



Luton Town v Stoke City



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Saturday 13 March 1999
Kick-off 3pm

Official matchday programme. Price £1.80



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2

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Inside Forward

welcome to kenilworth road

Luton Town Football Club

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Champions 1967-68

Official Matchday Programme

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Brian Swain

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Johnston Press

The views expressed in this programme are not necessarily those of Luton Town Football Club

Brian Swain reports

DAVID KOHLER returned to his office at Kenilworth Road on Thursday. He has not changed his mind about giving up the chairmanship of Luton Town FC, but was concerned that the club was suffering for want of leadership.

Mr Kohler said: "I am still chairman of Luton Town until I can settle my business affairs, and that means getting someone who is financially able, and willing, to take on the club.

"I had decided to stay away after announcing my intention to resign as chairman, but with no progress made on the sale front I have taken the view, with some prompting from my family, that the club was like a ship without a rudder.

"So I have come in to work, because the club needs a bit of leadership. It is not a change of mind about my wish to sell my stake. It is like putting your house up for sale. You put up a board and hope to find a buyer, but in the meantime you must keep it in good condition and in a good state of repair. And you don't leave it empty if you can help it."

His intention is still to sell his controlling interest in the club, but he said: "The lack of people interested, perhaps because of the behaviour of a minority of fans and the lack of a long term home for the Hatters, has only served to highlight the pressing need to relocate Luton Town."

Mr Kohler said that he had never given up hope of giving the club the new ground it so desperately needs, and he has had recent contact with Luton Borough Council, and their continued support is evident.

We are delighted to disclose today that within the next month a new planning application will be lodged for an indoor stadium adjacent to junction 10 of the M1.

We know the Borough Council has two aims: it believes Luton needs the facility offered by the proposed new arena, and it also wants to regenerate the Bury Park area by redeveloping the site of the football ground.

The club's original proposals were supported by the inspector who conducted the planning enquiry, but turned down by John Prescott because the M1 widening scheme had been axed by the new Labour government.

The new planning application will be similar to the previous one, except that it will be for a capacity of 12,000 seats instead of 20,000, although the design would be



David Kohler



WELCOME BACK: Liam George, pictured in action against Fulham, glad to be returned to full fitness after his broken leg in August.

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such that an increase in the capacity can be made later, subject to consent and further studies.

The other change would be on the traffic management scheme, to comply with government policies, and as that was the Secretary of State's only objection to the original scheme Mr Kohler believes the amended plan has an excellent chance of gaining approval. All the objections, he said, had been dealt with at the planning enquiry, and had been rejected by the inspector and by the Secretary of State.

The chairman will not be at today's match, and has still not seen the team in action, except on TV, since his decision to leave after a petrol bomb attack on his house three weeks ago.

However, he has been listening to the radio and has been in regular communication on the phone during games to find out how we are doing. "Although the current situation is not easy for anyone, it is important that the common goal of the interests of Luton Town FC are paramount," he said.

Good-bye, and thanks

SEAN Dyche left Kenilworth Road this week after two successful months on loan from Bristol City. He was willing to stay longer, but Lennie Lawrence could not reach an agreement on a third month's loan, and the money is not available to buy the defender. The asking price is expected to be around £200,000.

"He made a very good impression here," said the manager. "He is a fantastic professional, and I hope that one day we can rekindle our interest in him."

Skipper Marvin Johnson said: "He settled in very well here, and we would have been happy to see him stay if things had worked out."

Alan White was lined up to step into Dyche's shoes, but after today's game he is suspended for at least two matches, depending on the ref's report on his red card offence on Tuesday.

So Chris Willmott, who made an impressive debut against Blackpool, will have a chance to try to overtake the former Middlesbrough defender.



For the latest news
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Bsc (Hons) FRICS

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Cherry Newbery

club secretary

OUR NEXT home game, against Gillingham in a fortnight, kicks off at 11.30, to avoid a clash with the televised England v Poland match that afternoon. Unfortunately for those who like a drink in the ground, our licensing hours are not geared to morning kick-offs, so I regret that on that day we will not be able to sell alcohol in our public bars.

I would like to mention again our plans to make the day a special event, and draw your attention to the report on page 10. All over the country clubs are taking part in a day to help celebrate the centenary of the Football League.

We are making special offers to try to attract more young supporters, and will be giving prizes for face-painting. We will also have a visit by the Sandye Band, who were very popular with supporters when they were here a few weeks ago.

Easter will soon be upon us, and please note that our first match of the holiday weekend, at Oldham, is confirmed for Good Friday, April 2, kick-off 3.30. Our policy for Easter matches is to play on Saturdays when we are at home, but Oldham wanted the Friday date, and we were happy to co-operate. With so much top competition on their doorstep - Old Trafford, for instance, is less than 15 miles from Boundary Park - Oldham have to do everything possible to maximise attendances. The kick-off time, incidentally, was fixed after discussions with their local police force.

We are awaiting confirmation of the details of our reserves' appearance in the final of the Bedfordshire Premier Cup on Arlesey Town's

ground on April 21, kick-off 7.30pm, against Stotfold. The match is pencilled in to be the first to be played on Arlesey's new ground, as the major event in its official opening. I will give more information about that when I have it.

Finally, although this season still has plenty of football still to be played, arrangements are well under way for the new campaign, to take us into the millennium.

An announcement by the Football League this week will please traditionalists: referees will next season revert to the traditional all-black strip. But if there is a colour clash with either team, refs will have a "change kit" in a hue described by the League as mondial green.

I also hear that next season the Nationwide League will come into line with the Premiership in having squad numbers at every club, with each player using his own number throughout the campaign, no matter what position he fills on the field. And they will probably also have their names on the back of the shirts.

Cherry Newbery

NOTICE TO ALL SUPPORTERS

The use of foul or abusive language, or gesturing, will not be tolerated by Luton Town Football Club. Any supporter doing so is liable to be ejected from the stadium. Anyone who refuses to leave will be arrested, charged, and banned from the Club.

This policy has been in effect for over six years, and notices regarding unacceptable behaviour and the consequences are clearly displayed around the stadium.

GEOFF LOVELL - Safety Officer



Lennie Lawrence

from the manager's chair

WE HAD all been looking forward to an enjoyable game for Fulham's visit. It was going to be a chance to prove a point, and to pit our wits against the best team in the Second Division. Sadly, what promised to be a great night was marred when we were reduced to ten men with the game barely half an hour old.

I have no arguments with the referee, although the incident that led to Alan White's early departure is one that is open to debate. First and foremost, we know it was a penalty. Second, the red card was right in terms of football law as it stands today, but Kevin Keegan made the point that not so long ago, and certainly when he was playing, it would have been a yellow card at most, plus the penalty award.

That was what we hoped would be given, but the rule now is that a player is sent off for denying an opponent a goal-scoring opportunity, and that was how the ref saw it, so White had to go.

We would rather Hayles had scored and we still had 11 men, but Fulham are the last team you want to meet when you're down to ten. Even with a full team we would have had our hands full, but I think the game would have been closer for a lot longer. To lose 4-0 was a bit harsh, especially on Kelvin Davis, Matthew Spring and Ray McKinnon. But on the night, that Fulham side would have beaten most Second Division teams, and I think they will be in the top six of the First Division a year from now.

They are unique for this division in the amount of money they have been able to spend - certainly I cannot remember any other Second Division club with such a depth and wealth of resources, and in Kelvin Keegan they have one of the best managers in the country.

Our substitutions seemed to upset some supporters. If they thought it was insulting to Stuart Douglas and Liam George to take them off just after the hour mark, they are mistaken. We were one down, having to work very hard because we had only ten men, and were facing a team that was well and truly on song. We had slogged through the mud at Walsall four days earlier, and that was a tiring experience. We needed fresh legs, and it was a case of trying to play all our cards to try to come up with a winning hand. The substitutions were no reflection on the players who were taken off.

I also had to bear in mind that we faced another tough game today, and in Liam George's case we are still re-introducing him to the pace and physical effort involved in league games after his long injury absence.

Today, we have a chance to measure ourselves against another good team, and we will give a warm welcome back to David Oldfield and Bryan Small. It is no secret that I wanted Oldfield to sign another contract with us last summer, but he decided to take the opportunity offered him at Stoke, and in view of the great job he had done for us we had to accept it, and say thanks, and good luck. But I was not best pleased when he scored his first goal of the season, against us in November, and I trust we will ensure that if he plays today he will draw a blank.

Stoke have pace, strength and power, and we must combat that, and get a win under our belts as we prepare for a difficult programme. Our remaining games in March are all against teams above us in the table, with April, on paper at least, looking a little easier.

But we cannot afford to make rash judgements about where points will come from: we have to go for three from every match, whoever the opposition, starting with Stoke today. It is a time for everybody involved with the club to give 100 per cent, and if we achieve that we will be on the right road.

We will, of course, try to entertain, but at a time like this, after two defeats, the result is more important than the performance.



Lennie Lawrence



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Marv in charge

captain's log



IT WAS a pretty subdued dressing room on Tuesday night after the match against Fulham. We had just been beaten by the best side we have met this season, with the quickest and sharpest attackers we have yet faced.

Obviously the big talking point was Alan White's sending off, and naturally we as players all had our say. The discussion was between friends, and also between fellow-professionals, and while Whitey got a bit of stick there was also a lot of sympathy for him. For starters, no-one gets sent off on purpose, and he had done his best to take the ball, not the man.

The fact is that Barry Hayles was too quick for us, and Whitey got himself into difficulties trying to play a bit of football near the half-way line. He went for the ball, but clipped Hayles around the ankles.

Football law is a bit harsh on defenders in cases like that: the red card is punishment for denying the attacker a scoring chance, yet a penalty is also given, and what better scoring opportunity can there be than a free shot at goal from 12 yards?

We were all lifted when Kelvin pulled off the penalty save, and it's a pity that we didn't take the sting out of the game immediately afterwards. Before the sending off we were doing well, and felt we were going to give Fulham a good match. We also thought we might have had a penalty for handball by Rufus Brevett

As we reorganised after the sending-off I thought briefly about when it happened to me against Colchester earlier this season. The lads had plenty to say to me that day because once I had left, with the score-line blank, the ten men got going and won 2-0. Who needs Johnson? was one of the kinder comments!

The difference, of course, was that my red card came later in the game, and without being disrespectful to Colchester, they are not Fulham.

With 11 men we would have given Fulham a close game, and might just have beaten them. We'll never know, and the score-line stands in the record as one we very much want to put behind us today.

Alan White was very down after what had happened to him and to the team, but he is not quite 23 yet, and has time to learn a lesson and I know he still has a good career ahead of him.

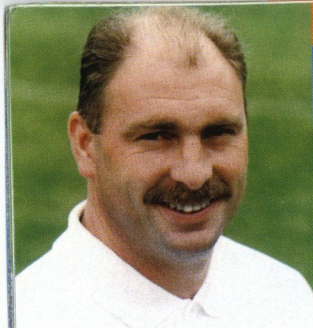
I have told him that I too had a pretty miserable time of it when I first got into the team. I made my debut at Wimbledon - Plough Lane, it was that long ago! - and gave away a goal. We lost 2-0 and I knew I had to take a lot of the blame. That was in 1988, and I'm still here!

Today, we must get Tuesday's events out of our minds and concentrate on setting the record straight by beating Stoke. We know it will not be easy, and once more we expect to be meeting an old friend, David Oldfield. We still keep in touch, and by all accounts he is playing well in Stoke's midfield. He scored against us at the Britannia Stadium, so today we owe them one.

Sorry David - welcome back to Kenilworth Road, but we will do all we can to make it a pointless journey. It is a day when we will be pleased just to grind out a result. Like Fulham felt here on Tuesday, we have a defeat to avenge.



Marvin Johnson



Clive Goodyear

from the treatment room

IF THERE was any good news to come out of the match against Fulham on Tuesday, it was in the medical department. We came through almost unscathed in terms of extra injuries, and overall the treatment room is not too busy.

After Tuesday's game Marvin Johnson, Mitchell Thomas and Stuart Douglas have been under treatment for muscle soreness, caused mostly by the heavy pitches we have had to play on recently. When the surface is muddy playing football takes that little bit more out of you.

Fortunately I do not anticipate any problems on that score at present, and although the three are undergoing massage treatment I am fairly confident they will be fit for selection today.

The news that is not so good is about Gary Doherty. We did not like being without his services for the Walsall and Fulham games, but are thrilled for him after he was capped again for Ireland's under-18 UEFA championship team.

As you may have read elsewhere in today's magazine, he scored against Northern Ireland, but in the last few minutes he twisted an ankle. It was not a serious injury, but when he got back to Luton it was straight into the treatment room as he and I worked on getting him fit so that he could be included in the squad today if the manager selected him. The early indications were that although there was a bit of swelling Gary had a good chance of making it, but the decision would have to be left late.

Another striker hoping to be back in contention soon is Andrew Fotiadis, although in his case playing today is out of the question. He has had a month on the sidelines with an ankle injury, but resumed full training on Wednesday. He got through his first sessions OK but will have to work on his overall fitness, and will probably need an outing in the reserves before we can think about a return to the Nationwide League.

Sean Evers is proving to be as good a professional in the treatment room as he is on the pitch, and at this stage is doing better than expected as he recovers from a stomach muscle operation.

The surgery was only just over a fortnight ago, and in normal circumstances you would expect him to be out for at least six weeks.

But he has worked hard on the rehabilitation programme set out by the surgeon, and has surprised us by being able to run at nearly full power already, well ahead of schedule. He is showing exactly the right attitude, but we are not yet getting carried away. My experience is that if a player's recovery cycle enjoys something of an unexpected spurt, very often that is followed by a slowing down of the process.

