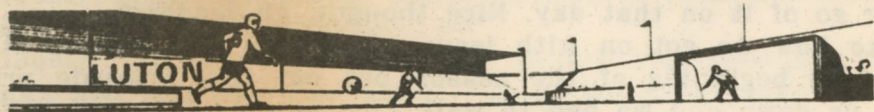


# TOWN

£1

## THE LUTON FANS MAGAZINE



### ISSUE TWO

What about this badge eh?  
Classy or what?

INCLUDING:-

"Colour Kingsley's Kit  
Competition" - page 19

"Hatter chatter" - page 33

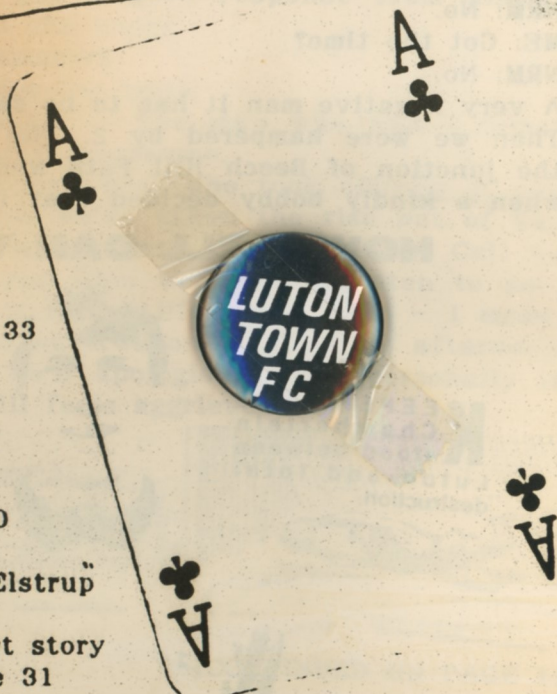
"George" - page 5

"Kenilworth the Cat"

Season update - page 10

"Page 25 fella - Larry Elstrup"

"Timewarp" a debut short story  
- page 31





# TOWN TOWN TOWN

Welcome to issue 2 of Luton Town's premier football fanzine TOWN. The one that makes the competition look like it's rag week at Dunstable college. No, but seriously now folks, we could have had this mag out by the 27th October (for the Everton match) but we put the date back because 'Mad as a Hatter' should be out then and we'd rather let them have a fair go of it on that day. Nice thought, eh readers?

Onto how we got on with issue 1. Firstly, we wanted it out for the beginning of the season but our (ex) Brummie printer let us down and we had to wait.

So, we started selling at the Leeds match. Unfortunately we were well hampered by 1. The bloke who runs record city -

ME: Would you be interested in selling a Luton Town fanzine?

"NEW ROMANTIC" MANAGER: No.

ME: What, not at all?

NRM: No.

ME: Do you like Huey Lewis and the News?

NRM: No.

ME: Got the time?

NRM: No.

A very negative man it has to be said.

Then we were hampered by 2. The police. I was standing on the junction of Beech Hill Path and Oak Road happily selling when a kindly bobby decided that I may well be breaking the

## HOW WELL CAN YOU SAVE

**K**EEPER Alec Chamberlain stood between Luton and total destruction.



law. I carried on selling with the PC about two inches away, breathing on me while I got flustered.

"I think you better come along with me", he said and took me round to Kenilworth Road where I was told what was what by Sergeant Obviously of the Beds Constabulary.

"Obviously, I haven't read this magazine, but it may contain anything - like national front literature"

"Obviously, we have to have laws for street trading, or anybody could start selling things that nobody wants"

"Obviously, it isn't an official club publication. Perhaps if you ask the club - they might let you sell it inside the ground"

"Obviously, they'd be asking for some kind of financial recompense should you decide to do that"

"Obviously, the council will be able to tell you what you can or can't sell and where or when - go to the town hall"

So we've sorted it out with the council now so (hopefully) the police won't be interested in our activities anymore.

We sold about 30 magazines before the police stopped us at the Leeds game anyway.

So to the Coventry match where the police let us carry on - although by that time the magazine was a bit old (some of them we had to throw out because they were going mouldy and smelly). Nevertheless we got a good response from almost everyone - especially about the badge.

However we did get a few moaners:

"I only buy Depleted" - nice one mate.

"A quid! You must be joking" - the man who had a heart attack when he went to buy a programme.

And a lady from the supporter's club who took offence at one of our articles. In this issue we've taken the rise out of Ray Harford - something we'd never have done in 1988. Call us 'dirty rotten turncoats' if you like, we won't threaten to sue. If people can take a joke it makes life alot easier - I mean, we're all on the same side at 4.45 on a Saturday afternoon when it boils down to it. We'll apologise to her personally if we see her again, if she still feels aggrieved.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

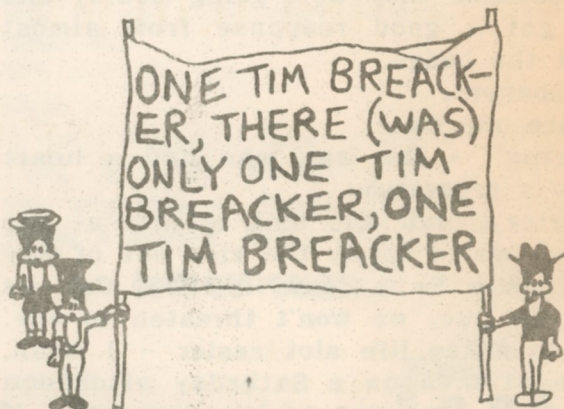


# dave DONE Good

Making fanzine history again - not only the first football fanzine to come out of Luton Town (geographically), but also the first ever football magazine to praise our old chairman David Evans.

Well, last time we gave him a bit of a roasting but I've just remembered a story which showed him in a good light and could be a lesson for Peter Nelkin.

It was in 1980-something when Mr E still regarded Mick Harford as a good player (and he wasn't wrong). The papers were full of stories about Harford leaving Luton in a multi-million pound deal to Arsenal or whoever. Good old David quashed these rumours pretty damn quickly and made it clear that, at the time, Mick Harford was not for sale. Mick Harford was about the best centre-forward in England at the time and we wouldn't have enjoyed all those cup-runs without him I'm pretty sure. It's a pity Peter Nelkin didn't feel the same about Tim Breaker.



Nowadays however all Luton players are described as for sale 'at the right price'. How can Jim Ryan expect to build a first division squad with that hanging over it. To think of all the players who have already left one wonders when Peter Nelkin is going to put his hand in his pocket and let Jim Ryan make a couple of sound investments.

At QPR Peter Nelkin was on the pitch before the game looking very thin in a dodgy suit and told the Luton fans "Trust me". Well, go on Peter, make our day.

# GEORGE



## Pre match entertainer

It all goes back to the days of brass bands parading around the pitch trying to divert fans attention from themselves. All very healthy sort of stuff! It gave the matches which followed an added military battle dimension. Very proper. Very wholesome. So where's the pre-match entertainment these days?

