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Rushden & Diamonds

The official matchday programme of Rushden & Diamonds Football Club



Rushden & Diamonds

vs Luton Town

Saturday 9th March 2002

Kick off: 3.00pm





Rushden & Diamonds Football Club

Nene Park
Diamond Way
Irthlingborough
Northants NN9 5QF
Tel: 01933 652000
Fax: 01933 650418

Website: www.thediamondsfc.com
Clubcall: 09068 440033 (60p per min.)

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Northants F.A. Senior Cup
Winners 1993-94, 1998-99
Maunsell Premier Cup
Winners 1994-95, 1998-99
Finalists 2001-02

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IN CONVERSATION....

Terry Westley

Rushden & Diamonds Official Matchday Programme.
Editor: Andrew Bubeer. Print: Sterling, Wellingborough.
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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

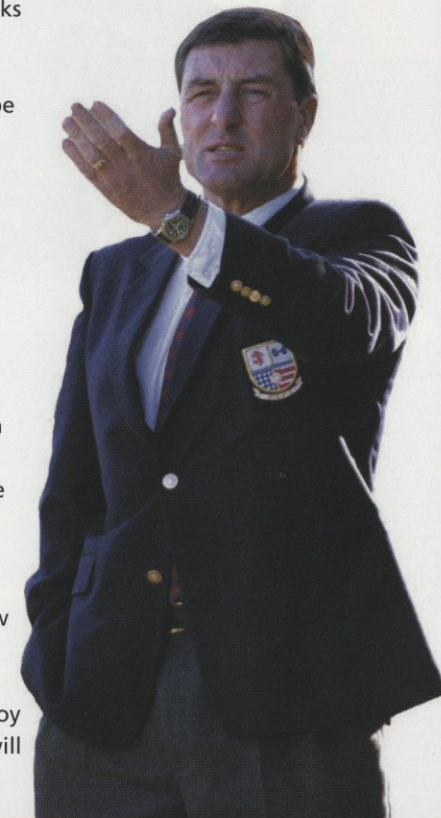


brian talbot

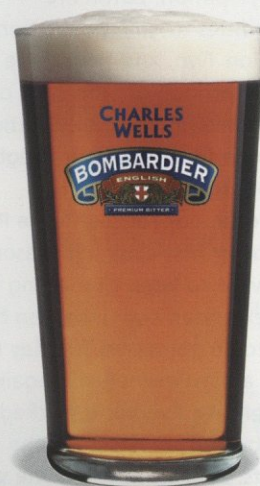
A warm welcome to Joe Kinnear and everyone from Luton Town for this afternoon's local 'derby' against the men from Kenilworth Road. I am looking forward to what should be a good occasion - a big game in front of a sell-out crowd creating a great atmosphere. I know that the last terrace tickets were sold a couple of weeks ago so the interest has been huge, probably the biggest since the F.A. Cup tie with Leeds United three years ago. Of course we have a couple of Luton connections of our own, and I'm sure the day will be extra special for Terry Westley, who had a spell as manager there, Andy Burgess, who has been a massive Luton fan all his life, and Stuart Douglas who is here on loan from them at the moment. But all such thoughts must be put out of our minds come 3.00pm, and let's hope the day does prove to be memorable for the right reason - a win against our nearest rivals in this league. In my opinion, Luton are certain to gain promotion to Division Two, and they come here this afternoon off the back of five successive victories, so we know we're in for one of our toughest encounters today. However, our form at Nene Park has been first-class this season and we want to keep that going today. We extended our unbeaten home run to 16 games on Tuesday night with a hard-earned win against Exeter City. Everyone worked hard and overall we deserved the points. Late on in the game we

could have scored a couple of goals to make the scoreline look more comfortable, and having looked at the video we definitely had more of the chances over 90 minutes. I won't pretend that it was our prettiest performance of the season and Exeter weren't helped of course by the sending off of McConnell midway through the second-half, but we added another three points to our tally and it's been a big bonus to have gained so many points so quickly. A tremendous achievement by the players and we now enter the final stretch of the season with hopes of achieving a play-off place. I can assure you that we are all up for it and the final six weeks of the season should be very exciting. As I said before, Nene Park will be packed to the rafters this afternoon and it's a sign of how far this club has come over the past ten years or so. When the amalgamation took place to form the club, its first season was spent in the Beazer Homes League Midland Division while Luton were in the newly-formed First Division. I can remember playing against them during my Arsenal days, so to see the ground full today against a club which appeared in two successive League Cup finals less than 15 years ago just shows how quickly things can change in football. Hopefully, we will be able to enjoy the occasion, and although we will be the underdogs this afternoon

we now believe we can get a result against anyone in this league. I know that some people will have been disappointed that we didn't move up a place or two as a result of Tuesday's win, but it didn't bother me that much because where we finish this season is in our own hands. We have eight games to go and, as I always say, at the end of the season you finish where you deserve over the whole campaign. Here's to a cracking afternoon with the right outcome - enjoy the game.



ENGLAND'S PATRON PINT



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come captain paul underwood

paul underwood

I said in my notes on Tuesday night that this was a big week for us, and we got it off to the perfect start with the win against Exeter City.

The men from Devon arrived at Nene Park with an outside chance of a play-off place still in their sights, so it was no surprise that they were prepared to have a go at us.

Let's make no bones about it, our performance wasn't the best this season but we're now at the stage where every game is vital and we are going to have to scrap for the points.

The breakthrough on Tuesday came about thanks to a great strike from Andy Burgess after good work down the right by Paul Hall. Andy said afterwards that he thought about taking a touch but suddenly his right leg wanted to get involved! All joking aside, it certainly settled us down and we doubled the advantage a few minutes when Ritchie Hanlon fired home from the penalty spot. All credit to the referee for seeing the push on Onandi Lowe and suddenly we were in a comfortable position.

Exeter really had to go for it in the second half and were brave enough to put another striker on and play three up front. They were rewarded when a long throw caused us a few problems which we couldn't deal with, but then

came the sending off which changed the game.

Unfortunately, some of the other results on Tuesday didn't go the way we would have liked, and we remained in 9th position, but all we can do is win as many of our remaining games as possible. If at the end of the season it's not good enough, then we'll have to be honest enough to hold our hands up and say well done to someone else.

But the win puts us in the best frame of mind for today's game against a Luton side that are surely going to be playing Second Division football next season.

They've had a tremendous season under the experienced Joe Kinnear but it's up to us to halt their promotion bid even if it's just for 90 minutes.

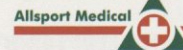
With a full house inside Nene Park it has all the makings of a memorable game with a cracking atmosphere as well. We've played them a couple of times in recent years and are yet to come out on top. Putting aside the friendly at the start of last season, we lost out by just the one goal at Kenilworth Road in the F.A. Cup, and by the same scoreline in the league earlier this season, so it's definitely time to set the record straight.

Of course, there are still only three points at stake this afternoon, just like any other game, but I know that it means a bit more than that to the fans. In this division, this is our local 'derby' and they always have an extra edge to them. They're bringing 1400 supporters with them who will make one heck of a noise, and it's up to our fans to match them every step of the way. And if we can do the same on the pitch, then let's hope we're celebrating another home win at the final whistle. Enjoy the game.





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Good afternoon and welcome to this local 'derby' against Luton Town. It's going to be a full house and should be a great atmosphere. Luton are high-flying with a squad of players above Division 3 standard, but we are hoping our small squad might spring a surprise as we have not beaten Luton in recent times. Enough of all that, what's been going on? Well, I saw the funniest thing at Cheltenham, whilst saying it was officialdom gone mad. The lads wanted to warm up at half-time but the Cheltenham ball man wouldn't give them a ball. So the boys borrowed one anyway, only to see the ball man running after them demanding it back. After the ball got passed around him, over him and his head was going red, he got the ball back. The boys then had to face security men and police accusing them of inciting the crowd. Now I know UEFA, FIFA and the F.A. make strange rules but I'm sure I've never seen one that says you can't have a ball

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simon parsell

and warm up at half-time. The fella has clearly got to get a life. The next story involves the pool tournament at the club. When the competition started the hot favourites Butts and Darbs were drawn against Stuart 'Cyclone' Wardley and Andrew 'I'll remain seated' Burgess. Wardley, twice Epping ex-Servicemen's Champion potted everything in sight before making a mistake against Tilley and Rhino. That left Unders and Billy to play Phys and Stu Naylor in one semi with the other putting Tilley and Rhino against Tarks and Scott.

That semi took sometime as Scott had to keep moving a chair round the table to play a shot, so the final saw Tilley and Rhino, the hot favourites, play Stu Naylor (with bad knees and hip disorders) and Phys (with a bad back).

The final was settled by what we in the trade call a Barney Rubble (the double), and as I played it my partner was encouraging me with words like "what do you think you're doing" and "you can't do that." Anyway, play it I did and as the ball disappeared and I waded through the puddles of Rhino tears, Stu and I received a large round of applause and a chorus of "you fat people." A tad unfair I thought, but we didn't care as we scooped up the prize. On a serious note I want to throw our support behind the PFA campaign to raise awareness of testicular cancer. Entitled 'Keep Your Eye On The Ball' I just urge

you gents to check and, if you have any worries, seek advice. Don't be frightened - it's good to handle two, but not three. And so to the Exeter game. Maybe not the best performance but three points and at this stage of the season games are becoming battles. I thought we won that and showed good character. Once again some strange refereeing decisions. Call me old fashioned but I thought retaliation was a booking or sending off, but the ref said it was a reaction to the incident. Well, so is punching someone or as Andy Cole did and was sent off. But as we saw, if you swear you get sent off. Don't suppose I will ever understand it. Fortunately, no injuries so the gaffer has the same squad. Barry and Stu continue their progress and Daniel and Millsy will return to training. So back to today and what should be a good day. It's always nice to see a full house - enjoy the game.



TODAY'S COLLECTION....is being carried out by Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). Everyone knows that the RNLI is there to save lives at sea, something they have been doing for almost 180 years, but even before then, riders on horseback would patrol the coast in bad weather, looking out for sailors in danger, so that help could be raised. Grace Darling is a good example. In those days, the pattern of a seaman's jersey indicated where he was from, village or town, and the gold earring he wore was to pay for his burial, should it happen that way. The argument still remains today! If you earn your living at sea, is it better to be a non-swimmer, or a good swimmer? Think about it. Thank you in advance for your usual generosity.



NEED A PLUMBER? FOLLOW THE FROG!

BRIAN'S FIVE YEARS AT THE HELM

The visit of Luton Town this afternoon marks five years to the weekend since Brian Talbot took full control of managing Rushden & Diamonds.

On Saturday 8th March 1997, a struggling Diamonds side travelled to Rockingham Road to face local rivals Kettering Town in the Vauxhall Conference. Languishing in the relegation zone, Diamonds turned in a tremendous performance to record a 5-1 win in front of 4,628, the goals coming from Carl Alford, Brendan Hackett, David Leworthy (2) and Garry Butterworth. Chris Pearson was the lone marksman for Kettering.

The win signalled an upsurge in fortunes which saw the team maintain their Conference status at the end of that season and start the journey towards the Football League, so memorably secured last season.

From that original team, only Garry Butterworth survives at the club today, the full line-up being: Davies, Hodson, Cramman, Peaks, Rodwell, Stott, Capone, Butterworth, Alford, Leworthy, Hackett. Subs: Collins, Stapleton, Bailey. Included in the Poppies' line-up that day were former Diamonds 'keeper Kevin Shoemake (playing because Billy Turley had been recalled by Northampton Town from his loan spell), Steve Berry, who would later have a brief period at Nene Park, and Tarkan Mustafa.

The complete record since Brian took over is as follows:

	P	W	D	L	F	A
All competitions	277	139	68	70	463	312
Conference/Football Lge	219	112	56	51	372	236



LOOKING FOR SOMEWHERE TO EAT? FOLLOW THE FROG!

DIAMOND DIVAS

(in association with ESS Safety Training Providers and Martin Boardman Plumbing Services)



MATCH ENTERTAINMENT AT NENE PARK

KEITH AT THE DOUBLE
Keith Coles collected his second Fantasy Football Manager of the Month award of the season during half-time against Exeter City on Tuesday evening. The competition, in association with the official club website - www.thediamondsfc.com - has been giving fans the chance to pit their wits against each other in a battle of managerial skill. Keith, whose team beat all others during February, collected his certificate of achievement and prize of a Doc Shop voucher from League Secretary David Gudgeons.

TWO GREAT WAYS TO BET ON THE DIAMONDS

Corp Commissions are the official on-site betting service for all Rushden & Diamonds first-team fixtures at Nene Park. You can place your bets either at the portakabin adjacent to the Airfair Stand Car Park (next to the Ticket Collection Point), or at any of the betting stations around the ground. Agents are also available in all Corporate areas of the Stadium.

As well as offering you odds on all first-team fixtures, Corp Commissions can also quote prices on all sporting events, and all wagers are TAX FREE. Deposit accounts are welcomed for home or away fixtures, so call into the portakabin for full details.

Latest betting to win the Third Division: 11/8 Plymouth Argyle, 2/1 Hull City, 4/1 Luton Town, 33/1 Rushden & Diamonds.

www.diamondsbet.co.uk

The only official Rushden & Diamonds on-line betting site offering bets on all Diamonds fixtures, home and away. Open an online account today & receive 50% CASHBACK on the stake of your first settled bet if it contains a selection of odds of 2/1 or above. Claim up to a maximum of £25 or your currency equivalent! Why not try a Scorecast bet on our next match? If you can predict which player will score first, and the correct match result, then your bet is a winner, OR if you're looking for a bet that lasts a little longer than 90 minutes, why not take a look at our season specials, covering a range of markets specific to our team.



BILLY'S FEBRUARY AWARD

Billy Turley was named the Evening Telegraph Player of the Month for February and he was presented with his prize by the Telegraph's Mark Lea and Adrian House of PW House Jewellers (Rushden), prior to kick-off against Exeter on Tuesday.



TODAY'S MASCOTS

Leading Diamonds out this afternoon are:

9-year-old Sean Benneyworth. He attends St Peter's Independent School, Northampton. His favourite footballers are Andy Burgess and David Beckham, and he enjoys football, karate, golf and playing on his Playstation.

Samuel Westley is 8 years old and he goes to St Joseph College, Ipswich. He supports Liverpool and his favourite players are Michael Owen and Andy Burgess. His hobbies include football, playing on his Playstation and penny slot machines in Felixstowe!



Jordan Westley is 9 years old and he attends Gusford Primary School, Ipswich. His hobby is football and his favourite player is Matt Holland.

1503AM RADIO DIAMONDS

SIMON PARSELL'S HALF-HOUR

All the gossip from the dressing room plus chat with a first-team player

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS

Brian Talbot and the playing staff review the latest games and look ahead to the next big match

FULL 90-MINUTE COMMENTARY

Phil Harris-Ward brings you exclusive match commentary, together with a guest summariser

POST-MATCH ANALYSIS

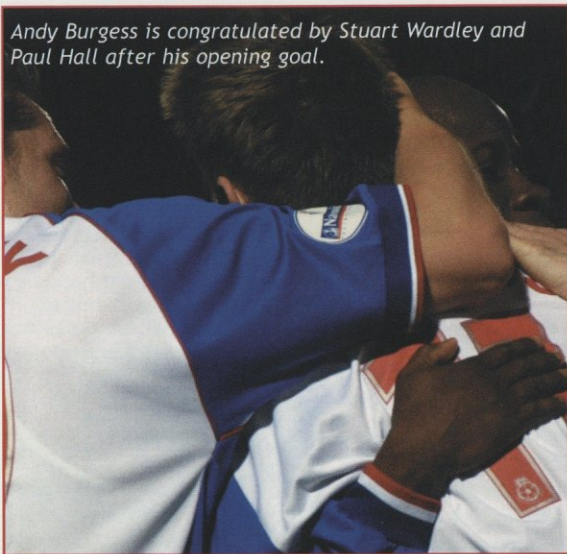
Who did what, when and where...plus Brian Talbot's first reaction to the game

LOG ON AND LISTEN IN!

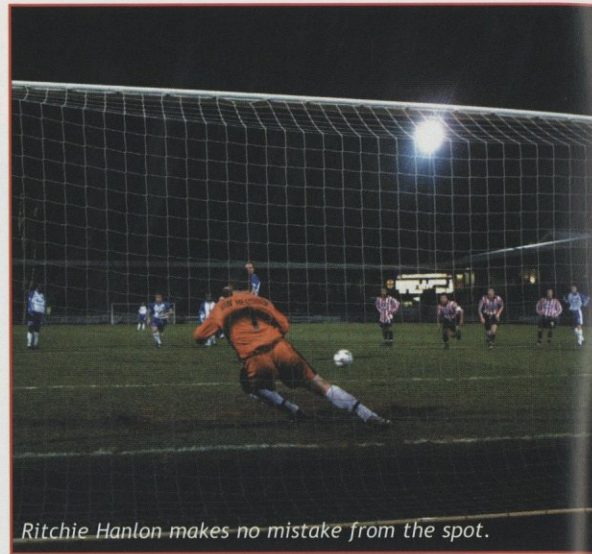
You can listen to us on the internet. Just log on to the brand new official club website...

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1503AM RADIO DIAMONDS - THE ONLY PLACE FOR MATCHDAY COVERAGE!



