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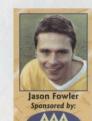
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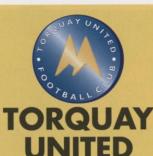
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Manager: Roy McFarland Assistant Manager: David Preece

Youth Development Officer: Richard Hancox

Centre of Excellence Director: Steve Cuss

> Physiotherapist: Norman Medhurst

Community Officer: Frank Prince

Safety Officer: Paul Pengilly

Commercial Representative: Cedric Munslow

Administration: Ann Sandford

Groundsman: Scott Duff Matchday Announcer: Pete Wiley

Programme Editor: David Wilkins Club Photographer: Colin Bratcher

The views given in this programme are not necessarily those of the Club

ARE in a busy and tryina players. With matches every three or four days plus the ongoing fight to take us away from the relegation area it means that the player's strenath of character as well as their skills and fitness are well tested

We are at that time in the season when we start to firm up plans for the next campaign. There are player's contracts to be sorted but also the often sad job of telling some of the lads that there is no future for them at Plainmoor. Football is a cruel game in this respect. There are few rewards for lovalty and absolutely NO league points for it. But at least players are conditioned to expect it and being refused at Torquay, or any club, does not mean the end of a career.

I am reluctant to talk lonaterm deals with players because of what I perceive to be the uncertainty over the future of the game. Whilst we were awash with transfer sponsorship cash (we banked ours but many spent it before they had it!) clubs were on the merry-goround of bringing in players but this will surely come to an end as the Bosman ruling and reduced deals begin to bite hard.

My reluctance to go over the top with spending has drawn accusations of "lacking ambition". Well folks, I'm sorry but that's the way it is and will remain so for as long as I'm running the club. Anyone who has studied last year's accounts will, in any event, have seen that far from scrimping we DID push the boat out last season but for zero return. This season the same

has applied but for different reasons as we attempt to build a squad that will take us somewhere next season

and at the same time avoid the big drop!

A very poor turnout on a stormy night last Tuesday gives us about £6,000 net to play with -clearly this will not take us very far although it does cover the travel bills for the last two matches - and of course it requires topping up with cash from the bank account. That's what it's there for - a rainy day -and last Tuesday was just those on two counts!

Welcome to all those from Luton Town. Have a good day down here but I don't think you'll find us as easy to turn over this time!

Mike Bateson

COMMUNITY WEEKLY SOCCER CLUBS (BOYS & GIRLS)

monday soccer centre Westlands School, Torquay • Price £3.50

tuesday soccer centre Westlands School, Torquay • Price £3.50 Aged 9-12 years • 6pm-7.30pm

thursday soccer tots

Aged 7-8 years • 6pm-7pm

Torquay Boys Grammar • Price £2.75 Aged 5-7 years • 6pm-7.30pm

friday soccer tots

Torquay Boys Grammar • Price £2.75 Aged 5-7 years • 6pm-7.30pm

saturday soccer club

Torquay Community College • Price £3.50 Aged 7-12 years • 9.30am-11.30am

There are places available for the above clubs — application forms are on our main reception or phone the Community Office on Torquay 322551



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ast week half term school holiday started with a bumper attendance on the first weekend with over 70 children turning out at our regular Saturday club at Torquay Community College, on a glorious sunny morning! During the week we held five courses for children aged 7-12yrs.

All the courses are based on fun activities; the emphasis is always on enjoyment with sessions incorporating shooting, turning with the ball, dribbling, crossing, goalkeeping etc... for boys and girls of all abilities

We kicked the week off with a one-day course at the Quayside Leisure Centre, Kinasbridge. The course was held indoors and with over sixty children attending Justin & Phil had their work cut out! Over the years we have built up a very good base in the Kingsbridge area and the children are always very well behaved and keen to learn. Tuesday we travelled to Chudleigh Primary school, it was nice to be back at Chudleigh as we've lost the venue for a couple of years due to the pitch under going major surgery!! So it was good to see nearly forty children attending.

Wednesday the road show moved back into Torquay, for a two-day course at the Boys Grammar, school. With over seventy children booked in we had to call in a few extra coaches, so many thanks to Adam Shearer and Phil Collings, who also coach at our centre of excellence.

Friday we had a double header at Broadmeadows, Sports Centre. Teignmouth and the Pavilions, Totnes. Our evening clubs at Westlands School on Monday & Tuesday and the Thursday/Friday soccer Tots at Torquay Boys Grammar were also running! So as you can see it was a very busy week! In total the scheme saw nearly four hundred children during the week!!! Many thanks to my regular coaches Phil & Justin, plus new boy on the block Matthew Williams how has recently joined the doaching team.

Community Guests

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to the pupils from Aveton Gifford Primary school nr Kingsbridge; Dunsford Primary school nr Exeter, and Bovey Tracey Primary school nr Newton Abbot. Plus on their annual

pilgrimage are the 6th Torbay Cub Pack (Britannia). We hope all our guests enjoy their visit to Plainmoor, and of course see a United

Come on you Yellows!

EASTER HOLIDAY SOCCER COURSES CHILDREN AGED 7-12YRS

We are running five courses throughout South Devon during the Easter holidays Application forms are available on our main eception or phone the community team on 1803 322551

Enjoy the game, Frank & Phil



PhilSanders Community Coach

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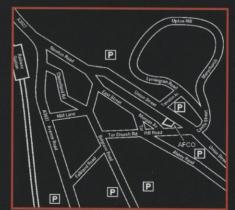


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conditions made the game a bit of a lottery at times but we kept at it and eventually got the goal we deserved. On the balance of play and chances we should

have won but a draw was fair enough I suppose.

We are now reaching the time of year when decisions need to be made about players both young and experienced. I am well aware of the financial constraints of a small club and this will be uppermost in my mind when we start to wield the axe.

One thing is for sure – every released player will have his own band of supporters who will have a moan about it. It's not necessarily that a player is released because he's not good enough. Often it's because he doesn't fit into the plans I have for the squad. For example we could end up with six, let's say, right-backs and in o left sided players. It's all

about the right balance of players within the squad.

The squad itself has been a lot bigger than I normally like to work with but we hope to address that situation. It's not healthy working with too many players –you find that you are not able to give full attention to the lads who are looking to progress - and it's not fair on the others who are just hanging around.

We face a team today who gave us a right seeing to at their place and I can assure them they will not find it as easy today.

Welcome to all from Luton Town -enjoy your day but not the points!

