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# Millwall

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The Official Matchday Magazine Of Millwall FC



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## MAKING PROGRESS

As we come to the end of the season, I think we can look back with some pride on our achievements. To reach Wembley was, of course, the highlight, but to see so many excellent young players coming through into the first team has given us great optimism for next year. We firmly believe that we do now have an excellent up and coming side under Rhino and Macca, and I for one am really looking forward to August already.

## KEEP OFF THE PITCH

We have had our problems over the past nine months, most of which we have managed, through hard work and determination to overcome. I was not pleased with the actions of a handful of idiots at Reading last Saturday, and I am more determined than ever to rid Millwall of these morons who keep dragging the name of this club down. We cannot afford to forget that the Football Association are keeping a very close eye on us. That is why, regretfully, we have had to shut the East and West stand lower tiers again today, and why we must not have anyone on the pitch today, even after the final whistle. I know that this is a tradition, but for the time being we have lost that right. Let's hope we can regain it in the future. We have kept the South Stand lower tiers open to accommodate all those wishing to sit there. Any incursion from this area will result in it being closed in the future as well. If something were to go wrong this afternoon, I'm afraid our stock of sympathy has been used up.

## NEW SPONSORS

We now have reached heads of agreement with new sponsors for next season **The Local Boyz** who will also be manufacturing our new kit. There are still one or two i's to be dotted and t's to be crossed, but we're confident that will be done shortly. You will see some samples of the propose designs for you to see today, and photos of which appear on pages 18 & 19 of this programme.

We have also announced our pricing for next season, details of which can be found on page 32.



## WELCOME LUTON

We welcome our visitors Luton. Town today, and we offer them our support as they strive to overcome their financial problems. We've been there and know what they're going through, so we wish them well and have allowed their supporters to make a collection here towards their 'fighting fund.'

## HAVE A DRINK ON US

Finally, thanks for your support. It has been much appreciated, and as last year our message to both Millwall and Luton fans is 'Have a drink on us.' Simply tear off the voucher from the back of the programme and exchange it at one of the kiosks for a pint of beer/lager (adults only obviously!) or a soft drink. Many thanks to Courage Breweries for their contribution

Have a good summer

Theo



## THE MANAGEMENT

**W**hen I look back over the last nine months or so, I suppose I have to admit I'm quite happy with the progress we've made. A trip to Wembley was obviously a bonus, but what we are all pleased about, from the chairman, management, coaching staff right down to the supporters I believe, is the number of good young players we've managed to bring through this season. They've gained experience which will hopefully stand us in good stead for next season, and let's hope the same goes for myself and Macca. We know a fair bit more about management now than we did twelve months ago, so give us another twenty four years and we might begin to get the hang of it.

We've certainly found it very hard work mentally and physically, but we've also enjoyed it throughly, and once we've had a bit of a break we'll be raring to go again in August.

The highlights of the season have been performances at places like Stoke and Preston which have come close to what we are trying to achieve. The progress of Tim Cahill and Steven Reid have also been particularly pleasing, although in a way it's a bit unfair to single them out from a host of young players who have done well for us. Reidy has come on tremendously over the past few weeks, however, whilst Tim has been asked to do a man's job in midfield throughout the season and has been right up to the task.

Probably since the Wembley game, the season has started to take its toll on so many young players. With the Cup run we've played well over fifty games in a very physical League, and for half the team this is their first experience of it. Next year I'm sure the expectations will be higher. Ours will, the fans' will, and it's up to us to build on what we've achieved this year and see if we can measure up to those expectations.

In the summer we'll be looking to strengthen the squad. We've learned the hard way already that finding the right player at the right price on the right wages is no easy job. Ideally we'd like to get two or three in before we go away on our holidays, so that when we come back for pre-season the new faces can settle in straight away. Unfortunately, we don't live in the ideal world and we're prepared to wait again if necessary for the right opportunities to come along.

Finally, let me sign off by thanking you for your support during the season. Have a good summer and we'll look forward to seeing you again in August.

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*"...In the summer we'll be looking to strengthen the squad."*



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## FACE TO FACE

"...the experience they have gained will surely stand themselves and their clubs in good stead for next season."

**BATTLE OF THE DAY!**



### Steven Reid versus Michael McIndoe

Steven Reid and Michael McIndoe are clearly two players amongst a plethora of young talent at Millwall and Luton who look to have an exciting future in the game. Both have been given their chances at senior level this term and the experience they have gained will surely stand themselves and their clubs in good stead for next season. Finances at these two clubs, and particularly Luton at present, dictate that the only way forward has to be to bring players through the Youth system and give them their senior chance earlier than elsewhere. Reidy made his debut against Bournemouth last May having barely turned seventeen, and is now a first team regular at The Den and has appeared at Wembley. This afternoon, as he comes Face to Face with Michael McIndoe the potential of the Edinburgh born young Hatter will become apparent.



# THE LIONS DEN

INTO

## LUTON TOWN



### FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL

Having successfully negotiated the stormy relegation waters once again against a backdrop of diminishing resources and uncertainty, Luton Boss and escapologist extraordinaire Lennie Lawrence will be forced to sit back over the next couple of months and ponder to what, if anything, he will be returning in early July. Doubtless he, like his managerial colleagues, will be scouring the lists of players out of contract and released by other clubs. But he will know that any transfer traffic for the foreseeable future will only be moving one way, out of the door at Kenilworth Road.

We at Millwall can only sympathise with Luton's plight, which on the face of it would appear to be worse than our own two years ago. Both are clearly examples of smaller clubs over extending themselves in a bid to compete with the big boys in the higher echelons of the game. Whilst we were gaining promotion for the first time to the top flight just over a decade ago, The Hatters capped a memorable year by lifting the Littlewoods Cup at Wembley, beating Arsenal in the Final.

"The club has far too rich a tradition to go under," claims former manager David Pleat, the man who guided the

Bedfordshire club to such heady success. "Of all the clubs that are in trouble they have the best recent history. They're not like the other clubs that have been in trouble. They have some standing within the game."

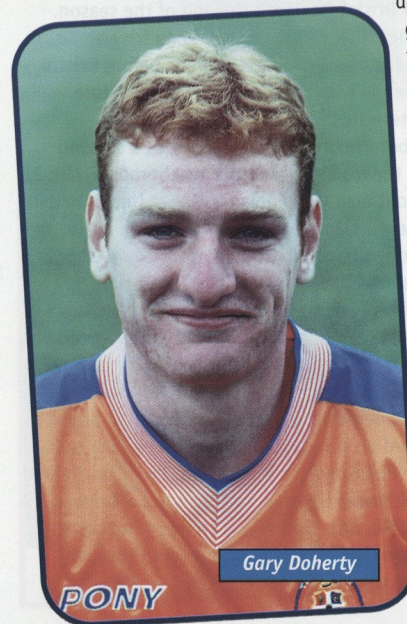
With all due respect to a Luton legend and one of the most knowledgeable men in the game, his romantic view may prove dangerously ill founded. With reference to our own example and that of Bournemouth the season before last, supporters might be lulled into the belief that, 'these clubs always survive, one way or another.' Lions chairman Theo Paphitis and his Cherries counterpart Trevor Watkins are well placed to confirm just how close both Millwall and Bournemouth came to going out of business. One cannot help feeling that sooner or later, the well of soccer daft businessmen willing to invest time, money and energy in ailing football clubs will run dry. With a guarantee of no return, save the possibility of a grand day out at Wembley in the Auto-Windcreens Shield that both Messrs Watkins and Paphitis have enjoyed in the past year, throwing one's fortune into a lower Division outfit on its uppers makes no logical sense

whatsoever. Even if the childhood dream of owning one's own football club does prove enough to persuade a benefactor to step into the breach at Kenilworth Road, the Manor Ground, Fratton Park or Selhurst Park, how much longer will major financial institutions be prepared to extend generous credit terms to football clubs teetering on the brink of collapse? The fear is that once one or two established names go to the wall, a domino effect will ensue. I'm sure everyone inside this ground this afternoon fervently hopes that Luton, Oxford, Portsmouth, and yes, even Palace, will survive. Each has a rich tradition, each is central to the life of the communities in which they are situated, and crucially each has tasted top flight football in their recent history.

### SHORT SIGHTED

The worry for the majority of clubs and their supporters in the Nationwide League, and indeed a good number in the Premiership, is that the 'greed is good' faction at the very top of the game in this country will happily stand by and watch as the small fry fall by the wayside. Why should Arsenal, Chelsea or Manchester United worry if Luton or Oxford go out of business. There might be a good young player on their books they could pick up for next to nothing to play in their Reserve side. Such an attitude, if it does indeed prevail within the portals of Stamford Bridge, Highbury, Old Trafford or elsewhere, is surely short sighted in the extreme. Luton, for example, just like ourselves, have discovered many a promising youngster, who has been nurtured and introduced to senior football at Kenilworth Road before going onto star for Premiership giants, Matthew Upson, John Hartson, Mal Donaghy being just three that spring to mind. If the smaller clubs are no longer there to perform this function, the number of British youngsters with a realistic hope of earning a living from the game will diminish. No matter for the big boys. In the short term they can keep shopping abroad of course, but as the quality of the British international sides wane as a result of youngsters turning their attentions to other pursuits, so interest in the game at all levels will start to fall off. When that happens, will Mr Murdoch and his rivals begin to seek alternative flagships through which to sell their satellite

dishes, causing the gravy train to hit the buffers. No immediate danger even then to the big five or six at the top of the Premiership tree you might think. By that time they may well be playing in a European Super League anyway, but with the roots severed, the tree that is the professional game in England would begin to wither and die. Make no bones



Gary Doherty

about it, and the recent Deloitte & Touche report certainly doesn't. The goose that laid the golden egg is in mortal danger, and the first people to suffer from the possible demise of a Luton Town or a Portsmouth are the supporters. Would Hatters fans change their allegiance to one of the bigger clubs? One would have cause to doubt it. They would be more likely to become passive football

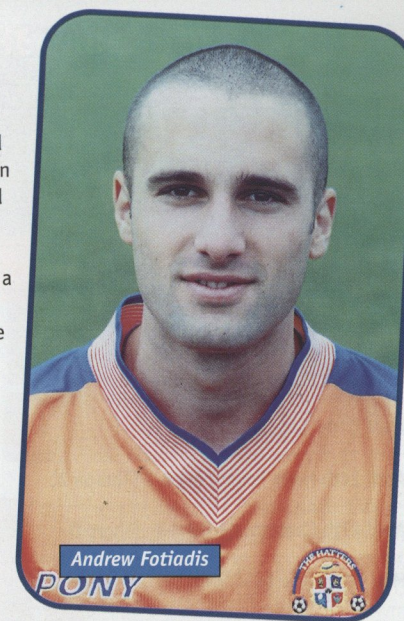
### FINGERS IN THE DYKE

Let us hope that we will indeed be renewing our acquaintance with The Hatters in 1999/2000. With the club some £4 million in debt and losing around £1 million a year, they are clearly in need of a major benefactor to get them out of receivership and back on the road to recovery. As always in these circumstances the fans have rallied round, the Fans of Luton Action Group raising some £10,195 with a bucket collection on their first night and more than £120,000 in total so far. They need to raise some £500,000 in the hope of being able to buy a controlling share in the club themselves if a major buyer cannot be found, and to that end, we at Millwall wish them well.

### MAKE DO AND MEND

A season of some promise on the field early on threatened to unravel badly from mid-November to the end of March. In the first three months of the season, The Hatters established themselves just behind the leading group in Division Two and were notoriously hard to beat, with just four League defeats to the end of October. They were also in the midst of a decent run in the Worthington Cup as three First Division scalps, Ipswich, Oxford and Barnsley were claimed in addition to Premiership Coventry, before First Division champions elect Sunderland ended their progress in Round Five.