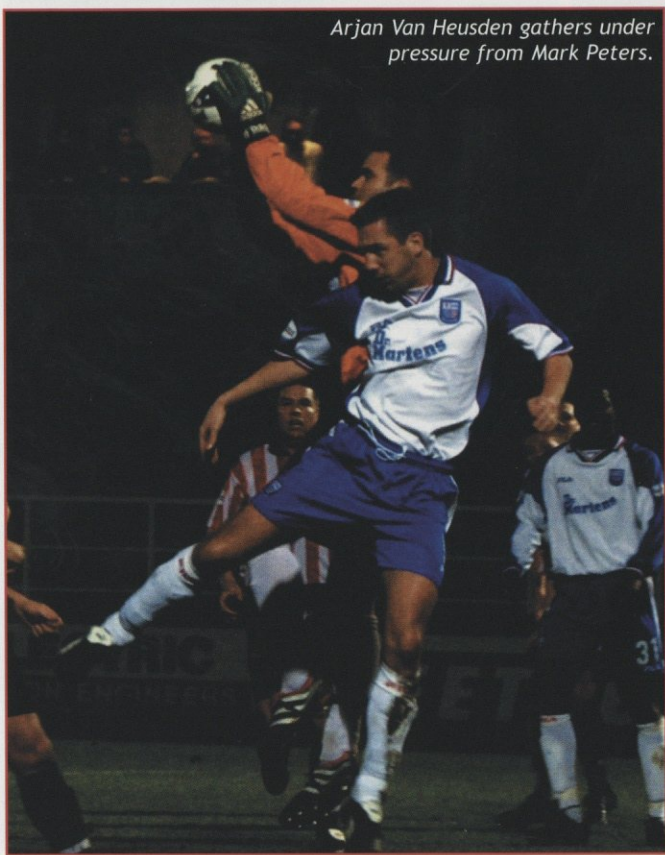
Andy Burgess is congratulated by Stuart Wardley and Paul Hall after his opening goal.



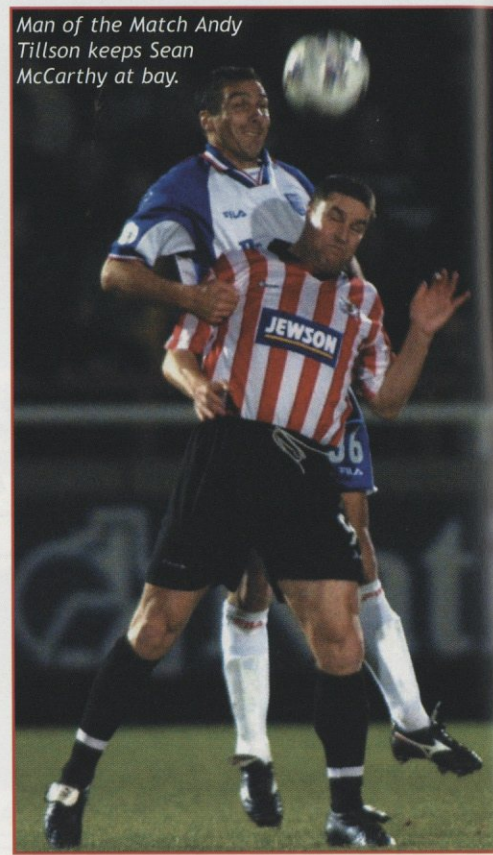
Ritchie Hanlon makes no mistake from the spot.



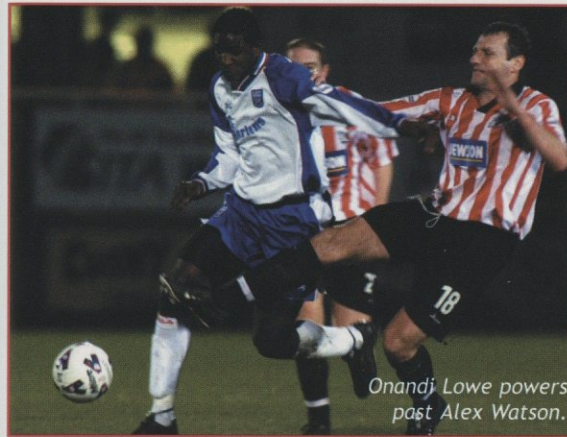
Paul Hall is wrestled towards the ground by Graeme Power.



Arjan Van Heusden gathers under pressure from Mark Peters.



Man of the Match Andy Tillson keeps Sean McCarthy at bay.

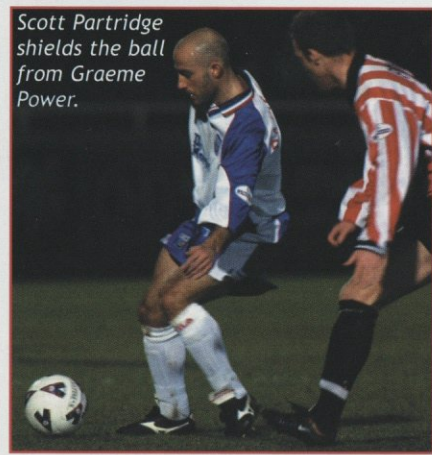
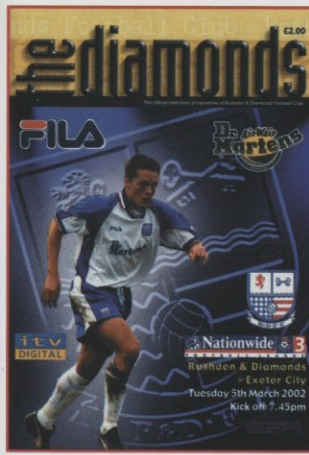


Onandj Lowe powers past Alex Watson.

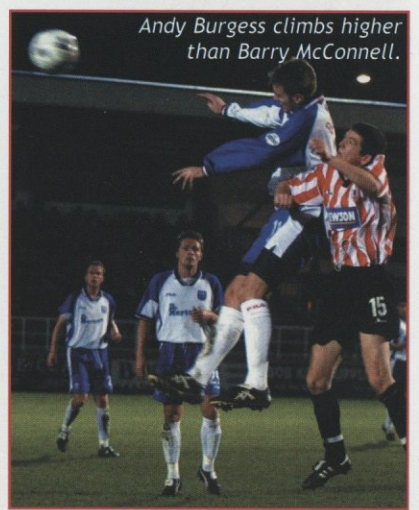
MATCH FACTS
Tuesday 5th March 2002
Nationwide League, Division Three
Diamonds 2 (Burgess 31, Hanlon pen. 34)
Exeter City 1 (McCarthy 65)
Att: 3,343

Diamonds: Turley, Mustafa, Peters, Tillson, Underwood, Hall, Hanlon, Wardley, Burgess, Partridge (Darby-80), Lowe.
 Subs not used: Butterworth, Brady, Setchell, Dowell.

Exeter: Van Heusden, McConnell, Curran, Watson, Power, Breslan (Flack-54), Cronin, Ampadu (Buckle-60), Roscoe, Roberts, McCarthy (Tomlinson-82).
 Subs not used: Whitworth, Fraser.

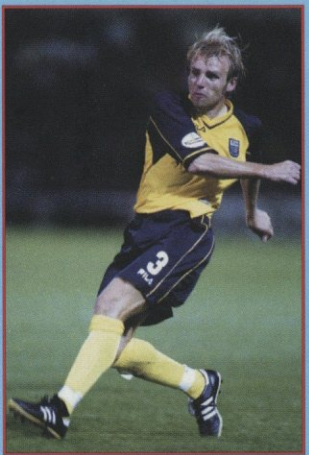


Scott Partridge shields the ball from Graeme Power.



Andy Burgess climbs higher than Barry McConnell.

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MEMORABILIA WANTED

To commemorate next season's 10th anniversary of the amalgamation of Rushden Town and Irthlingborough Diamonds, the club is asking supporters to lend any items of memorabilia (ie: programmes, shirts, etc) for display at the Open Day on Sunday 4th August. These can be from either of the two original sides or the merged club. Please contact **Kerry White** on 01933 652000 ext. 2257, via e-mail (docshop@airwair.co.uk) or in writing c/o the club. All items will be returned after the Open Day.



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FOOTBALL 3rd round-up



For those mourning the end of the TV drama *Footballers Wives*, there's a real life replacement, *Chairmen's Wives*.

The wife of Darlington chairman, George Reynolds, accused the players of "throwing games". Susan Reynolds, also a director at the club, made the comments during a public meeting. The players stormed out en masse. Professionals to a man they were ready for matchday - a trip to Exeter. How long must that return journey have felt after the 4-2 defeat.

It's been a week of headlines from the boardroom. Portsmouth chairman Milan Mandaric said he wasn't paying his players or coaching staff because the performances in February simply weren't good enough. He changed his mind. Maybe Mrs Mandaric had something to do with the change of heart.

One chairman who rarely makes the headlines is Max Griggs at Rushden and Diamonds. He's much-loved by the fans and it's nothing to do with any walkabouts during the match.

Across the country there are plenty of chants for chairmen to dust off their Cheque books. You don't hear that at Nene Park. They're so respectful of the man who built the club that when they chant his name it's "Mister" Griggs. And Football 3rd is at Rushden this weekend. The League's newboys entertain Luton. It's a sell out for one of the biggest games of the season. Not that anyone would look forward to entertaining the Hatters at the moment. They have just set a new club record of 11 away wins in one season.

FOOTBALL 3rd on the ITV Sport Channel, is the your dedicated highlights programme for the Third Division every Sunday at 11.45am. Presented from a different league ground every week it gives you the best of the Saturday afternoon action and all the goals. Football 3rd delivers everything the die-hard fan wants to know about their side and their rivals.

To subscribe to the ITV Sport Channel, Sky Sports 1, 2 & 3 and a host of other great entertainment channels, Call ITV Digital on **0808 100 0101** **itv DIGITAL**
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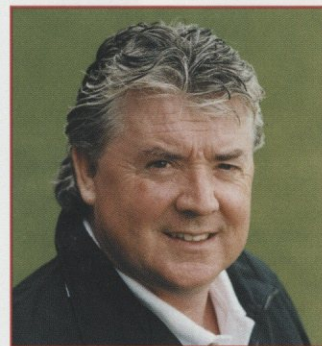
You can see Isabella Clarke and Ned Boulting presenting Football 3rd, on the ITV Sport Channel, every Sunday at 11.45am.

FACING THE CAMERA



Back row (l-r): Russell Perrett, Andrew Fotiadis, Adam Locke, Matthew Spring, Emmerson Boyce, Jude Stirling, Richard Dryden, Kevin Nicholls, Stuart Fraser. **Middle row:** Bruce Sewell (Sports Therapist), Mick Harford (First Team Coach), Kent Karlens (no longer with club), Steve Howard, Mark Owendale, Scott Ward, Carl Emberson, Paul Hughes, Peter Holmes, Brian Stein (Reserve Team Coach), John Moore (Youth Team Coach). **Front row:** Liam George (no longer with club), Lee Mansell, Carl Griffiths, Marvin Johnson, Joe Kinnear (Manager), Aaron Skelton, Adrian Forbes, Stuart Douglas, Matthew Taylor.

THE MAN AT THE HELM



JOE KINNEAR
Took over in February 2001 but the points gap he inherited was too great to make up and the season of struggle ended with a drop into Division Three.
Was playing non-league football for St. Albans City when Tottenham Hotspur spotted his potential in 1965. Enjoyed ten of the best years in the club's history, making over 280 appearances and collecting 26 Republic of Ireland caps as well as an impressive array of winners' medals - F.A. Cup (1967), League Cup (1971 & 1973), and UEFA Cup (1972).
Played for Brighton for four years before moving into coaching. Was the national team coach in the United Arab Emirates for six years, before taking charge of Wimbledon in 1992. The Dons did much more than just survive in the Premiership, and the "Crazy Gang" were still there when a heart attack forced him to step down. After being sidelined for 18 months, he was ready to get involved again when approached to take control of all football matters at Luton.

HOME SWEET HOME

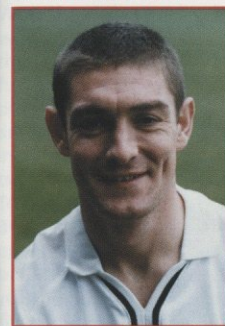


KENILWORTH ROAD

FIXTURES 2001/2002

August			
Sat 11	Carlisle United	A	2-0
Sat 18	Cheltenham Town	H	2-1
Tue 21	Reading (WCR1)	A	0-4
Sat 25	Bristol Rovers	A	2-3
Mon 27	Southend United	H	2-0
September			
Sat 1	Exeter City	A	2-2
Sat 8	Oxford United	H	1-1
Sat 15	York City	A	2-1
Tue 18	Lincoln City	H	1-1
Sat 22	Torquay United	H	5-1
Tue 25	Leyton Orient	A	3-1
Sat 29	Plymouth Argyle	A	1-2
October			
Fri 5	Darlington	H	5-2
Sat 13	Scunthorpe United	A	2-0
Sat 20	Rochdale	H	0-1
Tue 23	Halifax Town	A	4-2
Sat 27	Swansea City	H	3-0
Tue 30	Dagenham & Redbridge (LDVR2)	A	2-3
November			
Sat 3	Mansfield Town	A	1-4
Fri 9	Shrewsbury Town	H	1-0
Sat 17	Southend United (FACR1)	A	2-3
Tue 20	Hull City	H	0-1
Sat 24	Macclesfield Town	A	1-4
December			
Sat 8	Hartlepool United	A	2-1
Sat 15	Rushden & Diamonds	H	1-0
Sat 22	Hartlepool United	H	2-2
Wed 26	Oxford United	A	2-1
Sat 29	Southend United	A	2-1
January			
Tue 8	Kidderminster Harriers	A	4-1
Sat 12	Cheltenham Town	A	1-1
Sat 19	Carlisle United	H	1-1
Sat 26	Darlington	A	2-3
February			
Sat 2	Plymouth Argyle	H	2-0
Sat 9	Rochdale	A	0-1
Sat 16	Scunthorpe United	H	2-3
Tue 19	Bristol Rovers	H	3-0
Sat 23	York City	H	2-1
Tue 26	Lincoln City	A	1-0
March			
Sat 2	Torquay United	A	1-0
Tue 5	Leyton Orient	H	3-0
Sat 9	Rushden & Diamonds	A	
Tue 12	Exeter City	H	
Sat 16	Kidderminster Harriers	H	
Sat 23	Halifax Town	H	
Sat 30	Swansea City	A	
April			
Mon 1	Mansfield Town	H	
Sat 6	Hull City	A	
Sat 13	Macclesfield Town	H	
Sat 20	Shrewsbury Town	A	

DAVID BAYLISS



Luton suffered a horrendous illness and injury crisis in late November 2001, and with 24 players unavailable on the day they could not raise a team to play Kidderminster. Joe Kinnear had spent a

week chasing players to try to plug the gaps without success until he discovered to his great delight that Rochdale were prepared to release their longest-serving player. Centre-half Bayliss was looking for a new challenge, and jumped at the chance to join the Hatters, going straight into the squad and impressing on his debut in a 2-1 victory at Hartlepool United. The defender, an inch under six foot tall, had been at Spotland since he was a trainee, and made over 200 first-team appearances for Rochdale before deciding not to accept a new contract with them.

EMMERSON BOYCE

One of the many to come through from Luton's schools and youth development programme, the defender was signed as a YTS boy in the summer of 1995. Made the breakthrough to the league squad at the age of 19 midway through the 1999/2000 season after occasional appearances following a debut in the Auto Windscreens Shield in January 1999. A commanding defensive figure, he was a regular last season, and junior members of the Luton Town Supporters Club voted him their Player of the Year.

AHMET BRKOVIC

Believing a move would be good for his career, the midfielder playmaker refused new terms at Leyton Orient in the summer of 2001 to join Luton on a Bosman free transfer. Orient had signed him on a free from HNK Dubrovnik in the autumn of 1999,

and he was a regular in their league squad last season. Was bitterly disappointed when Orient failed in the play-offs to win promotion to the Second Division, and wants to go one better this time around.

CHRIS COYNE

Centre-half who was playing for Perth Soccer Club when he was selected for the Australian under-17 squad for the 1994 Youth World Cup, and came to the notice of Harry Redknapp, then manager of West Ham. United. An invitation to Upton Park for trials led to him signing for the Hammers as a teenager, but Premiership chances were few and far between, and after loan spells at Brentford and Southend United, he moved to Dundee. Joe Kinnear had remembered Coyne from his West Ham days and £50,000 persuaded Dundee to let him move to Kenilworth Road in September 2001.

DEAN CROWE

Joe Kinnear moved swiftly to sign Crowe on loan from Stoke City in late September when an injury crisis decimated the Hatters squad. The striker made an immediate impact; he scored on his debut at Plymouth and before his month was up had netted four goals in five appearances to earn him a permanent deal. Began his career as a YTS boy at Stoke, but found it difficult to hold down a regular place in their league side after a change of management and an influx of Scandinavian players. Was made available by Stoke in the summer of 2001 after loan spells at Northampton Town and Bury.

RICHARD DRYDEN

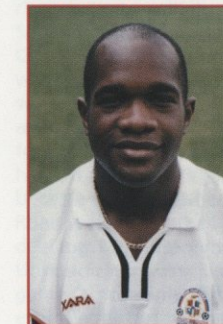
Vastly experienced defender who has played at all levels of professional football and accepted his second Luton contract at the end of last season. Had been recruited on a free transfer from Southampton in February 2001. Bristol Rovers gave him his start in football as a trainee, but after a handful of games he was allowed to move on to Exeter City for £10,000. Two years later they

cashed in as he was sold to Notts County for £250,000, and further hefty fees were paid as he moved on to Birmingham City, Bristol City and Southampton. Also spent some time on loan at Stoke City in the 1999-2000 season when he helped them win the Auto Windscreens Shield at Wembley.

CARL EMBERSON

Wanting two players to compete for the first team goalkeeper's spot, Joe Kinnear moved swiftly in the summer of 2001 to persuade Emberson to choose Luton instead of Plymouth Argyle, who were also interested when his contract at Walsall ended. His career began at Millwall as a trainee, but he made his name in a seven-year spell at Colchester United before going to the Bescot Stadium in the summer of 1999. Was in the Saddlers' squad which won promotion to Division One, and hopes to enjoy similar success at Luton.

ADRIAN FORBES



After considerable First Division experience, and with an England youth cap to his credit, Forbes was a surprise inclusion on Norwich City's list of players available for transfer in the

summer of 2001, and Joe Kinnear paid £75,000 for a right winger to add much-needed width to his attacking formation. Is noted for his ability to run at and past defenders, either to deliver crosses from out wide, or to cut in and have a crack at goal. Started as a trainee with Norwich and spent four years at Carrow Road before moving to Luton.

