



FOOTBALL HANDBOOK



Hope to go one better this time

By CHILTERN

EVERY succeeding season brings its own air of importance and expectancy and, of course, the one that starts in two days' time is no exception in this respect.

Naturally, high hopes figure high on the menu so far as the Town are concerned, especially after their so unlucky failure to gain promotion last season when they were beaten out of the first four by a fraction of a goal, in a finish that could scarcely have been more dramatic.

Drama there certainly was because the only combination of circumstances that could ensure promotion for the Town was a win by them at Sealand Road and defeat for Colchester at Newport.

For a time, it looked as if the unlikely double might come off after all, because the Town took the lead, the news percolated through that Newport were winning and the loyal band of Town supporters took fresh heart.

However, Chester drew level midway through the second half but, even then, the Town had the chances to have made not only victory, but promotion, a certainty.

NOT THE EXPECTED DIRE DISASTER

That they were unable to accept them condemned them to another season in the Fourth Division which, however, I feel, did not turn out to be the dire disaster that many people, including, I must admit, myself, thought was a probability.

In the main, the football we saw at Kenilworth Road was probably more entertaining than that served up in the previous struggling season in the Third Division.

That was as much due to the fact that the Town were not only winning regularly, but were scoring with an efficiency and frequency that caught the imagination of the fans.

After a certain amount of disinterest in the early part of the season, supporters began to take notice of the fact that the Town were in with a real chance of regaining some of their lost prestige and the overall effect was a satisfactory increase in the size of the average gate by just over 1,000.

The average worked out at 7,675, thanks to the boost given by the fact that the last nine home matches were watched by 91,657 people.

GATE OF OLD: TIME SIZE

That included an attendance of old-time proportions on Easter Monday when there were 15,309 at Kenilworth Road for the visit of Colchester United for a vital top-of-the-table match.

While there were special circumstances on this occasion, I feel that this fact does serve to underline the truth that the public will flock back to the terraces if the Town can build up a team that can win consistently.

Unfortunately, there was trouble in the final week of the season which, in my opinion, had a fatal effect on the Town's final chance of appearing in Division III this season.

Before the match at Newport on the Wednesday preceding the final match, there was a difference of opinion between certain players and officials on the size of the bonus to be awarded if promotion were won.

At least two players spoke forthrightly against the size of the Town's offer and there seemed to be general dissatisfaction.

Whether or not this had a

marked effect on the display in the match that followed and which resulted in defeat for the Town can only be a matter of conjecture.

SHOCK MOVES FOLLOWED

At all events, drastic action was taken on the return to Luton with the result that Matt Woods who was said to have been the chief spokesman, was not only dropped for the final match, but given a free transfer, to take immediate effect.

Out of the team, too, went the captain, John Reid, who does not seem to have taken any part in the pre-match bickering and so, too, did John O'Rourke, who had been injured at Newport but whom the manager said he would not choose anyway.

Upshot was the shock news when the retained list was issued that Reid had been given a free transfer, and quickly signed for Torquay United.

REPEATED REQUEST BY O'ROURKE

There had never been much hope that O'Rourke who had been making repeated transfer requests for months, would start the coming season in the ranks of the Town, even if he were not transferred.

In the end, I fancy that the Town were happy enough to collect an £18,000 fee from Middlesbrough because there was never much hope that he would be prepared to talk out for them again whatever the circumstances.

So, the manager's major problem now is how to replace this player who was easily his leading scorer last season with 32 goals. No doubt at all that O'Rourke was an opportunist of high potential and a crowd-puller into the bargain.

However, those disgruntled fans who are still bemoaning the fact that he has been allowed to go, should take time off to reflect that, in whatever walk of life it may be, no man will give of his best against his will, and O'Rourke was determined to leave Luton.

HAS A MARKSMAN BEEN FOUND?

Doobtless, the manager has his own ideas on how the gap is to be filled by someone with the same goal-worthy ideas as O'Rourke and there is a distinct possibility that he has found one during his close season search.

If not, then it can be taken for granted that no stone will be left unturned to remedy the situation because no club of the Town's status can continue for long in the Fourth Division without loss of face.

What made the mission of promotion the harder to bear was the fact that it might have been wrapped up well and truly at Chester on May 11.

In a brilliant first half display in a downpour, the Town built up a two goals lead and then found the referee calling off the match, despite their protests, two minutes after half-time.

While at home, we had little about which to complain

(Continued on Page 2)

Whether or not this had a



LUTON TOWN FC: Back row (left to right) P. Mooney, J. Nicholson, A. Rivers, A. Read, A. Thear, T. Adamson, J. Moore; middle row (left-to-right) George Martin (Manager), F. Jardine, A. Sloane, G. King, P. Lamb, R. Whittaker, N. Riosch, B. Riosch, C. Watkins (trainer); front row (left-to-right) B. Johnson, D. Pleat, G. Riddick, R. Thomson, G. French.—GG1441.

