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# Luton Town FC



# Inside Forward

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**Division 2** Champions 1981-82

**Division 3 (S)** Champions 1936-37

**Division** 4 Champions 1967-68

# **Official Matchdau** Magazine

Editor **Brian Swain** 

Design & Lavout **Wolff Evans** 

Printing **Regal Litho** 

Photography **Gareth Owen** 

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



Front Cover Shooting star Matthey Taylor, completing his first full season in the haque team, was one of the prize-winners a the Supporters Club's and of season party The 18-year-old wing back was chosen b Lennie Lawrence and

he coaching staff as the young player of the season. See also page 11



IT'S TRADITIONAL for our players of the year to move on to other clubs within days or weeks of receiving their accolades from fans. But this season's choice broke the mould, because 20-year-old Gary Doherty was the double winner of the big prizes on Sunday, having completed a transfer to Premiership Tottenham a few days before.

The players and the members of Luton Town Supporters Club all agreed on his selection as Player of the Year. He was given a rousing reception, and left with the best wishes of supporters who know it is a fact of life that Luton Town has to be a selling club.

Spurs will pay at least £1million, probably £1.5million over a period as Doherty progresses, and maybe £2million one day if he becomes a super-star sold on at huge money.

Chairman Cliff Bassett said the board accepted Tottenham's offer for a number of reasons, not least that it was a wonderful opportunity for the player.

"The offer from Spurs represented good business, and Gary deserves his chance to go to a bigger club," said the Chairman. He added that the cash stabilised the club, and will enable Lennie Lawrence much more flexibility this summer than he had last.

CONTRACT negotiations will have an effect on possible changes to the Town squad for next season. As we went to press talks with Phil Gray and Marvin Johnson had failed to reach agreement. Wages and length of deals are usually the major points at issue, and the manager already knows what salaries budget he has for the new campaign.

Offers of new contracts have been made to Stuart Douglas and Andrew Fotiadis, while Andre Scarlett and Nathan Abbey have both signed new 12-month agreements. Ben Roberts competes his loan from Middlesbrough today, and leaves with the Town's grateful thanks for his services. He expects to be joining a Premiership club in the summer, and Mr Lawrence is searching for another keeper to compete with Abbev for the No. 1 shirt.

An offer of a new contract will be made to Alan White, but Michael McIndoe has been given a free transfer, and a couple of days ago the boss was still considering the future of Tresor Kandol.

The manager said: "I expect to see some changes in the first team squad during the summer, but it will depend on who goes out."

TICKET prices for next season are announced today, in the centre pages of this magazine. As well as the usual savings for "bulk purchase" there will be a fresh approach to attracting families to Kenilworth Road for the 200/2001 campaign.

The plan is for the 700-seat New Stand to be designated as the main family area, with special offers giving discounts to parties of parents and children. Existing season ticket holders can renew their seats for next season, but no new ones will be sold for that part of the ground, except to families.

IN WISHING all supporters a very pleasant summer, Luton Town thanks you all for your splendid backing through the season, and looks forward to the start of the new league campaign, on August 12. Other diary dates you might like: first team friendlies - July: 22 Bromley A 3pm, 24 Welling Utd A 7.45, 26 St. Albans A 7.45, 31 Grimsby A 7.45. August: 2 Hull City A 7.45, 4 Rushden & Diamonds A 7.45, 7 Wimbledon H 7.45. The reserves have one pre-season friendly fixed so far, away to Letchworth on August 1 (7.30). A mixed reserves and first team squad will be away to Bedford Town on August 5 (3pm).

### Brian Swain reports



The Town are also swapping their home and away colours for the new season - the home choice will be back to the "Lillywhites" gear, with away colours normally orange, but with the third choice available if needed.

THERE is a well-respected name among the Oldham squad this afternoon. Ben Futcher, an 18vear-old centre-half, is the son of Paul and nephew of Ron. If he is half as good as his dad was here, Oldham are a very lucky club.

> Brian Iwain Fresh Colours - New third kit

## OURS ON THE ROAD

### VISITORS TO LUTON L Bristol Rovers (WC) .....240 Notts County .....1,531 Reading .....1,536 Bristol Rovers (WC) ....134 Brentford .....1,704 Gillingham .....1,241 U Oxford .....1,523 Kingstonian (FAC1) .....571 C Oxford (AWS) .....126 W Fulham (FAC3) .....2,346 > L Bristol Rovers .....1,158 Cambridge .....1,120 . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Chairman C. Bassett

Directors C. T. F. Green N. S. Terry

**Vice Presidents** R. L. Banks D. Ludlow MBE C. Bygrave R. Safranek J. Sapsworth

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**Director Business Development Rod Fountain** 

> Team Manager Lennie Lawrence

First Team Coach John Moore

**Reserve Team Coach Trevor Hartley** 

> Youth Coach **Paul Lowe**

Physiotherapist **Clive Goodyear** 

**Consultant Physio John Sheridan** 

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# TheManager

# Lennie Lawrence



WELCOME to the final game of a memorable season for Luton Town FC. When it started we were in the grip of receivership, and team planning was very difficult because of restrictions imposed on us.

We have had to blood young players, and have done that successfully. We have also had to lean heavily on a very few seniors. But we have had excellent support, especially in away games, and that has helped us through some difficult times.

Two matches that stick in the mind are the first, at Notts County, and last week's at Wycombe, when we achieved my target of 60 points and 60 goals scored. Both were well-attended games, with passionate support, with the extra ingredient at Nottingham our relief at the club's continued membership of the Football League.

I have been a manager for 18 consecutive years, and our achievements since August rank this as my third or fourth best-ever season. Promotions and cup runs have given me some of the best times of my career, but we can afford to take professional pride in what we have done at Luton Town this season.

It has been achieved thanks to a lot of hard work by a lot of people within the club. Receivership was a horrible experience, but it drew us all together, and thanks are due to the whole of the staff and management. The players have worked hard, and I thank them all.

When the season began we were widely tipped as relegation material, but we never even flirted with that prospect. Indeed, at one time we were not far off the play-off places, which perhaps raised some unrealistic expectations.

We are going to finish about 20 points short of the top six in a year in which this division has been polarised - the relegated teams are going down with far fewer points than usual, while at the top of the table there will probably be one team which will finish on 80 points and fail to get a play-off place which would normally be guaranteed by that kind of total.

I believe Preston are worthy champions, the best footballing side in the division. The battle for runners-up place has been fascinating, with the race going to the wire today.

Of course I wish Luton Town was involved, but in view of everything that has happened in the last 12 months I think I would consider a finishing place in the top ten a decent achievement.

Last week we spoiled Wycombe's party on the occasion of their final home game, thanks to the opportunism of Liam George and Matthew Taylor. That put us above them in the table, and knocked them out of the top half. We must take care that we do not allow Oldham to do the same to us today. We kick off knowing that up to four teams, Oldham included, can overtake us if we lose this afternoon.

We felt hard done by when we lost unluckily at Oldham in October, and it would be nice to avenge that defeat against a team which, like us, was in the top flight early in the 90s. Oldham made a poor start to this season, but have done extremely well since their win over us took them off the bottom. Today we stand between them and the top ten, so both teams have something to play for this afternoon.

As always when you watch the last game you never know how many players will be pulling on their team's shirt for the last time. There might be one or two in our team this afternoon, depending on how contract negotiations go in the next few weeks.

But whatever happens, all the players involved this season deserve every credit for what they have achieved. We also acknowledge the support which, for the most part, has been tremendous, and I trust that at the end of today's match players and supporters alike will acknowledge each other's efforts. It is a cliché, but still true, that we are all in it together as we strive for success for our club.

I hope we have a good win today to round off this season's efforts, that we all have an enjoyable summer, and that we are all well prepared for the challenge of the new season.

Lennie Lawrence

# Today's Referee

WE HOPE Graham Frankland enjoys himself at Kenilworth Road this afternoon, because the referee has probably travelled further than anyone else in the ground to be here. He comes from near Middlesbrough, and the last time we saw him in action was in our FA Cup games against Fulham in January.

Mr Frankland started his career as a referee in 1987 in the local leagues around Middlesbrough, and was promoted to Class One after only two seasons, much quicker than the average. He made rapid progress up the pyramid to become a Football League linesman in 1994 and a referee the following season.

A partner in an office equipment supply company, his hobbies outside football are golf and horse racing. He is also a committee member of the Middlesbrough Roller Hockey Club, where his two teenage sons are players.



OUR "Town Trivia" quiz offers another free prize to a supporter today. Before the game the PA announcer will ask the latest Town Teaser. If you know the answer, listen for your chance to have a go, for a bit of fun and to win a little prize.

# THE QUESTION

**Our highest-ever finishing** 

position in the Football League was seventh in the old First Division in 1987. Who was the manager?

# Hatters Roll-Call Season 1999/200

			ANCES		b in brackets	)	GO/	ALS	
	League	FAC	WC	AWS	Total	League		WC	Total
Nathan Abbey	32	5	2	1	40	0	0	0	0
James Ayres	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Emmerson Boyce	23(6)	0(2)	2	1	26(8)	1	0	0	1
Gary Doherty	40	5	0(2)	1	46(2)	6	2	1	9
Stuart Douglas	35(5)	5	2	1	43(5)	3	1	0	4
Andrew Fotiadis	8(14)	0	0(2)	0	8(16)	2	0	0	2
Stuart Fraser	20	5	1	1	27	1	0	0	1
Liam George	34(7)	5	0(1)	1	40(8)	14(1p)	2	0	16(1p)
Phil Gray	27(1)	1	2	0	30(1)	10	1	0	11
Marvin Johnson	43	5	0	1	49	0	0	0	0
Tresor Kandol	1(3)	0	1	0	2(3)	0	0	1	1
Adam Locke	26(7)	3(1)	1	1	31(8)	3	0	0	3
Gavin McGowan	9(3)	0	0	0	9(3)	0	0	0	0
Michael McIndoe	2(14)	0(2)	2	0	4(16)	0	0	0	0
Ray McKinnon	0(3)	0	1	0	1(3)	0	0	0	0
Paul McLaren	24(4)	4	1	0	29(4)	1	0	0	1
Neil Midgley	8(2)	0	0	0	8(2)	3	0	0	3
Paul Read	0	0	0	0(1)	0(1)	0	0	0	0
Ben Roberts	13	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0
Andre Scarlett	2(1)	0	0	0(1)	2(2)	0	0	0	0
Efetobore Sodje	5(4)	1(1)	2	1	9(5)	0	0	0	0
Matthew Spring	43(1)	5	1	1	50(1)	6(1p)	2	0	8(1p)
Matthew Taylor	38(2)	5	1	0	44(2)	4	1	0	5
Tony Thorpe	3(1)	0	0	0	3(1)	1	0	0	1
Julian Watts	44	5	2	0	51	4	0	0	4
Alan White	15(3)	0	2	0	17(3)	1	0	0	1
Landry Zahana-Oni	0(1)	0	0	0	0(1)	0	0	0	0

# **Captally**

# Marvin Johnson



IT'S natural on the last day of the season to look back at the past nine months, and wonder about what might have been. Have we done ourselves justice? Are we a better team today than we were 12 months ago?

I hope you agree that the answer to both questions is yes.

Last August we had come through a worrying spell when the club's future was in doubt. I felt we had lost too many good players in the previous year or so, and that we might struggle. I wanted early points under our belt, to stay out of the bottom four.

We did it, and at one time we were beginning to think we might defy the odds and push up into the top six. But my experience told me we were likely to be inconsistent. With so many young players, form is bound to be in and out.

Our very good home form until Christmas was a bonus, and it is significant that we were unbeaten at home in the league until the visit by Preston in late November.

They have since proved to be the best team in the Second Division, and they looked it in both their games against us. I do not begrudge them the championship, and am delighted for my old mate Graham Alexander. He left because he felt he had a better chance of a First Division career at Preston. I wish he had stayed with us, but we are part of the real world, and transfers are a normal part of it.

