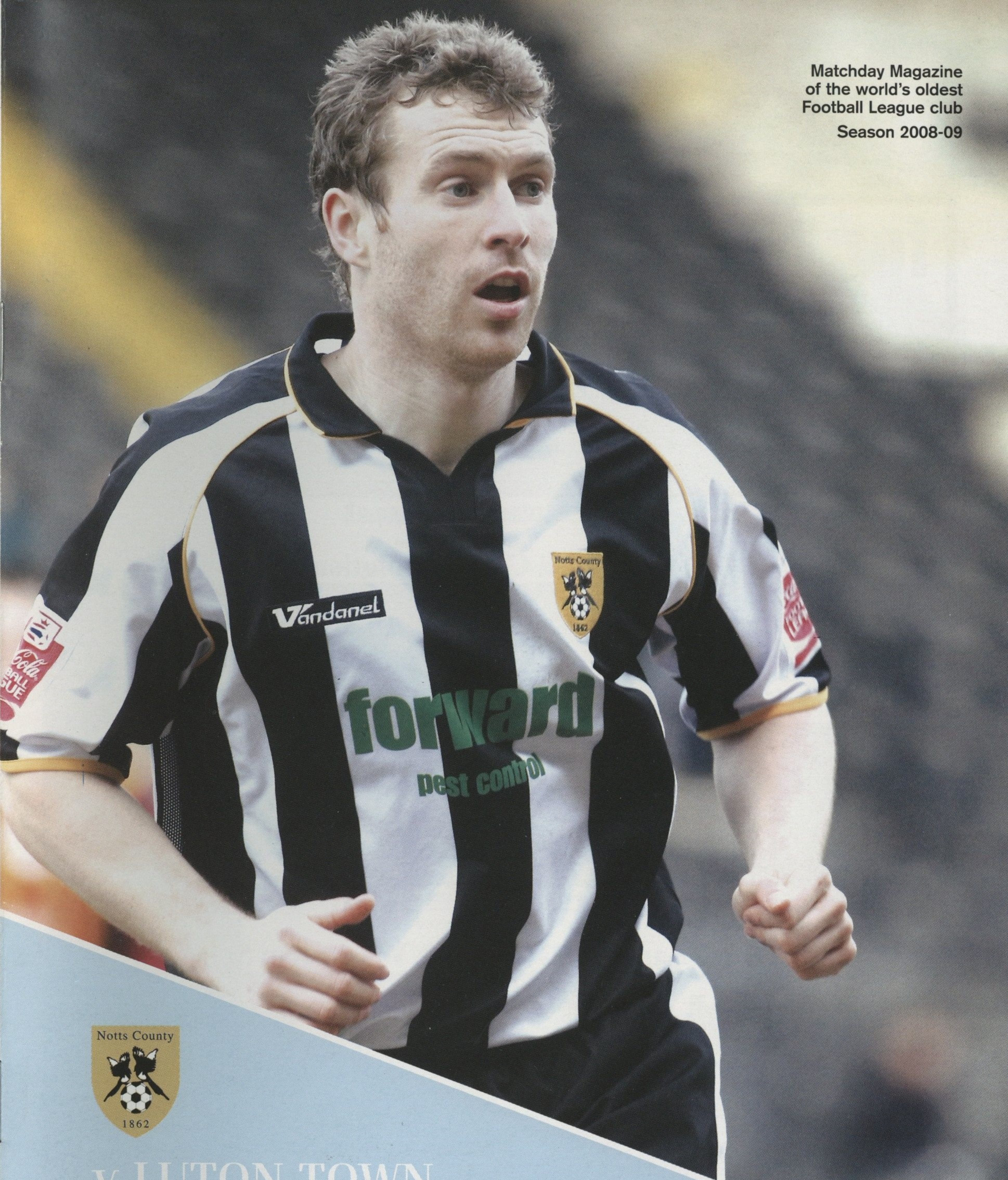


Matchday Magazine
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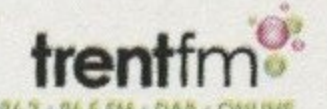
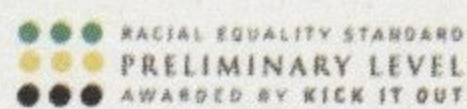
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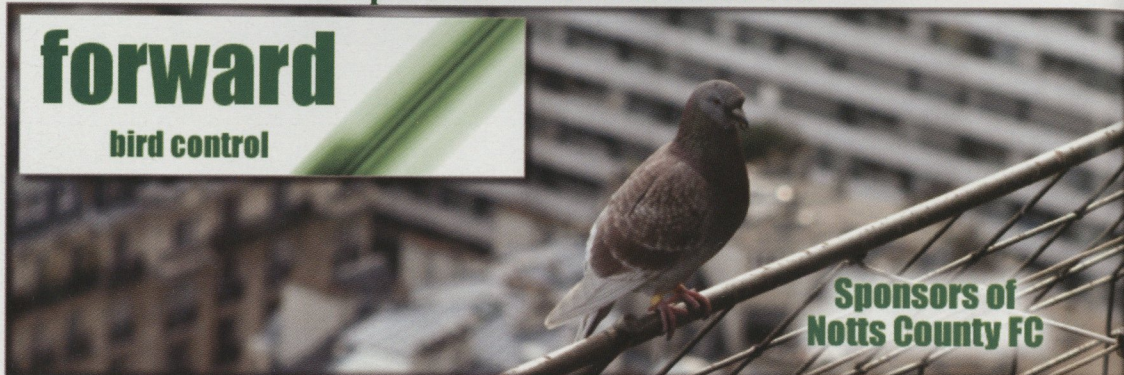


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It's an amazing fact that we haven't managed to win a night game in the League - home or away - since Junior Mendes grabbed the winner against Stockport in September 2006.

But by the law of averages, we're well overdue to end that sequence, and there's no better time to join forces and make that happen.

Yet again we didn't get what we deserved at Shrewsbury on Saturday, largely through circumstances beyond our control.

But after a sequence of four away games in the space of five matches, we now have a great opportunity to confirm that there's no place like home.

We know it's asking a lot in these tough times for people to lend their support for three home matches in a week but we urge you to take advantage of the voucher scheme that will let you watch next Tuesday's game against Gillingham free of charge.

We really want to generate the best possible atmosphere during this three-game sequence - and pick up the points that will get us moving up the table again.

In this issue of our Matchday Magazine, we talk to central midfielder Adam

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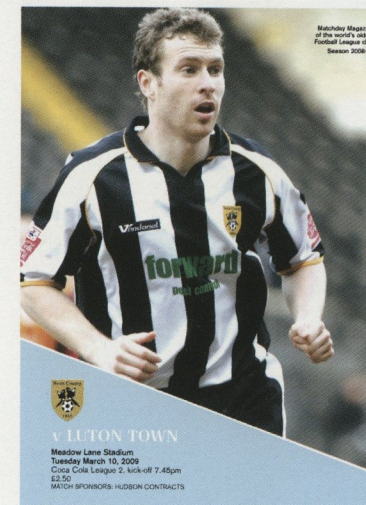
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FOREWORD



Matchday Magazine
of the world's oldest
Football League club
Season 2006-07

Nowland for our 'Time Out With...' feature. The talented player tells us about his stop-start season, his aims from now until May and why he wants to remain at Meadow Lane for the long term.

It's loan striker Jonathan Forte's turn to reveal his selection of 'Dream Team-Mates', Phil Picken 'Gives us Five' and in 'Rewind to...' we take a look back at our narrow escape from relegation during the 2005-06 campaign.

• Cover image: Adam Nowland

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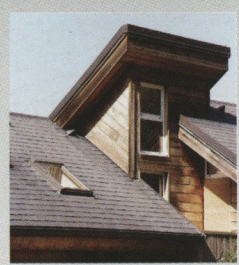
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FORTE'S FORGING PARTNERSHIPS

The old adage that strikers are a selfish bunch might ring true in nine out of 10 cases, but with Jonathan Forte we have an exception to the rule.

The on-loan Scunthorpe frontman added two more goals to his tally during our last home outing against Bradford, but was delighted fellow frontman Delroy Facey scored the third rather than him.

Although Forte could have been forgiven for wanting to go on and claim his second hat-trick of the season against the Bantams, and steal the headlines, he was delighted strike partner Facey got his rewards.

He explained: "I always want Del to get on the scoresheet because the sheer amount of effort he puts into every game is unbelievable and sometimes goes unappreciated.

"He's been instrumental this season in getting the other players around him goals. His hold up play and the amount of balls he wins in the air is phenomenal

and allows the likes of myself, Myles Weston, Matt Hamshaw and Jamie Forrester to feed off him.

"I was obviously thrilled to get a brace against Bradford, and be on for another treble was a nice feeling, but it wasn't to be and it was important Del got his rewards that afternoon because he's been a real workhorse for us."

Facey's goal in first half stoppage time was his seventh of the campaign, putting the former Gillingham targetman already two goals better off than his 2007-08 goal haul.

And Forte is confident there are plenty more goals to come from the pair of them, with the 'driving buddies' forming an understanding on and off the pitch.

He said: "With Del living in Huddersfield, he swings by Sheffield each morning to give me a lift to training, so we've developed a good understanding on and off the pitch and that's how top partnerships are formed."



Jonathan Forte and Delroy Facey... more than just travel companions

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WATCH THE GILLS FOR FREE

As you are no doubt aware, tonight's game is the first of three we are playing at Meadow Lane in the space of eight days - and we need your support for all of them.

With that in mind, we have introduced a special voucher scheme that offers you the chance to take in all three fixtures for the price of two.

You can use the voucher you collected as you passed through the turnstile tonight to get into next Tuesday's match against Gillingham for just £5.

The same will apply to supporters who attend Saturday's game when we welcome Accrington Stanley to Meadow Lane.

But those who collect vouchers from both the Luton and Accrington games will qualify to see us play Gillingham for free.

You can either take your vouchers to the ticket office to book your seat in advance of the Gillingham game or merely present them at the turnstile.



Myles Weston delivers another telling ball

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ALWAYS ON HAND

Sprightly winger Myles Weston has vowed to keep opposition full-backs visiting Meadow Lane firmly on their toes between now and the end of the season. The fleet-footed wingman played an integral part in inspiring us to a 3-1 triumph against Bradford at our last home game, having a hand in all three goals.

That performance took him level on assists for the season with fellow winger Matt Hamshaw, but Weston isn't satisfied just yet.

He explained: "I think last season I only got the odd assist so to have seven at this stage of the campaign is brilliant and just shows that my game is moving in

the right direction and that all the hard work behind the scenes is paying off. "My confidence is now sky high, and although it dipped for a few games back in December, I believe I'm now mentally stronger and can deal with situations a lot better."

