



Luton Town Football Club

Official Matchday Magazine • Price £2.50

Nationwide League Division Two

Saturday 23th August 2003 • Kick Off 3.00pm



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Luton Town v Grimsby Town

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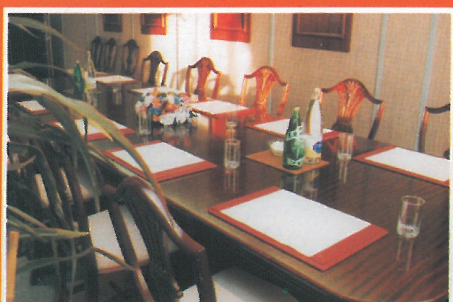
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Millennium Suite	70	35
The Boardroom	50	30

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Honours

Littlewoods Cup
Winners 1987-88
Finalists 1988-89

FA Cup
Finalists 1958-59

Simod Cup
Finalists 1987-88

Division 2
Champions 1981-82

Division 3 (S)
Champions 1936-37

Division 4
Champions 1967-68

Official Matchday Magazine

Editor
Brian Swain
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Gareth Owen

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

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R. Safranek, J. Sapsworth

Chief Executive/Secretary
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Manager
Mike Newell

Director of Football & First Team Coach
Mick Harford

Coach
Brian Stein

Youth Team Coach
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Last Season
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League saw an Increase in
Attendance of 13.5%;
Why...?



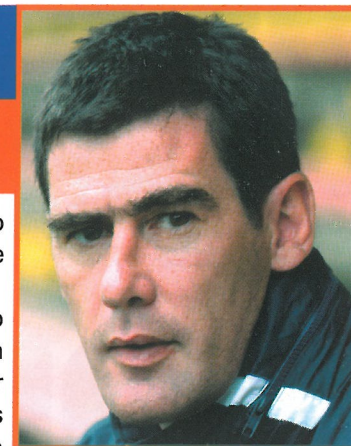
The authority...



The Quality of the Football

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The Manager's Message



WELCOME back to Kenilworth Road. We are obviously delighted with the start we have made, and the win away to Stockport was the icing on the cake after a very pleasing first week.

Without being too greedy, we felt we could probably have won even more convincingly had we been a bit more ruthless at 2-0. We have some good players who have hit form early, and the fact that we have six different scorers on the sheet already is an indication of the confidence in the side at the moment.

Our win in the Carling Cup against Yeovil appears now to be an even better result than we thought after the start they have made in Division Three. They have had two convincing wins, and will be a force to be reckoned with.

It gave us an away trip to Charlton and a chance to see how we fare against Premiership opposition.

Our bread and butter, however, will always be the league, and today we face a Grimsby side who have held their own at Division One level for a good while until their relegation last season.

All we can ask is that our players are as fully committed as they have been so far. It has been a difficult time for them, with so many distractions, and until the club comes out of administration and is in the hands of new owners I don't think anyone will be completely settled.

I have said recently that we would like to add to the squad, as any manager would, but it also must be said that I desperately want to keep the players we already have

here, and who we are sure of.

If we get into a situation where our best players are allowed to

leave for next to nothing things will become very difficult.

Success is achieved by good players, not managers or coaches, and we have some very good players at this level. Keeping them is a must.

One thing that annoys me is the attitude of agents who seem to think there are no rules any more. I believe in being up front and honest with people. But the majority of agents don't play by the same rules, and it makes things very difficult.

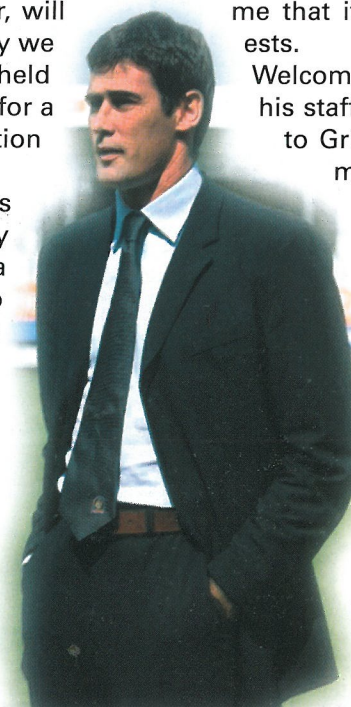
They will argue that they are looking after their clients' interests but it appears to me that it's more in their own interests.

Welcome today to Paul Groves and his staff, players and directors. And to Grimsby supporters who have made the trip to back their team.

The following we had at Edgeley Park last week was fantastic, and you could see at the end of the game how much the win meant to those supporters.

I am sure we will have the same backing again today, and thanks for that – you would be surprised at the difference it makes to players.

Mike Newell

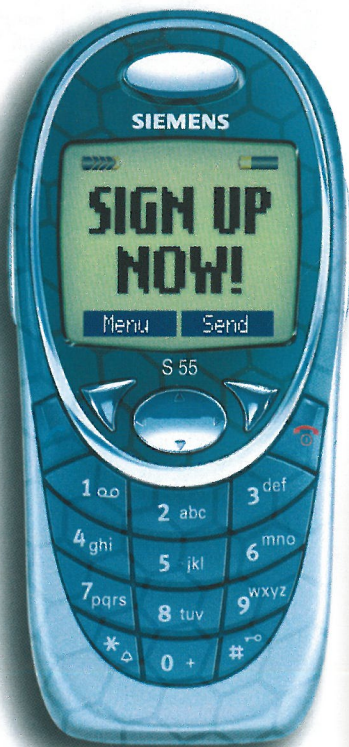


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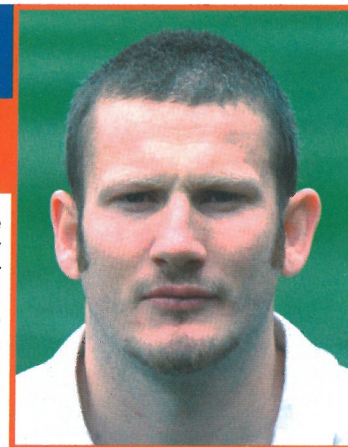
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The Town Captain's View



THREE wins out of three have given us just the start we needed, and to be honest I am not surprised at the good results so far. We were playing well in our pre-season games, and the manager makes everyone feel so relaxed that I knew there was not a chance of us having the sort of start we endured last season.

And, of course, we have since had a year's experience of the Second Division, and got used to its demands.

We have an excellent team spirit, and the goals are flowing, and in each game so far we have looked like scoring more. Having proved to be much better on the day against Rushden, we expected to be set a problem or two by Yeovil in the Carling Cup. But even when they equalised I was not worried, because I felt we were on top, and if we had taken our chances it would have been all over by half-time. That victory, of course, has lined us up for a trip to Charlton in the second round, and I am looking forward to that because it was at Charlton where I got my chance to be a professional footballer. I still have a lot of friends there, and I will always be grateful to Alan Curbishley and Keith Peacock for the way they helped me when I was learning my trade.

We will not be over-awed by meeting Premiership opposition, but we have more important business before then, starting with two big games this weekend. We face two teams who have just come into the division after relegation, which means they have a point to prove, to themselves and their supporters.

I rate Grimsby as a decent footballing side, but perhaps this is a good time to be playing them after major rebuilding of their squad during the summer, and while they are still getting the feel of the Second Division.

We then have a trip to Brighton on Monday, and that will be another difficult game. They have had an excellent start to the season – exactly as good as ours, of course – and their win over Queens Park Rangers suggest they will be a force to be reckoned with in this league. My favourites for promotion, after Luton Town, are QPR and Bristol City, with Brighton likely to be in close contention.

We know that we will cause plenty of problems for opponents, and while complacency will not be allowed to creep in, we have every reason to be confident after our excellent start.

One reason is that in the three games so far, not one single player has had a bad one yet. And I thought some of our football was marvellous at Stockport. It wasn't easy because the pitch was difficult. They use Edgeley Park for rugby as well as soccer, and the grass was too long to suit the sort of passing football the gaffer wants us to play. Mick Harford asked them if they had run out of petrol for the mower! Despite the long grass and rock hard surface, we played some really good football, and well deserved to win, even if Howie's goal was offside. But fair play to the big man – his finish was top class. And well done Alan Neilson for his clever header to give us the lead. It was his first goal in four years, but we have told Nelse we don't expect him to wait that long before doing it again! The 2-1 margin sounds close, but overall we were pretty comfortable winners.

I would love it if we could bag six more points in the next three days, and we believe we have a realistic chance of doing that. But most important of all is that we must not be beaten. I want this to be the start of a long unbeaten run. We had a few short runs last season, but nothing to compare with the long unbeaten sequence the season before, when we won promotion. That showed spirit and character, which we still have. If we take four points out of the games today and Monday, I will not be too displeased, and with supporters behind us – and thanks for your backing at Stockport – we might just find ourselves clear at the top of the table by Monday night.

Kevin Nicholls



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www.lutontown.co.uk

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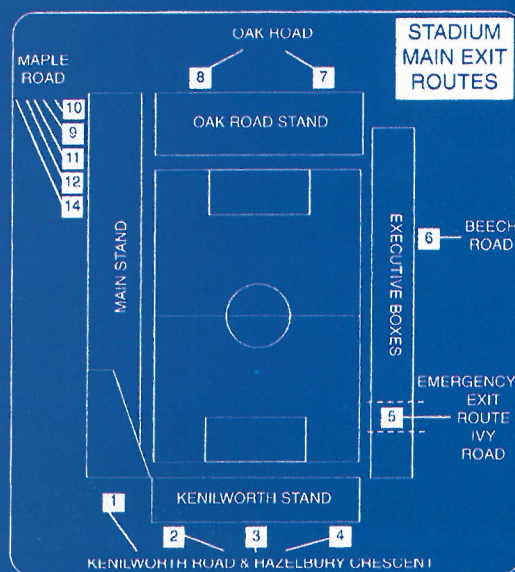
Mr J Ashton

EVACUATION PROCEDURE

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.



From The Chief Executive



AFTER the dramatic summer, what a magnificent start to the season we have had – we all deserve it!

I cannot imagine what the players must go through actually playing in the tremendous heat we have experienced over the past weeks, and whilst we shouldn't complain, a little rain would be good for the pitches.

Hot weather or not, Mike Newell and the lads have done us proud – it makes such a difference when you get off to a good start in the season, and we couldn't ask for more than three wins in eight days.

The Yeovil result, of course, put us through to the second round of the Carling Cup, and while it would have been nice to have another home tie, it's great to be drawn against a Premiership club, and I expect we will have plenty of support at The Valley.

Following my last programme notes it has been pleasing to hear from supporters, not only with complaints, but constructive comments.

One complaint we have continually received however is regarding the price of the tickets for Monday's match at Brighton, and on taking this up with them we have received the following reply:

"The price Brighton have to charge relates directly to the considerable charges for the hiring of the council-owned stadium, the very limited capacity (just under 7,000) and the lack of hospitality facilities and advertising opportunities that are available.

"The price of the match ticket also includes the cost of a travel voucher to encourage supporters to leave their cars at home and use public transport, as there is a very strict no-parking zone around the stadium, which is one of the conditions of the club's agreement with the council.

"Prices for away supporters equate to the lowest price charged to home supporters, most of whom it must be said also sit in stands exposed to the inclement weather."

Like everyone, I was very saddened by the

news of Ray Harford's passing. He was a great character, with a tremendous sense of humour, and I remember

him from our Littlewoods Cup days – what wonderful times they were.

As always the one minute's silence at the Yeovil match was impeccably observed by both sets of fans. When Ray attended The Royal Marsden Hospital during his illness he was always touched by the sick children he saw, and he did ask that if anyone would like to make a donation it should be for the Children's Department Fund at the Royal Marsden Hospital.

In line with his wish, we are holding a collection here today in his memory, and I know our supporters will want to give to this worthy cause and show our respect for Ray. Our thanks to the official Luton Town Supporters Club members for their help with the collection today.

We would like to pass on our condolences to Dave Kirby, our former physio, and his family on the death of his mother. Florence Kirby was a former member of the Century Club, and a stalwart supporter of Luton Town.

Finally, this afternoon, our thanks go to the Loyal Luton Supporters Club and the Hitchin Town Supporters FC for their fund-raising match at Offley last week. As a club we are still going through difficult times, but the reaction from so many people and organisations has been superb. With so many sharing such a depth of feeling for our club, we are certain to get through our present troubles.