Roy



TORQUAY UNITED 2001-02

Back Row (left to right): Simon Lyons, Steve Tully, Brian Healy, Jimmy Aggrey, Tom Stocco, Ryan Ashington, Kevin Hill. Middle Row: David Preece (assistant manager), Matt Hockley, Paul Holmes, Lee Russell, Stuart Jones, Ryan Northmore, Eifion Williams, David Graham, Jimmy Benefield, Norman Medhurst (physio). Front Row: Jason Rees, Kevin Parker, Tony Bedeau, Chris Brandon, Roy McFarland (manager), Mick O'Brien, Gareth Law, Alex Russell, Robbie Herrera.

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Thursday 21st February Under 15's **Swansea City 0 Torquay United 0**

A good performance from the under 15's when they travelled to Swansea during halfterm week from school. Rob Perry brought two good early saves from the Swansea keeper and chances were also created for Steve Bowker, Shane Shobbrook and Jay Essam. Rob Perry hit the bar with a great attempt from outside the box, but the goal wouldn't come but the most important factor was the performance and in particular Nathan Vine in defence and Rob Perry up front who both had good games.

Sunday 24th February Under 12's **Torquay United 0 Exeter City 7**

The score line certainly didn't reflect the performance with coach Adam Shearer very pleased with the performances of Rob Farkins, Daniel Griffths, Matt Taylor, Matt Sanders and trailist Billy Ashton. We came close to scoring on a number of occasions. Particularly from Karl Baker.

Under 13's **Torquay United 2 Exeter City 6**

A sauad that contained five players still eligible for the under 12's travelled to Exeter and lost to a more physical side. Phil Hardee who had an outstanding game scored a very good individual goal. Joe Bushin scored our second goal from outside of the box.

Under 14's **Torquay United 3 Exeter City 5**

A slow start conceding three early goals. Clay Bond, Gavin Hammon and trailist Simon Roberts were our goalscorers. Michael Nardiello made his debut for the under 14's having moved up form the under 13's

Under 15's **Torquay United 0 Exeter City 3**

A disappointing performance from the under 15's with the lack of composure on the ball letting our play down. Lee Pascoe with a direct free kick and Rob Perry on a through ball from Lee Pascoe was the closest we came to scorina

This weekend the under 17's are home to Cardiff City on Saturday morning (Racecourse 11am), and on Sunday the under 14's and 15's travel to Oxford with the under 12's and 13's home to Oxford United at the Racecourse kick-off 12 Noon. ON Sunday afternoon again at the Racecourse the under 11's will be playing Elite D.C. with a 2.30pm kick-off.



Steve Cuss



Under 19's Youth Alliance Swindon 1 - Torquay 0 Friday 22nd February 2002

Probably our best performance of the season regarding passing and chances created. Kain Bond was denied on three occasions by the Swindon keeper although he didn't do anything wrong, he was trying to do the right thing. Tim O'Donovan had a good shot in the second half and Ben Camara went close. Our attitude was excellent and our football was lively. The score was the only bad thing about it.

Richard

We now have our fixtures for the under 19's Merit League.

THE UNGEL 173 MEIN LEC	ague.
Wednesday 6th March Gillingham	away
Saturday 9th March	
Southend	home
Friday 15th March	
Notts County	away
Saturday 23rd March	
Cirencester	home
Saturday 30th March	
Peterborough	home
Saturday 6th April	
QPR	away
Saturday 20th April	
Kidderminster	home
Saturday 27th April	
Swansea	away

We have offered 9 YTS contracts for next season, they are;

Tom Clark from Saltash, Michael Small from Plymouth, Dean Stevens from Buckfastleigh, Richard Lamacraft from Exeter, Matthew lohnson from Teignmouth, Paul McAdam from Plymouth, Scott Corderoy, Daniel Redhead and Nick Skinner all from Torquay.

The members of Torquay United Bowling Club are keen to promote the sport to anyone who may be interested in taking up a new pastime. We www.torquay-united.com run introductory sessions for those interested with qualified instructors on hand to help. Bowls is a sport available for all ages from 9 to 90+. Come and try it. Ring the reception on 01803 328488 for

further information.

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THINK IT was the late Bill Shankly who defined the role of football club directors in his own irascible, uncompromising way. "Their job is to eat the sandwiches and sign the cheques," said the master of Anfield.

In Shankly's day, directors knew their place, if they had any sense. It was in the boardroom, and definitely nowhere near the dressing-room.

Times were different, of course. There were no plac's or shareholders or chief executives or financial directors.

Between the board and the manager was the secretary, who answered to both and did his best to keep them apart.

And it was the same at Liverpool and Torquay.

The Shanklys and the Frank O'Farrells negotiated with players, tied up the contracts, told the secretary what kit to order and how much...and then told their boards how much it would all cost.

As long as their teams were winning - and Shankly's and O'Farrell's usually did - they were left alone to do their jobs.

Beam forward to last Saturday in the year 2002.

With ten minutes to go to half-time and Darlington being given the runaround by Torquay United at The Feethams, Quakers chairman and owner George Reynolds appeared at the dugout area, clearly trying to give manager

Tommy Taylor the benefit of his considered opinion on how to rectify the situation. In full view of a well populated grandstand.

Taylor, resolutely facing the pitch, refused to make eye contact, and Reynolds was left to fret outside the "technical area" until he could make his point or three at half-time.

Reynolds is a one-off. And I wouldn't have a dime on how long he and Taylor will get on. But let's face it, we all reckon we know at least as well as the manager, or even better.

We can spot obvious substitutions a mile off. We're the experts on team selection, tactics and setpieces.

But what would Mr. Reynolds think if Tommy Taylor dropped into his factory and told him how to run his chipboard business?

The Liverpool directors would never have dared to tell Shankly the footballing time of day.

HERALD EXPRESS REVIEW:

And I remember O'Farrell ordering the United team coach to leave an errant director behind after an away game, because he was still taking refreshment after the agreed departure time.

Nobody was arguing with him. Of course, times have changed. The finances of the game have

brought vastly increased pressures at all levels, and the days have long gone when managers could be laws unto themselves and everybody else danced to their tune.

But one thing hasn't changed. Results are still all-important, and everything else follows from them. The vast majority of managers, especially the experienced ones, see the same things that the supporters see, and many things that they miss.

As the late, great Cyril Knowles used to say: "A man who never makes a decision never makes a mistake. And if I make a hundred a week and get 98 right, I don't expect to be hammered for the couple I might get wrong."

