

# HATTERS

LUTON TOWN FC OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME: £3.00

v LINCOLN CITY 28/12/08 3pm

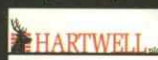
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Luton Town v Lincoln City



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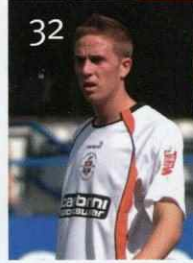
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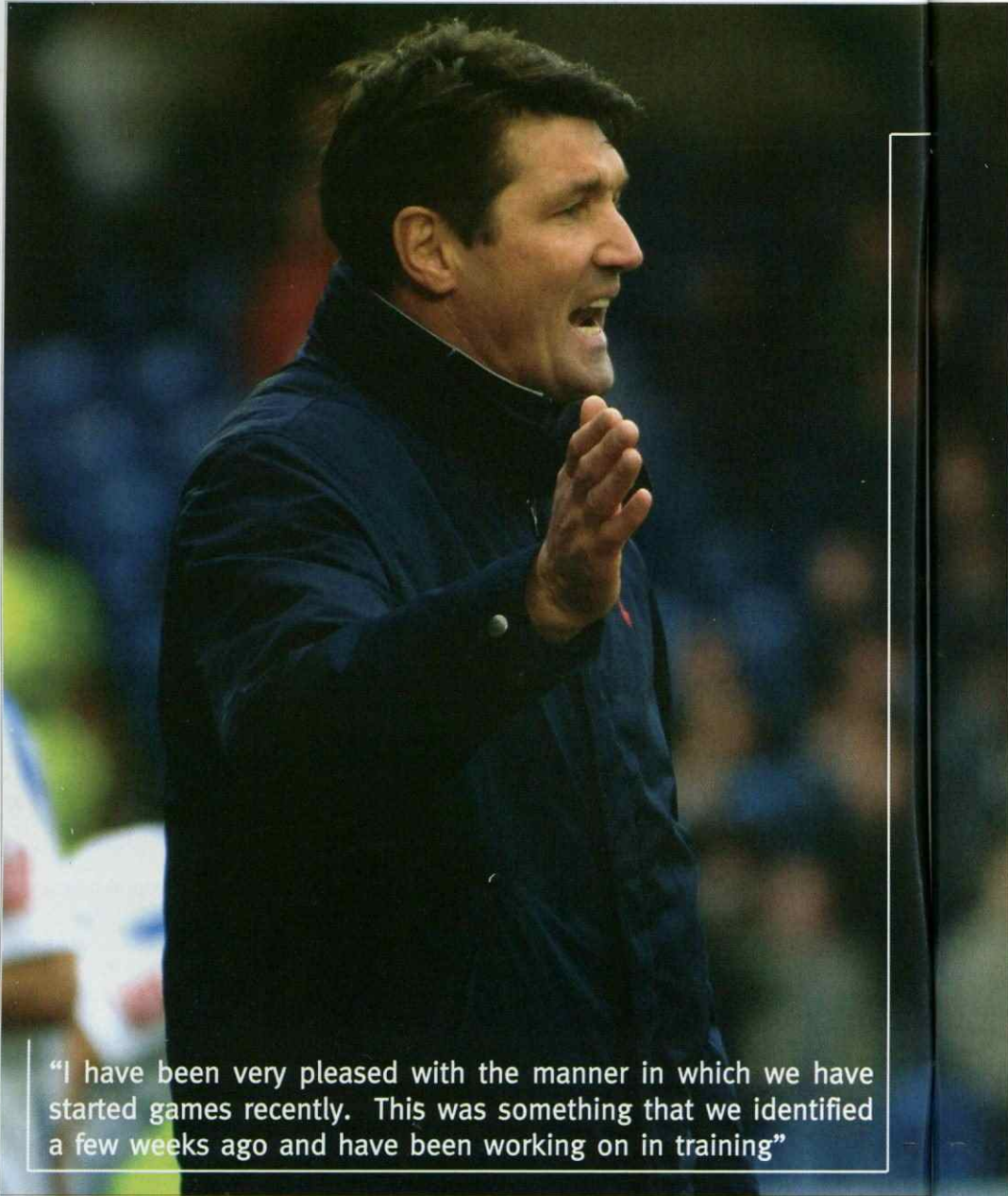
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**SPILLANE SPEAKS 49**

The young defender talks about scoring more goals for the Hatters after notching against Morecambe.



Luton Town Football Club Official Matchday Programme  
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“I have been very pleased with the manner in which we have started games recently. This was something that we identified a few weeks ago and have been working on in training”

# mickharford



## THE HATTERS MANAGER LOOKS FORWARD TO 2009

Good afternoon and welcome to Kenilworth Road for this afternoon's clash with Lincoln City. I hope that you all had a great Christmas day, and I trust you were thinking of us out on the training pitch when you were tucking in to your Christmas dinner!

These notes were written before the game against Chesterfield, so I can only hope that that we go into today's game having continued our unbeaten run to 6 games and even better this could be the game that brings us into, or very close to, positive figures.

Getting past zero points has been at the forefront of all our minds since the opening day of the season. No-one at the club can wait until we can draw a line under the events of last summer and start putting points on the board.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Peter Jackson, his players, staff, directors and Chairman of Lincoln City FC to Kenilworth Road. I have fond memories of Lincoln City, as I signed my first professional contract at Sincil Bank in 1977 and had 3 great years there before I moved to Newcastle. I still look out for their results and hope the club continues to progress and have success.

It's also great to see Peter Jackson back at work after his illness last year, and his side seemed to have returned to form recently after a small blip in November. Before Boxing day's fixtures Lincoln had won two on the bounce, including a 5-1 thrashing of a very good



Accrington side so we know that we will be in for a tough test this afternoon, which I witnessed, so I know what we face today.

I have been very pleased with the manner in which we have started games recently. This was something that we identified a few weeks ago and have been working on in training. With players in the side who are playing well and others slowly but surely returning from injury, I am beginning to have the kind of selection headaches that I've wanted to have all season.

Having someone like Tom (Craddock) back with us also gives us a huge boost, as he has kind of

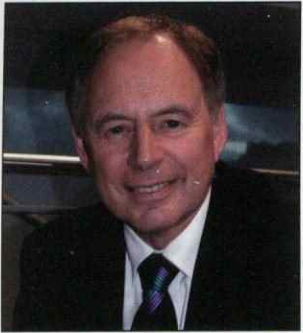
quality in the final third that we have lacked in some games and has the ability to turn a game at the drop hat, which is why he is so highly rated by Middlesbrough.

In a year of so many lows for this Football Club, for me the highlight has been you the fans. You've been magnificent in the way you've supported us through these difficult times and I hope that next year we can repay your support with the right result come May.

Have a great and prosperous new year.

Keep the faith,

Mick



The Queen once described 1992 as an "annus horribilis" but if there was ever a year that summed up that phrase it has been this year at Luton Town FC. However in the face of so much negativity we want to concentrate on the highlights of the year.

It all started for us on Tuesday 15th January 2008, the day on which it was announced that LTFC 2020 had been granted preferred bidder status by the administrator. However the elation that we all felt after hearing that news was eclipsed by a feeling of pride from seeing 6,000 Hatters outsourcing the famous Kop End even when we were 5-0 down. If ever we needed confirmation that we were doing the right thing in buying the club, which incidentally we didn't, that was it.



The milestone of the year came very quickly after the Liverpool game when Kevin Blackwell decided to walk away from the club stating "that Luton Town didn't do what it said on the tin". The club needed a strong character to come in at the helm to take on what was described as an impossible job, and that man was Mick Harford. Although Mick was appointed by the administrator he was, and very much still is, integral to 2020's plans for the club. Mick has bought into the ethos of 2020 and we are proud to have him as the man to lead us. Relegation last season was almost an inevitability, but in many ways it gave us the ideal opportunity to start again from scratch with the playing squad



and from May to August we focused on this almost exclusively. In our opinion we now have a more talented squad than we have had in recent seasons but on a fraction of the budget. We believe all the players that we have signed will go on to become better players than they all are now, so the future for this football club is very bright.

We already had one prodigal son return to the club this year but we all felt that the final piece of the jigsaw was the signing of Kevin Nicholls. The buzz that it created around the club was incredible, and the reception that Nico got both at the Loyal Luton meeting and when signing his contract on the pitch at the Brighton game was amazing. We had been working so hard to ensure that the deal went through for some weeks and to see all the hard work pay off was very rewarding. Nico has been very unfortunate with injuries this year, but you cannot underestimate his influence in the dressing room. Kevin is a born winner and will not stand for anything less than 100% commitment from himself and his team mates, and it is that kind of mentality which will see us through this season.

Looking back the next highlight was perversely the 1-3 defeat on the opening day of the season against Port Vale. That day, Ian Roper was on the receiving end of much criticism for his performance, but we said to anyone that would listen that Roper would become a cult hero at this

# from theboardroom

## The Hatters Board look ahead to 2009

club. After hearing his name sung continuously for the last month I think we were right.

Another highlight was seeing Jake Howells make his debut against Bradford City and subsequently becoming a permanent fixture in the side. Jake sums up everything that Luton Town FC 2020 stands for; he is young, talented and local. Jake isn't the only one however, as this year we've seen players who have come out of the youth system to become important members of the first team squad like Ed Asafu-Adjaye, George Beavan and Ryan Charles, as well as seeing Scott Sinclair and Jordan Patrick making their debuts.



the future of this football club.

The youth system at the club is the strongest it has been for many years. Only this week we had one of our scholars decline an offer to join a Championship club as he felt the quality of players and coaching at Luton was better. Alan Neilson and Gregg Broughton rightly deserve applause for the impact that they have made and this can only bode well for

The day we get to zero points is the start of our season; we can leave the bitterness of the points deductions behind us and approach the rest of the season in a positive frame of mind. We can only hope that after Boxing Day's fixtures, today is the day that we can do that. Even if it is not we will be in positive figures early

in 2009 and we can push on and have a great start to next year and leave our "annus horribilis" behind us.

As one of our fans sent to us in a Christmas card;

*Here's to a six point Christmas and a great escape new year!*

Gary, Antony, Stephen & Nick.

**The day we get to zero points is the start of our season; we can leave the bitterness of the points deductions behind us and approach the rest of the season in a positive frame of mind**

# kevin nicholls



## THE SKIPPER URGES ALL HATTERS FANS TO KEEP THE FAITH

I hope that you all had a good Christmas and we're sorry that we couldn't send you off to enjoy it more with three points from our last home game against Morecambe.

We came out of the blocks well at the start of the game, something we haven't done enough times this season. That is something we have tried to work on and I thought it was going to pay off but we let them get back into the game. We need to score during our periods of dominance and although we had the chances, we couldn't put the ball away.

Once we were in the lead I thought, "this is it, another three points and a clean sheet" but it wasn't to be. They took their goal well to level it but it is a big blow to drop two points like that. No disrespect to Morecambe but that is how it felt. It felt like a defeat in those circumstances because it was a game we knew we needed to win. We were expecting a tough, physical game and having got in front we should have seen it out. That said, it is important to look at the positives, we are now five games unbeaten, the longest run we have had this season and this is something we must keep going for as long as possible.

