

# LUTON TOWN

*The Hatters*

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Programme of the Year  
2001 - 2002



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## Luton Town v Cambridge United



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Tuesday December 10, 2002 Kick Off 7.45pm

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### Official Matchday Magazine

#### Editor

Brian Swain

#### Design & Printing

Regal Litho Ltd

#### Photography

Gareth Owen

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

#### Cover Story



Happier day: Ahmet Brkovic and Steve Howard, two of the scorers at Tranmere, celebrate the Croatian's strike in the 3-1 win. See page 38 for a full report and more pictures.

# Inside Forward

A £1.2MILLION striker ended this season's FA Cup hopes at Wigan, where a 3-0 scoreline flattered the home side on a day when the Town were forced to field a vastly under-strength team. With Steve Howard and Kevin Nicholls suspended, a painful injury list left the Town with only one fit senior striker, and three youth team players had to be pressed into service on the subs' bench.

The Second Division leaders were still made to work hard to gain the ascendancy, and the difference between the sides was their leading marksman Nathan Ellington, who took his season's tally to 15 goals. His second of the game, which effectively ended the contest, was an excellent strike, showing why Wigan splashed out a club record fee to recruit him from Bristol Rovers.

The Town's patched-up team deserve every credit for a valiant effort to beat the odds, and we can only wonder about what might have been had the early sharpness brought a goal or two. Andrew Fotiadis was the only out and out striker, with Ahmet Brkovic on the left and Steve Robinson on the right working hard on the flanks to support him. They combined to create an opening for Brkovic, but he shot straight at the keeper, and then from a sweet passing move Alan Kimble's cross was headed down by Brkovic for the onrushing Peter Holmes, but he shot wide from a good position.

But just as the Town looked capable of getting something out of the game Wigan snatched the all-important first goal, after 37 minutes. Ellington eluded Chris Coyne and shot into the bottom corner from the edge of the box, and Wigan looked more confident after that.

Even so they had a let-off when Emmerson Boyce, as willing as ever to attack, had a shot blocked by the keeper's legs a minute after the goal.

Paul Hughes looked good in the Kevin Nicholls role, and the Town chased hard for the rest of the game. The home manager was concerned enough to send on two subs to ginger up his midfield ten minutes after the break, by which time the Town had gone close again through Matt Spring and Brkovic.

Gary Teale's introduction turned out to be crucial, because his neat through-ball to Ellington caught the Town stretched in the 65th minute, and the big striker hit a thumping drive into the net across Carl Emberson from the inside-right angle of the penalty area.

Matthew Judge, whose only previous first-team appearance had

## INSIDE TODAY...

The manager's column - P 5; The captain's views - P 7; Today's visitors - Pp 17- 21; QPR report and picture - Page 37; Triumph at Tranmere - Pp 38-39; FA Youth Cup success - P 51; Latest injury news - P 8; Blast from the Past - Pp 22 & 23; Junior Hatters - P 41; Luton Belles riding high - P 45; Christmas gift season ticket offer - P 52; Club shop bargains - Pp 46-47



OLD AND THE NEW: Matthew Judge, who made his FA Cup debut on Saturday, tangles with Wigan skipper Matt Jackson, the former Hatter who enjoyed burying a bad memory - he was sent off the last time the teams met, at Kenilworth Road in October.

been in the LDV at Woking, made his FA Cup debut as sub for Fotiadis, and Ian Hillier replaced Holmes. Judge has been a consistent scorer in the youth team, but a cup-tie at the JJB on a cold afternoon is a different world. Robinson joined him in attack, but Wigan were by now content to hold on to their two-goal lead, and it came as something of a surprise when they made it a flattering result with an 85th-minute header by Mike Flynn from a free kick by Nicky Eaden.

Joe Kinnear's views are on page 5 of this programme, with the punch-line the promise that we will see a better team in March when the Town go back to Wigan in search of promotion points.

**Luton Town:** Emberson; Boyce, Neilson, Coyne, Kimble; Robinson, Hughes, Spring, Holmes (Hillier 68 mins), Brkovic; Fotiadis (Judge 68 mins). Unused subs: Beckwith, Foley, Mansell.

**Booked:** Holmes, Neilson, Judge, fouls.

**Wigan Ath:** Filan; Eaden, Jackson, Breckin, Baines; Green Mitchell 55 mins), Jarrett, Dinning, Kennedy (Teale 55 mins); Roberts (Flynn 80 mins), Ellington. Unused subs: Beasant, Brannan.

**Booked:** Jason Jarrett, foul on Paul Hughes.

**Referee:** Howard Webb; Yorkshire

**Attendance:** 4,544, including 769 Town fans.



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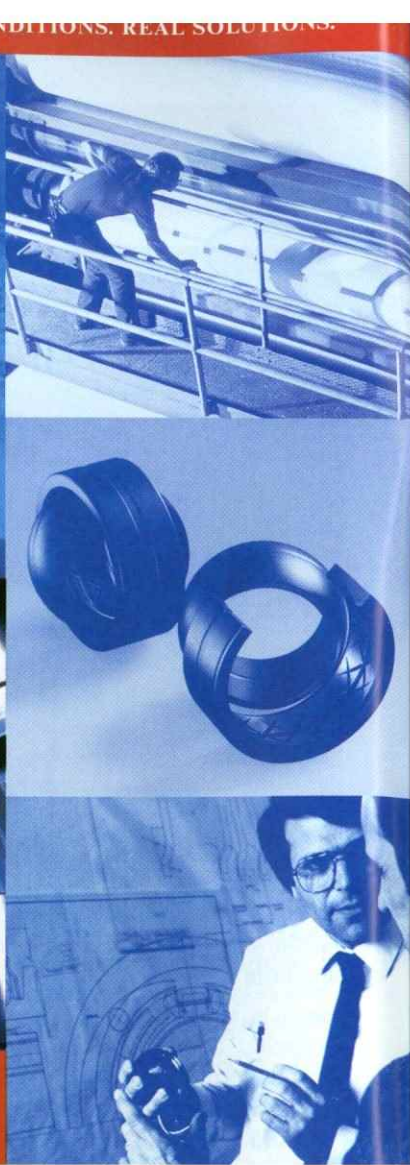
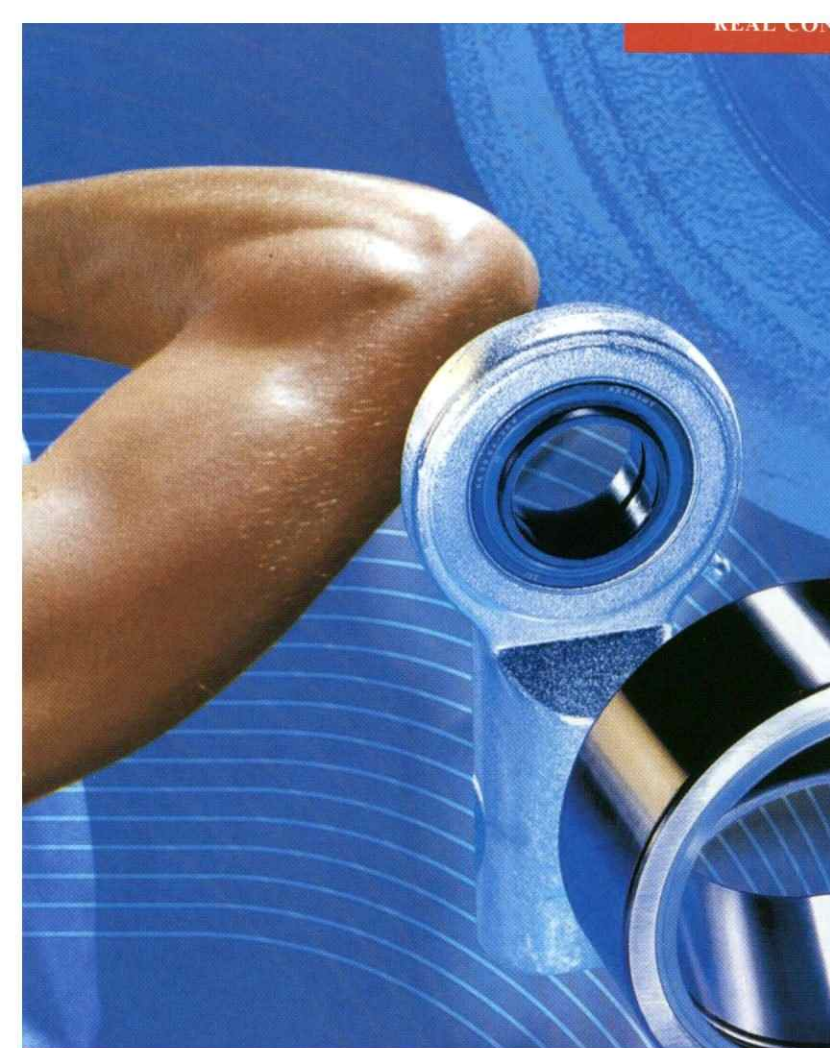
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# Manager's View



WE WERE very disappointed that we could not beat the odds stacked against us at Wigan on Saturday. We were a long way below full strength, playing away to a club which has invested £6million in its squad. I felt the three-goal margin was harsh, but otherwise we could have no complaints about losing.

The odd thing was that we probably created easily as many scoring chances as Wigan, but they made the best use of theirs. Steve Howard and Kevin Nicholls were suspended, and they are two of our more influential players who were bound to be missed. Injuries to Tony Thorpe and Dean Crowe severely limited our attacking options, and with a total of nine first-teamers unavailable I had to put three boys from the youth squad on the bench. In the circumstances I did not blow my top over a defeat that hardly ranks as one of the season's great cup surprises. Wigan had lost on their own ground only once, and that was in the first month of the season.

We saw in the league game against them at Kenilworth Road that they are a good side, and worthy favourites for promotion, but on that occasion they were lucky to go home with a point from a very late equaliser.

They went into Saturday's game on a high after beating Fulham in the Worthington Cup, and I knew that if we were to progress at the JJB we must first take the sting out of them, and hit them with a goal or two on the break. It could

easily have happened because we had the better of the first half. But we failed to cash in from a couple of good chances, and then conceded a goal from a mis-hit shot.

We worked with a will after that, but Wigan had a bit too much for us, and in the end we had to accept that we were, not surprisingly, second best on the day. My last words in the Pressroom, however, were to promise that when we go back there in March, for a much more important game, they will see a different Luton Town.

Cup defeats are always disappointing, but rarely disastrous, and despite all our difficulties we are still looking good in the league.

Our last home game was a tremendous advert for the Second Division in general, and Luton Town in particular, when Queens Park Rangers were so fortunate to be avoid defeat against our nine men. I had a word or two about the referee's performance that day, and I had every sympathy with Steve Howard and Kevin Nicholls for their red cards which were very harsh, to put it mildly.

However, having failed in our appeal against Howard's sending-off we had to get on with it, and the performance at Tranmere was excellent. We well deserved that victory, overcoming a half-time deficit by playing excellent passing football. We are overcoming our poor start to the season with a consistency that is a delight for everyone, and on our day, and with a full squad available, we are a match for anyone in this division. We have played five of

the current top six, and not one of them has beaten us. Our defeat at Northampton is the only reverse we have suffered in our last 11 league games.

That run has carried us up from bottom but one in the league table to seventh and level on points with sixth place.

There is still a lot more work to do, but we have a realistic chance of becoming established firmly in the top six by the turn of the year, and that is the current target.

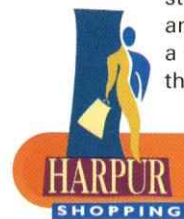
Tonight's game, therefore, is in some ways a bit of a distraction, but that is not to say that we don't want to win. I have had to think very hard about what sort of team I put out to entertain Cambridge, because they will come here with no pressure on them, and in a decent run of form as they chase promotion from the Third Division, having got themselves into fourth place.

We would welcome the chance to go all the way in the LDV Vans Trophy, and I am sure supporters, like everyone on the staff at Kenilworth Road, would enjoy a day out to the Millennium Stadium in the spring.

So tonight we will go all out for victory, and I hope that supporters, as usual, will play their part in helping us. Your backing at Wigan was tremendous, and I am sorry we didn't give you what we all wanted there. Hopefully, tonight will be a different matter.

Keep the faith, and enjoy the game.

