

Hatters News



Issue No. 4

Spring 1995



This picture of goalkeeper Kelvin Davis was taken during his home League debut against Watford. Everyone who saw him came away convinced that 18-year-old Kelvin is a star of the future. Born in Bedford, Kelvin was educated and brought up in Leighton Buzzard. Now he's proud to be a Hatter.

Inside



David Pleat's Italian Job

Inside

Meet the men on the Board



Inside



Two page action shot of Scott Oakes

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Schoolboy honours for Andrew Fotiadis

Luton Town Youth team striker **Andrew Fotiadis** is the latest Luton youngster to win international honours this season.

Andrew, who is 17, added to his seven England Under-15 caps with two appearances for the England Schools Under-18s in February. He played against Holland and made a short appearance as a sub against France.

Speed and agility

Andrew is a year younger than the rest of his England Schools team-mates but he impressed a 4000 gate in Gouda with his speed and agility. The Dutch team won 3-1 although they were trailing 1-0 with only 20 minutes left. The Dutch fielded a very experienced side, including two players who have had experience with Ajax in the national Champions' League.

"It was great to play at this level" said Andrew, "It has provided me with vital experience." He hopes to further his career at Luton once he has finished taking his A-level exams.

Cherry takes over as Club Secretary

Cherry Newbery, formerly ticket office manager at Kenilworth Road, has taken over the reins as club secretary, following the retirement of **John Smylie**.

She is the first woman to be given the job in the club's long history. Brought up in Luton, Cherry is a lifelong football (and Luton!) fan. That's not surprising as

her grandfather, **Jimmy Yardley**, played for the Hatters in the 1920s and 1930s and was a regular member of their Division 111 South team.

Connection

The family connection with the club was renewed in 1977 when **Cherry**, who worked at Barclays Bank, became a match-day supervisor of programme sales. She became full-time ticket

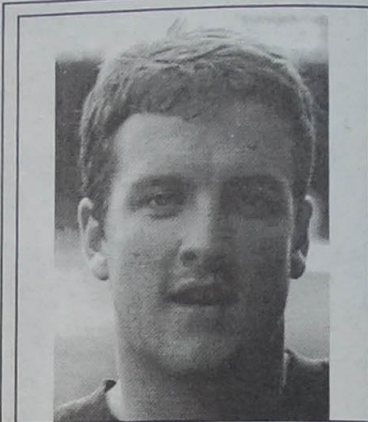
office manager 10 years ago.

"I'd always had it in the back of my mind that one day I might move more into football administration and now that the chance has come I'll do my very best," she said. "I've found the first few weeks very busy, but very enjoyable."

Emma Brooks, who has worked in the ticket office for four years, has now become manager of that department.



Cherry shares a joke with Town FC director **Chris Green**

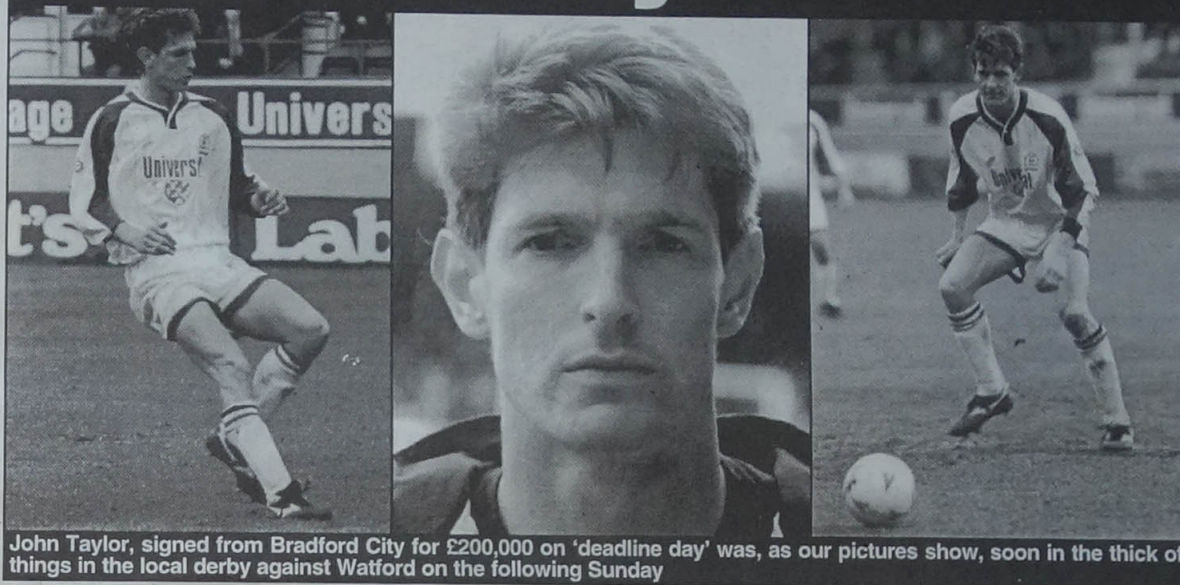


Loan news

Pictured above is Manchester City's **Martyn Margetson**, who joined the Town for a spell last month to provide goalkeeping cover. Right: **Martin Williams** (top) and **Jamie Campbell** (below) who have joined Colchester and Cambridge United respectively on one-month loan periods. They have both been picked for first team duty by the clubs they are assisting.



