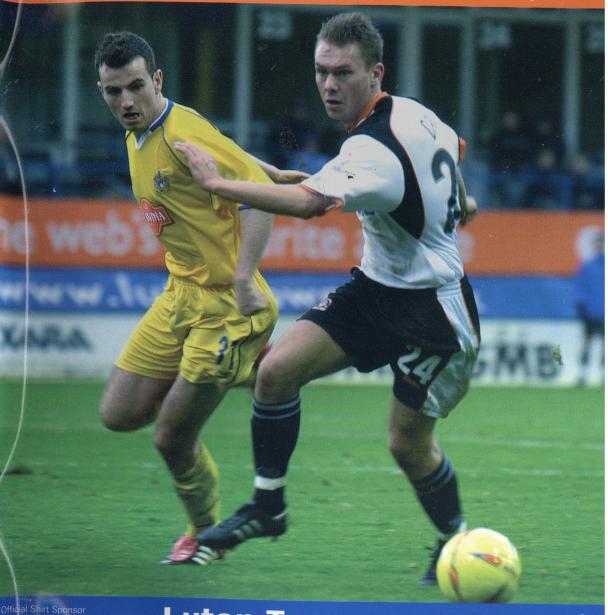


Luton Town Football Club

Official Matchday Magazine • Price £2.50 **FA Cup Round Four** Saturday 24th January 2004 • Kick Off 3.00pm







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Magazine

Editor

Brian Swain

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Regal Litho Ltd

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



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The Manager's Message

HELLO, and welcome to today's game with Tranmere Rovers. The FA Cup is special, and the further you go the more special it becomes.

Certain clubs have devalued the competition in the past few years by making the Premiership and European Champions League a priority, and in Bolton Wanderers' case even the Carling Cup. You can't argue with that because the money involved in the top flight or Europe these days is unreal, and at the end of the day clubs are now businesses, and their existence depends on what level they are at. But I watched Bolton against Aston Villa on Wednesday night in a semi-final and the ground was only half full. There were even less at the FA Cup replay against Tranmere, when Bolton fielded their reserves.

Somewhere along the line the FA have got it wrong. We have the oldest cup competition in the world and at present we don't even have a ground where the final can be played. I know what supporters would prefer, because I am one, and was lucky enough to experience Wembley as one. It will eventually turn full circle, and instead of teams chasing fourth place, which at the end of the day is nowhere, they will start trying to win something and get their names into

books, or at least give their fans something to remember. We would love to progress to the fifth round, but the cards may just be star notes on Thurs players available

history

may just be stacked again us. As I write these notes on Thursday morning we have fifteen players available, including five YTS lads and one non-contract player. All I know is that they will give us everything, because that is what they have done for the last six months.

Last Saturday's draw at home against Stockport was one of the most pleasing performances of the season for me. The resolution and desire they showed going down to ten men after 36 minutes, and their refusal to give in and let another idiotic decision cost us, was commendable.

Welcome to Brian Little and his staff, players, directors and supports from Prenton Park. They have managed to get some good results since we beat them earlier in the season, and today's game will be a totally different matter. It is all

about getting into the next round and being in the draw on Monday. I was asked before the live game in the first round at Thurrock what would be a good cup run for Luton Town and I said the fifth or sixth round would be nice. As I was saying it, I was thinking give me the second round and get me out of here!

All I want now is for Luton Town's name to be in that silly glass bowl next week. I am a bit of a traditionalist, and the red velvet bag was much better. Then again, so was Wembley!

Enjoy the game, and get behind the lads.

Mike Newell



CONFRONTATION: Enoch Showunmi on the attack against Stockport last week, with a run which ended with the goalkeeper saving at his feet.



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The Town Captain's View

EVERYONE is looking forward to today's game, but there can't be a happier man in the club than me, back in business at long last after four months on the injured list. Returning to full training with the rest of the lads has been a pleasure. I enjoy training, and have even got some pleasure out of the lonely work that has to be done to regain fitness. But exercising in the gym and running on your own gives none of the enjoyment you get from training with vour mates.

I am still playing catch-up in terms of fitness, and it will take more time to get match fit, but just to be on the bench for the Stockport game gave me a lift.

The lads are doing remarkably well despite our problems and injuries. One defeat in the last 11 league games has kept us on the fringe of the play-off zone, and some of our football has been tremendous. I thought our first half at Rushden, for instance, was tremendous, and the first half at Bradford was also a bit special. The disappointment, even though we got an excellent result at Bradford, was that we didn't keep it up for 90 minutes, and that is some-

thing we must put right. At our best we are as good as anything in this league, and if we could repeat the Rushden first-half for 90 minutes of every game for the rest of the season we will be in the play-offs. Plymouth and QPR will take some catching, and we must put together a consistent run to keep up the rest of the chasing pack. Saturday's point was welcome, but we wanted all three, and some of the other teams in the play-off chase were able to pull further away from us. When we went into the Christmas games we were sixth, two points ahead of Bristol City. Today, they are third and seven points ahead of us. The lesson is obvious: draws have got to be turned into

We may lose ground this afternoon while we enjoy another taste of the FA Cup. We have games in hand, of course, but I

would rather have points in the bag.

But the cup still has a glamorous feel about it, and we are delighted to be at home, and go into today's game believing we can make further progress if we hit form.

I don't expect the game to be like the league match here in October when we beat Tranmere 3-1. We are both different teams now, and both clubs know the importance of this game: it's potentially a big money-spinner for the winners, because in the last 16 you have a greater chance of being drawn against a Premiership club. So we can expect a hard game this after-

> I am well happy to be back in the squad while we are still in the cup, because this is already the furthest I have ever been. If we can beat Tranmere I hope we get another home draw. I would like to see one of the big teams come to Kenilworth Road, so we can show them what football in the lower divisions is really about..

Finally, because of my long spell on the injured list, this is the first chance I have had to publicly offer my best wishes to Marvin Johnson in his new role as youth team coach. He has helped me a lot since I came to Luton, and I hope that he turns out to be as good a coach as he was a player.

Kevin Nicholls

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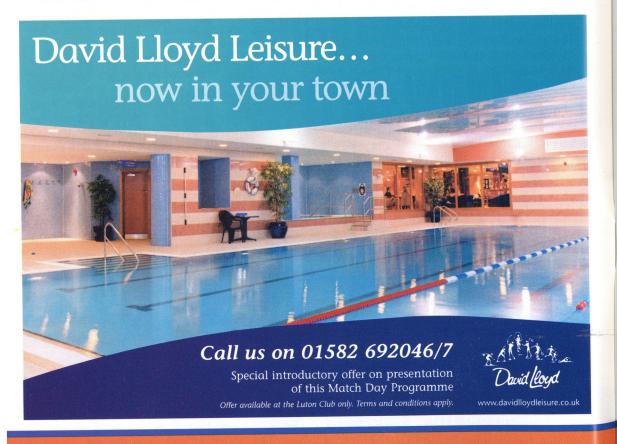
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From The Chief Executive

GOOD afternoon and welcome to this afternoon's exciting fourth round FA Cup match. It seems to be famine or feast with home games: not a single one for three weeks and then two in eight days!

We are delighted that our own stands are completely sold out – thank you for your magnificent support, and as always I expect us to be able to raise the roof today

The collection last Saturday for Luton North Rotary for holidays for under-privileged children at Dell Farm raised £248.37. Thank you for your support.

Last Wednesday I attended a meeting of all clubs of The Football League where we were given an update on relevant matters, one agenda item being a test that is being introduced to ensure that "fit and proper persons" take over or run football clubs. Could that have anything to do with our situation last summer?

There was also discussion regarding efforts being made to change the transfer windows system, and updates on current commercial ventures that the

league are involved in on clubs' behalf.

One item of major importance is a change in the scholarship scheme, which will be replaced



in the summer by a new two-year scheme called MASE, which stands for Modern Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence. Any young players on the current scholarship scheme will continue under the terms of that scholarship until the end of their contract terms.

Full details of the new scheme are not available yet, but The Football League expects to be able to advise us early next week. As you can imagine, we are eager to make offers to our new intake of youth players.



TOP HATTER: Marlon Beresford picks up his travelxtras player of the month award before last week's game. Also in the picture are, on the left, Claire Mathieson, marketing manager of travelextras, Nicola Guy, the fan chosen to present the award after voting for the goalkeeper by text, and Cherry Newbery. It was the goalkeeper's second prize in quick succession, after being named The Football League's Umbro Isotonic player of the month for Division Two. The goalkeeper is now set to extend his stay at Kenilworth Road with a contract until the end of the season – see page 55.

at the present situation regarding the new owners: please be patient for just a little longer. We are nearly there, and it will be worth the wait, I promise you! Several supporters have asked about the appeal procedure regarding Adrian Forbes sending-off last week. On Monday morning we immediately lodged an appeal with The Football Association, and sent to them as required a copy of the match video, together with a letters from the club and the player appealing against the sendingoff. We also had to send a cheque for £450 to effect the appeal. At the time of writing we have received acknowledgement from the FA that the video has been forwarded to the appropriate members of the Video Advisory Panel - we now wait to

I know supporters are frustrated

Enjoy the game.

Cherry Newbery



Luton Town Football Club Present a



Sporting Dinner

Thursday 19th February 2004

at the Riverside Suite, Vauxhall Recreation Club, 20 Gipsy Lane, Luton LU1 3JU

with special guests



GARETH CHILCOTT

As one of Rugby Unions and the sporting medias greatest characters, Gareth "Cooch" Chilcotts, achievements are legendary. With over 400 Ist Team Games for Bath and with 5 League Winners Medals, plus 7 Cup Winners Medals, this England International and British Lions player, was guaranteed to strike terror into the opposition. The demand for Gareth's service's within the game, particularly from the media, continue unabated, where his BBC, ITV Sport, Sky and radio work, including his role as front-line commentator during the 2003 Rugby World Cup in Australia have made him an International Celebrity. As an after dinner speaker you could not be entertained by a funnier or warmer individual.

AARON JAMES

Sporting impressionist and comedian extraordinaire, Aaron is without doubt one of the funniest men ever to grace the after dinner speaking circuit. He is regarded by fellow professionals as a "top drawer" speaker and one of the finest sporting and celebrity impressionists around today. Aaron is a regular on TV after he first appeared on the original "Big Breakfast Show" and his hilarious video ranks as one of funniest of its style ever produced.





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Sheffield Fans Top Travellers

THE latest attendance figure survey by the Football League shows that only Sheffield Wednesday have bigger away support than the Town. Despite last season's relegation and a stuttering record in this campaign, Wednesday have attracted the biggest gates of the season so far at eight of the clubs they have visited – Barnsley, Brentford, Hartlepool, Peterborough, QPR, Swindon, Tranmere and Wrexham. Wednesday are easily the best-supported club in the Second Division, with an average of 22,601 at Hillsborough so far to see a team that has won only twice at home. Their away following averages just over 2,000, with their biggest over 4,000 who went to Peterborough in August.

Three clubs have had their highest attendances for matches against the Town – Brighton, Colchester and Rushden.

Queens Park Rangers, with an average home attendance of just over 14,500, contributed towards the Town's highest attendance of the season so far – 1,872 from a gate of 8,339. Notts County is the other club where they have contributed to the highest of the season to date.

Oddly, league leaders Plymouth figure only once in the list of clubs whose away games brought in a season's-best gate, for their visit to Bournemouth.

The Town's average league attendance stands at 6,047. The best-supported clubs are Sheffield Wednesday 22,601, QPR 14,548, Bristol City 11,384, Plymouth 10,775 and Barnsley 10,237.

The lowest average home attendances to date are 3,737 at Colchester, 3,877 at Chesterfield, 4,809 at Wrexham, 4,472 at Rushden 4,785 at Stockport and 4,671 at Grimsby.

In view of those figures, Stockport fans deserve a pat on the back, with 364 travelling to support them at Kenilworth Road on Saturday. That's nearly twice as many as Tranmere brought when they came here in the League, although we know the Rovers will have better backing today. Latest figures on travelling fans:

Town Travellers		Visitors to Luton	
Stockport	671	Rushden	922
Brighton	727	Yeovil (CC)	493
Notts Co	1,215	Grimsby	318
Plymouth	449	Hartlepool	573
Charlton (CC)	2,407	Port Vale	344
Oldham	487	QPR	1,872
Swindon	412	Tranmere	170
Stevenage (LDV)	1,028	Wycombe	414
Brentford	1,468	Peterborough	579
Bournemouth	462	Wrexham	176
Bristol City	496	Thurrock	239
Rushden (LDV)	876	Chesterfield	168
Thurrock (FAC)	509	Notts County	363
Sheffield Wed	1,462	Stockport	364
Rochdale (FAC)	562		
Southend (LDV)	216		
Blackpool	458		
Colchester	941		
Bradford	1,620		
Rushden	2,319		
Total:	18,785		6,995
Average:	939		500

News From The Ticket Office



FA CUP FOURTH ROUND IF IT'S A REPLAY



If today's match is drawn, the replay will take place at Prenton Park on

Tuesday February 3, kick-off 7.45pm.

Admission will be pay on the night only, with no tickets available in advance at Kenilworth Road.

