a 2-0 reverse at Everton, made it certain Wolves will make a quick return to Division Two.

'It's sad after all the effort of winning promotion last season,' said Hawkins. 'Now we'll have to do it all again.'

But chairman Derek Dougan could not confirm that Hawkins will still be in charge next season. 'Graham has

been under a lot of pressure lately and is very dedicated,' said Mr Dougan. 'But managers live or die by results. The manager's position is due to be considered at our next board meeting.'

Dougan felt that the club had become victims of their success last season. 'We have the youngest team in Wolves' history and the potential is there,' he maintained. 'We've also paid off £600,000 owing to creditors so it has not all been bad news.'

ESTABLISHED FORMULA

• One manager who can look back on the season with enormous satisfaction is Joe Fagan who has already assured himself one trophy, the Milk Cup, for his first season in charge of Liverpool. He was hoping for others to follow.

'I've tried to change very little,' he explained. 'Bill Shankly established a formula which Bob Paisley largely followed. So why should I change a winning system?'

The astonishing thing is that Liverpool have failed to win at least one trophy only once in the past 12 seasons. The only thing Liverpool had to show for that season of 'failure' in 1974-75 was runners-up spot in the First Division.

• As John Lyall comes to the end of another successful season with West Ham he may feel a twinge of regret that it hasn't ended with a trophy. The Hammers received a major blow in mid-season when they lost England centre-back Alvin Martin and forward Steve Whitton following injuries in a car crash.

Both have recently been back in the side but Lyall also lost Trevor Brooking for a critical period in March and April. Until then they were only six points behind Liverpool with a game in hand.

The Hammers then lost successive away games at Leicester and Liverpool and dropped some vital home points to Wolves (1-1), QPR (2-2) and Sunderland (0-1).

SLIP BEHIND

It was beginning to look as if the Hammers might miss out on Europe, too. They were beginning to slip behind Southampton in the race for the last available spot in next season's UEFA Cup.

West Ham will certainly be without the considerable services of Trevor Brooking next season. 'I think the time has come for me to stop now,' he smiled. 'I had provisionally



JOHN LYALL



ANDY GRAY

planned to retire at the end of last season but I missed most of it through injury so I felt I should have one more.

'What worries me is that I might start a season and, then by November, I may feel I am not up to it. I would prefer to go out when I'm still playing well and not stay around until I am struggling.'

• One man who will most definitely not be seen as a manager next season is Kevin Keegan. He had been connected with the Tottenham vacancy but said that he would not be interested in becoming involved with team managership.

England captain. 'If they made an offer then of course I would consider it. But I would only go on the understanding that I could have the Newcastle manager Arthur Cox running the team.'

'I don't see my future as a team manager. In fact, I'm not too sure what I'll be doing. The only certainty is that I shall not be playing any more.'

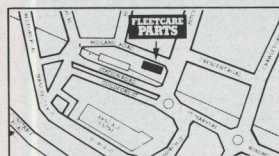
That ruled out any lingering hope we might have had of seeing Keegan in action at Kenilworth Road next season. It is more likely that he will embark upon a world tour, teaching schoolboys in far-flung corners of the globe.

• Scottish international striker Andy Gray said he didn't feel any regret about scoring the goal that doomed his former club Wolves to relegation. Andy who was signed by Everton earlier this season, said: 'They have been going down for a long time and my goal only destined them to the inevitable.'

'When I was at Molineux I was disappointed at some of the players' attitude to defeat. They deserve to be relegated. But there are other genuine club men for whom I feel regret.'

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Town Focus



MARK STEIN CAREER RECORD

If Mark Stein turns out to be as good a prospect as his elder brother, Brian, Luton fans could be watching a few more goals flashing past opposing goalkeepers next season.

Mark joined us as a product of the YTS scheme in June last year and made such rapid progress that he was offered full professional terms in January.

His performances for the reserves at Football Combination — under the watchful eyes of our coaches — convinced manager David Pleat that Mark was a prospect for the future.

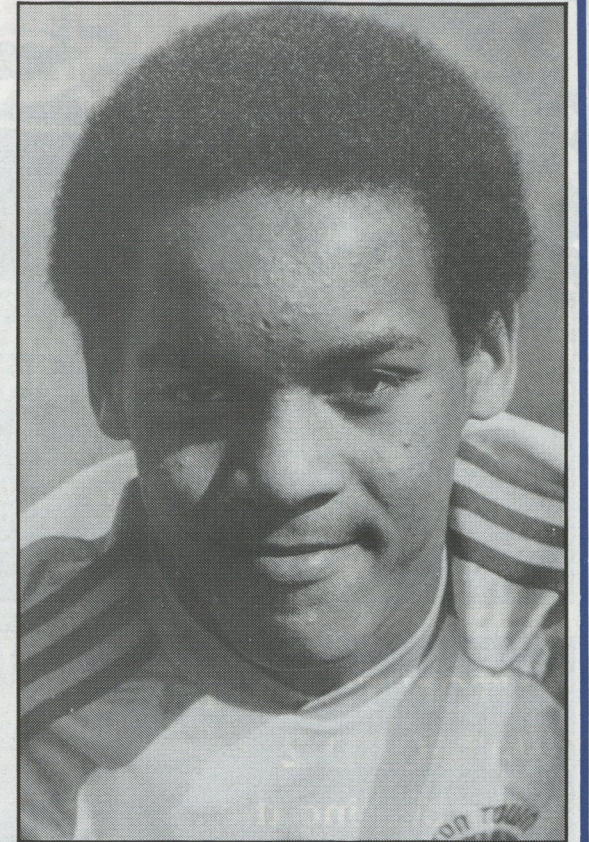
In addition to his progress in the Combination team, he also appeared for the youth side. But even Mark could not have expected such a quick elevation to the Football League when he was given his debut last month.

It came in the game against Everton at Kenilworth Road on April 7th when he wore the number nine shirt.

