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EXETER CITY versus LUTON TOWN | Saturday 1st September 2001 | Kick Off 3.00pm NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

Up Front

WELCOME TO LUTON

It is some time since we last welcomed Luton Town to St. James' Park in a Football League fixture. Luton having worked their way up through the Divisions to the old First Division. now have it all to do again, under former Wimbledon manager Joe Kinnear, who was unable to prevent them sliding into the bottom section after being appointed during last

However, Luton have made a number of signings and are among the favourites to regain their place in the Second Division. Newcomers include goalkeeper Carl Emberson, signed from Walsall; winger Adrian Forbes from Norwich City for a fee of £60,000; striker Carl Griffiths, a £65,000 purchase from Leyton Orient; midfielder Kevin Nicholls from Wigan Athletic in a deal that could eventually be worth £125,000 defender Russell Perrett, who helped Cardiff City to win promotion from the Third Division last season: utility player Aaron Skelton from Colchester United, having originally started his career at

One familiar member of the Luton town squad is Richard Dryden, who played in Exeter City's Fourth Division championship winning team of 1990, before moving on to play for Birmingham City, Manchester City and Southampton, from where he signed for Luton last February

Luton as a trainee.



YOUTH GIVEN A CHANCE

Congratulations to trainee defenders Marcus Gross and Glenn Cronin who made their Football League debuts last Monday afternoon at Rochdale Marcus was one of a number of the clubs crop of trainees who featured in the pre-season matches and acquitted themselves well. Marcus netted his first senior goal when playing against Yeovil Town.

Born in Barnstaple, the 18year old defender has worked his way through the youth teams and is due to have his future resolved shortly when he comes to the end of his time as a trainee. however, he cannot have done his chances any harm at all by making the first team in his efforts to gain a full

Marcus was drafted into the squad for the trip to Rochdale following the disastrous performance against Scunthorpe United last Saturday, when another of the Grecians' trainees, Reinier Moor, also made his League debut when being introduced as a substitute at the start of the second half.

Like Gross, Moor had an excellent pre-season and caught the eye with his direct approach and goal scoring instincts which has served him so well at youth team level and earned him international recognition for the Republic of Ireland under-18 team, which visited Japan during the summer.

With trainees such as Les Afful, Matthew Lock, Jamie Bradford and Shaun Goff, also having featured in the preseason first team warm-up matches, plus eight of the club's Centre of Excellence youngsters being upgraded to the trainee squad, there does appear to be a very good crop of young players coming through the

LETS GET SHIRTY

We may have experienced horrendous problems in obtaining kit supplies this season - especially of the replica variety - but the Club are offering supporters the opportunity to purchase last seasons shirts, as actually, worn by the players.

Some have been sold already. however, why not ask for your favourite players' shirt? The cost is £40 each, and they come with a certificate of authenticity from the club. If you are interested in purchasing one (goalkeeping

iersev not available, nor the shirts of some loan players). then please contact Sarah Aldridge on 01392 254073.

IMPRESSED WITH THE GRECIAN

It's always good to receive feedback on the match programme, especially if it is from the visiting supporters, so we were delighted to be sent the following letter from Walsall supporter Ian Crichton, who wrote!-

"I was unable to make the recent Worthington Cup match with Walsall at St James' Park due to the amount of travelling involved, but received a copy of The Grecian today. I was really impressed with the content and I doubt that there would be many clubs in the country who would put out such a quality production for the first round of the Worthington Cup when crowds are traditionally low.I note that you won the 3rd division award last season and on this performance alone I think they made a good choice -Best wishes" - Ian Crichton (on behalf of all Walsall Supporters who appreciate a good programme when they see

YOUR REFEREEING STORIES WANTED!

Matthew Roper requires your help - or rather if you are a referee, he wants your help. Matthew is currently compiling a book of anecdotes from referees all around the country portraving their funniest stories about life officiating in the less than glamorous surroundings of Saturday and Sunday amateur

""The stories can be about anything really," explained Matthew. "When a referee

booked someone, sent someone off, a game that was abandoned, a punch up etc etc."

- Matthew Roper can be contacted at 8C East Avenue Walthamstow, London E17 9NG - Tel 020 8520 1270 or e-mail

mattyir999@yahoo.com

OH DEAR!

Last Saturday's 4-0 defeat at home to Scunthorpe United had the anoraks amongst us scurrying off to consult the record books to ascertain the last time we were defeated by four clear goals at St James Park in a League match.

In fact it wasn't that long ago, as Chester City inflicted a 5-1 hammering on the Grecians in April 1997, which also saw Noel Blake sent off. However, there have been far worse defeats.

The most recent of those was the 7-1 drubbing City received at home against Brentford on 23rd April 1983, with only an Aidan Gibson goal as their scant consolation. Going back in time even further, another London club also won 7-1 at the Park when Levton Orient visited for a Third Division South fixture on 6th November 1954 - that time it was a Charlie McClelland penalty that brought the only smiles to Grecians' faces,

PROGRAMME DONATIONS

Exeter City Supporters Club are once again seeking to obtain your unwanted football programmes. These are sold onto collectors and dealers and raise income for the Supporters Club. Sales of programmes have been very successful in recent seasons thanks to the donations of issues received from City fans. Programmes can be left at the office or in the shop, marked for the attention of Dave Fisher.

VACANCY



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Management Speak

would like to welcome

everyone from Luton

Luton look to have a

Town Football Club.

very good strong squad on

paper and from the reports

we have received, that does

seem to be the case on the

tough game for us and we

simply have to play a lot, lot

better than the last time at

the Park, when I was bitterly

disappointed at the attitude

field as well. It will be a

shown by some of the

fans for that less than

acceptable performance,

not good enough.

players, which simply was

I have apologised to our

however, it is the players as

well who have to stand up

and be counted. I accept it

took some 'stick', quite

rightly so, but the players

must also realise they not

only let themselves down,

football club and it was

simply not good enough.

they felt fit to play after

having sustained knocks,

not. I ask everyone, no

matter their job at the

that just didn't happen.

things correctly, and

although we lost at

play better. It is early

I was also very annoved

that players, when asked if

have said yes, only for it to

become blatantly obvious in

a match situation they were

football club to perform to

the best of their ability and

We have to do the simple

Rochdale on Monday we did

season, although that is not

game. I don't really want to

change the side around. But

professionals need to regain

their form. They must help

management team can only

an excuse for the way we

played in the Scunthorpe

if I have to, as I did at

Some of the senior

themselves, as the

do so much for them.

Despite the less than

satisfactory start to the

season, I remain positive

Rochdale, then so be it.

but the supporters and the

was my side and therefore I

Joe Kinnear and

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Glenn Cronin

that we are a much better side than we have shown in terms of league points so far. I was also pleased to be able to introduce some of our younger players, like Reinier Moor, Marcus Gross and Glenn Cronin Marcus was a little unfortunate in being replaced at Rochdale, but I felt that the team having conceded the two goals, and perhaps some of the seasoned pros in the team were not looking after him as they should have done, that I

I have had a close look at the younger players since pre-season and take the trainees once a week for coaching. This aives me an insight in what to expect from them when they get the opportunity to play in the first team.

needed to

change. His

make a

That trio of players plus possibly one or two others may well have been to todays match and if the senior

professionals are not capable of producing the form I know they are capable of, then players like Glenn, Reinier, Marcus etc. will get their chance.

What made the defeat against Scunthorpe even worse was the way that the City supporters heeded my call for vocal support. They too, like me, were let down badly by the players. Today I am looking for the players to apologise for that afternoon, not vocally to the supporters, but on the football field in terms of commitment and style. If the supporters can once again get behind the team, then hopefully, we all

function together as one unit and the points will ome our way. Thank you for coming along to St James' Park today. -BLAKEY

chance will definitely come again.

involved in the build up



Exeter City 0 versus

Walsall 1

Photo's by Ray McLeod











JEM20N



UNBEATEN at home



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Steve Field Luton face the

Exeter City Supporters Trust

Preston plumber The Female Approach

eeds to South Africa, Hamilton to Exeter. No one can deny that Dylan Kerr has had a very varied and interesting footballing career. Currently with the Grecians on a short term deal, Dylan impressed manager Noel Blake during the pre-season match against Bristol City at St James' Park. But such was the limit of the playing budget, that despite wanting to sign the player, he was unable to. Enter, some very generous sponsors who were prepared to meet the players wages.

Dylan was duly added to the squad and has played impressively since, with the accuracy of his dead-ball kicks being particularly noteworthy. But also his desire and passion to play the game, even though he is now 34-years old, which puts to shame some players who are younger.

Dylan though is quick to praise the input of former Leeds United manager Howard Wilkinson, now the Football Association's Technical Director, who spent some time with the player when they were both at Elland Road, practising and stressing the importance of a good dead-ball delivery.

"Howard Wilkinson would take me for coaching when I was at Leeds United," said Dylan. "I would like to think that I can put the ball where the manager wants nine times out of ten. Set-pieces are important — if you can put the ball in the right areas then it will always be difficult to defend against."

The importance of that philosophy was never more true when Dylan netted the fastest goal of the day in the Nationwide League in the 1-1 draw at Halifax Town. He stepped up to curl home a 55-second strike to give the Grecians the lead, which was later cancelled out by a Steve Swales goal for the Shaymen.

City boss Noel Blake has no doubt that Kerr's ability to

deliver a telling ball at a setpiece situation will prove invaluable in the Third Division. "That was one of the reasons why I wanted to bring him into the club also, his energy for a 34-yearold is superb," said Blake.

Born in Valetta in Malta, Dylan began his professional career with Sheffield Wednesday and gained a full professional contract in September 1984. Released by the Owls, without having made a first team breakthrough, Dylan then played football in South Africa with Arcadia Shepherds.

He returned to England when Leeds United obtained his signature in February 1989, finally making his Football League debut against Barnsley on 30th December that year. He went on to feature in thirteen games for Leeds, where he first met up with Noel Blake, who was also in the Elland Road side

However, Dylan spent most of his stay at Leeds playing for the reserve team, although he did go out on loan to both Doncaster Rovers and Blackpool, playing for both those clubs in the 1991-92 season. It was whilst with Doncaster that he netted his first ever League goal, that coming in a 3-2 defeat at Scunthorpe United He eventually played seven League games for

netting the one goal. He also scored a goal during his time at Blackpool, playing 12 matches for that club, his strike coming in a 5-2 demolition of Burnley at Bloomfield Road.

His next move - a £75,000 transfer - took him to Reading in July 1993, where he enjoyed his best spell of his career, helping the Royals to the Second Division championship in his first season with the club. Dylan made a total of 89 League outings for Reading, scoring five goals, but his final two seasons at Elm Park, resulted in him being confined to the reserve team for long periods of time, as well as coming back from an injury.

Given a free transfer, he then linked up with Carlisle United in September 1996, but only made one substitute appearance for the Cumbrians, against Darlington. It was then that Dylan gained his first taste of football in Scotland, as he signed for Kilmarnock. making his debut for them in the Premier Division at Dundee United

Dylan was to play against the Likes of Rangers and Celtic and all the top Scottish clubs, with two of his team mates at Killie being former Grecians, Angus

and Jim McIntyre. He stayed four seasons at Rugby Park, making a total of 57 Scottish League appearances, but surprisingly didn't register a senior goal in that time.

He then returned south with Kidderminster Harriers, but things didn't work out for him at Aggborough and he only made the one substitute outing, that being against Leyton Orient. Seeking regular first team football after his successful spell with Kilmarnock, Dylan turned to the Scottish League again and linked up with Hamilton Academicals Hamilton, were without a

home of their own last



season, until a new ground back in the town was opened this August. They played all their home matches at Partick Thistle's Firhill Stadium in Glasgow, Dylan made his debut for the Accies in a Second Division fixture at home to Peterhead, which Hamilton won 3-0.

He never missed a game after that, playing a major part in Hamilton's Scottish League Second Division championship win. He eventually appeared in 17 games for Hamilton, scoring three goals, one each against East Fife, Brechin City and Dumbarton.

City manager Noel Blake had great faith in Dylan's ability and invited the player to Exeter for training, although at the time there was no guarantee of any deal forthcoming, But Blake recalled how Dylan would more than match some of the big name stars that he played against when they were team mates at Leeds

"He was always up there with them," said Blake. "He is a natural athlete who will run and run all day long. Although he hadn't played or trained since the previous May when he arrived at the Cat and Fiddle, and then played against Bristol City, you would never have thought so.

"Dylan is the sort of player who has had to work for everything he has achieved. As well as his ability, he is a hard working player, and I felt that we needed a good left-sided player like Dylan who would enhance the team's qualities."

here wasn't much front-page news on May 1, 1960. save for Princess Margaret's forthcoming wedding to Anthony Armstrong-Jones. In the world of football Wolves, assured of a Cup-Final appearance versus Blackburn, were sweating on Burnley's game against Manchester City: defeat for the Clarets would hand them their third successive Championship, and leave them in line for the first Double since 1897. In Division 4. Exeter City had defeated Doncaster 4-2 at the Park, with the help of a Peter Bennett hat-trick. And at Deepdale, Luton Town (already relegated from Division One) had a walk-on part in a sentimental drama. It was Tom Finney's last match for Preston, after a career stretching over fourteen years and 570

appearances.

Finney is such a legend that it's difficult nowadays to get anywhere near the truth of the matter. We've become used to thinking of him in a number of predictable ways for instance, as one side of the perennial debate concerning him and Stanley Matthews, It was England's fortune (or perhaps misfortune) to have had two exemplary right-footed wing players in the immediate post-War era; controversy has raged, at the time and since. as to who was best. Informed opinion generally reckons Finney to have been the more rounded player, and goal statistics bear this out; set against it is Matthews' longer time at the top level, and his superior tally of caps. Given that the men were always good friends, and that England actually had a much better record when they

played together than when one or the other was left out. it's probably right to leave this argument to the journalists. which is where it started.

Two other Finney stereotypes are worth a closer look, and sadly both have been devalued by constant repetition. One is that of the "Preston Plumber", of a man who loved his sport but had his feet firmly enough on the ground to establish himself in business at the same time. Finney turned down the opportunity to play on North End's groundstaff in 1936, because his father insisted he continue his plumbing apprenticeship; later, he set up his own firm with his brother Joe, an electrician. It wasn't unusual, back then: the game was not, to say the least, a lucrative or secure calling. Also done to death has been the view of Finney as a one-club player, loyal to his roots and his team-mates and a thoroughly pleasant individual: I'd be the first to admit that footballers of yesteryear are often overidealised, but in his case at least the hype appears to be true.

But to return to that final farewell. Before kick-off, the teams formed a quard of honour while the crowd sang "Auld Lang Syne"; on the pitch the Hatters were well beaten, 2-0, by strikes from Alec Alston and Jim Smith. Although he created a string of openings late on, Finney was subdued, and effectively marked by Luton's Alan Daniel, a defender less than half his age. With minutes left he missed a glorious chance to score his last goal, a one-on-one which he put agonisingly wide. He said later he had been blinded by the tears in his eves

strange place to start writing about the Fawcett Society. Quite simply they campaign locally, nationally and in Europe to improve Women's lives. That, of course is probably in itself enough to induce many readers to strike their foreheads in despair and shout the equivalent of "Improve women's lives

his is probably a

corll!" Anyway, to carry on undaunted. One of the ways in which they tried some years ago to get publicity for the movement was to arrange an art exhibition in which various women cartoonists were invited to submit, and then have displayed their work. The exhibition was called "Funny Girls Cartooning For Equality and it was a rattling food show that ended up as a touring exhibition around various galleries.

As so often happens several of the more successful cartoons ended up as limited edition prints, and this is where the story really starts. Whenever I can I like to buy various bits of artwork and I suppose I must have been feeling flush at the time because I bought a copy of a cartoon called 'An Excellent Suggestion' by a lady called Riana Duncan

It seems to resonate with the experiences of nearly everybody who has ever seen it. It's a meeting with the Chairman at the head of the table, and everybody else around it is a man, except one. The Chairman says: "That's an excellent suggestion Miss Triggs. Perhaps one of the men here would like to make it?'

Still with me? Oh good! The point about this article is to try and encourage more women to get involved with

the Exeter City Trust. We've been lucky in already having female representation at Trustee level. At the time of writing Fiona Neligan is deputy chair and plays a valuable and important role within the organisation. We were also lucky enough to have Tara Owens as a Trustee until, as is so often the case with young people from Exeter, she went to Birmingham to complete her Masters degree in a course she couldn't pursue in Exeter.

It would be gratifying to think that there are other females out there who would want to become active participants in the running of the Trust. Not only is this the antidote to the danger of the organisation being seen as one which is essentially "laddish", it also has the advantage of brining a fresh mindset to the issues that confront the Trust.

Those immediate concerns, as I have written here before, are:-

- 1: To double our income from direct debits.
- 2: To build a relationship with businesses which might want to become part of the Trust.
- 3: To enter into negotiations with the club, through our Trust director to play a more central role in the running of the club.
- If this is of interest to you, then please don't hesitate to get in touch with the Trust and talk to a Trustee about how you might become involved.
- DAVE TREHARNE.