Cherry Newbery

DIVISION 2 STATS

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

Most Scoring chances per game

	On Target	Off T		On Target	Off T
Swindon	11.00	9.50	Wycombe	5.00	5.00
Plymouth	10.50	7.00	Colchester	4.00	5.50
Notts County	7.50	7.50	Brighton	5.50	3.00
Bristol City	9.00	4.50	Chesterfield	5.50	3.00
Rushden	6.50	6.50	Oldham	4.00	4.00
Tranmere	7.50	5.50	Brentford	4.50	3.00
Wrexham	7.00	5.50	Luton	4.50	3.00
QPR	6.50	5.50	Sheff Wed	5.00	2.50
Bournemouth	6.00	5.00	Blackpool	3.50	3.50
Port Vale	8.50	2.50	Hartlepool	3.50	3.50
Peterborough	8.00	2.50	Stockport	3.00	4.00
Grimsby	4.00	6.00	Barnsley	4.50	1.00

Goals in last 15 Mins of match

FOR	76-90 Tot		%	AGAINST	76-90 Tot		%
Tranmere	2	4	50	Rushden	2	4	50
Oldham	1	3	33	Brighton	1	2	50
Plymouth	1	3	33	Colchester	1	2	50
Swindon	1	3	33	Brentford	3	7	43
Hartlepool	1	4	25	Bournemouth	1	4	25
Port Vale	1	4	25	Peterborough	1	4	25
Luton	1	5	20	Notts County	1	6	17
Bristol City	1	6	17	Blackpool	1	7	14
Peterborough	1	6	17				
QPR	1	6	17				

ordered by late goals as % of all goals

TOP GOALSCORERS

Player	Club	Tot	Player	Club	Tot
Giggs	Man Utd	1	Basham	Oxford	3
Blake	Burnley	1	Trundle	Swansea	3
Lunt	Crewe	1	Knight	Brighton	2
Strachan	Hartlepool	1	Matthews	Bristol City	2
Igoe	Swindon	1	Ainsworth	QPR	2
Williams	Kidderminster	1	Kuqi	Sheff Wed	2
Corden	Mansfield	1	Preece	Bury	2
Johnson	Yeovil	1	Fortune-West	Doncaster	2
Padula	QPR	1	Gall	Yeovil	2

Average Shots On and Off target per game

Goals from Set Pieces for and against

SCORED	Co	FK	CONCEDED	Co	FK
QPR	1	2	Blackpool	1	2
Blackpool	1	1	Brentford	2	1
Bristol City	2	0	Brighton	0	2
Luton	1	1	Grimsby	1	1
Swindon	0	2	Wycombe	1	1
Tranmere	1	1	Bristol City	1	0
Brighton	0	1	Chesterfield	1	0
Chesterfield	1	0	Colchester	0	1
Hartlepool	0	1	Notts County	1	0
Oldham	0	1	Oldham	0	1
Peterborough	1	0	Peterborough	0	1
Plymouth	1	0	Rushden	1	0
Port Vale	0	1	Sheff Wed	0	1
Wycombe	0	1	Stockport	0	1

Co = Corners FK = Free Kick Routines

Scorers' Points Gained & Scoring Run

Club	Gls	GI/gm	Pts	Run	1stG
Leon Knight	4	2.00	5	2	0
Stephen McPhee	2	1.00	4	2	1
Shefki Kuqi	3	1.50	3	2	0
Dean Gorre	2	1.00	3	2	1
Scott Taylor	2	1.00	3	1	0
Tony Thorpe	2	1.00	2	1	0
Onandi Lowe	2	1.00	2	2	2
Paul Robinson	1	0.50	2	1	0
Hector Sam	1	1.00	2	1	1
Charlie Mapes	1	0.50	2	1	1

eg if player scores the goal in a 1-0 win, the goal is worth 2 pts as score would have been 0-0, or if 2 goals in 2-1 win, goals worth 3 pts. Also shown is goals per game figure and number of games player scored 1st goal

COMEBACKS

Won from	-3	-2	-1	Tot
Blackpool	0	1	0	1
Hartlepool	0	1	0	1
Brighton	0	0	1	1
Luton	0	0	1	1
Port Vale	0	0	1	1

THROWAWAYS

Lost from	+3	+2	+1	Tot
Peterborough	0	1	0	1
Wycombe	0	1	0	1
Grimsby	0	0	1	1
QPR	0	0	1	1
Rushden	0	0	1	1

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
Grimsby 18.50	Luton 8.00
Tranmere 18.50	Stockport 7.00
Notts County 17.00	Brighton 6.50
Luton 16.50	Peterborough 6.50
Chesterfield 15.00	Blackpool 5.50
Oldham 15.00	Rushden 5.50
Wycombe 15.00	Chesterfield 5.00
Bournemouth 13.50	Colchester 5.00
Barnsley 13.50	Tranmere 5.00
Brighton 13.50	Grimsby 4.50
Colchester 13.50	Oldham 4.50
	QPR 4.50

Margins of Victory

Games WON by	1gl	2gl	3gl	4gl	5+gl
Brighton	1	1	0	0	0
Luton	1	1	0	0	0
Port Vale	2	0	0	0	1
Bristol City	0	0	0	0	1
QPR	0	0	0	0	0
Barnsley	1	0	0	0	0
Blackpool	1	0	0	0	0
Hartlepool	1	0	0	0	0
Peterborough	0	0	0	0	0
Rushden	1	0	0	0	0
Sheff Wed	1	0	0	0	0
Swindon	1	0	0	0	0
Tranmere	0	0	1	0	0
Wrexham	1	0	0	0	0
Wycombe	0	0	0	0	0
Bournemouth	0	0	0	0	0
Brentford	0	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield	0	0	0	0	0
Colchester	0	0	0	0	0
Grimsby	0	0	0	0	0
Notts County	0	0	0	0	0
Oldham	0	0	0	0	0
Plymouth	0	0	0	0	0
Stockport	0	0	0	0	0

Hatters Away To The Seaside



BANK holiday traffic and strict parking restrictions around the stadium could mean problems for Town fans heading for Brighton on Monday. Our advice is to use the official coach services, or Thameslink's rail service - Withead Stadium is a ten-minute walk from Preston



station, the stop before Brighton. Football parking is banned in the residential area around Withead, but there is a free park and ride scheme.

The Bobbers Travel Club will take you to Brighton for £11, £9 for senior and junior citizens, and their coaches leave Cranfield at 9.30 and Luton an hour later. The Town on Tour service sets off from Bletchley at 9.30 and Luton at 10.30. Fares are £12 for adult members of Luton Town Supporters Club, £10 for junior and senior members, and £14 for others.

If You Must Drive

IN normal traffic conditions you can motor to Brighton in two hours or less, but the bank holiday complicates things on Monday. Leave Luton on the M1 south, then take M25 west, towards and beyond Heathrow. Leave M25 at junction 8, taking the M23 towards Brighton. That becomes the A23, London Road, and at the first roundabout on the outskirts of Brighton turn right under a small railway bridge and you will see the Mill Road park and ride entrance. Mileage: 95.

BOOKINGS for away games travel can be made at the LTSC or Bobbers kiosks in Kenilworth Road, before or after home games. Paul Deason on 01234 750996 will take phone bookings for the Bobbers, whose service includes pick-ups at Cranfield, Marston Moretaine, Ampthill, Flitwick, Westoning and opposite the Travelodge Motel in Dunstable Road, Luton, close to the M1. Town on Tour offers LTSC members the best deals, and seats can be reserved at the Supporters Club kiosk or by phoning 07960 567465. They offer additional pick-ups at Bletchley, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard and Houghton Regis, as an experiment which will be run until the turn of the year. Its future will depend on demand.

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News From The Ticket Office



Nationwide League Division Two Brighton and Hove Albion v Luton Town

Monday August 25, 2003, kick-off 3pm

Prices: Adults £21,

Under-16s and Senior Citizens £13.

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

Tickets are now on general sale, subject to availability.



Nationwide League Division Two Luton Town v Hartlepool Utd

Saturday, August 30, 2003, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices

Cash turnstiles will be open on the day subject to availability, but please remember there are **NO CONCESSIONS** available on cash turnstiles.



Nationwide League Division Two Notts County v Luton Town

Saturday, September 6, 2003, kick-off 3pm

Prices: Adults £16, Senior Citizens £10,
12-15 Year Olds £7, Under-12s £3.

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

Proof of age will be required to purchase children's concession tickets.



Nationwide League Division Two Plymouth Argyle v Luton Town

Saturday, September 13, 2003, kick-off 3pm

Luton supporters have a choice of paying on the day or booking tickets in advance direct from Plymouth Argyle's ticket office (phone 01752 562562), with discounted rates available for adults.

Prices for advance purchase:

Adults £15, Senior Citizens & Students £10, Juniors £5.

On the day: Adults £17, Senior Citizens & Students £10, Juniors £5.



News From The Ticket Office

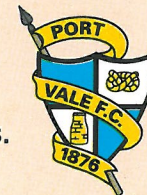


Nationwide League Division Two Luton Town v Port Vale

Tuesday, September 16, 2003, kick-off 7.45pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.

Cash turnstiles will be open on the day subject to availability, but please remember there are **NO CONCESSIONS** available on cash turnstiles.



Nationwide League Division Two Luton Town v Queens Park Rangers

Saturday, September 20, 2003, kick-off 3pm

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

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



Carling Cup, Second Round Charlton Athletic v Luton Town

Tuesday September 23, 8pm

Prices: Adults £10, Senior Citizens £5, Juniors £1

We have been allocated the South Stand that holds 3,000 and whilst this is not an all ticket match for Luton supporters it is advisable to purchase tickets in advance from the ticket office in Kenilworth Road before travelling.



Please note that the ticket office and club shop will be closed on
Monday for the bank holiday

Ticket Office Opening Hours

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

10am to 4pm, except on Fridays before
Saturday home games when it is 10am to 6pm

SATURDAY

9am to 5.15pm on match days; 10am until the
away coaches depart on days when there is no
game at Kenilworth Road.



Commercial Corner

MAY I extend a very warm welcome to all of our sponsors and commercial partners for this afternoon's

evenings, and available for work for at least 18 hours per week. Whether it is for an opportunity to join their team, or to employ their services, you can contact Critical Research on 01582 480588. We thank them for their support, and for their good wishes for the club this season.

match with Grimsby Town.

As I reported in my notes for the Rushden game, the commercial start to the season has been absolutely tremendous, and with superb results being generated on the pitch, both in the League and the Carling Cup, we shall be looking to ensure that we continue to drive the club's commercial business towards a record year and the ultimate benefit of the club.



MATCH SPONSOR
Critical Research
Joint Match Sponsors

IT'S welcome today to Derek Farr and Critical Research, our joint match sponsors, for their first visit of the season to Kenilworth Road's executive lounges.

Established in 1990, the company is a Luton-based market research organisation, with offices in Luton, Watford and Reading

They have sponsored many Luton Town games over the years, as well as having an involvement with youth football. Critical Research are a well known and firmly-established name in market research, who employ many staff locally, working from telephone interview centres. They are always on the look-out for people who want to train as telephone interviewers and who are able to work mornings, afternoons, or

MATCH SPONSOR

Wickes in Stevenage

Joint Match Sponsors



WICKES Home Improvement Centre, today's joint match sponsors, are celebrating the success of their 150th store, at Monkwood Way, Stevenage.

Offering the local community a full range of building and home improvement quality products at low prices, Wickes has a comprehensive stock list – everything from sand and cement, to power tools and paint, conservatories, kitchens and much more.

The Stevenage store also boasts an outdoor project centre, stocking garden landscaping products, with everything you may need to complete a garden project this August Bank Holiday.

Open seven days a week, from 7.30am to 8pm Monday to Saturday, and from 10am to 4pm on Sundays, the store meets the needs of tradesmen and home improvement enthusiasts alike.

MATCHBALL SPONSOR

Stanley Casino

Match Ball Sponsor and New Commercial Partner



WE GIVE a warm welcome today to Scott Cambell Cowan and the guests of Luton's Stanley Casino, who are this

Welcome to All Our Sponsors and Guests



Regular Rabble is the name these fans chose for themselves, although the title is, of course, misleading so far as the second word is concerned! They were joint match sponsors at our opening fixture.

afternoon's match ball sponsors. Stanley Casino are one of our new sponsors for this season, who in addition to a series of match sponsorships, are also executive boxholders and investors in the stadium and programme advertising. Luton-based, they offer a comprehensive choice in modern gaming, relaxed dining, late bars and live entertainment. Open every day from 2pm until 6am, and Sunday morning until 4am. Free membership is just a phone call away 01582 591148.



