

Happy Newell

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Luton Town
Hull City

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AT KENILWORTH ROAD

THIS TIME last year Luton were in administration and the future looked bleak. Now they are four points clear in League One courtesy of a last-ditch win over rivals Hull.

Croatian Ahmet Brkovic's header after 88 minutes deservedly won it for Mike Newell's side, avenging a 3-0 defeat in October and thrilling the majority of a sell-out crowd.

Both these teams should make it into the Championship, a credit to their managers. The

quiet job performed by Newell in transforming Luton cannot be under-estimated, and they have lost just once in 16. "The first half was as good as we've played for weeks," he said. "We're not getting carried away but now there's a little daylight and we're getting closer."

Peter Taylor also deserves praise. Hull may have been dropping points in recent weeks but back-to-back promotion is still on the cards for a club where there is a different kind of pressure: appeasing a big fanbase and an average home crowd of over 17,000.

He said: "If we go up again, it will be the proudest moment of my managerial career because this is a sleeping giant. We've had a blip but we will bounce back."