



# HATTERS

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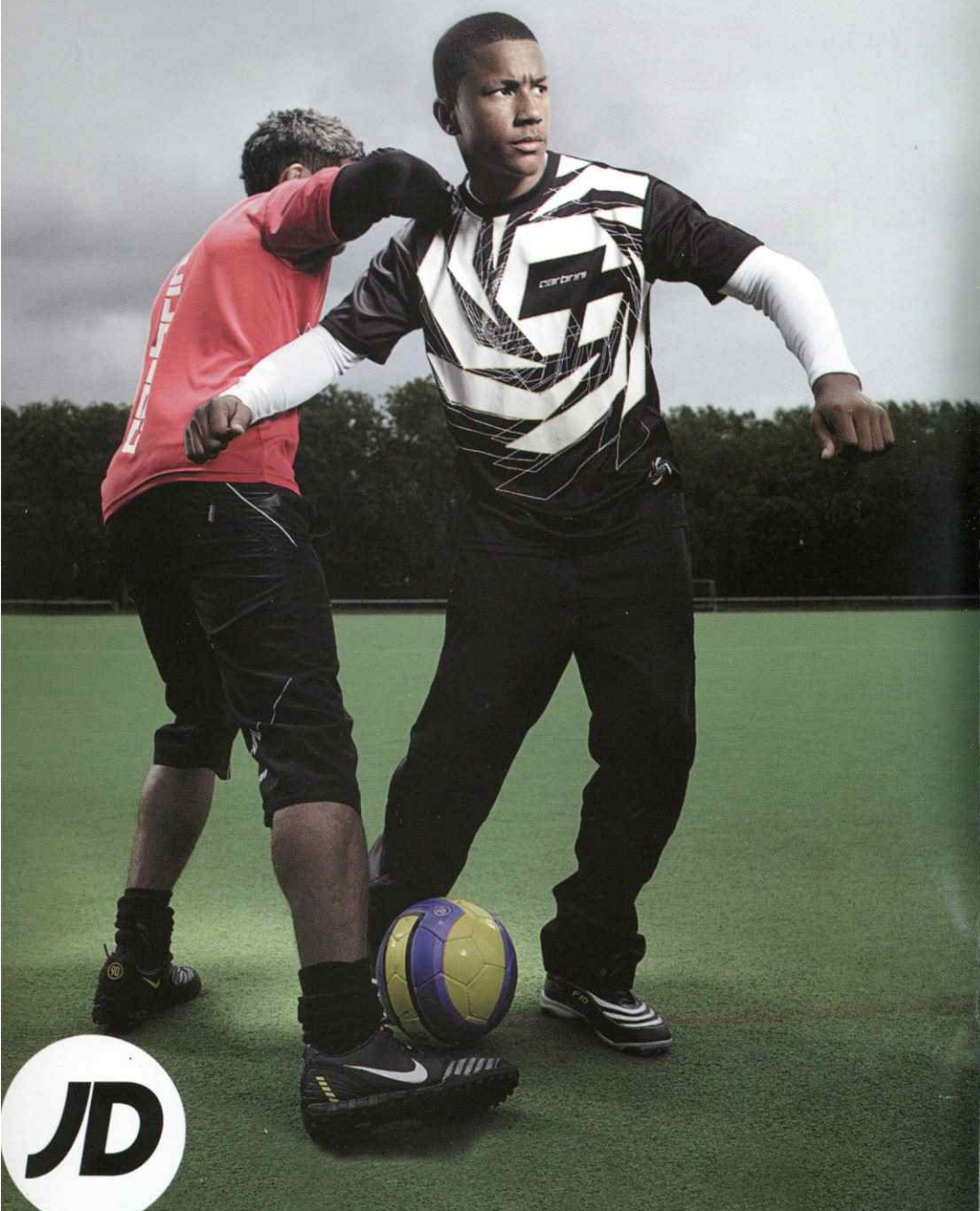
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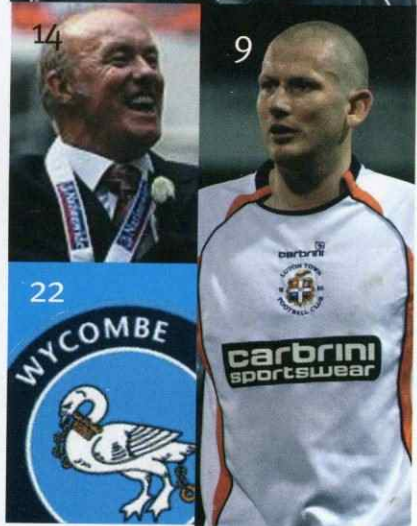
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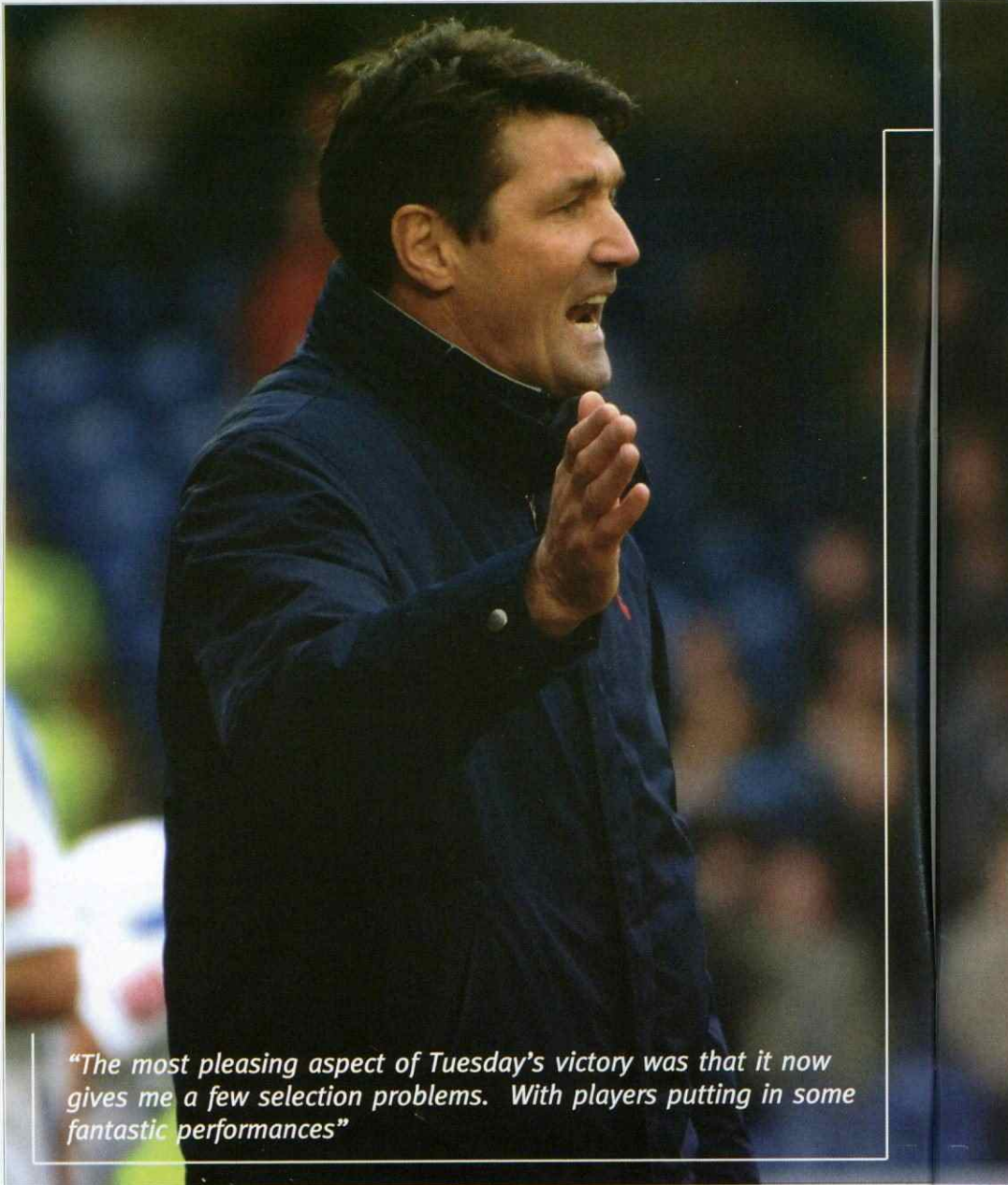
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Luton Town Football Club Official Matchday Programme  
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*"The most pleasing aspect of Tuesday's victory was that it now gives me a few selection problems. With players putting in some fantastic performances"*

# mickharford



THE HATTERS MANAGER REFLECTS BACK ON A POSITIVE WEEK FOR THE CLUB

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year for 2009. I hope the new year is a good one for each and every one of you and you get everything you all dream of!

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Sammy McIlroy, his players, directors and Chairman of Morecambe FC to Kenilworth Road this afternoon. They come to Luton on the back of a good victory last weekend against high-flying Darlington, so we know we must be at our best to gain the three points this afternoon.

Reflecting on our victory against what I thought was a very good Colchester United outfit, I thought the performance at times was immense, especially in the second half when they threw bodies forward and put us on the back foot at times. Some of our defending as a team was excellent, as we minimised their efforts on goal and so importantly kept another clean sheet.

We have a two legged affair against Brighton that we



can put on the back burner for now, but look forward to a challenge that will give us an opportunity of getting to a Wembley final.

The most pleasing aspect of Tuesday's victory was that it now gives me a few selection problems. With players putting in some fantastic performances it gives me that headache that I haven't had in the last few

weeks, also with some of the lads getting back to full fitness, the squad is now having some kind of depth to it, in terms of numbers and also, most importantly, it gives us competition for places.

Have a fantastic Christmas.

Keep the faith,

Mick Harford



**Our first ever meeting with Morecambe Football Club inevitably makes many of us think of our most famous supporter, the comedian who took his stage name from the town of his birth, the one and only Eric Morecambe.**

For those of our fans too young to know, Eric Morecambe was one of the greatest comics this country has known, if not THE greatest and certainly my favourite. One internet poll voted him the funniest

person of the twentieth century.

Around twenty million viewers would watch his shows with his partner Ernie Wise and their "Morecambe and Wise Christmas Specials" were the highlight of the festive season. His constant references to Luton Town FC were pure magic, as far as I was concerned. He came to live in Harpenden in the sixties and, with his young son Gary, wanted to watch some football. It

wasn't long before they were hooked on nearby Luton Town, so much so he was invited to become a director of the club in 1970 and the good he did for our image is beyond price. To this day, people still largely identify us with the name of Eric Morecambe.

Eric was here in the era of some mighty names in the history of Luton Town. To give you just a few: Anderson, Aston, Busby, Butlin, Faulkner, the Futchers, Givens, Husband, Hatton, Halom, Macdonald, Nicholl, Jim and John Ryan, I could go on for ever!

We frequently had crowds of over 20,000, played some exhilarating football under Alec Stock & Harry Haslam and had one testing season in the top flight. Eric left the board in 1975, but remained a supporter until his death in 1984.

Personally, I met him on a few occasions, but I have particularly happy memories of a wonderful morning I spent with him on ITV breakfast television, TV-am, in 1984. He was with us for the best part of two hours and he was pure gold. It started off with my handing him the previous night's programme from our game at West Ham, because I knew he hadn't been.

# nickowen



## The Hatters Chairman reflects back on the genius that was Eric Morecambe

"Thanks," he said, "I shall treasure that!" and then lobbed it over his shoulder in a superb show of disdain! After about three quarters of an hour on the show, I asked him, on air, if he was happy to stay a bit longer. "Stay a bit longer?" he said. "I could marry you!"

And so it went on, a hilarious morning, though there was also the more sombre side, as we talked about his long-standing heart problems. He'd had a heart attack 15 years previously when he was only 42 and then open heart surgery in 1979, but now he seemed absolutely fine. So tragic then that he collapsed on stage only about a month after our interview and died later that night, May 28th, 1984, aged just 58.

One of the country's greatest referees, Jack Taylor, who was in charge of the World Cup Final in 1974, told me a lovely story about Eric. Jack was hit by a flying penny

from the crowd as he left the pitch after one match at Kenilworth Road. It cut his face and he had to have six stitches. Eric went to see him to see if he was OK and made sure he wasn't going to report us. "Good," said Eric. "Now can I have my penny back?"