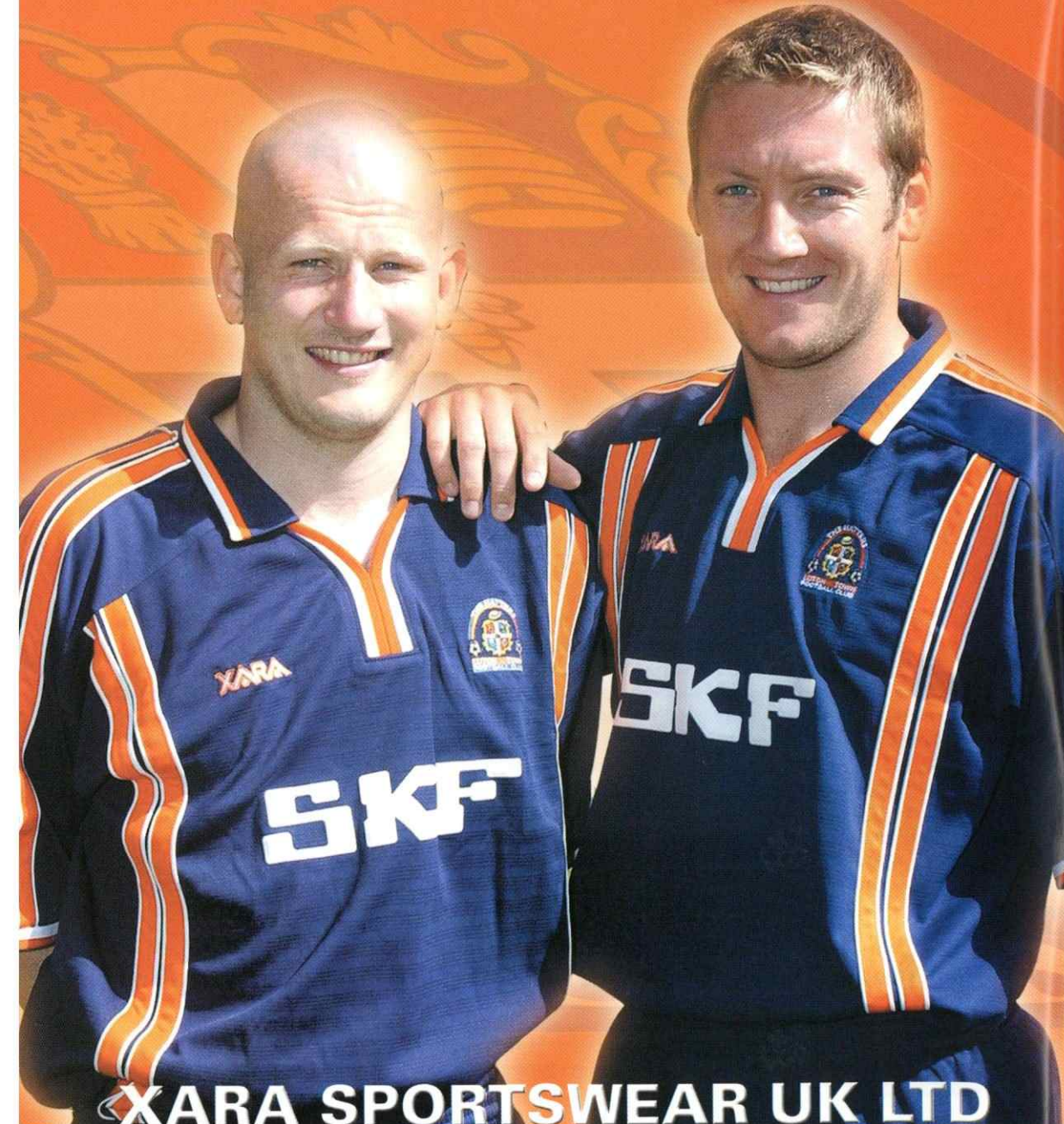
*Joe Kinnear*



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## Captain's View



I HOPE to be playing some part in tonight's game, having missed the FA Cup match against my old club on Saturday. That was through suspension, although as it happened I might not have been fit to face Wigan.

Steve Howard and I did a little extra training late last week, knowing that we were not playing on Saturday, and took part in a shooting session with Brian Stein. As I kicked a ball I felt a pain at the top of my right thigh. The cause is a bit of a mystery, because I am not usually worried by muscular problems. I had a scan on Friday, and the results were due yesterday. Hopefully they showed nothing seriously wrong.

I want to get back into action tonight, even if it is only for an hour or so. Apart from the thigh problem I feel very good.

I know the gaffer will have only one worry if I am able to play – "Don't get booked," will be the firm instruction, and I will do everything possible to carry out that order. I still feel aggrieved over the red cards Howie and I received against QPR. I don't think either of us deserved them. I don't go looking for bookings, but some are inevitable because of the job I do in midfield. I could hardly believe the decisions over my two yellow cards against QPR. The first was when Brett Angell and I collided. He's a good old pro, and after we tangled we got up and shook hands, and neither of us wanted to see the other booked. But we were both cautioned, and later on that got worse when I was done again, basically for tripping as I chased back to try to catch their lad. I have to say I have rarely met a

team whose players went down so often as QPR's did. I don't think that brings much credit to football.

What I must also say is that the fans were tremendous. All credit to the nine lads left on the pitch, because they played brilliantly to earn a point, and might even have taken all three. The crowd helped to keep us going – their support was worth an extra player, and we knew that the fans realised how unlucky we had been to have two sent off. Supporters, lucky people, can express their views about referees. If I did the same here about the official for the QPR match I would probably get another suspension!

We also had a good following at Tranmere, and that game brought three very satisfying points. I thought we took it to another level, particularly in the second half. Our first-half performance wasn't bad, either. In the second half we really imposed ourselves on the game, having earned the right to do so in the first 45 minutes. Even when we went behind we were not too worried, because we feel we are always likely to score a goal or two ourselves, and so it proved. The football we played in the second half at Tranmere was as good as anything I can remember in my time here.

It would have taken care of any side in this division, but unfortunately we could not repeat it at Wigan. I was gutted to miss my return to the JJB Stadium, and obviously the result has been a disappointment to us all. In view of the problems we had with suspensions and injuries, it was no surprise to lose, and from

talking to several players, including some of my old teammates at Wigan, it seems that although we were a long way below full strength there was not a lot to choose between in the teams. We apparently missed a chance or two before Nathan Ellington's finishing made all the difference. Take him out of the equation, and it was anybody's game was the general view of the players.

The FA Cup exit is not a major disaster. Our priority is the league, and while we go into tonight's game believing we can win it, I have to admit that personally, if it's a choice between playing at the Millennium Stadium in the LDV final, or winning promotion, I am not too fussed about a day out in Cardiff in April.

In previous columns I have laid out our plans for the season. After the poor first month, our target was to pull well clear of the relegation zone. Then it was a push to reach mid-table security. Now, having got up into seventh place, the target is to be firmly in the top six by Christmas.

We know we can do it, particularly if our luck with injuries improves. It will be very difficult for any club to overhaul Wigan, Cardiff and perhaps Bristol City, because it is unlikely that all three will go through disastrous bad patches. But we certainly can win a play-off place. And that's the Cardiff final I most want to play in. If we get there in the LDV that's a nice bonus.

*Kevin Nicholls*

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[www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk)



## Treatment Room

THE injury list has eased a little recently, and my introduction to Luton Town has been a good tester, with hamstring problems of varying severity needing treatment. They are clearing up nicely.

We had one addition to the "sick parade" after the game at Wigan, with Alan Neilson suffering a problem with the big toe of his right foot. It may be a fracture, and yesterday we were awaiting X-ray results.

Mark Ovendale has got over the flu bug which prevented him from travelling to Wigan, and Dean Crowe is set for a return to the squad after seven days of training proved that his hamstring strain had cleared up. Kevin Nicholls is optimistic that he will be able to play tonight, as

**LEE Taylor is looking after our treatment room after the departure of Bruce Hobbs, who has left to become a university lecturer. Supporters will probably remember Lee's father - Tommy Taylor, a dominant centre-half whose career included ten years at West Ham and who was later manager of Leyton Orient and Darlington. Lee, 28, who has joined us from Barnet, might also be a familiar face. When Sky One came up with a football soap opera, Dream Team, they hired Lee to play the part he was well suited for - the club physio.**

he reports in his column, and Tony Thorpe and Sol Davis are both making very good progress after their hamstring injuries. Both had ultra-sound scans which suggest the injuries are fairly minor, although they have to be treated with caution. Aaron Skelton has been cleared to resume full training on the advice of a consultant who examined his knee, and David Bayliss is in training, in a "non

contact" way as he continues his recovery from a shoulder operation.

Russ Perrett is still out of action because of his groin injury, and is due to undergo keyhole surgery on it today. It is a quick and simple operation, but at this stage it is impossible to say how long it will take him to get over it.

*Lee Taylor*

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## Club Secretary

WELCOME to Kenilworth Road for this evening's match against Cambridge United. As you may have heard, we have gone through a very confusing spell over the past five days because we might have been playing Wigan tonight.

It has been unavoidable inconvenience, for the club and for its supporters, but it was all down to circumstances beyond our control.

On Thursday morning, our fixture list for the near future was clear enough: Wigan away on Saturday in the FA Cup, Cambridge at home tonight, Colchester at home in the League on Saturday, and a possible cup replay with Wigan, if one was needed, next Tuesday. That all changed after Wigan beat Fulham in the Worthington Cup at the JJB Stadium last Wednesday. The following morning we were advised by The Football Association, in conjunction with The Football League, that if Saturday's match at Wigan was drawn the replay would have to be tonight, because Wigan will entertain Blackburn in the fifth round of the Worthington Cup next Tuesday.

The FA Cup took precedence over the LDV Vans Trophy, and if our game against Cambridge had to be postponed, it would be switched to next Tuesday. However, if Cambridge were to draw in the FA Cup against Northampton on Saturday, that replay would be next Tuesday, so Luton v Cambridge would have to be scheduled again. I felt like suggesting Christmas

Eve as the only available date! The football authorities, of course, are keen to avoid any backlog of fixtures at this time of year, when bad weather is a possibility. You might be interested to know that if our match at Wigan on Saturday had been postponed, it would have been played at the JJB tonight! It amounts to an incredible mixture of ifs and buts, and it did little to help us in our planning for this evening, and we have made the FA and Football League aware of how a possible date change at such short notice can affect our income, and be inconvenient for supporters.

We did all we could to publicise the various possibilities before Saturday, and hopefully the message got through. We coped with the extra work involved, thanks to co-operation by everyone involved on the staff. We even had to have two versions of a match programme ready for the printing press by early yesterday morning, just in case the one that was well on its way to completion for a Cambridge game had to be shelved, and a new one produced in much less than half the usual time for an FA Cup replay edition instead. If you heard a voice in the press box at Wigan screaming for the team to get a result, it was probably the programme editor!

Talking of shouting, I should think every supporter must have gone home hoarse after our last home game, the magnificent match against QPR.

The atmosphere was terrific, and the team responded brilliantly.

I was unable to help out with the Golden Gamble draw at half-time, due to an unexpected visit from the FA Drug Department. They descended on us unannounced at 3.05pm, as they can do at matches or at training grounds.

Representatives of the two teams have to draw numbers from a bag to decide two players to be selected for testing at the end of the match. The choices for us fell on Kevin Nicholls and Tony Thorpe, with Peter Homes in reserve, and naturally they passed the test without problems.

Congratulations to our youth team on winning their third round tie in the FA Youth Cup. It was good to see so many people supporting the boys against Stoke. In the next round, which has to be played by January 25, we will be at home to Bradford, and I will advise you of the date as soon as possible.

The postponed match in the Football League Youth Alliance under-19 section against Cambridge has now been arranged for Saturday December 21.

In the Beds Senior Cup, we will be away to either Stotfold or Bedford in the semi-final, on March 4 or 5. Their match was postponed because of a waterlogged pitch and they are due to try again early in the New Year.

*Cherry Newbery*

You can e-mail Cherry Newbery on [clubsec@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:clubsec@lutontown.co.uk)

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December 21: 9am – 5pm

December 22: Closed

December 23: 10am-4pm

December 24: 10am – 4pm

December 25: Closed

December 26: 9am until kick-off at noon and after the match

(No tickets for that day's match against Cardiff City will be available)

December 27: 10am – 2pm

December 28: 10am – 12 noon

December 30: 10am- 2pm

December 31: 10am – 2pm

January 1, 2003: Closed

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## Ticket Office News

### Nationwide League Division Two



#### Luton Town v Colchester Utd

Saturday December 14, 2002, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices. Cash turnstiles will be available on the day, subject to availability, but please remember there are NO CONCESSIONS available on cash turnstiles



#### Bristol City v Luton Town

Saturday December 21, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match is pay on the day only for Luton Town supporters, with no tickets available in advance from Kenilworth Road.

#### KID A QUID

Bristol City are using this game for their "Christmas Special Offer" with reduced admission prices: Adults £10, Senior Citizens, Students and under-19s £5, under-16s £1.



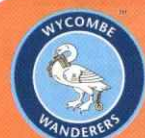
#### Luton Town v Cardiff City

Thursday December 26, 2002, kick-off 12 noon

This match is ALL TICKET for ALL SUPPORTERS, with no tickets available on the day of the game.

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices and supporters are advised to book early to avoid disappointment.

There will be no cash turnstiles available



#### Wycombe Wanderers v Luton Town

Saturday December 28, 2002, kick-off 3pm

This match is ALL TICKET for Luton Town supporters with no tickets available on the day of the game.

#### SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

Tickets are available to season ticket holders, one per season ticket, until kick-off today, subject to availability.

#### MEMBERS

In the event of any tickets remaining, they will go on sale, one per member, after tonight's game until close of business on Friday December 20, subject to availability.

#### GENERAL SALE

If any tickets are still available, they will go on general sale at 9am on Saturday December 21. Prices: Adults £14, Senior Citizens/Students £12, Juniors £10

If supporters wish to make a family booking in the Family Stand they must contact Wycombe Wanderers direct on 01494 441118.



#### Chesterfield v Luton Town

Wednesday January 1, 2003, kick-off 3pm

This match is pay on the day only for Luton Town supporters, with no tickets available in advance from Kenilworth Road.

Prices: SEATING: Adults £14, Senior Citizens and Juniors £8  
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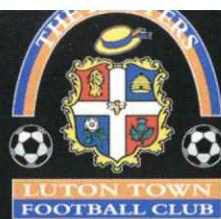
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WE ARE fortunate that the business community gives Luton Town plenty of support, which includes backing our efforts to raise much-needed finance for the club through our commercial activities. We offer various packages, and the proof that they are good value for money is that we have hardly any matches between now and the end of the season that have not attracted match sponsors and match ball sponsors.

Another popular package is an offer to give a boy or girl a very special football treat, as a commercial mascot at a home game. We have just three vacancies left, for the matches against Wycombe next month, and against Huddersfield and Oldham in March.

Very often our commercial mascots are given their VIP day out as a birthday present, but, of course,

you don't need an excuse to put your favourite young fan in the limelight. It is also a memorable occasion for parents.

The commercial mascot gets a tour of the dressing room area, and goes out onto the pitch with the team before kick-off, wearing a complete Hatters replica kit, which we provide. The service also includes a photo and write-up in the match programme, a framed certificate as a memento, and souvenir photographs of the day.

For the family the £275 package includes a reserved car park space, hospitality in the Joe Payne Lounge, a four-course table d'hôte meal, a complimentary bar and match programmes, and four seats in the directors' box to watch the game. The price includes VAT, and we can accommodate additional guests at £75 for adults and £37.50 for under-16s.