The razzmatazz of American sports never quite crossed over to the English football league. The nearest thing to pom-poms that Luton ever got were the Luton Strikers Dance Team, who would once a fortnight squeeze into orange leotards and bend over in the centre circle, resulting in the synchronised mass-arousal of Oak road. They had a lot of 'guts', but not enough to make an appearance at the notorious Millwall match, into an atmosphere that would have surely threatened their chastity. Our Div.2 championship wouldn't have been the same without them. Argghhhh! Where are they now??? Do drop us a line if there are any of you reading this.

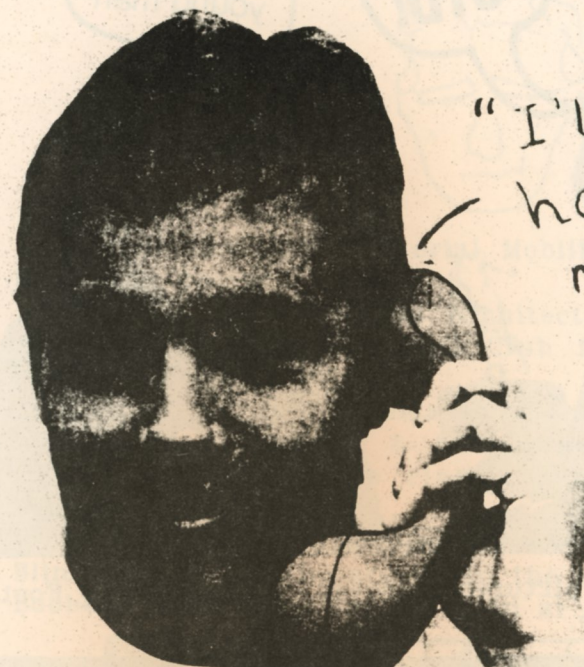


There were odd occasions when we'd be treated to full-scale youth matches, police dog demonstrations, (using dressed up burglars, who would set off up the pitch, running along with a bag marked 'SWAG', only to be set upon by a bloody great Alsatian, which mauled his arm to bits.) There was the great time when some reggae band played from a six foot square podium in the centre circle. They had drums, bass & electric guitars, steel drum and vocals. The singer must have been about 40 and the drummer no more than 11. Despite using amplifiers they could hardly be heard from the stands. Dressed up like extras from "Oliver" they churned out hilariously bloody awful versions of Boney M tunes. It's an image which has stayed with me for the last eleven years. Sometimes I wake up at night only to find myself smashing up my collection of records. To play a football match after entertainment like that was near sacrilege.

Then came GEORGE. Yes, George. A hired hand, (did he get paid?), he would grab hold of a microphone on a wire, which was slung down from the camera platform. From in front of the main stand he would introduce competition winners, junior hatters, ex-players and celebrities. It was also George's job to rally the crowd toward a state of mild excitement. He would welcome the travelling supporters to Kenilworth road, who would launch into anti-George chanting. Luton fans had seen it all before, and rarely ever responded to Georgie-boys' forced laughter. There was one occasion, however, when George announced this week's guest, - none other than Chiltern Radio's D.J. Pete Wagstaff. (Wagstaff, - a notorious pranny - was received with a hail of boos, whistles and general rowdiness, and not a single word could be heard beneath the crowd's voiced opinion of the local non-celebrity. George, however, didn't last. I wonder what became of him. Rumour has it he became one of "Hale and Pace". STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! re-George....He's back! He's been spotted! Prior to the Rumbelows cup match against Bradford; on his mic, announcing Bobbers members!

But what, I ask, of pre-match entertainment today? There's nothing! Even at Loftus road recently we were treated to half a dozen youngsters pelting us with "Toffoes" and "Fruit gums", - but at Luton we only get Fitted Bedroom adverts on a progressively worsening scoreboard. How about getting George back for good, or having Subbuteo tournaments in the centre

circle? Or how about 'live' shopping, beamed direct from the Arndale onto massive video screens? Come on F.C.!! Keep up this "family atmosphere" myth and hire a couple of clowns to entertain us, - you may not even have to look any further than the dressing room!

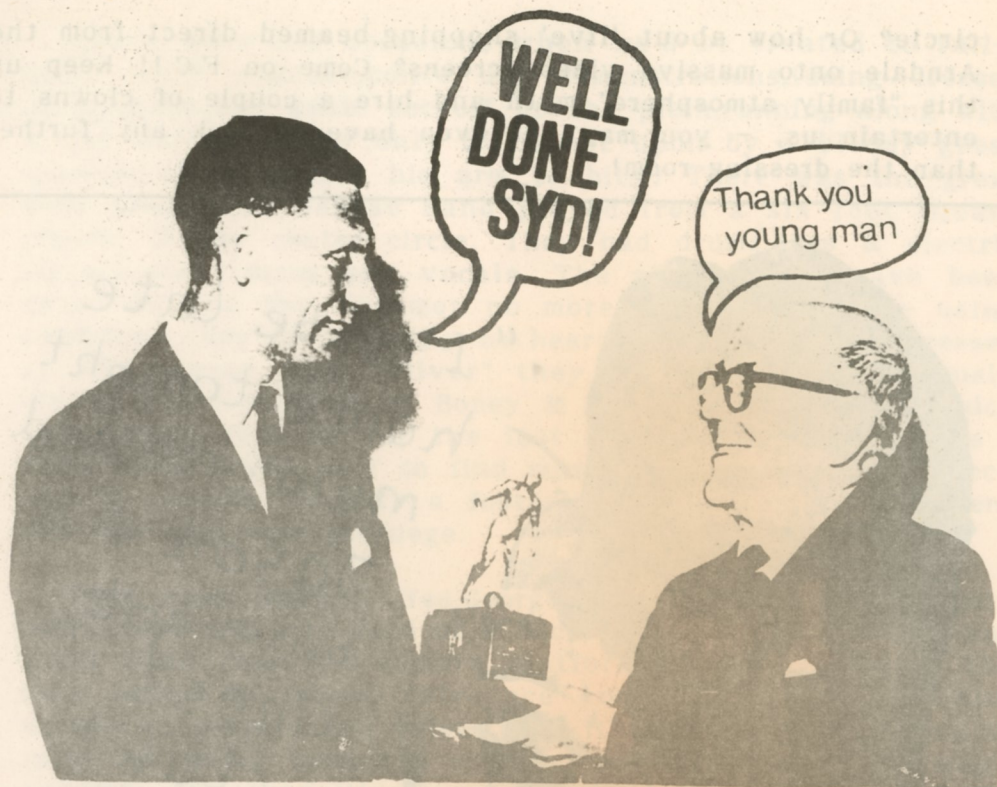


"I'll be late home tonight mum; me and Jason have got chess club."

Kingsley Black, it has been revealed, has been offered two more contracts this week that could have taken him away from Kenilworth Road. Firstly, on Tuesday, he was offered a role to play in top American kids series 'Gentle Ben'. On Wednesday an offer came in from the Childrens Film Foundation for Kingsley to play mischievous schoolboy Barney Peters in a remake of their 1974 blockbuster 'Skybike'. After consulting manager Jim Ryan and his Mum, Kingsley politely turned down both offers. However, the BBC are still thought to have their sights set on the young Luton winger to play a role in the new term of Grange Hill - AND leading the Northern Ireland 'Why Don't You' gang in the summer.