As we welcome our visitors to Kenilworth Road today, we treasure happy memories of the great man who grew up there. How he would have loved this fixture!

Nick



*"Our first ever meeting with Morecambe Football Club inevitably makes many of us think of our most famous supporter"*

# thecaptain



## THE SKIPPER LOOKS BACK ON THE LAST TWO POSITIVE GAMES

It was a good performance on Tuesday night to beat Colchester United, they are a good League 1 side and that is the level that we strive to get back to. Although it was a small crowd there was a good atmosphere in the ground and that helped us.

The last three games have proved that when we get everything right, we are good side. We have found a formation that is working for us at the moment and there has been a consistency to our performances.

To have kept two clean sheets, against the league leaders and a side from the division above, has given us a big confidence boost.

After the result you naturally think about the chance of playing at Wembley, however we are still a long way from that and out of respect to Brighton it won't be something we will give much consideration to at the moment. We will have two tough matches against Brighton and both teams will be up for it knowing what is at stake.

I know a bit about Morecambe from my time with Preston, we used to play them pre-season and we also played in them in the League Cup – when they beat us – so I know what they are about.

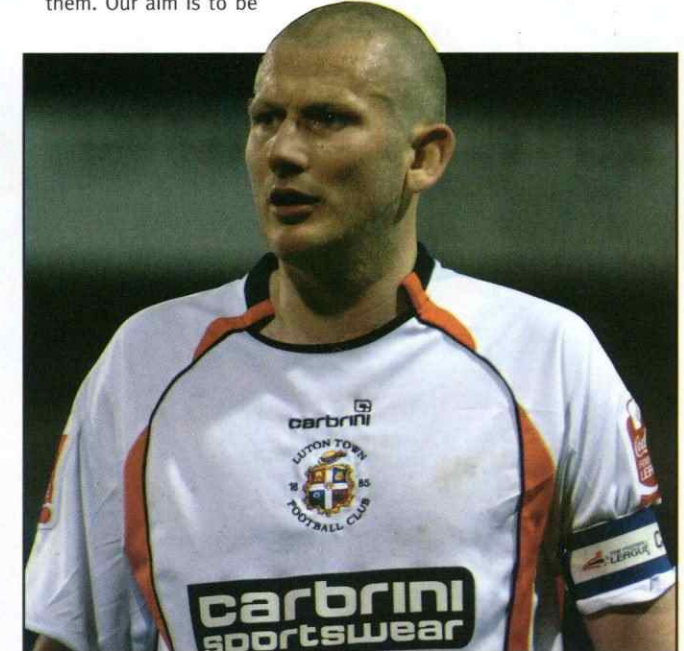
They play football and have a good team spirit but if we start well, as we have done in recent games then we can hopefully keep our run going. We have cut out the silly goals we were conceding a little while ago and I can't speak highly enough about the determination of the players to succeed and the way that they have gone about things recently.

We also know that Chesterfield will not be an easy place to go but it is a winnable game for us. They have been leaking goals recently and I hope that is still the case when we play them. Our aim is to be

on zero points after the game, it is a target we have set ourselves and it'll be a nice Christmas present if we achieve that on Boxing Day. We need to win every game we can now, draws are okay at places like Wycombe but we have to go on a long run now and to do that, simply we need to win everything we possibly can.

On behalf of everyone at the club, I would like to wish all our supporters a very merry Christmas and thanks for all your support this year.

Nico



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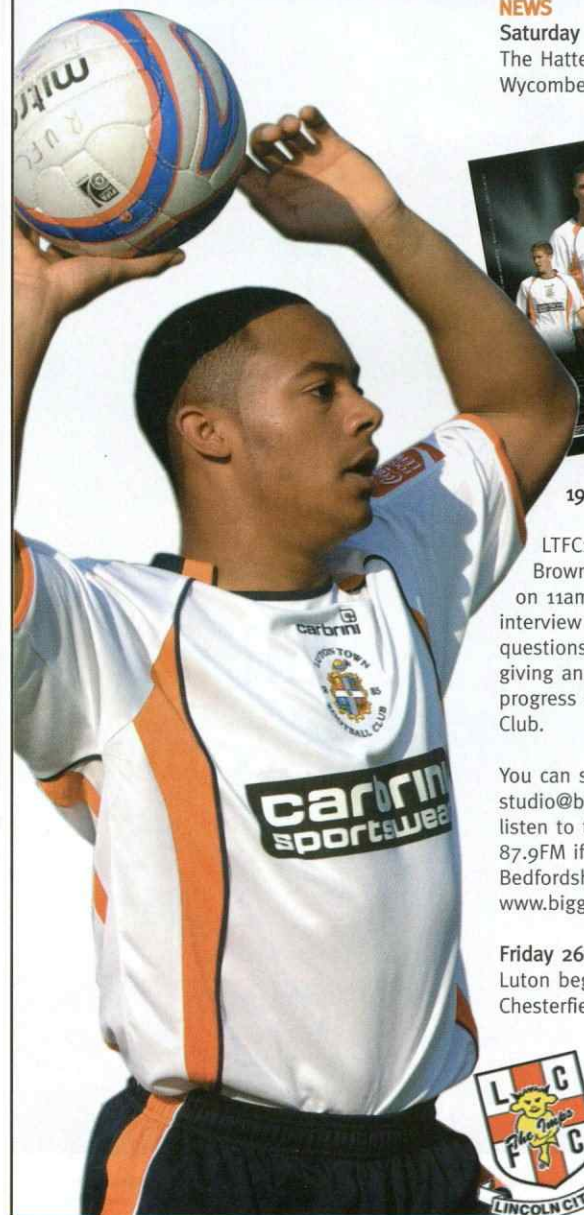
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# news&diary



ALL THE LATEST FROM AROUND KENILWORTH ROAD



**NEWS**

**Saturday 13th December**

The Hatters hold League Two leaders Wycombe Wanderers to a 0-0 draw at a rain-soaked Adams Park.



**Tuesday 16th December**

Claude Gnaka's first half strike gives the Hatters a 1-0 victory over League 1 visitors Colchester United, sending them through to face Brighton in the Area Final of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy.

**DIARY**

**Monday 22nd December**  
Defender Ed Asafu-Adjaye celebrates his 19th birthday.



LTC2020 Director Stephen Browne will be on Biggles FM on 11am and 2pm. During his interview he will be answering questions from supporters and giving an update on the progress made so far at the Club.

You can send your questions to [studio@bigglesfm.com](mailto:studio@bigglesfm.com) and listen to the programme on 87.9FM if you are in the East Bedfordshire reception area or via the internet at [www.bigglesfm.com](http://www.bigglesfm.com).

**Friday 26th December**

Luton begin their festive fixture programme with a trip to Chesterfield to face former Hatters Alan Goodall and Darren Currie at Saltergate. Kick off 3pm.



**Saturday 28th December**

Lincoln City make their first visit to Kenilworth Road since 2001 for a League Two encounter. Kick off 3pm.

Thomas  
Cook

Going Places

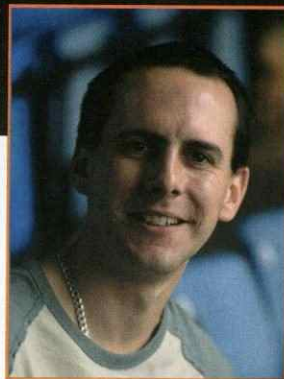
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# The Numbers Game



Simon Pitts looks back at the Hatters previous fixtures on this day

**6** There were six goals scored in the fixture against Bristol Rovers on this date in 1997. Chris Allen, on loan from Nottingham Forest, opened the scoring but Rovers took the lead with goals from Jamie Cureton and Barry Hayles. David Oldfield equalised, but Peter Beadle restored the advantage for the visitors. Barry Hayles netted his second to make it 4-2, and all of this before the half time whistle had blown!

**5** The number of League matches played previously on this date at Kenilworth Road. Luton have won twice, and lost on three other occasions. The Hatters have scored six goals and conceded eight.

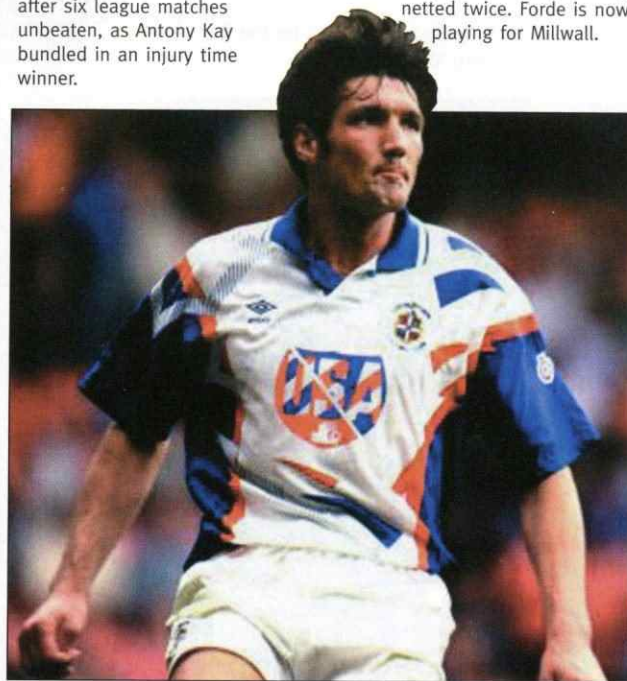
**2** There were also two non-league matches played on this date at home. In 1902 Portsmouth were the visitors and they won 2-0. In 1913 Brewis scored five times as Luton beat Aberdare 7-0.

**15,687** The biggest attendance for a home fixture on this date, and it came against Coventry City in 1947. Bobby Brennan and Hugh Billington were the Luton goalscorers, but unfortunately the visitors netted three goals to take all the points.

**1** Just one goal was required in the next two matches on this date. Plymouth Argyle were the visitors in 1952, and Roy Davies netted the only goal of the game. Current manager Mick Harford scored the decisive goal in 1991 when Coventry were once again the visitors. This started a run of three consecutive home wins with Harford netting in another 1-0 victory, against Arsenal, and then again in the 2-0 win against Chelsea. John Dreyer scored the second goal from the penalty spot.

**2** Two former Luton players were born on this date. Chris Coyne, in 1978 and David Forde a year later. Coyne joined from Dundee in September 2001 for £50,000, and went on to make 252 appearances for the Hatters, and scored 16 goals, before his transfer to Colchester United in the last January transfer window.

Forde joined on loan from Cardiff City in August 2007 and made six appearances. His only clean sheet came in a superb 3-0 League Cup win against Sunderland, David Bell opened the scoring before Paul Furlong netted twice. Forde is now playing for Millwall.



**Big Mick** netted the winner against Coventry City on this day in 1991



# Morecambe

Welcome to this afternoon's visitors

**CURRENT FORM:** W L D D W

Morecambe visit Kenilworth Road today in 17th place in the League 2 table having taken 21 points from their 20 matches this season.

Their 1-0 victory over Darlington last Saturday was only their fourth of the campaign and their third at Christie Park.

The Shrimps had failed to win in their previous three matches prior to the victory over the Quakers, having lost 1-0 away to Notts County and getting two draws, one away to Bournemouth and the other at home to Exeter.

Prior to their three-match winless streak they achieved their first away victory of the season with a 2-1 win at Chester.

**PREVIOUS MEETINGS:** None.

**LAST TIME OUT:** Today's match will be the first time the two sides have met.



## LAST FIVE SEASONS:

Morecambe today visit Kenilworth Road for the first ever meeting between the two sides after the Shrimps' first ever campaign in the Football League culminated in a respectable 11th place finish in League Two last season.

The Shrimps were only promoted to the Conference in 1996 and had always been one of the league's most consistent clubs which led to them finishing runners-up in 2003, a year before the Conference introduced the playoff system.

Two seventh place finishes on the bounce saw the club miss out on the new play-off format by three points in 2004 and one point a year later.

The following season however, Morecambe made the Conference play-offs, finishing fifth, but there was heart break for the Christie Park faithful when they lost out to Hereford United 4-3 on aggregate in the semi-finals.

Their disappointment was short lived, however. The following season a third place finish ensured more play-off drama.

After defeating York 2-1 on aggregate in the semi-finals the Shrimps came from a goal down to beat Exeter 2-1 in the final at Wembley to elevate them to the Football League for the first time in their history.

