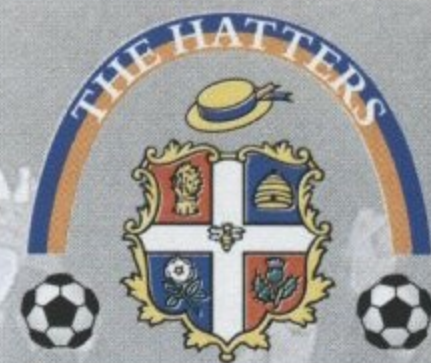


Luton Town Football Club

TOP HATTERS!



LUTON TOWN
FOOTBALL CLUB

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**Official Matchday
Magazine**

**Luton
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v
Macclesfield
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**Saturday
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Division 4

Champions 1967-68

Official Matchday Magazine

Editor

Brian Swain

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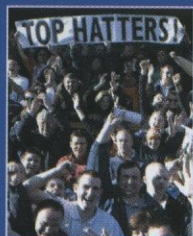
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Photography

Gareth Owen

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

Front Cover



We're the tops! Our marvellous travelling army of fans made the point perfectly at Boothferry Park on Saturday, with the triumphal poster already prepared to salute another victory, which put the Town top of the league.

Inside Forward

SEVERAL players will be leaving Kenilworth Road in the next couple of weeks as manager Joe Kinnear starts his second team rebuilding job in 12 months. The intention is simple: to achieve another promotion in a year's time, which means some players going out and some coming in. The board has made money available.

The unknown factor is the future of players out of contract who have so far refused new offers, particularly Matt Taylor and Matt Spring. The boss says he is doing everything possible to persuade them to stay here and take their careers to higher levels with the Town, where they are all but guaranteed regular first team football with an ambitious club.

Bobby Robson, manager of Newcastle, was at Boothferry Park last Saturday to watch Taylor star in the 4-0 demolition of Hull City.

Joe said: "It would be a massive loss if Taylor goes. But I have made him another new offer and he is talking it over with his father so there is a squeak of a chance we could keep him. He's coming round to our way of thinking, so I haven't given up hope. In fact I have a gut feeling that he might stay.

"He has been magnificent. He has scored ten goals. He's the quickest left back in the league by a mile, and by far the best left-footer in the league. If he stays with us for two more seasons he will play for England.

"Hopefully, if I can add more new players to the squad, we can win promotion again and he will be in the First Division with us in just over a year's time."

Hoping to be among the first to be recruited is 21-year-old striker Steve Kabba, who is on loan from Crystal Palace. He is effectively on trial, with Joe considering a possible offer for a player blessed with considerable pace, and who has been at his local club since going to Selhurst as a trainee five years ago.

Another One For The Anoraks

IF THE Town win their last two matches of the season to make it 14 consecutive victories, it would, according to the Rothmans Football Yearbook which records such things, equal the longest winning sequence by any club since League football began in 1888.

The current record holders are Manchester United in 1904/1905, Bristol City in 1905/1906 and Preston North End in 1950/1951.

Help Wanted In The Long Run

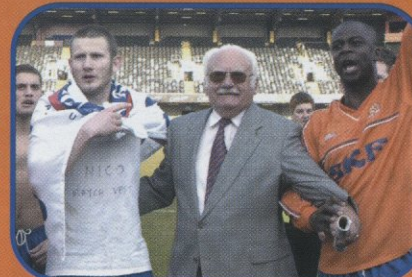
TODAY we make our final plea for supporters to give their backing to Dave Suttle, who will be carrying our colours in the football section of the Flora London marathon tomorrow.

He is trying to raise money for two charities, the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust and our local Keech Cottage Hospice. Thank-you to all who have already made pledges: they will be acknowledged in the first matchday magazine of next season.

If you would like to support either or both of the good causes, please complete the coupon, or a photo-copy, and send it, with your cheque payable to

INSIDE TODAY: Thanks from the gaffer - P 5; Club captain - P 7; Treatment room latest - P 8; From the Secretary's Office - P 9; Reserves reach a cup final - P 51; Youth team win - P 50; Top Hatter Joe Kinnear profile and picture - P 28/9; Junior Hatters - P 41; Season ticket price news - P 10/11; Blast from the Past - P 22/23; Three more wins - Pp 41-45; Town Teaser - P 40; The title chase - P 53.

From The Chairman's Office



HAPPY DAYS: team captain Kevin Nicholls, chairman Mike Watson-Challis and club skipper Marvin Johnson lead the celebrations after promotion was clinched at Swansea.

WELCOME to Kenilworth Road at the end of a long and very satisfying season. Success has been achieved through much hard work by a lot of people, and today I wish to pay tribute to them all, including you, the supporters.

The backing for the team, home and away, has been magnificent, and I am so glad that you have had so many days to enjoy as our club starts the revival we all hope will lead us back to where we used to be.

Joe Kinnear and the players deserve every credit for their endeavours. Joe has built an excellent team, and he has been as good as his word after promising at the start of the season that he would win promotion. Now we want the title as well! That would be a fitting end to a season which has given so much pleasure after we suffered so much pain 12 months ago.

There is another excellent team at Kenilworth Road which deserves our thanks: those who work so hard behind the scenes, not just the coaches but also the office staff and a host of helpers who report for duty on match days. As chairman, I thank everyone for their efforts, and look forward to another successful campaign next season. Enjoy your summer. Thank you for your support throughout the season, and please come back in August ready to cheer on the team to even more success.

Mike Watson-Challis

the charity of your choice - the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust or Keech Cottage Hospice (or two cheques, one for each) - to Marathon Appeal, Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton LU4 8AW. Your cheque will not be banked for a week or two, and if your sponsorship is conditional on Mr Suttle completing the course your cheque will be destroyed if he doesn't make it.

FLORA LONDON MARATHON

I would like to sponsor Dave Suttle, the Luton Town runner, in the Football Challenge, and my post-dated cheque, payable to the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust or to the Keech Cottage Hospice, is enclosed.

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Amount pledged.....

Address.....

*Please destroy my cheque if Mr Suttle completes less than 26.2miles.

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*I wish to make the donation in any event

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First Team Coach

Mick Harford

Reserve Team Coach

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Youth Team Coach

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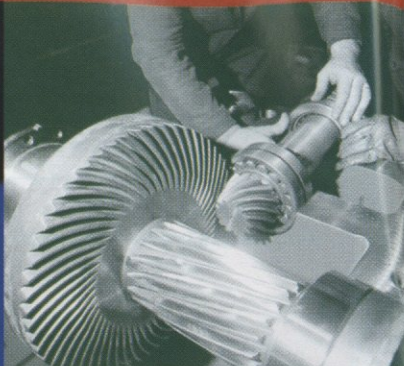
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Joe Kinnear

The Manager

FOR the last time this season, a very warm welcome back to Kenilworth Road, as we seek to end the home campaign just as we started it, with another victory.

I am pleased for everyone connected with Luton Town that we have achieved our first objective, promotion back to the Second Division. It has been a season to remember, chiefly for very good things, with only the occasional blip along the way. Those rare blips, like losing to today's visitors on their ground, were reminders that in football you get nothing unless you knuckle down to work for success, and my thanks are due to a very good bunch of players, and our good coaching team, for all that has been done this season.

At times I have been hard on the players. A decision to ban days off after a particularly painful home defeat was well documented, but the players understood why that was necessary, and responded brilliantly. Considering so many members of the squad had never even met each other before the season began, their ability to combine into a winning and confident unit has been tremendous.

Confidence in recent weeks has been sky high. I suspect some supporters wondered if, when promotion was achieved at Swansea with our 10th consecutive win, the lads would still have a hunger and passion for more success. After thumping Mansfield and Hull, you know now!

Seventeen goals in our last four games have been fair reward for the way we have set about our jobs, and we do not intend to let up today. Promotion is very welcome. The championship would be even better, and while we have a chance we will go all out for it.

If Plymouth hold on they will deserve every credit, but it would be cruel on us - a club record 93 points in the bag with two games to play would be more than enough to bring home the title in any other year. Twelve months ago Brighton won this league with 92 points. I see they have now won promotion to the First. Our turn next, I believe!

At the start of this season I put my head on the chopping block by promising to win promotion. I knew it would not be easy, but I had the advantage of knowing where to find players who could

achieve it and, an even bigger advantage, the ability to go and get them.

So in the traditional end-of-season thanks to all who have contributed to our success, I should put Mike Watson-Challis and the board at the top of the list. His support has been unflinching, and always expressed in realistic terms. My promise was to get promotion if the board would back my judgement when I wanted to rebuild the squad. They did, with never a question raised about my choices, and I very much appreciated the confidence they placed in me. The best clubs employ a manager to manage, and let him get on with it. That has happened here, and now it is time to renew our pledge to supporters: I want to see this club win another promotion in a year's time, and given reasonable luck, and the continued backing from the board and from the fans, we can do it, although we realise it will be that much harder in a higher league. There will, of course, have to be changes to improve the squad still further, but thankfully money for new players is not a major problem.

Obviously I am waiting anxiously to see what transpires in the next few weeks regarding players who may choose to leave. I have not given up hope of persuading them that their best career move for the present would be to stay here, and play at a higher level with Luton Town. If, against my wishes, players leave, I will fight tooth and nail to get the best possible financial compensation, and then spend that money wisely on replacements.

Finally, all of us in the club say a big thank-you to the supporters who have stuck with us through the season. It has been gratifying to see home crowds getting bigger to pump up the atmosphere, and the away followings have been phenomenal. When you go to a big ground like Hull, and it sounds as though you are the home team, you know you have got supporters who deserve the very best.

Thanks a lot. I hope you have a summer to enjoy, and look forward to seeing more big crowds, home and away, when the new season kicks off. Meanwhile, keep the faith, and enjoy the game.

Joe Kinnear

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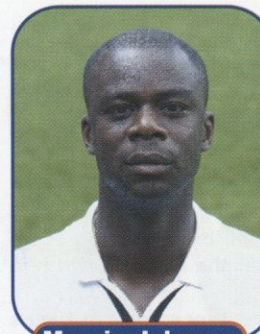
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SEASON 2001 - 2002**



Marvin Johnson

Club Captain

WHAT A season it has been for everyone connected with Luton Town, and perhaps especially for those of us who have waited a long time for the sweet taste of success. I have been here since 1985, and while I have enjoyed every season, this one has been something special. We had the wonderful day out at Wembley in 1988 when we won the Littlewoods Cup, but it has been downhill ever since then, so a promotion season was well overdue.

Today we can enjoy the pleasure of the moment – and roll up our sleeves again and go for the championship. We fancy it, and want it, and it would also be something special for me – my first medal in all my years as a professional footballer.

It has been a pleasure to be a member of the squad this season, and with so many young players in the side the breaking of records is not a big deal to some of them. In recent weeks it has been a matter of going into each individual game focused on winning it. The records are not that important compared to the determination to take the points needed to win promotion.

But in years to come, I think our players will look back on this campaign, and recall with pride the records they helped to set. Our confidence has grown with each succeeding victory, and while they have all entailed hard work, it is a lot easier to concentrate on the job when you are winning. One of the worst things in football is working hard and not getting the results. That drains you, and makes games much less enjoyable.

There are some teams this afternoon who will be happy just to get into the play-offs. I am very pleased we are not one of those. One of my worst memories in football was when we thought we had a good chance of being promoted back into the First Division five years ago. You may recall that we had to play Crewe, who had finished well below us in the league. In the event we were beaten over the two legs, and that was a shattering disappointment.

So far as this season is concerned there have been a lot of very good days. And perhaps one that felt like the worst at the time, the home

defeat against Scunthorpe, turned out not to be so bad after all. That was the kick up the backside we needed to remind us that we had to do better, for the club, for the supporters, and for ourselves.

We had fancied our chances right from the first day of the season, when we won at Carlisle. It was the start of the Gaffer's first full season in charge, and his enthusiasm and confidence was infectious. Getting Mick Harford in as coach was a masterstroke, and perhaps most remarkable of all was that the boss was able to put a lot of newcomers into a team who quickly gelled into an outfit with excellent team spirit.

I have been lucky to be involved, and I hope to be in the squad again today. If the boss is not too sure, I will remind him I am a lucky omen: I have been in the squad of 16 for 21 games (and played in 16 of them) and the only defeat in that 21 was at Bristol Rovers way back in August. I am also, of course, keeping my lucky hat and gloves, as they have an even better record, because we haven't lost since I have been wearing them.

Our happiest memory of the season so far was the match and celebrations afterwards at Swansea. The Luton support, again, was tremendous, and it makes a difference. It's a two-way thing. We are pleased that you appreciate our efforts, while we certainly appreciate yours. It's always better, and easier, to play in front of big crowds who are on your side.

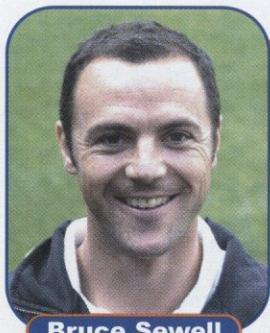
Today, we should all enjoy ourselves again. But don't be kidded that because it is the last home game of the season we will be thinking about nothing more than having a party. We still have a job to do. We want the championship, so we have to keep winning.

Although I will welcome David Moss back to Kenilworth Road, I am sure he will understand that we want to beat his side this afternoon, partly for revenge after our failure at Macclesfield earlier in the season, and partly because we want league winners' medals. We haven't seen any in Luton since Mossie and his mates achieved it exactly 20 years ago!