No shortage of business on transfer deadline day



John Taylor, signed from Bradford City for £200,000 on 'deadline day' was, as our pictures show, soon in the thick of things in the local derby against Watford on the following Sunday

Deadline day, Thursday, March 23, was a hive of activity at Kenilworth Road with two new arrivals and one departure for manager **David Pleat** to look after.

Heading the list was the signing of **John Taylor**, for £200,000, from Bradford City, a proven goalscorer in a career that has taken him from Colchester to Cambridge, via non-league Sudbury, and then onto Bristol Rovers and Bradford.

John, 30, made his debut in the derby with Watford, after a move which had been on the cards for some weeks, but only became known to him when City manager **Lennie Lawrence** called him in on the Wednesday morning.

David Pleat and his staff had been tracking **Taylor** for some time, and the 6ft 2ins striker was delighted at the prospect of a move up a division.

"It was a bolt out of the blue for me," admitted **John**. "We had a game on the Tuesday, lost to Swansea, and I went in on Wednesday morning for some light training, and then had a call back in the afternoon to go back in and see the manager."

Step forward

"I have played at Luton a few times, and it's certainly a step forward for me, up a division to a better grade of football. I haven't had the best of times at Bradford this year for one reason or another, and I'm looking forward to this challenge."

The centre-forward first came to the fore with four years under the **John Beck** regime at Cambridge, and scored against the Hatters when he was at Bristol Rovers - past his old friend from Colchester days **Alec Chamberlain**.

"That game was near deadline day," recalled **John**, "and I was supposed to be going to Portsmouth, but that fell through and I was on the bench and came on to score the equaliser in a 1-1 draw."

Tally

His goals tally is impressive, with 46 in 160 appearances for Cambridge, 44 in 95 games for Bristol, and 14 for Bradford City this term, but he is also a provider.

"I do pride myself on creating chances

for other people, and enjoy scoring myself as much as anyone," he said.

"We have had our eye on **John** for some time," admitted Town manager **David Pleat**, "and it was debatable whether we would do anything before the end of the season, but I felt it was time for a change up front, to bring another player in to partner **Dwight Marshall** who has done so well since his arrival."

"**John Taylor** was late coming into the game, and comes here with every incentive to do well."

Departure

Taylor's arrival heralded the departure of **Kerry Dixon**, who returned to London to join Millwall for a nominal fee. The former England centre-forward scored on his Lions debut, and Mr **Pleat** was quick to praise his efforts at Kenilworth Road.

"**Kerry** had an opportunity, and it wasn't for me to stand in his way because the probability was that at the end of the season we might have freed him anyway. "He has had two years here, scored goals, and has helped **Dwight** progress, and certainly helped to take the strain off **John Harrison** at times."

And the third piece of business was the arrival of goalkeeper **Martyn Margetson** from Manchester City, providing cover for **Juergen Sommer** and **Kelvin Davis**, who were both heading off on international duty for USA and England Under 18s respectively.

"There is no provision after the deadline day for any goalkeeper loans," pointed out Mr **Pleat**, "and should either **Juergen** or **Kelvin** get injured or sent off we would have been in trouble, with poor **Fred Barber** still injured. **Brian Horton** is helping us out, and it means that we are protected."



Former England forward **Kerry Dixon** left Kenilworth Road to join Millwall on 'deadline day' and celebrated his move with a goal for the London club in their match against Tranmere Rovers

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Evergreen Trevor-700 not out



SKIPPER Trevor Peake has proved to be one of Luton's most consistent performers this season, and at the time of writing was an ever-present in the starting line-up.

The game at Burnley was his 600th league appearance, for Lincoln, Coventry and Luton, with the game against Watford his 700th senior appearance in all.

"It's certainly not something I keep tabs on, but it's a nice milestone to achieve, and I can certainly say I'm enjoying my football as much as ever," said Trevor.

"It seems a long time ago when Colin Murphy signed me for Lincoln. I played four seasons there, before signing for Bobby Gould at Coventry where I played for eight seasons.

"Funnily enough my last game at Highfield Road was against Luton, before I made the move to Kenilworth Road.

"The figures show I have been fortunate with injuries, touch wood, and I've never had an operation. Although, I have never played right through an entire season so it would be nice to do that in the current campaign."

Trevor's first experience of senior football was for Lincoln in a League Cup tie against Barnsley. He scored in a 2-1 win.

