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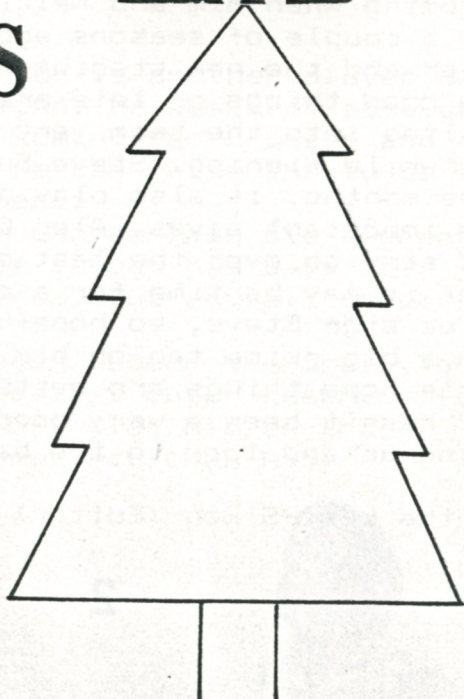
THE

issue 2

HATTER

A Luton Town Fanzine

**KOHLER
IS THE
CHRISTMAS
FAIRY!**



EDITORIAL

The Editorial in our last issue criticised poor results, although we expected our form to improve. This certainly has not been the case, and at the time this was written, we have still only seen two victories all season. Even worse is that we haven't won away since the Villa game in March! We have a very annoying tendency to throw games away that we deserve to win. We don't know at the time of writing, but have no doubt had a sh***y Christmas as far as results go! With our current form, there certainly will not be a dramatic escape on the last day of the season, and we may even be relegated soon into the New Year.

We hoped that Kohler would have resigned by the time this issue came out, but the stubborn git will not leave even though the entire Luton supporters want him out. The so-called "Property Developer" has still not sorted any firm plans about the new stadium out, despite saying that they were not long in coming when him and Nelkin took charge of the club a couple of seasons ago. There is more about Kohler and the new stadium later in the issue.

The good things of late are that Chris Kamara is settling into the team very nicely and is proving a worthwhile signing. Steve Sutton who we have for three months, is also playing very well and has made some important saves. Alec Chamberlain has given us good service over the last couple of years but I think it may be time for a change. I would love to see us sign Steve, so hopefully Cloughie won't put such a big price tag on him.

Let's hope things are better for us in 1992 as this year hasn't been a very good year. We must put 1991 behind us and look to the battle ahead.

All the best-Simon (Editor)

In Short



CHRIS KAMARA....

Our new midfield maestro Chris Kamara has settled down in our side like a duck to water. Since we signed him from Leeds United, he has added a much needed bite to our team, and his experience has been vital.

In a top of the table Leeds side, he had little chance of working his way into a midfield consisting of Batty, McAllister and Strachan. So when his chance came to join the Town, he was only too glad to accept the challenge. He has shown a real determination to pull things round for us, and if that can generate throughout the team, we will be in a much healthier position to overcome the battle ahead. Keep it up Chris!

SUPER STEVE....

On-loan keeper Steve Sutton is another player who is looking good for the Town. He has made some good saves, looks pretty good coming for crosses and has a mighty kick. Lets hope we can raise the funds to make the move permanent.

Although the out of form Chamberlain did a great job for Luton, it looks as though his days at Kenilworth Road are numbered. But anyway, cheers Alec for a good job.

Our American goalie Juergen Sommer ironically broke his collar bone playing against Luton reserves for Brighton. Lets hope we don't flog him on the cheap-He looks a better prospect than Andy Petterson.



In Short continued

GOOD RELATIONSHIP.....

It has been pleasing to see the good partnership developing between old and new skippers Trevor Peake and "Tumble" Dreyer. After a shaky start, Peake has put in some solid performances at the back, and Dreyer looks much more competent than he did at the start of the season. Let's hope that they can go from strength to strength and keep the goals out.



SKIPPER AT HIS BEST - PEAKE

Moving On ? THE CRISIS CONTINUES

David Kohler said recently in the local press that announcement would soon be made on our new stadium. It will be, a 20,000 all-seater job in a new location in the Luton area. This he said, would bring in the crowds and produce decent revenue for the club to be a visible proposition.