Even so, Sean is doing remarkably well, and the original forecast that he might make it back into the first team by Easter still holds. He is a very fit young man, and his overall physical condition will have helped him recover quicker than the average.

We said good-bye to Sean Dyche this week, and we were all sad that he could not play in his final game on Tuesday. It was good to have him around the place, and it was a pity his rib injury prevented him completing his full quota of games. As it happens, I doubt if he could have played today, for us or for Bristol City.

Finally, there was a welcome back for Paul Showler this week. After a series of injuries he began his latest comeback by playing 80 minutes for the reserves in Wednesday's game at Queens Park Rangers, and we hope that is the start of a return to full fitness.

Hatters Roll-Call 1998/99

	Appearances					Goals			
	League	WC	FAC	AWS	Total	League	WC	FAC	Total
Abbey	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Alexander	25(1)	7	2	0	34(1)	3(1p)	2p	0	5(3p)
Boyce	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Cox	3(5)	1(1)	0	0	4(6)	0	0	0	0
Davis	32	7	2	0	41	0	0	0	0
Doherty	4(9)	0(1)	1(1)	0(1)	5(12)	5	0	0	5
Douglas	29	6	1(1)	0	36(1)	8	2	0	10
Evers	27	7	2	1	37	3	1	0	4
Fotiadis	6(8)	1(1)	0	1	8(9)	2	1	0	3
Fraser	1(1)	0	0	1	2(1)	0	0	0	0
Gray	24(3)	6	2	0	32(3)	6	3	2	11
George	4(3)	0(2)	0	0	4(5)	0	0	0	0
Harrison	11	0	0	1	12	0	0	0	0
Johnson	30	7	1	0	38	0	1	0	1
Kandol	0(1)	0	0	0(1)	0(2)	0	0	0	0
McGowan	20(4)	7	2	0	29(4)	0	0	0	0
McIndoe	9(3)	2(1)	(2)	1	12(6)	0	0	0	0
McKinnon	24(1)	4(1)	2	0	30(2)	2	0	0	2
McLaren	11(6)	1(3)	2	1	15(9)	0	1	0	1
Scarlett	2(4)	0	0(1)	0(1)	2(6)	1	0	0	1
Showler	2(1)	0	0	0	2(1)	0	0	0	0
Spring	32	7	1(1)	0	40(1)	1	0	0	1
Thomas	14(5)	3	0	0	17(5)	0	0	0	0
White	12(13)	0(3)	1	1	14(16)	1	0	0	1
Willmott	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Zahana-Oni	2(2)	0	0	0	2(2)	0	0	0	0

Also played: S. Davis 21 league appearances, 6 goals; 6 Worthington Cup apps, 2 goals; 2 FA Cup apps, 2 goals. Dyche 8 league apps, 1 Auto Windscreens Shield. Marshall 3(1) League apps, 1 goal; 3 Worthington Cup apps. Davies 2 League appearances. Bacque 2(5) league apps; 1(2) Worthington Cup apps, 1 Auto Windscreens Shield. Nyamah 1 FA Cup appearance, 1 as sub Worthington Cup.

on the ball?.....

.....or on the bench?

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Our four Bedfordshire centres have extensive careers information libraries, including self-help careers software, and a range of job and training opportunities. You don't need an appointment – just call in during our opening hours, our team are ready and waiting to assist you.

We also visit local schools and colleges to provide advice and guidance for students from Year 9 upwards, through group sessions and individual interviews.

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For the latest news

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Calls cost 50p per minute at all times



Luton Town v Gillingham



Saturday March 27, kick-off 11.30am

The weekend of this match has been designated by the Football League as a Centenary Day Promotion.

- We will therefore be offering all under-16s entry for just £1, in all areas of the ground.
- All youngsters are invited to participate on the day by painting their faces in club colours, or England colours - England play Poland that afternoon, which is why our game kicks off early.
- Happy Harry will be giving out prizes for the best and most original face-painting designs. We will also have a band playing at the match.
- Our Community Department will be giving away 250 tickets to local schools and clubs, and there will be a reciprocal exchange visit between our Junior Hatters and the Gillingham Juniors.

The Football Trust has been providing support for football throughout the UK for 22 years.

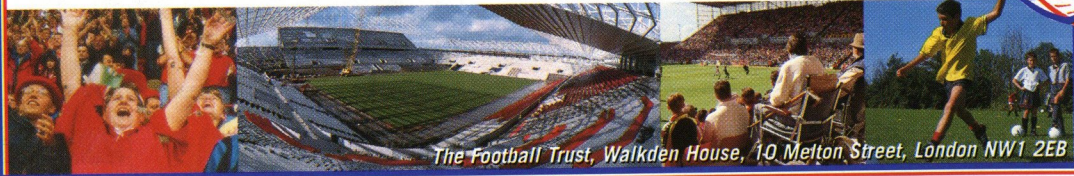
A major new funding package made up of annual contributions from The F.A. Premier League, The Football Association, The English Sports Council, The Football League and The Professional Footballers Association has been added to the Trust's pools derived income to secure its future.

The Trust has a major part to play in the success of the game and will continue its vital grant support for lower division clubs to complete the Taylor programme.

The Trust is about a great deal more than bricks and mortar: it can handle grant aid programmes of every sort and provides essential help for the game at all levels.

The commitment of the Government and the new funding partners to make full use of the Trust's grant aid experience and expertise will have the support of everyone who cares about the future of our national game.

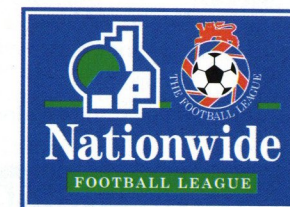
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Tickets

Nationwide Second Division



CHESTERFIELD v LUTON TOWN
Saturday March 20,
kick-off 3pm

This match is pay on the day only. Terracing: £8.50 adults, £4 concessions (under 16s & over 65s). Limited seating: £9.50 adults, £5 concessions.

LUTON TOWN v READING
Tuesday March 23,
kick-off 7.45pm

Tickets for this match are now on sale at normal league prices. This is a re-arranged date and tickets purchased for the original date are still valid.

LUTON TOWN v GILLINGHAM
Saturday March 27,
kick-off 11.30am
(Please note changed kick-off time).

Tickets for this match are on sale at normal league prices, except for special offers - please see the notice on opposite page.

OLDHAM ATHLETIC v LUTON TOWN
Good Friday, April 2,
kick-off 3.30pm

This match is pay on the day only for away supporters, seating only. £12.00 adults, £5 concessions (under 16s & over 65s).

Executive Members

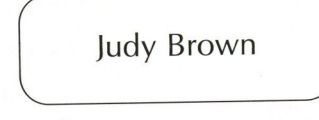
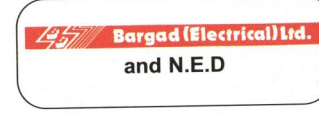
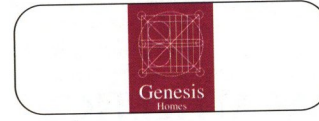
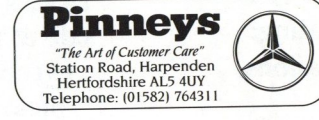
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Commercial



WE WELCOME today two match sponsors and a ball sponsor who have generously given Luton Town support which is very much appreciated. Milton Keynes Developments Ltd are here for the second time this season, and needless to say we hope this afternoon's result is as good as it was the last time they were here, when we beat Northampton.

The company, formed nearly three years ago, are building contractors and decorators, and managing director Gary Deards, who founded the firm, is a life-long Luton Town fan.

Also in the sponsors' lounge today is a "birthday party" group from Rossbro Ltd, who are based at the Dawson Business Park in Sundon Park Road, Luton.

They are a decoration and refurbishment company

which has been established for ten years, offering a complete interior and exterior refurbishment package, with quality service and, most importantly, a promise to deliver on time.

They are here today celebrating Eddy Baptiste's ten-year service to the company. He joined as an apprentice and together he and the rest of the Rossbro personnel believe they are set for another ten years of success.

Today's ball sponsors are Subway, a new name in Luton, but well-known in many other countries. The company has just opened its 26th shop in this country, in George Street, Luton, and to back up today's sponsorship is offering special discounts on its hot and cold sandwiches to Luton Town supporters - see the Subway advertisement elsewhere in today's magazine.

We are very grateful for all support and sponsorships, and hope our guests enjoy themselves today. We are always ready to come up with value-for-money packages to suit all pockets and to find out more, please ring Luton 411622 and ask for the commercial department.

Golden Gamble

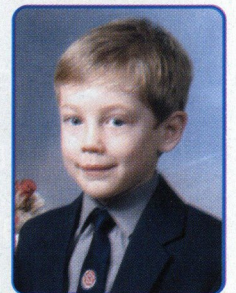


BEAT this for consolation on the night you see your team beaten 4-0 at home: Sharon Ulyatt, a Town fan from Sandy, picked up the Golden Gamble jackpot on Tuesday night, a neat bundle of £648, one of the biggest prizes the lottery has ever produced. And the winning ticket cost the princely sum of just £1.

We can't guarantee that today's prize will be as big, but we do know that the odds of winning are a lot better than they are with the National Lottery.

Golden Gamble tickets are on sale again today in all parts of the ground, and some-one has to be a winner. The draw is made on the pitch at half-time and the prize fund is a straight 50/50 split, half going into club funds and half to the winner's jackpot.

TODAY'S commercial mascot does not remember his first visit to Kenilworth Road. David Peters, who will be seven in September, was first brought by his mum and dad when he was six weeks old. They remember it with mixed emotions - "It was against Grimsby, and we lost one-nil," said Mrs Peters.



She and her husband John, an accountant, used to be members of Club 82, but have lived in Guernsey for the past six years.

They still come to Luton as often as possible, and today will be a day to remember for young David, when he joins the Town team as they prepare for the match, takes part in the warm-up and kick-about, and then sees the toss-up at close quarters. David goes to Acorn House School, in St. Peter Port, and as well as football he likes reading, golf and chess.

His favourite player is Graham Alexander, and in wishing the Peters family a happy day with us, we also hope the result is better than it was for David's first visit!

see every



goal

Goals, goals, goals! See every goal from the weekend with ITV's Nationwide Football League Extra, in association with Nationwide Building Society.

We'll be on air just after midnight on Mondays and repeated later in the week in many regions.

The programme is introduced by Gabriel Clarke and includes interviews, competitions, the latest news and talking points, and all the goals scored at the weekend from the Nationwide Football League.

Check your TV listings for details and set your video.



Hatters on card

by Alan Robinson

THE TRADITIONAL number of subjects for pre-war cigarette card sets was either 25 or 50 per series. However, when it came to football sets this rule was often broken.

**Taddy & Company
Prominent Footballers, 1908**

This was certainly the case when the now long-defunct London tobacco firm of Taddy's decided to issue photographs of prominent footballers with their "Myrtle Grove" cigarettes in 1907.

In total the set comprised 595 cards, and each club that was featured was represented by 15 players in this mammoth issue.

Luton were overlooked in this initial production, but when 400 more cards were issued the following year Taddy's saw fit to include the Hatters. There are, therefore, 15 Luton Town players to look out for from this Edwardian offering of over 90 years ago.

Unfortunately, as you might expect, these cards are currently very rare and sought-after, and examples bearing any of the Luton players hardly ever turn up these days.

The card illustrated here depicts Harold Stansfield, a winger who was said to be equally at home on either flank. Stansfield started with Stockport County before spending four seasons with Spurs. After coming to Kenilworth Road in 1908 - three years after we moved into our new ground! - he quickly settled down and made 135 Southern League appearances. He managed 25 league goals in his first three seasons at Luton, but added only one more in his final campaign here, 1911/12.



Apart from the celebrated half-backs Bob and Fred Hawkes, who, contrary to popular belief, were not related, the names of the other Hatters appearing on these cards will probably not mean much to today's supporters.

For the record, they included goalkeepers Peter Platt and R. T. Jarvis, centre-half Abe Jones, and one E. Bradley who is shown wearing collar, tie and button-hole complete with flowers!

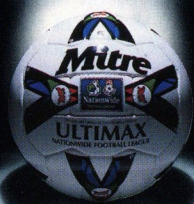
Two other players featured were defender Bill McCurdy and local boy Herbert Moody, who both had two spells at Kenilworth Road in that Edwardian era, the latter's time with Leicester interrupting his goal scoring forays for Luton.

The reverse of all these Taddy cards bore no informative text, only advertising for the company's products. The firm also brought out a third series of over 380 cards in 1913.

As these cards are now so scarce they are expensive when any do become available for sale, and cost around £20 each for examples in good condition.

Last Season

The Nationwide Football League saw an Increase in Attendance of 13.5%;
Why...?

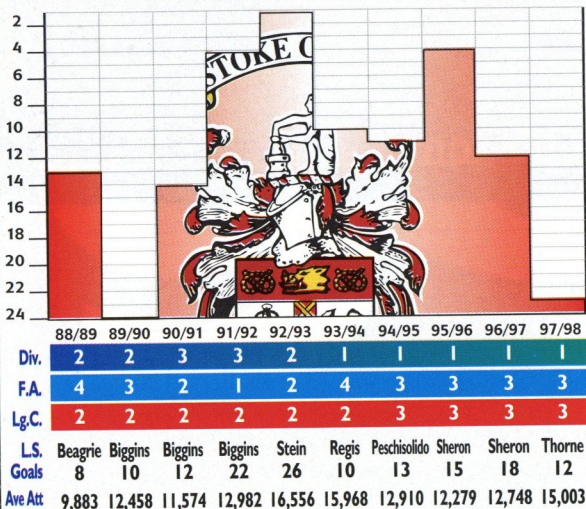


The authority...