ANDREW FOTIADIS

A local discovery, Fotiadis chose to stay at school to gain his A-levels before being a full-time professional. Won England Schools caps at under-15 and under-18 level, and has developed a style to delight Luton fans and worry opposing defences. An old-fashioned centre-forward, with good physique, power, and concentrated determination.

STUART FRASER

A stylish defender and former skipper of the youth team who was given his league debut against Carlisle United on the final day of the 1997/98 season. Established himself as a regular member of the Luton squad and the Scottish under-21 team until he suffered a broken leg playing at Queens Park Rangers in January 2001. Missed the rest of the season, but made a good recovery and was back in business when pre-season training began six months later.

CARL GRIFFITHS

An impressive scoring record - a goal in every 2.5 starts for seven previous clubs - led to Griffiths becoming a major target last summer for Luton after relegation from the Second Division, and they got their man when they signed him from Leyton Orient for a reported £65,000. His earlier moves had totted up to well over £1million, starting with a £500,000 transfer from Shrewsbury Town to Manchester City. Began as a trainee at Gay Meadow and set his benchmark by netting 61 goals in 130 starts for the Shrews. Has been knocking them in ever since for Portsmouth, Peterborough United, Leyton Orient, Wrexham, Port Vale and Orient for a second time.

IAN HILLIER

No-one was more surprised than the Welsh under-21 international himself when he made his league debut in the second game of this season. The day before he was training with Spurs, where he was captain of the reserves, but a crop of injuries led to Joe Kinnear taking the young right back on loan. Settled in so quickly that he was soon bought for a bargain £30,000 fee.

PETER HOLMES

A product of the F.A.'s School of Excellence in the same year as Michael Owen. Sheffield Wednesday was his first club, but relegation from the Premiership in May 2000 left them desperate to cut the pay-roll and Luton signed the midfielder for a nominal fee a few months later. But he played in barely a third of their league and cup games in his first season at Kenilworth Road.

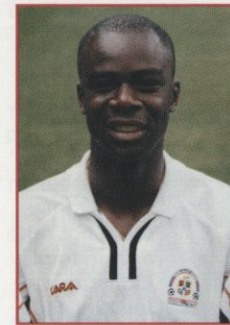
STEVE HOWARD

Joe Kinnear swooped on deadline day a year ago to prise the tall striker away from Northampton Town for £50,000. The price was down to the Bosman effect - Howard had cost the Cobblers a then record club fee of £120,000 when they recruited him from Hartlepool United two years previously. At Sixfields his height and power as a target man, and a scoring rate of a goal every four games helped Northampton win promotion to Division Two. Luton had first-hand experience of his ability - he scored when Northampton achieved their first-ever league win at Kenilworth Road in September 2000. Six months later he accepted terms at Luton, with Northampton accepting a third of their asking price for a player who would have left for nothing soon, afterwards under the Bosman ruling.

PAUL HUGHES

A promising career that began at Chelsea was painfully and cruelly interrupted after the gifted midfielder earned the admiration of, among others, Glenn Hoddle. Hughes worked his way up at Stamford Bridge from trainee to Premiership, and Joe Kinnear was one of several managers who marked him out as an outstanding prospect. Learned his trade under Hoddle's management, and gained experience on loan to Stockport County, Norwich City and Crewe Alexandra. When Hoddle became manager of Southampton he moved swiftly to recruit Hughes, but a serious groin injury put the midfielder out of football for nine months. Southampton, by then under new management, made him available for transfer, and he joined Luton just before this season kicked off, marking his debut with a goal at Carlisle a couple of days later.

MARVIN JOHNSON



The longest-serving player at Kenilworth Road, and arguably the most popular member of the staff with his colleagues and the fans. Always cheerful, even when

recovering from injury setbacks, the defender is in his 14th season as a first-team regular at Luton, his only club, and skipper of the team he joined as a schoolboy. A serious neck injury restricted him to only 11 games in last year's relegation battle. Is the only member of the playing staff to have appeared in all four divisions for the club after making his debut against Everton at Goodison Park in 1988.

ADAM LOCKE

Well-travelled in football terms, the midfielder joined Luton on a free transfer from Bristol City to add experience to a predominantly young squad in the summer of 1999. 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 Bristol City before joining Luton.

LEE MANSELL

An injury crisis at Kenilworth Road thrust the young midfielder into a dramatic debut in an F.A. Cup tie. Had to make the transition straight from the youth squad to the first team in January 2001 and was an instant success. Was just 58 seconds into his debut against Queens Park Rangers in a Third Round replay when he scored his first senior goal. Luton had looked after him since he was an 11-year-old, and signed him as a soccer scholar (previously the YTS scheme) as soon as he left school. His dramatic emergence at Loftus Road led to him becoming a regular in the side, and last summer he was rewarded with a full professional contract.

ALAN NEILSON

With the club's promotion bid going well, Joe Kinnear felt last month was the right time to boost his squad still further to increase competition for places in the latter stages of the season, and defender Neilson, a former Welsh international, was signed on a free transfer after being released by Grimsby Town as part of a cost-cutting exercise. Brought with him plenty of top football experience. His international career began with appearances for Wales at youth and under-21 level, followed by five full caps, and he enjoyed a good career in the Premiership, with his first club Newcastle United and then with Southampton and Fulham.

KEVIN NICHOLLS

Tough-tackling midfielder who began his career as a trainee at Charlton Athletic and quickly made an impact after skipping England youth teams at under-18, under-19 and under-20 levels. At the time Joe Kinnear was in charge of Wimbledon and made a note of the young Nicholls, and just before this season started he was surprised to hear that he was available for transfer. Charlton had sold him for £250,000 to Wigan Athletic in the summer of 1999, but the move didn't work out and Luton's offer of £150,000 led to him moving to Kenilworth Road.

MARK OVENDALE

The arrival of a new board of directors at Kenilworth Road in the summer of 2000 enabled Luton to break a mould that had been set over the previous three years. Then, with continuing financial problems, including a spell in receivership, Luton had been great sellers of players and very rarely buyers. That changed when Mike Watson-Challis became the chairman, and made cash available to secure goalkeeper Ovendale from Bournemouth for £425,000. Had previously been with Wisbech Town, Northampton Town and Barry Town.

RUSS PERRETT

Having helped Cardiff City win promotion to the Second Division in May 2001, the big central defender was the victim of a huge recruitment drive at Ninian Park. Club owner Sam Hammam launched a spending spree which included £600,000 for Spencer

Prior and Perrett knew his first-team future at Cardiff might be limited. Joe Kinnear, a long-standing friend of Sam Hammam from the time when they were at Wimbledon, persuaded him to allow Perrett to move to Kenilworth Road a few days before this season began. Strong in the air, and with a good first touch on the ground, Perrett began with non-league Lymington before being snapped up by neighbouring Portsmouth in 1995. Did well in the First Division and moved to Cardiff four years later.

AARON SKELTON



It was a case of going 'back home' when the defender, born a few miles from Luton, signed for the Hatters for the second time in July 2001. Had joined the club as a schoolboy, and worked his

way up through the ranks to be on the fringe of the league team in 1993 when he was 19. A serious thigh muscle injury struck when he was poised for his senior debut, which was delayed for 12 months as a result. And no sooner had he made the breakthrough than an appalling run of bad luck struck, with back and knee ligament injuries sidelining him for most of the next three years. A change of club, on a free transfer to Colchester United in the summer of 1997, brought a much-needed change of luck and Skelton rapidly became a big favourite at Layer Road. Was their Player of the Year when his contract expired in the summer of 2001, and although Colchester wanted him to sign a new deal, the invitation to move back to his first club, on a Bosman, was too good to turn down.

MATTHEW SPRING

A competitive midfielder who has been at Luton since he was a schoolboy, and was a driving force in the side which reached the F.A. Youth Cup semi-finals in 1997. After a league debut when still only 17, he soon became a regular in Luton's Second Division team, and as he

came into this season he had never been dropped. His first 100 appearances were clocked up when he was only 20.

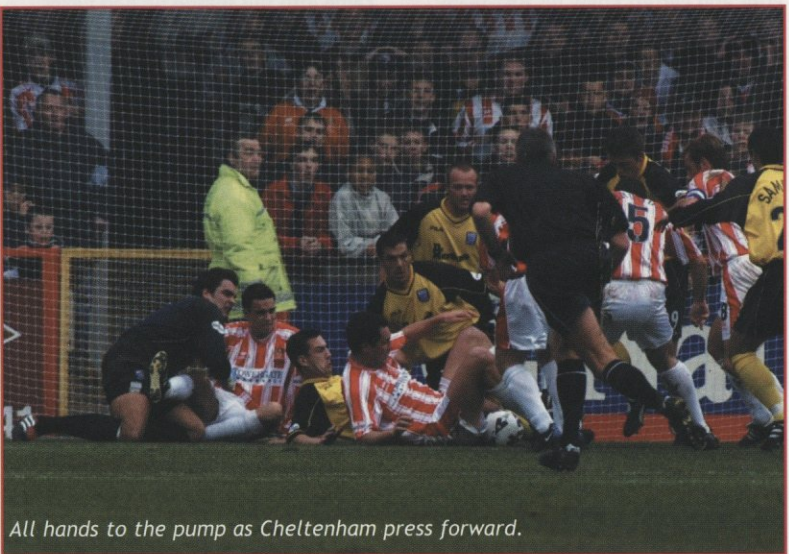
MATTHEW TAYLOR

When Luton were in receivership in the summer of 1999, the club had to look at the young talent coming up through the ranks, and this wing-back, though still only 17, was thrust into the league team. With his pace and fierce shooting ability, he settled in immediately and has developed into a top class player, a real crowd-please, and a respected professional. At the end of his first season he was named Young Player of the Year by the Luton management and coaching staff. Twelve months later, in May 2001, he swept the board in the Player of the Year votes, picking up the prizes from players, Supporters Club, and internet. Also netted the Goal of the Season award.

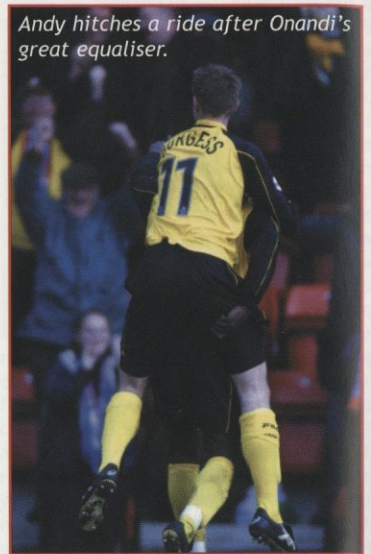
JEAN-LOUIS VALOIS

Rarely can there have been a more explosive league debut than the one made by the midfielder in September 2001, a day after he joined Luton. The left-winger had turned down the chance to stay at Lille Olympique Sporting Club, despite the lure of UEFA Champions League football, because he was desperate to play in England. Luton were one of several clubs interested in a man with a good reputation in French football, and after a brief trial signed him on a Bosman free transfer. Valois became an instant hero at Kenilworth Road, pulling most of the strings on his debut as Luton hammered Torquay United 5-1 and cracking the goal of the game, a stunning 35-yard strike which even the opposition fans applauded.

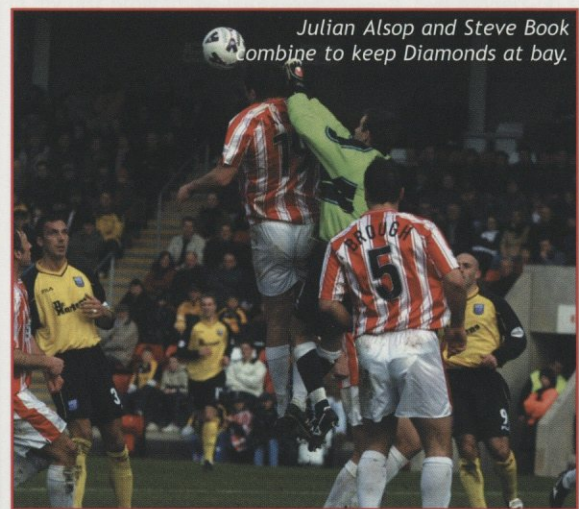




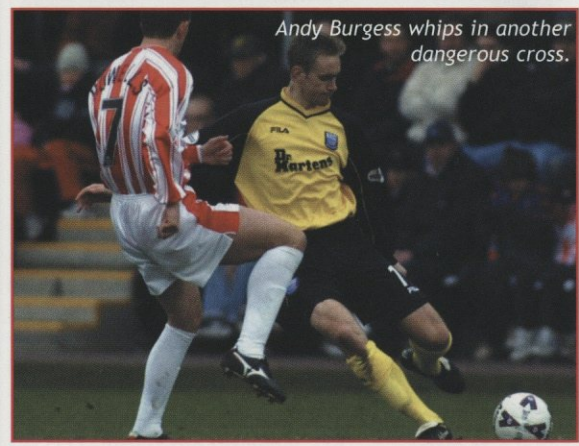
All hands to the pump as Cheltenham press forward.



Andy hitches a ride after Onandi's great equaliser.



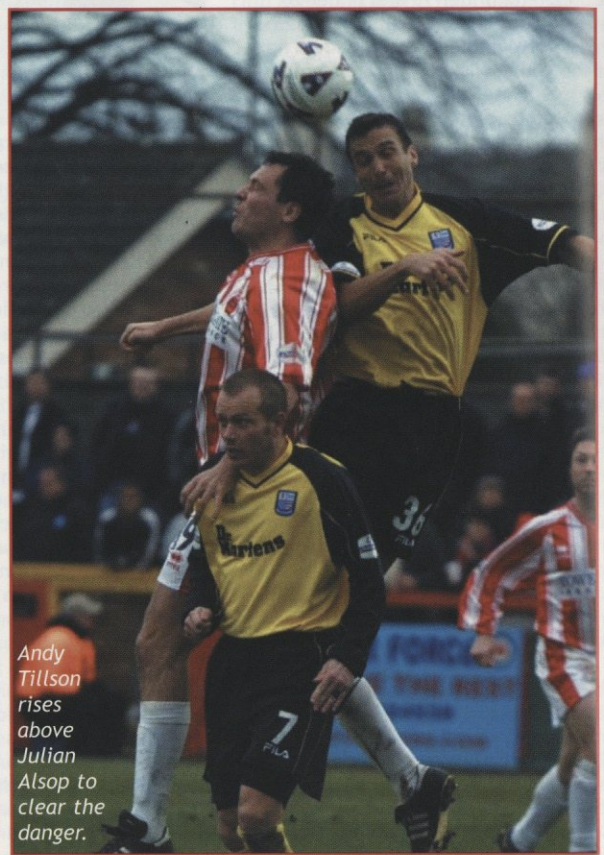
Julian Alsop and Steve Book combine to keep Diamonds at bay.



Andy Burgess whips in another dangerous cross.



Garry Butterworth just releases the ball ahead of Tony Naylor.



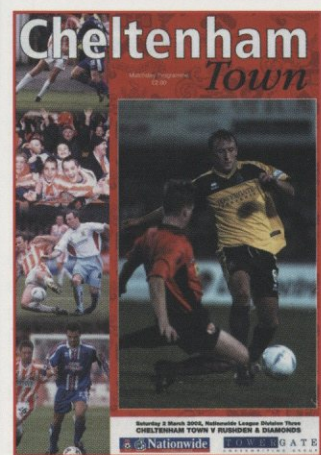
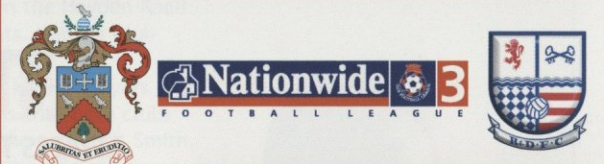
Andy Tillson rises above Julian Alsop to clear the danger.

MATCH FACTS

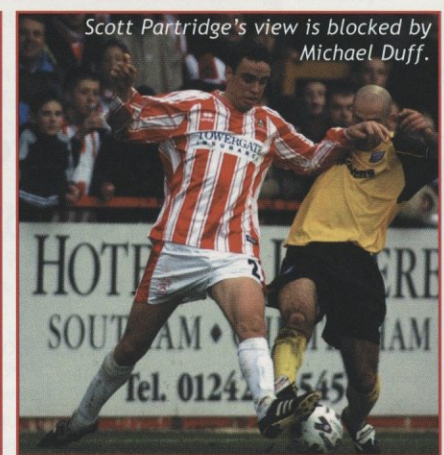
Saturday 2nd March 2002
 Nationwide League, Division Three
 Cheltenham Town 1 (Alsop 25)
 Diamonds 1 (Lowe 40)
 Att: 4,584

Cheltenham: Book, Griffin, Duff, Brough, Victory, Williams, Yates, Howells, Milton (Grayson-87), Alsop, Naylor.
 Subs not used: Higgs, Devaney, Howarth, Jones.

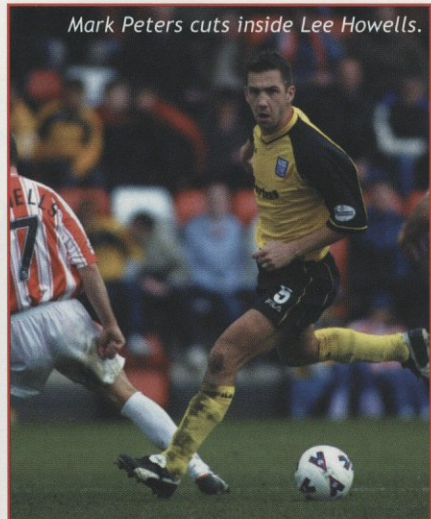
Diamonds: Turley, Sambrook, Tillson, Peters, Underwood, Hall, Wardley, Butterworth (Hanlon 78), Burgess, Lowe, Partridge (Darby-90).
 Subs not used: Brady, Setchell, Dowell.



Cheltenham Town



Scott Partridge's view is blocked by Michael Duff.



Mark Peters cuts inside Lee Howells.

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tony jones

In my last programme notes, I wrote about my old Diamonds colleague David Knighton.