There are still plenty of league games left and half of those will be at home. Home form is important in any league and quite simply our home form this season hasn't been good

enough so we have to put that right if we are to give ourselves a chance.

These notes were written prior to Boxing Day but I am hoping we were able to keep that run going at Saltergate and be in a positive frame of mind for two more tough matches. Whilst I don't know a great deal about Lincoln City I do know their manager, Peter Jackson and he is a passionate manager. When he was in charge at Huddersfield they always played good football but we can't worry about our opponents, we haven't done all season and I am not going to start now.

After this afternoon we have a few days break before we travel to Chester City.

The lads are keen to make sure we make up for the disappointment of drawing with them here earlier in the season. It was another game we should have won and we were penalised by conceding a sloppy goal so we want to show them how much we have improved and the aim for us is to make sure we start to 2009 with a win and three points that hopefully ensures we are eight games unbeaten by the time Rotherham visit on 10<sup>th</sup> January.

Best wishes for a happy new year and thanks, as ever, for your great support throughout 2008.

Nico



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**David Pleat**  
& friends



also includes LTFC auction and comedian Russ Williams

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# news&diary



ALL THE LATEST FROM AROUND KENILWORTH ROAD

## NEWS

Wednesday 17th December

Following the Hatters' victory over Colchester United, the draw for the Area Final of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy sees the Hatters travel to Brighton for the first leg.



Saturday 20th December

Michael Spillane nets his fourth goal of the season but the Town are held to a 1-1 draw by Morecambe at Kenilworth Road.

## DIARY

Friday 2nd January 2009

Captain Kevin Nicholls celebrates his 30th birthday.

Saturday 3rd January

Chester City host the Hatters for the first time at the Deva

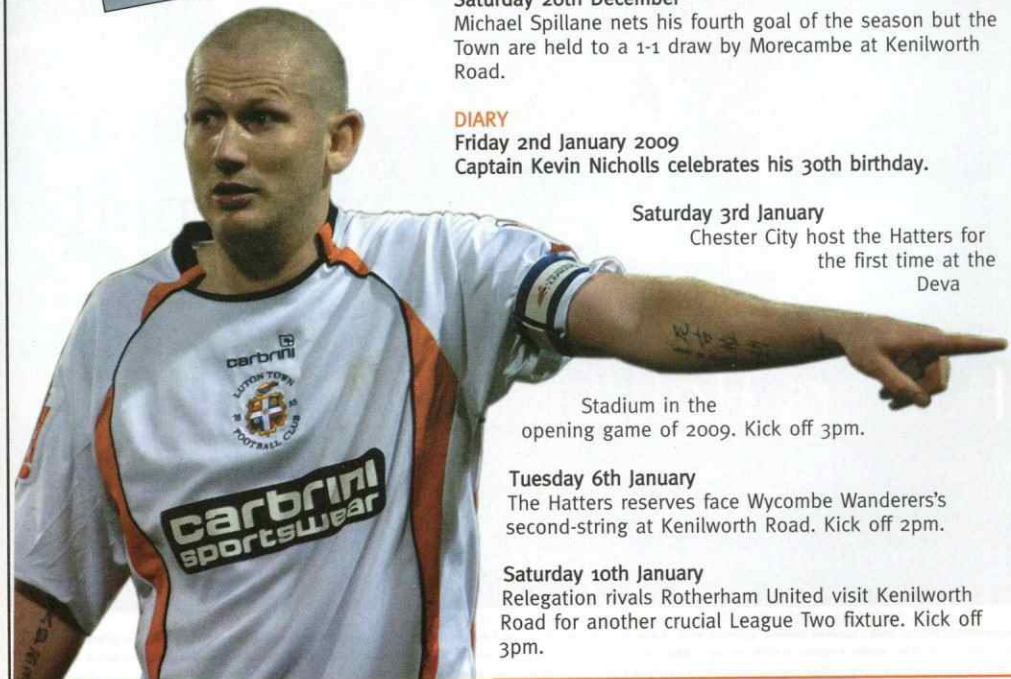
Stadium in the opening game of 2009. Kick off 3pm.

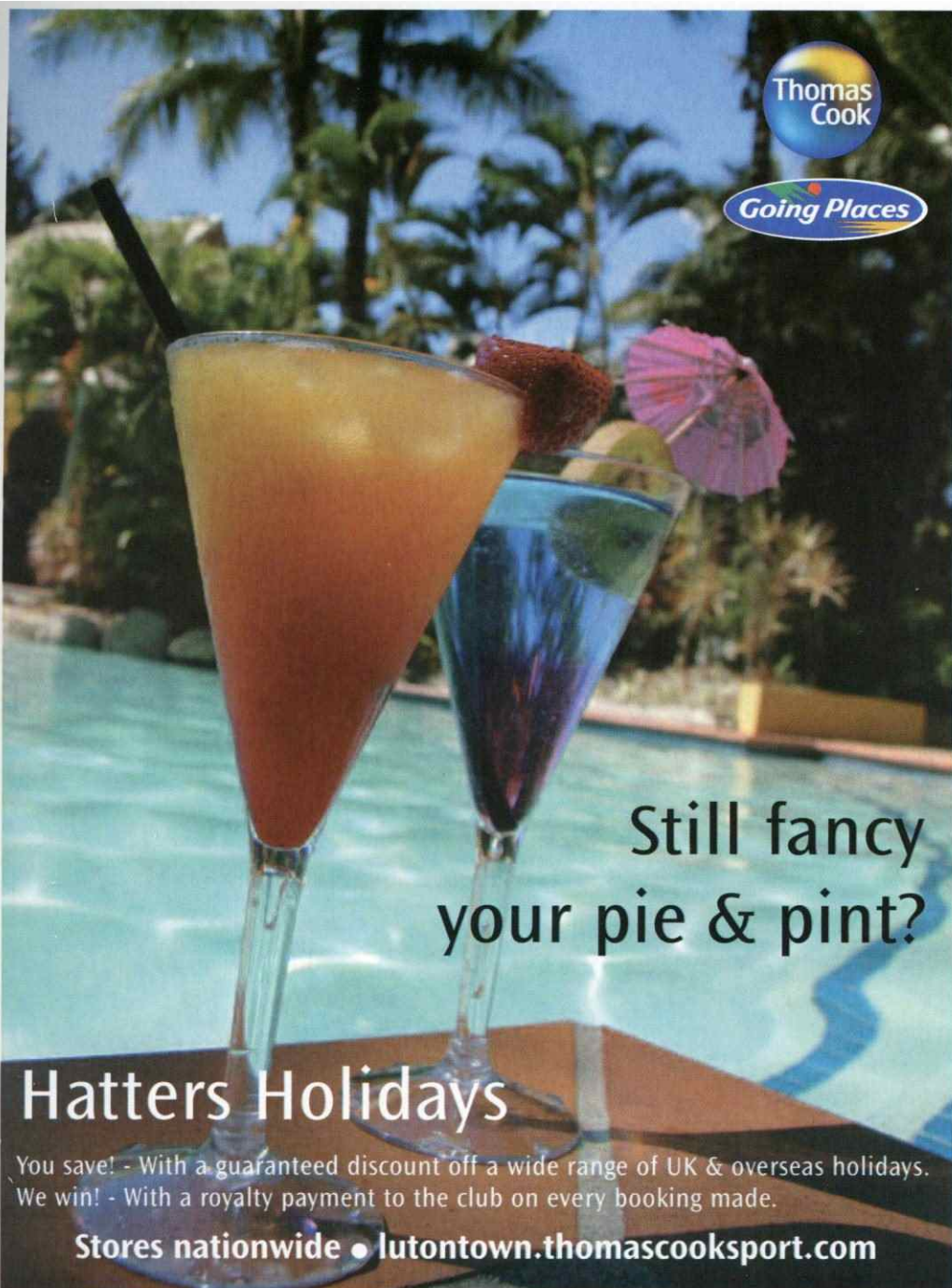
Tuesday 6th January

The Hatters reserves face Wycombe Wanderers' second-string at Kenilworth Road. Kick off 2pm.

Saturday 10th January

Relegation rivals Rotherham United visit Kenilworth Road for another crucial League Two fixture. Kick off 3pm.





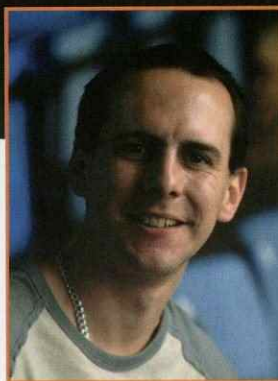
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# The numbersgame

Simon Pitts looks back at the Hatters previous fixtures with Lincoln City

Charlie Burtenshaw and Jack Taylor each scored, with Jimmy Mulvaney and Bobby Brennan both netting twice.

**17,538** The largest attendance for this fixture came in November 1952. The majority of the crowd certainly went home happy as Luton won 4-0 courtesy of two goals from both Jesse Pye and Bernard Moore.

**13** The number of previous league meetings with Luton hosting Lincoln. The Hatters have scored 34 goals, whilst the visitors have netted 11 times.

**2** Just two penalties have been converted by Luton in this fixture. In April 1967 Luton won 2-1 with Keith Allen scoring the first and Ray Whittaker netting the second from the spot.

Whittaker opened the scoring the following season, before Bruce Rioch made it 2-0. Lincoln scored to make it 2-1 before Whittaker restored the two goal advantage with a penalty. Allen wrapped up the points with Luton's fourth before Lincoln scored a late consolation.

**7** The number of years since the two sides met in the League, and it ended in only the second draw between the sides at Kenilworth Road. The previous draw was goal-less in April 1966, but this time it ended 1-1. Aaron Skelton opened the scoring with his first goal for the Hatters, but on his debut Chris Coyne netted an own goal with just minutes remaining.

**2** Just two players have moved from Lincoln City to Luton. Jim Mackey only played in 1924/25 after his move, making 11 appearances, and scoring just once. Six years later and Alf "Pally" Hale made his debut after moving from Lincoln. Hale played 23 times over two seasons, before joining Llanelli.

**5** The number of players to have transferred to Lincoln from Luton. Doug Rowe scored 8 goals in 25 Luton appearances in the early 1930's before his transfer. A few years later and Ted Hancock moved after 27 appearances and 3 goals for the Hatters. Mike Tracey also scored 3 goals in his 25 appearances in 1960, whilst Terry Branston made over 100 appearances and scored 10 goals between 1967-70. David Carr scored once in his 48 appearances between 1977-79.

**12** The most number of goals scored in this fixture, with Luton winning 9-3! It came on 18th December 1897, Luton's first season in the League.

**6** The biggest margin of victory, as well as the 9-3, Luton won 6-0 on 23rd April 1949.



Not an ideal debut for Chris Coyne against the Imps last time around



# lincolncity

Welcome to this afternoon's visitors

## CURRENT FORM: W W L L D

Before the Boxing Day matches had taken place Lincoln arrive at Kenilworth Road on the back of two straight victories which sees the Imps lie in 12th place in the League Two table with 29 points. A 1-0 victory at Notts County on 20<sup>th</sup> December was their eighth win of the campaign – their fourth on the road – leaving them just four points outside the Play-Off places.

