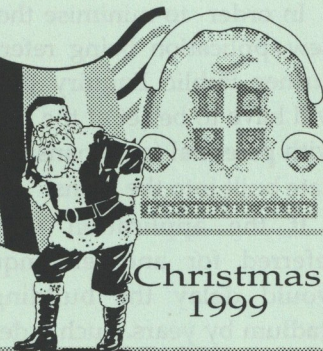


# Come on you **HATTERS**



Issue No.  
43

## LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS CLUB

Christmas  
1999

### MOVING FORWARD

## VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

**W**ith the club now out of receivership, our thoughts can go back to the business of winning Football matches.

The initial results have been mixed; improved home form has coincided with considerably poorer form away from home, and thus the Town are currently unable to rise beyond a mid table position.

However, progress has been made to the third round of the F.A. Cup for the first time

since the 96/97 season and perhaps a good Cup run could provide impetus for the rest of the season and

hopefully lead to a challenge for a play off position.

We have seen a gradual improvement in attendances at Kenilworth Road this season. This has been aided by a number of initiatives from the Club but we should really be aiming for a minimum gate of 6,000 rising to 7,000 when the larger clubs visit. Good home attendances are a must if we are to avoid the situation we have seen in recent years in which players have to be sold in order to meet Club losses. It is essential to keep an established squad of players together for a promotion challenge to be a realistic aim.

May I take the opportunity, through the Newsletter of welcoming rather belatedly Rod Fountain as Director of Business Development at Kenilworth Road. Rod has the unenviable task of improving the business performance of the Club by attracting supporters, Club sponsors and commercial contacts.

It is also good to welcome fans' favourite Tony Thorpe back into the ranks. Tony will hopefully be able to reproduce the goal scoring form shown in his two previous spells with the Club and persuade Lennie Lawrence to make it a permanent move this time.

The asking price (rumoured in the Bristol press to be around £150,000 plus sell on clauses) has already been agreed between the two clubs.

I am delighted to inform you that Cliff Bassett has agreed to participate

in one of our guest speaker evenings in the New Year. We have fixed a provisional date of January 27th - please check in the matchday programmes and local press for further details.

Cliff, as you will be aware, brought the majority shareholding in the club to finally bring us out of receivership. His desire and efforts to safeguard the future of Luton Town were much appreciated by the Supporters' Club. However, Cliff has made it clear that he needs other investors to bring in working capital, both for the benefit of the club and also to reduce his own considerable financial interest. The guest evening will prove an ideal opportunity to ascertain his views on the future of LTFC.

The new stadium application is awaited with anticipation. The proposal will again be for the junction 10 site, although the previous application was unsuccessful, primarily because of the potential traffic impact on the M1 motorway. However, the report did indicate that the existing infrastructure could support an initial capacity of 12,000.



GUEST SPEAKER  
EVENING IN THE  
NEW YEAR!

CLIFF BASSETT  
Chairman of LTFC

*Continues Over...*

### Inside this edition of the LTSC Newsletter...

- **PLAYERS PROFILE - Phil Gray**
- **THIS SEASONS STATISTICS (to date)**
- **HATTERS CLASSICS - "Fireworks" - 1949/50**
- **"Where are they Now"**
- **CHRISTMAS FUN QUIZ**
- **STOP PRESS - Latest News**
- **NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK plus a look at the New Signings**

Plus  
much more..



### Exclusive



## Read our Vice-President BRIAN SWAIN'S Column "TALK OF THE TOWN"





In order to minimise the risk of a new application being referred for a further Public Enquiry the capacity will have to be set at the 12 000 level, with potential for expansion at a later date built into the plans.

If the application were to be referred for another Enquiry this would delay the building of the stadium by years. Such a delay could well put the future of the club in jeopardy, primarily because of the costs involved in these enquires as David Kohler discovered to his detriment, but also because of the continuing difficulties of operating a

business in the existing stadium where facilities fall far short of the standards demanded by the modern game.

It is therefore imperative that a new application clears all the hurdles at the first attempt.

Following on from the changes that have already taken place at the club, and looking ahead to future initiatives, the Supporters Club are looking to recruit additional people to get involved with both committee work and running the Town on Tour travel service. This normally involves

a maximum of two evenings per month during the season. If you would like to find out more either write to me care of the supporters club or call in at the kiosk in Kenilworth Road on matchdays.

*Enjoy the Festive Time  
and the New Millennium  
celebration and hopefully a few  
more league points in the bag  
come the next edition of this  
newsletter.*

*Yours - Mark Chapman - LTSC Chairman*

## "WHERE ARE THEY NOW"

In February this year I wrote an article in the Luton Town Fanzine entitled "Where are they Now". The article proved very popular and several people asked me if I would do another. The information on the whereabouts of former players comes from various sources and should anyone wish to know the source, please drop a line to the Newsletter editor, and I would be happy to pass this information on.

In my previous article I wrote about how many former Youth Players who never made a full first team appearance have found

clubs. Mostly at non-league level, I have included them under non league. The reason I have included them at all is to show how good Luton Town's Youth set-up has been over the years in being able to produce so many players capable of earning all but part of their living out of playing football. Should anyone know the whereabouts of any other players who are not mentioned here, again please get in contact with the editor, as I hope to compile a complete Luton Town "Who's Who" in the future.