Unfortunately, Mark was on a losing side because we were beaten 3-0. But Luton supporters haven't seen the last of him yet and the prospect of him eventually partnering his brother is an exciting one.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE 83-84

Everton	1
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Town Focus

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Action



**LUTON TOWN 1
WATFORD 2**
After beating the Hornets defence and keeper Brian Stein cannot make the one count. Paul Walsh meets a corner for Brian Stein to collect.



WAS YOURS AN INSIDE JOB?

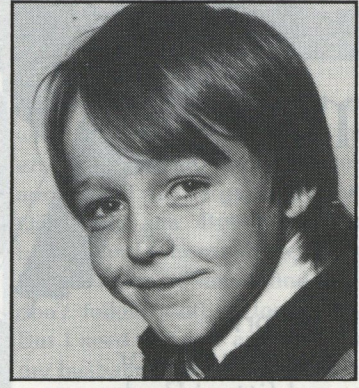
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DARREN SOPER

We offer a sincere welcome to our mascot and escorts for our last home game of the season. Since last August, many youngsters have been able to spend a few happy hours with us, from the mail we have received, we know they have enjoyed themselves. Junior Hatters Club president Ricky Hill sends his thanks to you all and looks forward to welcoming many more next season.

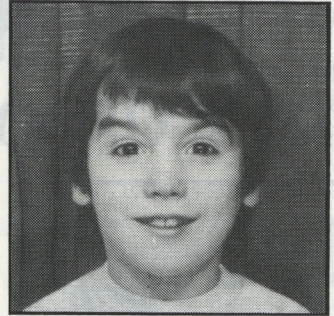
MASCOT
Darren Soper is 13 and lives in Luton. Darren attends Lealands High School and plays for his school team. His interests are football, athletics and music.

ESCORTS
Daniel Barker is seven and from Luton. He is a pupil at Norton Road school and his interests are football, Star Wars, tennis and drawing.

James Bowley is 11 and from Dunstable. James attends Priory School and plays football for Dunstable Dynamos in the Chiltern Youth League and his interests are computers and most sports.

Gary Williams is 14 and lives in Luton. He attends Lea Manor High School and plays football for his school, Luton Schools and Limbury Boys Club.

Lester D'Silva is 10 and from Leighton Buzzard. Lester attends Brooklands Middle School. He plays football for Hawthorns Juniors and his interest is football.



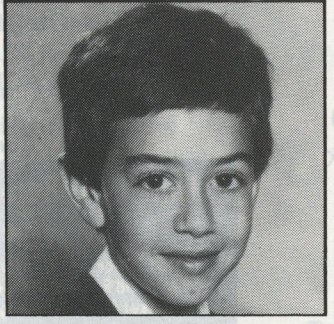
DANIEL BARKER



JAMES BOWLEY



GARY WILLIAMS



LESTER D'SILVA

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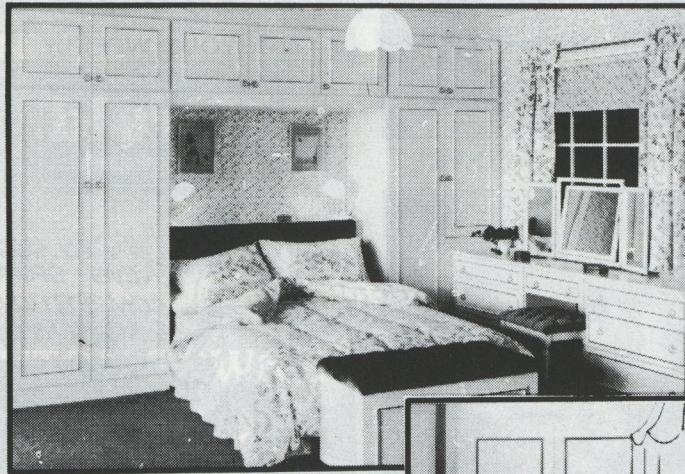
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**READERS
 LETTERS**

1958-59 postponed match 17.1.59, 1945-46; Luton v West Ham 1951-52, 1950-51 and 1948-49 (FAC) plus any reserve/youth matches between the two. Thanking you in advance.

**Stuart Allen
 61 Mayday Gardens
 London SE3 8NL**

Dear Mr Beevor, I wanted to write to you to say thank you for arranging the day out for my son and myself at the game against QPR. My son Bobby enjoyed himself and I thoroughly enjoyed it and found it interesting as I don't follow football too much. But I need to know and listen as my husband is a Luton supporter and was waiting for me to tell him all about it on arriving home. So thank you once again for a very enjoyable day.

**Mrs S. Pulla
 Strangers Way
 Leagrave
 Luton
 Beds.**

Dear Sirs, As an avid collector of West Ham programmes, I should be very grateful if you could advertise a few of my wants in a future edition of the Matchday Magazine to complete my post war homes. I am willing to pay any reasonable price for the following: West Ham v Luton

Dear Mr Wilkinson, As another season draws to the end, I would like to say thanks to everyone for their kindness to me. A special thanks to David Pleat for what he did for me at Norwich in my wheel-chair. I would be obliged if you would publish this letter in a magazine before the season ends.

**Ken Taylor
 Conway Crescent
 Bedford**

Dear Mr Pleat, Just a card to say thank you to you and the players for taking the time to sign the anniversary card to my husband. The look on his face said it all — he couldn't believe it. Good luck to you all in the last remaining matches.

**G. J. Anderson
 Truemans Road
 Hitchin
 Herts.**

Dear Mr Pleat, On behalf of E.L.H.A.P. (East of London Handicapped Adventure Playground) I would like to thank you very much for making it possible for our youth club members to meet and chat to the team on Tuesday evening.

It was an unforgettable evening for them, especially as several of the boys had never been to a football match before.