Prior to their win at Meadow Lane, a thumping 5-1 win at Sincil Bank over Accrington Stanley ended a run of five games with a victory. After winning five out of six matches in October to earn manager Peter Jackson the manager of the month award, Lincoln then went on to lose four of their next five league matches and were on the end of an upset in the FA Cup losing to Kettering following a replay.

## PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Luton: 15 Lincoln: 6 Draw: 9

The Hatters have the upper hand when it comes to meetings with the Imps, having won half of the 30 meetings involving the two sides. Lincoln's last victory over the Hatters was a 1-0 success at Kenilworth Road in March 1999 but that result was all in vain as the visitors were relegated from Division 2 two months later. There have been some incredibly high scoring matches when the sides have met in the past. All the way back in December 1897 a 4-2 win for Lincoln at Sincil Bank was followed by a 9-3 success for the Town at Kenilworth Road.

And in the 1948-49 season, after 4-4 draw in Lincolnshire the Hatters won the game at Kenilworth Road 6-0. However the Hatters lowest point in their history was marked by an 8-1 drubbing by the Imps at Sincil Bank in 1966 when both teams occupied the bottom two positions in the Football League before kick-off.

## LAST TIME OUT:

It was February 2002 when the two teams last met, for a Division Three clash at Sincil Bank that was decided by a solitary goal from Matthew Taylor three minutes before half time. Taylor's strike was a speculative effort from long range that caught out home goalkeeper Alan Marriott. The victory was the Hatters third win in a sequence of 12 consecutive victories, which ensured promotion to back to Division Two after relegation the previous season. Lincoln meanwhile finished that campaign just two places off the bottom of the table after collecting 46 points from 46 games.

## LAST FIVE SEASONS:

After five consecutive years of play-off heartbreak, the Sincil Bank faithful were probably glad a 15th place finish last season gave them a break from the agony of the end-of-season lottery. Prior to achieving their safe position in the League Two last season, the Imps had remarkably reached the Play-Offs in each of their previous five campaigns. A 2003 defeat in the final at the Millennium Stadium to Bournemouth was followed a year later by defeat to Huddersfield at the semi-final stage.

In 2005 the Imps again reached the final in Cardiff only to lose 2-0 after extra time to Southend after overcoming Macclesfield in the semis.

A record fourth consecutive appearance in the playoffs followed in the next campaign but this time they fell to North Lincolnshire rivals Grimsby at the first hurdle, losing 3-1 on aggregate. Incredibly another top seven finish was accomplished in 2007 but it was a case of fifth time unlucky as Bristol Rovers ousted the Imps 7-4 on aggregate in the semis to reach the final.



## Teams:

**Lincoln:** Marriott, Bailey, Brown, Morgan, Bimson, Smith (Battersby), Hamilton (Buckeley), Walker, Gain (Sedgemore), Cameron, Thorpe.  
Subs not used: Horrigan, Mayo.

**Luton:** Emberson, Neilson, Perrett, Coyne, Johnson, Brkovic, Hughes, Spring, Taylor, Howard, Forbes.  
Subs not used: Ovendale, Boyce, Valois, Crowe, McSwegan.

Attendance: 2,921



Peter Jackson's move into management came after a long and successful career as a strong centre half. He made his name at his hometown club Bradford City, joining as an apprentice in 1978.

He went on to play 300 games in all competitions before joining Newcastle United for £250,000 in 1986. After two years at St James' Park he enjoyed a second spell at Valley Parade before joining Huddersfield Town and later Chester City and Halifax. Jackson took charge of Lincoln in October 2007; his appointment came after two spells at Huddersfield Town which saw him earn promotion to the Second Division and reach the Play-Offs

two seasons later, losing out to Barnsley in the Semi-Finals.

He made a good start to life as Lincoln boss, overseeing the Imps win nine of his first 21 games but Jackson was diagnosed with throat cancer and revealed his treatment would start in March. He signed off in style as his side won five of their six games in February, to earn him the Manager of the Month award, before Iffy Onuora took over the reins on a caretaker basis.

After a successful treatment Jackson returned to work at the end of May and has since agreed to sign a new two year contract.

## StarMan: Adrian Patulea

Having played for Rapid Bucharest and Astra Ploiesti in his homeland as well as Al Hamriya in Dubai, Romanian striker Adrian Patulea's arrival in Lincoln was novel to say the least.

He waited outside manager Peter Jackson's office in order to hand him his CV and rumour has it the striker was then spotted running around the Club's training pitch with his wife on his back in a bid to keep up his fitness during the summer break.

Subsequently handed a trial by Jackson, Adrian made an immediate impact, scoring a second half hat-trick in a 6-0 pre-season friendly win over Lincoln United.

Adrian trained with the first team squad for six more weeks before Jackson indicated that he was interested in signing him on a permanent basis, signing for an undisclosed fee.

Lincoln were then forced to wait another week before notification of international clearance came through and 24 hours later, Adrian hit the headlines again by netting on his debut after coming on as a second half substitute in the 2-0 win over Barnet at Sincil Bank.



## GOALKEEPER ROBERT BURCH

Yeovil-born goalkeeper Rob Burch started his career as a trainee with Tottenham Hotspur but during his five year spell the nearest he got to first team action was as a substitute.

After making his England U20 bow against Germany, Rob was loaned out to Woking and Stevenage Borough (twice), West Ham, Bristol City and Barnet before signing for Sheffield Wednesday in the summer of 2007.

In the summer, Peter Jackson beat off the challenge of a number of clubs to secure Rob's services on a two-year contract.

## DEFENDERS PAUL GREEN

Versatile defender Paul Green became City's first permanent signing of 2007 when he joined the club from Aston Villa.

Paul, who played in the FA 2004 Youth Cup Final for Villa, worked his way through the ranks, going on to represent England at U18 level. A regular in Villa's reserves, he was involved in their first team during the 2006/07 pre-season programme. His form in his second season saw him scoop a number of end of





FRANK SINCLAIR

season awards and earn him a one-year extension to his contract.

### AARON BROWN

Aaron Brown, a former England schoolboy international, made nearly 200 appearances for home town team Bristol City before joining Queens Park Rangers and after loan spells with Torquay United and Cheltenham Town, he linked up with the Imps' assistant manager Iffy Onoura at Swindon Town.

Aaron, who impressed during a trial game for the Imps' reserves against Sheffield United at Sincil Bank in February 2008, signed a one-year deal with City five months later after his contract with Gillingham was terminated.

### JANOS KOVACS

A towering central defender, former Hungarian U21 international János Kovács joined City from Chesterfield in July 2008 having turned down

the offer of a new contract with the Spireites.

János joined Chesterfield in August 2005 from Budapest-based side MTK Hungária and went on to play 57 times for the Spireites, scoring twice. He became Peter Jackson's second signing at City boss with a Football League tribunal deciding that the Club must pay Chesterfield a compensation fee of £17,500 plus a 20% sell-on for his services.

### LEE BEEVERS

Former Welsh under-21 international defender Lee Beevers initially joined the Imps loan from Boston United in February 2005 but the move was made permanent three days later with the former Ipswich Town youngster joining for an undisclosed fee. After representing his country at youth level, Lee won his first Welsh under-21 cap in their game against Germany in

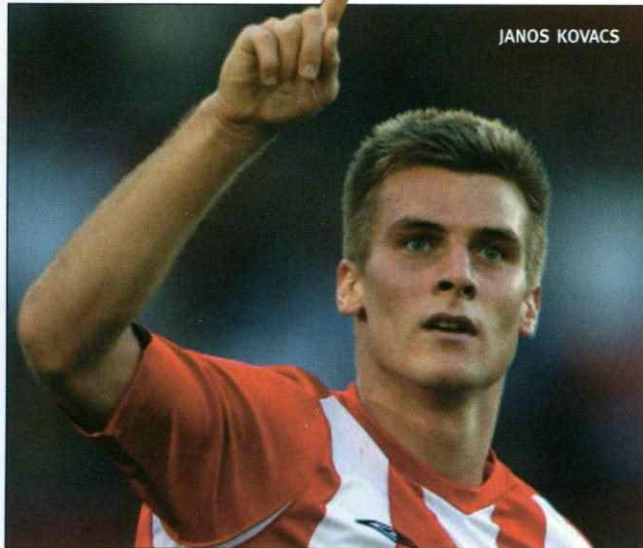
January 2005 he has since gone on to make five more appearances.

### FRANK SINCLAIR

Former Chelsea and Leicester City star Frank Sinclair arrived at Sincil Bank in July 2007 with a wealth of experience under his belt, with the experienced defender having won 28 caps for his Jamaica, including an appearance in the 1998 FIFA World Cup. He also tasted success in two League Cup finals, picked up an FA Cup Winners' medal and boasts over 500 first class appearances to his name. He was one of eight Huddersfield players released by their new manager Stan Ternent in May and penned a one-year contract the Imps a couple of months later.

### DANIEL HONE

Teenage centre-back Danny Hone started the 2007/08 season as a second year Scholar but having impressed



JANOS KOVACS

TheImps



after he forced his way into the first team, signed a professional contract that will run until the summer of 2010.

The former captain of the U18s and a regular in the reserves, Danny - whose father Mark Hone played for the Imps in the 1990s - first joined the Club as an Under-11 and has tackled the transition between reserve team Football and League Football with maturity beyond his fledgling years.

### MIDFIELDERS STEFAN OAKES

Playmaker Stefan Oakes became manager Peter Jackson's first permanent signing as City boss when he penned a two-year deal after turning down a contract extension with Wycombe Wanderers. A left-footed midfielder, Stefan began his career at home-town team Leicester City and was part of the Foxes' League Cup winning

side in 2000. After 61 League games for Leicester and loan spells with Walsall and Crewe Alexandra, he moved to Notts County in February 2004.

After 18 months he joined Wycombe where he spent three years before moving to Sincil Bank.

### LEE FRECKLINGTON

Lee Frecklington is a Lincoln-born central midfielder who worked his way through from the Club's Centre Of Excellence before being rewarded with a professional contract in the summer of 2005.

Lee, who had a two-month loan spell at non-League Stamford Town during the latter half of 2005, then established himself as a first team regular and an impressive 2006/07 season saw him named in the PFA League 2 representative side whilst he also claimed the Club's "Players' Player of the Season" award and won his first cap for the Republic of Ireland at 'B' level. Lee signed a contract extension in February 2008, which means he will be tied to the Imps until the summer of 2011.

### SCOTT KERR

Scott Kerr, the current Club captain at Sincil Bank, signed from Scarborough in July 2005 on an initial two-year contract.

Scott appeared in both the Premiership and the UEFA Intertoto Cup for Bradford before spending two years with Hull City. He went on to join Scarborough initially on loan before making the move permanent in the summer of 2003. He has represented England at Semi-Professional level and was Captain of the England National Game XI when England won the 2005 Four Nations Trophy.