Prices: Adults £15, Senior Citizens £8, Juniors £4



Nationwide League Division Two Hartlepool Utd v Luton Town



Saturday January 31, 2004, kick-off 3pm Prices: Adults £15,

Senior Citizens and Juniors £7

NO student concessions are available for this game

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

Tickets are now on general sale at the Kenilworth Road ticket office.



Nationwide League Division Two Luton Town v Colchester Utd



Saturday February 7, 2004, kick-off 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.

Cash turnstiles will be open on the day subject to availability.

Remember there are **no concessions** available on cash turnstiles.

Match tickets can be ordered on credit or debit cards by telephoning the ticket office on 01582 416976

News From The Ticket Office



Nationwide League Division Two Luton Town v Brighton & Hove Albion



Tuesday February 10, 2004, kick-off 7.45pm

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.

Cash turnstiles will be open on the day subject to availability.

Remember there are **no concessions** available on cash turnstiles.



Nationwide League Division Two Wycombe Wanderers v Luton Town



Saturday February 14, 2004, kick-off 3pm 🕏 🔍 Prices: Adults £15, Senior Citizens and

Students £12, Juniors £11

This is not an all ticket match for Luton supporters, but tickets are available in advance from Kenilworth Road, and we strongly advise supporters who wish to attend the game to book early. We have 2,000 tickets available.

Tickets are now on general sale.

Ticket Office Opening Hours

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

10am to 5.00pm, 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

IT IS with enormous pleasure that we welhere come today, all our commercial sponsors and their guests, plus some new

corporate faces, for this afternoon's fourth round FA Cup match against Tranmere Rovers. The FA Cup is pretty magical at every stage, but with today's our first in the fourth round for nine years, it's all the more special.

JOINT MATCH **SPONSORS**

Mad as a Hatter Editor-in-Chief THE LUTON TOWN FANZI

Keith Hayward and his Mad as a Hatter fanzine magazine have been providing the "alternative view" of Luton Town Football Club, on and off, for the past 14 years. Sometimes controversial, but always with passion and belief, "Mad as a Hatter" can always be relied upon to present its case and, according to Keith, "It's the best value for money to be had." The club hope that Keith and his guests have a great afternoon with us, and we thank them for their support.



Match Sponsor John Chatterley presenting "Del Boy," alias Derek Trotter, exercising the the man of the match to Chris Coyne his charm on Anne Chatterley, John's after last week's game against Stockport.

JOINT **MATCH SPONSORS**

O ANACHEM

Anachem

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to Luton-based Anachem Limited. and thank them for their support today. Located in Charles Street, Anachem, part of Diploma Holdings plc, are a sales and marketing organisation, engaged in the distribution of primarily scientific products, both capital and consumable, to the UK pharmaceutical, bioscience and environmental marketplace. The company employs over 150 people, generating a turnover of £25m. The directors and staff would like to wish Luton Town all the best for today's game and I quote, " Look forward to a fifth round draw at home to Manchester United!"

MATCH BALL SPONSOR

Beechwood Shirts & Litho Limited

We welcome back today as match ball sponsors Beechwood Shirts & Litho Ltd. This is their ninth sponsorship visit to the Club as they celebrate this year 21 years of trading.



wife.

Welcome to All Our **Sponsors and Guests**



Four "Roses" from the Fox and Hounds, who were joint match sponsors, sandwiched between a bunch of "Thorns."

The company are suppliers of litho printing and Flexo printed labels, as well as decorated clothing, jackets, caps etc, which can be silkscreen printed, or embroidered to advertise any business, sports club or society.

Among managing director Ron Hedley's guests today are his daughter Alexandra, who is celebrating her 18th birthday, plus business associates Geoff and Shirley Bacon, Peter Dwight and Jerry Bateman. The club would like to express their sincere condolences to



Commercial Mascot Andrew Hymus receiving his award and the match ball from Luton Town squad members and his sponsor John Chatterley



Billy Popham director of Decillion Financial Planning and his guests, receiving their match sponsors award..

Ron and his family as they use this sponsorship to commemorate the life of Alan Robert Paul Hedley, Ron's younger brother, who passed away on Thursday January 15 at the age of 46. Alan was a lifelong Hatters fan and will be sadly missed, especially by his wife Jeannette and all of his family.

Beechwood Shirts and Garments can be contacted on 01494 463653 or e-mail: beechwoodshirts@btconnect.com.

SPORTING DINNER - 19TH FEBRUARY

Tickets for this special evening featuring Gareth Chilcott, are selling fast and with limited availability, I would urge you to book your places now to avoid any disappointment. Full details of the evening can be seen on page 10 of today's programme, or call the commercial department on 01582 411622 or e-mail commercial@lutontown.co.uk to make your reservation.

Many thanks for all your continuing support and have a great day

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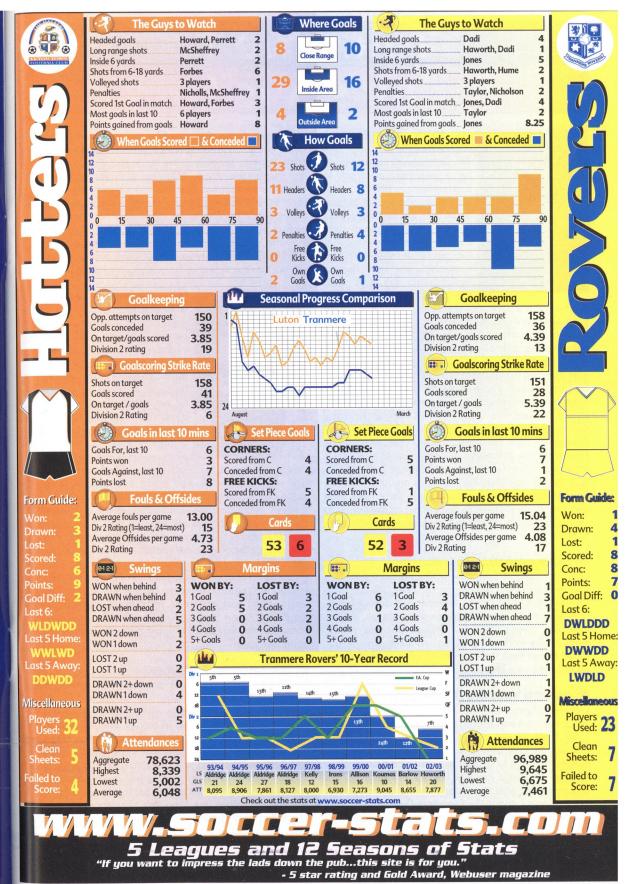
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Welcome to Today's Visitors



(1) JOHN ACHTERBERG (GOALKEEPER)

Tall Dutch goalkeeper signed on a two-year contract in September 1998 after impressing on an initial two-week trial. Achterberg joined Rovers on a Bosman-style free transfer as a replacement for Everton-bound Steve Simonsen and was thrown straight into the first team due to a groin injury to Danny

Coyne. With a style not previously seen at Prenton Park, but more commonplace amongst foreign goalkeepers. Achterberg has turned out to be a real bargain signing. A proficient custodian who possesses good handling skills and positional know-how, he was dropped in mid-term but returned to turn in several impressive displays as the 1998-99 campaign drew to a close, ending it as Rovers' undisputed firstchoice 'keeper. The departure of Coyne to Grimsby during the summer of 1999 gave Achterberg the chance to state his claim for the 'keeper's jersey. However, the following season saw a new rival emerge for the number one shirt in the form of Eire U18 'keeper Joe Murphy. Murphy's misfortune when he sustained a broken collarbone in December 1999 allowed Achterberg an unexpected opportunity to return to the first team and he grasped it with both hands.

(2) SEAN CONNELLY (DEFENDER)

Long term target Connelly finally signed for Rovers before the Chesterfield game on 12th October. The former Stockport County defender had been a target of Rovers when John Aldridge was in charge, but the defender chose Wolves, where Mathias finally signed him from. A cultured left back who is not afraid to run with the ball, the 32 year old will be an asset to the side this season.

(3) GARETH ROBERTS (DEFENDER)

Wrexham-born Gareth Roberts initially joined Tranmere on a two-month trial during the summer of 1999 from Greek club Panionios. Having been released by Liverpool, the young defender was persuaded to move to Greece by Panionios boss Ronnie Whelan who paid just £50,000 for his services. He was rewarded with the experience of playing against Italian giants Lazio in the European Cup Winners Cup quarter-final, rubbing shoulders alongside the likes

of Marcelo Salas, Roberto Mancini and Ivan De La Pena. Equally comfortable as a left-back or left wingback, Roberts' tenacity in the tackle and solid defending impressed John Aldridge sufficiently to be offered a permanent deal. His form during his short time at Tranmere was also enough to attract the attention of the Wales U21 management team as well as some aspiring glances from rival clubs. He eventually joined Rovers on a permanent basis in November 1999, signing a three-year deal, expressing hopes of a dream senior call-up for his country.



(4) GRAHAM ALLEN (DEFENDER)

Bolton-born Graham Allen joined Rovers in part exchange as part of the Steve Simonsen deal having been unable to break through at Everton, where he had been since his YTS days. After making just six first team appearances at Goodison Park, the chance of a permanent move to

Prenton Park and the opportunity of first team football was not one he was going to reject. Initially, signed on a one-month loan, his move became permanent in September 1998 with Everton placing a £300,000 valuation on his head. A tall, composed defender, Allen has proven his versatility by turning out in both the right-back and centre-back positions although he prefers the latter. Allen earned himself an unlikely reputation as a goalscorer during his first season at Prenton Park when he chipped in with five goals. Allen was rewarded with the captain's armband after Kevin Sheedy and Ray Mathias assumed control of the first team following the resignation of John Aldridge.

(5) IAN SHARPS (DEFENDER)

lan Sharps is yet another product of Tranmere's invaluable YTS scheme who has so far had to be contented with regular reserve team football. A tall centre-back who is strong in the air and difficult to shake off the ball as well as having vision and accurate distribution skills, he would undoubtedly have had further opportunities towards the end of the 1998-99 season if not for a groin injury. Sharps' potential marks him out as one for the future and he looks set to follow in a long line of talented centrebacks that have graced Prenton Park. Tranmere's



Tranmere Rovers FC



faith in that potential was underlined when he was handed a two year contract in March 2000. He again looked close to making an impression on the first team towards the end of the 2000-01 season but a knee injury put yet another dampener on his hopes.

(6) TYRONE LORAN (DEFENDER)

Tyrone Loran made his move to Prenton Park permanent in the summer after enjoying a successful five-month loan spell here last season.

The Dutchman found himself surplus to requirements at Manchester City and he was given the chance of first team football here with Rovers, he went on to make 17 appearances in the white shirt before signing a two-year deal in May.

Signed originally as a centre half the 21-year-old made his debut away at Colchester in January and it was a game to forget for the youngster who conceded a penalty and suffered an eye injury which led to a spell on the sidelines.

He returned to the starting XI for the trip to Plymouth in a new position of centre midfield, where he played for the remaining 15 games of the season, which incidentally coincided with the teams unbeaten run.

(7) IAIN HUME (FORWARD)

lain Hume became the youngest ever player to appear in a Tranmere Rovers shirt when he made his debut as a substitute at Swindon Town in March 2000. At just 16 years and 167 days old and still registered on schoolboy forms, he beat a certain Dixie Dean's record by 192 days. After signing scholarship forms, he progressed rapidly through Tranmere's youth and reserve team sides and he ended the 1999-00 season as a regular on the substitutes bench. As soon as he turned 17, Tranmere wasted no time in handing the young Canadian his first professional contract and John Aldridge gradually eased him into the first team picture with regular substitute appearances. A fast and energetic striker with masses of potential, Hume is already a Canadian U20 international and it will surely not be long before he makes his full first team debut.

(8) MICKEY MELLON (MIDFIELDER)

Mickey Mellon rejoined Tranmere for his second spell with the club in March 2000 on a free transfer from Burnley after an initially signing as a loan player. Mellon first signed for Tranmere in October 1997 for a £300,000 fee from Blackpool as John Aldridge ended a lengthy pursuit that stretched back into the close season. He arrived at Prenton Park with the

reputation of a goalscoring midfielder but it took him five months before he found the back of the net. With Tranmere strapped for cash, Rovers were in no position to turn down the offer of £350,000 from Burnley in January 1999, and he was sold - his Prenton Park career lasting just 14 months. While with Burnley, he made 94 appearances, scoring 5 goals, and he added versatility to his belt by filling in at left-back on occasions. Frustrated by a lack of first team opportunities at Turf Moor, he was handed a free transfer and he opted to return to Prenton Park. Mellon started his career as a trainee at Bristol City before a £75,000 move took him to West Brom in February 1993 where he spent nine months.

(9) SIMON HAWORTH (FORWARD) Haworth became Dave



Watson's third signing, when he joined Tranmere Rovers for £125,000 from local rivals Wigan Athletic. The 24-year-old was formerly the Latics record signing, when he joined back in 1998 for £600,000 from Coventry City. He was signed by then

Manager Ray Mathias, who is obviously assistant to Rovers boss to Dave Watson. Haworth spent two successful seasons partnering Stuart Barlow, while at Wigan, a partnership that will certainly be revived at Prenton Park.

The Welshman began his career with his hometown club Cardiff City, where he scored 13 goals in just 40 starts. He stayed with the Bluebirds for two seasons before moving to Premiership side Coventry City for £500,000.

Chances were limited for the youngster with the Sky Blues, where he stayed for just one year before being snapped up by Wigan.