*Brian Ellis - LTSC Member.*

### Premiership

Matthew Upson	Arsenal	John Dryer	Bradford C.
Paul Telfer	Coventry City	Mark Pembridge	Everton
Ceri Hughes	Wimbledon	Alec Chamberlain	Watford
Scott Oakes	Sheffield Wed		

### First Division

Steve Claridge	Portsmouth	Kingsley Black	Grimsby T
Tim Breacker	Queens Park Ran	Ian Dowie	Q. Park Ran
Matthew Jackson	Norwich City	Andy Peterson	Portsmouth

### Second Division

Graham Alexander	Preston N.E.	Kurt Nogan	Preston N.E
Steve Davis	Burnley	Mitchell Thomas	Burnley
Sean Evers	Reading	Martin Williams	Reading
Arron Skelton	Colchester	Ben Chenery	Cambridge
John Taylor	Cambridge	David Preece	Cambridge
Mark Stein	Bournemouth	David Oldfield	Stoke City
Tony Thorpe	Bristol City		

### Third Division

Andy Dibble	Hartlepool Utd	Greg Rioch	Macclesfield
Simon Davies	Macclesfield	Nathan Jones	Southend U
Scott Houghton	Southend United	Jason Rees	Exeter City
Kofi Nayhia	Exeter City	Mark Walton	Brighton
Jamie Campbell	Brighton & H.A.	Steve Thompson	Rotherham

### Non-League

Mark Burke, Ian Scott, Russell Lawes, Ken Gillard - Hitchin Town  
Bontcho Guentchev - Hendon Town  
Cliff Akebung - Chesham T.  
Jimmy Cox - Gloucester City

Gary Cranshaw, Gary Issott - Aylesbury United

Tim Allpress - St. Albans City	Nick Webb - Berkhamsted T
Tony Adcock - Keybridge Swifts	Gary Simpson - Leighton T.
Justin Gentle - Billericay Town	Gary Cobb - Old Dunstablians
Terry Sweeney - Oxford City	Mike Newell - Doncaster Rov
Dwight Marshall - Kingstonians	

The two pre-season trailists Ryan Davis joined Worksop Town and David Pearson Northwich Victoria

Danny Power - Baldock Town	John Lewford - Borehamwood
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### Scottish Divisions

Nidar Riseth - Celtic	Ray McKinnon - Livingstone
Paul Holsgrove - Airdrieonians	Darren Patterson - Dundee U
Micky Weir - Queen of the South	

### Europe

Kim Grant - Ghent of Belgium
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### Luton players that are Managers & Coaches

Paul Fitcher Sacked from Southport in November 1999  
Brian Horton - Manager of Port Vale, Danny Wilson - Sheffield Wednesday  
Trevor Peake - Coventry City Reserve Team Manager  
Richard Money - Director of Coventry City's Youth Academy  
Kurt Stephens - Coach in Coventry City's Youth Academy  
David Pleat - Director of Football at Tottenham Hotspur  
Ricky Hill - Under 17's Coach at Tottenham Hotspur  
Lil Fuccillio - Chief Coach at Barnet  
Ian Allinson - Manager of Barton Rovers  
Kerry Dixon - Manager of Letchworth Town



*Compiled by Brian Ellis*



# TALK OF THE TOWN

## The day I conned a top referee

**THERE WAS** a brief item in the sports pages recently about a referee called Dermot Gallagher abandoning a match because the floodlights were not up to standard.

I expect you've heard of Dermot - he has been a FIFA ref for five years, and has already received the top honour available to any man in black in this country, taking charge of the 1996 FA Cup final.

I remember him for other reasons, notably the day I wound him up something rotten, soon after he got onto the Football League list of linesmen, a decade or so ago.

It was a time when new technology was sweeping through newspapers, as computerised printing replaced the old labour-intensive hot metal processes.

Even the dear old Luton News had to be dragged through the change, and when it finally got rid of its old-fashioned machinery to use the new methods, the company had to hire the requisite facilities. Reporters and sports editors tapped away on computer keyboards instead of typewriters, with their efforts then being transferred to disks which were transported to Bicester. There a more advanced printing company had the then very latest gear. Their operators took our disks, turned their contents into type on glossy paper, and those galleys of type were cut up with scalpels and pasted onto boards to become newspaper pages.

Young Dermot Gallagher was one of those keyboard operators, and he and I soon became firm friends through a shared passion for football. I had to go to Bicester two or three days a week, to oversee the production of the LN sports pages.

Dermot, being sport mad, made a point of grabbing my output, particularly the double-page spread of words and pictures on Luton Town matches.

We shared his joy when he graduated from the Southern League to become a linesman on the Football League, and the delight was all the greater the day Dermot received a list of appointments and discovered he was running the line at St. Andrew's - Birmingham City v Luton Town. It was in the old First Division, now the Premiership, in April 1986.

We won 2-0, with Mick Harford getting both our goals, against one of his former clubs.

In the previous week I had been warning Dermot at every opportunity that David Pleat was a real Tartar dealing with referees, and as for young linesmen, he had them two at a time for breakfast.

"Don't fancy your job, mate," was the line I drilled into him time and time again. "One little mistake, and he will tear you to pieces in his press conference. You'll probably be struck off the list."

Quite untrue, of course, but Dermot was not to know that. Nor did he know about a spot of collusion between me, the LN photographer Mark Richards, and Dermot's mates in the print shop.

For the record, Dermot did his job expertly. But, when he reported for work he was a little disgruntled to discover that the match report spread had already been allocated to another operator. He fumed quietly, but got on with his job. He pretended it was of no interest to him, but of course we knew differently.