Confronted with a blank piece of paper for today's column, I had my memory jogged by the recent appearance of Ken Ambridge at the Leyton Orient match.

It set me thinking about the rivalry that existed between Rushden Town, known as the Russians, and the Diamonds.

Apart from both Ken and myself firstly being Secretary and then Chairman of our respective clubs, we also served together on the management of the United Counties League for many years.

It is true to say that in each capacity Ken and I didn't get on particularly well. But times and circumstances have changed, the years have rolled by and now, as two old stagers, we had a drink together and reminisced - good pals now.

After all, there is no longer Irthlingborough Diamonds nor Rushden Town; just one big happy family now but it certainly wasn't always like that.

Ken Ambridge was supremo at Rushden Town from 1952-1988, 36 years' magnificent service.

During this time the Russians were United Counties League Premier Champions twice - 1963/64 and 1972/73 - whilst the Diamonds had three championship triumphs in the same period. Overall the match results were generally fairly even. However, the rivalry was naturally intense with the two clubs just three miles apart and separated by the River Nene.

The Russians were formed way back in 1889, but the Diamonds, although starting life as a youth team in 1946, did not play in any form of men's soccer until the mid-fifties.

It was in the 1930s that Rushden Town were almost invincible. They played in the Northants League and between 1931 and 1939 they won the league championship on five occasions with

two runners-up spots for good measure.

It was not until the sixties that the Diamonds eventually caught up with their neighbours in league status and from that moment on, it was 'let battle commence'.

While the Russians played at Hayden Road, a ground with a sizeable wooden stand, covered terracing and TURNSTILES, the Diamonds played initially on the Rec at Manton Road with no cover whatsoever.

So it's easy to see why Rushden Town were antagonistic to the upwardly mobile wannabees.

All that changed in 1969 when the original Nene Park land was purchased by the Diamonds and the status quo was established.

Even so, the Russians were generally accepted as being the senior club, and understandably so.

In 1978 I was determined to put one over my old adversary Ken and we rushed through the erection of FLOODLIGHTS before he knew what had happened. Ken hit back six months later when the Hayden Road club also had lights. Neither club could outdo the other.

Two of the better known players with strong associations with both clubs were Peter DeBanke and Chris Smith. Peter was one of the original young Diamonds who then spent around 15 years as a Rushden Town player before returning to help establish Nene Park.

Chris was a Diamonds player for three seasons in the latest sixties as a goalscoring midfielder.

Having joined the Russians, he played mainly as a striker scoring a hatful of goals before he was lured back to Nene Park. In one season he scored 41 goals despite missing several games due to injury. He later became manager and is now a director at R&DFC.

As you would expect quite a few players locally have turned out for both clubs but

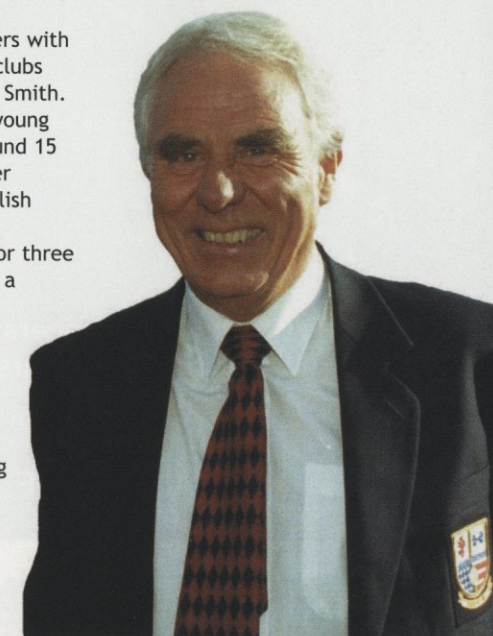
never more so than in the 1980/81 Russians side. I recently looked at the photograph hanging in the Ken Ambridge Suite of this particular team, and incredibly NINE players had also played for the Diamonds.

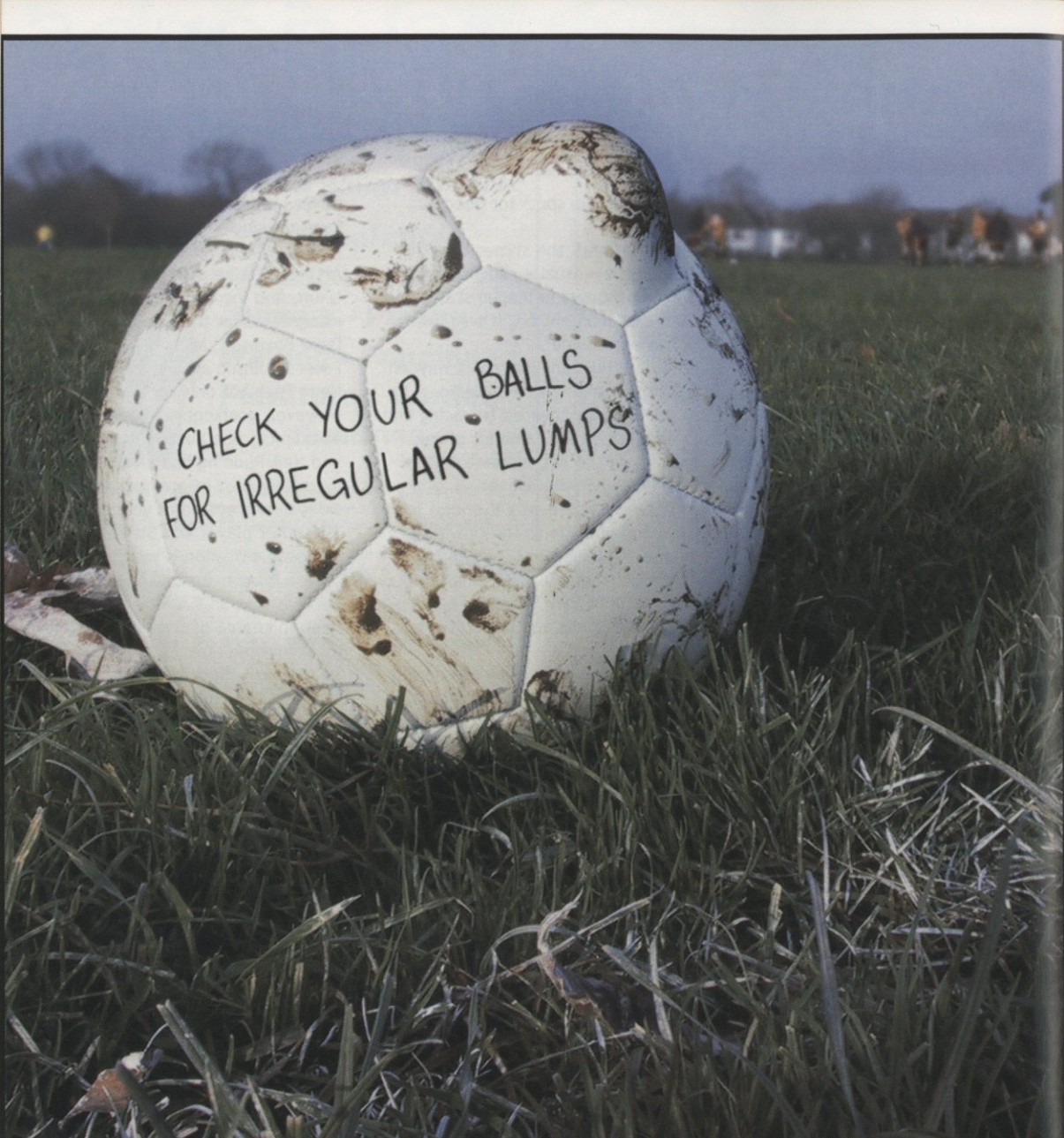
Dave Botterell, Mick Pearson and Peter Robinson all later switched to Nene Park but only for a short period. However, goalkeeper Simon Payne, Paul Spick, Bob Buckby, Mick Walpole and Neil Redding had all been an important part of previous Diamonds sides over a period of years.

The other player was Steve Rutter who was a Diamonds youth player before his conversion to the Russians. Steve is now an F.A. coach and has been in charge of England's under-16s for sometime now.

So although there was a great rivalry between the clubs there nevertheless was a close connection.

As with so much in life, that is all now in the past. But as for guys like Ken Ambridge, their legacy remains at R&DFC forever, and so it should.





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'bald eagle' lands at nene park

The latest Sportsmans' Dinner to be hosted at Nene Park brought Coventry City assistant manager Jim Smith - known throughout the game as The Bald Eagle - to Northamptonshire a couple of weeks ago.

With one of the biggest contact books in the game, Jim shared many of his career memories with the audience, a career which started with Boston United before further playing spells at Sheffield United, Halifax Town, Lincoln City and Portsmouth. A long and distinguished management career has seen him give service to Colchester United, Blackburn Rovers, Birmingham City, Oxford United, Queens Park Rangers, Newcastle United, Portsmouth and Derby County before his move to Highfield Road. His achievements include a Third Division title with Oxford, promotions with Colchester, Birmingham and Derby (the latter into the Premier League), a League Cup final appearance with QPR and taking Portsmouth to an F.A. Cup semi-final.

Speaking to Radio Diamonds after the event, Jim admitted that he's not as much a regular on the after-dinner circuit as some of his contemporaries.



Alastair Wathey is suitably amused!

"I don't do a lot to be honest, maybe three or four a year," he said, "but one of the reasons I came down to Rushden was the parallel with Boston United, and I always appreciate and help ambitious small clubs where possible."

Boston and Dagenham now find themselves involved in the same Conference title dogfight that Diamonds and Yeovil were engaged in last season, yet had the standard of their York Street ground met the approval of Football League inspectors, Boston may well have become a league club as long ago as 1977 when they won the Northern Premier League. However, it was runners-up Wigan Athletic who were elected in the Pilgrims' place, and now Jim's hoping it will be second time lucky.

"They've tended to lose the important games at home this season, but fingers crossed they can follow yourselves into the league. When I was there the system was that you had to be voted in above the league clubs and that was virtually impossible, but they were great days which really set me on my way and ones I appreciate."

Jim has nothing but admiration for what Diamonds have achieved in a relatively short space of time, and describes the time which Max Griggs has given Brian Talbot as "very rare and very admirable", and this from a man who's worked for more than one or two chairmen in his time!

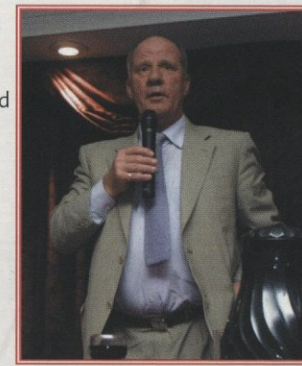
"I think it's been a fantastic achievement. I brought Derby down here one pre-season and the stadium is absolutely magnificent, so credit to everybody and Brian has been grafting away with tremendous support from his chairman. They've been very patient and he's now got into the league, and I'm delighted to say that they're doing extremely well this year with a great opportunity to progress into the Second Division."

A face at Nene Park which is a familiar one to Jim is that of Paul Hall. Paul signed for Jim's Portsmouth side in 1993 and spent six years at Fratton Park before moving on to Coventry City.

"Paul was a young boy who was very quick, as I'm sure he is now, and always managed to get a few goals. He was a player who I thought could have a good career and I'm sure he's doing well for Rushden and is a threat with his pace and eye for a goal."

When Jim's time at Derby came to an end, it would have been easy for him to have decided that enough was enough. But the football bug is a difficult one to get rid of.

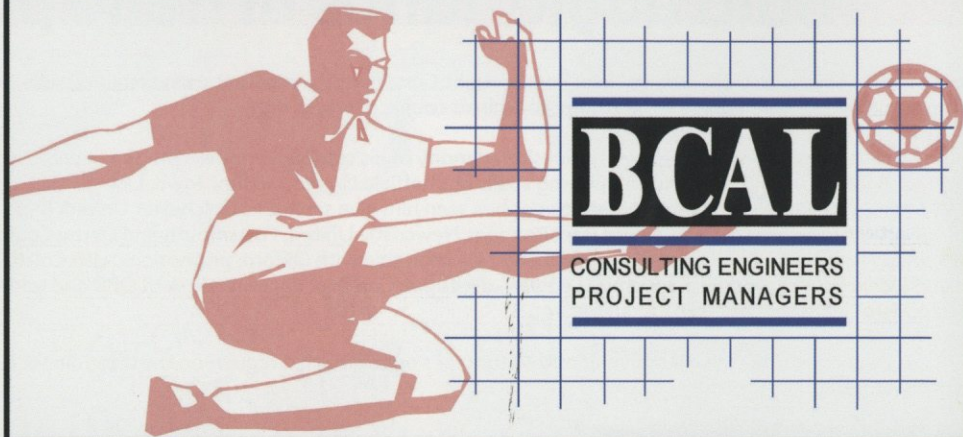
"Absolutely, and with Sir Alex, Graham Taylor and Bobby Robson it's been proved again, and you wonder if they'll ever pack it in. It's something that all football people have got, even those who support clubs rather than work for them."



"...and then there was the time..."

THE NEXT SPORTSMANS DINNER WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 9th MAY 2002 WHEN THE GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE BRIGHTON MANAGER PETER TAYLOR. TICKETS ARE PRICED £40 (including a 3-course dinner) AND FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING ALASTAIR WATHEY ON 01933 650345.

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Records

Average Gate 4,277
Highest Gate 16,369
Plymouth v Exeter
Lowest Gate 1,251
Halifax v Southend
Highest Agg Score
Rochdale5
York4
Biggest Home Win
Scunthorpe ...7
Darlington1
Biggest Away Win
Exeter0
Scunthorpe ...4
Consec. Wins
Plymouth,
Luton5
Games Unbeaten
Plymouth19
Consec. Defeats
Bristol Rovers.6
Winless Run
Bristol Rovers 14
Total Games 440
Home Wins 21248%
Away Wins 10925%
Draws 11927%
1-1 Draws 4911%
0-0 Draws 4310%

Average Attendances

	2000	4000	6000	8000	10000
Bristol Rovers					6,841
Carlisle					3,233
Cheltenham					3,751
Darlington					3,863
Exeter					3,409
Halifax					2,126
Hartlepool					3,513
Hull					9,273
Kidderminster					3,027
Orient					4,623
Lincoln					3,173
Luton					6,771
Macclesfield					2,118
Mansfield					4,508
Oxford					6,384
Plymouth					7,811
Rochdale					3,293
Rushden					4,201
Scunthorpe					3,582
Shrewsbury					3,588
Southend					3,986
Swansea					3,683
Torquay					2,537
York					3,020

Goals - When Scored

	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
BR	2	6	9	4	4	10
CU	7	10	6	7	2	6
CT	3	9	10	6	15	8
Da	2	7	8	6	13	11
EC	5	6	7	8	11	3
HT	3	7	5	4	2	5
HU	7	5	10	5	16	13
HC	6	11	6	10	8	11
KI	5	7	5	9	7	12
LO	4	7	4	10	10	11
LC	1	8	7	6	6	11
LT	4	7	17	14	15	14
MT	3	4	7	6	6	8
MT	9	8	11	8	7	16
OU	6	7	7	10	7	10
PA	6	10	13	9	8	9
Ro	8	6	8	8	8	13
RD	6	8	12	4	6	13
SU	11	15	12	8	8	13
ST	9	3	11	7	10	14
SU	6	4	5	10	5	14
SC	10	9	7	4	6	10
TU	4	5	4	3	7	11
YC	6	4	7	7	5	11

Form Guide: Home & Away

Home Form	most recent results to left	Away Form
LLLWW	Bristol Rovers	LLLDL
DWLLW	Carlisle	LDDDW
DWDDD	Cheltenham	WWWVV
LLDLD	Darlington	LDLWL
WLLDD	Exeter	LLWLW
LLLLL	Halifax	LLLLL
DWVWW	Hartlepool	LLDLW
WLWDW	Hull	LDWLW
WVWLDW	Kidderminster	LLLDL
WDLDL	Orient	LLLDL
WVWVW	Lincoln	DWLLL
WVWVW	Luton	WVWLL
DLWLW	Macclesfield	WVWDL
WVWVW	Mansfield	LLWLW
DLWDD	Oxford	DWLLL
WVWVW	Plymouth	DWVLL
WVWVW	Rochdale	WLDLD
WVWVW	Rushden	DDLLL
WVWVW	Scunthorpe	LDWDL
WVWVW	Shrewsbury	LLDLL
DWLDW	Southend	DLDDL
WDVWL	Swansea	LWVLL
LDDDW	Torquay	LWVLL
WVWVW	York	LLWVW

Clubs' top scorer & the points their goals have won

see key below	Leading Scorer	GS	Sc1	Sc2	HT	Gms/Gls/Gm	Pts	Run	
Mansfield	Chris Greenacre	19	13	3	0	34	0.56	14	4
Shrewsbury	Luke Rodgers	19	14	1	1	30	0.63	13	4
Hull	Gary Alexander	16	12	2	0	34	0.47	13	5
York	Michael Proctor	11	9	1	0	33	0.33	13	2
Bristol Rovers	Nathan Ellington	14	8	0	2	23	0.61	12	4
Cheltenham	Julian Alsop	16	12	2	0	31	0.52	11	3
Rochdale	Kevin Townson	12	6	3	0	32	0.38	10	3
Scunthorpe	Steve Torpey	12	6	3	0	32	0.38	10	1
Carlisle	Ritchie Foran	11	11	0	0	27	0.41	10	3
Exeter	Chris Roberts	10	4	3	0	33	0.30	10	2
Plymouth	David Friio	8	8	0	0	34	0.24	10	2
Oxford	Paul Moody	11	8	0	1	28	0.39	8	3
Torquay	Alex Russell	6	3	0	1	25	0.24	8	2
Southend	Tesfaye Bramble	9	7	1	0	34	0.26	7	2
Swansea	Mamady Sidibe	7	5	1	0	24	0.29	7	2
Darlington	Barry Conlon	7	5	1	0	32	0.22	7	1
Macclesfield	Lee Glover	8	6	1	0	35	0.23	6	2
Luton	Steve Howard	13	11	1	0	33	0.39	5	3
Lincoln	Lee Thorpe	11	9	1	0	28	0.39	5	2
Rushden	Onandi Lowe	8	8	0	0	17	0.47	5	3
Hartlepool	Gordon Watson	13	8	1	1	23	0.57	4	3
Kidderminster	Dean Bennett	8	8	0	0	34	0.24	4	7
Halifax	Paul Harsley	7	5	1	0	36	0.19	4	2
Orient	Steve Watts	9	5	2	0	24	0.38	0	3