(10) GARY JONES (MIDFIELDER)

This is Gary's second spell at Prenton Park Ray Mathias looked to inject a touch of the old Tranmere spirit back into the side. Signed on a free from Nottingham Forest after impressing in a loan spell, Jones has been a virtual ever present since. A tough tackling midfielder who will always weigh in with his share of the goals. Last season Jones finished as second leading scorer with nine and he's already started this season in much the same way, with three goals in the opening five league games.

Welcome to Today's Visitors



(11) SHANE NICHOLSON (DEFENDER)

Shane Nicholson joined Rovers after being released from his contract with Sheffield United, ironically following their signing of Steve Yates.

Predominantly a left sided defender, he has had spells at Stockport, Chesterfield, West Brom, Derby and Lincoln and has signed a two-ear contract

with Tranmere.

Tranmere have been lacking quality on the left for some time and Watson acted quick to increase the number of left footers in his squad and Nicholson will provide excellent competition for Gareth Roberts.

The 32-year-old has played well over 400 games in his 14-year career, scoring 15 goals along the way but we all know how that can change at Prenton Park. Remember Steve Yates? he joined having only ever scored twice!!.

(13) RUSSELL HAWORTH (GOALKEEPER)

The goalkeeping saga at Prenton Park finally came to an end when Rovers signed England under 21 goal-keeper Russell Haworth from York City. The talented keeper was seen as 'a steal' in a depressed transfer market and was brought in to challenge regular keeper John Achterberg for the first team jersey.

(14) EUGENE DADI (FORWARD)

Signing for Tranmere Rovers saw Eugene Dadi finally achieve his ambition of playing in England.

Dadi has experienced English football in the past with trial spells at Wolves, Swindon and Burnley but problems getting international clearance hampered his chances of impressing after not being able to feature in any competitive matches.

As it was a move north of the border beckoned to play in the SPL with Aberdeen and then Livingston. The 30-year-old striker plied his trade in France and Austria before moving to Scotland but after his contract expired at Livingston he joined Rovers on trial and after impressing during pre season he signed a one year contract on the eve of the new season.

(15) RYAN TAYLOR (DEFENDER)

20

Ryan signed professional in the summer of 2002 after completing a successful two-year scholarship

with the club

He is a right full back, who is excellent from dead balls, capable of both inswinging and outswinging shots rather reminiscent of David Beckham.

Taylor hails from Liverpool and has progressed through Rovers youth sides, he made his debut for the reserves earlier in the season and was named on the substitutes bench for the trip to Oldham in the LDV Vans trophy. Although he didn't come on it was still a big step for the youngster, who is tipped for great things.

The 17-year-old was rewarded his for impressive form when he was called up by England U18's for a friendly match with Italy in March and he ended the season on a high after winning both the Football League Youth Alliance Merit Division and the Lancashire Youth Cup.

(16) ALAN NAVARRO (MIDFIELDER)

Alan Navarro finally ended a six week pursuit by Dave Watson, when he signed a three and a half year deal, for a fee rising to £225,000, depending on appearances.

It's the most the club has ever paid for a player of his age, but the club have bought potential, with Navarro still only 20.

The tough tackling midfielder is a product of Liverpool's academy. He's a great passer of the ball and can play anywhere across the middle and also featured at right back while at Anfield.

He was part of the reds title winning reserve side in 99/00 and spent three months on loan at Crewe before Dave Watson bought him to Prenton Park for a month, back in November.

After scoring 2 goals in four appearances he did enough to persuade Rovers to splash the cash.

(17) ALEX HAY (FORWARD)

Birkenhead-born Alex Hay joined Tranmere's professional ranks in April 1999 after progressing through the youth system from the age of 12.

Unable to make an impact at Prenton Park, Hay was loaned out to non-league Altrincham in October 2000 in a bid to gain first team experience and he quickly hit the goal trail with the Robins.

After two months with the Moss Lane outfit, Hay returned to Prenton Park.

Such was his eagerness to edge himself into the reserve side, Hay turned out for Tranmere's youth side and he scored four goals in three games before again being struck down by injury which ruled him out for the remainder of the season.



Tranmere Rovers FC



During the 2001/02 season he finally broke into the first team making five appearances.

After signing an extension to his current contract he's desperate to score his first goal for Rovers.

(18) DANNY HARRISON (MIDFIELDER)

Central midfielder Danny Harrison is yet another product of Tranmere's highly successful youth production line.

He was handed the invaluable experience of travelling with the first team squad to Fulham in December 2000 and he featured regularly in the reserve team as the season drew to a close.

Last season he made his first team debut in the home defeat by Wigan Athletic in October before starting the LDV match at Oldham the following week. He signed his first professional contract during the summer of 2002.

(19) JAMES OLSEN (DEFENDER)

James Olsen will be hoping to emulate the success of Andy Parkinson and Gareth Roberts after making the short switch across the Mersey from Liverpool in March 2001 for an undisclosed fee. The highly-rated left-back was not so much rejected by the Reds, he was simply told there was no room for him in the

first-team squad. Olsen had the opportunity of appearing in the PFA exit trials at Lilleshall, attracting the interest of a number of clubs, and he eventually opted to remain local by joining Tranmere on transfer deadline day after an earlier successful trial. After some impressive outings in the reserve team, Olsen made his Tranmere debut as a substitute against Nottingham Forest in May 2001 and he looked set to push Gareth Roberts hard for a regular place in the starting eleven during the 2000-01 season only to sustain a serious neck injury in the pre-season build-up.

(20) JAMIE McGUIRE (MIDFIELDER)

Another member of last season's successful youth team squad, who capped an excellent season by picking up both the Football League Youth Alliance Merit Division and Lancashire Youth Cup.

Jamie is a hard working and tough tackling midfielder who previously played for Shaftesbury Boys' Club, Mersey Royal and Cheshire Counties before signing for Tranmere.

The 18-year-old made several appearances for Rovers second string last season and will be looking to be a regular in the current campaign.

(21) PAUL ROBINSON (FOR-WARD)

Paul signed for Rovers from his beloved Newcastle United at the age of 16, after six years with the Magpies and he is another member of last seasons' double winning squad.

The Geordie striker has a fantastic touch and awareness and is comfortable on either foot.

(22) PAUL LINWOOD (DEFENDER)

Paul captained the youth team to league and cup glory last season and has since signed his first professional contract with the club.

The central defender has been with the club for seven years, progressing through the ranks and he has represented England at Schoolboy level.

A regular for the reserves last season the 18- year-old is looking to continue where he left off.



Russell Perrett heads in the Town's opening goal against Tranmere in the league meeting earlier in the season.



Blast From The Past

Tranmere Kenilworth Road for the Hatter's first foray into the FA Cup fourth round since 1995 when we

lost narrowly (0-6!) to a Matt Le Tissier inspired Southampton in a replay.

We were then, of course, in Division One where all clubs enter the competition at the third round stage. Today represents only the second time, since the F. A. Cup rules and formats were amended in 1925, that we have progressed through to round four after entering in the first round.

Back in 1932/33 we were a middle of the road team in Division Three (South) and it would be fair to say that the first round F.A.Cup pairing with Kingstonian of the Isthmian League hardly caused a ripple of excitement in the streets of

Kingstonian were, however, just about the strongest non-league outfit around, as proved

welcome by their lifting of the F.A. Amateur Cup at the season's end and the championship the following year. A crowd of 7,701 gathered at Kenilworth Road to see the Town lucky to escape with a 2-2 draw and the replay was no easier, watched by a record crowd at the old Richmond Road ground, but this time we scraped through 3-2.

It was off to uncharted territory in the next round for our first ever meeting with Stockport County of Division Three (North). Although the final scoreline of 3-2 looks close we were 3-1 ahead and cruising before County netted a consolation in the final seconds.

A hard fought 0-0 draw at Barnsley, again of Division Three (North), brought the Tykes back to Luton and following a 2-0 win in the replay, with prolific marksman Andy Rennie bagging both goals, F.A.Cup euphoria at last swept through the streets of the town.

Mighty Tottenham were to be the visitors to Kenilworth Road for the fourth round tie and although 'only' a Division Two side they were on the way to promotion at the season's end and boasted a proud F.A.Cup pedigree having won the trophy in both 1901 and 1921.

Tottenham supporters, confident after their teams 6-0 win at Oldham in the previous round, started arriving in Luton on the milk trains and by 7.30 were staging an impromptu kickabout on the Moor. By mid-day, queues stretched all the way down Hazelbury Crescent and two hours later the gates were closed with 17,213 in the ground. Some 21 coaches from London were parked along Dunstable Road and the site of the old Town ground was used as an overspill car-

The pitch was hard and icy but on the morning of the



Teenager John Hartson about to become an instant hero and would doubtless be when putting the Town ahead in the F.A. Cup fourth round regarded as unplayable today replay against Newcastle ten years ago.

Cup Thrills Over The Years

game the Town's groundstaff had used a steamroller to iron out the ruts and at least make the playing area flat.

The Luton players were definitely up for the game and adapted far better to the conditions for within 20 minutes they were two goals to the good courtesy of strikes from Tom Alderson and Tommy Tait with both efforts set up by Arthur Mills, deputising for the injured Rennie. Spurs huffed and puffed in an effort to get back into the match but the Luton defence held firm and at the final whistle thousands of supporters surged on to the pitch to chair off their heroes. Enthusiasm waned slightly when it was learned that the Town's 'reward' was a trip to Halifax but by the time of the game over 2,000 supporters had travelled to the Shay to swell the crowd to a record 29,235. The supporters were greeted by a snowstorm and a snow covered pitch and after the touchlines were cleared the game finally kicked off with again the Town the quicker to adapt to the treacherous conditions. With the snow beginning to fall once more, Tait fired the Town into the lead after 20 minutes before the referee called the players off the pitch for half an hour as the blizzard obscured the touchlines. As there were no floodlights in those days the referee cancelled the half time

interval otherwise the game would not have finished and as snow began to fall yet again Alan Nelson made the game safe by tapping home through the gathering gloom.

Alas, the story does not have a happy ending as eventual cup winners Everton thrashed the Town 6-0 at Goodison Park in the quarter-final although there was a consolation by way of a share in the receipts of £4,143-6-4 generated by a crowd of 55,431.

On now to more modern times and memories of ten years ago and the last time we progressed into the final 16 of the competition.

After seeing off Southend in round three we faced the daunting trip to Newcastle at the next stage but, in a major shock, managed to bring the Magpies back to Kenilworth Road and go one better in winning the replay 2-0 on a magical evening.

Cardiff were seen off in round four before West Ham were beaten 3-2 in a quarter-final replay on another evening that will live long in the

There is no fairy tale end to this particular story either as we gave a limp display at Wembley in the semi-final and went down 0-2 to a Chelsea side that then went on to lose to Manchester United in the final. Roger Wash

Yesterday's pages



The Town produced their normal, quite awful, 16 page programme for the visit of Tottenham in the F.A.Cup fourth round 71 years ago which is a pity for a game of such significance.

The editorial comment speaks of the recent defeat of the mighty Arsenal by lowly Walsall and hopes that the Town would enjoy such national acclaim as came the way of the Saddlers.

A quaint peculiarity of the Luton programme was a full guide to the offerings of the town's five cinemas and there was certainly plenty of choice ranging from Laurel and Hardy to Boris Karloff in those pre-television days.



LTFC in the Community

working in conjunction with Bedfordshire Football **Association and Luton Borough Council**

progress in future rounds.

WE HAVE completed our local heats in the Professional Footballers Association National Schools Six-a- Side tournament for year 6







under-11 school teams.

Our local section was split into three groups of six teams, with the winner of each, and the best runner-up, going

Congratulations to Sacred Heart, who won their group by being the only side to qualify with a 100% record, winning all five games by scoring 12 goals and conceding only two. Group two was won by Gilbert Inglefield Middle School B squad, who won four and lost one, with goals figures 10 for and two against.

Streetfields A won group three by winning three and drawing two, goals 5-0, while Hillborough were the best runners-up with three wins, one draw and one defeat, scoring six and conceding 3.

In the semi-finals Sacred Heart beat Streetfields A 1-0 and Hillborough beat Gilbert Inglefield B by the same score.

In the final Sacred Heart's proud unbeaten record ended, with Hillborough beating them 3-0, and they will now go on to represent Luton Town at the area final in Derby on Thursday Feb 5. Good Luck to them!

We will be presenting the winners and the runners-up with their medals and prizes on the pitch at a game in the near future, and I will keep you informed of how Hillborough



Coaching With Alan Neilson and Matthew Spring

This week saw the first in our 10-week series of coaching sessions which Alan and Matthew have kindly agreed to deliver for us. The 16 places available were filled instantly. The chance to work with the players was greeted with great excitement by the children, and they thoroughly enjoyed the coaching and the chance to have a kick-around with the professionals, as you can see from the pictures.

February Half Term Soccer Courses.

DETAILS are given on the facing page of the courses we are running over the schools half-term holiday next month. We are bringing in a new idea, a 'World Cup Day' which involves a tournament day based on mini-soccer tournaments and team competitions. Why not give it a try? To book on any of the courses ring the Community Office

REMEMBER LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL IN THE COM-MUNITY COURSES ARE THE ONLY ONES WHERE YOU GET TO MEET THE LUTON TOWN PLAYERS

Reading Buddies

We are now looking for volunteers to become 'Reading Buddies'. If you feel that you are able to assist with our reading programme to provide help in areas where parents find it difficult to provide additional support for their children, please call me on 01582 391927.