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Twin Tower Memories

By John Litster



A series by the Editor of Programme Monthly & Football Collectable magazine in which

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FA Cup Final 27th April 1946

Derby County 4 (Turner 85 own goal, Doherty 91, Stamps 97,

Charlton Athletic 1 (Turner 86)

Attendance 98,215, Receipts £ 45,000

Derby County: Woodley, Nicholas (capt), Howe, Bullions, Leuty, Musson, Harrison, Carter, Stamps Doherty, Duncan

Charlton Athletic: Bartram, Phipps, Shreeve; Bert Turner, Oakes, Johnson, Fell, Brown, A.A.Turner, Welsh, Duffy.

Referee : E.D. Smith (Cumberland)

The Match

A measure of normality returned to English football with the first FA Cup Final since the end of the Second World War, although there were sufficient incidents to make the occasion even more notable.

Charlton became the first club to reach the Cup Final after losing a game in the competition - early postwar reconstruction caused two legged matches up to the semi finals, and Charlton lost one leg of their third round tie against Fulham, but prevailed on aggregate. Bert Turner became the first player to score for both teams in a Cup Final; and the ball burst, referee Smith having said on radio the previous evening that the odds were a million to one against such an occurrence.

The game reached a thrilling finale in the last five minutes. First Turner hooked a Duncan cross past Sam Bartram in the Charlton goal, but Derby's celebration were premature as the same player shot a free kick, via a defender, into their net. Extra time



was played for only the second time at Wembley. and Peter Doherty restored Derby's lead after just one minute.

That was the telling blow, and Derby's domination of extra time was underlined by two more goals from Jack Stamps. The Rams' busy centre forward had a fine match, but even he was eclipsed by the performances of his inside forwards, Doherty and Raich Carter

Jack Nicholas (no, not the golfer!) was presented with the Cup by King George VI, accompanied by the Queen and Princess Elizabeth. It was Derby's only success to date, but Charlton drew quick consolation, winning the Cup the following year.

The Programme

Wembley Stadium issued an attractive, narrower-than-A5 16 page programme which cost 6d, and was by far the most substantial programme seen on British shores since 1939, such were the effects of paper rationing.

Page 3 carried head and shoulder photographs of

four officials of the F.A. and a picture of the FA Cup. Roy Peskett wrote pen pictures of the Charlton players over two pages, accompanied by a photo of captain Don Welsh. Programme of Entertainment filled a page, and the team selections were spread over the centre pages, in 2-3-5 formation.

The second half of the programme started with how the clubs reached the final, and their goalscorers, opposite a page listing forthcoming events at the Empire Stadium and Empire Pool. The complex was then undoubtedly a centre for all sports, as the list illustrates - Boxing, Ice Hockey, Rugby League, Figure Skating, Speedway, Greyhound Racing, an Ice Gala and the League of Health and Beauty were all scheduled between May 1st and June 8th

Roy Peskett returned with pen pictures of the Derby team, accompanied by a photograph of their captain, Jack Nicholas. The programme finished with a list of previous finals.

Advertising was fairly unobtrusive, and was, as always, a reflection of the times. "Bovril within gives strength to win"; "Be Wise - Invest in National Savings" and Taylor Walker's Prize Beers were "on sale at all bars". A full page advertised the Rugby League Cup Final between Wakefield Trinity and Wigan the following Saturday, with admission prices ranging from 4/6d (22.5p) to 21/-(£1.05). Contrast these prices with the current value of the match programme - no less than £100 in good condition.

THE STORY BEHIND THE DONCASTER PHOTO explains Derek Coates

was very interested in the photo of the Exeter supporters which appeared in the match programme for the Walsall game, This was taken at Doncaster in 1977, because I was there, not in the picture but just a few yards to the left. What the picture doesn't tell us is why the City fans were there.

I arrived at the ground early for what was my first visit. In those days Belle Vue was an open ground with no segregated areas and I wandered around the ground myself before it filled up. In fact there used to be an aerodrome behind the Popular Side and I spent a while watching the efforts of the local flying club.

Around that time the first City fans started to arrive and unwittingly took up a position in the centre part of this bank where they sang and chanted happily. I stayed with them on the bank until rival Donny fans started to assemble in the same area.

After some bad experiences at Millwall, West Ham and Wolves discretion took the better part of valour, the scarf was put away and I walked around to the paddock opposite where I had a good view of the developing proceedings. As kick off time approached more home supporters started arriving and many of the younger ones took a dim view of the City fans standing on their bank

A large group of Donny supporters massed at the end near the old North Stand and charged the City fans driving them off the Popular side and around to the paddock. I remember one young fan complaining to me about the lack of police protection which quote ' You always got at St James' Park'.

Now I was at the game, one of over three thousand fans in the ground. It was important in that it gained us promotion. All I can remember is the fighting and Lammie Robertson complaining to Bobby Saxton that Tony Kellow had ' No *!#&*!@ skill.

to 150 pages each month on all aspects of collecting football memorabilia. The current edition is available priced £2.30 (inclusive of postage) from 46 Milton Road, Kirkcaldy, Fife, KY1 1TL : or send 9 x 1st class stamps.

Programme Monthly & Football Collectable" contains up





Walsall 1 Photo's by Ray McLeod











The saga of the **Brazilian Parrot**



We have to go back to the summer of 1914 and the tour of South America - Argentina and Brazil to be exact undertaken by the City first team. After a long hard Southern League season, a squad of players, manager and a couple of directors. including the club chairman, set sail to play a series of teams, culminating in a match against the Brazilian international team, their first at that level

The Grecians' team were greeted like celebrities by both the Argentineans and the Brazilians. Much has been written about the tour, so we'll not mention it here, and instead, concentrate on the

It was the custom to give teams a keepsake to remember their visit by, but City goalkeeper Dick Pym could hardly have guessed what he would end up with?! After the match against Brazil, the City team were wined and dined before heading back on the boat to England, and Pym, accepted. on behalf of the club a parrot!

With none of the players being experts on parrots, they were mystified by the bird. Left-back Sammy Strettle said his landlady in Exeter, Elsie Copeland, was into budgies. "She's got two beautiful ones you know," said Sammy. "I wonder if parrots eat millet? Elsie is always feeding that to her budgies."

And there were no volunteers as such to look after it during the voyage home, or when they got back to Exeter. Right-winger Harry

Holt, wondered if it had been 'caught' somewhere in the Brazilian rain forest - perhaps it was a pet of a long lost native in the forest? Centrehalf Charlie Pratt thought it was a Norwegian Blue, but was that was hastily dismissed when wing-half and captain of the City team. Jimmy Rigby said: "Just because it has blue plumage doesn't mean it is from Norway ... or does it?" In fact the parrot had a mixture of yellow, red and blue feathers.

So the City team and one parrot boarded the ship home. The poor bird, which by now had gained a huge cage and the name of 'Hercule Parrot', was kept in the radio room. It even managed to make a few odd squawking noises from time to time whenever the radio operator tapped out the Morse code. As the Captain of the ship seemed to spend a lot of time in one of the top deck cabins with Lillian Trenchard, Hercule was allowed to fly around the radio room. Captain Cabot was seemingly occupied elsewhere to know or even care about Hercule.

It proved to be a bit of scary trip home, as the First World War was declared when the ship was just off Spain. A message was received to look out for German 'Man o' War' and the ship would not be able to dock in Southampton as planned, but diverted to Liverpool, Lillian was in a dreadful state and Captain Cabot spent considerable time trying to comfort her. One or two of the City players were pretty worried as well, whilst Hercule was probably more concerned and wondering what he was doing on board a ship in the middle of the Atlantic heading for he knew not The Exeter City team and Hercule now faced a trek

Exeter by train. On arrival at St James' Park, it was decided the parrot could be kept in the little room occupied by the secretary. However, he only agreed to allow that if the bird had been properly

home from Liverpool to

toilet trained!!

The bird became something of celebrity, with City fans visiting it and trying to teach it to say such things as: "We hate Argyle' - without too much success. Unfortunately Hercule didn't seem to take to the English way of life, and whether it was the long journey by sea and rail, one never found out, but five years later, at the end of the war, it began to look very tired - and that fact was noticed one day by manager Arthur Chadwick, who reckoned Hercule seemed to spend a lot of its time lying on the floor of its cage.

The players took it in turns to feed Hercule, although keeper Dick Pym declined saving: "One peck from it and my career could be over!" - as he looked ashen faced and counted his fingers. The Club were very fortunate that one of the supporters, Reg Fitzpaine, owned a pet shop in Sidwell Street. Reg was only too pleased to take along big bags of parrot feed to St James' Park

In actual fact, he said Hercule was a godsend, as he had been duped by a very shady salesman who had conned him into orderina 50 bags of the said feed, and quite frankly there wasn't a great call for parrot requisites in Exeter. This was probably the first ever sponsorship that Exeter City ever gained -'Hercule, proudly sponsored by the Reg Fitzpaine Pet Shop.' - a photograph of Hercule appeared in the City match programme, sat on his perch in the secretary's office, and standing alongside Reg. Some of the City fans suggested that Hercule should become the team's official mascot, but that was ruled out as it was feared if the parrot was brought out onto the pitch before a game, the rowdy nature of the St James' Park would frighten it. Anyway, has anyone ever seen a parrot wearing a football kit? Not to mention that it was unlikely that any kit manufacturer would have a shirt and shorts

Then tragedy struck. Arthur Chadwick arrived at the ground early one morning,

small enough to fit Hercule.

had a look in Hercule's cage. and the bird was out for the count - presumably resting. But it was not sleeping this time, it had keeled over and died. This was established later that morning when the bird had failed to respond to its regular exercise period in the secretary's office when the door of the cage was opened. Hercule didn't move.

News travelled fast. The club flag was flown at half mast as a mark of respect. and the demise of Hercule made front page news in the Express and Echo, the headline reading: The Last Squawk of Hercule' - The players were mortified (as was Hercule), and the bird wasn't feeling too good

It was decided that as the bird had been so much part of the Club, that it should be buried with respect alongside the goal at the St James' Road end of the ground. Then something strange happened. After a few matches of the 1920-21 season, City's first as a Football League club, it was realised that the team had not scored at that end of the ground in their first five home matches.

The City players, like all footballers, being very superstitious, tried to work out why, until keeper Dick Pym, still playing for the Grecians, but shortly to move to Bolton Wanderers, was convinced that Hercule's resting place was the problem.

it was suddenly realised that the goal drought had only started since Hercule had been buried at that end of the ground.

It was decided that drastic, but necessary action needed to be taken to lift what had become a sort of curse on the team. The remains of Hercule were dug up again and this time the bird was buried at what is now the Cliff Bastin Stand end, Hev presto! The very next game, Percy Varco netted a fine hattrick in a 3-1 win over Cardiff City, and two of the goals were stuck in the St James' Road net.

So endeth the saga of Hercule parrot.



Kwame

Ampadu

Martin

Barlow

Noel

Blake

Kelvin Manners

Geoff

Breslan

Paul

Buckle

Kit Sponsorship

USE IT!

the 'new' fanzine

So with it's long lost far off

relation 'DNA' getting into full

thought it would be time to

Directory'. Because ED was

during it's six/seven year run

were smattered with liberal

drawings, which were always

laugh, and were only relevant

to ECFC supporters, rants at

Torquay and Gargoyle fans

(well of course!), Exe-Rated

players, and titles as 'We've

Got A Lunch Box and We're

Gonna' Use It!', which was a

catering. The 'zine could also

be serious when it needed to

time, the TV debate and in it's

Ernest & Young report into the

club, so as a result letting the

fans know exactly what was

One of the beauties of the

Exe Directory, was that you

would never know what the

contain. Rewind back to Issue

1, and the introduction said:

next copy was going to

"It's intended to give an

alternative and witty, but

informed view on the club which has given us so much

hardship over the years."

good one, and of course a season later, was that

There was also an optimism

that Terry Cooper's induction into the hotseat would be a

couple pages on the pluses

and minuses of away end

be, by providing reasoned

latter stages, it took to

debate on the issues of the

printing the administrators

doses of humour, cover

guaranteed to produce a

different. It's many issues

swing for this season, I

look back at the 'Exe

Howard Milton

I GOT A LUNCHBOX AND I'M GONNA

'Recalling Exe Directory'

t was a long time ago, a full thirteen years to be championship season. Of course next to that introduction on page 3, was a precise, when a little piece on how City could look glossy constructed to the future with optimism number called, "Exe thanks to the introductions of Directory" hit the streets Cooper, Steve Neville, Tommy around the 'Park'. It was Langley, Graham Withey, the simply joining the craze that clubcall line, and rumours of a was around at the time, that new programme. Which as of the fanzine. Fanzines were the writer said."If true, then the unofficial, and supposedly Ken Baker (then editor) should true voice of the respective be given the freedom of the clubs fans, and while some still city." Well is there any chance carry on at the moment, the craze, as such things go, of me having the freedom of the city, but I'm only a writer, gradually died back down not the editor. again after a while, as the internet superhighway became

Issue 2 arrived with news that all 500 copies of the first ED had sold out, and also laden with apologies, as principally the camera to take match pics wasn't working, as the flash had failed, that sort of thing also give the Directory it's own home leaden charm. During it's run, F.D. also broke startling news, remember Gus Honeybun? The

rabbit about town (As the 'zine so succinctly put) was a regular on the birthday card spot on a previous inclination of Westcountry, T.S.W. The revelations that Gus was indeed an Argyle fan, could count to eleven, which made him a dangerous intellectual in the greens circles (Exe Directory 9/89), and the magic button gradually developed from a lollipop shaped lever to a mushroom shaped switch, and his 'bunny hops' was due to his interest in transcendental meditation. Pure weird brilliance. How about ED's guided tour of St James Park, something I believe now should be replicated in this esteemed publication, as so much of our home has changed, for example number six was

the internationally famou

E.C.F.C lime trees next to

the club offices, and

introduced the word

moving on, they

Peter Shilton, aged 113 and threequarters

Hatstand.

As the years went by, and City went into a drop, footballwise and financially, the Directory became depressed at the thought of the club going under (hey, weren't we all?), but The secret Diaries of Peter Shilton aged 113 and Threequarters still kept the aloomed masses amused, but as the 'team' dwindled, and depression set in, whilst we were saved at the last moment, E.D quietly slipped There were others though,

my eyes, legendary E.D. 'We'll score again' was the supporters club mag, and 'In Exile' the one for exiled 'Grecians' fans, and 'There's A Good Time Coming' briefly succeeded the Exe Directory, The fanzine also served an even more important purpose, then just providing amusement about the club. It united any fan who picked up a copy, because all throughout the various articles, you could see you, the Exeter City supporter in it, as it was written by the fans for the fans, that was why the 'zine existed, and if you were very lucky, few were as good as the Exe Directory and we were

lucky to have it. A final thought, whatever happened to the doyen of BBC regional sport. Dick Woodacre? Let me know through the programme, because I would be interested

presumably to curry favour but they could never have with the Catalan regional hoped to replace the now in The change appears popular with the supporters. More of the clubs merchandise includes the Catalan flag and it was this rather the Spanish flag being waved by supporters at the Las Palmas game. To remind you of the reason

for our visit. We went to Spain to see our son, Ben, who is an Espanyol season ticket holder and to watch them play Las Palmas in their last home game of the season, Espanyol ran out 3-2 winners and we were treated as minor celebrities as I was wearing my Exeter shirt and Ros in an Espanyol one. The atmosphere at the game was friendly and a good-natured one even to the handful of Las Palmas supporters.

WHAT'S IN

ollowing the article on our close season visit to Espanyol in the

match programme for

Exeter City's recent

Worthington Cup first round

grateful if you would publish

the following correction.

referred to as Español

The club was mistakenly

throughout the piece. The

club adopted the Catalan

in the early 1990's in an

correct spelling is Espanyol. The

rather than the Spanish form

attempt to disassociate itself

from it's right-wing past and

tie against Walsall. I would be

NAME? By Steve & Ros Chown

So, what's in a name? As I said in my original piece politics and language matter a great deal in Spanish football particularly in this part of

Johann Cruyff became a folk hero in Barcelona not just because of his exploits on the football field but also because he insisted on naming his son Jordi (Catalan for George the local patron saint) rather than use the Spanish version - Jorge at a time when it was illegal for Catalan names to be used on Spanish birth certificates.

By the way, in pre-season friendlies Espanyol beat Southampton 4-3 in their first game at their new St.Mary's ground and then went on to lose 1-0 at Everton.