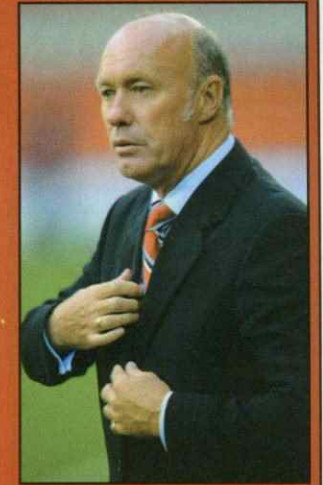
# TheShrimps

Sammy McIlroy began his managerial career at Macclesfield Town in August 2007 guiding them into the Football League as Conference Champions in 1997. A season later they were promoted again to the old Third Division.

The former Manchester United man then went on to manage his home country Northern Ireland and later Stockport County, before he took over as Caretaker Manager at Christie Park in November 2005 following Jim Harvey's sudden heart attack. He guided them to the Play-Offs at the end of the season winning their last five games of the

season, before losing in extra time to eventually promoted Hereford United in the semi finals. He took the job permanently and the following season he became only the second manager to take two separate teams into the Football League – following John Still's achievement with Maidstone and Dagenham.

In a nail-biting season, Morecambe squeezed out Exeter City in a dramatic final at Wembley and last season saw Sammy help the Shrimps achieve a creditable mid table finish, and he will be looking for more progress this season.



## Goalkeepers Barry Roche

A goalkeeper who joined the Shrimps in the summer after opting to leave Chesterfield. He was an almost ever present for the Spireites for the past two seasons after moving to Saltergate in 2005 after six seasons with Nottingham Forest. The 26-year-old followed in the footsteps of his Dad to play for Bray Wanderers in the League of Ireland and after impressing at an early

age, Barry joined Leeds United as a schoolboy and was due to sign as an apprentice until Paul Hart moved to Forest and asked him to go with him. He has played every game so far this season.

## Defenders Danny Adams

Danny started his career at his home town club Altrincham before being signed by Sammy McIlroy, when he was manager of Macclesfield Town in September 2000. He went on to make 169 appearances for the Silkmen, scoring 2 goals, before moving to Stockport County and then onto Huddersfield Town. He made 77 appearances at the Galpharm Stadium before being re-united with his former boss McIlroy in the Shrimps' promotion season. He has proved to be an excellent signing as his experience, tough tackling and often under recognised ball skills made him one of the club's most consistent performers at left back.

## David Artell

David joined Morecambe in the

Summer of 2007 on a free transfer after being surprisingly released by Chester City. He's an experienced centre half who has played more than 200 Football League games. The 6ft 3ins tall Rotherham-born player began his career at his home town club before moves to Shrewsbury, Mansfield and the Deva Stadium.

## Jim Bentley

Morecambe's inspirational skipper who has become a huge fans' favourite since signing from Telford in 2002. Jim learnt his trade as a trainee at Manchester City before moving to Telford United at the start of the 1997/1998 season. Bentley spent five seasons at Telford before moving to Morecambe in 2002 and has been an influential figure on and off the field ever since. As well as being a defensive rock he is known to score a share of goals with seven goals last season.

## Adam Yates

An attacking full back who can operate on both the left and right, Adam began his career at





# Morecambe

Welcome to this afternoon's visitors

Crewe Alexandra and spent time on loan at Halifax Town in the Nationwide Conference, before moving to Leek. He joined Morecambe from Leek Town just before the start of the 2006/2007 season and proved to be the find of the season.

### Andy Parrish

A versatile young defender, Andy had been a local college student on non-contract terms with Bury for three years until September 2005 when his life suddenly changed. He was offered a two year professional contract and a week later he was making his full league debut. He played more than 20 games for Bury last season and it was a shock when he was released in the summer. Sammy McIlroy always admired his ability to play almost anywhere along the back and was quick to snap him up on a two-year deal in the summer.

### Henry McStay

The former Leeds trainee signed a two-year deal for the Shrimps in April 2008 after some impressive performances in the second half of last season, when he joined on a short term basis. After leaving Leeds he had a spell with Halifax Town in the Conference before spells with Portadown and Antwerp. Henry has unusually played for both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland junior sides. As well as playing centre half he can also play at right-back.

### Ryan McCann

Versatile player who made his name as a member of the Queen of the South team that stormed into the Scottish Cup final against Rangers last season. Ryan started his career with Celtic and was at Parkhead for five years before joining Queens. He turned down the chance to play in Europe to join Morecambe, saying he had "unfinished business" in England after a spell at Hartlepool didn't work out for him earlier in his career.

### Midfielders

#### Fraser McLachlan (below)

The midfielder joined from Mansfield Town on loan during March 2006 and made his move permanent in the close season. Previously played for Stockport County where he made 47 appearances before playing 25 games for Mansfield Town. Last season Fraser's campaign was wrecked by a broken leg, his only start after that came in the final game of the season.

#### Craig Stanley



Joined from Hereford United in the summer of 2006 after being an integral part of Hereford United's promotion winning team in 2005-2006, playing in both Play-Off Semi Finals against the Shrimps. Craig started out as a trainee at Walsall before playing for Raith Rovers and Telford United, before joining the Bulls in June 2004. He has been a regular in Morecambe's central midfield for the past two seasons.

#### Neil Wainwright

An experienced winger, who was snapped up by Sammy McIlroy after being released by Darlington in the summer. The Warrington-born player began his career at Wrexham and despite only making 12 appearances he was signed by Sunderland in a £100,000 move in 1998. After a frustrating period with the Black Cats, where he made only three appearances, he moved to Darlington in the summer of 2001 and went on to make more than 200 appearances for The Quakers.

TheShrimps

# Morecambe



### Stewart Drummond

Drummond started his career with the Shrimps in their Conference days where he came through the junior ranks to become regarded as one of the best players outside of the Football League and was a regular member of the England Non League squad. He finally made the move into league football in 2004 with Mark Wright's Chester City, who had won the Conference that season. He went on to play for Shrewsbury before rejoining the Shrimps in the summer, which delighted the fans.

### Michael Carr

The 24-year-old midfielder joined the Shrimps on a two-year deal from Northwich. Carr is a former Macclesfield player who has spent the last four years at Northwich, playing for the England National

Game XI in his time there.

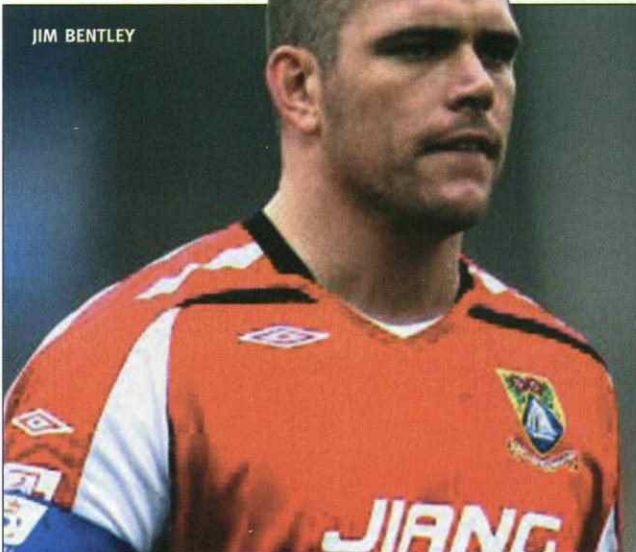
The midfielder has played in League 2 before with Macclesfield, and had a debut he will always remember as he was booked after just 32 seconds and then sent off against Darlington.

### Strikers

#### Wayne Curtis

Morecambe's longest serving player who has been granted a testimonial this season. Wayne was signed from Barrow-based Holker Old Boys towards the end of the 1997/1998 season and scored on his debut away at Dover in that season. Since then has become a regular and consistent member of the squad who has chipped in with some valuable goals.

Wayne became the first player to miss a



JIM BENTLEY

penalty at the new Wembley but also became the first Morecambe player to sign a Football League contract upon promotion. He has made almost 250 starts for the club scoring close to 70 goals in the process.

#### Diarmuid O'Carroll

Highly rated young striker who signed from Celtic in the summer, where he was a prolific scorer in their reserve team. Diarmuid moved south after being attracted to Christie Park by Sammy McIlroy. He has represented the Republic of Ireland junior sides at all levels he was an exciting signing for the Shrimps.

#### Rene Howe

One of only two ever presents in the league this season Rene Howe has proved to be a vital signing, after agreeing a season long loan from Peterborough United.

The striker spent a similar spell with Rochdale last season, scoring scored nine goals in less than 20 appearances, but was left disappointed following Dale's defeat in the Play-Off Final.

The 22-year-old started his career at Bedford Town before moving to Kettering Town and then on to the Posh. He scored a goal for Morecambe on his debut in pre-season and has gone on to score a further six league and cup goals.



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# Barry Roche

When Barry Roche left Chesterfield for Morecambe in the summer, a few eyebrows were raised, after all the Spireites finished just one place off the Play-Offs but he knows it was the right decision:

"I know a lot of people who I spoke to prior to moving doubted what I was doing and didn't necessarily agree with it but I can honestly say it was one of the best decisions that I made.

"I wasn't happy at Chesterfield and unfortunately at times that showed in my performances but since I have moved to Morecambe I have been really enjoying my football again, I am loving going into training every day and I think that has shown in my performances too. "

Morecambe currently sit 17th in the League 2 table but just 11 points off the top seven and after losing to strugglers Notts County and then beating high flying Darlington, Roche believes only a lack of consistency is their problem:

"Both performances were chalk and cheese. Against Notts County we were absolutely terrible and we didn't deserve anything from the game but against Darlington, who are a top six team, we could have won by two or three.

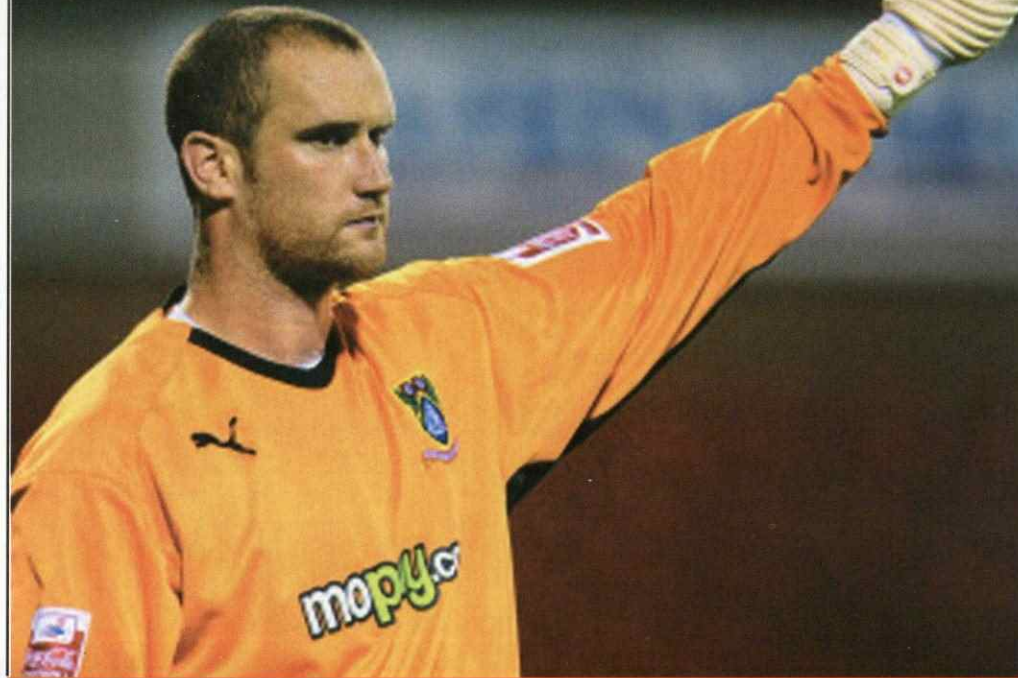
"There's no one in this league for the teams to be afraid of. You've seen from the results over the course of the season that anyone can beat anyone, if you can win four or five games on the bounce then you find yourselves nicely set up for the play-off positions.

On paper today's visitors should be favourites but the 26-year-old believes this season the points deductions means the form book has been thrown out of the window.

"We know we are going to be in for a very tough game at the weekend and that they are a very good side. We know we have to go there and firstly aim to not lose to make sure that they don't make up any ground on us.

"It's been strange with the teams deducted points because if you look at it and those points hadn't have been deducted then we would find ourselves in a real relegation dogfight.