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Stoke City's last ten years - the full record



When Stoke City have scored goals... and conceded them



POTTERS' CARDS

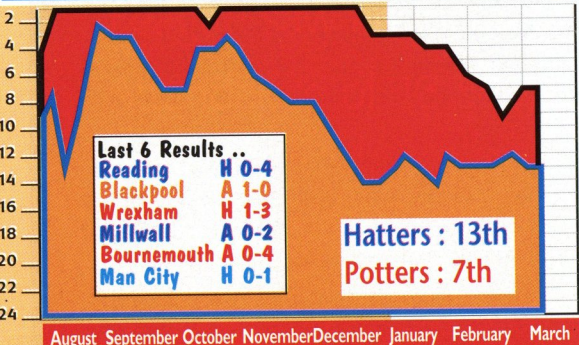
Kavanagh .9
Sigurdsson .7
Small .6
Lightbourne .5
Oldfield .4
Robinson .4
Thorne .4
Keen .3
Petty .2
Short .2
Whittle .2

HATTERS' HARD MEN

McGowan .7
McLaren .5
Alexander .5
McKinnon .5
Davis S .4
Douglas .3
Gray .3
Johnson .3
George .2
McIndoe .2
Thomas .2

N.B. LEAGUE DETAILS ONLY

League Positions throughout the season



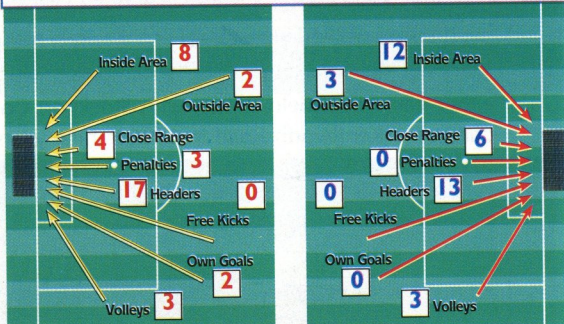
When The Hatters have scored goals... and conceded them



Who's played for The Potters this season...

Player	Pos	Lge	Lge	Age	Ht	Weight	Prev. Club	Int.
		Apps	Goals					
Kevin Keen	M	32	1	32	57	10	Wolves	Eng Yth
David Oldfield	F	30(2)	2	30	60	13	Luton	Eng U21
Stephen Woods	D	30		22	51	11		
Carl Muggleton	G	29		30	62	13	Celtic	Eng U21
Phil Robinson	M	29	1	32	51	11	Notts County	
Larus Sigurdsson	D	26	4	24	60	13	Thor	Iceland
Bryan Small	D	25(2)		27	59	11	Bury	Eng U21
Peter Thorne	F	25(1)	5	25	60	13	Swindon	
Graham Kavanagh	M	25	6	25	51	12	Middlesbrough	Eire U21
Kyle Lightbourne	F	22(8)	7	30	62	12	Coventry	Bermuda
Chrus Short	D	17(2)		28	51	12	Sheff Utd	
Dean Crowe	F	12(14)	6	19	55	11		
Ben Petty	D	7(2)		21	60	12	Villa	
Robert Heath	M	6(2)		20	59	10		
Ray Wallace	M	5(16)	2	29	57	11	Leeds	Eng U21
Gavin Ward	G	3		28	62	12	Bolton	
Neil MacKenzie	M	2(3)		22	62	12		
Lee Collins	D	2		21	61	12	Villa	
Nicky Mohan	D	2		28	61	14	Wycombe	
Simon Sturridge	F	1(2)		29	56	11	Birmingham	
James O'Connor	M	1		19	58	11		
Jason Kavanagh	D	1		27	59	12	Wycombe	Eng Yth
Richard Forsyth	M	1		28	51	12	Birmingham	
Steven Taaffe	F	1		19	57	9		

How The Potters have scored goals... and conceded them

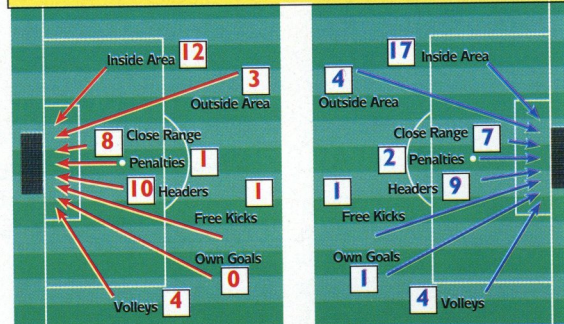


Hatters v Potters

FORM GUIDE	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	Sequence
Luton Town	1	0	5	2	9	3	LLWLLL
Stoke City	1	0	5	2	14	3	LWLLLL

Statistics compiled by Football Information Services Telephone: 0151-632 5679

How Luton have scored goals... and conceded them

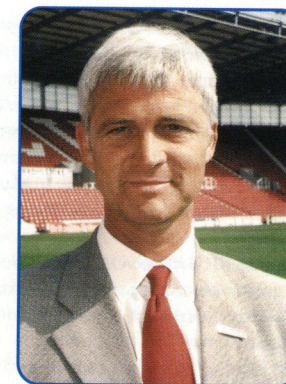


Stoke City

welcome to today's visitors

BRIAN LITTLE (Manager)

Stoke are the fifth club in Brian Little's 12-year managerial career that started in an acting capacity at Wolves in 1986. He has previously been at Wolves, Darlington, Leicester and Aston Villa. As a player he signed for Aston Villa in 1971 and went on to play nearly 250 games. He scored 60 goals, including the winner against Everton in the League Cup replay of 1977 and won one full England cap. A persistent knee injury though unfortunately forced him into premature retirement in 1981.



TONY McANDREW (Assistant Manager)

He was working as a Youth Coach at Aston Villa but was released and is now Brian Little's Assistant Manager. It is the fourth time Little and McAndrew have teamed up. The partnership began in 1989 at Darlington and continued when they moved to Leicester and then Aston Villa. In his playing days he was a defender and made 200 appearances in two spells with Middlesbrough and in between spent a couple of years at Chelsea.



Back row (left to right): Dave Kevan, Paul Stewart, Neil Mackenzie, Steve Tweed, Justin Whittle, Kyle Lightbourne, Bryan Small, Chris Short, David Oldfield, Peter Thorne, Rob Ryles.
Middle row: Allan Evans (Team Coach), Richard Burgess, Jamie Cartwright, Robert Heath, Clive Clarke, Carl Muggleton, Stuart Fraser, Ashley Wooliscroft, James O'Connor, Jamie Godbold, Stephen Taaffe, Ian Cranson.
Front row: Ray Wallace, Stephen Woods, Matthew Bullock, Graham Kavanagh, Larus Sigurdsson, Tony McAndrew (Assistant Manager), Brian Little (Manager), Phil Robinson, Kevin Keen, Richard Forsyth, Dean Crowe, Simon Sturridge

Stoke City

pen pics

CARL MUGGLETON (*Goalkeeper*)

Was first choice goalkeeper for much of last season until the arrival of Neville Southall from Everton in March. Then broke his thumb in training and missed the rest of the campaign. The former England under-21 international, signed by former boss Joe Jordan from Celtic for £150,000 in August 1994, is now one of the club's longest serving players.

LARUS SIGURDSSON (*Defender*)

Has played more games for Stoke (175) than anyone else in the current squad after former manager Lou Macari gave him his chance in 1994. Suffered with his form at times last season as the team struggled to cope with the chopping and changing of the managers and tactics but the skipper should be back to his best this time around and a reliable figure upon which Brian Little can build his defence.

CHRIS SHORT (*Defender*)

One of Brian Little's first signings, on a free transfer after his contract expired at Sheffield United. The younger brother of Everton's Craig Short, he can play full back or centre half and will give the squad options. Made his debut for Scarborough in 1988 aged 18 and has since clocked up over 300 league games.

STEPHEN WOODS (*Defender*)

Made his first team debut in trying circumstances last season as a first half substitute in the home defeat by Huddersfield. Later loaned out to Plymouth, where he made a handful of appearances as Argyle fought against relegation from Division Two. Now back at the Britannia Stadium, the Cheshire born centre half brought through the ranks from YTS may benefit from any policy to give more youngsters a chance.

BRYAN SMALL (*Defender*)

Reunited with his former Aston Villa boss Brian Little at Stoke after being released by Bolton. An attacking left back, Small made a big impression on loan at Bury last season, helping the club to First Division safety. Bury wanted to sign him permanently, but could not strike a deal, and Little moved in. He also had three months on loan at Luton in the autumn of 1997. Former England under-21 international, capped 12 times.

BEN PETTY (*Defender*)

The player was signed from Aston Villa on a two and a half year contract, after being released by John Gregory. He was at Villa Park for six years.

LEE COLLINS (*Defender*)

The centre half was signed after being at Aston Villa for six years. He has joined on a free transfer and has signed a contract to keep him at the Britannia Stadium until June 2001. He made his Stoke city debut away at Millwall on 20th February this year.

NICKY MOHAN (*Defender*)

A central defender currently on loan from Wycombe Wanderers. Previous clubs include Middlesbrough, Leicester and Bradford City who sold him to Wycombe Wanderers for £80,000.

RAY WALLACE (*Midfielder*)

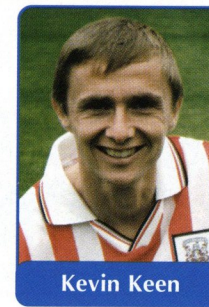
Closing in on 200 appearances after his free transfer arrival from Leeds four years ago. Suffered the rare experience of missing part of last season through injury, he nevertheless contributed two of the best goals of the campaign at Charlton and Manchester City. His main role again though is likely to be as a midfield ball-winner if he can force his way into the manager's plans.

KEVIN KEEN (*Midfielder*)

After two years dogged by injury, last season was something of a personal triumph for the ball playing midfielder as he clocked up 43 appearances. His running off the ball into dangerous positions was not always appreciated by those around him, as his tally of only two goals suggests. Keen's experience should be an asset in Division Two though, and the strikers may come to relish his supply line from midfield.

RICHARD FORSYTH (*Midfielder*)

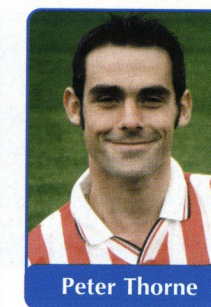
Continues to be good value for the £200,000 Stoke paid Birmingham for his services two years ago. His tally of eight goals from midfield equalled his haul of the previous season and was bettered only by Graham Kavanagh and Peter Thorne. Showed his versatility by playing wide and inside roles as tactics were chopped and changed around during the relegation campaign.



Kevin Keen



Kyle Lightbourne



Peter Thorne



GRAHAM KAVANAGH (*Midfielder*)

Ten goals from midfield - including some of the finest of the season - was an excellent return from a campaign when he also won his first Republic of Ireland cap. The Second Division is a stage he should dominate - providing Stoke can keep hold of him. Was the subject of speculation linking him with a move to Aberdeen during the summer and further interest seems inevitable. Bidders would have to at least match the £500,000 he cost from Middlesbrough two years ago.

NEIL MACKENZIE (*Midfielder*)

The most patient, and arguably, the most frustrated, player in the squad last season. Started only eight games after his breakthrough into the first team the previous year had promised rather more. The West Midlander had to take a back seat in the second half of the campaign while players of no more ability - and in some cases arguably less - barred his way. Successive managers doubted the defensive aide of his game, though he is by inclination an attacking midfielder.

ROBERT HEATH (*Midfielder*)

An important year beckons for a youngster given his chance at the end of last season by caretaker boss Alan Durban. He followed the well trodden path of Andrew Griffin and Dean Crowe from the youth side to the first team by making his full debut at Crewe in April. Remained in the side for the last four games, showed versatility in midfield and defence, and came through a strong test of his temperament in from of 41,000 at Sunderland.

DAVID OLDFIELD (*Midfielder*)

The Brian Little connection sealed his move to Stoke after three years at Kenilworth Road. Signed on a free, he links up with Little again to renew the partnership first forged at Leicester. Oldfield's experience could see him utilised in midfield rather than the attacking role of his earlier years.

PHIL ROBINSON (*Midfielder*)

Vastly experienced midfielder with nearly 400 league games to his credit who helped Notts County to the Third Division title last term. A free

transfer capture, he will increase the competition for places in an already congested midfield.

SIMON STURRIDGE (*Striker*)

Raring to go after two years out with knee ligament injuries. If fit, he could form a strike partnership with Peter Thorne, Paul Stewart or Kyle Lightbourne and if he can recapture the form he showed alongside Mike Sheron three seasons ago, would be a handful for Second Division defences. His main hurdle is overcoming the injury jinx and proving he is capable of playing regular first team soccer.

PETER THORNE (*Striker*)

Bought for a tribunal-fixed £400,000 from Swindon after the £2.5 million sale of Mike Sheron to QPR. He outscored his predecessor last season to suggest City did a tidy piece of business. Sadly, his 16 goals were not enough to stave off relegation, though his contribution may have been greater but for a rib injury which forced him out mid-season and a failure to hit the target while Chris Kamara was boss.

DEAN CROWE (*Striker*)

Last season might be quickly forgotten for the results, but it will be remembered for the rise of Dean Crowe from the youth ranks. Given his chance in September against Burnley in the Coca-Cola Cup, his full emergence was delayed by a knee ligament injury. But when given a second chance by Chris Kamara in February, he seized it, grabbing his first league goal against Nottingham Forest and following up with three more deserving of his busy, hardworking style.

KYLE LIGHTBOURNE (*Striker*)

Chris Kamara's one major signing for Stoke, costing £500,000 from Coventry last February. Stricken by a mystery virus just after joining, he struggled for form before finally finding his scoring touch twice in April as City briefly threatened to wriggle free of relegation. His goal record in Division Two with Walsall suggests he could hit the 20 mark this time around - if he is one of the preferred choices in attack.