Thereafter, the wheels started to come off, and a home defeat against the Nationwide League's basement club at the time, Hull City, in the FA Cup was followed by a slump which saw Lennie Lawrence's side win just three of their next eighteen League games. From Play-Off hopefuls they had now become serious relegation candidates and with key players Sean Evers (£500,000 to Reading) and Graham Alexander (£50,000 to Preston) departing on transfer deadline day, prospects looked bleak.



Andrew Fotiadis

However, in the time honoured fashion Lawrence managed to steady the ship, and Luton now look set for a 'what was all the fuss about' comfortable mid-table finish.

In spite of the departures the squad still has a pretty familiar look to it. 22 year old keeper **Kelvin Davis** has established himself as the regular number one over the past couple of seasons after seeing off the American challenge of Juergen Sommer and Ian Feuer. Defender **Chris Willmott** is a local product who after battling against injury for some time has been given the chance to establish himself following the departure of Alexander. The evergreen **Mitchell Thomas** needs no introduction. Born in Luton, he started out with his local club before moving on to Spurs and West Ham. He returned to Kenilworth Road in 1994 and is still going strong at the age of 34.

**Matthew Spring** is another local boy at the opposite end of the career spectrum. At 19 he has been virtually ever present this season as a competitive midfielder. 30 year old **Marvin Johnson** has been a first team regular at Luton for a decade. He can play in a variety of positions but invariably turns out at centre back. **Alan White** (22) was a £40,000 signing from Lennie Lawrence's former club Middlesbrough in September 1997 and is likely to partner Johnson this afternoon. The sale of Steve Davis to Burnley in December and the return of Sean Dyche to Bristol City have ushered White back into the frame.

Nottingham Forest paid £750,000 for the signature of **Ray McKinnon** back in 1992, but things didn't work out at the City Ground for the former Scottish Under 21 international and he returned to Scotland with Aberdeen and his first club Dundee United. He moved South again under the Bosman ruling last summer to join Luton.

Another Scotsman, 19 year old **Michael McIndoe** has forced his way through from the junior ranks at Kenilworth Road to establish himself in the first team squad this season. Likewise **Stuart Fraser**, also Edinburgh born and the same age as McIndoe, is another of the Luton youngsters Lennie Lawrence will be hoping can provide the foundation for future success once the financial stability of the club is restored.

**Stuart Douglas**, just turned 21, has been a regular in the number nine shirt this season. He burst through to the first team at the age of 17, but injury hampered his development until this term. Partnering Douglas will doubtless be returning hero **Tony Thorpe**, signed on loan from Bristol City until the end of the season. Thorpe originally left Kenilworth Road for an £800,000 fee when he joined Fulham before Bristol City stepped in with £1 million for his signature shortly afterwards.

Hitchin born **Andrew Fotiadis** provides a striking option for the manager. Another local product, the 21 year old front man won England caps at Under 15 and Under 18 level. **Liam George** is a name familiar to Richard Sadlier, having been a member of the Republic of Ireland squad that reached the European Youth Championships Final. A broken leg last season was a major set back, but in recent months he has forced his way back into the first team reckoning. **Gary Doherty** is another young Irishman for whom Luton have high hopes. The Donegal born centre back has also played at centre forward on occasion. Likely to be missing today is top scorer **Phil Gray**. The 30 year old Northern Ireland international striker returned to Luton in September 1997 after spells with Sunderland, Nancy (France) and Fortuna Sittard (Holland). He has been out through injury in recent weeks.



Lennie Lawrence

April 10th Northampton (a) 0-1

April 14th Manchester City (a) 0-2

April 17th Lincoln City (h) 0-1

April 24th Notts County (a) 2-1 (Thorpe 2)

April 27th Chesterfield (h) 1-0 (Thorpe)

May 1st Macclesfield Town (h) 1-2 (Doherty)

### THE BOSS - LENNIE LAWRENCE

After playing non-League football with Croydon, Carshalton and Sutton United, Lennie's coaching career started at Plymouth and Lincoln before he became Reserve team Boss at Charlton. Promoted to the Valley hot seat in 1982, he guided Charlton into the old First Division and miraculously kept them there for four years, during which time they no longer had a ground of their own, having come close to going out of business at one stage. In 1991 he moved to Middlesbrough and took them into the top flight, but when they only lasted one season there and he left to spend 18 months in charge at Bradford City.

In the autumn of 1995 he was appointed manager of Luton Town, but was unable to prevent their relegation to Division Two. Twelve months later he guided The Hatters to the Play-Off's where they lost out to Crewe at the Semi-Final stage. With the financial situation at Kenilworth Road becoming ever more precarious, the last couple of seasons have been more of a struggle, but if one man is adept at fashioning a silk purse out of a sow's ear it is Lennie Lawrence.



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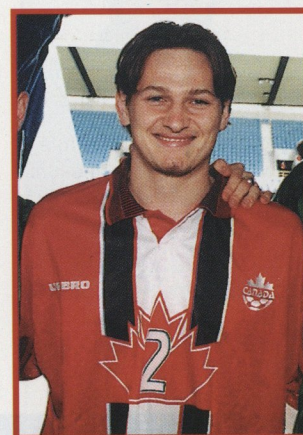
**H**e was born in Brent and is as English as Fish and Chips, but Marc Bircham has accepted the chance of an international career by opting to play for country of his grandfather's

birth, Canada, and he made his senior debut for them last week in the 1-1 draw against Northern Ireland. Indeed, within minutes of coming on as a second half substitute he was on the scoresheet with a header from Paul Pescholido's cross, and only a last minute own goal prevented him from being toasted as the unlikely matchwinner. No-one has more enthusiasm for the game of football than Birch, and whether it be on the international stage or a park kick-about you sense he would have got a big thrill from scoring.

"We should have had a penalty and a few people stopped, but Pesch carried on, kept the ball in play and clipped it across. I sprinted to the back post and scored with a diving header from about four yards.

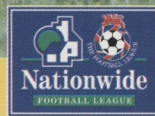
Now what I really want to do is score a goal for Millwall. I hit the post with my first touch on my debut against Preston, and then I hit the bar against them again a couple of weeks ago. I've gone close a few times to be honest, and I'm just dying get one so I can do a celebration.

I enjoyed playing for Canada and I was proud to do so, but I can't honestly claim to be Canadian because I'm English through and through. Realistically the chances of me playing for England were remote to say the least so I took the chance when Canada offered it to me, and to have made my international debut and scored my first goal at the age of 20 is something no-one can take away from me."



Marc's performances in a Millwall shirt have seen him rewarded with a Canada cap

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## AND SO, THE END IS HERE

**A**nother eventful season draws to a close, one which will live in the memory by virtue of that Wembley appearance. Whilst the players will take a well earned break for a couple of months, **Clubcall** will still be bringing you news and interviews everyday throughout the close season.

Contrary to popular belief, the summer is a busy period at most football clubs. No sooner does one season end, than preparations begin for the next.

**Rhino and Macca** will certainly be busy as they look to strengthen their squad for the forthcoming campaign, and we'll be speaking to them regularly throughout the summer months, and bringing you the news first of any movement in or out on the transfer front.

Chairman **Theo Paphitis** will also be keeping us abreast of developments off the field as the Club continues to move forward and become better equipped to compete at a higher level. In addition there will be details of **pre-season friendlies** available

shortly, and by the middle of June the **1999/2000 fixtures** will be out.

Then long before most of you have been away for your summer holidays, the players will be back in for pre-season training in early July and everything will be up and running again.

How many new faces will be in the new team photo taken in August? We'll have to wait to find out, but you'll get all the news first, and the views of the men that matter on **Millwall Clubcall 0891-400-300**.

Like the Windmill, we never close.

Keep up with the news of on and off field activity from the men in charge over the Summer on Clubcall



# The Glory years

The 1984/85 season was to be George Graham's second full campaign in charge at The Den. Where previously he had first kept the club up in 1983, then consolidated in 1984, 1985 was to be the year it would all come together. Basically it would be the same squad with just a few additions to the playing staff, two of whom had spells with Millwall earlier in their careers. The former Lions youngster Tony Kinsella came back from Ipswich Town, and centre-back Lindsay Smith was signed from Plymouth Argyle, along with Bill Roffey and Les Briley, who came from Aldershot in exchange for Andy Massey.

The big kick off arrived when relegated Swansea City visited The Den, and were beaten 2-0, with full-back Bill Roffey scoring on his debut in front of a modest 4,650 crowd. But after a lone goal defeat at Cambridge, The Lions suffered just one more loss in the next thirteen games, in which a miserly twelve goals were conceded by a defence moulded around Smith and Dave Cusack. This trait would show in manager George Graham's sides in the future. It was during this spell that Steve Lovell started making a name for himself as a striker, when after appearing in the wide right midfield role, Graham moved him up front and was duly rewarded with a return of a dozen goals, as teams such as Brentford, York, Lincoln and both the Bristol clubs failed to contain the former right-back.

Millwall's progress in that season's F.A. Cup would see them reach the sixth round, but commenced on the south coast with a trip to non-league Weymouth. On paper it looked a tricky tie, but with Graham at the helm The Lions give a fully professional performance to run out comfortable winners by 3-0. Round Two brought more part-time footballers into focus when Enfield came to The Den, to earn warm praise for their performance before going down to a Dean Neal goal.

To boost the squad, and to give himself some options, George Graham entered the transfer market and bought the big Lincoln City striker, John Fashanu, who after scoring on his home debut went on to become a real favourite with The Den crowd with his bustling and never-say-die



Steve Lowndes and leading scorer Steve Lovell pictured with their Welsh Caps along with manager George Graham

attitude. The Lions who hadn't scored in over 225 minutes of football, saw centre-back Dave Cusack take it upon himself to show the forwards how it was done when he scored two second-half goals to beat Newport County at The Den, which set Millwall up in the right frame of mind to face First Division Chelsea at Stamford Bridge, in the F.A. Cup 4th Round. They had reached this stage by defeating South London rivals Crystal Palace in a third round replay at Selhurst Park, by two goals to one, in which Steve Lovell scored one of the goals that knocked out his former club.

Again the Millwall support were not going to be let down. On a night of high drama, Chelsea's Scottish striker David Speedie missed a penalty right at the end, which meant The Lions had eased into the fifth round by 3-2 with strikes from Lovell, who got two, and big "Fash". This victory fully avenged the League Cup defeat earlier in the season by the team from West London, who had won that Cup tie on a 4-2 aggregate. February continued to be an ecstatic month for the club. A rare Otulakowski goal won the match at Wigan, and when promotion chasing Bradford City were thumped 4-0 at The Den, Millwall were flying, along with Fashanu, whose two goals in that match were celebrated with his "airplane" impression. The win over City brought a satisfying end to the week. On the previous Tuesday they had seen off another senior side in Leicester City, who were beaten 2-0 in a delayed F.A. Cup 5th round tie, at Cold Blow Lane, in which Alan McLeary who at the time had been a bit part player, scored the all important clinching second goal.

As far as Millwall were concerned the month of March would continue in the same vein resultwise, other than the turn out at Luton. The Lions would stay



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undefeated in the League. When Steve Lovell scored against Bristol City at The Den back in October, it was a very late equaliser. But when he repeated the feat in the return at Ashton Gate it proved to be the only goal of the game. Lincoln suffered a similar fate, when Nick Chatterton scored, and a third 1-0 victory was obtained after Millwall made hard work of beating a lowly and stubborn York City side. Perhaps the terrible scenes at Luton in midweek had affected the players more than the supporters had thought, but everyone was grateful when Lindsay Smith nicked the only goal.