Many of us thought that Cyril got one wrong when he left 36-year-old Sean Haslegrave out of that spine-tingling Play-Off Final against Swansea back in 1988. But none of us would have dared tell him to his face. And, despite United's 4-5 aggregate defeat, none of us would have wanted anyone else picking the team.

by David Thomas

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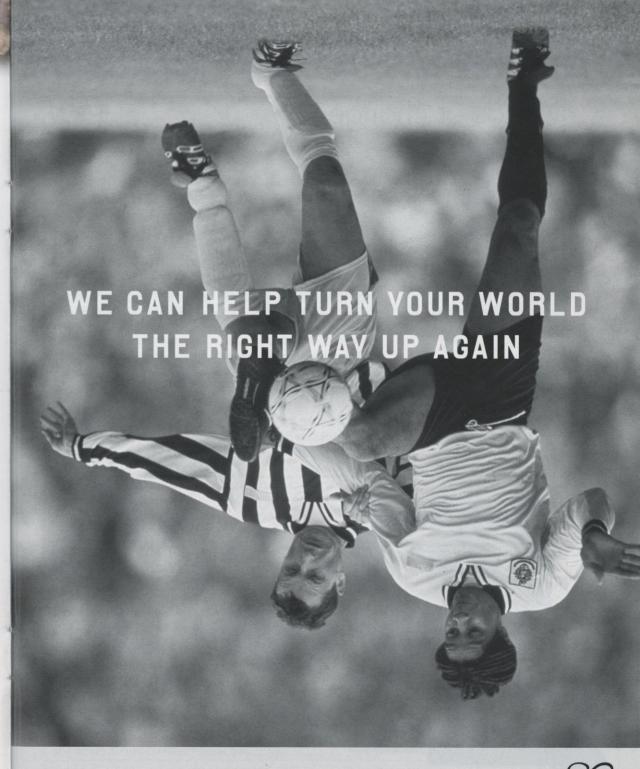
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Winds of change

financial
uncertainty amongst lower
league clubs in recent
weeks, the debate on the
return of regionalisation has
once again become a
major talking point.
One of the leading
advocates of this change is
Leyton Orient Chairman
Barry Hearn.

Hearn said in an interview with the Daily Mail that '75 % of Division 3 clubs could go bankrupt along with 50 % of Division 2 clubs and 25 % of Division 1 clubs'. He also cited the problems faced currently by Bury, Exeter and York could lead to a domino effect through Lower League English Football.

Bearing in mind these comments have come from someone who has made money successfully in other Sports such as Snooker and Boxing, it sums up the seriousness of the situation affecting the financial climate facing Football. Regionalisation and Semi Professionalism have been on & off the agendas of lower league teams for the past 20 years and it now seems the debate will continue at least for the time beina. Regionalisation' was introduced originally to save travelling expenses of teams as shorter distances were involved and Division's 3 & 4 came into being when teams became better off, now it looks as though the trend is reversing after the recent revelations. But it's not just clubs at the bottom who are facing problems, Nottingham Forest themselves twice winners of the European Cup are struggling financially and Everton, one of the traditional giants of the English game are a reportedly £22 million in debt, despite getting crowds of 35,000 for every home For both clubs this financial stigma is preventing them from returning to their past glories. Perhaps a solution for the problem may rest on

the other side of the Atlantic

www.torquayunited.com

Ocean, in American

Football and Basketball a draft system has operated for many years. Through this system the smaller teams get first pick of the best youngsters each year and sell them on to bigger teams. In England, Premier League Youth academies take on the best voungsters each year and not everyone of them is auaranteed to make it as a pro with that particular club. Premier League sides often sell some of these players to smaller clubs for small fees. A system should be introduced in which Lower league clubs could sign academy cast-offs when they are 16 or 17. These players could improve with the greater chances of first team Football available to them and could be sold on for large fees. This has worked for Crewe who have discovered David Platt and Neil Lennon and sold them on for large fees after big clubs let them go as youngsters, Torquay have also done the same with Lee Sharpe. Perhaps the current situation shows that Football clubs were never meant to

Steve Harris

be businesses.

What is... frogh pper

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Sat Oct 27 Shrewsbury Town	3.00	2-1	2,356										*	•			•						91	•	•	5**				•					•	0**
Sat Nov 3 Rochdale	3.00	0-2	3,078									5** !	*	•	•		•		•				•		•	5***				•					0*	
Sat Nov 10 Swansea City	3.00	1-2	2,276				•						***	•	•						5*	_	9***							•	_				0	
Sat Nov 17 Northampton	3.00	1-2	2,241				S*							•		-	9***						•	9.		5***	5*			•						•
Tues Nov 20 Exeter City	7.45	0-2	3,764		•							5**	_	_	_	•					_			•			S*	-	-	•			-		0,	0**
Sat Nov 24 Halifax Town	3.00	0-2	1,681	-			•			- 1		O*	_		S***	_	•	-	-							5**	5.			•	_		-		+	5*
Sat Dec 1 Macclesfield Town	3.00	1-2	1,702									5** (•	•				9***		3	,	-					5		-	•			-		-	
Sat Dec 15 Lincoln City Sat Dec 22 Oxford Utd	3.00	0-0 3-3	2,747 2,463	-	•						0		**	C*			_							0				0,	-							
Sat Dec 22 Oxford Utd Wed Dec 26 Plymouth Argyle	1.00	2-2	3,677		•			_	-	-		-		0,			_						_					S*		•						
Sat Dec 29 Carlisle Utd	3.00	7-7	Postponed	1																															1	
Tues Jan 1 Cheltenham Town	3.00	0-1	2,952		•***		-		•	•		9	*	5**	S***		-	•												•						
Sat Jan 5 K'minster (FAC3)	3.00	1-4	2,129					•	•	•**	9*		***	•			•	•		5	5**			•				5**			•					
Sat Jan 12 York City	3.00	1-1	3,345					•	•	•				•		•		•				•						•		•	_	D 1				51*
Sat Jan 19 Bristol Rovers	12.15	2-1	3,493					_	_	•1*			_		•		_	•		-		•	_	•						•	-					S*
Tues Jan 22 Oxford (WC SF 2)	7.45	1-1	5,480					_		•		-	_	_	•		_	•				•		•				-		•					-	S*
Sat Jan 26 Southend Utd (FAC 4)	3.00	1-1	4,184	-				-	-	•	5***			_	•			•				•		•			-	-		•			-	-	+	S**
Sat Feb 2 Leyton Orient	3.00	1-1	1,993					_	-	0	5 **	_		_	•		_	0°				•	Cook		-		-		-	•					-	S*
Sat Feb 9 Hartlepool United	3.00	1-4	3,658	-				_		O**	•*		_	_	•		-		•		-	•	3				-			•			-		-	2
Sat Feb 16 Hull City (FAC 5) Tues Feb 19 Carlisle United	7.45	0-2	2,403 3,823	-	•			-	_	_	5**	_	_						-		•									•			-			S*
Tues Feb 19 Carlisle United Sat Feb 23 Darlington	3.00	3-1	3,149				_			•**			_	_	•				•		-	•		9		-				•	_		1			5**
Sun Feb 24 WC Final	0.00	1	5,147																																	
Tues Feb 26 Rushden & D'monds	7.45	1-1	1,709					•	•	•**	5*	9	5**	•	•				•*			•)						•						
Sat Mar 2 Luton Town	3.00	Н																																		
Tues Mar 5 Scunthorpe Utd	7.45	Α																	D	MO	H			T		11-24	1 41			al.	W: L	D		0		al all
Sat Mar 9 Lincoln City (FAC 6)	3.00	Н																	n	AC	1			TOTO	uuy	Unite	TUI	y su	pport	ine	Kick	nucis	omt C	UT U	roc	ntina
Sat Mar 16 Macclesfield Town	3.00	A																		1/5				will	haigi	occort	ad t	rom	the "	roug	jes in i	nuece	ctory	ards	Sho	ild a
Sat Mar 23 Mansfield Town	3 00	I H	The second second	100	100000			1000		10000	100	State of the last			THE OWNER OF THE OWNER, THE OWNER	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF	1000	1000						BOLL SELLIN	ME	COLUII	cu I	VIII	THE U	I B. T. I. I. I. I.	a my	CALL STREET	TIC AA	MI MJ.	11111	THE WAY