After that all you have to do is attend a 90-minute training session, at which you would also be asked to complete a CRB Disclosure, a police clearance which is required for anyone who works with children. You will also be required to complete a child protection course, which will take three hours in one evening. Then you would need to be able to give up an hour or two a week to go into a local school and work alongside children to improve their reading skills. That will enable four children to receive 15 minutes of oneto-one help which could make a real difference to their enjoyment of reading.

Stuart Smith















Half Term Soccer

BARNFIELD COLLEGE NEW BEDFORD ROAD MONDAY 16/2/04 TO WEDNESDAY 18/2/04

THIS COURSE IS OPEN TO BOYS AND GIRLS. 50% SIBLING DISCOUNT!!!!!!!! Courses Start 10:00 am and Finish at 3:00 pm.

LSC 1 3 Days

Soccer Coaching Age 5-15 YRS Mon 16/2/04 To Wed 18/2/04. Cost £25.00.

• LGK1 1 Day

Goalkeeper Coaching Age 8-13 YRS, Mon 16/2/04. Cost £10:00.

• LSS1 1 Day

Strikers Coaching Age 8-13 YRS, Tues 17/2/04. Cost £10:00.

• LSD1 1 Day

Defenders Coaching Age 8-13 YRS, Wed 18/2/04 Cost £10:00.

INCLUDED

- · Structured Coaching From Our FA and UEFA Qualified Coaches..
- 1 Free Childs Tkt For A Luton Town Home League Match Of Your Choice. *
- 1 Adult Tkt @ £8 A Luton Town Home League Match Of Your Choice. *
- * (Subject To Availability)
- LTFC Course Certificate, Presented By A LTFC
- · Medals For Player Of The Week And Most Improved Player.
- · Skills Challenge Award.

FARLEY JUNIOR NORTH DRIFT WAY THURSDAY 19/2/04 TO FRIDAY 20/2/04

WE CAN NO LONGER OFFER THE FANTASTIC PRICES WE HAVE DONE PREVIOULY. HOWEVER I AM SURE YOU WILL AGREE OUR COURSES ARE GREAT VALUE AT THESE PRICES

THIS COURSE IS OPEN TO BOYS AND GIRLS. 50% SIBLING DISCOUNT!!!!!!!! Courses Start 10:00 am and Finish at 3:00 pm

• LSC 2 2 Day

Age 5-15 YRS Soccer Coaching Thurs 19/2/04 To Fri 20/2/04 Cost £15:00 INCLUDED

- · Structured Coaching From Our FA and UEFA Qualified Coaches.
- LTFC Course Certificate, Presented By A LTFC Player.
- Medals For Player Of The Week And Most Improved Player.
- Skills Challenge Award.

NEW LUTON REGIONAL SPORTS CENTRE ST THOMAS' RD, STOPSLEY THURSDAY 19/2/04. LWC 1

WORLD CUP DAY OPEN TO BOYS AND GIRLS. Start 10:00 am and Finish at 3:00 pm £10:00 Per Child.

Two Age Groups: 5 - 7 Yrs and 8 - 11 Yrs. Mini Soccer Tournaments and Team Competitions.

To Enrol: Call the Community Office on 01582 391927 or complete the application form below and return with a Cheque payable to; Luton Town FITC. To: Stuart Smith LTFC Football in the Community, 1 Maple Rd, Luton, Beds, LU4 8AW.

Name Of Child.1	Age
Name Of Child.2	Age
Address:	
	Post Code
Contact Name and Number	
Please List Any Health Problems or Medication	
CHEQUE Payment Must Be Enclosed. (Please write child's nat acknowledge and accept that Luton Town FC, their footbal the facilities and their respective agents, servants and empl sonal injury, loss or damage however caused whilst in attacoaches employed by Luton Town Football in the Community	I in the community scheme or the organisations providing oyees, are not under liability whatsoever in respect of perendance on the above course. Additionally I authorise the
If you are unwilling for your child's photo to be used	
Signed (Parent Guardian)	Course Ref You Are Booking:

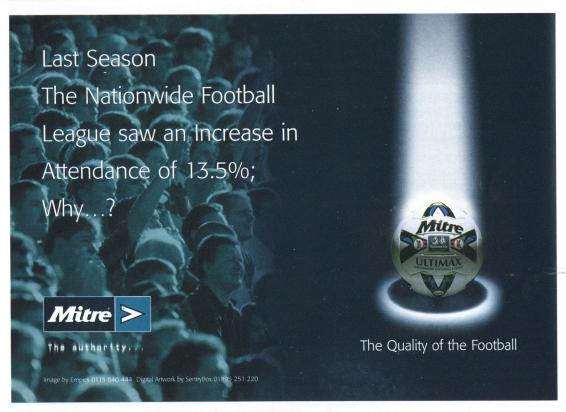
Taxpayer Collects Cash From Mayor!

LUTON Town supporter and current Mayor of Luton, Councillor Michael Dolling did the Golden Gamble honours last Saturday, and whatever his politics Jimmy Lawler, another keen Hatters fan, enjoyed the result as the Mayor picked his ticket out of the drum. Mr Lawler, of Carlton Crescent, Luton, pocketed £695, not a bad dividend on a £1 ticket bought in the New Stand. He is on the left of the picture, with the Mayor on the right. We have another jackpot on offer this afternoon, quite probably even bigger than Mr



Lawler's prize. The jackpot depends on how many tickets are sold, and even if you are not a winner your support for the Golden Gamble is very much appreciated by the club. Half of each £1 goes to the jackpot and the other 50p to club funds. The draw is made at half time, and the cash is paid out there and then.

Mr. Lawler was the 15th Golden Gamble winner of the season so far, with prizes totalling £9,500, an average of £633 each. As usual sellers are on duty in all parts of the ground today, offering a chance of a wedge of cash for a very modest outlay.



Hatters Away Travel Deals

IF TODAY'S game is drawn, we face two away trips in four days, to Hartlepool in the league next Saturday, and then to Prenton Park on Tuesday week.

The usual regular coach services are on offer: Town on Tour and the Bobbers Travel Club have both made contingency plans if we have an FA Cup replay on Merseyside.

For the match at Hartlepool the Bobbers will set off from Cranfield at 7.30am, leaving Luton an hour later. Fares are £17.50 for adults, £14.50 for senior citizens and under-16s. Town on Tour, part of Luton Town Supporters Club, will start their service at Leighton Buzzard at 7.40 am, departing from Luton at 8.30, and calling at Milton Keynes Coachway 30 minutes later. Their fares are £18 for adult members of LTSC, £15 for concessionary members and £21 for others.

If we have to go to Prenton Park Town on Tour will depart from Leighton at 1.30, Houghton Regis at 1.40, Luton at 2, and MK Coachway at 2.30. Fares are £16 for Supporters Club members, £14 concessions members, and £18 for others.

The Bobbers will leave Cranfield at 1.15 and Luton at 2.15, and will charge £14.50 for adults, £12 for children and old age pensioners.

DIY to Victoria Park



YOU can expect to take about three and a half hours to drive to Hartlepool non-stop, with the route being motorway and good A roads. Head north up the M1, to just beyond Sheffield, to take the M18 north. Leave M18 at junction 2, and continue north on the

A1(M). There is a route to Hartlepool signposted from A1 junction 48, but our advice is to stay on A1 a little longer, leaving at junction 49 to take the A168 towards Thirsk and then the A19. Just beyond Middlesbrough, watch for a right turn onto the A689, and follow that dual carriageway all the way to the ground. Head for the town centre, then follow the road signposted The North on the A179. Shortly after passing the Middleton Grange shopping centre on your left, and still on A179, you will see the ground on your left.

Mileage: 230

The Road to Prenton Park



IF TRAFFIC is flowing well, the drive to Prenton Park, Birkenhead, can be done comfortably in not much over three hours. If we have to make the midweek trip, it is worth considering the new toll road in the midlands to avoid the worst stretch of the M6. Or you can avoid it by ignoring the M6 where it branches off from the M1, and stay on M1 before taking the A50 towards Derby and Stoke and on to M6 near Stoke. However you get there, leave M6 at junction 20 to turn left onto the M56, which you follow to junction 15. There, turn right onto the M53. Leave that motorway at junction 3, making a right turn onto the A552, signposted to Birkenhead and Liverpool. After just over a mile watch for a right turn, signposted B5151 to Clatterbridge. Make that turn, into Storeton Road, and then take the first left, into Woodchurch Lane, which leads to the ground.

Mileage: About 200

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 Leighton Buzzard and Houghton Regis.

Ten Men Battle To Earn A Draw

Luton Town 2 Stockport County 2

REFEREE Alan Butler was the subject of most postmatch debate after an incident-packed game in which the Town were down to ten men for 53 minutes, and eventually grateful to a controversial decision which led to them earning the draw which was the least they deserved.

Neither manager was happy with the point, both believing they should have had all three. Instead one each left the sides still adrift of their ambitions, the Town just outside the play-off frame and Stockport still in the relegation zone.

Stockport boss Sammy McIlroy had the biggest moan about the ref, and was sent off from the dugout for his protests after the 85th-minute strike which in his eyes robbed his team of two points.

Mike Newell was more circumspect talking about the 37th-minute dismissal of Adrian Forbes, for alleged violent conduct after he and Danny Jackman competed for a high ball. It looked like a minor offence, but the boss added that even if it was it could have been avoided.

Even so, the ten men had enough of the play to have buried Stockport, and it was ironic that the late point-saver was down to their goalkeeper, James Spencer, who performed heroics to prevent the Town netting three or four goals.

It was 1-1 when Forbes was sent off. Andy Welsh enjoyed a tremendous first half on Stockport's left wing, and provided the run and cross which led to Simon Lynch scoring on 18 minutes, with County's first shot of the game. Howard, Forbes and Chris Coyne had all gone close before then, but the equaliser after 32 minutes, was a gift. Steve Robinson hammered a cross towards the near post and Danny Griffin sliced the attempted clearance into his own net from close range.

After Forbes's departure Enoch Showunmi was sent on in place of Lee Mansell to partner Howard, and his athletic exuberance and enthusiasm helped give the Town the upper hand for a spell. But the defence failed to cover properly in the 72nd minute when Jackman sent a diagonal cross to the far post, and Fraser McLachlan headed in unchallenged.

With five minutes to go Spencer unaccountably decided to field a back pass by Robert Clare, and after he had been booked for dissent Robinson touched off the indirect free kick and Howard rammed the equaliser through the crowded area. McIlroy was still seething an hour later, claiming that it was never a back pass. "The ball went over

that it was never a back pass. "The ball went over his head and he stabbed it backwards. It came off his shin and if you can do a back pass with your shin you shouldn't be playing down at this level of football. It was shocking. We have worked hard all week, do a good professional job, and when it looks like we are going to win the game the ref evens it up. I'm disgusted, totally sick for the boys to come away with only one point."

He added that he would fight Mr Butler all the way over his red card, vehemently denying that he had sworn at the official.

Mike Newell was disappointed in the result. "Even with ten men we had the better chances," he said. "Their keeper made some very good saves, but we could have won it. But we're really pleased with the lads' efforts."

The lads included 18-year-old Curtis Davies, who made his league debut in place of suspended Emmerson Boyce. "He has done well, and we are pleased with him," said the boss. "But I was not happy with the goals we conceded."

Match Details

TOWN: Beresford; Foley, Davies, Coyne, Davis; Mansell (Showunmi 43 mins), Robinson, Brkovic; Forbes, Howard. Unused subs: Nicholls, Leary, Crowe, Brill.

BOOKED: Sol Davis.

SENT OFF: Adrian Forbes

STOCKPORT: Spencer; Hardiker, Clare, Griffin, Jackman; Gibb (Morrison 70 mins), Lambert, McLachlan, Welsh; Barlow, Lynch (Wilbraham 81 mins). Unused subs: Goodwin, Ellison, Williams

BOOKED: John Hardiker, Ali Gibb, James Spencer.

REFEREE: Alan Butler, Nottinghamshire

ATTENDANCE: 5,920, including 364 die-hards from Stockport.





Are You A Hatters Fan? Then Come And Join Us!

Luton Town Supporters Club is the official Hatters fans' club, but is independent and run by its members.

Benefits include discounts on away match travel, and reduced admission charges to regular meetings with players and staff, and to the end of season presentation night.

Annual membership costs a minimum donation of £7 for adults, £6 for pensioners and under-16s, or £12 for families.

For more information call at the LTSC kiosk in Kenilworth Road before or after any home game.



352 Selbourne Road

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Email: regallitholtd90@atlas.co.uk www.regallitho.co.uk

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Fans Support Drive For New Minibus

TOWN fan Patrick Johnson enjoys watching our youth teams in action - and it is going to cost him a packet at the end of the season. He is among those supporting the Supporters Club's efforts to raise £20,000 by May to pay for a new mini-buss to be used mainly to carry the youth squads to training and matches, and has decided to sponsor the two squads to the tune of £5 for every goal they score. It means his bill is already past £300, and he says he expects - and hopes - that the total will be around £500 by the time the season is over. You may recognise the name - 21-year-old Patrick is the website's regular reporter at youth games.