Everyone reckons that Jimmy Ryan is such a good bloke, but just try to get a wave out of him when the town are losing. I'm afraid it has to be said of Jim Ryan - YOU ONLY WAVE WHEN WE'RE WINNING.





Flashback! Syd Owen is pictured, (above), receiving his Footballer of the Year Trophy.

# CONGRATS!

Congratulations this month go to the winners of the following competitions...

...for the South Beds Open "Trevor Aylott stature lookalike" competition, a set of anglo-Danish encyclopedias go to winner Larry Elstrup.

...the All-comers "Anglian regional Vertical Height Trophy" - won by Preece and Rees, both of whom receive copies of Peter Shilton's "Guide to Hanging by the arms from the bannisters".

...for the "Bradford and Bingley Building Society Young Savers Shield" - Alec Chamberlain.

...for the fisherman John Wilson's "Decent Tackle goblet" - no applicants.

...for the Aintree "Blonde Eye-brow Classic" - the blinkered Iain Dowle.

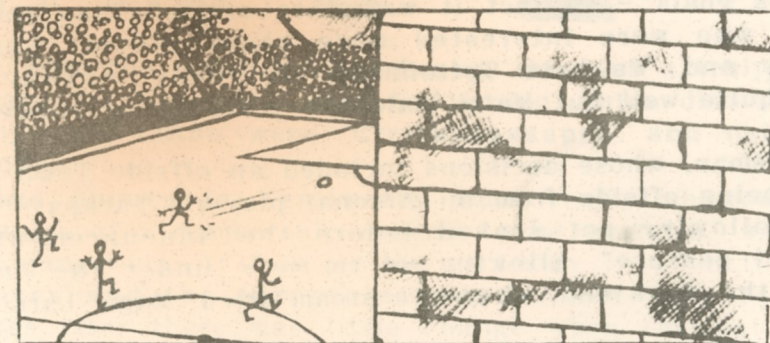


...for the Cheltenham "Aerial Mobility Guineas" - last to the jump, John Dreyer.

...for the "Home Counties Architectural Award" - certificates go to Luton Town Football Club for their Kenilworth road cantelever bogs.

...for Holywood's cinematic "Best spine-chiller of 1990", awards go to Dreyer & Beaumont for their reworking of C.Goodyear's 1984 film classic "Knocking it around at the back".

...for the "National Recognition Award to the resilience of the Blind" - anyone who stands in the Kenilworth, adjacent to the Bobbers, when goals are going in at Oak road.



■ (above) "KENILWORTH PANORAMA".

...for the "Short Corner Tankard" - engraved jugs go to LTFC for their long-standing loyalty, in the face of protest.



# The Story so far . . . .

Luton 1 Crystal Palace 1 **COME ON TOWN!**

If Luton fans hold a grudge against Palace it's because they put us 30 seconds away from relegation last season. At least this time there was no cause to chant 'Let us win' and a draw was no disaster - especially as they're doing so well now. Eric Young (ex-Wimbledon thug) scored for Palace and Iain Dowie scored for Luton. Second-half was less interesting than watching Binatone tennis.

Pre-match excitement for the start of a new "campaign", heightened by a personal re-possession of an original '78/79 Town shirt, (99p from Oxfam, Bury Park).

Arsenal 2 Luton 1 **HARD CHEESE!**

Stood in the pouring rain in a little corner terrace at High-bury for ten minutes before the police made the kind gesture of letting us stand under the executive boxes out of the storm and we were asked not to jump up and down on the terrace. When Larry Elstrup scored we forgot the request for a minute - and the Arsenal scoreboard forgot the goal for ten minutes. Needless to say the scoreboard wasn't as slow to recognise Arsenal's goals - in fact it was more excited than the supporters who were interested more about playing Spurs on Saturday and 'We hate Tottenham'. Oh really. Anyway Luton played quite well but Match said the performance showed we'd struggle.

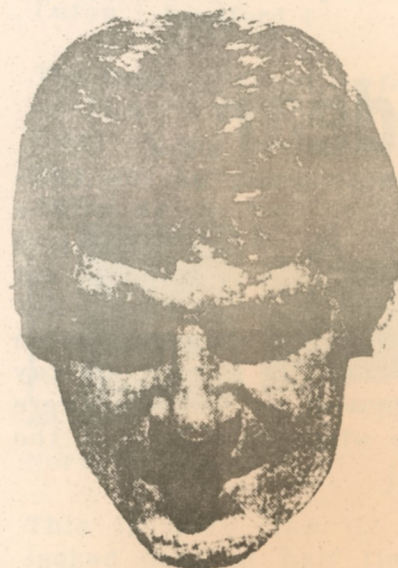
Bad linesman, whose decisions included an offside Town player, judged being offside from an Arsenal player's backpass! A big Luton following got soaked before the announcement of a "goodwill gesture", allowing us to move under the enclosed area of the clock end, where we steam dried. Magic Lars!

Southampton 1 Luton 2 **JINGLE BELLS PART ONE**

Going to the match I happily predicted a Town defeat, and few would have argued - but if you watch Luton away these days you've got to expect the unexpected. I didn't expect Lars Elstrup to score two goals in the first twenty minutes for a start. The second half was all about holding on as Southamp-

ton had pulled one back - in fact it was so tense that nobody dared sing Jingle bells til the final minute or so. As it was, it was a great victory although Jimmy Ryan apparently wasn't too happy as it looked like we might have lost a 2 goal lead.

A Subbuteo ground, built in sections when they had enough money. (The two main stands must have been Christmas presents.) The ejection of a Town fan who "tried to get a chant going".



Luton 0 Man Utd 1



Lars  
call me  
Larry  
Elstrup

Apart from the return of Les Sealey this was a truly forgettable game for Town fans. Man Utd scored, Luton didn't. Someone nearby said Luton were 'Crrrrraaaaaaappp' and nobody was arguing.

Massive queues in Kenilworth road really showed up the mechanics of a membership scheme to be irritating and potentially dangerous. At 7.40 pm the enclosure between the security gates and the turnstiles was packed with fans. Five minutes later there was little change when the match kicked off, much to the anger of many fans still waiting to pass through the sparse number of pay-gates.

After missing the first 10 minutes we ended up in the right half of the Kenilworth. Oh well.

Dowie got through for what would have been a rum little opportunity, but he was cheated by a terrible foul from Bruce, who was thankfully asked by the ref to "take a card from the pack", (the "pack" consisting of a singular red rectangle.)



Luton 1 Leeds 0

# SAME AS COVENTRY

Good to return to winning ways after the Man Utd match, Kingsley Black scored in the first half - the question was when are Luton going to score a second half goal? (which of course we know now). The day was more memorable for the release of the brilliant TOWN magazine - we managed to sell about 50 copies before we were stopped by the police for no particular reason.