His name appeared on the scoresheet nine times at Lincoln and seven times at Coventry.

He looks back with pride at his Cup Final appearance at Wembley and his ambition now is "to stay at Luton another year and see us back in the top flight."

Progress Reports

It's fingers crossed as unlucky Tony returns to fitness

IN the last issue of Hatters News we highlighted the injury plight of Town players Tony Adcock and Ceri Hughes.

Tony Adcock was just starting his comeback, and in fact went on to play in two first team matches, coming on as a substitute in the New Year games against Notts County and Charlton.

But then in mid-January more disaster as Tony lined up for the Reserve team for the trip to Bristol City. He sustained a fractured cheekbone on a miserable night for the Hatters which saw them trailing 3-2 when the game was abandoned in driving rain.

"I just couldn't believe it, but perhaps it just isn't my year," said Tony. "The nature of the injury meant that even light training was difficult, because any sort of contact to the face would have caused further problems, but after a relatively injury-free career it looks as though everything has come at once."

Scorer

Tony returned to the Reserve side in March, and was soon on the scoresheet bagging the equaliser at Wimbledon, and then scoring two and making the other in the 3-1 win over Millwall.

Now he is just hoping that he can avoid further injury. After all, no-one will deny that he's had more than his fair share this season.

Luton's other summer signing from Peterborough, Fred Barber, suffered a severe shoulder injury at Christmas, and has been ruled out for the remainder of the season after two operations.

Fred had returned to Posh on loan in a bid to get first-team football, and everyone at Kenilworth Road sends

him best wishes after a particularly painful setback.

Go-ahead

Ceri Hughes is still waiting to get the go-ahead to resume playing, after the knee ligament injury he suffered in November's home defeat by Grimsby.

The young Welshman was hoping to be back in action by now, but is awaiting a further scan after soreness in the knee as he stepped up his training schedule.

"It has been frustrating, and I've never been a good spectator so I haven't even been watching the lads in action," said Ceri. "I've been working hard in the gym to build up the muscles in the leg, and generally keeping fit, but I obviously have to make sure that everything is OK before I return to full training."

Des Linton is another of last season's regulars who has suffered with injury for much of the current campaign. Des has been sidelined with a stomach muscle injury and has made just three league starts.

He played in the victory at Swindon at the end of November, but limped out of the action in the following game against Sheffield United. Like Tony Adcock he has returned in the Reserves in mid-March, and could come back into the first-team reckoning in the busy end-of-season schedule.



Tony Adcock



Ceri Hughes



Des Linton

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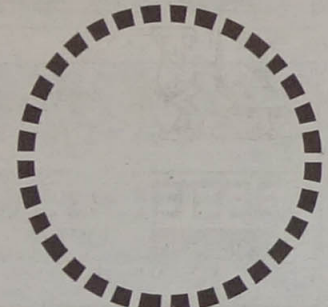
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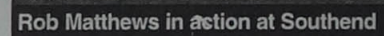
Well what do you know?

6. Town manager David Pleat's first association with the club was as a player. From which club did he join the Hatters?

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looking after the England side. The team included a blend of players from the First and Second Divisions and they twice came from behind to win. Luton's Kelvin Davis was one of the

Mr Pleat added: "When he receives the ball he really goes at defences, and defenders don't like that. It's up to Rob whether he realises that potential. He was certainly influential against Port Vale, and I am pleased with his introduction."



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Great Scott...

When he was a ball boy for Leicester City, the young Scott Oakes' hero was England soccer star Gary Lineker. Now Scott has matured into a fine footballer himself. He has played for England at Under-21 level. Next stop a full cap? All Luton Town fans hope so.



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Were those the days?



We can't be certain when this picture of Luton Town FC fans watching their favourite team was taken - probably around 1907 when the Hatters were members of the Southern League, Division 1. In those far-off days fellow Southern Leaguers included Tottenham, West Ham, Millwall, Crystal Palace, Brentford, Fulham, Bristol Rovers and Watford.

There was also a club called New Brompton - whatever happened to them?

It's interesting to see the number of ladies present, all of them dressed in frocks that practically reach the ground, and it is hard to find a man in the picture who is NOT wearing a hat. Look closely at the crowd on the terraces and you will see that nearly all of the men are

sporting a boater. No wonder the Luton team was known as The Hatters!

It is difficult to imagine any crowd problems, either. Everyone looks so well-behaved. Perhaps it was a boring game!

Luton, of course, were among the first professional clubs in the country but just after the turn of the century, about the time when this picture was taken, the wage bill for the whole of the season was not much more than £2,000, and this was covered by total gate receipts that hovered in the region of £3,500.

Times certainly change but no doubt the hard core of loyal fans in those days were no less enthusiastic than their counterparts of the 1990's.