"If the points hadn't been taken away then I think those three teams would have been vying for the Play-Off places."



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**Mascot info:**  
**Nick Albert**  
27 / 10 / 97

**School:**  
Balgowlah North Primary, Sydney, Australia

**Hobbies:**  
Playing football & rugby, surfing, Playstation, Making Videos, Reading

**Favourite Hatters Player**  
Chris Martin

**Who do you attend Luton games with**  
Mum & Dad, Jack & Millie, Nanna & Gumps



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## Book Your Place at an Evening with David Pleat and Friends

For those of you who didn't see the announcement in our Colchester match programme or on the website, we are delighted to announce we are now taking bookings for An Evening with David Pleat and Friends which is being held on Thursday 12th February at The Riverside in Luton. The evening will include after dinner speaking by David Pleat and some selected Luton Town legends including Mick Harford (further details to be announced at a later date), plus a Q&A opportunity for guests. There will also be a Luton Town auction, including the chance to bid for an Executive Box for the remainder of the season, plus entertainment from top comedian, Russ Williams. The ticket price includes a three course meal.

The evening will also be attended by members of the Luton Town Football Club squad, plus LTFC 2020 management.

The ticket price is £50 per person.

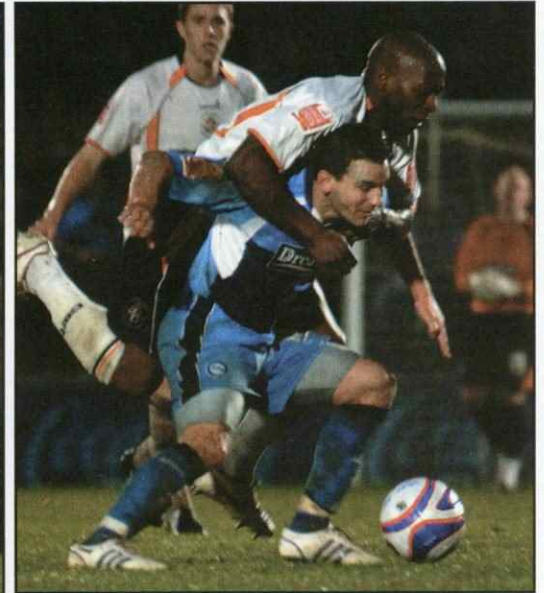
Places will be limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

COCA-COLA LEAGUE TWO

Saturday 13th December 2008

**Wycombe 0 Hatters 0**

Kick off: 3.00pm Adams Park Att: 5,567



**Luton Town:** Logan, Keane, Roper, Spillane, Howells, Hall, McVeigh, Jarvis, Martin, Andrews (Beavan 67), Gallen. Subs not used: Brill, Davis, Gnakpa, O'Connor

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Designed by Lee Wood

# safehands



The 0-0 draw away to Wycombe Wanderers will be largely remembered because of a superb performance by Hatters' goalkeeper Conrad Logan.

The 22-year-old, on loan from Leicester City, made several vital saves to help secure a point for Luton away at Adams Park and spoke after the match about his delight at keeping a clean sheet against the league leaders:

"We're happy with 0-0, especially myself and the defenders, if we keep a clean sheet away at a place like this then it's all good.

"We all thought we did very, very well. Attacking we could have had a couple of goals and I thought our defending was pretty solid considering they are top of the league."

Despite the Hatters' league position, the team managed to give a good account of themselves, threatening on several occasions and even looking like they might take all three points at one stage. Logan explained how close the team came to snatching a win:

"I think in the first half especially we created a few chances, second half as well we put a few balls across the box and it just needed someone getting onto the end of it or a touch or something.

"Wycombe are a good team. They didn't go 18 games unbeaten in the



league for nothing, but we've got to believe that we're as good as anyone in this division.

"We're at the bottom of the league because of the points deductions but we've got to be matching the teams around the Play-Offs and at the top of the league to get out of it and that's what we're trying to do, and I think we did that today."

The Hatters now go into the busy festive period, high on confidence after several impressive recent performances, and Logan spoke of his optimism of Luton progressing in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy, with the club now within touching distance of a showpiece final at Wembley.

Logan commented, "To get to Wembley would be brilliant. I think everyone deserves it.

The fans especially deserve it as well after what they've been through so hopefully we can push on and get to Wembley."

Although the Irishman looks likely to return to the Walkers Stadium at some point next year, it appears he's struck up a strong bond with the Hatters' faithful, and the goalkeeper was impressed with their support against Wycombe.

Logan said, "They were brilliant, magnificent, they made more noise than the Wycombe fans and they only had one stand so fair play to them."

# conradlogan



LUTON TOWN COMMUNITY TRUST HAVE BEEN AWARDED BRONZE ACCREDITATION BY FOOTBALL LEAGUE TRUST

Hello and welcome to this afternoon's game; I am proud to be able to inform you that on December 1st Luton Town F.C. Community Trust were awarded the Bronze status by The Football League Trust for our work in the Community. The Trust will now receive £24k over the next 12 months, which will be invested into Local Community Activities.

Luton Town F.C. Community Trust were recently assessed by the Football League Trust Regional Management team, who found that the club's Community work met the required standard for a Bronze award.

In addition to fulfilling the Trust's Minimum Charter standard, our Community Trust demonstrated the following:

- A coach to child ratio of 1:16 for all activities
- All activities led by an FA Level 2 qualified coach or above
- Publish a business plan with Key

Performance Indicators (KPIs)  
Delivered to at least two of the Trust's 4 main themes of Health, Education, Social Inclusion/Community Cohesion and Sports Participation  
Has established working partnerships with external agencies eg. Local Authorities  
Has already achieved Charitable Status

Bronze awards have been made to 18 Championship clubs, 14 in League 1 and 11 in League 2.

Football League Trust General Manager Dave Edmundson said: "We have been extremely impressed with the standard of community work at Luton Town and across the country. We are sure the investment in the Bronze Clubs will benefit the many thousands who participate in Community activities with Football



League clubs."

I would like to thank my Full Time Staff; Stuart English, Trish Johnson and Kieran Fox for all the hard work that has made this award possible. We will now strive to achieve 'Silver Status' which means we will have to increase our specific activities across 'The Football League Trust's' main four themes.

The mechanism is already in place to do this; so hopefully in the not to distant future you will be reading of our success in achieving 'Silver Accreditation.'

Enjoy the game  
Stuart Smith



# Girls Centre of Excellence



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Good afternoon and welcome to today's game. Christmas is approaching rapidly and it's time for the girls to receive their first Centre of Excellence assessments.

The assessment procedure is very thorough and gives the girls information twice a year on the areas that they are performing well in and also provides them with clearly defined information on areas they need to work on to improve.

As is the case with the boys Centre of Excellence and all of the Club's Development Centres the girls are assessed on the TIPS Criteria; which is

- Technique
- Insight and game play
- Personality
- Speed and athleticism

Within each of these categories there are a number of more specific sections. For example technique would include receiving, passing, attacking, defending and again within those categories there will be 2 or 3 sub sections. For example; defending would include 1 v 1's, cover, balance and support and tackling.



In total the girls are marked in 36 different areas; their target is to achieve an overall 7 out of 10 in the end of season assessment. The procedure is progressive, so any player that falls short of the required level in the Christmas assessments has the relevant guidance to give them the best possible opportunity to improve and achieve the required marks by the end of the season.

All players within the Centre are provided with their written assessment at our assessment

evening where each of the players along with their parents have a 15 minute meeting with the coach to discuss their way forward. The players are encouraged to talk to the staff and be prepared to discuss any areas of the report they are unsure about.

Reports were delivered to all of the groups this week and the feed back so far has been very positive.

Enjoy the game  
Stuart Smith



We would like to welcome Luton Town's Centre of Excellence Under 9 squad to today's game.

The Under 9's are coached by Stuart Smith and train twice a week at Baldock Arena. They play their games on a Sunday morning in the Football League Fixture Programme. These are the signed players for 2008/09:

Name	From
ADAM MASON	STEVENAGE
ALEX TAYLOR	STOTFOLD
ARTHUR READ	HEATH & REACH
AYODEJI ONASANYA	STEVENAGE
CONOR EBLETT	STEVENAGE
JACK SCOTT	STEVENAGE
JOE MEAD	LUTON
MAX AARONS	LUTON
NIALL KATELY	LUTON
SAMUEL GIBSON	FLITWICK

In addition we have invited three of the outstanding Under 8's to train with the group:

ARCHIE WILKINSON	LETCHWORTH
FRANCIS SHILTON	HITCHIN
JAKE PECK	DUNSTABLE

The Under 9 age group are in their first official season with the club, and it is one of the key age groups in Youth Development, as they are the foundation group for the rest of the programme.

The boys have now played twelve fixtures as part of the Football League Fixture Programme against Cambridge, Wycombe, Peterborough, Rushden, QPR, Brentford, Colchester, Southend, Gillingham, Leyton Orient, Northampton and Millwall. The boys have made enormous strides forward in their first season and this is backed up by a record that has only seen one defeat in this period. More important than the results however, is the individual progress of the players which, with the hard work put in by Stuart, has been significant so far this season.

Along with his role as manager of the Community Project, Stuart has put in countless hours ensuring that the club has a strong foundation of players at Under 9 level. The Youth Policy at Luton Town is thriving at the moment and this wouldn't be possible without the hard work put in by Stuart.

Stuart Smith commented: "The lads have this season taken the step up to Centre of Excellence Football comfortably in their stride. They are eager to learn and the progress in training has been taken onto the field, where they are able to demonstrate a high level of technical ability and have developed an excellent understanding of the game, which is always a challenge in the first season at this level."



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## Luton Town U 18's 0 Rushden & Diamonds 2

The match was played out on a boggy pitch that didn't enhance Luton's style of football, but this is still a match that should have produced a more positive result.

Luton started slowly but soon adapted to the fact that the conditions weren't conducive to playing out from the back. Mark Farthing began to take charge in midfield and twice was involved in moves that

set up trialist Nik Davey with chances to score. Another well-worked move down the right saw Scott Sinclair come close from a Jordan Patrick cross.

On the stroke of half-time Luton were punished as Taylor Nathaniel's defensive header was intercepted and the Rushden striker rounded Aaron Fletcher to put the visitors one up. During the interval the talk focused on the importance of keeping the shape of the team, and playing from

positions in midfield. The second half was a more open affair and with fifteen minutes to go substitute Matthew Harriott set Jordan Patrick through one-on-one with the Rushden keeper but the chance was squandered. Diamonds came close several times before another piece of poor defending allowed them to double their lead.

The win put Rushden second in the table, and Luton will have to learn from another below par performance. Some of the football played was pleasing on the eye, but to progress the team need to be more ruthless in the attacking third and less charitable in defence.

# Do you love the game?

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For more information visit

[www.footballfoundation.org.uk](http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk)



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Enjoy Responsibly

# thereserves



Luton Town's second string suffered a narrow 1-0 defeat to Northampton Town Reserves in early December.

The Hatters 'away' game was actually played at Kenilworth Road because the Cobblers had a FA Youth Cup match scheduled for 24 hours later so the game was switched.

The totesport.com Combination match was settled in the 15th minute by a Liam Dolman goal from a Northampton corner.

The Cobblers had fielded an experienced side for the game with several players having first team experience, so the game represented a tough test for Alan Neilson's side.

Speaking after the match the Hatters youth coach and acting assistant manager commented:

"Despite a heavy pitch we were quite lively in the opening period and I was happy with our tempo, we just didn't create enough chances – neither side did and there wasn't a lot for either goalkeeper to do during the game.

"It was a good workout for the



lads but we need to work harder to create opportunities to score – that is one lesson we can learn from this game.

"It was good for us to get a lot of the younger players out on the pitch with the pros and they will have benefitted from that experience.

"It is the first time in six weeks that we have had a reserve team game to get some minutes under

everyone's belts and with a busy Christmas period ahead that will have helped those players who may be involved in the first team squad in the coming weeks."