Sure enough, some hours later, Dermot couldn't resist taking a stroll around the rows of pages just in case he happened to spot what had been written about the Birmingham v Luton match. There was the spread, in all its glory, in its appointed place. But

Dermot nearly collapsed when he saw it. Dominating the centre of the two pages was a huge picture of D. Gallagher, standing with flag raised to signal offside.

Beneath that was the report and the heading, in huge type, screamed something like: "Pleat rages at rookie linesman."

Dermot shook visibly, trembled briefly, and then saw the caption to the photograph. It recorded: "Linesman Gallagher - not even good enough to wave away the trains at New Street Station, says Pleat."

Dermot had by now turned pale, and almost fainted when he read the story. There was hardly a word about the match, but several hundred describing how furious David Pleat ripped into the awful linesman who had spoiled what might have been a good game.

It was a real diatribe - I had enjoyed myself immensely larding it on, fabricating quotes and hinting that there might be a Football League enquiry.

Poor old Dermot walked around in shock for several days. "I can't believe any manager could say things like that," he said. "It's not true. I had a good game. Why is he picking on me?"

You have probably guessed the rest: the genuine report, with not a mention of Dermot, had been put together in a quiet corner, well out of Dermot's way, carefully hidden from the man who was dreading the publication of that week's Luton News. We kept an eye on him in case he became suicidal, until the tension could be sustained no longer, and we let him into the secret.

If he had taken his linesman's flags to work, I have no doubt where he would have shoved them, not necessarily pointed ends first. But after brief anger came blessed relief that it was all a big con.

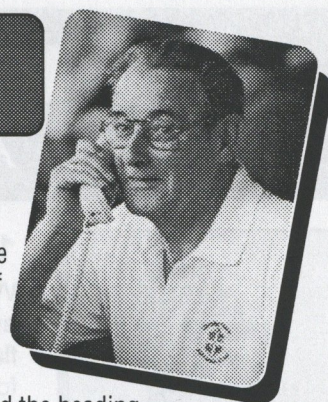
Dermot and I are still good friends, although we don't meet too often, and I had almost forgotten that wonderful week when I had a linesman on the run and almost ready to do violence to David Pleat.

Except that we went to Northampton in August for a pre-season game, and the man in charge was my old mate Dermot.

I went to the officials' dressing room after the game, and was well pleased when he opened the door and beamed with pleasure at seeing me again. He introduced me to his young linesmen, told them what an ace old boy I was, and then warned them - watch out if he's around when you're running the line at a Luton match!

And that fake page that caused Dermot so much heart-ache is now, he told me, a treasured part of his football scrapbook - the newspaper report that never was gives him a chuckle every time he reads it. Like most referees, he really is a good old boy.

Mind you, there was one ref who nearly put me in prison many years ago. That wasn't funny at the time either, but I can laugh about it now. Watch this space for future revelations of how a young football-mad journalist got the only red card - and a cruel punishment - to end his not very illustrious playing career.



## Brian Swain

**DID YOU KNOW???** ■ From the players that were in the '88 Littlewoods Cup final squad v Arsenal only five are still playing at top level - A. Dibble (Hartlepool), T. Breacker (QPR), David Preece (Cambridge Utd), Kingley Black (Grimsby Town) and Mark Stein (AFC Bournemouth). Other are either Managers or coaching in some capacity.



# NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

## Part One - A Look at Luton's New Signings



### 1. Efetobore Sodje

With no money available for transfers in the summer, Lennie was restricted to free transfers and 'Bosman' signings, and the first of those brought in was Efetobore Sodje. Sodje, 27, is a flamboyant and stylish central defender and is one of the great personalities around in football at the moment. Born in Greenwich, but of Nigerian parentage, he is best known in the game for the bandanna which he wears for every match. Having had a trial with Luton under David Pleat in 1994, 'Efe' spent a productive three seasons with Stevenage Borough before joining Macclesfield Town for £30,000 and helping them to gain successive promotions in their rise from the Conference to the Second division. However, following Macclesfield's relegation last season, he refused terms with the Silkmen, and joined Luton on a one-year contract in the summer having played three trial games with the club in pre-season. So far, he is finding it difficult to establish a regular place in the side which has led to speculation about his future, but with Cambridge, Rushden & Diamonds and Stevenage all interested, he recently pledged his future to the Hatters, saying he is willing to stay and fight for a first team place.



### 2. Julian Watts

The second deal done in the summer was the signing of Julian Watts from Bristol City, initially on loan, but eventually on a one-year contract until the end of the season. Watts, also a centre half was given a trial game in the final first team friendly of the pre-season program, and he impressed, helping the Hatters to a 3-1 victory over first division QPR. At the time, with the Receivers still in place, Lennie was looking over several trialists, but, on the eve of the new season, was only given permission to bring in one new player. Eventually, with Sodje and Gary Doherty unavailable for the first game, he plumped for Watts as opposed to other hopefuls including Guy Ipoua and Ray McKinnon, and since then he has been ever-present, looking like an inspired signing. The 28 year old, six foot three defender has had league experience with Rotherham United, Sheffield Wednesday and Leicester City before moving to Bristol City, but only started a handful of games at Ashton Gate, finding himself out of favour with Scandinavian boss Benny Lennartsson. His experience at the back will be extremely valuable in our young side this season, and Julian could prove to be one of Lennie Lawrence's best signings.