I was sorry to see Gary Doherty leave, but we understand that solid business reasons were behind that move. I think he will do well at Spurs, although there is still some uncertainty about his best position. He tells me he expects to be used as a forward at first, but I still think he will be a top class defender. Whatever lies ahead for him, we all wished him well, and it was nice to see him leaving on a high note by picking up the two big player of the year awards at the Supporters Club presentation night.

I heard it said by some that the prizes should have been withheld once it was known Gary was leaving, but I disagree entirely, and I am glad the supporters also stuck by their guns. Dozza was a clear winner of the players' award, and even if we had known he was leaving when we cast our votes I think the result would have been the same. He was well ahead of the nearest challengers, and I hear the same was true of the fans' vote. He did not ask for a transfer, and had put in almost a complete season of excellent performances for us.

Matthew Taylor collected the young player of the year prize, and I totally agree with that choice. He has been a revelation in his first full season, and with other young men also gaining valuable experience it augurs well for our chances next season.

By then there may be other changes in the dressing room, and my own future is not yet assured. The club has made an offer, and I want to stay, but we have not yet agreed on the length of the new contract. The boss and I are still talking, and we are on good terms.

It is no secret that I have a very special feeling for Luton Town, but I also have my family to consider, a wife and two young children, and I owe it to them to get the best agreement possible. I believe other clubs would be interested in me if I became available, but I would be more than happy to remain a Luton Town player for the rest of my career.

The negotiations have been on hold this week, while we focus on the most important task, winning our final game. It really does matter to all of us within the club - if we win we finish tenth, which would be an improvement on last season. If we lose, Oldham get there instead. And having lost unluckily at Oldham earlier in the season, we want our revenge too.

Then we can look forward to a break, and hopefully a new season full of hope because I think the squad that kicks off the new campaign will have improved after the experience of the past nine months.

And I have to close on a note of thanks to the supporters: you have been great this season, sharing our ups and downs, and the followings at away games in particular have been tremendous. We do notice it, and I hope we give you lots more to cheer about this afternoon.

And I also hope I shall be resuming this column in August!

Marvin Johnson

For the latest ticket and travel information call the Luton Ticket Office on **01582 416976** 

# Treatment Room

# **Clive Goodyear**



UNLUCKY Stuart Douglas will almost certainly miss this afternoon's game because of a minor hamstring injury collected in last week's victory at Wycombe. It happened in the first half, and as a

precaution we decided to take him out of the team at the interval.

It is not a bad injury, but it is the sort that can easily be aggravated, and I am never in favour of taking chances in those circumstances. The player has been under treatment all week, and unable to take part in training, so it is best for everyone that he continues to rest today.

Emmerson Boyce picked up a hamstring problem at Gillingham, and that kept him out of the side against Wigan and Wycombe. It was a kind of deep-seated cramp, with a few muscle fibres slightly torn but he has been back to fitness this week and should be available for selection today, either to start the game or to be a substitute.



8

Our only other injured man from the first team squad is Andrew Fotiadis, who still has a pin inside the finger he dislocated and fractured when he collided heavily with an advert hoarding. He is able to run and work on the bike on general fitness, and I would expect the pin to be removed within a couple of weeks.

The players disperse in a few days for their holidays, but being good professionals I am confident they will all follow a sensible and wellordered dietary and fitness regime while they are away.

We prepare a fitness programme for them to take away for use during their break, and if they follow it they will be in good shape when they report back for pre-season work in early July.

Ideally I would like to have them back for two months before the season starts, in which case the first month would be all about working on their general fitness and conditioning. That's not possible, so we ask the players to do the necessary work on that score themselves.

At the start of the break they should take a lot of rest, to give their bodies a chance to recover from the physical strains of the past nine months. Then, after two or three weeks, they will be expected to work on general fitness exercise work in the gym at least twice a week, and two or three 20-minute runs per week.

They will need to watch their weight, and it will be natural to put on a little here and there, but so long as it is only small amounts that need not be a problem - we have ways of taking it off again during pre-season training!

I am pleased to say that our players are good professionals, and see the sense of what we ask of them during the close season. They could not hope to have decent careers if they did not maintain a high level of overall fitness, and they know they cannot afford to let it slip during the summer.

I also have to admit that today's players are fitter than we were in my playing days. They're also quicker - every one is an athlete as well as a footballer. General fitness is of vital importance, and players realise it. I hope they all have a good summer, and wish the same to all supporters.

Clive Goodyear

# <u>and searchern</u>

# **Cherry Newbery**



ON THE last day of the season, I suppose it is inevitable that a lot of us will look back to the first day, last August, and be very grateful that we still have a Luton Town FC to support.

I will never forget the massive feeling of relief when I received a phone call from Richard Scuddamore of the Football League at ten minutes after midnight on the day the season started, to confirm that our game at Notts County could go ahead, because there had been agreement in principle to bring the club out of receivership.

It had been a long and difficult summer, but everyone in the club joined forces to get through it, and in all the circumstances I think we have had a very good season. Last August it was a matter of being happy just because the club was still alive. We have consolidated this season, and who knows what might be possible for us when the new one gets under way.

The support has been excellent, although I was sorry that a very small minority let the club down briefly at Wycombe on Saturday. Except for isolated incidents, the backing for the team, home and away, has been fantastic, and doubtless this afternoon there will be celebrations to mark the final game.

We do not want to spoil your enjoyment of the day, but we have to remind you that spectators are not allowed on the pitch, and that applies to today as much as it has done throughout the season.

We have bookings for games in the next couple of weeks, so Richard Bird and his staff

will still be working to maintain the surface to the best possible standard.

At the end of this afternoon's match our players will stay on the pitch for a few minutes to acknowledge your support.

It would be remiss of me in my final column of the season if I did not put on record my grateful thanks to the very many people who are vital to your enjoyment of football.

It would be invidious to mention individuals, but on an average match day there are more than 300 people dedicated to making sure that everything goes smoothly and safely. Without their efforts games could not be played. I thank every one of them.

There will be a few more volunteers in the ground this afternoon, because our final bucket collection of the season is for the British Olympic Appeal, and your contributions will be gratefully accepted. The appeal is not just for the prestige team for Sydney, but also for the national paraplegic squad.

Kenilworth Road will have its usual busy summer preparing for the next season, but please don't forget the open day, to be run in conjunction with the Luton Town Supporters Club on May 14. There will be plenty for everyone, of every age, to enjoy - see page 36 for full details.

Finally, in thanking you for your support, may I wish you all a very pleasant summer, hope for success for England in Euro 2000, and look forward to August - the big kick-off is on August 12. See you then!

Cherry Newleery

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# Hattars Chattar

prize hatters

A CAPACITY "crowd" turned up at the Kent Social Club, Luton, on Sunday for the annual end of season awards night organised by Luton Town Supporters Club.

Gareth Owen was there, to capture shots of the winners on a night when the whole squad received an ovation for its efforts this season

It was a poignant occasion for Gary Doherty. He had been elected player of the year twice over, by the fans and also by the players before his transfer to Tottenham took place. He is pictured receiving the fans' award from Mark Chapman, Chairman of LTSC.

Matthew Taylor was the young player of the year, chosen by the manger and coaching staff and is pictured on today's front cover.

Matthew Spring was the first winner of a new award, for the goal of the season. It is in memory of two much-loved Town supporters, the late Stamford and Barbara Tripp. Spring's cracker against Kingstonian in the FA Cup won him the prize.

Stuart Douglas was voted player of the year by the junior members of the Supporters Club.



**Gary Doherty** 



**Stuart Douglas** 



Matthew Spring

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# Hattars Chattar

our marathon hero

ONE of the biggest cheers of the night at the Supporters Club's annual do on Sunday was for Perry Glover, who ran for Luton Town in the Flora London Marathon, and excelled himself by completing the course in 3hours 51minutes 38seconds.

We are still awaiting confirmation that the insurance industry worker from Harveys Hill, Bushmead, achieved the second of his ambitions in the event - his fastest-ever was a personal triumph, but he also wanted to be quicker than the Watford entrant.

The other major result was that he raised over £1,000 in sponsorship, to be split between the Keech Cottage Children's Hospice and the

Luton and Dunstable Ambulance Appeal. We thank all supporters who contributed, and the competition for the best estimate of Perry's time was won by Mrs Shirley Hobbs, of Meyrick Avenue, Luton. She wins the use of an executive box at a match next season.

Perry finished 7,419th out of 32,000 entrants -"very pleasing, and better than I expected," he said. "I beat my previous best time by 20 minutes, although at about 19 miles I was struggling a bit, and had to walk for a minute or two. But then you get through that barrier, and for me it was a big help to see and hear so many Luton Town supporters among the crowd - I was amazed how many there were, and they really helped.



Perry Glover receives sponsorship cheques from fans, presented by Lennie Lawrence at Sunday's LTSC end of season party.

"It is an unforgettable experience, although I am not sure if I would like to do it again. When you get to about nine or ten miles you make a turn and suddenly you see Tower Bridge. There are huge crowds and they make a massive amount of noise. Your hair stands on end. That was a fantastic moment, and I will never forget it, and I will always be grateful to Luton Town for giving me the chance."

One runner gave him encouragement during the race: Paul Smith, from Linslade, who was the Luton Town representative 12 months ago, was a private runner this time, and clocked 3hrs 34mins. He was also among the fans who sponsored Perry, and we thank them all for their generosity.

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# John Bailey



IT SEEMS fitting that on the final day of the season our match sponsors should be some of our most loyal supporters, and we extend a warm welcome and our grateful thanks to Sue and Les Miller and their party. They

follow the Town home and away, and are part of a group which calls itself The Regular Rabble.

The regular is true enough, but fortunately the rabble part of their title is just self-deprecation on their part, and we know they are all good ambassadors for Luton Town as well as genuine supporters.

They are at every game, a staunch backers of the Bobbers Travel Club, which also helps us through various sponsorship schemes.

TODAY'S match ball sponsor is Britannic Assurance, a company which has been helping families make the most of their money since 1866, when it was founded as the British Workman's Mutual Assurance Company.

Britannic Assurance is now a major supplier of life insurance, pension savings and investments, with more than 1.5million customers, and the local office is at Dunstable. On offer there is a free, no-obligation financial review service, and full information on the products and services offered by the company. The local contacts are Sharon Mills on 07780 707206 or Sunhil Shah on 0973 734870. Or ring head office on 0845 3055552 between 9am and 9pm. Commercial Mascots



WE THINK a new record is set today among our mascots - the oldest ever! It will also be a bit of a shock for Barry Martin, from Lombard Street, Lidlington, because his wife and family have set him up, so to speak, in great secrecy to give him a birthday treat to remember.

It explains why today we have two commercial mascots, with seven-year-old Alexandra Martin sharing the privilege with her dad.

She attends Thomas Johnson Lower School, and as well as watching Luton Town she enjoys swimming, playing the piano and playing with friends.

Mr Martin will bring his daughter to the ground knowing that she is going to be one of the day's VIP guests, without a clue that his wife has bought a similar package for him, to mark a life-time of supporting the Town, and to mark his 40th birthday on May 20.

Originally from Sundon Park, Mr Martin is also into golf and blues music, and we hope he has a great time at Kenilworth Road this afternoon, and enjoys his surprise birthday present.

John Bailey

EN GAMBLE

THE last Golden Gamble jackpot of the season will be given away this afternoon, with the prizes won by supporters already totalling over £12,000.

There was a bit of ribbing in the boardroom after the winning ticket was pulled out on the night of the Bristol City game. Chairman Cliff Bassett has always supported the Golden Gamble and in view of what he has done for Luton Town over the years perhaps he was overdue for a win. His ticket was pulled out of the drum, and he collected £440.

At the Wigan game another supporter who gives more than most to follow the Hatters received a nice little earner. Danny Clubb lives and works in Blackpool, but rarely misses a Town match, home or away. Nor does his wife Elsie, who shares the driving with him - home games entail a 440-mile round trip.