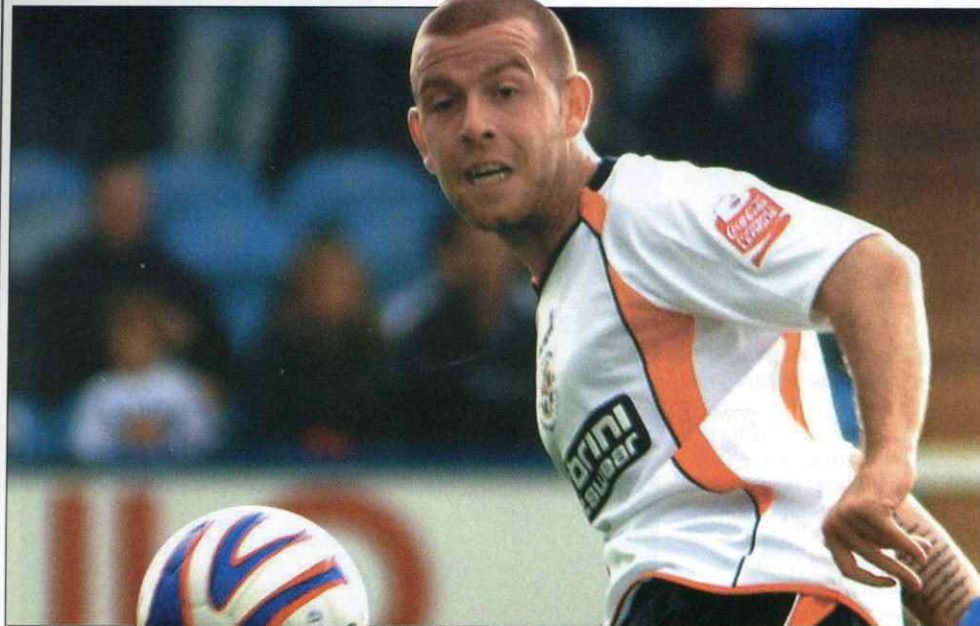
Luton Res: Brill; Wood, Biggi, Beavan, Davis; O'Connor, Farthing (sub YamFam 56), Hall, Owusu; Andrews, McKenzie - trialist (sub Christie - trialist 56). Subs not used: Fletcher, Barker, Cleaver.



# RESERVE

REVIEW





# keithkeane

## KEITH KEANE EXPLAINS WHY YOU HAVE TO TREAT CHRISTMAS DAY LIKE ANY OTHER WHEN YOU ARE A FOOTBALLER

When you wake up on Christmas morning, open your presents and then tuck into your Christmas dinner, spare a brief thought for the footballers, who instead of collapsing on the sofa as a result of one too many mince pies, brave it on the cold training grounds across the country in preparation for Boxing Day's packed fixture list.

Keith Keane will of course be one of those footballers. The defender is facing the prospect of Christmas Day busily preparing for Luton's away match against Chesterfield, as the Hatters gear up for one of the most crucial and busy periods in the club's season:

"It's not nice. Obviously no-one

would like to think of work when it's Christmas Day.

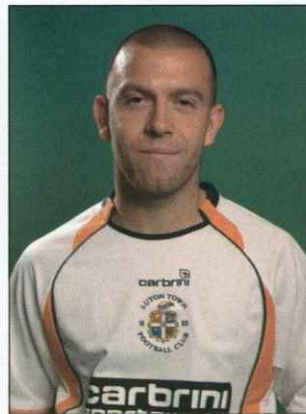
"But I've done it for a few years now so I've put it in my mind that that's what happens and I've got used to it, it's just normal routine to me really."

A footballer's Christmas Day will be planned based on whether the Boxing Day fixture is due to be played at home or away. "If we're away we probably would train in the evening and then travel up after that so we get to spend the day with the family and do the whole Christmas thing.

"But if we're at home on Boxing Day, then we'll probably have training really early in the morning and then we can get off and spend the rest of the day with the family," explained the 22-year-old.

Keane says that the hard work doesn't stop just because it's Christmas, and the same amount of preparation and planning will go into the Boxing Day fixture as any other in the Hatters' season.

He said, "It's exactly like a Friday or any normal day before a game, whatever the normal routine is that's exactly what we do."



Christmas is of course renowned for all of the treats and nice food readily available, and for Keane this often proves to be the most difficult part of the festive period to resist.

The versatile defender joked, "You've got to be careful with what you eat or you won't be able to move the next day."

Despite the influx of new players at Kenilworth Road this season, Keane described how the club has a warm atmosphere around it:

"I think the lads have gelled really quickly and everyone gets on well which makes it easy to play with each other. I've enjoyed the experience of meeting new people and working with new people."

With Keane displaying his willingness to play in any position on the pitch, the Luton number 4 said that every player at the club has to play their part to ensure the club remain in League 2 at the end of the season:

"It's not about any one player, it's about keeping Luton Town in the Football League, so you can't be moaning about where you're playing - you just try and do your bit for the team."



*"I've put it in my mind that that's what happens and I've got used to it, it's just normal routine to me really."*

2008/2009



keith keane



# FlashBack

Club Historian Roger Wash looks back at a Hatters win on this day in 1975



■ Jimmy Husband wheels away after scoring the first goal

Rumours of severe financial problems behind the scenes, due to the players still being on lucrative Division One contracts, as well as the drop in attendances following relegation, started to grow. Talk of the electricity supply being cut off at Kenilworth Road and threats by creditors spread through the streets of Luton.

Strangely, it was a relief when it was finally confirmed that the Town owed their bankers £350,000, although the additional news that a large injection of cash needed to be raised within 28 days or the club would go into liquidation was extremely worrying.

Director Eric Morecambe resigned from the board citing pressure of work, with three others including Chairman Len Hawkins walking out. Manager Harry Haslam was then left with the unenviable

task of needing to sell a player when every other club knew why!

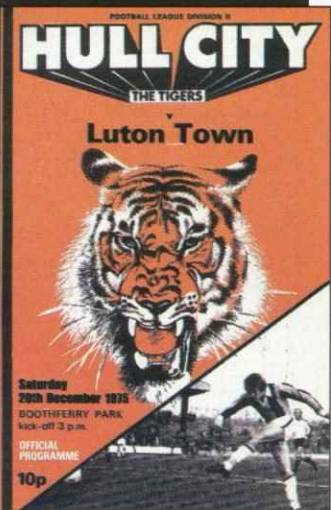
The off-field problems seemed to spur the players into action though, as Orient were beaten 1-0 at Kenilworth Road followed by an amazing 5-1 win at Charlton with Peter Anderson, watched by a deputation from Antwerp, scoring twice in what was to be his swansong.

Anderson was the jewel in the crown and a bid of £200,000 from Aston Villa had been turned down the previous season. Now the club were desperate sellers, and Haslam accompanied the player to Antwerp where a bid of £105,000 had been tabled, which was being gradually reduced as the sorry tales of the club's financial position gradually unravelled.

Haslam was under awful pressure, with both hands tied

Relegated from the old Division One at the end of the 1974/75 campaign, the Town started off the following season fairly brightly and after four games a place in the leading pack promised much, and hopes were high for an immediate return to the top flight.

Injuries to full-back Steve Buckley and striker Ron Futcher then upset the balance of the side and, when Adrian Alston was sold to Cardiff, the League position deteriorated and by the end of November alarm bells sounded.



■ Andy King heads in number two

behind his back, and it was to his credit that he managed to eventually secure a cash deal of £53,000 which effectively saved the club. The fans rallied round with messages of support, and a fighting fund was set up with promises of financial help coming from far and wide including high profile ex-favourites such as Malcolm Macdonald.

The players were also in defiant mood and the next visitors to Kenilworth Road were high flying West Brom, who had won five of their previous six games.

Although the Baggies suffered an early blow when player-manager John Giles was dismissed, they were still a formidable side destined for promotion and it was to the Town's credit that they won an end-to-end contest 2-1.

**The game**  
Hull City 1 Luton Town 2  
20th December 1975

Confidence was spreading through the playing side and, whereas earlier in the season a trip to Hull would have signalled a nailed on home win, there was now a siege mentality and a never-say-die attitude. The Town took the lead on 24 minutes when skipper Alan West started a move that saw the ball moved slickly through to Jim Husband who made no mistake with a firm and accurate left foot shot.

Luton looked comfortable for the remainder of the half and it therefore came as a shock when Alf Wood levelled for the home side just after the interval. Racing 40 yards on to a long free-kick, Wood threw himself at the ball to head home in spectacular fashion.

Stung by this goal the Town surged forward and did not take long in getting back into the lead again. West again started the move, releasing a

brilliantly weighted pass through to winger John Aston who sent over a perfect centre for Andy King to head in. Although Hull stormed forward in search of an equalizer, the Luton defence with Paul Futcher and John Faulkner outstanding, kept everything out and in the last five minutes it was the Town who were pressing forward in an attempt to add to their lead.

It was now four wins in a row for the Hatters who went on to make it seven before suffering a reversal. They had done enough, though, to banish the thoughts of any fear of relegation.

Hull City: Wealands, Daniel, Croft, Haigh, Devries (Gibson), Hawley, Grimes, Lyall, Fletcher, Wood, Greenwood.

Luton Town: Barber, John Ryan, Buckley, Chambers, Faulkner, Paul Futcher, Husband, King, Ron Futcher, West, Aston.

With new owners in place and a squad of players who are proud to wear the shirt and fight for the Luton cause, the future is most certainly bright.

The year began with the club in administration and deducted 10 points but on the pitch the players and fans were all looking ahead to an FA Cup Third Round match with Liverpool at Kenilworth Road.

The then Assistant Manager Sam Ellis described the game as a "godsend for the finances and also for the players, a marketplace for them to show themselves in." With players having not been paid in full and Manager Kevin Blackwell forgoing his own wages so the Youth Team players could buy Christmas presents the full house was much needed, as was the 1-1 draw.

Peter Crouch may have opened the scoring but it was more than Rafa Benitez's side deserved, who

**Luton's travelling army of over 4,500 showed the kind of support that a club in crisis needs, vocal for the full 90 minutes, they outshone the 5-times European Champions even at 5-0 down**

were outplayed for large periods of the game. The home side got their just rewards when John Ame Riise put through his own net, under pressure from David Edwards to earn a replay at Anfield.

"We made a good Premier League side look poor," said Blackwell.

The game proved to be a fantastic advert, not only for the Club but also for the players. By the time of the game at Anfield administrator Brendan Guilfoyle had revealed a deal has been agreed with a consortium, fronted by television presenter Nick Owen, to buy the club.

But the Hatters went into the game on Merseyside with the Manager serving his notice and the sales of Chris Coyne (Colchester) and

David Edwards (Wolves) The return to form of Liverpool, and more importantly Steven Gerrard, ended Luton's hopes. A hat-trick from the Reds skipper along



## 2008review

FOR MANY HATTERS FANS 2008 WAS A YEAR TO FORGET, WITH FAR MORE LOWS THAN HIGHS. BUT THE LAST 12 MONTHS HAVE GONE A LONG WAY TO SHAPING THE FUTURE OF THE CLUB.

with goals from Babel and Hypia gave Liverpool a 5-0 win. However, Luton's travelling army of over 4,500 showed the kind of support that a club in crisis needs, vocal for the full 90 minutes, they outshone the 5-times European Champions even at 5-0 down. Despite the scoreline, every Hatter walked away from Anfield with a sense of pride.

Manager Kevin Blackwell was relieved of his duties just a day later, despite the former Leeds Manager and his staff due to leave on February 9<sup>th</sup> but there was better news in the boardroom.

The newly formed Luton Town Football Club 2020 Limited made an immediate loan to the administrator and aimed to buy the club the following month. Owen said: "The initial bid revolves around a figure of £10 million, but in the long term the funding is there in a big way.

"In a sense it's a loan then a buy-out and it's a very exciting time. Stability is the first thing - we need to

## 2008review

make sure that the figures add up and we're not spending more than we're taking in.

In came a new manager as well, as Mick Harford returned to Luton for the fifth time.

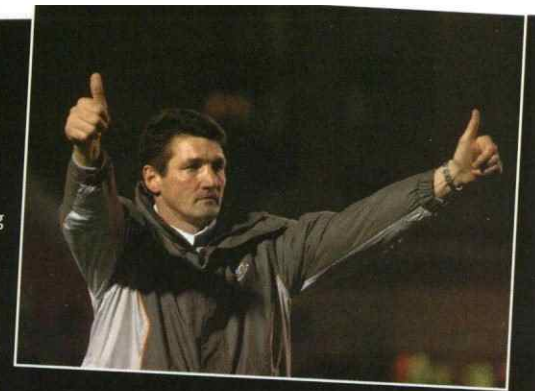
After two spells at Kenilworth Road as a player Harford has twice had spells on the coaching staff, initially as Assistant Manager under Joe Kinnear and more recently as Director of Football for Mike Newell. Despite the new optimism, a horrendous run of results followed which saw Luton lose 12 games between January and March, a 2-1 reverse

at Carlisle on March 11<sup>th</sup> leaving them second from bottom of the league, 12 points from safety.