Ballyduff Plant Sales staff and guests who were joint match sponsors for the Rushden game.



Ryan Hardware our commercial mascot at our game versus Rushden And Diamonds.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

You could be part of one of these very special packages either as a Match Sponsor, Matchball Sponsor or a Commercial Mascot by simply contacting either Amelia or myself in the commercial department on 01582 411622. Your package would include a four-course lunch including wine, with a post-match buffet, match seats in the New Stand, reserved car parking, stadium tour and much more.

Have a great day

Peter Davis



Staff and guests of JD Promotions, who were match ball sponsors for our game against Rushden.

Special Cup-Tie Offer

A VIP Trip to The Valley



PREMIERSHIP club Charlton Athletic are Luton Town's next opponents in the second round of the Carling Cup, to be played on Tuesday September 23, kick off 8pm.

In conjunction with Charlton's commercial department, we have been able to organise a superb VIP trip to the Valley, giving you the opportunity of being there and witnessing what we hope will be a memorable and historic evening.

Package to include:

- Access from 3pm to the Eric Morecambe Lounge for complementary tea/coffee and cash bar
- Departure at 4pm by luxury air-conditioned coach that includes TV/Video, tea and coffee refreshments, and toilet facilities
- Private use of the Observatory Suite at the Valley, which includes a private cash bar
- Superb hot and cold fork buffet, with vegetarian options
- Half-time refreshments
- Souvenir match programme and team sheet
- A reserved match ticket in the South Stand

Cost per person: £80.00 including vat

Please note that, as with all our VIP away trips, a minimum of 40 guests are required to cover the basic costs and financial commitments.

Contact the commercial department on 01582 411622 for further details and booking information, or e-mail us at commercial@lutontown.co.uk



Hatters



Form Guide:

Won: 2
Drawn: 0
Lost: 0
Scored: 5
Conc: 2
Points: 6
Goal Diff: 3
Last 6: WW

Last 5 Home: W
Last 5 Away: W

Miscellaneous

Players Used: 16
Clean Sheets: 0
Failed to Score: 0

The Guys to Watch

Headed goals	Neilson, Spring, Thorpe	1
Long range shots	no long range goals	
Inside 6 yards	Neilson	1
Shots from 6-18 yards	Thorpe, Howard	1
Volleyed shots	no volleyed goals	
Penalties	no penalties	
Scored 1st Goal in match	Neilson	1
Most goals in last 10	Spring	1
Points gained from goals	Thorpe	2



Goalkeeping

Opp. attempts on target	8
Goals conceded	2
On target/goals scored	4
Division 2 rating	9

Goalscoring Strike Rate

Shots on target	9
Goals scored	5
On target / goals	1.8
Division 2 Rating	2

Goals in last 10 mins

Goals For, last 10	1
Points won	0
Goals Against, last 10	0
Points lost	0

Fouls & Offsides

Average fouls per game	16.5
Div 2 Rating (1=least, 24=most)	21
Average Offsides per game	8
Div 2 Rating	24

Swings

WON when behind	1
DRAWN when behind	0
LOST when ahead	0
DRAWN when ahead	0
WON 2 down	0
WON 1 down	1
LOST 2 up	0
LOST 1 up	0
DRAWN 2+ down	0
DRAWN 1 down	0
DRAWN 2+ up	0
DRAWN 1 up	0

Attendances

Aggregate	6,878
Highest	6,878
Lowest	6,878
Average	6,878

Where Goals

Close Range	1
Inside Area	1
Outside Area	1

How Goals

Shots	2
Headers	1
Volleys	0
Penalties	0
Free Kicks	0
Own Goals	0



Set Piece Goals

CORNERS:	
Scored from C	1
Conceded from C	0
FREE KICKS:	
Scored from FK	1
Conceded from FK	0

Cards

Yellow	4
Red	0

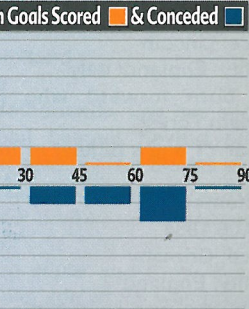
Margins

WON BY:	
1 Goal	0
2 Goals	0
3 Goals	0
4 Goals	0
5+ Goals	0
LOST BY:	
1 Goal	1
2 Goals	0
3 Goals	0
4 Goals	0
5+ Goals	0

Grimsby Town's 10-Year Record

The Guys to Watch

Headed goals	Boulding	1
Long range shots	Anderson	1
Inside 6 yards	Boulding	1
Shots from 6-18 yards	Boulding	1
Volleyed shots	no volleyed goals	
Penalties	no penalties	
Scored 1st Goal in match	Boulding	2
Most goals in last 10	none as yet	
Points gained from goals	Boulding, Anderson	0.5



Goalkeeping

Opp. attempts on target	27
Goals conceded	4
On target/goals scored	6.75
Division 2 rating	6

Goalscoring Strike Rate

Shots on target	8
Goals scored	3
On target / goals	2.66
Division 2 Rating	7

Goals in last 10 mins

Goals For, last 10	0
Points won	0
Goals Against, last 10	0
Points lost	0

Fouls & Offsides

Average fouls per game	18.5
Div 2 Rating (1=least, 24=most)	23
Average Offsides per game	4.5
Div 2 Rating	13

Swings

WON when behind	0
DRAWN when behind	1
LOST when ahead	1
DRAWN when ahead	1
WON 2 down	0
WON 1 down	0
LOST 2 up	0
LOST 1 up	1
DRAWN 2+ down	0
DRAWN 1 down	1
DRAWN 2+ up	0
DRAWN 1 up	1

Attendances

Aggregate	4,816
Highest	4,816
Lowest	4,816
Average	4,816

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Welcome to Today's Visitors

Giovanne Carchedi

DOB: 10.11.1983

Birthplace: Lincoln

Nationality: England/ Italy

Lincoln born forward who joined Town from Nottingham Forest.

Third year YT and a regular in Town's Reserves side.

Kirk Wheeler

DOB: 13.06.1984

Birthplace: Grimsby

Nationality: England

Local lad who was kept at the club because of the Future of Youth Campaign.

Looks like being a big season for Kirk as he looks to cement his place in the first team squad.

He has played for England Schools' Under 18s.

Iain Anderson

DOB: 23.07.1977

Birthplace: Glasgow

Nationality: Scotland

Iain joined the Mariners during the summer of 2003, snapped up on a free transfer after Preston paid up his contract.

David Moyes made the former Scotland U21 international their record signing for £500,000 from French side Toulouse.

A winger with a great eye for goal, he has scored 29 goals in 108 starts in British football.

Without doubt, Paul is destined for great things in the managerial field in the next few years - though whether Grimsby can hang on to his services remains to be seen.

Des Hamilton

DOB: 15.08.1976

Birthplace: Bradford

Nationality: England

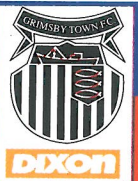
Arrived at Blundell Park from Cardiff City this summer.

Started his career at Bradford City before getting a big-money move to Newcastle United when Kenny Dalglish paid 1.5 million for him in 1997.

A powerful, tough tackling midfield man.



Grimsby Town



Ashley Hildred

DOB: 09.09.1983

Birthplace: Grimsby

Nationality: England

Talented midfielder who could be one for the future. 'Ash' is currently in his third year as a YT. Had a long spell out last season with a back injury.

Paul Groves

DOB: 28.02.1966

Birthplace: Derby

Nationality: England

Paul took his first steps into management after the departure of Lennie Lawrence on 28th December 2001.

The popular player had already been appointed as player-coach in the summer and whilst he may not have expected his opportunity in the hot seat to come so soon, he has grabbed the chance with both hands - saving the Mariners from relegation with a terrific run of results late in the 2001-2 season.

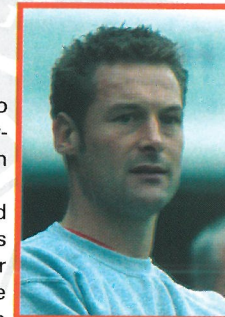
This is his second spell at the club having initially arrived from Blackpool in 1992 before moving on to West Brom four years later. He returned to Blundell Park in 1997 and captained the team to their double Wembley success in the Auto Windscreens Shield and Play-Off Final in 1998.

Having made his name as a midfield player, injuries to the team forced his selection as a defender and over the past three seasons central defence became his regular position. However, he regained his midfield role in the Autumn of 2002, and it is there that he is seen in most matches again.

He is a model professional and a great inspirational leader of the team. He began his managerial career with a win over Portsmouth and a draw at Barnsley. First Division safety was achieved against high-flying Burnley in the penultimate match of the season.

His 430 league games for Grimsby makes him the third highest appearance-maker in the club's history, while his 700th appearance for all his clubs in all competitions was reached when the Mariners played Gillingham in mid-February 2003.

Without doubt, Paul is destined for great things in the managerial field in the next few years - though whether Grimsby can hang on to his services remains to be seen.



Marcel Cas

DOB: 30.04.1972

Birthplace: Breda, Holland

Nationality: Holland

Though from the Netherlands, Cas has spent some time in the Football League having played for Sheffield United last season. The Blades signed him on a non-contract basis last February from Notts County where he had chalked up 50 appearances in 18-months.

Cas made just three starts and three sub appearances for the Sheffield side which was bristling with talent last season. Manager Neil Warnock carried a big squad to league and cup successes.

During his time at Meadow Lane he was described as a "good old-fashioned winger." Such was the mark he made on the second division that Oldham boss Iain Dowie tried to make Cas his first signing when he took charge at Boundary Park.

Tony Crane

DOB: 08.09.1982

Birthplace: Liverpool

Nationality: England

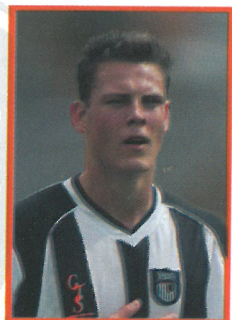
Giant defender, became Town's first arrival of the summer of 2003.

The 6ft 5ins centre-back signed a three-year deal as Paul Groves opened trading with a free transfer swoop on Sheffield Wednesday.

Crane made 60 appearances in three seasons for the Owls, scoring five goals.

He is a former stablemate of ex-Owls youngster Greg Young.

Played as a centre-forward for the Hillborough club towards the end of last season.



Aidan Davison

DOB: 11.05.1968

Place of Birth: Sedgfield

Nationality: Northern Ireland

First choice keeper at Blundell Park. Re signed for the Mariners when Danny Coyne left for Leicester City in July 2003.

A commanding figure in the box, and is also a great shot-stopper

Greg Young

DOB: 25.04.1983

Place of Birth: Doncaster

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Welcome to Today's Visitors

Nationality: England

Greg Young was signed by the Mariners after spending the summer of 2002 on trial from Sheffield Wednesday.

He is a strapping six foot plus centre half, was regarded highly by former coach Paul Wilkinson who included him in his Future of Youth Campaign in August 2002.

Greg made his first team debut at Reading during the 2002/2003 Season.

Graham Hockless

DOB: 20.10.1982

Place of Birth: Hull

Nationality: England

Rated as technically one of the most gifted young players at Blundell Park, Graham was one of the players who got his chance through The Future of Youth Campaign.

A regular in the middle of the Reserves last season, and made his first team debut at Reading.

Signed a new deal with the Mariners during the summer of 2003.

Iain Ward

DOB: 13.03.1983

Place of Birth: Cleethorpes

Nationality: England

Locally born Iain is reckoned to be one of Town's up-and-coming prospects for the future. He made his debut in the final game of the 2001-02 season at Millwall when he replaced the injured John McDermott, though he has been involved in the squad and on the bench a number of times, before and since.

Can play in midfield or defence. Signed a new deal with Town during the summer of 2003.

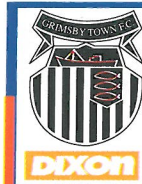
Darren Barnard

Birthplace: Rinteln, Germany

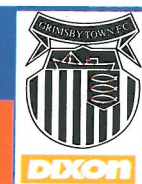
Nationality: Wales

International Caps: 19

Born in Germany, Darren started at Wokingham Town, but signed for Chelsea in his teens. He stayed in West London for six seasons, chalking up 29 appearances, plus another four on loan to Reading. Moving on to Bristol City and then Barnsley, he



Grimsby Town



arrived at Oakwell just in time to enjoy the Tykes most successful-ever season as they were promoted to the Premier Division.