Danny always buys Golden Gamble tickets, and the investment paid off at the Wigan match, because his ticket came out of the lucky dip, and he collected £505. We hope today's jackpot will be at least as much, but we cannot promise. Tickets cost £1 each and 50p goes into the jackpot kitty and the other 50p goes to Luton Town funds, so even if you are not a winner you are helping the club.

So far there have been 29 winners, with jackpots totalling £12,408, an average of £428 each. Sellers are on duty in all parts of the ground, and the draw is made during the interval, with the cash prize paid out instantly.

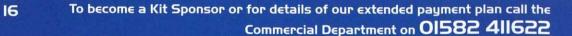
To advertise in this matchday programme call the Commercial Department on **OI582 411622** 



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## The sponsorship package includes:

- Publicity within the matchday programme for every league and club fixture for season 1999/2000.
- Invitation to a VIP day to one match during the season 1999/2000 along with other sponsors.\*
- Presentation evening at the end of the season, to include wine reception, 3-course dinner, entertainment and the presentation by your sponsored player of his match shirt.\*







## welcome to Oldham Athletic



# ANDY RITCHIE MANAGER

Andy is now in his second season as a manager after a long and very successful playing career. Actually, Andy is still registered as a player with a potent right foot but sees his future as

manager.

Andy Ritchie's career started at Old Trafford with Manchester United under the fatherly hand of the late Sir Matt Busby.

After making only 33 appearances for United, scoring 13 goals (including 2 hat tricks), Andy moved on to then First Division Brighton & Hove Albion for £500,000. After making 89 appearances and scoring 23 goals, Ritchie moved on to Leeds United in a player exchange/cash deal valued at £750,000, 136 games later after scoring 40 times, Andy surprisingly agreed to join Oldham Athletic for a tribunal set fee of only £55,000.

Andy went on to become one of Latics' greatest ever goalscorers, with 105 goals in 250 games before being given a free transfer in 1995 when he joined Scarborough.

After spending just 18 months on the North East coastline the call from Latics Chairman, Ian Stott, brought Andy back to Boundary Park to take over as player coach alongside Neil Warnock.

Neil's reign was a short one ... 15 months to be exact, and when Warnock's contract was not renewed, Andy was offered his first ever managerial role in football.



### **OLDHAM ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB 1999/2000**

Front row: (*left to right*) Mark Hotte, Craig Dudley, David McNiven, Steve Whitehall, Lee Duxbury, Andy Ritchie, Shaun Garnett, Scott McNiven, Neil Adams, Andy Holt, Phil Salt.

Middle row: Tony Philliskirk (Youth Coach), David Cross, (Youth Coach), Paul Rickers, Mark Allott, John Sheridan, Gary Kelly, David Miskelly, Lee Clitheroe, Danny Walsh, Mark Innes, Billy Urmson (First Team Coach), Alex Moreno (Physiotherapist).

Back row: Phil Stock (Assistant Physiotherapist), Andy Rhodes (Coach), Matthew Tipton, Stuart Thom, Iain Swan, Ryan Sugden, Danny Boshell, Ian McLean, Peter Lowe (Director of Youth), Ron Millward (Youth Scout)

# the players

## **GARY KELLY - GOALKEEPER**

32 year old Goalkeeper who was recently recalled to represent his Country (Eire) after a stirling run of form. Good shot-stopper and a great enthusiast, cost Latics £10,000 when signing from Bury. Previous clubs Newcastle United and Bury.

### **DAVID MISKELLY - GOALKEEPER**

19 year old keeper that has come through the ranks at Boundary Park. Once again David is an Irishman but this time from the North. Very promising youngster already drawing the attention of other clubs.



SCOTT McNIVEN -DEFENDER 21 year old full back with already more than 50 first

team appearances under his belt, one of twins at the club, another youngster to come through the youth

set up.

### **ANDREW HOLT - DEFENDER**

21 year old defender standing at 6'2" another product of the youth system under Bill Urmson, now head coach. Very quick, good in the air with a devastating left foot another one to watch



### SHAUN GARNETT -DEFENDER

30 year old who joined Latics from Swansea City for a £50,000 fee having spent only 3 months with Swansea after his move from Tranmere Bovers

Ever thought about being a match ball sponsor? Call the Commercial Department

where he made over 100 first team appearances.

### **RICHARD GRAHAM - DEFENDER**

01582 411622

24 year old standing at 6'3" is a formidable header of the ball, another product of the youth set up, now valued by Latics at over £lmillion

pounds. Over 100 first team appearances and has also represented the Football League.

### IAN McLEAN - DEFENDER

21 year old fullback joined Latics from Bradford City after being given a free transfer. Good left foot, very quick.

## **STUART TITOM - DEFENDER**

22 year old central defender who joined Latics in November '98 from Nottingham Forest for a £50,000 fee. Stuart's chances were limited at the County Ground and after a short loan spell at Mansfield, Andy Ritchie stepped in to pick up this 6'2" very handy defender.

### **LEE DUXBURY - MIDFIELD**

36 year old who started his career with Bradford City were he made over 250 appearances before moving on to I-luddersfield Town and then back to Bradford City from where he joined Latics for £3 50.000. Strong in the tackle, very much the midfield general.

## **PAUL RICKERS - MIDFIELD**

Yet another product from the Boundary Park Youth System. Paul has very quick feet, now made over 150 appearances for Latics scoring 15 goals.

### MARK INNES - MIDFIELD

Another product of the Boundary Park youth system. Mark is a strong tackler and fine passer of the ball, all the qualities needed of a midfield player. Made his debut last term against Burnley.

### **PHILIP SALT - MIDFIELD**

Another youngster just breaking through into the big time. Never-say-die attitude, good tackler.

### **JOHN SHERIDAN - MIDFIELD**

34 year old very experienced Eire International. Started his career with Leeds United having been released as a junior at Manchester City,

19

# Tooley's Visitors



# the players

Notts Forest was John's next stop after a £650,000 transfer in 1989 and only three months later was on the move again to Sheffield Wednesday for £500,000. Bolton paid £180,000 to secure his services in 1996 from where he joined Latics in October '98 on a free transfer. Still today one of the best passers of a ball in the game possessing a right foot capable of splitting the tightest of defences.

## MARK ALLOTT - FORWARD

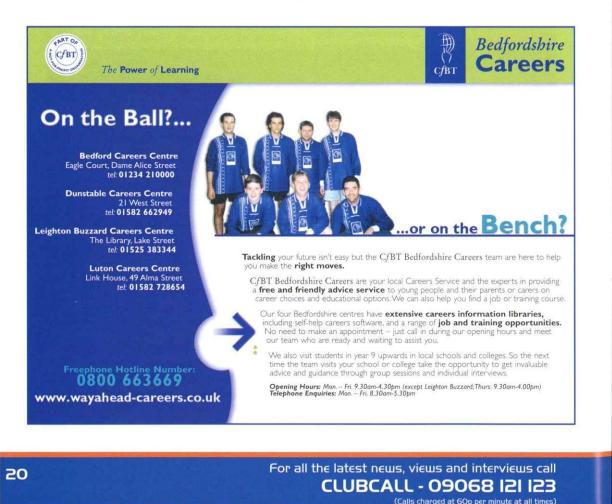
21 year old product of the youth system made his scoring debut against Bolton Wanderers in 1996. Now a regular at Boundary Park and was man of the tournament in the St Kitts/Nevis (West Indies) International Football Festival in '98. Deceiving pace, stunning right foot. Top scorer last season for Latics.

### **STEVE WHITEHALL - FORWARD**

Signed from Mansfield Town where he was their top scorer (23 goals) previously with Rochdale where once again he finished "Dales" top scorer for 3 consecutive seasons. Joined Latics for a reported fee of £40,000. Over 275 appearances under his belt scoring 100 goals tells you all very dangerous.

### **MATTHEW TIPTON - FORWARD**

Welsh international at both U18 and U21 levels much likened to Michael Owen. Made his first team debut last season and is definitely one to watch for the future. When he scores they are usually spectacular efforts.



### **NEIL ADAMS - FORWARD**

33 year old winger/midfield player returning to Latics for second time from Norwich City. Over 350 league appearances under his belt with over 50 goals to his credit. Tricky winger with a great right foot.

### **CRAIG DUDLEY - FORWARD**

Signed on deadline day March '99 from Notts County for £10,000. Made over 40 senior appearances for County and Shrewsbury Town (loan). England U'19 and U'21 player of some promise.

### **RYAN SUGDEN - FORWARD**

Came through the youth development programme at Boundary Park, a prolific goalscorer notching 34 goals in only 38 games for the reserves & youth team.

### **PAUL JONES - FORWARD**

Signed from Leigh RMJ on a free transfer, once with Tranmere Rovers but released when 19 years old. Now 21 years old was part of Barrow's Unibond Championship side.

### **BEN FUTCHER - FORWARD**

18 year old son of Paul Futcher and nephew of Ron Futcher, third generation of Futchers to play for Latics. Standing at 6'5", giant of a defender.

### **MARK HOTTE - FORWARD**

Standing at only 5'5" one of the smallest defenders in the Football League ... but one of the quickest. Burst on to the scene during the 99/2000 season, one to watch.

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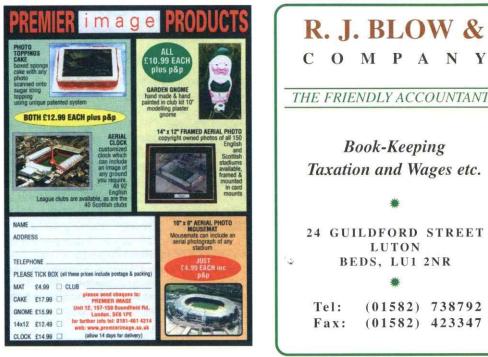
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1 Waterhouse Square, 138-142 Holborn, London EC1N 2ST. E-mail: enquiries@football-trust.org.uk

# Hattars On Card

# Alan Robinson

THROUGHOUT this series many Luton Town legends have featured after appearing on cards of all types. I hope your particular favourite has appeared, and as this is my last effort for this season I am being self-indulgent by highlighting my all-time Hatters hero.

I have had to cheat a little for the illustration here comes from a series that was featured on the front of the Rover comic in the late 1960s. The idea was to cut out each week's offering of 11 players, and stick them onto cardboard vourself.

And that is how almost all of those that survive are now found in the card dealers' catalogues and stalls.

It would need an entire matchday magazine and more to relate in full the supreme talents of the enigmatic Graham French, Indeed coach John Moore can keep folk entertained for hours with stories about his former team-mate, but we will have to settle for the bare bones of the tale here.

French was born in Wolverhampton in 1945 and was in Shrewsbury Town's first team at 16. He gained several England youth caps, and a bright future was forecast for him, but by 1965 he had drifted into nonleague soccer following short spells at Swindon and Watford.

He came to Luton from Wellington Town in the summer of 1965, after we had just been relegated to the Fourth Division. They were miserable days for us, but French soon rediscovered his form, and in 1966/67 he provided most of the bright spots, being voted player of the year by the Supporters Club.

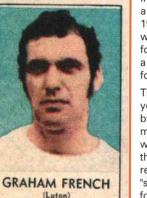
Despite his off-the-field activities, akin to the likes of George Best, Stan Bowles and more recently Paul Gascoigne, French's dazzling wing play and superb ball control contributed much to the Town's Fourth Division championship success the following season.

Playing to packed crowds at Kenilworth Road, he seemed to relish the heady atmosphere of that thrilling period in the club's history. Few people present at the evening game with Mansfield Town in September 1968 will ever forget the goal he

scored after dribbling nearly the entire length of the pitch through what seemed like the whole of the opposing team.

The following season he was in even better form, with deadly crosses providing many opportunities for the likes of Malcolm Macdonald as the Town steamed on to another promotion, back up to the old Second Division.

Unfortunately, throughout this period there were stories of drinking, gambling, and a domestic life



**Rover and Wizard Comic** Footballers, 1968-70

in turmoil. Nevertheless, it was still a huge shock to Town fans in July 1970 to hear that Graham French, who could do no wrong on a football pitch, had been arrested on a charge of attempted murder following a shooting incident.