Appearance	es ar	na (joals	trom	the	Gulls
	League App	SHB.	Total App	League Goals	Cup Godls	Jotal Goals
Steve Tully	17	3	20			
Robbie Herrera	3		3			
Lee Russell	8	1	9			
Paul Holmes	12		12			
Jimmy Aggrey	2		2			
Brian Healy	2		2			
Tony Bedeau	12	As all the state	12	2		2
Eifion Williams	25	3	27	2		2
Kevin Hill	35	4	39	2		2
Matt Hockley	11	1	12			
Troy Douglin	7	3	10			
Tom Stocco						
Ryan Northmore						
Chris Brandon	22	3	25	2	1	3
Michael O'Brien	1		1			
Kevin Parker	2		2		Late	
Simon Lyons						
Alex Russell	25	3	27	5		5
Jason Rees	29	3	32			
David Graham	26	3	29	5	1	6
Gareth Law	5	1	6		W. W.	
Ryan Ashington	1	THE PAR	1			
Jimmy Benefield	5	2	7			
Nick Stephens						
Kevin Dearden	37	4	41			
Neville Roach	12	2	14	1		1
Anton Grayling	2		2			
Steve Woods	29	2	31	2		2
David Woozley	10	2	12			
Sean Hankin	15	1	16			
Lee Canoville	8	1	9			
Gary Brabin	6	1	7	1		1
Marcus Richardso		2	24	3		3
Gary Brown	1	1	2	ī		1
Mark Nichols	4		4	1		1
Christian Hanson	6		6			
Jason Fowler	14		14	1		1
Gregory Goodride			10	i		i
David Preece	7		7			
Richard Logan	16		16	3		3
David Brown	1		ī			
CLEAN SHEETS		Leag	ue	Cup		TOTAL
Kevin Dearden		3		1		4

Appearances and Goals from the Gulls

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	P	w	H	ION	IE F	Δ	w	A	WA	YFA	
Plymouth	35	15	1	2	34	11	8	6	3	19 13	
Luton	35	10	4	3	33	15	10	2	6	34 28	
Mansfield	34	12	3	2	38	17	7	3	7	18 20	
Scunthorpe	36	11	4	3	37	18	4	8	6	28 28	
Rochdale	34	8	7	1	28	15	7	4	7	20 24	
Hull	35	11	5	2	32	9	4	5	8	16 26	
Cheltenham	32	7	9	1	29	17	7	3	5	19 18	
Shrewsbury	36	10	4	4	29	16	5	5	8	22 27	
Rushden	36	11	5	2	30	15	3	6	9	16 28	
Hartlepool	35	10	4	4	42	18	4	4	9	11 21	
Kidderminster	34	10	5	3	26	12	4	2	10	15 23	
Southend	35	10	3	5	29	17	2	5	10	13 28	
Exeter	34	5	6	6	16	24	7	2	8	19 29	
Darlington	36	9	5	4	29	19	2	5	11	16 35	
Swansea	36	5	7	6	20	20	6	3	9	25 34	
Macclesfield	36	5	5	8	19	21	6	5	7	13 21	
Oxford	36	7	5	6	29	22	3	6	9	15 25	
Carlisle	32	8	3	5	23	13	1	8	7	14 25	
Bristol Rovers	35	7	4	6	24	21	3	4	11	10 23	
Lincoln	34	7	3	7	20	20	2	8	7	15 27	
York	33	6	4	6	15	18	4	4	9	25 37	
TORQUAY UNITED	36	6	5	7	20	26	2	7	9	14 29	
Orient	34	6	4	6	27	22	2	5	11	16 36	

campaign. Any supporter who engages in indecent or racist chanting will be escorted from the ground by our stewards. Should a supporter be removed, a ban for the rest of the season will be imposed upon him or her and any future re-admittance will occur only upon the case being reviewed. the co-operation of our supporters is greatly appreciated.

- Kick It

Out Of

Football

Heather A. Kindeleit-Badcock Club Secretary

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Α 3.00 H 3.00 A

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3.00

3.00 A

Sat Mar 23 Mansfield Town
Sat Mar 30 Shrewsbury town

Apr 14 FAC Semi Final

Mon Apr 1 Rochdale

Sat Apr 6 Exeter City Sat Apr 13 Halifax Town

Sat Apr 20 Swansea City Sat May 4 FAC Final

TAN



Ruben Hazell crosses



Charlie McDonald shows off his close control



Charlie McDonald gets out jumped

town

O

3

The Manager Joe Kinnear

Desperate for experienced man to try to halt a slide down the Second Division table. directors persuaded loe kinnear to

take on the daunting task in February 2001, as Luton's third manager of the season.

He quickly instilled much-needed confidence, and improved Luton's performances and results, but the leeway was too great to make up, with a squad which he admitted was not good enough and no-one was more autted than footballmad Kinnear when the season of strugale ended in the Hatters dropping into Division Three. It was the first relegation he had suffered in a long career which made him a household name as a player and then as a manager.