Enjoy the game, and have a good summer.

Marvin Johnson

Hattershop new catalogue now available to receive yours
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Bruce Sewell

Treatment Room

AS USUAL there is mixed news from my department. Alan Neilson, who has missed four games with a calf muscle injury, made his return to competitive football on Wednesday, and got through the 90 minutes of the reserves' 0-0 draw with Northampton to confirm his recovery.

But Aaron Skelton took a blow to his right thigh during Monday's reserve game at Gillingham, and later there was extensive swelling. He had to go into a full length compression bandage, and as he has been unable to train since it means his hopes of a return to the first team squad this afternoon have been dashed.

David Bayliss, however, has made remarkable progress since dislocating his shoulder at Swansea. He is already doing push-ups, when normally you would expect two or three weeks to be the minimum before you could consider any weight-bearing movement.

Ahmet Brkovic has suffered a very mixed week. He was making good progress after his ankle injury, but over the weekend he went down with illness, a type of gastro-enteritis infection, so we had to send him

home. But the rest has probably done him good, and as he is now pain-free he will be in training again quickly, once he has got over the bug that laid him low.

Peter Holmes has also had to suffer some good news and some bad. He was, of course, delighted to be back in the first team against Swansea and Mansfield, but at Hull he suffered a knee ligament injury which forced him to miss the second half. A scan has shown that he has a partial tear of the ligament, so he will have to miss today's game.

Adam Locke is also still very doubtful, but his calf problem is clearing up well, and I was hoping that he might be able to resume training yesterday.

Finally, I am sure you will all join me in wishing Carl Griffiths the best of luck after his miserable season following his stress fracture. He has just come through another operation to release a nerve and the surgeon is very happy with the result. His target remains to be back before pre-season training begins, and he is willing to put in all the hours necessary to earn the chance to be in contention for a place in our Second Division side in August.

Bruce Sewell



Cherry Newbery

Club Secretary

WHAT a week that was!!! I am sure that I am not alone among supporters in being on a high following our promotion, and the outstanding performances by the players, with so many records being broken.

Following the highs came a low, with the passing of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, and again our supporters were exemplary with the silence during our mark of respect at the Mansfield game, and at Hull last week. Like many other supporters I was privileged to be able to attend the Queen Mother's lying in state at Westminster.

I have to pass on another thank-you to supporters today: the bucket collection for Hospice at Home at the Mansfield match raised £686.66, which is magnificent.

The end of the game celebrations after the Mansfield match were brilliant, with supporters playing their part to make sure everyone could enjoy the occasion. We would like to have more of the same today, so at the end of the game the players will leave the pitch, and providing supporters stay off the pitch area, they will come back to thank you all, and to take another bow.

After that, we will be having our annual challenge match, staff and stewards versus WHOSH (World Wide Hatters On the SuperHighway). There will be a special guest appearance by one of our directors, and all are welcome to stay and watch the game.

Our youth and reserve teams still have fixtures to play to complete their seasons, as you can read elsewhere today. Congratulations to Brian Stein's squad for reaching the final of the Avon Insurance Combination League Cup. We have no details yet of where or when the game will take place, because we are waiting for Portsmouth and Bristol Rovers to settle the other semi-final. The information will, of course, be available on the club web site, and we will also issue it to the local media.

We have invited some special guests to share today with us, and I would like to put on record my very warm welcome to Elaine Sealey and her two boys, Marc North's family, and the family of Stitch



DONATION: The Town received £7,650 as the club's share of proceeds from the FA Charity Shield, and the cash has been given to our two local hospices, the Pasque and Keech Cottage. The cheques were presented to Jack Sapsworth, chairman of the hospice community fund-raising committee.

Kirkpatrick, who was our kit man. Today's game will provide a little nostalgia for some of our older supporters: there will be home fans in the Oak Road end again, for the first time in years. As you know it is an experiment, and we hope it will be a success. With all our other seats sold we were able to put 650 tickets on sale to home fans, and every one was snapped up.

The organisation of the open day is in full swing, and we do hope you will be able to join us - full details are on page 50.

Finally, I would like to thank all the full-time staff here at the club who have worked so hard and tirelessly behind the scenes during the season, and also all the part-time staff for their contribution, and finally to all the supporters, who have been fantastic all season. Have a good summer, and see you all in August in Division Two!

Cherry Newbery

The New Look Official Website www.lutontown.co.uk



SMS text messages now available on all networks. Know what's happening at Kenilworth Road before anyone else does! For more details visit our home page on www.lutontown.co.uk

A SUBSCRIPTION service for matchday magazines will again be on offer next season. It guarantees postal delivery of programmes from all Luton Town matches, home and away, for £80. If you prefer, you can order a set of home programmes, including cup-ties, for £42 for the season, or programmes from all our away games for £45. The price includes postage and packaging. To order, send a cheque or postal order, with details of the name and address to which the programmes should be sent to the Ticket Office, Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1, Maple Road, Luton, Beds LU4 8AW.

You can e-mail Cherry Newbery on:
clubsec@lutontown.co.uk



NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

SEASON TICKET PRICES

SEASON 2002/2003

	Prices before 15.06.02	Prices after 15.06.02 and new applicants	Matchday x23
Main Stand A-E			
Adults	£318	£382	£425
Concessions	£155	£186	£207
Block F			
Adults	£267	£320	£356
Concessions	£138	£166	£184
Block G			
Adults	£172	£207	£230
Concessions	£121	£145	£161
Main Stand Enclosure C-G			
Adults	£267	£320	£356
Concessions	£138	£166	£184
Restricted View Blocks A,B,H & J			
Adults	£172	£207	£230
Concessions	£121	£145	£161
Kenilworth Stand - Upper and Lower Tier			
Adults	£267	£320	£356
Concessions	£138	£166	£184
New Stand (renewals only)			
Adults	£267	£320	£356
Concessions	£138	£166	£184
Family Season Ticket			
2 Adults & 1 Child	£600	£720	£898
1 Adult & 2 Children	£500	£600	£725
Each Additional Child	£125	£150	£184

BENEFITS FOR SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

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

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS FOR YOUNG SUPPORTERS

Aged under 11: £35
Aged 11-16: £65
Kenilworth Block B,
Proof of age
required.
Contact Ticket
Office for further
details.

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

MATCHDAY TICKET PRICES

SEASON 2002/2003



Main Stand A-E	
Adults	£18.50
Concessions	£9.00
Block F	
Adults	£15.50
Concessions	£8.00
Block G, Restricted View	
Adults	£10.00
Concessions	£7.00
Main Stand Enclosure C-G	
Adults	£15.50
Concessions	£8.00
Restricted View Blocks A,B,H & J	
Adults	£10.00
Concessions	£7.00
Kenilworth Stand - Upper and Lower Tier	
Adults	£15.50
Concessions	£8.00
New Stand (Family Stand)	
Family Match Ticket (2 Adults +1 Child)	£32.00
Family Match Ticket (1 Adult +2 Children)	£26.00
Each Additional Child	£6.00

CAR PARKING

Supporters wishing to purchase car parking season tickets are invited to put their names on a waiting list. Availability will depend on how many of this season's parking tickets are renewed. The price for the 2002/03 season will be £85. To apply, please write to the club secretary's office.

Membership Details Season 2002/2003

RENEWALS MADE EASY

Existing members wishing to renew need fill in NO forms, simply return your membership card for the 2001-2002 Season together with your remittance for £2 made payable to LTFC together with a SAE by 1st August 2002 – we will do the rest.

We would like to remind you that YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE A MEMBER TO WATCH LUTON TOWN, however there are distinct advantages in becoming a member to include purchasing tickets for themselves and their guests, in the Member's Stand (Kenilworth Upper and Lower) as well as priority purchasing of Cup Tickets. For those supporters who wish to become members please apply direct to the Ticket Office on 01582 416976.

TICKET OFFICE AND CLUB SHOP CLOSE SEASON OPENING HOURS

Please note that the ticket office and shop will be CLOSED from

Monday April 22
to
Saturday April 27
inclusive.

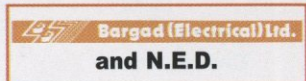
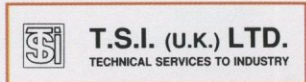
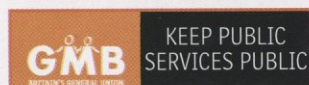
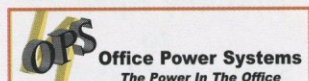
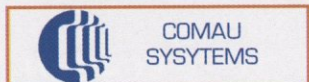
Opening hours in the close season:

Monday to Friday
10am - 4pm

Saturdays
10am - 2pm

For all ticket office information
telephone
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If you would like a brochure or further information on Kenilworth Suite Membership please contact the Commercial Department on

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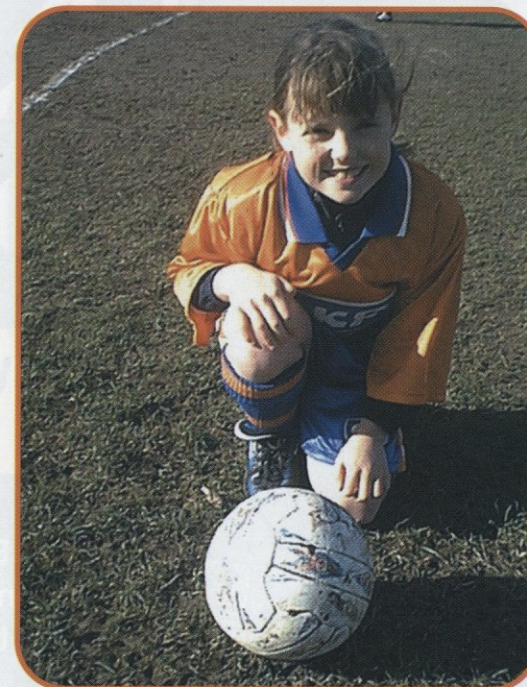
Luton Belles

THE BELLES chalked up their eighth win in nine outings with a comprehensive 4-0 away victory in the cup against Chesham United.

Luton created a whole host of chances in the opening quarter of an hour without opening the scoring, and were grateful to keeper Sarah Gaitely for a superb reflex save to prevent the home side snatching the lead. But Luton went ahead in the 22nd minute when Rhiannon Morgan sent through Kim Hide to fire in her tenth goal of the season. Stacey Connell converted another Morgan cross before half time, and Amy Gray stroked in the third within a minute of the restart. Vicky Moody completed the scoring with a neat 20-yard lob over the keeper. Belles now face a trip to Wycombe Wanderers in the quarter finals.

The under-10 squad completed their league season by making it a hat trick of wins over Watford. Saving their best till last, the Belles played some stunning football to end their recent goal drought. Lauren Bruton gave them an early lead, netting the rebound after the keeper had saved her first effort. With just a single goal to show for their first half efforts, Luton tore into the Hornets in the second half, and scored two high-quality goals within five minutes. First Lauren Bruton combined well with Jasmine Hall before firing in her second, and she then found Yasmin Hickling with a pinpoint pass which she blasted into the roof of the net to make it 3-0.

Yasmin and Lauren seem to relish the derby matches, and have netted a total of ten goals in their three meetings this season.



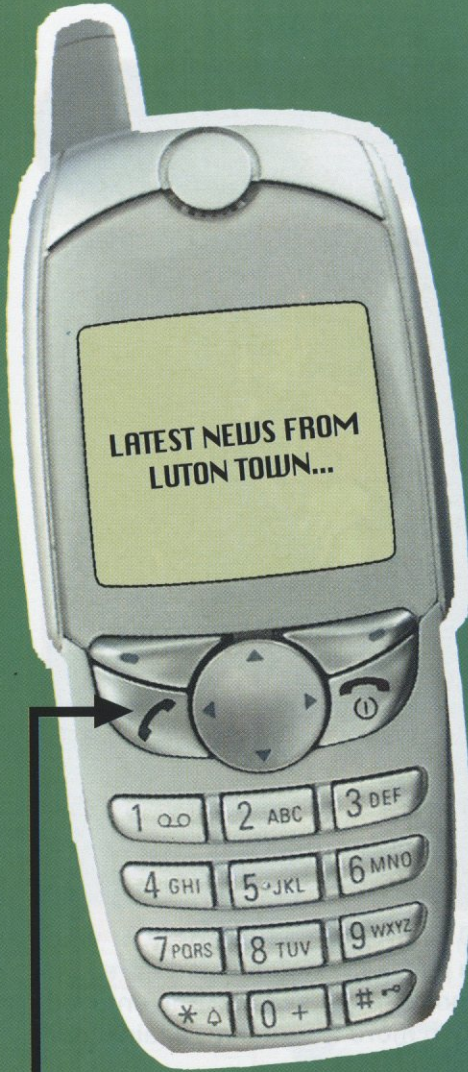
RECORD BREAKER: Lauren Bruton, who has set a new Luton Belles scoring record with 33 goals in the season. She enjoyed the last two more than most – against our old rivals Watford!

Lauren has also broken the under-10 scoring record by netting 33 goals this season. Finally, with the end of the Nationwide League in sight, why not come to Kenilworth Road for more football next month? The Belles adult team will play Thame United here on Thursday May 2 (7.30). We welcome spectators, especially Luton Town supporters!