The winger was sentenced to two years in prison. Luton Town stuck by him, and on his release the manager, Harry Haslam, was waiting to welcome him back into the fold. French worked hard on his return, and was rewarded with a "second debut" in December 1972 for a home fixture with Millwall.

It was an emotional moment when he lead the team out, and he scored a typical "Frenchie" goal on the hour. The roar was probably heard

in Houghton Regis and beyond.

Sadly, however, the prison sentence had taken its toll, and French was never the same player again, and after a few more appearances he was released. He turned up again in football once more - he had a couple of outings for former boss Allan Brown at Southport in 1976. He played under an assumed name, Graham le Fevre, presumably to sound French.

Wherever he may be now, I wish him well, and thank him for the memories. As a player he really was something very special.

Surprisingly, these portraits, once given away in big numbers, now change hands for between £2 and £4 each, and other Town men to look out for include Macdonald, and the late Brian Lewis, another great Kenilworth Road character in the late sixties.

Ever thought about being a match ball sponsor? Call the Commercial Department 23 01582 411622



# NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

SEASON TICKET PRICES SEASON 2000/2001

	Renewals before 15.6.00	Renewals after 15.06.00 and new applicants	Matchday x23
Main Stand A-E Adults Concessions	£302 £155	£362 £186	£402 £207
Block F Adults Concessions	£250 £138	£300 £166	£334 £184
Block G Adults Concessions	£172 £121	£207 £145	£230 £161
Main Stand Enclosure C-G Adults Concessions	£250 £138	£300 £166	£334 £184
Restricted View Blocks A,B,H & J Adults Concessions	£172 £121	£207 £145	£230 £161
Kenilworth End - Upper and Lower Tier Adults Concessions	£250 £138	£300 £166	£334 £184

# BENEFITS FOR SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

Guaranteed place at all home first team league matches.

- Guaranteed place and priority purchase for all home cup matches.
- 10% discount on all full priced merchandise in the Club Shop (on production of Season Ticket book).
- Free entry to home reserve matches played at Kenilworth Road.

# EASY-PAY EIGHT MONTH INSTALMENT PLAN

Want to become a Season Ticket Holder, but don't think you can afford the cost?

Why not take advantage of our own special instalment plan over 8 months? Contact the Ticket Office for details on 01582 416976.

Car Parking spaces are available for £80 per season. Please contact the Club for further information.

# SPECIAL DISCOUNTS FOR YOUNG SUPPORTERS

Aged under 11: £35

Aged 11-16: £65 in either Kenilworth Lower, Block B, or Main Stand Block D.

Proof of age required.

Contact Ticket Office for further details. NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

# MATCH TICKET PRICES SEASON 2000/2001



Main Stand A-E Adults Concessions	£17.50 £9.00	TICKET OFFIC OPENING HOURS
Block F Adults Concessions	£14.50 £8.00	Monday to Thursday 10am-4pm Fridays 10am-6pm, print to home match days.
Block G Adults Concessions	£10.00 £7.00	Saturday (matchdays 9am-3pm and 4.45pm-5.15pm
Main Stand Enclosure C-G Adults Concessions Restricted View Blocks A,B,H & J	£14.50 £8.00	Saturday (non-matchday) Open until coaches leave for away match Contact the Ticket Office on
Adults Concessions	£10.00 £7.00	01582 416976.
Kenilworth End - Upper and Lower Tier Adults Concessions	£14.50 £8.00	TICKET OFFICE AND CLUB SHOPWILL BE
New Stand (Family Stand) Family Match Ticket (2 Adults +1 Child) Family Match Ticket (1 Adult +2 Children) Each Additional Child	£30.00 £25.00 £5.00	CLOSED FROM MAY 8th TO MAY 19th 2000 INCLUSIVE

# Membership Details Season 2000/2001

# RENEWALS MADE EASY

Existing members wishing to renew need fill in NO forms, simply return your membership card for the 1999/2000 Season together with your remittance for £2 made payable to LTFC together with a SAE by 1st August 2000 – we will do the rest. We would like to remind you that YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE A MEMBER TO WATCH LUTON TOWN, however there are distinct advantages in becoming a member to include purchasing tickets for themselves and their guests, in the Member's Stand (Kenilworth Upper and Lower) as well as priority purchasing of Cup Tickets. For those supporters who wish to become members please apply direct to the Ticket Office on 01582 416976.

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The Nationwide Jeff Banks England Collection is not available in the shops. Stocks are limited so order your catalogue today.



The Quality of the Football

# Roger Wash

# **Hatters Finish on a High**

Blast FROM THE Cast



Fifteen years ago today Luton supporters were biting their fingernails down to the quick as they worried about the trip to Aston Villa and whether the Town could continue their much improved run and manage to fight clear of the threat of relegation.

The battle to keep hold of a top flight spot, won in style in 1982, had looked a forlorn one as the previous Christmas approached with a paltry three wins from the first 16 games and only a poor Stoke side keeping them off the bottom. With no money to spend and constant bickering going on at board level behind the scenes, manager David Pleat wondered where to turn next as his lightweight and inexperienced side was steamrollered week after week.

Kirk Stephens, Brian Horton, Raddy Antic and Paul Walsh had all departed the previous summer leaving Pleat with very little to work with but, just as he was regretting not taking up the offer to join Q.P.R. that came his way six months before, board infighting came to a head.

Out went chairman Denis Mortimer to be replaced by entrepeneur David Evans who immediately stated that the Town would not go down. Needing little prompting, Pleat went out on a spending spree that over a two month period completely reshaped the Luton side.

First in was ex-England international centre-half, Steve Foster, who made his debut in a 1-3 defeat at Arsenal on 1st December 1984. The following week Pleat introduced tiny midfielder David Preece to the Luton supporters and he responded by scoring the only goal of the game as Aston Villa were seen off at Kenilworth Road.

Next up was striker Mick Harford who netted a last minute point saving equaliser at Leicester in a 2-2 draw on 15th December. Finally the rebuilding was completed when anchorman Peter Nicholas arrived during the following month.

We had not seen anything like this since the heady days of chairman Tony Hunt in the late 1960's. Almost overnight the spine of the team had been replaced, not by free transfer signings or players over the hill but by real quality.

28

The team, however, had a lot of catching up to do as the abysmal start to the season had left them several points shy of a realistic position of safety. To add to our problems (but what a problem!) came an unexpected run in the F.A.Cup.

Battling through to the semi-final was a tremendous achievement especially when it is remembered that two of the club's new signings were cup-tied. Stoke, Huddersfield, Watford and Millwall were seen off before unlucky defeat at the hands of Everton at Villa Park ended the dream of the twin towers for another season.

Because of the involvement in the Cup only three league games were played between 1st January and 2nd March and although Luton supporters could see that the Pleat 'league' side was a far better outfit than its lowly position suggested it was to be tested to its limits with so many games to cram in.

Sunderland were seen off at Kenilworth Road in early March before the team earned a heartening draw at Sheffield Wednesday in a game played in a blizzard. All this good work was undone, however, when Watford turned us over 0-3 at Vicarage Road.

The next two games, both at home, were therefore seen as vital if we were not to keep in touch with the teams above us. Q.P.R. were easily beaten 2-0 but lpswich led us a merry dance early on in the next game and it was only a superb display by new hero Harford, who ran rings around England defender Terry Butcher, that eventually earned us three vital points.

After another set-back, this time at Southampton, we won a vital game at bottom place Stoke. This was quickly followed by the F.A.Cup semi-final defeat and it was wondered whether the disappointment would be reflected in future league games.

We need not have fretted as, in a titanic struggle against fellow strugglers Norwich at Kenilworth Road, goals from Emeka Nwajiobi and David Moss earned a 3-1 victory.

In the previous season Manchester United had won 5-0 at Kenilworth Road in front of the live T.V. cameras in what can very politely be termed a lacklustre performance. Naturally the cameras were back to see the title chasing Reds repeat the thrashing but this time we had heart and steel in our side and a late winner from Harford, who threw himself at the ball in a crowded penalty area, pulled us out of the bottom



Brian Stein fires in the Town's winner against Aston Villa fifteen years ago today.

three.

This was the point when Luton supporters firmly believed that relegation, which seemed a certainty only a few months before, would be avoided.

We blotted our copybook a little when Nottingham Forest won at Kenilworth Road in our next game but a point was won at another team fighting the drop, West Ham. A surprisingly easy 3-1 win over a poor Arsenal side left us with a trip to Villa where a victory would almost guarantee safety.

So, fifteen years ago today we travelled up to Villa

# **COMING SOON...**

Your name can appear inside this second great book on the Hatters.

If you enjoyed Roger Wash's first book - his match-by-match account since. 1967 - you will love his second. Having told the history of Luton Town in words, he now tells it in pictures. From those bygone days when training consisted of a "brisk walk", through the war years to the present, the history of the Hatters comes alive.

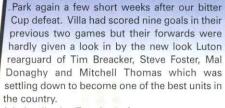
## LUTON TOWN: AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY

is a handsome hardback priced £16.99. It will be published this summer Subscribers receive copies POST-FREE (UK only). You can also nominate your favourite all-time Hatter, whose name will appear next to yours in the back of the book.

Just send your name, address, the name of your all-time favourite Hatter, a cheque or postal order for £16.99 per book payable to DESERT ISLAND BOOKS and a SAE if receipt is required to Desert Island Books, 89 Park Street, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex SS0 7PD. Alternatively, you can subscribe through our website www.desertislandbooks.com

For information on Roger's new book , "Luton Town: An Illustrated History" visit For all the **WWW.desertislandbooks.com CLUBC**,

For all the latest news, views and interviews call CLUBCALL - 09068 121 123



Admittedly the Town's performance was not a patch on the one put on against Everton in the F.A.Cup but there again Villa were not in the Toffees class as proved by the fact that the Merseysiders had already clinched the league title. The only goal of the game came after 21 minutes when Brian Stein, showing excellent predatory skills, smacked the ball home after it was mis-controlled by Villa's Gordon Cowans.

There were few scares for Les Sealey in the Luton goal and when the final whistle eventually sounded the relieved Hatters fans soon realised that their team had picked up 13 points out of the 18 at stake since the semi-final defeat. Whether that defeat was a blessing in disguise we shall never know!

Luton Town: Sealey, Breacker, Thomas, Nicholas, Foster, Donaghy, Parker, Stein, Harford, Nwajiobi, Preece (Turner).

Aston Villa: Poole, Williams, Evans, Glover, Dorigo, Gibson, McMahon, Birch, Cowans, Withe, Walters (Daley).



Observer

MATCH

SPORTS

# Community & Schools Programme



holiday coaching courses proved as popular as ever with hundreds of local youngsters enjoying expert coaching from our coaches. With, it seems, special emphasis on diving headers and sliding tackles this holiday, we must give a special thank you to Janet who runs our Club laundry, for washing our bibs over and over again - we couldnt have managed without your help!

As always, one of the highlights of the courses are visits from our



Despite the rain and mud our Easter pictured today are Alan White at Lealands High School in Luton and Middle School in Flitwick, together Dunstable and Barton courses.

> With everyone now back at school our summer after school coaching programme is in full swing and with time our holiday coaching courses are detailed on the opposite page. For further information simply ring the Club on 01582 411622.