### STRIKERS

#### DANY N'GUESSAN

Frenchman Dany N'Guessan joined the Imps from Glasgow Rangers in January 2007 on a deal which will last until the summer of 2009. Dany joined Rangers from Auxerre in the summer of 2005 for £150,000. The Gers beat off reported interest from the likes of Valencia, Marseille and Manchester City to land the services of the powerful front-man. A product of the Auxerre youth academy, Dany can play on either flank or as a central striker and on his day is a handful for any defence.

#### LENELL JOHN-LEWIS

Teenage striker Lenell John-Lewis was six months into his second year as a Scholar at Sincil Bank when manager Peter Jackson offered him a professional contract.

Lenny joined the Imps in the summer of 2006 after a spell with Grantham Town and was handed his first team debut as a substitute as a 17-year-old in an FA Cup first round tie against Port Vale. His league bow came 12 months later in a League 2 clash at Wycombe Wanderers, again as a substitute.

#### BEN WRIGHT

Ben Wright became the Imps fifth signing of the 2007 pre-season with the tall striker, a former Lincolnshire Schools County Cup winner whilst playing for Deepings School, penning a two-year deal at Sincil Bank. Ben joined the Imps from Norwegian outfit I.K. Start having been in Scandinavia for six years. His 'claim to fame' whilst in Norway came during his time with Viking Stavanger as he scored one of the goals which helped them defeat Chelsea in the 2002/03 UEFA Cup.



SCOTT KERR



- FREE day visit to David Lloyd Luton for 2 adults and 2 children. Valid up to 30th November 2008.
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# peterjackson

After a 1-0 win at Notts County had ended a run of disappointing away defeats, Lincoln boss Paul Jackson is hoping his side can collect another three points at Kenilworth Road this afternoon.

The victory at Meadow Lane was the Imps' fourth win on the road this season and Jackson was keen for the form away from Sincil Bank to continue.

And the former Huddersfield chief pointed out that more clean sheets are the key if the Imps are to break into the division's top seven.

"We've had a lot of disappointment from long trips to Exeter and Aldershot," said the 47-year old.

He said: "I said right at the start of pre-season that we have to keep clean sheets to be up there.

"We played well at Exeter and Aldershot and came away with nothing but I'm delighted we got a clean sheet and took three points."

"Wycombe do it and that's why they're up there. We didn't play attractive football today but I'm delighted we've won three points

The manager admitted they didn't play particularly well but was pleased to keep a clean sheet and grab all three points from the trip to Nottinghamshire.



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Mascot info:  
Jake Wright-Polock

School:  
On-Track Study Centre, Luton

Hobbies:  
Going to football matches, reading

Favourite Hatters Player  
All of them!

Who do you attend Luton games with  
Mum & my sister

Where do you usually sit in the ground?  
Family stand or Kenilworth Road Stand



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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.

JOHNSTONES PAINT TROPHY AREA SEMI-FINAL

Tuesday 16th December 2008

Hatters 1 Colchester Utd 0

Kick off: 7.45pm Kenilworth Road Att: 2,638



**POST-MATCH VERDICT:**

**Mick Harford:**

"The fighting spirit was there for all to see and our second half performance defensively was magnificent, both individually and as a team, and I'm delighted."

**Kem Izzet:**

"We were unfortunate we couldn't score - we've hit the post, hit the bar - it was never going to be our day. It's disappointing but we need to move on."

**TEAMS:**

**LUTON TOWN:**

Logan, Gnakpa, Keane (Beaven 26), Roper, Hall, Asafu-Adjaye, Jarvis, Talbot (Martin 75), Spillane, Andrews (McVeigh 87), Howells. Unused subs: Brill, Davis.

**COLCHESTER UNITED:**

Gerken, White, Jackson, Hammond (Gillespie 75), Izzet, Baldwin, Wasiu (Yeates 56), Heath (Coyne 6), Maybury, Vernon, Wordsworth. Unused subs: Perkins, Walker.



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Designed by Lee Wood

## homegrown



Football League clubs have voted to introduce a 'Home Grown Players' rule, as proposed by The Football League Board, at a specially arranged EGM of clubs at Derby County. The new rule will come into effect from the beginning of next season.

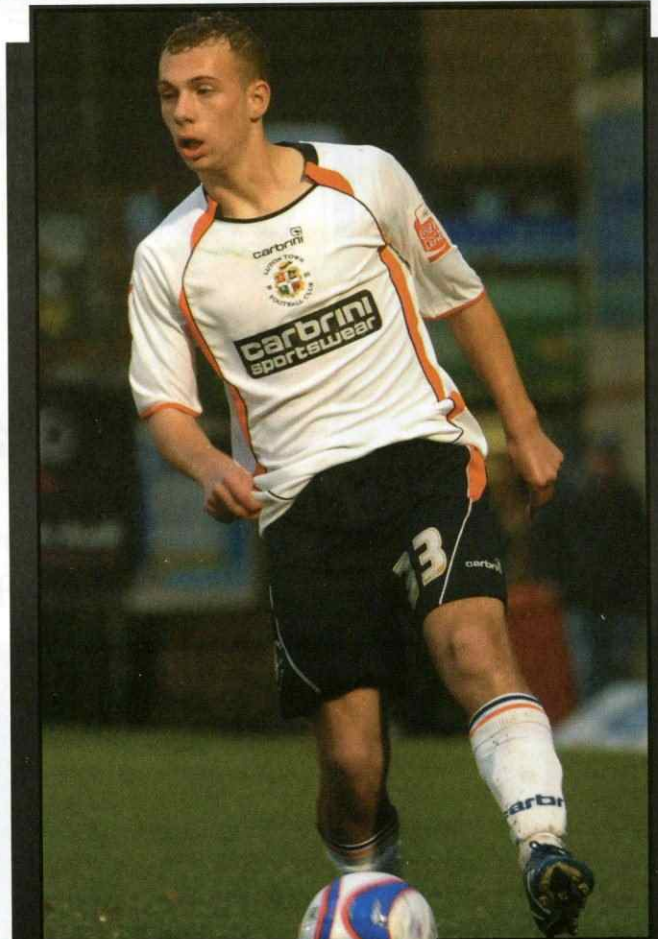
The 'Home Grown Players' rule will require at least four players from clubs' sixteen man matchday squads to be registered domestically, for a minimum of three seasons, prior to their 21st birthday.

In welcoming the club's decision Football League Chairman Lord Mawhinney said: "I would like to compliment Football League clubs for having the foresight to make changes that will benefit the wider game.

"League clubs are at the forefront of developing young playing talent for the domestic game and are investing more than £40m a season in this important area.

"As a result of today's vote, those players being developed will have a greater chance to demonstrate their talent at first team level."

The new rule is in line with the approach favoured by UEFA rather than the '6+5' approach being proposed by FIFA as The League has concerns over the legality of the latter in European law. This means that players will be considered as 'home grown' regardless of their nationality.



Luton have long been keen advocates of youth development with a number of success stories in recent season. Ed Asafu-Adjaye and Jake Howells (above) are the latest in a long line of players to come through the ranks to make names for themselves in the Hatters' first team.

Manager Mick Harford is backing the new proposal: "They should have it in the Premier League; I would stand by it for all the leagues. This club is renowned for bringing young players through and giving them the opportunity."



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



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Designed by Lee Wood





## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT REVIEW DECEMBER 2008

It is now six months since Alan Neilson and I were asked to work with the Youth Players at Luton Town for the 2008/09 season. Although Christmas is a busy period for the first team, we use it as a chance for our young players to have two weeks off and recharge their batteries.

Becoming a full time athlete at 16 is physically and mentally demanding, and hopefully spending a few days at home with their family will allow them to come back reflective and prepared for a crucial period in their development.

In terms of overall development we think that we have made big steps forward on and off the pitch, although we still have a long way to go before we have achieved all that we have set out to do.

### Youth Progress 2008/09

#### On the Pitch

- Performances by Jake Howells in First Team
- Debuts for Scott Sinclair and Jordan Patrick
- Squad Inclusions for Mark Farthing and

Jean-Philip Yamfam

- Scholarships for Six Under 16's in October
- Twenty Six Players playing in older age groups U9-16
- According to results being one of the strongest Centre of Excellence in the South of England.

#### Behind the Scenes

- Appraisal from Football League praising progress on and off the pitch.
- Employment of Technical Development Coach (Full Time), Skill Coach and Athletics Coach (Part-Time).
- Gaining Sponsorship for the Youth Team (ISA Accountants), Youth Development (SI Interactive) & Match Analysis (First4Vauxhall First4 Ford).
- Team Photos in Kenilworth Road.
- Improving appraisal system for players to give more accurate feedback.
- Introducing mid season tours to play in Germany/ Switzerland and end of season tours throughout Europe.

**Thank-you for your continued support, and we look forward to updating you with our plans for 2009.**

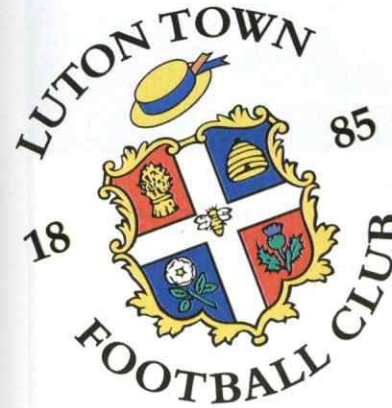


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Under 18 Team Sponsors



### Wycombe Wanderers 1-3 Luton Town

Luton travelled to Bisham Abbey to take on an in-form Wycombe team who were looking to win their games in hand to go top of the League. After coming unstuck in the home fixture against Wycombe earlier in the season we came up with a game plan to drop off and deny Wycombe space in behind our defence whilst also maximising our opportunities to utilise the speed of Jordan Patrick and Jean-Philip Yamfam in attack.

Luton started poorly and Wycombe had two great chances in the first ten minutes due to poor defending, but then as Luton began to settle into what was being asked, we got on top of the game. A great corner from Mark Farthing was twice cleared off the line, before his inswinging free kick was met

by Patrick's diving header to put Luton 1-0 up. The pace of Luton's two Under 16 strikers continued to cause problems due to the intelligent play of Mark Farthing and Sam Barker in midfield, who were ably supported by overlapping runs from Ashley Deeney and Jack Wood. The game changed five minutes before half-time when the referee was called over by his assistant who had spotted an incident off the ball and sent-off Taylor Nathaniel along with Wycombe's Left Midfielder.

At the interval we reinforced the importance of defending deep and moving the ball quickly to expose the space in behind Wycombe's defence. Patrick was also sacrificed for Ryan Da Silva to allow Luton to continue with four in midfield. The second half again started at a great tempo and with Riccardo Biggi and Oliver Cleaver shining the centre of

defence, Luton continued to soak up the pressure whilst hitting Wycombe on the break. The second Luton goal again came from a Farthing set piece who linked with Richard Owusu to cross for Wood to head in at the back post. Another Under 16 striker Liam Toomey came on to make his first appearance for the Under 18's after 60 minutes in a reshuffle that saw Yamfam revert to right midfield. It didn't take long for Toomey to wriggle between the two central defenders and slide a third goal beyond the despairing dive of the keeper on his debut.