The South Yorkshire side's sojourn was short-lived, and when the club were relegated again at the end of 2001/2002, they were forced to release several players, including Darren.

Darren several times for Wales during last season.

Darren plays either left-back or left midfield. He scored a remarkable opening goal for the Mariners last campaign - lobbing Poom of Derby from fully 40 yards!

Jonathan Rowan

DOB: 29.11.1981

Place of Birth: Grimsby

Nationality: England

Striker who came through the Club's youth system after playing for his local team - Tetney.

He made his debut when he came on as a substitute in the Worthington Cup tie with Wolves (26 September 2000) and scored with his first touch in senior football with a fine downward header.

He made his league debut when he came on as substitute in the game with Barnsley four days later. Having played in 7 games during 2000-2001, he became a first team regular in the early stages of 2001-2 until injury struck him after taking part in the first 18 matches of the season - 17 of those being in the starting 11. His injury was related to his pelvis being slightly out of line.

His first league goal came in August 2001 in the match at Blundell Park against Preston North End.

Now back to full fitness, and could be a make or break season for the young striker.

Alan Pouton

DOB: 01.02.1977

Place of Birth: Newcastle

Nationality: England

Alan was born in Newcastle, and originally went to Oxford, where he failed to settle. However, he was spotted by York City and spent four seasons on their books, playing in 90 games, before being brought to Grimsby by Alan Buckley. Buckley famously said of Pouton, "I'll pay that lad's wages myself if it's the only way we can get him!" Now in his fifth season with the Mariners, Alan's style is 'combative', and he forms a fearsome partnership with Stacy Coldicott. He plays mostly in central midfield, but has also had games on the right and left flanks.

In early December 2001, he suffered a broken ankle

in the final minute against Wolves, but had recovered by the beginning of February to help in Town's successful fight against relegation.

By the beginning of the 2002-3 season, 'Pouts' was close to making his 100th Town League appearance. He was injured again in mid-December, in a remarkable parallel to the previous season, and returned in mid-February against Stoke, inspiring the team to a vital win.

Injury again struck this pre-season and Alan could be out until November 2003.

Stuart Campbell

DOB: 09.12.1977

Birthplace: Corby

Nationality: Scotland

Stuart Campbell was born in Corby, Northants, and joined Leicester City as a trainee. He made his debut for the Foxes in the 1996-7 season, and over the next four seasons notched up 37 more appearances. He made a couple of appearances for Birmingham City on loan in the 1999-2000 season.

Lennie Lawrence signed him on loan for the Mariners at the start of the 2000-01 season, and he became a regular in the starting line-up, remaining on-loan for the entire season.

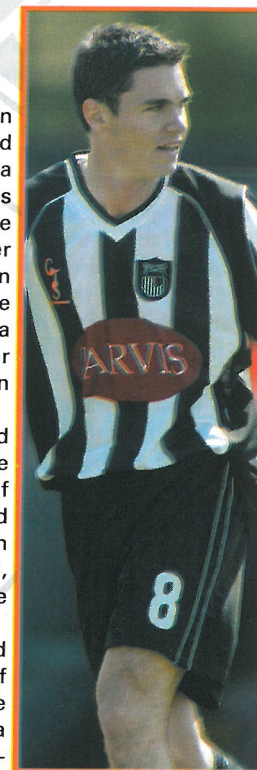
Though Campbell could be used in the middle of the park, he has spent the majority of his time as a wide player - most usually wide left.

Having made 38 appearances in his first season with the Mariners, Stuart signed a 3 year permanent deal in July 2001.

He has pace, vision and good ball skills.

He has played for the Scottish Under-21 squad, and was invited to the Scottish Squad Training Camp at the end of the 2001-2 season.

The 2002-3 season has seen Campbell second only to keeper Danny Coyne in minutes on the pitch, and finished top scorer for the Mariners.



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Blast From The Past

When Lennie Lawrence took over as Luton Town manager in December 1995 he knew he had a job on his hands. The Hatters were

rock bottom of Division One with only four wins recorded from 22 starts and with a team thoroughly lacking in confidence.

Lawrence fully realised the enormity of his task but was prepared to give the existing players the benefit of the doubt before attempting to make changes. He was therefore content to take a watching brief as the Town took on Huddersfield at Kenilworth Road in his first game in charge.

As so often happens when a new manager takes the helm, the team shows hidden reserves of talent and effort that were not being seen only a few days before and the Town ripped into Huddersfield and would have won had Steve Davis not been dismissed for an innocuous challenge on Andy Booth. As it was, the Hatters managed to claw their way back to level the scores after being 1-2 down with a fighting performance that made a mockery of their early season form. Lawrence had plenty of time in which to get to know the players as the next three games were all

postponed. Matches at Crystal Palace and Port Vale and a home clash with fellow strugglers, Sheffield United, all went with the freezing weather but Lawrence, although frustrated, was happy to play the games later on in the campaign when the pitches would be less of a lottery.

Having taken stock of the players at his disposal, Lawrence took his new charges to Grimsby for an F.A. Cup tie in early January and was distraught to witness a 1-7 thrashing. Grimsby seemed to score almost at will with the Town unable to control the Mariners strike force of Steve Livingstone and Jamie Forrester. The ultimate humiliation was manager Brian Laws' cheeky triple substitution shortly before the end "to give them a run out" with two of the

three scoring!

Reflecting on one of the shortest honeymoon periods on record, Lawrence could only say, "Grimsby are a good First Division side but they are not A.C.Milan. We made them look like A.C. Milan." Privately, he probably wondered what he had let himself in for.

One week, some hard talking and four team changes later the Town took on Southend, at Kenilworth Road. The Shrimpers had not lost in nine league games but they were swept aside by a Luton side showing far more effort and determination than at Grimsby with Bontcho Guentchev, recalled to the league side, scoring the first goal in a welcome 3-1 victory.

Guentchev kept his place in the side for the following weeks trip to Carrow Road, Norwich where, in a turgid game, he scored the only goal for another valuable three points. Scampering free on to a long through ball from Richard Harvey the Bulgarian was caught and upended by John Polston, just as he was about to shoot, for a cast-iron penalty. Guentchev picked himself up and stroked the spot kick past Bryan Gunn in the Norwich goal and then showed the delight of all ex-Ipswich players scoring at Carrow Road!

Next up was the re-arranged home game with Sheffield United and on a cold night the Blades resorted to pumping long balls into the Luton area where they were gobbled up by the defence in which Davis was outstanding. Again,



Dwight Marshall skins the Grimsby defence on his way to netting the winner against the Mariners in February 1996.

Victory over the Mariners is sweet revenge

Guentchev was the unlikely hero, bending a free-kick around the United wall for the only goal of the game. Three wins in a row finally lifted the Town off the foot of the table.

Leicester City had a new manager in Martin O'Neill who had been appointed at the same time as Lawrence. He was struggling with no wins in his first seven games in charge and was actually being barracked by the Filbert Street faithful. It was therefore seen as a good time to pay them a visit and a good number of optimistic Luton supporters made the short trip to see the Town make all the early running.

With three enforced changes through injury the makeshift Hatters side finally took the lead in the 55th minute when Tony Thorpe, back at the club who rejected him as a teenager, coolly rounded the goalkeeper to slip the ball home.

Leicester levelled within five minutes but the Town forced all the late pressure and were desperately unlucky not to snatch a winner with Des Linton's glaring miss in the closing minutes the worst of a host of spurned opportunities.

35 days after the debacle at Blundell Park, the Hatters had the opportunity to show the Mariners that they were a much improved side when welcoming them to Kenilworth Road for our next league fixture.

Graham Alexander opened the scoring with a 20

yard drive after only seven minutes, his first goal for the club, but gradually Grimsby clawed their way back and two opportunist efforts from Forrester put the Mariners into the lead after an hour.

Lawrence, who was probably thinking that the 'Manager of the Month' award presented to him before the start was the normal poisoned chalice, had to make some swift changes if the unbeaten record was not to continue.

Replacing Thorpe and John Taylor with the hard running David Oldfield and Dwight Marshall had the desired effect as the Grimsby defence suddenly developed the jitters which got worse when Guentchev fired in the equaliser on 68 minutes.

The Town were now in full flow and the crowd of 7,158 was on its feet six minutes later when Marshall, latching on to an astute Oldfield through pass, beat two defenders for pace to sweep the ball home for the winner and a place outside the bottom three.

Apparently, in the Luton dressing room afterwards, Grimsby boss Brian Laws worked himself up into such a rage at losing to a side that were hammered only a few weeks before that he launched a plate of chicken legs at Ivano Bonetti causing injury, subsequent court cases and much mileage for the media.

Roger Wash



Yesterday's pages

The Hatters produced their normal, colourful programme for the visit of Grimsby in February 1996, an issue which was as good as anything else in the division at the time.

Bontcho Guentchev was pleased that his successful run in the Luton side had earned him a recall to the Bulgarian national squad due to play England the following month. Guentchev had played seven times for his country with two of them in the quarter and semi-finals of the 1994 World Cup in the U.S.A.!

Lennie Lawrence was to be awarded the Division One 'Manager of the Month' award for January 1996 before the start of the game but he was looking on it as a "kiss of death". As if to show how fickle the game is, the other divisional awards were Archie Gemmill of Rotherham and David Moore of Scunthorpe.

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The Golden Gamble Two More Jackpots

COME to Kenilworth Road, enjoy good football - and go home several hundred pounds richer, to boot. That's the offer again today as our Golden Gamble lottery is set for its third pay-out of the season. The first two produced pretty good results, with lady supporters scooping the cash prizes.

Sally Mayne, from Stanton Road, Luton, is pictured with her bundle of readies after picking up £690 at the first home league game of the season. She watches the Town from the New Stand, and her lucky ticket was picked out of the drum by Steve Robinson.

At the Yeovil game the £385

prize was won by Maureen Ingram, from Links Way, Luton, who watches from the Kenilworth Stand. She is pictured with Adrian Forbes, who pulled out her winning ticket.



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Farewell to Our Cup Final Winner

SOME of the biggest names in football gathered at a church in Surrey on Wednesday to bid farewell to Ray Harford, one of the game's most respected and best-liked coaches, who died from cancer at 58.

Some Town supporters might be surprised at just how popular he was, because in PR terms he never did himself justice in his time at Kenilworth Road.

He was not comfortable giving interviews to tape recorders or TV cameras, but as a coach, tactician and judge of players he was an absolute whizz. Never was that better illustrated than in April 1988 when against all the odds he guided the Town to the only major trophy they have ever won, the Littlewoods Cup, the latest incarnation of which is the Carling Cup.

A journeyman player at Charlton, Exeter, Lincoln, Mansfield, Port Vale and Colchester he rapidly excelled as a coach, starting at Layer Road. A succession of good judges hired him to be their assistant, starting with Malcolm Macdonald at Fulham and John Moore at Kenilworth Road in the summer of 1986. Moore, Mick Harford (no relation) and Mike Newell are among many who paid heartfelt tributes to Ray as the shock of his early death sank in.

Moore and Ray Harford led the Town to their best-ever league season, seventh in what is now the Premiership. John decided that management was not for him. He enjoyed coaching but not the "up front" role of a manager, and he

walked away to allow Ray to take the job.

Ray also found some aspects of management tricky. For journalists he could be a nightmare to interview. A deep thinker, he was so concerned not to say the wrong thing that he often ended up saying almost nothing. But switch off the tape recorder and camera, and talk football, and he was a wonderful conversationalist.

Those of us who got to know him shared his sorrow when he was sacked in January 1990. The board spoke of him being a dour character, which he often was in public. But the real Ray Harford, the one the fans could not see or hear, was a delightful, happy family man, and a real soccer nut.

He teamed up with Kenny Dalglish at Blackburn, and they took the Ewood Park side from the Second Division to the Premier League championship in five years. Mike Newell looks back on those days with huge pleasure, as he and Ray shared glory days for the second time in their careers.

When Dalglish "moved upstairs" to allow Ray to become manager, it didn't work out and he lasted barely 18 months.

He was later manager of West Brom and QPR, with limited success, before returning to coaching, and was working in that capacity at Millwall, winning more friends and respect, when he died.

Brian Swain



THE HAPPIEST DAY OF OUR LIVES: Ray Harford and the 1988 Hatters who lifted the Littlewoods Cup at Wembley at the expense of hot favourites Arsenal.



