Halc-time

By Hatters for Hatters

Control

Cont

Season 06-07 No5

Doom & Gloom Edition



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# hatters matters

GOING UP, going down or staying the same?

No. I'm not talking about Luton's League One chances next term, rather the cost of watching our beloved team.

As is traditional, the new prices for season tickets are usually unveiled in the matchday programme of the final home game of the campaign.

So, after forking out an extra £70 following our promotion-winning year, I'm fully expecting a recalculation and slashed prices to reflect our lower status. Some chance!

After having a season ticket for the best part of 25 years, I find myself faced with a real dilemma.

The past six months has seen my enthusiasm for attending draining away with every minute of lacklustre, passionless

It's a funny old

fans enjoy sticking

their oar in... so

what are you wait-

ing for? We'd love

your contributions.



play. I know fellow season ticket holders who have missed matches because they'd rather stay at home than watch the torture first hand.

If long-standing fans are considering jacking it in, then the club really is in trouble.

What we need is some hope to cling on to... preferably before the June season ticket renewal deadline.

At least Kevin Blackwell seems to realise we need major changes to the playing staff.

Maybe hope also comes in the form of new

Don't forget to get in touch..

Luton, Beds, LU1 2RD.

PUT US OUT OF OUR MISERY: It's been a nail-biting finale as Town battle bravely against relegation. OK, that's rubbish, we've been utter toilet and barely put up a fight

chairman Dave Pinkney who seems to be willing to invest in players.

At the moment the team's confidence is sapped. But it could take as few as five good players to revamp our fortunes and bring back Championship football at the first attempt.

What we need is a commanding centre-half. tough-tackling midfielder, speedy winger and a couple of proven strikers.

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WRITE TO: The Editor, Half-time Orange, Luton News & Dunstable Gazette, Media House, 39 Upper George, game and we know

EMAIL: orange@bedsnews.com



FAX: 01582 526012 marking your fax FAO: The Editor, Half-time Orange.



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With special thanks to Gareth Owen

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# HTO's 06-07

WE'LL all agree it's been a season to forget at Kenilworth Road.

On the field it's been a complete disaster since October with the team lurching from dismal performance to last-minute defeat, while off the pitch it's been a total pantomime show.

#### **MOST RIDICULOUS HAIRCUT**

Yes, it's the maggot of a man himself. Bjorn Runstrom. His long flowing locks made him look like a pansy and he played exactly the same. Mind you he did have to beat off bad barnet competition from Richard Langley's tight perm and alice band

look and Ahmet Brkovic's highlights which made him look grey...

#### **BEST MIDFIELD DISPLAY**

The News of the World girls' performance in the middle of the park during halftime of the Wolves home defeat

surpassed anything offered by Robbo, Spring and anyone else all season. In fact the girls were also tidy at the back and pretty good up front too...

#### **GOAL OF THE SEASON**

Hatters mascot Happy Harry's strike in the warm-up before the sorry home defeat to Barnsley in January was pure poetry in motion. The way he confidently approached the goal at the Oak Road end and then powerfully dispatched a crisp, 15-yard right-foot strike into the bottom corner was a joy to behold. Well it beat anything we've seen during an actual game, anyway.



all of us all along!

# Luton gongs

Always trying to keep a positive outlook. Half-time Orange has nonetheless decided to look back at the upbeat moments.

Unfortunately we couldn't remember any. So instead we bring you the alternative awards from a comedy campaign.

#### TACKLE OF THE SEASON

We all know determined defender Sol Davis has balls of steel after battling back from his stroke suffered in October. But one of our female Orange photographers is more aware of that than anyone after a streak from the Sol-man during pre-season. Everyone knows Davis has the biggest tackle on the pitch at Hatters - we don't want to know about the situation off the turf, thanks...

#### **BEST DISGUISE**

Ahmet Brkovic's cunning ploy to pretend to be Stephen O'Leary almost got Republic of Ireland him a call-up to the Under 21s. But when he tried a bicycle kick five minutes into the first Eire match it gave the game away.