Alan Neilson

With Luton's promotion bid going well in February, Foe Kinnear felt it was the right time to boost his squad still further to increase competition for places in the latter stages of the season, and defender Neilson, a former Welsh international, was signed on a free transfer after being released by Grimsby as part of a costcutting exercise. He brought with him plenty of top football experience. His international career began with appearances for Wales at youth and under-21 level, followed by five full caps, and enjoyed a good career in the Premiership, with his first club Newcastle and then with Southampton and Fulham.

David Bayliss

Luton suffered a horrendous illness and injury crisis in late November, with 24 players unavailable on the day they could not raise a team to play at Kidderminster. loe Kinnear had spent a week chasing players to try to plug the gaps, without success until he discovered to his great delight that Rochdale were prepared to

release their longest-serving player. Centrehalf Bayliss was looking for a new challenge, and jumped at the chance to join the hatters, going straight into the squad and impressing on his debut in a 2-1 victory at Hartlepool. The defender, an inch under six foot tall, had been at Spotland since he was a trainee, and made over 200 first-team appearances for Rochdale before deciding not to accept a new contract with them.

Emmerson Boyce

One of the many to come through from Luton's schools and youth development programme, the defender was signed as a YTS boy in the summer of 1995, and made the breakthrough to the League squad at the age of 19 midway through the 1999/2000 season after occasional appearances following a debut in the Auto Windscreens Shield in January 1999. A commanding defensive figure, he was a regular last season, and junior members af Luton Town Supporters Club voted him their player of the year.

Luton record to the start of this season: 86 appearances, 4 goals,

Ahmet Brkovic

Believing a move would be good for his career, the midfield playmaker refused new terms at Levton Orient in the summer of 2001, to join Luton on a Bosman free transfer. Orient had signed him on a free from HNK Dubrovnik in the summer of 1999, and he was a regular in their league squad last season. He was bitterly disappointed when they failed in the playoffs to win promotion to the Second Division, and thinks he can do it this season with Luton.



Chris Coyne

The centre-half was playing for Perth Soccer Club when he was selected for the Australian under-17 squad for the 1994 youth World Cup, and came to the notice of



Back Row, Left-Right: Russell Perrett, Andrew Fotiadis, Adam Locke, Matthew Spring, Emmerson Boyce, Jude Stirling, Richard Dryden, Kevin Nicholls, Stuart Fraser.

Middle Row, Left-Right: Bruce Sewell (Sports Therapist), Mick Harford (First Team Coach), Kent Karlsen, Steve Howard, Mark Ovendale, Scott Ward, Carl Emberson, Paul Hughes, Peter Holmes, Brian Stein (Reserve Team Coach), John Moore (Youth Team Coach).

Front Row, Left-Right: Liam George, Lee Mansell, Carl Griffiths, Marvin Johnson, Joe Kinnear (Manager), Aaron Skelton, Adrian Forbes, Stuart Douglas, Matthew Taylor.

Harry Redknapp, then manager of West Ham. An invitation to report to Upton Park for trials led to Coyne signing for the Hammers as a teenager. But Premiership chances were few and far between, and after loan spells at Brentford and Southend, Covne accepted a transfer to Dundee, to play in the Scottish Premier Legaue. Luton boss Joe Kinnear had remembered Coyne from his West Ham days, and a £50,000 cheque persuaded Dundee to let the defender move to Kenilworth Road in September 2001

Dean Crowe

Manager Joe Kinnear moved swiftly to sign Crowe on loan from Stoke City in late September when an injury crisis decimated the Hatters squad. The striker made an immediate impact: he scored on his debut, at Plymouth, and before his month was up had netted four goals in five appearances. and was then signed on a permanent deal. Crowe began his career as a YTS boy at Stoke, but found it difficult to hold down a regular place in their league side after a change of management and an influx of Scandinavian players. He was made available by Stoke in the summer of 2001 after loan spells at Northampton and Bury.

Stuart Douglas

A striker with excellent pace, Douglas was a 17-year-old trainee when he scored on his league debut for Luton against Oldham in 1995, but a series of injuries delayed his progress before he won a regular place in Luton's league side in the 1998/99 season. He has flourished both as maker and taker of goals, and Luton will always wonder if regulation might have been avoided last season if Douglas had not suffered more injury problems which restricted him to only 15 full league appearances

Luton record to the start of this season: 162 appearances, 23 goals.

Richard Dryden

Vastley experienced, the defender has played at all levels of professional football. and accepted his second Luton contract at the end of last season. He had been recruited on a free transfer from Southampton in February 2001. Bristol Rovers gave Dryden his start in football, as a trainee, but after a handful of games he was allowed to move on to Exeter for £10,000. Two years later they cashed in as he was sold to Notts County for £250,000, and further hefty fees were paid as Dryden moved on to Birminaham, Bristol City and Southampton. He also spent some time on loan at Stoke in the 1999-2000 season, during which he helped them win the Auto Windscreens Shield at Wemblev.

Luton record to the start of this season: 20 appearances.

Carl Emberson

Wanting two players to compete for the first team goalkeeper's spot, loe Kinnear moved swiftly in the summer of 2001 to persuade Emberson to choose Luton

instead of Plymouth, who were also interested, when his contract at Walsall ended. His career began at Millwall as a trainee, but he made his name in a sevenyear spell at Colchester before going to the Bescot Stadium in the summer of 1999. There he was in the squad which won promotion to Division One, and Kinnear hopes he will enjoy similar success at

Andrew Fotiadis

A local discovery. Fotiadis chose to stay at school to gain GCSE A-levels before being a full-time soccer professional. He won England Schools caps at under-15 and under-18 level, and developed a style to delight Luton fans and worry opposing defences, as an old-fashioned centreforward, with good physique, power, and concentrated determination.

Luton record to the start of this season: 112 appearances, 13 goals.

Carl Griffiths

An impressive scoring record - a goal in every 2.5 starts for seven previous clubs led to Carl Griffiths becoming a major summer target for Luton after relegation from the Second Division, and they got their man when they signed him form Leyton Orient for a fee reported to be £65,000. His earlier moves had totted up to well over £ I million, starting with a £500,000 transfer from Shrewsbury to Manchester City. Beginning as a trainee at Gay Meadow, Griffiths had set his benchmark by netting 61 goals in 130 starts for the shrews.



surprised than the Welsh inder-21 international imself when he made his league debut for Luton in the second game of this season. The day before

he was training with Spurs, where he was captain of the reserves, but a crop of injuries at Luton led to Joe Kinnear taking the young right back on loan, and Hillier settled in so quickly that Luton soon decided to buy him, for a bargain £30.000 fee.