According to official Football League statistics the former Charlton trainee currently tops our club rankings in having the most amount of shots off target, but has been working on adding more goals to his game in extra training sessions. He added: "I've been peppering Kevin Pilkington in nets from all angles in extra sessions to try and add more goals to my game, so let's hope it pays off."

FA COMMUNITY SHIELD GIVEAWAY

Regular Matchday Magazine readers will already have seen that we have been distributing sums of money to various Nottinghamshire charities recently. As part of the FA Community Shield Fund Distribution, we have given out two substantial cheques to worthy causes and the final installment was presented

at our last home game by vice-chairman Roy Parker, with Emma Pearson, pictured left, the lucky recipient. Emma is the Development Officer at the University of Nottingham, and the £1,500 we donated to them will go to the Children's Brain Tumour Research Centre that is based at their campus.



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LIFELINE WINNERS

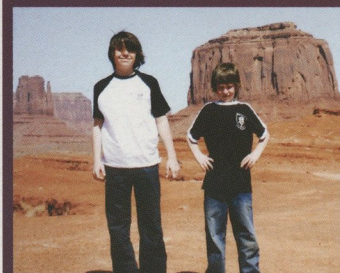
Gedling resident Andrew Parsons ended February with a bang after seeing his Lifeline numbers earn him the top weekly prize of £1,000.

Other Lifeline members to come away with cash in their pocket included Mr Piant from Cotgrave, Grantham resident Rose Cox and Nigel King of West Bridgford, all scooping a £100 sum.

The trio of £50 winners were J. Chambers of Wollaton, J. Fawn from Wollaton Park and Newark's R. Spencer. The 50/50 winner was C. Kew from Burton Joyce.

FAR FLUNG PIES

As we've discovered in our 'Faraway Fans' feature in the Matchday Magazine this season, we have supporters all over the globe. The latest to get in touch are Sean and Sam Chell from Houston, Texas, who are the grandsons of long time Magpies supporter Bernard Chell. Pictured below while on holiday in the Grand Canyon, they have been Stateside for the last 12 years, but always come and see us in action when they are back in the UK.



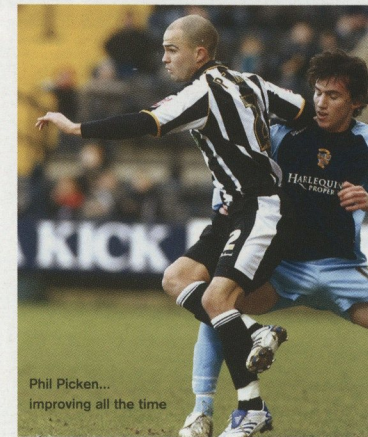
LESSONS FROM THE BEST

Promising full-back Phil Picken is confident he will be a vastly improved player come May after being surrounded by experienced heads in our backline this season.

The former Manchester United trainee has chalked up more than 125 League starts in four full seasons as a professional, but admits he is still light years behind Michael Johnson, Jamie Clapham and Mike Edwards in terms of experience.

The on-loan Chesterfield defender has impressed the Meadow Lane faithful with some solid performances since arriving in January and is confident he's improving on a daily basis. He said: "As a footballer you always want to be improving in your position and since I've been at Notts I feel like I'm doing that."

"In fact, with the likes of Johnson and



Phil Picken... improving all the time

Clapham around me it would be hard not to improve my own game. You only have to watch them in training and see them on a matchday to see how it's done. "Being a full-back myself I can appreciate how good Jamie is. He's not afraid to come short and get the ball from the 'keeper and his distribution is second to none."

"They've been in the industry, in some cases, two or three times as long as me, so I'm glad to be learning from them. "I need to work on areas such as my weaker foot and my end product when I get in the final third, but I'm confident this loan will stand me in good stead."

PIE CHART

Sales at Meadow Lane v Bradford City

Bradford's travelling hordes tipped the balance in favour of Meat & Potato as they won the day by nine from overall leaders Steak & Kidney. Chicken & Mushroom were well off the pace, with the traditionalists out in front.



Season tally: ● Steak & Kidney 2,655 ● Meat & Potato 2,436 ● Chicken & Mushroom 2,140

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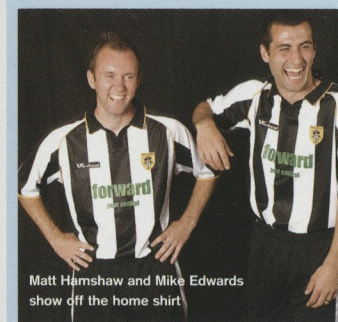
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PIE NEWS



Matt Hamshaw and Mike Edwards show off the home shirt

TALKING SHOP

Football supporters all over the world are familiar with our historic black and white striped home jersey, and that's no surprise when you consider how many we've dispatched this season to far flung destinations.

This week alone I've sent replica home shirts to Magpies in parts of Australia, the USA, France, Norway and Ireland, as well as to destinations throughout the UK.

The popularity of the shirt means I'm now down to the bare bones in the Club Shop, but it's amazing to think that back in August we had 2,000 home shirts on sale and more than 1,800 are now being proudly paraded by our dedicated supporters.

I'd rather the shirts were in the terraces than on my shelves, but it does mean I'm stood staring at some empty space now and I've completely sold out of medium sized tops.

Other sizes are now severely limited, but if you still haven't got yours, pay me a visit because all adult sizes are now just £25, including long sleeved, with all junior sizes at £20 while stocks last.

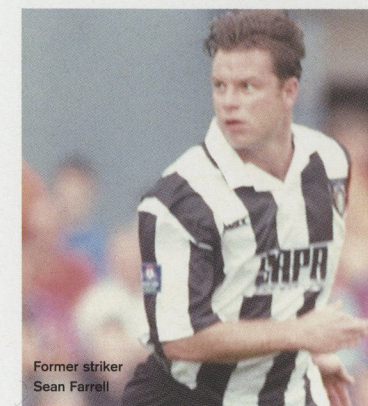
Lynn Lawson, Retail Manager

GUARANTEED A WARM WELCOME

Former striker Sean Farrell can be sure of a warm reception this evening when he heads out to the centre circle.

That's because our special guest of honour for tonight's clash with Luton started his illustrious career with the Hatters before going on to register 23 goals in 99 appearances in our famous black and white stripes from 1996 to 2001.

A popular figure among supporters during that era because of his never-say-die attitude, he is fondly remembered by Magpies for contributing 16 goals during our Division Three title winning campaign of 1997-98, under Sam Allardyce's tutelage. Sean will be speaking to guests who purchased a matchday hospitality package for the game.



Former striker Sean Farrell

They will be enjoying a meal in the 1862 Suite before watching all the action from the comfort of the Derek Pavis Stand. To find out about hospitality packages on offer for the rest of the season, contact our Commercial Department on 0115 955 7220.

NOWLAND'S JOY

Adam Nowland dictated the tempo from his central midfield berth against Bradford to inspire us to victory, and was rewarded with the 'Man of the Match' accolade. He was presented with a meal for two at Perkins Restaurant by their director Jonathan Perkins, pictured below.



ZOOMING IN

Our former striker Kevin Bartlett was renowned for his pace, so it was no surprise he caught up with our match sponsors after our last home game with Bradford. Jean & Ray Webster kindly sponsored the game against the Bantams and are pictured below with their guests.



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ALL HANDS TO THE FORK

Head groundsman Greg Smith has made transforming Meadow Lane from a footballing venue into a rugby one look easy, but his latest schedule will put even his know-how to the test.

Nottingham Rugby's clash with Otley at the weekend was the first of five games to be played on our green stuff over a hectic 10 day period.

That congestion includes our home fixtures against this evening's visitors Luton, Accrington Stanley on Saturday and the re-arranged clash with Gillingham on Tuesday March 17.

It's a tall order for Greg and his team, but a challenge he believes is not beyond them.

He said: "We are used to quick turnarounds by now with all the back-to-back matches we've had this season, but Trevor Hutchinson and I thought we



Greg Smith and Trevor Hutchinson

were beginning to ease down before this glut of games came along.

"At this time of the year the pitch always begins to go a little, but in my opinion it's in a better shape now than it was at this stage of the season last year.

"That's testament to the investment the Club saw fit to put into the playing surface during the summer when we had a complete overhaul and it's paid off.

"It's not just about the pitch though. The stadium itself has to be clean and tidy and that's no small task in itself. Yet it's something that is equally important, as it's all about supporters watching the

entertainment in a pleasant environment and in a stadium they want to regularly come back to in the future."

Greg will be keeping his fingers crossed over the next week for mild, dry conditions in the hope that the weather doesn't deteriorate the pitch any further. And the fixture congestion is not all doom and gloom for Greg, as he explained: "Meadow Lane is becoming a fortress for both teams at the moment and we want to play our part in helping them continue that trend, and at least it gets me away from the mother-in-law on Mothering Sunday. So every cloud!"

TODAY'S MASCOT



Mitchell Frost

The Meadow Lane matchday mascots have certainly been doing the business in inspiring our players of late.

Our recent record on home soil has seen us win four out of our last five games, and tonight's mascot Mitchell Frost will be doing his best to continue that trend. The 16-year-old is currently in his final year at Gedling School, and having been

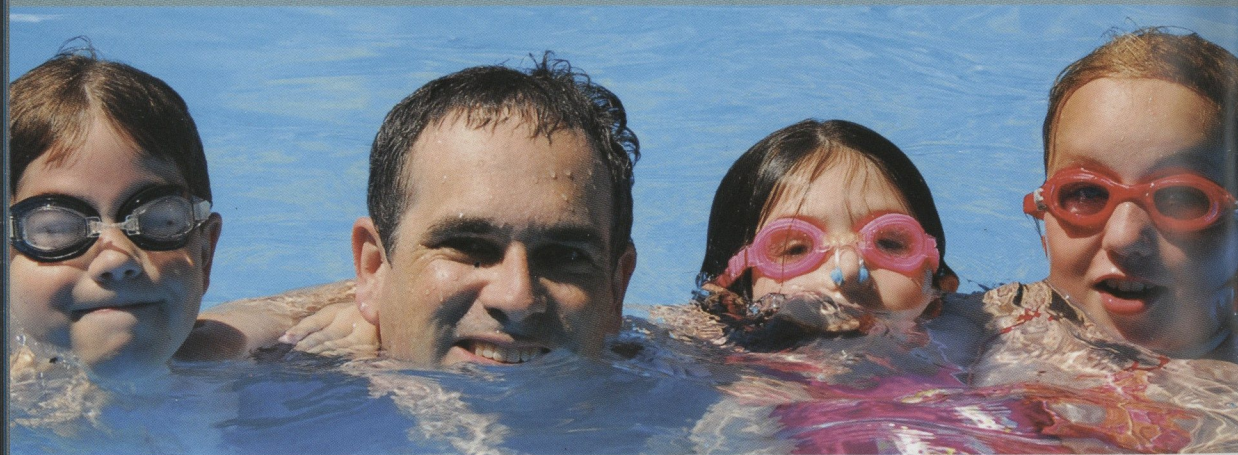
a Magpies fanatic all his life, he decided it was time to show his support pitchside for this evenings encounter with Luton. He ranks Delroy Facey, Myles Weston and veteran defender Michael Johnson as his favourite players.