A brief fight back saw wins against Oldham and Crewe and draws against Cheltenham and Millwall and with them maybe a glimmer of hope!

But that was quickly extinguished as six defeats followed and spelt

relegation to League 2. In part two of our review of the year we will look at the arrival of several new faces and the new hope and optimism currently around the club.



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## luton ladies



An FA Cup tie away to National League club Brighton & Hove Albion was sure to provide a real test for the young Town side fresh from their 6-2 away win at Swindon Town.

Luton were in a confident mood and pressed their opponents from the very start, forcing them back and creating a number of half chances before eventually taking the lead.

Town's leading scorer Rebecca Kane was causing the home defence all kinds of problems and the only way they could stop her was by foul means. A free kick by Jess Nash, after another foul on Kane from 25-yards out, crashed against the crossbar and over. Nicki Livingstone then volleyed a shot, which almost looped over the keeper at full stretch, before the home side went close as a corner was headed against the Town bar before being cleared.

Brighton came out for the second half in determined mood but the Town defence held firm and the counter attacking continued, as Luton now looked favourites to win the tie.

With 12 minutes left Luton keeper Nikki Duncan flew to her left to make a superb save from Brighton's only worthwhile effort of the half and that turned out to be the defining moment as Luton moved forward and a slide rule pass from Nicki Livingstone to Rebecca Kane found



her racing through on goal. I low shot found the net to see an outstanding 1-0 win and I were unlucky not to add to tally as attack was regarded best defence.

Luton now find themselves in unfamiliar territory of the FA Fourth Round where they no travel to Premier League opponents Blackburn Rovers 4th January 2009.

[www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk)

P.

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DEAN BRILL **01**



Age: 22  
Position: Goalkeeper  
Signed: May 2006

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CLAUDE GNAKPA **02**



Age: 25  
Position: Defender  
Signed: August 2008

Andy & Drew

Kevin Lennon

SOL DAVIS **03**



Age: 28  
Position: Defender  
Signed: August 2002

Trust in Luton (2003) Ltd  
TRUST LUTON LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS TRUST

Tommy Lennon

KEITH KEANE **04**



Age: 21  
Position: Defender  
Signed: August 2008

Trust in Luton (2003) Ltd  
TRUST LUTON LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS TRUST

Maddie Knight

IAN ROPER **05**



Age: 31  
Position: Defender  
Signed: August 2008

LTSC - Scandinavia

Bernard Elwen

GEORGE PILKINGTON **06**



Age: 26  
Position: Defender  
Signed: August 2008

WHOSH

Bobbers Travel Club

GARRETH O'CONNOR **07**



Age: 29  
Position: Midfielder  
Signed: October 2008

www.lutonoutlaws.com

Craig Lowrie

KEVIN NICHOLLS **08**



Age: 29  
Position: Midfielder  
Signed: August 2008

Pulse Tattoo  
Image with Attitude

WHOSH

SAM PARKIN **09**



Age: 27  
Position: Striker  
Signed: August 2006

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Lynn, Ben & Rhiannon

RYAN CHARLES **10**



Age: 18  
Position: Striker  
Signed: August 2008

Performance Car Hire

The Mayne Family

LEWIS EMANUEL **11**



Age: 24  
Position: Midfielder  
Signed: August 2008

Matthew Crossland

Bobbermans 606ers

ASA HALL **14**



Age: 21  
Position: Midfielder  
Signed: August 2008

Carole Jinks & Sharon Skinner

WHOSH

ED ASAFU-ADJAYE **15**



Age: 19  
Position: Defender  
Signed: August 2008

Jacqui Peacock

Loyal Luton Supporters Club

ROSSI JARVIS **16**



Age: 20  
Position: Midfielder  
Signed: August 2008

Carole Jinks & Sharon Skinner

Oscar & Rosie Barron

KEVIN WATSON **17**



Age: 34  
Position: Midfielder  
Signed: August 2008

Gill, Julie & Yvonne

TJ Fordham Plumbing & Heating

CHRIS MARTIN **18**



Age: 19  
Position: Striker  
Signed: August 2008  
On Loan

Luton Town Ladies FC

Richard & Zak Tilley

DREW TALBOT **19**



Age: 22  
Position: Striker  
Signed: January 2007

Roger Davies

LTSC - Scandinavia

MICHAEL SPILLANE **20**



Age: 19  
Position: Defender  
Signed: August 2008  
On Loan

Kelly Knight

A1 Partitions

CONRAD LOGAN **21**



Age:  
Position: Goalkeeper  
Signed: August 2008  
On Loan

Emma Banks

Josie & Andrew Kingston

GEORGE BEAVAN **25**



Age: 18  
Position: Defender  
Signed: August 2008

Stone Futures Ltd 'Good Luck'

WHOSH

DEAN MORGAN **27**



Age: 24  
Position: Striker  
Signed: February 2005

Available

Available

PAUL McVEIGH **28**



Age: 30  
Position: Striker  
Signed: August 2007

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www.lutonoutlaws.com

# STAFF kitsponsors



**MICK HARFORD**



**Age:** 49  
**Position:** Manager  
**Signed:** January 2008



Mr & Mrs Langford Hat

Hitchin Hatters

**ALAN NEILSON**



**Age:** 35  
**Position:** Youth Manager  
**Signed:** August 2008



Luke Browne

Luton Town Supporters Club

**GREG BROUGHTON**



**Age:** 33  
**Position:** Youth Development Officer  
**Signed:** August 2008



Available

Available

**DIMITRI KHARINE**



**Age:** 40  
**Position:** Goalkeeper Coach  
**Signed:** July 2006



Available

Available



## KIT SPONSORSHIP 08/09

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**Mark FARTHING**



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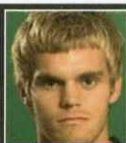
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**Scott SINCLAIR**



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Player Sponsored by:  
**Don Hutchison**

**Adam WATKINS**



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**Jack WOOD**



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Executive Club Member

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the future

# NEW MERCHANDISE



Before the Hatters were deducted 30 points by the football authorities in the summer Hattersbet, the official online Luton Town bookmaker, made the Town a 16/1 shot to take the League Two title.

Now though, as the season reaches its halfway stage, Hatters fans have now been given the opportunity to bet on whether they think Mick Harford's men will be able to pull off the biggest escape act in history and avoid the drop.

As we went to press, Hattersbet were offering odds of 3/1 that the Town would overhaul their points deficit and maintain their league status come May.

Hattersbet also have a market for the winner of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy, where Luton are the 11/2 outsiders to lift the trophy after securing their place in the area final of the competition following their 1-0 win over Colchester.

Scunthorpe United, flying high in League One, are the 11/10

## bettingstory

### A LOOK AT THE LATEST ODDS FOR THE HATTERS

favourites for the JPT title ahead of the Hatters' area final opponents Brighton who are 5/2.

Rotherham, the Hatters relegation rivals, and themselves docked points in the summer, are 4/1 to take the trophy.

Back in League Two, before today's matches Hattersbet made Wycombe Wanderers the 5/2 favourites to clinch the divisional championship and, according to the market, made Shrewsbury their nearest challengers at 4/1.

Before the points deductions given to the Hatters, Bournemouth and Rotherham

had affected the odds of all the clubs, the Chairboys were a 10/1 shot to lift League Two silverware.

Since the season kicked-off in August there has been the many movers and shakers in the market including original 9/1 favourites (pre-deductions) Gillingham now being as big as 20/1 to bring the title to Kent.

However, as the season as progressed, the biggest mover in the market, has been Bury.

Originally quoted at 40/1 to take the title to Gigg Lane, the Shakers – who have been in the top seven for most of the campaign – are now a 12/1 chance.



## hattersbet

powered by **bet365**

**Latest Odds**  
(Hattersbet, as of Dec 18):

**To win League Two:**  
Wycombe 5/2  
Shrewsbury 4/1  
Darlington 6/1  
Brentford 7/1  
Bradford 7/1  
Rochdale 10/1  
Bury 12/1

Luton to stay up: 3/1  
Luton to be relegated: 1/5  
Luton to win the JPT: 11/2

For odds on all the Hatters' matches home and away, league and cup, together with a whole host of other markets visit

[www.hattersbet.com](http://www.hattersbet.com)

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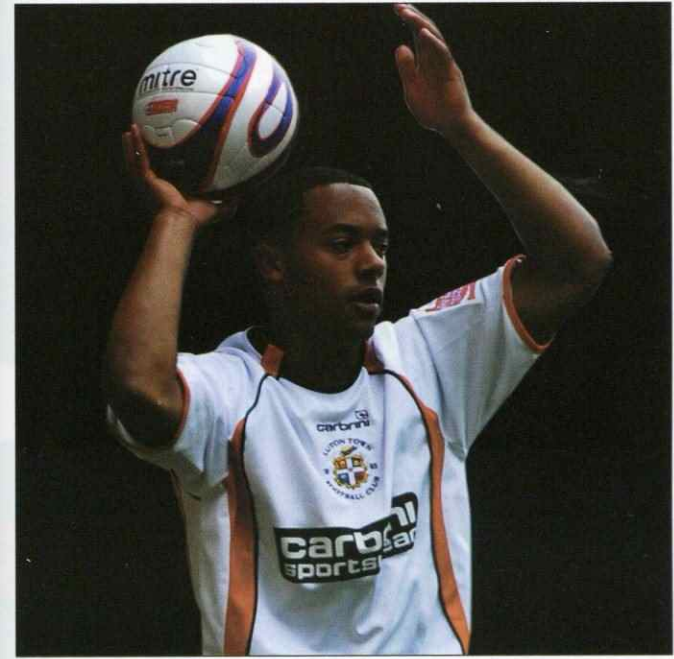
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# Ed Asafu-Adjaye



YOUNG STARLET ENJOYING BEING BACK IN CONTENTION



It's fair to say Luton pulled off the shock of the round to reach the Johnstone's Paint Trophy Area Final, Claude Gnakpa's strike earning them a 1-0 win over League 1 Colchester United.

The most pleasing thing for Ed Asafu-Adjaye though was another clean sheet. The 19-year-old was starting his first game in almost two months after a spell out through injury and although it was hard, he was just glad to be back:

"I have only had a couple of days of training so I am very tired after that but it is good to be back.

"We dug in deep and managed to keep a clean sheet. A couple of last minute tackles and blocks but it's good from the lads, they gave it their all and it paid off.

"Everyone's bonded together and everyone is working hard for each other. We have had some good results lately and a couple of clean sheets which obviously helps with confidence."

Town are now just two games away from a day out at Wembley, something everyone is hoping for:

"It's fantastic, every single one of us is happy, we have got

another two games to go but we'll give it a good go against Brighton."

The Hatters are now unbeaten in their last four games, including a goalless draw with table toppers so confidence is understandably high going into a busy festive period:

"We have managed to get a tight back four, they're playing well together. It's a shame with Pilks (George Pilkington) being out now but everyone has bonded really well.

"It has taken a little bit of time but it was always going to, we have got virtually a whole new team of players."

The win for Luton meant there was no happy return for Chris Coyne, playing his first match at Kenilworth Road since leaving in January but there were certainly no hard feelings:

"I've got no mixed feelings about coming back but I have got mixed feelings about the game.

"I am obviously disappointed for myself and my club but I am also pleased because if someone else does have to go on to win it I would like it to be Luton Town Football Club. I had six and a half great years here."



72 Clubs. The 'Coca-Cola' Football League.



# League Round-up

A review of events around Coca-Cola League Two

Despite their draw with the Hatters on Saturday, Wycombe moved six points clear at the top of League Two as all of the Chairboys' nearest title challengers were defeated.

The most surprising was Shrewsbury's defeat at Mike Newell's Grimsby. The 1-0 win for the Mariners was their first at Blundell Park this season and ended the Shrews' seven-match unbeaten run.

Darlington were defeated by the same scoreline by today's visitors Morecambe, Rene Howe scoring the only goal at Christie Park.