**MOST IMPRESSIVE DANCE MOVE** 

He's only been here a few weeks. but new boss Kevin Blackwell wins this one hands down for this nifty

John Travolta Saturday Night Fever effort. Nice.

#### **BEST 'RAT DESERTING A SINKING SHIP' IMPRESSION**

Stand up Warren Feeney who, hot on the heels of his departure from the relegated Stockport to Luton. repeated the trick with Hatters as he wasted no time in moving to Cardiff when things looked bleak. Striker Feeney is seen here counting the number of goals he has scored this season on one hand.

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#### **LUTON TOWN DVD SEASON 2006-07**

After much criticism in recent years the club shop is proud to announce that this season's DVD will be out on Monday. For those who love to slag us off, that's well ahead of the earlier

anticipated

November

20th 2010

release

date of



More than enough in

stock to demand (1) Goals

galore! (in the wrong net!) Comes with

free noose

Running time 2 mins



## Luton Town look-a-likes

Hatters have been playing like a bunch of imposters this season,



Heikkinen



so here at Half-time Orange we did a bit of investigating and discovered who has really been representing Town this term... Child's Play







Darth Vader Blackwell





unmasked

A So Solid Crew rapper









Zac Barrett



Underwood

Keith Keane



Kenobi

The Devil



Langley

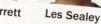
Danny Stevens

Annakin Skywalker aged five

Crabman off My

Name is Earl





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What to look out for in today's game

Outnumbered by S'land fans

J12 propaganda in programme

We wear a pink kit for chairman

Boyd starts but hauled off at H-T

Drew bags three - all offside!

Police protect directors' box

Town don't dare do lap of honour

## reasons to be cheerful

No international tournament where England can depress us

We won't be in a foul mood every Saturday night

Now's the chance to catch up on the DIY/gardening

We won't have to listen to Euan Duncan for a few months

Curtis Davies will finally be flogged by West Brom and we'll land a hefty sell-on fee

Plenty of time to watch **DVDs** of the Littlewoods Cup final and the 2004/05 promotion season

By August, Sam Parkin and Adam Boyd may be fully fit.

We're not Watford fans!

We might (might) win a few more games next season

Things can't get any worse

We've a new manager promising to rebuild the squad... and a chairman promising to invest in the team

Nico may return

The pitch will look nice by August

A shiny new kit will bring a change of fortune

The fixture list is bound to throw up a Bank Holiday trip to Blackpool, Bournemouth or Brighton.

No, it hasn't worked. We're still bloomin' miserable!

OUP SUPVEY Says... predictions of the orange 'experts'

STEVE: Town 1 Sunderland 6 JOHN: Town 0 Sunderland 2 ANDY: Sunderland to win by 63 runs (a cricket score!)

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## Kenny capers

The latest from the Luton corridors with our guest cartoonist



Away the lads... Sund'land

Hard nut **Roy Keane** Said he liked Luton when we

played up there, so a top bloke in our book. Bit of a nut

**Dwight Yorke** Ex-Man Utd ace who had reputation for nightclubbing and late night shenanigans.

Nutcracker Carlos Edwards Former Hatter who is bound to scorch one past us today (don't bother Carlos).

Nut on time Anthony Stokes Missed the bus to Barnsley. Will he make it today?







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boys 'r' us

Billy Sugger with the lads' outlook on everything that's kicking off at Hatters

depression around Kenilworth Road at the moment.

And so you might expect after relegation that seemed ludicrous to even contemplate just a few months ago.

How it has actually happened I'll never know, but I'm now expecting to see Markus, Belly and Leon all continue the mass exodus out of the club - and unfortunately I can't see many faces coming the other way.

Yes, we've got a new boss and chairman. But don't try and excite me with claptrap about a new ground as we've had it for years.