And, as well as enjoying watching us in action, he also plays golf and cricket and has a Panthers season ticket.



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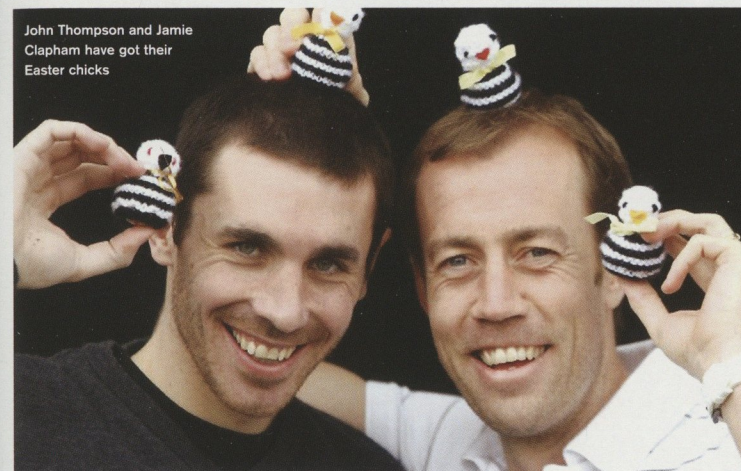
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John Thompson and Jamie Clapham have got their Easter chicks

NOTTS FANS GET THE KNITTING NEEDLES OUT

Throughout last week dedicated Magpies supporters have been slavishly knitting themselves into a frenzy for a charitable cause. Organiser Pauline Lawson and her numerous volunteers from Woodborough came up with the idea of selling miniature knitted black and white striped Easter chicks in the Club Shop for £1. All of the money went straight to the Breast Cancer Nottingham Support Group, who are based at the City

Hospital, but the idea proved so popular that the Club Shop sold out of the initial batch on Saturday February 28, helping to raise more than £200 for the worthwhile cause.

It's meant the ladies have been feverishly knitting away in order to satisfy demand over the last week, and our thanks go to all those involved, including Joan Hoyland, Angela Wood, Betty Harris, Claire Ardley and Mary Ecob.

TWICKENHAM HERE WE COME

Nottingham Rugby have an historic trip to Twickenham in their sights and according to coach Glenn Delaney, it could all hinge on whether people get behind them in the semi-final of the EDF Energy Trophy. Leeds Carnegie are currently undefeated at the top of National League One but Delaney believes the Green & Whites are capable of toppling them - if they raise their game on the day.

He explained: "We've been in the semi-finals three times in the past four years and on the law of averages, it has to be our turn.

"Obviously it's going to be tough but I just hope the Nottingham people turn up and help us because it would be massive for this club to get to Twickenham for the first time in our 132-year history."

Nottingham have a huge warm-up fixture at Meadow Lane on Sunday, when Exeter are the visitors, and the semi-final will kick-off at 3pm on Sunday March 22.

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A TO Z



Football historian Leigh Edwards continues his A-Z of every player who figured in a League game for us during the 60 post-war years up to the end of 2005-06.

MARK WELLS

The tough-tackling midfielder was a member of Neil Warnock's squad as a youngster after graduating through our ranks, turning professional in July 1990. His first-team debut came in the ZDS Cup second round tie at Sheffield United in October 1991, where he scored in the triumphant penalty shoot-out. He made two substitute League appearances prior to joining Huddersfield Town in August 1993, scoring the winner on his debut at Rotherham. Moving to Scarborough in July 1994, he was blighted by successive injury problems, then played for Gateshead, Worcester City, Harrogate Town, Hinckley United and Pickering Town.

DEVON WHITE

Towering striker who headed our winner in the 1995 Anglo-Italian Cup Final. He had spells with Arnold, Lincoln City, Boston United, Grantham and Shepshed before joining Bristol Rovers in August 1987. Helping them win the Third Division title and reach the Leyland/DAF Cup Final in 1989-90, he then moved to Cambridge United in March 1992. He was reunited with Gerry Francis at QPR in January 1993 and joined us for £110,000 in December 1994. Sold to Watford for £100,000 in February 1996, he returned to Meadow Lane in March 1997 and netted 17 goals in 55 League games overall. Later with Shrewsbury, Ilkeston and Stafford, he is now an electrician.



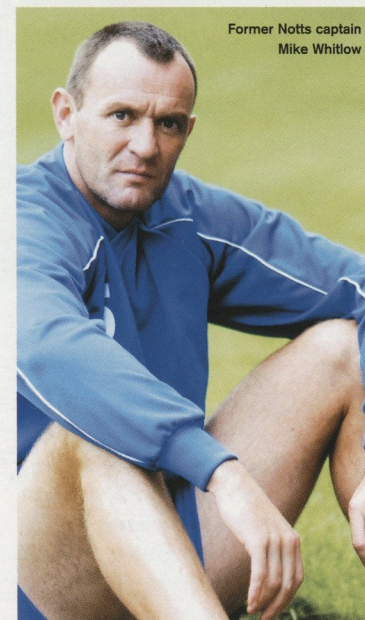
Devon White... headed us to some silverware

JEFF WHITLEY

Northern Ireland international midfielder who had two loan spells with us from Manchester City. Signing professional with the Citizens in February 1996, he played alongside his twin brother Jim and appeared in their 1998-99 Second Division Play-off Final triumph. He then helped them regain top-flight status before being loaned to Wrexham, then to us in March 2002 and October 2002, playing 18 League games overall while at Meadow Lane. Moving to Sunderland in August 2003, he featured prominently in their 2004-05 Championship title triumph, then joined Cardiff in August 2005 and has since had spells with Stoke and Wrexham.

MIKE WHITLOW

Experienced defender who captained us during the 2004-05 campaign. He impressed with Witton Albion before joining Leeds United for £10,000 in November 1988 and helped them win the Second Division title in 1989-90 and League Championship in 1991-92. Sold to Leicester City for £250,000 in March 1992, he featured as they twice won promotion and the League Cup in 1997. Moving to Bolton for £500,000 in September 1997, he gained another piece of silverware, winning promotion with them in 2000-01, before joining Sheffield United in July 2003. Reuniting with Gary Mills at Meadow Lane in July 2004, he played 24 League games until injury curtailed his career.



Former Notts captain
Mike Whitlow



TALE OF TWO HALVES



Notts County 3
Forte 11, 31, Facey 45

Bradford City 1
Thorne 85

Meadow Lane Stadium
Saturday February 28, 2009
Coca Cola League 2

Attendance: 5,138

FIRST HALF

Not since January 2007 had we been treated to three first half goals at Meadow Lane.

Despite a bright opening by the visitors, which saw Zesh Rehman head wide from a free-kick, a flowing counter-attack gave us the breakthrough. Jamie Forrester swept forward 40 yards before picking out Jonathan Forte, who poked it past the on-rushing Rhys Evans

for his first goal at Meadow Lane (top). The Bantams almost replied immediately but Michael Boulding saw his header saved by Kevin Pilkington. Myles Weston continued to terrorise down the left and his cross allowed Forte to control with his chest before lashing in his sixth goal for us (left). Delroy Facey then completed the rout, turning in Weston's delivery in first half stoppage time (right).



TALE OF TWO HALVES



SECOND HALF

After a stern talking to by boss Stuart McCall it was no surprise Bradford were quick out of the traps after the break. The introduction of lively winger Joe Colbeck caused us problems, as did the pace of Nicky Law and Steve Jones, but our backline remained resolute. Jamie Clapham twice made important interventions, hacking a goal bound effort from Law off the line (top right),

then blocking Colbeck's dangerous cross after he'd avoided the off-side trap. It was an uncharacteristic mistake from Clapham though, after misjudging a bounce, that resulted in Peter Thorne steering in a late consolation when he tapped in Colbeck's delivery. His first goal since November was too little too late for Bradford though, as we cruised to our fourth win in five home games, much to Ian McParland's delight.

Notts County: Pilkington; Tann (Strachan 87), Edwards, Johnson, Clapham; Forte, Thompson, Nowland (Wedderburn 77), Weston; Forrester (Butcher 83), Facey.
Subs Not Used: Canham, Fairclough.

Barnet: Evans; Rehman, Lee, Clarke, O'Brien; Bullock, Furman, Law, Jones; Thorne, M.Boulding (Colbeck).
Subs Not Used: Convey, Arnison, Conlon, Nix.

Bookings: Forte, Thompson.

Referee: Karl Evans (Greater Manchester)

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VISITORS

BACK ROW (left to right): Ed Asafu-Adjaye, George Beavan, Michael Spillane, Claude Gnaka, Kevin Watson (first team coach), Lewis Emanuel.
MIDDLE ROW (left to right): Harry Scott-Stackman (physio), Stuart Bannister (kit man), Paul McVeigh, Sol Davis, George Pilkington, Dean Brill, Conrad Logan (left club), Ian Roper, Asa Hall, Ryan Charles, Joe Dunbar (left club), Dmitri Kharine (goalkeeping coach).
FRONT ROW (left to right): Tristan Plummer (left club), Keith Keane, Kevin Nicholls, Mick Harford (manager), Warren Neill (left club), Rossi Jarvis, Sam Parkin, Chris Martin.

WEMBLEY TRIP WILL BE LUTON'S CONSOLATION

It's an incredible irony that Luton Town should earn themselves a trip to Wembley at a time when they surely need to start making plans for life as a non-League outfit.

And the very fact that they are mounting a campaign to take 30,000 fans with them on the short journey south to face Scunthorpe in the Final of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy shows how ridiculous it is that they find themselves in this situation.

It's not that long ago that the Hatters were a real force in English football and their team, packed with internationals, regularly appeared at Wembley in the major cup competitions.

But now they are paying the penalty in the most severe terms possible for going

into Administration in November 2007, for the third time since 1999.

An initial 10-point deduction contributed to their relegation from League One and they entered this season with minus 30 points against their name, after failing to reach a Company Voluntary Arrangement with creditors and being found guilty of irregular payments.

It meant that the only way Mick Harford and his players would have any chance of staying in the League this season would be by clocking up something in the region of 80 points.

And although that wasn't a totally unrealistic target, it soon became clear that they wouldn't make it.

A 3-1 defeat at home to Port Vale on the opening day of the season did

nothing to boost confidence, but 10 points from the next available 12 did set people wondering.