Carling Cup Action Replay



Luton Town 4 Yeovil 1

FOR their second victory in four days, to get the season off to a cracking start, the Town followed the pattern set against Rushden, with a stunning second-half show sweeping away the opposition. The only iffy spell came early in the second half, after a headed own goal by Emmerson Boyce lifted the visitors.

Newly promoted as Conference champions, Yeovil briefly fancied their chances after beginning their first Third Division campaign with a 3-1 win at Rochdale.

"The difference here in the Second Division is that you are much more likely to be punished for your mistakes," said Glovers' boss Gary Johnson. "I didn't think there was a lot between the teams except that Luton picked us off for our mistakes."

He and Mike Newell agreed that the opening goal was a gem. Kevin Nicholls, playing on the right, dragged a defender out wide as Kevin Foley attacked in the inside-right channel, swapped passes with Paul Hughes, and stroked in his first senior goal with a carefully-placed drive from the edge of the box.

Courtney Pitt enjoyed a field day on the left flank, and at the interval Yeovil took off their two wing-backs, who had been embarrassed rotten, and switched to a 4-4-2.

Briefly they made a game of it, lifted by Boyce's misdirected clearance into the top corner from a cross by Lee Johnson.

But the Town came back, on a night when 6ft 8in defender Hugo Rodrigues was run ragged by Tony Thorpe and Steve Howard. Thorpe took him apart to run through and poke in his

third goal of the season on 56 minutes, and the luckless Rodrigues helped provide the clincher eight minutes later. He fouled Pitt five yards outside the angle of the penalty area, was booked, and then, like the rest of his mates, stood watching as Pitt struck the free kick into the net through the crowded area, with Paul Hughes helping to spread confusion with a lunge towards the ball.

Rodrigues was subbed shortly after that, and the Town's romp was completed with the third goal in 13 minutes, with Johnson claiming that Howard was lucky with an under-hit volley which bounced up and over the goalkeeper.

Mike Newell said: "It was good that we could bounce back after conceding the equaliser so early in the second half, because Yeovil looked very lively for a spell. They played some good football, but that suits us, because we are always likely to do well against footballing sides."

"We won't be carried away by two home victories: one was against a team that had just come out of the Third Division, and this one was against a side who were in the Conference last year. But even so I was very pleased with our performances in both games. We showed character, and I was not that disappointed about the own goal - I was more disappointed about the way we let their lad in. Rob Beckwith made a good save, but we gave them a second chance to get the ball in."

"You have to be pleased with a 4-1 win. If we had been more ruthless we could have had more goals, but you can't get too greedy!"

Match Details

TOWN: Beckwith; Foley, Coyne, Boyce, Neilson (Davis 67 mins); Nicholls, Hughes Spring, Pitt; Howard, Thorpe (Crowe 75 mins, injured, Okai 80 mins). Unused subs: Bayliss, Brill.

BOOKED: Coyne and Howard for fouls, Pitt for dissent.

YEOVIL: Weale; Lockwood, Rodrigues (Lindegaard 67 mins), O'Brien; Gosling (Reed HT), Way, Johnson, Crittenden (El Kholti HT); Williams; Jackson, Ball. Unused subs: Stansfield, Collis.

BOOKED: Rodrigues foul, Ball dissent.

ATTENDANCE: 4,337, including 493 Yeovil fans. And every single supporter meticulously observed the minute's silence for Ray Harford.



UNITED FRONT AT THE BACK: 18-year-old Rob Beckwith proves the old saying that if you're good enough you're old enough. Emmerson Boyce and Chris Coyne are in close attendance as the keeper punches clear.

RIGHT: Coyne head and shoulders above Yeovil skipper Darren Way. The centre-half has started the new campaign in the sort of form that made him the fans' player of the year for last season.

BELOW: The first of many, we trust, for Kevin Foley - the young midfielder is perfectly poised to stroke home the opening goal.



Hatters Pic of the Week



A MOMENT TO SAVOUR: Eighteen-year-old Kevin Foley enjoys his first senior goal, in the Carling Cup game with Yeovil. Steve Howard is pretty happy about it too, while beaten goalkeeper Chris Weale is left feeling down and out.



Edgeley Park Action Replay



Stockport Co 1 Luton Town 2

IT WAS a bit of a steal as the Town made it three wins in eight days to take top spot in the season's first league table. Even Mike Newell admitted that Steve Howard's clincher was probably offside, but his cheerful acceptance of football's fates was in marked contrast to Carlton Palmer's.

The County boss was fuming with the ref and his assistant, and, to a lesser degree, with his toothless attack on a day when Chris Coyne was a giant among attacking pygmies, with Emmerson Boyce running him close for man of the match honours.

Dodgy winner or not, the Town deserved it for being strong at the back, competitive in midfield, and always threatening at the front. It was a decent game to watch, with both sides prepared to move forward, but Coyne's excellence was the major difference. Stockport's defence was never as comfortable, as Tony Thorpe and Howard threatened so much more than their opposite numbers.

The Town had to bring in Ian Hillier because Matt Spring was hit by a migraine. It made midfield more defensive until Ahmet Brkovic was sent on in place of Hillier soon after Howard made it 2-0. And that substitution should have brought two more goals.

For a bunch of players facing pay cuts, the team spirit, togetherness and general professionalism has to be admired.

Rob Beckwith made an early save from Aaron Wilbraham before the Town settled down to contain comfortably and attack with menace. A dipping volley by Howard was inches too high before the Town stole a 33rd-minute lead. Kevin Nicholls whipped in an angled free kick,

and as heads went up, Alan Neilson claimed the touch for his first Town goal.

Palmer dumped the ineffective Wilbraham at the interval, and Jon Daly looked more promising, although Stuart Barlow looked a shadow of his former self against Coyne and Boyce.

Howard and Thorpe both looked offside when the lead was doubled on 56 minutes. Thorpe was running back towards his own goal as Howard surged forward in pursuit of a clearance by Boyce. Stockport were hopelessly stretched, and Howard took the ball round the keeper and slotted in his second goal of the season.

Stockport rallied briefly, with defender Robert Jones showing his powder-puff attack how it should be done when he headed in a right wing cross by John Hardiker. That was with 18 minutes to play, but the Town stood firm, and should have had two more goals, with Thorpe shooting over at the end of a nice move involving Courtney Pitt and Brkovic, and Howard having a header well saved following another opening made by the Croatian midfielder.

Afterwards, the big talking point was the offside goal. The Town boss thought Howard probably was offside, but said he believed in accepting decisions whether they go for or against you. Palmer was furious. "Their two lads were at least ten yards offside," he said. "The linesman's explanation that Ricky Lambert headed the ball towards them is an absolute disgrace."

But he was honest enough to admit that a crucial factor was that Coyne and Boyce snuffed out Wilbraham and Barlow. It might have been different, he reckoned, if Wilbraham had taken the early chance that was denied by Beckwith.

Match Details

TOWN: Beckwith; Foley, Coyne, Boyce, Neilson; Hillier (Brkovic 57 mins), Nicholls, Hughes, Pitt; Howard, Thorpe. Unused subs: Crowe, Davis, Bayliss, Brill
BOOKED: Foley for a foul.

COUNTY: Colgan; Goodwin, Clarke, Jones, Hardiker; Morrison, Lambert, McLachlan (Collins 63 mins) Ellison (Welsh 52 mins); Barlow, Wilbraham (Daly HT). Unused subs: Spencer, Challinor.

BOOKED: Ellison for a foul on Nicholls.

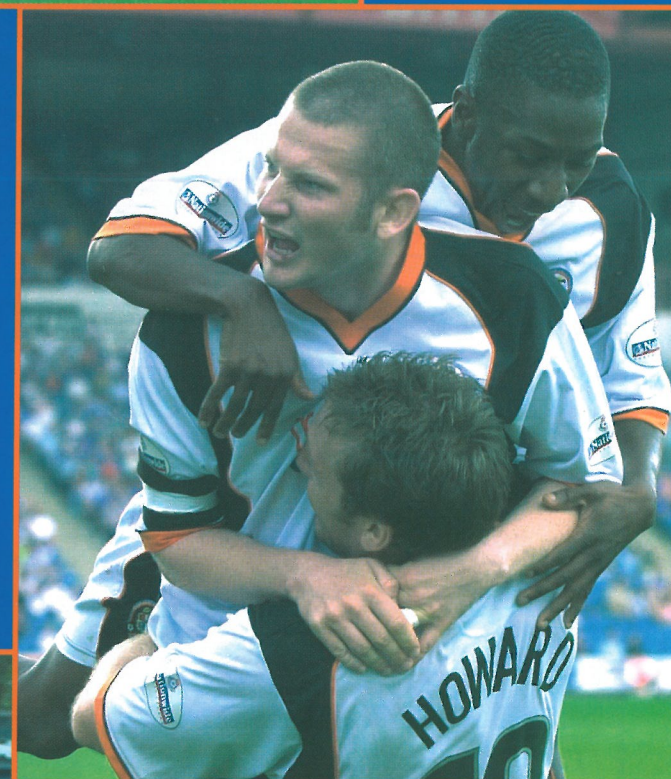
ATTENDANCE: 4,566, including 671 Town fans with healthy lungs.



THE CLINCHER: Steve Howard takes on and beats Nick Colgan to put the Town two up early in the second half. Offside, said Stockport, but the ref ruled that Ricky Lambert had headed the ball to Howard. Edgeley Park boss Carlton Palmer claimed the offside decision should have been given against Howard and Thorpe before that happened.

RIGHT: Kevin Nicholls and Courtney Pitt share Howard's delight at what turned out to be the winner.

BELOW: The first goal, with Paul Hughes helping to unsettle the home defence as a free kick by Nicholls gets a faint touch off Alan Neilson.



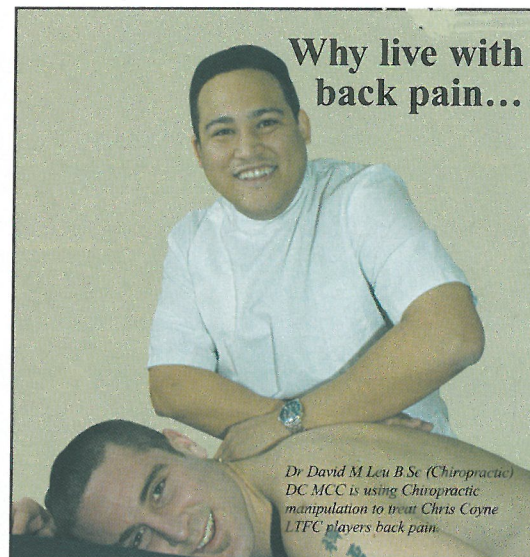
Town Teaser

A PAIR of match tickets will be won by a lucky supporter this afternoon. Listen to the PA announcer before kick-off for your chance to have a go in our Town Teaser competition.

At the Rushden game we welcomed back Mike Newell, one of several who have played for the Town and later become manager. We asked who was the one who was boss when Newell the striker came to Kenilworth Road the first time around, and the answer was David Pleat.

TODAY'S QUESTION

We have been drawn away to Charlton in the second round of the Carling Cup. Who is the link between the Town, Charlton and today's visitors?



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Created by local brewers Banks and Taylor, the tasty light-coloured bitter, 4.0% in strength, is the result of a link-up between Trust In Luton and the brewers, and the first pint will be pulled at the Bricklayers' Arms on Thursday at 6pm. The winner of the Luton News competition to name the beer will be the evening's guest of

honour. All are welcome to come along and sample the ale, as well as have a bite to eat at the barbecue - £3 a head, all profits going to the Trust.

Ten pence from every pint sold will go to Trust in Luton, so every one you enjoy will help ensure a brighter future for our football club! The Trust hopes to attract a big membership dedicated to helping Luton Town get out of receivership, and if you have not already joined, please think about doing so now. Elections for officers are to be arranged shortly, and all members will be able to vote once they have signed up.