The new stadium would no doubt be a smart one, with good facilities and a good view for all. But speaking for many, I would rather stay at Kenilworth Road. O.K it may not be on a par with many grounds in the First Division, but it has been the Hatter's home for many years and I enjoy being in the place. I certainly wouldn't want to sit in a DIY stadium, no doubt with leisure facilities nearby. A football ground is for football and a place where only football supporters go. Kenilworth Road is our home and should stay our home for as long as the club is in business.

I'm sure part of the character of the club will be lost by moving to a purpose-built stadium. Surely we can stay at Kenilworth Road and expand it in places to raise the capacity considerably, which could be done at a fraction of the cost of building a brand new stadium.

Perhaps the Kenilworth Road end could be expanded backwards, a lower tier added to the New Stand and the Boxes could be demolished, to make way for a new Bobbers Stand which could be built over Beech Hill Path and made so you can still walk underneath.

But then again it's not really up to us is it, as it rarely is, and no doubt Kohler will do whatever is "In the best interests of the club." But I feel that the fans should have a bigger say, and are involved all the way. It is OUR club.

Jan Molby, Tony Adams, The F.A., Terry Fenwick - our national sport is becoming more and more caught up in the legal system every season. We sent "The Hatter's" legal correspondent to report.....

Footballers v. The Law

As the Alan Judge said to the Gordon Durie "It's a funny old game, this Denis Law and order"

First up was the Phil Driver accused of doing excessive Gary Speed in his Ian Morris through the Chris Woods coming Sean Close to some Des Walkers out for a Chris Waddle. It appears that Driver didn't even sound his Barry Horne as he drove up the Ricky Hill. Pedestrians didn't know whether to Nicky Cross or Paul McStay, the Franz Carr was so David Speedie.

Then we had the Jimmy Case of the Ian Crook who was Seamus Dunne for robbing Gordon Banks of a considerable amount of Tommy Coyne of the realm. When P.C.Kerry Dixon of Rodney Green gave evidence of just Don Howe Andy Mutch Richard Money was Syd Owen, there were cries of "Bring back the Paul Birch" from the gallery.

Anyway, after he was found to be a Micky Hazard to the public at Eddie Large, he went David Batty. The Colin Clarke of the David Court told him he was quite used to dealing with Garth Crooks like him, to stop his Raddy Antics and start to Robby Mustoe the line in future.

Sentence - 28 Mervyn Days without the option.

Next issue, Pop Robson - a case of robbery in the family

Lutonian

Ryan Better Off?

Our former manager Jim Ryan must be laughing his head off at our present plight to the bottom of Division One. After we unfairly sacked him (or rather Nelkin did), he soon got himself a decent job at Manchester United. It was a tribute to Jim's beliefs that Alex Ferguson wanted him to try and improve the quality of United's football. So now, instead of having the pressures of running a small football club with "pain in the arse" directors, very average players and extremely limited resources, he has a much "easier" job of looking after the quality of a championship potential team.

All the pressures of our club matters now fall on David Pleat, and he seems to have a totally different style of management to Jim Ryan. Although Pleat has the style, image and personality of a "big time" manager, who could complain at Jim's quiet, unassuming style. He did us a very good job indeed, and he will always be a remembered name at the club. David Pleat had the "Jimmy Ryan style" about him in his first reign as boss; a new man on the scene in his first manager's job, feeling his way through week to week, making mistakes along the way, yet still playing football of flair and positive passing play.

You feel David is a man who has been in the business a long time and is not the same fresh-faced, "get up and at 'em" boss he was, yet is still a vastly experienced man who can do a good job. You can also feel Jimmy's talents are being wasted not being a manager. But maybe one day, United will give him the reigns!

A Christmas Poem

Christmas time is here again folks, and I hope you're not feeling too bad after yesterday's festivities. If you are, a little poem might cheer you up, or might not.

Christmas comes but once a year,
Us Luton fans have little to cheer,
Cos we're bottom of the Division,
And our football's getting us derision,
By New Year we could be down,
What a mess for the Town,
Not many points, not many wins,
The football bosses have big grins,
Because of our club's present plight,
Caught in yet another dogfight,
Sutton, Harford, Kamara try their best,
It's just ashame about the rest,
We've managed escapes in the past,
But in the table I think we'll come last,
We're playing those boys from Arsenal today,
We need a win-It's the only way,
Can we do it? I think we might,
The least we'll do is give them a fright,
So sing up the Hatters with shouts and cheers,
Then drown your sorrows with a few beers,
Enjoy yourself and be merry,
Whilst celebrating a very

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Don't forget to keep supporting the lads and you never know, we might still pull it off-We've got to!