DEDICATED MARTIN HAS FOOTBALL IN HIS BLOOD

WHEN football is once in the blood of a man it is difficult to disperse. If you want proof of that, ask George Martin, whom it is now fair to describe as the veteran Town manager, though he is fitter than most men several years younger than he.

Once, this dedicated man, who has spent most of his life in the game, tried to get out of it and he succeeded for a period because he made a clean break after leaving as Aston Villa's manager, and went into business in Liverpool.

That he should go back to Merseyside was not surprising because he probably had his most successful spell as a player with Everton in the days when the name of every member of the team was a household word.

It was a chance meeting at the Everton ground with Town officials some years ago that finally brought George back into football circulation.

Then, he was asked to keep his eyes open for any likely talent there might be in the area and was given several specific scouting missions.

MADE FINAL CHECK ON REG PEARCE

One of these was to make a final check on Reg Pearce, then with Cheshire League club Winsford United, and his favourable report led to him being signed. Later he was transferred to Sunderland for around £20,000.

Finally, as so many people who have lived in Luton for some time and then left, seem apt to do, George returned to make a home here and took a job with a local firm—at the same time continuing to do some part-time scouting for the club.

Later, when the vacancy arose for a chief scout, he accepted it, but that was about the limit of his ambition in the game in which he had scaled the heights as manager of Newcastle United and Aston Villa.

Certainly, he had no idea



After that, came the acute disappointment of missing promotion on goal average last season, yet another reminder of the pitfalls of football management, but that has not prevented him coming up full of optimism for the new season.

"I want my head seeing to," he told me when he was appointed the Town's manager for the second time, the first being in December, 1944, after he had served the club as a player, joining them from Middlesbrough during the 1930-40 decade when the basis of the Town's later success was really being built.

As between he had been a highly successful coach and, in fact, there are few jobs of work he has not done at Kenilworth Road in his time. He is one of the old "no nonsense" type of manager, as several players have found to their cost recently, and his biggest task when he took over the Town again was to tighten up discipline all the way round.

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Resigned 4/4/66
Allen Brown - Virgin appointed
age 18 years

Manager banks on youth in making signings

ON making his new signings to help fill the gaps on the playing staff caused by the clear-out he had at the end of last season, Town manager, George Martin, went solely for youngsters.

Indeed, all the five players he signed before the start of training come with a degree of ex-

perience, earned, with one exception, with professional clubs.

By far the most experienced of the five is Gerry King, the

tall, 19-year-old outside-left, who made 17 appearances in Torquay United's promotion-winning team last season.

In the previous campaign, this former Welsh Youth international played in six Second Division games for Cardiff City and when he heard that King had been given a free transfer by the Devon club, the Town manager was quick to act.

Without having to think back too deeply, he remembered only too keenly the brilliant show King put up against the Town at Plainmoor last September and I fancy that it was only the combination of the advent of Barnes, a winger from Peterborough, and the need to trim the wage bill that decided Frank O'Farrell to allow King to go.

SCHEME IS MOST BENEFICIAL

One of the brighter, more beneficial schemes introduced in recent years is that of the apprentice professional, effect of which is that a player can be taken on to a club's books at £5, paid for his services, but can then revert to



Tony Thear

amateur status if his club decides not to sign him at the end of three years.

Naturally, even the biggest clubs in the land cannot make all their apprentices full-time professionals and, obviously, Sunderland found themselves in this position at the end of last season after they had gone down narrowly on aggregate to Arsenal in the final of the FA Youth Cup.

MARTIN SWOOPED IN A HURRY

As soon as he heard that Brian Johnson and Terence Adamson were among the players not being offered terms, Manager Martin swooped for both these 18-year-olds, either of whom is equally at home at inside-forward or wing-half. In fact, Adamson played at right-back in one of the youth finals.

Another 18-year-old on whom the Town kept close tabs late last season, following a strong tip-off, was Eric Thear, a member of Arsenal's youth team.

Here, again, it was a case of the supply exceeding the demand, with the result that

Thear was not retained and the Town offered him terms.

It is primarily as a centre-forward, with thoughts that he might eventually fill the gap left by the departure of O'Rourke that the Town signed him, but he can also do a stint at centre-half.

HAD TRIAL PERIOD HERE LAST SEASON

Last of the five is Eric Geieve, who is not exactly a stranger to Kenilworth Road, because he spent a trial period here at the end of last season.