Other fans are doing their bit to keep the youngsters on the road, and the latest to donate £250 and thus qualify to have his name put on the new vehicle is John Heley, whose generosity is gratefully acknowledged. He is a stalwart of Luton Town Supporters Club, and if you travel with Town on Tour to away games you have probably met John in his capacity as coach catering officer, ensuring that travelling fans are well fed and watered on their journeys. Town on Tour customers have been consistently generous, including backing of a competition held on the longer trips which has brought in £100 so far, with more expected.

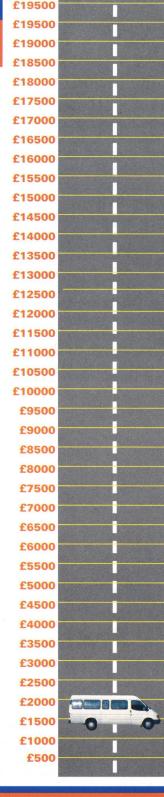
We also acknowledge with thanks the gift of £100 from a well-known member of the Town's footballing staff, who asked to remain anony-

Committee member Maureen Barrett is co-ordinating the fund-raising drive, and has been busy on various money-making schemes. One was to offer sales of Christmas stationery from a catalogue operated by a company called Webb Ivory. They offer commission on sales, and that has brought in £70. Maureen is hoping that she can do another deal shortly with the same company when their spring and summer catalogue is issued. If it happens, you will be able to check out the goods at the Supporters Club kiosk in Kenilworth Road on match days. You will be even more welcome if you care to pop in with a donation. large or small, and any ideas you have for fund-raising will also be very welcome.

Direct sponsorships are on offer: commercial companies can become sponsors of the minibus for a minimum donation of £1,000. The price for individuals is £200, and when the new bus is bought the names of all sponsors paying £200 or more will be put on it. The total raised so far is £2,071, with a further gift of £1,000 due to be received shortly.

The Supporters Club contributes cash to the football club in various ways, but is particularly keen on the minibus appeal because it feels fans like to know exactly how their donations are spent. Proceeds from the appeal are put into a separate bank account, and the money will be spent on the new bus, and nothing else.

Any gifts, large or small, will be very gratefully received. If you would like to help, you can send a cheque payable to Luton Town Supporters Club, c/o Luton Town FC, Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton, LU4 8AW. Please include your name and address so that we can acknowledge your gift. Meanwhile, we thank Audrey Bray and D. Bird for their donations.



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 Stockport game we asked why Alan Neilson and Steve Howard in particular enjoy our early-season match with County? The answer was that they both scored in our 2-1 win.

TODAY'S QUESTION

One member of the current Kenilworth Road staff has been involved with Tranmere Rovers and Luton Town in the past couple of years. Who is he?

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In Off The Post: Fans' Forum

WE ARE always pleased to hear from supporters, and this afternoon we are glad to be able to take the opportunity to publish some of the correspondence that has come in recently.

Ticket Collector's Plea

WOULD you like to help a supporter with his hobby, at no cost to yourself? If so, Gordon Field, from Deacons Field Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 9JA (telephone 01442 255464) would be pleased to hear from you. His letter is self-explanatory:

"My hobby is collecting football match tickets, and I am writing to ask if there are supporters who go to away games who don't want their tickets after the games. If they would let me have them I would be grateful, and some sort of arrangement could be made."

If you can help, please contact Mr Field direct.

Searching For A Video

Another plea for help, and again, if you want to, please make contact with the writer, C. Gavriel, 19 Oxton Road, Wallesey, CH44 4ET, phone 0151 630 5331:

"I am a collector of football videos, with over 1,000 in my collection. I am desperate to get the Luton Town highlights video for season 1996/97. If any Luton fan has it I would buy for a good price."

Programmes For Sale

From Graham Herrick, e-mail address g.herrick@btopenworld.com:

I have a collection of Luton Town programmes which I am looking to sell. There are 620 in total, and range from 1961 to 1992. Anyone interested can e-mail me and I will provide a detailed list.

From Julian Mann, 86 The Firs, Alexandra Road, Hounslow, TW3 4WR:

"I am selling my collection of Brentford programmes, and have some of matches against Luton Town between 1996 and 2000. If anybody is missing any from those years, please contact me with a stamped addressed envelope with your list of wants, and I will try to help you."

From John Adams, 8 Manor Road, Ipswich IP4 2UX:

"I have a 1959 FA Cup final programme, Luton v Nottingham Forest, and wonder if it is of any worthwhile value. If it is, I would like to sell it and give the money to the St. Elizabeth Hospice here in Ipswich, or to the hospice in Luton. I was a regular supporter in the 1920s and 30s, and am still a keen follower."

Programme Wanted

Mick Earle is trying to locate a programme from a famous Roker Park FA cup-tie, when the Town lost in the quarter-finals to Sunderland, who went on to win the cup at Wembley. If anyone can help, he would appreciate an e-mail to m.j.earle@talk21.com The game was on March 17, 1973.

READERS letters are always welcome, and can be sent by post to The Editor via Luton Town FC – see page 3 for the full address – or by e-mail to brian.swain@btinternet.com

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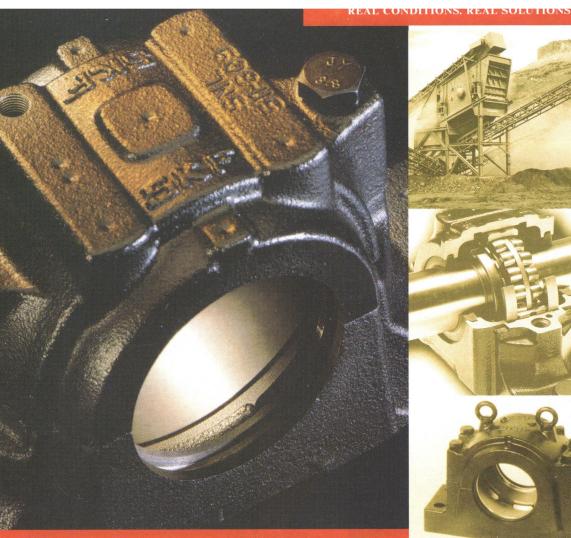
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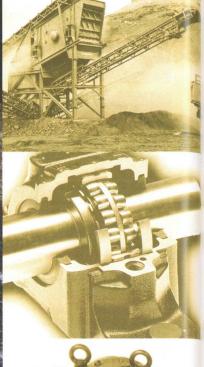
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Youth Soccer The under-17s

Luton Town 3 Gillingham 1

AFTER a poor first half we played well in the second, adapted to the opposition's tactics, and won with a hattrick by 14-year-old Robert Preston, leaving us to wonder if he is the youngest-ever Luton player to notch a treble in the Football League Youth Alliance.

The team was probably our youngest-ever: eight were 14 years old, including four lads making debuts. Gillingham were older and stronger physically, and for the first time we were up against a 3-5-2 formation. We struggled with it in the first half, and were fortunate to get to the interval with the scoresheet blank.

We changed things at half time, moving Preston from attack to wide right of midfield. We maintained our usual 4-4-2 shape, but told the wide midfielders to tuck in more when Gillingham got the ball out wide on their flank, to let full-backs deal with the "spare" wide man while we still had three against the other three in midfield. Sometimes a change like that works, sometimes it doesn't, but on this occasion the boys took it on board and it paid off handsomely.

The first goal, always crucial, came on 55 minutes, with Preston shooting into an empty net after Karl Quinn, on his debut as a sub, beat the goalkeeper and laid on a square

Umbro Isotonic FL Youth Alliance Under-17 South East Conference

Aug	gust			
9	Brentford	Α	1-2	Burrows
16	Brighton	Н	1-2	Burrows
23	Rushden	Α	3-1	Burrows 2, Preston
Ser	otember			
6	Cambridge	Α	0-2	
13		A	0-3	
20	L. Orient	Н	3-1	Andrew 2, Freeman
27	Southend	A	2-6	Magadah, Tague
Oct	tober			
4	Northampton	A	4-1	Preston 2, S. Sinclair, Burrows
11	Colchester	Н	0-2	
18	Oxford	Α	0-1	
No	vember			
1	Gillingham	A	4-1	Richardson, Smyth, Kenneford, Hanley
8	Wycombe	Н	8-0	Freeman 3, Maitland 2, S. Sinclair,
				Magadah, Richardson
15	L. Orient	Α	4-0	R. Sinclair, Burrows, Richardson, Preston
De	cember			
6	Colchester	Α	0-1	
13	Oxford	Н	6-1	Ridgway, Keane, S. Sinclair,
				Hanley, Green, Jones
Jar	nuary			
10		Α	Pos	tponed
17	Gillingham	Н	3-1	
24	Wycombe	Α		
31	Brentford	H		
	ruary			
7	Brighton	Α		
14	Rushden	H		





getting to close range just when it matters, and did it again to convert another rebound, this time when the keeper parried a shot by Joe Reynolds, another lad making his debut. To be fair to Gillingham, they were always in the game, but suffered for not taking their chances, and the only disappointment for me was that we did not keep a clean sheet. In the last minute a lunge by Asafu'Adjaye conceded a penalty to provide the visitors with a late consolation goal. Luton Town: Barrett, R. Quinn, Asafu'Adjaye, Burrows, Pendleton, Tague, R. Sinclair, Reynolds, Clark (K. Quinn HT), Preston, Port (Kenneford HT).

WE ARE at home to Brentford next Saturday, with an 11am kick-off at Luton RFC, Newlands Road, Farley Hill. Spectators are welcome.

APPEARANCES, as sub in brackets: Pendleton 15(1), Smyth 15, Green 15, S. Sinclair 14, Tague 13(1), R. Sinclair 12(1), Hanley 12, Preston 10(4), Barrett 10, Burrows 9, Clark 6, Richardson 5(1), Goodchild 5, Asafu'Adjaye 4(6), Ridgway 4, Magadah 4, Mountford 3, Jones 3, Freeman 2, Andrew 2, Keane 2, Kenneford 1(4), Charles 1(1), Deeney 1, Farrell 1, Potter 1, Kelly 1, Field 1, McNaly 1, R. Quinn 1, Reynolds 1, Port 1, Robinson 0(3), Eade 0(2), Cowley 0(2), Maitland 0(1), Foley 0(1), McGuinness 0(1), Marsiligo 0(1),

Goals: Preston 7, Burrows 6, Freeman 4, S. Sinclair 3, Richardson 3, Maitland 2, Magadah 2, Hanley 2, Andrew 2, Tague 1, Smyth 1, Kenneford 1, R. Sinclair 1, Keane 1, Ridgway 1, Green 1, Jones 1.

Mark Ridgway

Umbro Isotonic FL Youth Alliance								
Under-17 South East Conference								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Brighton	20	16	0	4	60	22	38	48
QPR	18	13	5	0	62	18	44	44
Cambridge	20	12	3	5	43	21	22	39
Colchester	20	10	6	4	47	32	15	36
Portsmouth	20	8	6	6	37	33	4	30
Rushden	19	6	8	5	34	39	-5	26
Luton Town	16	8	0	8	39	25	14	24
Southend	17	7	3	7	38	32	6	24
Oxford	19	6	2	11	28	49	-21	20
Wycombe	18	4	7	7	29	51	-22	19
Brentford	18	4	6	8	26	37	-11	18
Gillingham	19	4	5	10	27	50	-23	17
Northampton	19	3	2	14	25	52	-27	11
L. Orient	19	2	3	14	26	60	-34	9





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Youth Soccer: he under-19s

Rushden & Diamonds 1 **Luton Town 1**

THE draw was a fair result, even though we were leading until the last minute. It was disappointing to concede an equaliser so late, but over the 90 minutes Rushden deserved their point from an entertaining

Rushden played direct football, and did well in terms of getting a lot of balls into our box, while we played well on the counter-attack, and on another day Calvin Andrew might have had a couple of goals. We scored after 15 minutes, but Rushden had 60 to 70 per cent of the game after that. The goal was his first at this level for centre-half Josh Green, who still qualifies for our under-17s. As usual, with the first team taking some of our boys for the Stockport match, I in turn called up some of Mark Ridgway's squad.

We had to change the side when Parys Okai went off injured after 28 minutes, and Luke Maitland, who was coming back from injury, was replaced at halftime, which meant we then had three schoolboys on

The goal came from a corner, with Matthew Judge having a shot cleared off the line to Green, who had gone up for the set piece. He hit a volley into the net

for a goal an experienced striker have been proud of. Green got his debut at this level Curtis started



career, and I was glad to see the way he took his chance against Stockport.

Rushden put on plenty of pressure after that, but we defended well as a group until the last minute when Rushden pushed everyone into the box for a corner, and although we half-cleared it, the ball was lifted back into the box and one of the bodies piling forward knocked in the equaliser.

Luton Town: Eade, Mountford, Deeney, Howell, Mansell, Green, Maitland (Hanley HT), Ridgway (Magadah 75 mins), Andrew, Judge, Okai (S. Sinclair 28 mins).

WE WERE due to be away to Kidderminster Harriers this morning, to complete our regular season in the Umbro Isotonic FL Youth Alliance South Central Conference. Next week we start a Merit Division fixture list which is dependent on where we finished in the table.