The only positive is that Watford have been even more embarrassing than us this year. But only just.



Desperately trying to be positive, I'm clinging to the hope that new chairman David Pinkney can turn the club around

He might sound a bit like a clueless American at times when he's talking about the Hats and he's clearly more interested in motor racing than the beautiful game.

But at least he's promoting the Town at race meets and has his podium girls in Luton kit. Maybe he's the person with a bit of get-up-andgo the club has been waiting for. Maybe...

# girls world

so women and football don't mix? not so says our Orange girlie Becky Gazeley

GOOD afternoon! Today I can sit back staring through my oversized Dior sunnies and smile with a fresh coat of lipgloss because, my friends, the pressure is off.

The last four to five months have been painful. I have left each game with a sad expression and a large amount of mascara travelling down my face from the sheer exhaustion of the 'beautiful game'.

However, for me today's focus will really be on Mr Keane. He's a complete legend and personally I think he's played an impressive role in this season's Championship.

Keith mate, apart from busting a few dodgy moves in Charlie Browns, this season

Remember when the 3 Rs were lrummed into you at school, well this season it's the 3 Bs that I have remembered most. Brill, Bell and Barnett. Next season's brightest propects.

Questioning spending hard-earned I tempt you with the prospect of KB's promise of new faces? One of them has to be hot stuff!

you've looked on top form.

I can only imagine that while Mike and his drinking buddies were down the pub you were putting in the extra hours!

Admittedly for many of us it wasn't love at first sight with Keith, but just like a new pair of shoes once you've got past the blister stage everything is

peachy! This summer, one of my friends has invited me to her clothes-swapping party she is having, the idea being that the clothes you've purchased but no longer like or wear might be to somebody else's liking and something they have might take your fancy!

Perhaps I could run this concept past Pinkney and Blackwell. They could invite Fergie and José and we'll say swop Langley for Ronaldo or Beresford for Cech. I mean it's an idea isn't it!

Perhaps more feasible is Morgan for Nicholls - wotcha think Dennis? I'll throw in Boyd for free?

See you all in League One. Becky xxx

## Vantastic

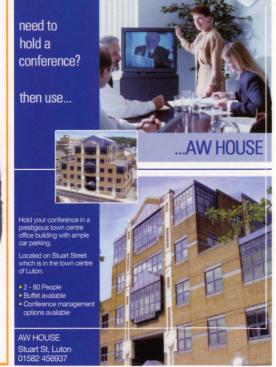
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STAY: CALVIN ANDREW: Probably not good enough but he's been out for a year with injury so give him another 12 months to prove his worth.

STAY: LEON BARNETT: Vast improvement this season. One of our few remaining sellable assets. Will probably be flogged then.

STAY: ZAC BARRETT: Third-choice stopper for a while. Now's the time to come of age and sit on first-team bench and wait for his chance.

STAY: DAVID BELL: Finally got a run in the side and could be the star of Luton's midfield next season.

**GO:** MARLON BERESFORD: Marlon's done marvellously for us over a couple of seasons, but he's not the keeper he was.

<u>GO</u>: DEAN BRILL: Had his chance to prove he could be No.1 but remains unconvincing and prone to errors. <u>STAY</u>: AHMET BRKOVIC: Look forward to another season of scissor-kicking

## should he stay...

half-time orange offers Kevin Blackwell some advice on



STAY: ADAM BOYD:
Deserves to be shown
the door but should be
retained, if only for
the fact that he cost
us half a mill and owes
us big time. Mystery
surrounds his lack of
fitness/form. May
come good...eventually.



FITNESS FIRST: There are three theories for this ridiculous pose from the Sheff Weds game. (1) A fan yelled 'crap' at Boydie and he did just that... (2) Another fan had brought along Twister to relieve his boredom and had just shouted out 'left hand on green'... (3) He can't run.