Biggest Wins & Heaviest Defeats

Club	Win - vs.	Defeat - vs.	PU	CS	FS
Bristol Rov	4-1 Swansea	0-3 Luton	29	10	14
Carlisle	6-1 Orient	0-3 Plymouth	34	12	11
Cheltenham	4-1 Macclesfield	1-5 Hull	23	13	6
Darlington	4-0 Exeter	1-7 Scunthorpe	32	9	13
Exeter	4-2 Darlington	0-4 Scun, Darl	31	9	14
Halifax	3-0 Lincoln	1-6 Oxford	27	10	18
Hartlepool	5-1 Rush, S'end	0-3 Man, Chel	26	8	11
Hull	5-1 Cheltenham	0-4 Hartlepool	31	14	12
Kidderminster	4-1 vs 3 clubs	0-4 Shrewsby	27	13	11
Orient	5-0 Lincoln	1-6 Carlisle	37	9	11
Lincoln	3-0 Swansea	0-5 Orient	23	10	10
Luton	5-1 Torquay	1-4 Man, Mac	34	11	3
Macclesfield	4-1 Luton	0-4 Mansfield	29	10	16
Mansfield	4-0 Maccsfield	1-4 Hull	25	11	8
Oxford	6-1 Halifax	0-3 Ornt, Hull	28	8	12
Plymouth	3-0 vs 4 clubs	1-3 Shrewsby	24	21	7
Rochdale	3-1 Mansfield	1-4 Kidmnstr	30	13	5
Rushden	3-0 York	1-5 Hartlepool	38	13	12
Scunthorpe	7-1 Darlington	0-3 Carlisle	29	13	7
Shrewsbury	4-0 Kidmnstr	0-3 Hull	25	12	9
Southend	4-1 Halifax	1-5 Hartlepool	29	11	11
Swansea	3-0 Exeter	1-4 Bristol Rv	29	10	15
Torquay	3-1 Darlington	1-5 Luton	39	4	16
York	3-0 Torquay	0-4 Hull	29	7	9

Key: GS=Goals Scored; Sc1=Games Scored 1 Goal; Sc2=Games Scored 2 Goals; HT=Hat-Tricks; Each club's leading league scorer and avg. goals per game (Gls/Gm). Next column shows taking off their goals, how many Points (Pts) lost. Last figure show best scoring Run in consecutive games.

NUMBERS: PU = Players Used CS = Clean Sheets FS = Games Failed to Score

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in conversation....

It may be over six years since Diamonds coach Terry Westley left Luton Town, but he's the first to admit that this afternoon's game will have an extra edge to it.

"No question. It's time we beat them," he states. "We've played well twice against them and got nothing. In the F.A. Cup last season they beat us and that was a big disappointment, and we did well in the second half in the league game earlier this season and maybe should have come away with something. So today I want to win the game. We're right in the shake-up, my young lad's the mascot, my family are here and it would be nice to turn them over.

"My cousins always come to one game a season, but the whole family are coming to this one and we'll have something to eat and make a nice day of it. So there is an added edge to it but it's got past the stage where I look for their results and worry about how they're doing. I was backing them to go straight back up especially when Joe [Kinnear] and Mick [Harford] went there. When the chairman Mr Watson-Challis took over he said he was prepared to put some money in, and they haven't really been outside the top three all season." Terry's initial move to Kenilworth Road as youth team coach came as a big surprise to him.

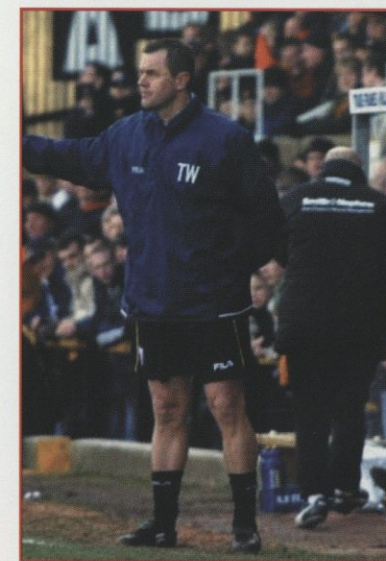
"I was at Ipswich as a young coach working with the likes of Kieron Dyer, James Scowcroft, Richard Naylor, Richard Wright and Matthew Upson who were 14 or 15 at that stage. I worked with that group for about three years and I like to think I had gained quite a good reputation, and then I had a phone call out of the blue from David Pleat. I had never met him but he had just gone back to Luton for his second spell and he was looking for someone to take over the youth department. He asked if I fancied a change. So rather than working at the School of Excellence level he wanted me to work with the youth team players at the age of 20 and below, and be in charge of any coaches I wanted to bring into the club. So I met David and I fancied working for him as soon as I met him. He had a huge presence with an enthusiasm and knowledge of the game, and I felt I could learn from being with him.

"None of my family had ever left the area, it was unheard of, and Brian [Talbot] says that he had to get away to bigger surroundings, so it was like that for me. As a coach I wanted to test myself and become more knowledgeable, and I felt David and Luton was the right step to take. It was only an hour and a half down the road, and definitely a change of career." If the first move to Luton had been a surprise, the next step

in Terry's career was equally as unexpected, but Pleat had given him an early taste of management.

"Towards the end of the last season David was there [1994/95], he started to mix training up a little bit and put the first-team players with myself. With about five games to go, he was going off on a scouting trip one Saturday, and said to me in the Friday staff meeting: "you'll be taking the team tomorrow" which was met with gasps from everyone! He told me to do things the way I would with the youth team and that was the first sign he was going to make some changes the following season. Little did we know how big a change it was going to be in the end because he was going to leave for Sheffield Wednesday."

continued on page 28



page twenty-seven

Diamonds Clubcall - 09068 440033 (calls cost 60p per minute)



continued from page 27

"But it gave me a taste of sitting in the first-team dug-out totally in charge of things. We won the game but played very poorly. I can always remember thinking that if it had been a youth team match I would have been so disappointed because we hadn't played very well, but at first-team level everyone was happy because we had won. And I thought that was the end of it. I came in on the Monday and was back with the youth team.

But in the summer David got the Sheffield Wednesday job and there were rumours that I could have gone with him. But I was doing fine and didn't apply for the manager's job, unlike a lot of people inside the club who did. But again out of the blue, the chairman David Kohler saw me in one of the corridors and told me that the board wanted to talk to me. It wasn't an interview, just a chat at ten o'clock the following Monday. The local paper had been talking about Brian Horton, Mick Harford or David Preece getting the job, but then my name was circulated a little bit more with a rumour that I was going to be offered the job on the Monday. The odds were about 20-1 so I thought about a quick wager to make a bit of money!

"So I went in on the Monday and the conversation started off 'we're going to give you the job, what do you think of that?' That was it! I could easily have said no, but my ego was telling

me that I was the one who could turn the club around. And there was the excitement of being a First Division manager, a chance I might never get again, so it didn't take much thinking when it really should have done. "Looking back now, I should have gone away and given it some thought. The decision was made too quickly but only now, having done the job, do I realise in hindsight that it was the wrong thing to do. It's a very hard job being a football manager. People don't understand that it's a massive job dealing with the players, press and the day-to-day running of things. The easiest part of the job is being out on the grass and working with the players. I had no problem with any of my players in training. What I did get was the chairman wanting to sell a player, not having the money to bring someone else in and we were a struggling team. John Hartson had already left, we lost Paul Telfer and David Preece, and we didn't have enough goals. So it was a difficult season against good teams desperately trying to get in the Premiership."

Terry's brief period at the helm ended just before Christmas 1995, and the appointment of Lennie Lawrence couldn't save the Hatters from the drop into the Second Division or a further relegation a couple of years later.

Terry has stayed in constant touch with one of the young players he brought through at

Luton - Arsenal's Matthew Upson.

"Way back I was asked to become manager of Diss Town, and Matthew's father was the club secretary. At that time I was only 21 or 22, so in terms of management and coaching it was ridiculously young, but it was the field I knew I was going to take. The playing side had gone, I wasn't of the higher standard to become a player. I could have tried it at other clubs after I left Ipswich as an 18-year-old but that wasn't what I wanted to do and I quickly found myself on the coaching side. So I became a student of the game which is becoming more and more popular with the likes of Wenger, Eriksson and Houllier. Not world class players but they have studied the game and are now putting their stamp on the game very successfully.

"When I went to Diss Matthew was 7 or 8, and he was always coming over to the club to watch a game or join in Saturday morning training. Two years later I had gone to Ipswich on a part-time basis so I took him along with me to train a couple of days a week. So I took him under my wing, and now Matthew's parents are godparents to my son, so as families we are very close and always have been. But he never signed for Ipswich, unlike now when you tie boys to a contract at 14 or 15. So when I went to Luton he felt that the best way to move forward was to go with me.

"Now I take an interest and try to influence him in different ways. Young players these days can earn vast sums of money and it's important how they invest it and the sort of person they are off the pitch. He's a terrific lad on and off the pitch. He's tough on it, will boot you if he has to, has outstanding pace and it does give me a sense of pride when I see him playing against the likes of Michael Owen and Emile Heskey. I can remember him when he was a young boy and now he's playing against the best players in the world. It makes me feel old as well! "His behaviour off the pitch is impeccable and I think that's important, and his family should take great credit for that as well."

Given his previous experience, Terry, who joined Brian Talbot's staff at Nene Park in December 1998, has no real urge to return to the manager's lifestyle, although he isn't completely closing the door on the idea. "My forte is coaching. I think I'm best when given time on the grass trying to improve players and solving problems. I love to do that. But if the scenario changes in the long term, and I do mean long term, then you can never say never because you don't know what's going to happen in the future. But I haven't given that any thought nor do I have any burning desire to be a club manager again."



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professional playing staff - 01/02

	Birthplace	Birthdate	Height	Weight	Previous Club
GOALKEEPERS					
DOWELL, Adam	Gateshead	06.12.82	6' 1"	12st 10lb	Sunderland
PENNOCK, Tony	Swansea	10.04.71	6' 1"	12st 10lb	Yeovil Town
TURLEY, Billy	Wolverhampton	15.07.73	6' 3½"	15st 6lb	Northampton Town
DEFENDERS					
DEMPSTER, John	Kettering	01.04.83	6' 0"	11st 6lb	Trainee
GRAY, Stuart	Harrogate	18.12.73	5' 10"	13st 5lb	Reading
HUNTER, Barry	Coleraine	18.11.68	6' 4"	12st	Reading
MUSTAFA, Tarkan	Islington	28.08.73	5' 11"	11st 11lb	Kingstonian
PETERS, Mark	St. Asaph	06.07.72	6' 0"	13st 3lb	Mansfield Town
SAMBROOK, Andrew	Chatham	13.07.79	5' 10"	11st 8lb	Gillingham
SETCHELL, Gary	Kings Lynn	08.05.75	6' 0"	13st 6lb	Kettering Town
SOLKHON, Brett	Canvey Island	12.09.82	5' 11"	12st 3lb	Arsenal
TALBOT, Daniel	Enfield	30.01.84	5' 9"	10st 7lb	Arsenal
TILLSON, Andy	Huntingdon	30.06.66	6' 2"	13st 5lb	Walsall
UNDERWOOD, Paul	Wimbledon	16.08.73	5' 11"	12st 8lb	Enfield
WARBURTON, Ray	Rotherham	07.10.67	6' 0"	13st 3lb	Northampton Town
MIDFIELDERS					
BELL, David	Kettering	21.01.84	5' 10"	11st 6lb	Trainee
BRADY, Jon	Newcastle, Australia	14.01.75	5' 8"	11st 1lb	Hayes
BURGESS, Andy	Bedford	10.08.81	6' 2"	11st 11lb	Luton Town
BUTTERWORTH, Garry	Peterborough	08.06.69	5' 10"	11st 13lb	Dagenham & Redbridge
HALL, Paul	Manchester	03.07.72	5' 8"	10st 2lb	Walsall
HANLON, Ritchie	Kenton	25.05.78	6' 1"	12st 13lb	Peterborough United
McELHATTON, Michael	Killarney, Eire	16.04.75	5' 11"	13st 3lb	Scarborough
MILLS, Gary	Sheppey	20.05.81	5' 9"	11st 4lb	Northampton Town
FORWARDS					
DARBY, Duane	Birmingham	17.10.73	5' 11"	14st	Notts County
DUFFY, Robert	Swansea	02.12.82	6' 1"	12st 1lb	Swansea City
LOWE, Onandi	Kingston, Jamaica	02.12.74	6' 3"	14st 7lb	Kansas City Wizards
PARTRIDGE, Scott	Leicester	13.10.74	5' 9"	11st 2lb	Brentford

All details correct as at 6th March 2002.

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Code: 030232 Size: S, M, L, XL, XXL £24.99

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programme collecting

FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES DOWN THE YEARS

A series of articles by the Editor of PROGRAMME MONTHLY & FOOTBALL COLLECTABLE magazine describing how programmes have changed over a century and a quarter of Association Football.

20. The Modernisation of Programmes in the 1970s

The post 1966 World Cup boom beginning to fade, football entered the 1970's realising that modern marketing and commercial techniques would have to be applied to the sport to enable it to compete with the growing number of alternative pastimes and leisure pursuits. This brought about a radical transformation in the role and format of matchday programmes, coincidental with the first sponsored football tournaments.

Initially, these took the form of brand new competitions - as opposed to sponsors attaching their names to established tournaments - and so was born the Watney Cup in England, and shortly afterwards the Dryborough Cup in Scotland. To link the countries, and Northern and Southern Ireland, the Texaco Cup was established. Suddenly, more and different programmes were being made available for collectors. European ties had been added to the normal domestic staple diet in the 15 years since 1955, and now came additional tournaments and inter-country fixtures such as Wolves v Derry City, Airdrie v Ballymena United, Motherwell v Spurs and St Johnstone v Ipswich.

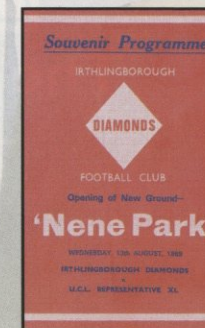
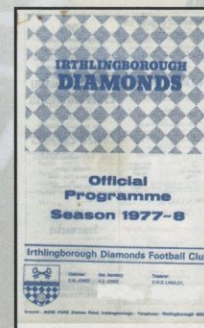
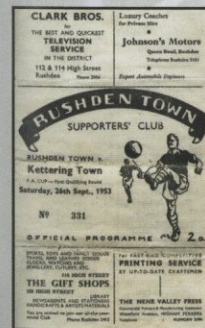
The brewers Watney broke new ground with programmes for their pre-season tournaments, which were in stylised form and published on behalf of the sponsors, rather than the home club. Similarly, Texaco provided a common style of outer pages for their tournament programmes, although the host club was left to its own devices with regard to internal pages.

One or two clubs, perhaps slightly pretentiously, began to call their programmes "matchday magazines", and they were certainly increasing in size - and cover price. Gloss paper became widespread; print techniques improved with the move away from letterpress to litho, and so photographs became a better and more prominent feature. Colour began to creep in, spreading from the First Division down through the leagues as the decade progressed.

Coventry City, programme pioneers in the 1960s, continued to explore new avenues in the 1970's. They took the "magazine" concept quite literally by producing a very large page-size programme, even bigger than today's brochure sized cup final issues, which featured "lifestyle" articles, loosely related to football, to complement the standard contents. An example of this was the back page, full colour photograph of a "glamour girl", posing chastely. It is interesting to note that few, if any, clubs followed this "laddish" route, and certainly not in the last couple of decades.

To modern eyes, 1970's programmes look brief and inadequate, but contrast them to the issues of the previous decade, and you will see that clubs were beginning to pay more than lip service to modern presentation and marketing techniques.