David Kohler



Critical Research Ltd

Lennie Lawrence



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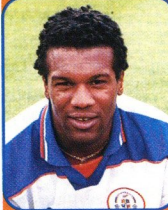
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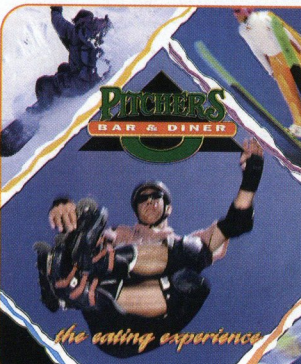


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 Footie on the Giant Screen




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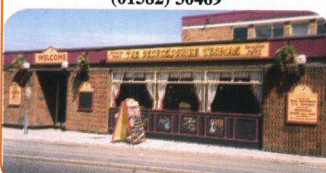
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Hatters Abroad

carrying the colours

FOLLOWING out invitation to fans who have met famous people, the picture of a slightly bleary-eyed Alan Adair landed on our desk. No, he's not the famous one - but the man on the left will be remembered with very great affection by a lot of Luton Town supporters.

Former Town skipper Alan West and his wife were guests of Burnley when the Town played there - "Westie," now a church pastor in Luton, was a classy midfielder with both clubs.

Alan Adair is with CBC Print of Luton, and is usually to be seen supporting the Town home and away. He did it in style at Turf Moor, because the company which supplies paper to CBC was sponsoring the game, and Alan was one of their guests.

A reunion with our former skipper was just one of the weekend's pleasures - "the result made it," he said. For our part, we're a little jealous as to how Alan West manages to look very little older than he did when he was delighting us on the pitch just over 20 years ago! By our reckoning he is now 47, having joined us in the autumn of 1973 as a 21-year-old.



Christmas present, because all the Brits in Australia wear their shirts with pride.

"Damon has worn the shirt all over the place, and at the Sydney test match, where he had people approach him to shake his hand. One Stoke City supporter was among them, and said that in 15 years of following the England cricket team around the world he had never before seen someone in a Luton shirt.

"I am a season ticket holder, and always buy a programme. Should you choose the picture to feature in the programme I will of course be sending a copy to Damon on the other side of the world."

We're happy to oblige, and trust the e-mails have plenty of good news to report.

WE MIGHT be only just coming out of winter, but Damon West is pictured in the sunshine in front of a famous landmark, Sydney Harbour Bridge, in Australia.

Jason West, from St. Michael's Road, Hitchin, sent the photograph and explained: "Damon is out there for a year, and has missed the whole season as a result. However, I keep him up to date with events via e-mail.

"What made me laugh was that before he went I suggested he take his Luton shirt with him. He said no because he wouldn't have space. Then I got a phone call requesting a Luton shirt as a





Stuart Fraser

Born: Edinburgh, 9.1.80

Previous clubs: None

Joined Luton Town: Summer 1996, as a YTS boy

Luton debut: v Carlisle (H) 2.5.98

Luton Town record: 4 appearances

Top Hatters Gallery



Stuart Fraser

Autograph

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- 98 S **Mondeo ST 24** Radiant Red, Hatch, RS kit, alloys, air conditioning, 300 miles **£15,495**
- 95 M **Escort 1.8 Ghia** Tourmaline Green, 4 door saloon, alloys ABS, air bags, 57,000 miles **£4,995**
- 95 M **Escort 1.6 LX** Radiant Red, 5 door hatch, 37,000, power steering **£4,995**

£13,995



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£12,495



ROVER 820 SI 'S' REG

4 door, manual, Aqua Green, 118 miles
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£10,995



ROVER 216 COUPE 'R' REG

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- 96 P **216 Si** 5 door manual, Silver Metallic, sunroof, electric front windows, drivers air bag, 21,500 miles **£7,500**
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It happened on this day

by Roger Wash

13th March 1976

Luton Town 3 Carlisle 0

After going down 0-3 to promotion chasing Bristol City at Ashton Gate the previous week the Town's own hopes of elevation had taken a battering. Determined to get back on track, a solid performance produced a fairly comfortable victory although the Cumbrians did have their chances.

Jim Husband, who was out of favour earlier in the campaign, had started to show the form that had encouraged the Town to pay out £70,000 for his services two years before. His two headed goals, together with a close range effort from Andy King, settled the game to keep alive the faint hope of promotion back to a Division One they had left the previous summer.

13th March 1984

Luton Town 2 Ipswich 1

When the Town won 3-0 at Notts County on Boxing Day 1983 they moved up to third position in the old Division One and all signs pointed to a realistic tilt at a European place. Unfortunately we had been lulled into a false sense of security as, by the time of the visit of Ipswich in mid-March, only one game had been won from ten starts and that was against Wolves who were having a disastrous time. Pessimistic supporters were now looking at the other end of the table and wondering whether we were about to take part in another fight against relegation.

The game against Ipswich was therefore looked on as a 'must win' encounter but in front of the lowest crowd of the campaign, stripped of their regular midfield through injury and having to endure snow showers the signs were not promising.

Luckily Ipswich were also going through a bad patch and had lost eight of their last nine games and their confidence evaporated when Trevor Aylott opened the scoring for the Town with a sublime chip. He increased the lead from the spot after Frankie Bunn had been fouled in the area but an open goal miss from Brian Stein could have proved costly when Ipswich made a fight of it towards the end after Trevor Putney

reduced the deficit.

The Hatters managed to hang on, however, much to the relief of the soaked crowd.

13th March 1985

Luton Town 1 Millwall 0 (F.A.Cup Sixth Round)

After seeing off Watford in a Round Five second replay on the previous Saturday there was precious little time to arrange the quarter-final against Millwall which had to be played four days later.

Whatever the rights and wrongs of the ticketing arrangements and the adequacy of the police presence there was simply no excuse for the scenes of mayhem caused by so-called Millwall supporters that evening. Unfortunately, after pictures of the crowd violence were transmitted across the world, the matter became extremely political and we are still feeling the repercussions to this day.

For the record the Town won 1-0 courtesy of a typical Brian Stein effort but the match was played in an unreal atmosphere and the off-field activities of the yobs from London seemed to affect the Millwall players rather more than those of the Town.

What should have been one of the happiest nights in the Town's history turned out to be one of the worst!



Jim Husband opens the scoring against Carlisle in March 1976.

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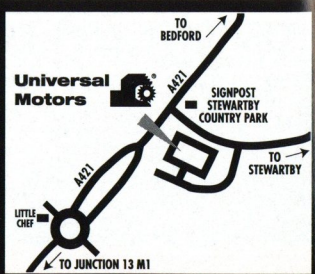
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Into the archives

a blast from the past courtesy of Roger Wash

Football League meetings against the Potters did not start until 1953 following Stoke's relegation from the old Division One, but a little known fact is that the two sides clashed in the Southern League just before World War One.

Stoke, founder members of the Football League in 1888, fell on hard times twenty years later and were forced into liquidation. A newly formed club then applied for entry to the Birmingham League and after twelve months moved up to the Southern League where they came up against the Town. Not surprisingly, given their past history, Stoke did not remain long at this level and by 1915 they had been voted back into the Football League.

Our first League clash took place at the Victoria Ground on September 26th 1953 where we forced a 1-1 draw in a game of two halves. We controlled the first period and should have been three up at the interval but after the break only desperate defending prevented a thrashing. We went down 0-1 in the return later on in the campaign.

At the end of the following season we won promotion to the top flight for the first time in our history and two goals from Jimmy Adam, later to play for the Potters, set up a comfortable 3-1 home win, our sixth in succession in an early season 'purple patch'.

Following our stay in Division One it was back to meetings with Stoke again in 1960 and our 0-3 defeat in the Potteries on October 1st goes down in our history books for more than one reason. Hatters goalkeeper, Ron Baynham, had fractured his skull during the previous week's home defeat by Sheffield United and as his deputy, Alan Collier, was still unfit following a pre-season broken arm the untried Mike O'Hara was drafted into the side.

At 16 years 32 days he became, and remains, the club's youngest ever league debutant and did not disgrace himself in a 0-3 defeat. Also making his Luton debut that day was Albert McCann while on the other side of the coin we bade farewell to both Billy Bingham and Stuart Imlach. Coincidentally, Baynham made his first appearance following his bad injury in the return against Stoke in February 1961 but had little to do as the Town ran out 4-1 victors with Gordon Turner netting all the Hatters goals.

In the next campaign the return to his home town club of Stanley Matthews sent attendances soaring in Division Two and a crowd of 15,163, up 5,000 on the previous home game, saw the old maestro at Kenilworth Road. Unfortunately the crowd left disappointed following a dull 0-0 draw with Matthews well held by John Bramwell.

At the end of 1962/63 there was a parting of the ways with Stoke winning promotion and the Town dropping down to Division Three. The Hatters last game of the campaign was at Stoke where the home team, needing a win for promotion, duly gleaned the two points necessary with Matthews scoring his last ever senior goal in the 0-2 victory.

The teams met up again briefly in 1974/75 during the Town's one season stay in Division One with new boy Peter Spiring proving unable to inspire the Town in a 2-4 defeat at the Victoria Ground, while a 0-0 scoreline at Kenilworth Road in the return did not reflect the true run of play as the Potters should have won by a hatful! On now to two seasons in the late 1970's when the sides clashed in the old Division Two, with the Town failing to win any of the four games. The only bright spot in this period was the home debut of Brian Stein during the clash in 1977/78. Stoke won promotion in 1979 but we were to



Brian Stein and Paul Walsh watch as an effort is cleared off the line during the epic 4-4 draw at Stoke in 1982.

join them three years later when the teams met in the most amazing encounter between the two sides. The Town had scored 16 goals in their first six games of 1982/83 while Stoke had netted 13. The meeting at the Victoria Ground was therefore unlikely to finish scoreless and the 18,475 spectators were treated to an epic spectacle which finished 4-4. When the crowd had managed to get its breath back they recalled an ever changing scoreline, a sending off and a last minute penalty miss by the Town's David Moss. This was the first of three successive visits to the Victoria Ground when we bagged four goals. In 1983/84 a hat-trick from Brian Stein sealed a 4-2 win, while in the following campaign two goals from Mick Hartford helped confirm a comfortable 4-0 victory as the Potters slid out of the top flight. A lot of water had passed under the bridge by the time the two sides next met, in November 1993. Stoke had been down to Division Three while we had tasted Wembley, and success, before finally having to give up our place in Division One. The Potters moved effortlessly into a 0-2 lead at Kenilworth Road in the first twenty minutes but

the stunned Town players fought back and turned the game around completely with Kerry Dixon slamming a hat-trick in a 6-2 triumph.

The Hatters also managed to pull back a 0-2 deficit at the Victoria Ground in the return, but had to settle for a point in a 2-2 draw in a game marking the Town debut for both Kelvin Davis and Paul McLaren.

The match at Stoke during the following campaign was also eventful with ex-Hatter John Dreyer suffering all sorts of problems in trying to contain Dwight Marshall. He let the speedy forward in for the first goal, fouled him for a penalty, that was missed by David Preece, and then was sent off for wrestling him to the floor. A late winner from Preece, however, made it a happy day out for Town fans.

That 2-1 victory at Stoke represents the most recent high spot as far as Luton supporters are concerned, as the subsequent four meetings have all ended in victory for the Potters with this seasons 1-3 reversal at the impressive Britannia Stadium particularly cruel. We have some ground to make up today!



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To register a place or for further information, simply ring the Community & Schools Department at the club on **01582 411622**

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AMPTHILL
Alameda Middle School
6 to 8 year old from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
9 to 13 year old from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

TUESDAY

LUTON
Luton Regional Sports Centre
6 to 8 year old and 9 to 13 year old
4.00 pm to 5.00 pm

WEDNESDAY

LEIGHTON BUZZARD
Van Dyke Upper School
6 to 8 year olds 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm (indoor sportshall)
9 to 13 year olds 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm (floodlit astro turf pitch)

THURSDAY

LUTON
Barnfield College, Rotherham Ave. (Farley Hill)
6 to 8 year olds from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
9 to 13 year olds from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

CADDINGTON/DUNSTABLE

Manshead Upper School
6 to 8 year olds from 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm
9 to 11 year olds from 7.30 pm to 8.30 pm
12 to 14 year olds from 8.30 pm to 9.30 pm

FRIDAY

DUNSTABLE
Dunstable Leisure Centre
6 to 8 year olds from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
9 to 13 year olds from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

NTL CableTel SCHOOLS VISIT PROJECT



Pictured are over 60 year 4 pupils from Leeton Lower School in Leighton Buzzard having taken part in our NTL CableTel Schools Visit Project. The boys and girls all took part in one of our coaching sessions being funded jointly by NTL CableTel and the Institute of Sports Sponsorships Sportsmatch scheme. Our coaches are now out and about every day in schools delivering football and PE lessons and already have dates in Ampt Hill, Flitwick, Bedford, Hitchin, Harpenden, Leighton Buzzard and Dunstable ahead of us leading up to the Easter holidays. If you would like your school to take part in our NTL Schools Visit Project then simply write or phone us at the Club and well do our best to pay you a visit.



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St Josephs Jnr School
Coaching - Mon & Tue 12th - 13th April

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Coaching - Mon & Tue 12th - 13th April

DUNSTABLE

Dunstable Leisure Centre
Coaching - Tue & Wed 6th and 7th April

Streetfield Middle School
Coaching - Thur & Fri 8th and 9th April

HARPENDEN

Wood End Jnr School
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LEIGHTON BUZZARD

Gilbert Inglefield Jnr School
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Linslade Middle School
Coaching - Mon & Tue 12th and 13th April

FLITWICK

Woodlands Middle School
Coaching - Tue & Wed 6th & 7th April

AMPTHILL

Alameda Middle School
Coaching - Thur & Fri 8th and 9th April

To register a place or for further information, simply ring the Community & Schools Department at the Club on **01582 411622**.