Hatters

DIARY



23.11.91 Man.City

This was a game that we should of won. We played some very good football in the first half and thoroughly deserved the lead which we took after just 17 minutes. The goal was courtesy of Big Mick who hit a low shot past the City goalie after Steve "Donkey" Redmond gave the ball away. We kept out Quinn and Co for the rest of the half. The only bad thing was that Des Linton was carried off with hamstring trouble.

The start of the second half was a disaster. Pembridge lost the ball from the kick off and City won a corner. There was a scramble in the area and the ball found the net. We fought back though and scored from a corner. Tumble Dreyer volleyed a loose ball into the bottom corner. Only four minutes later Niall Quinn equalised with a volley. Pembridge and Bruno both had clean through chances and were brought down by Redmond who was sent off. The foul on Bruno should have been a penalty which may have given us three points.



30.11.91 Sheffield Utd

Again we were robbed of three points in a game which we needed to win. Steve Sutton made his debut and made some very good saves. We didn't have many scoring chances in the first half but we soaked up lots of pressure from United. Jamie Cambell played

on the wing and didn't do much. Where was Scott Oakes?

We had a few scoring chances after the break and started to play quite well. Telfer hit a shot wide from about two yards away. Preece substituted Harford (who did not look very fit) and set up our goal soon after. He crossed the ball from the byline and it eventually came to Telfer who whacked it into the roof of the net. We were all delighted and presumed we safely had three points. Again it was not to be. In the last minute, "Dick" Harvey conceded a needless corner and United scored with a free header. We went home feeling totally pissed off!

7.12.91 Leeds United



We didn't really expect to gain any points from this game and were right. We looked a tough battle for Leeds, who had only previously lost once in the league, in the first half and came closest to scoring. A high pass opened the defence and Lukic made a good save from a Harford lob attempt. Steve Sutton also made a good save and United had a couple of other good chances. Luton's plan to keep Strachan out of the game worked, but unfortunately Batty and McAllister were very strong in midfield.

Leeds looked very strong in the second half and proved to be too much for us. Wallace scored for them midway through the half after the long-throw tactic opened our defence. A flick on from Chapman and a volley from Wallace left Sutton helpless. We kicked off, and gave the ball away almost immediately. A similar sort of goal, this time from Speed, ended all hopes of salvaging a point. About

are only other chance after that, was a free-kick in the last minute which Oakes hit well wide.



We can't bring you any reports on games over the Christmas Period due to our deadline. Instead, we'll guess that we didn't do very well anyway.

NEXT AWAY GAMES....

1.1.92 Notts Forest

Will Kingsley be playing? We drew 2-2 at the City Ground last year when Lars scored two brilliant goals-The second being our goal of the season. If you want to enjoy your New Years Day, then we recommend you don't go! By the way, it is a 3pm kick-off as usual.

4.1.92 Sheff Utd (FA Cup)

Yet another trip to Brammall Lane. Not the best draw we could of got, although we won 3-1 there in the same round last year. In the league not long ago, we deserved to win against United, so the trip may well be worthwhile.

11.1.92 Liverpool

The trip to Anfield will be good, even though it is unlikely we will win. You never know though, Liverpool aren't in the best of form lately and have many injury problems. Lets hope for a repeat a couple of seasons ago, on Jimmy Ryan's first game in charge, when we drew 2-2 and could of won.



TOWN
in
action!



Town in Europe ?

I read recently in the football magazine "90 Minutes", that teams like Luton could bag themselves a place in Europe in future seasons.

Top football officials are considering awarding a place in the UEFA Cup to the fairest team during a season. That team with the least bookings, sending-offs and disciplinary points could find they are playing the cream of the crop from Italy, Spain, France and the like.

So if the Town behave themselves, and Mr Pleat keeps the troops in order, as is his way, Luton could find themselves playing Inter Milan in the "San Siro Stadium" one day.

Can you imagine Dreyer marking Juergen Klinsman or Dazza facing up to Lothar Matthaus in the middle of the park?!