Wycombe scored a well worked goal with ten minutes remaining and despite a few scary moments, Luton defended bravely and intelligently to hold on for a hard earned victory. In the last programme notes we spoke about the need to for our Under 18's to be need to be more ruthless in the attacking third and less charitable in defence. Luton were certainly ruthless in attack, especially considering the age of the strike force, and with continued work defensively the team should have a very successful 2009.

Luton: Fletcher; Deeney, Biggi, Cleaver, Wood; Nathaniel, Farthing, Barker, Owusu; Patrick (sub Da Silva 45, sub Toomey 60), Yamfam (sub Bufano 80).

# Do you love the game?

The Football Foundation provides grants for kit, goalposts, pitches, floodlights, clubhouses, coaching and innovative projects that use football to deliver a wide range of community benefits. If you are a local authority, football club, youth group, charity or a school looking to update your football facility or need to build a new one, or have an idea for using football to tackle a local issue you can take advantage of this funding.

For more information visit

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



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Enjoy Responsibly

# thereserves



Alan Neilson may only be six months into his new role as youth team coach but through his additional responsibilities working with the first team, the former Welsh international has already made a contribution at youth, reserve and first-team levels in that time.

The key factor in all his work is developing youngsters and whilst he is the first to tell you that he is learning himself every day, he is pleased with the progress that has already been made so far this season.



"It has been good for me working with the young lads," explained the former Town defender. "This is a club that has always given young players a chance and as long as people share the belief that results below the first team level are not the be-all-and-end-all; it is just important the players are learning then they can progress in the right way.

"At the end of the two years they have to be ready for the first team, that is the harsh reality of it and put simply, our job is to get the players to the stage where they are ready to integrate into the first team squad.

"Reserve team football is an important part of this process. After

playing youth football against players of the same age group, they will get to play against better players and they need to be able to step up and push on. There isn't a big step each time between U16, U18 and the reserves and good players should be able to make the step up.

"The sooner they are ready to progress to the next level the better it is for their careers because the more time they spend with the professional players in and around the club, the less daunting it is for them when they find themselves on the pitch together.

"As well as the reserve matches, it may be that in the new year we can look at a few of the younger

lads going out on loan to get a taste of playing men's football week-in, week-out. There are some good clubs at the levels below the Football League and they are mostly all professional now so we have more choice as to where they can go and be looked after properly.

"We have seen how George and Ed have benefitted from that experience - the experience of playing against men every week.

"Jake Howells is the latest player to have stepped up and he deserves his chance; he has gone in and done well and in doing so has sent a message to all the young lads at this club as to what can be achieved with a lot of hard work."



# RESERVE

REVIEW





**asa**hall

IN AUGUST, ASA HALL MADE THE MOVE TO KENILWORTH ROAD AFTER SPENDING FOUR YEARS AT BIRMINGHAM CITY AND THE MIDFIELDER HAS GONE ON TO ESTABLISH HIMSELF A KEY MEMBER OF THE HATTERS TEAM THIS SEASON

With the New Year approaching, the 22-year-old reflected on his time at the club and looked ahead to the forthcoming matches. Like the rest of Luton's summer signings, Hall wasn't put off by the challenge facing the club at the beginning of the season, and described his encouragement with the way the Hatters have started the season and edged closer to overcoming their 30 points deduction.

The midfielder said, "I knew the situation when I signed and I knew it was going to be a big challenge for everyone involved, but I think we've had a great start to the season, we're nearly there with the points and we're chasing teams now which is nice."

The Hatters reached the Area Final of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy after beating League 1's Colchester United, and now face Brighton & Hove Albion. With two games left before a potential final at Wembley in April, Hall said that the competition is now becoming more of a priority and something to concentrate on.

"We always take each game as it comes in any competition and we've kept getting through the rounds of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy, it's just crept up on everyone, and now we're in the Area Final and it's starting to mean something now." However, the former Birmingham midfielder emphasised the importance of the players' focusing on the league,

and said that although the cup run has been an achievement, league survival will always be the primary concern.

He added, "The main focus has always been on the league, but the cup run is just nice for the lads to look forward to but the league is our main priority."

Having spent several loan spells with Shrewsbury Town and Boston United whilst contracted to Birmingham City, he is fully aware of the strengths of the Hatters' forthcoming opponents having played against them before.

"I played against Lincoln last season and came up against Chester a



couple of times when I was at Boston. Every team's the same really in League 2; everyone can beat each other on their day so I think it's all about us and not the other team."

With the Hatters on course to achieve their target of reaching zero points by the New Year, Hall described how it would be a huge weight off the player's shoulders, despite the job to secure survival still far from over.

"I think the aim was always to start the New Year with the deficit ruled out. It would be a big lift for the players, the manager and especially the fans, who have been amazing. I think it would just give us that extra kick that we need.

"Now that we're getting close to zero, it's getting to the point where we do look at the table on a Monday morning in the papers and everyone is thinking about getting right back up there."

And finally, after having to train on Christmas Day and play on Boxing Day, Hall said that the New Year won't be too dissimilar, with the players sensibly concentrating on matters in hand instead of partying.

"We have got New Year's day off but we've got such big games early in the New Year that I expect everybody will be looking after themselves and having a quiet night in," concluded the 22-year-old.

*"Now that we're getting close to zero, it's getting to the point where we do look at the table on a Monday morning in the papers and everyone is thinking about getting right back up there."*



2008/2009



asa hall



# flashback



Club Historian Roger Wash looks back at a previous clash with the Red Imps

Following relegation for the first time in their Football League history in 1960 the Town took some time to adjust to life back in an old Division Two which they had left five years before. Early season results were patchy and new manager Sam Bartram, who had replaced the unfortunate Syd Owen in the summer, was forced to make changes when England international goalkeeper Ron Baynham suffered a fractured skull during a home defeat at the hands of Sheffield United at the end of September 1960.



Confident goalkeeper Jim Standen.

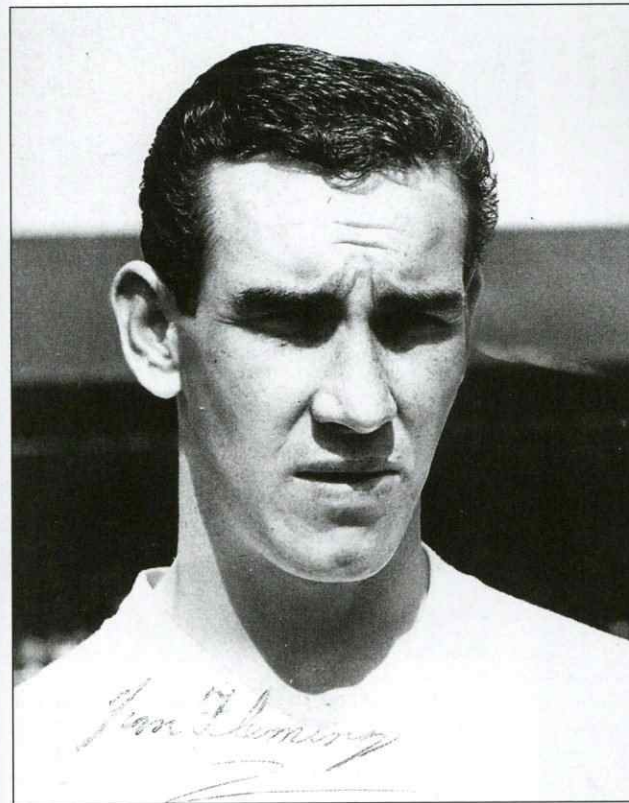
With reserve goalkeeper Alan Collier nursing a broken arm it was left to 16 year old Mike O'Hara to take over between the sticks and become the youngest player in the Town's history, a record he held until this year.

O'Hara was not really ready and the Town started to tumble down the table leading to fears of a second relegation in a row. On top of this, mercurial Northern Ireland international winger Billy Bingham hankered after a return to the top flight and had made his feelings known. Bartram cleverly arranged an auction, with clubs offering player plus cash deals or, in the case of West Brom, a straight £25,000.

It was eventually felt the Everton's bid of £10,000 plus forward Alec Ashworth and full-

back John Bramwell best suited the club as it gave Bartram two proven first team players as well as the cash to go out and buy goalkeeper Jim Standen from Arsenal.

Form slowly began to turn, especially at home, with future champions Ipswich seen off 3-2, Middlesbrough, with Brian Clough up front were thrashed 6-1, Southampton 4-1 and finally Huddersfield 1-0 leading up to the Christmas games. In those days clubs played home and away against the same side on consecutive days over the festive period. Although Christmas Day games for the Town had ended in 1957, because of travel problems on that day, it was always hoped that the matches would be local derbies so that vast distances would not need to be covered.



New Luton hero, Jim Fleming

Lincoln at home on Boxing Day, with the return 24 hours later, could never be regarded as a local derby but in truth the fixture compilers did not have much option with Ipswich and Norwich naturally paired leaving only Charlton appreciably nearer.

### The game Luton Town 3 Lincoln City 0 26th December 1960

Lincoln came into the game third from bottom in the table, albeit only two points behind the Hatters, and had turned a 2-1 lead into a 2-3 defeat in their last game, at home to

Portsmouth. Luton supporters in the crowd of 15,283 looked forward to a second glimpse of 18 year old winger Jim Fleming who had been signed from Partick Thistle just before the home game with Huddersfield and had put in an outstanding performance against the Terriers.

It was Fleming, already a crowd favourite, who opened the scoring in the 32nd minute when he was in the right place to latch on to a Mike Tracey pass and smash the ball in to the roof of the net. Before this, though, the Hatters had spurned a golden

opportunity when Lincoln centre-half Dennis Gratton handled unnecessarily in the area, but the normally deadly Gordon Turner saw his penalty saved by teenage Imps goalkeeper Bob Graves. With the Town seemingly in control it came as a shock when Lincoln were awarded a spot kick just before the interval after Andy Graver was pulled down by John Groves.

This time it was Luton goalkeeper Jim Standen who pulled off a remarkable save when throwing himself to his right to push Bert Linnecor's spot kick away.

Graves made a remarkable one-handed save to thwart Turner early in the second period before Roy Chapman, in a rare Red Imps attack saw his shot hit a post when he was through one-on-one with Standen.

The second goal that was needed to kill the game eventually came 18 minutes from the end when Fleming hit another fierce drive at the end of a solo run through the mud. The scoreline then took on a more realistic look when Ashworth netted a John Bramwell cross from close range on 86 minutes.

#### Luton Town:

Standen, McNally, Bramwell, Pacey, Groves, McGuffie, Tracey, Ashworth, Turner, Brown, Fleming.

#### Lincoln City:

Graves, Greaves, Jackson, Middleton, Gratton, Linnecor, Holmes, Wright, Graver, Chapman, Hawksworth.

LUTON TOWN FC

Official Programme

PRICE 3d

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The summer saw major changes at Luton Town, as 15 players left and eight new faces arrived at Kenilworth Road.