A goalless draw at Rotherham was followed by completing the 'double' over Gillingham by 2-1 (Millwall had won at the Priestfield ground earlier that season, 4-1). Two goals to one was again the score when The Lions beat Swansea at The Vetch Field, Kevin Bremner scoring one of the goals, his first since September. Rotherham visited The Den for a Friday night fixture and again they stopped The Lions from scoring as both teams slugged out another 0-0 draw. With a dozen games to go Millwall were very well placed, and would have just two more defeats inflicted upon them by Hull City and Preston during this time. The magnificent Cusack would set The Lions on their way with a splendid 2-1 win at Derby County. Another 0-0 draw, this time against Reading, was followed by yet another 2-1 win over Cambridge United in which Millwall got lucky with a penalty and an own goal to secure the points.

The old adage of results counting more than performances at this time of the season rang true then as it does now, when Millwall had to grind out a 1-0 win over Bristol Rovers at The Den. It was left to Lindsay

Smith to grab a late equaliser at Turf Moor where Burnley were held to a 1-1 draw, before Doncaster Rovers left London pointless, losing 2-1 at Cold Blow Lane. Coming into the final furlong Millwall found themselves behind at the interval at home to Bolton Wanderers, and whatever Graham said to his players at the break, it had an immediate effect on the team as they battered Bolton for most of the second-half to score four more goals to run out comfortable victors, and in the process claim Millwall's first five goal tally of the season winning by 5-2. So with three more games left, The Lions were sitting in third



Paul Sansome - Ever present in 1984/85

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

The Quality of the Football

The authority...

Image by Empics 0115 840 444 Digital Artwork by SentryBox 01895 251 220

place, on 83 points, three ahead of Bristol City who had played a game more.

An early evening kick-off at Dean Court saw Millwall virtually clinch a promotion place with two well taken Kevin Bremner goals. This meant that The Lions would need just one point from their remaining two games to go up. The promised land was reached when a well taken Cusack penalty put them on their way against Plymouth, and when Welsh International Steve Lowndes put Argyle further behind twenty minutes from time it was all over bar the shouting. With Millwall up, the 13,000 plus crowd began to celebrate. The runners-up spot came as an added bonus, when rivals Hull City unexpectedly lost, and a successful campaign came to an end at Brentford, where the two sides shared the spoils in a 1-1 draw.

Dave Sullivan

**Millwall F.C. Museum. Can you help?**

The museum is now being set up at the ground and we are collecting all types of memorabilia on the Lions: photographs, badges, programmes, newspaper articles, etc. Photographs and cuttings can be copied and returned.

Anyone wishing to loan or donate should contact the curators below at the:  
Millwall F.C. Museum, The Den, Zampa Road, SE16 3LN Items can also be handed in at offices, clearly marked Millwall F.C. Museum.  
Curators: R. Lindsay, C. Bethell, D. Sullivan, E. Wilding, M. Smith.

**MILLWALL F.C. MUSEUM**  
The Den Zampa Road London SE16 3LN  
TEL: 0171-232 1222 FAX: 0171-231 1662  
FOUNDED 1994 BY  
Kent Advanced Systems  
Tel: 0181-317 2005



Paul Ifill slots home our late equaliser



Bircham alert!



Going down...



Single pile please!



Paul Shaw unleashes a 'special'



Tim Cahill slots home our first and the comeback is on



No time to waste as Tim rushes back for the restart

# COMEBACK KIDS

The young Lions gave another glimpse of the character they have shown all season by staging a dramatic comeback from 2-0 down with six minutes remaining to grab a point against promotion chasing Preston.

Millwall had the better chances in the first half, with Tim Cahill's left foot drive pushed round the post and Marc Bircham coming within an inch of his first Lions goal when he smacked a header against the crossbar on the half hour from Steven Reid's corner. Reid also flashed a left foot volley narrowly wide in first half injury time.

Preston made a dramatic start to the second period when Julian Darby fired them in front within a minute of the restart,

producing a 25 yarder into the top corner after being allowed the time and space to do so. When Michael Jackson added a second just past the hour with a free header from an Alexander corner it looked all over bar the shouting. It was all over for Bobby Bowry, who had been on the pitch for barely nine minutes and collided with Ben Roberts whilst trying to keep out Jackson's header, injuring knee ligaments in the process.

The Lions, to their credit, didn't give it up. Preston keeper David Lucas saved well from Shaw and Harris, and the Millwall top scorer also hit a post. Then with six minutes left Tim Cahill pulled a goal back to set up a

grandstand finish which culminated in Paul Ifill's deserved equaliser, and his first senior goal, from Richard Sadlier's pull back.

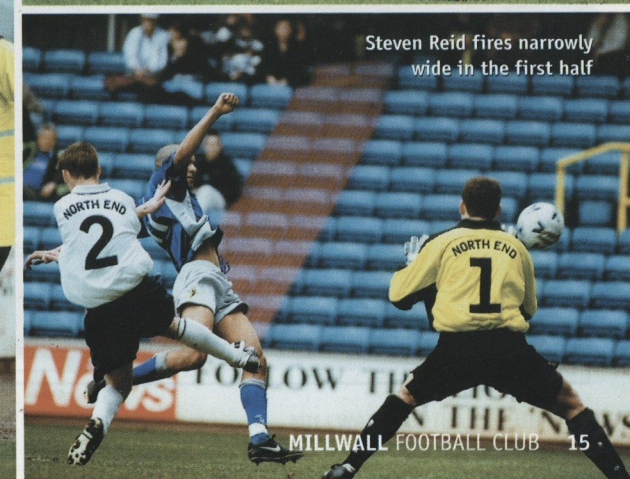
**Millwall:** Roberts, Bircham, Stuart, Cahill, Nethercott, Fitzgerald, Ifill, Newman (Bowry 55', Sadlier 63'), Harris, Shaw, Reid. sub not used: Cook.

**Preston:** Lucas, Alexander, Ludden, Murdoch, Jackson, Gregan, McKenna, Darby, Macken, Basham, J. Harris (McGregor 81'). subs not used: Wright, Clements.

**Referee:** Mark Halsey (Welwyn Garden City) **Bookings:** Bircham, Stuart (Millwall). Darby (Preston).



Bobby Bowry is carried off in agony after injuring himself trying to prevent Preston's second goal



Steven Reid fires narrowly wide in the first half



# Around The Den

Keeping you up to date with all the latest news from Millwall Football Club...

ALL THE NEWS



Neil Harris - twin awards

## NEIL WINS DOUBLE

Lions top scorer **Neil Harris** has been nominated the **Millwall Player of the Year** by members of the Millwall Supporters Club. It is a magnificent achievement for the 21 year old in his first season in League football. Second in the voting was Stuart Nethercott with Tim Cahill third.

Neil's eighteen goals is the highest total amassed by a Millwall player since Teddy Sheringham notched a mere 38 in 1990/91, and with the experience he has gained this term he will surely go on to better that next season. Neil's reward has not only been for his goalscoring prowess, however. As his manager has acknowledged on more than one occasion, his all round game has improved immeasurably over the past twelve months.

"Neil worked very hard in pre-season and having built up his strength and fitness he has reaped the benefits. His attitude has been first class, and he is a great example to young lads, and perhaps those still hoping to make the breakthrough from the non-league ranks," observed Rhino.

Neil has also regularly given generously of his time in his dealings with both the media and young supporters. No surprise then that the **Junior Lions** also voted Neil Harris as their Player of the Year.

Some consolation for **Tim Cahill** is that he has been nominated by the Millwall management as their **Young Player of the Year**. When you consider that this year he had some pretty strong opposition in the form of Richard Sadlier, Marc Bircham, Steven Reid and Paul Ifill, to name but four, this is some accolade indeed for the young Aussie who has been a mainstay of the side, barring injury and the odd suspension, throughout.

Millwall's **Schoolboy Player of the Year** nomination, selected by the Youth Academy staff, goes to 15 year old midfielder **Gary Redmond** from Islington. Gary has been a

regular member of the Under 17 side in the FA Premier Academy League this season and has no doubt benefited from that level of competition. His will surely be a name to look out for in the next two or three years.



Tim Cahill - great season

## JIMMY PIPE

A big welcome today to the family of Lions legend Jimmy Pipe, who played for the Club between 1926-34. He made his debut at the age of 17 having graduated from amateur football.

## MEMORABILIA

Jimmy's relatives are bringing in a number of items of his for our Museum collection. Our thanks also go to the following for items donated recently:

John Stubbs (Players Pass 1921/22), Jack Knapton (programmes and press cuttings), Ray Ellis (loan of scrapbooks), Austin Reed Menswear of Liverpool Street and Marks & Spencer, Lewisham (manequins), Mr & Mrs Moore (scrapbooks), Malcolm Finlayson (photographs), Mr Payne (Reserve programmes), Darren Smith (photos).

## CAN YOU HELP

Jean Diehl, the youngest daughter of another former Millwall great Bill 'Banger' Voisey would like a copy of **Lions of the South** or **Millwall, a Complete Record**.

She is keen to know as much about her father's career as possible. If you have one for sale, please ring her on 01481-35992.

The Millwall Museum would like an unused Wembley ticket, also any spare photographs that you took on Sunday in and around Wembley. If you can assist, please contact the address/phone number in our advert on page 13. Please leave a means of contact so we can confirm receipt. Thank you.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

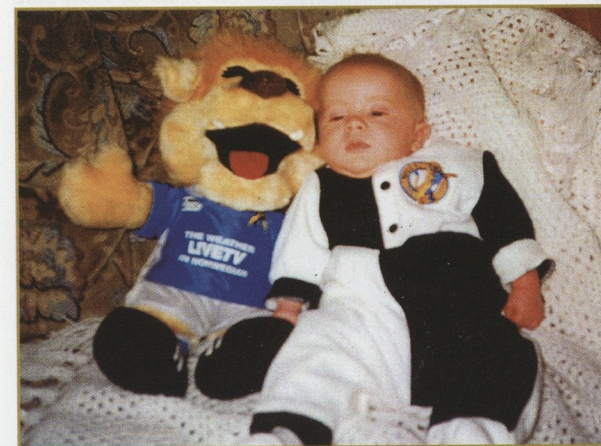
To 'fortysomething **Denis 'Rocketman' Hogan** (right). From everyone at The Barnaby, Ilderton Road.

Also to **John Gibbons**, who will be doubtless humming the old Beatles ditty, 'When I'm Sixty Four' this afternoon. John will be here today with his three mates from the Whipple family, young Frank (just 91!), his son Harry and Grandson Andrew.



## LION CUB

Pictured showing his colours is Daniel Andrew McHale, born on 19/2/99 to parents Lorraine and Kevin. His mum and dad say he's a good dribbler and is looking good for a Millwall place!



# Home Thoughts

BY DAVID HALL

Well there we were at the beginning of August last year, a new season about to start, hopes ever optimistic but maybe a little worry in our hearts.

We had seen off the administrators and four managers in quick succession, finished the previous season just five points from relegation and were starting this new one with an untried management team.

Yes we knew Rhino and Macca were Millwall men and would work as hard as possible for the club, get the players to show pride in wearing the Millwall shirt etc, but, well you all understand the feeling.

Money was still tight and the guessing games of who we would sell to survive were already being played.

So here we are at the end of the season and how things have changed.

The only addition to the squad has been Ben Roberts who came in on loan (oh please let us find the wherewithal to keep him) and not one player sold to help out the club finances.

Into the side came the youngsters in whom the management team had a lot of faith but who we the fans were a little sceptical of at first. How would they perform week in week out in the hurley burley of the Second Division.

Well now we know.

The playing style changed, the pride and passion returned and who would have believed that we would finish in the top half of the division and make a trip to Wembley. Alright the result wasn't as we would have liked, but we got there.

So let's look forward to next season.