### 3. Adam Locke

Two weeks into the new season, the signing of Adam Locke, again from Bristol City was also completed. Another player suffering as a result of the large first team squad at Ashton Gate, Locke came to Luton for a trial in pre-season, and despite suffering a neck injury, did enough to prompt Lennie Lawrence to give him a contract. Locke, a 29 year old, has had experience at Crystal Palace, Southend United and Colchester United, and he can operate in the centre of midfield or at right wing back. He has been used in both positions so far this season, but has looked most at home in midfield, where his incisive passing skills have complimented Matthew Spring's attacking game. He has been on a succession of short term contracts at Kenilworth Road so far, and his current deal expires in December, although it is hoped that he will extend this until the end of the season.



### 4. Tony Thorpe

Tony Thorpe, a player who needs no introduction to Luton supporters, has recently been re-signed on a three month loan with view to a permanent deal. The 25 year old, who scored 60 goals in his first spell with the club, and another 4 when returning on loan at the end of last season, is another who has been frozen out at Bristol City in the new regime under Tony Pulis. As one of the most popular players in the club's recent history, his signing has been a huge boost, and his partnership with Liam George should be one of the most formidable in the second division.

As we go to print the club have just taken on Paul Read (Forward) on a non-contractual basis from Wycombe Wanderers. He was formerly with Arsenal and had spent a short time in Swedish football to try a rekindle his thirst for the professional game before joining Wycombe.





A Regular Feature on great Matches & Players from the past ...

# Hatters Classics

Part Five - "FIREWORKS" - Season 49/50



Dally Duncan was an astute man and a good manager who enjoyed many successful seasons at Luton; unfortunately the 1949/50 season was not one of them. It opened with one win in nine games and ended with a desperate struggle for survival. It was so bad during the first two months, that when Waters, the Preston North End defender generously tucked the ball into his own net on the 17th September, it turned out to be the only goal Luton "Scored" in run of six matches.



Centre-Forward  
**GEORGE STOBART**  
Inside-Forward  
The Record signing from Newcastle United in 49/50 season.

The unfortunate injuries to Billy Arnison, the South African centre-forward and the sale of Bobby Brennan, the star of the previous year followed by the board into action and they duly laid out a record £12,000 fee for George Stobbart from Newcastle United. He was immediately, and rather unfairly, cast in the role of saviour, and for a while, he appeared to be exactly that. In front of a record Luton crowd of 27,319 Stobbart scored in a 1-1 draw with Spurs, the eventually champions, and he nearly brought the house down. Fans were hanging onto every vantage point available, however precarious and they danced and danced like monkeys up a tree when Stobbart scored. It wasn't a scintillating game, but it was great

stuff and it certainly silenced the cocky Londoners with their neat push-and-run style.

In the next home fixture, against Blackburn on "November the 5th", the Town, in keeping with bonfire night tradition, fizzed and sparkled to their best performance of the season. Accustomed to a near famine as far as goals were concerned, the Kenilworth Road faithful, down by nearly 50 per cent because of the torrential rain, were both shaken and delighted by a sudden goal rush in the closing minutes of the first half. Stobbart, playing at inside forward, thrilled one of the lowest crowds since the war, with a quite breathtaking virtuoso performance that he would never again be able to repeat. After 34 minutes with neither side discernably superior, Stobbart suddenly struck with a decisively taken goal. Two minutes later he scored again, and within the space of six minutes he had a brilliant hat-trick to his name. Two minutes before half-time the jumping-jack went off again and George Stobbart had written his name into the history books with four goals in nine minutes. No more dramatic triumph had been



Action photograph from the Luton match at Kenilworth Road v Blackburn Rovers (Great Days).

The Programme from the Kenilworth Road Home match versus Blackburn Rovers "Guy Fawkes Day"

achieved by an individual Luton player since the days of Joe Payne. Even Billington had never scored goals with such rapidity.

The Hatters Manager  
**DALLY DUNCAN**  
Had played for the Hatters in earlier seasons



When the half-time whistle went for the interval, the crowd simply rose and cheered the muddy figure of Stobbart all the way to the dressing room. There had, admittedly, been fine displays on both wings, particularly Glover, who was facing the future England International, Eckersley, but nevertheless, it was Stobbart who had fired the rockets and who had so lit up the damp crowd, and he fully deserved his ovation. The only problem was, that after a performance like that he was in danger of becoming a legend in his own half-time.

The game finished 5-2 with Blackburn Rovers scoring all three second half goals - two for them, and one for us. But whatever happened no one could deny Stobbart his greatest moment of glory.

Yours - Frank Batt - LTSC Member.

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS**  
and all the best for the  
**NEW MILLENNIUM !**



# NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

## Part Two - A Look at Luton's Youth Team



Over the last few years, we have experienced the highs and lows of supporting Luton Town, from the Littlewoods Cup win in 1988, to relegations in 1992 and 1996. Players and managers have come and gone, but one thing which has remained constant and has been, for me, a major highlight of supporting The Hatters, is the success of the Town's youth system. In today's world of football, teams can be made up entirely of foreigners, and you are lucky to witness one home grown player in a match between two Premiership sides. There is, therefore, a certain amount of pleasure to be derived from watching young players progress through the ranks into the first team, and this is one of the benefits of supporting a small club such as our own Luton Town.