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A copy of the constitution is available on the Trust website <http://www.trustinluton.com>

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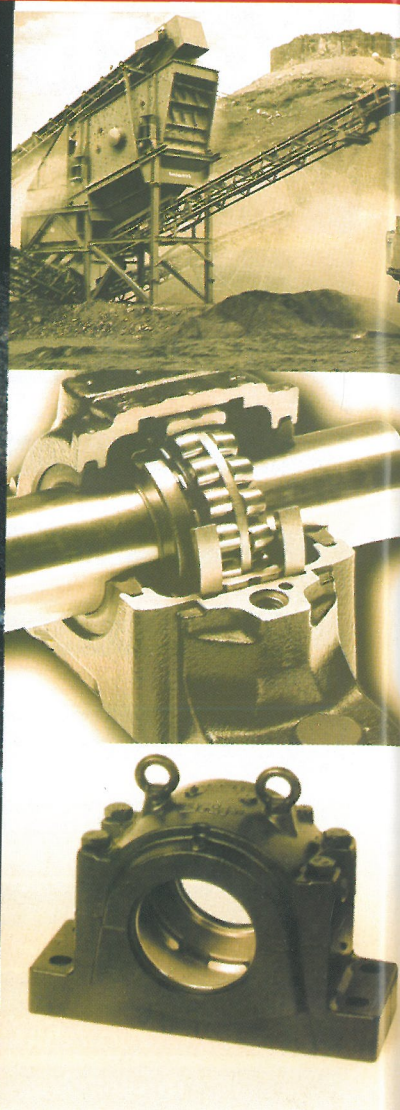
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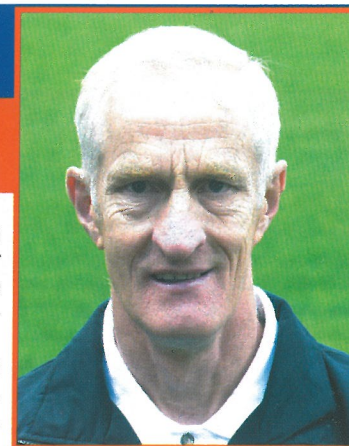
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Youth Soccer: The under-19s



Luton Town 3 Rushden & D 2

RELUCTANT goalkeeper Leon Barnett did well in difficult circumstances. Rob Beckwith and Dean Brill were both in the first team squad, so the centre-half was pressed into service and neither Rushden goal was down to him - one was a deflection and the second followed a tremendous save only for a striker to beat our defence to the rebound.

We were one down at the interval, when I thought we were saving a little too much energy on a very hot day. We didn't really get going until after the break.

The equaliser was an excellent goal on 64 minutes by Matthew Judge, who was put through down the middle and surged past two defenders before bending a left foot shot into the net. Three minutes later Rushden regained the lead, but Judge struck again on 75 minutes, another quality strike, this time with his right foot from the edge of the box.

He was instrumental in the winner, whipping in a cross from which substitute Calvin Andrew scored to complete a victory which was very

pleasing, even though our performance was a little disjointed.

Luton Town:
Barnett,
Howell,
Mountford,

Keane, Davies, Deeney, Lambu, Ridgway, Judge, Maitland (Andrew 70 mins), R. Mansell.

Cambridge Utd 2 Luton Town 1

WE DID not do well enough over the 90 minutes to get anything out of this game, and paid for not taking our isolated chances, particularly when we might have equalised before Cambridge made it 2-0 midway through the second half.

Trialist goalkeeper Paul Godfrey did well, as did his opposite number, who made a couple of good saves when as we looked for an equaliser. A goal would have lifted us, but it was a day when we failed to take our chances and suffered for it.

Cambridge went ahead after 25 minutes, with a good strike from the edge of the box after we had made two clearances but failed to pick up the second ball.

Their second goal on 70 minutes was very disappointing, because it came from our corner. Mathew Judge tried to take it quickly, gave the ball away, and from that Cambridge built a good move ending with a headed goal.

Leon Barnett's 86th header from a corner came too late to affect the result - if we had taken just one of our chances earlier in the second half it might have been different.

Luton Town: Godfrey, Howell, Mountford, O'Leary, Davies (Wright 87 mins), Barnett, Keane, Ridgway, Judge, Andrew (Deeney 72 mins), R. Mansell.

John Moore

WE were at home to Kidderminster this morning, and on Saturday and our next match is also at home, to Cheltenham in a fortnight, on September 6. We are again using Luton Rugby Club for home fixtures for both our FL Youth Alliance teams, and spectators are welcome. Kick-off is at 11am.

Football League Youth Alliance Under-17 South East Conference

August

9 Rushden H 3-2 Judge 2, Andrew
16 Cambridge A 1-2 Barnett

23 Kidderminster H

September

6 Cheltenham H

13 Walsall A

27 Oxford H

October

4 Northampton H

11 Alliance Cup 1

18 West Brom A

25 Cheltenham A

November

1 Walsall H

15 Oxford A

22 Alliance Cup 2

29 Northampton A

December

6 West Brom H

13 Rushden A

January

10 Cambridge H

17 Alliance Cup 3

24 Kidderminster A

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Youth Soccer The under-17s

Brentford 2 Luton Town 1

THE KNOCK-on effect from shortage of players passes down the line to all levels. The first team squad has taken some of John Moore's lads, Rob Beckwith, Dean Brill and Kevin Foley, so he in turn has to promote from the under-17s to play in the under-19 league.

We are certainly not complaining - if we never see the youth players in our squads again because they have settled into the Nationwide League squad, we will be well pleased.

We are restricted as to who we can bring in, and for our opening fixture we had six under-15 boys making debuts. They all did well but we know this is going to be a tough season. It's a development side, and unlikely to be able to challenge for top honours. Inevitably some of the youngsters were nervous, although we were unlucky to fall behind on 30 minutes, when Harrison Tague deflected a shot into his own net. Just before that Michel Farrell

had shot just wide.

We stuck at it, and five minutes after the interval Paul Burrows put away a penalty after Russell Preston was brought down, and we were very much in the game. Burrows shot wide when we might have taken the lead, and it took a very good goal to beat us. It came from a header following a free kick from wide on the left which was just about undefendable.

Despite the result I was very pleased with a good team performance, which was maintained despite enforced changes during the game caused by injuries to Farrell and Josh Green. Our subs included Shaun Foley, bother of Kevin.

Luton Town: Field, Smyth, Green (Foley 80 mins), Tague, Pendleton, McNaly (Asafu'Adjaye 55 mins), S. Sinclair, R. Sinclair, Burrows, Richardson, Farrell (Preston 30 mins).

Luton Town 1 Brighton 2

TWO goals conceded in the last 15 minutes sent us to a defeat we hardly deserved, against one of the strongest sides we are likely to meet this season. We were sound defensively, and the midfield was not bad, but we need more of a cutting edge up front.

We could have been two or three up by the interval. Paul Burrows hit the bar with a free kick, strong penalty claims were turned down, and Stuart Richardson was inches short of close-range contact in a goalmouth scramble.

I was delighted with the overall performance, and thought we would win after Burrows headed us into a 60th-minute lead from a free kick by Chris Pendleton. So it was a real choker to lose, with Brighton converting long balls over the top to equalise on 75 minutes, and grab the winner five minutes from time. They were the only real chances Brighton created - a harsh lesson to our boys about the need to turn possession and chances into goals.

Luton Town: Goodchild, Smyth, Green, Tague, Pendleton, Potter, S. Sinclair, Burrows (R. Sinclair 80 mins), Richardson, Preston (Asafu'Adjaye 70 mins), Kelly.

Mark Ridgway

Football League Youth Alliance Under-17 South East Conference

August

9 Brentford	A	1-2 Burrows
16 Brighton	H	1-2 Burrows
23 Rushden	A	

September

13 Portsmouth	A	
20 L. Orient	H	
27 Southend	A	

October

4 Northampton	A	
11 Colchester	H	
18 Oxford	A	
25 QPR	H	

November

1 Gillingham	A	
8 Wycombe	H	
15 L. Orient	A	
22 Southend	H	
29 Northampton	H	

December

6 Colchester	A	
13 Oxford	H	

January

10 QPR	A	
17 Gillingham	H	
24 Wycombe	A	
31 Brentford	H	

February

7 Brighton	A	
14 Rushden	H	
21 Cambridge	A	
28 Portsmouth	H	
TBA: Cambridge	H	

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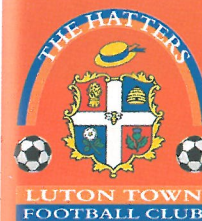
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TODAY'S MATCH:

2.15 Team Line Up Announced

2.20 HMV Single of the Week

2.35 Dedications Announced

2.40 Town Teaser
See page 34

2.55 Teams run out to - The Blues Brothers
"Gimme Some Lovin"

3.00 THE BIG KICK OFF

HALF TIME

3.50 Golden Gamble -
Winning ticket drawn on pitch

3.55 Run down of half time scores from
around the country

4.00 Dedications

4.05 Teams arrive back on pitch to theme
song "Gimme Some Lovin"

4.55 - FULL TIME

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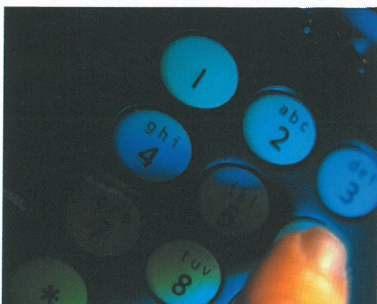


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With The Luton Belles

BELLES were in action last weekend, visiting highly-ranked Southern Premier League Haywood United for a pre-season friendly. With both sides missing four senior players it was a good opportunity for some of Town's youngsters to shine at this level for the first time, and all made very promising starts to their senior careers.

All-time record goal scorer Michelle Byrne made her debut, and it took her just three minutes to open the scoring, crashing the ball into the top corner of the net from just outside the penalty area.

After 28 minutes it was 2-0 when Sam Mather struck a 25-yard shot over the stranded keeper, and minutes later Vicky Moody broke free to finish neatly inside the near post.

The predicted backlash after half time resulted in United pulling a goal back from a well-taken free kick, but Belles restored their three-goal advantage when Sam Mather played a slide-rule pass through to sweeper Becky Clark. She was in unfamiliar territory, but fired low into the net for her first goal in three years.

Town's defence were then caught flat-footed as the home side sprung the off-side trap and United reduced the deficit to 4-2, netting after the ball rebounded from a post. Alice Burbury, Luton's promising young keeper, then made a flying stop to maintain the two-goal advantage, but Belles were soon on the attack again. United were unable to cope with the bustling pace of Michelle Byrne, and twice



NOT THIS TIME: 150-goal hot shot Michelle Byrne hooks the ball into the top corner, but this effort was ruled out.

in five minutes defenders brought her crashing to the ground in the area. Both penalties were blasted well over the crossbar, but the generosity didn't last long. Vicky Moody broke clear down the right before setting up Rebecca Kane for goal number five as she made no mistake from ten yards. With five minutes left Rebecca Kane added her second, outpacing the defence and netting the rebound off the keepers' legs to crown another promising debut.

Double award winner Lizzie Randall was the other youth player on show, and she performed equally well, out wide on the left, for over an hour.

This was an excellent performance in the circumstances and shows just what a bright future the club has with the average age of the team on show just under 16 years.

Dave Baker

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

Log on to Luton Town's official website at www.lutontown.co.uk

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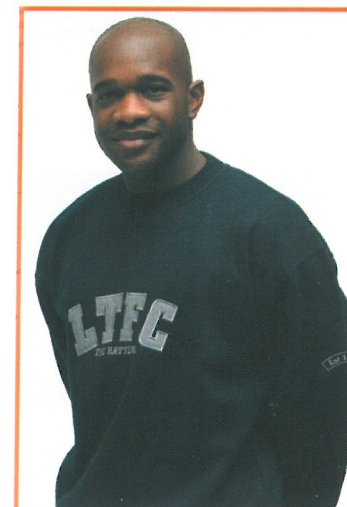
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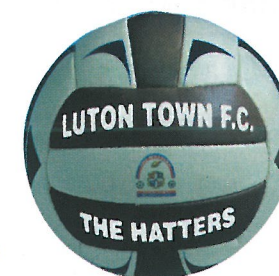
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Junior Hatters With Happy Harry

OUR first away trip of the season, to Stockport on Saturday, was a huge success – especially when we watched the team take three more points. We had a cracking day out, and Bradley Currington enjoyed it even more than the rest of us, because he was selected to be our official mascot at Edgeley Park.

Circumstances beyond our control mean that we are unable to run a coach to Brighton, and as we went to press it seemed unlikely that there would be a trip to Notts County in a fortnight. We will have more information about that in next Saturday's programme.

However, we are hoping to organise a Junior Hatters coach to Plymouth on September 13. It will be a long day out – the journey is a 500-mile round trip – and it will not be feasible if we cannot fill a coach. So if you are interested, please get in touch as soon as possible, and make a provisional booking. We need to know by Monday September 8 at the latest.



CENTRE OF ATTRACTION: Two young fans are pictured with the skippers and officials meeting for the toss of the coin at our home game with Rushden. The Junior Hatters mascot was nine-year-old Antony Foreman and the commercial mascot was Ryan Hardware, who is also nine.