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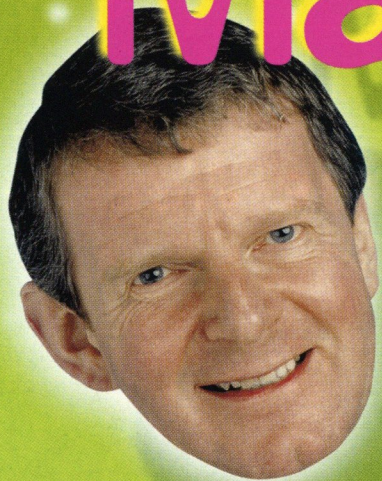
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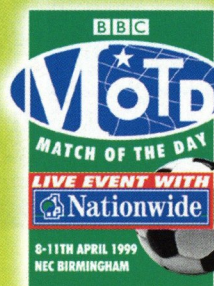


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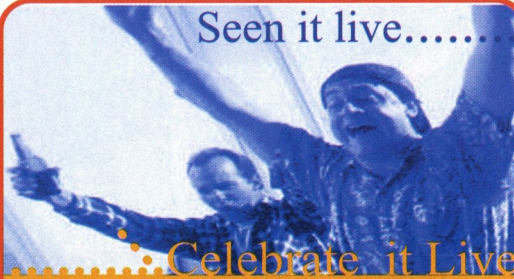
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Action Replay

Walsall 0 Luton Town 1

IT WAS not much fun being a spectator, let alone a player, at the Bescot Stadium on Saturday when two teams did remarkably well to put on a football match in awful conditions - driving rain and sleet and on a bog of a pitch. The ref made two inspections before allowing the game to go ahead, and it was surprising how much good passing football both teams produced.

The disappointment, as Walsall beat us for the third time this season, was that we might well have got something out of the game, with the Town shading the first half and Walsall the second.

The difference was that they produced the final touch. It's worrying that we create decent chances but fail to take them, said manager Lennie Lawrence.

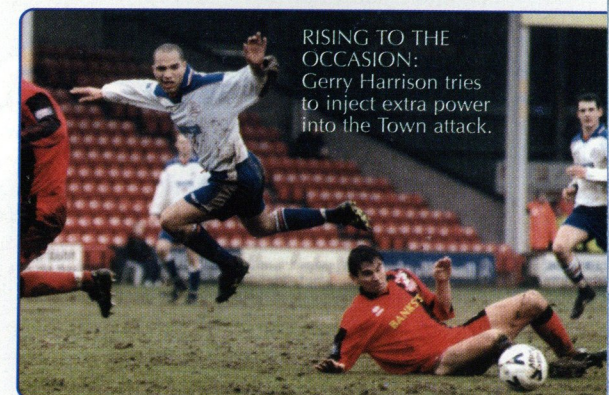
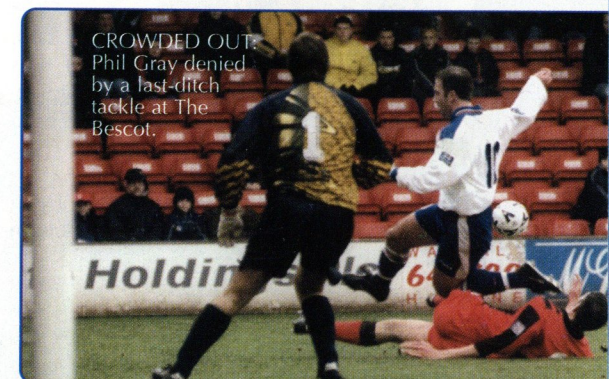
Matthew Spring had the best, after only four minutes. A good cross by Liam George, and a dummy by Phil Gray, put the midfielder clear inside the box, but he drove wide.

In the second half Kelvin Davis had to make a couple of good saves but man of the match Dean Keates set up the 70th-minute winner for Darren Wrack by surging through the heart of our midfield.

We staged a spirited late recovery attempt, but Spring shot inches too high from a pass by Gavin

McGowan, and Marvin Johnson had a shot deflected wide from a penalty area scramble. Walsall boss Ray Graydon was relieved to get three more points to consolidate a play-off place. "All credit to Luton, because like us they tried to play football in very difficult conditions," he said. "It was difficult to pass and to keep your feet, but both teams stuck at it and resisted the temptation to kick it long and hope."

The Town boss summed up: "Our first half performance was OK except that we didn't score, and we paid the penalty for that. In the second half we spent too much time defending to offer much attacking threat. I thought we might hang on for a 0-0, but once the goal went in it was an uphill struggle."



MATCH DETAILS

Luton Town: Davis, Alexander, Thomas, Spring, White, Johnson, Harrison (McLaren 76 mins), KcKinnon, Douglas, Gray, George (McGowan 66 mins). Unused sub Willmott.

Booked: Phil Gray, 57 mins, foul on Dean Keates; Alan White, 58 mins, foul on Andy Rammell.

Walsall: Walker, Marsh, Pointon (Evans 74 mins), Keates, Viveash, Roper, Wrack, Cramb, Rammell, Larusson (Thomas HT), Mavrak (Brissett 68 mins).

Booked: Chris Marsh, 58 mins, foul on Liam George.

The goal: Darren Wrack, 70th minute, crisp shot after Dean Keates and Colin Cramb opened up the Town defence.

Referee: Mark Cowburn, Blackpool.

Attendance: 4,508 including 821 from Luton, heroes all!

Action Replay

Luton Town 0 Fulham 4

BOTH managers agreed that the turning-point of Tuesday's match was the 32nd-minute sending-off of Alan White. Facing the Second Division's top side, managed by the England boss, would have been difficult enough with 11 men. With ten it was an impossible task, and we were left to reflect on what might have been.

"It was even-Steven's until then," said Kevin Keegan. Lennie Lawrence agreed: "We were doing all right. I am not saying we would have won if we had stayed at 11 men, but I am sure we would not have been beaten by four goals. It was self-inflicted damage."

White, set for a regular place in the side after the departure of Sean Dyche, was red carded for bringing down Barry Hayles, having lost possession to the former Stevenage man and been unable to catch him until his tackle barely touched the ball, but caught the striker's ankles.

We hoped he might get away with a yellow card, but Lawrence said he accepted the ref was applying the law, and Keegan said: "He had to go, but it was a shame. In my day it would have been a yellow card and a penalty."

After that Kelvin Davis had to be our man of the match, with a series of top class saves, drawing considerable praise from Keegan as well as from his own manager.

Matthew Spring and Ray McKinnon also earned praise from Lawrence, but the re-shaped defence, with Gerry Harrison filling in for White, was lucky to have Davis in inspired form as Fulham threatened to run riot.

The crucial difference, as £7million worth of talent was fielded and another £3million worth was left out of the squad, was in attack. Keegan had the pick of half a dozen top strikers. Our pair picked themselves, and hard though they tried Fulham were too good to give many openings for Phil Gray and Stuart Douglas.

Hayles, observed Lawrence, showed that he could run faster with the ball than most of our men could without it. And Geoff Horsfield, a "cheapie" in Fulham terms at £500,000 from Halifax, was in red hot form. His two goals took his tally to eight in the last five games, and 22 in all for the season. He came up with a beauty for the all-important

MATCH DETAILS

Luton Town: Davis, Alexander, Thomas, (McGowan 73 mins), Spring, White, Johnson, Harrison, McKinnon, Douglas (McLaren 62 mins), Gray, George (Cox 62 mins).

Booked: Ray McKinnon, 27 mins, foul on Geoff Horsfield.

Sent off: Alan White, 32 mins "pro foul" on Barry Hayles.

Fulham: Taylor, Finnan, Brevett, Morgan, Coleman, Symons, Hayward, Smith (McAnespie 80 mins), Horsfield (Betsy 87 mins), Trollope, Hayles (Lehmann 87 mins).

Booked: Steve Finnan, 57 mins, foul on Phil Gray.

The goals: 1-0, 34 mins: Geoff Horsfield, solo run and careful shot; 2-0 64 mins: Paul Trollope, sharp drive after taking a headed pass by Horsfield; 3-0 73 mins: Horsfield first-time shot, real class, from cross by Steve Finnan; 4-0 85 mins: Barry Hayles, 40-yard run through a defence that held off and watched the low drive hit with power and precision.

Referee: Michael Dean, Wirral.

Attendance: 7,424.

opener. After White's dismissal we were given a tremendous lift when Davis dived to his left to save the penalty by wing-back Steve Finnan.

The need then, said Lawrence, was to steady things down and get organised, but instead within a minute Gray gave the ball away, and Rufus Brevett fed Horsfield to set him up on a jinking run past Harrison and Marvin Johnson, and roll his shot into the gap between Davis and the near post.

Fulham were ruthless after that, exacting full revenge for their only home defeat of the season so far. They were three up before Gray fired in our only serious goal attempt, an angled shot saved by Maik Taylor.



OUCH: Liam George's expression says it all as he battles for possession.

FRIENDLY GESTURE: Kevin Keegan made a point of shaking hands with the Town players, having sympathised with their plight in being reduced to ten men.



SEEING DOUBLE: Marvin Johnson and Mitchell Thomas are the Town men in this foursome.



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Junior Hatters

welcome

WHILE IT is always a pleasure to welcome Junior Hatters and their parents to matches, we are rather sad to learn today of two clubs unable to put on the same sort of facility we provide.

Stoke City were unable to fill a coach with young fans to join us today, and perhaps even more disappointingly we have learned that Chesterfield can no longer accommodate visiting groups like the Junior Hatters at their ground.

We have had some good times in the past at Chesterfield, but at present they are not able to offer hospitality, so sadly we have to announce that for the first Saturday away game this season there will be no Junior Hatters trip to next week's Town match.

There is no longer a family stand available to visiting supporters, so we did not think it right to run a trip. The next away game will not be until Easter, when we play Oldham on Good Friday, and we will let you know before then if we will be running a trip to Boundary Park.

Meanwhile, don't forget that we are most definitely active in putting on facilities for the Junior Hatters, and if you haven't tried our Saturday Club yet, you don't know what you are missing.

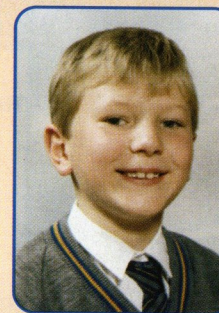
We meet at noon for games and football, a sausage-and-chips lunch, more games, and then watch the match. The cost is only £5, or £9 with a match ticket. For more information, or to join the Junior Hatters, please contact the ticket office in Kenilworth Road.

WE DO have one party of young footballers visiting us today, and we hope the junior section of Leeds Schools FA enjoy the game.

The players, between 10 and 13 years old, were all looking forward to the trip, although not the 6.30 am departure! They were playing a match against Luton Schools this morning, then watching our game with Stoke before setting off home.

We welcome them to Kenilworth Road, and wish them a safe journey home this evening.

Today's Mascots



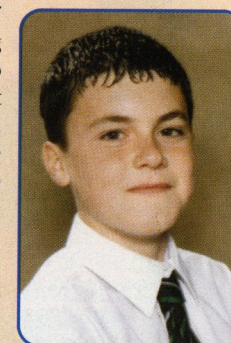
A FORTNIGHT after celebrating his 13th birthday, Steven Gallagher, of Keeble Close, Luton, has a belated "present" this afternoon - he is our Junior Hatters Mascot.

He will particularly enjoy joining Marvin Johnson for

the pre-match formalities, because the skipper is Steven's favourite player.

A pupil at Ashcroft High School, Stopsley, Steven plays for his school soccer team, and for Crawley Rams in the Chiltern Youth League. His other hobbies are basketball, badminton and rugby, and he comes to matches with his dad, sitting in the main stand.

UNFORTUNATELY Stoke City's young fans are unable to join us today, but they have sent a mascot, so we give a big welcome to Mark Deaville. He is nine years old,

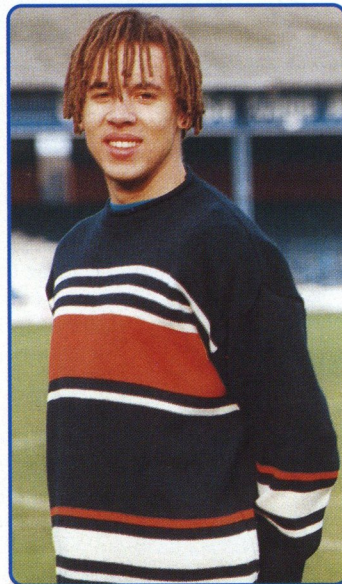


and goes to St. Theresa's School at Trent Vale, and we are pleased to hear that his two favourite players are David Oldfield and Peter Thorne. We hope he has a lovely day with us, and that we all have a match to enjoy.