## or should he go?

the players we should keep and who should be kicked out



STAY: CHRIS COYNE: Dodgy knees but this fighter still has plenty to offer. We've conceded shed loads from set pieces during his injury lay-off. STAY: SOL DAVIS: Fought back bravely from his stroke. Proven first-team battler. STAY: LEWIS EMANUEL: Left-footers are

STAY: LEWIS EMANUEL: Left-footers an hard to find. Question marks over Paul Underwood's fitness mean this squad player may be needed.

STAY: KEVIN FOLEY: Reen below par.

STAY: KEVIN FOLEY: Been below par but has been carrying heel injury for months.

GO: MARKUS HEIKKINEN: When the going got tough last season's player of the year wasn't interested. He wants to leave so let the sulking Finn find another club.

GO: PETER HOLMES: Longest-serving player who'll never be a regular.
GO: RICHARD LANGLEY: Tough call.
The man fans love to hate. I've tried to give him a chance, he's even put in the odd tackle in recent weeks. Maybe he'd work well with Nico... if he returns

>> Concluded on next page

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# should he stay... or should he go?

GO: DEAN MORGAN: How much more of the juggling Billy Smart's Circus act can we tolerate? Send him to Leeds and bring back Nico. Now!



You've got to feel sorry for Morgs, coming up against the likes of Ronaldo every week

Deano 'bag of tricks' Morgan tried to recreate a famous Eric Cantona skill for the Crystal Palace home fans. But he timed it wrong, missed the fan and got the ball

#### GO: MICHAEL LEARY: Who?

STAY: STEPHEN O'LEARY: We gave him a new contract and sent him out on loan. It's now or never for the lad.

STAY: SAM PARKIN: Has scored hatfuls in League One before... when he wasn't carrying an ankle injury.

STAY: RUSS PERRETT: Never lets us down. Worth another year but should be on a nav-as-you-play deal

**GO:** STEVE ROBINSON: Sorry Robbo, you've been chasing shadows all season. Probably missed Nico the most. Time to join Stevenage.

STAY: MATTHEW SPRING: Give him a kick up the arse and get him playing to his potential.

**GO:** DANNY STEVENS: If he couldn't get a game this year then he's neve going to break through.

STAY: DREW TALBOT: Not convinced yet. Scored a few and works hard but still plenty of room for improvement.

STAY: PAUL UNDERWOOD: If (and it's a big if) fully fit, Unders is well worth his place in the side.

## bring me sunshine ... a light-hearted dip into the archives at Kenilworth Road



WHEN the Town took to the field at home to

Oxford on
Boxing Day 1975
supporters were
confused by what
appeared to be a
new signing in the
ranks. All was
revealed when



heavily receding centrehalf John Faulkner whipped off a black STRIKER Dixie Deans became a legend during the short time he spent at Kenilworth Road in the 1970s. He even donned the keeper's jersey on one occasion and kept a clean sheet after Keith Barber was injured at Notts County. Dixie, though, had a self destruct button and was soon on a final warning after throwing an apple from the team coach on the way back from training and knocking a chap off his bike. The last straw came after Dixie was booked for picking a fight with big Sam Allardyce at Bolton and then dismissed for violent conduct soon after. Manager Harry Haslam yowed that Deans would not play for the Hatters again.

AT Holker Street in 1968, tough Luton centre-half Terry Branston and equally tough Barrow centreforward George McLean each needed treatment twice, following offthe-ball incidents when they were knocking lumps out of each other behind the back of the referee. They kissed and made up at the end though. AFTER the less-thanmemorable 1959 Luton Town v Nottingham Forest FA Cup final, Sir Stanley Rous from the Football Association asked the Queen, "who did you think played best, ma'am?" "The band" was her reply!