Dave Baker

THE Luton Belles provide competitive football and training for girls from the age of seven upwards, with matches played on Saturdays and Sundays. If you would like more information, contact Dave Baker on Luton 896140, or e-mail lutonbelles@hotmail.com

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Linda Layton

Commercial Corner

WE OFTEN comment on this page about the loyalty of sponsors who come back time and time again, and today it is appropriate that our match sponsors are among the club's most consistent supporters. Calling themselves the Regular Rabble, they are a group of die-hard fans who follow the Town everywhere, usually going to away games with the Bobbers Travel Club.

Led by Sue and Les Miller, they were the season's first match sponsors, and we are delighted to have them back again for the last game. They also sponsored the fixture against Plymouth, and enjoyed that victory immensely and we hope they have another result to their liking this afternoon. And, needless to say, they are certainly not a rabble, but very good ambassadors for Luton Town as well as generous supporters of our commercial efforts.

Today's match ball sponsor is Colin Keeley, who has been supporting the Town since his first visit to Kenilworth Road when he was eight, in 1976. He now watches the team with his nephews Liam and Conor from the New Stand. His favourite memories include Scott Oakes's goal against Derby County in '93, Iain Dowie's winner against Crystal Palace in 1990 and of course Wembley '88.

Today he welcomes three close friends John McElroy, Martin Bigmore and Steve Bexfield to join him in celebrating his birthday (one week early) and of course to toast a fabulously entertaining and successful season.

We welcome all our sponsors and their guests, including Vaughan Williams and his party, who are in the

Millennium Suite this afternoon.



BEN Barzilay

BEN Barzilay is a regular at Kenilworth Road, a season ticket holder in the New Stand with his dad, grandpa and Uncle Terry. But today he is much more than a spectator and Hatters supporter, because he is commercial mascot, which gives him a VIP day to remember.

It's an early birthday present from his mum and dad – Ben will be ten on May 18 – and as dad and

grandpa have birthdays soon, it's their treat as well! His mum and sister Lucy are also here today.

Ben lives at Moor Lane, Flitwick, and goes to Woodland Middle School, Flitwick. He is keen on all sports, and plays for Flitwick Eagles Whites under-10s, and cricket for Flitwick under-11s. He also enjoys playing snooker and pool.

Today Ben will see something of what goes on behind the scenes as the club prepares for a match, and his duties will include meeting the players before kick-off. With luck, that will give him the chance to chat with his favourites, Matt Taylor and Jean-Louis Valois. He will also join them on the pitch for the warm-up and toss of the coin.

In short, he will have a real treat for any soccer-mad youngster, and if you have a boy or girl who deserves something similar, contact the commercial department. There will be at least 23 opportunities for others to do the same next season!

Linda Layton

Golden Gamble

WE HAVE been wondering recently if our increasingly-popular Golden Gamble would reach the magic four-figure total before the season ends. It hasn't quite made it so far, but, like the team, the 50-50 lottery offering a big cash prize for an outlay of just £1 has been breaking records throughout the campaign. At the last home match the jackpot was once again the biggest-ever – a whopping £905 wedge of cash.

It was won by Colin Hill, from River Court, Ickleford, who is pictured with Paul Hughes, who drew out the winning ticket.



The prize depends on sales. Half the proceeds go to the jackpot prize and the other 50p goes to club funds, so your marvellous support is much appreciated even if only one fan can win. Jackpots so far this season have totalled £14,605, an average payout of £644 to each of the 22 winners. It will probably be at least that much again today, with one ticket costing £1 scooping the jackpot. The draw is made on the pitch during half time, and the cash is available for collection immediately.

To advertise in the matchday magazine phone Luton 411622 or e-mail us at: commercial@lutontown.co.uk

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16

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Goals Info:



Where



38 Goals



44 Goals



12 Goals

How

Shots.....48
Headers.....27
Volleys.....15
Penalties...4
Free Kicks..0
O.G.s.....0

Top Scorers

Howard.....23
Taylor.....15
Griffiths.....11
Nicholls.....7
Spring.....6
Valois.....6
Forbes.....4

2001-2002

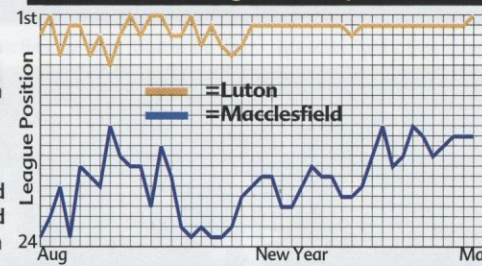
Highest Gate
9,585
vs Plymouth
Lowest Gate
5,066
vs Lincoln
Average Gate
6,807
Players Used 35
Clean Sheets 15
Failed to Score
3
Consec. Wins
12 games
Consec. Defeats
2 games

Hatters' Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	Opp Pos
W	Hull	A	11th
W	Mansfield	H	4th
W	Swansea	A	14th
W	Halifax	H	24th
W	Kidderminster	H	10th
W	Exeter	H	14th
W	Rushden	A	9th
W	Orient	H	22nd
W	Torquay	A	22nd
W	Lincoln	A	20th

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

Seasonal Progress Comparison



Silkmen's Last 10

Res	Opp	Ven	Opp Pos
W	Cheltenham	H	3rd
L	Carlisle	A	16th
W	York	H	20th
W	Hartlepool	A	10th
L	Torquay	H	22nd
L	Orient	A	22nd
W	Darlington	A	16th
D	Plymouth	H	1st
L	Oxford	H	18th
W	Hull	A	5th

Goals Info:



Where



9 Goals



24 Goals



8 Goals

How

Shots.....21
Headers.....8
Volleys.....6
Penalties...4
Free Kicks..1
O.G.s.....1

Top Scorers

Glover.....9
Lambert.....8
Byrne.....6
Lightbourne..4

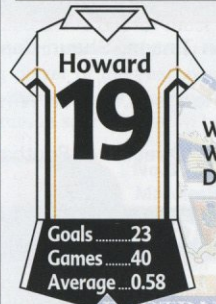
2001-2002

Highest Gate
3,002
vs Rochdale
Lowest Gate
1,356
vs Hartlepool
Average Gate
2,115
Players Used 30
Clean Sheets 11
Failed to Score
18
Consec. Wins
3 games
Consec. Defeats
3 games

When Goals have been Scored

When Goals have been Conceded

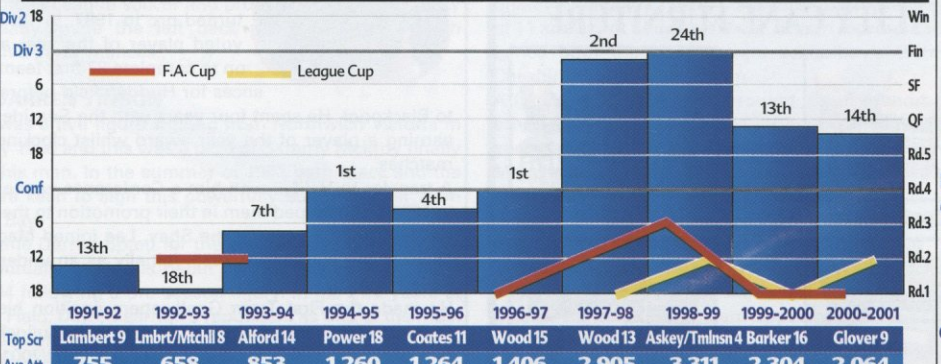
Steve Howard (Luton)



Top Scorers Comparison Lee Glover (Macclesfield)



Macclesfield Town's Last 10 Years - The Complete Record



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Wednesday 17 April, Sky Sports 2

Chelsea v Manchester United
Saturday 20 April, Sky Sports 1
Blackburn Rovers v Newcastle United
Tuesday 23 April, Sky Sports 1

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Subject to coverage terms and conditions.

Welcome to Macclesfield Town F.C.



Back Row (Left to Right): Richard Eyre, David Ridler, Ricky Lambert, Darren Tinson, Shaun Came, Paul O'Neill, Damien Whitehead, Karl Munroe.

Middle Row: Kevin Keen, Danny Whitaker, Andy McAvoy, Lee Martin, Steven Hodgson, Steven Wilson, Lee Glover, Steve Hitchen, Mike Bamber.

Front Row: John Askey, Chris Byrne, George Abbey, Adam Morris, Gil Prescott (Director of Football), Matt Woolley, Danny Adams, Righard Tracey, Chris Priest



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In Goal



No. 1 - LEE MARTIN

Lee was a schoolboy with Huddersfield Town and also represented England at this level. After serving his apprenticeship with the Yorkshire outfit, and playing at under-20 level for England, he turned pro in 1987. In 1991 he was voted player of the year and went on to complete 87 first team appearances for Huddersfield before moving

to Blackpool. He spent four years with the Seasiders, again earning a player of the year award whilst clocking up 128 matches.

A transfer to Halifax won him a Conference winners medal in 1997 as he helped them in their promotion to the Football League. After 3 years at the Shay, Lee joined Macclesfield Town in the summer of 1999, initially as an understudy to Ryan Price.

He made the First Team Goalkeepers position his own in October of that year but the arrival of Tony Bullock pushed him onto the bench for the start of the 2000/2001 season. When he was given a chance, in the FA Cup against Oxford, he took it with both hands and proved himself as Macclesfield's number one.

No. 13 - STEVE WILSON

Steve Wilson has spent the majority of his career at Hull



Today's Visitors



City, racking up almost 200 matches for the Tigers in the almost ten years he spent at Boothferry Park. During this time he was their first choice keeper for several seasons before he found his first team chances severely limited as three new arrivals pushed him down the pecking order. At the end of the 2001/2002 season he found himself on loan at Macclesfield as cover to Lee Martin and has looked solid in the games he has played. He will be out to knock Lee Martin from his first team berth during the 2001/2002 season.

In Defence

No.2 - STEVE HITCHEN

Steve was Sammy McIlroy's first signing in preparing Macclesfield Town for League Football. Steve's big break came when captaining Salford Boys, Blackburn Rovers spotting his potential and signing him on schoolboy forms.

He progressed to a two-year apprenticeship and onto a full two-year contract as a professional. He played over 100 reserve team games and was a member of the first team squad on numerous occasions including being named as a substitute against Legia Warsaw in Rovers European Championship campaign. Ray Hartford rejected a £500,000 bid for Steve before leaving Ewood Park.

Injury ruled Steve out for most of the 97/98 season, but he made a great return and deservedly won all of the following season's player of the year awards. Steve again suffered a serious injury on the opening day of last season but his determination saw him return before the end of the season.



No.3 - DANNY ADAMS

Macclesfield Town equalled the club transfer record to capture this talented left back in September 2000. The Silkmen will pay up to £30,000 depending on appearances to their old non league rivals Altrincham for the former England semi-professional full back.

Danny took the decision to give up his full time job as a postman in order to join Macclesfield and play Football League soccer and progress his career. Danny has already made the left back position his own with impressive performances.

No.5- DARREN TINSON

Darren was a five figure signing from Northwich Victoria in February 1996 and this was a case of Sammy McIlroy finally getting his man. In the summer of 1993 both Macc and the Vics were keen to sign this powerfully built defender from Colwyn Bay.

At the time Darren opted for the shorter travelling distance and eventually made his debut for the Vics on New Years Day 1994 following a pre season injury. In his 21/2 years at the Drill Field, Darren earned a reputation as one of the most respected defenders in the Conference, with his tough tackling and his superb heading ability.

Darren won a third division runners up medal in

Macclesfield's first season in the Football League. Since then he has been a consistent part of the Silkmen's defence and was an ever present in 1999/2000.



No.6 - DAVID RIDLER

David joined Wrexham from Prescot Town back in 1995 as a trainee after being recommended to the club by then player - Karl Connolly. The former chef made his League debut in the 1996/1997 season against York City coming on in the 22nd minute of a 0-0 draw. He went on to make a further 11 appearances with

the majority of these being starts.

Despite having played over 140 games (with only 14 of these coming from the bench) David was released at the end of 2000/2001 and signed for the Silkmen that summer

No.16 - GEORGE ABBEY

George is a raw talent that impressed while on trial at Macclesfield, his unique style of play prompted the Silkmen to seek his full International clearance from the Nigerian FA. George played for his local side in Nigeria, Port Harcourt where he was born and it was for his Sharks FC team that he first signed. George signed for Macclesfield in 1999. A right back who can attack well, George can boast a wonderful pass and a lethal looking long range shot amongst his ever expanding arsenal. Starting to get more first team chances and should improve even further with the added experience.

No.17 - PAUL O'NEILL

At the age of 16 he joined Macclesfield on a two-year apprenticeship and progressed so well that he made his Football League debut at Brighton & Hove Albion in April 2000 while still aged 17.

Paul was offered his first professional contract during the summer of 2000.

No.18 - SHAUN CAME

Shaun joined the Chester City center of excellence at the age of 11 and spent two years there. Shaun represented and captained both the Mid-Cheshire schoolboy's team and the Cheshire County Youth team.

A family move to Devon brought about a short period on schoolboy forms at Exeter City before moving back north and trials at Blackburn Rovers. Shaun had two years with Manchester United before taking an apprenticeship at Macclesfield in the 1999/2000 season.

Shaun's mature performances in the Central League earned him his first professional contract at the age of 17. During 2000/2001 Shaun was one of the six players to appear in the Youth, Reserve and First teams last season. Although only given a handful of first team opportunities his commitment and talent belied his age.

No.20 - MIKE BAMBER

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Preston-born Mike is a former Blackpool trainee looking to establish himself at Macc after his arrival at the Moss two years ago. Most of Mike's appearances to date have been with the Reserves, but when called upon for League action he has not let anybody down and, after one substitute appearance late in the 1999/2000 season, he made his first League start in our 2-0 win at Barnet on October 8 last year when just seven days out of his 'teens.