HATTERS SHOP

HATTERS SHOP

CLOTHING

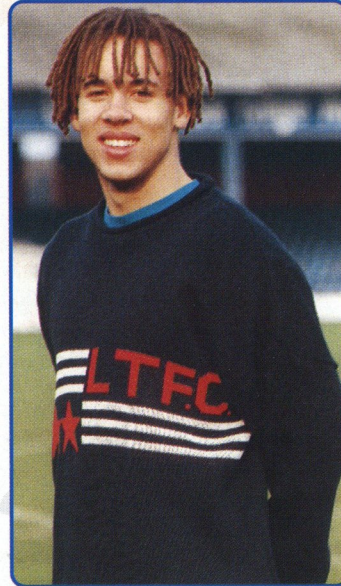


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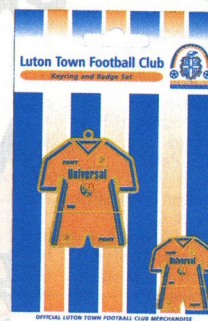
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**Large Triangular
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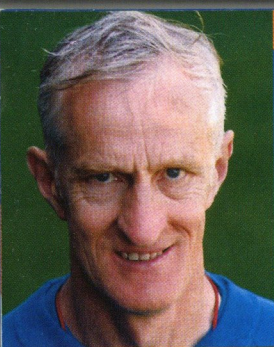
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**PREVIOUS REDUCTIONS ADVERTISED
IN THESE PAGES STILL APPLY.**

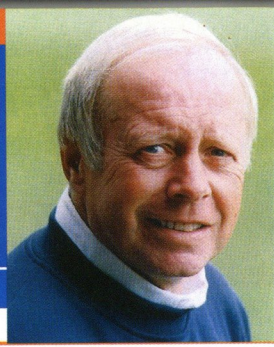
THE HATTERS SHOP SALE WILL CONTINUE UNTIL STOCKS CLEAR

GIFT IDEAS



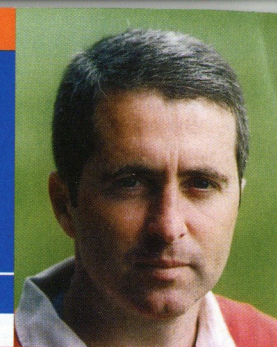
John Moore & Trevor Hartley

reserves



Paul Lowe

youth



Queens Park Rangers 3 Luton Town 1



WE HAD the bad luck to come up against a very strong home side in our latest game in the Avon Combination on Wednesday. QPR's First Division match at Grimsby the previous night had been postponed, so they used this fixture to give some of their first team men a run-out.

Our goal was scored by Tresor Kandol, which makes it 21 for the season for him in youth and reserve team football.

The other good news was that Paul-Showler made his latest return after injury, played for 76 minutes, and seemed to be suffering no adverse effects afterwards.

Luton Town: Abbey, Lawes, Fraser, Scarlet, Ayres, Boyce, Zahana-Oni, Cox, Kandol, McIndoe, Showler (Akurang 76 mins). Unused subs Clarke, Jerry.

Bedfordshire Premier Cup semi-final Biggleswade 1 Luton Town 2

WE HAVE qualified for the final of the Bedfordshire Premier Cup after winning in very difficult conditions at Biggleswade.

Rarely has a late winner been so very welcome - not only was it a first goal at this level for youth team defender James Ayres, but it also saw off the possibility of having to play extra time.

We had a number of first-half chances, and converted one, with Michael McIndoe firing in a left-footed cross-shot.

To their credit Biggleswade came back in the second half as the pitch deteriorated. Conditions were very difficult, with the ball sometimes skidding off the wet turf at high speed, and at other times sticking.

We conceded an equaliser with 15 minutes to go. We certainly did not want extra time, and our response to the Biggleswade goal was spot on. Ayres rifled in the winner with his right foot following a corner, to the huge delight of himself and everyone else.

Biggleswade were good hosts after the game, but we felt sorry for the unfortunate groundsman who had to sort out his pitch the following morning!

The final will be against Stotfold at Arlesey Town on April 21 (7.30), which means we must find a new date for a home game in the Avon Combination with Peterborough, which was scheduled to be our last game of the season.

Luton Town: Abbey, Lawes, Fraser, Clarke, Ayres, Boyce, Scarlett, Zahana-Oni, Akurang, McIndoe, Jerry (Hudson 60 mins). Unused subs: Minton, Stirling.

WE ARE at home to Wycombe Wanderers at Kenilworth Road on Wednesday, kick-off 2pm.

Reserve appearances, including as sub, (goals in brackets):

Abbey 18, Agueh 2, Akurang 5, Alexander 1, Ayres 6 (1), Bacque 14 (2 + 1 pen), Boyce 21 (1), Clarke 16, Cox 14 (1), Davies 11, Doherty 12 (3), Douglas 1 (1), Fotiadis 13 (9), Fraser 12 (1), George 2 (1), Hudson 6, Jerry 6, Kandol 11 (4), Lawes 16, Lough 10 (1), Lopez 1, McIndoe 13 (2), McKoy 2, McLaren 5 (1), Minton 1, Nyamah 13 (2), Scarlett 21 (2), Showler 6, Sylla 2, Sweeney 4, Tate 5, Taylor 4, Thomas 3 (1), Turner 2, White 8 (5), Willmott 20 (1), Zahana-Oni 7 (2)

Avon Insurance Combination

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Peterborough	21	13	4	4	44	22	43
Southampton	20	12	2	6	41	25	38
Watford	19	10	7	2	36	15	37
Charlton	18	11	3	4	32	19	36
Ipswich	19	11	3	5	35	24	36
Fulham	20	10	5	5	46	27	35
Tottenham	20	11	2	7	27	19	34
Chelsea	19	10	2	7	24	20	32
Norwich	21	9	4	8	28	23	31
QPR	21	8	4	9	29	24	28
Portsmouth	19	8	4	7	29	29	28
West Ham	17	7	6	4	31	21	27
Northampton	17	8	3	6	22	16	27
Luton Town	21	7	6	8	30	33	27
C. Palace	19	7	5	7	35	31	26
Arsenal	19	7	5	7	28	24	26
Colchester	21	8	2	11	29	39	26
Bournemouth	21	7	4	10	33	32	25
Brighton	20	6	6	8	17	27	24
Barnet	18	7	3	8	24	41	24
Wimbledon	20	5	8	7	22	28	23
Oxford Utd	19	7	1	11	22	36	22
Swindon	19	6	3	10	21	33	21
Cambridge	18	5	5	8	26	39	20
Millwall	17	5	4	8	23	26	19
Brentford	15	3	6	6	19	25	15
Reading	18	4	3	11	21	32	15
Wycombe	17	3	4	10	16	38	13
Gillingham	19	2	4	13	13	34	10

Avon Insurance Combination League Fixtures - Season 1998/99

Wed 12 August	Brighton & Hove	H	4-1
Wed 26 August	Cambridge United	A	2-2
Wed 2 September	Portsmouth	A	3-2
Wed 16 September	Reading	H	3-0
Wed 23 September	Swindon Town	A	1-0
Wed 30 September	Charlton Athletic	H	1-3
Wed 7 October	Millwall	H	1-1
Wed 14 October	Gillingham	A	2-1
Wed 21 October	Brache Sparta (BPC)	A	8-0
Wed 28 October	Brentford	A	2-2
Wed 04 November	Crystal Palace	H	1-3
Wed 11 November	Watford	A	0-0
Mon 16 November	Kempston Rov (BPC)	A	3-0
Thur 19 November	Norwich City	A	0-6
Wed 25 November	Ipswich Town	H	2-3
Mon 14 December	Colchester United	H	0-2
Mon 21 December	Tottenham Hotspur	H	3-0
Mon 11 January	Wimbledon	H	1-1
Wed 20 January	Southampton	A	0-1
Mon 01 February	AFC Bournemouth	H	1-0
Mon 8 February	Fulham	A	2-3
Mon 15 February	Chelsea	A	0-1
Mon 22 February	Barnet	H	1-1
Wed 3 March	Biggleswade (BPC)	A	2-1
Wed 10 March	Queens Park Rangers	A	1-3
Wed 17 March	Wycombe Wdrs	H	2pm
Mon 29 March	Arsenal	A	2pm
Wed 07 April	Oxford	H	2pm
Thur 15 April	Northampton Town	A	
Wed 21 April	Peterborough United	H	2pm
To be arranged	West Ham	A	

Southend 0 Luton Town 1

ALTHOUGH there was only one goal in it, we were delighted to win at Southend after having a few problems as we prepared for the game.

We have been hit by a rash of injuries, but that paved the way for youngsters to come in for a taste of the sort of football they hope to be playing regularly next season. Our starting line-up included two 16-year-old schoolboys, and two more were on the subs' bench, lads we are looking at as possible YTS boys in the summer.

Having struggled to put together a squad, it was pleasing to see the team settle quickly and we looked the brighter side in the first half. We missed a couple of chances, and James Ayres was out of luck with one of the moves we rehearse in training - Moses Jerry found him perfectly with a far post corner, but the header by Ayres came back off the bar.

Southend changed their formation for the second half, playing five at the back, and it was a time for our senior boys to take responsibility as we tried to find a way through.

They did, but not before a fair bit of frustration as Southend proved difficult to break down. If there is a criticism of our lads, it was that we did not show enough imagination and variety. But we finally made the breakthrough with ten minutes to go. Tresor Kandol got through on goal, and took his chance well to shoot his 17th goal of the season for the youth team.

He and fellow striker Clifford Akurang both put in good performances, and another success was Jude Stirling, who did very well in an unaccustomed position, in central defence alongside Ayres. Darren Howe, who has played there for most of the season, has joined Cambridge on trial after learning that he will not be offered a contract here in the summer.

Luton Town: Tate, Moran, Taylor, Ayres, Stirling, Dogbe (Woodham 55 mins), Hudson, Barriteau (Roffey 75 mins), Kandol, Akurang, Jerry.

WE WERE at home to Swindon this morning, and on Saturday we are away to Bristol Rovers.

Youth team appearances, including as subs (goals in brackets): Akurang 23 (8), Ayres 25 (1), Barriteau 3, Carroll 8, Clarke 5 (3), Crane 3 (2), Dogbe 5, Dollin 6, Harrington 8 (1), Hammond 2, Howe 26 (1), Hudson 12, Jerry 25 (1), Kandol 26 (17), Mansell 6 (1), McKoy 20 (4), Mentore 4, Minton 26, Moran 20, Mortara 3, Orchard 1, Plant 1, Roffey 1, Stirling 25 (1), Tate 23, Taylor 26 (3), Thomas 12 (1), Tyson 11 (2), Ward 2, Woodland 1, Wraight 3.

South East Counties League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brentford	26	17	4	5	62	27	55
Luton Town	25	16	5	4	46	23	53
L. Orient	26	15	7	4	56	29	52
Bristol Rov	26	11	5	10	48	47	38
Reading	27	8	12	7	35	36	36
Wycombe	26	8	11	7	30	29	35
Brighton	23	9	6	8	37	32	33
Swindon	25	9	5	11	37	36	32
Barnet	23	9	5	9	28	27	32
Colchester	26	10	2	14	41	41	32
Portsmouth	28	7	10	11	37	54	31
Cambridge	25	7	9	9	40	49	30
Bournemouth	25	9	2	14	36	49	29
Southend	29	7	5	17	36	55	26
Oxford	23	7	4	12	23	39	25
Gillingham	25	7	4	14	27	46	25

Youth Team Fixtures

Sat 08 August	Brentford	A	2-4
Sat 15 August	AFC Bournemouth	H	4-2
Sat 22 August	Brighton & Hove Albion	A	0-0
Sat 29 August	Bristol Rovers	H	3-1
Sat 05 September	Oxford United	A	3-0
Sat 07 September	Swindon (SJFCP)	H	2-0
Sat 12 September	Reading	H	2-2
Sat 19 September	Wycombe Wanderers	A	1-0
Sat 26 September	Gillingham	H	2-2
Sat 03 October	Leyton Orient	A	3-0
Sat 10 October	Portsmouth	H	3-0
Sat 17 October	Cambridge United	A	4-0
Tue 21 October	Colchester (FAYC)	H	0-1
Sat 24 October	Colchester United	H	2-0
Sat 31 October	Southend United	H	3-1
Sat 07 November	Swindon	A	1-0
Wed 11 November	Northampton (SJFC1)	H	3-1
Sat 14 November	Barnet	H	2-0
Sat 21 November	AFC Bournemouth	A	2-1
Sat 28 November	Brighton & Hove Albion	H	2-0
Sat 05 December	Barnet	A	0-2
Sat 12 December	Brentford	H	2-1
Sat 23 December	Wycombe Wanderers	H	0-0
Sat 06 February	Leyton Orient	H	1-3
Sat 13 February	Portsmouth	A	1-1
Sat 20 February	Cambridge United	H	2-1
Sat 27 February	Colchester United	A	0-2
Sat 06 March	Southend United	A	1-0
Sat 13 March	Swindon Town	H	
Sat 20 March	Bristol Rovers	A	
Sat 27 March	Reading	A	
Sat 10 April	Oxford United	H	
Sat 17 April	Gillingham	A	



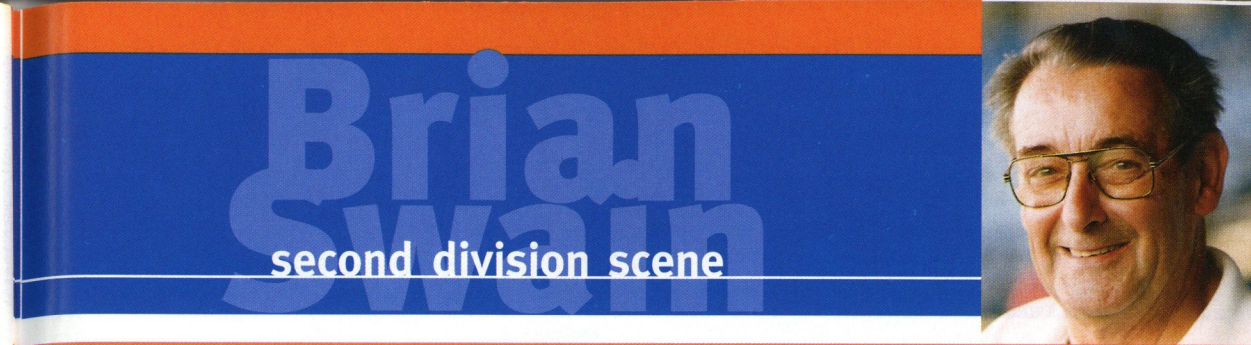
Critical Research - Main Sponsors of Luton Town Youth Team