So if any of us win the "Goals of the Day" competition on ITV's "The Match", we'll know where to go, to watch the Town take on the best of the rest in Europe.

On a general football outlook, I think this scheme can only be a good thing for the game. Teams are bound to behave themselves with a European competition place available to them, and that would cut down on bad behaviour in the game. So we may have no need for the "Professional Foul" law to be called into dispute, or many players being suspended for 2-3 games, because the offences just wouldn't be committed.

So get out your Town Union Jacks, save up your pennies and get together for Luton Town to win the UEFA Cup. You never know!!



CUP WINNERS 1988

This is the second part of the series which started in the first issue.

Part 2-September 1987
Town v Coventry (3rd Round)

We welcomed the home advantage against FA Cup holders Coventry, but this wasn't to be.

The Police raised objections to having Coventry fans in town, and unfairly, the League gave us two options. We could either give up the home advantage and play at a neutral ground, or bow out of the tournament (again).

Plans to hold the match at Fulham's Craven Cottage were considered, but eventually Leicester was chosen to be the venue. So OUR home match was to be played 70 miles from Luton and 20 miles from Coventry.

It was pouring down with rain on the night, but Luton produced some fine football. Harford had an excellent game and scored two good goals. Scottish winger Micky Weir scored his second goal of the tournament. Despite conceding a Coventry goal, we managed to hold onto our lead and the final score was 3-1. It was an excellent passing performance by

the Town and the score could really have been more than 3-1.

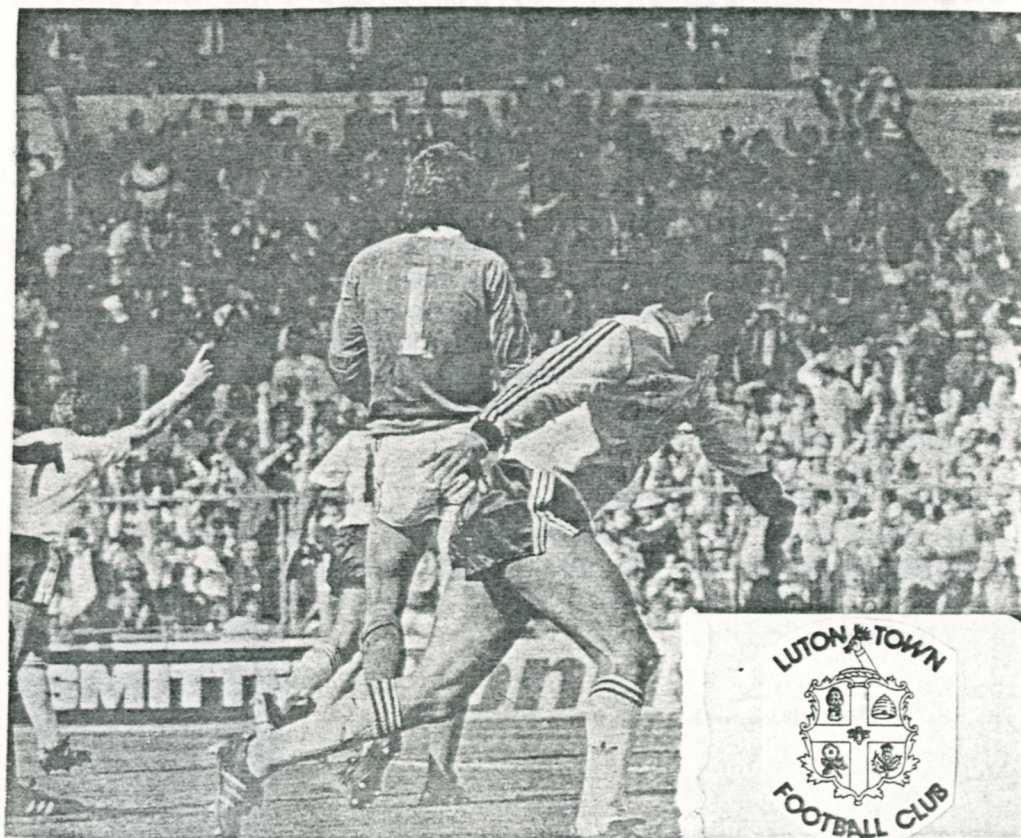
The result must have choked the Football League who would liked to have seen us opt out of the tournament for the second consecutive season.