This squad can only get better and without putting too much pressure on them, surely we will see even better things from them providing of course that they can be kept together. Yes we might be able to improve the squad in one or two areas, and I hope that anyone brought in will recognise the feeling that we as fans have for the club.

Although our financial worries will not go away over the summer months, the money generated by our Wembley visit must help in not having to sell players to survive. In fact lets hope that it also helps to add a few thousand more to our regular League attendance, both easing the financial burden and increasing the vocal support that this side deserves, spurring them on to greater things.

Will next season see promotion or another Wembley visit? Only time will tell. Yet I for one will find the summer months easier to get through with the knowledge that things look better for the future than they have done for some time.

Roll on August

(The views expressed here are not necessarily those of Millwall Football Club)

# INTO THE MILLENNIUM

## NEW KIT LAUNCH 1999/2000



● Millwall Football Club are delighted to have reached heads of agreement with new sponsors **The Local Boyz Group**, a leading manufacturer of Sports and Leisure clothing.

Their flagship brand **Giorgio** will appear on the new home and away shirts and on perimeter advertising boards at The Den

● The two year agreement also entitles **Local Boyz** 'Strikeforce' brand to manufacture the proposed home and away kits to be worn by the first team during the millennium seasons 1999/2000 and 2000/2001

● You will see from the preview here today that the new kit designs have incorporated a much loved traditional badge as worn by our heroes of the early seventies.

They are modelled this afternoon by members of our Youth team and Lions legend **Barry Kitchener** who wore the Millwall white with pride when his side went so close to reaching the top flight in 1972. The white kit being worn by Kitch will be our home kit for the next two seasons.

● It is intended that these kits will be available from the club shop from early June priced at £39.99 (adult sizes), the same as this season. Season Ticket holders and Supporters Club members will receive a **£5 discount voucher**.





# LOMBARDO

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 RAVANELLI BUTT  
 McCOIST ZENGA  
 McALLISTER KANCHELSKIS  
 BARESI RIPLEY SOSA  
 SPEED



# £79.99

R.R.P

puts you in illustrious company.

# Asics Gel Pro

available at all good sports shops nationwide.

# Lions Scorecard

Millwall v Luton Town - League results Stats supplied by Eddie Tarrant

1920/21	Apr 9, 1921	A Div 3(S)	D0-0	5,000	1971/72	Jan 1, 1972	A Div 2	L1-2	15,113
1920/21	Apr 16, 1921	H Div 3(S)	D0-0	20,000	1972/73	Dec 16, 1972	A Div 2	D2-2	11,550
1921/22	Dec 17, 1921	H Div 3(S)	L0-1	10,000	1972/73	Feb 26, 1973	H Div 2	W3-2	10,504
1921/22	Dec 24, 1921	H Div 3(S)	D1-1	11,000	1973/74	Dec 8, 1973	H Div 2	L0-1	6,965
1922/23	Dec 30, 1922	A Div 3(S)	D2-2	10,000	1973/74	Apr 20, 1974	A Div 2	L0-3	15,740
1922/23	Jan 6, 1923	H Div 3(S)	D0-0	20,000	1976/77	Nov 13, 1976	H Div 2	W4-2	10,380
1923/24	Nov 17, 1923	H Div 3(S)	L0-1	15,000	1976/77	Apr 12, 1977	A Div 2	W2-1	10,459
1923/24	Nov 24, 1923	A Div 3(S)	L0-2	6,000	1977/78	Oct 4, 1977	A Div 2	L0-1	9,119
1924/25	Sep 1, 1924	A Div 3(S)	D1-1	8,000	1977/78	Apr 25, 1978	H Div 2	W1-0	7,334
1924/25	Nov 29, 1924	H Div 3(S)	D2-2	16,000	1978/79	Dec 26, 1978	H Div 2	L0-2	6,041
1925/26	Dec 19, 1925	H Div 3(S)	W7-0	10,418	1978/79	Apr 14, 1979	A Div 2	D2-2	9,292
1925/26	May 1, 1926	A Div 3(S)	D2-2	6,000	1988/89	Nov 5, 1988	H Div 1	W3-1	12,550
1926/27	Dec 25, 1926	A Div 3(S)	L0-6	14,000	1988/89	Mar 11, 1989	A Div 1	W2-1	7,838
1926/27	Dec 27, 1926	H Div 3(S)	W7-0	20,936	1989/90	Oct 28, 1989	H Div 1	D1-1	11,140
1927/28	Oct 1, 1927	H Div 3(S)	W3-2	7,645	1989/90	Mar 24, 1990	A Div 1	L1-2	9,027
1927/28	Feb 11, 1928	A Div 3(S)	D1-1	7,000	1992/93	Nov 21, 1992	A Div 1	D1-1	8,371
1934/35	Nov 24, 1934	A Div 3(S)	L1-2	9,000	1992/93	Mar 24, 1993	H Div 1	W1-0	8,286
1934/35	Dec 15, 1934	H Div 3(S)	L1-4	5,279	1993/94	Mar 30, 1994	H Div 1	D2-2	9,235
1935/36	Dec 7, 1935	H Div 3(S)	D0-0	3,449	1993/94	Apr 26, 1994	A Div 1	D1-1	8,257
1935/36	Apr 11, 1936	A Div 3(S)	D0-0	13,000	1994/95	Sep 24, 1994	H Div 1	D0-0	7,150
1936/37	Nov 21, 1936	H Div 3(S)	L0-2	32,629	1994/95	Mar 4, 1995	A Div 1	D1-1	6,864
1936/37	Mar 27, 1937	A Div 3(S)	L0-5	18,260	1995/96	Sep 13, 1995	H Div 1	W1-0	7,075
1938/39	Dec 17, 1938	H Div 2	W2-1	19,733	1995/96	Feb 17, 1996	A Div 1	L0-1	7,308
1938/39	Apr 22, 1939	A Div 2	D0-0	20,000	1996/97	Dec 18, 1996	H Div 2	L0-1	7,077
1946/47	Sep 11, 1946	A Div 2	L0-3	18,000	1996/97	Mar 8, 1997	A Div 2	W2-0	8,585
1946/47	Oct 7, 1946	H Div 2	W2-0	9,683	1997/98	Sep 2, 1997	A Div 2	W2-0	5,781
1947/48	Nov 1, 1947	H Div 2	W3-1	25,290	1997/98	Dec 28, 1997	H Div 2	L0-2	7,461
1947/48	Mar 20, 1948	A Div 2	W2-1	14,128	1998/99	Dec 19, 1998	A Div 2	W2-1	5,939
1963/64	Dec 26, 1963	H Div 3	W3-0	7,732					
1963/64	Dec 28, 1963	A Div 3	W3-1	7,180					
1970/71	Mar 30, 1971	A Div 2	D1-1	17,578					
1970/71	Apr 10, 1971	H Div 2	W4-0	13,842					
1971/72	Sep 18, 1971	H Div 2	D2-2	12,433					

Home: Played 30 Won 14 Drawn 9 Lost 7 For 53 Against 30  
 Away: Played 31 Won 7 Drawn 13 Lost 11 For 32 Against 47  
 Total: Played 61 Won 21 Drawn 22 Lost 18 For 85 Against 77

Neither Millwall or Luton are finishing the season in a rich vein of form, but both Keith Stevens and Lennie Lawrence will be exhorting their charges to go out with a bang this afternoon. Recent results between the two sides have strangely seen The Hatters more successful at The Den whilst The Lions have done better at Kenilworth Road. Home fans will be hoping that the trend is bucked today.

# Scorecard Example...

Here is an example of how events were recorded after our game with Wycombe here at The Den earlier on in the season. 1998 ■ Kick-off 3.00pm

## This Afternoon's Line-up

Shirt Number	Player Name	Position	Substitution	Time of Goal/Score	Assist	Goal Assist/Score	Cards
1	Nigel SPINK	Goalkeeper	substitution				
2	Gerard LAVIN	Defender	substitution				
3	Jamie STUART	Defender	substitution				YELLOW 10'
4	Bobby BOWRY	Defender	substitution				
5	Brian LAW	Defender	substitution				
6	Scott FITZGERALD	Defender	substitution	94'	2-1	H	YELLOW 66'
7	Lucas NEILL	Defender	(BIRCHMAN)	81'			
8	Ricky NEWMAN	Defender	substitution				
9	Richard SABLIER	Defender	substitution	46'	1-0	H	94' Fitzgerald 2-1 46' SABLIER 1-0
10	Paul SHAW	Defender	substitution				
11	Jimmy CARTER	Defender	(SAVAGE)				
12	More BIRCHMAN	Defender	substitution				
13	Stuart NETHERCOTT	Defender	substitution				
14	Junior McDOUGALD	Defender	substitution				

# YOURS TO PULL-OUT & KEEP



**BATTLE OF THE BOSSES:**  
 Will Rhino and his men end the season on a high or will Lennie Lawrence's side leave with the points...

**Millwall** Colours: Blue/White

Half Time Score .....

Shirt Number	player change/ substitution	time of substitution	time of goal/score	h/s/p*	goal assist/ score	cards yellow/red
1	<b>Ben ROBERTS</b> substitution					
2	<b>Marc BIRCHAM</b> substitution					
3	<b>Jamie STUART</b> substitution					
4	<b>Tim CAHILL</b> substitution					
5	<b>Stuart NETHERCOTT</b> substitution					
6	<b>Scott FITZGERALD</b> substitution					
7	<b>Paul IFILL</b> substitution					
8	<b>Ricky NEWMAN</b> substitution					
9	<b>Neil HARRIS</b> substitution					
10	<b>Richard SADLIER</b> substitution					
11	<b>Steven REID</b> substitution					
12	<b>Paul SHAW</b> substitution					
13	<b>Byron BUBB</b> substitution					
14	<b>Leke ODUNSI</b> substitution					

Additional Information/Notes:

**Luton Town** Colours: White, Orange & Blue

Full Time Score .....

Shirt Number	player change/ substitution	time of substitution	time of goal/score	h/s/p*	goal assist/ score	cards yellow/red
1	<b>Kelvin DAVIS</b> substitution					
2	<b>Chris WILLMOTT</b> substitution					
3	<b>Mitchell THOMAS</b> substitution					
4	<b>Matthew SPRING</b> substitution					
5	<b>Alan WHITE</b> substitution					
6	<b>Marvin JOHNSON</b> substitution					
7	<b>Tony THORPE</b> substitution					
8	<b>Ray MCKINNON</b> substitution					
9	<b>Stuart DOUGLAS</b> substitution					
10	<b>Michael McINDOE</b> substitution					
11	<b>Stuart FRASER</b> substitution					
12	<b>Andrew FOTIADIS</b> substitution					
13	<b>Gary DOHERTY</b> substitution					
14	<b>Liam GEORGE</b> substitution					

Additional Information/Notes:

Referee: PAUL ROBINSON (Hull)

Assistant Referees: C.J. Francis & M.D. Postles Fourth Official: T. Mason

# HAT-TRICK FOR BOY TOWNEND

WHAT THE PAPERS SAID!

Luton 1 Millwall 3

Saturday December 28th 1963.