When Clubs have scored goals... and conceded them

0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90		0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
3	9	8	12	13	10	Bournemouth	4	5	3	5	6	9
4	0	4	5	11	8	Blackpool	4	7	4	6	7	8
6	8	6	7	7	8	Bristol Rovers	8	2	7	5	5	8
6	5	6	5	6	8	Burnley	5	7	11	16	11	13
3	7	8	5	8	6	Chesterfield	2	3	2	6	8	8
7	8	2	5	5	12	Colchester United	8	8	5	7	10	12
3	10	11	13	11	7	Fulham	2	3	2	5	9	3
7	6	5	7	13	16	Gillingham	2	3	6	5	7	6
6	5	6	2	10	2	Lincoln City	3	6	5	12	13	14
6	4	6	7	6	10	Luton Town	5	5	7	5	12	11
2	6	4	3	2	5	Macclesfield Town	7	5	2	7	12	8
2	7	6	10	10	10	Manchester City	2	2	8	5	4	3
4	3	3	11	7	12	Millwall	7	4	4	5	10	13
2	4	4	4	6	6	Northampton Town	5	4	3	8	11	8
7	2	3	9	8	5	Notts County	5	8	6	9	8	10
5	4	2	10	6	8	Oldham Athletic	8	7	7	7	11	8
11	7	8	15	15	15	Preston North End	4	9	0	8	8	5
8	5	3	8	8	11	Reading	3	2	13	7	7	12
2	2	9	7	8	11	Stoke City	7	3	6	5	7	9
3	5	11	9	10	8	Walsall	7	2	3	4	11	9
6	5	3	7	12	12	Wigan Athletic	1	4	2	8	6	9
9	2	4	5	8	7	Wrexham	8	9	6	10	4	9
2	5	5	5	6	8	Wycombe Wanderers	6	7	5	4	11	11
7	5	2	7	11	8	York City	8	9	12	12	9	7

Club's Top League Scorers

Gillingham	Asaba	16
Preston North End	Nogan	16
Walsall	Rammell	16
York City	Cresswell	15
AFC Bournemouth	Stein	14
Burnley	Payton	14
Bristol Rovers	Cureton	13
Manchester City	Goater	13
Wigan Athletic	Barlow	13
Fulham	Horsfield	12
Millwall	Harris	11
Northampton Town	Corazzin	11
Reading	Williams	11
Colchester United	Gregory D	10
Chesterfield	Reeves/Howard	9
Luton Town	Douglas	8
Lincoln City	Battersby	7
Oldham Athletic	Allott	7
Stoke City	Lightbourne	7
Wrexham	Connolly	7
Blackpool	Aldridge	6
Notts County	Hendon	6
Wycombe Wanderers	Scott	6
Macclesfield Town	Sodje/Smith	3



Brian Swain second division scene

WE remain in 13th place in the Second Division after Tuesday's game, which saw Fulham stretch their lead at the top to nine points over Preston, and 11 points clear of third-placed Walsall.

If we felt depressed at being beaten 4-0 at home for the second time this season, spare a thought for Burnley: while we were being hit by one big club, they were being smashed at home by another, with Manchester City cantering to a 6-0 win at Turf Moor. In their previous home game Burnley were hammered 5-0 by Gillingham. Burnley have collected only two victories in the ten games since Steve Davis returned. They are still waiting to see him in a winning home side.

Sean Goater hit a 15-minute hat-trick in the second half at Turf Moor, taking his tally to 16 goals for the season. City consolidated their sixth place, and 24 hours later had more good news with Stoke, today's visitors to Kenilworth Road, being thumped 4-0 on their own pitch by Reading. That left City five points clear of Stoke, but the Potters have two games in hand and desperately need to return to their early-season consistency to claw their way back into play-off contention.

They led the division until early December, but last Saturday's 1-0 win at Blackpool, courtesy of a goal by Kyle Lightbourne, is the only one they have managed in their last seven league games.

Tuesday's other surprising result came at Macclesfield, where the bottom club beat play-off contenders Gillingham 1-0. That ended Gillingham's run of eight

games without defeat, although it nearly happened to them on Saturday. They trailed at home to Preston before Robert Taylor popped in an injury-time equaliser to rescue a point.

Gillingham's midweek failure was good news for Bournemouth, who moved above the Kent team by winning 1-0 at home to Bristol Rovers to take fourth place. They are still the only team in the Nationwide League to be undefeated at home. Ernie Howe netted Tuesday's winner, and Bournemouth have suffered only one defeat in their last ten matches. In Saturday's 3-2 win at Oldham, Mark Stein grabbed his 24th goal of the season, to stay well clear as the Second Division's top marksman.

In the relegation scrap, Macclesfield need a miraculous recovery, despite Tuesday's victory over Gillingham, and Wycombe are favourites to drop with them. They lost two home points on Saturday when David Gregory's injury-time penalty pulled it back to 2-2 for Colchester, who have now drawn their last four on the trot.

Notts County v Wycombe on Tuesday night might have gone some way towards sorting out the dogfight at the bottom, but the game was postponed because of bad weather.

County are enjoying a spirited revival, their victory at Kenilworth Road starting a run of three wins in a row, and taking them up from 23rd to 20th, with real hopes of survival.

Northampton, who entertain us next month, are still in trouble in 22nd place, despite escaping with a 0-0 draw at Maine Road on Saturday after three consecutive defeats. But something has to give today, with Ian Atkins taking his team to Wycombe while the other struggling teams, Macclesfield, Lincoln and Notts County are all at home.

Today's other Second Division fixtures

- Blackpool v Wrexham
- Bournemouth v Reading
- Lincoln v Chesterfield
- Macclesfield v Colchester
- Manchester City v Oldham
- Millwall v Walsall
- Notts County v York
- Wigan v Gillingham
- Wycombe v Northampton

*Fulham were away to Bristol Rovers last night, and the league table does not include that result.

1998-99 Season Division Two Campaign Records

- Highest/Lowest Gates**
32,134 Man City v Blackpool 8-Aug
1,998 Macclesfield v Millwall 26-Jan
- Highest Aggregate Scores**
Preston 3-4 Stoke 22-Aug
Lincoln 3-4 Preston 29-Aug
Bristol Rovers 3-4 Walsall 31-Oct
Bristol Rovers 3-4 Burnley 9-Jan
- Biggest Home Win**
Wigan 5-0 York 31-Oct
Bournemouth 5-0 Burnley 21-Nov
Preston 5-0 Lincoln 23-Feb

- Biggest Away Win**
Reading 0-6 Bristol Rovers 16-Jan
Burnley 0-6 Man City 9-Mar
- Consecutive Wins**
Fulham, Stoke 6
- Games Unbeaten**
Gillingham 17
- Consecutive Defeats**
Lincoln, Macclesfield 6
- Games without a Win**
Wycombe 12

Current Sequences

- Consecutive Wins**
Notts County, Wigan 3
- Games Unbeaten**
Man City 12
- Consecutive Defeats**
Blackpool, Burnley 3
- Games without a Win**
York 9

In the table below the index represents the difficulty of the 6 games played. If the matches had been against the top 6 sides the index would be high, if against the bottom six sides the index would be low

Form Table based on last 6 games

	W	D	L	For	Agt	Pts	Indx	Sequence
Fulham	5	1	0	14	3	16	42%	WWDWWW
Wigan	5	0	1	13	4	15	44%	WWWLWW
Wrexham	4	2	0	10	3	14	42%	DWWDWW
Walsall	4	1	1	7	4	13	41%	WLWDWW
Man City	3	3	0	12	1	12	42%	WDDWDW
Preston	3	2	1	13	7	11	36%	DWWLWD
Reading	3	2	1	10	6	11	57%	WWDLWD
Gillingham	3	2	1	9	3	11	37%	LDWWDW
Bournemouth	3	2	1	8	5	11	51%	WWDWLD
Colchester	2	4	0	10	8	10	46%	DDDDWW
Chesterfield	2	3	1	7	6	9	63%	DWDDLW
Notts County	3	0	3	7	8	9	69%	WWWLLL
Lincoln	3	0	3	4	8	9	66%	LWLWWL
Bristol Rovers	2	1	3	5	5	7	60%	LWLLWD
Blackpool	2	1	3	3	4	7	27%	LLLWDW
Millwall	2	0	4	6	11	6	41%	LLWWLL
Macclesfield	2	0	4	2	6	6	57%	WLLWL
Wycombe	1	2	3	6	9	5	70%	DWLWDL
Oldham	1	1	4	7	9	4	39%	DLLLLW
Northampton	1	1	4	2	6	4	64%	DLLLWL
Luton	1	0	5	2	9	3	51%	LLWLLL
Stoke	1	0	5	2	14	3	59%	LWLLLL
Burnley	0	2	4	3	17	2	46%	LLLDD
York	0	1	5	3	11	1	51%	LLDLLL

Average no. of goals scored home & away

	For	Home	Away	Agt	Home	Away
Bournemouth	1.67	2.00	1.31	0.97	0.47	1.50
Blackpool	0.97	1.13	0.82	1.09	1.00	1.18
Bristol Rovers	1.31	1.53	1.07	1.09	1.12	1.07
Burnley	1.06	0.83	1.31	1.85	1.56	2.19
Chesterfield	1.12	1.65	0.56	0.88	0.71	1.06
Colchester United	1.15	1.06	1.24	1.47	1.41	1.53
Fulham	1.62	1.94	1.29	0.71	0.59	0.82
Gillingham	1.59	1.83	1.31	0.85	0.72	1.00
Lincoln City	0.94	1.31	0.59	1.61	1.25	1.94
Luton Town	1.18	1.13	1.24	1.36	1.19	1.53
Macclesfield Town	0.67	0.69	0.65	1.24	1.06	1.41
Manchester City	1.32	1.44	1.22	0.71	0.56	0.83
Millwall	1.14	1.41	0.89	1.23	1.12	1.33
Northampton Town	0.76	0.81	0.72	1.15	1.13	1.17
Notts County	1.06	1.27	0.88	1.44	1.33	1.53
Oldham Athletic	1.03	1.13	0.94	1.41	1.44	1.39
Preston North End	1.88	2.29	1.47	1.00	1.06	0.94
Reading	1.26	1.33	1.19	1.29	1.11	1.50
Stoke City	1.22	1.38	1.06	1.16	1.13	1.19
Walsall	1.35	1.44	1.25	1.06	0.94	1.19
Wigan Athletic	1.45	1.64	1.29	0.97	0.57	1.29
Wrexham	1.06	0.94	1.19	1.39	1.18	1.63
Wycombe Wanderers	0.94	1.28	0.53	1.33	1.06	1.67
York City	1.18	1.24	1.12	1.68	1.41	1.94

The Second Division

	HOME						AWAY					
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Fulham	34	14	2	1	33	10	9	4	4	22	14	75
Preston	34	10	4	3	39	18	9	5	3	25	16	66
Walsall	34	10	5	3	26	17	9	2	5	20	19	64
Bournemouth	33	12	5	0	34	8	5	4	7	21	24	60
Gillingham	34	11	5	2	33	13	4	9	3	21	16	59
Man City	34	8	6	2	23	9	6	8	4	22	15	56
Stoke	32	8	3	5	22	18	8	0	8	17	19	51
Chesterfield	33	12	2	3	28	12	2	7	9	17	51	
Reading	34	8	6	4	24	20	5	5	6	19	24	50
Wigan	31	8	3	3	23	8	6	4	7	22	22	49
Millwall	35	6	7	4	24	19	7	3	8	16	24	49
Wrexham	33	6	5	6	16	20	5	4	7	19	26	42
Luton Town	33	7	3	6	18	19	4	5	8	21	26	41
Blackpool	33	5	6	5	18	16	5	5	7	14	20	41
Bristol Rov	32	7	6	4	26	19	2	6	7	16	16	39
Colchester	34	5	7	5	18	24	3	8	6	21	26	39
York City	34	4	7	6	21	24	5	2	10	19	33	36
Burnley	34	5	6	7	15	28	3	4	9	21	35	34
Oldham	34	5	2	9	18	23	4	5	9	17	25	34
Notts Co	32	5	3	7	19	20	4	4	9	15	26	34
Lincoln	33	7	3	6	21	20	2	3	12	10	33	33
Northampton	34	2	8	6	13	18	4	4	10	13	21	30
Wycombe	33	6	4	8	23	19	0	6	9	8	25	28
Macclesfield	33	4	4	8	11	17	2	5	10	11	24	27

