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*THE LUTON NEWS*  
**Football Handbook**

1899-1900.

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(CORNER OF WELLINGTON ST.)

## The Luton Town Football Club.

### ITS HISTORY IN BRIEF.

The Luton Town Football Club has now been in existence some fourteen years, having been formed by an amalgamation of the Luton Wanderers with the Luton Excelsiors, and Mr. Isaac Smith, who now discharges the Secretarial duties, practically did so at the very start. The first few years were comparatively uneventful, the Clubs with whom fixtures were carried out including Wellingborough Grammar School, St. Albans, Clapton, Old St. Paul's, London Caledonians, and others of less importance. The gate-money in 1886-7 amounted to £41 4s.; the next year it increased by about £9; and in 1889-90, the last year of pure amateurism, the gate-money advanced to £87 7s. 5d. During the next season it was found desirable to pay some of the players for time lost, and in 1891-92 the plunge into professionalism was made, the whole of the players being paid, though the amount was necessarily very small. The experiment was found to be so satisfactory, both in regard to the quality of the football and the interest evoked, that the fully-paid professional was not long in making his appearance. As readers are only too well aware, the results have not been entirely gratifying, for, though the gate-money has gone up from two figures to four, the expenses have increased at an even greater rate. The present makes the Club's third season in the Second Division of the English League. Such rapid strides had been made, that the Club had out-distanced most of its competitors in the Southern League, and it was found necessary to seek fresh fields and pastures new. The first year, 1897-98, with a splendid but painfully erratic team, the eighth place on the League-table was attained with the following record:—Matches played 30, won 13, lost 13, drawn 4, goals for 68, against 50, points 30. Last season, with a new team, and one which altogether failed to sustain its early promise, the Club receded to the fifteenth place, its record being:—Matches played 34, won 10, lost 21, drawn 3, goals for 51, against 95, points 23. That a more satisfactory position may be achieved this year, both from a playing and financial point of view, is a consummation devoutly to be wished.



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The "Luton News"—Best Advertising Medium.



EDWIN DAW,

The new custodian, is a Doncaster man, having been born there on Jan. 23rd, 1876. He first played for Doncaster Congregationals and afterwards for Hexthorpe Wanderers. He subsequently played a trial match for Sheffield United, but signed on for Grimsby. He next performed for Barnsley St. Peters, and after that came up to Rushden, where, as in the other places, he made a great name for himself. He is 6ft. in height, and weighs 12st. 6lbs.



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Road**

— AND —

*Wellington St.  
Studio,*

**LUTON.**



The "Luton News"—"Wanted," 20 words, 6d.



JAMES DOW

Is a native of Dundee, and is 26 years of age. He has had a good deal of experience of English League Football, having been two seasons with Newton Heath, with whom he had the honour of appearing in the test matches, and one with Glossop North End, who elected him captain. He came to Luton during last season, and at once established himself in popular favour, his sound and vigorous play on several occasions saving the team from defeat. He is 5ft. 9½in. in height, and weighs 12st.



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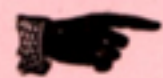
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WILLIAM McCURDY

Was born at Bridgton on Sept. 6th, 1876, and is therefore 23 years of age. He started playing as a junior with the Caledonian Swifts, but his reputation has chiefly been made with the Vale of Clyde. Attracting the notice of the senior Scotch Clubs, he had invitations from both the Clyde and the 3rd Lanark, but preferred to come South, and so threw in his lot with Luton. He is regarded in Scotland as a full back of brilliant promise. His height is 5ft. 8½in., and he weighs 11st. 4lbs.





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The "Luton News"—Is THE Football Paper.

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HARRY WILLIAMS,

Who has again signed on for Luton, has shown to considerable advantage in both amateur and professional football. When a boy of 14 he was considered worthy of a place in the Hitchin team, and from 1895 until the time he came to Luton he was always included in the Herts County Elevens. He has also played for Brentford and St. Albans. Last season he figured both at back and half-back, and was one of the best and most consistent players Luton had. His height is 5ft. 10in., and weight 11st. 9lbs.