We are so grateful that Paul Elliott has chosen E.L.H.A.P. as his charity as it gives the members opportunities, such as Tuesday evening, that they would otherwise not have.

Thanking you once again.

**Diane Littlestone
 The Dell
 Woodford Wells
 Essex**

Dear Sirs, Tony Litchfield, the recreation assistant, who organises the Vendepac five-a-side league, has asked me to convey his thanks to your first team players Paul Elliott and Mitchell Thomas for supporting his presentation evening.

**Bob Whan
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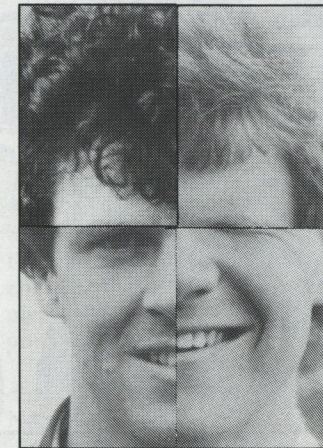
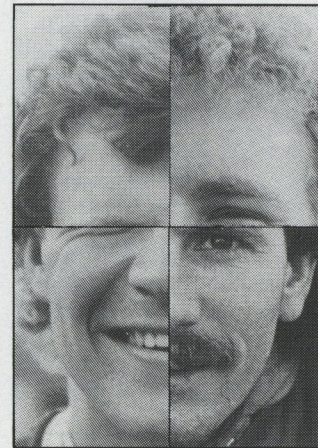
Up to the time of going to print we do not have the result of last Saturday's match at Coventry so we cannot up-date the leading positions detailed in the Watford Matchday Magazine.

Obviously with this being our last Matchday Magazine this season we cannot publish the final table until next season. However the top three will be notified of their success and will be receiving from us a Luton Town video for their achievement.

Finally we would like to thank all those who have participated.

NAME THE FACES . . . NAME THE FACES . . .

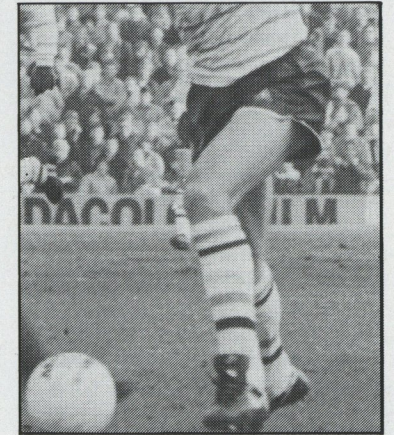
Here is a new phototeazer with again a prize of a super commemorative video. The photo caption shows three players heads mixed up. All you have to do is name the three players and their current clubs. Send your entries to: Luton Town FC, 70/72 Kenilworth Road, Luton, Beds. LU1 1DH.



NAME THE STAR

The Name the Star competition continues from the Queens Park Rangers, Ipswich Town, Leicester City, Everton, Notts County and Watford magazines. As we are sure you all know, we add a small proportion of the body of a famous player inviting you to guess the players identity.

Send your entries to Luton Town FC, 70/72 Kenilworth Road, Luton, Beds. LU1 1DH.



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One of the most successful commercial operations we operate is our popular matchday magazine postal subscription service and it will continue as usual next season.

The rates are £18 for every home issue with an additional £15 for away magazines.

Supporters wishing to take advantage of this excellent service should apply to Mrs C. Newbery, matchday magazine distributor, Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road, Luton.

YOUNG MATCHMATES

We are pleased to welcome 150 youngsters from Stoke to Kenilworth Road this afternoon. They are taking part in a match-mates project which the Mayor of Luton, Councillor Frank Lester, has taken a keen interest in.

The scheme was conceived and developed by the Lord Mayor of Stoke and is seen as a firm step forward in eliminating hooliganism.

Last December, a party of youngsters from Luton travelled to Stoke for our game there and the event was an unqualified success. Today's reciprocal visit will prove that Luton can promote an equally

successful exercise.

Luton's Mayor acknowledges the generous contributions made by Airport Catering Services, Beds County Council, Bedfordshire Police, Ellis and Goldstein, Hayward Tyler, Luton Borough Council, Luton Town FC, Luton Schools FA, Shaw and Kilburn, South Bedfordshire Referees' Association, St John Ambulance, United Counties Omnibus Company, Vauxhall Motors/Bedford Trucks and Whitbread who have supported today's project.

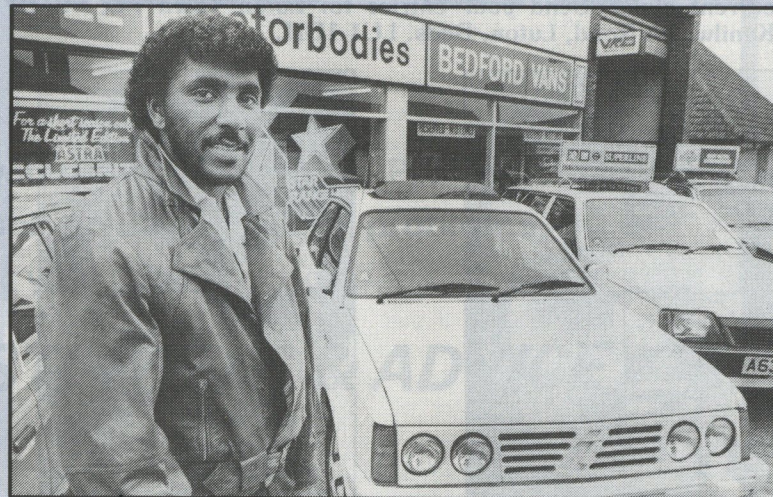
The youngsters played a number

of football matches against each other this morning and were entertained for lunch at Vauxhall Motors.

We sincerely hope they have a day to remember. We also express our appreciation to the Luton Mayor for arranging sponsorship of the match ball by the companies mentioned above.