In recent years, the success of the Luton youth policy can be rivalled by none, with the Kenilworth Road conveyor-belt having produced players such as John Hartson, Matthew Upson, Paul Telfer, Mark Pembroke, Kingsley Black, Kelvin Davis, Chris Willmott and Ceri Hughes, all of whom have gone on to bigger things. As a testimony to this success, the Town's youngsters have won the South East Counties League for the last three seasons and also reached the semi-final of the FA Youth Cup in 1996/97. Of the current first team squad, 19 of our 26 professionals have come through the youth team, and in many cases this season, the average age of our starting eleven has been less than 21, sometimes without one bought player in the line-up. Matthew Spring, Matthew Taylor, Liam George and Gary Doherty, all of whom have only recently graduated from the youth team, have starred in the Hatters' impressive start to the season and will surely be playing in a higher division (hopefully with us) as soon as they become the 'finished product'.

So, what of the current youth team? Well, it would be fair to say that results have not gone as well as in previous years, with the lads currently occupying fifth position of nine in the newly formed Football League Youth Alliance South Central Conference, but it is clear that Town's side is brimming with new talent, which I am sure will be turning out for the first team within a couple of years. The restructuring of youth football as a result of the introduction of the FA Premier Academy system has seen Luton pitted against teams such as Wolves, West Brom and Walsall in a league considered far tougher than that we have competed in for the previous decade.

The whole structure of the youth game has been revamped, with the competition now allowing players up to 19 years of age, as opposed to the previous 18, and the former two year YTS contracts being replaced with three year scholarships. This has meant four first-year professionals – goalkeeper Daniel Tate, defender James Ayres, midfielder Moses Jerry and striker Tresor Kandol – are still eligible to take part, whereas in previous years they would have been too old. However, the Luton ethos of giving young players a chance at an early age has seen Tate and Kandol, as well as second year trainees Matthew Taylor and Scott Ward regularly make the first team squad, which has left the youth team frequented by first year scholars and schoolboys.

In the Summer, we took on eight new youngsters on scholarship forms – Graham Wraight, Dean Mortara, John Carroll, Ezra Mentore, Lee Mansell, Steven Dogbe, Rene James-Barriteau and Duane Clarke – all of whom have shown promise in their first season and look set to have a good future in the game. The team is built on a solid defence with the idea of playing football from the back, and every player is taught to play the game the way it should be played – quick, sharp passing and movement. However, the main problem for most of the year has been scoring goals, as the team has played with only one recognised striker for most of the season. The full current youth team squad is as follows:

PLAYER	POSITION	D.O.B	PLAYER	POSITION	D.O.B
Daniel Tate	Goalkeeper	12.11.80	Rene Barriteau	Midfielder	11.09.82
Scott Ward	Goalkeeper	05.10.81	Steven Dogbe	Midfielder	14.10.82
Graham Wraight	Goalkeeper	28.03.83	Moses Jerry	Midfielder	22.02.81
James Ayres	Defender	18.09.80	Lee Mansell	Midfielder	23.09.82
John Carroll	Defender	03.09.82	Ezra Mentore	Midfielder	03.02.83
Ryan Moran	Defender	31.03.82	Alex Minton	Midfielder	05.12.81
Dean Mortara	Defender	01.10.82	Duane Clarke	Striker	03.11.82
Jude Stirling	Defender	29.06.82	Tresor Kandol	Striker	30.08.81
Matthew Taylor	Defender	27.11.81			

Of these players, most Luton supporters will be aware of Taylor, who has been a revelation in the left wing back position this season, and also of the goalscoring exploits of Kandol, whose prolific form at reserve and youth team levels over the last two seasons has earned him regular appearances on the substitutes bench this season. Tate and Ward have also appeared as substitute goalkeeper on several occasions this season, although they have never started a first team match.

Of the others, Ayres, Jerry and Stirling have already received professional contracts and are now regulars for the Town's second string. Stirling in particular has caught the eye this season, and might not be too far away from a first team call-up; he is a fine all round athlete at six foot three and with tremendous pace, and he possesses an excellent long throw which has been used to good effect all season. Ryan Moran and Alex Minton may be the next recipients of professional terms, as their current YTS deals run out this Summer. Moran, a versatile player who can operate anywhere along the back four, or in midfield, has stood out this season in his preferred centre back position, while Minton, a clever midfield playmaker has suffered with injury for most of this campaign.

One factor about following the youth team which continues to disappoint me is the crowd, usually numbering only about 20 genuine spectators. So if the Town are away or you're at a loose end on a Saturday morning, why not take a trip to Luton Rugby Club and watch the boys in action? You are guaranteed a good game of football, and who knows, you might just be watching a future England international. One thing is for sure: Luton will continue to produce large quantities of high quality youngsters, and, as they follow in the footsteps of the likes of Spring, George and Doherty, the exciting, attacking football we are witnessing at Kenilworth Road today will continue long into the new Millennium.