In Midfield



No.4 - CHRIS BYRNE

Chris 'Goldenboots' Byrne will be well known to the Macclesfield Town faithful as the player who acted as the catalyst in our promotion to the Football League. His debut match showed the supporters what they were in for as he racked up a hat trick in the first 29 minutes of a 9-0 demolition of Kidsgrove Athletic in the Staffordshire Senior Cup. In the league, his arrival sparked a run of 11 wins in 12 games.

In the following summer he left the club to join Sunderland but found it difficult to settle away from his native North West. After just 10 matches for Peter Reid's side he was transferred back 'home' to Stockport County. Here he made 28 appearances and contributed seven goals including two in their 4-3 win at Wolves. (Byrne scoring the winner in the 86th minute) An injury put paid to his season in 1998/1999 after just 14 matches (three goals). The following season he had a short spell on loan back here at Macclesfield to regain his fitness and went on to appear

for Stockport County 16 more times that season, scoring twice for the struggling side. Another injury led to him making just one appearance for Stockport County last season, coming off the bench in the 88th minute in a late match against Nottingham Forest. Chris signed a two year deal with the Silkmen in the summer of 2001.

No.8 - CHRIS PRIEST

Chris was born in Leigh and started his career on Merseyside signing apprenticeship forms at Everton. His short trip to Chester City's Deva Stadium was originally on loan but this move was made permanent in January 1995. In his four seasons at Chester Chris made 160 appearances and scored 27 goals.

Chris has all the attributes of a good midfielder, he operates from box to box, is a good passer of the ball and is a strong tackler, and he also has a reputation for scoring goals late in a game. Signed for Macclesfield in the summer of 1999.

In his two seasons' at Macclesfield, although blighted by injury, Chris has been an integral part of the side. He was recently tied down to the club with a contract extension and looks set to form a solid midfield alongside Keen and Byrne.



No.11 - KEVIN KEEN

Kevin's future was pretty well mapped out for him a few weeks before he was born when his Dad captained the victorious QPR team in the League cup final in 1967. He signed as an apprentice for West Ham United and went on to play almost 30 times for England schoolboys and England Youth. He

made his Football League debut for the Hammers against Liverpool at the age of 19.

In his nine years at Upton Park he made over 250 appearances scoring over 30 goals and won promotion. In the summer of 1993 Wolves paid £600,000 for Kevin, his next move was for £300,000 and this move took him to Stoke City. During his time at Stoke he made over 200 appearances and scored over 20 goals he was also involved in two play off finals. Kevin joined Macclesfield in September 2000 and went on to become a regular first team player.

No.12 - ANDY McAVOY

Formerly at Blackburn Rovers, Andy impressed the Hartlepool management team whilst he was there on loan in 1999. After returning to Ewood Park, Tommy Miller got his man and Andy returned to the Victoria Ground and made his debut as a full Hartlepool player in their 3-3 draw with the Silkmen in November of 1999. He was a regular feature in the team for the rest of that season, coming off the bench for them in both legs of their playoff defeat at the hands of Darlington. The following season he found himself in and out of the team before leaving the club in summer 2001 and joining the Silkmen following a successful trial period.

No.15 - RICKIE LAMBERT

A young lad with a promising career ahead of him. Ricky, with hometown Liverpool as a boy, had made three substitute appearances for Blackpool in the Second Division when he burst onto the scene at the Moss last season and has since played in all our three teams, including three substitute stints and then a first start against Rochdale in April. Powerfully built, Ricky appears to stroll through a game spraying accurate passes, long and short, all over the park. His vision is such that he soon spots an opening and is good enough to put the ball right there.

No.19 - DANNY WHITTAKER

Danny is the first local boy to come through the ranks since Macclesfield turned professional when joining the Football League in 1997. Danny was first noticed while playing for the Macclesfield district youth team, and he went on to play for the Cheshire County youth team. He signed non-contract forms in 1999 in order to play for the Macclesfield Town Youth team in the Lancashire League.

In the same season he played regularly in the Central League and was rewarded with a professional contract the following season. Made his debut and scored his first goal, a thumping 25 yard strike, in the clubs 2-1 home defeat to Exeter in 2002

No.21 - KARL MUNROE

Karl first signed associate schoolboy forms with Oldham Athletic and went on to represent Manchester Boys. He signed a one-year YTS at Swansea City under the management of Jan Molby and progressed to a one-year professional contract. Managerial changes at the Welsh side meant a move for Karl who had a trial with Brighton before he made his way back to the north, signing non-contract forms with the Silkmen in the 99/2000 season.

Looking to settle back in the north Karl put in some impressive performances in the Central League to earn his full time contract. His apparent temperament stems from his enthusiasm. He tackles incessantly and will do whatever it takes to win the ball.

Up Front

No.10 - LEE GLOVER



Lee was Peter Davenport's first signing as the Macclesfield manager. Both Peter and Lee had time together at Nottingham Forrest under the management of Brian Clough. Lee's career progressed at Forrest and he became a regular goalscorer. Lee had loan spells with Leicester, Barnsley and Luton Town whilst with Forrest.

Port Vale paid £200,000 for Lee's services and he also had a £150,000 move to Rotherham United in 1996. Lee had a strike rate of a goal every other game for the Yorkshire side. In 1997 he had a loan period at Huddersfield Town making 11 appearances for them. Unfortunately he spent much of the 99/2000 season recovering from injury, he did come back at the end of the season as the Yorkshire side confirmed promotion to the second division. Lee has also played representative football at schoolboy and under 21 level.

2000/2001 was a season of recuperation for Lee who had played just six matches in 13 months before signing for the Silkmen. He finished last season as top scorer and will be hoping to improve on his tally in 2001/2002

No.14 - JOHN ASKEY



John is Macclesfield's longest serving player of the current squad. He joined the Silkmen from Milton United in 1984 at the age of 19, having previously been with Port Vale. He was a regular member of the Macclesfield team that completed the treble in the 86/87 Season.

John has represented England at semi pro level and has played for Middlesex Wanderers in Japan. John won the Mail on Sunday Goalscorer of the Month award in November 1993. John's 94/95 season was ruined during pre-season when a double fracture of the leg left him sidelined but determined.

He returned for the 96/97 season to play an important part in the championship winning side. Having won every non-league honour in the game John added a third division runners up medal in the 97/98 season. He had his best season for the Silkmen in 1999/2000 where he contributed 15 goals. The 2001/2002 season will see him tone down the playing side to concentrate more on coaching and managing the reserve team

No.25 - MATTHEW TIPTON

Striker who signed for the Silkmen in February of 2002 and made his debut in the 2-1 over Bristol Rovers. After being released by Liverpool, Matthew spent five years at Oldham where he broke through to the first team after coming through the ranks as a trainee.



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FIXTURES

Group A	Group B	FINAL
Burnley v Wrexham Sun - July 21 2.00pm The Bowl	IOM v Darlington Sun - July 21 7.15pm Ramsey	
Wrexham v Luton Mon - July 22 7.15pm NSC	Darlington v Rochdale Tue - July 23 7.15pm The Bowl	
Luton v Burnley Tue - July 23 2.00pm NSC	IOM v Rochdale Wed - July 24 7.15pm Ramsey	
	Play Off Group A Fri - July 26 2.00pm The Bowl	
	Play Off Group B Fri - July 26 7.15pm Ramsey	
	FINAL Sat - July 27 2.00pm The Bowl	

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Roger Wash

All our **yesterdays**

Promotion parties past

Everyone has turned up at Kenilworth Road today to celebrate the Town's well deserved rise to

Division Two and as this is the first chance I have had in 17 years of writing this column to record a promotion it is perhaps a good time to look back at successful campaigns of the past. After all, the current season's exploits will provide me with plenty of column inches in the future!

When the Town were relegated to Division Two of the Southern League in 1912 it was regarded as a calamity of major proportions and the nearest comparison that could be made today is of the current Town squad being demoted to the League of Wales. Around a dozen Welsh sides were amongst the Town's opposition and in view of the travelling it is little wonder that the Hatters struggled during their first season in this footballing backwater. Mercifully, they managed to acclimatise and two years after relegation they fought their way back to the top flight as runners-up to Croydon Common on goal average. Of thirty games that season only three were lost and a massive 92 goals were scored with the Howard and Crowe of the time, Ernie Simms and Arthur Wileman, bagging 55 between them. It was very important, financially, to get back to Division One as a third season away would have been crippling. 'Never again', said the directors.

The Hatters, along with the whole of Southern League Division One, were invited to form Division Three of the Football League in 1920 and the team was quite happy to settle for mid-table obscurity for a number of seasons until when, in the mid-1930's, with the huge growth of the town, the directors felt that higher division football was sustainable.

With only one team promoted, the Hatters fought neck and neck with Coventry throughout the 1935/36 season but missed out at the death. They made no mistake the following year, however, when aided by the magical boots of Joe Payne, who netted a record 55 goals, promotion to the old Division Two was secured.

As well as the goals of Payne, the Town possessed a formidable home record with nineteen victories and only one defeat from 21 games at Kenilworth Road and as such with the last game of the season at home to Torquay, with a win needed for promotion,

a record league crowd of 20,755 turned up to make it a carnival atmosphere. Payne, naturally, bagged both goals in the 2-0 win and at the end of the game the crowd stormed the pitch and would not go home until the players gave them a wave.

The elevation to Division Two did not seem to cause too many problems and a narrow miss at further promotion in 1939 was followed by the Hatters, tantalisingly, sitting proudly at the top of the table as war broke out. Unfortunately, when peacetime football resumed seven years later, the Town were unable to reproduce their earlier form and, indeed, in 1950 and 1951 came perilously close to relegation back to Division Three.

Gradually, manager Dally Duncan moulded together a team centred on the wily experience of Jesse Pye and his youthful protégé Gordon Turner in attack, Bob Morton in midfield, Syd Owen in defence and Ron Baynham in goal to make a bid for further promotion.

Unfortunately, Pye played only a small part in the promotion to Division One in 1955 but the skills he passed on to Turner enabled the club's eventual record goalscorer to net 32 times in a season that produced one of the closest finishes in football history.

Again, the Town had a strong home record but away from Kenilworth Road they had not tasted victory since the end of December. A final day 'must win' game at Doncaster was not the ideal end to the campaign but in a surprisingly relaxed performance a 3-0 scoreline secured the points as well as a superior goal average over eventual third placed side Rotherham.

The Town enjoyed five years in the top flight before plummeting down through the divisions to reach Division Four by 1965. After such a disastrous time it took another Scottish manager, Allan Brown, to restore some lost pride and put the club on the long road back to the top.

The Division Four championship winning side of 1967/68 was a sublime mix of youth, in the shape of Bruce Rioch and Alan Slough, and experience with Terry Branton and Ian Buxton leading the way. Promotion was won with four games to go, the championship the game after and by the time of the final match a record equalling points score for the division had been achieved.

The upwards momentum needed to be maintained and after a narrow miss in 1969 it was back to Division Two the year after. Another goalscoring legend by the name of Malcolm Macdonald was unearthed during that campaign as the Town made, admittedly, hard work of achieving promotion, but a good end of season run and the late failure of Bristol Rovers secured second spot. With promotion assured the final game, at Rochdale, was another carnival occasion with over half the crowd of 5,886 coming from Luton.

The complete circle was turned in 1974 with promotion back to Division One as runners-up to Middlesbrough. It seemed that all the teams, apart from Boro, in the top half of the table that season were determined not to go up such was the inconsistency and the Town were promoted with the equivalent of 69 points which is ridiculously low.

Even so, we were deliriously happy when a goal from top scorer Barry Butlin earned a point at West Bromwich to clinch the rise back through the divisions with a game to go.

Division One football only lasted for one season but seven years later David Pleat, after a couple of near misses, saw his squad walk away with the championship of the old Division Two in style for the Town's last promotion.

In a glorious season, which saw only four defeats,

promotion was assured after an emotion packed victory against Shrewsbury at Kenilworth Road with the championship assured a couple of weeks later in a tight win over Q.P.R.

Will we be celebrating a another promotion in a years time?

Roger Wash



Promotion-the last time. Happy Hatters celebrate in 1982

Yesterday's pages



"The Luton News' produced a marvellous souvenir to celebrate the Town's first ever promotion in 1914, graced by a team group of the victorious squad resplendent in their light and navy blue shirts.

A review of the season just gone, a potted club history and individual pen pictures of the players make it an extremely interesting publication and all for 1d!

The most intriguing section, though, is a list of messages of congratulation from clubs in Division One of the Southern League. Almost all pass comment on the state of the pitches in South Wales and how difficult it must have been for the Town to play football on them. One can only wonder if the Hatters turned out on cow pastures at places like Mardy, Treharris, Ton Pentre and Mid Rhondda?

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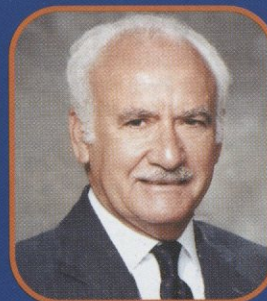


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POLICY STATEMENT - SPECTATOR SAFETY



The Chairman and Directors of Luton Town Football Club undertake to ensure as far as humanly possible that all activities that take place at the Kenilworth Road Stadium are conducted in such a way that as far as is reasonably practical the safety of everybody at the stadium is assured.

It is the policy of the Chairman and Directors to ensure that the conditions set out in the General Safety Certificate, issued under the Safety at Sports Grounds Act, 1975, are fully complied with.