QPR 6 Luton 1

## oh dear...

Well, the match spoilt an otherwise entertaining day in London, we saw the RAF flypast and tried to find a pub with a pool table and optimistically predicted that Luton may just beat QPR - we also predicted that the Town were going to get bloody thrashed sooner or later. It happened sooner. Roy Wegerle did the nasty on his old mates with two goals. Luton finally got a second half goal - Rangers got 5 - even Ray Wilkins got in on the act. When QPR got their sixth we were safely on our way home. What was the atmosphere like at the end? Loads of singing?



• The Town editorial board on the train home at 4.30 pm. (Afternoon of the QPR "match")

Luton 1 Coventry 0 SAME AS LEEDS

Like Leeds, the game was won on a second minute goal with nothing happening after of any great interest - except Jimmy Ryan's waving.

RUBBISH MATCH  
← LIKE LEEDS & COVENTRY, WITH AN EQUALISER

Luton 1 Bradford 1

The most outstanding feature of this match was when a bearded bloke, sticking his fingers up at everyone, was carted in front of the Kenilworth by the St. Johns Ambulance! Amazing! Who was he? Some wag suggested "Peter Nelkin!" Awful match.



Norwich 1 Luton 3

## JINGLE BELLS PART TWO

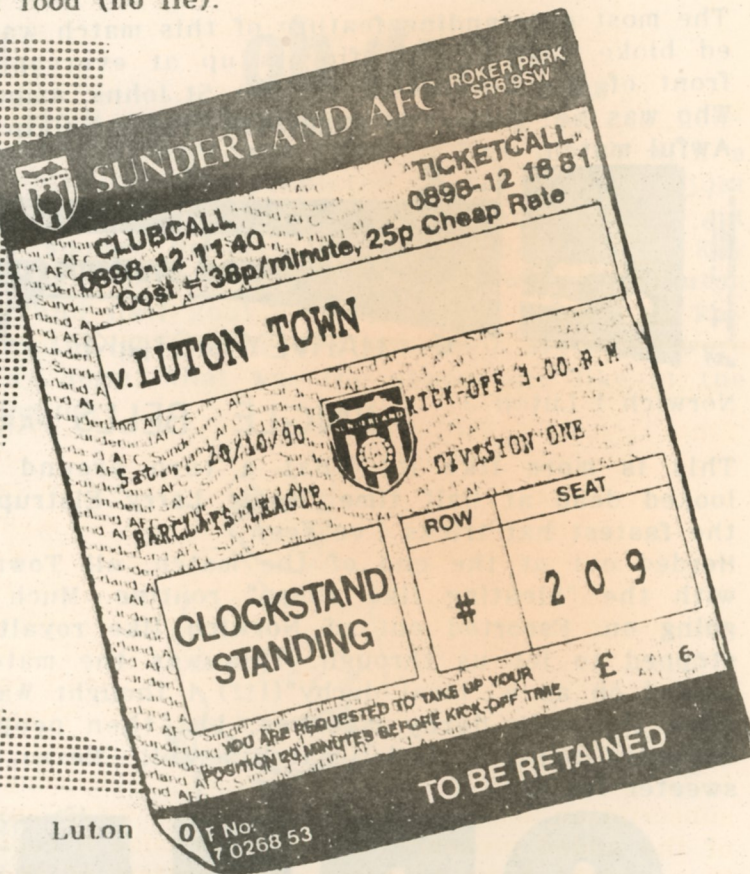
This is more like it! What a turn around for Luton, who looked dead at half time. Magic Larry Elstrup scoring one of the fastest hat tricks I've seen. Herded out at the end of the match, all Town fans joined in with the "bleating like sheep" routine. Much jocular hilarity going on. Escorted out of Norwich like royalty, - all traffic stopped to let us through. This was the match that Norwich looked on as a "local derby"!!!! I thought Watford and Derby were the only derby matches, but then people go on about Coventry being a derby match aswell! Never mind. - all the sweeter for us!

# GREAT



Bradford 1 Luton 1  
Brad' won on penalties

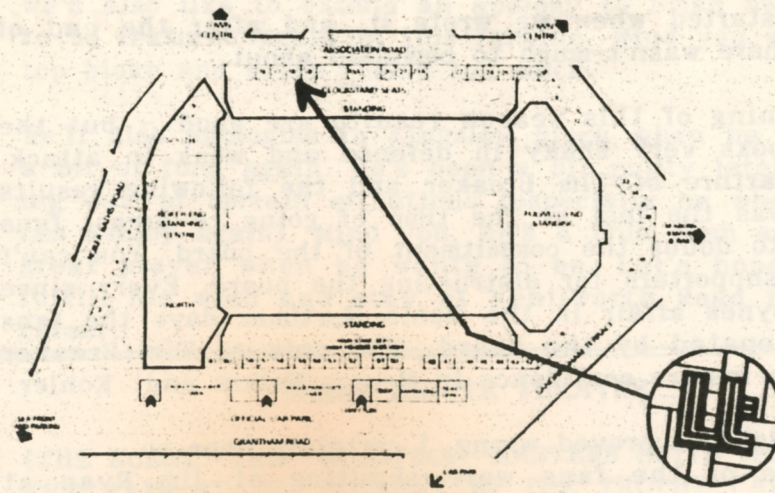
Well we're out of the Rumbelows Cup - but then it's got a stupid name anyway. Best thing that night, by far, was the Kashmir Curry house in the city centre. Probably the best curry in the world and so cheap it's unbelievable - it is absolutely impossible to eat £4.00 worth of food (no lie).



Sunderland 2 Luton 0 F No. 7 0268 53

Roker Park's an ace ground - but then it's not worth travelling all that way to find out. Luton played as if they cared not one jot about the result except for Alec Chamberlain who made some brilliant saves. Lars hit the crossbar, but apart from that the Luton attack was weedier than the Chiltern U11's (girls) league.

However, we did get back before last orders.



CONDITIONS OF SALE  
1. This ticket is issued subject to rules and regulations of the Football Association and Football League and is valid for date shown or date to which the match may be transferred.  
2. No refund can be given under any circumstances.

# END OF PART ONE...

## EDITORIAL CONTINUED

Since the last issue came out we've had several letters, but these are mostly to ask for copies, and we only received one article. We're going to try and get the next issue out for the beginning of December - so get writing as soon as you can. If you do want copies sent through the post it would help if you sent blank cheques (with the amount written in, but no name) because we haven't got a bank account and like to pay our creditors in annoying small cheques. Don't send cash through the post, but if you do - make sure it isn't rattling around in the envelope. Please also include an SAE. Thank you.

Some people have been asking us if we're going to start a subscription service. At the moment we're saying no because of the added pressure. We could promise 5 copies a season but if we might have to scrape the bottom of the barrel to come up with stuff to write about. Forty pages is loads if you've got nothing to say. Maybe when we get our act together (and don't mind ripping people off anymore) we'll start subscriptions but until then it'll be one issue at a time.

Now, we've been slagged off for not criticising the team enough in issue 1 - this was mainly because the season

All you ever need to know about Roker Park without actually having to go there.



hadn't even started when we wrote it, and after the end of last season there wasn't much to complain about.