Eric Geieve

However, because of the

difficulty of getting his clearance from Scottish junior football, he was unable to play in a public match, but showed bright form in outings behind closed doors.

Such complications as there were were lifted during the



Brian Johnson



Paul Lamb

summer, and he needed no persuading to sign as a full-time professional.

Although centre-half is probably the position he has occupied most often, he is a utility man, too. His junior club was Tariff Rangers.

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Terence Adamson



Gerry King

HOPE TO GO ONE BETTER

(Continued from Front Page)
about the quality of the football, there were some decidedly rough passages and what I can best describe as "rum" conditions on some away grounds.

Such is the character and style of play of the majority of Division IV members that it takes more than that extra basic skill to secure points away from home.

It was on the score of not collecting so many points on tour as their competitors that the Town finally missed the prize. Had their away form measured up to anything approaching that they showed so consistently at home, then they would have been runaway winners of the division.

At times, on away grounds, there was insufficient determination and that must be sought from the start this season.

USEFUL NUCLEUS STILL REMAINS

Despite the departure of Woods, Reid and O'Rourke, the Town still have the nucleus of a very useful side which can perhaps be welded together into an even better combination than was the one last season.

At this stage, to me, the fundamental things seem to be whether the centre-half position can be solved satisfactorily and whether someone can come forward to fill, with equal success, the boots of O'Rourke.

The answer to the first part, I feel, is a definite "yes," which will be arrived at one way or the other, possibly by a process of elimination.

As for the goal-getter. Then your guess is as good as mine, especially as, at the present juncture, we do not even know to whom the task will be entrusted.

ENTHUSIASM IS ON THE RISE

What I do know is that, despite the disappointment at the end of last season, there has been a revival of enthusiasm for the Town club as reflected in the sale of season tickets and there is a grim determination on the part of the Board not to spend a season longer in the Fourth Division than they have to.

For one thing, the increased travel and the low share from away gates makes it a costly business and, during last season, one Director estimated that promotion would be worth at least £10,000 to them on those two scores alone.

SM LEAGUE MAKING GREATER STRIDES

CHAIRMAN DETERMINED

Just before kick-off time at Kenilworth Road on Saturday, a car will draw up as close as possible to the boardroom

Out, painfully on two crutches, will emerge the chairman, Tom Hodgson, now back home again after having spent some



weeks in a London hospital for an operation for an arthritic condition of a hip.

It will be some time yet before he can hope to achieve anything like normal mobility, but he is determined to see the opening match of the season.

For some time before the operation, the chairman suffered considerable pain, but that did not prevent him driving vast distances, either to watch away matches or to make checks on players.

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Players no longer with the Town



MATT WOODS — former Town centre-half who has now joined Stockport County.



JIMMY GIBSON—did the Town good service as a "utility" player.



JOHN O'ROURKE — top scorer for the Town over the past two seasons who recently joined Middlesbrough for a fee of £18,000.



COLIN TINSLEY — regular goalkeeper for the Town at one stage last season, who has now joined Kettering.



JOHN REED — former Town skipper and half-back who will be playing in the colours of Torquay United in the coming season.

COUNTY CUP DATES

President: Lord Luke of Pavesham.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. A. D. McMullen, 37 Halfway Avenue, Luton. Tel: Luton 52765.

1966-67 Dates

SENIOR CUP	
Preliminary Round	Oct. 15
First Round	Nov. 12
Second Round	Jan. 28
Semi-finals	Feb. 25 and March 4
INTERMEDIATE CUP	
Preliminary Round	Sept. 24
First Round	Oct. 29
Second Round	Nov. 26
Third Round	Jan. 21
Semi-finals	March 11
JUNIOR CUP	
Ex-Preliminary Round	Sept. 10
Preliminary Round	Oct. 1
First Round	Nov. 5
Second Round	Dec. 3
Third Round	Feb. 4
Semi-finals	Feb. 25
JUNIOR CHARITY CUP	
Preliminary Round	Sept. 17
First Round	Oct. 8
Second Round	Nov. 26
Third Round	Jan. 14
Semi-finals	March 4
SUNDAY INTERMEDIATE CUP	
Preliminary Round	Sept. 25
First Round	Oct. 16
Second Round	Jan. 29
Semi-finals	Feb. 26
SUNDAY JUNIOR CUP	
Ex-Preliminary Round	Sept. 18
Preliminary Round	Oct. 9
First Round	Oct. 30
Second Round	Nov. 27
Third Round	Jan. 22
Semi-finals	Feb. 19

Last year's county cup winners

Professionals: Bedford T.
Runners-up: Dunstable T.
Seniors: Arlesey
Runners-up: Stotfold
Intermediate: Grange Albion
Runners-up: Langford
Junior: Index Sports
Runners-up: Campton
Junior Charity: Caddington
Runners-up: Tower U
Sunday Intermediate:
Bird in Hand
Runners-up: Luton Saints
Sunday Juniors: Reata
Runners-up: Icknield

Goalkeeper trainers

It seems to be quite a favourite pastime of Luton Town goalkeepers to pass on the benefit of their experience to young footballers in the town by assisting local league clubs with their training.