It is the Club's policy to provide at any activity sufficient and competent staff and management systems to ensure as far as humanly possible the safe admission, accommodation and exiting of spectators attending the stadium. These systems will be subject to continual monitoring, testing and updating where necessary.

Mike Watson-Challis Chairman

Reviewed August, 2001.

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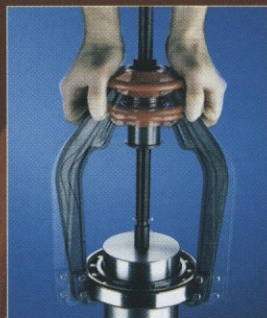
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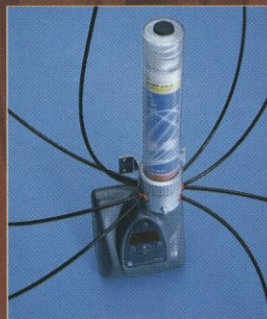




EasyPull bearing puller

A new lightweight design of bearing jaw puller with a spring mechanism for faster gripping behind the component is reckoned to be one of the easiest and most efficient pullers currently available and has now been launched by SKF. As part of the design, a shear pin has been included, to ensure operator safety in the event of excessive force being applied.

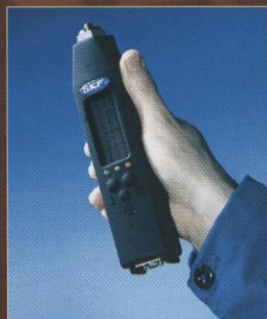
Some 16 per cent of premature bearing failures can be attributed to bad fitting. The most common fault is the use of brute force, while ignorance or laziness regarding use of the correct tools for the task is a major contributor. Available in three sizes to provide maximum withdrawal forces between three and eight tonnes (30 kN to 80 kN), the pullers have been designed in a modular fashion to allow simple replacement of worn or damaged parts.



SYSTEM MultiPoint automatic lubricator

SKF's SYSTEM MultiPoint is a new, automatic lubricator for multiple grease lubrication points. It can automatically lubricate each point simultaneously with the correct amount of lubricant and therefore removes human error and neglect in installations where multiple lubrication points prove to be time consuming and liable to be forgotten. With research showing that 36% of all bearings fail prematurely due to incorrect lubrication, SYSTEM MultiPoint will facilitate longer bearing life and increased uptime.

SYSTEM MultiPoint's high-pressure capability, of 40bar / 600psi, allows grease to be dispensed at the high rates required in multiple bearing applications. Feed lines can be run to five metres in length, with up to eight lines connected to the lubricator. An alarm function warns of blocked feed lines and empty cartridges, and it also stops the lubricator operating when a machine isn't running.

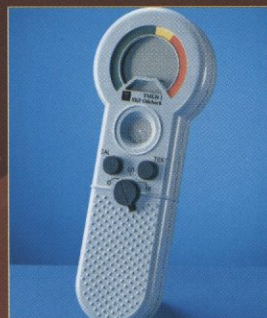


MARLIN condition detector (MCD)

The MCD from SKF enables a simple but extremely effective means of checking the health of a machine. Vibration and temperature are measured to assess the machine's state.

Providing an inexpensive, easily learned first step into condition monitoring, the MCD is ideal for users unfamiliar with machine diagnostic measuring techniques. At the same time, when coupled with an extensive range of sister units and accessories, the condition detector can be integrated into broader plant-wide condition monitoring strategies.

By measuring vibration velocity the user can identify problems such as imbalance, misalignment, mechanical looseness or wear. SKF employs a vibration monitoring technique within the MCD that involves the use of acceleration enveloping, which makes gear and bearing wear easier to detect.



OilCheck monitor

A new hand-held and extremely simple to use method of determining the degree of degradation and contamination of mineral and synthetic oils is now available from SKF, along with the facility to provide a full diagnostic service through detailed lubrication analysis procedures.

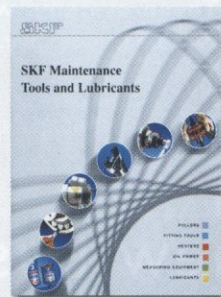
The hand-held monitoring device is a comparative instrument, which enables optimised intervals to be maintained between oil changes. It detects and measures the dielectric constant in a used oil sample, which is compared against results taken from an unused lubricant of the same type and brand.

All that is required is for a few drops of sample oil to be placed in a circular recess from which a sensor will determine the appropriate value. The display is via a green/red grading indicator and a 1-100 numerical readout.

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Pre-Match Entertainment

This afternoon's pre-match and half time entertainment is managed by our PA announcers Justin Dealey and Steve Faulkner.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1.45 Gates Open - music starts | HALF TIME |
| 1.55 Club mascot Happy Harry runs on the pitch. | 3.50 Golden Gamble - Winning ticket picked by Luton Town Player. |
| 2.00 A track from the HMV album of the week - POP IDOL - THE BIG BAND ALBUM | 3.55 Run down of half time scores from around the country |
| 2.10 HMV Single of the week - USHER - U TUM | 4.00 Repeat of dedications |
| 2.25 The UK No.1 single - GARETH GATES - UNCHAINED MELODY | 4.05 Teams arrive back on pitch to theme song "Gimme Some Lovin". |
| 2.25 Team line up to be announced | 4.55 FULL TIME |
| 2.35 Dedications announced | Matchday music supplied by |
| 2.45 Town Teaser - Check out page 40 for today's question | 
topdogformusic-videos-games |
| 2.55 Teams runout to - The Blues Brothers "Gimme Some Lovin". | Arndale Centre. |
| 2.57 Final run down of the teaMs. | |
| 3.00 THE BIG KICK OFF | |

If you would like your dedication read out, please contact the Club prior to matchdays.

Top Hatter Joe Kinnear



Born: Dublin, 27.12.46

Joined Luton: February 2001

Were you good at school? I suppose so, because I enjoyed my school days, in Dublin until I was seven, then at Leggatts Way Boys School, Watford, and finally at Watford Tech. I was into football from being very young, and was always encouraged by my mum and dad to play. My father had been a semi-pro in Ireland, but died at 50, of a heart attack. I was captain of Watford Boys and the Hertfordshire youth side. Watford gave me a trial, but said I was too small and wouldn't make it, so I went to Watford Tech and night school after getting an apprenticeship as a machine minder in the print. A legendary St. Albans manager, Dick East, signed me at 16. I was paid £2 a game – the money was slipped into our boots, and officially it was expenses. I did well with St. Albans City, which led to a trial at Tottenham, and I have been grateful ever since about that. I enjoyed the thought that Watford, a Division Four side, had turned me down, and Tottenham, who had just done the double, signed me. I was in the reserves at 18 and in the first team a year later. I was very fortunate: we had a lot of good players, and a really good manager, Bill Nicholson.

(Joe made 196 league appearances at right back for Tottenham between 1965 and 1975, and won 26 Republic of Ireland caps – Ed)

Why have you come to Luton? I got a telephone call from the chairman, and had lunch with Mike Watson-Challis and Eric Hood. We interviewed each other. I asked how ambitious they were. "To make Luton what it used to be," was the answer, and I felt I could help to achieve that. I liked the way everyone was

ambitious and enthusiastic.

Your greatest pleasure from football? Playing! There's nothing like it. I have been lucky in life, and in my work. I enjoyed three FA Cup final wins and two in European football. The other highlights were receiving the manager of the year award twice, at Wimbledon – voted for by other managers, and it's very satisfying to receive accolades from your peers.

Your biggest disappointment? Breaking a leg against Leeds in a collision with Eddie Gray in 1969. I missed two years of my career. Today, it would take six months.

Do you think about retirement? No. My heart attack three years ago was a tap on the shoulder, a reminder that you don't know what is ahead. Bobby Robson and Alex Ferguson are still galloping on and I am 20 years younger than they are. I want to stay in football as long as I am enjoying it.

You still have ambitions in the game? Certainly – to take Luton to the Premiership. There is a long way to go, but things are right behind the scenes, which helps me get things right on the field. I have a great right-hand man in Micky Harford, and a great bunch of players, who care about the club and are proud to wear Luton Town shirts. They have done themselves proud this year! And I know there is more to come next year! I have always been loyal to my clubs: I spent 12 years at Spurs as a player, and 10 at Wimbledon as a manager. I want to see out my time here, and play my part in taking the club forward. With a new stadium on the stocks, there are exciting times ahead for Luton Town.



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ON SALE EVERY WEDNESDAY



Stuart Smith



Football in the Community



GOOD afternoon and welcome to a fantastic afternoon at Kenilworth Road. I hope you all enjoy today's promotion party and that the result can help us to go one step further and snatch the championship.

Last week's Easter courses for children were very successful, and the numbers are steadily increasing each holiday. The feedback from parents and children over the last few days has been brilliant, and tells me that we are certainly heading in the right direction. I want the children participating in the Community Department courses to be able to receive a similar standard of coaching to that delivered in the Centre of Excellence.

By offering this standard of coaching, and using quality coaches, we will be able to ensure that the children have fun with their football, and learn new skills and disciplines at the same time.

Hopefully, as a bonus, we might be able to increase the number of players progressing from our courses into the excellent youth development programme run by Dean Rastrick. It is my belief that whatever the child's ability, he should have the facility to learn at the highest level possible. As a department this is the opportunity I would like to give to the children.

In the last match day magazine I used my column to tell you a little about Sportsmatch. I am delighted to be able to report now that in the last few days

the Community Department has become a beneficiary of Sportsmatch funding.

Sportsmatch has matched pound for pound the generous sponsorship of Sainsbury's for our Saturday Soccer School at Bramingham Primary School. This means that we are now able to run the course right through to the end of the year.

We currently have another two grant applications being considered. If successful, one of these will be used to run after-school soccer clubs between 4 and 5pm. The second grant will be used to develop an ongoing relationship between the club and a charity for disabled children called 'Kids Out'.

This, hopefully, will be the first of many such partnerships. The grant will also enable me and all the Community Staff to participate in the Disabled Soccer Coaching Certificate, thus enabling us to offer the required coaching to these young people. Finally I would like to let you know that with the end of the season upon us, I am obviously not going to be able to keep you informed of courses throughout the summer via this magazine. Therefore details of every course we run, including the next half-term, and in the long summer holidays, will appear on the club's web site, and also in the sports pages of our sponsors, The Luton News and Herald & Post.

The web site, of course, can be found at www.lutontown.co.uk

And if there is any further information you would like about our department, including plans for coaching courses, please ring me at the football club, on Luton 411622.

Stuart Smith

EVENING AND WEEKEND COURSES

VENUE	AGE GROUP	START DATE	DAY & TIME	TOTAL WEEKS	WEEKS REMAINING	COST
Bramingham Primary Boys & girls	7 - 11	12/1/02	Sat 10.00 - 11.30am	10	1	£2.50pw
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Luton Regional Sports Centre Boys/Girls	7 - 11	28/2/02	Thurs 4 - 5.30pm	10	4	£2.50pw

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Hatters Away

THE end of a long and happy road comes at Shrewsbury on Saturday for the last game of the season, with the Town in search of their ninth double. As usual two coach services are on offer to take fans to the game, operated by the Bobbers Travel Club and Town on Tour, an offshoot of Luton Town Supporters Club.

The Bobbers will leave Cranfield at 9.30am, picking up at various villages en route to Luton, with a 10.30 departure from the ground. The fare is £12 for adults, £10 for pensioners and under-16s.

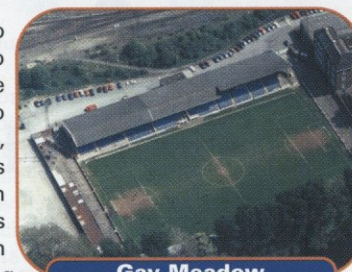
Town on Tour also leave Luton at 10.30, picking up at Milton Keynes Coachway 20 minutes later. Their fares are £12 for adult LTSC members, £11 for concessionary members and £13 for others.

Town on Tour also have a few vacancies for the July trip to the Isle of Man tournament. Prices range from £210 to £330, and more information is avail-

able from the LTSC kiosk today, or by fax to Mark Chapman on 01296 714073 or e-mail markchapman65@hotmail.com

The Road to Gay Meadow

YOU NEED to allow over two hours for the trip to Shrewsbury, especially as some of it is on the notorious M6. Leave Luton on M1 going



Gay Meadow

north, and then take M6. Near Wolverhampton turn onto the M54, and follow that motorway to its end, where it becomes the A5, signposted to Shrewsbury. Nearly eight miles after the end of the motorway, you come to a roundabout where you take the fourth exit, still signposted to Shrewsbury, to join the A5064. At the Column roundabout take the third exit and the football ground is signposted from there. It is near the town centre, close to the English Bridge, which crosses the River Severn.

Mileage from Luton: 135.

THE Bobbers Travel Club and Luton Town Supporters Club both have kiosks in Kenilworth Road on match days, where seats can be booked to travel to away games. Town on Tour seats are also sold at the club shop, or via their mobile phone on 07960 567465. Bobbers Travel Club bookings can be made on the phone to Paul Deason on 01234 750996.

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Junior Hatters



Happy Harry

WELCOME to party day at Kenilworth Road. And for some lucky Junior Hatters there will be another one next Saturday, when the season ends at Shrewsbury. Our coach trip is sold out, but there is a waiting list for possible cancellations, and you can put your name on that. If anyone drops out, we will contact the first name on the list to fill the vacancy.