# CHARLES BARKER

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WILLIAM STEWART

Was born at Cupar Angus, Perthshire, on February 11th, 1870, and is therefore 29 years of age. He first played for Our Boys, a Dundee team, and at the age of 13 was induced to come over the Border by the Warwick County F.C. He afterwards joined Newton Heath and played with them for six seasons, subsequently coming to Luton. Last season he went to Millwall, but was always sorry he left Luton, and came back at the first opportunity. He is a sterling centre half. He stands 5ft. 11½in., and weighs 12 stone 13 lbs.



# W. J. FRANKLIN,

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The "Luton News"—Circulates throughout South  
Bedfordshire.



FRANK MORRISON,

Who comes from Millwall to keep Stewart company at half-back, was born near Falkirk on January 1st, 1874, and is thus 25 years of age. He played with several Scottish Clubs, and eventually became identified with the Clyde, performing for them in both divisions of the Scottish League. He next appeared in the Darwin ranks, and subsequently joined the Dockers at Millwall. Among his numerous medals is one gained in a five-a-side tournament at Glasgow. He played for Clyde, and one of his opponents in the 3rd Lanark was Tommy McInnes. Morrison is 5ft. 8in. in height and weighs 11 stone.



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17, Park Square, Luton.

The "Luton News"—Most Readable Paper in the  
County.



WILLIAM RALLEY

Was born in Luton on 30th September, 1879, and is thus barely 20 years of age. He learned his football with the junior clubs of the town, and first came into prominence with the Stanley. He afterwards joined the Town Reserves, and showed up so well that last year he was signed on as a professional. He did not get many chances of showing his ability, but towards the end of the season he got several opportunities, and acquitted himself so well that his signature was secured for this season. He is a very promising player. In height he is 5 ft. 7 in., and he weighs 10 stone 8 lbs.



# Luton Town Football Club Fixtures,

1899-1900.

Goals.

| Date.   | Opponents.  | For | Agst. |
|---------|---|-----|-------|
| 1899.   |   |     |       |
| Sept. 2 | Grimsby Town (a) .....                                    | 3   | 3     |
| " 9     | Woolwich Arsenal (h) .....                                | 1   | 2     |
| " 16    | Barnsley St. Peter's (a) .....                            | 1   | 2     |
| " 23    | Leicester Fosse (h) .....                                 | 0   | 0     |
| " 30    | Burton Swifts (h) .....                                   | 5   | 2     |
| Oct. 7  | Burslem Port Vale (a) .....                               | 0   | 1     |
| " 14    | Walsall (h) .....   | 4   | 0     |
| " 21    | Middlesbrough (a) .....                                   | 0   | 0     |
| " 28    | English Cup, Third Round <i>LOWESTOFT</i> .....           | 2   | 0     |
| Nov. 4  | Gainsborough Trinity (a) .....                            | 2   | 2     |
| " 11    | Bolton Wanderers (h) .....                                | 0   | 2     |
| " 18    | English Cup, Fourth Round <i>WATFORD</i> .....            | 3   | 2     |
| " 25    | Newton Heath (h) .....                                    | 0   | 1     |
| Dec. 2  | Sheffield Wednesday (a) .....                             | 0   | 6     |
| " 9     | English Cup, Fifth Round <i>Queens Park Rangers</i> ..... | 1   | 1     |
| " 13    | " <i>replayed away</i> .....                              | 1   | 4     |
| " 16    | Small Heath (a) .....                                     | 0   | 3     |
| " 23    | New Brighton Tower (h) .....                              | 1   | 4     |
| " 26    | Chesterfield (h) .....                                    | 0   | 3     |
| " 30    | Grimsby (h) .....   | 0   | 4     |

## Luton Town Football Club Fixtures (continued).

Goals.