**"The future is bright. The future is ORANGE!"**



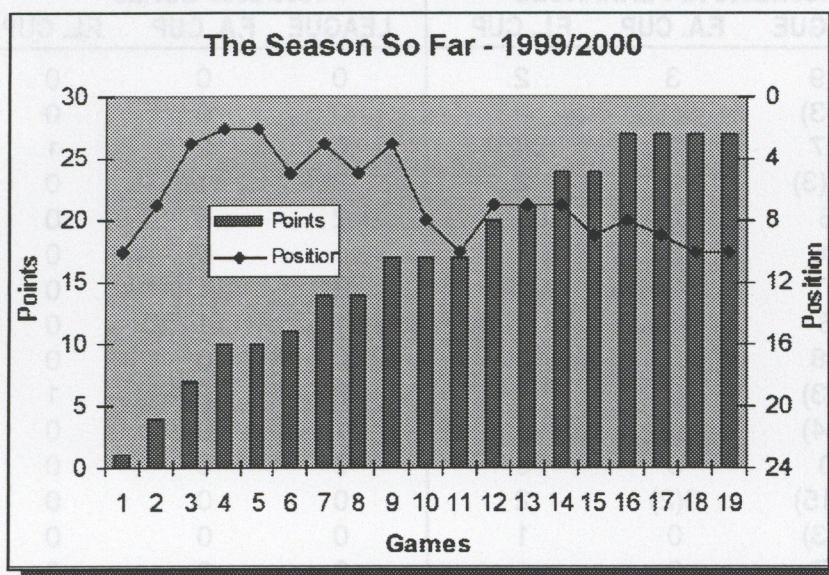


# Luton Town F.C. Statistics - 1999/2000

(as of 27th NOVEMBER 1999)



## LUTON TOWN F.C. NATIONWIDE LEAGUE STATS 1999/2000



### FACTS AND FIGURES OF THE 1999/2000 NATIONWIDE LEAGUE SEASON TO DATE

Biggest home win	4-2 v Oxford (25 Sep)
Biggest home defeat	0-2 v Preston (23 Nov)
Biggest away win	2-1 v Reading (21 Aug)
Biggest away defeat	0-3 v Bristol Rov (27 Nov)

Highest home attendance	7,205 v Burnley (6 Nov)
Lowest home attendance	4,633 v Bury (4 Sep)
Average home attendance	5,661

Highest Luton away following	2,152 to Cambridge (12 Nov)
Lowest Luton away following	417 to Bristol Rov (27 Nov)
Average Luton away following	1,165



Ahead at half time and lost	0
Level at half time and lost	5
Behind at half time and full time	3
Ahead at half time and full time	4
Level at half time and won	3
Behind at half time and won	1
Level at half time and full time	2
Behind at half time and drew	1
Ahead at half time and drew	0

Average points per home game	2.22
Average points per away game	0.70
Average points per game	1.42

Average goals FOR (home)	2.00
Average goals FOR (away)	0.50
Average goals FOR (total)	1.21
Average goals AGAINST (home)	1.22
Average goals AGAINST (away)	1.40
Average goals AGAINST (total)	1.32

Average bookings per game	1.11
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Highest league position	2nd
Lowest league position	10th

Clean sheets	3
Failed to score	7

Games when no subs made	0
Games when one sub made	6
Games when two subs made	6
Games when three subs made	7
Total substitutions made	39
Average substitutions made	2.05

Scored at Kenilworth Enfd	12
Conceded at Kenilworth End	4
Scored at Oak Road End	6
Conceded at Oak Road End	7

Earliest goal scored	3 mins
Earliest goal conceded	12 mins
Latest goal scored	90 mins
Latest goal conceded	90 mins





# Luton Town F.C. Statistics - 1999/2000

(as of 27th NOVEMBER 1999)

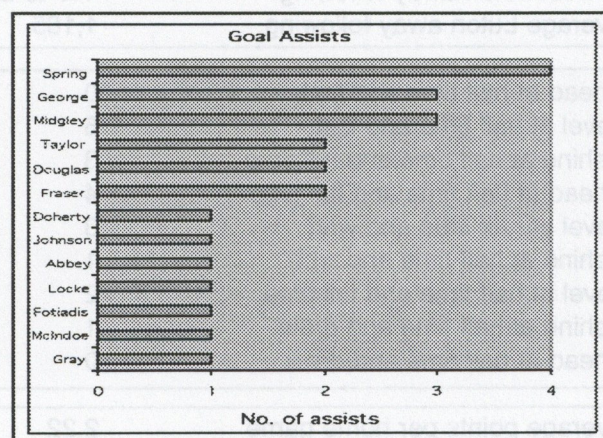
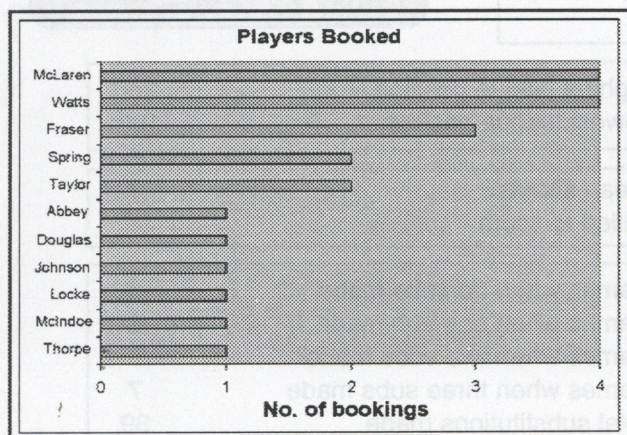