(Steve & Ros Chown are Exeter City supporters who are based in Wakefield)



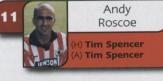
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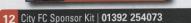


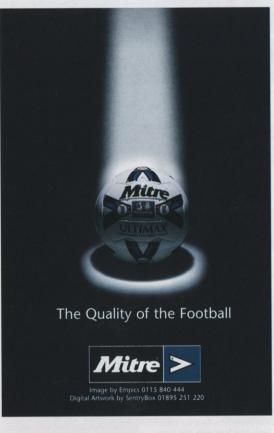






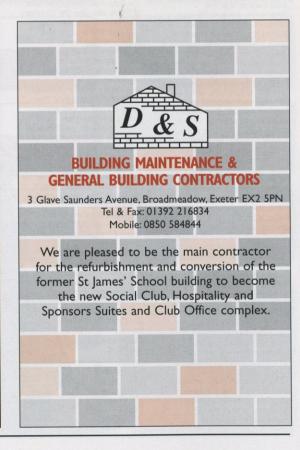








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No sign of Geoff Breslan

by Malcolm Tipper.

he first Saturday of a new season August 11th ... shirt sleeves, silly season stories and cricket. I was late, the holiday traffic held me up and some Hull City supporters. The kick-off was delayed for 15 minutes.

I was still late, walking to the Old Tiverton Road entrance there was an eerie silence, perhaps the kick-off was delayed even more. The doors were locked, a van of bored policeman eyed me warily. Retracing my steps and around to Well Street and behind the goal where visiting supporters stood. just as Hull equalised and the predictable "you aren't singing any more "broke out.

I attracted the attention of a steward but she couldn't let me in without a ticket, so it was around to the grandstand. Externally I'd covered three-quarters of the ground but still couldn't get in. Finally a temporary late ticket to the Cliff Bastin (Boy Bastin) Stand got me into my beloved St. James Park.

Standing behind the goal as City defended a free-kick I was able to check off most of the City players in my programme, I didn't spot Geoff Breslan, I'd missed 30 minutes of the first half, City's goal and Hull's equaliser although I heard



Geoff Breslan

During half-time there was enough room to sit down on the terraces and read the programme looking up from time to time to see if I recognised anyone, trouble is I am looking for faces of people I knew as a youngster (1958/9 to 1965/66) and ignoring the 50 plus year olds as I am now. A silver haired Brian Little hustles across the pitch to the duq out to see football at the economy end again. Blakey takes the long way round and as the players line up I still haven't seen Geoff

The second half sees two more goals from Hull and an early exit from several Exeter City fans including the shaven headed father of a shaven headed son whose large black glasses look lost on the hairless head. Is it son aping father or Dad dictating the hair style.

I stay to the end, I always do, and watch Christian Roberts come over to clap the faithful fans. I walk out and leave the ground quickly and away to Union Road, reflecting on the horror if Exeter City left the league, planning away trips and reassuring myself that not many sides as good as Hull will visit this year. But come on Blakey pick Geoff Breslan.

GEOFF BRESLAN LEAGUE PLAYING PECOPD-

HECOILD.		
Season	Apps	Gls
1997-98	1	0
1998-99	34	4
1999-00	29	4
2000-01	2	0

Geoff made his League debut against Macclesfield Town at the Park on 2nd May 1998, and netted his first senior goal in a 2-0 home win over Carlisle United the following August.

It's only a Game!



enefit and testimonial games tend to be arranged for individuals however, occasionally it is for a good cause as well. This particular match played on 19th May 1985 was to help raise funds for the victims' families following the tragic fire at Valley Parade, Bradford City. Who can forget those awful television pictures as the flames shot along the rafters of the main stand and engulfed the rest of the structure, with such terrible consequences as

fans were unable to find a way out of the ground to safety. The fire occurred during the game between Bradford City and Lincoln City on 11th May 1985. The 11,000 crowd were in celebratory mood as City were presented with the Third Division trophy before the final game of the season. But just 35 minutes into the game, as it was later proved, a fire broke out underneath the wooden stand. As spectators watched, and then belatedly fled, a fireball intensified by the design and construction of the old roof, consumed the lives of 56 men, women and children. Over 200 were seriously injured and many more traumatised for life by their

The footballing world was shocked by the horrific events. And many clubs and fans wanted to help in their own small way. As a result, just eight days after the fire, a match was organised in aid of the Bradford City Disaster Fund. The game, played at Home Park, Plymouth, consisted of a Combined Football League XI made up of players from Exeter City, Plymouth Argyle and Torquay United, against Saltash United.

An eight page programme was on sale, priced 20p, with a suitable black cover to mark the sombreness of the occasion. Page two contained a message from the Lord Mayor of Plymouth (Cllr John Mills), who wrote: "This appalling tragedy and the misery in its wake has undoubtedly cast a very dark shadow over us all, not only those within the football world, but the whole of the country and even further afield.'

There was a similar message from the Mayor of Tavistock (Cllr Robin Fenner) on page three, with team photos of both Plymouth Argyle and Saltash United at the foot of each of the gentlemens notes.

The centre pages consisted of the expected squads for the Combined League XI and Saltash United, and also a programme of events prior to and after the game. Supporters were also invited to bid for the matchball, which would be autographed, with the proceeds also going to the Disaster Appeal

The Combined League XI team was shown as:- Geoff Crudgington, Gordon Nisbet, Adrian Burrows, Tommy Tynan, Gordon Staniforth, Kevin Hodges, Russell Coughlin, Ian Calvert, Eddie Kelly, John Sims, Jim McNichol, Martin Ling and

On page 6 there was a message from he programme sponsor, Kevin Toomey of Antex Electrics, Plymouth and Tavistock, whilst on page 7 was a general note which welcomed everyone to the game, and stating that the players of Saltash United, Exeter City, Torquay United and Plymouth Argyle were to be applauded for offering their services after the season had finished. The back page consisted of a list of sponsors for the game.

The programme is now highly collectable and a rare item. It is sought after not so much for the game itself, but for the reason the match was played and how it marked a very tragic day in football

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Grecians in the Community



stay safe, play safe!



This afternoon we feature the St Luke's Activities Week which were delighted to attend in July, and look forward to going back again next year! Photo number one shows the St Luke's High School line up; Photo 2, is of AARON SPRY, youngest player, aged 13, and he received an award for his attitude towards and potential a soccer; Photo 3, is DANIEL LEAT, aged 14, the 'Target King.'; Photo 4 shows the St Lukes high School lads after receiving their awards and gifts. Also pictured are Jamie Vittles, far left, and yours truly, Tommy Wheeldon, far

Not only did we have a great time at St Lukes High School, but so did the youngsters and the staff and that was reflected in

the letter we received from the school, which read as

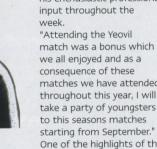
"Many thanks indeed for organising a brilliant activities week for our pupils. Special thanks to Jamie Vittles, who taught the youngsters new skills, and managed them very well indeed. All the kids liked him and appreciated his enthusiastic professional input throughout the

hectic days recently with all the summer holiday soccer schools in the region, but they have also been immensely enjoyable. It really is good to see so many smiling faces when go around the area. I would like to thank as always my team of coaches and all the volunteers who help make the courses such

■ We have had some pretty

a success. And, of course, a big thank you to all of you who attend the courses, many of whom come back again and again! Keep reading the programme notes for details of the next courses, also full details can be obtained by calling me on the usual number of 01395 233383.

- WHEELO.



matches we have attended, throughout this year, I will take a party of youngsters to this seasons matches starting from September." One of the highlights of the week was a Champions League competition between Barcelona, Real Madrid and Inter Milan some of the players sporting face paints in the team colours. The winning team were Inter, who were represented by MARK DOWN, RICHARD BAKER, GUY TREGALE, TOM FROST, LUKE WEBSTER and PAUL LEWIS. Other awards won were: -

American Shoot-Out: ANTHONY HOLWELL Penalty Shoot-Out: JOHN RIVER

Target Ring: DANIEL LEAT Top Shot: DANIEL LEAT Dribble King: RICHARD

Best Attitude Award: AARON SPRY & LUKE WEBSTER

Player of the Week: DANIEL LEAT.

of our 01395 233383















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Injury setback for City

out of action following a ur thanks to City fractured ankle he sustained supporter Keith in Steve Neville's testimonial Foster who sent game against Manchester City in a copy of the the previous May. Manager Express and Echo, Terry Cooper was dated 25th July 1991. Old understandably mystified as newspapers made fascinating the x-rays had only just reading, not just as a means showed up the fracture two of jogging your memory of months after the game had the news of the day, but also been played. He said: "It's from the Grecians point of strange because when he first view and what was was going hurt it we had him x-raved on at the Club as well. and there was no sign of a The front page headline break, but he has had was: 'Kinnock: We Can Win problems with his ankle again City' - referring top the fact

that Labour felt they could

take Exeter at the General election and help form the

locally, traders in Budleigh

Salterton had been sent a

warning letter form Devon

County council following

obstructing the narrow

pavement sin the town.

But back to the sport,

where there was some bad

news for Exeter City as they

Cawley would be out of action

heard that defender Peter

until October, Cawley, who

Shaun Taylor following his

£200,000 move to Swindon

was expected to replace

Town, had undergone a

second operation on a

next Government. Meanwhile,

complaints that displays were

a fracture.' But the injuries were piling up for City even before the League season started, because apart from the loss of Cawley and Waters, new signing Steve O'Shaughnessy had to be rested following straining ankle ligaments and Tony Frankland was making steady progress, also after a close season ankle ligament operation.

now and the new x-rays show

THE CLASS OF '77

Happy days! The Exeter City squad celebrate promotion in the dressing room after the final day 3-0 home win over Aldershot in May 1977. We wonder how many players opted for a cup of tea rather than a sip of the bubbly?!! And you would have thought been available rather than plastic cups? Oh, well, life at

the players avoided pouring the bottle of liniment oil (seen on the table) by mistake into their cups!!

In the photo from left to right stood in the front are: Bobby Saxton, Mike Green, Chris Howes (photographer), John Hore, Bobby Hodge, Tony Kellow, Peter Hatch, Richard Key, John Templeman, Graham Weeks and Nicky Jennings.

Stood at the back are Tony Long, Richard Baugh, Lammie Robertson and Alan Beer.

This was only the second time in the Club's history that they had achieved promotion, the last occasion being in 1964. And it had been achieved by producing a quite amazing run of results. City lost just one of their last fourteen League games, that being 1-0 at Brentford, and of those fourteen, had won 12, including six in a row at the end of the season.

The most amazing result had come at Barnsley's Oakwell, where they found themselves trailing 3-0 at half-time, only to fight back to win 4-3 with goals from Beer (2), Kellow and Robertson. This really was a game of two halves!

It was a great triumph for player-manager Bobby Saxton, who had only taken John Newman, who left to



fractured ankle

promotion was a possibility at that stage. Saxton, recruited three players, defender Geoff Gay (on loan from Bolton Wanderers), utility player Lee Roberts (from Shrewsbury town) and St Lukes College keeper John Baugh, who had to stand in for broken-ankle victim Richard Key for the final 15 matches.

City ended the season in second place in the Fourth Division, being promoted along with champions Cambridge United, Colchester United and Bradford City. Most successful teams have a goal scoring partnership and that was certainly the case at in his first season as as a League player having been signed from Falmouth Town,





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AN ABSEILING SWAN AND A HEADLESS ROBIN

aggie Bird, Cyril the Swan, Filbert Fox, Sammy Shrimp and our very own Alex The Greek, They have all become part and parcel of any matchday experience involving their respective teams. Football Club mascots are a fairly recent phenomenon and like so many things, were first seen in the United States at Major League baseball and American Football etc.

The idea is to have mascot that identifies with your club, and of course it does lead to various marketing and publicity opportunities. Various souvenirs can be sold to the fans. With Exeter City's Alex the Greek being banned from attending the game at Plymouth Argyle last season, as it was felt that he was too provocative, the Grecians marketing department soon came up with a money making idea and produced tshirts urging the ban to be lifted. It wasn't, but nonetheless, such was the publicity, even at national level, the exercise was worthwhile

Of course there are those mascots who perhaps take things a little too far and get over enthusiastic. A couple of incidents spring to mind when Wolfie from Wolverhampton Wanderers got into a half time fight with the Bristol City mascot! And the infamous Cyril the Swan became the first mascot charged with bringing the game into disrepute.

It was a rare moment of footballing ecstasy at the Vetch Field, the home team had just taken the lead against Millwall in a first round FA Cup match and Swansea's number one fan could not contain himself. He raised his four-foot long neck to the skies, spread his eightfoot wide wings in joy and rushed on to the pitch to celebrate with the rest of the team. However, that led to the swan having to attend The Football Association of Wales (FAW) disciplinary hearing following his pitch invasion. The incident was reported by referee Steve Dunn to the football authorities.

A Swansea City spokesman said: 'We never thought Cyril

would become such a national celebrity. The fans and players love him. He has become part of the club.'Cyril made his debut at the Vetch Field at the start of this season when he abseiled down a floodlight pylon to rapturous applause. He has gone on to establish himself firmly in the Premier League of club mascots

Mascots have become an integral part of football and nearly every club in the country has one. Previously, few clubs bothered with them but with an increase in the number of families attending football matches, clubs see mascots as a way of providing some pre-match entertainment. They are also seen as a way of forging links with fans and many smaller clubs in particular use their mascots for publicity work to try to draw more support. Many mascots are so popular that their engagements diary are fully booked as they regularly attend charity events, weddings and shop and fete openings in their respective club's catchment area.

Last April there was even a mascots football match staged at Shrewsbury Town, one which Exeter City's Alex The Greek played a major role in. It was such a success that it is likely to become an annual event Many mascots turned up

remember. So who did take part in this colourful fixture? There were:-

and they

all helped

to make it

a day to

Bloomfield Bear (Blackpool); City Gent (Bradford City); Eddie the Eagle (Colchester United); Sky Blue Sam (Coventry City); Pete the Eagle

(Crystal Palace); Mr Q the Ouaker Kid (Darlington): Alex the Greek (Exeter City): Poacher (Lincoln City); Moonchester (Manchester City): Fred The Red (Manchester United); Clarence the Dragon (Northampton Town); Mr & Mrs Magpie (Notts County); Mr Posh (Peterborough United); Pilarim Pete (Plymouth Arayle): Jude the Stadium Cat (QPR); Scunny Bunny (Scunthorpe United); Lenny the Lion & Mrs Lion (Shrewsbury Town); Super Saint (Southampton); Sammy the Shrimp (Southend Utd); Cyril the Swan (Swansea City); Benny the Buck (Telford United); Baggie Bird (West Bromwich Albion); Wölfie & Wendy (Wolves); Rockin Robin (Wrexham); Yorkie the Lion (York City).

The goals flowed, with Exeter City's Alex the Greek and Swansea's Cyril the Swan both netting hat-tricks! And believe it or not this bizarre event attracted a bigger attendance than several matches in the Nationwide Third Division last season as 2,163 filed through the turnstiles!!

Physio for the match. Luscious Lisa in her nurse's uniform, was called onto the field of play on a

> number of occasions to treat injured players. It is believed that many of the mascots faked iniury just so that they could receive treatment. serious of

Wrexham mascot Rockin Robin who lost his head.

The fans rubbed their eyes in disbelief at one point in the match when Mrs. Lenny (Shrewsbury Town) was seen to be enjoying the company of Benny the Buck (Telford United), but Lenny the Lion (Shrewsbury) soon took care of the situation and Mrs Lenny and Lenny were back together. Apart form the goals, the match also contained numerous "pileons" and brawls which the referee rightly ignored. At the end of the match, a cup was presented to the winning team and the mascots congratulated each other on their performance.

Exeter City's Alex the Greek summed the day up by saying: "It was great to meet up with fellow mascots in a non-matchday situation, although everyone took the game seriously in only the way they can! It was good to see Pilgrim Pete, even though I couldn't get to meet him at Home Park."

A very enjoyable day which wasn't all about football though as Blackpool's Bloomfield Bear explained: "We then went to a christening of a young Shrewsbury fan Kyle Morris who is a friend of Shrewsbury's mascot Lenny the Lion. Local press in Shrewsbury thought that we might have made a world record by having the most mascots at a christening." -That must have been some christening photo!!!

The introduction of Alex the Greek at Exeter City last season proved to be a huge success, despite the doubts expressed by a minority in the local press. Alex is a big hit with the younger supporters with his match antics and half-time shoot outs, and has also heightened the profile of Exeter City Football Club by attending various local events, both charitable and otherwise, as well as visiting local schools.

Finally a big welcome to Harry the Hatter if he has made the journey to St James' Park this afternoon.



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The Luton Town Story (48)



n unsuccessful battle against relegation last season completed an unwelcome chapter to the long history of Luton Town the wheel had turned full circle for the second time. A quarter of a century ago they proudly boasted that they were the first club in the country to sink from the top division to the bottom, then all the way back up again. Now their supporters are hoping that history can repeat itself, after the Hatters once more find themselves in the lowest division of the Football League.

The club has had to cope with all sorts of difficulties in the last few years, including almost going out of existence when they were in receivership in the summer of 1999. They survived, and a year later an old friend returned as the new owner and chairman - Mike Watson-Challis - who had been a director in Luton's glory years, for a decade when they flourished in the old First Division, now the Premiership.

He and his new colleagues on the board were determined to make a fresh start, but results in the first half of last season were a big disappointment., Former players Ricky Hill and then Lil Fuccillo were brought back to be managers, with limited success, with the result that in mid-season Luton were firmly stuck in the relegation zone an the board looked for proven experience.