* "Programme Monthly & Football Collectable" contains up to 150 pages each month on all aspects of programme collecting. 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. www.pmfco.uk



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Goals Info:



Diamonds' Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	OppPos
W	Exeter	H	12th
D	Cheltenham	A	7th
D	Torquay	A	22nd
W	Orient	H	22nd
D	Rochdale	H	3rd
L	Hull	A	5th
W	Oxford	H	15th
W	Darlington	H	14th
W	Macclesfield	H	16th
L	Hartlepool	A	13th

Where



16 Goals



26 Goals



7 Goals



Shots.....22

Headers.....11

Volleys.....8

Penalties.....3

Free Kicks.....1

O.G.s.....4

Top Scorers

Lowe.....8

Darby.....7

Partridge.....5

Hall.....5

Burgess.....4

Hanlon.....4

2001-2002

Highest Gate

5,018

vs Lincoln

Lowest Gate

2,771

vs Macclesfield

Average Gate

4,201

Players Used 38

Clean Sheets 13

Failed to Score

12

Consec. Wins

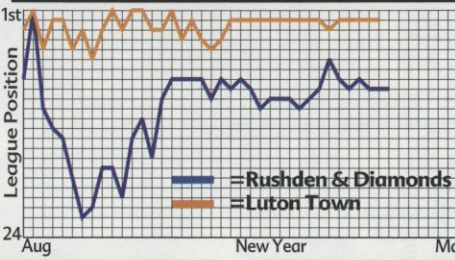
3 games

Consec. Defeats

4 games

check out the stats @ www.soccer-stats.com

Seasonal Progress Comparison



Hatters' Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	OppPos
W	Orient	H	22nd
W	Torquay	A	22nd
W	Lincoln	A	20th
W	York	H	20th
W	Bristol Rovers	H	17th
L	Scunthorpe	H	6th
L	Rochdale	A	4th
W	Plymouth	H	1st
L	Darlington	A	19th
D	Carlisle	H	21st

Goals Info:



Where



27 Goals



34 Goals



10 Goals



Shots.....37

Headers.....20

Volleys.....11

Penalties.....3

Free Kicks.....0

O.G.s.....0

Top Scorers

Howard.....13

Crowe.....11

Taylor.....9

Griffiths.....7

Nicholls.....5

Spring.....5

Forbes.....4

Valois.....4

2001-2002

Highest Gate

9,585

vs Plymouth

Lowest Gate

5,066

vs Lincoln

Average Gate

6,771

Players Used 34

Clean Sheets 11

Failed to Score

3

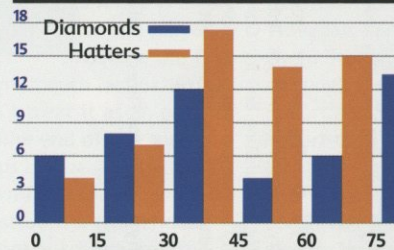
Consec. Wins

5 games

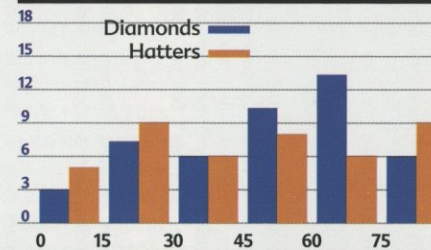
Consec. Defeats

2 games

When Goals have been Scored



When Goals have been Conceded



Onandi Lowe (Rushden) Top Scorers Comparison Steve Howard (Luton)

Lowe 31

8 games.....Total Games Scored In.....12 games
8 games.....Games Scored 1 Goal.....11 games
0 games.....Games Scored 2 Goals.....1 game
0 games.....Hat-tricks.....0 games

W->L.....0 (0pts) Season's Results and W->L.....1 (3pts)
W->D.....2 (4pts) (loss of points) without W->D.....0 (0pts)
D->L.....1 (1pts) the two goalscorers goals D->L.....2 (2pts)

3 games.....Maximum scoring run.....3 games
4 games.....Maximum Dry Spell.....7 games

5.....Shot.....5
2.....Header.....7
1.....Volleyed Shot.....1
38.....Penalty.....0
0.....Direct free Kick.....0

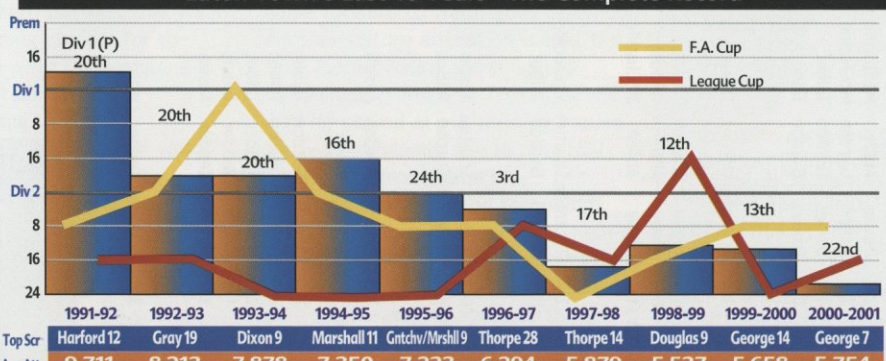
Rushden Goals.....49
Rushden Games.....38
Rushden's Goal Ave.....1.29

Howard 19

Goals.....13
Games.....33
Average.....0.39

Luton Goals.....71
Luton Games.....37
Luton's Goal Ave.....1.92

Luton Town's Last 10 Years - The Complete Record



Top Sc	Harford 12	Gray 19	Dixon 9	Marshall 11	Gntchv/Mrshil 9	Thorpe 28	Thorpe 14	Douglas 9	George 14	George 7
Ave Att	9,711	8,213	7,878	7,350	7,223	6,294	5,879	5,527	5,658	5,754

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Barcelona v Liverpool Wednesday 13 March, ITV Sport Channel	Burnley v Preston North End Sunday 17 March, ITV Sport Channel

itv
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Football League Youth Alliance (South Central Conference) - Fixtures: 2001/2002

August

18 Northampton Town	2-1	Davies	Gordon	Talbot	Price	Solkhon 2	Dempster	Rowlett	Bell	Duffy	Rowe	Peck	Mitchinson (5)	Ablett (2)	McCluckie	Bell_jnr	Gourlay
25 Luton Town	2-1	Davies	Gordon	Ablett	Price	Mitchinson	Dempster	Rowlett	Bell	Duffy	Frendo	Peck	Tedder (2)	Bell_jnr	Fisher (11)	McCluckie	Taylor

September

1 West Bromwich Albion	2-2	Davies	Gordon	McCluckie	Price	Mitchinson	Dempster	Rowlett	Bell	Duffy	Frendo	Bell_jnr	Gordon (2)	Fisher (3)	Storey J. (10)	Taylor	Walker
8 Northampton Town (YAC)	2-1	Davies	Gordon	McCluckie	Price	Solkhon	Dempster	Rowlett	Bell	Duffy	Ablett	Bell_jnr	Fisher (11)	Storey J.	White	Walker	Taylor
15 Walsall	4-1	Davies	Gordon	Talbot	Solkhon	Mitchinson	Dempster	Ablett	Bell	Storey J. 3	Rowlett	Bell_jnr	Tedder (6)	Price (7)	Fisher	McCluckie	Higby (1)
22 Kidderminster Harriers	0-2	Davies	Gordon	Talbot	Solkhon	Mitchinson	Dempster	Ablett	Bell	Storey J.	Jenkins	Bell_jnr	Tedder (5)	Wright (9)	Price	Fisher	Higby

October

6 Peterborough United	1-1	Brimias	Gordon	Talbot	Solkhon	Tedder	Dempster	Ablett	Bell	Duffy	Rowlett	Bell_jnr	Wright (7)	Mitchinson	Storey J.	Campbell (11)	Walker
11 Hednesford Town (MYC R2)	1-1	Higby	Gordon	Talbot	Bell_jnr	Mitchinson	Tedder 1	Ablett	Bell	Storey	Di-Fante	Campbell	Fisher	Gatti (7)	McCluckie	Thompson (18)	Webb (10)
20 Notts County	0-3	Higby	Gordon	Talbot	Adams	Solkhon 1	Dempster	Ablett	Bell	Storey O.	Rowlett	Bell_jnr	Mitchinson	Fisher	McCluckie	Stanton	
24 Stoke City (FAYC R1)	0-3	Higby	Gordon	Talbot	Adams	Mitchinson	Gordon	Pilgrim	Bell	Brendling	Storey O.	Bell_jnr	Gatti	White (9)	McCluckie	Fisher	Walker
30 Hednesford Town (MYC R2r)1-1*	0-2	Higby	Ablett	McCluckie	Talbot	Mitchinson	Gordon	Gatti	Bell	White	Di Fante 1	Bell_jnr	Fisher (10)	Taylor	Storey J.	Webb	Walker (1)

November

3 Cambridge United (YAC)	2-4	Thornton	Stanton	McCluckie	Adams	Gordon	Dempster	Ablett	Bell	Jenkins 2	Rowlett	Fisher	Bell_jnr (7)	White	Webb	Higby	Venezi (3)
17 Walsall	0-2	Dowell	Gordon	Talbot	Adams	Solkhon	Dempster	Ablett	Bell	Brendling	Rowlett	Bell_jnr	Tedder (10)	Fisher	McCluckie	Stanton	

December

8 Cambridge United	0-3	Higby	Stanton	Austin	Talbot	Solkhon	Dempster	Ablett	Adams	Rowlett	Bell	Bell_jnr	Tedder (9)	Taylor (2)	Di Fante		Boyd
15 Peterborough United	4-2	Dowell	Gordon	Talbot	Bell 1	Solkhon 1	Dempster	Taylor	Adams 1	Freeman	Jenkins 1	Venezi	Bell_jnr	Tedder	McCluckie (3)	Harvey (7)	

January

12 Notts County	2-0	Dowell	Gordon	Austin	Adams	Solkhon	Dempster	Freeman	Bell	Duffy	Brendling 1	Talbot	Tedder	Jenkins (9)	Ablett (7)	Taylor	Hunn (3)
-----------------	-----	--------	--------	--------	-------	---------	----------	---------	------	-------	-------------	--------	--------	-------------	------------	--------	----------

February

2 Northampton Town	2-0	Dowell	Gordon	Talbot	Adams	Solkhon	Dempster	Storey	Bell	Duffy	Brendling 1	Bell_jnr	Tedder (2)	Roberts (10)	Taylor (4)	Ablett	Jenkins
6 Cambridge United	2-4	Dowell	Gordon	Talbot	Adams 1	Solkhon	Dempster	Storey	Bell	Duffy	Brendling	Bell_jnr	Tedder (2)	Taylor (8)	Ablett	Jenkins (10)	Fisher
9 Luton Town	2-1	Dowell	Tedder	Talbot	Adams	Solkhon	Dempster	Storey	Bell 1	Duffy	Brendling	Bell_jnr	Gordon	Ablett	Mitchinson	Jenkins	Fisher
16 West Bromwich Albion	1-4+	Neale	Tedder	Talbot	Adams	Solkhon	Dempster	Storey	Bell	Duffy	Harvey	Bell_jnr	Gordon	Taylor	Ablett (9)	Fisher (11)	Mitchinson
23 Kidderminster Harriers	1-3	Daniels	Tedder	Austin	Adams	Gordon	Dempster	Storey	Bell 1	Hebditch	Catchpole	Fisher	Mitchinson (2)	Ablett	Taylor (11)	Ward (3)	

March

2 Portsmouth (MD)	3-1	Daniels	Tedder	Ward	Adams	Solkhon 1	Dempster	Storey	Bell	Duffy	Xouroupa	Fisher	Ablett	Gordon	Taylor		
9 Leyton Orient (MD)																	
13 Plymouth Argyle (MD)																	
23 Luton Town (MD)																	
30 Cardiff City (MD)																	

April

13 Wycombe Wanderers (MD)																	
20 Bristol Rovers (MD)																	
27 Northampton Town (MD)																	

Home games in bold; * After extra time; Lost 5-4 on pens; + own goal; MD - Merit Division



Robert Duffy - on the scoresheet against Pompey.



As I said in my notes on Tuesday, the Merit Division matches are going to present us with a new challenge, but I made it clear to the players before the first

game against Portsmouth last Saturday that they mustn't treat it as an easy ride through to the end of the season. I want to win this league and there's still a lot to learn from these games. The lads demonstrated a tremendous team spirit to earn a 3-1 win on a heavy pitch against a very physical Pompey side. Wherever possible, I encourage my teams to pass the ball and build-up through the midfield, but occasionally the old phrase 'horses for courses' kicks in and this was one of those days. I don't advocate the long-ball game but sometimes you have to put your foot through it when conditions aren't conducive to passing. And the lads took me at my word and turned in a very disciplined performance against a team who I thought were over-physical. You don't mind coming up against a team who play hard but fair, that's all part of the learning process for the team, but there were tackles going in on Saturday that bordered on career-threatening.

I had a word with the referee afterwards because when you're dealing with young playing careers tackles like that should be nipped in the bud early on.

I never like to see players sent off unnecessarily but a word with their manager to suggest taking off a couple of his lads for their own good might have been wise.

Credit to our players for not allowing themselves to be dragged down to that level. It was a very encouraging afternoon with a number of good individual performances. The goals came from Brett Solkhon, Owen Storey and Robert Duffy, although Brett is still trying to claim Robert's goal for himself. He reckons Robert didn't get a touch on it so I'll let them fight that one out! I've felt a bit sorry (well, as sorry as a coach can feel!) for Robert in recent weeks. He hasn't had a regular strike partner since Luke Rowlett moved to Tamworth and although I'm doing my utmost to find him one, no-one has yet come up to the required standard. The goals from Robert and Brett were particularly pleasing because both have had little niggles recently, but they came through the game unscathed. There's encouraging news of Daniel Talbot as well. He saw a specialist at the end of last week and hopefully a few days' swimming should have made him available to me for this morning's game against Leyton Orient.

Next week sees us make the long trip to Plymouth and we have moved the game forward to Wednesday afternoon. Another fixture alteration is that the final Merit Division game against Northampton Town on 27th April will now be played at our training ground. We were originally due to play that game away from home but Northampton requested the switch. After the league game against them at Moulton Agricultural College, when the teams faced a howling gale, we were only too pleased to agree to the request.

So, after this morning's game, we have four more home games this season and I know that the lads would appreciate any support you can give them. The

game with Luton is the same day as the first-team are at home to Shrewsbury, so why not make the 23rd a double-header of football?!

Football League Youth Alliance (South Central Conference) Fixtures - 2001/2002

August

18 Northampton Town	H	2-1
25 Luton Town	A	2-1

September

1 West Bromwich Albion	H	2-2
8 Northampton Town (YAC)	H	2-1
15 Walsall	H	4-1
22 Kidderminster Harriers	H	0-2

October

6 Peterborough United	H	1-1
11 Hednesford Town (MYC R2)	A	1-1
20 Notts County	A	1-3
24 Stoke City (FAYC R1)	H	0-3
30 Hednesford Town (MYC R2r)	H	1-1

(after extra-time, lost 5-4 on pens)

November

3 Cambridge United (YAC)	A	2-4
17 Walsall	A	0-2

December

8 Cambridge United	A	0-3
15 Peterborough United	A	4-2

January

12 Notts County	H	2-0
-----------------	---	-----

February

2 Northampton Town	A	2-0
6 Cambridge United	H	2-4
9 Luton Town	H	2-1
16 West Bromwich Albion	A	1-4
23 Kidderminster Harriers	A	1-3

March

2 Portsmouth (MD)	A	3-1
9 Leyton Orient (MD)	H	
13 Plymouth Argyle (MD-2.00pm)	A	
23 Luton Town (MD)	H	
30 Cardiff City (MD)	H	

April

13 Wycombe Wanderers (MD)	A	
20 Bristol Rovers (MD)	H	
27 Northampton Town (MD)	H	

All games kick off at 11.00am, except where stated. All home games to be played on Pitch 2. MD - Merit Division.



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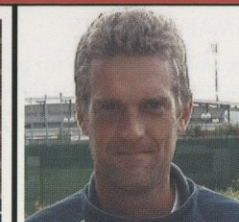
Andrea Hudson
Community Administrator



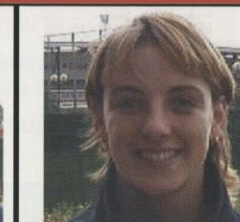
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Bedford Development
Officer



Gregg Broughton
Community Officer



Clive Black
Milton Keynes
Development Officer



Sarah Woolliscroft
Girls & Ladies
Development Officer

Rushden & Diamonds vs Luton Town. The first match I looked for when the fixtures were released back in June. When I began working here at Nene Park I couldn't imagine this fixture occurring as soon as it has. The Diamonds were seven points adrift of Yeovil, and the Hatters, under the new management of Joe Kinnear, looked as though they would survive the relegation battle in the Second Division. My delight at seeing Brian Talbot and his players lift the Conference trophy three months later was tarnished by seeing Luton fall to their lowest point since I've been supporting them. Here we are nine months further down the line, and for the first time in my life I will be hoping that Luton Town lose a game.

The amount of grief that I will receive by saying that from my friends and family will be enormous, but it is a genuine feeling. Ever since my first ever match in 1986, when the Hatters lost 1-0 to Everton on a cold November afternoon, supporting Luton has been a roller-coaster of emotions. The high points include winning 3-2 at Derby County on the last day of the season to stay in the top division, Scotty Oakes scoring a hat-trick to beat West Ham in the F.A. Cup Quarter Final, and obviously beating Arsenal to lift the League Cup.....and pretty much anything involving Luton legend Micky Harford. Such highs still outweigh seeing Luton freefall through the football league, and almost compensate for the 4-0 defeat to Watford in 1998.

Since beginning at Nene Park, I have been able to look at every aspect of the club from a neutral point of view. I've seen how much hard work Brian, Terry, Simon and Mark put into making sure the team performs on a Saturday. I've seen how hard the players train throughout the cold, wet winter months and how much they want to win. I've seen how keen the Board is for the football club to flourish. I've seen how everybody behind the scenes, from Paul the Groundsman to Nikki and Alison in the Ticket Office, work for the success of the team. And most importantly I've seen how much winning means to the Diamonds fans that I sit amongst every Saturday.

This enthusiasm from all parties begins to wear off on you after a while! When the teams met back in December I was fully behind the Hatters and was delighted with the 1-0 victory. Things are different now though, BFF has led his team into the holy land of automatic promotion, and they'll achieve promotion whatever the result this afternoon. With a bit of luck they could go straight through the Second Division as well. However, it would be absolutely fantastic if the Diamonds could sneak into the top seven as well. The players, management and staff deserve it, and this afternoon's result is an important step towards that. Therefore this afternoon, for the first (and hopefully only) time, I hope Luton have an off day.

I would also like to welcome our guests from Doverly Down School in Leighton Buzzard, as well as Oakley and Brickhill Junior Football Clubs in Bedford. A final mention to some of our coaches who have done a tremendous job this season spreading the word of Rushden & Diamonds: Dave Randall, Terry Nicholls, Kobie Dee, Gayle Vowels, Henry Smith, Natasha Folwell and Charlene Ward.

Best wishes

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division three round-up

by Matthew James, mj@sportscribe.fsbusiness.co.uk

With Plymouth Argyle, Luton Town and Mansfield Town looking well-placed for automatic promotion, and Halifax Town apparently hurtling towards the Nationwide Conference, the scrap for play-off places is likely to be the final issue decided in the 46-game season. At least eight clubs still harbour realistic hopes.

ROCHDALE

Position: 4th. **Points:** 62. To play: 10. **Maximum possible points:** 92.
Remaining home matches (6): Hartlepool (16/3), Plymouth (26/3), Orient (30/3),
Darlington (6/4), Hull (9/4), Bristol Rovers (20/4).
Remaining away matches (4): Southend (today), Cheltenham (23/3), Torquay (1/4), Lincoln (13/4).
Prospects: Still have six matches left at fortress Spotland and have not given up on a top-three finish, but may need a wobble by Luton or Mansfield to achieve that.