It didn't last though, and although Luton have always looked capable of raising their game, they have never shown the consistency to suggest that they could dig their way out of trouble.

The writing was very much on the wall when they failed to win a single game in January and now, it's surely just a matter of enjoying the consolation prize of a day-out at Wembley.

They needed a penalty shoot-out to get past Brighton at Kenilworth Road in the Southern Area Final and goalkeeper Lewis Price wrote a chapter in the club's history books when he saved two spot kicks.



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"The players were brilliant against Gillingham. I would actually go as far as to say that it was our best performance so far over the complete 90 minutes."

Mick Harford, Luton Town manager

It has certainly perked up the people of Bedfordshire and they're determined to salvage something from this traumatic season by turning April 5 into a very special day.

Given the choice, of course, Harford would have much preferred to avoid the humiliation of having to spend next season playing the likes of Eastbourne, Altrincham and Salisbury in the Blue Square Premier.

And just as Mansfield Town and Oxford United have discovered, you certainly cannot take it for granted when you drop out of the League that you will bounce straight back.

Trying to keep the players motivated once relegation begun to look inevitable must have been a major challenge for Harford but even so, if we think that

means they will be there for the taking tonight, we will be in for a nasty surprise. You only have to look at their last away outing - a 3-1 win at Port Vale - for evidence that.

Kevin Gallen, the experienced former Queens Park Rangers striker, was among the scorers at Vale Park and as he told the club's website: "That was probably the best away performance since I came here in November.

"I thought we easily deserved to win. If we'd taken our chances in the first half it could have been four, five or six but 3-1 away from home is a great win and a great performance."

Yet again, as they have done so often this season, Luton struggled to build on that encouraging result. But although Harford was disappointed with a goalless

draw against Gillingham, he dished out lavish praise to his players.

"They were brilliant, and I'm absolutely proud of them," said the manager.

"I would actually go as far as to say that it was our best performance of the season so far over the complete 90 minutes.

"I'm disappointed for the players and fans because it was a first-class performance in difficult conditions. We peppered their goal and the only shot Dean Brill had to save was in the fourth minute of injury time."

Harford, who had brief dugout stints with Forest, Rotherham and QPR before taking up the hot-seat at Kenilworth Road in January 2008, was so encouraged by the way his team played last Tuesday, he suggested they still have a chance of avoiding the drop if they play like that in their remaining games. That's surely wishful thinking. But stranger things have happened and providing the players don't get too deflected by thoughts of Wembley, there could still be some late drama this season.

And their hopes of survival were boosted recently when Bradford agreed to extend the loan of experienced defender Mark Bower, who made a big impact during his initial month at Kenilworth Road.

FANCY THAT

Nick Owen, former BBC television presenter of 'Good Morning Anne and Nick', became the Chairman of Luton Town Football Club last season.

He has been a lifelong supporter of The Hatters and a lounge at Kenilworth Road is named after him.



WHO ARE YER?

BETWEEN THE STICKS

Healthy competition between the posts at Luton, with two seasoned 'keepers to choose from, has seen a dramatic improvement to the horrendous goals against column which saw the Hatters relegated from League One last season.

Luton-born **Dean Brill** joined his hometown club aged nine and progressed through the youth ranks before winning the number one jersey under former boss Kevin Blackwell. Named 'Young Player of the Season' after his first full campaign in the Championship, the 6ft 3ins shot-stopper has since emerged as one of the most promising glovemen in the lower leagues and attracted his fair share of attention from bigger clubs.

He only returned to first team action in February after missing four months of the campaign where his spot was filled by **Conrad Logan** and **Lewis Price** between the sticks. Both have now returned to their respective clubs, Leicester City and Derby County, meaning Harford has plumped for another loanee as back-up for Brill.

England Under-19 international **David Button** joined from Tottenham on an initial one month loan. The 20-year-old has been on loan at Grays and Bournemouth already this season.

FANCY THAT

Luton's Stockwood Park Museum has undergone a £6million transformation thanks to a cash injection from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The museum houses the Mossman collection of horse-drawn vehicles and is the largest of its kind on public display in Britain.



Republic of Ireland Under-21 international **Michael Spillane** has contributed four goals to Luton's cause this season.

AT THE BACK

Versatility has been the key to Harford's back four selections this season, with midfielders **Claude Gnabka** and **Keith Keane** featuring heavily.

Frenchman **Gnabka** joined the club in August 2008 after plying his trade with Montpellier HSC, Racing de Santander, Deportivo Alaves and FC Vaduz.

With his combative style, he has settled into his defensive role at Luton well and is comfortable playing at centre back or full back.

The former Peterborough man is often joined in the heart of defence by midfielder **Keane**. As well as being captain, he has been typical of the

adaptive system used throughout the squad, playing centre back and right back.

His never-say-die attitude has seen him become a crowd favourite at Kenilworth Road since graduating from the club's youth system.

Teenage defender **Ed Asafu-Adjaye** has been regularly used at right back since January and is another player to have progressed through the club's youth ranks.

Possessing great pace and power, he was loaned to Salisbury in January 2008 and after some impressive performances for the Blue Square Premier side, he was recalled only two months later.

Completing the quartet is tough tackling left back **Sol Davis** who is fast approaching 200 League outings for the Hatters after arriving from Swindon in 2002 where he was a trainee.

An attacking threat with his marauding runs down the left flank, he was named 'Player of the Year' in 2004-05, but had to recover from a serious stroke during the 2006-07 season.

Harford has plenty of experience in reserve as well with **Ian Roper** on the club's books. After climbing through the ranks at Walsall, the no-nonsense defender accumulated more than 300 appearances for the Saddlers during a 13 year stint, winning promotion on three occasions.

He switched to Luton in August 2008 but is sidelined at present after picking up a knee injury in February.

Further defensive options include teenage left back **Jake Howells** who made his debut as a second half substitute in May 2008.

This season he has pushed on up the pecking order and made a valuable

contribution to the first team by featuring in more than 20 matches.

While former Port Vale defender

George Pilkington is close to returning from two serious injuries, **Lewis Emanuel** is still sidelined because of

knee ligament damage.

Mark Bower is available tonight though after extending his loan spell from Bradford, where he has more than 230 League starts to his name.

ACROSS THE MIDDLE

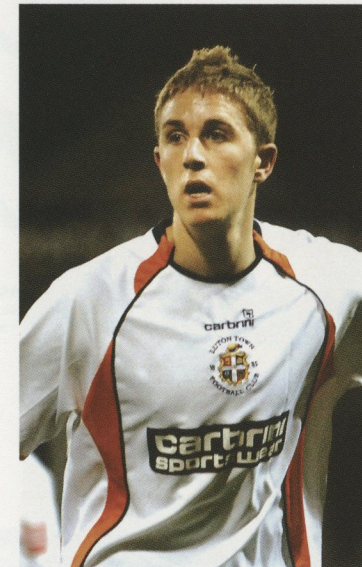
Injuries have deprived Harford of being able to regularly use his inspirational skipper **Kevin Nicholls**. His return to fitness for the last part of the season will be vital if Luton are to stand any chance of beating the drop.

The hard-working midfielder is enjoying his second spell at the club after six successful seasons, from 2001-06, then saw him leave for Leeds in a six-figure fee transfer.

Played for Charlton and Wigan before helping the Hatters to the League 1 title in 2004-05 during his first spell at the club, but returned last summer to be made club captain after things didn't work out at Preston.

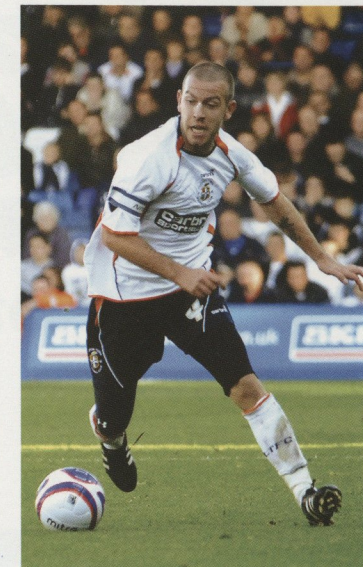
Nicholl's absence has seen an unexpected role for Thetford-born striker **Ian Henderson** in the centre of the park. A product of Norwich's successful youth system, he won a Championship medal with the Carrow Road outfit in 2004, but a serious injury two years later curtailed his progress.

Released at the start of 2007-08, **Henderson** was snapped up by Northampton before switching to Luton in January, where he's moved back into a midfield role rather than his more accustomed striker's berth.



Midfielder **Asa Hall**, pictured left, is having his most productive season ever in front of goal for Luton, scoring nine times.

Irish midfielder **Keith Keane**, pictured right, has made more than 100 League outings for the Hatters since joining them in 2003.



Republic of Ireland Under-21 international **Michael Spillane** is another with Canary connections, after he joined Luton on a season-long loan from Norwich in August 2008. Strong in the tackle and comfortable in possession, **Spillane** adds some steel to the middle of the park and has also weighed in with four goals this season. Luton's left-sided attacking threat **Asa Hall** has been in good form since the turn of the year, registering five goals to take his tally to nine.

He started his football career with Wolves before signing his first professional contract at Birmingham in 2004. Named their 'Young Player of the

Year' in the 2004-05, he also received call-ups to England Under-19 and 20 levels, then took in loan spells with Boston, Ashford and Shrewsbury prior to heading to Luton last August. Versatile winger **Rossi Jarvis** can

FANCY THAT

You know the Hollywood sign on the Los Angeles hills? Now, it seems Luton council want something similar. However, they can only afford the "N" so if you drive past the old Vauxhall site the huge "N" is visible but nobody knows when the "L" "U" "T" and "O" will arrive!



WHO ARE YER?

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 Dagenham & Redbridge F.C.	 Gillingham F.C.	 Lincoln City F.C.	 Chester City F.C.
 Macclesfield Town F.C.	 Brentford F.C.	 Shrewsbury Town F.C.	 A.F.C. Bournemouth
 Port Vale F.C.	 Wycombe Wanderers F.C.	 Darlington F.C.	

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play down either flank and is another product off Norwich's production line. Became the youngest ever player to appear for the Canaries reserve team at the tender age of 14, before having loan spells with Torquay and Rotherham after finding first team opportunities hard to come by. Headed for Kenilworth Road in August and has been a regular face in Harford's plans this term, although he's still waiting for his first League goal for the club. Other options include trainee **Scott Sinclair** while **Ryan Charles** has been back on the bench for the last four fixtures.