They chose Joe Kinnear, best known for keeping Wimbledon in the Premiership against all the odds - no around of their own, little money and small crowds. Kinnear's brief was to try and regain former glories for the Hatters. Results did improve, but even Kinnear could not prevent Luton's tumble back to where they came 33 years previously, then called the Fourth Division.

Luton went into the 1990s as a top club, they had ten glorious years in what is now the Premiership, and won the Littlewoods Cup by beating

Arsenal in the 1988 final, But then came a decline, with a club in an antiquated stadium unable to compete with the big-money outfits. They missed the first season of the Premiership, through relegation just as it was set up in 1992, and the decline continued, with a drop into the Second Division in 1996.

Previous boards of directors took plenty of stick from fans as the Hatters slumped - the club sold at least £1million worth of talent every year, without bringing in adequate replacements. But now with a new board and management team in place, money available for players, and plans taking shape for a new stadium, the supporters hope that at long last the Hatters really are set to move ahead again.

One of the oldest clubs in England, they were the first in the south to turn professional - Luton have seen just about everything in football in more than a century of ups and downs. The club was formed in 1885 when Luton Wanderers and Luton Excelsior decided to merge, at a time when Luton as on the threshold of a boom thanks to the growth of the hatmaking trade which was to give the club its nickname.

Players were paid for the first time in 1891. Three years later Luton were founder members of the Southern League, and in 1897 joined the Football League's Second Division. But patchy results and rising costs led the to the club resigning to return to the Southern League. And there Luton stayed until 1920, when the Southern League became Division Three of the Football League.

They narrowly missed promotion to the old Second Division in 1936, when centreforward Joe Payne terrorised opposing defences, A winghalf, his first appearance as leader of the attack was near unbelievable. He scored ten goals in a 12-0 win over Bristol Rovers at Kenilworth Road. It is a record which is likely to stand forever.

The following year Luton did win promotion, with Payne

netting 55 League goals. Luton were comfortable in the Second Division and in 1955 won promotion to the top division - what is now the Premiership. It ended in tears after six years. Luton reached the FA Cup Final in 1959, but lost 2-1 to Nottingham Forest. The team were all getting too old together, and a slump set in. Within 12 months Luton were relegated, and by the sixth anniversary of their only FA Cup final appearance Luton had tumbled all the way down to the old Fourth Division. In 1967, they were perilously close to having to ask for re-election to stay in the League.

That indignity was narrowly avoided, and a new board injected new life and money into the club. The Division Four championship was won in 1968, and two years later another promotion was clinched, to the Second Division, with Malcolm Macdonald's goals a major

In 1974 Luton made history again. They won promotion back to the First Division to become the first club to ever drop from top to bottom of the League and then complete the revival in the opposite direction. That joy ended with relegation after only one season, but in 1982, led by former Exeter City winger David Pleat, Luton were back among the big boys again, despite operating on a shoestring in an antiquated ground.

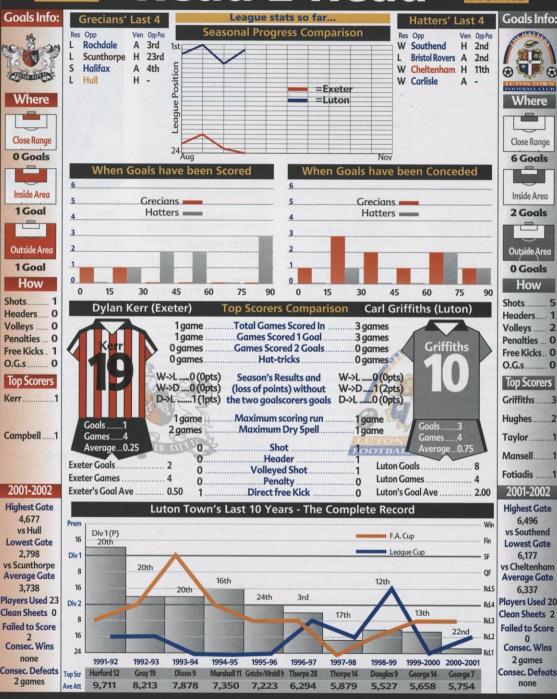
Miraculously Luton survived for ten seasons, with the first providing one of the game's classic showdowns. On the last day of the 1982-83 season Luton travelled to Maine Road needing a win to stay up and to condemn Manchester City to relegation. City had only to draw, and got to within four minutes of success. But then Raddy Antic, a Serb who had gone on as a substitute, struck the winner, and David Pleat was forever famous after that for his televised victory jig of delight across the pitch.

Luton lost in the 1985 FA Cup semi-final to Everton, but

in 1988 a major trophy was landed at last, when Arsenal were beaten 3-2 in the final of the Littlewoods Cup. The Hatters made Wembley their second home that summer. They were also there for the Football League's Centenary Tournament, and for the Simod Cup final, in which they lost to Reading. They nearly not there four times: an FA Cup run ended in defeat in the semi-final to eventual winners, Wimbledon. Twelve months later Luton were at Wembley again to defend the League Cup, but they lost to Nottingham Forest, to revive memories for older supporters of the 1959 disappointment. There has for several years been talk of moving to a new stadium from their present Kenilworth Road headquarters. Even as long ago as 1979, Luton considered moving completely to Milton Keynes to play in an indoor stadium, however, the fans were not pleased that they would have to travel to a completely different town and it also galvanised the local Borough council to set up a committee to evaluate likely sites in the Luton area. Another grand scheme was unveiled by former chairman David Kohler in 1995, for a beetle-shaped £30million indoor stadium - modestly titled the Kohler-Dome to be built at Luton Hoo. Although the scheme did get planning approval, the Department of Environment called n the scheme for a public enquiry. Meanwhile, six years after the Luton Hoo project was unveiled, Luton remain at Kenilworth Road, but the search and plans for a new stadium continue as the present site is unsuitable for expansion, set as it is in a residential area. Luton's first ever game at their present ground was in September 1905 against Plymouth Argyle in a Southern League fixture. with the ground originally called Ivy Road, consisting of grass banks at each end, and a terrace up against the backs of houses. A grandstand was built on the railway side of the ground, but even then space was a premium as it is

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Luton Town

[the hatters]

THE PLAYING SOUAD

EMMERSON BOYCE is a strong, calm and intelligent defender, one of the many to come through from Luton's schools and youth development programme, he was signed as a YTS boy in the summer of 1995, and graduated to the first team squad after a debut in the Auto Windscreens Shield in January 1999. By the end of the season he was a regular in the squad, but made only one start in the League in 98-99. On Boxing Day 1999, he won the right wing-back slot from and kept it for most of the rest of the season. He continued this into the 2000-01 season, playing 48 games plus one sub appearance in the season and scoring three goals. He can play wing-back or central defender.

DEAN BRENNAN was spotted by former boss Ricky Hill from his days coaching youngsters at Sheffield Wednesday and he came to Luton Town on a free transfer. Plays on the left side of midfield, where his strong, quick running make him a threat going forward. He can also play up front as an out-and-out striker. O

STUART DOUGLAS

suffered from injuries for much of the early part of last season. In the end he managed 22 appearances for the Club and scored five goals. A big favourite with the fans for his endless energy and running, his lack of goals has always been a concern and he is the first to



admit that 23 in 164 appearances is a not a good return. A real hotshot in vouth and reserve team football, Douglas was a 17year-old trainee when he made his league debut for Luton against Oldham Athletic in 1995.

RICHARD DRYDEN was a member of Exeter City's Fourth Division championship winning squad of 1990. He joined Luton initially on a three month contract in February 2001 after being out of contract at Southampton. A 31-year-old left-footed central defender, his first game at the Club was also manager Joe Kinnear's first game in charge. He played every game for the rest of the season and his experience will help settle the younger Luton defenders. He has made 323 League appearances, including spells at Southampton, Manchester City and Birmingham City.

from Walsall on a two-year contract in early July 2001. He was a trainee at Millwall, who sold him to Colchester United for £25,000 in July 1994. He made 229 appearances for the Us, 194 of them in the League, before moving on to Walsall in June 1999. Carl is a very experienced goalkeeper, has good presence, is a good talker, has a safe pair of hands, and was a valuable member of Walsall's promotion side last season. He was out of contract on June 30 and under the Bosman ruling he was free to move.

CARL EMBERSON joined

ADRIAN FORBES became manager Joe Kinnear's fourth summer capture when he signed from Norwich City on a three-year contract in July 2001. Forbes, 22, cost £60,000 from and the reaction of the Canaries fans revealed that the winger was a crowd-pleaser and that they were sorry to see him go. Forbes had played 122 times for Norwich since joining them as a trainee from Millwall, but he

had a queue of players ahead of him at Carrow Road and manager Nigel Worthington said: he could not quarantee Adrian first team football.

ANDREW FOTIADIS has had a career crippled by injuries of all sorts, including missing a large part of the end of the 1999-00 season after colliding with an advertising board and damaging his hand. A local discovery. Fotiadis chose to stay at school to gain Alevels before being a fulltime soccer professional. He won England Schools caps at Under-15 and Under-18 level.

STUART FRASER is a resolute and determined tackler, however, his season ended with a badly-broken leg in the first few minutes of the FA Cup Third Round replay at Queen's Park Rangers in January last season. A stylish defender, Fraser is a former skipper of the Luton Youth Team which ran away with the South East Counties League championship. He was given his league debut against Carlisle, in a 3-2 win, on the final day of the 1997-98 season A Scottish Under-21 international.

LIAM GEORGE was a regular member of the Republic of Ireland squad that progressed to the European youth championships final in the summer of 1998. He made his league debut against Bristol City in September 1997, and started the 1998-99 season as an established first choice. But he broke a leg at Wigan early on and the season was nearly over by the time he had recovered. He established himself in 1999-00, playing mainly just behind the front two, where he had more freedom to run at defenders. At his best, he is a dazzling dribbler of the ball coupled with the vision to set up team-mates, but Luton fans are sometimes frustrated that this great talent does not win the Club more matches



CARL GRIFFITHS was signed from Levton Orient for £65,000. A Welsh Under-21 international and winner of the Division Three Golden Boot award for his 27 goals in a season while at Shrewsbury, he is a prolific goalscorer, who netted 19 in the League alone while at Brisbane Road in 2000-01. He began his career as a trainee at Shrewsbury Town, and then Manchester City paid half a million for him in 1993. After that, he had spells at Portsmouth, Peterborough United, Orient, Wrexham, Port Vale and back to Orient in December 1999. In total, £1,215,000 had been paid for him in transfer fees before

PETER HOLMES is a twofooted midfielder who came to Luton as one of former boss Ricky Hill's first signings. Hill had spotted the talented youngsters while coaching at Sheffield Wednesday. Holmes has a good pedigree. He is a product of the FA's School Of Excellence, from the same year as Michael Owen. Holmes will be looking to build on good early-season form to establish a permanent first team spot.

Luton added to that figure.

MARVIN JOHNSON is the longest-serving player at Kenilworth Road, having now passed the 500 appearances mark for Luton, but managed only 11 games in 2000-01, his 13th season in the Luton First Team. A series of injuries - the first coming before half time in only the second game of the season, then leading to complications and neck problems when heading a

football - saw him spend most of the season frustrated in the stands and the treatment room. A oneclub man since he joined as a schoolboy.

KENT KARLSEN is a Norwegian Under-21 international, became Luton's second Scandinavian signing in as many days when he joined the club in early November 2000, the day after Finnish international Petri Helin, Big central defender Karlsen came from Norwegian Premier League side Vaalerenga. He played there for five years, winning a Norwegian FA Cup Winners' Medal along the way.

ADAM LOCKE is a welltravelled midfielder, having joined Luton on a free transfer from Bristol City to add experience to a predominantly young squad in the summer of 1999. He began as a YTS boy with Crystal Palace, his local club, but could not get into the league team at Selhurst Park, and moved on to Southend United, Colchester United and then to Ashton Gate before becoming a regular with Luton in 1999-00.

LEE MANSELL made a sensational debut for Luton in the FA Cup Third Round replay at QPR on January 17, 2001, scoring after just 37 seconds of the game, and playing a fine aggressive role in a superb Luton performance. Mansell has won praise during a successful season in the Youth Team and was handed a squad number only the day before the OPR replay because Luton had so many injuries. Much is expected of Mansell, a tenacious rightsided midfield player with good vision good passing range.

KEVIN NICHOLLS is a midfielder, who was signed on a three year contract from Wigan for a staged fee that could grow up to £150,000 if he plays enough games. The initial outlay is just £25,000. Nicholls, 22, was a trainee at Charlton Athletic from 1995 to 99 and played 16 games. He had a month's loan at Brighton and Hove Albion in 1999, but then joined Wigan Athletic in June 1999. He was captain of the England Under-18 team. Under-19s and Under-20s.

MANAGER: JOE KINNEAR manager returned to the



loe Kinnear took over the managerial reins from Lil Fuccillo at Kenilworth Road on February 8 2001 after just a week as Luton Town's Director of Football. The ex-Wimbledon

game after a 20 month break having spent sevenand-a-half years as the 'Crazy Gang' boss. His achievements at Wimbledon are well renowned in English football having kept his unfashionable side in the top division throughout his time at Selhurst Park despite having to sell several of the club's best players to balance the books.

As a player Joe spent ten years as a right-back with Tottenham Hotspur before moving to Brighton and won 26 caps for the

Republic of Ireland. He took over from Peter Withe as Wimbledon manager in 1992. His last two years in charge were not to prove quite so successful, despite having spent a club record £7.5 million on striker John Hartson, but Kinnear was not helped by problems with his health, which also had an adverse effect on his team's performance. His return to football with The Hatters came as something of a surprise with the club languishing at the bottom end of Division Two.

MARK OVENDALE cost £425,000 from AFC Bournemouth., the goalkeeper having originally moved to **MATTHEW SPRING** is now the south coast club from £30,000 from Barry Town in July 1998, making 111 appearances, keeping an impressive 40 clean sheets on the way. He has had to compete for the number one jersey at Luton with Nathan

RUSSELL PERRETT helped Cardiff City win promotion last season, However, the big central defender knew he would have to fight hard to retain his place in the team this season and joined Luton a few days before the kickoff. Strong in the air, and with a good first touch on the ground, Russ began with Lyminaton before being snapped up by neighbouring Portsmouth in 1995. He did well in the First Division, and moved to Cardiff four years

AARON SKELTON became manager Joe Kinnear's first summer signing in July 2001. He is a very useful utility player, who can play a holding role in midfield, in central defence or at right back, and has been chosen as Colchester United's Player of the Year for the past two seasons. A trainee at Kenilworth road between 1992 and 1997, Skelton had few opportunities to break into a First Team squad and in July 1997 he moved to Colchester. He went on to play 144 times for the Layer Road team in four seasons that saw Colchester

promoted from the Third Division and establishing themselves in the Second.

one of Luton's most senior players with 172 appearances for the Club. He was a major reason why the Luton youngsters reached the FA Youth Cup semi-finals in 1997, and it was no surprise when he was called up for a league debut, when still only 17, as a sub against Bristol City in September 1997. Since then, Spring, a tough tackler and an inspired passer, has been ever-present and has scored some spectacular long-range goals.

MATTHEW TAYLOR is the current Luton Town Player Of The Year. Not a bad start for a player who was only 18 at the beginning of last season. When Luton were in receivership in the summer of 1999, players had to be sold or given away to save money, so once more young talent had a chance, and wing-back Taylor, though still only 17, took it. He went straight



from Youth Team to League squad, and after helping Luton win the South East Counties championship in 1998-99 He started with a League debut on the opening day of the 1999-00 season at Notts County and became first choice at left wing-back.

PETER THOMSON began his career with his home town club Bury, but after 18 months as a teenager at Gigg Lane, he was released and joined neighbouring Chorley, in the Unibond Premier League. His scoring touch there alerted ambitious rivals Lancaster City, and they reaped a rapid return after recruiting him. In six months he netted 24 goals in just 28 matches, and Lancaster cashed in when Dutch club NAC Breda offered £25,000. A broken lea interrupted Thomson's career in the Dutch Premiership, but he got over it and regular goals persuaded Luton to sign him for £100,000 in September 2000.

SCOTT WARD had the most spectacular start to his career possible for a goalkeeper. His first act in League football was to save a penalty. After sitting in the stands for almost the entire season, he suddenly found himself on the bench for the last five games of the season. He had barely sat down in the fourth of those matches away at Brentford - when Mark Ovendale was sent off just two minutes into the game. On came 19-year-old Ward to tip the penalty kick around the post

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Conne ions

Hammersmith-born midfielder STEVE

WILLIAMS played the game at the highest level, notably with Southampton and Arsenal, as well as winning six full caps, fourteen under-21 caps and playing at B international level for England. He was to also play for Luton Town and then Exeter City, the Grecians signing Steve on a free transfer in August 1991.