Meet the Directors No.3: Nigel Terry

"A Premiership place is no pipe dream"

For Luton Town FC to make even a modest profit they need home gates of around 15,000. Considering their ground capacity is currently 10,500 and that figure is seldom approached, it does not take a mathematical genius to appreciate that without successful marketing off the field, and income from transfers, the club would very quickly find itself in queer street.



That is why, explains Hatters director Nigel Terry, quality players have been allowed to leave more often than the fans would like. He quickly adds that the manager and board are just as reluctant to see good players go but have to face the harsh financial facts of football.

"I sympathise with the fans when they become exasperated when players are transferred but it has to be done. Their anger is emotional; our reasons for approving departures are hard-headed business ones. If we didn't allow it the club wouldn't be here. It's as simple as that."

The money factor would also explain why it is possible that the new location of the stadium may be outside the borough boundary. Nigel Terry emphasises that he shares with his fellow directors a fervent desire to see the Hatters relocated in, or on the outskirts of, the town.

"That would be the ideal answer but we have got to find a site that will enable us to provide what I call 'state-of-the-art' facilities for spectators. Somewhere with ample car-parking space; somewhere that is easily accessible both to our local and our out-of-town supporters, and somewhere that would provide the right setting for Premiership matches."

The Premiership isn't just a pipe dream, he says. "We've been in the top flight before and though we struggled at times our overall record wasn't at all bad. We have a good, if somewhat inconsistent, team at the moment and we have proved quite recently that we can hold our own with sides from the top. In fact I think we perform more efficiently against the better sides. There would be no reason at all for us to fear playing against the country's very top teams."

Battle

Nigel Terry joined the board at the time of the Peter Nelkin/David Kohler take-over of a few years ago. "I was asked by Edward Pearson, then a long-standing member of the board, to join them with a view to keeping an eye on the financial side of things and helping in the ever-present income versus expenditure battle."

He has no regrets about accepting the invitation and is now a key member of a much slimmed-down team who contribute their various talents with no thought of financial reward.

"We are all different and sometimes we hold diverse views, but that is important. If we all

thought exactly the same there would be no discussion and we would be blinkered. There is often considerable debate around the table but when a decision is made we present a genuinely united front. We all share a common cause and that is the success of Luton Town FC."

Born in Hitchin, Nigel now lives near Wheathampstead. He is managing director of Fisher Frozen Foods, a company with £100 million-a-year turn-over, and part of the Albert Fisher Group whose annual turn-over is £1.5 billion.

After leaving school he ventured into the frozen food trade, "starting absolutely at the bottom", and subsequently started his own company in Bedford. That, in its turn, was bought out by the Fisher Group and now he runs Fisher Frozen Foods from offices in Hemel Hempstead.

"To lead a large company successfully you have to be able to stand back and consider problems with a cool head. The same applies to a football club."

Confidence

All in all, despite financial pressures and relocation problems, Nigel Terry looks to the future with confidence. Premiership football in the not-too-distant future and a super stadium on the horizon keep him optimistic.

"Even if we can't afford to splash out huge sums on buying players we have a manager with a proven ability to spot the potential in young players and bring them to maturity. We also have our wage structure, which can easily get out of hand, under control. We have a good team on the field, a good team in the boardroom and a good back-room set up."

"Our current need is more people through the turnstiles. Can anyone tell me where so many of our supporters have gone? I know some were frightened off when there was unpleasant rowdiness and I know some still harbour unhappy memories of that Millwall Cup-tie mayhem, but those days are long gone. Nowadays it's a family affair at Kenilworth-Rd and there's never any trouble."

"I have to stress the need for a better cash-flow. Bank managers are notoriously unsympathetic towards clubs like ours. Luton Town has been made very much aware of that sad fact in the past. Banks refuse to consider our players as genuine assets. They are only interested in seeing a healthy balance in the black. Apart from our players what other assets are there?"

Nigel Terry has no particular sporting background. "I played the usual games at school but didn't take any of them up seriously. For the last few years, though, I have become very keen on golf and play regularly at Brocket Hall, near Welwyn."

That's, of course, when he isn't working on behalf of his company or Luton Town football club.

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Coaching courses for stars of tomorrow

Hundreds of young footballers are taking advantage of the Town's soccer coaching courses and Colwyn Rowe, the Hatters' Football in the Community officer, is expecting up to 1,000 youngsters to participate in their Easter coaching programme.

They are being held at several venues in the county, and Milton Keynes is also covered. It's good fun and all those taking part are properly supervised.

With this sort of interest Luton Town FC could be fielding an entirely 'home-grown' team in a few years!

Do you want to be a goalkeeper? Or, if you play in that position would you like to be a better one?

If the answer to either question is 'yes' why not attend the Specialist Goalkeeping Course being organised by Luton Town FC? It is just one of many coaching courses being run during the Easter holiday period. It takes place on April 17, 18 and 19 at Electrolux Sports Ground, Ely Way, off Oakley Road, Luton from 10 in the morning until 2 in the afternoon, and it will cost £30.