The picture shows part of the day's treats. It was taken just before kick-off at the last home game, when the commercial mascot was ten-year-old Tyler Buckley, from Waterloo Road, Linslade. He had a close-up view of the toss of the coin ritual, along with seven-year-old George Kiely, who was doing the honours for the Junior Hatters.

If you would like to know more about this or any other sponsorship package, please phone the commercial department on Luton 411622, or e-mail [commercial@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:commercial@lutontown.co.uk)

*Linda Layton*



## Golden Gamble

ONE OF our best-ever jackpots was paid out on the Golden Gamble at the last home match. Norman Parker, from Brookside Walk, Leighton Buzzard, is the very happy Town fan pictured with commercial manager Linda Layton after collecting £860 in cash. He was a guest of the match sponsors. The winning ticket, drawn out of the drum by David Bayliss, cost him only £1.

The size of the prize depends on sales, with half of each pound going to the jackpot and the other 50p to club funds, so just by buying a ticket or two you are helping Luton Town. So far this season we have paid out £7,605 to 11 winners, an average of £691 each. Golden Gamble sellers will be on duty all around the ground again this evening, with another handful of cash available for collection by the lucky winner at half time.



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





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## Luton Town v Cambridge United

Location <http://www.soccer-stats.com/headtohead>

### Clubs Comparison

Goals Scored	25
Shots	6
Headers	3
Volleys	2
Penalties	0
Free Kicks	0
Own Goals	1

### Where Goals Scored

11	14
16	16
3	7

### Where Goals Conceded

7	8
13	15
7	6

### When Goals Scored

**Hatters**

0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
2	1	2	2	3	4

**U's**

0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90
1	1	1	1	1	1

### 2002-2003 Attendances

Hatters	68,403	Aggregate	43,755	U's	7,878
	9,477	Highest	6,044		6,840
	6,004	Lowest	3,334		-13
	6,840	Average	4,376		
	69	% of Capacity	45		

### Average Goals per game

1.50	For	1.85
1.70	Home For	2.00
1.30	Away For	1.70
1.35	Against	1.45
1.30	Home Against	1.10
1.40	Away Against	1.80

### 2002-2003 Figures

33	Players Used	22
8	Clean Sheets	3
5	Failed to Score	0
4	Goals scored from...	
4	Corners	5
2	Free Kicks	1
1	Goals conceded from...	
1	Corners	6
2	Free Kicks	2

### Seasonal Progress Comparison

### Swings

LT	Games Won from:	0
0	3 Goals Down	0
0	2 Goals Down	0
4	1 Goal Down	3
0	Lost from:	0
0	3 Goals Up	0
0	2 Goals Up	1
1	1 Goal Up	2
0	Drawn from:	0
1	3 Goals Down	0
1	2 Goals Down	0
0	1 Goal Down	1
0	3 Goals Up	0
0	2 Goals Up	0
1	1 Goal Up	3

### Margins

5	Won by 1 Gl	6
1	Won by 2 Gls	2
2	Won by 3 Gls	2
0	Won by 4 Gls	0
0	Won by 5+ Gls	0
4	Lost by 1 Gl	6
0	Lost by 2 Gls	1
2	Lost by 3 Gls	0
0	Lost by 4 Gls	0
0	Lost by 5+ Gls	0

### Misc stats

7	Highest Pos.	4
24	Lowest Pos.	21
5	Winning Run	2
7	Unbeaten Run	5
4	Losing Run	3
5	No Win Run	3

### 10 Year Record

Hatters	53.2	Avg Pos. among 92 clubs	70.4	U's	7,878
	7,878	Avg Att 1993	3,686		6,840
	6,840	Avg Att 2002	4,376		-13
	-13	+ / - %	19		

### Top League Scorers

9	League Goals	12
19	Games Played	19
0.47	Lge Goals/Game	0.63
5	Points Gained	9
4	Scoring Run	2
0	Hat-Tricks	0
4	Close Range	10
4	Inside Area	2
1	Long Range	0
4	Shots	8
4	Headers	4
1	Volleys	0
0	Penalties	0
0	Direct FKs	0

### Cambridge United's 10 Year History

Season	Leading Scorer	Ave.
01/02	Youngs .....11	3.5
00/01	Youngs .....14	4.4
99/00	Benjamin ....20	4.4
98/99	Butler/Taylor.17	4.5
97/98	Kyd .....11	2.8
96/97	3 Players .....7	3.3
95/96	Butler/Corazzino	2.7
94/95	Corazzino.....15	3.4
93/94	Butler.....21	3.6
92/93	Claridge.....7	5.1

### Form Guide - Last 6

2	Won	4
3	Drawn	0
1	Lost	2
5	For	10
5	Against	8
9	Points	12
0	Goal Difference	2

DWLDDW Sequence LWWLWW

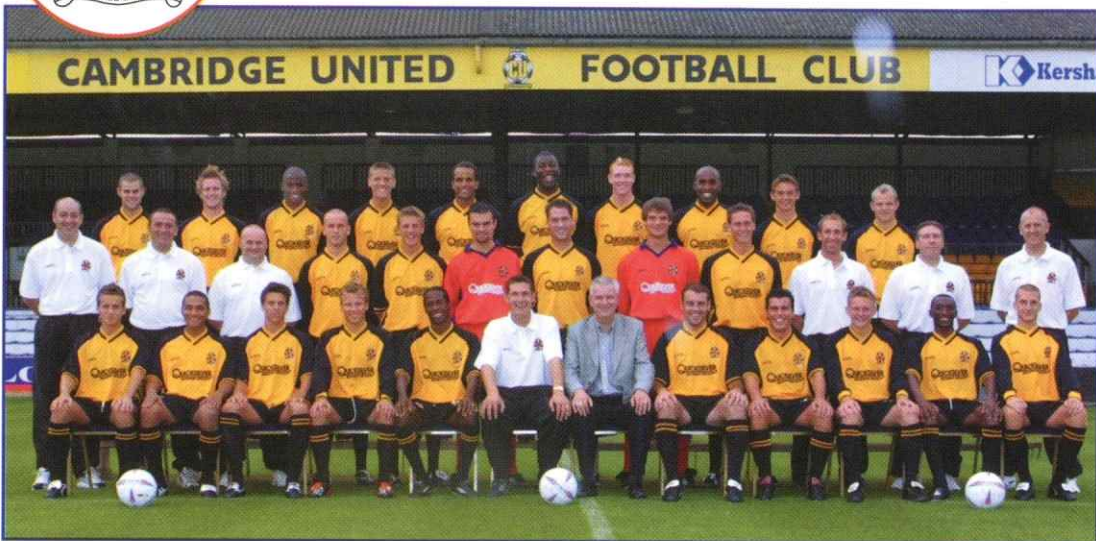
### Yellow & Red Cards

38	Yellow	28
3	Red	4

# YOUR FREE SPORTS PAPER WITH THE PEOPLE



# Welcome To



**Back Row (L-R):** Daniel Chillingworth, Warren Goodhind, Daryl Bourgeois, Alex Revell, Scott Eustace, Armand One (no longer with club), Dave Kitson, Colin Alcide, Phil Warner, Tony Scully.

**Middle Row:** Ricky Duncan (Youth Team Manager), Ali Uzunhasanoglu (Goalkeeper Coach), Greg Reid (Youth Team Physio), Fred Murray, Graham Rush, Martin Brennan, Andy Duncan, Shaun Marshall, David Bridges, Stuart Ayles (Physio – no longer with club), Trevor James (Reserve Team Manager), Dale Brooks (Assistant Manager).

**Front Row:** Owen Paynter, Franco Nacca, Daniel Huggins, Luke Guttridge, Stev Angus, John Taylor (Manager), Gary Harwood (Chairman), Paul Wanless, Shane Tudor, Tom Youngs, Terry Fleming, Adam Tann.

## GOALKEEPERS

### 1. SHAUN MARSHALL

A promising goalkeeper, Shaun Marshall was a product of our successful youth policy. After first being spotted by the Club at the age of eight, Shaun made one appearance for the first team whilst still a trainee and has made good progress ever since. First team opportunities were limited by the presence of the popular Lionel Perez, but Marshall has the chance to shine now that the Frenchman has moved on.

### 13. Martin Brennan

A young keeper, previously in

the youth ranks of Tottenham and Charlton, Brennan was signed on the eve of the 2002/03 campaign.

## DEFENDERS

### 2. WARREN GOODHIND

South African-born Warren Goodhind is a versatile player who can play in the centre and on the right of midfield and defence. He became Barnet's youngest ever captain and has scored three goals in 79 starts for the Bees. He was on the verge of a big-money move Tottenham Hotspur in 1998 but broke his leg and was out of action for 15 months. A strong, experienced, cultured defender

who reads the game well, Goodhind deferred his sports science degree to establish himself at the Abbey Stadium.

### 3. Freddie Murray

Irish under-18 international Freddie Murray, initially joined on loan from Blackburn Rovers in December 2001, and became the first signing of John Taylor's managerial reign when he made the move permanent with a free transfer on March 7th, 2002. The young left-back has been almost ever-present since.

### 4. Andy Duncan

A central defender signed for £20,000 from Manchester

# Cambridge United

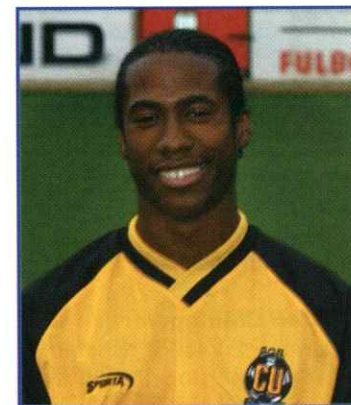


United in April 1998 following a successful three-month loan spell at The Abbey, Andy Duncan is a solid, consistent player at the heart of the United defence. His positional awareness, composure and strength have shown that his transfer fee was money well spent, and U's fans were delighted when he agreed a new contract in the summer of 2002.

### 5. Adam Tann

A young defender who is equally comfortable at right back on in the heart of the back four, Adam Tann won international honours when making his England Under-18 debut against Switzerland in September 1999. A highly promising player, Tann is another product of the Cambridge United Youth Scheme and impressed many in difficult circumstances last season. Cool and calm, Tann has already captained the side.

### 6. Stevland Angus



Named Stevland as his parents are fans of Stevie Wonder, Stev

Angus came through the youth ranks at West Ham. Although signed primarily as a left back he is a versatile defender who has proved to be an asset to the Club. His first taste of League Football came when on loan from West Ham to loan spell Bournemouth in 1999. When the loan was curtailed by illness, his enforced return proved to be the turning point in another player's career, and the catalyst to record books being re-written, the replacement West Ham sent to the south coast was Jermain Defoe who went to break the record number of goals in consecutive League matches against The U's at the Abbey Stadium!

### 17. Franco Nacca



A young, quick defender, Franco Nacca is another product of the Club's Youth Team. Venezuela-born, he was snatched from under the interested eyes of Aston Villa. His best position is more of a right back/wing back although he has been comfortable playing in a back three or back four.

### 19.

#### Graham Rush

Cambridge-born Graham Rush is a life-long U's fan, so the decision to award him a professional contract at the end of last season was a dream come true. A solid defender, Rush was captain of last season's Under-19s.

### 22. Dan Huggins

Versatile defender, Dan Huggins has been at the Club since he was 15 when he was signed from Norwich on a three-year scholarship. A first year professional, Huggins can do a job anywhere along the back.

### 23. Daryl Bourgeois

First year professional Daryl Bourgeois is a cultured defender who joined the Abbey Stadium Youth Development scheme after being released by Southend. Born in Forest Gate, East London, he can play anywhere in a back three.

### 25. Phil Warner

Pacy young defender, Phil Warner joined the Club for no initial fee from Southampton, where he came through the ranks but was unable to claim a regular first team place despite a number of Premiership appearances. Primarily a right-back, he can also play at centre-back, left-back or in midfield.

## MIDFIELDERS

### 7. PAUL WANLESS

The heartbeat of the side, Paul Wanless is a powerful midfielder with an infectious enthusi-



# Welcome To

asm and almost kamikaze bravery. The United captain, he began his career as a trainee at his hometown Club Oxford before a short spell at Lincoln, during which time he managed to serve under three different managers. Wanless joined The U's in the summer of 1996 after a spell on loan at The Abbey the previous season and is a regular winner when the Player of the Year award is handed out.

### 8. Terry Fleming

Often described as a utility player the term seriously underestimates Terry Fleming's value to the squad. A player with bags of pace and a prodigious long throw, he has operated at left-back, right-back, wing-back and midfield and never lets anyone down whenever he is asked to play.

### 14. Luke Guttridge

Luke Guttridge lived up to his "One for the Future" tag last season with a series of performances belying his years. A Combative midfielder, compared to Billy Bremner by former U's boss Roy McFarland, Guttridge made his first team debut in spectacular fashion in March 2001, netting inside 2 minutes. Diminutive in stature, but with a massive heart, you would rather have Guttridge playing for you than against you.

### 15. Tony Scully

Tony Scully turned down a new contract with QPR to join Cambridge United on a

Bosman free transfer in July 2002. A Republic of Ireland international at Schoolboy, Youth, Under-21 and B level, the native Dubliner began his career with Crystal Palace and, after loan spells at Bournemouth and Cardiff, he joined Manchester City for £200,000 in 1997. A £155,000 deal took him back to London when he joined QPR in 1998. Although he normally operates on the right wing, Scully has also played on the left side in attack or as a wingback.

### 18. David Bridges

A graduate of the youth development scheme, David Bridges is a versatile midfielder or forward with an eye for goal, scoring two consecutive hat-tricks for the Under-19s in December and January of last season. He made his debut against Huddersfield in March 2002 and his performances were a bright spot in an otherwise largely disappointing season for the Club. Bridges netted his first goal for the Club in the final home game of last season, in front of the terraces on which he stood to support The U's as a boy.

