



Will the mighty Met win the fight for a bit of our history, or will the Wenlok Jug stay on home soil? Find out where it came from and how much it's going for in this week's edition of the Luton News

ews in brief

OPERATION ACTIVE: Twenty young sports leaders I meet next week to explore ways to encourage a new generation of volunteers to step forward and help kids get active. Special guest Jenny Copnall, Luton's mountain bike champion, will be among those at a conference on Tuesday. Jenny, who competed in the 2002 Commonwealth Games and the last three world championships, will emphasise the impact volunteers have had on her success to inspire the leaders to become sports volunteers.

Helen Barnett, chief executive of Active Luton, said: "It's vital for the future of community sport to attract a new generation of volunteers to help run sports clubs. We certainly hope the conference will be the catalyst to do this, alongside a programme of training and awards for everyone who gets involved."

Many sports clubs in Luton need extra help and Active Luton hopes to match the young leaders' skills and interests with local groups after the conference.

For more information contact Jenny Glenister on 01234 66075.

Sports stalwart Nasir mourned by team-mates

A KEEN sportsman who played hockey for Vauxhall for 30 years suffered a heart attack and died on Sunday morning.

After playing hockey on Saturday afternoon, Nasir Ahmed, 47, started to have chest pains and was taken to the Luton and Dunstable Hospital and then to Harefield Hospital, in Middlesex, where he died.

Mr Ahmed, who leaves a wife and three children, was a regular hockey player, coach and umpire across the eastern region.

In his earlier life he played cricket as a player secretary for Five Stars Cricket Club in the summer and in the winter played for clubs like Vauxhall Motors, Beds Eagles and Luton Town.

Mansoor Rathor, who played for Five Stars, said: "I can remember in the Luton and District Midweek Cricket League plate final against

Flitwick Town, Five Stars needed four off the last ball. Nasir managed to play a stroke which beat the wicketkeeper and the third man. This will be a victory to remember Nasir by. Nasir will be missed by us all."

Vauxhall Hockey Club joint general manager Sajjad Rashid said: "Nasir's wise words and gentle manner will be sorely missed. Our thoughts are with his family during this testing time."

Yas Parkar, who is also a general manager of the hockey club and knew Nasir for 14 years, added: "Nasir was an absolute gentleman. He was very committed to the club and provided a lot of support to the youngsters and the club as a whole. He genuinely loved the club."

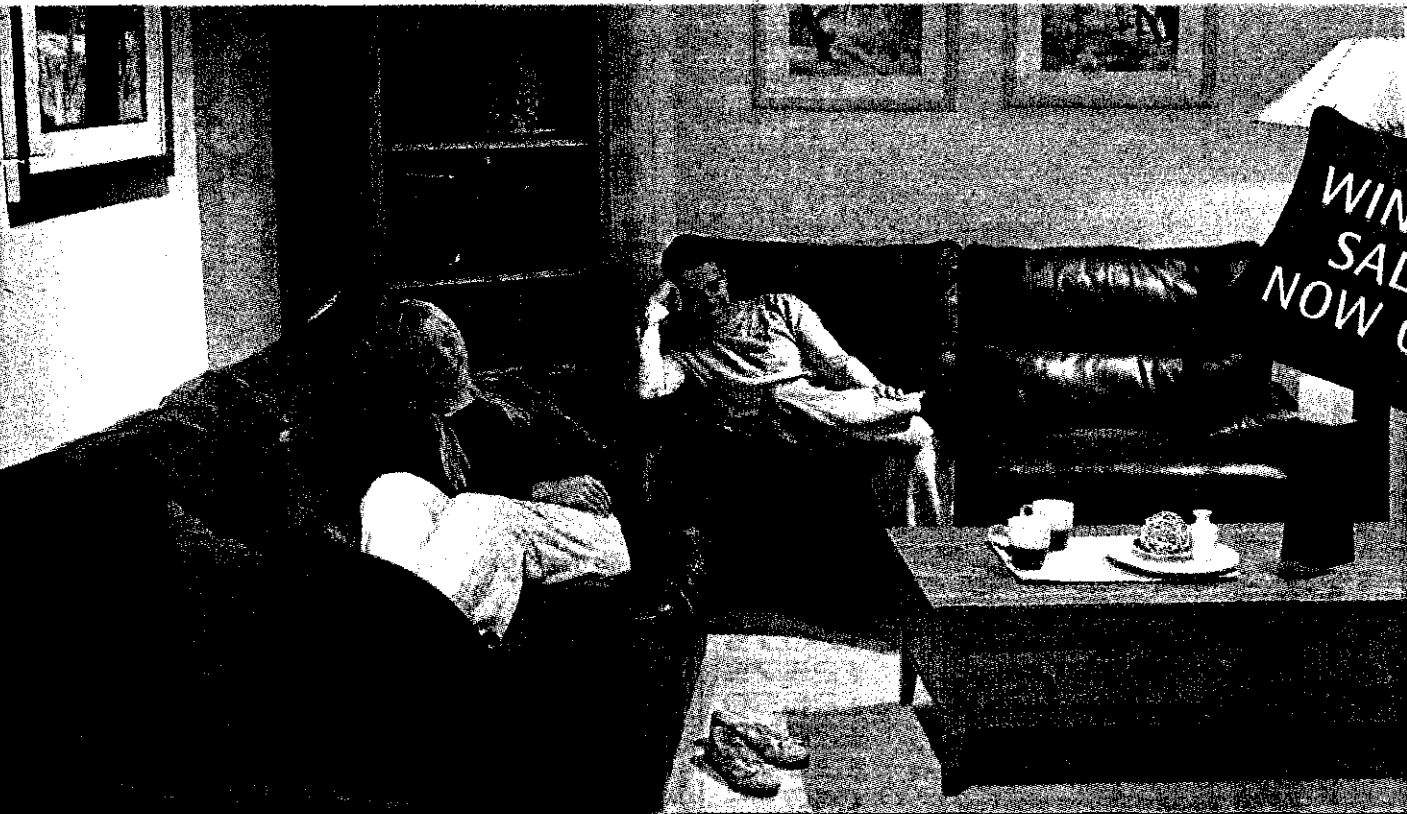
Prayers were held for Mr Ahmed on Monday night and it is planned for his body will be returned to Pakistan.

Luton Market

On Saturday 4 February market machine at 31 George closed whilst we make

Instead, we'll stay open Wednesday 1 and Thursday 2 for any inconvenience!

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