APPEARANCES (as sub in brackets): Mountford 17, Ridgway 16, Deeney 15(2), R. Mansell 15(1), Howell 15, Barnett 13, Keane 13, O'Leary 12, Davies 11(1), Okai 11, Andrew 10(1), Judge 9(1), Eade 8, Freeman 6(1), Jones 5, Maitland 4(1), Barrett 4, Magadah 2(7), Hanley 2(2), Brill 2, Godfrey 2, Green 2, Pendleton 1(1), Tague 1, Beckwith 1, Lambu 1, S. Sinclair 0(3), Wright 0(2), Burrows 0(1).

GOALS: Judge 5, O'Leary 3, Barnett 3, Andrew 3, Magadah 2, Okai 2, Freeman 2, Ridgway 2, Davies 2, Deeney 1, Mansell 1, Green 1.

Marvin Johnson

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Walsall	16	13	1	2	41	22	19	40
West Brom	15	9	2	4	35	20	15	29
Cambridge	15	8	3	4	30	15	15	27
Luton Town	14	7	3	4	25	20	5	24
Oxford	15	5	4	6	34	31	3	19
Cheltenham	15	5	2	8	24	38	-14	17
Northampton	15	4	3	8	23	42	-19	15
Rushden	14	4	0	10	21	28	-7	12
Kidderminster	15	2	2	11	16	33	-17	8

Umbro Isotonic FL Youth Alliance Under-19 South Central Conference

	Au	gust			
	9	Rushden	Н	3-2	Judge 2, Andrew
-	16	Cambridge	Α	1-2	Barnett
	23	Kidderminster	Н	1-1	Judge
	Se	ptember			
	6	Cheltenham	Н	2-0	Mansell, Davies
900	13	Walsall	A	1-4	O'Leary
-	27	Oxford	Н	3-3	O'Leary 2, Okai
	Oct	tober			
	4	Northampton	Н	3-0	Judge 2, Okai
	11	Southend (LC)	Α	1-0	Barnett
	16	Brighton(FAYC1) A	0-2	
	18	West Brom	Α	3-1	Freeman, Deeney, Barnett
	25	Cheltenham	Α	4-2	Freeman, Ridgway, Magadah 2
1	No	vember			
1	1	Walsall	Н	0-3	
	15	Oxford	Α	1-1	Davies
	22	Swindon (LC)	Н	0-4	
1	29	Northampton	Α	2-0	Andrew, Ridgway
	De	cember			
	6	West Brom	Н	1-0	Andrew
	Jai	nuary			
	10	Cambridge	Н	0-1	
	17	Rushden	Α	1-1	Green
	24	Kidderminster	Α		
	31	Merit Division s	tar	ts	





New Features On The Website

THE POPULARITY of the Luton Town website continues to go from strength to strength. Figures for the month so far show page impressions for January are 25% up on the same time period last year, and 6% better than December 2003. If these figures are maintained January will prove to be the most popular month of the season so far.

Following feedback from supporters we have introduced a number of new sections that have contributed to the improved number of visitors we are attracting. The most popular addition to the site has been the Hatters Bet Challenge.

Several clubs run regular tipster columns, but we wanted to take it a step further. Former midfielder David Preece has a weekly column where he allows Hatters supporters an insight into his predictions, and also provides you with the opportunity to go head-to-head with him. Each week website visitors are invited to email us with





tackle the Town's Tipster.

Over the course of the season we've kept a tab on how successful the featured fan has been, based on their performance during one week, and at the end of the campaign there will be a mystery prize for the most profitable public punter!

Bizarrely only two of the twelve challengers have managed to return a profit. At the moment Gerry Callaghan (£26) leads the way in the supporters' section with Dan Strode (£10) currently occupying the runners-up spot. Bruce Hannah is third, after limiting his losses to only £2.75 in the third week of the competition.

If you fancy taking up the Hatters Bet Challenge please e-mail chris.rivett@lutontown.co.uk with your predictions. You can propose bets of up to £25, but please ensure they are in multiples of £5 bets. Full details on are on the website.

STOP PRESS: Our latest online auction has proved very popular, with Gary McSheffrey's signed away shirt sold on Tuesday for £155. Thank you very much to everyone who took the time to register a bid. A new auction will be launched shortly, so keep your eyes on www.lutontown.co.uk for further details.

Chris Rivett



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Crunch Win For The Belles On Title Trail

LUTON Town Belles have been involved in several big games since their progression into senjor football, but last weekend's promotion battle against Portsmouth was without doubt their most important to date. A win would make them odds-on favourites for a place in the Southern Region Premier League next season.

Luton started strongly and Pompey rocked under a barrage of attacks. Shots rained in on goal but were either narrowly off target or beaten out by the keeper.

Town appeared to have opened the scoring when a header from a corner was back-heel volleyed away with everyone around convinced that the ball was over the line, but the game carried on. It was from another corner on 21 minutes that Luton at last found the net. Four times the ball was beaten out by a dogged defence before it broke to Rhiannon Morgan at the far post and she stabbed the ball into the net from close range. With the away side in turmoil Town scored again four minutes later when the ball was played out to Fay Howell on the left wing and she breezed past her marker into the area before smashing an unstoppable shot into the net from 12 yards.



SIX UP: Michelle Byrne scores her second goal and under-15s sixth against Garston

Portsmouth had not failed to score in any match this season, but Luton defended superbly as a unit and restricted them to a handful of set pieces which were all cleared by some well-focused defending. Belles dominated the match from start to finish, but were unable to add to their score in a second half which saw three more efforts cleared off the line. The Pompey keeper produced a string of saves in an outstanding personal performance, the pick of which was a onehanded flick over the bar from a 30-yard blast from Nikki Baker. With five league matches left, a maximum of ten points will bring Southern Premier League football to Luton next season.

Some of the current under-15s will probably form part of next year's senior squad, and they staked their claims with an emphatic 9-1 win over Garston. Fay Rolls opened the scoring and Janine Daly fired a first-half-hat trick. After the break Michelle Byrne scored twice before Janine Daly took her tally for the day to six goals with a further treble in the last fifteen minutes.

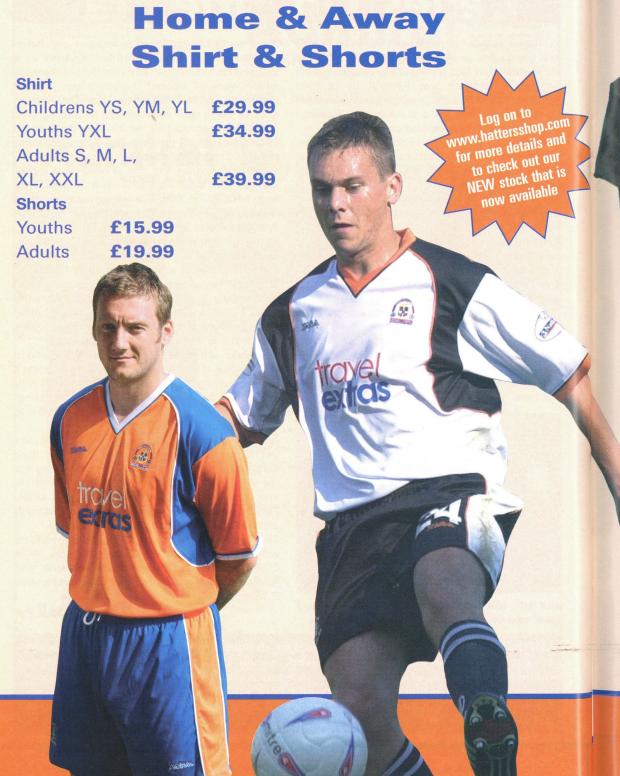
The under-12s visited Tottenham Hotspur, and in the shadow of White Hart Lane gave their hosts a real footballing lesson, hammering them 7-0 with goals from Lauren Bruton (2), Yasmin Hickling, Jade Mansfield, Livi Robinson, Jasmine Hall and Robyn Wilfort.

Brickhill Wanderers were the victims the day before, smashed 11-0 as Belles increased their lead at the top of the table. Yasmin Hickling led the way with four goals while Jade Mansfield and Danielle Bailey were both on target twice. Further strikes from Kelly Moss, Kirsty McIntosh and Sammy Joiner completed the rout.

The Tangerines continued their recent good form with another win over Crawley Green. Alice O'Shea grabbed a three-minute hat trick and Alicia McIntosh scored twice in a comprehensive 5-1 win. 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 Home matches are played at Stockwood Park athletics stadium, under-10 to senior on Sundays and under-10 and under-12 mini soccer on Saturdays. Fixtures details can be found on the website.

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The Official Luton Town 2004 Calendar

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Please note: We would like to apologise for an error contained in the calendar. Good Friday is April 9th 2004 and not April 16th 2004 as stated in some versions of the calendar.



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UNCERTAINTY in football is not unusual, but we are experiencing a big dose of it today as we hope to see the team overcome Tranmere to put us into the fifth round of the FA Cup for the first time in ten years

One of the perks of being in the Junior Hatters is that we organise trips to away games, often to meet our counterparts at other clubs. Unfortunately Hartlepool United, next week's opponents, are unable to offer us facilities for a day-trip to Victoria Park so the next awayday on our list is

to Wycombe in three weeks' time.

But February 14, of course, is also the date of the next round in the cup, and we all hope that the Town will be involved in that, causing the Wycombe game to be postponed. We have already been asked by members about reserving places on the coach to Wycombe, but in the circumstances we have decided not to accept bookings until after today's match. And needless to say, we very much hope the Wycombe game will be postponed.

If we go through to the fifth round of the cup we will be in touch with our opponents if it is an away game, and try to fix up an official Junior Hatters trip. We should have more information in a fortnight, in the match programme for the Colchester game.

You may notice that a regular feature on this page is missing this afternoon. The usual picture and write-up on today's mascot could not be prepared in time for the printers because the choice was delayed until yesterday. That's because we are running an FA Cup Saturday Club special today, and the choice of cuptie mascot was made from among the boys and girls attending.

The lucky dip winner will have a day to remember, including meeting the players in the dressing room before kick-off, and joining them on the pitch for the pre-match rituals, and hopefully a souvenir picture will be taken which we can publish in the next programme.

Meanwhile, we hope all supporters, especially young ones and including our visitors from Tranmere, enjoy themselves this afternoon.

Happy Harry



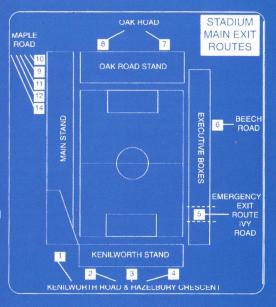
CENTRE OF ATTRACTION: Four mascots were on duty at last week's game, and they are pictured before kick-off when they met the skippers and match officials when they gathered for the toss of the coin. Seven-year-old Hereward Green was the Junior Hatters mascot while Andrew Hymus was commercial mascot. The other lad is seven-year-old Mark Middlemas, who was Stockport's mascot as we entertained the County Juniors. They had been good hosts when we went to Edgeley Park in August, and it was a pleasure to renew old friendships again when we returned the favour at Kenilworth Road.

JUNIOR Hatters membership is open to boys and girls aged from 0 to 16 who support Luton Town. There are lots of advantages, including the Saturday Club, organised trips to away games, and the chance to be a mascot at home matches – the choice is made at random from the membership list. For more information call Junior Hatters headquarters in the Community office, on 01582 391927.

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

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.



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FA Cup Goals 03-04 - Where Scored

Close Range

Inside Area

Cambridge Utd

Fulham

Rd.3 v Cheltenham

Leyton Orient

Manchester City

Mansfield Town

Rd.2R v Wycombe

Notts County Rd.2 v Gravesend Portsmouth

Rd.3 v Blackpool

Scunthorpe Utd

Rd.1 v Shrewsbury

Southend Utd

Rd.1R v Canvey Is

Telford Utd

40,816

40,371

32,340

31,207

Neil Macke

Adam Prou

Adrian For

Matt Harr

Scott Tayl Christian I

Rd.1 v Crawley

(Rd.3 Replay) 38,763

(Rd.3)

(Rd.3)

(Rd.3)

72 199 61 Goals Goals Goals FA Cup Goals 03-04 - How Scored 25 11 2003-04 Biggest FA Cup Attendances 4,500 | 9,000 | 13,500 | 18,000 | 22,500 | 27,000 | 31,500 | 36,000 | 40,500 | 45,000 Sunderland vs Hartlepool United Aston Villa vs Manchester United Chelsea vs Watford Tottenham Hotspur vs Crystal Palace Leeds United vs Arsenal Highest Attendance: See Top 5 table above l owest Attendance (Farnborough vs Weston-Super-Mare) 905,379 **Total Attendance: Total Matches:** Average Attendance: 2003-04 F.A.Cup Leading Scorers - Players 3 Goals 15 Players 37 Players Blackpool Mansfield Town Northampton Town **Notts County** Yeovil Town Luton Town Southend United

2003-04 F.A.Cup Leading Scorers - Clubs 10 10 <u>ୟ ର ଉ ର ର ର ର ର ର ର ର</u> ଡ଼ ଡ଼ ଡ଼ ଡ଼ ଡ଼ ଡ଼ ଡ଼ ଡ଼ 9 444444444 9 (Brentford, Cheltenham T, Macclesfield T, Swansea C, Telford U, Tranmere R., Wycombe W)