At the beginning of this season results are good - but the team often looks very shaky in defence and weak in attack. With the departure of Tim Breaker and the following results (Sunderland was the last at the time of going to press) fans are starting to doubt the commitment of the board. You can't blame Luton supporters for distrusting the board. Every since the Milton Keynes affair in the Denis Mortimer days the fans have felt alienated by the board. The sale of Tim Breaker does little to inspire confidence in Messrs Nelkin and Kohler.

Of course I might be proved wrong, I certainly hope so. Anyway, some of the fans were shouting at Jim Ryan at Sunderland which is blatantly unfair as he's made it clear



LUTON FOLK have been silent for too long over the future of their town, says image builder Terry Johnson.

I reckon they've gone a bit far on this one folks.

that he didn't want to see Tim Breaker go.

On a lighter note, we'd like to apologise for the bad spelling in this issue but the TOWN editorial team have only got O level English and some of the words are a bit adventurous.

We'd also like to extend an apology to Brian Swain for having to be featured again in this fanzine. Mind you we know he's a top bloke and doesn't mind too much.

We'll also apologise to Kingsley Black when he starts showing a bit of form again. He's been a bit guilty lately of 'chicken-ing out' of certain situations (especially he when had to face Les Sealey again). Mind you, he's a true town supporter and a great player when he wants to be. Let's hope he's able to fulfill his wish and stay at Kenilworth Road throughout his career.

### THREE MINUTE THEATRE...

(THE SCENE: THE PHILLIPSON-MASTERS SUITE AT THE REAR OF THE MAIN STAND. CUTLERY IN THE TROPHY CABINET RATTLES TO THE VIBRATIONS FROM THE ADJACENT BYPASS.)

KINGSLEY: "Hello there Mr.Ryan, thanks for putting me in the team for Saturday."

MR.RYAN: "That's alright sonny, now get along there before you miss 'Byker Grove'. (In scottish)

KINGSLEY: "Rightol!" (In put-on Irish)

(KINGSLEY SCAMPERS OFF THEN STOPS SUDDENLY, WALKING BACK, TUGGING AT THE SLEEVE OF MR.RYAN'S TRACKSUIT.)

KINGSLEY: "Oh, there was one thing I wanted to ask you sir."

MR.RYAN: "Fire away lad, I'm all ears." (In scottish)

KINGSLEY: "Some of the other lads tell me they get things called 'wages' and 'win bonuses' for playing football for Luton Town."

MR.RYAN: (nervous coughing - In scottish)

KINGSLEY: "So 7 years is the normal length for the YOP scheme, is it?"

MR.RYAN: "Listen sunshine, you'll get your money, - the day you get served in the 'Nelson Flagship'."

THE END

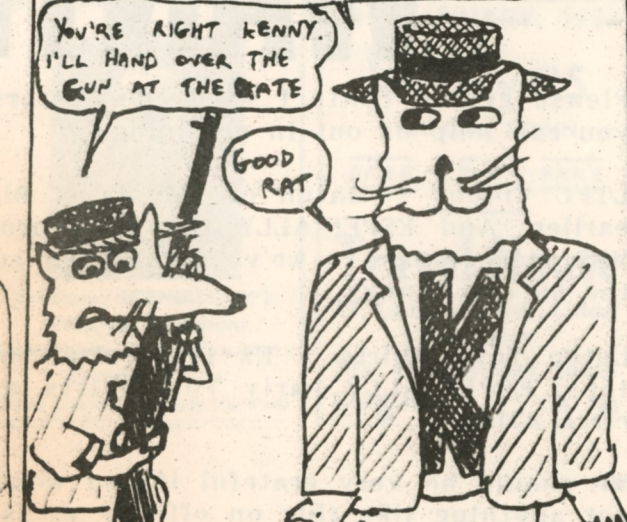


# kenilworth THE cat.

ONE SUNNY MATCH DAY

I'M PLANNING TO 'TAKE OUT' A COUPLE OF CITY PLAYERS AND HELP THE TOWN TO BAG ALL THREE POINTS IN TODAY'S FIXTURE.

BESIDES, IT'S ILLEGAL TO KILL ANYONE - EVEN PETER REID.



AT THE GROUND

ROWDY, I'VE FORGOTTEN MY MEMBERSHIP CARD. GET ME A GUEST TICKET WILL YOU?

A LIKELY STORY. COULD I BORROW YOUR RIFLE PLEASE MR. RAT?

AH! ZUT ALORS!

YEH

TODAY. LUTON V MAN CITY

NO MANES AND NO FRENCH SPEAKING MEXICANS

WOMEN GIRLS WAS HERE

YOU VISITING MANC'CAT 'OOLIGAN - FANCY YOUR CHANCES EH? COME ON PUSS - MAKE MY DAY

GET YOUR TOWN MAGS HERE. FREE BADGE!

DARN!

YEAH OFFICER - HE'S DEFINATELY A TRAVELLING CITY SUPPORTER HELL-BENT FOR MADNESS AND MAYHEM

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# WANTED

Please get in contact with the editors of TOWN magazine if you can help us out in obtaining.

LTFC videos - Match of the days, Big match etc 1986 and earlier. And ESPECIALLY the 1982 promotion campaign video. VHS video please - we've got the 88 cup final and don't want the 89 one thanks.

Luton Town shirts - Ex-large size, from before the last two tops. ESPECIALLY early 70's shirts and the blue away top circa 87ish.

We should be very grateful if you would write to us if you've got anything like this on offer - we may even be prepared to part with CASH if you want to quote us a price. Cheers

## STOP PRESS!

WANTED! The official club 7" record that was available in the early '80s. ("We are strong in attack, we are weak at the back, etc.) Not to be confused with "Hatters, Hatters" by the Baron Knights. A copy is desperately required, - apply to "Town".



## HELEY'S RESTAURANT

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NEXT TO GAUMONT CINEMA

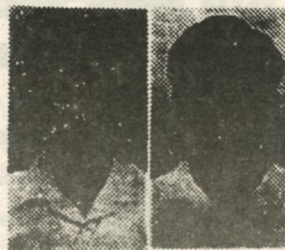
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*EXCURSION*

**SATURDAY**

**11th JANUARY, 1958**

# Wolves

v. LUTON TOWN

**FARE 15/3 FARE**

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21, Leagrave Rd., Luton

Tele.: 5855

202, High Street South

Dunstable Tel. 100

**\*  
page 25  
pin-up!**

**LARS  
elstrup**





**GENERAL MANAGER** Bill Tomlins was proudly wearing a Jimmy Ryan badge on Saturday night — his free gift after spending a quid on 'Town', the third local fanzine to appear.

The picture of the manager is hardly flattering — a long-haired version of the young player who came from Manchester United nearly 20 years ago.

The magazine includes the usual mix of humour and vitriol, but Bill Tomlins has no complaints about its barbs.

At Brighton niggled directors are taking libel damages action against a fanzine that upset them but Mr. Tomlins believes that is an over-reaction.

A reporter alleged to have seen every Town game for the past 90 years has also decided not to sue!

for  
**BEST SPORT**

*The Town's Top*

**Seller**

EVERY THURSDAY

**Luton News**

## NOW WHERE IS HE??

Our 'Where are they now' column looks at the fortunes of one time (and one time only) favourite manager of Luton Town, hardman, Raymond Harford.