Peter Holmes

This season is probably a make-or-break campaign for a midfielder who once seemed destined for soccer stardom. He is a product of the FA's School of Excellence, in the same year as Michael Owen. Sheffield Wednesday were his first club, but relegation from the Premiership in May 2000 left them desperate to cut the pay-roll and Luton signed the tow-footed midfielder for a nominal fee a few months later. But in his first season at Kenilworth Road, he played in barely a third of their league and

Luton record to the start of this season: 22 appearances, 1 goal.

Steve Howard

Joe Kinnear swooped on deadline day in March 2001 to prise the tall striker away from Northampton for a bargain fee of £50.000. The price was down to the Bosman effect - Howard had cost the Cobblers a then record club fee of £120,000 when they recruited him from Hartlepool two years previously. At Six fields his height and power as a target man, and a scoring rate of a goal every four games, helped Northampton to win promotion to Division Two. Luton had firsthand experience of his ability - he scored when Northampton achieved their first-ever league win at Kenilworth Road, 2-0 in September 2000. Luton record to the start of this season: 12 appearances, 3 goals.

Marvin Johnson

Longest-serving player at Kenilworth Road, Johnson is arguably the most popular member of the Kenilworth Road staff with his colleagues and with the fans. Always cheerful, even when recovering from injury setbacks, the defender is in his 14th season as a first-team regular at Luton, his only club, and skipper of the team he joined as a schoolboy. He is desperate to enjoy this season - a serious neck injury restricted him to only 11 games last year as Luton suffered relegation. He is the only member of the playing staff to have appeared in all four divisions for Luton - he made his debut at Goodison Park in

Luton record to the start of this season: 417 appearances, 9 goals.

Adam Locke

Well-travelled in football terms, the midfielder joined Luton on a free transfer from Bristol City to add experience to t predominantly young squad in the summer of 1999. He began as a YTS boy with Crystal Palace, his local club, but could not get into the league team at Selhurst, and moved on to Southend, Colchester and Ashton Gate before joining Luton.
Luton record to the start of the season: 72 appearances, 5 goals.

The tough-tackling midfielder began his career as a trainee at Charlton and quickly made an impact after skippering England youth teams at under-18, under-19 and under 20 levels. At the time Joe Kinnear, now manager of tuton, was in charge of Wimbledon, and made a note of the young Nicholls, and just before this season started he was surprised - and well pleased - to hear that Nicholls was available for transfer. Charlton had sold him for £250,000 to Wigan in the summer of 1999, but the move did not work out, and Luton's offer of £150,000 led to him moving to Kenilworth Road.

Mark Ovendale

The arrival of a new board of directors at Kenilworth Road in the summer of 2000 enabled Luton to break a mould that had been set over the previous three years.

Then, with continuing financial problems, including a spell in receivership, Luton had been great sellers of players, and very rarely buyers. That changed when Mike Watson-Challis became the chairman, and made cash available to secure goalkeeper Ovendale from Bournemouth for £425,000. He was previously with Wisbech, Northampton and Barry Town Luton record to the start of the season: 33 appearances.

Having helped Cardiff City win promotion to the Second Division in May, 2001, the big central defender was the victim of a huge recruitment drive at Ninian Park. Club owner Sam Hammam launched a spending spree which included £600,000 for Spencer Prior, and Perrett knew his first team future at Cardiff might be limited. Strong in the air, and with a good first touch on the ground, Perrett began with non-league Lynington before being snapped up by neighbouring Portsmouth in 1995. He did well in the First Division, and moved to Cardiff four years later.

Matthew Spring

A competitive midfielder, Spring has been at Luton since he was a schoolboy, and was a driving force in the side which reached the FA Youth Cup semi-finals in

1997. After a league debut when still only 17, he soon became a regular in Luton's Second Division team, and as he came into this season he had never been dropped. His first 100 appearances were clocked up while he was only 20.

Luton record to the start of this season: 170 appearances, 15 goals.

Matthew Taylor When Luton were in



receivership in the summer of 1999, players had to be sold or given away to save money, while severe restrictions were imposed on new

recruits. So once more luton had to look at the young talent coming up through the ranks, and the wing-back, though still only 17, was thrust into the league team. With his pace and flerce shooting ability, he settled in immediately, and has developed into a top class player, a real crowdpleaser, and a respected professional. At the end of his first season he was named young player of the year by the Luton management and coaching staff. Twelve months later, in May 2001, he swept the board in the player of the year votes - he picked up the prizes from votes by players, Luton Town Supporters Club, and internet fans. He also netted the goal of the season award.

Luton record to the start of this season: 101 appearances, 6 gpals

hatever happened to the Torquay team?

Leigh Edwards selects a memorable match between our two clubs...

TORQUAY UNITED 2 v LUTON TOWN 2 21/2/70

Div 3



Second-half goals by Tommy Mitchinson and John Rudae gave Torquay United a thrilling

draw against promotion-chasing Luton Town in front of 6.964 at Plainmoor.

Torquay boss Allan Brown had played for Luton Town in the 1959 FA Cup final and was keen to do well against his old club. The Gulls went close to scoring in the opening minute as Alan Welsh streaked through the defence to connect with a perfect pass from Eric Welsh but Sandy Davie timed his advance perfectly and the left-winger sent his shot past the upright.

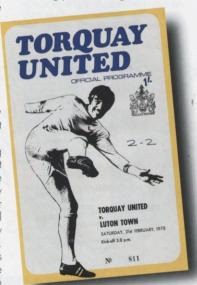
Then John Rudge, after sending one inviting chance scraping past the woodwork, saw a far more accurate shot headed awkwardly off the line by John Moore. After that Luton took control for a spell and threatened to destroy Torquay with their powerful wing play. Graham French, on the right, was damaging in sharp bursts while on the other flank Mike Harrison provided a more direct challenge.

From Harrison's crosses Alan Slough and Malcolm Macdonald each wasted good chances, although that was one of the few times that ace marksman Macdonald stole space from Bill Kitchener. The cool, controlled display of Allan Young alongside Kitchener gave the heart of Torquay's defence the same authority as Luton pair Chris Nicholl and John Moore.

With those early chances squandered the game lost its sparkle and there seemed little

hope of a goal, particularly from the Torquay forwards who rarely threatened the bigger, more physically powerful Luton defence. But then the Gulls unexpectedly took the lead in the 63rd minute when Tommy Mitchinson darted into the goalmouth to head home a corner from Eric Welsh.

Although Torquay buzzed excitingly at this stage it was :



Mitchinson, Alan Welsh.

Ryan, Fred Jardine, Alan Slough, Chris Nicholl, John Moore, Graham French, Malcolm Macdonald, Matt Tees, Mike Keen, Mike Harrison.