| Date.  | Opponents.                             | For | Agst. |
|--------|--|-----|-------|
| 1900   |  |     |       |
| Jan. 1 | Chesterfield (a) <i>March 26</i> ..... | 0   | 2     |
| " 6    | Woolwich Arsenal (a) .....             | 1   | 3     |
| " 13   | Barnsley St. Peter's (h) .....         | 3   | 0     |
| " 20   | Leicester Fosse (a) .....              | 2   | 2     |
| Feb. 3 | Burton Swifts (a) .....                | 1   | 3     |
| " 10   | Burslem Port Vale (h) .....            | 1   | 1     |
| " 17   | Walsall (a) .....                      | 3   | 7     |
| " 24   | Middlesbrough (h) .....                | 1   | 1     |
| Feb. 3 | Lincoln City (a) .....                 | 0   | 2     |
| " 10   | Gainsborough Trinity (h) .....         | 4   | 0     |
| " 17   | Bolton Wanderers (a) .....             | 0   | 3     |
| " 24   | Loughborough (h) .....                 | 4   | 0     |
| " 31   | Newton Heath (a) .....                 | 0   | 5     |
| Apr. 7 | Sheffield Wednesday (h) .....          | 0   | 1     |
| " 16   | (Easter Monday) Lincoln City (h) ....  | 0   | 2     |
| " 17   | (Easter Tuesday) Loughborough (a) ..   | 1   | 1     |
| " 21   | Small Heath (h) .....                  | 1   | 2     |
| " 28   | New Brighton Tower (a) .....           | 1   | 5     |



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**22, BUTE STREET, LUTON.**

**The "Luton News"—Gives best value to Readers.**



**THOMAS McINNES,**

The hardest working forward Luton ever had, came here from Everton in May, 1896. He was born at Glasgow on March 22nd, 1870. His first big match was for Cowleys against the Celtic in the final for the Glasgow Exhibition Cup. In 1889 he went to Notts County, and remained with them four seasons, and in 1891 played in the final for the English Cup. Subsequently he joined the 3rd Lanark, but in 1894 came over the border again for Everton, for whom he continued to play until Luton were fortunate enough to secure his services. He is a Scotch International. Height 5ft. 6in.; weight 10st. 11lbs.



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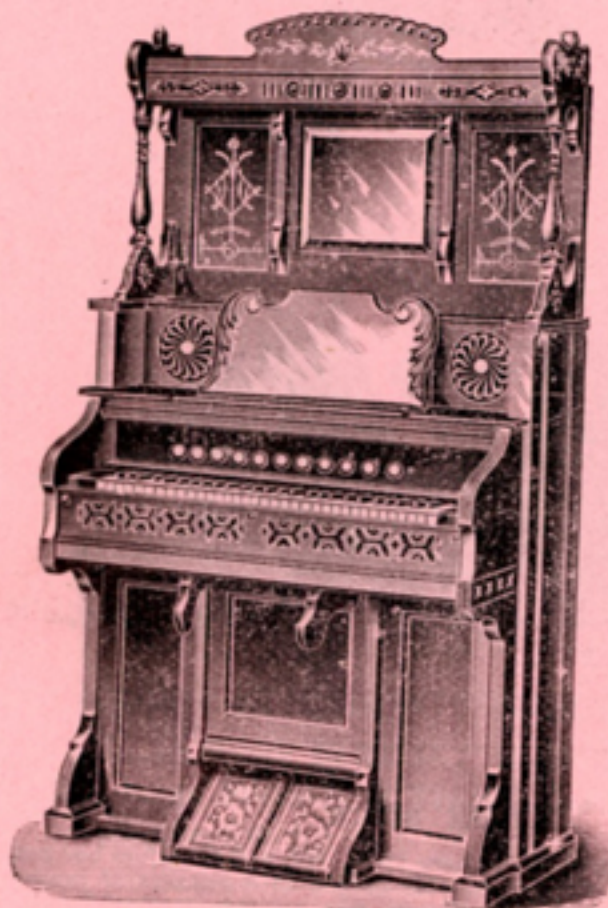
JOHN BROCK

Was born at Glasgow on January 12th, 1878, and therefore has not yet attained his 22nd year. He played in a number of junior clubs—Ardoch Thistle, The Carron, who ran into the final for the Glasgow Junior Cup, 1893-4, and Ashfield, and was identified with the Vale of Clyde the season before he came to Luton. On many occasions last season he played a dashing game for Luton, and was one of the few to retain his place for this year. He has played centre forward, outside left and inside right, but prefers the latter. His height is 5ft. 7in., and he weighs 10st. 7lbs.



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A Most Attractive case, the Latest Design. The ends are beaded, the panels and the music desk are elaborately engraved. High top with bevel mirror. The Clarionet and the Vox Celeste give a variety of delicate effects, and the celebrated Vox Angelica Stop makes this Organ valuable. Height 6ft. 3in. 11 Stops. 4 Sets of Reeds.