-	3	1	,	1	- 1	 - 1	Rd.1	Rd.2	Rd.3	To
0-15 mins							23	6	19	4
16-30							14	15	14	4
31-45							28	6	21	5
46-60							25	10	10	4
60-75							20	16	19	5
75-90							40	15	27	8
Ext-Time							0	2	1	

2003-2004 F.A. Cup Upsets & Close Shaves Winners Accrinaton Stanley

Round 1:			
Accrington Stanley	(0)1	Huddersfield Town	(0)0
Farnborough Town	(0)0	Weston Super Mare	(1) 1
Hornchurch	(1) 2	Darlington	(0)0
Lincoln City	(2)3	Brighton & Hove Albio	
Northampton Town	(1) 3	Plymouth Argyle	(1) 2
Scarborough	(0)1	Doncaster Rovers	(0)0
Stevenage	(2) 2	Stockport County	(0)1
Torquay United	(0)1	Burton Albion	(1) 2
Yeovil Town	(1) 4	Wrexham	(0)1
Round 2:			
Port Vale	(0)0	Scarborough	(0)1
Telford United	(1)3	Brentford	(0)0
Accrington Stanley	(0) 0-0[5]	Bournemouth	(0) 0-0[3
Round 3:			
Bolton Wanderers	(0)1/1	Tranmere Rovers	(0)1/2
Bradford City	(0)1	Luton Town	(1)2
Crewe Alexandra	000	Telford United	0.01
Gillingham	(3)3	Charlton Athletic	(1)2
Rotherham	(1)1	Northampton Town	(1)2
Scarborough	(0)1	Southend United	0(0)
Tranmere Rovers	(0)1	Bolton Wanderers	(0)1
Watford	(2) 2	Chelsea	(2)2
2003-	2004 F.A	. Cup Numbers	
Total Posults so fam		Code	

2003-2004 F.A. Cup Numbers					
Total Results so far:	Goals:				
Total Games111	Home Goals Scored202				
Home Wins (inc.extra time & penalties)57	Away Goals Scored131				
Away Wins (inc.extra time & penalties)32	Total Goals Scored				
Drawn games @ 90 mins23	(not incl. penalty shoot-outs)333				
Drawn games after extra time3	Ave. Goals per game3				
Highest Winning Manain C.C. ala	(Part 1716 - 1 - 1 March 160 Pilars				

Closest Winning Margin: Penalties a.e.t (3 Games, Round 2) Brentford 7-1 Gainsborough Biggest Away Win: (Bradford P.A. 2-5 Bristol City, Rd 1: 3 Goal Margin

Oldham 2-5 Blackpool, Rd 2; Woking 0-3 Kidderminster, Rd 2; Leeds Utd 1-4 Arsenal, Rd.3) Highest Scoring Match: 9 Goals

No-Score Draws: 5 Matches **Hat-Tricks Scored:** Extra-Time Goals Scored: 3 (Hume (Tranmere R); Tipton (Macclesfield); Tann (Cambridge Utd)) Total Penalties (Scored): 27 (38 including penalty shoot-outs)
(Biggest Offenders: Macclesfield Town - 3) Total Red Cards:

Total Yellow Cards: 367 (Average: 3.3 Yellow Cards per game) Most Colourful Tie: 11 Yellow, 3 Red (Barnet v Stalybridge Celtic, 2 Games 'Clean' Matches (No Yellow or Red Cards shown during these games

2003-04 FA Cup Hat-Tric

		doctors (C)	SECTION OF THE RESIDENCE OF				
nzie	Mansfield T	Rd.1		Gms	Yell	Red	Pts
dlock	Sheffield Weds	Rd.1	Beeby R	3	11	3	23
oes	Luton Town	Rd.1R	Matadar M	2	11	3	23
old	Brentford	Rd.1	Warren M	2	10	2	18
r	Blackpool	Rd.2	Kettle T	2	13	1	17
			Robinson IP	2	9	2	17
loore	Telford	Rd.2	Prosser P	1	5	3	17
ence	Mansfield Town	Rd.2	Cable L	2	12	1	16
noute	Tottenham	Rd.3	Kaye A	2	12	1	16
			Tanner S	1	0	0	0
liceir	dinad Taam		Winter J	1	0	0	0

	Yellows	Reds	2003-04 F	A Cup
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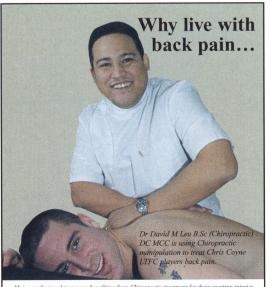
12	1	Ben Purkiss	Gainsborough T	Rd.1
12	1	Steve Woods	Torquay Utd	Rd.1
11	3	Danny Coles	Bristol City	Rd.1
11 8	1 0	James Stansfield	Bradford PA	Rd.1
7	1	Dean Chandler	Ford United	Rd.1R
7	0	lan Cox	Gillingham	Rd.3
7	0	Ian Richardson	Notts County	Rd.3
7	0	Michael Jackson	Preston North End	Rd.3
7	0	Claude Davis	Preston North End	Rd.3
7	0	Wayne Quinn	West Ham United	Rd.3

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Scene On Two: February Crucial

WHILE the Town enjoy their first taste of the FA Cup fourth round since 1995, Second Division play-off hopes look like facing a make or break month in February. Some of the games in hand will be played in a programme of six matches in 22 days.

The Town are certain to lose some ground this afternoon, with Brighton and Barnsley meeting at Withdean, but are unlikely to drop out of the Division's top ten unless Bournemouth or Blackpool go goal crazy against QPR and Oldham respectively.

A problem for all the play-off hopefuls is that Danny Wilson's Bristol City are beginning to pull clear of the rest in third place. They were ninth a month ago, but five consecutive victories have sent them zooming up the table.

Port Vale, managed by another Town favourite, Brian Horton, have highlighted the need to win consistently: their 5-1 hammering of Grimsby was their second win on the trot, shoving them up from 12th place to fourth in a fortnight. Grimsby did us no favours on Tuesday, when they lost to Wrexham, which enabled the Welshmen to go up three places to seventh, and pushed the Town down one notch, to tenth, but with a game in hand. And the Town are still only two points

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		١	но	ME				A	W	AY			
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Plymouth	27	10	3	1	38	10	6	5	2	24	15	37	56
QPR	27	11	3	0	31	4	4	6	3	18	17	28	54
Bristol City	26	8	4	1		7	4	6	3		13	17	46
Port Vale	26	9	3 7	1	28		3	3 2	7	12	18	6	42
Barnsley	26	5 7	4	1 3	16		6	4	5 5	18	20	4	42 41
Swindon	27	/	4	3	25	15	4	4	5	13	1/	6	41
Wrexham	27	5	4	5	16	12	7	0	6	18	18	4	40
Brighton	26	8	3	2	23	9	3	3	7	15	20	9	39
Hartlepool	26	6	6	1	20	6	4	3	6	17	24	7	39
Luton Town	26	8	3	2	25	14	2	6	5	2000	25	2	39
Colchester	26	6	5	2	16		4	2	7		22	-6	37
Rushden	27	6	4	3	26		4	2	8		24	1	36
Bournemouth	27	6	5	2	20		3	4	7	1000	18	-1	36
Blackpool	26	6	0	7	16		5	3	5	000000	21	-3	36
Oldham	27	6	3	5	19		1	8	4		23	-2	32
Sheff Wed	27	2	7	4	14		5	4	5		19	-4	32
Tranmere	26	6	5	2	17	X8X3X	1	6	6		25	-8	32
Grimsby	27	4	4	5	19		3	5	6		28	-12	30
Brentford	27	5	2	6	19		3	4	7	9	17	-12	30
Peterborough	27	2	6	6	21	22	4	4	5	12	15	-4	28
Stockport	26	2	5	6	16	21	3	6	4	18	21	-8	26
Notts County	27	3	4	6	16	17	3	2	9	10	29	-20	24
Chesterfield	27	4	5	4	16	15	1	4	9	5	27	-21	24
Wycombe	27	4	2	8	20	24	0	5	8	8	24	-20	19

behind sixth-placed Swindon, again with one game in hand.

Tranmere come to Kenilworth Road today in better shape than they were in when they were beaten 3-1 in the Second Division in October. Ray Mathias had just been sacked as manager, with John McMahon caretaker for a dramatic threegame spell. His first match in charge was a 2-1 win at Wycombe, which resulted in Lawrie Sanchez being sacked, but after the defeat at Luton Tranmere were whacked 6-0 at Plymouth. That left them in 21st place, and Brian Little, out of full-time work since leaving Hull City a year earlier, was brought in to guide the Rovers to safety.

They have crept up the table since then, and enjoyed FA Cup success. In the first round they beat Chesterfield 3-2 at Prenton Park, and negotiated a tricky tie at Hornchurch with a 1-0 win. In the third round they held Premiership Bolton to a 1-1 draw before winning the replay at the Reebok Stadium 2-1 in extra time.

In the league Tranmere's recent run has been like the Town's – too many draws from games they could have won. But they have lost only one of their last eight Second Division fixtures.

Their away record in the league shows only one victory, 1-0 at Grimsby in late November. They drew six, 0-0 at Hartlepool, 1-1 at Stockport, 2-2 at Notts County, 1-1 at QPR, 2-2 at Chesterfield and 2-2 at Brentford. Away defeats were 0-2 at Sheffield Wednesday, 0-2 at Bristol City, 1-3 at Luton, 0-6 at Plymouth, 0-2 at Barnsley and 1-2 at Blackpool.

Tranmere's last six in the league: Chesterfield A 2-2, Brighton H 1-0, Blackpool A 1-2, Sheffield Wednesday H 2-2, Brentford A 2-2 and Hartlepool H 0-0.

Today's Other Second Division Fixtures

Bournemouth v QPR
Blackpool v Oldham
Brentford v Wrexham
Brighton v Barnsley
Chesterfield v Wycombe
Hartlepool v Bristol City
Notts County v Swindon
Sheffield Wed v Peterborough
Stockport v Plymouth

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Around The Town

MARLON Beresford was yesterday set to commit "He's certainly himself to Luton Town for the rest of this season, and hopefully for next season as well. The Football League has relaxed its transfer embargo to allow club and player to do a deal, after previously restricting him to three one-month contracts.

"I am delighted we can now sign him on a more permanent deal," said Mike Newell. "He has done very well for us, and has earned a proper contract."

The 34-year-old goalkeeper said: "Luton Town have been good for me, and I hope I have been good for the club. I would love to stay here, and I hope I will be here next season as well."

If you include loans, the Town are Beresford's tenth club in a career which bean as a trainee at Sheffield

"I rate Luton as being right up there among the best three, alongside Middlesbrough and Burnley," he said. "I have been very happy here."

He was with Burnley last season, playing behind Steve Davis, but spent a frustrating summer on the injured list before a short-term contract at Bradford. "They had two goalkeepers, but both were injured, so I got five games with Bradford in a one-month deal," he said. "I was then offered a contract, but as they got fit again I didn't want to stay to be number three. So I was pleased when Luton came in for me, and it has turned out to be a very good move."

He is looking forward to this afternoon's game with great anticipation, and would love to see the Town continue their progress. "I was at Middlesbrough, but not in the team, when they reached the FA Cup final," he said. "As a player, the furthest I have gone so far was with Burnley last year, when we got to the quarter-finals. We lost to Watford and that was a huge disappointment because we didn't play anywhere near our best."

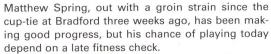
Opportunity Knocks

STEVE Howard and Steve Robinson serve onematch bans this afternoon, and as we went to press the manager was giving nothing away about how they will be replaced. But it could be a case of opportunity knocking for Enoch Showunmi, the Londoner who came straight off parks football to ask for a trial in the summer, and is in the squad as a non-contract

He livened up the game considerably last week when he went on as a substitute to partner Adrian Forbes in attack, and on that evidence is well worth another chance today.

got something to offer," said the manager. "He's big and powerful, and with pace he is always likely to unsettle defenders."

midfield



Club captain Kevin Nicholls returned to the squad last week, and was on the bench for the Stockport game. After four months out of action while he had an operation to cure a knee injury, he is short of match fitness, but said this week he would love the opportunity to take some part in this afternoon's game.

Paul Hughes, out since October, has begun training again, as has defender Russ Perrett, but the boss said they faced a long grind before they are ready to return to the league squad.

Welcome Back, Seamus

WHEN the Town's commercial department put together a VIP entertainment package in conjunction with today's game, one of the first bookings came from a group of men who consider themselves to be the Irish section of Luton Town Supporters Club.

Led by John Squibb, they have flown over from Dublin for today's game, and while all of them are very welcome, some of us will be particularly pleased to see one member of the party, Seamus Dunne. He was perhaps the quickest fullback we have ever seen in Town colours, giving sterling service, playing 328 games between 1951 and 1960. Those appearances included one of the most famous cup-ties ever played, in the fourth round against Manchester City in 1961. Shay, now 73, hardly enjoyed the game to start with - City were leading 6-2, with all their goals scored by Denis Law, when the game was abandoned because the pitch was waterlogged. So the match was null and void, and when City returned on the following Wednesday Seamus and Co saw them off 3-1.