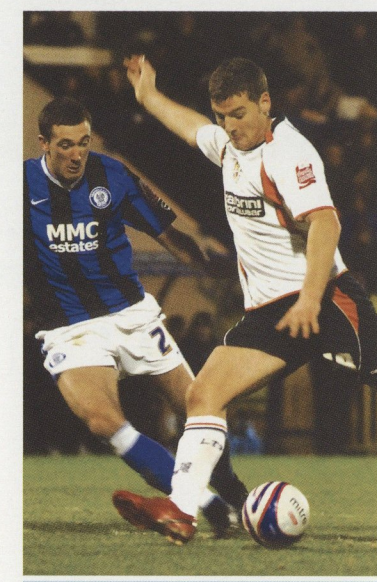
UP FRONT

Harford has certainly not been short of experienced strikers this season, with four on the books having played at Championship level, so it will come as a disappointment to him that not one has managed to hit double figures.

Chris Martin is currently the closest to breaking that barrier, with the young striker - on a season-long loan from Norwich - currently having nine goals to his name.

Strong and technically gifted, his early promise with the Canaries saw him win recognition in the England Under-19 squad, scoring on his debut against Turkey in March 2007. He struck five times for the first team in 30 games in 2007, before falling down the pecking order, but the pacey forward has rediscovered his goalscoring prowess playing off talisman **Sam Parkin**.

The former Chelsea trainee has a proven goalscoring pedigree after scoring 67 times in 120 appearances for Swindon from 2002 to 2005, before moving on to Ipswich where he suffered a serious ankle break.



Former Norwich City frontman Chris Martin scored his first goal for Luton against us in August, and has added eight to his tally since then.

It paved the way for a £340,000 move to Luton in 2007, where he was brought in to replace the prolific Steve Howard, but a disappointing return of five goals in his first season saw him loaned out to Leyton Orient in October.

Since returning to first team action at Kenilworth Road in January he's weighed in with four goals, but a recent injury crisis in midfield has seen **Parkin** used increasingly on the right flank. Another loan signing to feature heavily this term is **Tom Craddock**. Originally a defender, he developed into a promising forward while in the reserves at Middlesbrough and impressed the

Hatters enough on loan earlier in the season to warrant a permanent transfer to Luton in January.

He signed a two-and-half year deal and with be looking to add to the six League goals he has so far this term.

Another on the books who knows his way around the lower leagues is veteran marksman **Kevin Gallen**, who established himself as something of a legend at Loftus Road.

He notched up more than 400 appearances, scoring 97 times for OPR in two spells spanning nearly 14 years. Also played for Huddersfield, Barnsley and Plymouth before moving to MK Dons in the summer of 2007, scoring nine goals in 16 League starts before joining Luton on loan in November.

Confined mainly to cameo appearances, **Gallen** has three goals this season.

Diminutive Northern Ireland international striker **Paul McVeigh** arrived at the club at the beginning of last season after more than 200 outings for Norwich.

After failing to impress Harford when he took over the reigns he has slowly been pushing himself up the pecking order, last scoring in early December.

Other offensive options include teenager **Jordan Patrick** and former Watford trainee **Wayne Andrews**, who is now with his 13th club.

FANCY THAT

Monty Panesar, currently England's finest left-arm spinner, was born in Luton on April 25, 1982. He moved to Northamptonshire to make his mark in county cricket and was given legendary status by the Barmy Army after breaking into the Test team.

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FOR THE RECORD



Luton Town's Kenilworth Road

PLEAT INSPIRED GOOD TIMES FOR LUTON

Think of Luton managers and one name immediately leaps to mind. David Pleat was in charge from 1978-86 and again from 1991-95, and he has good reason to be proud of his achievements at Luton as they consistently punched above their weight during that period.

For example, they finished seventh in the top flight in 1987 - their highest ever position - then won the League Cup in 1988 and were back at Wembley as beaten finalists the following year. There's a clear theme running through the list of Luton managers, and that includes current incumbent Mick Harford because they have always been quick to give former managers their chance. Before Pleat, long-serving former defender Syd Owen filled the hot seat and John Moore, Jim Ryan, Ricky Hill and Lil Fuccillo are other ex-players who have had spells as manager. The former Luton manager with strongest links with us is Kevin Blackwell, who was a 'keeper here during Neil Warnock's tenure.

ALL ABOUT LUTON

STILL THERE

Luton, formed in 1885 after Wanderers and Excelsior merged, played at two other grounds before setting up home at Kenilworth Road in 1905. Over the years, there have been many schemes drawn up for either re-locating or re-developing the ground but the 10,248 capacity stadium will continue to be Luton's base for the time being.

WHEN THEY WERE UP...

Younger supporters might find it difficult to believe but Luton were once a real power in the English game. They spent 10 years in the top flight from 1955 but within five years of being relegated, they'd slipped all the way down to Division Four.

WHAT A PAYNE

Joe Payne set a Football League record in 1936 which still remains to this day. He became the one and only player ever to score 10 goals in the same game - against Bristol Rovers - and went on to score a staggering 55 goals that season.

COSTLY EXERCISE

Luton became the first fully-professional club in the south of England in 1891. They had already started paying players

three years earlier, but they were hit by the first of their financial crises six years later when poor attendances and high wages caused them to drop out of the Football League.

MR CONSISTENT

Cultured defender Mal Donaghy was 'Mr Consistency' for Luton during arguably the finest era of their history and it is fitting that he should hold a place in the club's record books. He was their Most Capped Player, making 58 of his 91 appearances for Northern Ireland while he was at Kenilworth Road.

UP FOR THE CUP

Luton's record in cup competitions throughout the Eighties was quite remarkable. They reached the FA Cup semi-finals in 1986 and 1988, tasted victory and defeat in successive seasons in the League Cup in 1988 and 1989 and were also runners-up in the Full Members Cup in 1988.

THANKS CURTIS

Aston Villa defender Curtis Davies began his career at Luton - and they're glad he did. Davies landed the Hatters a club record £3million windfall in August 2005 when he left to join West Brom.

FANCY THAT

Luton Museum & Art Gallery is housed in a large Victorian mansion in Wardown Park on the outskirts of the town centre. It boasts collections of the traditional crafts synonymous to the Bedfordshire region, notably its lace-making and hat-making.



TODAY'S TEAMS

Notts County fixtures 2008-09



August					
Sat 09	Bradford	A	1-2	14,038	Butcher
Tues 12	Doncaster (CC1)	H	1-0	3,272	Weston
Sat 16	Darlington	H	0-0	4,352	
Sat 23	Luton	A	1-1	6,085	Forrester (p)
Tues 26	Wigan (CC2)	A	0-4	4,100	
Sat 30	Shrewsbury	H	2-2	4,697	Edwards, Butcher
September					
Tues 02	Scunthorpe (JPTR1)	A	1-2	1,755	Butcher
Sat 06	Bournemouth	H	1-1	4,362	Forrester
Sat 13	Accrington Stanley	A	1-1	1,404	Canham
Sat 20	Exeter	A	2-2	4,341	Johnson, Canham
Sat 27	Aldershot	H	2-1	6,033	Johnson, Butcher
October					
Sat 04	Port Vale	A	2-1	6,247	Forrester, Weston
Mon 13	Brentford	H	1-1	6,012	Forrester (p)
Sat 18	Macclesfield	H	1-1	4,600	Facey
Tues 21	Gillingham	A	2-2	4,396	Butcher, Facey
Sat 25	Chesterfield	A	1-3	4,134	Facey
Tues 28	Rochdale	H	1-2	3,610	Forrester (p)
November					
Sat 01	Bury	H	0-1	4,391	
Sat 08	Sutton United (FA R1)	A	1-0	2,041	Butcher
Sat 15	Barnet	A	4-0	1,934	Butcher, Forte 3
Sat 22	Dag & Red	A	1-6	1,743	Forte
Tues 25	Wycombe	H	0-2	2,964	
Sun 30	Kettering (FA R2)	H	1-1	4,451	Canham
December					
Sat 06	Morecambe	H	1-0	3,671	Canham
Wed 10	Kettering (FA R2 replay)	A	1-2	3,019	Smith
Sat 13	Chester	A	0-2	1,767	
Sat 20	Lincoln	H	0-1	4,568	
Fri 26	Grimsby	A	1-0	5,432	Facey
Sun 28	Rotherham	H	0-3	6,686	
January					
Sat 10	Exeter	H	2-1	3,882	Facey, Strachan
Sat 17	Brentford	A	1-1	5,465	Facey
Tues 20	Aldershot	A	2-2	2,491	Clapham, Hamshaw
Sat 24	Port Vale	H	4-2	4,447	Weston, Forrester 3 (p)
Tues 27	Rochdale	A	0-3	2,289	
Sat 31	Chesterfield	H	0-1	4,953	
February					
Sat 14	Barnet	H	2-0	3,830	Hamshaw, Clapham
Tues 17	Macclesfield	A	1-1	1,370	Hamshaw
Sat 21	Bury	A	0-2	2,810	
Sat 28	Bradford	H	3-1	5,138	Forte 2, Facey
March					
Tues 03	Darlington	A	0-1	2,450	
Sat 07	Shrewsbury	A	2-3	5,192	Butcher, Forte
Tues 10	Luton	H			
Sat 14	Accrington Stanley	H			
Tues 17	Gillingham	H			
Sat 21	Bournemouth	A			
Sat 28	Lincoln	A			
April					
Sat 04	Chester	H			
Sat 11	Rotherham	A			
Mon 13	Grimsby	H			
Sat 18	Morecambe	A			
Sat 25	Dag & Red	H			
May Sat 02	Wycombe	A			

NOTTS COUNTY

- Russell Hoult
- Phil Picken
- Mike Edwards
- Adam Tann
- Michael Johnson
- Matt Hamshaw
- Jamie Forrester
- Jonathan Forte
- Myles Weston
- Kevin Pilkington
- Sean Canham
- Gavin Strachan
- Ben Fairclough
- Jamie Clapham
- Stephen Hunt
- John Thompson
- Delroy Facey
- Richard Butcher
- Adam Nowland

LUTON TOWN

- Dean Brill
- Claude Gnakpa
- Sol Davis
- Keith Keane
- Ian Roper
- George Pilkington
- Ian Henderson
- Kevin Nicholls
- Sam Parkin
- Ryan Charles
- Lewis Emanuel
- Asa Hall
- Ed Asafu-Adjaye
- Rossi Jarvis
- Chris Martin
- Michael Spillane
- Mark Bower
- Wayne Andrews
- Tom Craddock
- George Beavan
- Dean Morgan
- Paul McVeigh
- Jordan Patrick
- Mark Farthing
- Kevin Gallen
- Jake Howells
- David Button
- Aaron Fletcher
- Scott Sinclair

Today's referee:

Chris Sarginson, Staffordshire

Assistant referees:

Gary Sutton, Lincolnshire (red & yellow flag)
Stephen Martin, Staffordshire (yellow flag)

Fourth official:

Nigel Murphy, Nottinghamshire

Result:

Attendance:

Man of the match:

TODAY'S TEAMS

Notts County appearances 2008-09 season

	League		Cups		Total	
	Apps	G	Apps	G	Apps	G
Russell Hoult	16	-	5	-	21	-
Phil Picken	11	-	-	-	11	-
Mike Edwards	32 (1)	1	6	-	38 (1)	1
Adam Tann	7 (3)	-	3	-	10 (3)	-
Michael Johnson	23	2	(1)	-	23 (1)	2
Matt Hamshaw	29 (1)	3	3 (2)	-	32 (3)	3
Jamie Forrester	24 (2)	8	1 (1)	-	25 (3)	8
Myles Weston	33	2	2 (4)	1	35 (4)	3
Kevin Pilkington	14	-	1	-	15	-
Sean Canham	6 (13)	3	4 (2)	1	10 (15)	4
Gavin Strachan	10 (4)	1	(1)	-	10 (5)	1
Ben Fairclough	1 (4)	-	3	-	4 (4)	-
Jamie Clapham	29	2	3	-	32	2
Stephen Hunt	4 (2)	-	2	-	6 (2)	-
John Thompson	24	-	3	-	27	-
Delroy Facey	33	7	6	-	39	7
Richard Butcher	20 (4)	6	5	2	25 (4)	8
Adam Nowland	14 (4)	-	(1)	-	14 (5)	-
Jonathan Forte	9	7	-	-	9	7
Josh Lillis	5	-	-	-	5	-
Jason Beardsley	11	-	3	-	14	-
Mitchell Hanson	5	-	-	-	5	-
Paul Mayo	10 (2)	-	4	-	14 (2)	-
Neil MacKenzie	(1)	-	2 (1)	-	2 (2)	-
Lewis Neal	4	-	2	-	6	-
Jay Smith	6 (7)	-	4 (1)	1	10 (8)	1
Nathaniel Wedderburn	3 (6)	-	2	-	5 (6)	-
Spencer Weir-Daley	(10)	-	2 (2)	-	2 (12)	-

Coca Cola League 2 table 2008-09



	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Brentford	35	10	5	1	28	9	8	7	4	20	16	66
Wycombe Wanderers	34	9	7	1	25	11	7	7	3	15	10	62
Bury	35	10	3	5	28	17	7	5	5	22	19	59
Bradford City	35	10	8	1	34	15	6	2	8	23	24	58
Rochdale	35	9	5	3	33	17	7	5	6	27	26	58
Exeter City	35	9	4	4	28	19	7	6	5	23	20	58
Gillingham	35	10	5	3	33	16	6	4	7	16	29	57
Shrewsbury Town	36	14	2	3	39	14	1	9	7	12	21	56
Dagenham & Redbridge	36	8	3	7	32	19	5	7	6	26	24	49
Morecambe	35	6	8	3	23	16	5	6	7	19	27	47
Chesterfield	32	5	5	5	23	21	7	4	6	27	23	45
Darlington	33	10	4	4	30	16	5	5	5	18	15	44
Lincoln City	33	4	8	3	22	16	7	3	8	21	25	44
Aldershot Town	33	8	6	3	30	25	3	1	12	18	39	40
Notts County	35	6	5	6	20	20	3	7	8	22	33	39
Macclesfield Town	35	6	3	9	20	30	5	3	9	19	33	39
Port Vale	33	5	2	10	18	29	5	3	8	17	23	35
Rotherham United	31	8	4	3	21	12	6	5	5	16	16	34
Barnet	34	4	6	7	22	29	3	6	8	20	32	33
Accrington Stanley	34	5	5	7	19	20	2	4	11	13	30	30
Chester City	36	4	5	8	21	22	2	4	13	13	43	27
Grimsby Town	35	3	6	9	24	27	2	5	10	13	33	26
Bournemouth	35	8	6	4	18	11	2	6	9	20	33	25
Luton Town	34	5	6	6	28	27	4	7	6	18	25	10

*Table correct to Monday March 09

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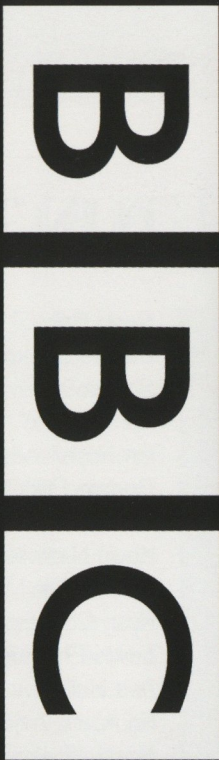
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Stat Pack

MANAGERIAL RECORDS

Ian McParland

Played 69 Won 17 Drawn 25 Lost 27
For 65 Against 85
Av Pts/game 1.10

Biggest Win(s) Barnet 0 Notts County 4
(15/11/2008). **Biggest Loss(es)** Dag &
Red 6 Notts County 1 (22/11/2008).

Mick Harford

Played 55 Won 11 Drawn 17 Lost 27
For 62 Against 86
Av Pts/game 0.91

Biggest Win(s) Luton 3 Oldham 0
(15/03/2008). **Biggest Loss(es)**
Darlington 5 Luton 1 (17/01/2009).

MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ..1 | Ian McParland.....0 | Mick Harford0
Draws ..1 | Goals 1 | Goals 1

Player with the most...

shots

Delroy
Facey 49

shots on target

Delroy
Facey 28

shots off target

Myles
Weston 29

assists

Matthew
Hamshaw 7

crosses

Matthew
Hamshaw 112

fouls

Delroy
Facey 40

free-kicks-won

Myles
Weston 50



GAMES SINCE

1	a win	1
0	a home win	1
6	an away win	0
0	a defeat	5
2	a home defeat	3
0	an away defeat	2
3	a score draw	4
0	conceding a goal	1
1	scoring a goal	1
2	conceding > 1	5
1	scoring > 1	1
4	keeping a clean sheet	0
0	failing to score	0
20	back to back wins	40
5	back to back defeats	5
1	gaining a point	0
0	losing a point	0
1	win by > one	1
2	loss by > one	10

Player with the most...

shots

Chris
Martin 54

shots on target

Chris
Martin 27

shots off target

Chris
Martin 27

assists

Rossi
Jarvis 10

crosses

Rossi
Jarvis 70

fouls

Chris
Martin 47

free-kicks-won

Chris
Martin 42

SHARP SHOOTERS

Notts County	CCFL Cup	Tot	Luton	CCFL Cup	Tot	
Jamie Forrester	8	0	8	8	1	9
Delroy Facey	7	0	7	8	1	9
Richard Butcher	5	2	7	5	1	6

TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played57 | Notts County wins10 | Luton wins28
Draws19 | Goals 63 (1.1 per game) | Goals 108 (1.9 per game)
0-0's4 | Times failed to score 17 | Times failed to score 9

Biggest League win at Notts County for each team:

03/03/1979 Notts County 3-1 Luton
27/11/1976 Notts County 0-4 Luton



2008/09 LEAGUE STATS

15	Position	24
34	Played	33
9	Won	9
12	Drawn	13
13	Lost	11
40	Goals For	45
50	Goals Against	50
39	Points	10

Record Against Top Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
2	6	11	21	6	5	7	7

Record Against Bottom Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
7	6	2	12	3	8	4	20

Record When Scoring First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
7	5	1	20	8	7	1	16

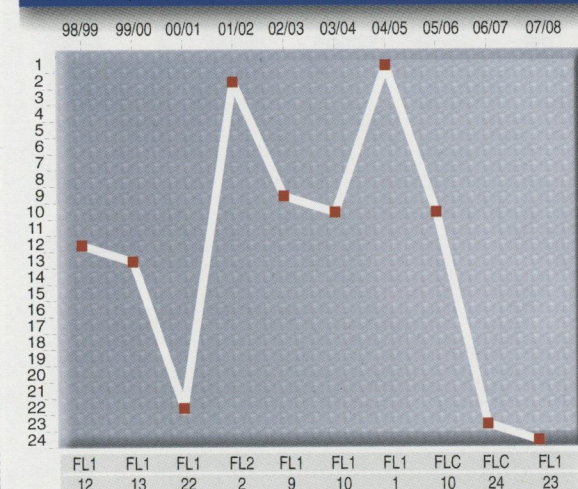
Record When Conceding First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
2	6	12	5	1	3	10	17

Match Scores

Wins: 1-0[2], 2-0[1], 2-1[3], 3-1[1], 3-2[1], 4-0[1], 4-2[1], **Losses:** 0-1[4], 0-2[3], 0-3[2], 1-2[2], 1-3[1], 1-6[1], **Draws:** 0-0[3], 1-1[5], 0-0[1], 1-1[7], 2-2[4]

LUTON - TEN SEASON RECORD



*up to and including 04/03/2009





DREAM TEAM-MATES

We asked Jonathan Forte to take a trip down memory lane and come up with a Dream XI of his former team-mates prior to him joining Meadow Lane. This is his selection...



LW James Milner

Another player I've come across during my junior Three Lions days. We were both in the Under-16 side at the same time, and although, even at that stage he was playing first team football for Leeds, he was very down to earth. He loves to have a laugh but is a true professional on the pitch. His pace and crossing with both feet is unbelievable and he also has a real venomous shot in his locker.



LB Alan Wright

I was with the former Blackpool and Villa man at Bramall Lane for three years. He was unbelievable on the ball and I'm not sure I ever saw him lose possession. Even though he was only 5ft 4in, he would constantly amaze us all by winning his fair share of headers. His leap was incredible.



GK Paddy Kenny

Not the biggest goalkeeper but a tremendous shot-stopper none the less. He's been magnificent over the past couple of years for Sheffield United and I was in the same team as him for four years. Quick off his line and with great distribution skills, he is a real class act. Off the field he's a bit of a loony and a real dressing room joker.



ST Wayne Rooney

I played just one game with him for the England Under-15s but that was enough to convince me he was going to be something very special. You could see his natural ability even then and he was very aggressive and always after the ball. A real livewire, always cracking jokes, we used to make fun of him, calling him 'cup ears' back then. I'm not sure I'd call it him now.



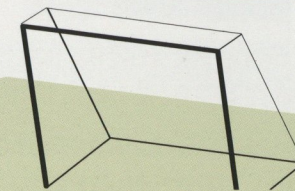
CM Jamie O'Hara

Another Tottenham man I met through England. He was a really feisty individual on and off the pitch. One day before an England tournament he let us cut off all his hair just because he felt like it. He had a wild temperament and was always moaning and shouting on the pitch. Undoubtedly a good player, who can operate in a number of positions, including left back.



CB Steven Taylor

The Newcastle defender was captain throughout my time with the England Under-16 and Under-18 teams. A powerful centre half, he was fantastic at reading the game and could ping the ball miles. I must have played about 15 internationals with Taylor and there were two things I found weird about him. One was his appalling taste in music and the other was, regardless of being a centre half, he loved a dive now and again.