PLAYER	1999/2000 APPEARANCES			1999/2000 GOALS			LTFC CAREER	
	LEAGUE	F.A. CUP	F.L. CUP	LEAGUE	F.A. CUP	F.L. CUP	APPS	GOALS
N.Abbey	19	3	2	0	0	0	28	0
E.Boyce	3(3)	0(1)	2	0	0	0	7 (4)	0
G.Doherty	17	3	0(2)	0	2	1	27 (30)	9
S.Douglas	14(3)	3	2	2	1	0	82 (31)	17
A.Fotiadis	6	0	0(2)	2	0	0	32 (40)	9
S.Fraser	16	3	1	1	0	0	27 (3)	1
L.George	17	3	0(1)	10	1	0	27 (12)	11
P.Gray	6	1	2	1	1	0	126 (12)	43
M.Johnson	18	3	0	0	0	0	360 (17)	9
T.Kandol	1(3)	0	1	0	0	1	4 (6)	1
A.Locke	5(4)	1(1)	1	1	0	0	7 (5)	1
G.McGowan	0	0	0	0	0	0	44 (6)	0
M.McIndoe	2(15)	0(2)	2	0	0	0	24 (25)	0
R.McKinnon	0(3)	0	1	0	0	0	36 (5)	2
P.McLaren	17	3	1	0	0	0	115 (30)	2
N.Midgley	8(2)	0	0	3	0	0	8 (2)	3
A.Scarlett	0	0	0	0	0	0	2 (6)	1
E.Sodje	3(3)	1(1)	1	0	0	0	5 (4)	0
M.Spring	19	3	1	2	1	0	83 (7)	6
M.Taylor	18	3	1	1	1	0	22	2
T.Thorpe	0(1)	0	0	0	0	0	114 (39)	64
J.Watts	19	3	2	0	0	0	24	0
A.White	1(1)	0	2	0	0	0	54 (21)	2
L.Zahana-Oni	0(1)	0	0	0	0	0	4 (5)	0

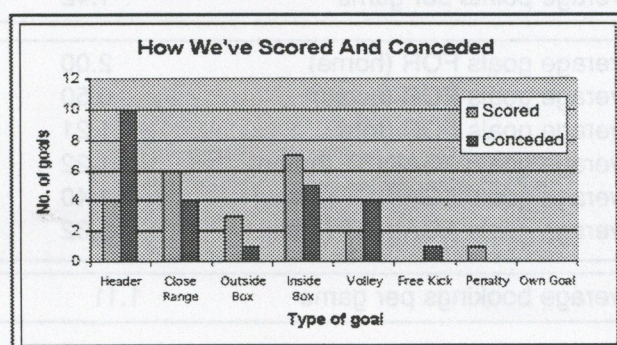
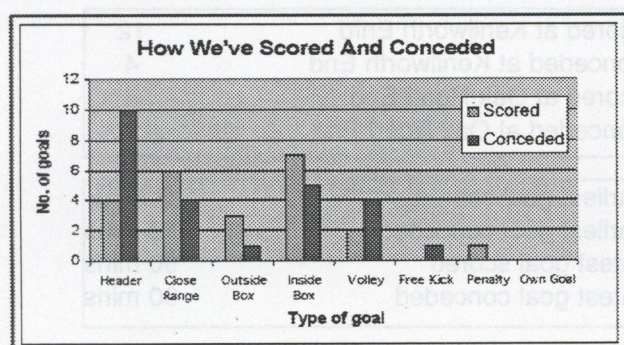
Figures in brackets denote substitute appearances

Career appearances/goals include all competitions

## PLAYER STATS (NATIONWIDE LEAGUE)



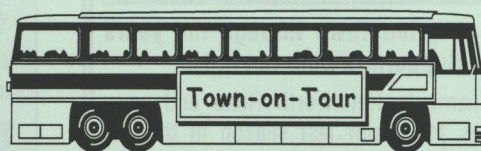
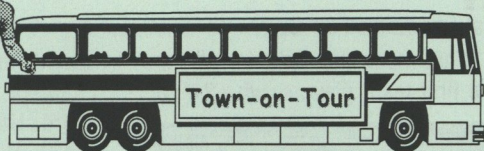
## NATIONWIDE LEAGUE STATISTICS EXTRA – HOW AND WHEN THE GOALS HAVE GONE IN







# Town-on-Tour



Following the Hatters away, throughout the U.K.

This season we have seen a tremendous increase in supporting the Hatters away.

We can boast having on average one of the largest following at away grounds in the second division based on the percentage of home attendance at Kenilworth Road.

Our largest following to date was at Cambridge Utd's Abbey Stadium, where there were many Luton fans locked out due to the large contingent totalling 2,152 in a game which should have been all-ticket, but those concerned felt this would not be needed.

The Football Club with the assistance of the Supporters Club & T.O.T. committee will be surveying supporters to ask why they follow the Hatters away in great numbers, and why this doesn't reflect in our home attendances this season.

Listed below are the next set of games, prices and departure times.

The TOT committee would like to wish all its members/travellers a Merry Christmas and a great New Millennium - Happy Travelling!

## League Games Prices & departure Times till the end of March 2000.

Date:	Destination:	Departure Time	Adult Member	Cons Member	Non Member
* <u>Note</u> New date & early KO for Cardiff					
Fri 17.12.99	Colchester Utd	16.30	£8.00	£7.00	£9.00
Sat 28.12.99	Bristol City (3.00 K.O)	11.00	£11.50	£9.50	£13.00
Sat 8.1.2000	Stoke City	11.30#	£11.50	£9.50	£13.00
Sat 15.1.2000	Blackpool	09.30#	£16.50	£14.00	£18.00
Sun 30.1.2000	*Cardiff City (12.15KO)	TBC	£14.00	£11.00	£15.50
Sat 12.2.2000	Bury	10.00#	£14.00	£11.00	£15.50
Sat 4.3.2000	Wrexham	10.30#	£13.50	£11.00	£15.50
Tue 7.3.2000	Burnley	14.30#	£16.00	£14.00	£17.50
Sat 18.3.2000	Preston N.E.	09.30#	£15.50	£13.50	£17.00
Sat 25.3.2000	Chesterfield	11.30#	£11.00	£9.00	£12.50

Coaches depart from Maple Road Car Park

(secure parking in Maple Road Car Park - Book your space through LTFC Ticket Office at £3.00 per car OR now on the day from the car park attendant.