# **COACHING PROGRAMME**

**Stopsley Junior School** School Years 1 to 3 at 4pm to 5pm **Icknield Junior School** 

School Years 1 to 3 at 4pm to 5pm School Years 4 to 7 at 5pm to 6pm

### **Sommeries Junior School**

School Years 1 to 3 at 6pm to 7pm

# School Years 4 to 7 at 7pm to 8pm

St Josephs Junior School

School Years 1 to 3 at 4pm to 5pm School Years 4 to 7 at 5pm to 6pm

Lealands High School

School Years 1 to 3 at 4pm to 5pm School Years 4 to 7 at 5pm to 6pm

**Ferrars Junior School** 

School Years 1 to 3 at 10am to 11am School Years 4 to 7 at 11am to midday

Barnfield College (New Bedford Rd) School Years 1 to 3 at 10am to 11am School Years 4 to 7 at 11am to midday

### WING

**Overstone Combined School** School Years 1 to 3 and 4 to 8 at

### **LEIGHTON BUZZARD**

**Cedars High School, Linslade** 

School Years 1 to 3 at 6pm to 7pm

School Years 4 to 5 at 6pm to 7pm School Years 4 to 6 at 5pm to 6pm

BARTON Arnold Middle School School Years 1 to 3 and 4 to 8 at 4pm to 5pm

## SHEFFORD **Robert Bloomfield School**

School Years 1 to 3 at 6pm to 7pm School Years 4 to 8 at 7pm to 8pm

FLITWICK **Kingsmore Lower School** School Years 1 to 4 at 4pm to 5pm

AMPTHILL

**Redborne Upper School** School Years 1 to 3 at 6pm to 7pm School Years 4 to 8 at 7pm to 8pm

## WESTONING Westoning Lower School

School Years 1 to 4 at 4pm to 5pm

TODDINGTON Parkfields Middle School

School Years 1 to 3 at 6pm to 7pm School Years 4 to 8 at 7pm to 8pm

### **LEIGHTON BUZZARD Gilbert Inglefield Middle School** School Years 1 to 3 at 6pm to 7pm

School Years 4 to 7 at 7pm to 8pm EDLESBOROUGH **Edlesborough Combined School** 

School Years 1 to 3 and 4 to 7 at 4pm to 5pm

# DUNSTABLE

Watling Lower School School Years 1 to 4 at 4pm to 5pm **Millvale Middle School** 

School Years 1 to 3 at 6pm to 7pm School Years 4 to 8 at 7pm to 8pm

# HALF TERM COACHING COURSES

St Josephs Junior School Tues & Wed 30th and 31st May

Sacred Heart Junior School Thurs & Fri 1st and 2nd June

# MID BEDS

FLITWICK Woodlands Middle School Tues & Wed 30th and 31st May

TODDINGTON **Parkfields Middle School** Thurs & Fri 1st and 2nd June

AMPTHILL Alameda Middle School Thurs & Fri 1st and 2nd June

SHEFFORD **Robert Bloomfield Middle School** Thurs & Fri 1st and 2nd June

# SOUTH BEDS

## **LEIGHTON BUZZARD** Cedars High School Tues & Wed 30th and 31st May

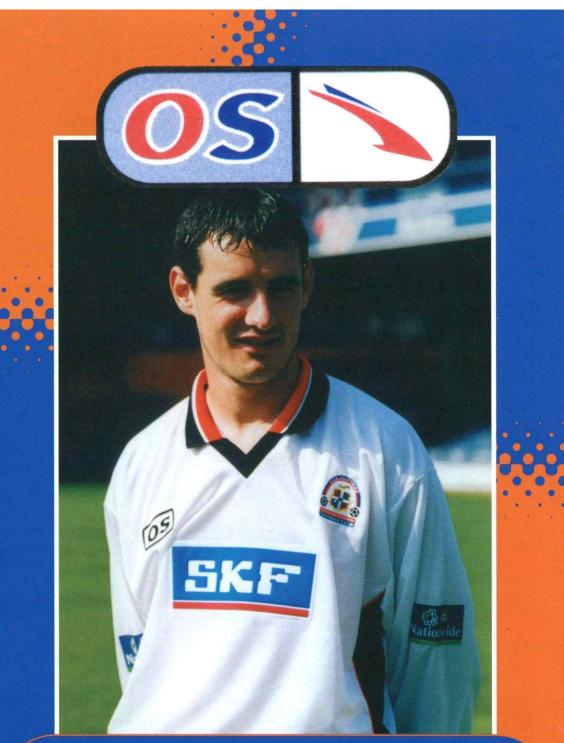
DUNSTABLE Watling Lower School Thurs & Fri 1st and 2nd June

To book a place or for further information on any of these courses, please contact the Schools and **Community Department on** 01582 411622

# 4pm to 5pm

School Years 4 to 7 at 7pm to 8pm

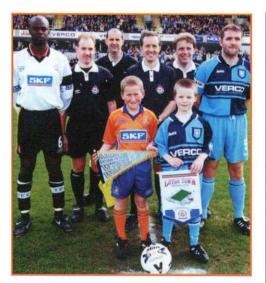
HOUGHTON REGIS



# Official Kit Suppliers of Luton Town Football Club

# **Junior Hallars**

# welcome



Wycombe very kindly invited us to put on a mascot at Adams Park, and the honour went to Jack Hollands, who has just celebrated his tenth birthday. He comes from Redhall Drive, Hatfield, and is a regular on our trips to away games. We had a full coach to Wycombe, and the final quiz contest resulted in a win for the Redborne Rudes, with Crawley Rams Under-11s second and Lynn and Val third.

There was a nice moment on the way home, when Dave Lewis, the Junior Hatters Coordinator sometimes known as Dave the Rave, was persuaded to give up the microphone for a few minutes to Bob Cowley.

The Rave was just about speechless when Mr Cowley presented to him a big thank-you card for his efforts over the season, and a bottle of something that will do him good.

Dave was near-dumbstruck, but asks us to express his thanks, and put on record his appreciation of the support he has received throughout the season, in particular from regular helpers Tracy Hedges, Adam Lewis (no relation) and Glenn Lewis.

We look forward to a restful summer, and then another successful season for Luton Town and the Junior Hatters for the 2000/2001 campaign. See you in August!



MASCOT SQUAD: Four mascots were on duty for the game against Wigan, including one little lad supporting the visitors. The Junior Hatters choice was David Bostock and the two commercial mascots were brothers Sean and Luke Williams.

# Today's Mascot



EIGHT-year-old Jodie Innes is our Junior Hatters mascot today. She is a regular watcher of Town games but today she will have thousands of eyes on her.

Jodie will join her heroes in the dressing room

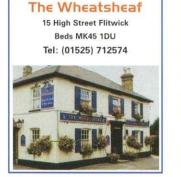
before the game, and run out with them onto the pitch for the pre-match rituals. Perhaps best of all for Jodie, she will get close to Matthew Taylor, our young player of the year, because he is her favourite.

Jodie lives at Kenneth Road, Luton, and attends St. Matthew's Junior School. Her main hobby is watching Luton Town, although she also likes drawing. Jodie watches from the Main Stand with her dad, her two sisters and their friend Ben, and we hope they all enjoy themselves this afternoon.

If you would like join the Junior Hatters, call the Ticket Office on **01582 416976** 

# OvertheBer

# drink to the Hatters in these pubs



A warm welcome awaits you from

Chris & Kim at

### The Bedfordshire Yeoman Just a two-minute walk from the ground.

Food available on matchdays. Supporters welcome. 214 Dallow Road, Luton

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Live music every Friday, Saturday and Sunday night. Karaoke every Monday night. Sky & Setanta Sports shown on Big Screen TV



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Live Music, Good Bar Food, Games Room,Satellite TV & Large Beer Garden

Come in and enjoy a pre-match pint!

To advertise your pub on this page call the Commercial Department on 01582 411622





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Come in and enjoy a pre-match pint!



## The White Suan 93 High Street South, Dunstable Dunstables favourite meeting place Tel: (01582) 667833



The Painters Arms High Town Road Luton Tel: (01582) 876972



# Gillingham 2 Luton Town 0 (HT 1-0)

AdionRapla

Brian Swain reports

THE seeds of a good footballing display against Wigan on Easter Monday were set in a lacklustre show at Gillingham, where the Town failed to impress much in any department. The players and coaches shared the fans' disappointment at being second best, and were determined to bounce back 48 hours later at Kenilworth Road, as they did.

Stuart Douglas was recalled to retain a three-man attack after the departure of Gary Doherty, but the Town were mainly firing blanks while Gillingham, seeking promotion, were strong and determined, and on the day worthy winners with a goal in each half. They might have scored more, while we had few chances, although things might have been different if a header by Phil Gray in the last minute of the first half, from a free kick by Matthew Spring, had crept inside, instead of outside, a post.

# Match Details

Town: Roberts, White, Watts, Johnson, Boyce, McLaren (Locke 70 mins), Spring, Taylor, George, Gray, Douglas. Unused subs: McGowan, Fraser, Scarlett, Abbey.

**Booked:** Marvin Johnson, 51 mins, foul on Paul Smith; Phil Gray, 57 mins, and Matthew Spring, 90 mins, both for dissent.

Gillingham: Bartram, Pennock, Lewis, Ashby, Butters, Southall, Smith, Hessenthaler (Nosworthy 66 mins), Gooden, Butler, Asaba (Matthews 66 mins). Unused subs Bass, Rowe, Mautone.

## Booked: No-one

The goals: 1-0 9 mins - Andy Hessenthaler header in off a post from a volleyed cross by Ty Gooden, returning the ball into the middle after 38-year-old Steve Butler had got down Gillingham's right wing looking offside to some, and over-hit the cross; 2-0 60 mins - sweet strike from the edge of the box by Nicky Southall from a pulled-back corner by Hessenthaler.

Referee: Alan Wiley, Staffordshire.

**Attendance:** 8,667, Priestfield's highest league gate of the season, including 546 Town fans.

OUTNUMBERED: Liam George tries to beat the odds at Priestfield.

For all the latest news, views and interviews call

CLUBCALL - 09068 121 123



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# Join in the Fun!

Luton Town Football Club

# **Open Day**

14th May, 2000 12noon - 4pm Manager, Players and Happy Harry all in attendance



Entry: £1 Adults, Children and Senior Citizens FREE Car parking available in Hazelbury Cres car park Entry via Press Gate, top of Kenilworth Road

- Have your photograph taken with your favourite player
- Grand draw for prizes including 50/50 draw, a season ticket, home shirt and signed football
  - Tours of around\*
  - Tours of stadium control room\*
  - Coaching by LTFC community department\*
    - Fun sports on the pitch\*
    - Penalty shoot-out competition\*
    - \*All bookable on the day (subject to availability)
  - BBC 3 Counties Radio, Ian Pearce broadcasting live from the stadium
    - Put your own message on the scoreboard

Remember to bring your autograph book, and suitable footwear - trainers ideal.



Organised jointly by Luton Town FC and Luton Town Supporters Club



uggler/mime artiste ire appliance Police vehicles ce cream

Refreshments

Baroder



AGIONRED

Luton Town 1 Wigan Ath 1 (HT 0-1)

Brian Swain reports

BATTLING for runners-up spot in the league, Wigan, the richest club in the Second Division. were lucky to escape a first-half trouncing at Kenilworth Road on Easter Monday as the Town turned in a stylish display.

Both managers agreed that it was a mystery how Wigan could have been so outplayed for the first 45 minutes yet go in with a half-time lead. That came from a fortunate penalty, the only scare the Town had in the first half, while at the other end Paul McLaren and Matthew Spring brought good saves out of the goalkeeper, and Alan White and McLaren both beat him but saw their efforts cleared off the line.

Gavin McGowan returned to the side because of injury to Emmerson Boyce, and Adam Locke was recalled to stiffen midfield, and the crowd was treated to excellent entertainment. The equaliser by Phil Gray was the least the Town deserved, although it provoked Wigan into their best spell of the game in the last quarter of an hour, when they missed a couple of acceptable chances. But it would have been a travesty if the Town had lost one of the better matches seen at Kenilworth Road this season.

## **Match Details**

Town: Roberts, White, Watts, Johnson, McGowan, McLaren, Locke, Spring Taylor, Gray, Douglas (George 82 mins). Unused subs: Ayres, Stirling, Scarlett, Abbey.

Booked: No-one.