Since getting the boot from Kenilworth Road for being as enigmatic as a goldfish, Ray has taken his own cocktail of football and japes to Plough Lane Wimbledon.

As caretaker manager, his role at Wimbledon is similar to his position at Luton Town. It means that he serves the tea at half-time and gets to sit on the bench. However, it also means that Ray has to brush the terraces after every match and the actual Wimbledon squad is picked by old Doug Smeg-gings (94) who has been caretaker at Plough Lane for the past 40 years. "I honestly don't know anything" says the bewildered Mr Harford.

?

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£13.95



# Gordon Bennett!

DAVID EVANS - UPDATE ON A LEGEND

Latest movements on the Evans front is that the honourable MP has launched himself into the synthetic world of tennis, in which he hopes to see *"the encouragement of Britain's youth to pick up a tennis racket and join new, prestigious tennis coaching centres and developments"*. (These were not David's actual own words, by no means! David was actually heard to say, (and I quote):-

"OIM FID AP WIV SEEIN' FORRANERS LOICK STEFFY GRAFF AND BORRIS BEKKER PARAYDIN' ARE TROPIES AT WIMBLEDEN, SO I FORT OI DOO SARMFIN' ABART ITT."  
(TOWN TRANSLATION:- "I am cheesed off with the open display of continental talents in Britain's prestigious Tennis championship.")

So there's the lowdown on the new Mr. Evans, - he's into tennis. Good news for football fans!

## CLASSIC MATCH



LUTON TOWN 3 NEWCASTLE UNITED 2

13,000 fans, plus many more on the telly, watched Luton at their championship best, although the first 60 minutes were no seating for the Town throng.

Luton that day were without penalty king David Moss and midfielder Ricky Hill. Wayne Turner and Clive Goodyear did play, making the three goal fightback even more incredible!! And what a fightback!!



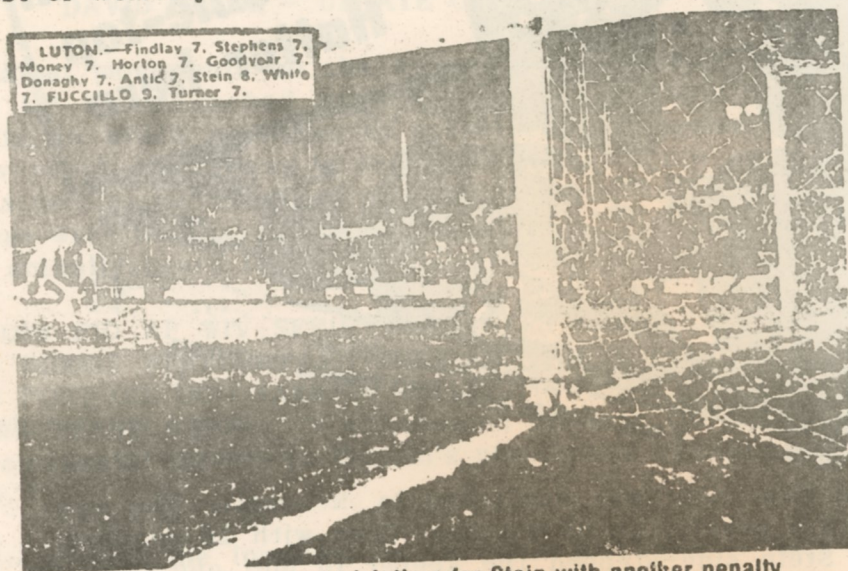
The first hour was dominated by Newcastle who went 2-0 up with a penalty on 58 minutes. Then with 26 minutes on the clock, Stein side-stepped the keeper to pull one back for the Town. Raddy Antic went on to bend the crossbar with a fierce free-kick before two more penalties from Stein completed his hat-trick.



■ No 2 . . . Luton are level with Stein's spot kick



In a post-war '40s/'50s match, Luton, (my daddy tells me), fought back from 3-0 down at half time, to win 4-3 in an equally rousing display. The opposition that day, - Newcastle! But this day in April 1982 was something for us '80s tikes, in the same way that the '88 Littlewoods Cup win drove out the ghost of Wembley 1959.



LUTON.—Findlay 7. Stephens 7.  
Money 7. Horton 7. Goodyear 7.  
Donaghy 7. Antic 7. Stein 8. White  
7. FUCILLO 9. Turner 7.

■ No 3 . . . hat-trick time for Stein with another penalty

At the end of the match, a pitch invasion by joyous Maple-rovers ended in an incident in which "over exuberance" helped to snap one of the crossbars in two! Fans clambered onto the woodwork, which was strong enough to repel an Antic free-kick, but gave way under the combined waistlines of 30 Luton bods. The groundsman was a bit peeved, (he came on waving a garden fork), but everyone was as pleased as punch!



Yesterday some 2000 fans from the enclosure area under the main stand rejoiced at the result on the pitch afterwards and some of them tried to break down one of the goal posts. Last season Luton escaped punishment when fans, from the same area of the ground, invaded the pitch and forced the Oldham match to be held up

We asked for contributions and we got one too, all about the 1986/7 season when it was 'Johnny Moore's Orange blue and white army', everybody thought Johnny would send us down but we achieved our best ever first division placing. So, ladies and gents welcome our guest spot writer Rob Hatrell.....

# TIMEWARP

- By the boy Rob Hatrell

Why bother looking back at a season that bought no silverware you say? Because it was a base building year for better things to come. This season also bought success for Luton in it's own way, and anyway who's writing this article, you or me? It's me isn't it. (Any more smart-arse son, and you'll be right out of this mag - now carry on. Ed)

Before the season started Kenilworth Road had a facelift. Someone decided that nasty away supporters can't come in anymore, so they moved our terraces and put seats in the Oak Road (We'll have to do a "lets have Oak Road terrace back" campaign soon - it was always alot better in there than it is in the Kenilworth. Ed), not just seats - but seats with LUTON written into them.



Executive boxes where installed where the bobbars stand was,



so the rich man's monopoly can take its grip, and they can sit inside and watch the game on telly if the sun goes in. The away fan ban was complete, the Luton fans were given pieces of plastic, (no not the pitch although it could be a good idea) that every Chelsea fan claimed they could buy in their local newsagents (*the swine. ed*)

The first home game of the season, against Southampton, saw fans still queuing as the town took a 3rd minute lead with a goal from Robert Wilson - later to disappear off the face of the earth, or did he just change his name to Danny? (*No, he's still doing football focus. Ed*)

September 20th saw Brian Stein in the incident at West Ham that earned him his nickname (Bruno). Three days later the Town were kicked out of the Littlewoods cup for not letting away fans in. Luton fans decided the cup was crap - only to change their minds next season.

October 25th and Mick Newell scored a hat-trick against an outclassed team from Anfield, their only reply in the 4-1 drubbing came when Molby fell over in the area and they converted from the spot (*I was screaming for Ian Rush to take the penalty and ruin his 'Liverpool win every time I score' record, but he didn't. editor*).

The following week sees a visit from QPR; Ricky Hill and Mark Stein have a car crash on the way to the game, both still play and Warren Neill helps himself to the only own goal of the match as we win again. The next two games see Luton move up to 5th with away wins at Wimbledon, and a 4-2 victory at home to Forest.

