

Lacklustre Luton

02/03

Luton 0 Brentford 1

ROWAN Vine's 13th goal of the season was enough to earn Brentford their first league win of the year with a 1-0 win at Luton.

The 20-year-old scored with a scorching left footer from 20 yards shortly after the break.

Luton had started brightly with Kevin Nicholls almost deceiving Paul Smith with a 25-yard free kick.

Dean Crowe also only had Smith to beat but instead sent a misdirected square pass beyond Tony Thorpe.

Smith also saved from Thorpe with his legs but Brentford gradually got back into the game with a hard-working performance.

Stephen Hunt's long-range free kick was almost fumbled into the net by Carl Emberson who also saved well from Mark McCammon.

McCammon missed the chance to double the score when he headed over from close-range.

Brentford manager Wally Downes was delighted to see his team's effort and commitment lead to their fifth away win of the season.

"All our players work hard for one another," he said.

"We got to half time with the score still level and that gave us a reasonable platform to push on.

"I asked them to try and get a goal and the one we got was tremendous."

For Luton boss Joe Kinnear there was nothing to give pleasure from a performance which was well below those he had seen from his side in recent weeks.

"It's so very disappointing," he said.

"We had enough clearcut chances to win the game but even so the performance was flat. Too many players had an off day and I have spelt it out to them in no uncertain terms.

"I give credit to Brentford because it was a tremendous goal. They hassled us, worked hard, and they closed us down. We needed a goal to give us a lift but the spark was missing."

Kinnear's men were called into Kenilworth Road on Sunday and were forced to watch the video of their lacklustre display.

He said: "The message to some of them is that they must get their act together. Too many went missing and that's not good enough."