### 20. Shane Tudor

When Wolverhampton-born midfielder Shane Tudor left his hometown Club for The U's in November 2001 he must have wondered whether he had done the right thing. Signed by former boss John Beck hours before he was replaced in the Manager's Office, Tudor has impressed with his terrier-like performances on the wing and

in the centre of midfield, which quickly made him a fans' favourite.

## FORWARDS

### 9. DAVID KITSON

A pacy striker signed from non-League Arlesey Town, Dave Kitson's tall physique and naturally red hair (when not dyed peroxide blond) makes his a beacon when leading the line. Despite his height, Kitson has a good touch on the ground and, with a season of professional football now under his belt, he is poised to become and even greater asset to the Club.

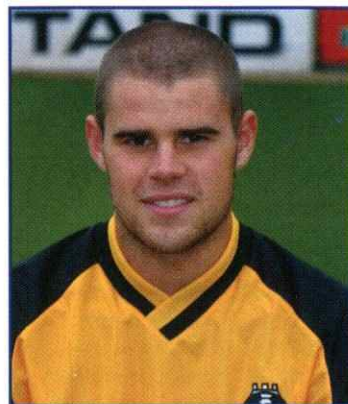
### 10. Tom Youngs

Tom Youngs is an intelligent, creative forward player who almost scored with his first touch when he made his League debut in September 1997. He was awarded a professional contract despite remaining at school to study for his A Levels, having been at the Abbey since the age of ten and has progressed right through the Youth Development Scheme. Despite a string of niggling injuries, Youngs has been the Club's top scorer for the past two seasons and, if he can remain injury-clear, more than several Division Three defenders will have sleepless nights prior to facing The U's.

### 12. Dan Chillingworth

A former England Schoolboy international, local boy Dan Chillingworth has been growing in stature since making his League debut April 2000, short-

# Cambridge United



ly after signing his first professional contract. Another product of the Club's Youth Development Scheme, "Chilli" scored his first League goal for The U's on Boxing Day of last season and, despite his tender years, is sure to be a factor in this campaign.

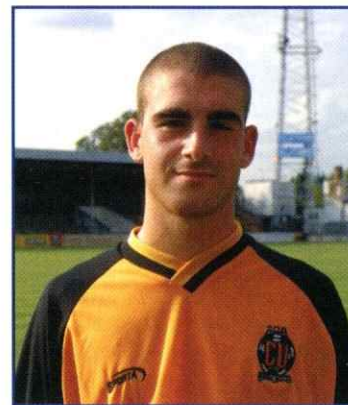
### 16. Alex Revell

First spotted on a Football in the Community coaching course, Alex Revell is another product of the youth scheme. This local lad raised a few eyebrows when he was offered a professional contract a year early two seasons ago, and his early promotion looks well founded. Last season he had the distinction of scoring goals for First Team, Reserves and Under-19s.

### 21. Owen Paynter

First year professional Owen Paynter impressed in reserve team football last season and will be looking to add to his experience this year. Newmarket-born, he has been at the Club since he was 11.

### 24. Omer Riza



Lightening-quick forward who was a fans' favourite before actually signing for the Club! A loan spell at the end of the 2000/01 campaign established his cult status, and U's fans were delighted to see his return when he was signed on the eve of the 2002/03 season after a impressive pre-season trial.

### 28. John Turner

Promising young striker with tremendous natural ability, Turner earned a call-up to the first team squad just days after representing the Club at Under-18 level. A first year trainee, he was released by the Aston Villa academy and was invited for a trial at United after being spotted playing for Bedford-based Sportivo Valerio against a Cambridge United Trialist XI.

## MANAGER

### JOHN TAYLOR

"JT" is a legend at The Abbey, having starred in the successful U's side of the early nineties alongside Dion Dublin, return-

ing home for a second spell in January 1997 when he joined from Luton Town. Originally signed by the U's in 1988 from non-league Sudbury Town, he left The Abbey for Bristol Rovers in a controversial player-exchange deal in March 1992. He enjoyed a successful spell with Rovers before moving on to join Bradford City and then Luton Town.

A positive, popular and jovial character he found time to become joint top League scorer four seasons ago, breaking Alan Biley's Club records for total number of League goals and overall goals in the process while managing the Reserve side. Now with over 100 Cambridge United goals to his credit, Taylor still occasionally turns out for the Reserves, but has decided to concentrate all his first team energies on management.

Former bosses Roy McFarland and John Beck encouraged his coaching development and when he took over initially as Caretaker Manager in November 2001, following the resignation of John Beck, it was to universal acclaim from the supporters. Steering The U's to the LDV Vans Trophy final within months of taking over, Taylor's popularity with the fans has not been diminished by last season's disappointing League campaign.



## Blast From the Past

The Associate Members Cup was introduced in the 1983/84 season for clubs in Division Three and Four (now two and three). It was rightly assumed that very few of those clubs managed to fight their way through to the later stages of the other two cup competitions and therefore needed something to hopefully keep their seasons alive. The Hatters first entered the competition, by now sponsored by Auto Windscreens, in 1996 following relegation from Division One and in the first round were drawn at home to Leyton Orient. A crowd of only 1,594, the lowest at Kenilworth Road for a competitive game since before World War One, were scattered around the ground to see a late goal from Kim Grant secure a 2-1 win and save the torment going on for a further 30 minutes. The reward for this victory was a first ever visit to Sixfields,

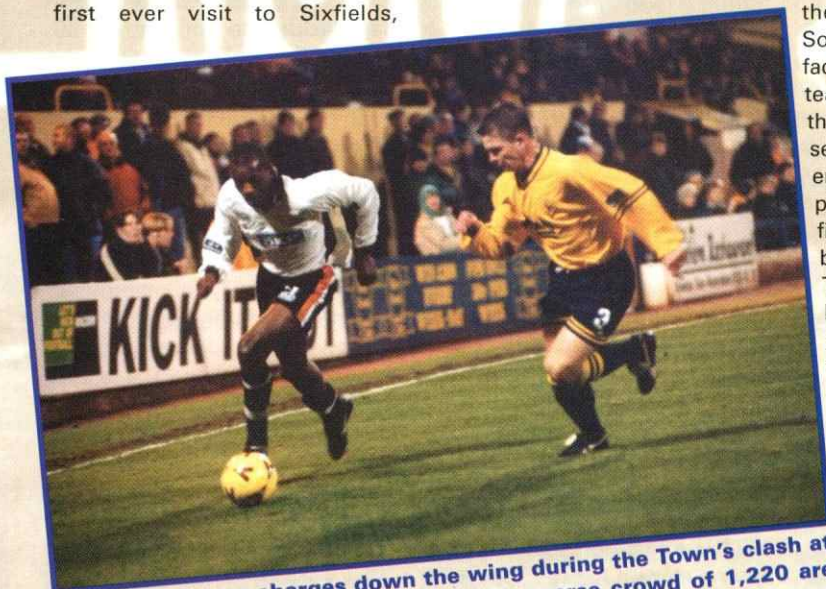
Northampton to take on the Division Three pacesetters. Over 1,100 Luton supporters made the short trip to boost the crowd to 4,201 but they were disappointed when Cobbler's Matthew Rush, a loanee from Norwich, scored the only goal in the 88th minute of another turgid game. The Town were granted a first round bye the following season and were then paired with Brentford at Kenilworth Road for a round two clash. The Bees had an injury crisis with 14 regulars unavailable and even manager Micky Adams was forced to pull on a shirt for the first time in two years. Goals from Tony Thorpe and David Oldfield enabled the Town to move into a comfortable 2-0 lead with Chris Allen, on loan from Nottingham Forest, giving probably his best display in Luton colours and setting up chance after chance. A late goal from

Brentford caused a few anxious moments for the crowd of 3,106 but the Town eventually ran out deserving winners with a journey to Fulham awaiting the victors. A trip to newly rejuvenated Fulham was probably the most awkward tie left in the competition and this was made doubly difficult when the Cottagers won 4-1 at Kenilworth Road only three days before in a league clash. A crowd of 5,103 turned up to witness the anticipated slaughter but they were shocked when Dwight Marshall fired the Town into a first half lead. Kyle Lightbourne, on loan from Coventry, kept up his remarkable scoring run against Luton when he levelled after half-time but as the home fans sat back waiting for the expected goal avalanche it was left to substitute Tony Thorpe to slam home the winner with the final kick of the game.

The Hatters were now through to the heady heights of the Southern semi-final where they faced a trip to Bournemouth, a team that had already beaten them twice in the league that season. Mindful of this, manager Lennie Lawrence strung five players across a defensive midfield and hoped for a goal on the break.

This tactic had the effect of killing the game but with the contest drifting towards extra-time a Franck Rolling goal, with three minutes to go, sent the home crowd of 5,367 wild and with it the end of another cup run.

In the early part of the following campaign the Town enjoyed a brilliant run through to round five of the Coca-Cola Cup, when they unluckily lost at Sunderland, but then spoilt



Emmerson Boyce charges down the wing during the Town's clash at Oxford in December 1999. Some of the sparse crowd of 1,220 are seen dotted around in the background.



## Hatters in the A M C

it all by losing at home to Hull of Division Three in the F.A.Cup. The Auto Windscreens Shield, and a home tie with Walsall, was therefore the only thing left to play for in a season that was slowly falling apart. A run of eight league games without a win led up to the Walsall clash and Lennie Lawrence decided to rest a number of players feeling that the preservation of Division Two status was more important. Walsall decided to put out a virtual first team and cruised to an easy 3-0 victory while the Town finished the game with seven teenagers on the pitch. Herve Bacque, a sensation in pre-season games, sadly kicked his last ball for the Town when seeing his second half penalty easily saved while loanee, Sean Dyche, making his debut, must have wondered what he was letting himself in for! The only bright spot on a miserable evening was the sound debut of Emmerson Boyce. Only 1,220 bothered to turn up at Oxford for the opening round

clash the following season, the lowest to watch the Town on these shores since the 469 brave souls that attended a league game at Thames Association in 1930. Non-contract forward Paul Read made his one and only Luton appearance in this match which also saw a debut for James Ayres.

The Town had most of the game but could not find the back of the net while Oxford had just two shots on target, both penalties, which saw them ease through. The sponsorship of the competition was taken over by LDV vans for the following season with the Town drawn to play at Peterborough, who they had already knocked out of the Worthington Cup earlier that campaign, in the opening round. Struggling in the league, the Hatters had recorded a remarkable 3-1 win at promotion chasing Stoke the previous weekend and it was decided to rest five players for the trip to Peterborough.

The depleted side, however, played well and it was against the run of play when Francis Green scored the only goal of the game for Posh shortly towards the end. The Town's misery was compounded when Mark Stein was dismissed in the final minute for a two footed tackle.

By now Conference sides were admitted to the competition and the Town were faced with a first ever trip to Dagenham and Redbridge last season. Manager Joe Kinnear put out a complete reserve side to face the Conference leaders who also rested several players including ex-Hatter Mark Stein.

Goals from Dean Brennan and Peter Thomson put the Town into a 2-1 lead but a late leveller took the game into 'golden goal' extra time where Ashley Vickers netted for the home side three minutes after the restart.

Roger Wash



## Yesterday's pages

At the start of the 1997/98 campaign the Town travelled to newly promoted Fulham and returned with a well earned point from a humdrum league fixture.

By the time of the visit to Craven Cottage in the Auto Windscreens Shield only five months later massive changes had taken place from top to bottom at the club. Owner Mohamed Al Fayed had started ploughing in money with the result that a new manager and assistant in Kevin Keegan and Ray Wilkins had been appointed, wholesale changes had been made to team personnel as well as the introduction of a completely revamped programme!

Quite naturally the 4-1 league win at Kenilworth Road the previous Saturday featured strongly almost to the point of arrogance and it was therefore quite sweet for this correspondent, a guest of the Fulham club historian, when Tony Thorpe lashed in the winner with the final kick of the game.

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## Hatters Abroad

YOU never know who you are going to meet when you go abroad on holiday – but the chances are that whatever your destination, a Luton Town fan will have got there first. Our picture of three supporters is a case in point. It was sent to us by Dave Boutwood, from Lancing Road, Luton. "The photo may be unique," he said. "I am the one on the left, and never knew the other two fellow supporters before the picture was taken."

"Chris Charmen, in the middle, and his brother-in-law, Terry Alder, were on holiday in Kos, and stayed in the same hotel as me. Chris knew I was another Hatters supporter when he spotted my Luton Town towel while I was relaxing by the pool."

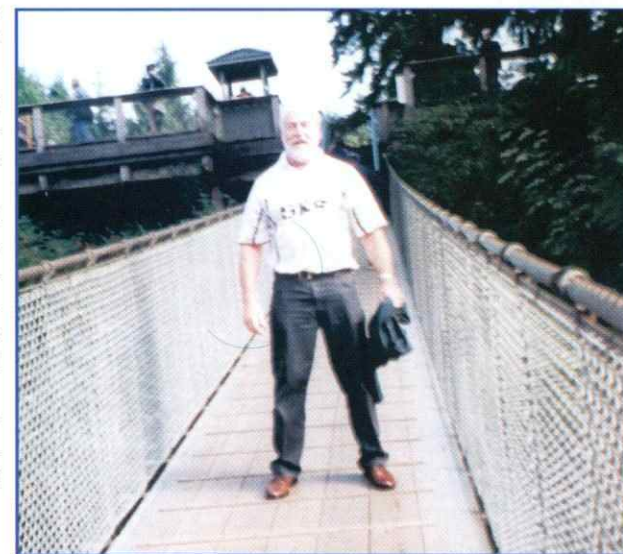
"We are all season ticket holders in the Main Stand Enclosure, only half a block apart. We had never met before, but we now continue our friendship back home."



OUR other holiday picture is from across the Atlantic, and Alan Parker will be surprised to see himself gracing the pages of his favourite club's programme.