ST Luke Moore

He was a goalscoring machine in the England youth sides and we knew we could always rely on him to get on the scoresheet. He had bags of pace, great movement off the ball and a real eye for goal, and although things never worked out for him at Villa, he's still performing in the Premiership for West Brom.



RW Aaron Lennon

His performance in the League Cup Final showed what he's all about. Has tremendously quick feet and is the nippiest player I've come across. His tiny frame makes it hard for defenders as well, because he could run through their legs if needed! In the junior England sides we could never get the ball off him and not many are quicker over 10 yards.



RB Emmerson Boyce

When I flew out to Barbados to make my international debut I was on the same flight as the Wigan defender, but we didn't realise it until we got into passport control. We both gained our first caps against the Dominican Republic and he was my room-mate as well. He's top quality. Strong and quick, he's another great athlete at full back or centre half.



CM Tom Huddlestone

A very laid back character who I met in the England youth set-up. He loved a tackle and was almost impossible to get past in training because of his sheer size... it took an age to run around him. Possessed a great passing range as well and I always remember him being a very focused individual, especially before games. He would be the one in the corner of the dressing room with a steely stare.



CB Phil Jagielka

A real athlete. He was a nightmare to get past in training because he was strong and quick. He had no fear of playing the ball out of defence either, which is one of the main reasons he has done so well at Sheffield United and Everton, and is now knocking on the door of the England team. Has a winning attitude and I always remember him being very loud... he has a real bellow on him.



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GIVE ME FIVE



Full back Phil Picken spills the beans about his team mates...

Who owns the best motor?

Michael Johnson without a doubt. He's got a very flashy Audi Q7 with all the sports kit on it. Very nice.

Which teammate is the most superstitious?

I've not spotted anyone's little traits at Notts yet but at Chesterfield it would have been the goalkeeper Barry Roche who is now at Morecambe. He was a devout Catholic and would constantly be taking out his cross, kissing it, staring at it and then putting it back in his pocket. That wasn't so bad but he just did it all the time.

Who is the biggest show boater?

Myles Weston brings out the flicks and tricks in training.

Slowest over 10 yards?

There's a few candidates but I'm going for Jamie Forrester.

Which player wears the worst boots?

Nothing is standing out but a few of the players do get free boots sent to them from Umbro and I think they look a bit rascally.



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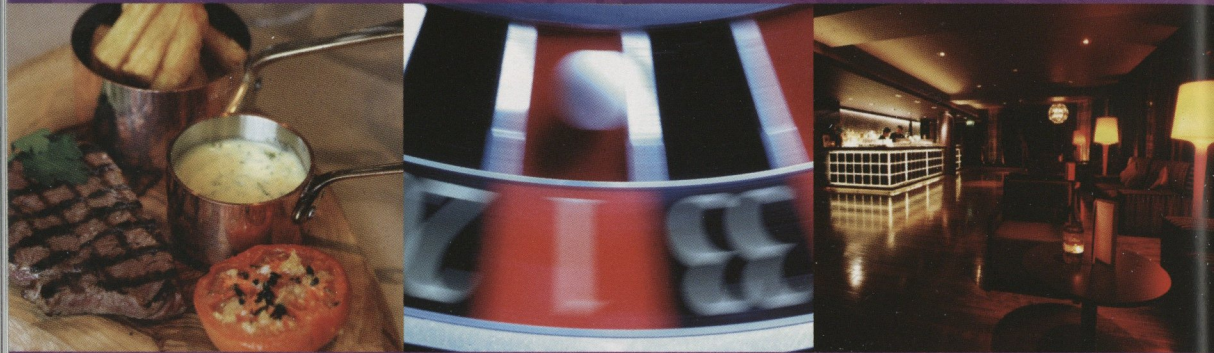


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BACK ROW (left to right): John Gaunt (centre of excellence manager), Shane McFaul, Kelvin Wilson, Andy White, Kevin Pilkington, Julien Baudet, Sean Marshall, Mike Edwards, Brian O'Callaghan, Gavin Gordon, Steve Marcella (goalkeeping coach).
MIDDLE ROW (left to right): Mike Ainslie (assistant physio), Mike Whitlow (coach), Lewis McMahon, Matt Williams, Tony Scully, Ian Richardson, Jake Sheridan, Stacy Long, Steve Spooner (youth team coach), John Haseldon (physio).
FRONT ROW (left to right): Chibuzor Chilaka, Steve Scoffham, Ruben Zadkovich, Matthew Gill, Gudjon Thordarson (manager), Ross McLaren (assistant manager), Robert Ullathorne, Chris Palmer, David Pipe, Glynn Hurst.

ICEMAN KEPT US UP BY THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH

It was the dawn of yet another new era in July 2005 when Gudjon Thordarson became our eighth new manager in the space of six years.

And having finished in 19th place the previous season, there were high hopes that the former Stoke City boss would inspire a significant climb up the table. Howard Wilkinson, back at Meadow Lane as a director, had clearly had a significant say in the appointment of Thordarson and between them, they had vast experience to offer our cause. But what was apparent from the 'off' was that the Icelander would have to build a team on the most modest of budgets. That was underlined in the build-up to the season when our list of newcomers was made up of inexperienced youngsters Dan Martin,

Lewis McMahon and Stacy Long, signed on free transfers from Derby, Sheffield Wednesday and Charlton. And Thordarson also brought in Brian O'Callaghan, a former Barnsley utility player who he'd worked with in Iceland. It all began very promisingly when a goalless draw at Torquay was followed by a 1-0 win over Wrexham - Long scored a dramatic winner in added time - and then Steve Scoffham's first goal for 16 months helped us to beat Lincoln 2-1. And even though we went out of the Carling Cup, beaten 3-1 at Watford, we were sitting proudly on top of the table when a Glynn Hurst double gave us victory over Bristol Rovers. In fact, we remained there for a couple more weeks but sadly it turned out to be a false dawn.

Four successive games in September without scoring a goal did untold damage, and a run of nine games without a win saw us slip steadily down the table. A hat-trick from Hurst gave us a 3-2 success at Bury and lifted everyone's spirits, and when a debut goal from Adam Tann helped us pull off a shock 2-0 win at Bristol City in the first round of the FA Cup, there was reason to believe the tide had turned. But Cheltenham then came from behind to win at Meadow Lane and in a way, that summed up our season. Every time we seemed to get ourselves into a promising situation, the proverbial rug was pulled from under us and inconsistency was a massive problem. Thordarson was very aware of the need

SEASON 2005-06 FACT FILE

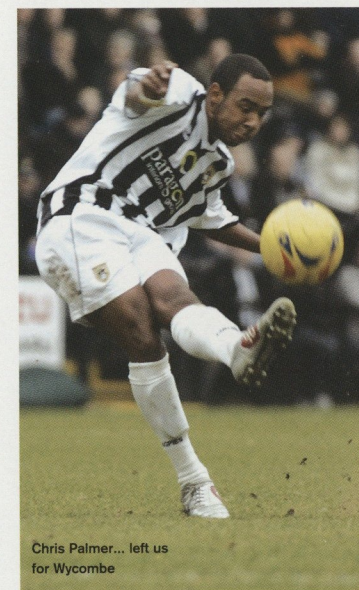
Final Position:	21st
Most League apps:	Kevin Pilkington, Mike Edwards - 45 each
Leading League scorer:	Glynn Hurst - 9
FA Cup:	Lost 2-1 to Torquay (A) in 2nd Round
League Cup:	Lost 3-1 to Watford (A) in 1st Round

to introduce fresh faces but the best he could manage on the tight budget was young striker Mark DeBolla, on loan from Chesterfield, and midfielder Liam Needham, who joined us on a short-term contract after being released by Sheffield Wednesday. We were sitting in 14th place at the turn of the year and 2006 began promisingly - especially for Martin because the teenage full back scored in successive games against Barnet and Darlington. In fact, 10 points from a possible 18 was encouraging enough to prompt Thordarson to suggest it still wasn't too late for us to mount a late charge for promotion.

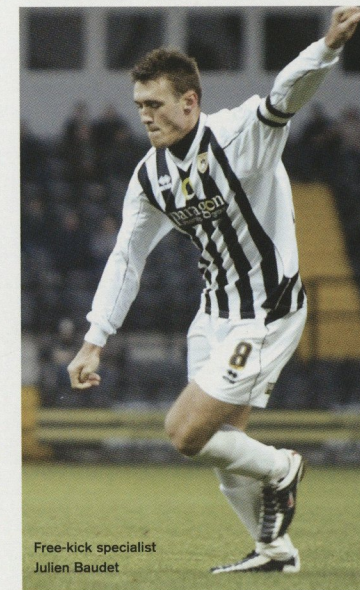
By then, Hurst, Tony Scully and Matthew Gill had all had their contracts cancelled because they didn't figure in the manager's long-term plans, and striker Dan Chillingworth had arrived on loan from Rushden & Diamonds. But instead of pushing on to establish ourselves among the top 10, February turned out to be a disastrous month.



Flying Welsh winger David Pipe



Chris Palmer... left us for Wycombe



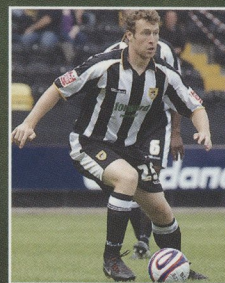
Free-kick specialist Julien Baudet

We lost all five matches - every one of them by the odd-goal - and we were back down in 14th place by the time 9,779 saw us draw 2-2 in an entertaining derby clash with Mansfield. It did nothing to lift the spirits when talented young defender Kelvin Wilson was allowed to join Preston on loan until the end of the season, with a view to a permanent deal. And try as he could to breath new life into our season, Thordarson was becoming increasingly frustrated about having no money to work with. At least Mike Edwards had cause to celebrate when he took his goals tally for the season to a career-best six in the

1-1 draw with Leyton Orient, and it was something of a coup in April when David Pipe was persuaded to sign a new deal. But all the time, we were steadily sinking down the table and we went into our final fixture - at home to Bury - knowing that defeat could cost us our Football League place. A dramatic last minute penalty by skipper Julien Baudet gave us a 2-2 draw and when Oxford lost to Orient, a point was enough to secure our safety. Later that week, Steve Thompson, who had been chairman for two years, handed over the reigns to Jeff Moore and before the month was out, Thordarson's spell as manager also came to an end.



NOWLAND: WANTING TO TURN BACK TIME



Interview by David Middleton
Action images by John Sumpter

While the footballing widows of this world are keenly crossing off the days to the season's end in early May, supporters up and down the country are just wishing there was that little bit longer.

The football calendar may last for just over nine gruelling months, but for all the goalless draws, the derby day hammerings and the early cup exits, when the end of another campaign gallops into view, the footballing fraternity don't want it to stop.

Adam Nowland is no different - although he has very personal reasons for wishing the season could be extended.