The list is at the club shop at the top of Kenilworth Road, which is where you can find all other Junior Hatters information, including how to join.

Saturday's trip will be one of the best-ever, and not just because Shrewsbury are very good hosts. One Junior Hatter will win a very special prize in the lucky draw.

On each trip, members put their tickets into a boater, and on Saturday, on the way home, one of those tickets will be drawn out to decide the winner – and I promise it is a super prize.

The Shrewsbury trip also sees the end of this season's coach quiz championship, and the teams go into the seventh round with any one of the top six capable of winning. Our leaders are No Jimmy Jinx with 102 points, followed by Two pints of bitter and a glass of coke with 89.5, US with 88.5, Super Vicky's barmy army with 86, OB1 2000/2001 Champs with 71 and Bring back Alan White fan club 65.5.

Finally, best wishes from everyone at Kenilworth Road to all supporters: have a good summer, and we'll meet again in August – ready for another promotion season!

Happy Harry



VIP PARTY: Two mascots were on duty at the last home game, against Mansfield, and they are pictured with the skippers and match officials before kick-off, when they met for the toss of the coin. Representing the Junior Hatters was Alex Groom, while Jamie Deards was the commercial mascot.

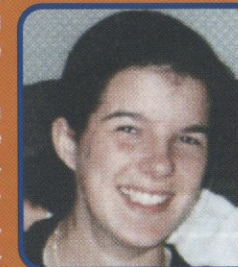
Today's Mascot

ALL our members are sure to have a day to enjoy to finish the season, but 15-year-old Aileen Burns will be a very happy Junior Hatter indeed, because her name was picked out of the computerised drum to be mascot this afternoon.

She will meet the team in the dressing room before kick-off, and we hope that Lee Mansell will be around, because he is Aileen's favourite player.

A pupil at Cardinal Newman School, Luton, Aileen lives at Evedon Close, Limbury, and comes to games with her best mate, Lorli. When she is not shouting for

the team, Aileen enjoys surfing the net and "going out with my mates."



She will have plenty to tell her pals when she next meets them, because part of the Junior Hatters mascot's duties are joining the players on the hallowed turf for the pre-match rituals, including accompanying the captain to the centre circle for the toss of the coin.

Today's ball boys are Christopher Wood, of Woolpack Close, Dunstable, and James Tapping, of Bunyan's Walk,

Harlington.

If you would like to join the Junior Hatters,
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Dean Rastrick

Youth Development

TODAY I would like to start by congratulating Joe, Mick, Brian and the players for a tremendous season.

Success at first team level is always the major ambition at every club, and we all share the delight at seeing the team do so well to win promotion in convincing style.

In the last programme of the season I want to thank a large number of people and organisations for their help during the last ten months. My thanks go to Ian Campbell and his excellent band of referees who work tirelessly for the whole season. We are fortunate to have good facilities and good supporters at the venues we use for training and games, so thanks to Pauline Murray-Jones and the staff at St Christopher's School, Letchworth, John Furness at Letchworth Bridger FC, Neil Jackson, Jason Goodall and the staff at Vauxhall Recreation Centre, St Paul's RC School, Milton Keynes, Manshead School, Dunstable, Luton Rugby Club.

Peter Brown and the staff at Bedfordshire FA have been consistent in their support and help, and we are fortunate to have in Luton the services of Dave Woollaston, who is now the chairman of the English Schools FA. We have had wonderful co-operation from Luton Schools FA, Hertfordshire FA and Hertfordshire Schools FA. Thanks also to the invaluable help of John, Ann and Glenn from the Murtagh Group, and Steve Hetski from the Football League.

OUR youth development department offers expert coaching for young players from the ages of 8 to 16, all under the guidance of qualified FA coaches. The youngsters involved are associated with Luton Town, and at 16 are eligible, if they reach a high enough standard, for places on the club's scholarship list, which is the first step towards becoming a professional footballer. If you would like more information, please contact Dean Rastrick at Luton Town FC, telephone Luton 411622.

During the past couple of weeks we have been to tournaments for enjoyable games in Scotland and France.

Our under-10 and under-11 squads travelled to the Scottish National Sports Training Centre in Largs, on the Ayrshire coast. We visited Glasgow Rangers' magnificent Murray Park training complex to play teams representing Rangers. Our under-10s lost 4-3 but at under-11 level we won 2-1.

We played Celtic at Largs, and enjoyed double success – a 4-2 win for the under-10s and 2-1 for the older group.

Our under-12s and under-13s enjoyed a longer trip, and experience of foreign travel, for a tournament at the CDFAS training Centre at Euabonne, near Paris. We played FC St Denis at under-12 and won 3-1, but the French levelled at under 13, beating us 3-0. The second games were against FC Creteil, with the under-13s winning 2-1 and the under-12s losing 4-3.

Obviously the players and their coaches and managers like to win games, but playing is not just about the results at this level, and foreign travel and meeting youngsters from other countries are very valuable experiences in the education and development of young players.

International Call-up

Paul Danaher, who plays in our under-15 squad, has been selected for the Great Britain Catholic Schools under-17 squad in a tournament to be played in Malta in July. He attends the JFK School in Hemel Hempstead, and has been with Luton Town since the he was ten. It is nice to see local players progressing through the age groups, and receiving recognition on the international stage – well done, Paul!

Finally, today, and most certainly not least in view of all their efforts, I would like to pass on my thanks to all of the youth staff who have worked tirelessly throughout the season, and to the young players and their parents for their time and effort, and for their enthusiasm.

Dean Rastrick

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TOWN TEASER

IF YOU know your Town trivia you might win a little prize this afternoon, in our Town Teaser competition. Listen to the PA announcer before kick-off for your chance to have a go. At the Mansfield game the teaser was about the connection between Luton Town and the chairman of Mansfield Town, and the answer was that Keith Haslam was coming back to the ground where he was a regular as a young boy: his father was the late Harry Haslam, manager of the Town through most of the 1970s, and the original Happy Harry.

TODAY'S QUESTION

How was Macclesfield Town's manager a prize guy at Kenilworth Road?

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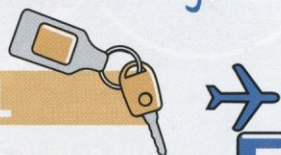
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Action Replay



Swansea City 1 Luton Town 3 (HT 0-1)

THE PARTY began at The Vetch, as the Town opened their best Easter in years, clinching promotion with a record tenth consecutive win. Another massive following easily outsang the home fans - no mean achievement in Wales!

They stayed long after the final whistle to honour the team, management and chairman Mike Watson-Challis, whose support and financial backing had made it all possible. It was not the prettiest football match you have ever seen, but none of us cared about that. Once Matt Taylor had headed the opening goal, you knew the result was going only one way. The Town set about their business in determined style to do a solid professional job, ruthless in its execution.

Injuries to David Bayliss and Taylor failed to upset the rhythm, and the second-half introduction of Adrian Forbes for Jean-Louis Valois boosted the attacking power. Valois hardly looked happy on the right wing, in place of suspended Paul Hughes. Marvin Johnson was recalled at left back, to enable Taylor to play in midfield, where he is most dangerous. Peter Holmes, second-half sub for Taylor,

grabbed his chance with a good goal, and Steve Howard completed a very effective team performance with the third. Swansea's very late consolation was a fluke. The only down side was that Bayliss suffered a dislocated shoulder, which ended his season prematurely. Taylor had an eye injury, and was subbed as a precaution, but it turned out to be nothing serious.



Happy Hatters - promotion clinched at Swansea

Match Details

Luton Town: Emberson; Bayliss (Boyce 27 mins), Perrett, Coyne, Johnson; Valois (Forbes HT), Nicholls, Spring, Taylor (Holmes HT); Howard, Crowe

Unused subs: Owendale, Kabba.

Booked: Jean-Louis Valois, foul.

Swansea City: Freestone; de Vulgt, Todd, O'Leary, Howard, Brodie, Mumford, Case (Romo HT), Coates; Williams (Sidibe 58 mins), Watkin.

Unused subs: Jones, Cusack, Smith

Booked: Michael Howard and Leigh de Vulgt for fouls, Andy Mumford for dissent.

The Goals: : 0-1 31 mins - Steve Howard charged down the right wing on the end of a swift Town counter-attack, sent clear by Dean Crowe.

Goalkeeper Roger Freestone foolishly went to meet him and Howard crossed for Matt Taylor to head into an unguarded net; 0-2 59 mins - the keeper beat Crowe to Adrian Forbes's right wing cross but Peter Holmes whacked in the loose ball from the edge of the box; 0-3 78 mins - Crowe robbed Chris Todd just inside Swansea's half, made rapid progress with the ball, and laid off a pass for Steve Howard to shoot in his 18th goal of the season; 1-3 90 mins - Andrew Mumford tried his luck with a shot from just outside the box, and a deflection off Russ Perrett left Carl Emberson with no chance.

Referee: Richard Beeby, Northampton

Attendance: 5,436, Swansea's highest of the season thanks to 1,132 exuberant visiting fans.

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Luton Town's very own official website.

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41



Action Replay



Luton Town 5 Mansfield Town 3 (HT 4-2)

THE record-breaking season continued with a Bank Holiday extravaganza, with the Town and their supporters enjoying a day to remember. Up in Nottinghamshire the locals thought the Town were too cocky by half before being stuffed at Field Mill in November. Revenge was very sweet as the Stags' promotion hopes were dealt a heavy blow. The result probably condemned them to a play-off place, and remembering our misery when we suffered that experience, good luck to them. In the top three for a long time, Mansfield's response to the pressure that expectation applies was in sharp contrast to the Town's – while we were embarking on a joyful run of consecutive victories, Mansfield came to Luton with just one point from their previous four games. To their credit, they tried to play open football, with a 4-3-3 formation. They just weren't very good at it, with the Town 4-1 up after the first 35 minutes. The Town were free-flowing in attack, and ruthless in their finishing. The Stags needed a little help to score two of their goals, although the other, by 36-year-old Scott Sellars, was a gem. Mansfield boss Stuart Watkiss, desperate to lift his beaten and bedraggled outfit, claimed afterwards that on chances it created it could have been 5-5, and added: "If we had defended better, we could have won." That was stretching a point made because Andy White missed a sitter and Chris Greenacre hit a post when more accuracy would have pulled it back to 5-4. It also ignored the fact that the Town could have hit six or seven goals, with

man of the match Steve Howard, Jean-Louis Valois and new signing Steve Kabba all denied by good goalkeeping. Both managers admitted that defences had been suspect at times, but Joe Kinnear said: "We had the greater cutting edge, and you must give great credit to the attackers who played well." Two of Mansfield's goals were down to unusual mistakes by Matt Taylor, but with Howard magnificent on the day he reached 20 goals for the season the Town were always hugely more convincing as attackers. It was a day that had everything a Hatter could ask for: a big crowd, holiday sunshine, plenty of goals and near-misses, and a wonderful occasion to greet promotion. And yes, a bit cocky too – the players able to respond during the game as the crowd embarked on a series of chants, giving each name in turn, to "Give us a wave." Afterwards other members of the squad joined the celebrations on the pitch as the fans saluted a remarkable season in which the strength in depth has been instrumental in reviving the Town's fortunes. It has been astonishing how many times a winning team has had to be changed, as happened for the Mansfield match. Russ Perrett and David Bayliss were the latest absentees, which may have had something to do with touches of dodgy defending, but if the opposition scores three and we watch five hit their net, who's complaining? Actually, Joe Kinnear was, but not as vehemently as usual!

Match Details

Luton Town: Emberson; Boyce, Coyne, Johnson, Taylor; Holmes, Nicholls, Spring, Valois (Forbes 84 mins); Howard, Crowe (Kabba 84 mins).

Unused subs: Ovendale, Skelton, Hillier.

Booked: Marvin Johnson and Kevin Nicholls for fouls.

Mansfield Town: Pilkington; Hassell, Robinson (Reddington 53 mins), Barrett, Clarke; Murray, Williamson, Disley; Sellars, White, Corden (Greenacre 35 mins).

Unused subs: Bingham, Kelly, Bradley

Booked: Bobby Hassell, Wayne Corden and Stuart Reddington for fouls.

The Goals: 1-0 11 mins – Jean-Louis Valois, shot across the keeper into the far corner after being set free in the inside slot by Steve Howard's measured pass; 1-1 12 mins – Adam Murray tap-in after Matt Taylor's short back pass enabled Andy White to nip in and take on Carl Emberson; 2-1 22 mins – Dean Crowe, side-footed deflection from driven free kick in

front of goal by Valois; 3-1 31 mins – Kevin Nicholls penalty after Mansfield attacker Wayne Corden tried to defend and pulled back Emmerson Boyce; 4-1 35 mins – Steve Howard, near post diving header from Matt Taylor's left-wing cross; 4-2 42 mins – Scott Sellars, exquisite chip from the edge of the box following a lay-off by Craig Disley; 5-2 50 mins – Howard again, tap-in after a short corner routine led to Valois crossing from the right, with Crowe heading the ball back into the goalmouth after the keeper finger-tipped the cross to him; 5-3 90 mins – Chris Greenacre, relegated to sub for not scoring in ten games, but sent on after Corden's foolishness, capitalising at close range after Taylor dithered on the ball, with his boss screaming for him to knock it into row Z.

Referee: John Brandwood, Staffordshire

Attendance: 8,231, second highest of the season, and would have been close to 9,000 if Mansfield had brought more than their 1,256.