Statistics

fixtures, results, appearances, goalscorers

Date	Competition	Home Team	Time	Referee	Goals	Scorers	Assist	Appearances
Sat 08	AUGUST	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	A 3.00pm	1-0 (S. Davis)	5,252	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
TUES 11	WC1(1)	OXFORD UNITED	H 7.45pm	2-3 (Alexander 2p)	3,165	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
SAT 15		PRESTON NORTH END	H 3.00pm	1-1 (Marshall)	5,392	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
TUES 18	WC1(2)	OXFORD UNITED	A 7.45pm	3-1 (Gray, Evers, McLaren)	5,099	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
SAT 22		READING	A 3.00pm	0-3	18,108	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
SAT 29		COLCHESTER UNITED	H 3.00pm	2-0 (S. Davis, Douglas)	5,005	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
MON 31		WIGAN ATHLETIC	A 3.00pm	3-1 (S. Davis, Evers, Gray)	3,778	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
SAT 05	SEPTEMBER	BURNLEY	H 3.00pm	1-0 (Douglas)	3,574	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
TUES 08		WREXHAM	A 7.45pm	1-1 (McKinnon)	2,951	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
SAT 12		BRISTOL ROVERS	H 3.00pm	2-0 (S. Davis, Alexander)	5,558	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
TUES 15	WC2(1)	IPSWICH TOWN	A 7.45pm	1-2 (Douglas)	9,032	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
SAT 19		BLACKPOOL	A 3.00pm	0-1	5,695	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
TUES 22	WC2(2)	IPSWICH TOWN	H 7.45pm	4-2 (Fotiadis, Douglas S.Davis, Johnson)	5,665	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
SAT 26		WALSALL	H 3.00pm	0-1	5,530	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
SAT 03	OCTOBER	FULHAM	A 3.00pm	3-1 (Gray, Douglas, Davis)	11,856	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
SAT 10		YORK CITY	A 3.00pm	3-3 (Douglas, Evers, Gray)	3,780	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
SAT 17		OLDHAM ATHLETIC	H 3.00pm	2-0 (Gray, Scarlett)	5,447	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
TUES 20		NORTHAMPTON TOWN	H 7.45pm	1-0 (Alexander)	6,087	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
SAT 24		GILLINGHAM	A 3.00pm	0-1	5,602	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
TUES 27	WC3	COVENTRY	H 7.45pm	2-0 (Gray, S. Davis)	9,051	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
SAT 07	NOVEMBER	STOKE CITY	A 3.00pm	1-3 (Douglas)	12,964	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
TUES 10	WC4	BARNSELEY	H 7.45pm	1-0 (Gray)	8,453	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
SUN 15	FACUP(R1)	BOREHAM WOOD	A 1.00pm	3-2 (Gray 2, S. Davis)	1,772	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
SAT 21		LINCOLN CITY	A 3.00pm	2-2 (Gray, Doherty)	4,893	K. Davis	McGowan	Thomas
SAT 28		MANCHESTER CITY	H 3.00pm	1-1 (Doherty)	9,070	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
TUES 01	DECEMBER	SUNDERLAND	A 7.45pm	0-3	35,742	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
SAT 05	FA CUP (R2)	HULL CITY	H 3.00pm	1-2 (S. Davis)	5,021	K. Davis	Alexander	McGowan
SAT 12		MACCLESFIELD TOWN	A 3.00pm	2-2 (Douglas, Gray)	2,902	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
SAT 19		MILLWALL	H 3.00pm	1-2 (S. Davis)	5,939	K. Davis	McGowan	Fraser
MON 28		A.F.C BOURNEMOUTH	A 3.00pm	0-1	8,863	K. Davis	White	Thomas
SAT 02	JANUARY	COLCHESTER UNITED	A 3.00pm	2-2 (Alexander pen, White)	4,694	K. Davis	Alexander	Thomas
TUES 05	AWS(2)	WALSALL	H 7.45pm	0-3	1,870	Abbey	Boyce	Fraser
SAT 09	1999	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	H 3.00pm	3-1 (Spring, Evers, Douglas)	5,063	Davis	Harrison	White
SAT 16		PRESTON NORTH END	A 3.00pm	1-2 (Fotiadis)	11,034	Davis	Harrison	White
SAT 23		WIGAN ATHLETIC	H 3.00pm	0-4	4,934	Davis	Harrison	White
SAT 30		A.F.C BOURNEMOUTH	H 3.00pm	2-2 (McKinnon, Doherty)	5,426	Davis	Harrison	McGowan
SAT 06	FEBRUARY	BURNLEY	A 3.00pm	2-1 (Fotiadis, Doherty)	10,285	Abbey	Harrison	McGowan
SAT 13		WREXHAM	H 3.00pm	1-2 (Doherty)	4,759	Davis	Harrison	Alexander
SAT 20		BRISTOL ROVERS	A 3.00pm	0-1	6,361	Davis	Alexander	White
TUE 23		NOTTS COUNTY	H 7.45pm	0-1	4,021	Davis	Alexander	McGowan
SAT 27		BLACKPOOL	H 3.00pm	1-0 (Douglas)	4,646	Davis	Alexander	Thomas
SAT 06	MARCH	WALSALL	A 3.00pm	0-1	4,508	Davis	Alexander	Thomas
TUE 09		FULHAM	H 7.45pm	0-4	7,424	Davis	Alexander	Thomas
SAT 13		STOKE CITY	H 3.00pm					
SAT 20		CHESTERFIELD	A 3.00pm					
TUE 23		READING	H 7.45pm					
SAT 27		GILLINGHAM	H 11.30am					
FRI 02	APRIL	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	A 3.30pm					
TUE 06		YORK CITY	H 7.45pm					
SAT 10		NORTHAMPTON TOWN	A 3.00pm					
WED 14		MANCHESTER CITY	A 7.45pm					
SAT 17		LINCOLN CITY	H 3.00pm					
SAT 24		NOTTS COUNTY	A 3.00pm					
TUE 27		CHESTERFIELD	H 7.45pm					
SAT 01	MAY	MACCLESFIELD TOWN	H 3.00pm					
SAT 08		MILLWALL	A 3.00pm					

TOWN TEASER


WHO were the two subs who went on for us during the 1988 Littlewoods Cup triumph against Arsenal?

Listen for the PA announcer to ask this question this afternoon - if you know the answer you could win a prize.

Date	Competition	Home Team	Time	Referee	Goals	Scorers	Assist	Appearances
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Bacqué	Gray	Marshall	George for Bacque 71; McGowan for Marshall 81. Unused: White	
S. Davis	Johnson	McGowan	Evers	Bacqué	Gray	Marshall	McLaren for Thomas 30; George for Marshall 71; McIndoe for Gray 78. Unused: Abbey, White	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Bacqué	Gray	Marshall	McLaren for McKinnon 69; George for Bacqué 69; White for McGowan 85.	
S. Davis	Johnson	McLaren	Evers	Douglas	Gray	Marshall	George for Douglas 84; McKinnon for Marshall 90. Unused: White, Abbey, Bacqué.	
S. Davis	White	McLaren	Evers	Douglas	Gray	Marshall	McKinnon for Marshall 10; George for McLaren 15; Thomas for Douglas 62.	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	George	Thomas for Gray 56; Fotiadis for Douglas 72; Bacque for George 79.	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	George	McIndoe for George 45; Bacque for Douglas 72; Unused: Thomas	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McIndoe	Fotiadis for Douglas 73 Thomas for McIndoe 81. Unused: Bacque.	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McIndoe	Bacque for Douglas 72. Unused: Thomas Cox	
S. Davis	White	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McIndoe	Fotiadis for Douglas 62 Thomas for McKinnon 89. Unused: Marshall.	
S. Davis	Johnson	Cox	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McIndoe	Fotiadis for Douglas 77 Bacque for Cox 82. Unused: Abbey Thomas White	
S. Davis	Johnson	Cox	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McIndoe	Marshall for Douglas 68 Bacque for Gray 84. Thomas for McIndoe 88.	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Fotiadis	Marshall	Cox for Marshall 66; Bacque for Fotiadis 73; White for McKinnon 78. Unused Abbey, McIndoe	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Fotiadis	Cox	Gray for Douglas 60 McIndoe for Cox 67 White for Spring 87	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McGowan	Cox for McGowan 86, Fotiadis for Douglas 87. Unused: White	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McIndoe	White for McKinnon 75, Cox for Douglas 84. Unused: Fotiadis	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McIndoe	Scarlett for McIndoe 67, White for McKinnon 69, Fotiadis for Douglas 74	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McIndoe	White for Spring 81 Fotiadis for Douglas 81 Unused: Scarlett	
S. Davis	Johnson	Evers	McKinnon	Douglas	Gray	McGowan	Fotiadis for McGowan 71, White for McKinnon 75. Unused: McLaren	
S. Davis	Johnson	Evers	McKinnon	Douglas	Gray	McGowan	Fotiadis for Douglas 89. Unused: White Abbey McIndoe McLaren	
S. Davis	Johnson	KcKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McGowan	McLaren for Thomas 43, Doherty for Spring 70. Unused: White	
S. Davis	Johnson	KcKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McIndoe	McLaren for McKinnon 56, Nyamah for McIndoe 57, White for Douglas 82. Unused: Abbey Scarlett	
S. Davis	Johnson	KcKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	Nyamah	McIndoe for Nyamah 62, Doherty for Douglas 66, Spring for McKinnon 89. Unused: White, Abbey	
White	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	Davies	Doherty for Davies 64, McLaren for Spring 70. Unused McIndoe	
S. Davis	Johnson	Evers	McKinnon	Douglas	Gray	Davies	McLaren for Davies 54, Doherty for Douglas 64, White for McGowan 84	
S. Davis	Johnson	McKinnon	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McGowan	Doherty for Douglas 63, McLaren for McKinnon 70, White for McGowan 75. Unused Abbey, McIndoe	
S. Davis	White	McKinnon	Evers	Doherty	Gray	McLaren	McIndoe for McKinnon 61, Douglas for Doherty 64, Scarlett for McLaren 80. Unused Abbey, Thomas	
S. Davis	Johnson	McLaren	Evers	Douglas	Gray	McIndoe	Showler for McIndoe 63, Doherty for Douglas 67, White for Spring 82	
S. Davis	Johnson	Scarlett	McLaren	Douglas	Gray	Showler	Fotiadis for Showler 63, White for Gray 77. Unused: McIndoe	
S. Davis	Johnson	Evers	Harrison	Fotiadis	Gray	Showler	Scarlett for Showler 60; Bacque for Harrison 74. Unused: McIndoe	
White	Johnson	McLaren	Harrison	Douglas	Gray	Evers	Doherty for Douglas 65. Unused McIndoe, Fraser	
White	Dyche	McLaren	Harrison	Bacque	McIndoe	Fotiadis	Kandol for Bacque 58, Doherty for Fotiadis 58, Scarlett for McLaren 72	
Dyche	Johnson	Evers	McLaren	Douglas	Gray	Zahana-Oni	Doherty for Zahana-Oni HT, Scarlett for Douglas 81. Unused: Fraser	
Dyche	Johnson	Evers	McLaren	Douglas	Fotiadis	McGowan	Doherty for Douglas 83, Fraser for McGowan 89. Unused Zahana-Oni	
Dyche	Johnson	McGowan	Evers	Douglas	Fotiadis	Zahana-Oni	Doherty for Fotiadis HT, McIndoe for Zahana-Oni 64. Unused: Scarlett	
Dyche	Johnson	Evers	McLaren	Douglas	Doherty	McKinnon	Zahana-Oni for Douglas 74; White for Harrison 79. Unused: Scarlett	
Dyche	Johnson	Evers	McLaren	Douglas	Fotiadis	McKinnon	Doherty for Douglas 72; Alexander for McKinnon 77; White for McGowan 88	
Dyche	Johnson	Evers	McLaren	Doherty	Fotiadis	McKinnon	Gray for Fotiadis 25; Cox for McKinnon 67; White for Harrison 73	
Dyche	Johnson	Scarlett	McLaren	Douglas	Doherty	McKinnon	Zahana-Oni for Scarlett 73; Kandol for McIndoe 77. Unused: Fraser	
Dyche	Johnson	Cox	McLaren	Douglas	Doherty	McKinnon	White for Johnson HT, Gray for Douglas 66; Scarlett for Cox 73	
Willmott	White	Harrison	McKinnon	Douglas	Gray	George	McGowan for Spring 73, Cox for George 83, McLaren for Harrison 89	
White	Johnson	Harrison	McKinnon	Douglas	Gray	George	McGowan for George 66; McLaren for Harrison 76. Unused: Willmott	
White	Johnson	Harrison	McKinnon	Douglas	Gray	George	Cox for Douglas 62; McLaren for George 62; McGowan for Thomas 73	

The Man in Charge

TODAY'S referee is Andy D'Urso, from Billericay, who we are meeting for the second time this season. He officiated in our Worthington Cup-tie at Ipswich in September. He is in his 20th year as a ref, having started on the parks in 1979 and attained Class One six years later. He joined the Football League as a linesman before being upgraded to the middle in 1994. As hobbies, he lists all sports, particularly football and golf.



HATTERS AWAY

AS USUAL the Bobbers Travel Club and Town on Tour are running coaches to next week's match at Chesterfield. The road journey is simple: take the M1 north as far as junction 29 and then follow the signs towards Chesterfield. Just under five miles from the motorway, at a roundabout, take the second exit, signposted towards the town centre, and at the next roundabout take the first exit into Markham Road, the A619. At the next roundabout take the third exit, into Foljambe Road, the ground is straight ahead.



The Teams

Luton Town v Stoke City

Kelvin Davis	1	1	Gavin Ward
Graham Alexander	2	2	Chris Short
Mitchell Thomas	3	3	Stephen Woods
Matthew Spring	4	4	Larus Sigurdsson
Alan White	5	5	Nicky Mohan
Marvin Johnson	6	6	Jason Kavanagh
Gerry Harrison	7	7	Kevin Keen
Ray McKinnon	8	8	Graham Kavanagh
Stuart Douglas	9	9	Peter Thorne
Phil Gray	10	10	Kyle Lightbourne
Liam George	11	11	David Oldfield
Paul McLaren	12	12	Dean Crowe
Jimmy Cox	13	13	Richard Forsyth
Gavin McGowan	14	14	Ray Wallace

Referee: Andy D'Urso, Billericay

Assistants: A. J. Green, Hinckley (yellow flag)

A. J. Webb, Winnersh (yellow & red flag)

Reserve official: S. J. Gadsden, Oakley



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