Colin Tinsley played a big part in the success of 61 Club in getting promotion to the Premier Division of the Luton District and South Beds League when he coached them last season. Although he now plays for Kettering, Tinsley is continuing his connection with 61 Club.

He is also active in local football as a referee, officiating at matches in the Sunday leagues.

Now Tony Read has taken up the challenge in local football and in the past few weeks has been putting the footballers of Luton Boys' Club through some rigorous training.

Apprentices on the Town books

Although the Town, with the accent on youth in their team building, have relied mainly on promising youngsters who have served their apprenticeship with other clubs, they are not neglecting the bright young talent on their doorstep.

A good proportion of last season's successful Luton Schoolboys' team will be seen in the Town colours as amateurs this season, and one of them, Neil Riach, has been signed as an apprentice-professional.

Neil is the younger brother of inside-forward Bruce Riach, and joins the other apprentice professional on the books, Peter Mooney, another young winger who had games in the reserves last season as an amateur.

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RESERVES' FIXTURES

SEASON 1966/7 (London Mid-Week League)	
1966	Sept.
8—Queens Pk. Rangers (H)	12—Colchester United (A)
13—Charlton Athletic (A) (H)	22—Southend United (A) (H)
22—Southend United (A) (H)	31—Charlton Athletic (A) (A)
Oct.	Feb.
6—Aldershot (A) (H)	1—Leyton Orient (A) (A)
11—Watford (A) (A)	21—Watford (A) (A)
26—Leyton Orient (A) (A)	29—Queens Pk. Rangers (H)
Nov.	April
3—Colchester United (A) (H)	6—Millwall (A) (H)
10—Millwall (A) (H)	12—Southend United (A) (A)
14—Millwall (A) (H)	19—Charlton Athletic (A) (A)
22—Queens Pk. Rangers (A)	28—Aldershot (A) (A)
30—Southend United (A) (H)	May
Dec.	1—Leyton Orient (A) (A)
1—Charlton Athletic (A) (H)	3—Colchester United (A) (A)
14—Aldershot (A) (A)	11—Watford (A) (A)
21—Watford (A) (A)	28—Aldershot (A) (A)

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Road, Luton, Luton 52576.

Supporters' Club is going from strength to strength

The Luton Town Bobbers instances these youngsters follow Stand and Supporters' Club, under their President and Chairman Mr. L. S. Hawkins, is continuing an upward trend with an increase of membership of over 400 last year which now brings total membership to approaching 1,500.

The value of the Supporters' Club to the parent Football Club is shown by the fact that they recently handed over a cheque for £4,000 to the football club, which was a substantial amount and an increase on £500 on a similar donation 12 months ago. In fact, £21,500 has been provided by the supporters in the last five years.

In this sort of consistency which has given the club such good relations with the parent body, and has also enabled them to raise something over £40,000 to help Luton Town football.

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ADAPTABILITY IS THEME

CALL it what you will. Adaptability, versatility or the ability to accept without demur the switching of positions—that is obviously going to be the theme of the Town at Kenilworth Road in the coming season.

In making most of the signings that have accrued since he took over as manager about 18 months ago, George Martin has mostly had in the forefront of his mind the dual-purpose player.

To a club that is not over-burdened with money, and the Town certainly come into this category, this can be a real boon, as was proved last season when there was some bewildering switching of positions at times.

More than that, much of it was highly successful, so much so that it has encouraged the manager to go again for players of a similar type.

When this article was written before the announcement of the team for the first match, it seemed that only Tony Read could be absolutely certain which position he would be occupying.

There was no argument about that because, with the departure of Colin Timley

backs, Bobby Thomson and Freddie Jardine.

After losing his place before Christmas and being kept in the background for a time, Thomson came back in storming fashion. A Scot, whom the Town brought from Liverpool, he might well have gone right to the top had he possessed that extra yard of pace, but, nevertheless, he is one of the best full-backs in the Fourth Division.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CONVERSION

His probable partner, Jardine, comes into that category too, and he is another example of a player being the

of putting him in, and also appeared in the forward line.

In a staff of players of many positions, the one who qualifies for top rating is Gordon Riddick, who has filled all but about three at various times and, even now, no-one is altogether sure in which he is most valuable.