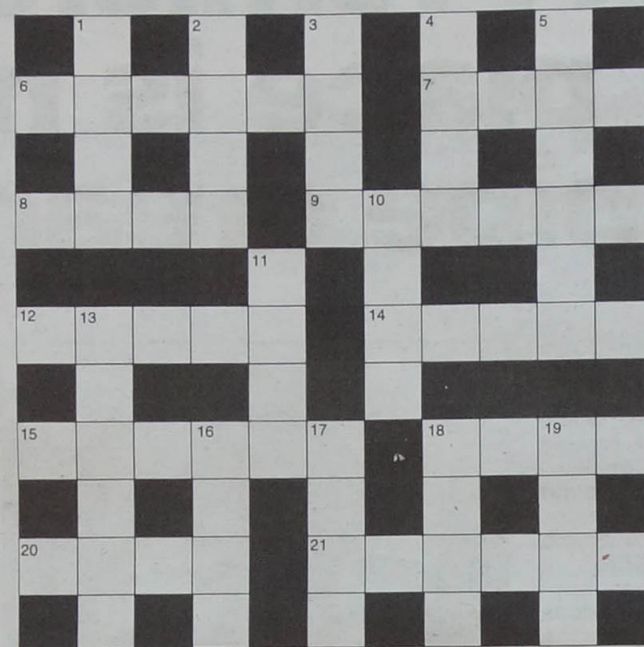
This is part of the club's 'Football in the Community' ongoing programme and is available for boys and girls aged between five and 14. What's more it doesn't matter whether you are already a good player or whether you have just started to take an interest. You get the same first-class coaching.

There are lots of benefits. The courses help youngsters improve their football but at the same time there is an emphasis on developing good attitudes and behaviour. They offer the chance to meet some of the Town's players and the opportunity to attend a first-team game free, if accompanied by an adult.

Three-day soccer clinics are being held at Bedford Goldington Middle School on April 9, 10, 11 (cost £24), at St Joseph's Junior School in Luton (April 9, 10, 11, £24), at Milton Keynes Water Hall County Combined (April 12, 13, 14, £24), Kempston Robert Bruce Middle School (April 12, 13, 14, £24), Flitwick Woodland Middle School (April 17, 18, 19, £24), Barton Arnold Middle School (April 17, 18, 19, £24).

Junior Hatters X-Word

Here's another crossword puzzle for junior football fans to solve. See how long it takes you to complete it. It has a very strong football flavour but not all the answers are about your favourite game.



ACROSS

- 6 Place of learning (6)
- 7 Manchester United's manager's Christian name (4)
- 8 Footballers enjoy this at half-time (4)
- 9 To be sent off is what a player.....(6)
- 12 He once scored 10 for Luton (5)
- 14 A rabbit's foot is a lucky one (5)
- 15 Go to a cafe for these (6)
- 18 Its usually bad luck when a shot hits one (4)
- 20 It's what football is (4)
- 21 Referee's decisions must be this (6)

DOWN

- 1 A kind of pain (4)
- 2 He will have tickets to sell outside Wembley! (4)
- 3 Players are this when they win (4)
- 4 Cheer a goalkeeper for a good one (4)
- 5 Another name for a captain (6)
- 10 Put your luggage on this in a train (4)
- 11 A Welshman's favourite vegetable? (4)
- 13 A book that comes out every year (4)
- 16 By gum! Some players do this when they are playing (4)
- 17 If there's a lot of it a game can be postponed (4)
- 18 Southend, Brighton, Bournemouth and Blackpool have all got one (4)
- 19 Dad might keep his garden tools in it (4)

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Down: 1 Ache, 2 Trol, 3 Glad, 4 Save, 5 Leader, 6 Chew, 7 Snow, 8 Pier, 9 Shed, 10 School, 11 Alex, 12 Breads, 13 Payne, 14 Charm, 15 Snacks, 16 Post, 17 Game, 18 Obeyed

Biggleswade Holmemead Middle School (April 20, 21, 22, £24) and Luton Stopsley High School (April 20, 21, 22, £24).

One hour FA mini-soccer centres, for youngsters between five and nine years old are being organised in Luton (Bramingham Primary), Shefford (Robert Bloomfield School), Amphil (Alameda Middle School), Houghton Regis (Tithe Farm Lower School), Milton Keynes (Gt Linford County School) and Dunstable (Brewers Hill Middle School).

There are five one hour sessions in each course and the cost is £11. At the Electrolux Sports Ground in Luton on Saturday April 15 there will be an adult coaching course aimed at junior/senior managers and coaches and FA preliminary award coaches. The

programme includes organisation, technique coaching, small sided games, phase of play and 11 v 11. The cost is £10. Everyone attending any of these courses should arrive with suitable (warm) football kit, football boots and/or trainers and full-day participants will need a packed lunch. Application forms are available from the club's community officer, Colwyn Rowe (Telephone 01582 411622).