He lives at Maltings Close, Cranfield, and the photo was submitted by his wife, who said: "He has been a staunch supporter of Luton Town for many years, and is a season ticket holder. It would be a lovely surprise for him if you could publish his picture."

"He is standing on the Capilano suspension bridge, just outside Vancouver, while we were on a touring holiday of Canada."



WE ARE always pleased to receive photographs of Hatters supporters in their club colours anywhere in the world. If you have an interesting snap you would like to see published please send it, with a few details, to the editor, by post to Luton Town FC, or by e-mail to [brian.swain@btinternet.com](mailto:brian.swain@btinternet.com) If you use e-mail, please include your home address and a day-time phone number. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want the photographs back, but don't offer us anything which is irreplaceable, because with the best will in the world items sometimes go astray.

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To combat this problem, SKF has introduced SPEEDI-SLEEVE for fast and effective refinishing of seal-worn shafts. SPEEDI-SLEEVE is quicker and more efficient than remetalizing or regrinding and, in contrast to these methods, provides a perfect seal, even in the harshest environments. SPEEDI-SLEEVE bridges the gap between a standard sleeve and an expensive custom shaft treatment such as diamond coating, and the super hardened surface provides protection against corrosion and abrasion.



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## Mini Hatters

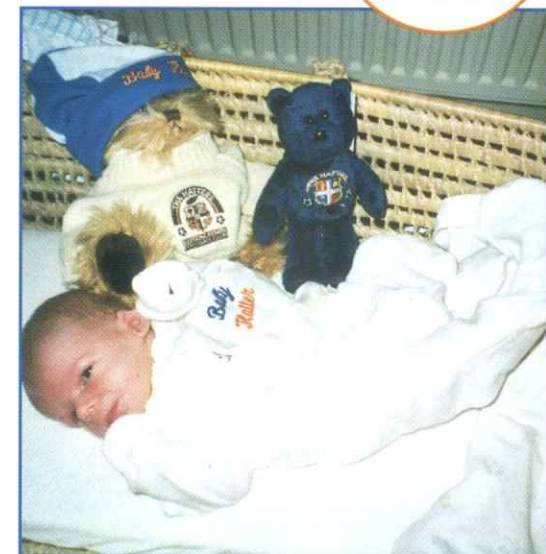


EVEN the teddy bears are wearing Luton Town strip when little Joe Piggott settles down to sleep. He was born to be a baby Hatter, and has already seen the Town in action.

The picture was sent in by Rob Piggott from Stanhope Road, St. Albans, who said: "He was about a month old when then photo was taken. His parents, Jac Berry and myself, are both season ticket holders in the Kenilworth so Joe does not have much choice about his loyalties

"Indeed, so far he has been to two away games, the defeat at Villa Park and the victory at Oldham, and we are keen to bring him to Kenilworth Road as soon as possible."

Joe was born in early September, and was a month old when the picture was taken. Said his proud dad: "I hope I am not tempting fate, but he seems to be quite a lucky fan – there can't be many Hatters out there whose whole lifetime has seen only two league defeats!"



OUR OTHER very junior Hatter is the latest addition to an unofficial supporters club in Ireland. Rachel Craig was pictured as she approached her first birthday, and a letter from Alan Crawford, of Pembroke Avenue, Luton explained: "She is the daughter of Hilton Craig and my sister Deborah, and is the newest member of a small, but growing, group of Hatters fans in Strabane, Northern Ireland.

"I am from Strabane, and I and my son Stuart are season ticket holders in the main stand. We send the match programmes home, and when we go over there two or three times a year it is nice to see a few Luton Town converts, away from the usual Man Utd etc etc.

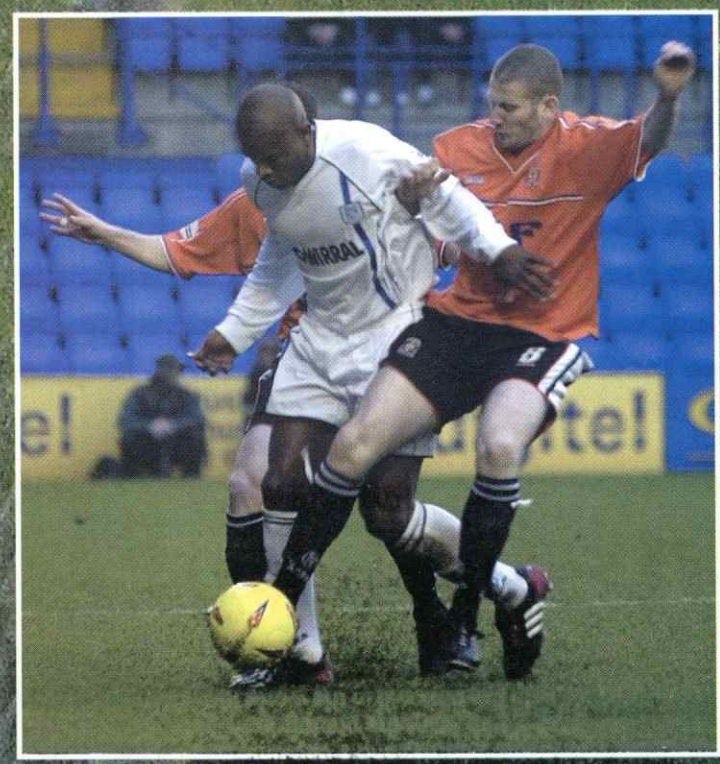
"They would love to see Rachel's photo in the programme, and maybe we will get a few more converts as well."

IF YOU have a nice photo of a very young Town fan, and would like to see it published in this occasional series, please get in touch with the programme editor.

Please send it, with a few details, either by post to Luton Town FC, or by e-mail to brian.swain@btinternet.com Whatever method you use, please include your home address and a day-time phone number. If sending by post, please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you want the photographs back, but don't offer anything which is irreplaceable, just in case letters go astray.

# Action Highlights

Tranmere Rovers 1 Luton Town 3



**CLINCHER:** Steve Howard completes the fifth away victory of the season, lifting his angled shot over the goalkeeper for his tenth goal of the campaign.

**Left:** Action man Kevin Nicholls, who bossed the middle of the park, competing hard with Marvin Robinson.

**Above:** Ahmet Brkovic, who is on a scoring streak, tries his luck with an acrobatic overhead kick.



# LTFC in the Community

Working in conjunction with Bedfordshire Football Association

I WOULD like to use tonight's column to give details of the next in our series of Saturday Soccer Schools at Bramingham Primary School, Luton.

The school's head teacher, Sharon Flowers, has been delighted with the quality of the coaching offered and the fabulous response that we get from children. We average about 40 children per week at a venue that has a maximum safety number of 48. Therefore she has offered us the chance to run courses throughout next year.

They will include Saturday Soccer Clubs, Monday and Friday After-School Clubs and Courses, and our usual holiday courses.

We will also be trying something new at this venue in next year's summer holidays, a course lasting a full week for five hours a day. Should this be successful we will start to look at the possibilities of all-day child care for future holidays, involving a variety of activities between 8.30am and 5.30pm.

However, first of all here are the details of the next Saturday Soccer Club. As usual it will be held at Bramingham Primary School in Freeman's Avenue. It

will start at 10am and finish at 11.30am. The dates are

January 18 and 25; February 1, 8, and 15; and March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.

The cost is £2.50 per week, or a one-off block booking payment of £20.00. As usual all you need to do to register is to fill in the form opposite, and return it to me at the club, or, if you prefer, call me on the Community Department office number, 01582 391927.

Finally today, as you may have read in previous match day magazines, the club is holding a carol service at St Mary's Parish Church, Luton, next Monday, commencing at 7.30pm.

All supporters are invited to enjoy the evening in company with players, management and staff of the club. As Community Development Officer I feel my job extends beyond football, and I would like to invite the children who have participated in all of our courses over the last year to attend and celebrate the real meaning of Christmas. I think this will be a memorable experience.

*Stuart Smith*



Kids enjoying the Bramingham Saturday soccer school



# LTFC in the Community

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| 10.00am - 12.00pm - Football Coaching | 12.45pm - 1.15pm - Mini Ground Tour |
| at Dallow Road                        | 1.15pm - 2.45pm - Table Football    |
| 12.00pm - 12.15pm - Walk to Ground    | Tournament                          |
| 12.15pm - 12.45pm - Lunch             | 2.45pm - 3.00pm - Presentation      |

Fill in form below using course code: **FUN 1**

Course Code	No. of Weeks	Venue	Start Date	Time	Cost	Course Type
DSC 1	7	Dunstable Leisure Centre Court Drive <b>DUNSTABLE</b>	Fri 22nd Nov	4.30 pm - 6.00 pm	£2.50 per week	5-11 yrs Girls Only
LSC 1	8	Putteridge Leisure Centre Putteridge Road Stopsley <b>LUTON</b>	Mon 2nd Dec	4.30 pm - 6.00 pm	£2.50 per week	8-11 yrs
BRAM 1	10	Bramingham Primary School <b>LUTON</b>	Sat 18th Jan 2003	10.00 am - 11.30 am	£2.50 per week £20 block booking	5-11 yrs Boys & Girls

Please reserve a place on the above course (please put course in the box on right)

Name .....Age.....D.O.B.....

Address.....

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Home Tel No.....School.....

Any health problems  Disorders  or medication.  Please ring to confirm details

I acknowledge and accept that Luton Town FC, their football in the community scheme or the organisations providing the facilities and their respective agents, servants and employees, are not under liability whatsoever in respect of personal injury, loss or damage however caused whilst in attendance on the above course. I authorise the coaches employed by Luton Town Football in the Community to administer first aid treatment should it be required.

Signature of Parent / Guardian: .....



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# Fans on the road

THE crackling atmosphere at Kenilworth Road for the QPR game was not just down to the dramatic action on the pitch: Rangers were the first visiting side this season to all but fill the away end, to pump up the volume as both sets of supporters urged on their teams. But our average away following is still far in excess of the number of fans who come to support visiting teams at Kenilworth Road.

## Hatters Away

Blackpool	781
Plymouth	773
Cardiff	314
Brentford	1,493
Watford(WC)	4,404
Huddersfield	700
Aston Villa (WC)	4,588
Stockport	680
Oldham	610
Woking (LDV)	262
Northampton	1,250
Stevenage (LDV)	1,199
Tranmere	839
<b>Total:</b>	<b>17,893</b>
<b>Average:</b>	<b>1,376</b>

## Visitors to Luton

Peterborough	990
Barnsley	504
Chesterfield	366
Notts County	341
Mansfield	160
Cheltenham	328
Wigan	425
Port Vale	247
Guiseley (FAC)	467
QPR	1,851
<b>Total:</b>	<b>5,679</b>
<b>Average:</b>	<b>568</b>



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## Action Replay



### Luton Town 0 QPR 0

A TOP six team they may have been, but QPR were desperately lucky to go home with a point from a tempestuous game in which the Town were down to ten men after 14 minutes, and reduced to nine after 50.

The biggest crowd of the season, including the first near-full house in the away end, created a fantastic atmosphere, egged on by a refereeing performance, which left Joe Kinnear furious. Steve Howard was red carded for a late challenge on Clarke Carlisle, and Kevin Nicholls left early in the second half for his second yellow card offence. They paid the price on Saturday: the skipper missed his return to his former club in the FA Cup, and Howard, whose appeal to the FA was rejected, also sits out tonight's match and Saturday's game against Colchester.

There is no appeal against cautions, so Nicholls had to accept the ref's verdict, but he and his manager believe the official got it wrong, particularly on the first

yellow card, on 20 minutes, when he seemed to be the victim, not the aggressor.

The Town's nine more than made up for the manpower deficiency with a controlled passing performance, easily a match for QPR's eleven, and should have snatched victory, with sub Andrew Fotiadis missing two decent chances in the closing minutes. It was not just a matter of defending well against superior numbers: the counter-attacking was sharp and always menacing on a day when both goalkeepers made a couple of good saves, and occasionally were let off the hook by poor finishing.

The rival managers had a bit of a spat over claims that the Rangers' bench was trying to egg on the ref to send off Town players. Rangers boss Ian Holloway hotly denied it. We will never know how good a

match it might have been if the referee had not dished out five yellow cards and one red to the Town, and two yellows to Rangers men. But the Town's fight against adversity made for a compelling spectacle, with a hard-won point the least they deserved.

The Rangers manager was left to complain that his men should have had a bit more savvy to find a way round nine opponents. When they did, their finishing was awful. "We were getting too desperate," he said. "But credit to Luton's nine men - they did their work very well."

Joe Kinnear blasted the ref's performance, and added: "That was a moral victory for us. We would have murdered them if we had kept 11 on the pitch. It had the makings of being a really good match and it was a shame it was spoiled."

**Luton Town:** Berthelin; Boyce, Neilson, Coyne, Davis; Robinson, Nicholls, Spring, Brkovic; Howard, Thorpe (Fotiadis 76 mins, Hillier 89mins). Unused subs: Hughes, Holmes, Emberson.

**Sent off:** Steve Howard, "dangerous play" in late tackle on Clarke Carlisle; Kevin Nicholls for two cautions.

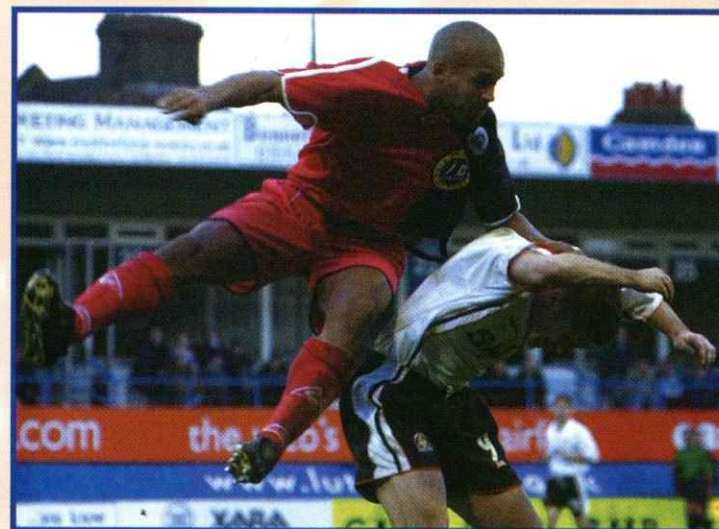
**Booked:** Tony Thorpe, Matt Spring and Ahmet Brkovic, fouls.