Steve was an apprentice at the Saints until earning a full contract in July 1976 and he went on to feature in 278 League matches for them, netting 18 goals. He was then transferred to Arsenal in December 1984, where he made another 95 League outings, scoring four goals.

His friendship with ALAN BALL, was to reunite the pair at St James' Park, with the former having become manager of the Grecians. However, after leaving Arsenal, Steve moved to Luton Town in August 1988, but in his three seasons at Kenilworth Road he only figured in 40 League matches.

Having signed for Exeter just before the start of the 1991-92 season, he made his debut in what proved to be a disastrous opening day visit to West Bromwich Albion as City lost 6-3. However, he went on to figure in 36 League games, as City ended in 20th place in the Second Division.

The following season, Steve only managed 12 League appearances as City once again struggled and finished the campaign in 19th place. At the end of that season he was released on a free transfer, and immediately linked up with the club's former chief executive, ALLEN TRUMP to work for his publishing company in Exeter.

The first ever meeting between Exeter City and Luton Town was as long ago as the 1908-09 season, with the Grecians having joined the Southern League. however, it should be emembered that this was



the first teams of both Exeter and Luton.

The Hatters were at St James' Park on 14th November 1908, but City won 2-1 before an attendance of 4,000 with goals from JAMES BELL and ANDY McGUIGAN. City also won the return meeting that season on 20th March 1909, this time LEVI COPESTAKE and ROBERT WATSON getting the goals.

Possibly the most well known former Luton Town player to have worn the colours of Exeter City was winger DAVID PLEAT, who was later to carve a name for himself as a coach and a manager, including a long spell in charge back at Kenilworth Road.

David started his career with Nottingham Forest where he won England youth international honours to add to his schoolboy caps for his country. He moved to Luton in August 1964 and scored nine goals in 70 League appearances. His next stop was Shrewsbury Town in July 1967, but he only stayed one season before being signed by Exeter City in July 1968.

A month later he made his debut for the Grecians in a 1-1 draw at Peterborough and quickly became a favourite of the fans with his wing play. His first goal for City came a week later when PETER

BULLOCK and **JIMMY** BLAIN also scored in the 3-0 win over Chesterfield.

David went on to score 8 goals in 43 League outings in his first season at the club. but the following season didn't win a regular place in the team. However, he still



appearances, before being released on a free transfer to link up with Peterborough United.

Moving into coaching and management, David was to return to Luton as their manager in 1978, and stayed at the club for eight years. He had a second spell as manager between 1991 and

■ Both Exeter City and Luton Town, along with all the other Southern League clubs, became founder members of the Football League Third Division in 1920. The two meetings between the clubs at this level took place over the space of a week. City went to Luton first and lost 3-0 before 8,000 spectators, and a week later did gain some revenge when a solitary CHARLIE

VOWLES goal gave the Grecians the points, the teams first win for thirteen

Although KOFI NYAMAH was on the books at Luton Town, he never made the first team at Kenilworth Road, but by far his best spell of his career came after he joined Exeter City just before the start of the 1999-2000 season, after impressing in the pre-season friendlies.

Kofi, on his day, was as good a winger as you would see in the Third Division, and it was this promise that attracted Cambridge United where he started his career, League appearances. However, he was released on a free transfer and joined Kettering Town.

Rediscovering his form at Kettering, it prompted Stoke City to pay a fee for Kofi where he was to be a team mate of PETER FOX, who was also to sign him for Exeter City. Kofi managed a further 17 League appearances for the Potters, but then had spells with Luton Town and Cambridge United again, without making the starting line ups.

Kofi made his debut for the Grecians on the opening day of the 1999-200 season and featured in the 1-0 win over Hull City. He netted in the next game, his only goal for the Grecians, in a 2-2 draw at Barnet. And although he was also used in a wing-back role and eventually totalled 35 League appearances for the club, he was one of several players who were shown the door at the end of that season.

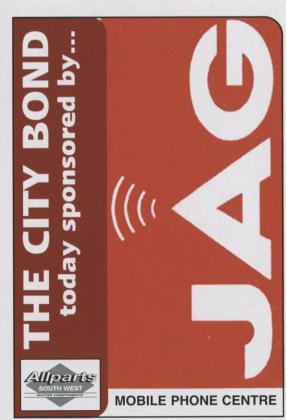
■ The last time Luton Town were at St James' Park for a League fixture was on Saturday 21st October 1967. It proved to be a memorable day for Luton! They won 5-0 before an attendance of 3,434. The match report stated: "As the game reached it's final stages, a musician in the crowd sounded a few bars of the 'The Last Post' but what the Exeter City supporters should be more concerned about is when the 'Reveille' will be sounded?"

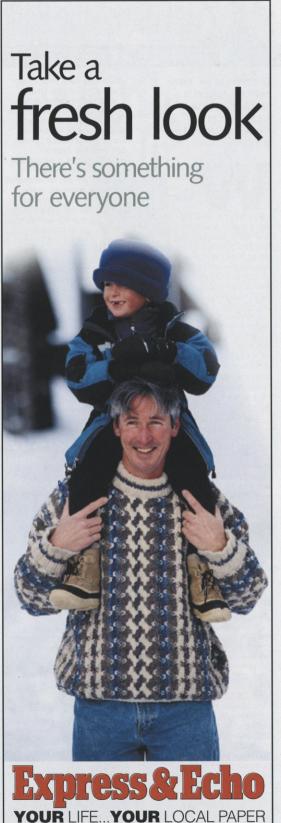
City were completely outplayed as Allen (2), Slough, Buxton and Whittaker netted the Luton goals. The match report ended by stating: "The directors at St James' Park have got to find ways of making money available for at least a couple of signings. Time has come for some drastic rethinking at Exeter City.' The teams lined up as follows:-

Exeter City: John Smout, Cecil Smyth, Campbell Crawford, Ernie Wilkinson. Keith Harvey, Cliff Huxford, Stuart Hart, Micky Fudge, Mike Balson, Ian Hamilton, Keith

Luton Town: Tony Read, Max Dougan, Fred Jardine, Allan Slough, Terry Branston, John Moore, John Ryan, Jan Buxton, Keith Allen, Bruce Rioch, Ray Whittaker.









Grecians



EXETER CITY THE GREAT GAMES No 2: BARNSLEY v **EXETER CITY** Tuesday 3rd May 1977

en I rushed in Liverpool to get to this game in far off Siberia, little did I expect the game that unfolded. A mad dash along the M62 in the days before gridlock, then delays through Huddersfield. Anxious glances at the watch as 7.30 loomed ever closer, then a clear run along the A637. A sign loomed through the Yorkshire mists.

Welcome to Barnsley. Some Yorkshire wit had added the word You're in front of the welcome so I expected the worse.Barnslev..home of cricketers; of Darren Gough and Dickie Bird. Of Parky and fullbacks hewn from coal seams called Skinner Normanton

I stopped for directions. Tha turns reet, reet agin..alreet:then tha does a left, darn thill,up tbank and thas theer. Alreet? Clear as a

The floodlight pylons, now alas a rarity, helped guide me to the windswept, snow capped plateau that was Oakwell. Inside black cinders, and railway sleepers; chicken runs and stratchin sheds: corrugated iron and strong beef tea. Once all football grounds were like this .Fat. ladies called Elsie, with broad Yorkshire vowels served steaming meat pies with mushy peas to make your eyes

By halftime I was fed up with the broad Yorkshire vowels laughing and poking fun at a flaccid nonperforming City.

Tek theesel ome lads, thas wus thin Torquay? etc. etc. City were 3-0 down and the

Yorkists were in great humour. In those days there was no away end so there I was surrounded by burly miners and had to pretend I was enjoying myself. Cometh the moment cometh the man. I don't know what Bobby Saxton said at half time. Most likely !+*@*!* but the Mr. Hyde of the second half bore no resemblance to the Dr. Jekyll of the first. The Celts took

over.Brandishing their spears they set about the Tykes.

Beer, that diminutive, dark, bubble haired Welshman with the low centre of gravity grabbed a goal. Kellow the bustling beer-bellied Cornish Celt with the Zapata moustache got a second and Barnsley were reeling. Manager Jim Iley, an animated bald pate glistening in the floodlights, was a worried man. He needed to be as City struck again with Beer, A mazy run, a touch of Brazilian samba, a swivel of the hips and another glorious goal. 3-3.

Enter the greatest Celt of all.

Scot Lammie Robertson. A plotter. A puller of strings. Insolent, incisive he was calmly dissecting the Barnsley defence with the finest of passes. Then ,suddenly, over went the clumsy Kellow, PENALTY I shouted. A thousand Barnsley faces attacked me with withering gaze but I could restrain myself no longer. Referee Flint agreed and pointed to the spot.Up strode super-hero Lammie, A gladiator in a blue and white shirt.He smiled the smile of the grim reaper. The lethargic three pace run up and the ball was dispatched past the hapless Springett with arrogant ease. City had won. Twenty two minutes of absolute magic and four goals.

5,140 Yorkshiremen slunk back down the pits and looked to next season. One Grecian headed home ecstatic with City certain of Division 3.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Why is Cinderella no good at football? She keeps running away from the ball!

COLEMANBALL

"I was quite disappointed to leave Spurs, but quite pleased did." - Steve Perryman



Lammie Robertson

SWANSEA CITY versus EXETER CITY Nationwide Third Division Monday, 8th September 2001

fter a season playing in the Second Division, Swansea City are back on the Grecians' places to visit, as we travel to the Vetch next Saturday. This is a very, very easy journey for travelling supporters and there is likely to be a large following of Exeter fans, including a coach load organised by the Club's Red Army Junior Supporters. If you wish to book a seat on one of the other coaches, then please call into the office today.

Those of you making your own way by road are advised to take the following route. M5 north. M49 and over the magnificent Severn Crossing (you only pay a toll when leaving Wales). Then westbound on the M4 as far as junction 45, skirting both Newport and Cardiff on the way. Take the A4067 towards the city centre. proceed over the next two roundabouts and turn right into Alexandria Road, which is the A4118. This becomes Mansel Street, then Walter Road., Turn left into Page Street. Turn right into St Helens Road, then second left into Richardson Street, the ground being at the bottom of this street. The car park at the ground is for permit holders only, so you will have to find onstreet spaces, or go into the city centre and use one

of the car parks there. Exeter City fans will be accommodated on the covered West Terrace. Admission is £10 for adults, £5 concessions. There are facilities for the disabled available in the Wing Stand. For further details please telephone Swansea City FC on 01792 474114. Match



Chris Curran was on the score sheet on City's last visit to Swansea unfortunately it was an own goal!

programmes are readily available in and around the

There are plenty of pubs around the ground, with the nearest being The Tafarn Clarence in which visiting fans are welcome. However, with the city centre a relatively short walk away, there are a whole host of places to choose from, as well as all the usual food outlets. Any City fans arriving by rail, are advised that it is a ten minute walk to the ground via the city centre, so allow time to stop off for a bite to eat or drink on the way to the Vetch.

The Grecians last visit to Swansea for a Third Division fixture was on 29th April. 2000, when the Vetch faithful were in party mood, this being the Swans last home fixture as they celebrated winning the Third Division championship. Sadly for Exeter, they lost 3-0, which included a Chris Curran own goal. Earlier that season a Jason Rees goal had given Exeter a 1-1 draw against the Swans at St James'







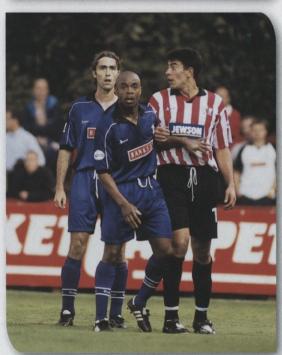




Tuesday, 21st August, 2001 **Exeter City 0** versus Walsall 1









Brotherly love works wonders

or the start of the 1999-2000 campaign, Exeter City made what has become their annual trip to the Royal Marine camp at Arbroath for pre-season training. But they also played a friendly against Scottish League Third Division side Brechin City at Glebe Park which attracted an amazing number of Exeter fans who made the long trek north.

Last season, Brechin narrowly missed out on promotion, however they have got away to a riproaring start this time around, remaining unbeaten, thanks to an unusual managerial duo!

Current Brechin boss Dick Campbell admits he fights like cat and dog with his assistant manager. But the pair are never likely to fall out for long - because City's assistant boss is Ian Campbell - the club's record top-scorer and also Dick's brother

Manager Dick told ananova.co.uk: "It's a very unique situation because apart from being my brother he is also my best friend. We work brilliantly together lan is under no illusions who the boss is. He knows his place.

"Ian takes the training and fitness work, I just let him get on with it. Ian is every bit the manager of Brechin City in what he does, because he has the respect of the players and is very meticulous his preparations for matches.

"I'm a wee bit more rebellious. I can say my piece to the players. But I'm experienced enough to know that there's no need to have an assistant and then do everything yourself."

He adds: "We are totally chalk and cheese. Ian is a very, very successful businessman in his own right (he owns his own consultancy business) but he is also a talented coach, a very educated man.I rely on him a lot, but I also argue with him a lot. We argue about everything - team selection especially

It may be the source of discontentment between the brothers, but the Brechin starting XI has started this season with a bang. Brechin started their season, having played four, won four, scored eight goals in two league games and find themselves in the semi-finals of the Bell's Challenge Cup.

Campbell puts that squarely down to a strong pool of players and the relaxed happy working environment at Glebe Park something he has not always enjoyed at previous clubs. He spent eight successful and enjoyable seasons at Dunfermline, before current chairman John Yorkston arrived at the club, then everything changed.

What happened after that has given the 47-year-old a new perspective on his career. He said: "Ever since my experiences at Dunfermline, I decided that my life will never be determined by a chairman ever again. My life will never, ever be determined by one

"Mr Yorkson bought shares in the club and wanted a change of direction for Dunfermline, and obviously I wasn't involved in any future plans. He made that quite clear to everybody.

"You've got to have a happy environment, and I wasn't happy at Dunfermline. But I've got a good job now, Brechin is a lovely atmosphere to work in, a great football club, and we have a magnificent chairman who lets me get on with

"I've turned down three jobs in the last year, one fulltime and two part-time. If I go back to a full-time club now it will be on my terms. I wouldn't apply for any other job, I'm not interested. The most important thing is that you have a happy working environment and I've certainly got that here and I couldn't be happier."

That happy environment at Brechin was commented upon by both the manager and players of Exeter City as well as the supporters who were made so welcome by everyone at Glebe Park. As far as we know there has only ever been one other link between the clubs, with midfielder Marcus Dailly having played for both the Grecians and Brechin City. With annual trips being made to Arbroath for pre-season training, no one will rule out the possibility of Exeter City visiting Glebe Park at some stage for another friendly fixture to experience that Brechin brotherly love!

AWAYDAY MEMORIES

ANDREW LONG recalls a day at Tottenham §



ottenham Hotspur were the Manchester United of the 60s. They dominated domestic football. And Exeter City went to their ground. took the lead twice and scored three. A dream come true for a 13 year old school

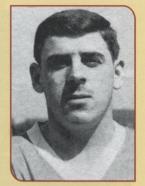
The story so far. Glorious victory in the Football League Cup first round. An ultimate Exeter ambition in the mastery of Devon. We beat Plymouth Argyle and won at Plainmoor on the same evenina

How come? Well we were drawn to play away at Argyle. It took five-and-ahalf hours of football for the first goal to be scored. Both games at Home Park and the St James Park replay (attendance over 13,000) were goalless. In those days a second replay was at a neutral ground. So it was at Torquay that Johnny Kirkham popped in the last minute winner

The handsome reward was a home tie versus Sheffield Wednesday. They were then a top division side. Cup Finalists two years earlier. They had started well and were in the top six when they came to St James' The absence of ton scorer and talisman Alan Banks couldn't halt City. Stunning wing play from Johnny Corr saw Wednesday humbled 3-1

So, next up, a trip to White Hart Lane. It was the ultimate challenge of the 60s in domestic football. Spurs dominated the League. In that decade they had become the first modern side to do the double, always finished in the top four and had earlier won the FA Cup two years running. They had also just smashed the British transfer record to bring in a new striker.

It took a family effort to get me there. My parents had to persuade my headmaster that I could have half a day off. My grandmother travelled on the train with me, spending the



Alan Banks scored against Spurs

evening in a waiting room at Paddington! And an uncle living in London got me from Paddington to the ground and back.

Both sides played attractive 4-4-2. So four wingers on display, when they had been banished from most teams following the 1966 World Cup success. And a winger created the first goal. David Pleat, then on City's left, (and long before he became Spurs manager) cut in and hit a low shot. Pat Jennings couldn't hold it and Banks reacted quickly to stun the 26,000 crowd by putting City ahead.

Spurs equalised, but City attacked with spirit. Banks was pulled back illegally just outside the area. From a neat routine John Mitten smashed a 20 yarder home. 2-1 to City. 'Easy' came the cheeky chant from behind Jennings goal.

Much of the rest of the game went in a blur. But in the second half Pleat cut in again and delivered a neat cross which Banks met with a diving header into the top corner. Unfortunately by then Spurs had scored five and were to add another before the end. Jimmy Greaves got a hat-trick which must have consisted of offside goals (or possibly he was quicker than City's ageing central defence!)