Colwyn has only been in charge of the community programme for a few months but already he is making a big impact. A former professional player with Colchester and Gillingham, he is always interested in hearing from any qualified FA coach wishing to lend a hand. 'Phone him, or write to him c/o LTFC, Kenilworth Road Stadium, Maple Road, Luton, Beds LU4 8AW, enclosing a CV.

A Day in the life of a lucky mascot

What football crazy lad wouldn't give his back teeth for the chance to lead his favourite team on to the pitch for an important game?

At every home match the Hatters choose a mascot - usually a member of the Junior Hatters Club - to 'do the honours.'

We decided to 'do the rounds' with one we picked at random, and out of the hat came the name of Daniel Sunderland who was selected for the important home game against Tranmere Rovers. This is a record of his big day.

He arrived at the ground from his home in Dunstable with his mum and dad (that's Daniel on the right of the top picture) at around 1.50. Of course, he's got to look the part so he changed into kit and posed, so nonchalantly, outside the home dressing room.

By this time the opposition had arrived, so he made a point of meeting and greeting his Tranmere counterpart. Judging from our picture, third down, far right, it was a case of David v Goliath!

The VIP treatment continued and before kick-off time he joined the Town squad for yet another picture. Then came his two big moments. First he received his certificate from his favourite player, David Preece, and then the all-important task...leading the Hatters out of the tunnel a few minutes before the start.

Then there's just time for another shot, this time with the two skippers, the match officials and the Tranmere mascot.

Under Daniel's influence the Town players really rose to the occasion and gave the then Division leaders a real trouncing. Good for you Daniel!

It was a day to remember for young Daniel Sunderland and he has a prized certificate and, we hope, this page of pictures to remind him of his big day. The certificate was presented to him by his favourite Town player, David Preece and the pictures were taken by Andy Handley.



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Division One Ground Guide

Regular "away-day" supporters
probably know the precise
whereabouts of every Division One
football ground. No doubt they
know where to find most
Premiership grounds, too.

But for those who don't know here is a
'cut-out-and-keep' guide to all Division One
grounds.

BARNLEY: Oakwell Ground, Grove Street, Barnsley S71 1ET
BOLTON WANDERERS: Burnden Park, Manchester Road,
Bolton BL3 2AR
BRISTOL CITY: Ashton Gate, Winterstone Rd, Ashton Gate,
Bristol BS3 2EJ
BURNLEY: Turf Moor, Brunshaw Road, Burnley, Lancs
BB10 4BX
CHARLTON ATHLETIC: The Valley, Floyd Road, Charlton,
London SE7 8BL
DERBY COUNTY: Baseball Ground, Shalfesbury Crescent,
Derby DE1 8TZ
GRIMSBY TOWN: Blundell Park, Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire
DN35 7PY
LUTON TOWN: (in case you didn't know!) Kenilworth Road
Stadium, Luton LU4 5AW
MIDDLESBROUGH: Ayresome Park, Middlesbrough,
Cleveland TS1 4PB
MILLWALL: The New Den, Zampa Road, London SE16 3LH
NOTTS COUNTY: Meadow Lane, Nottingham NG2 3HJ
OLDHAM ATHLETIC: Boundary Park, Oldham, Lancs OL1 2PA
PORTSMOUTH: Fratton Park, Fratton Road, Portsmouth,
Hampshire PO4 8RA
PORT VALE: Vale Park, Burslem, Stoke on Trent ST6 1AW
READING: Elm Park, Norfolk Road, Reading, Berkshire
RG3 2EF
SHEFFIELD UNITED: Bramall Lane, Sheffield S2 4SU
SOUTHEND UNITED: Roots Hall, Victoria Avenue, Southend on
Sea, Essex SS5 8NQ
STOKE CITY: Victoria Ground, Booths Old Road, Stoke on
Trent, Staffs
SUNDERLAND: Roker Park, Grantham Road, Sunderland
SR6 5SW
SWINDON TOWN: County Ground, County Road, Swindon,
Wiltshire SN1 2ED
TRANMERE ROVERS: Prenton Park, Prenton Road, West
Birkenhead L42 9PN
WATFORD: Vicarage Road Stadium, Vicarage Road, Watford,
Herts WD1 8ER
WEST BROMWICH ALBION: The Hawthorns, Halfords Lane,
West Bromwich, West Midlands B71 4LP
WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS: Molineux Ground, Waterloo
Road, Wolverhampton WV1 4WR

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FA support for indoor stadium.

But will it be in Luton or Milton –
Keynes?

In the winter edition
of Hatters News we
highlighted the concept
of an indoor stadium,
with moveable grass
pitch, as unveiled by
Town chairman David
Kohler. Since then the
project has continued to
make the headlines...