**QPR:** Royce; Forbes, Shittu, Carlisle, Williams; Burgess, Bircham, Palmer, Willock; Angell (Gallen 57 mins, Oli 71 mins), Thomson (Furlong 57 mins). Unused subs Padula, Culkin.

**Booked:** Terell Forbes and Brett Angell for fouls

**Referee:** Eddie Wolstenholme, Lancashire.

**Attendance:** 9,477, including 1,851 visiting fans.



**UP FOR IT:** Tony Thorpe under aerial challenge from Clarke Carlisle.

Log on to Luton Town's official website at  
[www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk)



## Action Replay

THE Town's promotion drive was kept on track when a stylish second-half performance destroyed a good home side at Prenton Park. It pushed the Town into seventh place, level on points with the nearest play-off notch, and took the current run to one defeat in 11 league games.

Wigan are the only other side to go home with three points from Tranmere, and locals in the press box rated the Town a better side than the league leaders. Home boss Ray Mathias thought the Town's determination to deny his side clear-cut scoring chances was the crucial factor. The other was that after a not very compelling first half, the Town got their act together brilliantly, with the defence solid, Kevin Nicholls bossing the game from midfield, and Mathew Spring and Ahmet Brkovic both moving further upfield to support Tony Thorpe and Steve Howard.

Joe Kinnear was delighted with just about everything, except for the goal conceded following a penalty in the 24th minute. A throw-in was looped to the corner of the penalty area, and Emmerson Boyce and Nicholls were competing in the air with Danny Harrison, and the assistant referee spotted a handball by Nicholls.

"Our lads said Nicho was going up to head it and was pushed in the back," said Joe. The video replay confirmed use of the hand, but even so the Town might have got away with it, with Cedric Berthelin making two outstanding saves from the spot kick. He dived to his left to

### Tranmere Rov 1 Luton Town 3 (Half-time 1-0)

keep out the penalty by Stuart Barlow, then managed to stick up an arm, despite being grounded, to keep out the follow-up attempt by Marvin Robinson. Gareth Roberts made it third time lucky for Tranmere from close range.

"That was the only thing I was narked about," said the Town boss. "The keeper made a blinding save and we didn't react. Instead of getting defenders in there we were second to the ball and were punished. "But to come back from that and win was very pleasing, and we were worthy winners thanks to the improved show in the second half."

Even the change forced by an injury to Sol Davis, who was replaced by Alan Kimble, failed to spoil the Town's second-half rhythm as they took control. Steve Robinson and Howard shifted the ball swiftly and accurately to provide Spring with a close-range opening for the 69th-minute equaliser, and an equally clever play nine minutes later, by Howard and Thorpe, brought a neat finish by Ahmet Brkovic for his sixth goal in four appearances.

Howard signed off before his suspension with a lashing of sweet icing on the cake two minutes from time, set free by Spring's through ball and hammering in the rebound after his first shot had been blocked.

"Once Spring stuck in the first goal I had no doubts about what the result was going to be," said

Joe. "In the first half there was a bit of apprehension in our play. But having had a good look at them we had enough about us to take the game to them. We went in search of goals. I told Berko to come in off the line into the inside left position and push up just behind the front two and get us a goal. He is in good form, and that worked.

"We dominated the second half, and it was unusual for an away side to have so much possession. Spring got further up the pitch, and we are a better team with him playing up close to Thorpe and Howard. In the first half the front two were too isolated

"Howard has suffered a bit of a lean spell, but I knew the goals would come, and I was delighted for him. He smashed that one away like someone who was relishing it. And the build-up was tremendous for all the goals.

**Luton Town:** Berthelin; Boyce, Neilson, Coyne, Davis (Kimble 55 mins); Robinson, Nicholls, Spring, Brkovic (Hughes 87 mins); Howard, Thorpe (Fotiadis 87 mins). Unused subs: Owendale, Hillier.

**Booked:** Chris Coyne for a foul. **Tranmere:** Achterberg; Allen, Edwards, Gray, Roberts; Taylor, Jones, Harrison (Olsen 83 mins), Nicholson; Robinson, Barlow (Hume 75 mins). Unused subs: Sharps, Hay, Howarth.

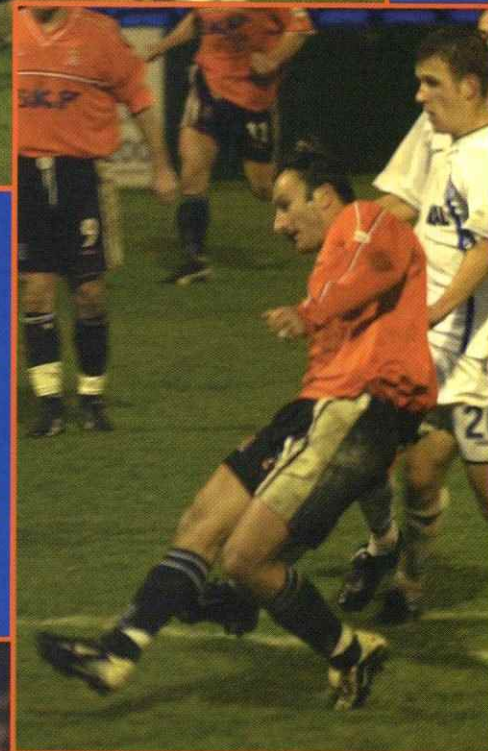
**Booked:** Shane Nicholson, Kevin Gray, Gareth Roberts, all for fouls.

**Referee:** Andy Penn, West Midlands.

**Attendance:** 8,273, including 839 very happy Town fans.

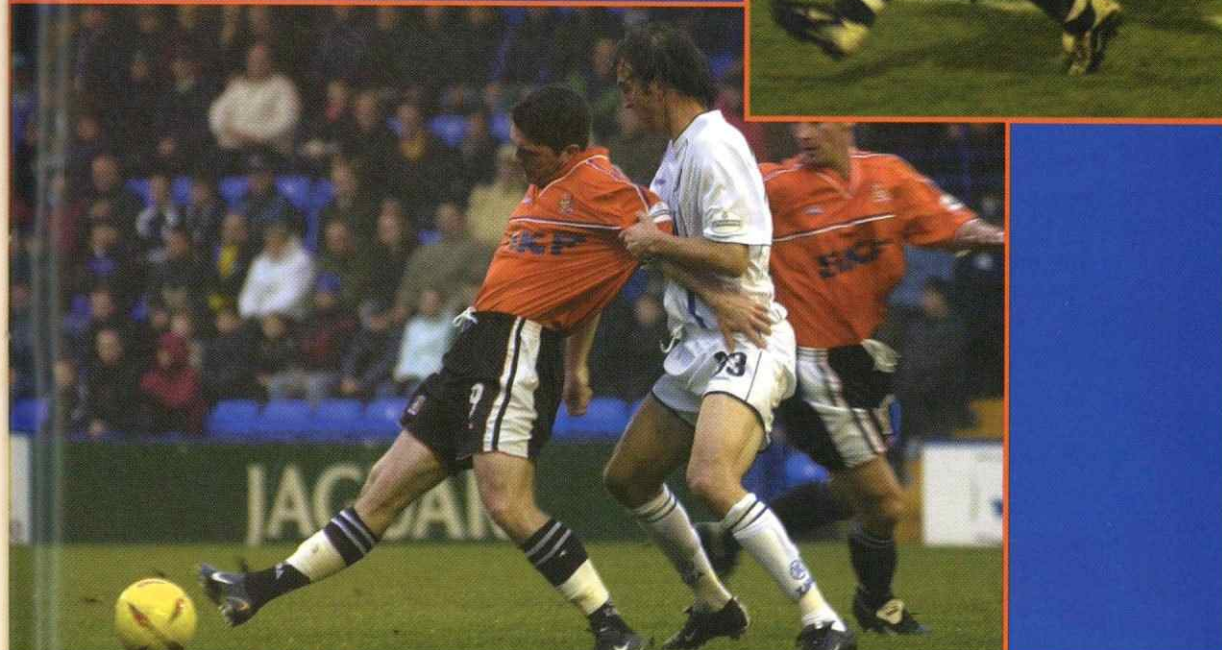


RECOVERY KICK-STARTED: Matt Spring turns in the equaliser, his sixth goal of the season.



Right: Ahmet Brkovic perfectly poised to stroke in his seventh goal of the campaign, to put the Town 2-1 ahead.

Below: Tranmere were reduced to fair means and foul in vain attempts to keep the Town at bay. This was Chris Edwards trying a handy tackle to hold back Tony Thorpe.



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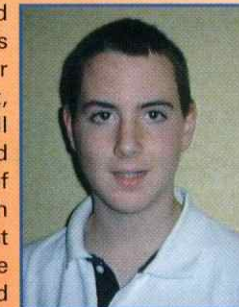
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## Junior Hatters



### TONIGHT'S MASCOT

FIFTEEN-year-old Mark Bright is this evening's Junior Hatters mascot, which means he will have a look behind the scenes as part of his trip to Kenilworth Road. He will meet the players in the dressing room, and go onto the pitch with them for the pre-match rituals.



Mark lives at Enfield Close, Houghton Regis, and attends Queensbury School, and as well as his love of football he enjoys golf, rugby and his computer. His favourite player is Steve Howard, and he comes to games with his mother and father, cheering on the Town from the Kenilworth Lower Tier. Our ballboys are Carl Elkins, from Sutton Avenue, Biggleswade, and Billy Rogers, of Little Berries, Luton.

watches home games from the Kenilworth Upper Tier.

We will be choosing another mascot for our next away trip, which will be to Bristol City on the Saturday before Christmas, and that promises to be a very special occasion. More details will be given in Saturday's matchday magazine, but my advice is to book seats early if you want to go to Ashton Gate. The price will be the usual bargain, £10 for Junior Hatters and £13 for guests, including parents.

Bookings can be made at the club shop, which is the Junior Hatters headquarters, but not on matchdays, when the staff are busy with customers.

*Happy Harry*

THE CHRISTMAS party for Junior Hatters aged 11 and upwards will be held on Thursday week, December 19, at the Century Club.

The party for younger members has already taken place, and was as popular as ever, and tickets for next week's knees-up are selling well.

There will be a disco, refreshments, Christmas fun and games, and with luck a visit from Father Christmas and a player or two.

Adults bringing Junior Hatters to the party, which will last until 9pm, can use the Maple Road car park, and the Eric Morecambe Suite will be open for their use, with bar facilities.

Tickets for the party cost £5 each for Junior Hatters, and each can buy one guest ticket, at £6. They are available from the club shop.



SHOWING THE FLAG: We had an excellent Junior Hatters day out at Prenton Park, where we were given a warm welcome by Tranmere Rovers officials. They invited us to put out a mascot, so, as usual, the choice was made by lucky dip on the journey. Thomas Mackie, 9, from Arundel Road, Luton, was the lucky lad, and is pictured with the skippers and match officials before the toss-up. He goes to Wenlock Junior School, Luton, and his hobbies are football, swimming and golf. He

Junior Hatters membership is open to any boy or girl aged from 0 to 16 who supports Luton Town, and if you want to know more please contact the club shop - but not on a matchday, please, when the staff are very busy serving customers. There are lots of advantages, including value for money trips to away games, and the chance to be picked out as mascot at home matches - the choice is made at random, with names drawn out of the computerised drum.

# GARETH OWEN Photography

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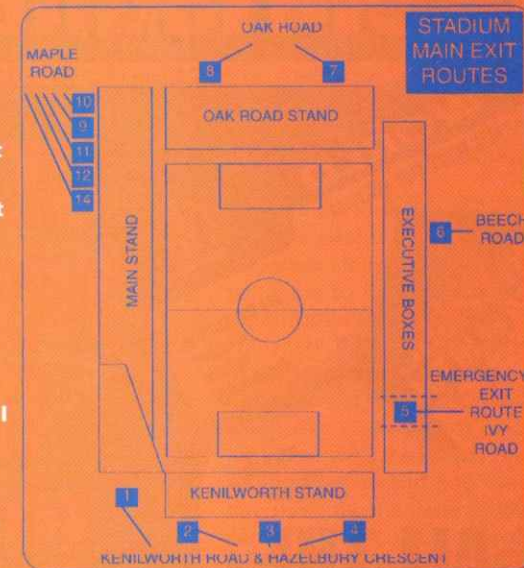


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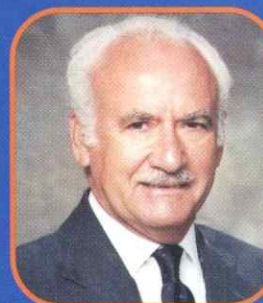
IN THE event of any emergency in the stadium, Luton Town FC and the emergency services have agreed on an evacuation procedure which is designed to ensure the safe and controlled evacuation of the crowd, and to ensure their safe dispersal from the area, to allow the emergency services to carry out their tasks.

In the event of evacuation from all or part of the stadium, you will receive instructions over the public address system on how you should leave. In an evacuation of the main stand you will be instructed to use the pitch. Stewards will direct you to the nearest exit. It may be that your normal exit route will not be available. On leaving the stadium, you will find some roads closed to pedestrians, to enable swift and unobstructed access for the emergency services. Please leave the area of the ground as quickly as possible, by the route directed. Your co-operation will be most appreciated.



Geoff Lovell, Safety Manager.