Wigan: Stillie, Cooke (McLoughlin HT), McGibbon, de Zeeuw, Balmer, Bradshaw, Nicholls (Martinez 67 mins), Redfearn, Liddell, Peron, Haworth. Unused subs: Griffiths, Sharp, Sheridan

Booked: Jeff Peron, 37 mins, foul on Adam Locke.

The goals: 0-1 35 mins - Neil Redfearn penalty after Simon Haworth shoved the ball too far forward as Ben Roberts advanced, and very sensibly fell over the goalkeeper; 1-1 56 mins - Phil Gray, far post header from a clever jink and cross by Paul McLaren.

Referee: Alan Kaye, West Yorkshire

Attendance: 5,010 including 596 visiting fans.

## EQUALISER: Phil Gray's header flies into the top of the net to peg back the promotion-chasers.



For the latest ticket and travel information call the Luton Ticket Office on 01582 416976

For all the latest news, views and interviews call CLUBCALL - 09068 121 123



Wycombe Wdrs 0 Luton Town 1 (HT 0-0)

Brian Swain reports

IT WAS a bit of a steal at Adams Park as the Town served up a treat of a result to over 1,000 who made the trip for the final away game of the season.

Wycombe, wanting to end their home season on a high by staying in the top half of the table at our expense, were left numb as Matthew Taylor's fifth goal of the season completed a smash and grab job four minutes from time. Lawrie Sanchez, the manager who performed miracles at Wycombe last season by saving them from relegation, could not bear to meet the Press after the game. His assistant, Terry Gibson, explained that he was in a state of shock, and added that no-one could believe how Wycombe came to lose.

It extended a proud record for the Town: eight times the teams have met in league football, and Wycombe are still looking for their first success.

On the run of play they might have grabbed it on Saturday, in a game that for long periods had end of season written all over it. The Town retained the side that had played so well against Wigan, with a three-man midfield behind Stuart Douglas and Phil Gray.

On a warm and sunny afternoon, a fair bit of strolling football was played, with Wycombe having the better chances. In the first half Ben Roberts came to the rescue when Matthew Taylor was robbed in the box by Jermaine McSporran, who should have scored. Roberts made the spreading save. Sean Devine wasted the other good first-half chance, but generally two defences looked to have the measure of toothless attacks.

Douglas had to be subbed for the second half after tweaking a hamstring, giving Liam George a chance, but it was Taylor who put in the two best attempts when the Town stepped up the pace briefly after the interval. He had one shot saved and another fizzed just over the bar.

The game was decided in the last ten minutes. First, Wycombe sub Andrew Baird got clear down the inside left channel. The dependable Julian Watts blocked his shot, and from the rebound Baird's drive towards the top corner was thrillingly tipped over by Roberts. From the corner Jason Cousins shot through a crowd of players, and with Roberts beaten Gavin McGowan somehow managed to clear off the line.

Six minutes later, the Town added insult to those injurious saves. Phil Gray set up George for a typical run and shot. Martin Taylor did well to dive and parry the drive, but Taylor followed up from the left wing and cracked a thundering drive into the net for his fifth goal of the season.

Lennie Lawrence had some sympathy for Wycombe. "It looked all over like a draw," he said. "We defended very well and Ben Roberts was very good in goal. His great save late on was very important because the first goal was always going to win.

"It was our day. Perhaps the passing and the linkup was not as good as we would have liked but the players stuck at it. Wycombe might say they were mugged, and perhaps they were unfortunate to lose, but we have had some of that ourselves, and that's how it goes."

# **Match Details**

Town: Roberts, White, Watts, Johnson, McGowan, McLaren, Locke, Spring Taylor, Gray, Douglas (George HT). Unused subs: Ayres, Fraser, Scarlett, Abbey.

**Booked:** Paul McLaren, 14 mins, foul on Michael Simpson.

Wycombe: Taylor, Vinnicombe, McCarthy (Cousins 24 mins), Bates, Rogers, Simpson, Bulman, Devine, McSporran, Lee (Harkin 78 mins), Senda (Baird 62 mins). Unused subs: Westhead, Brady.

Booked: No-one

**The goal:** Matthew Taylor, 86 mins, blistering low angled drive, from the rebound after goalkeeper Martin Taylor did well to parry a fierce shot by Liam George.

Referee: David Crick, Worcester Park

Attendance: 5,379 including 1,075 Town fans.



• (Above) JUMPING TO IT: Phil Gray, springs into action at Adams Park.

 (Right) Did we enjoy that? Liam George and Matthew Taylor, creator and taker of the later winner, show their delight.

• (Below) Matthew Spring finds himself on the receiving end of a handy defensive challenge.





For the latest ticket and travel information call the Luton Ticket Office on **OI582 416976** 

For all the latest news, views and interviews call CLUBCALL - 09068 121 123







# AVAILABLE NOW IN THE CLUB SHOP



# The Reserves

# **Trevor Hartley and John Moore**



## Luton Town 3 Bournemouth 3

IN AN eventful match enjoyed by supporters, we completed our season in the Avon Insurance Combination with a well-earned point.

It was nice to see good goals scored, but we would have appreciated better defending. We were two up before the interval, with Tresor Kandol heading in from a good run and cross by Gavin McGowan, and Jude Stirling shooting the second. But we conceded a goal just before the break, and after it Bournemouth netted twice more to go 3-2 ahead.

Trialist Ross Fitzsimmons, once of Spurs and later Norwich, hit a tremendous equaliser, with a crossshot into the top corner.

Luton Town: Abbey, McGowan (Dogbe 77 mins), Fraser, Stirling, Ayres, Carroll, Scarlett, Fitzsimmons, Kandol, Strong (Mansell 46 mins), Zahana-Oni (Marwa 75 mins). Unused subs: Deeney, Ward.

If you look at the results and league table it is obvious the reserves have not had a good season, but there are a lot of valid reasons. For a start, the need to look at trialists meant that we used an incredible number of players, 58 in 21 matches.

YTS boys, who should be playing their football in the youth team, often had to be pressed into service and we are very thin on the ground below the first team pool. A dozen senior players have left the club in the past year or so, and if you decimate the staff at the

		on Insurance Co sults and f		
AUG	Wed 18	Bristol City	н	1-3 (Kandol)
SEPT	Wed 1	Portsmouth	A	0-1
	Wed 8	Swindon	н	0-1
	Tue 28	Oxford	A	2-4 (Jerry, Kandol)
OCT	Wed 6	Wycombe	н	5-2 (Kandol 4, OG)
	Wed 13	Brighton	A	2-1 (Jerry, Kandol)
	Wed 27	Bristol Rov	A	0-0
NOV	Wed 3	Norwich	н	1-1 (Kandol)
	Wed 17	lpswich	A	0-2
DEC	Wed 1	Colchester	н	1-1 (McIndoe)
	Wed 22	Peterborough	н	0-4
JAN	Wed 12	Cambridge Utd	A	1-3 (Fotiadis)
	Wed 19	Northampton	н	0-1
FEB	Wed 2	QPR	н	0-2
	Wed 9	Barnet	A	1-1 (Scarlett)
	Wed 16	Southend	A	2-0 (McLaren, Kandol
	Wed 23	Millwall	н	0-1
MAR	Wed 1	L. Orient	A	0-2
	Wed 15	Fulham	A	0-0
	Wed 29	Gillingham	н	0-0
APRIL	Thurs 20	Bournemouth	н	3-3 (Kandol, Stirling, Fitzsimmons)

top it has a knock-on effect below, creating a void in the reserve and youth team ranks. It is all very well to promote youngsters, but all too easy to reach a point where there are no more available, at a time when competition between clubs for

young talent grows ever more fierce.

But there has been a good spirit among the younger players, and James Ayres, for instance, has had a good first full season. James Carroll is another who has grown in confidence, and has a chance if he continues to work hard.

AVON

Combination

The trialists, by and large, have been disappointing. We cannot take them on unless they are very close to the first team, and we have usually found that the trialists are no better than the lads we have. And however hard this season has been for young reserves, the experience can stand them in good stead in their future careers.

Reserve team appearances, including as sub: Kandol 19, Stirling 18, Scarlett 18, Avres 16, McIndoe 14, Jerry 13, Tate 13, Moran 12, Bovce 10, Fotiadis 9, Sodje 8, White 7, Fraser 7, Minton 6, Locke 5, Ward 5, Carroll 5, McGowan 5, Zahana-Oni 5, Mansell 5, Barriteau 4, McLaren 4, Dogbe 3, Mortara 3, O'Connor 3, Graham 3, Clarke 3, Standen 3, Read 2, Gray 2, Pearson 2, Davis 2, Brkovic 2, Harrison 2, Murphy 2, Smith 2, Jones 2, Abbey 2, Taylor 1, Wright 1, Barnett 1, Lawrence 1, Cummings 1, Thorpe 1, Hunt 1, Bowes 1, O'Brien 1, Ryan 1, Jack 1, Antunes 1, McKinnon 1, Estebar 1, Quailey 1, Whitby 1, Jones 1, Fitzsimmons 1, Strong 1, Marwa 1.

Goals: Kandol 10, Jerry 2, Scarlett 1, McIndoe 1, Fotiadis 1, McLaren 1, Stirling 1, Fitzsimmons 1, OG 1.

Avon Insur	ance (	Combi	inatio	on, Di	ivisio	n On	e
	Ρ	W	D	L	F	Α	Pts
Millwall	21	14	6	1	40	14	48
QPR	21	14	3	4	53	21	45
Fulham	21	12	5	4	42	21	41
Bristol City	21	12	3 5 5	4	37	25	41
lpswich	20	12	4 4	4	47	26	40
Świndon	20	12	4	4	37	24	40
Bournemouth	21	10	4	77	35	33	34
Peterborough	21	9	4 5	7	39	27	32
Cambridge	21	9 8 7 7 7	4	8	39	33	31
Brighton	20	8	4	8	31	27	28
Norwich	21	7	6	8	30	24	27
Bristol Rovers	20	7	6	7	24	26	27
Leyton Orient	21	7	6 5 7 4	9	30	40	26
Colchester	21	6 7	7	8	29	39	25
Portsmouth	21		4	10	29	40	25
Gillingham	20	6	5	9	22	35	23
Northampton	21	6	4	11	27	36	22
Barnet	20	5	5	10	23	30	20
Southend	21	553	5 4 5 2 7	14	25	48	17
Luton Town	21			11	19	33	16
Oxford	21	4	4	13	27	45	16
Wycombe	21	2	3	16	19	57	9



# **Paul Lowe**



## Luton Town 2 Notts Countu 2

A DRAW from our final home game of the seasn was about right, although it was a lacklustre match. Notts County dominated the first half, and

Scott Ward made three good saves to keep us in the game. But he had no chance with County's opening goal, in the 25th minute, from a free kick, bent over the wall with great accuracy.

In the last minute of the first half we snatched an equaliser, with Tresor Kandol heading in from a welldelivered free kick by John Carroll.

We were a little fortunate be on terms at the break, but more impressive in the second half. County regained the lead after 65 minutes, and we made a double substitution to try to stimulate an attack that had rarely looked like scoring.