A last-gasp goal earned Brentford a thrilling 2-1 success at home to Bradford. Nathan Elder's injury-time strike propelling the Bees above their



Paul Benson's effort was all in vain as Dagenham's game with Exeter was abandoned due to floodlight failure

opponents, into fourth place.

Bury took advantage of their rivals results to move in to second place. Three first half goals were enough to secure the Shakers a resounding 3-0 victory over Port Vale at Gigg Lane, moving them a point clear of Shrewsbury, Brentford and Bradford.

As a result, just three points separate the teams from second to ninth in the table as the other sides involved in the promotion chase were all held.

Gillingham drew 2-2 at Barnet and Rochdale came from a goal down to earn a 1-1 draw with Bournemouth.

A floodlight failure at Victoria Road ended the match between Dagenham &

Redbridge and Exeter at half time with the Daggers leading 1-0 through a Paul Benson goal.

Chester moved further clear of the drop-zone with a comfortable 2-0 win over 10-man Notts County at the Deva Stadium, with goals from Ryan Lowe and Kevin Roberts.

There were six goals in both of the games played on Friday night. Lincoln thumped Accrington 5-1 at Sincil Bank, coming from a goal down to score five goals in the second half.

And Macclesfield recorded their fourth win on the road with a 4-2 defeat of Chesterfield at Saltergate where former Hatter Alan Goodall was dismissed in injury time.



NATHAN ELDER: LAST MINUTE WINNER FOR BRENTFORD

**How long have I been a Luton fan?**

27 years - Since the age of six

**How many games you go to a season?**

As many as possible.

**How far do you travel to watch the Hatters?**

I am Luton born and bred, and live in the town.

**Where do you sit?**

Kenilworth Road, Block D, behind the goal with friends and family. We're known as the 'Mad Hatters Clique'!

**Manager's profile:**

Peter runs Power Trip Wrestling ([www.powertripwrestling.co.uk](http://www.powertripwrestling.co.uk)), a professional wrestling promotion based in Bedfordshire. A high profile company who have been reported on in all three local newspapers in the area and on the radio; in two years of running shows.

Peter is a character on the show and he says it is a true reflection of himself - a loud, and somewhat over confident Luton Town fan. This has led to some very wild incidents on shows, with fans in the crowd. My son Andrew's godfather is ex-Luton goalkeeper Ian Feuer, and he attends matches with son Andrew (pictured), and my daughter Victoria.



(Goalkeeper) **IAN FEUER**  
Ian, to me, was the most charismatic and talented keeper to ever put on a Luton shirt. Adored by the fans for his attitude, as much as his undeniable talent and truly a one of a kind. A rare person who when he kissed the club's badge on the shirt, you KNEW he meant it.



(Central Defender) **JULIAN JAMES**  
One of the many underrated players in LTFC's history, Julian could always be relied upon to give the proverbial hundred and ten percent in his performances. A good tackler, but also had an element of class to his game as well. Julian's career ended too soon due to injury, but is well worthy of his place in my dream team.



(Central Defender) **JOHN DREYER**  
Anyone who has ever lived through a John Dreyer taken penalty will understand this selection. Nobody ever quite took a penalty in the manner 'Tumble' did, or probably ever will. Always dependent and reliable, and well worthy of being a former Captain of the club.



(Left Back) **DES LINTON**  
Another often forgotten LTFC player, but one that I always enjoyed watching. I'm a believer in the 'unsung heroes' of Luton's past, who's contribution often gets sadly forgotten along the way, and in that respect; Des Linton always gave a good performance in the name of the club.



(Right Back) **TIM BREACKER**  
Tim Breacker was always someone you knew was as good going forward in attack, as he was in defence. Marauding runs down the right side of the pitch, with a quality cross; as well as a solid defender. Nowadays, you can see some of these qualities in Claude Gnakpa.



(Central Midfielder) **DAVID PREECE**  
Perhaps the most hardworking man to ever put on a Luton Town shirt. David Preece was a man of

small stature, but immense heart and talent. A true gentleman off the pitch, and a player instantly capable of turning a game on its head with just one flash of magic. Sadly missed, but will never ever be forgotten by any Luton fan.



(Right Midfielder) **RICKY HILL**  
"When he gets the ball, he beats them all...". I grew up singing that alongside other Luton fans, about Ricky Hill. Hill is probably the most skilful and talented player to grace our club, and he truly deserves his status as a Legend at the club.



(Left Midfielder) **MATTHEW TAYLOR**  
Matthew Taylor was clearly destined for big things in football, and we can always be proud that he first became noticed here at Luton FC. A quality crosser of the ball, and you knew you were always just a moment away from one of his long shots that more often than not hit the target.



(Central Midfielder) **SCOTT OAKES**  
Forever remembered by me, for 'that' cup run back in 1993/94. One of very few LTFC players that I had the name of on the back of my replica shirt. On his day, an incredibly talented footballer, who never seemed to just score regular goals.



(Striker) **DAVID OLDFIELD**  
I often used to refer to 'Skippy', as the straw that stirred the drink. With Oldfield in the 'hole' between the midfield and the strikers, you could be sure of some good link up play, passing, and often a goal as well. Oldfield had an element of quality to his repertoire that could often change the direction of a game.



(Striker) **DWIGHT MARSHALL**  
An infectious character, who would nearly always seen smiling, and a quality player. Dwight, at his best, to me; would be found running onto a well placed pass, and beating a goalkeeper with a side step and a bit of class.





LUTON TOWN DIRECTOR AND MUCH LOVED COMEDIAN ERIC MORECAMBE, ALWAYS FOND OF PRACTICAL JOKES, HAD THE TABLES TURNED ON HIM WHEN HE STRAYED TOO CLOSE TO THE LUTON PLAYERS CHANGING ROOM ON THIS MEMORABLE OCCASION.

Morecambe did not mind the soaking though, as he was celebrating promotion back to the old Division One along with everyone else following a home game against Sunderland in May 1974.

The club had now gone full circle in dropping from Division One to the basement and back again in 14 short years and with high profile Eric on the

Date: Wednesday May 1, 1974 Place: Kenilworth Road



Board and a strong squad of players it tow, supporters were confident that mistakes of the past would not be repeated. Privately the directors had some misgivings as they felt the club was not yet ready for promotion but on a night like this they had to go along with the flow. The hard job on the playing side had taken place on the previous Saturday when the Hatters returned from

West Bromwich with a point which had clinched second spot in Division Two and with it promotion.

A crowd of 20,285 turned out at Kenilworth Road four days later to see the final game of the season against Sunderland and, with nothing to play for, they were intent on turning it into a carnival. Luckily the players, with the pressure off, were happy to join in

**hattersflashback**  
Eric soaks in the glory



with the mood of the night and the fans were treated to a display of attacking football with goals flying in from all angles.



The score was an incredible 3-3 at half-time with Sunderland taking the lead three times with rocket shots from outside the area and the Hatters responding in kind. It is difficult to believe but both goalkeepers, Graham Horn for the Town and Jim Montgomery for Sunderland, played blinders pulling off at least half a

dozen breathtaking saves each to keep the score down!

The second period did not let up and what it lacked in goals it made up for with fine saves from both goalkeepers once more, as well as many near misses.

The only goal of the half was completely out of keeping with all that had gone on before, with ex-Hatter Vic Halom scuffing a shot past Horn. He looked suitably embarrassed but if

he thought he had spoilt the party he was mistaken as at the end of the game the supporters stormed on to the pitch and would not go home until their heroes had appeared in the main stand to take a bow.

It was then on to the relatively easy task of throwing Eric into the bath!



Dear supporter,

**Help Luton Town Football Club (and hopefully save yourself some money!!)**

I am writing to advise you of an exciting development from Luton Town Football Club, which will be of enormous benefit not only to you, but Luton Town Football Club as well.

I am delighted to advise that local broker **A Plan Insurance** has been appointed as our strategic business partner. A Plan Insurance will be our preferred supplier of insurance to you, our fans, and your families.

A Plan Insurance started in Luton and has been here for over forty years, with a significant presence in Upper George Street less than a mile from Kenilworth Road. In deciding upon our preferred supplier, it was important that they were able to provide you with a local service, and presence (as well as a great price).

We have put together an offering which will hopefully save you money, **and** generate income for Luton Town Football Club.

A Plan has agreed that for every policy taken out by a Luton Town fan, they will make a significant donation to the club. A Plan will also endeavour to save you as much money on your insurances as they can.

This is not restricted to your motor and home insurance, but also includes your business and life insurance. In fact the more you are able to support A Plan the more significant their donation to the club. In short, at the same time as (hopefully) saving money on your insurance policies you are also helping the club.

To take advantage of this fantastic facility simply call A Plan on 01582 420101 for your car, home and van insurance, and 01582 733757 for your business insurance. If your policy is not due for a while, please keep this letter with your documents, to remind you of this deal when the time comes.

Yours sincerely

**Mick Harford**  
Manager  
Luton Town Football Club

**David Hoskins**  
Commercial Manager  
Luton Town Football Club



**Junior**  
**Watters**



Welcome to all Junior Hatters for this afternoon's match with Morecambe. Today is our last home game before Christmas so I'd like to wish all Junior Hatters a Happy Christmas!

Talking of Christmas, it was great to see so many of you at our Christmas Party last week. Make sure you get a copy of the programme for the next home match with Lincoln as there will be plenty of photographs from the night on this page!

It's another important game for us so please get behind all the players – you know they really need our support. Three points would be a nice early Christmas present.

Happy Christmas,  
Happy Harry.

**BALLBOY AND BALLGIRL**

Our ball boy this afternoon Christopher Howes from Bedford and our ball girl is Kayleigh Chandler from St Albans.



**JUNIOR HATTERS MASCOT**

Today's mascot is 13 year old Hannah Waring who has travelled all the way from Wellington in Somerset to be at Kenilworth Road. Hannah will get to lead the team out and meet all the players including her favourite, Dean Brill. I hope you enjoy your day with us Hannah.

NHS

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Luton Blood Donor Centre Open Day  
30th October 2008

Luton Town manager Mick Harford will be at the Blood Donor Centre in St George's Square at 5pm to help promote donating blood. Please come and visit us!

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## FORTHCOMING AWAY FIXURES

Friday 26th December 2008

### Chesterfield

Kick off: 3pm Saltergate



**Allocation:** We will have an allocation of 1400 Terrace and 380 seats.  
Selling Arrangements:

This game is all PAY ON THE DAY via cash turnstiles.

No tickets will be sold in advance.

**Prices:**

**Terrace (Uncovered):** Adult £16.00  
Seniors (Over 65)/Young Adults (Under 19) £10.00  
Under 15's £7.00

**Seating (Covered):**

Adult £18.00 Seniors (Over 65)/Young Adults (Under 19) £13.00 Under 15's £12.00

Saturday 3rd January 2009

### Chester City

Kick off: 3pm Deva Stadium



This game is all PAY ON THE DAY via cash turnstiles. No tickets will be sold in advance.

**Prices:**

Adult £15.00 Senior £10.00 Under 16 £10.00 Student (with valid NUS Card ) £10.00

Students will need to provide proof of status at Chester City's Ticket Office.

Saturday 17th January 2009

### Darlington

Kick off: 3pm The Balfour Webnet Darlington Arena



**Allocation:** We have an initial allocation of 500 tickets for sale from Luton Town Ticket Office as prices do increase on the day of the game.

**Selling Arrangements:** Ticket are available on general sale and will remain on sale until 4pm Friday 16/01/09.

**Pre Matchday prices :** Adult £16.00

Senior (Over 60) £10.00  
Student (with valid ID) £10.00  
Junior Under 16 £6.00 Under 10's Free of Charge

There is a £1.00 increase on Junior ticket prices and £2.00 increase on all other prices on the day of the game.



## FORTHCOMING HOME FIXURES

Sunday 28th December 2008

### Lincoln City

Kick off: 3pm Kenilworth Road



Tickets are now on general sale at normal pre-matchday prices.

There will be an £2 increase for tickets purchased on the day of the game.

Saturday 10th January 2009

### Rotherham United

Kick off: 3.00pm Kenilworth Road



Tickets are now on general sale at normal pre-matchday prices.

There will be an £2 increase for tickets purchased on the day of the game.

Saturday 24th January

### Bradford City

Kick off: 3pm Kenilworth Road



Tickets are now on general sale at normal pre-matchday prices.

There will be an £2 increase for tickets purchased on the day of the game.