The "proper cup" third round draw is made, with Luton at home to that unknown outfit from Anfield again. With the "killing atmosphere" away fan ban still in force, (*Still still in force - Ed.*), to keep the scousers happy, the Luton dominated game is put on TV. Complaints about our beautifully looked after pitch from some Scottish prat in a red ski jacket saw Liverpool scrape a draw, 0-0. The same score at Anfield, (*I'd have thought Liverpool would have won, what with it being on grass and all, - Ed.*), with complaints from that annoying Scottish person again. Who is he? (*Not Hamish McAlpine, - Ed.*)

The second replay back at Luton saw a proud display, with the Hatters steaming a 3-0 win. Their manager naturally complained about the pitch, - Dalglish: "The dice have been loaded against us since the draw was made." How sad! Anyway, that set the scene for the media-hyped "Plastic Cup Final" against QPR. After a replay, Rangers progress.

In a "Sun Exclusive", Mick Harford is accused of fighting. According to the report Harford and Watfords Tony Coton, together, started fighting with three men in a local pub. Come on, get real, (*You what, you what, you what, you what, you what? This isn't the U.S. of A.!!*), a Luton player and a Watford one on the same side?

Mar 21, the Town draw 0-0 away at Norwich. Ashley Grimes is sent off for making a butting gesture.....to Rob Johnson. The ref's official reason for the red card was "violent conduct towards his own player."

A week later sees Luton move into 3rd place behind Liverpool and Everton with a 3-1 victory over Pleat's Tottenham.

With disappointing results in the last eight games; 2 wins, 3 draws and 3 losses sees us finish in seventh, our highest First Division place in the club's history, but the lowest that season since New Year's Day.

(Article by Bob Hatrell - our many thanks Robert!)

# "Fkitter chitter"

(good title, eh? Never to be repeated!!)

*Whoa, yeah - stop the bus. We asked for letters and we jolly well got letters. But not many. So come on kids, put pen to paper and let us know your views. Special service starting next issue - Agony Uncle, for the suffering LTFC fan who wants to know if it makes you go blind.*

*Onto letters.....written out in full with no taking bits out or mucking about with punctuation.*

Dear Sir/Madam (Well this is the 90s and we can't afford to be sexist can we?), (*Naaa, not with the prices these days - Ed*)

Great mag but where do you go from here? You've done / slagged off chairmen, stadium, strip, haircuts, commentators..... what's left? (*Nothing. We'll be doing the same stuff but in a different order - Ed*)

What was the cartoon in the middle about - it wasn't funny so there must have been some other reason.

After yesterday's pathetic match against Leeds (*How up to date is this mag! Never mind - Ed*) perhaps you could have a



go at the team and the manager but are they forbidden subjects????? Bad for team morale and all that?

I liked your bit about the commentators who speak a load of drivel. When is someone going to say the truth about Luton's performance? The Radio 5 report at 5 o'clock last night said Luton played well - they were f\*\*\*\*\*g hopeless (*Well, good for Radio 5, makes a change to be praised by anyone in the media apart from our pal Nick Owen - Ed*) Of the forwards (we have forwards????) Dowie played his heart out as usual. Elstrup - well he really is bad or else Jim Ryan has told him to stay wide at all costs. Midfield is stocked with too many young players and the defence.....Dreyer is not, never has been and never will be the man in the middle (*What, the ref? - Ed*). Beaumont is being dragged down by Dreyer (guess who I don't like?) and James is a centre half not a left back. Now.....if I ruled the world!!

Perhaps you could print your thoughts on each match - they should be less sanitised than Brian Swain's chats on the radio / telephone (*Dunnit - Ed*).

I was a bit unhappy about your jokes about Watford. My old Mum always said you should not make fun of the afflicted.

So, an A for the first issue (I read it before the programme) and keep it up (no jokes please - though did you hear the one about the two cows talking in the field. 1st cow 'I think this fuss about mad cow disease is a load of rubbish, don't you?' 2nd cow: 'I don't know, it doesn't affect us ducks').

Yours faithfully

A. Nold-Fogey

*Terrible Sue Denim there but what the heck - damn fine letter all the same. Sorry to hear you didn't enjoy my excellent Kenilworth the Cat strip - I thought it was flippin ace. As for slagging off the team and Jim Ryan, it isn't on the cards at the time being because:*

1. *Jim's an old Luton fave and we, and I reckon quite a lot of us, trust him to do OK by the club.*
2. *Getting rid of Danny Wilson, Tim Breaker etc when I really thought he should be building a squad around them seems a suicidal tactic - but that's why he's manager and not me. And results have been good so far.*

*As for the Leeds game - alright it was drab - but getting 3 points on the sneaky like that isn't a bad thing especially with a team like ours.*

*Cheers. Now, we've had a lot of letters asking for the same*

*thing - and unfortunately we couldn't print them all so we put them all in a hat and picked one out for our letters page...*

Dear Sirs

I have just heard about your new fanzine and would very much like to receive a copy of edition No1.

Enclosed is a L1 coin (which I hope is still in the envelope when it arrives!!) and an SAE.

Thank you very much in advance for your prompt attention

Yours faithfully

Mr N J Cooper



Joke page - by Derek Morecombe.

(Dereks jokes this month have a watery theme.)

1. How do you know a football pitch is water-logged?

ANSWER: Look at the floodlights!

2. What do you do when a pitch gets water-logged?

ANSWER: Bring on the subs!

3. What shouldn't players do in a water-logged penalty area?

ANSWER: Dive!

4. Who was the wettest Aston Villa goalie?

ANSWER: Jimmy River!

5. Who was the wettest LTFC goalie?

ANSWER: Lake Flndlay!

6. Which footballers can fly?

ANSWER: Wingers!

7. Which 'damp' team play at Loftus Road?

ANSWER: Breams, Carp Anglers!

8. What do you find on the grass at White Hart Lane?

ANSWER: Dew!

9. What do players do when they're fouled outside the penalty area?

ANSWER: Dive in!

10. How do players feel after "ninety minutes of pure hell"?

ANSWER: Washed out!

THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF TOWN MAGAZINE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND AN APOLOGY TO IT'S READERSHIP FOR "DEREK MORCOMBE'S" JOKES. WE ADMIT THESE JOKES ARE NOT AT ALL FUNNY - AND ALL DEREK'S WORK WILL BE CLOSELY SCRUTINISED IN THE FUTURE. SORRY. He isn't even called Derek Morcombe anyway - It's just another unfunny pun.



Most important of all, your voice can have  
a real influence on the future of the game.

# FANZIN REVIEW



Firstly on our round up of football fanzines we get the chance to get bitchy with the other Luton fanzines. To slag them to such an extent that it'll start gang warefare between fanzine sellers outside Kenilworth Road on matchdays. But we won't. Because, unfortunately, they're not that bad.

Depleted issue 3

Salright, apart from mine was put together wrong and had two sheets the same - some good jokes and that.

Mad as a Hatter issue 2

Three pictures, one of them is Mo Johnson. Ace cardboard cover, the mag thats on 'first name terms' with the players.