MAN ABOUT TOWN

A dashing young man about town needs an equally dashing car to transport him — and Ricky Hill is no exception.



Our England international, recently out of the first team with an injury, is pictured after collecting his new Nova from Luton firm Motorbodies. Nice one, Ricky.

AWAY TRAVEL

Page 23 of today's magazine gives details of the excellent travel facilities available to supporters who plan to watch us play at West Brom on Saturday.

But, as usual, we provide this RAC route for those fans who wish to make their own way to The Hawthorns.

Follow the M1 to junction 19 and follow the M6 to junction 8 and join the M5.

Continue to junction 1 and take the A41 Holyhead road towards Birmingham where you will find the ground on your right.

HAPPY HATTERS

We thought this afternoon's game was an appropriate time to thank Chiltern Radio and the Herald for their continued sponsorship of our Junior Hatters Club.

Chiltern Radio provide a Junior Hatters spot on Brother Louie's programme on Saturday, and the Herald carry president Ricky Hill's column every week.



We value the close links we have forged with local companies — not forgetting of course, our main sponsors Bedford Trucks — and thank them for their excellent assistance.

The Junior Hatters Club is an ideal way of involving your children with Luton Town FC. Every mascot and escort is allowed to keep the kit they wear on matchdays by courtesy of Brengreen Holdings plc, another of our valued supporters.

These happy youngsters were on duty at our home game against Notts County and shows mascot

Mark Seller (middle front) and his escorts for the afternoon.

If you want details of how to join the Junior Hatters and all the benefits available, call in at the commercial offices. And don't forget to tune in to today's Junior Hatters spot on page 11.

CENTURY CLUB

Today's game is the last home match of the current season and we welcome Stoke City in anticipation of a good afternoon's entertainment.

Next Saturday's game at West Brom sees the end of yet another season and through the ups and downs of this one our members have been able to enjoy the skills and talents of our own players and our opponents.

We all wish David Pleat and his squad a restful break from the hurley burley of League soccer and the best of luck in whatever they may do although we anticipate the pleasure of their company at our end-of-season ball on Friday 1st June at the Chiltern Hotel. Full details will be sent to all members.

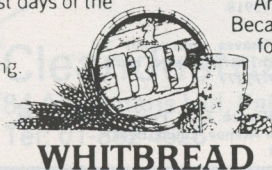
The Century Club chairman and committee take the opportunity of wishing all members a happy summer.

THE LOCAL TASTE AND HOW TO SATISFY IT

We're very definite about our taste in beer around here. A clear light pint is what we look for, with a good, clean smack of malt and hops.

And there's only one name that really satisfies the local taste — BB. The light beer first brewed in Luton during the darkest days of the War by J. W. Green.

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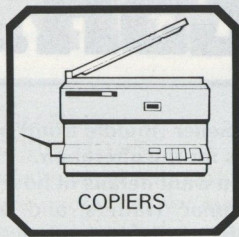
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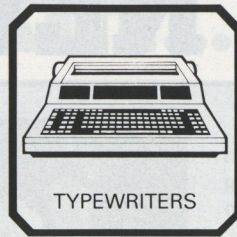
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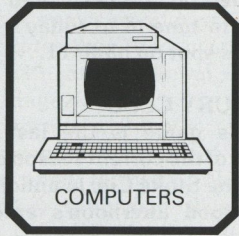
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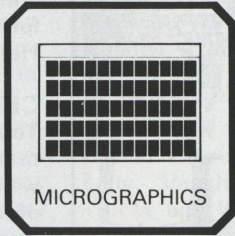
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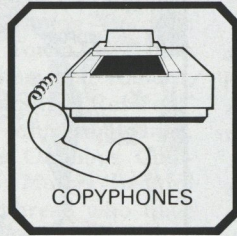
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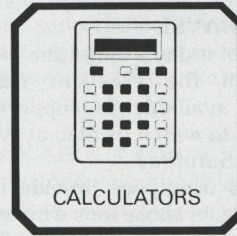
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We hope you enjoy today's game.

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HATTERS WHO'S WHO

Tony Pullein's final episode of a fascinating series this season on former Luton players today features Billy Bingham.

Billy Bingham was at the height of his career when he came to Kenilworth Road in 1958. Although he was here for little more than two years, his wing runs and lethal shooting made him a big favourite of Hatters' fans.

'It was while I was at Luton that I enjoyed one of my most cherished moments,' said Mr Bingham who is now manager of the Irish national team.

'I went to Wembley with Luton in 1959 and although we were disappointed as a team that day, it was an honour to take part in a FA Cup final, even though at the end of the day I felt really depressed.'

Billy Bingham has been associated with Irish football from a very early age. He had been selected at schoolboy and youth levels and it was on the strength of those performances that he was invited to join Irish League club Glentoran as an amateur.

He was still only 18 when Sunderland signed him for £7,000 in October 1950. But Billy didn't immediately gain a regular place in their First Division side. Weight building exercises helped him to increase his stature and, in fact, he appeared in only 13 League games during his first campaign there.

LUCKY 13

For Billy, it turned out to be lucky 13. At the end of the season he was picked for Northern Ireland against France in a Festival of Britain match in Belfast.

There is no doubt that, apart from Stan Matthews and Tom Finney perhaps, Billy Bingham was the outstanding outside-right of the fifties. He had a tremendous shot in both feet and an accurate cross.

There were times, though, when Billy could make the simplest of things look difficult, when he would trip over the ball, or, perhaps, land what ought to have been a goalmaking cross on top of the net.

At times he was exasperating. Yet, one never knew when, out of a misery game, he would suddenly reveal a flash of his brilliance which would turn the game. Some Luton fans of that era used to consider that his unpredictability was his main strength.

None of this interfered with his steady progress. Within two years of his arrival at Sunderland, Bingham was already a permanent member of the Northern Ireland team. All told he won 56 caps – equalling Danny Blanchflower's record which stood until being beaten by Terry Neill – and, in one run, he appeared in 42 consecutive games for his country.

