



# LUTON TOWN 3 LINCOLN CITY 2

Cullen 46, 80, Guttridge 77  
Power 20, Tomlinson 51



HAT'S THE WAY TO DO IT! Mark Cullen, right, after scoring his and Luton's first

# SIMPSON: WE TANKED!

By Anthony May

**O**VER 6000 people witnessed a robbery at Kenilworth Road and for once the men in Lincoln green were the victims, although they certainly had a hand in their own downfall.

Having outplayed their hosts for 75 minutes, the Imps first let Luton back into the game through a Paul Farman mistake, and then allowed Mark Cullen a winner with some poor defending.

A crestfallen Gary Simpson said: "We haven't just shot ourselves in the foot, we've blown our feet off with a tank."

"For large parts of the game we were by far the better team. We gave them all three goals but we should have been out of sight."

"We had so many chances and should have taken them."

The visitors dominated the first half and deservedly opened the scoring on 20 minutes through skipper Alan Power.

Luton failed to clear a long Tom Miller throw, and Power collected the loose ball just outside the box before hitting a low shot past Mark Tyler.

The Hatters couldn't come to terms with Lincoln's physicality but despite forcing a series of corners, the Imps failed to get the second goal their play merited.

Cullen did appear to have scored for Luton against the run of play, but he was flagged offside.

However, he was not to be denied, and with only a minute on the clock in the second half, he found an equaliser.

The impressive Luke Guttridge sent in a pinpoint cross from the left, and Cullen completed the simple task of heading past Farman from six yards.

Lincoln's reply was instant and again it came from a Miller missile. Luton's defence let the ball bounce all the way to Ben Tomlinson just four yards out.

The forward's header was straight at Tyler but the Luton custodian could only pat the ball up and over the line on 52 minutes.

Tyler's error was at least

equalled by Lincoln keeper Farman, who gifted Luton their second goal.

Guttridge's free kick 25 yards out should have brought a routine save, but Farman let the ball go straight through him and into the net.

Then, just three minutes later, the predatory Cullen scored the winner from a JJ O'Donnell corner.

Lincoln's defenders let the cross bounce, and Cullen lashed a shot into roof of the net from eight yards out to win the game for the Hatters.

John Still denied that his side were fortunate and hailed what he called a "fantastic comeback" by his Luton side.

He said: "Quality comes in different forms, and one quality we had today was resilience. We never stopped going."

"We showed belief and a real work ethic for the first time this season. Now we're adding that to our game, we can really start to move forward."

## MATCH STATS

### LUTON v LINCOLN

|   |                  |   |
|---|------------------|---|
| 5 | SHOTS ON TARGET  | 4 |
| 7 | SHOTS OFF TARGET | 6 |
| 3 | CORNERS          | 6 |
| 4 | OFFSIDE          | 2 |
| 7 | FOULS CONCEDED   | 9 |
| 0 | YELLOW CARDS     | 1 |
| 0 | RED CARDS        | 0 |

**STAR MAN:** Jon Nolan (Lincoln)  
**ATT:** 6,203

**ENTERTAINMENT:** ★★★★★  
**REF RATING:** Adam Bromley 8/10

**LUTON:** (4-5-1): Tyler 6, Henry 6, McNulty 8, Parry, 6 Griffiths 6 (O'Donnell 67, 7); Lawless 6, Howells 6, Stevenson 5 (A Gray 65, 8) Guttridge 8, Smith 6; Cullen 7 (Taiwo 88). **Subs not used:** Justham, Whalley.

**LINCOLN:** (4-4-1-1): Farman 6, Miller 8, Boyce 8, Brown 7, Newton 7; Fofana 7, Power 8, Nolan 9, Foster 8 (Wright 81 6); Rowe 6 (Jordan 63 6); Tomlinson 7. **Subs not used:** Fairhurst, D Gray, Dixon.