Today's Mascot



ONE of the best perks of being in the Junior Hatters is the chance to be a mascot at Kenilworth Road, and today ten-year-old William Davies is the lucky member. He lives at Newlands Road, Westoning, and is a regular at Town games, usually sitting at the Kenilworth Road end with his dad. Today his sister Hannah is here as well.

As mascot, William will be in the home team dressing room before kick-off to meet the players, which means that he has the chance of a face-to-face meeting with his favourite, Dean Crowe. The mascot goes onto the pitch with the players for the warm-up and kick-about, and joins the official party in the centre circle when skippers and the referee and his assistants gather for the toss of the coin.

A pupil at Arnold Middle School, Barton, William lists his hobbies as football, rugby, golf and tennis. Today's ball boys are Ray Kelly, of Beechfield Road, Welwyn Garden City, and Ryan Hill, of Bretts Mead, Luton.



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 Community Department. 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 from the membership list.

Our Saturday Club is in operation again, offering entertainment from 12 noon onwards. To book a place, please call the Junior Hatters headquarters in the Community office, on 01582 391927 before 12 noon on the Friday before the match.

Something on your mind?

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LTFC in the Community



I WOULD like to start today by telling you about the return of a former Luton Town hero. Participants of the Community Department's summer course at Barnfield College earlier this month had the pleasure of meeting Scott Oakes.

He is in the process of working his way up the coaching ladder, and was delighted to take up my invitation to assist with the coaching on our course. His wealth of experience through playing in the Premier League is something none of us can gain through our coaching badges, and the children were extremely excited and receptive to the idea of being taught by somebody with Scott's knowledge. Our pictures on this page show the children hanging on to his every word.

Throughout the courses this summer the children have been able to meet various first team players, including Alan Nielson, Dean Crowe, Lee Mansell and Kevin Foley. To them my sincere thanks – their appearances make our courses very special for the children.

In the near future I will be announcing a further series of specialist courses. In the next week or two we will be publishing dates for our next evening goalkeeping sessions. Coaching will again be delivered by our Centre of Excellence goalkeeping coach Martin Prickett, and due to the small numbers in each session the work will be intense and very beneficial.

I am very hopeful that I will be able soon to announce dates for sessions to be taken by Alan Nielson, aimed at developing basic techniques for younger players. Keep

your eye on these pages for the opportunity to enrol on these courses.

Remember, Luton Town FC course are the only ones where children get the chance to meet the players.

Throughout the remainder of the holidays Scott will be working with us some more – I hope to get him involved with our specialist strikers course. Also there will be more player appearances.

Details of our remaining courses for the summer holidays, along with an enrolment form, are on the following page.

Before I sign off this week I would like to remind you of the Amputees International on the 30th August at 5pm, straight after the first team game – turn the page for more information. The game will last about 45 minutes. Please stay and support the England team. Being invited to host this match is an indication of the quality of this club's supporters – the players asked to come back. The request being granted is an indication of the esteem with which our disability programme is held within the English Federation of Disability Support and the Football Association and I would love this game to be played in front of a packed Kenilworth Road.

Stuart Smith



LTFC in the Community

SUMMER COACHING COURSES AVAILABLE

Course Code	No. of Days	Venue	Start Date	Time	Cost	Course Type
FSC 1	2	Flitwick Leisure Centre FLITWICK	Thur 21 - Fri 22 August	10.00 am - 3.00pm	£20	5-7 yrs 8-11 yrs 12-15 yrs
TSC 2	1	Parkfields Middle School Park Road TODDINGTON	Wed 20 August	10.00 am - 3.00pm	£10	5-7 yrs 8-11 yrs 12-15 yrs
LSC 4	4	Barnfield College New Bedford Road LUTON	Tue 26 - Fri 29 August	10.00 am - 3.00pm	£35	5-7 yrs 8-11 yrs 12-15 yrs
LGK 2	2	Barnfield College New Bedford Road LUTON	Thur 28 - Fri 29 August	10.00 am - 3.00pm	£20	Goalkeepers 8-13 yrs
LSS 1	1	Barnfield College New Bedford Road LUTON	Tue 26 August	10.00 am - 3.00pm	£10	Specialist Defenders 8-13 yrs
LSS 2	1	Barnfield College New Bedford Road LUTON	Wed 27 August	10.00 am - 3.00pm	£10	Specialist Strikers 8-13 yrs

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

NameAge.....D.O.B.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

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:



Luton Town Football in the Community
in Conjunction with EFDS Presents
International Football



ENGLAND V SIERRA LEONE

Amputee's International Football Match

Saturday 30th August
Kenilworth Road Kick-off 5.00pm

**The game will kick off immediately after
the first team fixture versus
Hartlepool United. Expected duration of
the game 45minutes.**

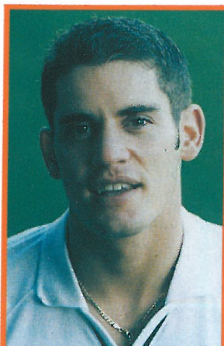
**Please stay behind after the
match to support your
national team**



Chattering Hatter

DEAN Crowe is putting his shirt on a change of luck this season. You may have noticed that he has reverted to number 34 in our squad list, after switching to No. 15 last season.

"It's because I am superstitious," said the 24-year-old striker. "I was given number 34 when I came here from Stoke, and had a pretty good first season."



"The club changed my squad number last season, and you will know that I didn't have much luck. So I asked if I could go back to number 34, and I hope it will be a lucky number again."

Crowe certainly made an impact in the 34 shirt. After signing on loan from Stoke he scored on his debut, at Plymouth, and the loan was turned into a permanent deal after he netted

four in his first five appearances. By the end of the season he had scored 15 goals in 32 starts. But last season, as number 15, he was bedevilled by injuries, and started only 19 games, scoring two goals.

Fully fit again, despite an ankle knock against Yeovil, he is hoping to fight his way back into the starting line-up after being a sub in each of the first three games of the season. Born in Stockport, he was particularly keen to be involved at Edgeley Park on Saturday, but had to sweat it out on the bench for the whole 90 minutes.

"I was a bit disappointed for myself and my family, who were at the game," he said. "But I enjoyed the match – the lads did brilliantly, and winning is all that is really important."

Memories of a Lovely Day

LUTON museum is to organise a series of talks on local topics to try to attract more interest in what it offers at Wardown Park, and to kick off the programme has decided to make the Town's 1988 Littlewoods Cup success the subject of the inaugural event.

Club statistician and long-time Town fanatic Roger Wash will be the guest speaker. "I don't mind standing up to talk about something I know," he said. "And I sure can waffle about Wembley 1988..."

The lecture, or more likely a football chat, will be at the museum on **T h u r s d a y** September 4, starting at 7.30pm. The audience will be able to join in, with a question and answer session, and to go along with the evening the museum has used some of Roger's memorabilia to put on a small exhibition about the cup run that ended in the defeat of Arsenal.

If you want to hear Roger, tickets cost £2, £1.50 concessions. They need to be booked in advance at the museum, telephone Luton 546722, because space is limited.

The memories of 88 display is on show until September 21. Admission to the museum is free, and it is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm and Sunday from 1pm to 5pm.

Taking It More Gently

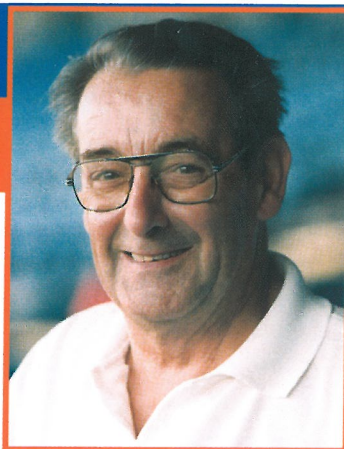
TWELVE months ago we were suffering rotten as the season kicked off with four straight defeats, dropping us into the relegation zone. The club had the money to hire Olympic decathlon champion Daly Thomson to get the lads ultra-fit in their pre-season work.

It is all so different now, and it has been noticeable that in their first three victorious outings the Town have come through stronger in the second half than the opposition. And Mike Newell for one wonders if that is because this year's pre-season was deliberately kept low key.

"With our small squad we couldn't take the slightest risk of picking up any more injuries," he said. "So we took it easy in comparison to the norm – we almost wrapped them up in cotton wool. Even so, the general fitness level seems to be very good."

The Town hope that injured players will be back shortly. Lee Mansell is close to a return after the ankle injury he suffered in the pre-season friendly against Spurs. Adrian Forbes has had a very minor operation to complete his knee ligament treatment, and Russ Perrett is doing well after an operation to cure a groin problem. Still suffering impatiently is Steve Robinson, who is working to get over a back injury.

Brian Swain



The Second Division What A Lovely Table!

IT MAY be early days yet, but the league table on Saturday night was one to savour, with the Town top of the Second Division for the first time since Boxing Day 1996, when we went on to finish third and lost to Crewe in the play-offs.

By Monday night we had unluckily been knocked back a peg, although we are still joint top. Brighton's Saturday game with QPR was switched to accommodate TV's requirements, and their home victory over QPR put the Sussex side exactly level with the Town, two wins, five goals scored, two conceded. Brighton are top on alphabetical order. For what it's worth, the teams in similar positions 12 months ago were Wigan and Cardiff, and both went on to win promotion. We can dream...

After just two games only three teams have 100 per cent league records, with Brian Horton's Port Vale getting off to a far better start than a year ago, when they were bottom of the table before eventually finishing 17th.

Nippy striker Leon Knight, on loan from Chelsea, is the man the Town will have to shackle on Monday. He scored both goals in Brighton's 2-1 win over QPR, amid reports that Rangers want to buy him. Rangers were not helped by a red card for Terrell Forbes when the score was 1-1.

Our visitors today also lost out after a red card. Their first game back in the Second Division was a creditable 2-2 draw at Plymouth, but at Blundell Park Port Vale made the most of the extra man after Ian Anderson was sent off. Michael Boulding

The Table

	H O M E					A W A Y					
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A	Pts
Brighton	2	1	0	0	2 1	1	0	0	3	1 3	6
Luton Town	2	1	0	0	3 1	1	0	0	2	1 3	6
Port Vale	2	1	0	0	2 1	1	0	0	2	1 2	6
Bristol City	2	1	0	0	5 0	0	1	0	1	1 5	4
Tranmere	2	1	0	0	4 1	0	1	0	0	0 3	4
Sheff Wed	2	0	1	0	2 2	1	0	0	3	2 1	4
Hartlepool	2	0	1	0	0 0	1	0	0	4	3 1	4
Barnsley	2	1	0	0	1 0	0	1	0	2	2 1	4
Wrexham	2	0	1	0	0 0	1	0	0	1	0 1	4
QPR	2	1	0	0	5 0	0	0	1	1	2 4	3
Peterborough	2	0	0	1	3 4	1	0	0	3	0 2	3
Wycombe	2	1	0	0	1 0	0	0	1	2	3 0	3
Swindon	2	0	0	1	2 3	1	0	0	1	0 0	3
Rushden	2	1	0	0	2 1	0	0	1	1	3 -1	3
Blackpool	2	1	0	0	3 2	0	0	1	0	5 -4	3
Chesterfield	2	0	1	0	1 1	0	0	1	0	0 0	2
Bournemouth	2	0	1	0	2 2	0	0	1	1	2 -1	1
Grimsby	2	0	0	1	1 2	0	1	0	2	2 -1	1
Plymouth	2	0	1	0	2 2	0	0	1	1	2 -1	1
Oldham	2	0	0	1	1 3	0	1	0	2	2 -2	1
Stockport	2	0	0	1	1 2	0	0	1	0	1 -2	0
Colchester	2	0	0	1	0 1	0	0	1	0	1 -2	0
Brentford	2	0	0	1	0 3	0	0	1	1	4 -6	0
Notts County	2	0	0	1	0 1	0	0	1	0	5 -6	0

had scored his second goal of the season to put Grimsby ahead, but Vale came back to win with goals by Steve McPhee and Billy Paynter.

As teams play their third league games of the season this afternoon, Stockport, Colchester, Brentford and Notts County are all still seeking their first point.

The good news for County is that they expect to come out of administration in a few days. Oldham, however, having been the Division's biggest sellers of talent in the summer, and with only one point to their name, went into administration on Tuesday.

Iain Dowie performed wonders last season, taking Oldham to fifth in the final table before they lost in the play-offs. He was already under pressure to sell, and his summer deals saw just one non-contract player signed, and 13 sold or released, with £635,000 raked in but still not enough to keep the club out of the financial mire.