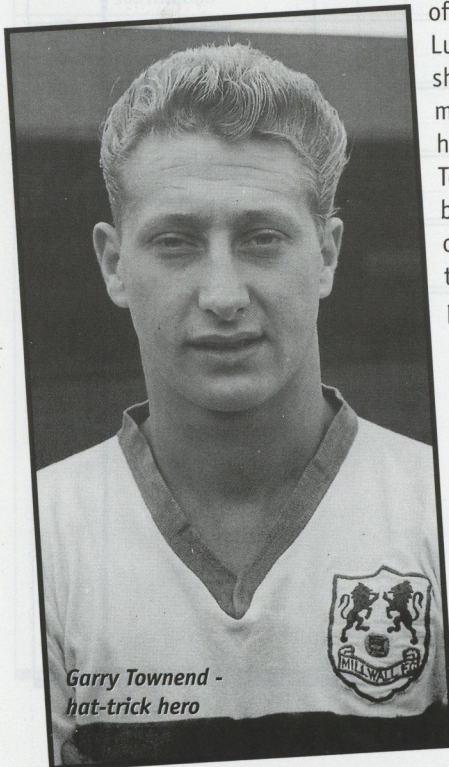
Luton's manager Bill Harvey was realistic about it, "Millwall deserved to win" he said. But that was only because they had the basic ability to find each other with a pass of over ten yards. Luton's problems are manifold and they now look like descending from Division One to Division Four in four years, an unparalleled rake's progress of relegation. Millwall, who until Billy Gray took over as manager were worse

off than Luton, at least showed some method and had in Garry Townend the best opportunist the game produced.

In the 6th, 56th and 87th minutes this player, mainly regarded as a reserve, blasted the ball into the net from close range. Millwall

were always willing to funnel back into deep defence but they were fortunate to avoid having two penalty decisions against them when they were only a goal up. In the early stages of the second half Luton threw everything into attack but they let their chances slip by and Townend escaped a dithering defence again to score his second goal. Twenty minutes from the end Freddie Jardine put Luton back into the game with a scrambled goal and it led to a period when The Hatters looked like they might be set for a revival. However, three minutes before the end Millwall suddenly broke out of defence for Townend to put the issue beyond doubt.

**Team:** Stepney, Gilchrist, Cripps, Anderson, Snowdon, Wilson, Finnegan, Townend, Terry, Jones D, Haverty.  
**Scorers:** Townend 3.  
**Attendance:** 7,180

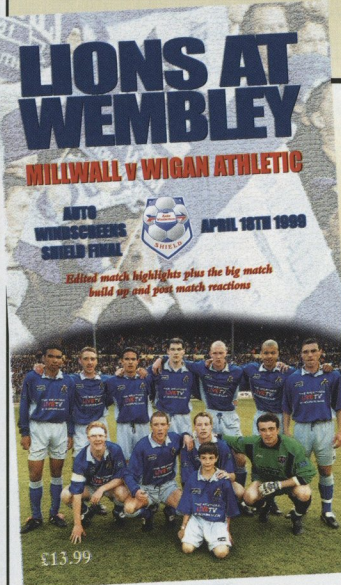


Garry Townend - hat-trick hero

# Around The Den

Keeping you up to date with all the latest news from Millwall Football Club...

ALL THE NEWS



## LIONS AT WEMBLEY VIDEO

ON SALE IN THE MILLWALL CLUB SHOP TODAY price £13.99

Edited highlights of the Auto-Windscreens Shield Final plus pre-match press conference, in the Wembley dressing room, interviews before and after the game etc.

THE RESULT MAY NOT HAVE GONE OUR WAY, BUT YOU'LL TREASURE THIS MEMORY OF ONE OF THE GREAT DAYS IN MILLWALL HISTORY.

### COMING SOON

### 1998/99 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS VIDEO

All the goal action and more. Look out for: Details of our Goal of the Season competition (accompanying this tape) giving you the chance to win great Millwall prizes.

### TRIBUTES

To Dean Richards who travelled all the way from Perth, Australia to see Millwall at Wembley. What a fan!

To Paul and Debbie Welch for all those last minute alterations to the Wembley suits and for sponsoring the sound system for today's game.

To Rhino, Macca and the boys, plus all the fans at Wembley

"It was a wonderful day and a big thank you to you and all the players for making it so special.

Incidentally, as all us thousands were trying to get out of the stadium and onto the platform at the train station, one of the policemen on duty (on his horse) said to everyone that we were the best behaved supporters he had seen at Wembley in a long time." Sue Lia and family

Many thanks to every supporter who gave time to our various fund raising activities during the past season, and of course to our regular Lottery agents.

If you would like to help in fund raising and earn good money then phone us now on 0171-231-4650

### AWAY TRAVEL

A big thank you to all our travelling supporters who came away with us this season. Let's hope the next one will be even better. See you in August. Billy Neil

### CONGRATULATIONS

To Ray Cannon (and partner) on the birth of Jamie some while back. (Unfortunately the photo arrived too late for publication).

### PRE-MATCH ENTERTAINMENT

It's all happening here between 2pm and 2.45pm this afternoon. Your host is Capital DJ Mick Brown who will be presiding over Penalty Shoot-outs, the unveiling of the new Millwall kit, modelled by the delectable Mr Kitchener!, the end of season presentations and more.

### PROGRAMME SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Millwall Programme Shop, situated in the Supporters Club office on matchdays, will be offering a wide range of programme subscriptions for 1999/2000.

These will include: A) Home League matches, B) Home League and Cup matches, C) Away League matches D) Away League and Cup matches, E) All Home and Away first team League matches, F) All Home and Away first team matches plus all reserve team and Academy match programmes when available. G) Home and Away Friendly matches.

Prices have not yet been finalised, but if you are considering taking out a subscription for next season, or would like further information, please write to: Mick Ford, Programme Subscriptions, Millwall FC, The Den, Zampa Road, London SE16 3LN, or visit the programme shop today and fill in an application form.

Existing subscribers will be sent a form once prices have been finalised.

If you have missed any of this season's programmes we have many in stock including the Auto-Windscreens Final issue.

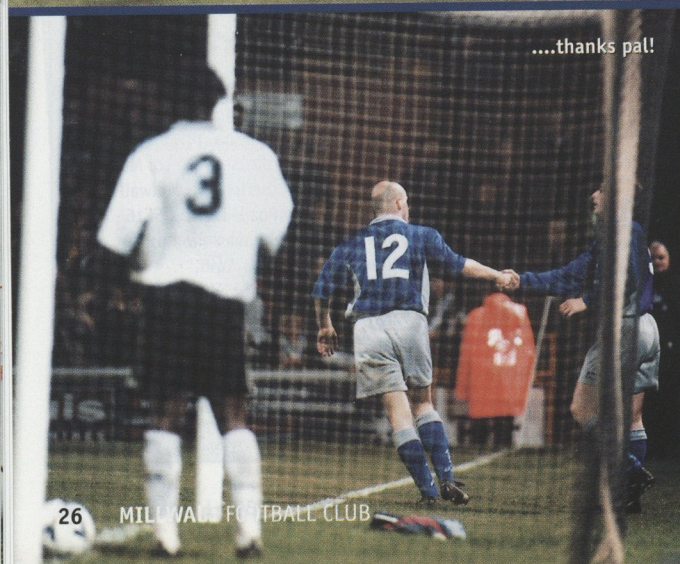
Neil Harris crosses....



Paul Shaw finishes....



....thanks pal!



# INJURY HIT LIONS FALL TO CHAMPIONS

Four days after the disappointment of that Wembley defeat, a short trip to Second Division champions Fulham was something of a mixed blessing.

The Lions would have needed to be at their best to match the Cottagers' passing and movement, but they were hampered by the loss of two key defenders in the first half, and a double reshuffle did nothing to help their cause.

Gerard Lavin was the first man to be carried off with a foot injury after seventeen minutes, and shortly afterwards Fulham were in front when Brevett and Peschisolido combined to set up young Kevin Betsy for the first goal.

Peschisolido was involved in the incident that led to Joe Dolan being taken to hospital, when the Canadian striker appeared to land on the face of the big defender as the two collided. With Jamie Stuart now at centre back and Steven Reid at left back, The Lions were struggling to contain Fulham. But they looked like restricting the home side to just one goal before the break until Barry Hayles struck three minutes into injury time.

When Kit Symons added a third almost immediately after the restart with a header, the result looked beyond doubt. However, The Lions were fired into action and started to cause the champions problems. Neil Harris saw an effort blocked by Maik Taylor and then hit the side netting after rounding the keeper. Paul Shaw shot straight at Taylor with his first touch after coming on as a substitute, but Shaw it was who pulled a goal back from Neil Harris' cross. Sadly the comeback ended there and Steve Finnan added a fourth for Fulham in the dying minutes to complete a miserable week for Millwall.

**Fulham:** Taylor, J. Smith, Brevett, Albert, Coleman, Symons, Hayward, Finnan, Betsy (Davis), Peschisolido, Hayles. subs not used: N. Smith, Lehmann.  
**Millwall:** Roberts, Lavin (Odunsi), Stuart, Cahill, Nethercott, Dolan (Grant), Ifill, Bircham, Harris, Sadlier (Shaw), Reid.  
**Referee:** Tony Bates (Stoke-on-Trent)  
**Bookings:** Hayles (Fulham), Stuart, Nethercott, Reid, Odunsi (Millwall)

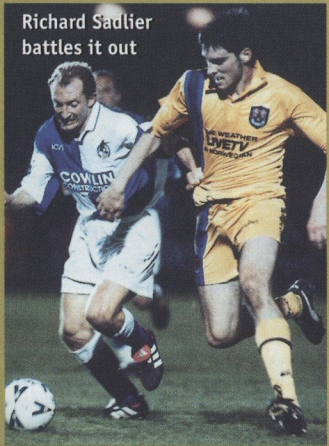
Joe Dolan receives attention as anxious players from both sides look on



Paul Ifill's shot is blocked



Richard Sadlier battles it out



'Keeper Fitz watches as Jason Roberts fires wide

Steven Reid on the run



Leke Odunsi battles for possession



# CARELESS HANDS

The Lions have demonstrated often enough this season that they can make do and mend with ten or even nine men on occasion, but the loss of keeper Ben Roberts at the Memorial Ground proved too great an obstacle to overcome.

Roberts got his marching orders after just 22 minutes when, with his namesake Jason Roberts breaking free, the Lions keeper rushed out of his area and instinctively stuck up his hand as the striker attempted to lob him. The card was red, and with Marc Bircham away on international duty, Scott Fitzgerald went between the posts.

Fitz had no chance with the first goal, a 20 yard free-kick screamer from Rovers top scorer Jamie Cureton which he never saw. The stand-in keeper then made a fine save from Roberts to keep the scoreline at 1-0 until the break.

A half-time switch saw Richard Sadlier replace Neil Harris up front, and Millwall enjoyed a fifteen minute spell in which they seriously threatened an equaliser. Tim Cahill, saw a goalbound effort blocked by Trevor Challis, and the young Aussie nearly cut through the

heart of the Rovers defence before being stopped at the last. Sadlier also tested keeper Williams with a header from an Ifill corner.

However, the rampaging Roberts always remained a danger at the other end, and after hitting the bar on 63 minutes he got his due reward five minutes later, shrugging off Gerard Lavin and hitting his shot through Fitzgerald into the net. Within ninety seconds Roberts had added a third with a header, and only a fine last minute save from Fitz denied the big man a hat-trick.

**Bristol Rovers:** Williams, Pritchard, Challis, Foster, Thomson, Tillson, Shore (Bennett), Hillier (Trees), Holloway, Cureton, Roberts. sub not used: Leoni  
**Millwall:** Roberts, Lavin, Stuart, Cahill, Nethercott, Fitzgerald, Ifill (Grant), Odunsi (Newman), Harris (Sadlier), Shaw, Reid.  
**Referee:** Paul Rejer (Tipton).  
**Sendings Off:** Roberts (Millwall).  
**Bookings Off:** Odunsi, Nethercott (Millwall).

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\* Source-Courage Research

## A CONSISTENTLY GOOD PROFIT OPPORTUNITY

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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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# SALES PITCH



A WARM WELCOME TO ALL OF TODAY'S SPONSORS

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a Millwall Wembley Final!

They are also proud to welcome Billy, aged 18 months and the youngest of the clan, for his first taste of live Millwall action.