## 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.

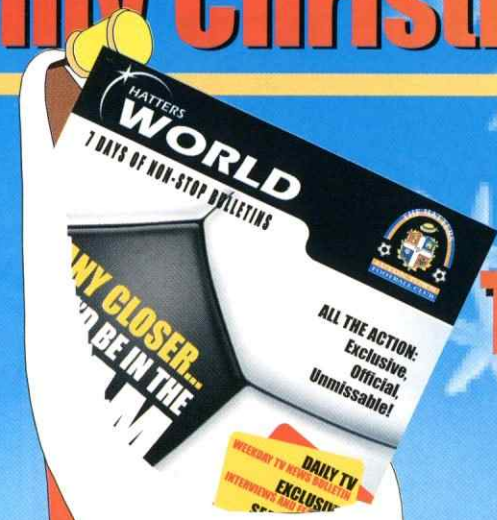
It is the policy of the Chairman and Directors to ensure that the conditions set out in the General Safety Certificate, issued under the Safety at Sports Grounds Act, 1975, are fully complied with.

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, 2002.

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## Luton Belles



**Cambridge United 3  
Luton Town Belles 4**

BELLES senior youth team, the Under 14s, were involved in a tremendous seven-goal thriller away to Cambridge United, who until then boasted a proud unbeaten two-year home record. Luton broke from the kick off when Michelle Byrne crossed from the by-line and found Holly Flynn but she shot straight at the keeper from six yards. With just 90 seconds on the clock the home side were in the lead when the ball broke to the Cambridge centre forward on the penalty spot and she swivelled to volley into the bottom corner.

Luton were stunned into action and were level in the fourth minute. Michelle Byrne picked up the ball on the half way line and stormed past her marker down the right. Her pace took her clear of the entire defence and as the Cambridge keeper came out to narrow the angle she lofted the ball over her head into the far corner of the net.

The home side continued to press forward, but were well handled by inspired performances by skipper Gemma Vale and defensive midfielder Kelly Halsey.

But after 20 minutes United regained the lead when a cross from the right was only half cleared and the ball was swept into the net. Cambridge then hit a purple patch and at one stage threatened to overrun the Town defence.

The turning point came when the Cambridge captain fired in a shot from 25 yards. The ball flew towards the top corner and Luton keeper Alice Burbury leapt across her goal to push the ball over the crossbar with her left hand to produce a save worthy of any football ground in the country. Luton then weathered the storm and fought their way back into the match to trail by the odd goal at half time.

Whatever was said at half time certainly did the trick as within a minute Luton were level. Michelle Byrne was running her marker ragged and was brought



**HEROIC:** Goalkeeper Alice Burbury, just one of the day's stars at Cambridge, with a performance which included a stunning save to prevent the home side going into a two-goal lead.

down just to the right of the penalty area. Gemma Vale floated in the free kick and Holly Flynn rose to head into the bottom corner.

Belles then took control and ten minutes later their pressure paid off when Holly Flynn poked the ball wide to Rebecca Kane, who outstripped her marker and smashed the ball into the net from the edge of the area. Fay Rolls almost extended the lead when her 25-yard shot curled a foot wide with the keeper beaten. As the match went into the final ten minutes the Luton defence came under constant pressure with Alice Middleton, Christina Baker and Natalie Forbes all making vital tackles but none was better than the tremendous tackle from Gemma Vale just as a Cambridge striker was about to score. But in the last minute Luton hearts were broken as Cambridge levelled with a curling shot from just inside the area to make it 3-3.

There was time for just one more attack, and Fay Rolls chased a lost ball to the by-line before screwing the ball across the six yard box where Lizzie Randall arrived to fire in the winning goal with just seconds left.

Without doubt this was Belles best performance of the season becoming the first team to come away with all three points and leaving them just two points behind leaders Stevenage Borough, with two games in hand.

*Dave Baker*

LUTON Belles organises football for girls of all ages, from ten upwards. If you want to know more, or fancy being involved, e-mail Dave Baker at [lutonbelles@hotmail.com](mailto:lutonbelles@hotmail.com) The Belles also have a website – pay a visit to [www.lutontownbelles.com](http://www.lutontownbelles.com)

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# Gifts for Christmas In The Club Shop



Luton Town Shoulder Flag **£10.50**



Luton Town St. Georges Flag **£10.50**



Luton Town Golf Umbrella **£17.00**

Childrens Goal Keepers Gloves **£9.95**



Childrens Shinpads **£9.95**



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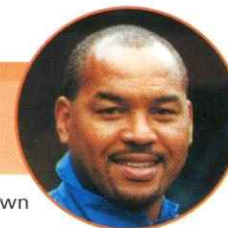
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# In Reserve



**Northampton 3 Luton Town 1**

THE referee had the major impact on this match, sending off Andrew Fotiadis and Michael Leary early in the second half. We were two down, having played well except for the failure to turn good play into goals. The two red cards upset us, but the nine men responded by suddenly looking stronger and more incisive, and after we pulled a goal back there was a real chance that we might get something out of the game.

The scoresheet was blank at the interval, and I felt at that stage that we were going to be all right. We had played well, but were let down by powder-puff attacking. Several times the ball was sent pin balling around their six-yard area, with no-one able to show the killer instinct. Mark Ovendale was almost a spectator in our goal, and Fotiadis could have had a hat-trick in the first half.

He was given a rough ride, and I felt the ref should have been stronger as he was fouled persistently. The last straw for the striker was when he was kneed in the back and nothing was done about it. Northampton broke and scored, and Fotiadis had a go at the referee. He was sent off for using foul and abusive language, which he strongly denied.

Northampton had taken a lead they did not deserve on the run of play in the 50th minute. Our defending was poor. We failed to block off a cross that led to the goal,

and then failed to close down the striker who scored.

Five minutes later we let in a very scrappy goal, and that led to Fotiadis making his views known before being red carded. Two minutes later Leary was also sent off for a tackle, which I felt, was a yellow card offence at the most.

Matthew Judge was sent on as a substitute, and our nine men did very well in keeping possession and working the ball forward. Judge rifled in a great goal on 75 minutes, and after that there were signs of panic in the Northampton side as we took the game to them. But we created only half chances, and failed to take any of them, and in the last minute Northampton got their third goal from a corner. It was a very harsh result.

**Luton Town:** Ovendale, Foley, J. Deeney, Hillier, Kimble, Davies (Judge 55 mins), Leary, Hughes, Michael Johnson; Fotiadis, O'Leary (Mansell 52 mins).

WE ARE at home to Barnet tomorrow, with a 2pm kick-off at Kenilworth Road.

**APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets:** L. Mansell 9(1), Leary 8(2), Skelton 8, Foley 8, Fotiadis 8, Hillier 7, Holmes 6, J. Deeney 6, Ovendale 5, Kimble 5, Gillman 4(1), Griffiths 4, Hughes 4, Neilson 4, Osborn 3(6), Okai 3(4), Barnett 3(2), Judge 2(4), O'Leary 2(4), Eberendo 2(2), Beckwith 2, Howell 2, Brill 2, Thorpe 2, Brkovic 2, Howell 2, Davies 1(2), Barnett 1(1), Kovacevic 1, Emberson 1, De Souza 1, Berthelin 1, Nicholls 1, Michael Johnson 1.

**Goals:** Judge 4, Fotiadis 3, Griffiths 3, Thorpe 2, Brkovic 2, Howell 2, Skelton 1, Eberendo 1, Holmes 1, Gillman 1, Barnett 1.

*Brian Stein*

**AVON COMBINATION TABLE**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CCrystal Palace	10	8	2	0	35	8	26
Portsmouth	9	8	0	1	19	6	24
Colchester	10	6	3	1	13	8	21
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>
Norwich	10	5	4	1	18	7	19
Cardiff	10	5	3	2	16	8	18
Reading	10	5	2	3	19	8	17
Southend	10	5	2	3	15	12	17
Swindon	10	5	2	3	14	14	17
Brentford	11	5	2	4	18	21	17
Brighton	7	5	1	1	16	6	16
QPR	10	4	3	3	13	16	15
L. Orient	10	4	2	4	22	20	14
Millwall	11	4	2	5	12	11	14
Gillingham	10	3	3	4	15	16	12
Bristol City	10	3	3	4	17	21	12
Bournemouth	9	3	2	4	12	17	11
Bristol Rov	12	2	4	6	11	20	10
Cheltenham	10	2	3	5	21	23	9
Oxford	9	3	0	6	9	13	9
Peterborough	9	3	0	6	13	17	9
Plymouth	8	3	0	5	10	17	9
Northampton	11	3	0	8	15	30	9
Wycombe	10	2	0	8	12	29	6
Cambridge	8	1	1	6	4	16	4
Barnet	9	0	1	8	10	27	1

<b>August</b>			
Wed 14	Bristol City(LC)	A	0-3
Wed 21	Reading	A	1-2 Skelton
<b>Wed 28</b>	<b>Bristol Rov</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>1-1 Griffiths</b>
<b>September</b>			
<b>Wed 4</b>	<b>Millwall</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2-1 Griffiths 2(1p)</b>
Wed 18	Swindon	A	4-0 Fotiadis 2, Eberendo, Howell
<b>Wed 25</b>	<b>Peterborough</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>4-1 Thorpe 2, Fotiadis, Holmes</b>
<b>October</b>			
Wed 9	Plymouth	A	4-0 Brkovic 2, Gillman, Judge
<b>Wed 16</b>	<b>Wycombe</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>3-1 Judge 2, Howell</b>
Wed 30	Cambridge	A	1-0 Barnett
<b>November</b>			
<b>Wed 13</b>	<b>QPR</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>
Wed 20	Wootton (BSC)	A	0-0 Won 4-3 on pens
Wed 27	Northampton	A	1-3 Judge
<b>December</b>			
<b>Wed 11</b>	<b>Barnet</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>
<b>January</b>			
Wed 8	Brighton	A	7pm
<b>Wed 15</b>	<b>C. Palace</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>
<b>Wed 22</b>	<b>Bournemouth</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>
Wed 29	Leyton Orient	A	2pm
<b>February</b>			
<b>Wed 5</b>	<b>Bristol City</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>2pm</b>
Wed 12	Southend	A	2pm

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## Youth Soccer - U17s

### Colchester Utd 1 Luton Town 3

AFTER an early wake-up call – we needed a clearance off the line to avoid going behind in the first ten seconds – we settled down to deserve victory. Tom Freeman and Sean Ridgway both hit the woodwork before Keith Keane gave us the lead on 18 minutes, cutting in from the right and finishing well with his left foot.

Freeman drove in our second just before half time, and we were looking better than the opposition all over the pitch.

But their centre-forward was quite lively and with ten minutes to go poor defending led to a goal for the home side. That could have led to a frantic finale, but we kept calm, and five minutes later good work by Mutsa Magadah, who had been sent on as a sub to run at the opposition, led to Freeman netting his second goal. The only criticism of the performance was that we missed a lot of chances, but the old cliché is true – the time to worry is when you are not making them.

**Luton Town:** Brill, Smyth (Pendleton 87 mins), Mansell, Blythe, Howell, Mountford, Keane, Ridgway, Freeman, Maitland (Magadah 70 mins), Danaher (De Souza 55 mins)

### QPR 2 Luton Town 2

A VERY young side, including ten schoolboys, did almost everything right, but for the problem that has

#### FL Youth Alliance Under-17

Month	Date	Opposition	Result	Goals
August	17	Brighton	A 0-3	
	24	Peterborough	A 6-0	Shea, Barnett, Blythe, Freeman, Keane, Maitland.
September	7	Southend	A 2-1	Ridgway 2 pens
	14	Portsmouth	H 1-0	Magadah
	21	Gillingham	A 4-3	Ridgway 2, Clark, Mansell
	28	Cambridge	A 0-0	
October	5	Colchester	H 3-0	Magadah, Keane, Blythe
	19	QPR	H 0-2	
	26	Wycombe	A 4-1	Magadah 4
November	2	L. Orient	A 1-3	Ridgway
	9	Brentford	H 0-0	
December	16	Cambridge	H 1-1	Maitland
	23	Colchester	A 3-1	Freeman 2, Keane
	30	QPR	A 2-2	Magadah, Clark
January	7	Wycombe	H	
	14	L. Orient	H	
February	11	Brentford	A	
	18	Brighton	H	
	25	Peterborough	H	
February	8	Southend	H	
	15	Portsmouth	A	
	22	Gillingham	H	

dogged us too many times this season: the inability to make best use of our chances. We had eight clear-cut opportunities in the first half, but turned round two down. David Deeney hit the bar as we started brightly, and the game could have been all over in the first 15 minutes.

Instead Rangers, playing on the break, scored on 20 and 30 minutes. At least our heads don't go down, and we stuck to our play in the second half, which developed into a good contest, with us pressing and QPR looking dangerous on the break.

A good build-up led to Mutsa Magadah scoring on 60 minutes, and ten minutes later we got a well-deserved equaliser. The goal was typical of our difficulties: we had to hit the woodwork twice. Keith Keane shot against a post, and David Deeney did the same from the rebound, with Peter Clark putting the ball into the net from the second rebound. Both sides had chances after that, but for me it was a case of two points getting away.

**Luton Town:** Brill, Smyth, Pendleton, De Souza, D. Deeney, Mountford, Blake (Clark 60 mins), Keane, Ridgway, Magadah (Sinclair 85 mins), Danaher (Richardson 60 mins).

WE ARE at home to Leyton Orient on Saturday, and spectators are welcome at Luton RFC, Newlands Road, where the kick-off is at 11am. Admission is free.

**APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets:** Ridgway 14, Mountford 13, D. Deeney 13, Blythe 12, Magadah 10(2), Smyth 10(2), Brill 10, Blake 10(1), Shea 9(3), De Souza 8(2), Reid 8, Clark 7(3), Keane 6, Freeman 4, R. Mansell 3, Hurst 3, Green 2(4), Danaher 2(3), Maitland 2(2), Skelton 2(1), Howell 2, Pendleton 1(3), McCarthy 1(2), Barnett 1, Barrett 1, Sinclair 0(9), Richardson 0(2)

**Goals:** Magadah 7, Ridgway 5, Freeman 3, Keane 3, Maitland 2, Blythe 2, Clark 2, Shea 1, Barnett 1, R. Mansell 1

*Mark Ridgway*

#### FLYA UNDER-17 SE CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Peterborough	12	9	1	2	27	15	28
L. Orient	12	7	3	2	28	14	24
Brighton	10	7	1	2	21	11	22
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>
Wycombe	12	5	2	5	25	34	17
Gillingham	12	5	1	6	30	33	16
Colchester	11	4	3	4	17	19	15
Cambridge	12	3	4	5	20	21	13
QPR	12	2	5	5	16	21	11
Brentford	12	3	1	8	18	27	10
Portsmouth	11	2	3	6	22	22	9
Southend	12	2	3	7	22	37	9

## Youth Soccer - U19s



### FA Youth Cup Third Round Luton Town 1 Stoke City 0

AFTER a rather nervy first half, we dominated the second to beat a useful visiting team with a late goal by Matthew Judge, his tenth of the season. Our only worry in the second half was how we might get a goal, but we always looked more likely to score.

We had two schoolboys as our front men because I wanted to use more senior boys in other positions to give us a firm base – the first priority was to be hard to beat, and we were, although Stoke had a couple of chances in the first half, with one shot hitting the bar.

We swapped things round early in the second half, moving Judge from the right of the midfield four to play in attack, where he is always likely to be lively. We were looking strong, but had to gamble to find a goal. We sent on another youngster, Keith Keane, who can also be a bit of a livewire, putting pressure on defenders and making them nervous.

The goalkeeper made an excellent save to keep out a drive by Judge, but with seven minutes to go he was beaten comprehensively when Judge headed in from a corner by Richard Mansell.

Overall we deserved the win, and it was pleasing that the boys got over their nerves. For most it was the biggest game of their careers so far, and playing at Kenilworth Road adds

to the sense of occasion. Last year, in similar circumstances, we went out of this competition to Brentford when we froze on the night. This time we did not make that mistake, and I was pleased at the way we stuck at it for the whole 90 minutes. Everyone applied himself and worked hard.

We will be at home to Bradford in the fourth round, with a date yet to be agreed, but probably in early January.

**Luton Town:** Beckwith, Howell, R. Mansell, Foley, Davies, Barnett, Judge, O'Leary, Freeman (Keane 77 mins), Maitland, Okai.

#### FLYA Under-19 section Luton Town 2 West Brom 1

IT WAS very pleasing to beat one of the top teams in our league on Saturday, but it was not a vintage performance, and a few of our players seemed to be thinking about the FA Youth Cup to come. We deserved the victory although some individuals were a bit below par, and persistence paid off because we got the winner 20 seconds before the end.

We conceded a silly goal after 18 minutes, but were level on 33, when we broke well from our own half. James Osborn did well to pick out Matthew Judge, who finished with a good header.

We had the better of the second half, and hit the bar twice before the late winner was tapped in by Luke Maitland, from a rebound off the keeper.

**Luton Town:** Beckwith, Howell, Barnett, O'Leary, J. Deeney, Gillman, Foley, Osborn, Freeman (Maitland 80 mins), Judge, Okai.

THE FA Youth Cup-tie was our final home match before the Christmas break. We are away to Oxford in the FL Youth Alliance on Saturday.

Up to and including Stoke

**APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets:** Howell 15, Barnett 14(1), Freeman 13, Judge 13, O'Leary 13, Okai 12, J. Deeney 11, Foley 11, Davies 10(2), Osborn 9(1), Beckwith 9, R. Mansell 8(2), Maitland 8(2), Gillman 7(1), Brill 6(2), Keane 3(5), De Souza 1(2), Ridgway 1(1), Mountford 1.

**Goals:** Judge 10, Freeman 7, Osborn 4, Okai 2, Barnett 2, O'Leary 2, Davies 1, Maitland 1.

*John Moore*

#### FLYA UNDER-19 SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Peterborough	9	7	0	2	26	6	21
West Brom	10	6	2	2	17	11	20
Northampton	10	6	2	2	14	10	20
Cambridge	9	4	2	3	15	12	14
Walsall	11	4	2	5	16	14	14
<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>
Oxford	10	3	0	7	13	26	9
Kidderminster	9	2	1	6	12	21	7
Rushden	10	1	2	7	7	24	5

## Come and Join Us!

The annual Luton Town Christmas Carol Service will be held at St. Mary's Luton Parish Church on Monday December 16, 2002, starting at 7.30. Players, management and other members of the staff of Luton Town will be in attendance, and all supporters are cordially invited to join us, for a traditional Christmas celebration suitable for all the family.

And please join us for coffee and hot mince pies after the service.

## Wondering what to give for Christmas?

### How about a Luton Town half-season ticket?

We sell season tickets throughout the year, at pro rata prices, depending on how many league matches remain on our fixture list.

Which means that for Christmas they are a bargain!

If you buy a season ticket to be used as a Christmas gift, it will ensure that the recipient will be guaranteed his or her own seat at all our remaining Second Division games, starting with the all-ticket match against Cardiff City on Boxing Day.

Prices start from as low as £108, or just £76 for senior and junior citizens, which guarantees entry to the final 12 league games of the season. It is, of course, cheaper than buying a seat match by match.

Benefits of being a season ticket holder:

- No need to buy tickets in advance for all-ticket matches
- Seat availability guaranteed for all home cup-ties
- Priority treatment when tickets for away games are limited
- A ten per cent discount on purchases in the club shop

To find out more, contact the ticket office in Kenilworth Road, telephone Luton 416976 - you are welcome to pay by credit or debit card

Part-season tickets for immediate use are also available - please ask for prices.

check out the stats @ [www.soccer-stats.com](http://www.soccer-stats.com)

## Shots On and Off Target per game

	On Target	Off T		On Target	Off T
Cardiff	6.65	6.35	Huddersfield	5.35	4.95
Wigan	6.60	7.55	Blackpool	5.20	4.70
Mansfield	6.45	5.20	Northampton	5.15	4.10
Wycombe	6.25	5.30	Notts County	5.05	4.68
Peterborough	6.00	5.20	Swindon	4.95	4.90
Cheltenham	5.95	4.40	Stockport	4.90	4.35
Crewe	5.85	5.60	Oldham	4.65	5.30
Barnsley	5.55	6.25	Port Vale	4.45	5.30
QPR	5.55	6.70	Luton	4.40	5.50
Bristol City	5.53	4.42	Chesterfield	4.25	4.25
Tranmere	5.45	5.30	Colchester	3.70	4.10
Plymouth	5.40	6.55	Brentford	3.20	4.40

## Goals in last 15 mins of game

FOR	76-90	Tot	%	AGAINST	76-90	Tot	%
Luton	11	30	37	Chesterfield	8	21	38
Peterborough	8	22	36	Brentford	8	23	35
Blackpool	8	25	32	Tranmere	10	33	30
Tranmere	7	22	32	Crewe	5	17	29
Bristol City	12	40	30	Notts County	8	28	29
Wycombe	7	26	27	Plymouth	8	28	29
Oldham	9	34	26	Mansfield	15	53	28
Cardiff	9	35	26	Northampton	7	25	28
Swindon	6	24	25	Peterborough	8	29	28
Brentford	6	25	24	Blackpool	7	28	25
Northampton	5	21	24	Wycombe	7	30	23
Plymouth	6	27	22	Oldham	3	14	21
				Huddersfield	5	24	21

ordered by late goals as % of all goals

## TOP GOALSCORERS

close range goals			Volleyed shots		
Player	Club	Tot	Player	Club	Tot
Kitson	Cambridge	10	Earnshaw	Cardiff	6
Larsson	Celtic	8	McVeigh	Norwich	6
Johnson	Forest	7	Todorov	Portsmouth	4
Beckett	Stockport	6	Cureton	Reading	3
Darby	Rushden	6	Byfield	Rotherham	3
Campbell	Everton	5	Hulse	Crewe	3
Taylor	Burnley	5	Gabbiadini	Northampton	3
Cresswell	Preston	5	Stallard	Notts County	3
Helguson	Watford	5	Beckett	Stockport	3
Ellington	Wigan	5	Weatherstone	Boston	3
Conlon	Darlington	5	Tinkler	Hartlepool	3
Torpey	Scunthorpe	5	Melligan	Kidderminster	3
Morrell	Wrexham	5	Morrell	Wrexham	3
Duffield	York	5	Duffield	York	3
			Larsson	Celtic	3

goals scored inside 6 yard box

## Margins of Victory

Games WON by	1gl	2gl	3gl	4gl	5+gl
Cardiff	8	2	1	2	0
Wigan	4	8	1	0	0
Bristol City	4	4	3	1	0
Oldham	5	3	0	2	1
Crewe	4	3	2	0	1
Chesterfield	7	1	0	1	0
Brentford	5	2	0	0	1
QPR	1	5	1	1	0
Blackpool	4	2	2	0	0
Luton	5	1	2	0	0
Tranmere	5	2	1	0	0
Northampton	3	1	3	0	0
Port Vale	6	1	0	0	0
Stockport	4	2	1	0	0
Barnsley	5	1	0	0	0
Plymouth	4	1	1	0	0
Swindon	3	3	0	0	0
Wycombe	3	2	1	0	0
Cheltenham	3	2	0	0	0
Colchester	4	1	0	0	0
Mansfield	2	1	0	0	1
Peterborough	2	1	0	1	0
Huddersfield	2	1	1	0	0
Notts County	1	0	2	0	0

## Leading Scorers - League and Cup

Player	Lge	WC	FA	LDV	Tot	GI/Gm
Rob Hulse	15	1	0	3	19	0.86
Robert Earnshaw	16	3	0	0	19	0.83
Luke Beckett	14	1	1	0	16	0.67
Scott Murray	12	0	2	1	15	0.68
Ilyseden Christie	12	0	1	0	13	0.62
Sam Parkin	12	0	1	1	12	0.50
Marco Gabbiadini	10	0	1	1	11	0.73
Clyde Wijnhard	8	2	1	0	11	0.44
Nathan Ellington	8	3	0	0	11	0.44
Steven Howard	9	1	0	0	10	0.45
Andy Clarke	7	0	1	2	10	0.45
Andy Liddell	9	0	0	0	9	0.50
Danny Allsopp	7	0	2	0	9	0.41
Rowan Vine	6	1	2	0	9	0.39
Christian Roberts	7	0	2	0	9	0.39

the right hand figure is the number of average goals per game played

## COMEBACKS

Won from	-3	-2	-1	Tot
Luton	0	0	4	4
Blackpool	0	0	3	3
Port Vale	0	0	3	3
Swindon	0	0	3	3
Tranmere	0	0	3	3
Bristol City	0	1	1	2
Mansfield	0	0	2	2
Oldham	0	0	2	2
QPR	0	0	2	2
Wigan	0	0	2	2

## THROWAWAYS

Lost from	+3	+2	+1	Tot
Cheltenham	0	0	4	4
Mansfield	0	1	2	3
Notts County	0	0	3	3
Plymouth	0	0	3	3
Barnsley	0	0	2	2
Port Vale	0	0	2	2
Stockport	0	0	2	2
Tranmere	0	0	2	2
Wycombe	0	0	2	2

number of games when clubs have come behind to win or been ahead and lost

## Fouls and Offsides per game

avg. fouls per game	avg. offsides per game		
Wycombe	14.30	Barnsley	5.00
Luton	14.10	Luton	4.95
Brentford	13.80	Tranmere	4.10
Tranmere	13.70	Cheltenham	3.85
Oldham	13.40	Wycombe	3.85
Bristol City	12.95	Peterborough	3.80
Wigan	12.80	Plymouth	3.80
Swindon	12.75	Oldham	3.75
QPR	12.55	Crewe	3.65
Barnsley	12.35	Brentford	3.45
Chesterfield	12.35	Northampton	3.45
Plymouth	12.35	Stockport	3.45



# SQUAD CHECK

## LUTON TOWN

Manager: Joe Kinnear

1	Mark Ovendale	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Aaron Skelton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Alan Neilson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Matthew Spring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Russell Perrett	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Marvin Johnson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Adrian Forbes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Kevin Nicholls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Tony Thorpe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Carl Griffiths	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Steve Robinson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Chris Coyne	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Andrew Fotiadis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Dean Crowe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Carl Emberson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Emmerson Boyce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Ahmet Brkovic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Steve Howard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Peter Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Paul Hughes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	David Bayliss	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Ian Hillier	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Sol Davis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	Alan Kimble	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

tick if playing ■ tick if substitute ●

## CAMBRIDGE UNITED

Manager: John Taylor

1	Shaun Marshall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Warren Goodhind	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Freddie Murray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Andy Duncan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Adam Tann	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Stevland Angus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Paul Wanless	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Terry Fleming	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	David Kitson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Tom Youngs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Daniel Chillingworth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Martin Brennan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Luke Guttridge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Tony Scully	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Alex Revell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Franco Nacca	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	David Bridges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Graham Rush	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Shane Tudor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Owen Paynter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Daniel Huggins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Daryl Bourgeois	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Omer Riza	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Phil Warner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Stephen Jordan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	John Turner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
51	Jo Arne Lervik	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Tonight's Officials

Referee: Michael Jones, Cheshire

Assistants: Ian Bentley, Kent (yellow flag); Kevin Merchant, Surrey (red and yellow flag)

Fourth Official: Ray Lee, Essex

*"Genuine Deals For Genuine Fans!"*  
**Luton Fans Are**  
**Guaranteed To Score At**  
**Motorbodies Luton**

114 Point Service

12 Months/ 15,000 mile guarantee

12 Months AA Assistance Mileage Check

30 Day Exchange Plan

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HPI Check

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• 12 months/15,000 mile Guarantee

• 114 point service

• 30 day exchange pledge

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**Motorbodies Leagrave**

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**OPENING HOURS**

Mon-Fri 9am-7pm

Sat 9am-5pm

Sun 10.30-430pm