The measure of the achievement is that we were the only visitors to score three at White Hart Lane that season. Indeed even away Spurs never let in more than two - except when in Manchester

And did I mention Manchester United? They were European Champions. They had three European Footballers of the Year in their forward line. A few months later they were our FA Cup opponents - and found themselves trailing for half an hour. But thats another story

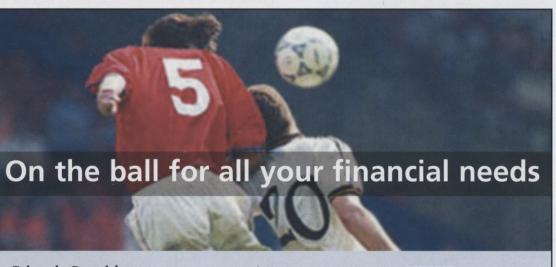


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Exeter City Supporters

The Red Army

Junior Supporters Club

ood afternoon and welcome to

St James' Park for another home game, and this time against Luton Town. We welcome the supporters of Luton Town 'The Hatters'. and trust that they have a safe journey too and from Devon. I feel sure that there will not be too many Town supporters who have seen their team play here before in a League game. I think Bruce Rioch was still playing for them when they last visited.

Firstly I would like to thank Mr Berry of Barnstaple, for vet another donation of programmes. The man is a star, regularly leaving packages at the Near Post full of programmes. There you are Geoff, I said I would get your name in the programme

By now current members of the Supporters Club should have received their new membership cards, and the much sought after, splendid new badge. Congratulations to Roger Kendall on producing the badge, which is similar to that of the Trust. Selling 50/50s at the 'Jungle' Gate, it was good to see so many supporters wearing the badge at the first home game. Membership of the Supporters Club currently stands at 17 couples and 210 singles, therefore we are nearly equalling last season's figure already.

The August meeting of the Supporters Club committee was pleased to welcome Norman Warne, the associate director. If you have any problems, Norman will be at the St James' Centre on Tuesdays between 9 and 10pm. There will be a post box for those who cannot see him, and a noticeboard will in place both for the Trust and the Supporters Club.

Given that the Supporters Club has nearly 250 members, and the Trust membership is growing all the time, why not join one of those, or both, bodies now?





■ The Red Army would like to welcome to St James' Park, any junior Luton Town supporters who have made the journey to Devon for this afternoon's game. It will be the first time for all our members that they have seen City play Luton.

Once again I have included two photographs of the recent Open Day we held for Red Army members at the Cat and Fiddle training ground, which was a huge success with Noel Blake and the players all sparing time to talk and train with everyone.

I would like to remind members that the Red Army are running a coach to City's match at Swansea next Saturday. This will leave St

James' Road at 11am, with the cost being £10 for children and £12 for adults. The price includes travel, plus a match ticket, so represents excellent value. Please book your places with me today or give me a call on the usual number as soon as possible.

■ There are still a few vacancies for the mascot on Saturdays, Ring Sarah in the City office on 01392 254073 for a special afternoon.

■ Hopefully all members will now have received the new membership packs by now. complete with the superb Red Army scarf. I for some reason you haven't got yours then please let me know.

- SALLY COOKE



BIRTHDAY WISHES GO TO...

ROBERT DUNN (Sep 2) WILLIAM EVANS (Sep 2) **MATTHEW HIGGINS (Sep 2)** RICKY MOORE (Sep 2) **KIERAN WILLIAMS (Sep 2)** JIMMY REDMORE (Sep 8) **LEWIS HEAVER (Sep 9) JAMIE MOORE (Sep 10)** JONATHAN MOCK (Sep 11) SAM MUNNINGS (Sep 13)

IF YOU WANT A MEMBERSHIP FORM OR REQUIRE FURTHER DETAILS...

l can be contacted on (01884) 32275, ee me on a matchday, or write to mo at Aller Barton Farm, Cullompton, Devon EX5 100.

Sally Cooke



acial tension hit the headlines during the summer as we all witnessed the television pictures of the troubles on the streets of Bradford and Burnley etc. Much of it appeared to be made worse by the infiltration of those areas by extremists -'professional rent-a-mob' with sinister tendencies, the sort of people we could do without in this country.

It is a delicate subject for many to discuss, but at Exeter City AFC we have actively supported any initiative which gets rid of racism in the game of football. We may not have too many problems in this area, but we know they are still there, even though they may be on a minor scale. The Club play a major role in the local 'Kick Racism Out of Football' campaign, which it supports wholeheartedly, with regular meetings being held and joint initiatives being formulated to publicise the message that racism has no part in sport, or society as a whole.

Unfortunately, a report which has just been published seems to have missed the whole point as to the reasons why there are not more of the country's ethnic population employed in or even playing football. The report stated that there were clubs who did not have an open door policy when it came to employment. This certainly does NOT apply at Exeter City.

The one crucial point that was missed though, is that there are very, very few UK based Asians or even Chinese for that matter, who have an interest in football. Certainly if you look around the crowds, you will see very few, unless perhaps you are at one of the big city grounds. With that in mind, and the lack of Asians or Chinese, or any other nationality for that matter attending games at St James' Park, is it any wonder that we don't receive any applications from them for employment?

You cannot force people to apply for jobs in football, no matter what race or colour they may be. The report was perhaps a little unfair in so much it never considered that point at all.

The League Managers **Association**

Commercially City



FORMATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

he League Managers Association has developed into a major representative voice in the administration of football, which has brought increasing benefits for its members who are drawn from the professional ranks of the game.

With headquarters in eamington Spa, the LMA was formed, coincidentally, in the year of the inauguration of the Premier League. Among the leading pioneers in its formation was Watford and former England manager Graham Taylor whose vision was collective representation for all Premiership and Football League managers as the profile and demands on them became

increasingly relevant. The last decade has been one of overwhelming change for football and perhaps the most eventful period in the game's development. The formation of the Premier League itself heralded a change in structure and this was followed by the escalation in television rights though the associations with Sky and the Bosman judgment, which so dramatically affected the movement of players and neralded the arrival in this country of many overseas players from around the world. All these factors directly affected the role of managers

within the game. Taylor's own motivation was conviction that managers generally possessed a vast store of knowledge and experience, which was not being ransmitted back for the penefit of the game as a whole. There was no recognised way for them to express their views to the legislators and decision makers.

By forming an association nto which this information ould be channelled the managers therefore won the ecognition of both the Football Association and the Premier and Football Leagues. As the ears have passed there has been an ever-increasing input rom the managerial ranks and advice is sought from the LMA on a regular basis.

KEY INITIATIVES

One of the most significant early breakthroughs was the ntroduction into the Premier

League regulations of a Code of Conduct governing the appointment of managers and the termination of their contracts. This now means that LMA members in the league have a greater protection in he event of losing their job than they have ever had with similar safeguards for the clubs in relation to their managers being approached during the period of their contracts. Most club managers have realised that by using the LMA to finetune the wording of their contracts they now have a greeter job protection then they have ever enjoyed.

BY THE MANAGERS FOR THE MANAGERS

There have been numerous others initiatives in regard to pensions, disciplinary procedures, the setting up of academies and the study of youth development both here and abroad. In-keeping with the developments in information technology, the LMA has, in partnership with Cisco Systems and Fast Web Media Ltd, introduced its members to the use of Internet with the aim being that every club manager will eventually have means the to communicate with each other

KEY PERSONNEL

The late John Camkin, whose own drive was a significant factor in the LMA's early development, was the first Chief Executive of the LMA and at various stages since; Frank Clark, Steve Coppell, Jim Smith and Gordon Milne have filled the position.

Since 1996, however, the I MA has had the benefit of a Chief Executive who took a conscious decision to make the job a career, John Barnwell, the former Peterborough, Wolves, Notts County, Walsall and Northampton manager, has been a real driving force in progressing the status and influence of the LMA; combining a lifetime?s experience in football with a shrewd business brain, which has helped improve the status of football managers.

John was appointed to the post of Chief Executive in August 1996 and has raised the profile of the LMA to an unprecedented level since taking up the position. He is widely recognised and accepted as "the voice" of professional football managers.

Born in Newcastle, John's

playing career began with Bishop Auckland in their distinguished amateur days, when he was spotted by Arsenal and brought to Highbury in November 1956. In seven years with The Gunners he played 138 leagues games, scoring 23 goals and winning honours at England youth and Under-21 levels.

In March 1963 he was transferred to Nottingham Forest, where he played 178 matches (plus eight as a substitute) over six years, scoring a further 22 goals.

John played briefly for Sheffield United in 1970, but persistent ankle problems, which had begun at Forest, combined with a knee injury, forced him into playing retirement.

John joined Noel Cantwell as a coach at Peterborough United, taking over as manager in 1974-75. John terminated his contract with the club over their transfer policy in 1978 but within a very short space of time he was snapped up by Wolverhampton Wanderers. Unfortunately, a serious motor accident kept John hospitalised for a lengthy period but he made a full recovery and in the 1981-82 season he moved to Greece to take up a management post with AEK Athens, where he spent two years coaching.

After a break, John returned to management in England and had spells with Notts County. who he immediately took to the play-offs, and then with Walsall and Northampton before retiring from football management.

Since taking over from Gordon Milne as Chief Executive of the LMA, John has worked tirelessly and it is largely as a result of his energy and ambition that the organisation now holds a seat on almost every one of football's decisionmaking bodies. He worked diligently to introduce a Code of Conduct for managers which has proved highly valuable and successful and he has instituted agreements to ensure that no manager need worry about his rights under his contract.

John has endeavoured to secure partnerships with companies such as Cisco Systems and FAST Search and Transfer that will carry the Association forward in the 21st century, and it is largely thanks to John that League Managers.com was established.

Deputy Chief Executive, Olaf Dixon, has become a familiar face in football administration over the last 25 years. He studied and practised law in his early years in Coventry before being recruited in 1976 by the World Sports Academy, the company founded by Jimmy Hill to develop football and run the national side in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

At the end of a successful three-year contract in Saudi. Olaf returned to England and. together with the late and respected John Camkin, took over the administration and organisation of the Secretaries and Managers Association, the forerunner to the League Managers Association becoming the organisations full-time secretary in 1980.

With the formation of the LMA as the representative body of professional managers within the IFMA. Olaf became LMA secretary and, from June 1998, Deputy Chief Executive and has been instrumental alongside John Barnwell in overseeing the development of the association, including the LMA's move into bigger premises in Leamington Spa.

Steve Curry has worked for the LMA since 1996 producing the LMA Newsletter and handling press releases in conjunction with John and Olaf. He worked for the Daily Express for 30 years, the last 20 of those spent as Chief Football Writer. He left in 1996 to join the Sunday Telegraph and was voted Football Reporter of the Year in 1999. He now works freelance and his articles are published regularly in several of the country's top broadsheets.

John Ley has also worked closely with the LMA since 1996 as the Association's statistical and editorial consultant, using his vast knowledge and statistical library to aid and assist the LMA's extensive research.

He lives in Hertfordshire and is married with two children. He began his journalist career with the Hayters Sports Reporting Agency in Fleet Street before joining the Oxford Mail as chief soccer reporter. where he covered the arrival of Robert Maxwell and Oxford United's Milk Cup success. In 1987 he joined the Daily Telegraph as a member of their football reporting team, a position he still holds.









■ This afternoon we would like to welcome our Match Sponsors GK ROOFING and all their quests. GK Roofing have been long standing sponsors of the City and we thank them for their continuing support. They are based at Tiverton Way, Tiverton Business Park and are quality roofing contractors for slating, tiling reroofing, etc. Please refer to their advertisement on page 8 of today's programme, and if you have reason to use their services, please mention you saw their name in the Exeter City match programme.

■ We have included four photos this afternoon. Number one is of another lucky 50/50 Draw winner being presented with his winnings at half-time from Alex The Greek

Picture No 2 is of the triumphant Exeter City supporters who won their way through to the second round of the Worthington Fives - a national 5-a-side tournament for fans - after beating the Crystal Palace Five 4-0 in round one., City are due to face Wrexham Five tomorrow week in Nottingham. The team consists of MATT WAGNER, KEITH STEWARD, DARREN TRICK, STEVE WARD, DARREN NICHOLS, STUART CANN and DARREN CHAPMAN (Mascot).

The third photo produced a great moment for GREGORY HILL as he is presented with an autographed Exeter City FC ball by Steve Flack and Christian Roberts. Standing behind Gregory is Ben Pollard. And finally, photo number four was taken during the excellent Girls Day which was organised by Tommy Wheeldon and his Football in the Community team, this event being staged at the magnificent setting of the Woodbury Park Golf and Country Club

■ We are able to offer various matchday sponsorship packages to suit your every requirement, whether it is for half a dozen people, or many more. We are still seeking sponsors for match and matchball, as well as offering a number of matchday hospitality packages, which can range from a simple buffet to a three-course meal. if you are interested, please give Keith or Sarah a call on 01392 254073.

Executive Box Holders



CATALYST PERSONNEL

















Young Grecians

Youth Development Officer Mike Radford at Cat and Fiddle Training Ground.

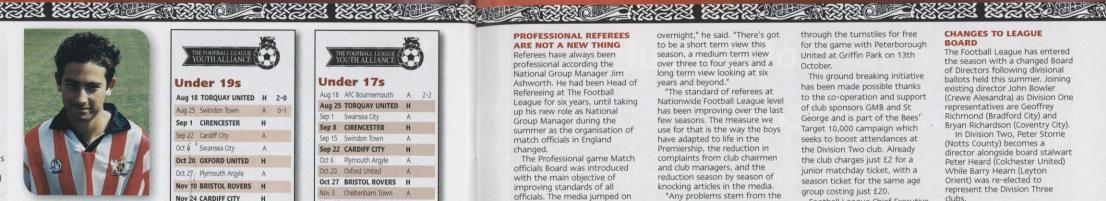
week long stay at Royal Marines Poole, where our squad of trainees underwent a course of intense fitness training. As per usual our hosts really looked after us and I would like to thank them for their superb hospitality and for allowing us to use their facilities.

Whilst at Poole we received a call from he Cat and Fiddle asking for Reinier Moor to return to join the first team squad for the Scunthorpe game. Reinier, of course, played in the second half as a substitute. And at Rochdale last Monday, he was on the bench along with former trainee Glenn Cronin, whilst vouth team player Marcus Gross made his first team

We did play one friendly whilst at Poole, when we entertained Christchurch. We won 4-0, with all the goals coming in the opening half through Michael Gillingham (22nd & 36th min), Les Afful (29th) and Ryan Fice (38th).

We created a number of chances in the first half, but after making substitutions during the half-time interval, we were not as impressive as the match became scrappy. I had to leave Jamie Bradford and Marcus Gross out of the team as they were still carrying injuries sustained in the Under-19 game with Torquay United the previous weekend.

Our team lined up as follows:- Steve Johns (Nathan Murphy 45th), Michael Arscott (Scott Bowker 45th), Matthew Lock (Lee Parker 45th), Lewis Reed, James Bull, Kevin McShane, Ben Harris, Michael Gillingham (Rhys Tippett 45th), Shaun Goff David Drake 45th), Ryan Fice,



Michael Gillinaham

Last Saturday the Under 19s travelled to the Allied Dunbar Sports Ground to play Swindon Town in the Football League Youth Alliance, but unfortunately we lost 1-0. Neither side deserved to win the encounter on a boiling hot day in Wiltshire, and a draw would have been the fairest of results.

Although City created the best chances in the game from open play, we were also denied two penalty appeals. The first in the first half for blatant handball which deflected a goal bound effort. and the second, late in the game after we had conceded the Swindon goal in the 83rd minute scored by Neil Crosby after a defensive mix up.

Ryan Fice was unlucky not to score in the dying minutes after great work and cross by Michael Gillingham. Unfortunately the young Grecians returned to Devon, traffic jams and all, empty handed for all their efforts, and although not a brilliant performance, at least deserved a share of the spoils.

This morning the under-19s were due to host Cirencester in the Football League Youth Alliance and the under-17s had a longish trip to play at Swansea City.