Marc Bircham's Kit Sponsors Tony Peden of New Sidcup Boys from the Bexley & District League.

John Devine & Guests from Sporting Chance Communications.

Bon Voyage Nicola Sheen.

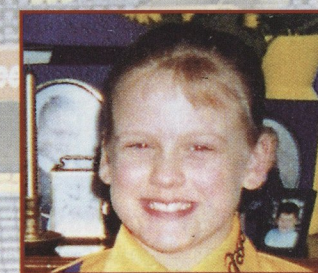
The East Upper and our house will be much quieter now, you'll be missed by the car repairer and Dad's wallet!! Send us another Lucas & Tim! Love Mum, Dad, Natalie, Matt and The Boys.

The Thomas Family, supporters of The Lions for four generations and the Matchball Sponsors for today's match here at the Den, would like to wish a very Happy 11th Birthday to Robert, already a veteran of

*We would like to thank all our Sponsors for their help this Season and look forward to seeing you again soon.*

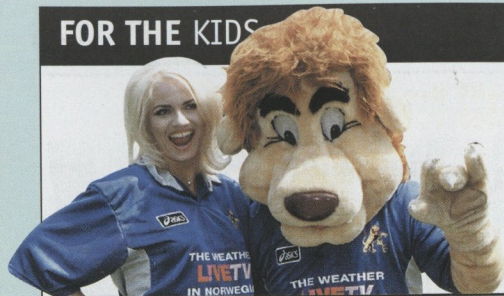


Scott Fitzgerald's Full Kit Sponsors Ian Harrington, Mark and Lewis Hunt pictured here enjoying a V.I.P. day out against Preston NE as part of their sponsorship.



A very happy eighth birthday to Candi Percival. Lots of love from Mummy, Daddy and Milli.

Many Happy Returns also go to Steve Firth who is celebrating his 40th Birthday.



**Today's Mascot**

Today's Millwall Mascot is eleven year old Daniel Burnett. Daniel attends Ashburton School and enjoys all sports, especially football. Daniel plays in goal for Coney Hall F.C. His favourite players are Paul Shaw and Neil Harris because 'they score lots of goals for Millwall'. Daniel especially likes travelling on the Junior Lions coach.



# Junior Lions

All the latest goings on in and around The Den for the Young Lions...

Good afternoon Junior Lions and welcome to our game against Luton. We also welcome any Luton Juniors who have made the trip here to The Den.

As you will know, this is our last game of the season and we can all look back and say what a great one we had.

Millwall Football Club has a great future and that includes the future of the Junior Lions.

Hopefully there will be more activities for the Junior Lions next season, but in the meantime if you have any ideas let us know.

Millwall will at last go down in the history books as having been to Wembley. I've no doubt some of you will have made your own scrap books of your most precious moments, and I hope they will see you through the close season.

Enjoy the Summer and I'll see you next season.

Elaine Gleaves

**SPECIAL MESSAGE**

Happy Birthday to Dave Coates from all your friends here at Millwall.

Thank you to all the Juniors who have taken part in activities throughout the season, this includes the mascots and not forgetting the ball boys/girls.

Please let me remind you that it is an offence to invade the pitch so please refrain from doing so. We don't want anyone to cause any vandalism to the pitch or goalposts, and that also includes the welfare of our players.

**JUST JOKING**

I went to my local library and these were the books I could choose from:

- The Laser by Ray Gunn
- Tape Recorders by Cass Ette
- The Stupid Striker by Mr Goal
- Teatime by Roland Butta
- Silver Wedding by Ann. E. Versary
- School Dinners by R.E. Volting
- Dentistry by Phil Macavity
- Old Furniture by Anne Teak
- Splash by Eileen Dover
- Love your Microwave by Andy Gadget
- Falling by Mr Step
- Flag Days by Ada Charity
- Cross the Road by Luke Bothways
- Au Revoir by C.U. Later
- You too can be rich by Robin Banks
- Dogs by K. Nine
- Call for help by Linda Hand
- The Winner by Vic Torius
- Time for school by R.U. Upjohn
- Bellringing for beginners by Paula Rope
- Bricks and mortar by Bill Ding
- Sergeant Major by Reggie Mental

**JUNIOR LIONS INTERVIEW**

This week's Junior Lions player interview was done by Peckham's own Harry Till.

Harry interviewed Stuart Nethercott:

**Harry:** What was it like to play at Wembley?  
**Stuart:** It was the highlight of my career.  
**Harry:** Do you like being at Millwall?  
**Stuart:** Yes, the players are a good set of boys.  
**Harry:** What improvements have you seen with the youngsters?  
**Stuart:** The improvements are there to see, the young lads have got some games under their belts and they've grown up a lot.  
**Harry:** Have you enjoyed being captain?  
**Stuart:** Yes  
**Harry:** Who is the best player you've played against?  
**Stuart:** There are a few like Shearer, Hughes, Ferguson etc, but I'd have to say Alan Shearer.

P	B	J	K	I	V	A	J	K	Y	E	R	FIND THESE CAPITAL CITIES AMSTERDAM ATHENS BERN BRASILIA BRUSSELS CAIRO CANBERRA DELHI HELSINKI LIMA LONDON MADRID OTTAWA PARIS REYKJAVIK ROME SANTIAGO STOCKHOLM TOKYO WASHINGTON
W	A	S	H	I	N	G	T	O	N	O	S	
Q	M	A	D	R	I	D	T	I	G	C	H	
R	S	K	L	M	N	S	C	A	I	R	O	
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F	I	K	N	I	S	L	E	H	C	X	J	
M	E	B	A	I	L	I	S	A	R	B	D	

# Millwall In The Community

**COMMUNITY SPORTS SCHEME**

The following soccer schools will be running in the June half term. If you are interested in booking a place, and are between the ages of 6 and 14 years, please call the Millwall Community Scheme on 0171 231 0379.

All our holiday courses are centred around a structured but fun learning environment and players of all abilities are welcome. All our coaching staff are FA qualified and any child attending will be given 2 complimentary tickets for a Millwall FC home game during the 1999/2000 season.

Lewisham Lions Centre, Bolina Road, SE16  
 (next to Millwall FC)

Tuesday 1st June - Friday 4th June  
 10.30 - 2pm each day  
 Cost: £5 per day

Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham College

School Playing Fields  
 St. Asaph Road, SE4  
 Tuesday 1st June - Friday 4th June  
 10.30 - 2pm each day  
 Cost: £5 per day

**A BIG THANKS**

All the staff at the Millwall Community Scheme would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the smooth running of the programme during this season. There are far too many names to list individuals, but you know who you are and we are very grateful. We look forward to seeing you all again next season.

## SPORTS CRAZY

Are you a sports enthusiast, aged 6 to 15 years, with more than a passing interest in football, tennis and golf? If so, we may have the perfect day out for you! We are offering Sports Crazy, a multi-sport day out in Southampton with all of the following on offer:

- Luxury coach trip from Millwall FC to Southampton
- 2 hour football session in the Adidas football area
- Adidas Predator football coaching clinic, plus access to tennis and golf clinics
- Autograph and photo opportunities
- Opportunities to watch European PGA seniors playing alongside current and former professional footballers
- Free goody bag

This full day of activities will cost £25 and there are only a limited number of places. If you would like to book, please call 0171 231 0379.

**TONIGHT'S BALL BOYS & GIRLS**

Brian Hollingsworth, Kalie Stevens, Ryan Stevens, Shane Ryan, Andrew Bridle, Daniel Lock, Stuart Groves, Harry Groves, Billy Stephens, Jonathan Beale, Laura Herring, Neil Cooper, Craig Griffiths, Reece Harrad, Nicola Joyce, Steven Joyce





• We have tried to take a fresh look at our pricing structure this year, and to erase some of the anomalies we've had in the past. One or two prices have moved up slightly, others remain the same whilst some have come down. Overall, our pricing for next season will be lower than more than half the clubs in the Second Division, and with the £2 discount we are offering on matchday prices to *Supporters Club Members*, we are convinced that we are providing value for money.

• A major priority for us has been to encourage families to come to Millwall together. The whole of the East Stand Lower Tier will be the Family Enclosure for next season. For a Juvenile in this area next season, the Season Ticket price will be just £25, which also gives them free Supporters Club Membership and a £5 discount voucher for a new replica shirt. The Family Enclosure will be stewarded by their own stewards, who parents and youngsters will get to know over the season.

• We have, out of interest, made comparison with ticket prices at some other clubs and, for example, we come in below the likes of Luton, Northampton, Reading, Gillingham, Stoke and Wycombe in most areas of comparison.

You may argue that our matchday prices have gone up more than the rate of inflation, but the inflation rate in football has rocketed and we can assure you that every penny that comes into this club is now well looked after and well spent.

• PLUS - I would emphasise again that *Supporters Club Members* will get a £2 discount on Matchday prices. For you, the top price to watch Millwall next year is £15, with South Stand Supporters paying £11.

The Supporters Club is a way for true fans to get involved with the club and obtain the benefits. Apart from the £2 discount, there is the £5 discount voucher off the new shirt, so the £10 subscription fee will soon come back to you.

Theo

## SEASON TICKET/MATCHDAY PRICES 1999/2000

	Before 11th June	After 11th June	Matchday price		Before 11th June	After 11th June	Matchday price
<b>West/East upper</b>				<b>East Lower - Family Enclosure*</b>			
Adults	£273	£299	£17	Adults	£212	£233	£13
Senior Citizens	£147	£161	£9	Senior Citizens	£105	£115	£7
Juniors	£69	£69	£5	Juniors	£25	£25	£2
.....							
<b>West Lower</b>				<b>Notes</b>			
Adults	£252	£276	£15	• MSC Membership will cost £10.00. Members save £2.00 off matchday prices as opposed to this seasons' £1.00.			
Senior Citizens	£136	£149	£8	• Membership of the MSC is free to season ticket holders.			
Juniors	£69	£69	£5	• All members/season ticket holders will receive a £5.00 off voucher for the new team shirt.			
.....							
<b>South Stand</b>				• Juveniles must also join the Junior Lions.			
Adults	£210	£230	£13				
Senior Citizens	£105	£115	£7				
Juniors	£69	£69	£5				

\* The entire East Lower stand is now designated as the Family Enclosure

# SEASON TICKET PRICES 1999/2000



FRANKS SCAFFOLDING - SPONSORS OF MILLWALL LIONESSES  
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# The Lionesses

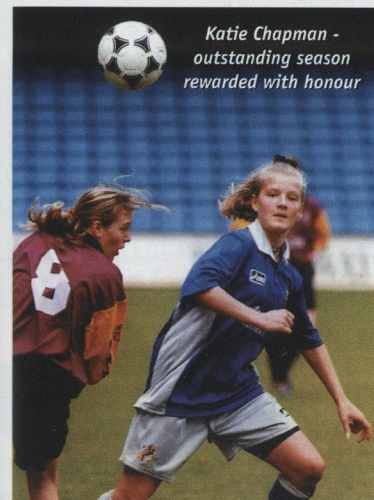
## CONGRATULATIONS KATE

Congratulations to Katie Chapman who received the Walkers Young Player of the Year award at a top London Hotel. Katie has had an outstanding season for the Lionesses, made her England debut this year and has become a regular in the England Under 18 team.

Probably:- The Best, The Busiest, The Cheapest, Quality Clothes Shop in the South of England.

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Katie Chapman - outstanding season rewarded with honour

and the inevitable equaliser came with eight minutes to go.

Jessica Smith had a glorious chance to win the game when she was put clean through but shot just past the post.

TEAM: K.Knowler, A.Walsh, L.Champ, E.Beattie, K.Chapman, D.Murphy, T.Lindsay, M.Phillip, P.Buckley, P.Bedzrah, A.Mason. SUBS: J.Smith, L.Cooper, C.McFadden & J.Lindfield.