QUARTER-FINALS

Perhaps the highlight of his international career was reached at the time he was about to join Luton. He had helped the Irishmen get all the way to the quarter-finals of the World Cup in Sweden 1958 – their best achievement.

Billy Bingham played well over 200 first team games for Sunderland before moving on to Luton for £15,000 during the summer of 1958.

Unfortunately, Billy had now won many honours at club level while at Sunderland but he achieved his ambition to play in a Wembley Cup final at the end of his first season with the Hatters. Indeed, it was his winning semi-final goal which took us to Wembley.

'That was one of my happiest moments,' he recalled.

A year later he suffered another bitter disappointment – relegation.

Being too good a player to go down into the Second Division, Billy was in great demand as Luton were relegated. In October 1960 he went to Everton for the equivalent of a £28,000 fee, made up of cash and two players in part-exchange.

BROKEN LEG

In 1963 he was a member of the Everton side which won the League Championship. At the end of that season he left the First Division for good, joining Port Vale where a broken leg brought his career to an end a year later.

After a period as trainer-coach, he took his first managerial appointment with Southport and took them to promotion for the first time in their history.

Billy Bingham was appointed team manager to the Northern Ireland side shortly after accepting the job as Plymouth's manager in 1967.

Upon leaving Plymouth, he returned to Belfast to manage Linfield who won the Irish Championship in 1971. Shortly after that he was offered, and accepted, the post as manager of the Greek national team.

He spent two years in Greece, returning to England to take over as Everton's manager in 1973.

He remained in charge at Goodison Park for four years and later spent a year in command at Mansfield. It was in 1980 that he began his second spell in charge of the Irish team.

LEAGUE RECORD

		Apps	Gls
Sunderland	1950-51	13	4
	1951-52	36	7
	1952-53	19	6
	1953-54	19	3
	1954-55	35	10
	1955-56	27	6
	1956-57	27	5
Luton	1957-58	30	4
	1958-59	36	8
	1959-60	40	16
	1960-61	11	3
Everton	1960-61	26	9
	1961-62	37	9
	1962-63	23	6
Port Vale	1963-64	35	6
	1964-65	5	—
		419	102

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John's



Journal

JOHN WILKINSON - CLUB SECRETARY

Once again we come to the last home match at Kenilworth Road for the season and I would again like to thank all our matchday staff for their efforts.

It certainly makes my own tasks much easier when we have such a fine body of helpers behind me. To the gatemen, ground stewards, club stewards, scoreboard operators, programme sellers, car park attendents, tea-making staff, spectator control operators, club photographer, broadcasting staff, the Luton strikers and also the DJ presenters for their Pop Spot every week, I say thank you for your efforts.

If I have left anyone out, I'm sorry. I can't mention everyone by name otherwise I would need the whole of this programme to do so. I would like to thank the police for the way they handle match days.

They have a very hard job to do at times but without their co-operation we would be in difficult positions every week. Once again thanks to you all.

I was very sorry to learn of the death on Easter Monday of one of our former players, Jack Ball. He played most of his games for the club during the war period but did have one season when football commenced again in 1945. He also had spells with Bedford Town and Dunstable Town and, during my own period with Dunstable, I played with Jack on a number of occasions. At the time of his death, he was the landlord of the Midland public house in Luton. To his wife and family we send out deepest sympathy.

Don't forget we still have two reserve matches left to play. The first one is against Birmingham City this Wednesday. There are also some local games left to be played here and anyone interested should telephone our information service number where all games will be given with kick-off times.



**MEMORY
LANE**

VIV BUSBY

Viv was spotted playing for Wycombe Wanderers and eventually signed for the Hatters in January 1970. He almost immediately became a first team regular.

He had a loan period with Newcastle and was a member of the Geordie side surprisingly beaten by Hereford United in the FA Cup. In August 1973, he was transferred to Fulham where he spent three seasons.

He then joined Norwich City, Stoke City, Sheffield United (on loan) before going to the States to join Tulsa in the North American Soccer League. On his return to England he joined Blackburn Rovers and is currently coach at York City who have run away with the Fourth Division Championship this season.

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IF YOU'RE TRAVELLING TO WEST BROM FOR OUR FINAL MATCH ON SATURDAY, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LUXURY COACHES USED BY OUR OFFICIAL TRAVEL CLUB. COACHES LEAVE MAPLE ROAD AT 11 A.M. AND THE FARE IS ONLY £3.50. MAKE YOUR BOOKING IN THE COMMERCIAL OFFICE AFTER TODAY'S MATCH.

Lotteries

Although we have reached the end of the season, the off-the-field activities of the Commercial Department will continue throughout the summer as we strive to raise valuable revenue for the club. Think you can help? If so, call in at the Commercial Offices and we'll be pleased to explain how you can earn some extra income.

Treble Chance BINGO

GAME 1	GAME 2	GAME 3
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5 12 23 33	4 13 25 31	4 14 24 34
7 15 25 36	5 16 27 35	5 17 27 37
8 18 28 39	6 19 29 38	7 19 29 39
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Remove the cover from the 12 chalk numbers above and scratch off the required numbers against the above BINGO board. Mark four numbers correct, cover or diagonally and win with the amount in your game's Prize Box. If you win on more than one game add those on to become together. If you win a 100 or 100000 you win 500,000.

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STOKE UNDER THREAT

Stoke City have been living under the threat of relegation for many weeks and, although they have been showing some signs of revival, their fate may not be known until the final day of the season.

Manager Bill Asprey signed striker Colin Russell on loan from Huddersfield in a bid to sharpen his attack. Russell began his career with Liverpool, who signed him as a schoolboy. After completing his apprenticeship at Anfield, though, he received only one outing as substitute in their First Division side and last season was transferred to Huddersfield for £15,000.