SCUNTHORPE UNITED

Position: 5th. **Points:** 60. To play: 8. **Maximum possible points:** 84.
Remaining home matches (4): Carlisle (16/3), Cheltenham (30/3), Diamonds (6/4), York (20/4).
Remaining away matches (4): Hull (today), Southend (23/3), Orient (1/4), Darlington (13/4).
Prospects: With no matches left against the top four, The Iron should have enough steel to see it through to the end.



HULL CITY

Position: 6th. **Points:** 58. To play: 9. **Maximum possible points:** 85.
Remaining home matches (4): Scunthorpe (today), Darlington (30/3), Luton (6/4), Lincoln (20/4).
Remaining away matches (5): Oxford (16/3), Orient (23/3), Cheltenham (1/4), Rochdale (9/4),
Bristol Rovers (13/4).
Prospects: The 4-1 rout of Mansfield on Tuesday helped lift some of the gloom following Brian Little's departure and caretaker manager Billy Russell will expect nothing less than a play-off place.



CHELTENHAM TOWN

Position: 7th. **Points:** 58. To play: 12. **Maximum possible points:** 94.
Remaining home matches (5): York (today), Rochdale (23/3), Kidderminster (26/3), Hull (1/4), Oxford (13/4).
Remaining away matches (7): Lincoln (12/3), Halifax (16/3), Scunthorpe (30/3), Macclesfield (6/4),
Mansfield (9/4), Carlisle (16/4), Plymouth (20/4).
Prospects: Have games in hand after their F.A. Cup exploits, but five matches in the last two weeks - including four on the road - could stretch resources.



SHREWSBURY TOWN

Position: 8th. **Points:** 57. To play: 8. **Maximum possible points:** 81.
Remaining home matches (4): Halifax (today), Torquay (30/3), Carlisle (6/4), Luton (20/4).
Remaining away matches (4): Exeter (16/3), Diamonds (23/3), Lincoln (1/4), Southend (13/4).
Prospects: Will be boosted today by the return of star striker Luke Rodgers after a five-match ban and their next three home matches look banker wins.



RUSHDEN & DIAMONDS

Position: 9th. **Points:** 57. To play: 8. **Maximum possible points:** 81.
Remaining home matches (4): Luton (today), Shrewsbury (23/3), Swansea (1/4), Kidderminster (13/4).
Remaining away matches (4): Bristol Rovers (16/3), Mansfield (30/3), Scunthorpe (6/4), Halifax (20/4).
Prospects: Have comfortably achieved Brian Talbot's initial target, so who knows what is possible?



KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS

Position: 10th. **Points:** 53. To play: 10. **Maximum possible points:** 83.
Remaining home matches (4): Exeter (today), Southend (30/3), Lincoln (6/4), Orient (20/4).
Remaining away matches (6): Halifax (12/3), Luton (16/3), York (23/3), Cheltenham (26/3),
Bristol Rovers (1/4), Diamonds (13/4).
Prospects: Their remaining home games look promising, but Jan Molby's side will need an improvement away from Aggborough to reach the top seven.



HARTLEPOOL UNITED

Position: 11th. **Points:** 51. To play: 9. **Maximum possible points:** 78.
Remaining home matches (4): Bristol Rovers (today), Macclesfield (22/3), Plymouth (1/4), Swansea (13/4).
Remaining away matches (5): Rochdale (16/3), Carlisle (19/3), Oxford (30/3), Halifax (6/4), Exeter (20/4).
Prospects: Probably have the easiest run-in, but the midweek home draw with Lincoln was a blow and seven wins from nine matches is asking a lot.



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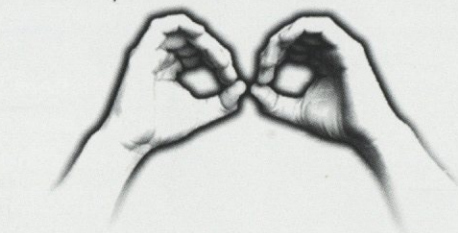
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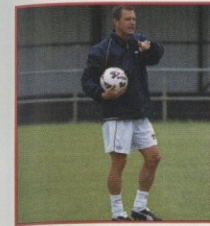
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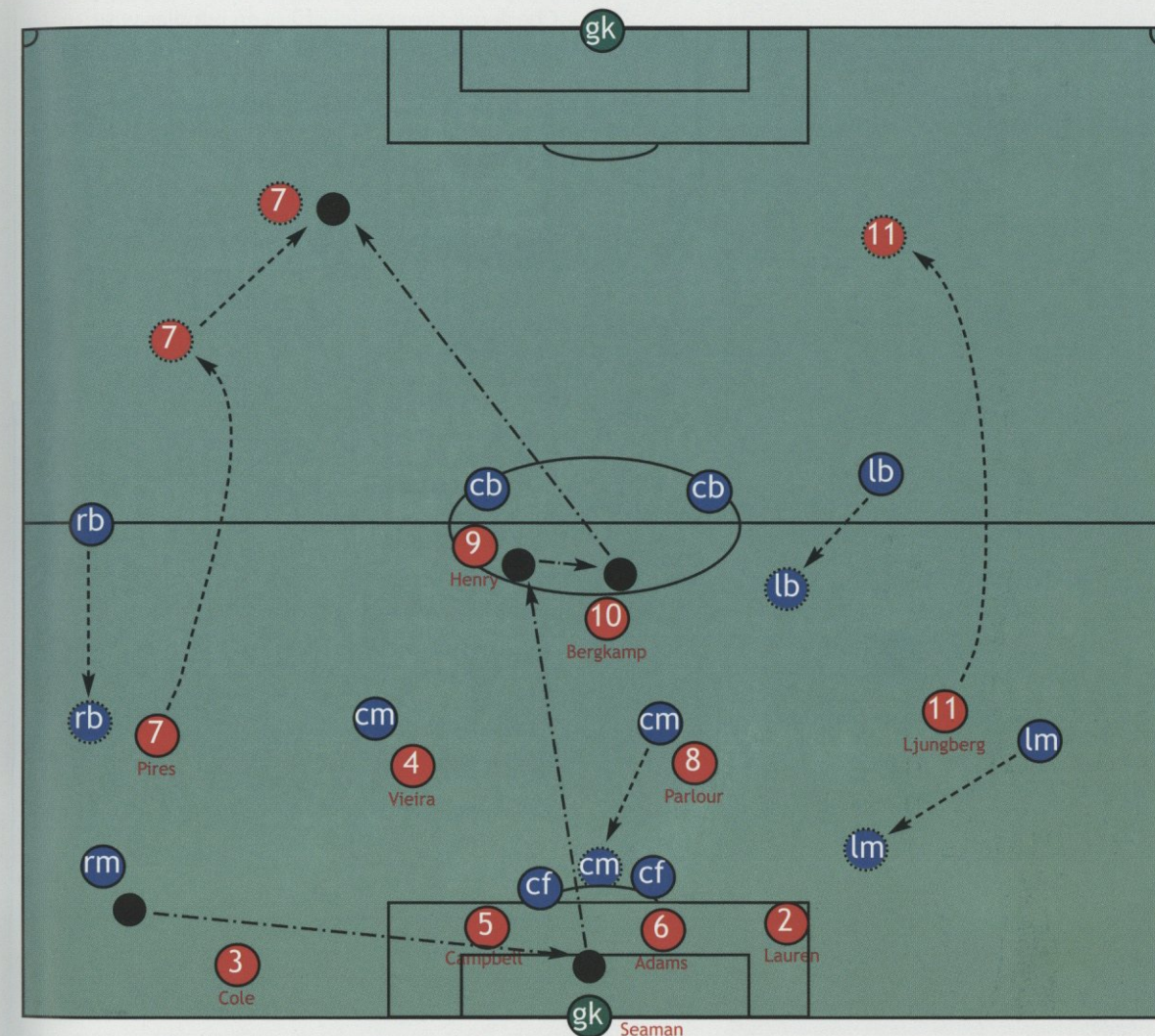


COUNTER-ATTACKING with Terry Westley

"One of the most successful ways of operating your team's tactics is bringing your opponents onto you and then breaking quickly with devastating effect. European and South American teams specialise in this way of playing, and this influence has become more apparent in the English game recently.

"Arsenal, currently challenging on all three fronts (Champions League, F.A. Premiership and F.A. Cup), most certainly like to play on the counter-attack and find it more difficult to break down teams who sit with two banks of four players in front of the 18-yard box and ask the questions. This is probably the reason why Arsenal have a better away record in the league this season than they have at Highbury.

"Below is a typical match situation Arsenal could be involved in to entice the opposition to come down the pitch in readiness for a counter-attack."



The opposing right-midfielder (rm) has attacked the by-line with his right-back (rb) in support. One of his central midfielders (cm) has moved into the box to support the two centre-forwards (cf). The cross into the box is gathered by Seaman who immediately throws it long (as made fashionable by Schmeichel) to Henry on the halfway line. He lays it off to Bergkamp, who is such a danger that the left-back (lb) has been drawn in towards him. With the two full-backs out of position, Pires and Ljungberg can spin away from their markers and break into the opposition's half ready to be released by Bergkamp. This then gives either Pires or Ljungberg a one-on-one situation with the 'keeper - there is normally only one outcome: **GOAL!**

JUST A FEW OF THE LATEST BREAKING STORIES.....

FORTHCOMING OFFERS



Microsoft's hotly anticipated games console the awesome X-Box is unleashed on the UK on 14th March.

You can pre-order one from www.thediamondsfc.com for just £294.99. That's cheaper than any high street price and it will be delivered to you on the launch date. Check out the special offers on bundles with games and extra controllers.



MP3s are the future of music. Download tracks from your PC or MD/CD device onto the player or memory cards with huge capacity. The Compaq MP3 player is one of the best portables around, and is not available on the High Street and costs just £159.99 from www.thediamondsfc.com



Bag a brace of the latest DVDs for just £18! www.thediamondsfc.com is offering 2 DVDs for £18. Choose from a list of the latest Hollywood releases.



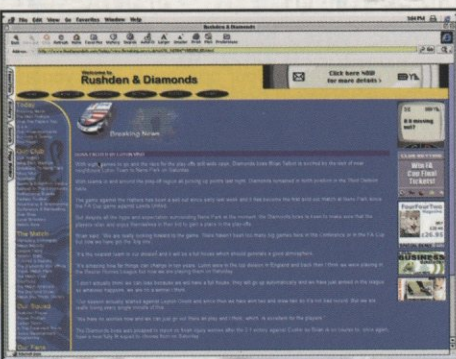
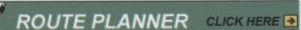
www.thediamondsfc.com is offering you an exclusive chance to subscribe to the UK's best football magazine for just £26.95. An annual subscription to Four Four Two usually costs £38.40, but

get yours from www.thediamondsfc.com and you'll save £11.45. Beat that!

DIAMONDS TELL FANS WHERE TO GO!

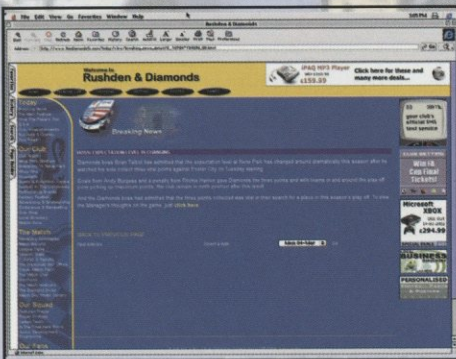
Rushden & Diamonds Football Club, in partnership with The Automobile Association (AA), is now offering a new on-line service for the travelling football fan.

www.thediamondsfc.com, the official club website, now features an R&DFC route planner, which will enable fans to plan routes to away matches, or indeed between any two places in the country. Just go to "Travel Match Pack" and click on the button.



BOSS EXCITED BY LUTON VISIT

With eight games to go and the race for the play-offs still wide open, Diamonds boss Brian Talbot is excited by the visit of near neighbours Luton Town....



BOSS: EXPECTATION LEVEL IS CHANGING

Diamonds boss Brian Talbot has admitted that the expectation level at Nene Park has changed around dramatically this season after he watched....



DIAMONDS 2 V 1 EXETER CITY

Diamonds held on to three valuable points against Exeter City this evening as they extended their unbeaten home record to 16 games....

THINKING ABOUT CHANGING YOUR CAR?
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nene park news

THOMPSON ELECTED TO LEAGUE BOARD



West Bromwich Albion Chairman Paul Thompson has been elected by Division One clubs to join The Football League Board of Directors. He replaces Bryan Richardson of Coventry City who stood down last month.

In welcoming Thompson to the Board, Football League Chairman Keith Harris said: "Paul will be a first-class addition to the League Board, he brings with him a long and successful track record in business with Sanderson Group plc and a wealth of experience in football."

Commenting on his new role, Paul Thompson said: "I am very pleased to have the opportunity to contribute to The Football League as a Director at what is a very challenging time for football clubs.

"I would like to thank those Chairmen who voted for me and assure all Chairmen of my best endeavours at The Football League on their behalf.

"Football clubs are extremely difficult to run and Chairmen and Directors need every encouragement and support as they wrestle with the dual challenges of running their clubs within limited financial resources while at the same time trying to meet the hopes and aspirations of their supporters. "It is imperative that everything possible is done to make football clubs both more viable and easier to run and I am pleased to have the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing development of The Football League and to the football industry in general."

FLYING THE COLOURS

Here are the latest snaps of Diamonds supporters showing their colours in foreign locations.



First it's Neil Garratt on holiday in Tenerife, and if the surname sounds familiar to some supporters, Neil's brother Mick is a former Rushden Town player who also had a brief spell with the amalgamated club when it came into existence.

Last summer, Daniel Simister travelled by train to Helsinki via Poland, the Baltics and St Petersburg. His journey took him to Lithuania where a



newly-opened Sculpture Park displays a number of the old Communist statues. So here's Daniel with Lenin, Stalin and friend, together with proof that Lenin really was a Diamonds fan!



EVACUATION PROCEDURE

Rushden & Diamonds Football Club has a detailed evacuation procedure in place should the need arise. Supporters who visit Nene Park on a regular basis will become aware that throughout the season we will occasionally broadcast the following message: 'STEWARDS TO POST'. In the event that the message is given, please remain seated (if applicable) and listen carefully for further announcements. The Public Address system at Nene Park is designed to reach people both inside and outside of the stadium. Any Emergency messages that are announced will also reach the Corporate Hospitality areas.

Whole stands, part of stands, or the entire stadium may have to be evacuated. Depending on the nature of the incident, the evacuation may be forward onto the playing area, once play has stopped, or out of the stadium.

The Public Address System operates on a zone to zone basis throughout the whole stadium. It may be that certain zones are affected but not others. Therefore any announcements will be directed to the area affected and attention will be specifically focused on the spectators using that part of the ground.

If you hear an announcement broadcast within the stadium, which is not directed at the area where you are situated, please ignore it. You should only respond to messages directed at your section of the stadium.

All spectators are asked to respond calmly, but as quickly as possible if you are in the affected area and comply with stewards' instructions without delay.

In the event of an abandoned match, regardless of the amount of playing time remaining, stewards will issue vouchers at all exits from the stadium. Advice regarding these vouchers will be published in the local press, on www.thediamondsfc.com, and on Clubcall (09068) 440033, in the days immediately following the match.

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a-z of the diamonds

Ian Addis continues his personal guide to every player to have represented Rushden & Diamonds in a competitive first-team fixture.

DAVID MEHEW Apps 12, Goals 1



The former Bristol Rovers and Walsall striker with over two hundred League appearances joined the Diamonds from Farnborough Town in March 1998. Back in September his late equaliser in the 5-5 draw was probably the most remarkable goal ever seen at Nene Park and hopes that he would reproduce such form were high. He couldn't have had a better start, his debut in the 2-0 victory at Woking coinciding with one of the Diamonds best performances of the season. Sadly he never really established himself and, although he scored a trade-mark goal in the 2-2 draw with Yeovil in April, was released early in the 1998-99 season. He subsequently moved back to the West Country and reached Wembley with Forest Green Rovers in the 1999 F.A. Trophy final.

GARY MILLS Apps 55, Goals 1



A product of the club's youth policy, the Northampton-based midfielder came to prominence during the 1999-2000 season, making his first Conference start in the 2-1 victory at Altrincham on October 2nd 1999. His only goal to date came in the Northants Senior Cup tie at Kettering Town in January 2000. A cultured style, founded on a passing game, quickly attracted the attention of League clubs, but injuries have hampered his progress in recent campaigns.

MICHAEL MISON Apps 72, Goals 10



Michael first attracted the attention of Diamonds fans when, as a loanee, he scored Stevenage Borough's third goal in the Broadhall Way club's 4-1 victory back in April 1997. By the July he was a Diamonds player, joining on a free transfer from Fulham for whom he had made over fifty League appearances. It's fair to say that few players have brought as much delight and exasperation to the Nene Park faithful as the giant midfielder. In his first season he scored several memorable goals, most notably the first in the 4-0 victory over Kettering Town at Rockingham Road on February 21st 1998. A regular choice during the record-breaking start to the 1998-99 campaign, injuries brought his season to a premature end. Confined to the bench for much of 1999-2000, doubts remained about his best position and he played in a number of roles, including an ill-fated appearance as striker in the key promotion battle at Kidderminster in April. Released at the end of that season, Michael joined St Albans City before leaving the game for a while to pursue a career as an Estate Agent. Now on the books of Ryman League side Sutton United.

DAVID MORRISON Apps 8

The winger made his debut as a loanee in the 3-0 home victory over Welling United on October 5th 1996 but failed to hold down a regular place in the first eleven. He made just one more Conference start - the 0-4 defeat by lowly Gateshead - and his final appearance, as a second half substitute at Morecambe in November, preceded a move. He later returned to Nene Park in a pre-season friendly with new club Leyton Orient.