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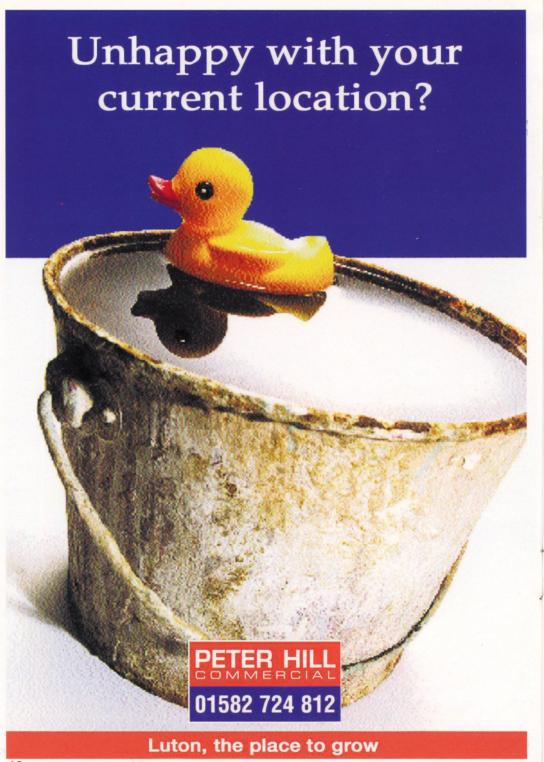
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Going, going, gone!

It's all the fault ... although any suggestions that Andy D'Urso acted

like a little Hitler in Gazette have put pressure on the the Ipswich game were team by daring to criticise the bviously completely club. He's pictured here in a unfounded! typically cynical celebration of

a rare Hatters shot on target. Excuse 6: Some of the team have been

**Excuse 5: Confidence** has been knocked by the opposition mocking us

> wide do you want the goal?" asked QPR's Lee Camp as the shotshy Luton attack bore down on him

MacKenzie

News and

Dunstable

of The Luton

... we're relegated so now it's time to dip in to the book of excuses to explain it all

Excuse 3:



Remarkably Drew said he thought the piss-poor turf could help us as it would stop other teams playing good football. I think he was saying we need to turn a match into a lottery and pray we draw the lucky winning ticket.

**Excuse 4: The players** heads screwed on right

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quoting 'Carnival 01'

Looking forward to hearing from you







Carol Vorderman brings you some Hatters-related anagrams

BALD LINER
NAVY DINED KIP
CYNIC HORSE
SNEAK NUKE HIM IRK
AD TAP DEVIL
A CHANDLER GIRLY
FANNY ERE WERE

conyol Anna Helkinen, David Pleat, Ronsol AnahaM anaha Helkinen, David Pleat, Biored Canol Mill get cLoss!)

Yanaa Herikinen, David Marker Herikinen,

(dedicated to 'Motormouth' Mike's memory)

# talking points

- who said the following?

- "He has just started school so doesn't really appreciate what his dad does up in Scotland. He's more interested in Scooby Doo than football."
- "We might have paid too much for him no disrespect but I'm delighted he's here."
- "It was an emergency job really, but having watched the match it's a shame I didn't play!"
- "Luton, asset stripped and suffering from decimated morale and confidence, offered a starting eleven for this match which contained a thin scattering of mediocre Championship players and a thick slice of absolute crap."
- "The Luton fans were vociferous with me to start with, but by the end I think I'd turned them around at least 10 of them were clapping me!"

  (answers below)

1. Paul Telfer on his son and his decision to quit Celtic for family reasons; 2. Birmingham boss Steve Bruce on signing Rowan Vine; 3. Mike Newell on registering as a player for the FA Cup tie at Thurrock in 2003; 4. A writer for QPR's rivals.net website; 5. Watford loanee Clarke Carlisle.

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## how to survive a ... of no football

THE end of a long, hard season is upon us and there's not even any international summer footy to keep us going. With that in mind, H-T Orange

Start the new stadium work The club'll never do anything, so if you've got a spare minute start digging some foundations at Junction 12. Or 10.

Recruit some more supporters It could be pretty quiet at Kenilworth Road next season, so try and convert some more fans to the Luton cause if you can.