He scored 17 League and Cup goals as Huddersfield gained promotion from the Third Division and had hit seven times this season.

Russell has been partnering Ian Painter in the Potters' attack. Ian is a former Stoke apprentice who was introduced to their League team against Everton over the Christmas holiday period last season. He won an immediate place in the side.

Another newcomer to the team in recent weeks is former England midfielder Alan Hudson who first played League football for Chelsea in 1969 and was capped ten times at Under-23 level by England. It was after his £240,000 move to Stoke in 1974 that he won his two full England caps.

JOINED CHELSEA

Arsenal invested £200,000 in his transfer in December 1976 and he spent almost two years at Highbury before signing for Seattle Sounders. It was felt we had seen the last of him in League football but Alan returned to join Chelsea this season.

Because of their successful start to the season, he didn't get into their first team but a £15,000 move to Stoke in January enabled him to prove that he was worthy of playing in the First Division again.

Stoke's other midfield players include Mark Chamberlain, Sammy McIlroy, Chris Maskery, Paul Maguire and Robbie James.

Chamberlain made his debut in League football with neighbouring Port Vale in 1978-79 and was transferred to Stoke for £150,000 in 1982. Mark made an enormous impression and, within weeks, he was in the England team.

He won his second full cap as substitute against Denmark at Wembley in September and was one of the nominated substitutes in the Under-21 side that played in France recently.



ROBBIE JAMES

FIRST APPEARANCES

McIlroy grew up with Manchester United, making his first appearances in their First Division side during 1971-72. It didn't take him long to win a place in Northern Ireland national team and he is still very much a part of Billy Bingham's plans.

When he played against England at Wembley last month, Sammy had 73 full caps to his name. Stoke City signed him from United for £350,000 two seasons ago.

Maskery completed his apprenticeship at the Victoria Ground and made his League debut at Coventry in December 1982. After making a few subsequent appearances last season, Chris has recently won a regular place. He's quite a versatile player because although normally seen in midfield, he played at right-back at West Bromwich.

Maguire started his League career with Shrewsbury Town in 1976 and followed former manager Alan Durban to Stoke in a £260,000 deal in 1980.

James was signed from troubled Swansea City last summer and has become a regular goalscorer from midfield for Stoke. Robbie was first introduced to the Swansea side in 1973 and soon became a consistent scorer for the Swans, his best season being 1978-79 when he scored 20 times. He is now a fixture in the Wales team and has scored in three of his five internationals this season and now has 23 full caps.

Paul Dyson and Brendan O'Callaghan normally fill the central defensive positions.

REGULAR PLACE

Dyson made his League debut for Coventry City in December 1978 and won himself a regular place the following season. He later won four England Under-21 caps but Coventry's worsening financial situation forced them to sell several players at the end of last

Stoke City

season. He was one of many to leave Highfield Road, Stoke investing £100,000 in his transfer.

O'Callaghan is a versatile player who can also play as a striker. He started out as a forward with Doncaster, topping their scoring list with 28 goals in 1975-76. Stoke paid £35,000 for him in 1978 and in 1978-79 he was their leading marksman with 17 goals. These days Bren usually plays in defence and he has been capped on seven occasions by the Republic of Ireland.

Steve Bould and Peter Hampton have been filling the full-back positions for much of the season.

Bould is a local lad who served his apprenticeship with the club and who made his first appearance in their First Division side two seasons ago. Last season he spent a short loan period with Torquay United but now he has established himself as a first teamer at the Victoria Ground.

Hampton won England youth honours in his early days with Leeds United. He had to wait patiently in the reserves for some while after making his League debut for the Peacocks in 1972-73 and it was four years before he emerged as a regular first teamer. He moved onto Stoke for £200,000 in 1980.

LOAN PERIODS

Goalkeeper Peter Fox made his name in League football with Sheffield Wednesday. While at Hillsborough, Peter spent loan periods with West Ham and Barnsley and he left Wednesday to join Stoke for £15,000 in March 1978. For the past four years he has been holding down the first team position.

Stoke's only away win in the First Division came at Coventry (3-2) in February and their only

other away points were picked up from drawn games at Leicester (2-2), Sunderland (2-2), Notts County (1-1), Aston Villa (1-1), Wolves (0-0) and Norwich (2-2).

The Potters were beaten at Everton (1-0), Birmingham (1-0), Ipswich (5-0), Liverpool (1-0), Southampton (3-1), Manchester United (1-0), QPR (6-0), Watford (2-0), West Ham (3-0), Tottenham (1-0), WBA (3-0) and Arsenal (3-1).

They did record two away victories in the Milk Cup. After being held to a goalless draw at home by Peterborough, Stoke won the replay 2-1. They were then held at home by Huddersfield, again 0-0, and won that replay 2-0. Stoke were beaten 1-0 at home by Sheffield Wednesday in the fourth round.

Stoke took an early exit from the FA Cup, losing 2-0 at home to

Everton in the third round.

There is a certain irony about Stoke's present plight because last season they were rated one of the most entertaining teams in the First Division. At one point, towards the end, it seemed they might even smash their previous club record of fourth position. But, for some reason, they collapsed at the finish when a run of six games without a win sent them falling to 13th position.

Sadly, they started the current campaign in the same mood and although they have shown one or two signs of recovery, the threat of relegation has never been far away.

It was in December that manager Richie Barker left the club and his assistant, Bill Asprey, has succeeded him.

TONY PULLEIN



MARK CHAMBERLAIN

LUTON'S FUTURE

Today's match brings to an end this current season, one full of aspirations, controversy and often hysteria.

At one stage over Christmas, the top of the First Division loomed before us and Europe was being whispered about. However, injuries and our limitation on resources prevented us from maintaining our spirited challenge, and we fell away.