Full-back, half-back, forward, all seem to come alike to this highly talented player whom the crowd have now



Alan Rivers



Alan Rivers

and John Ramage, both on free transfers at the end of last season, Read is the only professional goalkeeper on the books.

Yet it was not until the closing weeks of last season that it was decided to give him an extended run in goal because he had spent most of the previous time at inside-right with no mean success, because he scored 12 goals.

This dual-purpose trait developed when he was with Peterborough, who were overburdened with goalkeepers and who played Read at centre-forward in their reserve team.

FULL-BACKS ARE FAIRLY CERTAIN

Perhaps the other two players most certain of where they will be playing on the opening day are the full-



Tony Read

victors of a successful conversion.

When he first came to Luton on a free transfer from Dundee, he was an outside-left who, although he had spells in the first team, could never really count himself as an automatic choice.

Then came the switch to defence, where his speed is a great asset, and his positional play improved beyond recognition.

Cover for either full-back position is forthcoming from Alan Slough who, if there were an award for "the most improved young player of the season," would certainly have been in line for it. Not only at full-back, he did a useful job at right half, where the manager will not be afraid



Alan Slough

learned to appreciate after he had been subjected to some cruel barracking at one stage. Even now, I would not be willing to bet where he will be for the opening match, so wide open is the whole position.

There is not much doubt that the tall, dark Scot, John Moore, will be at left-half, because he was pretty consistent there last season, but, even he had a move into the forward line on occasion.

Centre-half could be one of the problem positions, though it need not be if young Alan Rivers shows that he has



Ray Whitaker

absorbed thoroughly the not inconsiderable experience he received last season.

REIVERS REGAINED HIS CONFIDENCE

After a good start in the senior team, he suffered some lack of confidence, but that



John Moore



David Pleat



Bobby Thomas
Free to Canada
seemed to return during the closing weeks when he was even pressed into service at centre-forward.

A former apprentice and member of the youth team, John Nicholson, now a full-time professional, could come into the reckoning for centre-half later on, but not before he has had further experience in the reserve team, though he



Fred Jardine



Gordon Riddick
Free to Billingham
4/1/67

Forward to Billingham
Gordon Riddick
taker in the line-up.
There will be much interest
in the return of Pleat after his
shockingly unlucky last season,
which he began by breaking a leg during training.
After a lay-off of over three

WORLD CLASS WINNERS FOR 1966-7



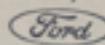
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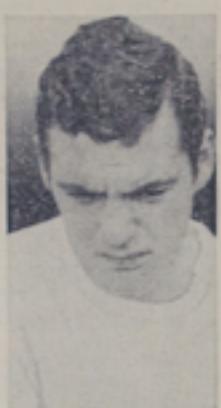
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TIME FOR TOWN PLAYERS



Bruce Riech



Graham French



Peter Mooney

months, he made a comeback, had two or three games in the first team and then, not long afterwards, suffered back disc trouble that put him out for the remainder of the season.

FRENCH MAY MOVE INSIDE

From this he has made a complete recovery and, undoubtedly, this former Nottingham Forest player, who cost £8,000, will be all out to regain a first-team place.

This could mean, and I would underline that this is only supposition, a further attempt to convert Graham French, who has had such a chequered career for one so young, into an inside-forward.

This was tried with marked success, especially at home for a time last season, and it would not be all that surprising

should the manager make a similar move again. In fact, French has so much natural ability that he could fit in anywhere in the attack with equal facility.

Writing at this range, the problem seems to be who will lead the attack and it is one to which there is no ready-made answer because there could be developments in the meantime.

RIECH COULD SOLVE PROBLEM

Much will be expected this season from the 19-year-old Bruce Riech, who emerged during last season as a great prospect, either at wing-half or at inside-forward. For my money, he looked better in the former position, but it is at inside-left that he will be

expected to develop and fill a position that has been a headache for so many years.

Presumably, Ray Whittaker will be among those present for the opening gambit despite his long dispute about wanting to leave the club.

I hope this is the case because no-one can fail to admire the whole-hearted approach of this player with the deadly left foot and for all the differences he may have had with the management, I have never had the slightest suspicion that he has allowed them to have any effect on his efforts on the field.

There are, of course, the newcomers, who have been dealt with in a separate article in this supplement and one or other of them may well force himself into the first-team reckoning.

36 YEARS WITH THE TOWN



Bob Readhead

Thirty-six years ago, a small boy began his career with the Town club which, apart from the war years, has never been interrupted, even though it was not until about six years ago that he became a full-time member of the staff.