Help re-stock the club shop We all know this aspect of the club is a complete joke. So if you can donate goods for the shelves it'd go down quite well.

Start a saving scheme If we all put aside £5 a week in an investment account it might pay off a bit of the club's annual £2million plus debt.

has compiled the following handy guide to how Luton Town fans can help themselves, and the club, during the forthcoming close season...

Help try and get Boydy fit What the hell's wrong with the fella? If you're bored, give the half-million pound waster a knock and take him for a jog.

Teach the club how to communicate If there are any PR gurus out there willing to teach the club how to better communicate with fans, for God's sake do so.

Do some gardening on the pitch There's guite a few weeds and plants in need of attention in the Kenilworth Road mud if you want to kill some time.

Dig your old boots out Let's face it, most of the fans could have done better than the players this term. We might be needed next season.

there's always plenty of agony involved in all things Hatters so we've roped in our very own agony aunt Dorothy Dixon to help relieve the suffering

I've been hammering on the manager's KEVIN SAYS: "I can't believe door all season. They what I've been left to work know I've netted in the with. The fans booed as I eft the pitch at half-time this year than our entire against Plymouth, but I'm no miracle worker. How did the squad become so poor. It's as if someone has been deliberately trying to mess up the club."

DOT SAYS: You're going to be in for a very busy summer. Now's your chance to make your mark with the team. Clear out all the dead wood, go begging for some of Pinky's millions and add 11 quality players to the squad. The fans will give you at least six games next season before they'l want your head if it's all gone tits up.

HAPPY HARRY SAYS: Oak Road goal more times squad & still I don't get a look in. I'm ready to unleast a new goal celebration too!

> DOT SAYS: Get real man You can barely run faster than Boydie with those huge boots you wear!

DAVE JONES SAYS: We signed

Warren Feeney to boost our promotion bid. It's taken just 36 minutes in 3 games as a sub for him to show me he's hopeless. Now I'm stuck with him for 3 more years!

CARLOS SAYS: I feel bad that I'm getting ready for Premiership glory while Luton are going to be playing in League One. I feel sorry for the fans. I hope they don't turn on me today.

DOT SAYS: I wouldn't worry too much Carlos, if any fan had the chance to increase their pay ten fold they'd jump at the chance. Luton got a fair fee for you - even if your ex-boss pocketed 10 per cent of it.

DOT SAYS: It serves you right for being such a poor judge of a player. Don't fret too much, he'll jump ship for a better offer long before 3 years is up.

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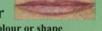


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## from the allotments

... with 'orrible 'ornet Don Monty

LOOK on the bright side. at least you won something this season...

Yes, congratulations on beating us to relegation by just under 24 hours. We're both up (or is that down) there with Torquay as filling the rock bottom positions in our divisions this season.

It's something to be proud of and a season to share with the grandchildren. We managed four victories (so far) and very exciting they were too,



all coupled with an epic cup run.

I hope you enjoyed our spirited resistance against Man U, all 90 seconds of it. I'm sure you must have enjoyed the misery on the faces of 17,000 odd Watford fans that glorious day.

It was a mirror image of watching your fans at Derby that Friday night

IS THAT ALL YOU TAKE AWAY? A couple of hundred at Derby. Pathetic!

... well, there may have been 16,900 fewer of you at Pride Park. Where's your travelling army gone?

Relegation's not much fun, so no-one's really got the bragging rights this season. Let's all laugh at Leeds instead. And bearing in mind you sold all your decent players the

writing has been on the wall for some time.

Crikey, I'm going soft and feeling sorry for you...don't worry, it won't last. Booked your hotel in Hartlepool yet?

Still, play-offs permitting, you may still have a derby next season. Shiny new stadium, growing fan base, team on the up... no it's not us, do enjoy your big day in Milton Keynes. But you might be better off going shopping.