# Denotes a Milton Keynes Coachway pick up approximately 20 minutes later

Boarding commences 15 minutes before departure

Service Station stops will be included on longer journeys

- To qualify for membership reduction a valid Luton Town Supporters Club membership card must be shown at time of booking
- To ensure a specific seat upon a coach payment **MUST** be made at the time of booking. A ticket will be issued to confirm your booking.
- Pay on the day clients cannot reserve specific seats and will not be issued with a ticket.

Book seats in the following ways:

- (1) Through the Club Shop at LTFC during the week and Saturday mornings.  
(In person or over the phone 01582 411622)
- (2) At the Supporters Club Kiosk at the Kenilworth Road end of the ground before and after home games.
- (3) On board Town-On-Tour coaches.



Answers to the Christmas and Millennium Quiz are as follows:  
1. Coventry, Arsenal and Chelsea 2. Tony Thorpe 3. Chris Kamara 4. Sheffield United (1-0 in 1990)  
5. 4-0 and 6-3 to Luton respectively 6. Ron Futchner 7. Kirk Stephens 8. Chelsea 9. Mark Pembridge  
10. David Preece (v West Brom 1994) 11. Mick Harford

*Hope you got them all correct !!*



## CHRISTMAS & MILLENNIUM FUN QUIZ

Test your knowledge of Luton Town through the years with our Luton Town Supporters Club fun quiz:

1. Which three teams came to Kenilworth Road and were beaten over Christmas 1991, our last season in the top Division?
2. Which striker has scored three of Luton's last four goals on Boxing Day?
3. Which former Hatters midfielder was born on Christmas Day 1957?
4. Who were the last team to beat Luton on Boxing Day?
5. Arsenal were the visitors to Kenilworth Road over Christmas in 1957/58 and 1958/59. What were the scorelines from these two games?
6. Who's last minute goal on his full league debut helped bottom-placed Luton to a famous win over third-placed Ipswich Town in the 'old' first division, on Boxing Day 1974?
7. Which Luton full-back scored the late winner in the 1-0 Boxing Day win at Watford in 1979?
8. Who were the visitors to Kenilworth Road for the epic 3-3 draw on New Year's Day 1980?
9. Which current Premiership midfielder made his Luton Town league debut on New Year's Day 1991?
10. Who was the last player to score for Luton on New Year's Day?
11. Which striker scored a hat-trick in our 3-1 win over Leicester on New Year's Day 1986?

**THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS ARE AT THE BASE OF THE TOWN-ON-TOUR PAGE.**

## Report our latest Social Event Christmas FUN Quiz

Our Annual Christmas Fun Quiz, was again, as in previous years a full house. What made the night for all those in attendance, was to see all of the first team players, who 24 hours later, were to play at



The Winning Team "WHITES WONDERS" with Alan White and their trophies.

Oxford Utd in the Auto Windscreen Shield and lose 2-0. I think the night was too taxing for some of them?? Each of the 12 players were drawn out of the hat to captain each team of 5-6 players.

The questions at first were very mixed but as the night wore on, they got better to the delight of the football players. With five rounds of questions from our quiz master and assistant Eddie and Evelyn Barber respectively including guess the players pic from the last 100 years and guess the Football club crests. The final placings had three teams separated by a point each and were as follows:

**1st - Whites Wonders 120 points**

*Captained by Alan White (borrowed from Colchester Utd for the night)*

**2nd - Spring Six 119 points**

*Captained by Matthew Spring*

**3rd - Blockheads 118 points**

*Captained by Stuart Douglas*

There was also a special award for the Best Player of the Night and that was to Julian Watts No.40 "Light Bulb"

**Thanks once again for making it a great night and to the players and LTSC members who came along - More to follow in the future!**



## The Player Profile

*This is the start of a new series of interviews we have with the players, and to start things off we have interviewed one of the most senior players in the squad -*

## Phil Gray

**The Early Years** Phil's always played football, both for his school and for the Boys Brigade in Belfast, his home town.

**Northern Ireland:** Played in the U15 Team for his country.

**Coming to England:** Had trials at Glasgow Rangers and Arsenal before going to Tottenham, where he served his apprenticeship and played for six years.

**Luton Town:** Phil joined Luton Town F.C. in the 1991/92 season when Luton were in the old First Division. He enjoyed his time at Luton and scored numerous goals, before being sold to...

**Sunderland:**

Who were also in the First Division, in the 1994/95 season. He loved playing for Sunderland whom he recalls had "Brilliant Supporters".

**Abroad:**

Phil went on a "free" to Nancy in North Eastern France for seven months, which he enjoyed, and where he learned a little of the language, then moved on to Holland, where he spent an unhappy nine months, before ...

**Returning to Luton:** in September 1997. He says, "It's good to have a young and enthusiastic team, but some SENIOR players are still needed."

**Most**

**Memorable game:** Phil has been capped for Northern Ireland around thirty times, and says the best game was away to Austria, where he scored the winning goal in a 2-1 thriller.

**At Home:**

Phil lives in Luton, has a son of seven, and enjoys playing golf.

**The Future:**

He says, "One can't look into the future," and he will take it as it comes.

**Thank you Phil for taking the time to be interviewed  
Maureen Ingram - LTSC Committee Member**