Sorry, you just can't write rave reviews about potential rivals (just try it lads). So, on to the nitty-gritty of other fanzines from up and down the country.

'B' for Brian number 18

This mag from Nottingham Forest fans is packed with stuff, jokes and match reviews etc etc. The best bit is the Sheff Wednesday v Forest report, where the writer weighs up the pros and cons - ie a good Forest win and having to come to 'Stalag Luft Luton' this season. A good read, but doesn't leave you feeling much empathy with bigheaded Forest fans, or Brian Clough.

From - 6 Grays Inn Buildings, Rosebery Ave, London (London? big local concern eh?), EC1R 4PH. 50p + SAE (I should think).

And now, from Wimbledon in South London.....

Supporters Grapevine Volume 2 Issue 6 (?)

This glossy mag from Wimbledon is dodgy and disjointed, most of the articles look like they're cut straight out from the paper and the magazine seems to be more heavily sponsored than the World Cup finals. Every page is out for sponsorship for £25 a time and a page ad (of which they're a few) cost £140. Who wants to read about nasty old Wimbledon anyway. Not me. From - Wimbledon Club Shop (I should have guessed) Wimbledon FC, 49 Durnsford Road, Wimbledon, London (ask for Ray) SW19. A quid.

Alright, now lets move on to Middlesbrough (again).

Fly me to the Moon Issue 37

Well, this mags done pretty well out of our reviews - but thats cos it's flippin ace and Robert out of Shrug (top Middlesbrough pop band) put his Jimmy Ryan badge straight on when we swopped mags at a gig in Bedford. They can even do cartoons of their players (we can't, we've tried - but if anyone can do some for us send em in, Cheers). Anyway we didn't give the address before but it's - Fly Me to the Moon, 14 Selkirk Close, Saltersgill, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS4 3JH. 60p + SAE.

Enjoy  
another packet of  
**CAPSTAN**



Enjoy Capstan quality  
- smoother ... finer flavour! CC443



# THE LESSER SPOTTED 'SWAIN'

One thing is for certain - if you're watching Luton Town play at Kenilworth Road or anywhere else in the road. It may be pouring it down with rain in any poxy away terrace from Southampton to Newcastle - Luton may be 3 down, you'll be old and wet, you might not know how you'll get home or if you're Luton accent will land you in trouble outside the ground. At least one thing you'll be sure of is - somewhere in that very stadium Brian Swain is watching the match and preparing a report for the Luton News. Although this may seem little comfort for the long suffering fan remember - Brian has to make it sound like Luton deserved at least a point. Actual sightings of Brian Swain, however, are few. We talked to a couple of fans who claim to have seen Mr Swain at close hand. Both parties have asked us not to divulge their names, and our interviews were carried out in very dark multi-story car parks very very late at night (although we have absolutely no explanation of why we set them up at that time or place).

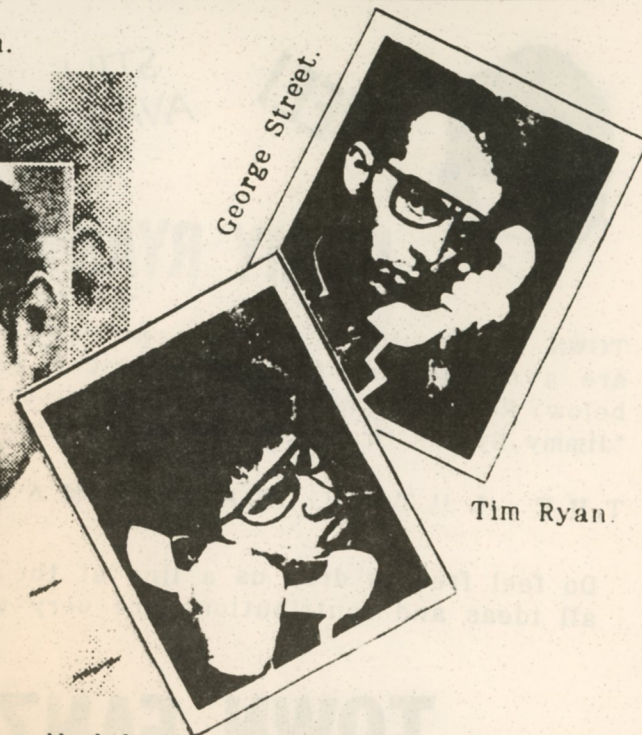
Firstly Mr X, who claims to have seen Brian Swain near the Luton News offices at Christmas time 1989.

"A few of us lads were out on the razz, we'd been in the town centre drinking - pints mainly - a few shorts. Anyway, we planned to go to this gig in Dunstable Road. It must of been about 10.30pm when we started walking to the club. I s'pose we must of been pretty drunk. I know I was - that was the night I did the 'sorry-about-the-wart' handshake on the wrong girl. I was so drunk I didn't spot she had a wart. I got a pint of beer in me face on Christmas eve for me trouble. Anyhow, the conversation got round to football - like it does, and some of the lads start singing old Oak Road chants. Well soon we was all at it - there must of been about seven of us. When we were walking up Alma Street we was onto 'My old man said be a Watford fan' - banana version. Anyway, we see this bloke getting out of his car outside the Luton News and we see that he's like.....smiling. And then I, and a few of the other fellas realise. We'd just seen Brian.....Brian Swain"

Brian Swain.



George Street.



Tim Ryan.

"When Luton were pulled back to 2-2 in the 1986 FA Cup quarter final against Everton at Kenilworth road, many Town fans swore to make the trip to Merseyside. When Everton beat us 1-0 in the replay we really were swearing, - like troopers. But the worst was yet to come. Outside the ground there were apparently a number of "razor sharp" incidents. Although inside a police escort to the car park, the Luton pack was infiltrated by certain "types" who weren't content with a place for their team in the semi-finals.

Fortunately, the police took us all to the safety of the car park, where coaches were all waiting. Unfortunately, we had parked bloody miles away in the opposite direction. We split from the escort at the car park, only to be "asked the time" by 50 scallies. The rest is history, but there was one thing that was to make the trip worthwhile, one thing to raise a laugh in the early hours of a bad night. It came inside the first service station on the M1; a sighting, and a rare one at that, of a certain newspaper writer, - none other than Mr. Brian Swain, (Is he omnipresent?).

There he was with his scarf, sipping a hot cuppa.

And there endeth the tale folks! Brian's always somewhere to be seen, so keep 'em peeled! Give him a shout!"





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**STILL  
AVAILABLE**



## **JIMMY RYAN BADGE**

TOWN ISSUE ONE!!! - There are still some copies left! They are available for £1 plus A5 sized S.A.E. from the address below. Remember now boys and girls, this issue featured a free "Jimmy Ryan's Orange, Blue & White Army" metallic badge!!!

**T H E   L U T O N   F A N S   M A G A Z I N E**

Do feel free to drop us a line at the following address, all ideas and contributions are very welcome.

**TOWN FANZINE,  
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LU1 4QP.**

This issue of TOWN has come to you courtesy of the editors Tim Ryan and Mr George Street ©1990. Cheers.  
Ta.