Luton Town have received
a very positive response to
their plans for an indoor
stadium with moveable grass
pitch, from English football's
governing bodies.

The Football Association,
The Football League, and the
FA Premier League, have all
given their support, in
principle, to the proposals.

Hatters chairman David
Kohler, who has personally
presented the plans to all
three bodies, said he was
very encouraged with the
feedback he has received.

"Football was played
indoors, on natural grass, at
the 1994 World Cup Finals in
the USA," said Mr Kohler,
"and there is no reason why
we can't do the same in
England."

"The relocation of Luton
Town is a very long process,
but this is another hurdle that
has been overcome, and I
will do everything in my
power to make sure that the
dream of a new stadium in the
town becomes reality."

The club have also
confirmed that discussions
have taken place regarding
a possible move to Milton
Keynes.



Chairman Kohler - "We want to stay in Luton, but..."

David Kohler has held
informal talks with Milton
Keynes Borough Council,
and the Commission for New
Towns, on the possibility of
developing a multi-purpose
stadium in the new city
which could provide a new
home for Luton Town
Football Club.

Mr Kohler has already
revealed plans for a
multi-purpose indoor
stadium and the club have
made no secret of their
desire to develop land in
Luton, by junction 10 of the
M1.

But Mr Kohler pointed
out: "Of course we want the
club to stay in Luton, but
we are running out of
alternatives and time."

"If a site cannot be found
in the town, then I owe it to
supporters, shareholders and
staff to make sure that the
club survives, and if that
means moving out of town
then so be it."

"Milton Keynes has a
number of factors in its
favour, and I have been very
encouraged by the interest
shown by the Borough
Council and CNT."

But discussions have
continued with Luton
Borough Council over the
junction 10 site, and at the
time of going to press an
announcement was expected
giving further details of the
club's plans.

Sunday switch to Stoke

LUTON'S final game of the
league season, at home to Stoke
City, has been switched from
Saturday, May 6, to Sunday, May
7, kick-off 3pm.

The entire Division One programme
has been put back 24 hours so that all
clubs kick-off at the same time,
regardless of television requirements.

The decision follows a request from
ITV, under the terms of their contract
with the league, to move selected
fixtures to the Sunday for live
transmission purposes.

Lee Walker, Controller of
broadcasting at the Football League,
explained: "The integrity of the League
Championship was paramount in the

considerations of our Board of
Directors.

"We were not prepared to
countenance the movement of fixtures
in isolation on the deciding afternoon
of the season, and as a result all First
Division games will kick-off at 3pm, on
Sunday May 7."

The Hatters played at Stoke on the
final day of last season, also a Sunday,
drawing 2-2 with goalkeeper Kelvin
Davis making his debut.

And due to Bolton Wanderers'
reaching the Coca-Cola Cup Final, at
Wembley on April 2, Luton's trip to
Burnden Park on April 1 was
postponed.

The game will now be played on
Tuesday, April 11, kick-off 7.30pm.

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LUTON TOWN FC 94/95 Fixtures & Results

Date Opponents F-A Att

Sat	Aug 13	WEST BROMWICH ALBION	1-1	8,640
Tue	Aug 16	FULHAM CCC1 (1)	1-1	3,287
Sat	Aug 20	Derby County	0-0	13,060
Tue	Aug 23	Fulham CCC1 (2)	1-1	5,134
Sat	Aug 27	SOUTHEND	2-2	5,918
Tue	Aug 30	Tranmere Rovers	2-4	5,480

Sat	Sep 3	Port Vale	1-0	8,541
Sat	Sep 10	BURNLEY	0-1	6,911
Tue	Sep 13	BOLTON WANDERERS	0-3	5,764
Sat	Sep 17	Watford	4-2	8,880
Sat	Sep 24	Millwall	0-0	7,150

Sat	Oct 1	BRISTOL CITY	0-1	6,633
Sun	Oct 9	Stoke City	2-1	11,712
Sat	Oct 15	MIDDLESBROUGH	5-1	8,412
Sat	Oct 22	Sheffield United	3-1	13,317
Sat	Oct 29	BARNLEY	0-1	7,212

Tue	Nov 1	GRIMSBY TOWN	1-2	5,839
Sat	Nov 5	Wolverhampton Wanderers	3-2	26,749
Sat	Nov 12	Oldham Athletic	0-0	7,907
Sat	Nov 19	PORTSMOUTH	2-0	8,214
Sat	Nov 26	Swindon Town	2-1	9,455

Sat	Dec 3	SHEFFIELD UNITED	3-6	8,516
Sun	Dec 11	DERBY COUNTY	0-0	6,400
Sun	Dec 18	West Bromwich Albion	0-1	14,392
Mon	Dec 26	Reading	0-0	11,623
Tue	Dec 27	SUNDERLAND	3-0	8,953
Sat	Dec 31	Notts County	1-0	6,249