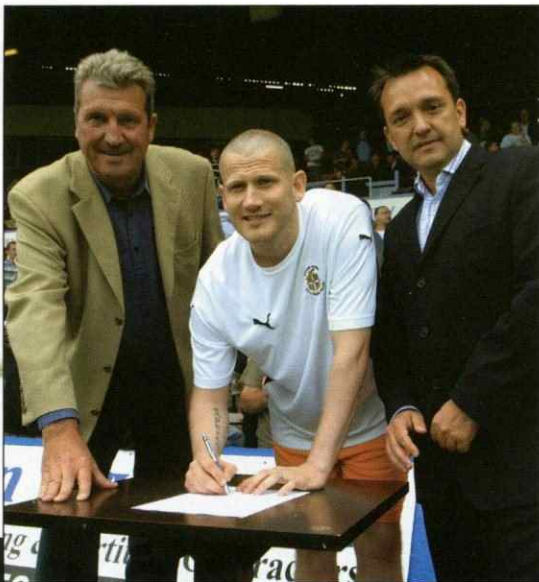
The big talking point amongst the fans was the return of the prodigal son Kevin Nicholls, who turned his back on life in the Championship to return to Luton to fight the Hatters cause.

Speaking at the time of the move Nicholls said:

"I know we have a mountain to climb. However, this club has a long history and a special place in my heart.

"I am absolutely confident, with the other players planned to come in next week, that we will be very competitive for the entire season. I am delighted to be back, to be part of what the fans have started."

Other big names to arrive included defender Claude Gnakpa, who was a key figure in Peterborough's promotion to League 1 and Kevin Watson, who had spent four seasons with Colchester United,



"If we hit promotion or play-off form then we will stay up. We will be bottom of the league until who knows when. But it's no good saying to the players: 'Oh well, let's see how it goes'.

Mick Harford

Mick Harford also took full advantage of the loan market, signing highly rated duo Chris Martin and Michael Spillane on season long loans from Norwich.

With everything gearing up towards the new season the Hatters were dealt a huge blow, as well being deducted 10 points by the FA for breaching regulations over agents fees, they were also deducted a further 20 points by the Football League after failing to agree a creditors voluntary agreement - it was the Club's third insolvency event in the last 10 years.

So in total the season kicked off on 9th August with Town on minus 30 points but the only positive was the fact that Rotherham United and Bournemouth joined them in negative equity, as both began on minus 17.

For many it may have looked like mission impossible but Mick Harford just saw it as another challenge:

"I immediately called a 45-minute meeting to talk about how we were going to get out of it. I honestly believe we will. Look, just because we have got a 30-point reduction doesn't mean we can't win games.

"If we hit promotion or play-off form then we will stay up.

## 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.

We will be bottom of the league until who knows when. But it's no good saying to the players: 'Oh well, let's see how it goes'. That's why we need a strategy." A 3-1 defeat, at home to Port Vale, on the opening day, was a timely reminder of just how difficult the task in hand was but despite the disappointment the heads at Luton never seem to go down, bouncing back in style with a Carling Cup win over Championship Plymouth Argyle.

The first league win came in the second match, Sam Parkin's solitary strike enough to take all three points at Gillingham before the Hatters secured a draw against Notts County and a win at Exeter.

The deficit may have still been there but the situation was improving all the time. Wins against Aldershot, Bury, Dagenham & Redbridge and Barnet have followed along with seven draws.

At the time of going to print, Luton sit on -5 points, but now within touching distance of finally getting positive points on the board, with over half of the season still to play.

It may have taken a while but despite the trials and tribulations of the season, the players are still confident that they can perform the 'Great Escape'.

## 2008review

Keith Keane summing up the belief and character of the side perfectly: "I've been a Luton fan since I was a kid, and although I'm still only 22 I've been through an awful lot with the club since I broke into the first team.

"I've got a League 1 winners medal and two relegations to my name, I've had one very good season in the Championship and some real disappointments as we came down the divisions.

"There has been loads to contend with but we're now getting back towards stability and we're not having a bad season if you discount the points deduction. We've got a tough battle to stay in the League, but I believe we can do it."

If all has gone well at Chesterfield on Boxing Day, three points this afternoon could well see Town in the black for the first time this season and would provide a major psychological boost to push on.

As well as the rest of the league campaign to look forward too, there is the small matter of a Johnstone's Paint Trophy Area Final with Brighton.

The Hatters are now just two games from their first appearance at the new Wembley and a day out

for the fans to remember, so despite a disappointing start to 2008, the new year could really be one to remember!



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# lutonladies



During 2008 our thriving youth section has enjoyed considerable success and continues to attract high quality players from within and outside of the area.

The star turn of the youth section this calendar year has undoubtedly been our current Under 16 squad, playing in the region of 40 competitive matches without a single defeat. This has naturally resulted in their winning trophies achieving the coveted treble of League, League Cup and County Cup. League champions by five points, they swept aside Bedford Ladies 3-0 in the County Cup final and topped that off by beating Watford 5-2 in the League Cup Final. Clare Howe is pictured below volleying in a Leyah Maddix cross at the far post to complete her hat trick. This squad's record brought a challenge from the strongest U16 squad in the UK in Cardiff City. In spite of conceding a year in age the girls competed both football and strength wise and only conceded an equaliser in injury time in a 2-2 draw.

The remarkable progress of this

seasons Under 15's rebuilding from scratch in 2006 saw them snatch the League Cup from Tottenham Hotspur with a 2-1 win. Skipper Maisie Wyatt scored twice enabling her to lift the trophy. They narrowly missed out on the league title but hope to put that right in 2009 as they currently stand top with a 100% record and having already topped the ton of goals.

What has been especially enthralling for us all is the brand of slick passing football this team produces but mixed together with an ability to respond to the physical side of the game when required. They were also challenged by Cardiff City and were outstanding in defeating the South Wales champions 9-0.

The transition from 7 to 11 a side football at age 11 is a difficult one but has proved seamless for our Under 12 squad. They finished runners up to Tottenham in May but this season they are ploughing ahead at the top of their league by a four point margin as they challenge for the title against the likes of Enfield and Spurs.

Our oldest youth team this year were the Under 16 squad who also defeated Bedford Ladies Under 17's in their County Cup final. A number of this squad have since successfully stepped up to senior football in both the first and reserve squads. Therein lies the future of this club in maintaining and developing high quality youth players who compete in the toughest youth leagues to prepare them for that progression.

Finally, our thanks to Luton Town for continuing to support the Ladies' section in difficult times and although we are financially independent the association is essential for our continued progress up the National League structure.



# kitsponsors



DEAN BRILL **01**

**Age:** 22  
**Position:** Goalkeeper  
**Signed:** May 2006

M&S Water Services

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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

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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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CHARITABLE ASSOCIATES

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-ADIAYE **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

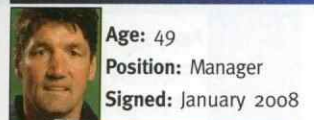
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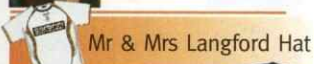
# STAFF kitsponsors



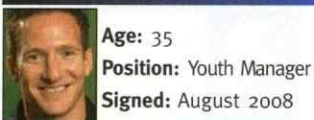
## MICK HARFORD



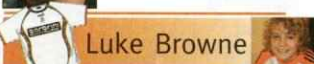
**Age:** 49  
**Position:** Manager  
**Signed:** January 2008



## ALAN NEILSON



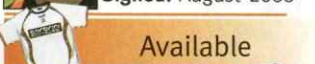
**Age:** 35  
**Position:** Youth Manager  
**Signed:** August 2008



## GREG BROUGHTON



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



## DIMITRI KHARINE



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



## KIT SPONSORSHIP 08/09

If you would like to sponsor a players kit or for more information please contact the Commercial Department on 01582 411622 or [commercial@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:commercial@lutontown.co.uk)

# youthsponsors



If you would like to sponsor a youth player or their kit please contact the Commercial Department on 01582 411622 or [commercial@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:commercial@lutontown.co.uk)



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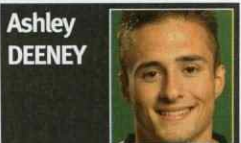
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**Oliver CLEAVER**

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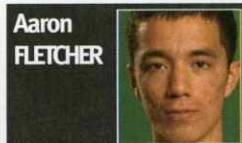
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**Mark FARTHING**

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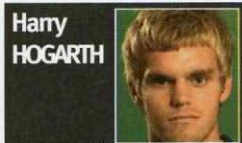
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**Available**



**Aaron FLETCHER**

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**Harry HOGARTH**

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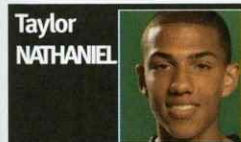
Player Sponsored by:  
**Available**



**Jake HOWELLS**

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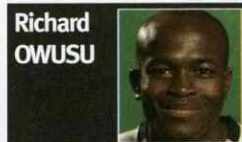
Player Sponsored by:  
**Don Hutchison**



**Taylor NATHANIEL**

Kit Sponsored by:  
**Available**

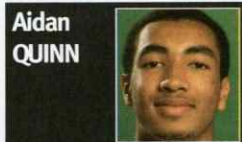
Player Sponsored by:  
**Available**



**Richard OWUSU**

Kit Sponsored by:  
**Available**

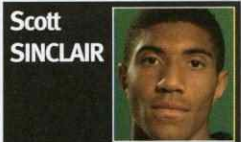
Player Sponsored by:  
**Available**



**Aidan QUINN**

Kit Sponsored by:  
**Michael Capp**  
Executive Club Member

Player Sponsored by:  
**Available**



**Scott SINCLAIR**

Kit Sponsored by:  
**Fifties Fan**

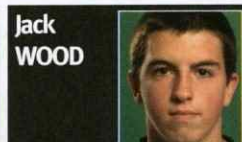
Player Sponsored by:  
**Don Hutchison**



**Adam WATKINS**

Kit Sponsored by:  
**Michael Capp**  
Executive Club Member

Player Sponsored by:  
**Available**



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the future

COCA-COLA LEAGUE TWO

Saturday 20th December 2008

**Hatters 1 Morecambe 1**

Kick off: 3.00pm Kenilworth Road Att: 5,664



**POST-MATCH VERDICT:**

**Mick Harford:**

"When we got a 1-0 lead we stopped doing the things we were doing in the first half. To me it is two points dropped, but it kept the unbeaten run going, which is good for the players' confidence."

**Sammy McIlroy:**

"I was delighted with the point because once again we showed some resolve to come from a goal behind. It was a wonderful strike from Danny Carlton and I'm really pleased for him."

**TEAMS:**

**LUTON TOWN:**

Logan, Keane (Asafu-Adjaye 46), Roper, Hall, Jarvis, Martin (Gnakpa 79), Talbot (Andrews 69), Spillane, McVeigh, Gallen, Howells. Unused subs: Brill, Beavan.

**MORECAMBE:**

Roche, Yates, Bentley, Stanley, Howe, Wainwright (Artell 90), McLachlan, Drummond (Edge 64), McStay, Adams, Carlton. Unused subs: Taylor, McCann, Carr.