It worked, because with eight minutes to go Marcus Jeffrey, who had replaced Kandol, made a good run

ALIG	Sat 14	Walsall	н	0-0
400	Sat 14 Sat 21	West Brom	H	the second second second second
	Sat 28	Cambridge Utd	A	
SEPT	Sat 4	Notts Co	н	2-1 (Ayres, Stirling pen)
	Sat 18	Oxford Utd	н	1-1 (Jerry)
	Sat 25	Wolves	A	0-5
OCT	Sat 2	Northampton	Н	3-1 (Jeffrey, Clarke, Stirling)
	Sat 16	Shrewsbury	A	0-2
	Wed 20	Sutton Utd (FAYC1)	н	2-0 (Moran, Flaherty)
	Sat 23	Southend (FLAYC)	A	1-2 (Ayres)
NOV	Sat 6	Cambridge (FLYAC)	н	1-2 (OG)
	Wed 10		H	5-0 (Clarke 2, Stirling 2, Jeffrey
	Sat 13	Barnet (FLYAC)	A	0-1
	Sat 20	Colchester (FLYAC)	H	0-1
	Sat 27 Mon 29	Notts Co	AA	0-0
DEC		Welling (FAYC3) Oxford Utd	1000	3-1 (Flaherty, Jeffrey, Clarke
DEC	Sat 11 Sat 18	Wolves	A	2-2 (Stirling, Moran) 2-2 (OG, Kandol)
JAN	Sat 8	Shrewsbury	н	1-3 (Stirling)
	Tues 11		A	0-4
	Sat 15	Northampton	A	2-0 (Moran, Mentore)
	Sat 22	Walsall	А	0-2
FEB	Sat 5	West Brom	A	0-1
	Sat 12	Cambridge Utd	н	1-0 (OG)
	MERIT D	IVISION ONE		
MAR	Sat 4	Portsmouth	А	0-4
	Sat 18	Brentford	Н	3-1 (Moran 2, Kandol)
	Sat 25	Swansea	Н	1-1 (Dogbe)
APR	Sat 1	Wycombe Wdrs	A	0-2
	Sat 8	Plymouth	Н	0-0
	Sat 15	Wolves	А	0-0
	Sat 29	Notts County	Н	2-2 (Kandol, Minton)
MAY	Sat 6	Exeter	A	

down the right wing, and pulled the ball back for Alex Minton to strike a clean equaliser. And we almost stole victory after that, with another powerful run by Jeffrey ending with him going past the keeper and hitting an angled shot which was deflected for a corner.

THE FOOTBALL LEAGU YOUTH ALLIANCE

Luton Town: Ward, Mortara (Dogbe 60 mins), Deeney, Stirling, Carroll, Mansell, Fitzsimmons, Standen, Minton, Barriteau (Clarke 70 mins), Kandol (Jeffrey 70 mins). Unused subs Wilson, Cummings.

WE WERE due to complete our season today at Exeter, with a match which was postponed a fortnight ago because the pitch was waterlogged.

Youth team appearances, including as sub: Clarke 29, Carroll 29, Mansell 29, Barriteau 28, Dogbe 27, Mortara 27, Stirling 27, Moran 26, Deeney 20, Jeffrey 20, Ward 18, Jerry 18, Ayres 17, Minton 17, Mentore 13, Wraight 12, Kandol 10, Flaherty 6, Crane 6, Standen 4, Oughan 3, Thresher 3, Osborne 3, Fitzsimmons 3, Wilson 2, Milton 2, Coktas 2, de Freitas 2, Talbot 2, Milton 2, Dillon 2, Beckett 1, Tate 1, Mapps 1, Garry 1, Dosdogru 1, Cooper 1, Miller 1, Nurse 1, Cleverley 1.

Goals: Stirling 6, Moran 5, Kandol 5, Clarke 4, Ayres 3, Jeffrey 3, Flaherty 2, Jerry 1, Mentore 1, Dogbe 1, Minton 1, OG 3.

Paul Lowe and youth development officer Dean Rastrick wish to express the club's very grateful thanks to many people and organisation who have helped with our Centres of Excellence for young players. In particular we thank the coaches, managers and scouts, the young players and their parents, Pauline Murray-Jones and staff at St. Christopher's School, Letchworth; Neil Jackson and staff at Vauxhall Recreation Club: staff at St. Paul's RC School, Milton Keynes; Dunstable Leisure Centre; staff at Manshead School; Beds FA, and, especially, generous sponsors Murtagh Demolition Ltd.

		Lea	gue	Tab	le		
		Divis	ion Or	ne Sou	th		
	Ρ	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wycombe	8	5	3	0	14	5	18
Portsmouth	8	4	2	2	14	7	14
Wolves	8	2	5	1	8	8	11
Brentford	8	3	2	3	9	11	11
Plymouth	7	1	5	1	7	4	8
Notts County	8	2	3	3	8	10	9
Swansea	7	0	7	0	7	7	7
Luton Town	7	1	4	2	6	10	7
Exeter	7	0	1	6	2	13	1

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5	Curr	ent	for	m g	uid	e - the	last si	x Di	visi	on	2 ga	mes		1999	0-00 A	ttendand	ces
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# **Brian Swain**

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A LOT of us with mixed memories of final days of the season - magnificent at Maine Road, delightful at Derby and miserable at Meadow Lane - will be quite content this afternoon to see the Town well clear of

trouble, and competing for tenth place in the Second Division's final table, two notches better than a year ago.

Five of the seven teams who leave the division three up and four down - are already known and we face a few interesting trips next season.

Preston have proved to be worthy champions, but the runners-up place goes to the wire today. Gillingham, losers in the play-off final a year ago, have been in the top eight for most of the season, and moved into second place for the first time on Tuesday, with Carl Asaba's hat-trick the major contribution to a 4-1 victory over Cardiff, which confirmed the visitors' relegation 12 months after promotion for third place in Division Three.

Cardiff were as good as done for on Sunday when they were beaten 2-1 at Stoke, with the loutish behaviour of Welsh "supporters" upsetting

			н	OM	E	AWAY						
	Ρ	W	D	L	F	Α	W	D	L	F	А	Pts
Preston	45	15	4	4	37	23	12	7	3	35	14	92
Gillingham	45	16	3	4	46	21	9	7	6	33	26	85
Burnley	45	16	3	4	42	23	8	10	4	25	23	85
Wigan	45	15	3	5	37	14	7	13	2	33	22	82
Stoke	45	13	7	3	37	18	10	6	6	31	23	82
Bristol Rov	45	13	7	3	34	19	10	4	8	35	25	80
Millwall	45	13	7	2	40	18	9	6	8	35	32	79
Notts Co	45	9	5	8	30	25	9	5	9	29	28	64
Bristol City	45	7	14	1	31	16	8	5	10	28	39	64
Luton Town	45	10	6	6	40	34	7	3	13	20	30	60
Oldham	45	8	5	10	27	28	8	6	8	22	26	59
Reading	45	9	9	4	27	18	6	5	12	29	45	59
Wrexham	45	8	6	8	22	24	8	5	10	29	37	59
Wycombe	45	11	4	8	32	24	4	9	9	22	28	58
Bury	45	8	10	5	38	33	5	7	10	21	29	56
Bournemout	h45	11	5	6	35	17	5	3	15	22	43	56
Brentford	45	8	5	9	27	31	5	7	11	20	30	51
Colchester	45	9	4	10	36	40	5	5	12	23	42	51
Cambridge	45	8	6	8	37	31	4	6	13	26	32	48
Oxford	45	6	5	12	24	38	6	4	12	19	34	45
Cardiff	45	4	10	8	22	34	4	7	12	22	33	41
Blackpool	45	4	9	9	24	35	4	7	12	23	40	40
Scunthorpe	45	4	6	12	15	32	5	6	12	24	40	39
Chesterfield	45	5	7	11	17	25	2	7	13	15	36	35

## both managers.

The result was good news for Oxford United - their 2-0 home win over Scunthorpe the day before meant they survived while Scunnies went back down to Division Three. They won promotion via the play-offs a year ago. Blackpool and Chesterfield are the other venues wiped off our fixture list for next season.

Preston are still the only team assured of promotion. On Wednesday Stoke chalked up their seventh win on the bounce to move into the playoff places, and knock Millwall out of them. Peter Thorne's third hat-trick of the season was enough for a 3-0 home win over Bury.

Runners-up honours are wide open - even fifthplaced Stoke could snatch the second promotion spot given the right combination of results. But the joint favourites to go up with Preston must be Gillingham and Burnley, who kick off today level on points, but with Gillingham's much superior goal difference giving them an advantage. If they win at Wrexham, they are up, but Steve Davis and Mitchell Thomas must fancy Burnley's chances today, away to Scunthorpe. Play-off places are between the rest of today's top seven.

Teams returning to our fixture list next season through relegation from the First Division are Swindon and Port Vale, plus one other from Walsall, West Brom and Crewe.

While we lose Cardiff next season, we have an even longer journey to make, with Swansea sure of promotion. The last time we played at The Vetch was in the old First Division in December 1982, when David Pleat and John Toshack were the managers. Rotherham are also promoted, and entertain Swansea this afternoon to decide which of them takes the title. Northampton and Darlington are competing for the other promotion place, with the Cobblers sure of bouncing back at the first attempt if they take a point or more at Torquay this afternoon. Play-off contenders to add to them are Peterborough, Barnet, Cheltenham, Hartlepool, Rochdale and Torquay.

## **Today's other Second Division fixtures**

Blackpool v Chesterfield	Millwall v Oxford
Bournemouth v Wigan	Notts County v Bury
Brentford v Colchester	Reading v Stoke
Bristol City v Preston Cambridge v Wycombe	Scunthorpe v Burnley
Cardiff v Bristol Rovers	Wrexham v Gillingham

For all the latest news, views and interviews call CLUBCALL - 09068 121 123 (Calls charged at 60p per minute at all times)