That boy was to become present secretary, Bob Readhead, who earned two shillings a month for what must have been to him the exciting job of throwing the ball back to the pitch.

Later, he was seconded to, and, afterwards, took charge of Sundale, the Luton and District League team which was really the nursery team of the Towns.

STAR TALENT PRODUCED

During his time in charge, they went straight from Division IV to Division I and, in the process, produced such players as Horace Gager, later to become the Town's centre-half and captain, and George

Goodyear, who had much league experience at wing-half.

When that phase was over, Bob, before his army service began, helped the present manager, George Martin, in looking after the "A" team who were then sharing Bedford Town's ground and playing in the United Counties League.

The war over, Bob first assisted and then took charge of the "A" team which was then in the South Midlands League and was responsible for them in the Metropolitan League, of whose committee he became a member for a number of years.

In 1940, he was appointed assistant secretary and then, about two years later, when Phil Coley emigrated to New Zealand, became secretary, a job in which he has gained great respect, all the way around.

FULL LIST OF TOWN FIXTURES

	1966	1967
Aug.	Wrexham 0-0 (H)	Jan. BIRKINBANK 0-2 (H)
28—Halifax T ... A.R. (H)	7—Second Round READING 2-2	
27—Brentford ... 0-1 (A)	14—Barnsley 0-0 (A)	
Sept.	3—Newport City 3-1 (H)	20—Stockport Cty 0-1 (A)
6—Rochdale ... 0-3 (A)	28—Third Round	
10—Barnsley ... 1-2 (A)	4—Aldershot 1-0 (A)	
12—Stockport Cty 2-3 (H)	11—Wrexham 2-1 (H)	
24—Aldershot 0-0 (H)	18—Southport 0-0 (H)	
29—Rochdale ... 2-1 (H)	(Exeter City) 1-2 (A)	
OCT.	1—Wrexham 0-0 (A)	25—Southport ... 0-0 (H)
8—Southampt ... 0-0 (A)	4—Suffolk County 1-0 (A)	
15—Notts. County 2-3 (H)	11—Fifth Round	
20—Bradford City 0-0 (H)	Exeter City 4-0. (H)	
22—Chester ... 0-0 (A)	18—Chester ... 1-0 (H)	
24—Newport City 0-2 (A)	24—Hartlepools U 1-2 (A)	
29—Bradford ... 2-2 (H)	25—York City ... 1-0 (A)	
Nov.	5—Port Vale ... 0-1 (A)	27—Hartlepools U 0-2 (H)
12—Crewe Alex 1-1 (H)	APR.	
16—Bradford City 1-0 (A)	1—Port Vale ... 0-0 (H)	
19—Barrow ... 0-2 (A)	8—Sixth Round	
26—First Round ... 0-1 (A)	Crews Alex 1-3 (A)	
Dec. 1—READING (H)	13—Southend U 5-0 (H)	
3—Lincoln City 2-0 (A)	15—Barrow ... 0-1 (H)	
10—Chesterfield ... 1-2 (H)	22—Bradford ... 0-0 (A)	
17—Halifax T ... 1-1 (A)	24—Southend U 0-2 (A)	
24—	29—Semi-Finals	
26—Tranmere R ... 0-1 (A)	Lincoln City 2-1 (H)	
27—Tranmere R ... 0-0 (H)	MAY	
31—Brentford ... 2-0 (H)	6—Chesterfield 0-0 (A)	

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Reserves now a mid-week team

A new era for reserve team football so far as the Town are concerned is being born this season because, along with eight other clubs, they have broken away from the Football Combination of which they have been members since its inception.

Instead, they will participate in a Mid-week League in which each team will meet each other four times making a total of 32 matches.

All will be played in mid-week, with the Town plumping for Thursday as their home day and they estimate

a saving of at least £10,000 a year.

This has been brought about by a drastic pruning of the full-time professional staff and will be helped by the cutting down of travelling because a necessary qualification of each entrant to the new competition was to be within 50 miles of Marble Arch.

This is a trend that will be watched closely by other clubs and there is confidence among the new committee that they will have reinforcements to their numbers next season.

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— 24TH ALDERSHOT (A) WEAVER 5-0 2-2 (TAYLOR)
— 29TH (TENBY) 6-1 6-5-52

RESCUE PUNTHOLE (T.G.) 6-0-55 10-0-55 (KING THOMAS) 5-5 2-0 MAY 2 WOOD STENGE (T.G.) FRIENDLY 1-1 (JOHNSON)
— 8TH & 25TH (T.G.) 6-0-55 10-0-55 (TAYLOR) 2-2 1-2

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LUTON LEAGUE CROWN VACANT

The Luton District and South Beds League prides itself on providing competitive football for amateur players of all standards of ability, and with an annual registration of around 2,000 players, the competition can be said to be achieving this aim.