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# michaelspillane



ON-LOAN MIDFIELDER GROWING WITH STATURE



On-loan midfielder Michael Spillane once again played a key role in the Hatters' last match against Morecambe, scoring the goal which put Luton ahead and helping the club extend their unbeaten record to five matches.

19-year-old Spillane has grown in stature since arriving at Kenilworth Road from Norwich City in August, and his 51<sup>st</sup> minute strike against the Shrimps was his fourth goal of the season.

After the game, the on loan Canary was rueful of the fact Town failed to hold onto their

lead, and emphasised the importance of the club winning matches, particularly at home.

He said, "We need to win our home games, we know that. I know it wasn't a great game. We should have held out for 1-0 really and scrapped it out.

"In the first 10 minutes we created a few chances to put the game to rest like we did against Barnet but sometimes it goes

your way and sometimes it doesn't."

However, Spillane could also see the positives after the Hatters managed to hold onto the draw, suggesting that in previous months the club may have lost the game after conceding an equaliser.





# leagueroound-up

A review of events around Coca-Cola League Two



In a busy period prior to Christmas, The Football League announced that the 'home grown' players rule had been passed by member clubs (see page 25 for more information) and that they had extended agreements with their two cup competition title sponsors.

The two trophies, the Carling Cup and Johnstone's Paint Trophy, are tournaments that have had a special place in Hatters hearts in the past and hopefully the future, respectively. The arrangement between The Football League and Coors Brewers for the League Cup is the longest running competition sponsorship in domestic football.

The new deal extends the relationship to fourteen seasons, with Coors having sponsored this competition for nine seasons through its Carling brand and a further five through its Worthington's brand.

In announcing the deal, Football League Chairman Lord Mawhinney said: "This is excellent news and a further boost to a competition that is currently in its best shape for many seasons.

"The Carling Cup remains a highly-coveted piece of silverware and an important source of finance for clubs at every level of the professional game. This significant increase will enhance further the Cup's reputation."

The deal is believed to have increased by a massive 25% on the previous deal.

The sponsorship of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy will continue until 2011/12 after a three year extension was revealed. In announcing the deal Lord Mawhinney said: "I am delighted that another of our highly valued partners has decided to extend its relationship with The Football League.

"Johnstone's Paint's continued commitment is excellent news for clubs and will help boost our ongoing efforts to raise the profile of this competition.

The Johnstone's Paint Trophy continues to offer clubs in Leagues 1 and 2 the opportunity to play in a prestigious cup final at Wembley Stadium and for Johnstone's it has helped lift the company's brand recognition to greater heights than ever before.

Greg Molyneux, Managing Director from Johnstone's Paints added: "The Johnstone's brand has benefited massively from our first three years of sponsorship.

"To extend our sponsorship for another three years represents a great investment and we couldn't be happier to announce the news."

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

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

13 years - Since I was 7. The Boumemouth game was my 13th Anniversary

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

Season Ticket Holder, and go to as many away games as possible

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

I live in Leagrave and normally get the train down

**Where do you sit?**

Main Stand Block G and when we get singing, there is no greater place in the world to be.

**Manager's profile:**

I am a member of The Mad Hatters Clique and a First generation Hatter, as I was born in London, but I am slowly turning my family into Hatters as well.

**Goalkeeper: Ian Feuer** - I became an avid fan on Ian Feuer and even had three of the old Universal goalkeepers shirts. His height helped him to dominate his penalty area, and was also able to get down well to make some blinding saves. Was stuck between Feuer and Sommer but I think I was probably too young to recognise Sommer's quality.

**Left Back: Matthew Taylor** - How Matty hasn't played for England yet I'll never know... A very attacking full back, who scored goals for fun in the Division 3 promotion season. He loved nothing more to overlap the left midfielder and ping crosses in. Now deservedly plying his trade in the Premiership.

**Centre Back: Chris Coyne** - Had a debut to forget after putting the ball

through his own goal in a 1-1 draw against a Kingsley Black inspired Lincoln side. Was very comfortable with the ball at his feet, and never afraid to have a pop. Also an extremely friendly player off the pitch as well.

**Centre Back: Curtis Davies** - Was torn between Curtis Davies and Leon Barnett but chose Curtis as I'll always have the memory of him scoring on his last game for Luton (v Millwall). Can see Curtis Davies becoming an England regular (alongside Matthew Upson) before too long.

**Right Back: Kevin Foley** - Over 150 games for Luton, nearly all of which were played at right back, rather than his favoured position of central midfield. Not as attacking as Taylor, or as many of his predecessors but was a very solid defender. Was a very under-rated player by a lot of fellow Luton fans, but now proving his worth at Wolves.

**Left Midfield: Jean Louis Valois** - Who, was the cry from the Kenilworth Road faithful when his name was read out at the Torquay game. He was the name on everyone's lips by the end of match after scoring an absolutely cracking goal, then turning to the crowd as if to say "That's what I do."

**Centre Midfield: Matty Spring** - Possibly a controversial choice, but this is based on his first spell. Tough tackling midfielder who could score some absolutely stunning goals, including a 40 yarder against some team called Watford. Unfortunately he couldn't reproduce the same kind of form in his second spell.

**Centre Midfield: Kevin Nicholls** - Super Kev confirmed his legendary status amongst Luton fans, by signing a contract at the Brighton friendly, despite having offers from League 1 clubs, with more money on the table. Has struggled with injury this season, but an influential captain. Him and Spring together were a fantastic central midfield duo and they often left their mark on their opponents.

**Right Midfield: Ahmet Brkovic** - The Croatian Sensation known for his trademark overhead kicks, is my choice for right midfield. Getting 18 goals in the League 1 promotion season, he followed that up with a goal on the opening day of the Championship against Palace. Also the scorer of "that" goal vs Hull, which I think convinced Hatters and neutrals alike that we were good enough to win the League 1 title.

**Striker: Scott Oakes** - "Scotty" was my first Luton Town idol, and probably one of the most naturally gifted players ever to pull on a Hatters shirt. Could run at players and take them on all day, and could strike fear into the hearts of centre backs. I'm sure he would have loved being able to receive Howards flick ons. Would love to see him back in a town shirt again.

**Striker: Steve Howard** - Over 100 goals, and top scorer for five seasons in a row, surely one of the bargain signings in the last 10 years by any club. Managed to score goals from what was then Division 3 all the way up to the Championship, then moved onto Derby and scored against Man Utd.



# NEW MERCHANDISE



Children at Luton and Dunstable Hospital were given an early Christmas surprise when members of the Hatters first team squad paid them a visit on Thursday 18th December 2008.

Club photographer Gareth Owen was on hand to snap manager Mick Harford and the entire Luton Town squad as they visited the children's ward to hand out gifts and pose for photographs.



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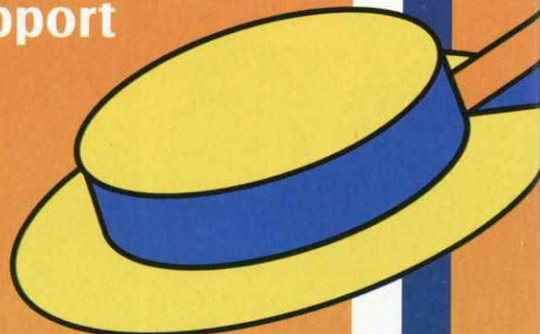


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## Junior Watters



Hello and welcome to all Junior Hatters for today's match with Lincoln City. I hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and didn't eat as many mince pies as I did!

I'd also like to say a big hello to all those Junior Imps making the journey from Lincoln. We hope you enjoy your time at Kenilworth Road and have a safe trip home. I must admit I had a great time at our Christmas party and I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. As you could probably tell the players loved it too, as you can see from the photographs below! We don't have another home game until we play Rotherham on 10th January so I'd like to wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all then.



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!

blood.co.uk



Save a life Give blood

# 30 DOWN TO ZERO

THE NEW SINGLE FROM JANE LEDSON

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IN THE CLUB SHOP



HERE COME THE HATTERS

# competitiontime!



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Photo ID may be required

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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

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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

# ticketoffice



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

**FORTHCOMING HOME FIXURES**

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

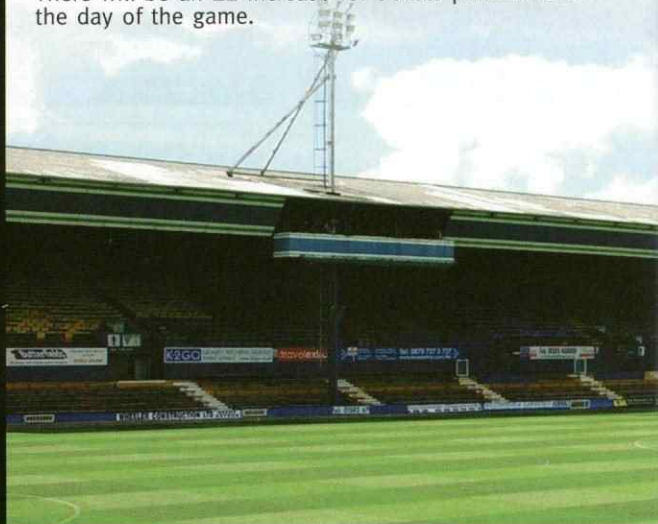
**Bradford City**

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.



**FORTHCOMING AWAY FIXURES**

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.

**Pre Matchday prices :** Adult £16.00

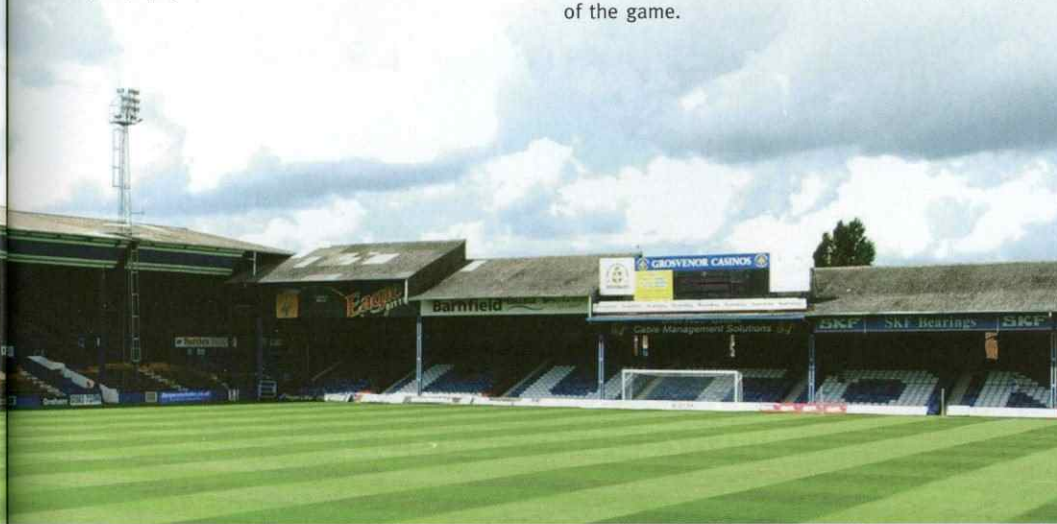
Senior (Over 60) £10.00

Student (with valid ID) £10.00

Junior Under 16 £6.00 Under 10's Free of Charge

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

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



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## travelnews



### LEAGUE TWO

Saturday 3rd January 2009

**Chester City**

Kick off: 3pm Deva Stadium



#### What's the ground like?

The Deva Stadium was opened in 1992 and all four sides are covered and are roughly the same size. The stadium is a small, fairly simple affair with three sides being seated and the home end being terraced. The Vaughan East Stand is slightly taller than the facing Liversage West Stand, having a few more rows of seating and some enclosed glassed viewing areas at the back of it.