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**S. FARMER & Co.,**

AND AT  
DUNSTABLE.

**2, Wellington St., Luton.**

The "Luton News"—Has the best Fiction.



WALTER FAIRGRIEVE,

The new centre forward, is 23 years of age. He began playing early, and when in the ranks of Glasgow Perthshire, he was selected for International honours, playing against Ireland on Celtic Park. He also played for Glasgow against Lanarkshire. Subsequently he had offers from Liverpool and Everton, but eventually signed on for Southampton. Here he was understudy to Hartley, and might have been so again this season, but declined, preferring to come to Luton. His total number of goals for both elevens was 47, a pretty good record for one season. He is 5ft. 7½in. in height, and weighs 11st.



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*Note the Address*—**Opposite BRIDGE STREET.**

The "Luton News"—Expresses its opinions  
fearlessly.



JOHN ECKFORD

Is 21 years of age, having been born in 1878. He has chiefly been identified with the Raith Rovers, has played for the East of Scotland in the International trial matches, and is the proud possessor of no less than 16 medals—10 gold and 6 silver. He has played both outside right and outside left, but prefers the latter. He had offers from Hearts of Midlothian, St. Bernard, and Dundee before deciding to come to Luton. He is little and good, standing barely 5ft. 5in., and scaling 10st. 7lbs.



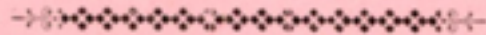
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The "Luton News"—Gives all the News.



JAMES ALLEN INGLIS

Comes to Luton from Small Heath. He is 22 years of age having been born on December 3rd, 1877. His first experience with senior football was gained with the Airdrieonians, for whom he played against Edinburgh St. Bernards and the leading Glasgow Clubs. He played for Small Heath for three seasons, and achieved considerable celebrity as an outside left. Inglis is 5ft. 6½in. in height, and weighs 10 stone 7 lbs.



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Our "Bonnie Sailor" Navy Cut Cigarettes  
have taken the FIELD of Popular Favour.

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The "Luton News"—"For Sales," 20 words, 6d.



WILLIAM BROWN,

Who is more generally known by the name of "Roland," is 25 years of age, having been born at Luton on the 27th June, 1874. He has learned his football on his native heath, and became identified with the Town Club towards the latter end of its first season as a professional organisation, 1891-92. He performed good service for them on many occasions, but last year and part of the season before he played for St. Albans, where he again showed to great advantage. He plays equally well at outside right or outside left. He stands 5 ft. 5½ in., and weighs 11 stone 4 lbs.



# S. BASSETT,

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VICUNA OVERCOATS,

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Half-hose, Football Hose & Underwear.

**28, WELLINGTON STREET.**

The "Luton News"—Published every Thursday.



GEORGE EKINS

Has not at present signed on, but he is still in the town, and it will be a thousand pities if such a clever and attractive player is allowed to go elsewhere. At any rate we should not feel justified in seeming to sever the connection by omitting his photograph from this handbook. He was born at New Brompton on September 27th, 1871. Showing promising form as a junior, he was asked to play for Chatham, and there attracted so much notice that Derby County were glad to secure his services. This was in 1891. He remained with the County two seasons, and then went over to Burton Swifts. After one season with them he was induced to sign on for Luton, for whom he played his first match on September 2nd, 1895. He is very fast and has a wonderfully taking style. His height is 5ft. 9in. and weight 12st.



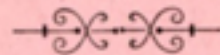
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**A GOAL**

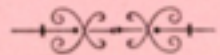
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**LUTON.**

The "Luton News" attained popularity at a bound, and has maintained it ever since.



W. LAWSON, TRAINER.

W. Lawson, popularly known as "Billy," is Luton bred and born. This is his fourth season as trainer of the first team, but previous to that he for two seasons looked after the reserves for the love of the thing. He is a trained athlete, having in his time been a boxer of no mean order, and taken part in some very tough contests. He is 32 years of age, stands 5ft. 7in. high, and scales under 10st. At the beginning of last season he had a tempting offer from Glossop North End, but chose to remain at home. It is safe to say that a well-earned victory by the Luton team pleases no one more than Billy Lawson.





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---

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