## BELOW PAR PERFORMANCE

The Lionesses took on Bradford here at The Den in this bottom of the table encounter.

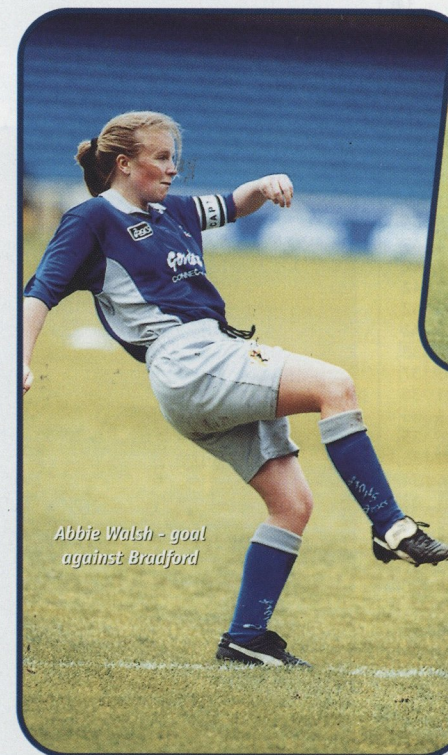
Millwall started off very brightly with Tina Lindsay going close on many occasions but to no avail.

Abbie Walsh did manage to hit the back of the net from a Danielle Murphy cross but the goal was surprisingly disallowed for offside.

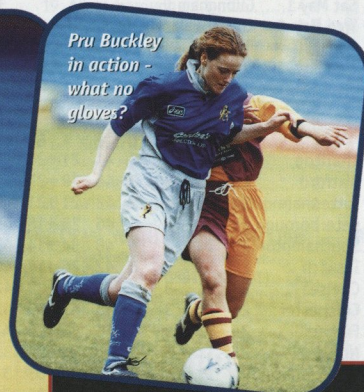
In the 24th minute Abbie Walsh headed home from an Amy Mason corner and this time the goal was given.

The Lionesses still continued to dominate but could not add to their goal tally.

In the 2nd half Millwall took their foot off the pedal and allowed Bradford to creep back into the game,



Abbie Walsh - goal against Bradford



Pru Buckley in action - what no gloves?

## CHEER ON THE LIONESSES

F.A.WOMENS PREMIER LEAGUE  
Wednesday 12th May 1999  
**Millwall Lionesses v Southampton Saints**  
Kick off 7pm  
Hopefully here at The Den

## Lionesses Fixtures 1998/99

Sept 6	H	LIVERPOOL	Lge	1-0
Sept 13		No match	England International	
Sept 20	A	Doncaster Belles	Lge	1-2
Sept 27	A	Everton	Lge C1	0-0 (lost 3-0 on penalties)
Oct 4	A	Tranmere Rovers	Lge	1-1
Oct 11		No match	England game	
Oct 18	A	Croydon	Lge	0-4
Oct 21	A	Arsenal	Lge	0-1
Nov 8	A	Ilkeston Town	Lge	2-0
Nov 15	A	CLAPTON	Ldn C	4-1
Nov 29	H	ILKESTON TOWN	Lge	3-1
Dec 6	A	Southampton	Lge	0-2
Dec 13	A	Bradford City	Lge	1-1
Dec 20	H	ARSENAL	Lge	0-1
Jan 4	A	Everton	Lge	P-P
Jan 24	A	Aston Villa	FAC 4	1-0
Jan 31	A	Liverpool	Lge	P-P
Feb 6	A	Croydon	FAC 5	0-1
Feb 21	A	South London Women	Ldn C	10-1
Feb 28	A	Everton	Lge	0-2
Mar 14	A	Liverpool	Lge	1-1
Mar 21	N	Arsenal (London Cup Final)		1-0
Apr 4	H	EVERTON	Lge	0-3
Apr 7	A	Croydon	Lge	1-2
Apr 11	H	DONCATER BELLES	Lge	1-1
Apr 25	H	BRADFORD	Lge	1-1
May 13	H	SOUTHAMPTON	Lge	
May 18	H	TRANMERE ROVERS	Lge	

# Reserve & Youth News



## Fixtures Season 98/99

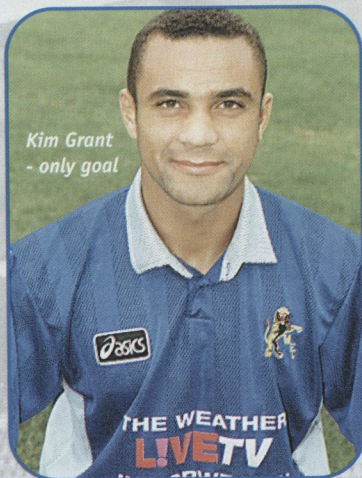
Tue Aug 25	AFC Bournemouth	H	1-2
Wed Sept 2	Barnet	H	3-2
Tue Sept 15	Queens Park Rangers	A	1-1
Tue Sept 22	Wycombe Wanderers	H	3-0
Wed Oct 7	Luton Town	A	1-1
Tue Oct 13	Watford	H	0-0
Mon Oct 19	Chelsea	A	0-1
Wed Nov 4	Oxford	A	1-2
Wed Nov 11	Wimbledon	H	1-2
Tue Nov 17	Cambridge United	H	2-0
Wed Nov 25	Peterborough United	A	1-3
Tue Dec 1	Portsmouth	H	2-1
Tue Dec 8	Swindon Town	H	1-3
Tue Dec 22	Ipswich Town	H	1-2
Wed Feb 10	Brighton & HA	H	0-0
Thur Feb 18	Norwich City	A	3-1
Tue Feb 23	Colchester United	H	2-3
Wed Mar 3	West Ham United	A	0-6
Wed Mar 10	Northampton Town	A	0-3
Wed Mar 17	Tottenham Hotspur	H	0-4
Mon Mar 22	Arsenal	A	2-1
Wed Apr 7	Brentford	A	0-0
Mon Apr 12	Fulham	A	2-5
Tue Apr 20	Southampton	A	2-5
Sat May 1	Gillingham	A	3-0
Wed May 5	Crystal Palace	H	1-0
Fri May 7	Reading	H	1.00pm
Mon May 10	Charlton Athletic	H	2.00pm

## FINISH WITH A FLOURISH

It's catch up time for the Millwall Reserve side as they rush to complete their Avon Insurance Combination fixtures. Last Saturday, both The Lions and Gillingham agreed to field what were essentially Youth teams in their re-arranged fixture at the Millwall Training Ground (see opposite). Then on Wednesday afternoon it was a slightly more experienced looking side that recorded a narrow 1-0 victory over Crystal Palace at The Den.

Kim Grant was the man on target as the beleaguered Eagles were put to flight, although the chances were certainly created to have won more convincingly.

"With the scoreline at 1-0, Palace pushed on more and more looking for an equaliser and Spinky made a couple of excellent saves in the



Kim Grant - only goal

second half. But having said that, we could easily have won by three or four in the end," observed Steve Gritt. "The good thing was that we kept a clean sheet, which is always the first aim in view, because if you do that you have every chance of winning the game. Obviously the season is drawing to a close, and we've played a few games at various training grounds just to get the fixtures completed. But my view is that we aren't finished until after the Charlton game at The Den on Monday, and I expect that to be reflected in the attitude of the players. I'd like us to finish the season unbeaten in the last four games because it would send everyone off on their summer holidays with a bit of a spring in their step and looking forward to coming back raring to go in July."

**Team v. Crystal Palace: Smith, Mead, Ryan (Bull 75'), Odunsi, Cort, Phillips, Bubb, Alimi, Pace (Hicks 75') Grant, Cook. sub not used: Karaiskos.**



Nigel Spink - excellent saves

On Saturday morning the Millwall youngsters recorded an emphatic 3-0 victory over The Gills, and Kevin O'Callaghan who was in charge of the team was pleased with every aspect of the performance with the possible exception of the finishing which, he felt, could have made the scoreline even more comprehensive.

"Billy Mead put us in front with a nice free-kick into the top corner. Then we hit the bar, but it wasn't until near the end that we made the game safe with further goals from Leon Cort and Robbie Davies.

It's been a long old season for the boys, but overall I'm quite pleased with what we've achieved. You can't measure a great deal by results at Under 19 and Under 17 level, because four of our Under 19's have been playing in the first team for most of the season, and nine in all have played at least one first team game. You won't find too many 19 year olds in the first team at Arsenal, Tottenham, Chelsea and places like that, which is why I say that if I had a son who was contemplating a football career I wouldn't send him to one of those clubs. The proof is there for you, if you come to Millwall, or today's opponents Luton, who have also got some good young players, then you will get your first team chance early if you're good enough.

The pleasing thing for me and the rest of the staff here, is just how many of our youngsters have signed professional forms over the past few months. Keeper Richard Barnard has just done so this week and Ronnie Bull is due to join him on Saturday. Around 60% of this particular grouping have all turned pro' now



Kevin O'Callaghan - took charge of Reserves

which is an amazing statistic.

Looking forward to next season, we've now offered scholarships to a number of boys, left back Billy Taylor, Joe Kevin and Matthew Reece two centre halves, Jamahl Campbell - Ryce, Kevin Braniff and Chris Honey. Hope I haven't missed anyone out. I'm looking forward to seeing how those lads progress, and obviously if they work hard and continue to improve over the next two or three years their chances will come, just as they have for Timmy Cahill, Paul Ifill, Steven Reid, Joe Dolan and others this year.

One or two are being released, Pat Maguire and Robbie Davies. We wish them both well in then future of course. Joe Little and Jason Fermie have got six month extensions to their trainee period by virtue of missing a significant amount of time through injury."

**Team v. Gillingham: Smith, Mead, Bull, Alimi, Phillips, Cort, Hicks, Glynn, Maguire (Alderton), Davies, Karaiskos (Deegan), sub not used: Fermie.**

### FA Premier Academy League Fixtures - 1998/99

U-17s	
Sept 5	Blackburn Rovers .....0-1
12	Nottingham Forest .....0-3
19	Sheffield Wednesday .....0-1
26	Crewe Alexandra .....1-0
Oct 3	Peterborough .....3-1
17	Arsenal .....0-4
24	Coventry City .....0-2
31	Tottenham Hotspur .....0-0
Nov 7	Newcastle Utd .....0-1
14	Watford .....2-1
21	Liverpool .....0-0
28	West Ham .....0-2
Dec 12	Crystal Palace .....2-0
19	Peterborough .....2-1
Jan 23	Arsenal .....0-2
Feb 13	Tottenham Hotspur .....0-1
20	Leicester City .....1-3
27	Watford .....1-2
Mar 6	Manchester City .....0-1
30	Coventry City .....2-0
20	West Ham .....0-4
27	Charlton Athletic .....0-1

U-19s	
Sept 5	Bolton Wanderers .....1-4
12	Chelsea .....1-2
19	Sheffield Wednesday .....0-2
26	Ipswich Town .....2-1
Oct 3	Peterborough .....2-2
17	Arsenal .....1-1
24	Coventry City .....3-1
31	Viking Sports (FAYC1) .....4-0
27	Tottenham Hotspur .....1-2
Nov 7	Newcastle Utd .....0-1
14	Watford .....0-0
21	Norwich City .....1-0
25	Burgess Hill (FAYC2) .....7-0
28	West Ham .....3-4
Dec 12	Ipswich Town .....1-3
15	Reading (FAYC3) .....2-0
19	Peterborough .....4-1
Jan 16	Arsenal .....2-0
30	Coventry City .....1-3
Feb 9	Bolton Wanderers (FAYC4) .....4-0
13	Tottenham Hotspur .....0-1
20	Leicester City .....0-4
27	Watford .....3-2
Mar 6	Norwich City .....0-2
20	West Ham .....2-0
27	Charlton Athletic .....1-2
30	Wimbledon (FAYC5) (7.00pm) 1-2

### MILLWALL YOUTH INFORMATION LINE:

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Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank, Rhino, Macca, the Chairman and all the players for a memorable season.