TREBLE TOPS: Three Town scorers celebrate more success – Dean Crowe, Kevin Nicholls and Jean-Louis Valois.

IT'S THERE: Dean Crowe has flicked in the second goal, with Mansfield keeper Kevin Pilkington down and out.



FRENCH LESSON Jean-Louis Valois is about to give the Town the lead, with Pilkington wearing a look of sheer horror as he realises he is on a loser.



Action Replay



Hull City 0 Luton Town 4 (HT 0-2)

IT WAS apt that Steve Howard's first-ever senior hat-trick should lift the Town back to the top of the league. He agreed it was a measure of how far he has come in the last few months after Joe Kinnear's demand that he should be as much a goal-taker as he is a provider. The no-contest at Boothferry Park was also an illustration of how far the two clubs have come since Hull looked a good side with a 1-0 win at Kenilworth Road in November. They snatched our place in the top three then, but the story since has been remarkable for both teams. The Town have got better and better in a record-breaking season and Hull, title favourites in August after spending more than £1million on players, have now lost even a play-off possibility. With Brian Little sacked, Jan Molby was given a rousing reception for his first game as the new manager. Long before the end the home fans were jeering a team that was made to look ready for the Conference instead of the Second Division. Another big away following enjoyed every minute as the Town's run went to 12 wins on the trot. Howard has hit 23 goals in 41 games. Molby lost twice to the Town with Kidderminster, and his unwelcome hat-trick caused much merriment in the away end. "Molby Out" they chortled, and then the ultimate jibe - "Molby for Watford." Cruel, perhaps, but no more than the Town's comprehensive destruction of a team that needed three points to have any chance of a play-off spot. While Howard took the man of the match honours, Matt Taylor again underlined his value to the team, with three excellent deliveries leading to goals. But every man played his part, which has been the key element of a run now capable of becoming the best ever

seen by any club in the Football League. There is an instinctive togetherness, with every man knowing his job and doing it well. Watch one midfielder break forward, and see another drop back a little to cover if the move breaks down. Look at Howard threatening the opposition goal as the Town drive forward, and then using his head on defensive duties when the need arises. Watch Taylor hit a 40-yard cross-field ball from left to right, with Dean Crowe already in position to take possession, which was the formula for the second goal. Best of all, watch the opposition on tenterhooks every time the Town move forward. There is menace, power and cleverness as attacks are fashioned on either flank, or down the middle. Kevin Nicholls is a Tarzan in midfield, yet subtle and incisive with his passing, as Howard appreciated after the skipper set up the final goal. Compared to all that, Hull had very little to offer. Richard Sneekes brought a decent early save out of Carl Emberson, and Nicky Mohan had a header from a corner cleared by Emmerson Boyce, with Kyle Lightbourne putting the rebound over the bar. Those incidents were in the first 20 minutes, before the Town got into their stride. From then on it was men against boys, with Hull getting more and more ragged. Early in the second half, the Town seemed to be toying with the opposition, taking life easy in the knowledge that their 2-0 lead was more than enough. Joe Kinnear was having none of it: Marvin Johnson was sent on as a sub, to give Taylor his head as an attacking force, and Molby's miserable introduction to Boothferry Park was duly turned into humiliation.

Match Details

Luton Town: Emberson; Boyce, Perrett, Coyne, Taylor; Holmes (Hughes HT), Nicholls, Spring, Valois (Johnson 70 mins); Howard, Crowe (Forbes 83 mins).

Unused subs: Ovendale, Kabba.

Booked: Emmerson Boyce, foul on Andy Holt.

Hull City: Musselwhite; Edwards, Greaves, Mohan, Van Blerk; Williams (Whitmore 50 mins), Sneekes, Petty; Lightbourne (Norris 65 mins), Alexander, Bradshaw (Holt 50 mins).

Unused subs: Glennon, Philpott.

Booked: Richard Sneekes and Kyle Lightbourne,

for fouls on Matt Spring and Matt Taylor.

The Goals: 0-1 24 mins - Steve Howard header from excellent left wing cross by Matt Taylor; 0-2 38 mins - Dean Crowe after robbing Jason van Blerk following a long ball by Taylor; 0-3 79 mins - Howard again, emphatic drive to convert another Taylor cross; 0-4 89 mins - Howard's hat-trick completed by angled drive after rounding the keeper following incisive through-ball by Kevin Nicholls.

Referee: Philip Dowd, Cheshire.

Attendance: 9,379, including another big Luton following, 1,674.



TROPHY: Steve Howard with his Boothferry Park souvenir - his hat-trick match ball, signed by all the players.

UNITED: Howard has just made it 4-0, and shares his delight with Joe Kinnear. Mick Harford, who knows a thing or two about quality strikers, is also looking rather pleased.



SPACE TO SPARE: Dean Crowe knocking in his 15th goal of the season, anticipation and speed putting him clear of all cover following a boob by Jason Van Blerk.

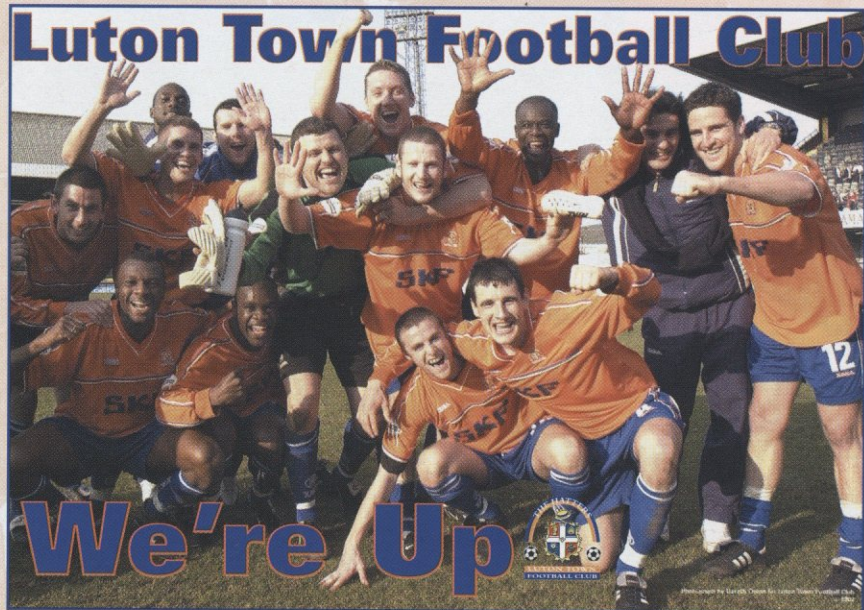
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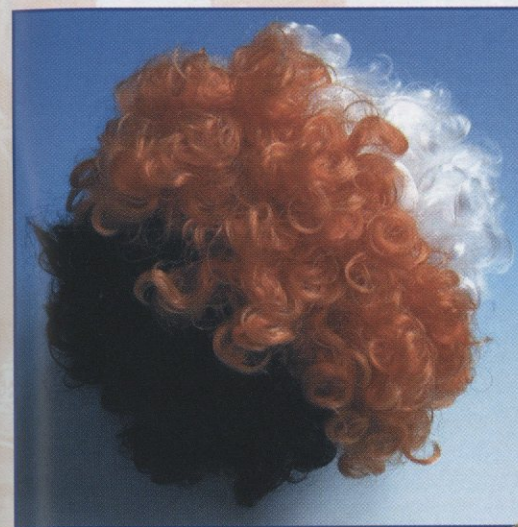
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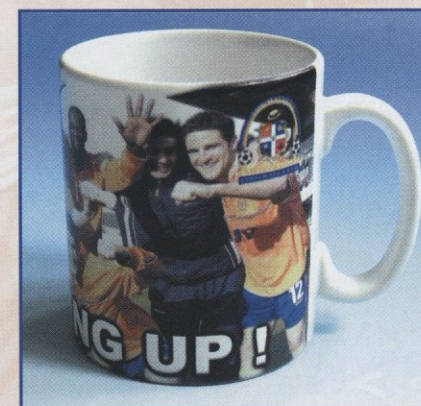


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Fans on the road

Visitors to Luton

Cheltenham	.467
Southend	.912
Oxford	.869
Lincoln	.217
Torquay	.326
Darlington	.302
Rochdale	.679
Swansea	.395
Shrewsbury	.351
Hull	.887
Rushden	.1,134
Hartlepool	.220
Carlisle	.356
Plymouth	.1,900
Scunthorpe	.359
Bristol Rovers	.197
York City	.280
Leyton Orient	.580
Exeter	.154
Kidderminster	.208
Halifax	.154
Mansfield	.1,256

Total:12,203
Average:555

Hatters Away

Carlisle	.1,097
Reading(WC)	.889
Bristol Rov	.761
Exeter	.712
York	.849
Orient	.2,089
Plymouth	.461
Scunthorpe	.961
Halifax	.774
Dagenham(LDV)	.330
Mansfield	.2,166
Southend(FAC)	.1,560
Macclesfield	.741
Hartlepool	.346
Oxford	.2,646
Southend	.1,710
Kidderminster	.1,096
Cheltenham	.1,597
Darlington	.464
Rochdale	.1,163
Lincoln	.889
Torquay	.1,100
Rushden	.1,395
Swansea	.1,132
Hull	.1,674

.....28,602
1,144

Last Season
 The Nationwide Football
 League saw an Increase in
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 Why...?

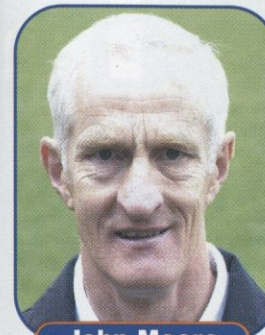


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The Quality of the Football

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John Moore

Youth Soccer



Luton Town 4 Plymouth Argyle 2

WE WERE too strong and quick for the visitors, and with four school-boys in the team – the goalkeeper and three of the

back four – I was pleased with the effort, attitude and application of everybody.

Questions might be asked about defending, but on that score Plymouth had far more to worry about. Their preparation for the game must have been a problem: they had to leave Plymouth at 7am and then spend over four hours in a mini-bus to get to Luton.

But sympathy does not detract from the desire to win, and we had too much for them in all departments, and my only criticism was that we could have kept a clean sheet if we had concentrated better at the back.

We took control of the game from the start, and were two up in the first 25 minutes, with goals by Lee Mansell and James Osborn. Plymouth were probably relieved that it was only 2-0 at the interval, and two minutes after the break we gave them hope after Mansell conceded a silly free kick, which led to a goal from a glancing header.

We then realised we had a job to do, and restored the two-goal advantage on 76 minutes. Just before then Matthew Judge had gone on as a sub after Marcus Jeffrey received a head injury, and it was

Judge who set up Osborn for his second goal. We were putting together some good attacking moves, and another led to Steven Dogbe making it 4-1 with a minute to play. I thought that would be a fair result, but Plymouth kept going to the end, and were rewarded with a goal in stoppage time when hesitation in our defence was punished.

Luton Town: Brill, Howells, R. Mansell, L. Mansell, Davies, Barnett, Dogbe, Foley, Jeffrey (Judge 74 mins), Osborn, Okai.

WE ARE due to play at Kenilworth Road twice in quick succession the week after next to complete our fixtures, although we are still awaiting a new date for a game at Cardiff which was postponed last month. Our final home games are against Wycombe on Monday April 22 and against Leyton Orient on Wednesday April 24. Both games will kick off at 2pm.

Appearances (as sub in brackets): Okai 22(2), Osborn 22(2), Foley 20(4), Davies 20(1), Carroll 17(3), O'Leary 17, Dogbe 16(4), Brill 16, Jeffrey 15(5), Dillon 13(3), Judge 12(5), Gillman 11(1), Barnett 8(4), Leary 7, Murphy 7, Chatfield 6, Howells 5(4), Bruce 5(1), Deeney 5(1), Mortara 3(3), R. Mansell 4, Gardner 3, L. Mansell 2, Roberts 2, Beckwith 2, Ray 1, Shire 1, Garrett 1, Palmer 1, De Souza 0(1), Burrell 0(1), Wright 0(1), Keane 0(1).

