

# Double turnover not enough for Millwall's thugs

Luton Town 0 Millwall 2  
By PETE KENYON

**TWO first-half strikes from Tim Cahill enabled Millwall to complete a double turnover of Luton yesterday.**

Off the pitch, the Lions' sizeable hooligan element took it upon themselves to completely rearrange the furniture in the Duke of Clarence pub and generally cause a trail of destruction all around the ground.

Feng shui South London style.

Scores of police in riot vans and on horseback had to scramble to the area to stop a series of street fights – some of them involving trainee thugs no older than 15.

Traffic came to a standstill and some witnesses caught up in the scuffles reported up to three stabbing incidents.

According to one policewoman who had been involved in making a number of arrests, 'loads' of thugs ended up in police custody.

As the match drew to a close, Millwall's mindless set of morons – all 1,500 of them – rendered the familiar curtain call chorus 'We are Millwall, no one likes us, we don't care', and then as the police helicopters circled overhead, they thankfully dissipated like a bad smell.

All season Millwall's travelling fans have been terrorising town centres up and down the country and if the team carries off in its current winning vein, some new towns will be welcoming Millwall's sightseers next season.

On the pitch, the Lions blend of power and pace were enough to undo Hatters, who were left with a mountain to climb after 17th and 38th minute strikes from Cahill.



■ Tony Warner and Sean Dyke combine to keep Phil Gray out during the first half

Phil Gray missed Luton's only real chance of the first half when he tripped over the ball after being put clean through, but in truth Millwall were well worth their two-goal lead at the break.

The visitors were out of the blocks quickly and only an early series of fine stops from Ben Roberts kept the scores level beyond the second

minute. But there was nothing he could do to stop Cahill's opener after the midfielder's late burst into the box enabled him to spring the offside trap and sidefoot home Michael Gilkes's cross.

Twenty minutes later Roberts might have done better with Richard Sadlier's long-range effort



■ Adam Lockes and Michael Gilkes locked in battle for the ball yesterday

but the ball spilled out of his grasp and Cahill was on hand again to poke home.

But skipper Marvin Johnson must shoulder a fair portion of the blame for failing to get to the loose ball before Cahill and allowing himself to be muscled out of it by the smaller man.

In the second period, Hatters changed their shape and introduced Liam George in place of Esetobore Sodje – but just could not get a lucky break.

Three times Millwall had to clear the ball off the line, once from Stuart Douglas early on and twice from substitute Andrew Fotiadis.

And keeper Tony Warner was called on to make a series of fine saves as Hatters threw everything into attack.

The best of these was a flying stop to deny Gray's quick free kick.

As he stood on the near post arranging the wall, Gray decided to clip the ball into the far corner before the referee blew.

But while Millwall's outfield players were guilty of ball-watching Warner was alert enough to spot what was coming and fling himself at full stretch across the goal.

Liam George's curling effort looked every inch a goal until Warner again came to the rescue – and when he was left exposed for the rebound, Lucas Neill was on hand to clear in the nick of time as Matthew Taylor prepared to pounce.

**Team: Roberts, Boyce, White, Doherty, Johnson, Sodje (George 45), Locke, Spring, Gray, Douglas (Fotiadis 69), McGowan (Taylor 65).**

**Subs not used: McLaren, Abbey. Att: 6,341. MoM: Locke.**