## STANDS PRE MATCHDAY TICKET PRICE

**All Areas**

Juniors (Under 10)	£5
Youth (Age 10-16)	£10
Young Adult (Age 17-21)	£15
Adult (Age 22-64)	£20
Senior (Age 65-75)	£15
Golden Senior (Over 75)	£10

**Compromise Seating -**

**Main Enclosure A, B, H & J, Main Stand G**

Juniors (Under 10)	£5
Youth (Under 17)	£10
Young Adult (Age 17-21)	£15
Adult (Age 22-64)	£15
Senior (Age 65-75)	£15
Golden Senior (Over 75)	£10

## MATCHDAY VOUCHER BOOKS

(x5 tickets per book)

Juniors (Under 10)	£22.50
Youth (Age 10-16)	£45
Young Adult (Age 17-21)	£67.50
Adult (Age 22-64)	£90
Senior (Age 65-75)	£67.50
Golden Senior (Over 75)	£45



**Luton Town Football Club Ticket Office: 01582 416976**

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## travelnews



### LEAGUE TWO

Friday 26th December

**Chesterfield**

Kick off: 3pm Saltergate



#### What's the ground like?

At one end is the Spion Kop, a covered terrace for home supporters. Opposite is the small, open Cross Street End terrace. The covered Main Stand is medium sized, and unusual in having its seating area raised above the pitch. The other side, the Compton Street Side, had a lot of work carried out on it during 2002 and this former terrace has now been made all seated. It has an unusual television gantry perched on its roof. It was originally constructed in the early 1920's.

#### What's it like for away supporters?

Luton supporters will be primarily housed in the uncovered Cross Street Terrace at one end of the ground, where 1,400 supporters can be accommodated. There are also 450 seats available to Luton supporters in the covered Main

Stand. The seats allocated to away fans in the Main Stand are in fact wooden.

#### Food and drink

Inside the ground you can find the usual football fayre of pies and hot dogs, which are available from the refreshment areas.

Chesterfield has plenty of eating and drinking places within easy walking distance of the ground. For a pre-match pint, Luton supporters have plenty of choice. The Barley Mow in Saltergate and The County across the road come highly recommended along with the Market Tavern in Chesterfield town centre and the Chesterfield Arms, which is a minute walk from the away end.

#### How to get there by car.

Leave the M1 at Junction 29 and

take the A617 towards Chesterfield. On reaching the edge of the town centre go straight across the first roundabout and then the next, passing the famous Chesterfield Church with the crooked spire on your left. As the road divides, keep to your left, going around an open car park. This road leads into Saltergate, where you will pass the Barley Mow pub on your left and the Town Hall car park, before reaching the ground on your right.

#### Car parking

There are plenty of car parks in the town centre to choose from, including at the Town Hall (approximately £2.40 for four hours).

#### Luton's last visit

The Hatters last visit to Saltergate was on Boxing Day in 2004. Enoch Showunmi's late goal earned the Town a 1-0 victory on their way to clinching the League One Championship.

#### Travel details:

Both the Bobbers Travel Club and the Luton Town Supporters Club are running coaches to Chesterfield.

The Bobbers leave Cranfield at 10am with pick-up points along the way before an 11am departure from Kenilworth Road. The fare is £17 for adults and £14 for juniors and seniors. For bookings telephone 01234 856542.

LTSC leave the Maple Road car park at 11am stopping at Newport Pagnell service station 30 minutes later. The fare is £15 for adults and £13 for concessions. For bookings telephone 07960 567465

Information kindly provided by Duncan Adams. Please visit [www.footballgroundguide.com](http://www.footballgroundguide.com) for more details.







FOR THE HATTERS AT THE KENNY

Sunday 28th December

**Lincoln City**

3pm Kenilworth Road



**IN OCTOBER, LINCOLN CITY MANAGER PETER JACKSON WAS AWARDED THE LEAGUE 2 MANAGER OF THE MONTH AWARD AFTER HIS SIDE WON FIVE OF THEIR SIX LEAGUE MATCHES.**

However, this successful period has been sandwiched in between two months of poor performances and a failure to pick up points at home or away, has left the Imps in mid-table, despite Jackson's pre-season hopes of leading the club to promotion this year.

In a dramatic contrast in fortunes, and a poor run of form which seemed to add weight to the rumour that winning the Manager of the Month award is actually a 'curse', November saw Lincoln fail to pick up a single win in their four league matches. To add insult to injury, the Imps were also knocked out of the FA Cup on home soil against Blue Square Premier outfit Kettering.

Jackson was appointed manager of Lincoln in October 2007, at a time when the club were rock bottom of the Football League. Along with the help of his assistant - and brief caretaker after he was diagnosed with cancer, Iffy Onoura - the Lincolnshire club climbed the table and managed to finish last season in 15<sup>th</sup> place.

With the Imps struggling to score goals on a consistent basis this season and still searching for an out-and-out goalscorer, their relatively stern defence could be the club's biggest strength on their visit to Kenilworth Road.

In midfield, the club boasts an array of talent sure to ask questions of the Hatters own midfield and defence. Former Leicester City and Wycombe Wanderers man, Stefan Oakes joined the Imps in the summer, and his range of passing is likely to pose one or two problems if their strikers can latch onto the end of his searching balls.

Lee Frecklington is currently the club's joint top-scorer. The 23-year-old central midfielder possesses bags of skill and an eye for goal, and was named in the PFA Team of the Year in 2007.

Upfront, Romanian striker Adrian Patulea is now back from injury after missing several games because of a hamstring

problem, and Imps fans will be hoping the 24-year-old will prove to be the goalscorer they've been crying out for. As the current joint top-scorer and an impressive start to his career in England, he might just well be.

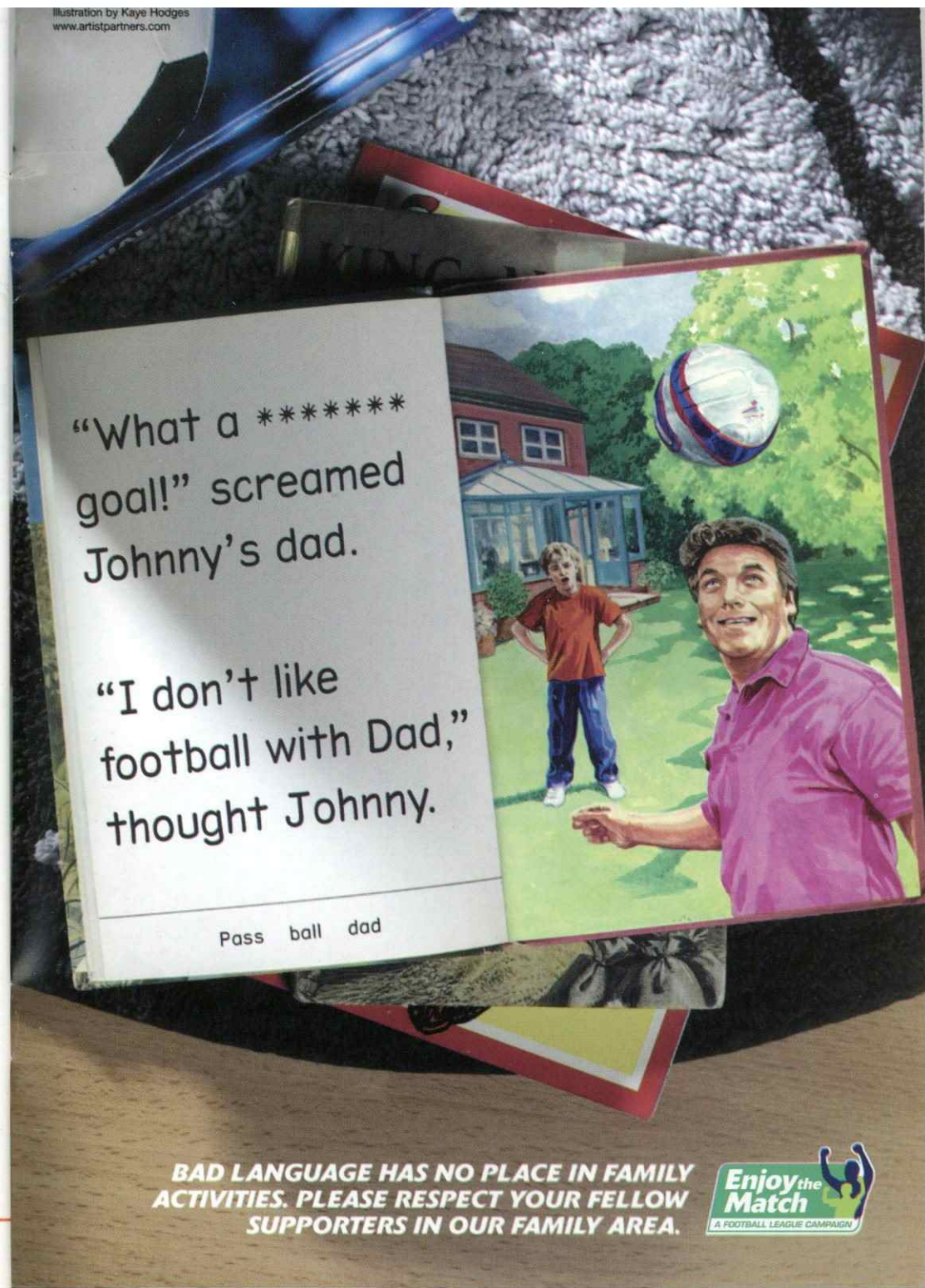
Lincoln last travelled to Kenilworth Road in September 2001. It ended 1-1 that day, but the last meeting between the two clubs ended in a 1-0 victory for the Hatters, with the winning goal coming from Matt Taylor, in February 2002.

Over the years, Luton have tended to get the better of their opponents from Sincil Bank, with the Hatters winning in the league 13 times against the Imps, and losing just six league matches.



Stefan Oakes

Illustration by Kays Hodges  
www.artistpartners.com



“What a \*\*\*\*\* goal!” screamed Johnny’s dad.

“I don’t like football with Dad,” thought Johnny.

Pass ball dad

**BAD LANGUAGE HAS NO PLACE IN FAMILY ACTIVITIES. PLEASE RESPECT YOUR FELLOW SUPPORTERS IN OUR FAMILY AREA.**



# HATTERS

## LUTON TOWN


1	DEAN BRILL		
2	CLAUDE GNAKPA		
3	SOL DAVIS		
4	KEITH KEANE		
5	IAN ROPER		
6	GEORGE PILKINGTON		
7	GARRETH O'CONNOR		
8	KEVIN NICHOLLS		
10	RYAN CHARLES		
11	LEWIS EMANUEL		
12	HARRY WORLEY		
14	ASA HALL		
15	ED ASAFU-ADJAYE		
16	ROSSI JARVIS		
17	KEVIN WATSON		
18	CHRIS MARTIN		
19	DREW TALBOT		
20	MICHAEL SPILLANE		
21	CONRAD LOGAN		
23	WAYNE ANDREWS		
24	TOM CRADDOCK		
25	GEORGE BEAVAN		
28	PAUL MCVEIGH		
29	JORDAN PATRICK		
32	KEVIN GALLEN		
33	JAKE HOWELLS		
40	SCOTT SINCLAIR		

## MORECAMBE

1	BARRY ROCHE		
2	ADAM YATES		
3	MICHAEL HOWARD		
4	DAVID ARTELL		
5	JIM BENTLEY		
6	CRAIG STANLEY		
7	MICHAEL TWISS		
8	GARY HUNTER		
9	WAYNE CURTIS		
10	RENE HOWE		
11	NEIL WAINWRIGHT		
12	LEWIS EDGE		
14	DIARMUID O'CARROLL		
15	FRASER MCLACHLAN		
16	STUART DRUMMOND		
17	AARON TAYLOR		
18	PAUL LLOYD		
19	RYAN MCCANN		
20	MICHAEL CARR		
21	MATTHEW BLINKHORN		
22	HENRY MCSTAY		
23	JAMES HAMMOND		
24	MATT BELL		
25	DANNY ADAMS		
26	RYAN MCGIVERN		
27	DANNY CARLTON		
30	SCOTT DAVIES		

 **REFEREE**

G.D.SCOTT

 **ASSISTANT**

W.ATKIN

 **ASSISTANT**

C.J.FRANCIS

 **4TH OFFICIAL**

P.W.BARNES



Sunday 28th December

**Lincoln City**

Kick off: 3.00pm  
Kenilworth Road



**Next up at home**