We were given a tricky away draw against Ipswich in the fourth round.

Team: Sealey, Breacker, Grimes, McDonough, Foster, Donaghy, Wilson, Stein, Harford, Johnson, Weir

Att: 11,448

To be continued.....



Go Overboard

Well, isn't it ashame that Robert Maxwell didn't take over Spurs before his recent accident on his boat in the Canary Islands. Both Maxwell and Venables went in for the London club, and Maxwell looked favourite to take command until Alan Sugar put his financial weight behind Venables, and they eventually took over Spurs.

Let's face it, Spurs aren't exactly the most loved team around here, and if Bob did get in at Tottenham, they would really be in the mire at the moment, and may even have gone out of business. Wouldn't we have felt sorry for Tel, Gazza and those London fans? Actually, no. For a start we wouldn't have to put up with crap like David Ellaray dished up at White Hart Lane, and handy floodlight failures. With our rotten luck, I'm surprised Bob didn't take the Town over before he went overboard. So, perhaps David Kohler might fancy taking a little trip out to Tenerife, it might do him good, or maybe us.

Instead, poor old Oxford have got all their players up for sale, and are not looking too good. So, could we see the return of Steve Foster as player or coach, or maybe see old Nobby Horton back at the Town? It's a pity they sold Lee Nogan to rivals Watford. We could have swapped him for brother Kurt, at least Lee scores sometimes.

I'd like to see us get rid of Colin Murphy, and get Foster or Horton back as Pleat's Assistant Manager. That would be interesting to see, as both were exceptional captains for Pleat in his last spell at Luton.

Maxwell was hated in football



THE BOARD

A guide to the most hated people at Luton Town F.C.

ROGER SMITH (Chairman)

Description: Tubby, likes to wear wellies.

Details: Doesn't like the job of Chairman and is no doubt trying to palm the responsibility off to someone else. Second spell in the hot-seat.

DAVID KOHLER (Managing Director)

Description: Short bearded gnome.

Details: Manages to cock everything up, not find a sponsor until a scrap merchant comes along, and annoys everyone possible. A bit of a banker-at Barclays. Is disliked by entire Luton support.

PETER NELKIN (Director)

Description: A right pain in the back-side.

Details: Wasn't good enough for Arsenal so he joined us. Former Chairman who left our sinking ship when hounded too far. Nevertheless, he was a useless Chairman with no money and an uncanny knack for getting the fans very worked up.

HENRY RICHARDSON (Director)

Description: A twit with no money!

Details: A Director for a few years who seems content turning up week after week and doing his little bit. In last year's handbook, it looks like somebody smeared grease under his chin! Call that a beard Henry?

The Board continued

PETER COLLINS (Director)

Description: Bus Driver.

Details: Well, maybe not a driver, but something to do with Luton & District anyway. Was involved with a lower league club and thought it was fun, well that's good enough qualifications for the job.

ED PEARSON (Director)

Description: Flash name, busy man.

Details: Also our President, who seems to be so involved with L.T.F.C, he's got two jobs. But has he any of the crucial folding stuff?

N.TERRY (Director)

Description: No data available.

Details: Who is this man? What is his first name? Has he got any money? Who knows.

JOHN HUDSON (Director)

Description: Grey hair and glasses.

Details: A man with an eye for opportunity and a smart business brain. What does he do for a living? Perhaps half of the cooking duo Hudson and Hall.

Plea to the board must be:

"Get your money out for the lads!"



Henry Richardson

GREASE



John Hudson

*The Hatter,
18 Dewpond Rd.
Flitwick,
Beds.*

Editor: Simon

A big thanks to: Paul, Mick, Bill Cole and anyone who has supported us.

Availability: Further issues are available at the above address.

Please send any articles or letters to us so we can print them in the next issue. Any mail is much appreciated and entitles you to a free copy.

The Hatter is not connected to Luton Town Football club in any way (except we support them)

Anyone who feels misquoted or offended has the right to reply.

Thanks to Kev Pickstock of D.Pleated (another good Luton fanzine) for your support.

Issue 1 was sold out. Thanks to everyone who bought it.

Note: The first issue was sold at 30p. It stated 50p on the front cover due to a last minute change.

DAVID MUST SORT OUR TEAM OUT