Among the new clubs who will be making their debut in the league this season are Leighton Buzzard Old Boys, who come in with a strong reputation behind them, and will be competing in the Premier Division.

This division should prove an interesting competition this year, now that Grange Albion, the most successful local football team in recent years, have disbanded. Grange are the current holders of the County Intermediate Cup, the William Pease Trophy and the Luton League Championship, a triple which they won two years in succession.

Now it will be up to the other teams in the Premier Division to fight it out for the vacant crown.

FACE LIFT FOR SUNDAY FOOTBALL

For the first time, Sunday football will be established in Luton on a big scale in the coming season, following the formation of a new league, the North Home Counties Sunday League.

This competition, which rivals the local Saturday league in size, with 60 teams competing in five divisions, came about through the amalgamation of clubs who in previous seasons have competed in rival Sunday leagues—the Beds and Herts Sunday League and the Luton and District League Sunday Section, both of which have now been disbanded.

Secretary of the new League is Ian Ross who held a similar position with the Beds and Herts League and, on the executive, there are such experienced names in local football as Fred Moore—one of the leading lights in its formation—and Ron Cox.

A particularly high standard of football is expected in the Premier Division in which the top teams of last season in the Luton League, Bird in Hand and Luton Social, will come up against some great rivalry from the former Beds and Herts giants, Karriers, Luton Saints and Reata.

The North Home Counties League will also be running its own League knock-out com-

HOW THEY FINISHED

FOOTBALL LEAGUE

DIVISION I

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Liverpool	42	26	9	7	79	34	61
Leeds	42	23	9	7	79	34	61
Burnley	42	24	7	11	79	47	55
Manchester United	42	18	15	9	84	59	51
Chelsea	42	22	7	13	65	53	51
West Bromwich	42	19	12	11	91	69	50
Leicester City	42	21	13	14	80	65	49
Tottenham Hotspur	42	16	12	14	75	66	44
Sheffield United	42	16	11	15	58	59	43
Stoke City	42	15	12	15	65	66	42
Everton	42	17	11	16	56	62	41
West Ham United	42	15	9	18	70	83	39
Blackpool	42	14	9	19	55	55	37
Arsenal	42	12	11	17	62	75	37
Newcastle United	42	14	9	19	50	43	37
Aston Villa	42	15	6	21	69	80	36
Sheffield Wednesday	42	14	6	22	55	66	36
Nottingham Forest	42	14	8	12	56	72	36
Sunderland	42	14	8	12	51	72	36
Fulham	42	14	7	15	67	85	35
Northampton	42	10	13	19	55	92	31
Blackburn Rovers	42	8	4	30	57	88	20

DIVISION II

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Manchester City	42	22	15	5	76	44	56
Southampton	42	22	10	10	85	56	54
Coventry	42	20	13	9	73	53	53
Huddersfield	42	19	43	10	62	36	51
Bristol City	42	17	17	8	63	48	51
Wolves	42	20	10	12	87	61	50
Rotherham	42	16	18	12	75	74	46
Derby County	42	16	11	15	72	68	43
Bolton	42	16	9	17	62	59	41
Crystal Palace	42	14	13	15	47	52	41
Birmingham	42	16	9	17	70	75	41
Portsmouth	42	16	8	18	74	78	40
Norwich	42	12	15	15	52	52	39
Carlisle	42	17	5	20	60	123	39
Ipswich	42	15	9	18	58	66	39
Charlton	42	12	14	16	61	70	38
Preston	42	11	15	16	62	70	37
Plymouth	42	12	13	17	54	63	37
Bury	42	14	7	21	62	76	35
Cardiff City	42	12	10	20	71	81	34
Middlesbrough	42	10	13	19	58	86	33
Leyton Orient	42	5	11	24	18	80	33

DIVISION III

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Hull City	46	31	7	8	109	62	69
Millwall	46	27	11	8	76	43	65
Queen's Park Rangers	46	24	9	13	95	65	57
Scunthorpe	46	21	11	14	80	67	53
Workington	46	19	14	13	67	57	52
Gillingham	46	22	8	16	62	74	52
Swindon	46	19	13	14	74	48	51
Reading	46	19	13	14	70	63	51
Walsall	46	20	10	16	77	64	50
Shrewsbury	46	19	11	16	73	64	49
Grimsby	46	17	13	16	68	62	47
Watford	46	21	13	16	55	51	47
Peterborough	46	17	12	17	80	66	46
Oxford	46	19	8	19	70	24	46
Brighton	46	16	11	19	67	65	41
Bristol Rovers	46	14	14	18	64	64	42
Swansea	46	15	11	20	81	96	41
Bournemouth	46	13	12	21	58	56	38
Mansfield	46	15	8	23	59	89	38
Oldham	46	12	13	21	65	81	37
Southend	46	16	4	26	64	83	36
Exeter	46	12	11	23	53	79	35
Brentford	46	10	12	24	48	69	32
York City	46	9	14	51	106	27	