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

Luton fans will be allocated the all-seated and covered APC Overnight South Stand behind the goal and part of the Liversage West Stand should demand allow. Over 1,200 supporters can be accommodated.

#### 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.

As the Social Club at the ground no longer admits away supporters and there are no pubs close to the ground, it means a 15 minute walk into the city centre to find a pub. The Coach and Horses and the Dublin Packet near the Town Hall come recommend along with the Ship Victory on George Street and the Mill Hotel.

#### How to get there by car.

The ground is located out of town on an industrial estate. Stay on the M56 until you reach a roundabout at the end of the motorway. Follow the signs to North Wales & Queensferry A5117. After around one and a half miles you will reach a set of traffic lights where you need to bear left on to the A550 (signposted North Wales &

Queensferry). Then from the A550, take the A548 towards Chester. Head straight through the first set of traffic lights and after passing a Vauxhall and then a Renault garage on your left, turn right at the next lights (there is a Volvo Garage on the corner) into Sovereign Way. Continue to the end of Sovereign Way and then turn right into Bumpers Lane and the entrance to the Club car park is just down on the right.

#### Car parking

There is plenty of car parking available for £3 at the ground. However if you use the club car park, it can be quite difficult to get away easily after the match.

#### Luton's last visit

The Hatters will be making their first ever trip to the Deva Stadium. Their last visit to Chester was 22 years ago losing 1-0 at Sealand Road in the Fourth Round of the F.A. Cup.

#### Travel details:

Both the Bobbers Travel Club and the Luton Town Supporters Club are running coaches to Chester. The Bobbers leave Cranfield at 8.30am with pick-up points along the way before a 9.30am departure from Kenilworth Road. The fare is £20 for adults and £17 for juniors and seniors. For bookings telephone 01234 856542. LTSC leave the Maple Road car park at 9am stopping at Newport Pagnell service station 30 minutes later. The fare is £18 for adults and £16 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

Saturday 10th January 2009

**Rotherham United**

3pm

Kenilworth Road



**Along with Bournemouth and the Hatters, Rotherham United were the third club in League 2 to begin the 2008/09 season with minus points.**

The Millers were deducted a total of 17 points after failing to satisfy the Football League's rules of exiting administration.

The club were also forced to move from their historic Millmoor ground after talks broke down with the stadium's owner, and were subsequently forced to move to the Don Valley Stadium in Sheffield. However, the Millers have been told they must return to Rotherham within the next four years by the Football League.

On the pitch this season, the Millers have managed to overcome their negative points tally after a series of comprehensive wins and hard fought draws, showing the same kind of form which led to the team occupying the automatic promotion places for a long period of last season, only for the club to eventually finish ninth.

Following an impressive opening start to this season, Rotherham then endured a torrid November, failing to win a single league game, whilst also being dumped out of the FA Cup by Aldershot.

After looking to be well on their way to climbing to safety, this blip allowed both Bournemouth and the Hatters to close the gap, and the Millers' manager Mark Robins – the man widely recognised for scoring the goal often presumed to

have kept Sir Alex Ferguson his job as Manchester United manager in 1990 – knows that the rut has to end as quickly as possible to secure the club's league status.

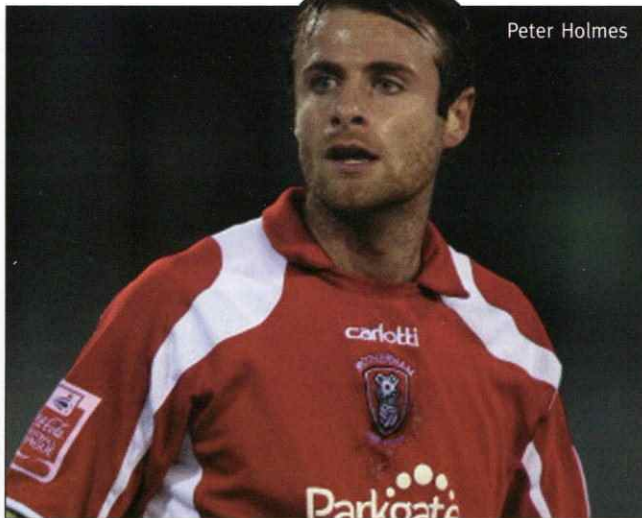
There was better news for the Rotherham faithful in December, though. Victory over Darlington in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy after a tense penalty shoot-out meant that the Millers will face Scunthorpe United in the Northern Area Final next month. And like the Hatters, Rotherham will be hoping to go one stage further in the competition and reach Wembley.

The Hatters defence will have to be aware of 20-year-old striker Reuben Reid. The former Plymouth Argyle man is the Millers' top-scorer with six league goals to his

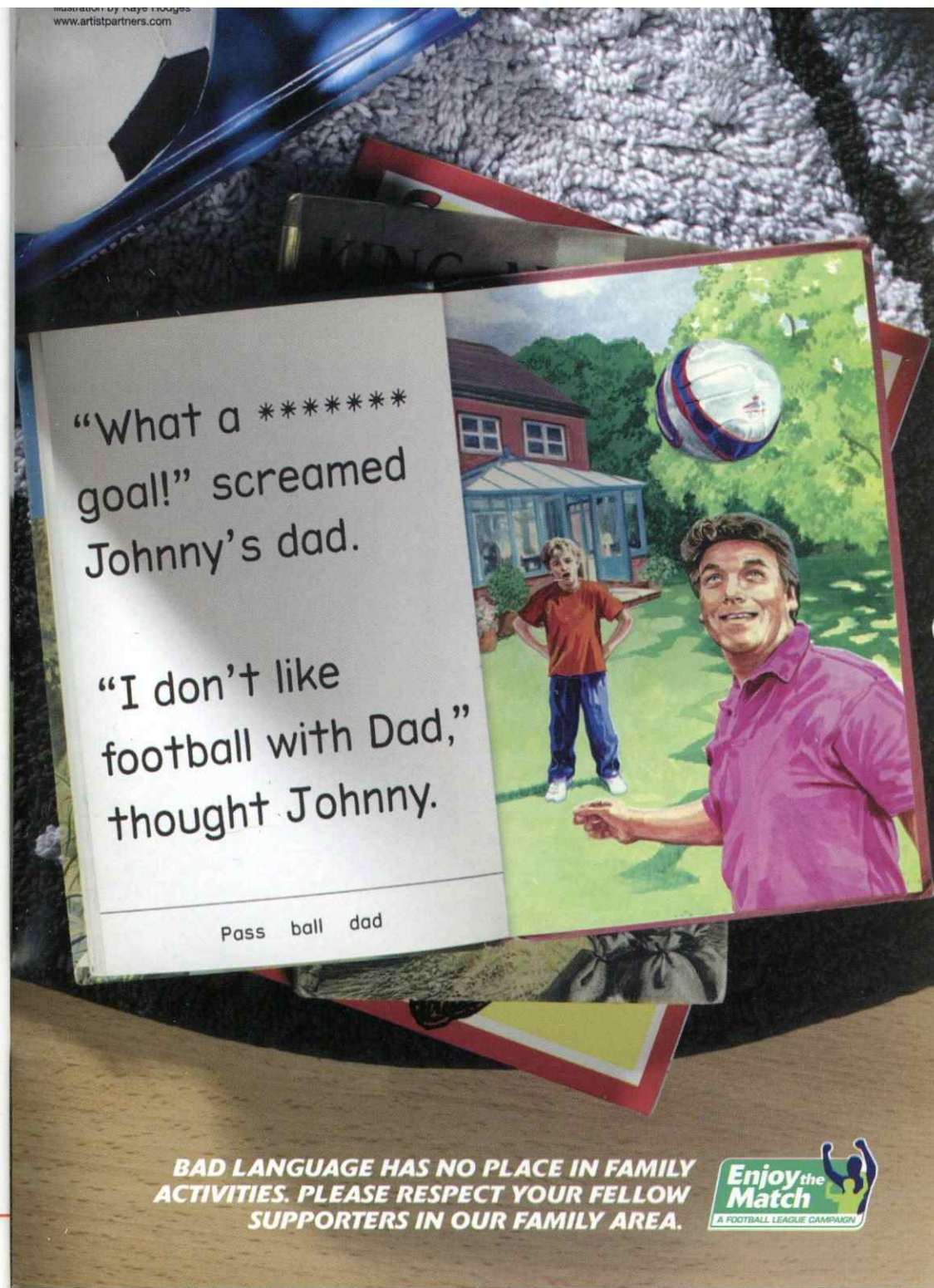
name this season, with the majority of the Millers' other goals being distributed amongst most of the other squad members. Reid has strength and pace in abundance, and will be looking to add to his goal tally on his visit to Kenilworth Road.

Pulling the strings in midfield are Mark Hudson and Danny Harrison, whilst Luton supporters will know all about ex-Hatter Peter Holmes, who left Luton last year after seven seasons at the club.

The two clubs have already met once this season, back in September, with the Millers taking all three points that day courtesy of a deflected long-range effort from Alex Rhodes.



Peter Holmes



“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		

## LINCOLN CITY


1	ROBERT BURCH		
2	PAUL GREEN		
3	AARON BROWN		
4	JANOS KOVACS		
5	LEE BEEVERS		
6	FRANK SINCLAIR		
7	STEFAN OAKES		
8	LEE FRECKLINGTON		
9	KEVIN GALL		
10	SCOTT KERR		
11	DANY N'GUESSAN		
12	AYDEN DUFFY		
14	LENELL JOHN-LEWIS		
15	BEN WRIGHT		
16	DANIEL HONE		
17	DAVID GRAHAM		
18	MARTIN PEMBLETON		
19	SHANE CLARKE		
20	OWAIN WARLOW		
21	GARY KING		
22	SAM MULLARKEY		
23	ADRIAN PATULEA		

 **REFEREE**

S. D. COOK

 **ASSISTANT**

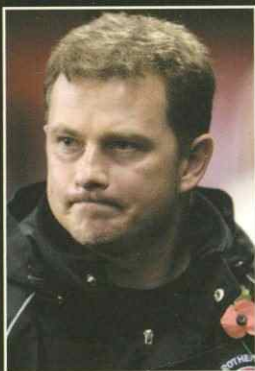
D. D. BUSHELL

 **ASSISTANT**

G. R. FRANCIS

 **4TH OFFICIAL**

D. S. MARGETTS



Saturday 10th January  
**Rotherham Utd**

Kick off: 3.00pm  
Kenilworth Road



**Next up at home**