# Statia fixtures 1999/2000

				longue													
date	opposition	result	t scorers	league place	attnd,	team											substitutes
Sat 7	Notts Co	A 0-0		_	6,141	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	White	Johnson	Douglas	McLaren	Gray	Spring	McIndoe	Taylor	Boyce for Taylor, 70 mins. Unused: George, Scarlett, Zahana-Oni, Tate
Tue 10	WC1 (1) Bristol Rov	H 0-2		-	2,984	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	White	Boyce	Douglas	McLaren	Gray	Spring	McIndoe	Taylor	Doherty for White HT; Fotiadis for Douglas 60 mins; George for McIndoe 60 mins. Unused: Zahana-Oni, Tate
NV Sat 14	Blackpool	H 3-2	George 2, Spring	7	5,176	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	McLaren	Douglas	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	McKinnon for Fotiadis 75 mins; Zahana-Oni for Douglas 83 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 89 mins. Unused: Boyce, Tate
Sat 21	Reading	A 2-1	Fotiadis, George	3	8,741	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	McLaren	Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	McIndoe for Fotiadis 79 mins. Unused: Sodje, White, McKinnon, Tate
Wed 25	WC1 (2) Bristol Rov	A 2-2	Kandol, Doherty	3	4,414	Abbey	Locke	Sodje	Boyce	White	Watts	Gray	McKinnor		McIndoe	Kandol	Doherty for Douglas 67 mins; Fotiadis for Kandol 67 mins, Unused: Scarlett, Davis, Ward
Sat 28	Cardiff	H 1-0	Gray	2	5,374	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	McLaren	Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Douglas for Fotiadis 66 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 81mins; McKinnon for George 84 mins. Unused: Sodje, Tate
Tues 31	Bournemouth	A 0-1		2	4,797	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	McLaren	Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Douglas for Fotiadis 60 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 81mins. Unused: McKinnon, Sodje, Tate
Sat 4	Bury	H 1-1	Fotiadis	5	4,633	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	McLaren	Gray	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Douglas for Fotiadis 73 mins; McIndoe for George 73 mins. Unused: McKinnon, Sodje, Tate
Sat 11	Wrexham	H 3-1	Taylor, Spring, George	3	5,121	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	McLaren	Douglas	Spring	Fotiadis	Taylor	Kandol for Fotiadis HT; McKinnon for McLaren 62 mins; Sodje for Johnson 75 mins. Unused: Scarlett, Tate
Sat 18	Brentford	A 0-2		5	7,039	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Locke	Douglas	Spring	Kandol	Taylor	Sodje for Kandol 70 mins. Unused: White, Boyce, Scarlett, Tate
Sat 25	Oxford Utd	H 4-2	George 2, Fraser, Locke	3	6,102	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Locke	Douglas	Spring	Midgley	Taylor	McIndoe for Midgley 66 mins. Unused: Sodje, Kandol, Scarlett, Tate
Sat 2	Wigan	A 0-1		8	6,866	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Locke	Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for McLaren 73 mins; Midgley for Locke 77 mins. Unused; Sodie, White, Ward
8 Sat 9	Oldham	A 1-2	Midgley	10	4,532	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Sodje	Johnson	Gray	Locke	Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Kandol for Gray 50 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 67 mins; Midgley for Douglas 67 mins. Unused: White, Ward
Sat 16	Gillingham	H 3-1	George 2 (1pen), Douglas		6,394	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Midgley	, Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Locke for Midgley 80 mins; McIndoe for McLaren 85 mins. Unused: Kandol, Sodje, Ward
Tue 19	Wycombe	H 1-1	Douglas	7	5,820	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Midgley	Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for Midgley 75 mins. Unused: Kandol, Sodje, Ward
Sat 23	Oxford Utd	A 1-0	George	7	5,866	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Midgley	Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for Midgley 72 mins; Locke for Douglas 77 mins. Unused: Kandol, Sodje, Ward
Sat 30	Kingstonian (FA Cup 1)	H 4-2	Gray, George, Spring, Tay	lor 7	4,682	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Gray	Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for Gray 30 mins; Boyce for Fraser 39 mins. Unused: White, Sodje, Ward
Tue 2	Millwall	A 0-1		9	6,181	Abbey	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Midgley	Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for Midgley HT. Unused: White, Sodje, Locke, Ward
Sat 6	Burnley	H 2-1	Midgley 2	8	7,205	Abbey	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Midgley	Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Mondoe for Magley 111. Ondsed: While, Sodje, Edde, Ward McIndoe for Douglas 73 mins; Locke for McLaren 79 mins; Kandol for Midgley 88 mins. Unused: Sodje, Ward
Fri 12	Cambridge Utd	A 1-3	George	9	6,211	Abbey	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Midgley	Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Sodje for Boyce HT; Locke for McLaren 59 mins; McIndoe for Midgley 59 mins. Unused: Kandol, Ward
9 Fri 19	Lincoln (FA Cup 2)	H 2-2	Doherty 2	10	4,291	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Locke	Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Sodje for Locke HT; McIndoe for McLaren 83 mins, Mundoe for Midgley 59 mins, Onised, Kandol, Ward
Tue 23	Preston	H 0-2	Donorty L	10	5,124	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Sodje	George	Midgley	Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	McIndoe for McLaren 62 mins; White for Midgley 62 mins; Boyce for Fraser 75 mins. Unused: Locke, Ward
Sat 27	Bristol Rov	A 0-3		10	7,805	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Sodje	Johnson	George	Doherty	Locke	Spring	McLaren	McIndoe	Thorpe for Doherty 61 mins; Boyce for Watts 86 mins. Unused: Taylor, Douglas, Ward
Tue 30	Lincoln (FA Cup 2R)	A 1-0	Douglas	10	3,822	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Sodje	Johnson	George	Doherty	Douglas	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Locke for McLaren 50 mins. Unused: Boyce, Kandol, McIndoe, Ward
Sat 4	Notts County	H 2-2	Doherty, Thorpe	11	5,195	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Thorpe		Spring	Locke	Taylor	
Tue 7	Oxford (AWS 1)	A 0-2	Donerty, morpe	11	1,220	Abbey	Fraser	Sodje	Avres	Johnson	George	Doherty	Douglas	Spring	Locke	Boyce	Boyce for Fraser 60 mins; Sodje for Douglas 81 mins. Unused: Kandol, Scarlett, Tate Read for Douglas HT; Scarlett for Locke 69 mins. Unused: Tavlor, Jerry. Tate
Sat 11	Fulham (FA Cup 3)	A 2-2	George, Spring	10	8,251	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Sodje	Johnson	George	Doherty	Douglas Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	All unused: Boyce, Scarlett, Jerry, Ayres, Tate
Fri 17	Colchester	A 0-3	deorge, opring	11	3,049	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Sodje	Johnson	George	Thorpe	Doherty	Spring	Locke	Taylor	McLaren for George 62 mins. Unused: Boyce, Scarlett, Read, Ward
Tues 21	Fulham (FA Cup 3R)	H 0-3		11	8,170	Abbey	Fraser	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	McLaren	Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	Boyce for Fraser 59 mins. Unused: Scarlett, Kandol, Avres, Tate
Sun 26	Chesterfield	H 1-1	Locke	13	5,870	Abbey	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Thorpe	Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	McLaren for Spring 73 mins; Gray for Thorpe 74 mins. Unused: Fraser, Fotiadis, Tate
Tue 28	Bristol City	A 0-0	LOOKS		2010/02/02/02	Abbey	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	White	Gray	Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	Fotiadis for Douglas 83 mins. Unused: George, Fraser, Scarlett, Tate
			Spring 2 Douglas Crow		1000000					Careful Contractor		No. Contraction	and a second second		The second second		
Sat 8	Scunthorpe Stoke	H 4-1	Spring 2, Douglas, Gray	11 12	5,574	Abbey	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Gray	Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	Fotiadis for Gray 73 mins. Unused: White, Fraser, Scarlett, Tate
2		A 1-2	Spring (pen)		10,016	Abbey	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	White	Gray	Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	Fotiadis for Douglas 70 mins; George for White 87 mins. Unused: Fraser, Scarlett, Tate
Sat 15 Sat 22	Blackpool	A 3-3 H 3-1	Locke, Gray, Taylor	13 10	5,262 6,044	Abbey	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Gray	Douglas	Spring	Locke	Taylor	Fotiadis for George 75 mins. Unused: Fraser, Scarlett, Ayres, Tate
Sun 30	Reading Cardiff	A 3-1	Watts, George 2 Watts, Spring, George	10	6,185	Abbey Abbey	Boyce Boyce	Watts Watts	Doherty Doherty	Johnson	George George	Gray Gray	Douglas	Scarlett Scarlett	Locke Spring		Fotiadis for Douglas 81 mins. Unused: Fraser, Kandol, Ayres, Tate
The second second second	The Construction of States	and a second		-	10 strategy	A CONTRACT		2122204220	and the	Fraser			Douglas				Fotiadis for Douglas 78 mins. Unused: Kandol, Ayres, Stirling, Tate
Sat 5	Bournemouth	H 1-2	Boyce	10	5,961	Abbey	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Gray	Douglas	Locke	Spring		Scarlett for McGowan 72 mins; Fotiadis for Douglas 78 mins. Unused: Kandol, Ayres, Tate
Tues 8	Stoke	H 2-1	Gray 2	9	5,396	Abbey	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Gray	Douglas	Locke	Spring	Taylor	McGowan for Boyce 63 mins; Fotiadis for George 74 mins. Unused: Scarlett, Fraser, Tate
Sat 12	Bury	A 0-1		10	3,760	Abbey	McGowa		Doherty	Johnson	White	Gray	Douglas	Locke	Spring	Taylor	Fotiadis for Douglas 62 mins; George for White 67 mins; Boyce for McGowan 72 mins. Unused: Fraser, Tate
Sat 19	Bristol Rov	H 1-4	Gray	10	6,520	Abbey	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Gray	Douglas	Locke	Spring	Taylor	White for Spring 64 mins; Fotiadis for George 70 mins; Unused; McGowan, Fraser, Tate
Sat 26	Brentford	H 1-2	Gray	12	6,029	Roberts	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	George	Gray	Douglas	Locke	Spring	Taylor	Fotiadis for George 69 mins; McGowan for Boyce 69 mins; White for Douglas 79 mins. Unused: McLaren, Abbey
5 Sat 4	Wrexham	A 0-1		12	2,703		McGow	anWatts	Doherty	Johnson	Fotiadis	Gray	Douglas	Locke	Spring	Fraser	Boyce for Fraser 25 mins; George for Fotiadis 59 mins; Taylor for McGowan 70 mins. Unused: Scarlett, Ward
Tue 7	Burnley	A 2-0	White, Gray	11	12,080			Watts	Doherty	Johnson	White	Gray	Douglas	Locke	Spring		Fotiadis for Douglas 87 mins. Unused: George, McLaren, Taylor, Abbey
Sat 11	Millwall	H 0-2		11	6,341		s Boyce	Sodje	Doherty	Johnson	White	Gray	Douglas	Locke	Spring	McGowan	George for Sodje HT; Taylor for McGowan 65 mins; Fotiadis for Douglas 69 mins. Unused: McLaren, Abbey
Sat 18	Preston	A 0-1		13	13,731	Roberts	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	White	Gray	Douglas	Locke	Spring	Taylor	Fotiadis for Douglas 62 mins; George for Locke 74 mins; McLaren for White 80 mins. Unused: McIndoe, Abbey
Tue 21	Cambridge Utd	H 2-2	Doherty, McLaren	12	5,379		s Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	White	George	Fotiadis	Locke	Spring	Taylor	McLaren for Spring 66 mins; Douglas for Fotiadis 73 mins. Unused: McIndoe, Ayres, Abbey
Sat 25	Chesterfield	A 3-1	Doherty, Watts, George	11			Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	White	George	Douglas	Locke	McLaren	Taylor	Spring for Locke 43 mins; Fotiadis for Douglas 70 mins. Unused: McGowan, Ayres, Abbey
at 1	Colchester	H 3-2	Watts, Doherty, Taylor	10	5,125		Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	White	George	Gray	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	All unused: McGowan, McIndoe, Kandol, Scarlett, Abbey
Sat 8	Scunthorpe	A 2-1	Gray, Doherty	10	3,811	125	Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	White	George	Gray	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Locke for George 76 mins. Unused: Douglas, McGowan, Scarlett, Abbey
Tues 18	Bristol City	H 1-2	Doherty	10	4,771		Boyce	Watts	Doherty	Johnson	White	George	Gray	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Locke for McLaren 64 mins; Douglas for Gray 73 mins; McGowan for Boyce 76 mins. Unused: Fraser, Abbey
Sat 22	Gillingham	A 0-2		11	8,667		Boyce	White	Watts	Johnson	Douglas	George	Gray	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	Locke for McLaren 70 mins. Unused: Scarlett, McGowan, Fraser, Abbey
Mon 24	Wigan	H 1-1	Gray	13	5,010	Roberts	McGowa	in White	Watts	Johnson	Douglas	Locke	Gray	Spring	McLaren	Taylor	George for Douglas 82 mins. Unused: Ayres, Stirling, Scarlett, Abbey

Gray

Spring

McLaren Taylor

Wycombe Sat 6 Oldham The FA Cup final will be on May 20

A 1-0 Taylor

H 3pm

Johnson Douglas

Locke

10 5,379 Roberts McGowan White Watts

47

George for Douglas HT. Unused: Ayres, Fraser, Scarlett, Abbey

Sat 29

# Today's Teams



# **Oldham Athletic**

1	GARY KELLY
2	SCOTT McNIVEN
3	ANDREW HOLT
4	SHAUN GARNETT
5	STUART THOM
6	LEE DUXBURY
11	MARK INNES
16	RYAN SUGDEN
26	RICHARD GRAHAM
29	PAUL JONES
18	DANNY BOSHELL
Sub	stitutes
10	STEVE WHITEHALL
9	MATTHEW TIPTON
14	PHIL SALT
27	BEN FUTCHER
13	DAVID MISKELLY

# **Luton Town**

BEN ROBERTS	32
GAVIN McGOWAN	2
JULIAN WATTS	40
ALAN WHITE	5
MARVIN JOHNSON	6
PAUL McLAREN	8
ADAM LOCKE	28
MATTHEW SPRING	4
LIAM GEORGE	11
PHIL GRAY	7
MATTHEW TAYLOR	15
Subst	itutes
EMMERSON BOYCE	17
STUART FRASER	13
JAMES AYRES	19
ANDRE SCARLETT	21
NATHAN ABBEY	1

Motorbodies Luton

# Today's Officials

Referee: Graham Frankland, Stainton Manor, Middlesbrough Assistants: J. D. Woodroffe, Wicken, Cambs (red flag) K. Merchant, West Ewell, Surrey (yellow and red flag) Reserve official: F. J. Nemeth, Flitwick

UXHALL ars & Vans

NETWORK O

Motorbodies Central 15 Hitchin Road, Luton, Bedfordshire. Telephone 01582 454666 e-mail: enquiry@caxtongroup.co.uk

Moto)

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