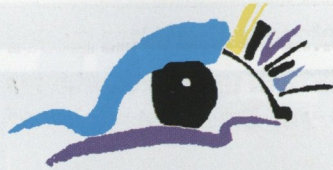
Who could have imagined that some 47,000 fans decked in the blue and white of Millwall would descend on the ancestral home of English football, Wembley Stadium.

I myself, vowed that I would never visit the Twin Towers until my beloved Lions got there. OK, the match was disappointing and the result gutting, but what a great day we all had, and didn't we have some fun on the way against Bournemouth, Walsall and Gillingham.

In the League we have just fallen short of the Play-Off's, but it has been a remarkable achievement in Rhino and Macca's first year in charge, particularly since the average age of the team for most of the season has been between 21 and 22.

The improvement we have witnessed this season is borne out in my final **STAT ATTACK**.

Doubtless there will now be added



Adrian Wisson

## Wisson's Watch

Adrian takes a look back at The Lions season, reflects on the joy of getting to Wembley and anticipates a fine future for Millwall.

pressure next term because expectations will be that much higher.

Apart from the Wembley Final, the highlights of the season for me were our terrific performance in beating Stoke City with nine men, and some terrific away wins such as those at Preston and Luton. Also the

togetherness and team spirit which seems to have returned at long last bodes well for the future.

For me August 7th can't come quickly enough, and during the summer holidays Lions fans can now wear their colours with even more pride.

Adrian Wisson

## STAT ATTACK

- The Lions have now scored in fifteen consecutive home games (a New Den record)
- 62 points (to date) is our best total for four seasons
- 33 goals scored at home is our highest total for three seasons
- 5 home defeats is our lowest total for three seasons
- 8 away wins is our highest total since 1990/91

The Millwall team line-up before the Auto Windscreens Shield Final - a proud moment in a good season.



## "Modern top class football has moved a long way from the 'man in the street' and Peter Reid, Paul Jewell, George Burley, et al should be warned."

With just one weekend of the Nationwide programme left, eight of the 15 automatic promotion/relegation/demotion places are still up for grabs. So, its congratulations to Sunderland, Fulham, Walsall, Cambridge, Cardiff and Brentford, who will all be playing higher grade football come August, and commiserations to Bristol City who have the summer to mull over their instant return to Division Two. Today is Decision Day for up to a dozen clubs whose fate, after a nine month campaign, depends on their final 90 minutes of football.

### TRAPDOOR TENSION

Nowhere will the tension be greater than at Brunton Park or the McCain Stadium. The visits of Plymouth to Carlisle and of Peterborough to Scarborough today will determine who swaps places with Conference winners Cheltenham next season. Veteran manager Colin Addison's recent arrival in Yorkshire has given the 'Boro a glimmer of hope of escape. After last weekend's surprise win at Halifax, and the midweek victory over Plymouth, a win will guarantee survival and protect their League status which was only won in 1987. In each of the last five seasons, Carlisle have changed divisions, bouncing between Third and Second. Now they are faced with a far greater indignity, even though this week is the first time they have actually been bottom of the table. Today, as we remember from a couple of years ago, is the only day that counts. Carlisle's goalless draw at Hartlepool last Saturday put 'Pool in the clear and left the Cumbrian club with a nerve-wracking 90 minutes. Plymouth who will have met both Scarborough and Carlisle within 72 hours, have nothing left to play for after their 2-2 draw at home to Cambridge last Saturday promoted the visitors and left Argyle short of a play-off place.

### PROMOTION PRESSURE

At Portman Road and Molineux tomorrow the issues at stake are far different but the tension will be just as high. A week ago, Ipswich came a cropper at Birmingham whilst Bradford City could only manage a goalless draw at home to lowly Oxford. This means that going into the final game, Paul Jewell's side have a slender one point advantage over George Burley's for the

second automatic promotion place from Division One. On paper, a home match against Sheffield United, who have nothing at stake, looks easier than a trip to Wolves, who need the points to clinch a play-off place, so the advantage looks to be with Ipswich. The East Anglian side have, however, been beaten six times at home this season, about the same number of times Bradford have lost away, and so nothing can be taken for granted.

### Divisional Review

## Around The League

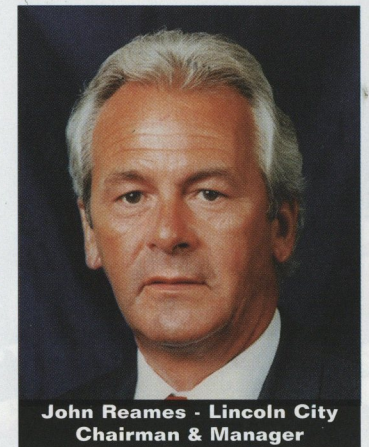
Dennis Turner takes us on a review of the four League Divisions in England...

### CREWE COMEBACK

By beating Portsmouth 3-1 at Gresty Road last Saturday, Crewe guaranteed First Division survival and completed a remarkable escape. Their recovery from a seemingly hopeless position in March coincided with taking their former player Danny Murphy back on loan from Liverpool. As Crewe climbed, it left Oxford, Bury and QPR to battle it out to see who accompanies Bristol City downwards. Since Oxford's hopes are more mathematical than real, the fight is between Rangers and Bury. For the West London club, their present plight reflects a remarkable decline. Just three years ago, they were a Premiership club, but today, after a change of owners and several changes of manager, they are on the brink of Division Two. Tomorrow, Rangers are at home to another London Club in turmoil, Crystal Palace, whilst Bury meet Port Vale at Gigg Lane. Both start the day with the same number of points but Rangers have scored 12 more goals.

### MACC DROP BACK

At the bottom of the Second Division, three relegation places are between five clubs, two of which, Lincoln and Wycombe, meet at Sincil Bank today. Perhaps the most surprising member of this group is Oldham whose fall has been more marked than Rangers. Until 1994 they were in the Premiership and that season they were 30 seconds away from an FA Cup final. Today they have to beat Reading at home to give themselves any chance of escaping the oblivion of Division Three. For Macclesfield, the bubble has burst very quickly. After winning promotion in their first season in the League, they have dropped back down after a draw with Notts County in midweek.



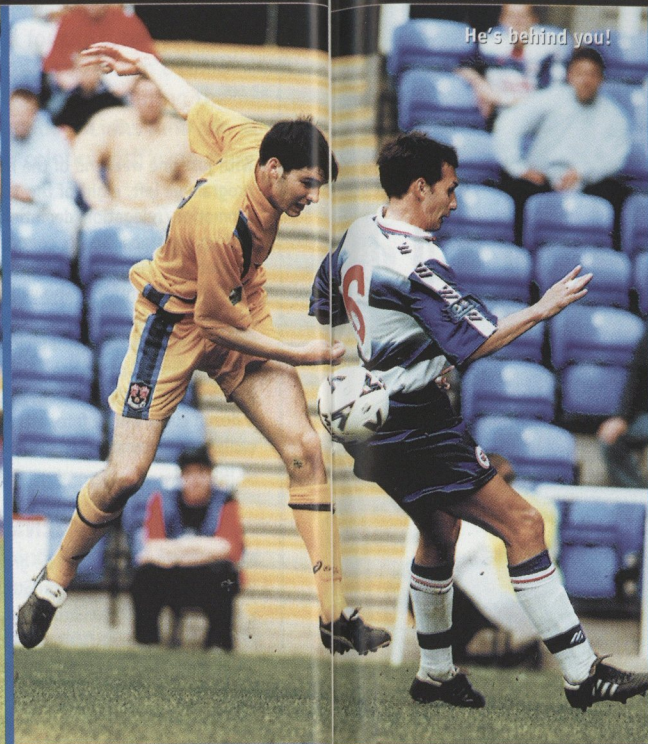
John Reames - Lincoln City Chairman & Manager

### MONEY, MONEY, MONEY

A sobering analysis of what top flight football has become these days was published recently by accountants Deloitte and Touche. It showed that Chelsea's and Manchester United's wage bills are both around £27 million and that three other clubs, Newcastle, Arsenal and Liverpool, are spending more than £20 million a year on salaries. If these bills are to be paid for by income through the turnstiles, it means that with an average 35,000 crowd over a 25 home match season, the supporter would have to pay £23 per game. Any other income will go towards the other costs of running a major club. Modern top class football has moved a long way from the 'man in the street' and Peter Reid, Paul Jewell, George Burley, et al should be warned.



Marc Bircham's progress is impeded



He's behind you!



Neil Harris is crowded out



Richard Sadlier rises above Chris Casper



You put your right foot in...

# HALF HEARTED

Lions Boss Keith Stevens was critical of his side's lacklustre showing, particularly in the first half at the Madejski Stadium last Saturday. Against a Reading side without a win in their previous eight outings, Millwall appeared to stroll around in the sunshine for 45 minutes contemplating their summer holidays. The home side,

grateful for the lack of forceful opposition, accepted the opportunity to climb out of their own pit of lethargy, scoring twice through Phil Parkinson's curler on 22 minutes and Stuart Gray's free header nine minutes later, both goals coming from Darren Caskey assists.

With their ears clearly warmed by the management in the dressing room at half-time, Millwall came out for work early after the break and quickly set about attempting to repair the damage. However, two fine saves from Royals keeper Scott Howie prevented Neil Harris with a header and Steven Reid's rasping 25 yarder from reducing the arrears.

As The Lions went for broke, disciplined defending took a back seat and the game flowed from end to end. Ben Roberts

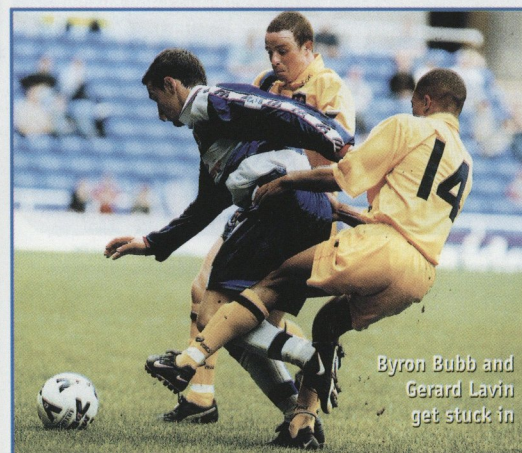
was forced to make excellent stops from Houghton and McIntyre at one end, whilst Byron Bubb almost scored with his first touch after replacing Paul Ifill at the other. Howie then denied Bubb and Harris, whilst Richard Sadlier, a half-time replacement for Paul Shaw, twice went close.

It was clear that for all their second half attacking verve The Lions were not going to get back on terms, and near the end they were grateful again to Ben Roberts for denying both Ray Houghton and Keith Scott when they were clean through.

**Reading:** Howie, Hunter, Gray, Parkinson, Bernal, Casper, Maybury, Caskey (Gurney 85'), McIntyre, Scott, Brebner (Houghton 16'). sub not used: Barras.

**Millwall:** Roberts, Lavin, Stuart, Bircham, Nethercott, Fitzgerald, Ifill (Bubb 55'), Newman, Harris, Shaw (Sadlier 46'), Reid. sub not used: Cook.

**Referee:** Brian Coddington (Sheffield). **Bookings:** Fitzgerald, Harris (Millwall), Caskey (Reading).



Byron Bubb and Gerard Lavin get stuck in



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# Put your shirt on The Lions



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**Steven Reid**  
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