#### vou have a message for Don, our contact details are on page 3

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## what a load of rubbish #5

IF ever the term 'jack of all trades, master of none' could be applied to a footballer then it was Billy McDerment.

For the benefit of younger supporters, Billy boy was small and Scottish.

He played for Hatters in the late 60s and was listed as a wing-half although he was really a utility player (you know, the last resort when you've almost a whole squad out injured).

His style of play was that he didn't have one!

He was supposedly in the side as a hard tackler, but couldn't tackle. Shame.

WE deliberated about doing a feature on our current squad, but that would've been easy. So instead we've dug deep in to the archives to put the spotlight on poor Billy McDerment from the 60s.

Previously with Leicester, where he scraped together 20 starts in four years, Billy ioined Luton in 1967 during the Division Four promotion-winning

In two seasons at Kenilworth Road he managed a total of 50 appearances before being shipped off to Notts County where he disappeared after three games.

campaign.

He did somehow get

on the scoresheet once

He was subbed in

- in a 1-1 draw at Torquay - but that was

as good as it got.

the very next match and never played for Luton again.

MrDerment was one of those players who despite playing in a successful side - Hatters were promoted as **Division Four champions** in 1967 and then finished third in Division Three the following season - still looked cack. Think Carl **Emberson or Wayne** Turner for more modernday examples.

#### **CARTHORSE OF THE MONTH**



police horse Charlie awards a pile of steaming dung to 🥻 an under-performing Hatter

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#### Marlon Beresford

Attributes (out of 100)

55

40 65

53 54

67

60

66 59

79

Free

Birth date: 02-9-69 Place: Lincoln Height: 6ft 1ins Weight: 13.01 st Ex-club: Barnsley Lut apps: 121\* Lut goals: 0\*

\*at 31-12-06

Pace:

Shooting:

Tackling: Heading:

Passing: Awareness:

Stamina: Loyalty:

Value:

**Nutter rating:** 

Skill:



#### Stephen O'Leary

Birth date: 12-2-85 Place: Barnet Height: 5ft 10ins Weight: 11.08 st Ex-club: none Lut apps: 33\* Lut goals: 2\* \*at 31-12-06



#### Attributes (out of 100)

Attibutes	(out of It
Pace:	78
Shooting:	78
Tackling:	77
Heading:	67
Passing:	79
Awareness:	75
Skill:	81
<b>Nutter rating:</b>	77
Stamina:	87
Loyalty:	80
Value:	£60,00

#### **Russ Perrett**

Birth date: 18-6-73 Place: Barton On Sea Height: 6ft 1ins Weight: 12.09 st Ex-club: Cardiff Lut apps: 100\* Lut goals: 9\*

\*at 31-12-06



#### Attributes (out of 100)

Attibutes	(out of I
Pace:	60
Shooting:	62
Tackling:	82
Heading:	86
Passing:	68
Passing: Awareness:	81
Skill:	62
Nutter rating:	68
Skill: Nutter rating: Stamina: Lovalty:	70
Loyalty:	90
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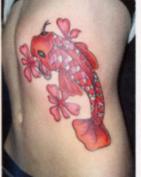
Graham Earl











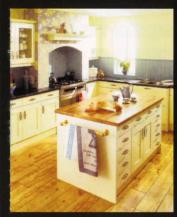




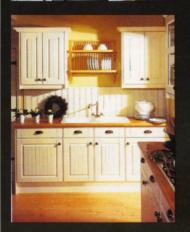




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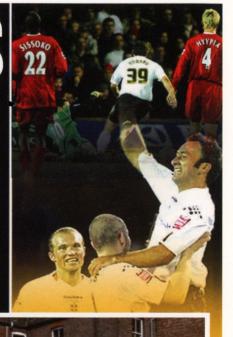
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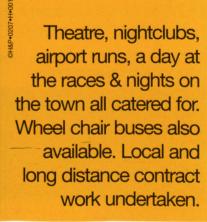


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