Luton who carried the more lethal sting and they equalised on 71 minutes when Mike Harrison's 25 vard shot flashed past the unsighted Andy Donnelly into the corner of the net. Within a minute the visitors had taken the lead as Graham French set up Malcolm Macdonald to shoot past Donnelly.

Just as many supporters began to leave the ground four minutes from the final whistle Torquay won a free-kick just inside the Luton half. John Benson floated it up to down to Eric Welsh and he in turn found John Rudge lurking near the goal. The centre-forward threw himself at the ball and sent it flying into the corner of the net for a dramatic equaliser. It was Torquay's ninth successive Plainmoor game without victory

Bill Kitchener who nodded it

but manager Allan Brown was well pleased with the result and performance against Alec Stock's high-flying side. Luton went on to clinch promotion that season as runners-up to Orient, while Torquay finished in a disappointing mid-table position after two consecutive promotion near-misses.

TORQUAY: Andy Donnelly, Brian Joy, John Benson, Jimmy Dunne, Allan Young, Bill Kitchener, Eric Welsh, Mickey Cave. John Rudae. Tommy

LUTON: Sandy Davie, John



...and traces the whereabouts of the Torquay players involved

ANDY DONNELLY: Popular goalkeeper who made 160 League appearances prior to joining Cape Town City in January 1972 and also played in South Africa for East London United and Hellenic. He has lived in Hastinas for the past 14 years and was a milkman, then ran a sandwich company and is now a newsagent.

BRIAN JOY: Versatile full-back who made 27 League appearances for Torquay prior to joining Tranmere Rovers in July 1970, then played for Doncaster Rovers, Exeter City, San Diego Jaws, York City, Las Vegas Quicksilver, Macclesfield Town and San Diego Sockers. He has since settled in the United States.

JOHN BENSON: Versatile defender who followed John Bond to Bournemouth in October 1970 and then Norwich City before rejoining Bournemouth as playerboss. He later assisted Bond at Manchester City and Burnley, then was Barnsley's chief scout and Wigan's manager. Now assisting Steve Bruce at Birmingham.

JIMMY DUNNE: Versatile former Republic of Ireland international defender who scored 19 goals in 248 League games overall during two spells at Torquay prior to reuniting with Willie Brown at Minehead on a free transfer in July 1979. He subsequently had a brief spell with Limerick and then settled locally.

ALLAN YOUNG: Experienced former Arsenal and Chelsea central defender who starred in Torquay's 1970-71 FA Cup run and scored once in 60 Third Division games while at Plainmoor prior to joining Wimbledon (then in the Southern League) in March 1972 but injury ended his playing career soon



SEASON 1970/1971

Back Row: Dick Edwards, Ian Twitchin, Mal Lucas, Bob Glozier, Andy Donnelly, Cec Symth, Eric Welsh, John Rudge, Allan Young, Phil Sandercock

Front Row: George Potter, Alan Welsh, Tommy Mitchinson, John Benson, Mick Cave, Cliff Jackson, Bill Kitchener

BILL KITCHENER: Defender who netted eight goals in 167 League outings before following John Bond to Bournemouth in July 1971, then played for Cambridge City and Wealdstone. Since August 1978 he has been a police constable at Lymington, New Milton, Ringwood, Burley, Lyndhurst and now Southampton.

JOHN RUDGE: Torquay's leading marksman in 1970-71, he joined Bristol Rovers in exchange for Robin Stubbs in February 1972. He later had a spell at Bournemouth before assisting Mike Green at Torquay, then managed Port Vale from March 1984 until February 1999 and is now Stoke City's football executive.

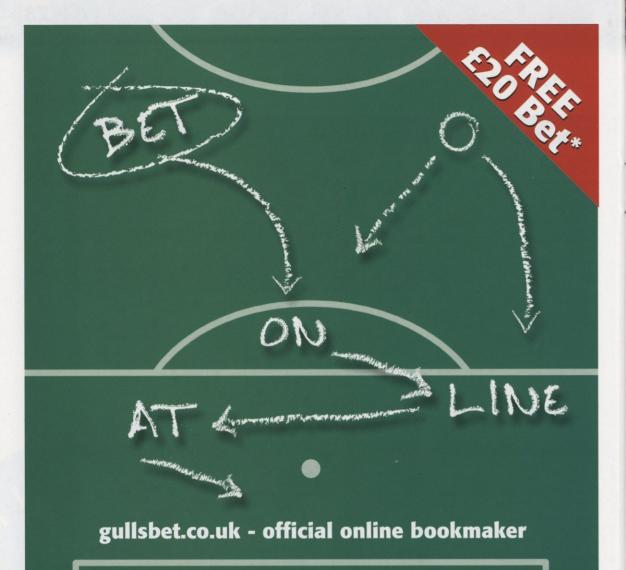
ERIC WELSH: Former Northern Ireland international winger who netted 12 goals in 40 Third Division games for Torquay prior to joining Hartlepool in July 1971, then spent four years playing in South Africa. He has settled in Torquay and since worked with special needs children for Devon County Council.

MICKEY CAVE: Popular midfielder who scored 17 times in 114 League outings while at Plainmoor before following John Bond to Bournemouth in July 1971. He later played for York City, Bournemouth again and Seattle Sounders, then coached Pittsburgh Spirit until tragic death in November 1985.

MITCHINSON: TOMMY.

Stylish midfielder who scored nine goals in 108 Third Division outings for Torquay prior to joining John Bond's Bournemouth in December 1971. His career was ended by meningitis soon after and he has been a self-employed milkman in his native Sunderland for the past 29 years.

ALAN WELSH: Torquay's top scorer in 1969-70, he netted 45 times in 145 League games prior to joining Plymouth Argyle in July 1972, then played for Bournemouth, Millwall again, Maidstone United and Cape Town City. He worked in the print trade and is now in the building trade. living in Forest Hill, London.



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*Conditions apply. See website for details

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lex Russell's hat-trick earned us our first away vin since our 2-1 win at Levton Orient at the end of September. This was our second win in our last four visits to Feethams, following up the 2-0 success in April 1999 when Tony Bedeau and Eifion Williams act our goal. This was the first hat-trick in a League game for us since the selfsame Eifion Williams got all three goals in our 3-0 win over

Meanwhile today's visitors Luton beat York 2-1 with Steve Howard getting both goals to bring him ample consolation for the twicetaken penalty that he missed in the corresponding game at York in September and which led to him being left out for the next game. He has now scored in each of Luton's last four home games.

Hartlepools in March 1999.