DIVISION IV

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Doncaster	46	24	11	11	85	54	59
Darlington	46	25	9	12	72	53	59
Torquay	46	24	10	12	72	49	58
Colchester	46	21	10	13	70	47	56
Tranmere	46	24	8	14	93	66	56
LUTON TOWN	46	24	8	14	90	70	56
Chester	46	20	12	14	79	70	52
Notts County	46	19	12	15	61	53	50
Newport	46	18	12	16	75	75	48
Southport	46	18	12	16	68	69	48
Bradford	46	21	5	20	102	92	47
Barrow	46	16	15	15	72	76	47
Stockport	46	18	6	22	71	70	42
Crewes	46	16	9	21	61	63	41
Hallifax	46	15	11	20	67	75	41
Barnsley	46	15	10	21	74	78	40
Aldershot	46	15	10	21	75	84	40
Hartlepools	46	16	8	22	61	75	40
Poole Vale	46	15	9	22	48	59	39
Chesterfield	46	13	13	20	62	78	39
Rochdale	46	16	5	25	71	87	37
Lincoln	46	13	11	22	63	82	37
Bradford City	46	12	13	21	63	94	37
Wrexham	46	13	9	24	72	104	35



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BEDFORD BC: M. Parker, 78, Gloucester Road, Bedford, Bedford 67311 (Bus).

CARLTON: E. Allen, 8, North Close, Watford Road, St. Albans.

COOMERS YC: R. Trigg, 10a, Trinity Road, Luton.

DUNSTABLE T: H. Stew, 20, First Avenue, Dunstable, Dunstable 63755.

DUNSTABLE YFC: M. Cook, 248, West Street, Dunstable, Dunstable 63321 (Bus).

HARPENDEN TOWN: L. Wheeler, 32, Barnfield Road, Harpenden, Harpenden 4493.

HIGH TOWN YC: D. Orr, 16, Hollinsme Close, Luton.

HOUGHTON REGIS: D. Dobner, 13, Camp Drive, Houghton Regis.

LEAGRAVE BC: N. Ray, 1, Norton Road, Luton, Luton 51769.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD YC: A. Syrett, 27, Roosevelt Avenue, Leighton Buzzard, Leighton Buzzard 2508 (Bus).

LEMBURY OB: R. Knights, 44, Marsh Road, Luton, Luton 52941.

LUTON BC: D. Anderson, 36, Nevile Road, Luton, Luton 51947.

LUTON COMMUNITY CENTRE: L. Ager, 39, Lyndhurst Road, Luton, Luton 2171 (Bus).

NEWMARKET TOWN: D. Garner, 21, Manderton Road, Newmarket, Newmarket 3762.

PIONEER BC: M. Bryden, 103, Woodfield Green, Dunstable.

ST. ANDREW'S: R. Gadsby, Manea Villas, Montague Road, Cambridge, Cambridge 52028.

STOCKWOOD PARK: D. Abbott, 14, Whitethorn Way, Luton.

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BONNAVILLE

Mrs. A. Westwood, 25 Banks Close, Leighton Buzzard.

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R. Spokes, 45 Linden Road, Dunstable.

DYNAMOS

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DALLOW RANGERS

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EUROPA

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FIVE OAKS

M. Thorn, Caddington Youth Club, Five Oaks, Caddington.

GRAY VALLEY

R. Skeggs, 45 Dordans Road, Luton.

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N. Robinson, 49 Highbush Road, Snaffield, Hitchin.

HARVEST ROVERS

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ICKNIELD YC

P. Bright, 21 Allenby Avenue, Dunstable.

KARRIERS

C. Ellis, 48 Sanctone Avenue, Houghton Regis, Dunstable.

L. SAINTS

P. MacTaggart, 47 Chatworth Road, Luton.

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L. FIRE BRIGADE

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G. Miller, 53 Weston Avenue, Luton.

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R. Clarke, 166 High Town Road, Luton.

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NALGO (LUTON)

P. Derlant, 23 Rotherham Avenue, Luton.

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PARROTT

F. Prece, 15 Castlecroft Road, Luton.

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Rooms, 20 North Drift Way, Luton.

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TITHE FARM—T. Learmouth, 356 Peynes Road, Luton.

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