We shall now need to rebuild our team for next season, bearing in mind we expect to lose Raddy Antic, David Moss, Brian Horton and Mick Saxby. Freedom of contract could also mean other departures but we will replace and adjust accordingly. While on the subject, we would like to offer our thanks to those players for the contribution they have made to the club. We wish them well, and a continuing future. The rebuilding process will not be easy, but hopefully we can create an exciting team in the recent traditions of the Hatters. We also have missed Ricky Hill who has suffered from a recurring injury problem.

We are optimistic that a full recovery will be complete in time for next season.

INTERNATIONAL CAPS

Much honour was bestowed upon the club this season, with international caps being awarded to Mal Donaghy, Brian Stein, Paul Walsh and Paul Elliott. Our honours board is starting to develop.

We would also like to thank those supporters who have avoided the hysteria, name calling and controversy surrounding the relocation of the club. Many of you have understood and acknowledged the difficulties which have beset us since the road proposals were put before us in 1979.

You have understood that the club has had to battle since that date to protect itself. The future at one stage looked very bright when Luton council accepted the principle of relocation, and offered us a site at Lewsey only then to have it rejected by the

same council. They then rejected 13 other sites. We are grateful to those supporters who have read ALL the programme articles written on this subject since 1979, sensing that maybe the club is right in what it is trying to do. Backing the club through these difficult days has not been easy. But to those who have tried to understand; to those who have looked back, not with the benefit of hindsight but with the knowledge of where the problem really emanated from, noting that the club's position has been consistent over the five years, whereas others have changed with the wind of popularity, we say thank you.

We also say thank you to the vast majority of our supporters who, like us, wish the club to have a future, it is a future in the Football League, competing among the best with proper facilities, comfort and discussing your club with pride and satisfaction.

We look forward to seeing you all again next season.

MAYOR OF LUTON – THANKS

We are grateful to the Mayor, Councillor Frank Lester, for honouring the club by receiving us in his parlour as part of the conclusion to the Mayoral Year.

However, we were saddened for Councillor Lester that his colleagues chose not to attend.

Action



LUTON 1 WATFORD 2

David Moss makes his last run before tragically breaking his collar bone. Paul Elliott makes contact first from a David Moss corner.



REPLAY IN COLOUR. . . REPLAY IN COLOUR



**LUTON 1
WATFORD 2**

Our local derby with neighbours Watford gave the FA Cup finalist the points with two first-half goals from the Hornets and one in replay from Paul Walsh. Pictured is Raddy Antic watching carefully as Paul Walsh take on the defenders.

TOWN RECORD '83/84


Opponents	Result	Attendance	Points	Position	Sealey	Stephens	Turner	Horton	Elliott	Donaghy	Hill	Stein B.	Walsh	Bunn	Moss	Antic	Aylott	Daniel	Thomas	Parker	Johnson	Goodyear	Nwajobi	Breacker	Own Goals
Goals Scored							3	2	2	2	9	15	4	4		9	2		2				2		3
1983																									
August																									
27 Arsenal	1-2	39,348			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11										
31 Leicester City	3-0	11,929	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11										
September																									
3 Sunderland	*4-1	10,846	6	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11										
6 Norwich City	2-2	11,905	7	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
10 Manchester United	0-2	41,013	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
17 Wolverhampton W.	4-0	10,975	10	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11										
24 Nottingham Forest	0-1	16,296	10	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
October																									
1 Aston Villa	1-0	12,747	13	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
4 Rotherham (MC2-1L)	3-2	4,035			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			11								
15 Everton	1-0	14,325	16	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11										
22 Southampton	3-1	12,389	19	4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	9								
25 Rotherham (MC2-2L)	0-2	6,755			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			9	11							
29 Liverpool	0-6	31,940	19	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11										
November																									
5 Queens Park Rangers	1-0	15,053	22	4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10							11				
12 Birmingham City	1-1	11,111	23	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12					3				
19 Tottenham Hotspur	2-4	17,275	23	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
26 Watford	2-1	17,791	26	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11										
December																									
3 Coventry City	*2-4	10,698	26	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	10								
10 Stoke City	4-2	10,329	29	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
18 West Bromwich Albion	2-0	11,566	32	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
26 Notts County	3-0	9,789	35	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
27 West Ham United	0-1	16,343	35	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
31 Sunderland	0-2	19,482	35	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
1984																									
January																									
2 Nottingham Forest	2-3	12,126	35	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									11
7 Watford (FAC3)	2-2	15,007			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									11
10 Watford (FAC3R)	3-4	20,586			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									12
14 Arsenal	*1-2	16,320	35	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									12
21 Wolverhampton W	2-1	11,594	38	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									12
February																									
4 Aston Villa	0-0	18,656	39	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
12 Manchester United	0-5	11,265	39	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									3
18 Liverpool	0-0	14,877	40	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									6
25 Southampton	1-2	17,947	40	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									11
March																									
3 Queens Park Rangers	0-0	11,922	41	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									6
13 Ipswich Town	2-1	8,776	44	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									6
17 Norwich City	0-0	14,181	45	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									6
20 Birmingham City	1-1	9,592	46	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									6
24 Leicester City	0-0	10,509	47	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									6
31 Ipswich Town	0-3	10,570	47	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									10
April																									
7 Everton	0-3	9,224	47	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									7
14 Tottenham Hotspur	1-2	25,390	47	14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	9								
17 West Ham United	1-3	15,430	47	15	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
21 Notts County	3-2	8,181	50	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
28 Watford	1-2	12,594	50	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
May																									
5 Coventry City																									
7 Stoke City																									
12 West Bromwich Albion																									

Today's matchball sponsorship has been arranged by his worship the Mayor of Luton on behalf of those companies who have so generously assisted in promoting the matchmate occasion involving Luton and Stoke Schools, and the Mayor hopes that this occasion is a forerunner of many more to come.