Brookside Garage

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Oct 6	Swansea City	Α	
Oct 20	OXFORD UNITED	H	
Oct 27	Plymouth Argyle	Α	
Nov to	BRISTOL ROVERS	H	
lov 24	CARDIFF CITY	Н	

Dec 15 SWANSEA CITY Jan 12 Oxford United Jan 19 Bristol Rovers Jan 26 PLYMOUTH ARGYLE H Feb 2 Torquay United Feb 9 SWINDON TOWN H

Merit Division matches will be played as from 2nd March 2002

Feb 16 Cirencester

Home fixtures played at Cat & Fiddle. Kick-off 11am, unless advertised otherwise

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Nov 3	Cheltenham Town	A	
Nov 17	PLYMOUTH ARGYL	EH	
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Dec 1	OXFORD UNITED	Н	
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	AFC BOURNEMOUT		
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nd March 2002

Merit Division matches will be played as from

Home fixtures played at Cat & Fiddle, Kick-off

1am, unless advertised otherwise

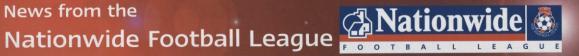
CITY TRAINEES - THE SQUAD

MICHAEL ARSCOTT (b: Plymouth 27-09-83); LESLIE AFFUL (b: Liverpool 04-02-84); SCOTT BOWKER (b: Exeter 30-01-85); JAMIE BRADFORD (b: Middlesbrough 14-09-83); **JAMES BULL** (b: Southampton 21-12-83): SEAN CANHAM (b: Exeter 26-09-84); ROSS CASEY (b Exeter 03-12-82); DAVID DRAKE (b: Plymouth 25-10-84) MICHAEL GILLINGHAM (b: Truro 08-11-83): SHAUN GOFF (b: Tiverton 13-04-84); MARCUS GROSS (b: Barnstaple 15-12-82); BEN HARRIS (b: Exeter 15-09-84) STEVEN JOHNS (b: Exeter 29-12-83); MATTHEW LOCK (b: Barnstaple 10-03-84); KEVIN McSHANE (b: Plymouth 21-12-84); REINIER MOOR (b: Holland 12-06-83); LEE PARKER (b: Exeter 25-06-83); LEWIS REED (b: Plymouth 15-09-84); RHYS TIPPETT (b: Canberra, Australia 09-03-85)

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News from the



PROFESSIONAL REFEREES ARE NOT A NEW THING

Referees have always been professional according the National Group Manager Jim Ashworth. He had been Head of Refereeing at The Football League for six years, until taking up his new role as National Group Manager during the summer as the organisation of match officials in England changed.

The Professional game Match officials Board was introduced with the main objective of improving standards of all officials. The media jumped on the tag 'Professional Referees' and the amount of money the 24 members of the Select List could earn.

But Ashworth said: "Referees have always been professional in their attitude and the time they give to the game." - But he warned that people expecting a sudden dramatic change in officiating were being naive.

"The fact that 23 referees are on £33,000 per year retainers doesn't mean things will change

overnight," he said. "There's got to be a short term view this season, a medium term view over three to four years and a long term view looking at six years and beyond."

"The standard of referees at Nationwide Football League level has been improving over the last few seasons. The measure we use for that is the way the boys have adapted to life in the Premiership, the reduction in complaints from club chairmen and club managers, and the reduction season by season of knocking articles in the media.

"Any problems stem from the fact that every game from Hartlepool to Torquay, across the country, has cameras at it and if the ref makes a mistake it's there for all to see. If you speak to someone like Jack Taylor (referee of the 1974 World Cup Final) he will tell you that referees made far more mistakes in his day than they do now."

POSH FREE BEES

Brentford will create history later this season by allowing all fans

through the turnstiles for free for the game with Peterborough United at Griffin Park on 13th October.

This ground breaking initiative has been made possible thanks to the co-operation and support of club sponsors GMB and St George and is part of the Bees' Target 10,000 campaign which seeks to boost attendances at the Division Two club. Already the club charges just £2 for a junior matchday ticket, with a season ticket for the same age group costing just £20.

Football League Chief Executive David Burns said: "I have been very encouraged by this summer, by the ever more creative methods being employed by Football League clubs to get people into our grounds. Large discounts for children, interest free credit and multi-year deals are now becoming commonplace and as a result over 200,000 season tickets have been sold by our clubs."

CHANGES TO LEAGUE BOARD

The Football League has entered the season with a changed Board of Directors following divisional ballots held this summer. Joining existing director John Bowler (Crewe Alexandra) as Division One representatives are Geoffrey Richmond (Bradford City) and

In Division Two, Peter Storrie (Notts County) becomes a director alongside board stalwart Peter Heard (Colchester United) While Barry Hearn (Levton Orient) was re-elected to represent the Division Three

League chairman Keith Harris and Chief Executive David Burns complete the Board and Harris commented: "I am delighted to welcome Geoffrey, Bryan and Peter on to an already strong League Board. All three are respected figures in the game and each brings with him a wealth of experience in football,

undoubtedly good news for both The Football League and its

YOUTH PLAYERS SPONSORSHIP

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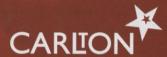
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The Club That **Hardly Lived**



ow many clubs are there whose record attendance for a Football League match was at home to Exeter City? Off the top of my head I can only think of just one. That figure is variously reported as somewhere between eight and ten thousand people.

Whilst this may not seem too bad a crowd, and certainly one we would be well pleased with today, it still only represents less than 20% of the ground capacity of the stadium where it took place. Imagine a record crowd still being sparse, rather like being at one of our pre-season friendlies!

As if that were not bad enough, that same stadium saw what is almost certainly the lowest ever crowd for any League game at all when a pitiful 469 turned up to see a 1-0 home victory over Luton Town.

Some of the more anorakish amongst you may have worked out the club about which I am writing. Thames AFC. has always had something of a fascination for me, just because it came and went from nowhere and back again, in such a very short time.

In the programme notes for the clubs first ever home game on 30th August 1928 the editor wrote: 'It shouldn't be forgotten in these early days that a few short weeks ago there was no such club as Thames, Even when it became established and was elected to the Southern League, many arrangements had to be made before a single player could be signed on. We believe (though were open to correction) that we have created a new world record in the matter of sheer speed for bringing a club into existence to play in good professional circles.

From the start Thames AFC represented a major gamble. London was certainly the largest population base in the country, but, equally well, it

already had a large number of established teams in both league and non-league. Even so the local press were robustly optimistic after a couple of games, which had produced a draw and a defeat. They wrote: 'On this showing Thames FC are likely to develop into a good side. It seems likely that they will get good support and they should be successful.'

In the short term they were indeed successful, beyond all probability. In their second season of Southern League football they finished a creditable third, eight points behind the champions Aldershot, Even so it was Thames who got the votes and became a League club in only their third year of existence, replacing Merthyr Town.

Presumably the size of the stadium and the perceived potential tipped the balance in their favour. However, that was never to be fulfilled. A new squad was assembled under the captaincy of ex-Plymouth Argyle international Moses Russell. The downs in Thames' brief spell as a League club far exceeded the ups. The support never properly materialised and results never justified it. After the first season they were 20th; at the end of the second season, 22nd, with just seven wins from 42

games. The last game of the second season was at Griffin Park and the programme notes observe: 'Our visitors have experienced a most disappointing season, not only from a playing, but a financial standpoint and their future as a League club is the lap of the Gods!'

Efforts were made to market the club, but the Gods chose not to favour them and on 3rd June 1932 came a press release announcing the club would no longer apply for re-election -'Lack of funds prohibits us from continuing in the League. Indeed, we are disbanding altogether and will not compete in any competition.'

Like a little comet, Thames had flashed across the football world, half life in non-league, half life in League football, and then oblivion. Is their anyone who recall seeing them play at St James'

ON THE NET

The Things They Say'

- Keeper kit, really liked the Orange kit used on Saturday, although I understand this is change kit. Shame as Orange is both Dutch colour and also much brighter than the very dark green that is this years
- I like this season's shirts. The removal of black shoulder "panels" makes the shirt much more "Red & White."
- The usual reaction to the fans is: "Go away you know nothing about football, you iust watch the game and you have to be a professional to really know the difference."
- I know we've got two big lads up front, and I don't have a problem with that, so long as we try to get the ball out wide and deliver quality crosses from the wings rather than aimlessly thumping it forward from the back.
- Can anybody give an insight into what the problem the stewards saw when the two Grecians put their banner on the fence at the railway end of the Big Bank on Saturday? I could understand asking them to move it from the 'Shed' end as it was covering some of the advertising hoardings but what was hassle with it hanging on a blank piece of fencing? It was the White Ensign with the 'Pride of Devon' slogan on it, nothing offensive or vulgar so what's the reason?
- Anyway, the sad truth is that at the moment in League terms, we are pretty much are a 'last resort'. We probably pay the lowest wages, have hardly set the Third division alight in recent years and the geographical problem remains.
- As for my mother, if we got a sport channel I think she would run away from home. She can't stand football and see's no sense in the game. We've tried educating her, believe me, but 24 years on and we still haven't succeeded.
- Take it from me, stick to the St James' Park Balti pies. They are beautiful.

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PETER GREEN - Hassocks

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The Hat Is Where It's At: A Brief History of Luton

by Pete Bishop

somewhere else in the programme can be found details of when last Luton Town and Exeter City FC met but I for one cannot recall such an occasion. A long time

Luton lies thirty miles north of London, at the northern end of a gap in

the Chiltern Hills. One of it's earliest names, Lygetun, river Lea'. During Anglo-Saxon times it was a 'Royal

enjoyed certain privileges but had to pay for them - to the tune of 4oz of gold, payable annually to the Oueen.

Domesday Book, 1086, it had a population of 700. In the town and the fields water mills, the most important of which had to pay dues to the local lord. not in gold, or money of any sort, but in eels! Lovely.

was a small market town. and remained so until the 17th century. Every Monday a market was held, in which surplus local produce was sold. Markets were held in safe, recognisable places, in order that witnesses would be present for transactions, and the local lord's tolls collected. Luton also held seasonal fairs, the granting of which was once again a Royal privilege. Traders came from far afield, and at Luton trading' in iron, gold, silver, brass, horses and livestock Such fairs were occasions of general revelling, with much beer drunk and lugaling. But no bumper cars

The town's population slowly grew during the 12th and 13th century, but was sorely hit in the next century; ailed harvests meant famine, the Black Death aged, and the Hundred Years War between England and rance, all these things contributed to the 14th entury being a calamitous century for Britain's

or ferris wheels.



Spot the Exeter City supporter who isn't wearing a hat!!

Luton might have remained a quiet market town, but for hats! Wheat was the main crop on the surrounding agricultural land, and the chalky soil meant for particularly long stalks of corn. In what was at first a subsidiary activity to supplement a rural family's income, the straw was cut into nine-inch lengths, bundled together, fumigated and bleached with sulphur smoke, moistened to make pliable, and then flattened by rollers, before being plaited into hat-making material.

The first reference to Luton's hat-making trade is dated 1689, when the town's people petitioned parliament. to protest at a Government Act encouraging people to wear woollen hats (perhaps the 'Woolly Hat Is Where It's At 'Act of 1688?), to the detriment of the straw hat

The invention of new tools for splitting straw into finer filaments, plus the advent of the Napoleonic Wars, which brought about a halt to the import of high-quality fine plait from Italy, put Luton at the forefront of hat-making. Luton's hat industry became factory-based during the 19th century. Indeed the making of straw plait and hats was forbidden in homes by the local authorities - and methinks the fact that nearly all mayors of Luton were owners of hat factories might have something to do

with this! Inmates of the local gaol were also set to work hatmaking, together with the inmates of the local lunatic asylum! The term 'mad as a hatter', however, has nothing to do with the latter establishment's part in

straw-hat making, but originates from the use of poisonous chemicals such as arsenic, lead and mercury, all used in 19th century hatmaking, which brought about personality changes, speech difficulties and uncontrollable shaking in those exposed to these substances during hatmaking, especially of 'top

The coming of a rail link to London in the 1860's brought increased prosperity, and at the end of the 19th century Luton's population had reached 30,000. By this time hats of all types, and in all sorts of materials, were being turned out by Lutón's many hat works.

To have a town's livelihood centred on hat-making might seem somewhat odd nowadays, but one look at an old photo of a football crowd will serve to show just how hats were once regarded as an essential item, so the market for them would've been huge. That hats were part of everyday life is evident from all the figures of speech that feature them - 'black as a hat', 'at the drop of a hat', 'eat one's hat' (as in "I'll eat my hat if Torquay United get promoted!"), 'hat in hand', 'old hat', 'hat-trick', to name but a few.

Hat-making must have been a thirsty business - in 1870 the town boasted 226 inns! In a bid to cut crime. many of these had their licences withdrawn, the following year gaolable offences fell from 257 to 73! In the 20th century the inevitable decline of the town's hat industry has been balanced by the introduction of new industries, primarily in the light engineering sector.

ALEX THE GREEK



Greetinas

everyone from Scunthorpe United this afternoon. We had a great time at Glanford Park (and on the way home!) at the end of last season after we celebrated a 2-0 win and safety in the Third Division, thanks to goals from TMC (Christian Roberts) and Gary Birch.

I thought it would be a good idea to introduce you to some fellow mascots from around the grounds. All good fun, so here goes! ROBBIE THE **BOBBY** is from Bury FC. The mascot is allegedly a tribute to Robert Peel - founder of the modern police force.

WHADDNEY THE ROBIN (Cheltenham Town) has been described as being a bizarre looking object which looks like it hasn't got a head until you see that those black craters at the side of Whaddney's head are meant to be eyes. SAMMY STAG (Mansfield Town) has a floppy stags head, but somehow his body and legs are not quite right! How can you dress a human up to look like a stag anyway?

SAMMY SHRIMP (Southend United) was once described as being more like a pink triffid in action. OLGA THE FOX (Carlisle United) has also attracted some very having mismatched head and shaved at an animal testing lab **DUSTY MILLER** (Rotherham United) looks like the most frightening old half-dead woman you ever saw and the fact that he's almost threatening you with a box of sweeties only makes matters

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THE OLD HOUSE AT HOME

By Graham Sellars

ome of the places in the British Isles will never be found by the unwary traveller unless their pronunciations are used. There is a colossal series of place names, especially in

England, Scotland and Wales, whose pronunciations are absurdly different to their spelling. I have listed below, just a few examples of this indifference, which I am sure will be to your humorous satisfaction.

MASHAM (North Yorkshire) - particularly famous for two things - black sheep and real ale! Pronounced "Mass'm" - even the local sheep "baa" differently. Its a bit more of a "beeerrr!"

HAPPISBURGH (Norfolk)

- you are more likely to fall off one of the nearby cliff top paths in pursuit of this little Norfolks broads gem, than ever find it, unless you use its correct pronunciation of "Haysborough!"

KIRKCUDBRIGHT (Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland) - a picturesque little fishing town for which only the Scottish could dream up its correct pronunciation of "Kercoobree!" Now say it out loud - "Kercoobree" - Aaaahh! Now doesn't that sound a wee bit more Scottish than

TEIGNMOUTH (Devon, of course) - pronounced, well, "Tinmouth", as if you needed a Yorkshireman to point this out to you, and this is because it is situated upon the River Teign, er sorry, Tin! (Just a wild guess there).

Kirkcudbright?

BOSHAM (West Sussex) where King Canute, yes HIM again, made his courtiers carry his throne down to the waters edge so that he could prove to him, there WAS a limit to his power, as he commanded the waves to recede - obviously to no avail and therefore proving his point in graphic detail!



George Foster, Graham Sellars

This sort of anti social behaviour nowadays may land you behind the bars of a West Sussex police cell, and whoever you lined up to pay your bail would have to directed to a place called "Bozzum!" - You see, there ain't a Bosh init pall

KEIGHLEY (West

Yorkshire) - It is ill advised to pronounce this place name as it is spelt - unless you have the desire to receive a thick ear from a local yokel - and there are plenty of them. You will pronounce this town. "Keithley!!" - or else cock!

PORTMADOG (Gwynedd. Wales) - Wales is full of names that are difficult to pronounce such as this popular coastal delight which translates as "Port Maderk." So you had better get it right, or you'll be "port-ma-dogtired" of asking the Welsh where it is and getting a silly answer back.

MARLBOROUGH

(Wiltshire) - pronounced "Morlborough, or is it? According to assistant race horse trainer George Foster who hails from Kelso, but resides nearby: "It depends upon whether you smoke them or not!"

I had the distinct pleasure of, along with other members of the family, meeting up with the good-natured canny Scot, who was most definitely in his element marshalling this private guest-guided tour of the Manton House Estate the home of top flight race horse trainer John Gosden the very man Mr. Foster assists.

The estate is set in 2,300 acres of rolling Marlborough Downs countryside - and it is absolutely beautiful - all part of historic Wessex - the area of the ancient Saxon Kingdom centred upon Wiltshire. Around these parts, you are steeped in legend no matter which way you turn.

For instance, The Avebury Stone Circles are the largest in Britain, constructed over 4,000 years ago - and they are only 3.2 miles west of the Godsens gallops.

Then there is The Castle Mound, situated within the arounds of the college in Marlborough itself, reputed to be the final resting place of Merlin - the magician of Arthurian legend. And there is definitely magic in the air at



The Old Yard Manton House Estate

The fluffy white cotton wool-shaped Cumulus clouds hung out to dry above our heads in the blue afternoon Wiltshire skyscape, as we strode out onto the gallops way on high. It was as if someone had laid down a great long green carpet in front of us as we lifted our gaze to the distance - looking down the barrel of these great gallons - which can handle anything from 5 furlongs to 2 miles.

A man-made bend featured somewhere in the distance snaking off into an orderly meander, with its aleaming white rails on either side. Organisation is the watch word here, they are so organised at Manton. No stone is left unturned. The thoroughbreds that are fortunate enough to be based here have everything a horse could wish for - and more.