One or two other ex-Luton names have been in the football news lately: Steve Davis left Burnley for Blackpool on a free in the summer, and his debut was in a 5-0 thumping at QPR. It got better this week, as Blackpool beat Wycombe 3-2 at Bloomfield Road, fighting back after being two down. It was their first league win since March, 13 matches ago, and that too was against Wycombe. Down in Division Three Mark Ovendale and Liam George were in the York City side that beat Northampton 1-0. The goal was scored by Lee Nogan, whose brief Luton Town career will for ever be remembered for a late penalty conceded against QPR in the FA Cup. It brought tears to his eyes, as well as ours.

Stuart Douglas was on the team-sheet, but not the score-sheet, as Boston United drew 2-2 at home to Huddersfield, while new boys Doncaster celebrated their first home game back in the Football League with a 2-0 success over Southend, who had Carl Emberson in goal.

Today's Other Second Division Fixtures

Barnsley v Brighton
Bristol City v Hartlepool
Oldham v Blackpool
Peterborough v Sheff Wed
Plymouth v Stockport
Port Vale v Colchester
QPR v Bournemouth
Swindon v Notts County
Tranmere v Rushden & Diamonds
Wrexham v Brentford
Wycombe v Chesterfield

Luton Town League & Cup

2003-2004 Statistics & Fixtures

2003/2004 Date	Opponents	D2 Last Season (LT first)	Venue	Kick Off Time/Result	Score (LT first)	Attendance	Competition/Position	Referee	Yellow Cards (LT first)	Red Cards (LT first)	Goalkeepers	Defenders	Midfielders	Forwards	Own Goals
Sat 9 Aug	RUSHDEN & DIAMONDS	D3 Team	H	W	3-1	6,878	5	I Williamson	3/0	0/0	Alan NEILSON	David BAYLISS	Matthew SPRING	Tony THORPE	0
Tue 12 Aug	YEovil TOWN	-	H	W	4-1	4,337	CC1	L Cable	3/2	0/0	Kevin FOLEY	Sol DAVIS	Kevin NICHOLLS	Steve HOWARD	0
Sat 16 Aug	Stockport County	W 3-2	A	W	2-1	4,566	1	P Joslin	1/1	0/0	Chris COYNE	Ian HILLIER	Paul HUGHES	Dean CROWE	0
Sat 23 Aug	GRIMSBY TOWN	D1 Team	A	3:00pm			D2								
Mon 25 Aug	Brighton & Hove Albion	D1 Team	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 30 Aug	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	D3 Team	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 6 Sep	Notts County	L 1-2	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 13 Sep	Plymouth Argyle	L 1-2	A	3:00pm			D2								
Tue 16 Sep	PORT VALE	D 0-0	H	7:45pm			D2								
Sat 20 Sep	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	D 0-0	H	3:00pm			D2								
Tue 23 Sep	Charlton Athletic	-	A	7:45pm			CC2								
Sat 27 Sep	Oldham Athletic	W 2-1	A	3:00pm			D2								
Wed 1 Oct	Swindon Town	L 1-2	A	7:45pm			D2								
Mon 6 Oct	TRANMERE ROVERS	D 0-0	H	8:00pm			D2								
Sat 11 Oct	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	W 1-0	H	3:00pm			D2								
Tue 14 Oct	-	-	-	-			LDVVT1								
Sat 18 Oct	Brentford	D 0-0	A	3:00pm			D2								
Tue 21 Oct	AFC Bournemouth	D3 Team	A	7:45pm			D2								
Sat 25 Oct	PETERBOROUGH UNITED	L 2-3	H	3:00pm			D2								
Tue 28 Oct	-	-	-	-			CC3								
Sat 1 Nov	Bristol City	D 1-1	A	3:00pm			D2								
Tue 4 Nov	-	-	-	-			LDVVT2								
Sat 8 Nov	-	-	-	-			FAC1								
Sat 15 Nov	WREXHAM	D3 Team	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 22 Nov	Sheffield Wednesday	D1 Team	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 29 Nov	CHESTERFIELD	W 3-0	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 6 Dec	-	-	-	-			FAC2								
Tue 9 Dec	-	-	-	-			LDVVT3								
Sat 13 Dec	Blackpool	L 2-5	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 20 Dec	BARNLEY	L 2-3	H	3:00pm			D2								
Fri 26 Dec	Colchester United	W 5-0	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sun 28 Dec	NOTTS COUNTY	D 2-2	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 3 Jan	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	D1 Team	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 10 Jan	Rushden & Diamonds	D3 Team	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 17 Jan	STOCKPORT COUNTY	D 1-1	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 24 Jan	Grimsby Town	D1 Team	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 31 Jan	Hartlepool United	D3 Team	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 7 Feb	COLCHESTER UNITED	L 1-2	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 14 Feb	Wycombe Wanderers	W 2-1	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 21 Feb	BRENTFORD	L 0-1	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 28 Feb	Peterborough United	D 1-1	A	3:00pm			D2								
Tue 2 Mar	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	D3 Team	H	7:45pm			D2								
Sat 6 Mar	Barnley	W 3-2	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 13 Mar	BLACKPOOL	L 1-3	H	3:00pm			D2								
Tue 16 Mar	Port Vale	W 2-1	A	7:45pm			D2								
Sat 20 Mar	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	W 1-0	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 27 Mar	Queens Park Rangers	L 0-2	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 3 Apr	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	D 0-0	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 10 Apr	Tranmere Rovers	W 3-1	A	3:00pm			D2								
Mon 12 Apr	SWINDON TOWN	W 3-0	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 17 Apr	BRISTOL CITY	D 2-2	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 24 Apr	Wrexham	D3 Team	A	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 1 May	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	D1 Team	H	3:00pm			D2								
Sat 8 May	Chesterfield	L 1-2	A	3:00pm			D2								

Soccer Diary - Cup-tie Dates

September
23 Charlton A Carling Cup round 2

October
14 LDV Vans Trophy round 1
28 Carling Cup round 3

November
4 LDV Vans Trophy round 2
8 FA Cup round 1

December
2 Carling Cup round 4
6 FA Cup round 2
9 LDV Vans Trophy area q-final
16 Carling Cup round 5

January 2004
3 FA Cup round 3
20 Carling Cup semi-final(1)
20 LDV Vans Trophy area semi-final(1)
24 FA Cup round 4
27 Carling Cup semi-final(2)

February
10 LDV Vans Trophy area final(1)
14 FA Cup round 5
24 LDV Vans Trophy area final(2)
29 Carling Cup final

March
6 FA Cup round 6
28 LDV Vans Trophy final

April
4 FA Cup Semi-final

May
8 Division Two season ends
15 Play-off semi-final (1)
18 Play-off semi-final (2)
22 FA Cup Final
30 Div Two play-off final

Attendance Statistics

(All Competitions)

Highest Home	6,878
Average Home	5,608
Lowest Home	4,337
Highest Away	4,566
Average Away	4,566
Lowest Away	4,566

Penalties
0 (S)cored 0 (M)issed = 0% Success

Potential Cup Dates
CC: Rd4 2Dec/Rd 5 16Dec/SF 20Jan & 27Jan/F 29Feb
LDVVT: Area SF 20Jan/Area F 10Feb & 24Feb/F 28Mar
FAC: Rd3 3Jan/Rd4 24Jan/Rd5 14Feb/Rd6 6Mar/SF 4Apr/F 22May

Key
X Substituted
SUS Suspended
1 Goal

Luton Town FC Statistics Chart designed and updated by David Newman

Statistics

Started Match	3	0	3	3	3	0	0	1	2	3	3	3	0	0	3	3	0
Substitute (Used)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1
Total 2003/2004 Apps	3	0	3	3	3	0	1	1	2	3	3	3	2	1	3	3	1
Total 2003/2004 Goals	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	2	0
Substitute (Unused)	0	3	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Single Yellow Card	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
First YC leading to RC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Second YC = RC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Straight Red Card	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total LTFC Career Apps	7	0	41	7	78	56	32	39	51	261	85	66	67	66	2	190	102
Total LTFC Career Goals	0	0	1	1	4	3	0	0	1	30	11	6	11	10	0	82	52
Squad Number	47	33	3	41	12	7	22	24	23	4	8	7	14	18	44	9	19
Position	Goalkeepers						Defenders										Forwards

NEXT AT KENILWORTH ROAD
Nationwide League Division Two
Luton Town v Hartlepool United
Next Saturday, August 30,
kick-off 3pm

Fans on the Road
SUPPORTERS have soon shown their willingness to take to the road to follow the Town, with 671 enjoying the day out at the first away game of the season on Saturday. They made up 15 per cent of the gate at Edgeley Park for Stockport's first home game of the campaign. Compliments are due to Yeovil fans, with 493 making the long mid-week trip from Somerset for their Carling Cup game at Kenilworth Road. Rushden & Diamonds brought 922 supporters to see the Town keep up their 100 per cent record at their team's expense.

Today's Squads

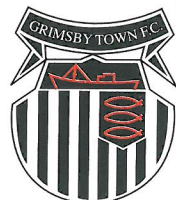


Manager: Mike Newell

3	Alan NEILSON	☒
4	Matthew SPRING	☒
5	Russell PERRETT	☐
7	Adrian FORBES	☐
8	Kevin NICHOLLS	☒
9	Tony THORPE	☐
11	Steve ROBINSON	☐
12	Chris COYNE	☒
14	Courtney PITT	☒
17	Emmerson BOYCE	☒
18	Ahmet BRKOVIC	☒
19	Steve HOWARD	☒
21	Paul HUGHES	☒
22	David BAYLISS	☒
23	Ian HILLIER	☐
24	Sol DAVIS	☒
32	Lee MANSELL	☐
33	Dean BRILL	☒
34	Dean CROWE	☒
38	Michael LEARY	☐
39	Steven O'LEARY	☐
41	Kevin FOLEY	☒
43	Matthew JUDGE	☐
44	Parys OKAI Mc SHEFFREY	☒
45	Leon BARNETT	☐
47	Rob BECKWITH	☒

1 (0)

(1) 2



DIXON

Manager: Paul Groves

1	Aidan DAVISON	☒
2	John MCDERMOTT	☐
3	Darren BARNARD	☒
4	Simon FORD	☒
5	Tony CRANE	☒
6	Marcel CAS	☒
8	Stuart CAMPBELL	☒
9	Michael BOULDING	☒
10	Darren MANSARAM	☐
13	Andrew PETTINGER	☐
14	Chris BOLDER	☐
15	Jonathan ROWAN	☒
19	Iain WARD	☐
20	Des HAMILTON	☒
21	Iain ANDERSON	☒
22	Paul GROVES	☒
23	Wes PARKER	☐
24	Mike EDWARDS	☒
26	Jason CROWE	☒
27	Laurens TEN HEUVEL	☒
28	Ashley HILDRED	☐

XARA



XARA SPORTSWEAR UK LTD
OFFICIAL KIT SUPPLIER TO
LUTON TOWN F.C.
SEASON 2003 - 2004

Today's Officials

Referee: George Cain, Merseyside

Assistants: Nick Kinseley, Essex (red and yellow flag);

Geoff Russell, Buckinghamshire (yellow flag)

Fourth official: Martin Darlow, Bedfordshire

Support the Hatters by giving back to the club — join Hatter Travel!

Luton-based Travel Extras is proud to be the official shirt sponsor for Luton Town Football Club, offering great deals to football fans – home and away. What's more, if you book any product from Travel Extras' vast range, we will give 10% of EVERY booking straight back to the club!

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Ray Mulford, Travel Extras Group Managing Director with Chris Coyne and Kevin Nicholls wearing the new Luton Town home and away strips

SIGN UP FOR GREAT HATTERS TRAVEL OFFERS!

Fancy New York for shopping or Paris in the springtime? Travel Extras can offer great deals on any worldwide destination. Simply register for fantastic up to the minute and on the ball Special offers! Just visit www.travelextras.com/lffc for more details!

How do I get involved?

Continue to support your club!

To take advantage of Travel Extras' super Hatters deals, simply call your dedicated Hatters Travel Advisors on 08707 27 37 27 or visit www.travelextras.com/lffc. What's more, our fantastic deals are for business or pleasure, sunshine or snow, offering a competitive price all year round.

Group Managing Director, Ray Mulford said: "Many of our staff are Hatters Fans and are getting behind the Club. Now is your chance to get involved and have a great holiday at the same time!"



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