TARKAN MUSTAFA Apps 69, Goals 1



Right-back secured on a free transfer from Kingstonian in the summer of 2000. Quickly settled into the side that would go on to win the Conference and missed just one league game all season, the 1-3 defeat at Hereford United in April 2001. Started the Football League season as the regular choice but a serious injury sustained against Leyton Orient in September saw him sidelined from the first team until the end of January, partly due to the injury and partly to the form of Andrew Sambrook. An England semi-professional international who played in two F.A. Trophy finals for Kingstonian, scoring the only goal in the 1999 final against Forest Green Rovers, and earning the Man of the Match award a year later against Kettering Town.

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ticket & travel news



Saturday 16th March 2002
Bristol Rovers -v- R&DFC, 3.00pm
Admission (**UNCOVERED STANDING ONLY**) is by payment at the turnstiles:
£11 adults, £5.50 under-16s/over-65s

Saturday 23rd March 2002
R&DFC -v- Shrewsbury Town, 3.00pm
Tickets are now on General Sale

Saturday 30th March 2002
Mansfield Town -v- R&DFC, 3.00pm
Admission (**SEATING ONLY**) is by payment at the turnstiles:
£12 adults, £6 under-16s/over-65s

Monday 1st April 2002
R&DFC -v- Swansea City, 3.00pm
Tickets are now on General Sale
PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS GAME MAY BE DECLARED ALL-TICKET AT A LATER DATE.

Saturday 6th April 2002
Scunthorpe United -v- R&DFC, 3.00pm
Admission (**SEATING ONLY**) is by payment at the turnstiles:
£13 adults, £6.50 under-16s/over-65s

Saturday 13th April 2002
R&DFC -v- Kidderminster Harriers, 3.00pm
Tickets are now on General Sale

Saturday 20th April 2002
Halifax Town -v- R&DFC, 3.00pm
Admission (**STANDING ONLY**) is by payment at the turnstiles:
£11 adults, £6 under-16s/over-65s



SUPPORTERS CLUBS' TRAVEL INFORMATION

R&D Supporters Club
Saturday 16th March 2002 - Bristol Rovers
Dep. Rushden (Lightstrung) 9.15am; Nene Park 9.30am
Fares: £10.50 (£7.00 concessions)

Saturday 30th March 2002 - Mansfield Town
Dep. Rushden (Lightstrung) 12.00noon; Nene Park 12.15pm
Fares: £8 (£5 concessions)

Bookings can be made by contacting Graham Smith on 07850 070524.

RDISA

Saturday 16th March 2002 - Bristol Rovers
Dep. Rushden 8.00am; Nene Park 8.15am
Service break
Fare Band A: Adults £9, Concessions £6

Saturday 30th March 2002 - Mansfield Town
Dep. Rushden 8.30am; Nene Park 8.45am
Stop in Nottingham
Fare Band A: Adults £9, Concessions £6

Bookings can be made by contacting Yvonne on 07866 029601 (after 6.00pm weekdays/anytime weekends).

TICKET OFFICE OPENING HOURS
MONDAYS 9.30am - 7.00pm;
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THURSDAYS 9.30am - 7.00pm;
FRIDAYS 9.30am - 5.00pm
Tel: (01933) 652936; Fax: (01933) 653638;
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player stats & league table

	NWL		WC		LDV		FAC		MC		CCS		TOTAL	
	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G
BELL, David	0(1)				0(1)				0(2)				0(4)	
BRADY, Jon	9(10)	1	2				1(1)		2	2	1		15(11)	3
BURGESS, Andy	20(4)	4	1		0(1)		1(1)		1				23(6)	4
BUTTERWORTH, Garry	27(1)	1	1				2						30(1)	1
CAREY, Shaun	7(1)		2						1(1)		1		11(2)	
CARR, Darren	1												1	
DARBY, Duane	14(12)	7	0(1)	1			1		1				16(13)	8
DEMPSTER, John	0(2)								0(2)		0(1)		0(5)	
DOUGLAS, Stuart	4(5)												4(5)	
DUFFY, Robert	1(6)	1	0(1)				0(1)		0(1)				1(9)	1
FOLAN, Caleb	1(5)				1								2(5)	
GRANT, John									1		0(1)		1(1)	
GRAY, Stuart	12		1										13	
HALL, Paul	26	5			1	1	2				1		30	6
HANLON, Ritchie	27(2)	5	0(1)		1		2	2			1		31(3)	7
HUNTER, Barry	23	1					2						25	1
JACKSON, Justin	5		1										6	
LEE, Christian	1				1								2	
LOWE, Onandi	17	8					1						18	8
McELHATTON, Michael	4(3)	1							2	1	0(1)		6(4)	2
MILLS, Gary	2(3)		1(1)		1				2				6(4)	
MUSTAFA, Tarkan	14(2)		2	1					2		1		19(2)	1
PARTRIDGE, Scott	24(6)	5					2				1		27(6)	5
PATMORE, Warren	4	1	2										6	1
PENNOCK, Tony	3(1)								2		0(1)		5(2)	
PETERS, Mark	32		2	1	1		2				1		38	1
RODWELL, Jim	8(1)		2		1				2		1	1	14(1)	1
SAMBROOK, Andrew	24(1)				1		2						27(1)	
SETCHELL, Gary	13(6)	1			0(1)		0(1)		2		1		16(8)	1
SIGERE, Jean-Michel	4(3)	1	1										5(3)	1
SOLKHON, Brett	0(1)								2				2(1)	
TALBOT, Daniel	2(1)				1				1(1)		0(1)	1	4(3)	1
THOMSON, Peter	1(1)	1					0(1)		1		1		3(2)	1
TILLSON, Andy	6												6	
TURLEY, Billy	35		2		1		2				1		41	
UNDERWOOD, Paul	32		2		1		2						37	
WARBURTON, Ray	1												1	
WARDLEY, Stuart	10	3											10	3
WORMULL, Simon	4(1)		0(1)										4(2)	3
own goals		3												

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Plymouth Argyle	37	24	8	5	55	25	30	80
2 Luton Town	37	22	6	9	71	43	28	72
3 Mansfield Town	36	20	6	10	59	42	17	66
4 Rochdale	36	17	11	8	51	40	11	62
5 Scunthorpe United	38	16	12	10	67	48	19	60
6 Hull City	37	16	10	11	52	37	15	58
7 Cheltenham Town	34	15	13	6	51	37	14	58
8 Shrewsbury Town	38	16	9	13	54	44	10	57
9 Rushden and Diamonds	38	15	12	11	49	45	4	57
10 Kidderminster Harriers	36	15	8	13	45	38	7	53
11 Hartlepool United	37	14	9	14	56	43	13	51
12 Macclesfield Town	38	12	11	15	34	43	-9	47
13 Exeter City	36	13	8	15	40	57	-17	47
14 Southend United	37	12	10	15	44	47	-3	46
15 Swansea City	38	12	10	16	46	57	-11	46
16 Oxford United	38	10	13	15	47	50	-3	43
17 Darlington	38	11	10	17	47	59	-12	43
18 Lincoln City	36	10	12	14	39	49	-10	42
19 Carlisle United	34	9	12	13	38	41	-3	39
20 Bristol Rovers	36	10	8	18	35	46	-11	38
21 York City	34	10	8	16	40	56	-16	38
22 Leyton Orient	36	9	9	18	46	62	-16	36
23 Torquay United	38	8	12	18	34	57	-23	36
24 Halifax Town	37	5	11	21	26	60	-34	26

All statistics up to and including Tuesday 5th March 2002.

	Result	Att.	Starting Line-up						
AUGUST									
11 York City	1-0	4,307	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Mills	Peters	Rodwell	
16 Lincoln City	0-0	5,018	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Carey	Peters	Rodwell	
21 Burnley (WC R1)	3-2	4,398	Turley	Mustafa 1	Underwood	Carey	Peters 1	Rodwell	
25 Macclesfield Town	0-0	1,950	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Carey	Peters	Rodwell	
27 Plymouth Argyle	2-3	4,414	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Carey	Peters	Rodwell	
SEPTEMBER									
1 Oxford United	2-3	6,289	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Carey	Peters	Rodwell	
8 Southend United	0-1	4,583	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Carey	Peters	Rodwell	
11 Crewe Alexandra (WC R2)	0-2	4,807	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Carey	Peters	Rodwell	
15 Leyton Orient	1-2	5,287	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Carey	Peters	Hunter	
18 Torquay United	0-0	3,258	Turley	Sambrook	Hanlon	Carey	Peters	Hunter	
22 Cheltenham Town	1-0	4,116	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
25 Exeter City	1-1	2,622	Pennock	Sambrook	Setchell	Hanlon 1	Peters	Hunter	
29 Darlington	0-0	4,365	Pennock	Sambrook	Setchell	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
OCTOBER									
5 Hartlepool United	2-1+	3,929	Pennock	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter 1	
13 Rochdale	0-0	4,345	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
16 Cardiff City (LDV R1)	1-7	2,052	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Rodwell	
20 Hull City	3-3	4,676	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon 1	Peters	Hunter	
23 Shrewsbury Town	2-0	4,016	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
27 Mansfield Town	3-1+	4,937	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
NOVEMBER									
3 Swansea City	0-0	3,970	Turley	Sambrook	Talbot	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
6 Northampton Town (Maunsell Cup SF)	2-1	1,867	Pennock	Mustafa	Setchell	McElhatton	Rodwell	Solkhon	
10 Halifax Town	2-1	3,883	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
13 Chester City (Conference Shield)	2-2+	937	Turley	Mustafa	Setchell	Hanlon	Peters	Rodwell 1	
17 Worcester City (FAC R1)	1-0	3,313	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon 1	Peters	Hunter	
20 Scunthorpe United	0-0	3,533	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
24 Kidderminster Harriers	0-3	3,014	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
DECEMBER									
1 Bristol Rovers	3-1	4,570	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Rodwell	Setchell	
8 Brighton & Hove Albion (FAC R2)	1-2	5,647	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon 1*	Peters	Hunter	
12 Peterborough United (Maunsell Cup Final)	1-4	696	Pennock	Mustafa	Setchell	McElhatton 1*	Rodwell	Solkhon	
15 Luton Town	0-1	7,495	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
22 Carlisle United	3-1+	4,142	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
26 Southend United	2-4	5,878	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Rodwell	
29 Plymouth Argyle	0-1	9,503	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	McElhatton	Peters	Setchell	
JANUARY									
12 Lincoln City	4-2	3,170	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	McElhatton	Hunter	Setchell	
19 York City	3-0	4,605	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	McElhatton 1	Hunter	Setchell	
22 Carlisle United	0-3	2,864	Turley	Sambrook	Setchell	McElhatton	Hunter	Warburton	
26 Hartlepool United	1-5	3,513	Turley	Sambrook	Setchell	Hanlon	Hunter	Carr	
29 Macclesfield Town	2-0	2,771	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Hanlon	Hunter	Setchell	
FEBRUARY									
2 Darlington	2-1	4,383	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
5 Oxford United	2-1	4,484	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Hunter	
9 Hull City	1-2	8,825	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Hanlon 1*	Peters	Tillson	
16 Rochdale	1-1	4,672	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Tillson	
23 Leyton Orient	1-0	4,507	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Hanlon	Peters	Tillson	
26 Torquay United	1-1	1,709	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Wardley 1	Peters	Tillson	
MARCH									
2 Cheltenham Town	1-1	4,584	Turley	Sambrook	Underwood	Wardley	Peters	Tillson	
5 Exeter City	2-1	3,343	Turley	Mustafa	Underwood	Hanlon 1*	Peters	Tillson	
9 Luton Town									
16 Bristol Rovers									
23 Shrewsbury Town									
30 Mansfield Town									
APRIL									
1 Swansea City									
6 Scunthorpe United									
13 Kidderminster Harriers									
20 Halifax Town									

	Substitutes								
Butterworth	Darby (19)	Carey (15)	Pennock	Setchell (27)	Solkhon				
Butterworth	Darby (19)	Mills	Pennock	Setchell	Solkhon				
Butterworth	Darby (19) 1	Mills (14)	Pennock	Setchell	Solkhon				
Butterworth	Darby (19)	Mills	Pennock	Setchell	Solkhon				
Butterworth	Mills	Pennock	Setchell (14)	Solkhon	Sigere (9)				
Butterworth	Burgess (17)	Mills (7)	Pennock	Patmore	Solkhon (9)				
Mills	Butterworth	Pennock	Wormull (8)	Sambrook	Sigere (19)				
Hanlon 1*	Pennock	Wormull (24)	Hanlon (15)	Sambrook	Duffy (19)				
Butterworth	Mills (8)	Pennock (24)	Wormull	Sambrook (2)	Duffy				
Butterworth	Brady	Rodwell	Mills	Pennock	Duffy (24)				
Butterworth	Brady (20)	Rodwell (3)	Mills	Pennock	Duffy (24)				
Butterworth	Brady (20)	Rodwell	Mills	Duffy (24)	Naylor				
Butterworth	Brady (20)	Rodwell	Mills	Sigere (25)	Naylor				
Butterworth	Rodwell	Mills	Setchell	Folan (19)	Naylor				
Butterworth	Rodwell	Mills (9)	Pennock	Setchell	Lee				
Mills	Burgess (19)	Carey	Pennock	Setchell (3)	Bell (31)				
Butterworth	Mustafa	Carey	Pennock	Setchell (11)	Folan (10)				
Butterworth	Brady (11)	Carey	Pennock	Setchell (3)	Folan (9)				
Butterworth	Carey	Duffy (10)	Bell (4)	Talbot (3)	Folan (9)				
Butterworth	Brady (11)	Carey	Pennock	Setchell	Rowlett				
Hall	McElhatton (21)	Pennock (1)	Grant (9)	Dempster (5)	Thomson (10) 1				
Butterworth	Brady	Brady (11)	Pennock	Setchell (3)	Duffy (10)				
Butterworth	Brady	Rodwell	Pennock	Duffy (19)	Talbot (20)				
Butterworth	Brady (17)	Rodwell	Pennock	Duffy (19)	Talbot (20)				
Butterworth	Mustafa	Pennock	Thomson	Duffy (21)	Talbot				
Butterworth	Burgess (8)	Rodwell	Pennock	Setchell	Thomson (22)				
Mills	Carey (7)	Bell (10)	Gordon	Dempster (2)	Rowlett				
Butterworth	McElhatton (21)	Brady	Partridge (10)	Pennock	Setchell				
Butterworth	McElhatton (7)	Brady	Darby	Pennock	Setchell (35)				
Butterworth	McElhatton (7)	Brady	Darby (9)	Pennock	Setchell (12)				
Butterworth	Mustafa (22)	Darby (18)	Pennock	Talbot	Bell (4)				
Butterworth	Mustafa	Darby (9) 1	Burgess (18)	Pennock	Duffy				
Butterworth	Partridge (10)	Burgess (18)	Hanlon (7)	Pennock	Douglas				
Hanlon	Partridge	Burgess (18)	Pennock	Douglas (11)	Dempster (6)				
Wardley	Mustafa (22)	Burgess (18)	Pennock	Duffy (9) 1	Dempster (36)				
Wardley 1	Brady (17)	Partridge (10)	Pennock	Douglas (31)	Duffy				
Wardley	Butterworth (21)	Brady	Partridge (10)	Pennock	Douglas (31)				
Wardley	Butterworth	Brady (2) 1	Darby (31)	Pennock	Douglas (9)				
Wardley	Brady (18)	Darby (9)	Mills	Pennock	Douglas (8)				
Wardley	Brady	Partridge	Darby (31)	Mills	Dowell				
Wardley 1	Butterworth	Brady	Partridge (19)	Darby	Dowell				
Butterworth	Mustafa	Partridge (19)	Darby (31)	Hanlon	Dowell				
Butterworth	Brady	Darby (9)	Setchell	Hanlon (7)	Dowell				
Wardley	Butterworth	Brady	Darby (9)	Setchell	Dowell				

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squad check

Shirts: White
Shorts: Blue
Socks: White



Shirts: Orange
Shorts: Black
Socks: Black

1	BILLY TURLEY	1
2	TARKAN MUSTAFA	2
3	PAUL UNDERWOOD	3
4	MICHAEL McELHATTON	4
5	MARK PETERS	5
6	RAY WARBURTON	6
7	GARRY BUTTERWORTH	7
8	JON BRADY	8
9	SCOTT PARTRIDGE	9
10	DUANE DARBY	10
11	ANDY BURGESS	11
15	GARY MILLS	15
16	TONY PENNOCK	16
17	GARY SETCHELL	17
18	STUART GRAY	18
19	STUART DOUGLAS	19
20	PAUL HALL	20
21	RITCHIE HANLON	21
22	ANDREW SAMBROOK	22
24	ADAM DOWELL	24
29	STUART WARDLEY	29
31	ONANDI LOWE	31
35	BARRY HUNTER	35
36	ANDY TILLSON	36

1	MARK OVENDALE	1
2	AARON SKELTON	2
4	MATTHEW SPRING	4
5	RUSSELL PERRETT	5
6	MARVIN JOHNSON	6
7	ADRIAN FORBES	7
8	KEVIN NICHOLLS	8
10	CARL GRIFFITHS	10
12	CHRIS COYNE	12
13	STUART FRASER	13
14	ANDREW FOTIADIS	14
15	MATTHEW TAYLOR	15
16	CARL EMBERSON	16
17	EMMERSON BOYCE	17
18	ADAM LOCKE	18
19	STEVEN HOWARD	19
20	PETER HOLMES	20
21	RICHARD DRYDEN	21
24	SCOTT WARD	24
27	PAUL HUGHES	27
28	JEAN-LOUIS VALOIS	28
30	DAVID BAYLISS	30
32	LEE MANSELL	32
33	IAN HILLIER	33
34	DEAN CROWE	34
35	AHMET BRKOVIC	35
42	GARY McSWEGAN	42
43	ALAN NEILSON	43

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MATCH OFFICIALS
Referee M. Fletcher
Assistant Referees
A. M. Marriner & D. Naylor
Fourth Official M. J. Cairns

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