

BEES TOP THE HATTERS

Brentford 2 (0) vs Luton Town 0 (0)
September 18th 1999

For this match the Bees welcomed back last seasons top goalscorer Lloyd Owusu from injury and he replaced Derek Bryan upfront. Quinn still continued at right back for injured Danny Boxall. The Bees lined up like this:

Woodman Quinn Hermann Powell Anderson

Mahon Evans Rowlands Scott Partridge Owusu

Brentford started the better of the two sides, but neither side created a clear cut opportunity until the 22nd minute. The move involved Thorne In The Sides and The Chronicle's Player of the Month for August, Scott Partridge. He played a ball along the floor forward to Gavin Mahon who ran onto the ball. With a shooting opportunity opening up (he was located just on the edge of the area) he floated a shoot to the far post, where it curled just wide of the target. Despite the better opening of the two sides, the Bees did not created any clear cut chances and as the half wore on, injury-hit Luton came back into the game. In fact, they had a number of good opportunities before the Bees went close again.

In the 29th minute Luton

Town player Matt Taylor, found himself on the edge of the area, and decided to let fly with a long range shot. His effort screamed wide of the left hand post, and it was to be a let off for the Bees.

Six minutes later, the Hatters went close from after winning a free kick. This was blocked by the Bees wall, but fell to the feet of a Luton player inside the area. He decided to lay the ball back to a Luton player located on the edge of the area. The player had time and space to tee himself up for a shot, but the powerful shot flew over Woody and the cross bar, to the relief of the Bees fans. In the 39th minute Brentford survived another scare. A Luton corner was won by Liam George who headed towards the goal. The Bees defence somehow managed to partially clear the ball, but it fell to the feet of a

Luton player who immediately crossed the ball back into the Bees area, where more confusion occurred, and again the ball was cleared to safety.

As the half ticked away, Brentford managed another good opportunity. A long exquisite ball from the feet of inspirational Paul Evans beat the Luton defence and fell at the feet of Andy Scott. The player looked up and with just the keeper to beat he decided to take an early shot rather than try to outpace the Luton defence, who were making good ground. His shot managed to beat the oncoming keeper, but went wide of the open goal.

Owusu was battling hard, but never got the rub of the green throughout the first half. He however, nearly opened his account for the season in the 47th minute, when he was extremely unfortunate not to score. He found himself in a position with just the Luton keeper to beat, but his powerful accurate shot was parried by the keeper, and the ball trickled across the 6 yard box ever so slowly without any Bees player getting the illusive touch which was required.

Hermann Hreidarsson won an important challenge in the middle of the park which broke up a Luton Town counter attack. He charged down the touchline before winning a throw in. This then led to Brentford winning their only corner of the game. It was taken by Gavin Mahon. His long cross was met

by the head of Darren Powell who got in front of his man. The ball flew towards the goal, before defecting off Matt Taylor and into the back of the net for what was to be the turning point in the game. Luton Town didn't really have a clear cut opportunity after this goal with one exception.

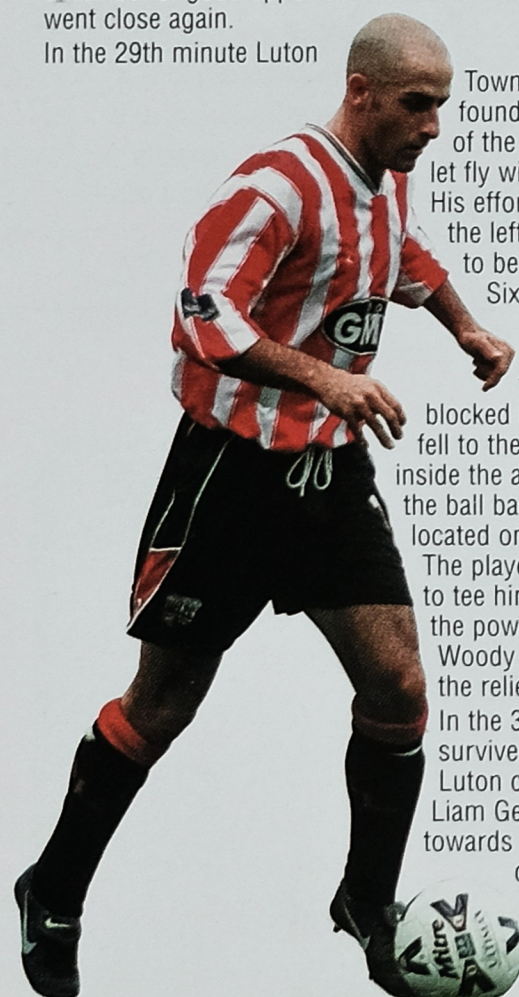
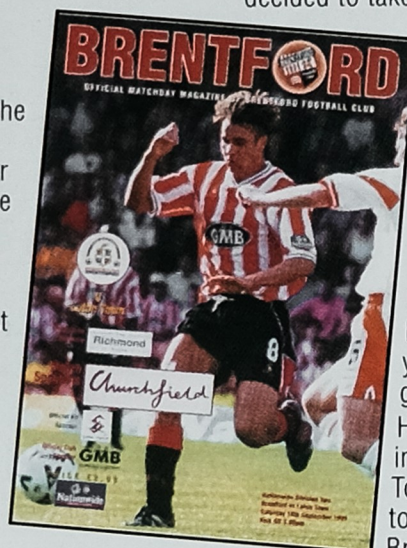
It came in the 57th minute when Stuart Douglas burst through the gap in between Darren Powell and Robert Quinn inside the area. The Bees central defenders combined to take the pacy forward out, before Hermann cleared long. It looked a clearcut penalty decision and one which Luton should count themselves very unlucky not to have gone in their favour.

The game was ended as a contest in the 71st minute, when the Bees scored the 2nd and decisive goal. A free kick by Gavin Mahon was met at the back post by Hermann Hreidarsson. The big Icelandic defender headed across goal to where Scott Partridge waited. The small skilful forward waited and watched as the ball fell, before volleying in between the gap of Luton defenders on the line. It was an excellent goal.

Brentford were the better team throughout the 2nd half, and had several other chances to extend the lead to three. The best was to come late in the game when Scott Partridge either hit the near post, or was denied by the keeper who punched the ball to safety. All in all an excellent win, which extends the Bees run to 22 games unbeaten. It was a good run out for Lloyd Owusu, but slightly worrying was Gavin Mahon who went off injured late in the game.

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ACTION REPLAY



Bees (0) 2

Team: Woodman, Anderson, Quinn, Powell, Hreidarsson, Evans, Mahon (Folan), Owusu (Bryan), Partridge, Scott, Rowlands Subs not used: Pearcey, Theobald, Jenkins.



Luton Town (0) 0

Team: Abbey, Spring, Johnson, Douglas, George, Doherty, Fraser, Taylor, Kandol (Sodje), Locke, Watts Subs not used: White, Boyce, Scarlett, Tate.

Referee: Paul Taylor

Scorers: Powell (55), Partridge (72)

Bees Star Man - MAHON

Attendance: 7,039

MATCH STATS

vs LUTON TOWN

Attempts on goal:	Bees 11	Luton 9
Shots on target:	Bees 7	Luton 5
Fouls:	Bees 10	Luton 15
Offsides:	Bees 4	Luton 0
Corners:	Bees 1	Luton 6



Andy chips the keeper but it runs wide



Darren's header flashes goalwards