Goals: Osborn 11(2p), Judge 8, Murphy 4, Davies 4, Dillon 4, Jeffrey 3, Foley 3, Carroll 2, O'Leary 2, Dogbe 2, Gillman 1, Leary 1, Roberts 1, L. Mansell 2

John Moore

Football League Youth Alliance Results and Fixtures

AUG	25	Rushden & D	H	1-2	Leary
SEP	1	Walsall	A	4-4	Osborn 2 (1p), Murphy, Davies
	8	L. Orient (Cup)	A	0-0	
	15	Kidderminster	H	3-1	Carroll, Davies, Murphy
	22	Cambridge	A	1-2	Judge
OCT	6	Northampton	H	4-2	Murphy, O'Leary, Osborn, Dillon
	11	Cheltenham(FAYC)	A	4-3	Gillman, Judge, Osborn, Jeffrey
	13	Colchester (Cup)	H	2-3	Foley, Murphy
	20	West Brom	A	2-3	Judge, Davies
	27	Peterborough	A	3-0	Carroll, Judge 2
NOV	3	Southend (Cup)	H	2-0	Dillon, Judge
	6	Brentford (FAYC2)	H	0-2	
	10	Notts County	H	1-2	O'Leary
	24	Cambridge	H	0-2	
DEC	15	Northampton	A	0-4	
JAN	5	Kidderminster	A	postponed	
	12	West Brom	H	2-1	Osborn, Dillon
	19	Notts County	A	4-1	Jeffrey, Osborn, Dillon, Davies
FEB	9	Rushden & D	A	1-2	Foley
	16	Walsall	H	5-4	Judge 2, Jeffrey, Osborn, Foley
	23	Peterborough	H	2-1	Osborn 2(1p)

MERIT LEAGUE DIVISION TWO Results and Fixtures

MAR	2	Northampton	A	2-0	Dogbe, Roberts
	9	Portsmouth	H	1-0	L Mansell
	16	Cardiff	A	Postponed	
	23	Rushden	A	0-3	
	30	Plymouth	H	4-2	Osborn 2, L. Mansell, Dogbe
APRIL	13	Bristol Rov	A		
	*22	Wycombe	H		
	*24	L. Orient	H		*Kenilworth Road k.o. 2pm

League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rushden	5	4	0	1	13	6	12
Luton Town	4	3	0	1	7	5	9
Portsmouth	5	2	1	2	8	5	7
Northampton	4	2	0	2	4	4	6
Leyton Orient	4	1	2	1	8	6	5
Wycombe Wdrs	4	1	2	1	5	6	5
Plymouth	5	1	1	3	5	13	4
Cardiff	3	1	0	2	3	5	3
Bristol Rov	4	1	0	3	4	7	3

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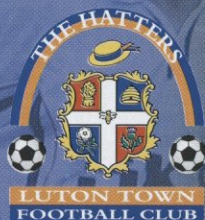
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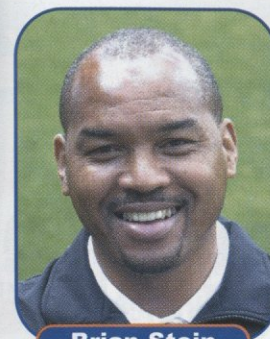
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Brian Stein

In Reserve



Gillingham 2 Luton Town 3

A YOUNGISH team earned a place in the final of the Avon Insurance Combination League Cup with a decent performance, spoiled only by giving away two poor goals.

Gillingham threatened only rarely, but we helped them to equalise twice before getting the win we deserved. We gave the ball away too often in the first half, but improved in the second, when we retained possession much better. We should have won by a much wider margin, but our finishing was not as sharp as it should have been.

Stuart Douglas headed us into the lead from a corner on 33 minutes, but before we could build on that poor defending at a cross gifted Gillingham an equaliser. Just before the interval John Carroll cracked in an excellent goal from outside the box, and that should have set us up to take control.

We did, to some extent, but Douglas passed up a possible hat-trick, and Andrew Fotiadis hit the bar from about five yards after he had volleyed in the winner.

Lee Mansell conceded a needless penalty to present Gillingham with their second equaliser on the hour, but within a minute Fotiadis produced an excellent strike from a cross by Parys Okai, and we never looked in danger of losing after that.

Luton Town: Ward, Foley, Hillier, Dryden, Carroll, Mansell, Skelton, Leary (Osborn HT), Okai, Douglas (Murphy 71 mins), Fotiadis.

Luton Town 1 Reading 1

A LATE equaliser was one of the few highlights of a very poor league game, which had little pattern to it. We just didn't play in the first half, but improved a little after the break. Everyone involved should have done much better.

We created more scoring chances than the opposition, and Steve Kabba might have had a hat-trick, while Michael Leary hit the bar when he looked like giving us the lead.

With an hour played we conceded a soft goal following a long throw, but ten minutes from time Parys Okai hooked the ball back into the middle after a free kick was partly cleared, and Kabba lashed it in. Overall, it was not a convincing performance.

Luton Town: Ovendale, Foley, Hillier, Dryden (Carroll 15 mins), Dogbe, Fotiadis, Osborn (Okai 70 mins), Leary, Mansell, Kabba, Douglas.

WE entertain Wycombe at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday (2pm) and Peterborough are due to visit on a date still to be fixed, for a match which was postponed last month.

Brian Stein

Avon Insurance Combination Results and Fixtures

AUG	Wed 15	Barnet	A	3-0 Fotiadis 2, Hodges
	Wed 29	Millwall	H	1-0 Brennan pen
SEPT	Wed 12	Leyton Orient	A	3-2 George, Brkovic 2
	Thur 20	Barton (BPC)	A	5-0 Gillman, Locke, Brennan, Thomson, Fotiadis
	Wed 26	Gillingham	H	0-0
OCT	Tue 2	Cardiff	A	1-2 Fotiadis
	Mon 8	QPR	H	3-3 Everitt, Brennan pen, Thomson
	Mon 15	Crystal Palace	A	0-1
NOV	Wed 14	Bristol City	H	1-1 Fotiadis
	Wed 21	Cambridge(LC)	H	3-1 Skelton, Fotiadis, George
	Mon 26	Leighton Tn(BPC)	A	4-2 Brennan 2, Murphy 2
	Wed 28	Norwich(LC)	A	0-0
DEC	Wed 12	Swindon	H	1-0 Holmes
	Wed 19	Portsmouth	A	7pm
JAN	Wed 9	Brighton	A	0-1
	Mon 21	Wooton (BPC)	A	1-2 Thomson
	Wed 23	Bournemouth	H	2-1 Leary, Fotiadis
	Wed 30	Brentford	A	0-2
FEB	Wed 6	Bristol Rov	A	1-2 Skelton
	Wed 13	Norwich	H	5-1 McSwegan 2, Ofodile 2, Holmes
	Wed 20	Cheltenham	A	3-2 Mansell, Jeffrey, Fotiadis,
	Wed 27	Colchester	H	1-0 Fotiadis
MAR	Wed 6	Oxford	A	3-1 Leary, Mansell, Dillon
	Wed 13	Peterborough	H	Postponed
	Wed 20	Southend	A	2-2 Fotiadis 2
	Tue 26	Cambridge	A	3-4 Skelton 2, Hills
APRIL	Wed 3	Reading	H	1-1 Kabba
	Mon 8	Gillingham(LC)	A	3-2 Douglas, Carroll, Fotiadis
	Wed 10	Northampton	H	2pm
	Tue 16	Wycombe	H	2pm

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portsmouth	21	12	5	4	35	18	41
QPR	21	11	6	4	43	22	39
Crystal Palace	20	11	4	5	44	23	37
Luton Town	21	9	6	6	36	28	33
Norwich	23	9	6	8	40	38	33
Brentford	19	9	5	5	38	29	32
Cardiff	20	9	5	6	32	24	32
Reading	20	9	4	7	31	19	31
Southend	21	8	7	6	29	24	31
Oxford	22	8	7	7	28	33	31
Leyton Orient	21	10	2	9	36	48	31
Peterborough	20	9	2	9	33	34	29
Cheltenham	22	9	5	8	28	36	29
Barnet	22	9	1	12	27	33	28
Bristol Rovers	20	8	3	9	24	26	27
Millwall	19	7	6	6	28	31	27
Gillingham	19	7	5	7	24	20	26
Brighton	18	5	10	3	24	17	25
Colchester	23	6	5	12	31	38	23
Cambridge	21	6	4	11	26	35	22
Wycombe	21	6	3	12	27	39	21
Bristol City	19	5	5	9	27	31	20
Northampton	21	4	8	9	23	37	20
Bournemouth	19	5	4	10	18	37	19
Swindon	19	3	5	11	16	28	14

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Average League Position, Last 10 Years

Table with 4 columns: Club, Pos, Club, Pos. Lists average league positions for 20 clubs over the last 10 years.

TOP GOALSCORERS

Table with 4 columns: Club, Player, Tot, Club, Player, Tot. Lists top goal scorers from all 5 divisions combined.

Attendance Changes over 10 years

Table with 4 columns: Club, Ave 92-93, Ave 01-02, % +/-. Shows attendance trends for 20 clubs.

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

Goals Scored in Last 15 Minutes

Table with 6 columns: FOR, 76-90 Tot, %, AGAINST, 76-90 Tot, %. Shows goals scored/conceded in the last 15 minutes.

A position of 1 would mean team had been top of Premier and 92 bottom of Div 3 for last 10 years

Goals from Set Pieces

Table with 4 columns: CLUB, Co FK, CLUB, Co FK. Shows corners and free kick routines for 20 clubs.

COMEBACKS

Table with 4 columns: Won from, -3, -2, -1, Tot. Shows comeback statistics.

THROWAWAYS

Table with 4 columns: Lost from, +3, +2, +1, Tot. Shows throwaway statistics.

Scorers' Points Gained & Scoring Run

Table with 4 columns: Club, Player, Pts, SR. Lists scorers and their points.

Fouls Conceded & Offsides

Table with 4 columns: Average fouls per match, Offsides per match. Lists fouls and offside statistics.



Brian Swain

Third Division Scene

WHILE Luton Town may be closest to our hearts, Hatters supporters will surely be wishing good luck to Carlisle, Darlington and Cheltenham in the last eight days of the season.

They are the teams who can help us to the Third Division championship, because they stand in the way of Plymouth's attempt to regain top spot at our expense. Today we lead the Devonians on goal difference, thanks to the combination of our 12th consecutive victory at Hull and Plymouth's surprise loss of two home points, against Southend. Mind you, it was a close call, because the Pilgrims almost made more progress when they were awarded a penalty which they must have expected to be the key to yet another 1-0 win.

And if that is achieved, Plymouth will need two wins and a draw to deny us. Carlisle and Darlington might be nicely relaxed, with nothing much to play for beyond professional pride, bonuses and possible new contracts for next season.

Their surge up the league table took them up into third place, the highest in their history, but after only one defeat in 21 games they found David Moss and his lads too good for them last Saturday. A goal by Matthew Tipton gave Macclesfield a 1-0 home win.

That enabled Mansfield to close the gap, with a 2-0 home victory over Bristol Rovers, and on Tuesday the Stags reclaimed third place by beating Cheltenham 2-1 at Field Mill. It was the first time this season Cheltenham had suffered back to back defeats, and ended a miserable run for Mansfield. Their defeat here a couple of weeks ago left them nursing a record of one point from the previous 15.

With the Town and Plymouth certain of promotion, some of our interest is in the ups and downs of life in the Second Division. Cambridge and Wrexham are already knocked off our fixtures list for next season, because both have been relegated, and we will miss a first-ever league trip to the Withead Stadium because Brighton have won their way into Division One with their second successive promotion.

Nationwide League Division Three Before the Easter games. Table with 10 columns: Club, P, W, D, L, F, A, W, D, L, F, A, GD, Pts.

Table with 5 columns: Club, P, W, D, L, Pts. Shows performance for Cheltenham, Rochdale, Rushden & D, Scunthorpe.

Table with 10 columns: Club, P, W, D, L, F, A, W, D, L, F, A, GD, Pts. Shows performance for Shrewsbury, Hartlepool, Kidderminster, Hull City, Southend, Macclesfield, Exeter, Carlisle, York, Darlington, Swansea, Torquay, L. Orient, Oxford, Bristol Rovers, Lincoln, Halifax.

Today's Other Third Division Fixtures

- Bristol Rovers v Hull
Carlisle v Plymouth
Cheltenham v Oxford
Darlington v Scunthorpe
Hartlepool v Swansea
Leyton Orient v Exeter
Lincoln v Rochdale
Rushden v Kidderminster
Southend v Shrewsbury
Torquay v Halifax
York v Mansfield

Brian Swain

You can e-mail the programme editor at brian.swain@btinternet.com

To watch these games call 0808 100 0101. Wolverhampton v Wimbledon, Chelsea v Manchester United, Blackburn Rovers v Newcastle United.

Today's Squads

Luton Town

■●	Mark Ovendale	1
■●	Aaron Skelton	2
■●	Matthew Spring	4
■●	Russell Perrett	5
■●	Marvin Johnson	6
■●	Adrian Forbes	7
■●	Kevin Nicholls	8
■●	Carl Griffiths	10
■●	Chris Coyne	12
■●	Andrew Fotiadis	14
■●	Matthew Taylor	15
■●	Carl Emberson	16
■●	Emmerson Boyce	17
■●	Adam Locke	18
■●	Steve Howard	19
■●	Peter Holmes	20
■●	Scott Ward	24
■●	Paul Hughes	27
■●	Jean Louis Valois	28
■●	David Bayliss	30
■●	Lee Mansell	32
■●	Ian Hillier	33
■●	Dean Crowe	34
■●	Ahmet Brkovic	35
■●	Alan Neilson	43
■●	Steve Kabba	44

Macclesfield Town

1	Lee Martin	■●
2	Steve Hitchen	■●
3	Danny Adams	■●
4	Chris Byrne	■●
5	Darren Tinson	■●
6	David Ridler	■●
8	Chris Priest	■●
10	Lee Glover	■●
11	Kevin Keen	■●
12	Andrew McAvoy	■●
13	Steve Wilson	■●
14	John Askey	■●
15	Rickie Lambert	■●
16	George Abbey	■●
17	Paul O'Neill	■●
18	Shaun Came	■●
19	Danny Whitaker	■●
20	Mike Bamber	■●
21	Karl Munroe	■●
22	Matt Woolley	■●
24	Adam Morris	■●
25	Matthew Tipton	■●
26	Michael Carr	■●
28	Michael Welch	■●
33	Steven Brackenridge	■●
37	Paul Aldridge	■●

tick if playing tick if substitute

Today's Officials

Referee: Michael Ryan, Lancashire

Assistants: Kevin Friend, Leicestershire (yellow flag); Fred Graham, Essex (red and yellow flag)

Fourth Official: Sukhdev Thiarra, Bedfordshire

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