Exeter City Football Club's talented green-fingered groundsman, Colin Wheatcroft, would have appreciated, more than a commentator such as I, just how much work is involved in the maintenance of approximately 570 acres of gallops, adorned with a lush shade of green grass. So lush in fact, you could use it as a mattress and camp under the stars without it seriously impeding your peaceful slumber on a warm Wiltshire niaht!

In Spring, when the ground is soft, you might not fancy lying on the grass, but Gosden's almighty fleet of race horses have ground to gallop on whatever the weather and whatever the season, what with their Spring cantering ground, peat gallops and all weather set up.

This was nice escapism for yours truly - the opportunity to peer into the world of another sport - without having to worry about delivering commentary to accompany what I could see before my very eyes.

But it is hard to shout out world of football entirely even when you are, as I was on a summer vacation. And just to digress for the moment, I know a man that will endorse this little hypothesis.

Mike Blackstone - the editor of this very magazine 0 was son holiday in The Lake District two years ago - where the insanities of the world of football could not possible harry him down. Wrong! There was the great man himself, nursing his frothy pint of real ale whilst sat at a picnic table outside The Drunken Duck, when from out of the blue, a car with Devonian number plates drew up alongside - out of which stepped four Plymouth Argyle supporters!

And Mike noted that there were a throng of tourists donned in their replica football shirts, milling about the picturesque slate-adorned streets of Hawkshead, looking rather incongruous, to say the

And of course, inevitably, the world of football was to crop up at The Manton House Estate as well. One minute I was face to face with what George called, "The Old Yard" a courtyard of character enclosed in serious architecture - I won't hazard a guess as to the year of construction - but the old house is definitely at home

Then the next minute I was face to face with a scuttling corn-stealing pheasant whose surreptitious activities were cut unceremoniously short by our invasion of the great big shed it prowled, and the next minute I was face to face with a horse whose owner is none other than Liverpool and England striker, Michael Owen.

Football - there is no escape. For surely even George Foster - being a Scotsman - would

and racehorse Malhub.



Tue Aug 21

Sat Sep 15

Sat 6 Oct

Halifax Town

OXFORD UNITED

Sat 13 Oct CARLISLE UNITED H

RUSHDEN & DIAMONDS H MACCLESFIELD TOWN H

The Grecian Stats 2001-2002

WATSON

CURRAN

POWER**

RICHARDSON

BARLOW

KERR 1

22 4.677 1.277 VAN HEUSDEN BUCKLE 20 1.937 157 VAN HEUSDEN WHITWORTH CAMPBELL

0-4 23 2,798 178 VAN HEUSDEN WHITWORTH

- 1,993 253 VAN HEUSDEN WHITWORTH CAMPBELL

		Var Kental					
10	11	sub 12	sub 13	sub 14	sub 15	sub 16	Referee
McCARTHY	FLACK**	CURRAN	RICHARDSON*	TOMLINSON*	WALKER**	ROBERTS+	A. BATES
BIRCH*	McCARTHY+	ROBERTS*	AMPADU**	FLACK+	TOMLINSON	WALKER	G.SALISBURY
FLACK+	McCARTHY	ROSCOE	BRESLAN*	McCONNELL**	TOMLINSON+	WALKER	WJORDAN

Sat 13 Oct	CARLISLE UNITED	н
Sat 20 Oct	Cheltenham Town	A
Tue 23 Oct	BRISTOL ROVERS	н
Sat 27 Oct	Lincoln City	A
Sat 3 Nov	SOUTHEND UNITED	н
Sat 10 Nov	Hartlepool United	A
Sat 17 Nov	FA Cup 1	
Tue 20 Nov	Torquay United	A
Sat 24 Nov	LEYTON ORIENT	Н
Sat 1 Dec	Shrewsbury Town	Α
Sat 8 Dec	FA Cup 2	
Sat 15 Dec	KIDDERMINSTER	н
Fri 21 Dec	Mansfield Town	Α
Wed 26 Dec	SWANSEA CITY	Н
Sat 29 Dec	ROCHDALE	н
Tue 1 Jan	Luton Town	A
Sat 5 Jan	Scunthorpe United	A
Sat 12 Jan	HALIFAX TOWN	Н
Sat 19 Jan	Hull City	A
Tue 22 Jan	MANSFIELD TOWN	н
Sat 26 Jan	YORK CITY	н
Sat 2 Feb	Macclesfield Town	A
Sat 9 Feb	CHELTENHAM TOWN	н
Sat 16 Feb	Carlisle United	A
Sat 23 Feb	Oxford United	A
Tue 26 Feb	Plymouth Argyle	A
Sat 2 Mar	DARLINGTON	н
Tue 5 Mar	Rushden & Diamonds	A
Sat 9 Mar	Kidderminster Harriers	A
Sat 16 Mar	SHREWSBURY TOWN	Н
Sat 23 Mar	Bristol Rovers	A
Sat 30 Mar	LINCOLN CITY	Н



Middle row: Geoff Breslan, Martin Barlow, Graeme Tomlinson, Jay Richardson, Sean McCarthy, Football), Damien Davey (Physio), Bernard Frowd (Chief Executive), Ivor Doble (Chairman Noel Blake (Manager), Dan Morgan (Regional Director, Jewson) John Cornforth (Coach), George Kent

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Saturday 15th: Manchester City v Birmingham City (7.45pm) Thursday 20th: Nottingham Forest v Bradford City (7.45pm

Friday 21st: Walsall v Wolves (6.15pm) **Sunday 23rd:** Birmingham City v Preston North End (6.15pm)

Friday 28th: Barnsley v Portsmouth (7.45pm) Sunday 30th: Watford v Preston North End (6.15pm)

P.PROSSER



	LEA	AGUE	CUP		TO	TAL
	APP	GLS	APP	GLS	APP	GLS
Kwame Ampadu	2(1)	-	1	-	3(1)	-
Martin Barlow	4	-	1	-	5	-
Gary Birch	3(1)	-	-	-	3(1)	-
Geoff Breslan	-	-	0(1)	-	0(1)	-
Paul Buckle	2	-	-	-	2	-
Mark Burrows	1	-	-	-	1	-
Jamie Campbell	3	1	1	-	4	1
Glenn Cronin	0(1)	-		-	0(1)	-
Chris Curran	3	-	1	-	4	-
Steve Flack	2(2)	-	1	-	3(2)	-
Stuart Fraser	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marcus Gross	1	-	-	-	1	-
Dylan Kerr	4	1	1	-	5	1
Sean McCarthy	2	-	1	-	3	-
Barry McConnell	0(1)	-	0(1)	-	0(2)	-
Reinier Moor 0(1)	-	-	-	0(1)	-	
Jamie Mudge	-	- 1	-	0-30	-	-
Graeme Power	2(1)	-	-	-	2(1)	-
Paul Read	-	-	-	-	-	100
Jay Richardson	1(1)	-	-	-	1(1)	-
Christian Roberts	2(2)	-	1	-	3(2)	-
Andy Roscoe	1	-	-	-	1	-
Graeme Tomlinson 1(1)	-	0(1)	-	1(2)	-	735
Arjan Van Heusden	4	-	1	-	5	-
Alex Watson	3	-	1	-	4	-
Neil Whitworth	2	-	1	-	3	-
Lee Zabek	-	-	-	-	-	-

CITY FIRST TEAM 2001-2002

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION THREE FIXTURES

Saturday 1st September 2001

Bristol Rovers v Shrewsbury Town Carlisle United v Rochdale

Cheltenham Town v Torquay United

Macclesfield Town v Scunthorpe United

Plymouth Argyle v Swansea City Southend United v Leyton Orient

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rochdale	4	1	1	0	3	1	2	0	0	4	2	10
Luton Town	4	2	0	0	4	1	1	0	1	4	3	9
Darlington	4	2	0	0	3	0	1	0	1	2	2	9
Bristol Rovers	4	2	0	0	4	2	1	0	1	2	2	9
Mansfield Town	4	1	1	0	4	0	1	1	0	4	3	8
Hull City	4	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	3	1	8
Southend United	4	2	0	0	5	1	0	1	1	0	2	7
York City	3	1	0	1	2	2	1	0	0	3	0	6
Shrewsbury Town	3	0	0	1	1	3	2	0	0	2	0	6
Kidderminster Harriers	4	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	1	4	6
Lincoln City	4	1	0	1	4	2	0	2	0	1	1	5
Leyton Orient	4	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	2	3	5
Rushden & Diamonds	4	0	1	1	2	3	1	1	0	1	0	5
Swansea City	4	0	2	0	2	2	1	0	1	3	4	5
Scunthorpe United	4	0	1	1	2	3	1	0	1	4	1	4
Oxford United	4	0	0	2	1	3	1	1	0	2	0	4
Hartlepool United	4	0	1	1	2	3	1	0	1	3	3	4
Plymouth Argyle	4	0	0	2	1	3	1	1	0	3	2	4
Halifax Town	4	0	1	1	1	3	1	0	1	3	5	4
Torquay United	4	1	0	1	2	4	0	0	2	0	2	3
Cheltenham Town	4	0	1	1	3	4	0	1	1	2	4	2
Carlisle United	4	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	1	2	2
Macclesfield Town	4	0	1	1	1	3	0	1	1	1	5	2
EVETED CITY	100	-		OTHER PROPERTY.				7	100		100	

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And At The Back



ENGLAND KEEPER AT LUTON

It's been a very long time since we last saw a Luton Town team at St James' Park for a Football League fixture. In fact the last time the Hatters were here was wav back in October 1967, when I recall the visitors thrashing the Grecians 5-0! Those were the days of Bruce Rioch playing for Luton, along with his brother Neil, who was an apprentice in 1967. Whatever happened to him by the way? Neil that is.

I have only ever once visited Kenilworth Road, and that was for a second round FA Cup tie against Peterborough United. In goal for the Posh that day was a very young looking David Seaman oh and this was the days before he stopped going to a hairdresser and played for England - but he could nothing to prevent Luton winning 3-0 to set up a lucrative home tie with Manchester United

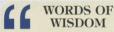
This was the time when much maligned, but now missed, British Rail ran the trains. Whilst we might have complained about the quality of the sandwiches, at least the trains were more reliable than they are today. A trip from Exeter to Luton now, would be undertaken with some trepidation, not knowing whether you would make it to Kenilworth Road in time for the kick-off. Am I glad that I visited all the grounds that I did, back in the 70s and 80s!!!

A CIRCUS STORY

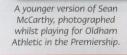
OK. I know this next story has absolutely nothing to do with football, but it made me laugh odd sense of humour maybe?

A Romanian circus was left with just two dogs, some monkeys and a donkey after its bear vanished, the lion suffered a swollen paw and its python died from cold. The Atlantis Circus, performing in Tirgu Jiu, also lost its fox "probably in the woods", according to a spokesman. Its pony also died.

The circus posters promised a show involving exotic animals. Consumer protection officials told the circus to remove them. A circus spokeswoman told the Romanian daily Gazeta de Sud:



Someone who thinks logically provides a nice contrast to the real world





sessions at the Cat and Fiddle.

possible lack of skill, but more

you are likely to be left looking a

real prat. Not just because of any

than likely that you are so out of

condition that to run for the bus

The winner of the Sunderland

competition was to be chosen by

would be given the chance to get

the fans, Big brother style, who

to know the seven finalists and

vote them out one by one. One

finalist was eliminated each day

until the competition was down

head-to-head at the Stadium of

remaining finalists then went

Light for a showdown during

half-time of the Sunderland

versus Blackburn Premiership

Now if we ran a similar

bit of a shock to the winner!

competition at Exeter City - the

half-time team talks might be a

to the last two. The two

in Exeter High Street is enough

to give you a near coronary

"How come you are not grey yet Blakey?" "Give it time, give it time Reidy."

"What can we do? These animals are very expensive and you can not replace them just like that." The circus has now ended its run in the town

GRECIAN FAN SIGNED ON?

I noticed that Sunderland are offering fans the chance to sign for the club for one season. The winner will be given a squad number, train with the players, be involved on a matchday, travel to an away game on the team coach and have their own column in the local newspaper

An excellent idea and the chance in a lifetime for someone. However, one assumes you would have to be either unemployed or retired, to have so much time on your hands to participate. I wonder if a similar scheme would work at Exeter

Of course you would also have to be reasonably fit as well. For if you were to join in the training

TRAVELLING FANS

clash last Saturday.

This time of the season we inevitably attract a few 'neutral' football supporters who are on hoiday in the area. You can play 'spot the replica shirt' simply by standing outside St James' Park prior to kick off.

Whilst there will always be a few Premiership shirts, worn by Exonians (!!!), the furthest travelled that came to my attention last Saturday were two from Bradford City. They were wearing the Bantams replica shirts and explained that they had simply wanted to come along and have a look at what was a 'new' ground for them. I suspect they enjoyed the gorund more than the display from Exeter City. I wonder who we will see today from other clubs?

YOUR DINNER **PARTY**

SHERONS

If you were to organise a dinner party for six people, who would you invite along? Exeter City Supporter JOHN BUNGAY would invite the following and explains why:-

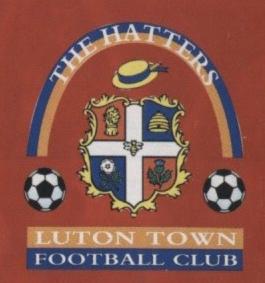
- 1) A footballing personality: RODNEY MARSH, I used to watch him as a boy and marvel at his skill, he now almost always aggravates the hell out of me with his comments on Sky Saturday Soccer. Having said that he is without a doubt a true 'personality' and a very intelligent man to boot.
- (2) A present or past Exeter City player or manager: DANNY BAILEY. Just for the fact that he could buy me the pint he owes me, that I bought him once when out in Exeter, and to discuss the good old days at Exeter.
- (3) Any famous male person of your choice: ADOLF HITLER. Just to try and understand how an obviously highly intelligent man could behave like an absolute savage.
- (4) Any famous female person of your choice: GILLIAN ANDERSON (X-Files) obviously nice to look at, but also highly intelligent, (real thinking mans crumpet)
- (5) Any sports person (not included in above): BOBBY MOORE. To find out what it is like to be captain of the World Cup winning team, and win the ultimate prize in your chosen sport.
- (6) Your 'wild card' invite. Any one at all you want to attend, but not included in the above five: SPIKE MILLIGAN - comic genius. intelligent man and his conversations with Adolf would be really interesting

(We invite City fans to submit their list of six invited dinner party quests, together with the reasons why, but they must fall within the above six categories - send your lists to the Programme Editor at Exeter City FC.)

SOMETHING FOR THE MATCH PROGRAMME? You can e-mail 'The Grecian' at MJ.blackstone@virgin.net



Exeter Luton City Town



Team Colours: Ped & White Team

Sub Goals Yellow Red	
ARJAN VAN HEUSDEN	1
NEIL WHITWORTH	2
GRAEME POWER	3
PAUL BUCKLE	4
CHRIS CURRAN	5
MARK BURROWS	6
JAY RICHARDSON	7
KWAME AMPADU	8
SEAN McCARTHY	9
MARTIN BARLOW	10
ANDY ROSCOE	11
PAUL READ	12
GEOFF BRESLAN	13
STEVE FLACK	14
BARRY MCCONNELL	15
JAMES MUDGE	16
GRAEME TOMLINSON	17
ALEX WATSON	18
DYLAN KERR	19
REINIER MOOR	20
MATTHEW LOCK	21
MARCUS GROSS	22
JAMIE CAMPBELL	23
STUART FRASER	24
	25
	26
GLENN CRONIN	27
CHRISTIAN ROBERTS	28
ANDY WALKER	29
GARY BIRCH	30
	31
LEE ZABEK	32

	MARK OVENDALE	
2	AARON SKELTON	
3		
4	MATTHEW SPRING	
5	RUSSELL PERRETT	
6	MARVIN JOHNSON	
7	ADRIAN FORBES	
8	KEVIN NICHOLLS	
9	STUART DOUGLAS	
10	CARL GRIFFITHS	
11	LIAM GEORGE	
12		
13	STUART FRASER	
14	ANDREW FOTIADIS	
15	MATTHEW TAYLOR	
16	CARL EMBERSON	
17	EMMERSON BOYCE	
18	ADAM LOCKE	
19	STEVE HOWARD	
20	PETER HOLMES	
21	RICHARD DRYDEN	
22	DEAN BRENNAN	
23	JUDE STIRLING	
24	SCOTT WARD	
25	DEAN STANDEN	
26	PETER THOMSON	
27	PAUL HUGHES	
28		
29	KENT KARLSEN	

Manager: NOEL BLAKE

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: Mr. Brian Curson

ASSISTANT REFEREES: Mr. Laurence Jones & Simon Snartt **RESERVE OFFICIAL:** Mr. Mike Hawken

MATCH SPONSORS



Manager: JOE KINNEAR

LEE MANSELL

30

31

32

NEXT MATCH AT ST JAMES' PARK

OXFORD UNITED

Saturday, 15th September, 2001 Nationwide League 3 • Kick-off 3.00pm

CLUB SPONSORS