Today's Mitre Match Ball is sponsored by:



'MATCHMATES'




TOKEN

23

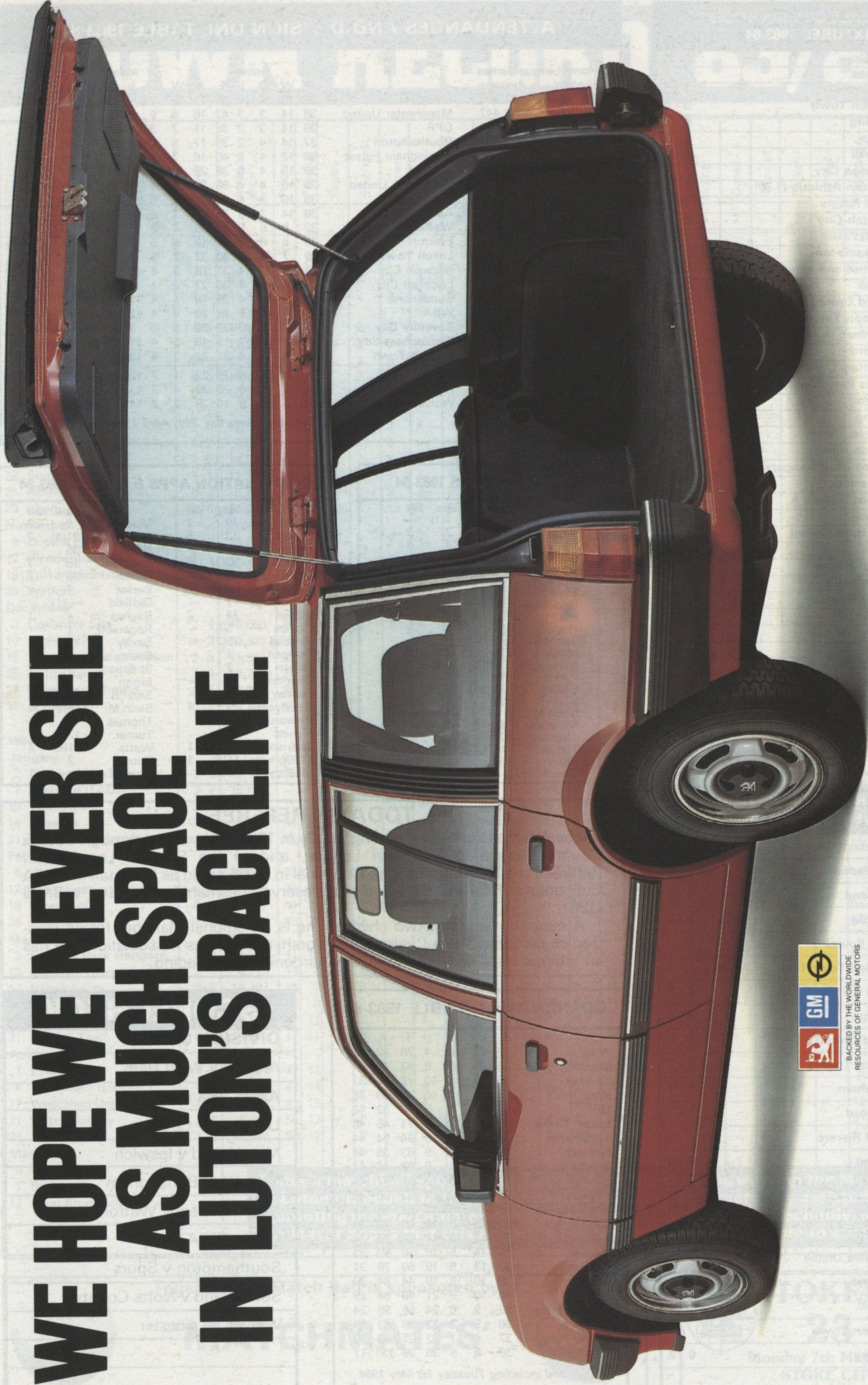
Monday 7th May 1984
STOKE CITY



FOOTBALL COMBINATION FIXTURES 1983-84

Date	Opposition	F	A
Aug. 27	Chelsea	1	1
Sept. 7	Leicester City	1	0
Sept. 10	Ipswich Town	0	0
Sept. 14	Reading	4	1
Sept. 17	Arsenal	1	2
Sept. 20	Millwall	4	0
Sept. 24	Swansea City	3	1
Oct. 3	Charlton Athletic (7.30)	1	1
Oct. 8	Bristol Rovers	2	1
Oct. 11	Norwich City	0	0
Oct. 18	Crystal Palace	0	0
Oct. 25	Southampton	3	1
Nov. 5	Brighton and Hove A.	4	0
Nov. 9	Millwall	2	1
Nov. 22	Oxford United	0	1
Nov. 26	Swindon Town	4	1
Dec. 3	Tottenham Hotspur	2	1
Dec. 10	Watford	3	0
Dec. 17	West Ham United	2	1
Jan. 3	Queens Park Rangers	1	1
Jan. 17	Chelsea	0	1
Jan. 21	Reading	3	1
Jan. 28	Swansea City	1	2
Feb. 14	Charlton Athletic	2	4
Feb. 25	Queens Park Rangers	0	1
Feb. 28	Southampton	1	1
Mar. 6	Brighton & Hove A.	0	0
Mar. 9	Fulham	3	0
Mar. 17	West Ham United	1	5
Mar. 20	Fulham	4	2
Mar. 27	Crystal Palace	5	0
Mar. 31	Leicester City	2	2
April 2	Bristol Rovers	1	1
April 7	Ipswich Town	2	3
April 10	Birmingham City	3	1
April 20	Watford	1	2
April 24	Arsenal	2	3
April 28	Oxford United	2	2
April 30	Norwich City	1	5
May			

**WE HOPE WE NEVER SEE
AS MUCH SPACE
IN LUTON'S BACKLINE.**



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