Biggest win of the day on Saturday was Hartlepool's 5-1 win over Southend to take Pool's goal tally to 17 in their last four home games. This ended Southend's run of six away games without defeat, this being their heaviest defeat since going down 5-0 at Oxford in August 1996. Hartlepool are now on the edge of the playoffs as are Rushden and Diamonds who in their first-ever season in the Football League have just won 11 and drawn 4 of their last 15 home games after picking up only one point from their fist three home games this season. On Saturday they beat Leyton Orient 1-0 to leave the O's with only one point

🕰 Nationwide 🧔

(the one they got here) from their last eight League away games.

Orient are one of the teams thankful that at the moment Halifax show little indication that they can get away from the bottom place. On Saturday Alan Little's lads lost 1-0 at home to Swansea and they have now taken just tow points from their last eight League games. Steve Watkin got Swansea's matchwinner on Saturday in a game in which they owed much to onetime Newport and Chelsea goalkeeper Roger Freestone.

After winning six of their previous nine games Bristol Rovers have just lost four games in a row, going down at home on Saturday to Lincoln City who had won only one previous away game in Division Three this season-at Macclesfield in October.

At the top of the table Plymouth stayed ten points ahead with a 2-1 win over Kidderminster on Saturday but they had to wait for 90 minutes to start the game which was delayed by an electrical point and then had to come from behind after Drewe Broughton Kidderminster the lead. Arayle have now won 14 of their 17 home games this season, only Shrewsbury, Rochdale and ourselves having avoided defeat

Mansfield lost ground in the promotion race on Saturday going

down 3-0 at playoff candidates Shrewsbury, The Stags must now be looking over their shoulders at fourth place Scunthorpe who made it four wins and a draw in their last five home games as they beat Rochdale 2-1 and moved above them on Saturday, Wayne Graves getting both goals before being carried off with a ligament

Another tow goal man on Saturday was Exeter's Andy Roscoe who helped his side to a 2-1 win at Oxford and left them with six wins from their last nine away games beginning with their 2-0 success here in November. They now share with Macclesfield (who are next to them in the tablel distinction of

picking up more than half of their points away from home this season

Macclesfield have now won three of their last six away games by a 1-0 margin, Ricky Lambert getting their winner at Hull last week to leave the Tigers with only four wins in their last 14 games but still in the playoff bracket with the average attendance and the best home defensive record in our Division.





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Head 2 Head

27 Goals

Inside Area

31 Goals

9 Goals

How

Headers 20

Volleys10

Penalties 3

Free Kicks.. 0

O.G.s....0

Top Scorers

Howard..

Taylor ... Griffiths

Nicholls

Spring Valois

Perrett

Forbes .

Luton's Goal Ave

2001-2002

Highest Gate

9.585

vs Plymouth

Lowest Gate

vs Lincoln

Average Gate

6.776

Consec. Wins 3 games

2 games



Close Range 9 Goals

Inside Area 22 Goals

Outside Area 3 Goals

How Shots. Headers 6 Volleys . Penalties ... 3 Free Kicks.. 1

O.G.s..... 2 **Top Scorers**

Russell A6 Graham5 Logan4 Hill 3 Richardson .. 3

2001-2002

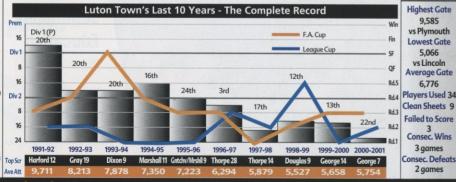
Torquay's Goal Ave

Blackburn Rovers v Aston Villa

0.94

Highest Gate 4,217 vs Plymouth **Lowest Gate** 1,702 vs Macclesfield **Average Gate** 2,495 Players Used 39 Clean Sheets 4 Failed to Score 14 Consec. Wins

Hatters' Last 10 H W Darlington H 5th =Torquay Hartlepool A 12th D Orient H 21st L Darlington A 19th A 14th W Bristol Rovers H 16th D Cheltenham A 7th A 22nd 24 Gulls Hatters -Alex Russell (Torquay) Top Scorers Comparison Steve Howard (Luton) Total Games Scored In .12 games .Games Scored 1 Goal .11 games Russell Howard Games Scored 2 Goals 0 games 1game Hat-tricks W->L.....1(3pts) Season's Results and W->D2 (4pts) W->D 0 (0pts) (loss of points) without the two goalscorers goals D->L2 (2pts) Maximum scoring run Goals. .Maximum Dry Spell 7 games Games23 Average ... 0.26 Shot Header **Torquay Goals** Volleyed Shot **Torquay Games Luton Games**



Penalty

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Q goal

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TEAM CHECK



1	
2	Steve Tully
3	Simon Lyons
4	Lee Russell
5	Paul Holmes
6	Alex Russell
7	Richard Logan
8	Gregory Goodridge
9	Tony Bedeau
10	Eifion Williams
11	Kevin Hill
12	Jason Rees (C)
13	Troy Douglin
14	Matt Hockley
15	Jason Fowler
16	Charlie MacDonald
17	Ryan Northmore Gl
18	Chris Brandon
19	Reuben Hazell
20	David Graham
21	Sean Hankin
22	Martin McNeil
23	Gareth Law
24	Ryan Ashington
25	Jimmy Benefield
26	David Preece
27	
28	Kevin Dearden
29	
30	Steve Woods
31	
32	
33	
34	Lee Canoville
35	Marcus Richardson

MANAGER: ROY McFARLAND

Mark Ovendale	1	
Aaron Skelton	2	
Matthew Spring	4	
Russell Perrett	5	
Marvin Johnson	6	
Adrian Forbes	7	
Kevin Nicholls	8	
Carl Griffiths	10	
Chris Coyne	12	
Stuart Fraser	13	-
Andrew Fotiadis	14	
Matthew Taylor	15	
Carl Emberson	16	
Emmerson Boyce	17	
Adam Locke	18	
Steven Howard	19	
Peter Holmes	20	
Richard Dryden	21	
Scott Ward	24	
Paul Hughes	27	
Jean-Louis Valois	28	
David Bayliss	30	
Lee Mansell	32	
lan Hillier	33	
Dean Crowe	34	
Ahmet Brkovic	35	
Gary McSwegan	42	
Alan Nielson	43	
MANAGER: JOE	KINN	IEAR

today's mascot



Daniel Long is Today's Mascot, he will be 9 years old on March 3rd.

He plays football for Dawlish United youth team, and enjoys other sports like judo, athlethics, swimming and trampolining.

Daniel's favourite players are Kevin Hill and Greg Goodridge.

Daniel attends Westcliff primary school in Dawlish.

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Assistant Referees: A.D. Sainsbury & S.P. Snartt
Fourth Official: M. Mullarkey



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