Brian Swain

Luton Town League & Cup

2003-2004 Statistics & Fixtures

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Sat 16 Aug Sat 23 Aug	Stockport County GRIMSBY TOWN	W 3-2 D1 Team	A W		-1 4,566 -2 5,827	7	P Joslin G Cain	1/1 0/0 1/2 0/0	-	•		1				X		-		-	X	1	- -			-	-	-	-			+1	•	□ x				+
Mon 25 Aug	Brighton & Hove Albion	D1 Team	A L		-2 6,604		P Crossley	3/1 1/0	-			• 0			4+	•									•									x				
Sat 30 Aug	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	D3 Team	H W	3-	2 5,515	_	B Curson	2/1 0/0		•		X			十	0								X		_	_	-	-	1		2		□ 1x	• (+-
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Wed 1 Oct	Swindon Town	L 1-2	A D	2-	/	_	P Danson	3/5 1/1		•	++				+-	×								^										□ 1	1x			
Mon 6 Oct	TRANMERE ROVERS	D 0-0	H W	-		10	G Hegley	2/6 0/0		•					1		1	-						X			• (1	1	•	-	+-
Sat 11 Oct Tue 14 Oct	WYCOMBE WANDERERS Stevenage Borough	W 1-0	H W	3-	-		R Beeby	1/4 0/0		•						•	1			-			300		v		•	П	X		-	+	+	2	A S			+
Sat 18 Oct	Brentford	D 0-0	A L	2-	0 2,412 4 5,579		M Cooper C Penton	4/0 0/0 3/3 0/0	•		+	Ш		SII	IS									X	•	-	-) 0							□ 2			\perp
Tue 21 Oct	AFC Bournemouth	D3 Team	A L		6 6,388	13	A Marriner	2/1 0/0		•				su									1x	X	•							+	-		1			
Sat 25 Oct Sat 1 Nov	PETERBOROUGH UNITED Bristol City	L 2-3 D 1-1	H D		1 6,067 1 9,735	12	D Crick A Leake	2/1 1/0 3/2 0/0		•				su		00		+		-	П				Ш	_	0	X		+ +	++	+	•	1	X		+	+
Tue 4 Nov	Rushden & Diamonds	-	A W		-		I Williamson	3/2 0/0				X	Ш	U	-						L					• [1)	K						1	_	
Sat 8 Nov	Thurrock	-	A D	1-	1 1,551	FAC1	M Thorpe	2/4 0/0		•			1	Ŭ	-													Х							χ□)	_
Sat 15 Nov Tue 18 Nov	WREXHAM	D3 Team	H W	3-	2 5,505 1 3,667		T Kettle	2/0 0/1		•						sus				_	П	_					• []	1 1		•	+		0		3	-	+-	+
Sat 22 Nov	Sheffield Wednesday	D1 Team	A D	-	0 21,027	FAC1R 13	M Thorpe P Robinson	3/3 0/0 1/1 0/0		•		sus		su	IS		L	X		•		_	-	^						x			•					
Sat 29 Nov	CHESTERFIELD	W 3-0	H W	1-	0 5,453	10	R Olivier	3/2 0/0		•		Jus		Su	13										X		• (9				1	•					_
Sat 6 Dec Tue 9 Dec	Rochdale Southend United	-	A W	0-	0 2,807 3 2,027	FAC2 LDVVT3	A Hall	2/2 0/0		•								•		-	sus		-	+			•	1 1			+				-		+	+
Sat 13 Dec	Blackpool	L 2-5	A W	1-		6	D Crick M Warren	0/0 0/0 2/2 0/0		•						0									X			1		10000000			•			•		
Sat 20 Dec	BARNSLEY	L 2-3	H L	0-	1 6,162	7	P Armstrong	1/1 0/0	_	0						•														•			•			•		
Fri 26 Dec Sun 28 Dec	Colchester United NOTTS COUNTY	W 5-0 D 2-2	A D	1- 2-	-	9	J Ross L Probert	5/1 0/0 1/0 0/0					□ 1			•		_		_	×				×			1x				_			1x		_	+-
Sat 3 Jan	Bradford City	-	A W	2-	1 8,222	FAC3	M Clattenburg	1/1 0/0					1 1			•		- 1			X						•	0		the state of			•		2			
Sat 10 Jan	Rushden & Diamonds	D3 Team	A D	2-		8	S Tanner	3/1 0/0		•				su	IS	X				•						1				1				-	1		+	+-
Sat 17 Jan Sat 24 Jan	STOCKPORT COUNTY TRANMERE ROVERS	D 1-1	H D		2 5,920	9 FAC4	A Butler	1/3 1/0		•			sus		4-+			-			+	•	9333			-		SU	S	1	+	Sus	-				_	+
Sat 31 Jan	Hartlepool United	D3 Team	A 3:00p			D2									$+$ \pm																							
Sat 7 Feb	COLCHESTER UNITED BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	L 1-2	H 3:00p			D2														_				_					-			_	-			-	_	+-
Tue 10 Feb Sat 14 Feb	Wycombe Wanderers	D1 Team W 2-1	H 7:45p		-	D2		-			+	+	-	_	+-			-												Y TO					\Box		_	+
Sat 21 Feb	BRENTFORD	L 0-1	Н 3:00р	om	1	D2						_			$+ \pm$						n.			AT		FA	1881	RIC	ND'	TLI B	AO	n						1
Tue 24 Feb Sat 28 Feb	Grimsby Town Peterborough United	D1 Team	A 7:45p			D2															1	15/		AI	IV	EIN		MA	In	TH R	IUA	U			\vdash	-	_	+
Tue 2 Mar	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	D 1-1 D3 Team	A 3:00p		1 ×	D2		+-			+	+	+	+	++			+																				
Sat 6 Mar	Barnsley	W 3-2	A 3:00p	m	/	D2															N	ati	on	Nic	le l	l e	acu	16	Div	visio	n Tw	VO			$\overline{}$		-	-
Sat 13 Mar Tue 16 Mar	BLACKPOOL Port Vale	L 1-3 W 2-1	H 3:00p		1	D2												-																	\vdash	-	+	+-
Sat 20 Mar	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	W 1-0	A 7:45p H 3:00p		1	D2						+	+	-	+							Lu	ton	To	W	n v	C	olo	he	ster	Utd							
Sat 27 Mar	Queens Park Rangers	L 0-2	A 3:00p	m		D2																																+
Sat 3 Apr Sat 10 Apr	OLDHAM ATHLETIC Tranmere Rovers	D 0-0 W 3-1	H 3:00p A 3:00p		1	D2												-		Sa	tur	day	/ F	ebr	ua	ry	7,	20	04	, kic	k-of	T 3	pn	n	-	-	+	+
Mon 12 Apr	SWINDON TOWN	W 3-1	H 3:00p		/	D2		108	-			-	-	_	+++			-																				
Sat 17 Apr	BRISTOL CITY	D 2-2	Н 3:00р	m		D2									工二									-										أ				+-
Sat 24 Apr	Wrexham SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	D3 Team	A 3:00p			D2					\perp							-	-													-			-	-	+	+
Sat 8 May	Chesterfield		A 3:00p			D2 D2					++	+	++	-	-																		1 -		2,014,0		\perp	F
21	Danakiaa		Attenda							4 0 16			30				5 3		1	1		5 0											2 2		21	6		
5 (S)	Penalties cored 2 (M)issed = 71% Success		(All C	ompetitio	ns) 8,339		Substit Total 2003/2			1 0 0		0	30	0 3		18	1 0	2	1	2										9					22			
23 Aug	K.Nicholls (S); 1 Oct G.McSheffrey (S		Average Hon		5,775		Total 2003/2				1	2	2	1 0		U	2 0	0	0	0	1	1	1 3	1	0	0	1	3 3	0	1		3 7	0.	9	14	1	1	
	ov M.Leary (S); 18 Nov A.Forbes (S)		Lowest Home		3,667		Substitut	e (Unused)	2 3	30 1 1	2	0	0	4 2		10	1 2	2	1	2			0 0	0	3	2	11	7 1	4	1					5 4			
6 Dec	S.Robinson (S); 6 Dec S.Robinson (M 3 Jan A.Forbes (M)		Average Awa		21,027 6,613		Single '	Yellow Card	1	0 0 0	0		5						0			0													0			
	(m)		Lowest Away		1,551					0 0 0			0			1	0 0	THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	0	THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	0	0	1 0	0	0	0	0	0 0	0	0		0 0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Petertial Co. 7			Key			Straigh	nt Red Card	1	0 0 0	O CONTRACTOR OFFICE	STREET, SQUARE, SQUARE,	THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON			0	0 0	0	0	0				0			0		0				1 75			10		
FAC: P	Potential Cup Dates d5 14Feb/Rd6 6Mar/SF 4Apr/F 22May	,	X Substitute SUS Suspender		1 Goal		Total LTFC Car	reer Apps	19	5 67 16	4	6 108	193 3	9 64	1-	1	7 0	2	0	0		87								5					69 20			
FAC: R	A-resylvas sendrySr 4Apryr 22May	у	Suspender	a .	020000000000000000000000000000000000000		Total LTFC Car	eer Goals	U	0 0 0	1	. 6	6	1 0	-		, 0	, , 0	101	0	1 30	14	, , ,		1 20									-	-		-	-

Today's Squads



Manager: Mike Newell

	The state of the s		
3	Alan NEILSON		1
4	Matthew SPRING		2 3
5	Russell PERRETT		
7	Adrian FORBES		4
8	Kevin NICHOLLS	MO	5
11	Steve ROBINSON		6
12	Chris COYNE	ØO	7
16	Enoch SHOWUNMI	ďÓ	8
17	Emmerson BOYCE	MO	9
18	Ahmet BRKOVIC	MO	1
19	Steve HOWARD		1 1 1
21	Paul HUGHES		1
22	David BAYLISS		1 1 1
23	Ian HILLIER		1
24	Sol DAVIS	Ø0	
27	Peter HOLMES	MO	1
29	Marlon BERESFORD	ØO	1 1
32	Lee MANSELL	ØÓ	
33	Dean BRILL	- 🗆 🛇	2
34	Dean CROWE		2
38	Michael LEARY	ØO	2
39	Steven O'LEARY	$\square \otimes$	2
41	Kevin FOLEY	⊠O	2
43	Matthew JUDGE		2
	Parys OKAI KEANE		2 2 2 2 3
45			2
473	Rob BECKWITH Pavies		3



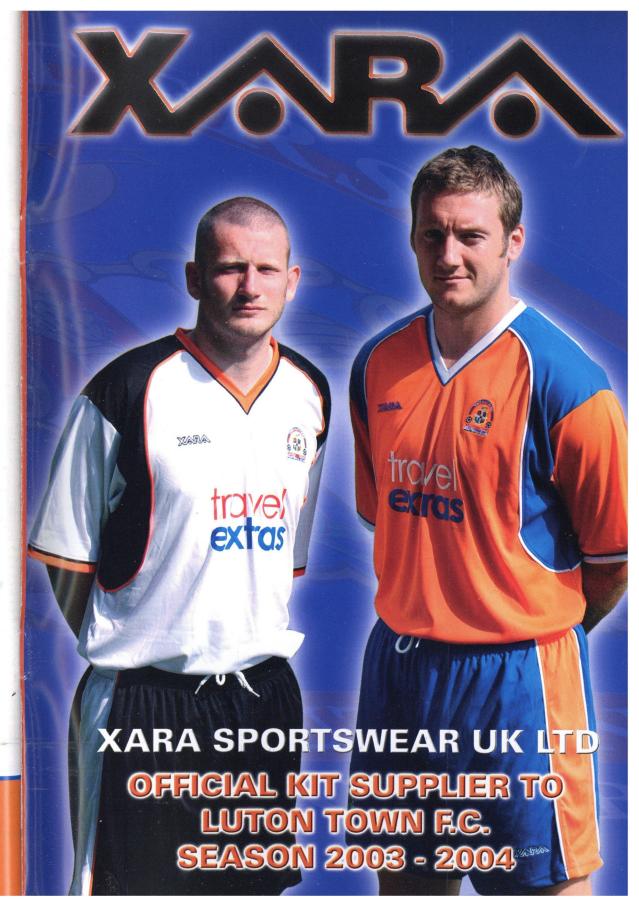
Manager: Brian Little

	John ACHTERBERG	Ø
	Sean CONNELLY	
	Gareth ROBERTS	MO
	Graham ALLEN	ØO
	Ian SHARPS	MO
	Tyrone LORAN	100
	lain HUME	
	Micky MELLON	
	Simon HAWORTH	
)	Gary JONES	MO
	Shane NICHOLSON	
3	Russell HOWARTH	
ŀ	Eugene DADI	
5	Ryan TAYLOR	MO
6	Alan NAVARRO	
7	Alex HAY	
3	Danny HARRISON	Ø0
)	James OLSEN	
)	Jamie MCGUIRE	
	Paul ROBINSON	
2	Paul LINWOOD	$\square \varnothing$
3	David BERESFORD	MO
	Neil ASHTON	
6	Steven JENNINGS	
7	Chris DAGNALL	
3	Philip PALETHORPE	
) , ,	Carl TREMARCO	
•	Andy HAYTON	



Referee: Matt Messias, South Yorkshire
Assistants: Mike Cairns, Northamptonshire (red and yellow flag);
Bernard Baker, Hampshire (yellow flag)

Bernard Baker, Hampshire (yellow flag) Fourth official: Keith Hill, Hertfordshire



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