Mon	Jan 2	CHARLTON ATHLETIC	0-1	7,642
Sat	Jan 7	BRISTOL ROVERS FAC 3	1-1	7,571
Sat	Jan 14	Barnsley	1-3	4,808
Wed	Jan 18	Bristol Rovers FAC 3	1-0	8,213
Sat	Jan 28	SOUTHAMPTON FAC 4	1-1	9,938

Sat	Feb 4	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	2-1	6,903
Wed	Feb 8	Southampton FAC 4	0-6	15,075
Sat	Feb 11	Grimsby Town	0-5	4,615
Sat	Feb 18	SWINDON TOWN	3-0	6,595
Tue	Feb 21	Portsmouth	2-3	7,363
Sat	Feb 25	Bristol City	2-2	7,939

Sat	Mar 4	MILLWALL	1-1	6,864
Tue	Mar 7	PORT VALE	2-1	5,947
Sat	Mar 11	Southend United	0-3	4,588
Sat	Mar 18	TRANMERE ROVERS	2-0	6,660
Tue	Mar 21	Burnley	1-2	9,551
Sun	Mar 26	WATFORD	1-1	7,984

Tue	Apr 4	WOLVERHAMPTON W		
Sat	Apr 8	NOTTS COUNTY		
Tue	Apr 11	Bolton Wanderers		
Sat	Apr 15	Sunderland		
Mon	Apr 17	READING		
Sat	Apr 22	Charlton Athletic		
Sun	Apr 30	Middlesbrough		

Sun	May 7	STOKE CITY		
Sat	May 20	FAC Final		

CCC = Coca-Cola Cup
FAC = FA Cup
Fixtures are copyright of the Football League

Please note the home game with
Derby County is now to be played
on Sunday 11th December due to it
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There's too much emphasis on the sleaze factor

Oh dear, why can't we hear more about the good side of football - there IS one - and less about the dreaded sleaze factor? Just look at the stories that have made headlines, very big headlines, this season:

Manchester United's Eric Cantona in court after a kung-fu attack on a foul-mouthed Crystal Palace 'supporter' (the sort they could happily do without).

Cantona's England international clubmate Paul Ince in trouble for his part in the same incident.

Chelsea and England star Dennis Wise sentenced to three months imprisonment for assaulting a taxi driver.

Southampton and Wimbledon players in the centre of match-fixing allegations (unproved).

Thugs disrupting an England international match in Ireland.

One of the country's most famous managers suddenly sacked for unproven financial shenanigans during expensive transfer deals.

An on-going FA inquiry into illegal payments to players and managers and continued Inland Revenue interest in transfer payments.

Football, of course, isn't the only victim of that unpleasant ailment, Politics and big business have been tainted, too. Sadly, it seems to be symptomatic of our times. It is perhaps too easy to say it wasn't always the case, but unsavoury aspects certainly didn't come to light so readily and so regularly in the past. Years ago, when there was a very distinct line between amateur and professional players there was no shortage of tales about leading players with amateur clubs finding a

Articles by a writer signing himself 'Old Timer' have proved popular in previous editions of Hatters News, so we asked him to contribute to this issue. "Be as provocative as you like" we told him.

fiver in their jacket pocket when they returned to the dressing room after a game.

I also recall being told about the manager of a professional club who, no matter how he tried, never seemed able to sign the player he was seeking. It turned out that he was so uptight that he always refused a player's request for a little extra cash inducement before he would put pen to paper. It's also very old hat to recall that the first known attempted match-fixing took place donkey's years ago, long before most of us were born. It was unsuccessful.

Those stories are so modest that they are laughable today. They were told in that era when even the greatest British stars were on £20 a week maximum, when fans of rival teams happily rubbed shoulders on the terraces with no more than a few good-natured taunts flying between them.

I feel obliged to add that, whatever our 'sociologists' and

historians might say to the contrary, daylight street mugging was practically unknown, people still left their back doors unlocked, joyriding hadn't been heard of and drugs were something prescribed by doctors to the very ill. I write these words simply to prove what an old-fashioned, died-in-the-wool ridiculous old curmudgeon I am and to finish I would like to present the other side of the coin - the side I want to hear more about.

The majority of players today are a long way from being in the millionaire class. They always do their best to entertain, and win; lead decent, normal home lives and stay firmly on the right side of the law.

They produce a brand of football that is analysed far more by television and newspaper pundits than it was in the days I've been recalling. It is fast, often exciting and probably more efficiently executed than in the days I look back on through distinctly rose-tinted spectacles.

I was asked to write this article in provocative vein. If I've done that I have succeeded in my mission.

Meanwhile I wish all at Luton Town FC the very best of luck. There are no millionaires (to the best of my knowledge) in their team but they always do their best (even if they don't always win). So I'll finish this article by writing what I first began to shout more than 50 years ago: "Come on you Hatters!"

Old Timer

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