The articulate central midfielder has had another stop-start campaign due to injury niggles, but just when he was beginning to rediscover his fitness - and show the Meadow Lane faithful his true calibre - the end of the season seems to be closing in at an alarming rate.

Despite three injury set-backs, which saw him miss the entire September programme, early December and part of February, Nowland has not featured this regularly since the 2003-04 season. Back then he was plying his

trade in the Championship with West Ham, and the team formerly known as Wimbledon.

Having appeared only 11 times in the previous two campaigns - for Stockport, Gillingham and Preston - letting this season go is even harder for our number 25 who has featured in 50 per cent of all our outings. It's meant he's only been able to showcase his true calibre in patches this term, yet when the 27-year-old has been on song he has shown why Ian McParland gambled on bringing him out of the footballing wilderness.

There was no better example of his pedigree than in our last home outing with Bradford, in which he dictated the tempo to steer us to a 3-1 success and was unquestionably worthy of his 'Man of the Match' accolade. And now that the hunger and desire are back in his game, after admitting he had become "disillusioned with the industry" following a horrendous spell with hometown club Preston, he's now licking his lips for more pitch-time.

"I can't believe this season is moving into its final throes already," he said. "It feels like the time has absolutely flown by and I just wish there was an extra 15



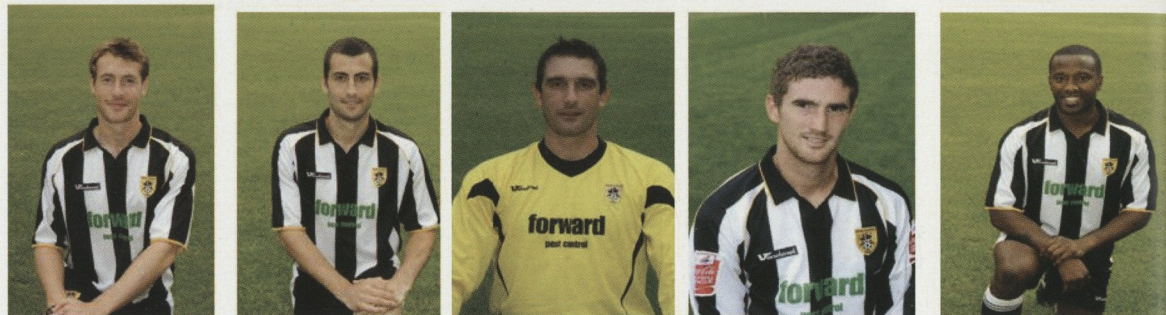
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ADAM NOWLAND



games on top of the remaining 10 we have left.

"I would love to be able to put a 30 or 40 game season under my belt and that's something I was hoping for this year. Unfortunately, because of a few injuries at various stages that didn't happen, but I feel I'm returning to full fitness now and I'd love to get a run of games under my belt.

"I want to show the cynics who doubted me that they were wrong. I've wasted months of my career without playing enough football and time is passing me by. I understand what a privileged career football is and I want to make up for lost time before it's taken from me.

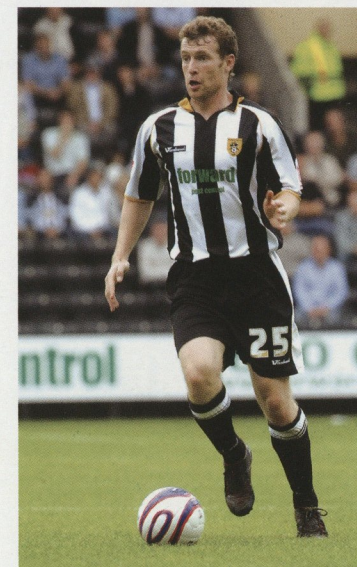
"It's astonishing how fast the seasons pass you by and I don't want to take them for granted, and suddenly find myself a veteran."

The former Blackpool trainee will be the first to admit that he has spent too much of his precious career on the physiotherapist's table. A double leg break in January 2006 while he was at Deepdale stalled his progress for almost two years, but he's gone some way to resurrecting a career that was nose-diving since linking up again with our commander-in-chief.

Nowland built a solid relationship with McParland at Forest after finding himself in the second string more often than not, despite having arrived for a substantial six-figure sum in 2004.

A regular reserve player for his solitary year, a managerial shuffle saw him left out in the cold when notorious disciplinarian Gary Megson took up the mantle left by Joe Kinnear.

"The gaffer was exactly the type of person I needed to get me back into the game at this stage of my career," he



"It feels like the time has absolutely flown by and I just wish there was an extra 15 games on top of the remaining 10 we have left."

Adam Nowland

added. "He has helped me tremendously and if a new contract was put in front of me tomorrow I would sign it if it meant playing for Ian McParland and his staff. "The pedigree of personnel he's attracted to this club, and the type of people he has working for him here have been key for me.

"The gaffer knows all about me and my past injury problems, but I'd like to think I proved to him I can still offer something and that's why an extended deal until the end of the season was put on the table in January.

"I don't think there's any doubting my ability and I believe I've adapted well to

the rigours of League 2 football. I want to remain a part of this club for the long term because something solid is being built here and I would love to help them to some success, which I'm sure is just around the corner."

And it's more than the "gaffer" Nowland has struck up a firm understanding with. Enjoying being back among the dressing room banter, he's also delighted to be back playing alongside former Forest colleague John Thompson in the middle of the field. The Irishman's industrious nature compliments Nowland's eye for a pass and creative nous superbly, but McParland will want to see it on a more regular basis if he is to plump for Nowland in the long term.

Proving that he's capable is Nowland's aim between now and May, but he'll also have another motive for wanting to get into the action against Luton this evening.

When he was just a 'wonderkid' at Blackpool he became the club's youngest-ever goalscorer despite hardly having hairs on his chin. His first senior goal came at just 17 years 142 days, with the unlucky recipients being the Hatters. It has left Nowland with fond memories of breaking Trevor Sinclair's record almost a decade ago, and having not featured on the scoresheet anywhere in the last 38 months, now would be as perfect a time as any to do just that.

He said: "It's a record I'm happy to still have and whenever I come across Luton the memories of that day just come flooding back. I know Mick Harford from our brief time together at Forest so I'm hoping I put in a good performance and, who knows, maybe a goal will come my way. I'm certainly due one."

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SEARCH FOR EXCELLENCE



ELLIS GUILDFORD OFFER ROUTE TO IMPROVEMENT

A number of our Centre of Excellence players will now be able to continue working on their skills away from our formal training sessions thanks to a new link-up with Ellis Guildford School in Basford.

The secondary school is a specialist sports college and currently has seven players who are part of several of our age group squads, while some of the current Under-11s will be joining the school next year.

By joining forces with Ellis Guildford's Mark Clifford, who is in charge of their Football Development Programme, Mick Leonard is aiming to give his players specific areas of their game to focus on in school PE lessons.

Our Centre of Excellence Manager added: "Mark actually approached us

with a proposal to link up and I thought it was an excellent opportunity.

"Ellis Guildford have a strong focus on their sporting programme.

"The idea is for Mark to watch the teams playing at the weekends and then talk to our coaches to see if there are any specific areas we want his players to work on."

All pupils at Ellis Guildford who are part of their Development programme have physical education lessons structured around football, ranging from skills training to specific football-related fitness exercises.

Clifford, who is also a keen supporter of our first team, said: "We are excited to have linked up with Notts and hopefully we can help produce more players for the club in the future."



Ellis Guildford pupils show off their skills

CENTRE FACING HECTIC TIME

It's not just the senior squad that have a busy run of fixtures coming up, as Mick Leonard has also arranged a consistent run of matches for the Centre of Excellence.

Following another largely successful weekend against Lincoln, our age group teams have games against Cambridge, Grimsby, Rotherham and Histon all coming up in consecutive weeks.

Said Centre of Excellence Manager Leonard: "It's encouraging to have so

many games coming up as it will give the players extra experience and help them develop.

"Both the Blue Square Premier sides, Cambridge and Histon, actually invited us for a game, which is great.

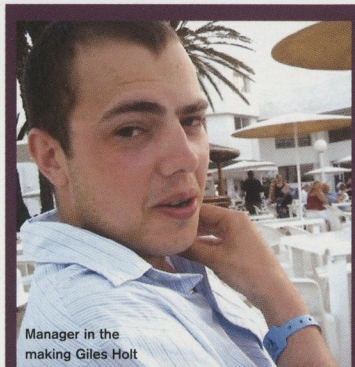
"They both fund their own Centres of Excellence and have to arrange their own fixtures. The more teams we play against, the better."

Leonard has also continued putting the building blocks in place for next season,

and is currently trying to organise a formal link-up with Lifford Football Club in Ireland.

The first step would involve sending the Under-12s over to County Clare for a match and hopefully that could open up another avenue to bring in more players in the future.

In addition, he is looking to enter the Under-11s into the pre-season Umbro Cup in Manchester, to give them experience of playing in a tournament.



Manager in the making Giles Holt

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Every football fan is convinced they have what it takes to be a manager, but 23-year-old Giles Holt has shown he has the tactical nous to back up his claims.

After lingering just outside the top 100 in the Magpie Manager table, tactical changes in the transfer window have seen his side 'Shadow Boxers' soar into 70th spot.

Such was the scale of the climb that it also landed him his first managerial success, the 'Magpie Manager of the Month' award for February.

Said the gushing gaffer: "I made wholesale changes in the transfer window, bringing in Jamie Clapham and John Thompson, and moving Delroy Facey into my starting six, and I'm thrilled that it's paid off."

A student at the University of East London - just 400 metres from West Ham's Upton Park - Giles, who is reading sports management, is more inclined to see us in action on the road now rather than at home. He added: "I saw us play at Barnet and Dagenham and experienced football's polar extremes."

ANYONE FOR ROASTED BANTAMS?

We're all hoping that the performance this evening will be as thrilling as the last time we were at Meadow Lane when Bradford City, known as the Bantams, were soundly beaten 3-1.

An unfortunate bounce gifted the visitors a late goal, which sadly denied the defenders their well deserved clean sheet bonus points, but the average score was still more than 13.

The following game saw very different fortunes emerge, while scores from Saturday's game at Shrewsbury are not yet included.

A week ago at Darlington, in the howling wind and lashing rain, the defeat by the only goal - with a couple of players seeing yellow cards - meant that the top score was a mere five points.

'Notts So Good', managed by Neil Pritchard were a top scoring team and rose to 76th spot, while the other 'Notts

So Good', managed by Bill Bottomley, also earned five and moved up to 60th. Bill's son Sam, whose team are called 'Sam's Team', was another to amass five points, continuing his steady climb up the table, now sitting in seventh.

There are 22 others who matched that top score so I won't mention them all. In the previous fixture, on a lovely Saturday afternoon here at Meadow Lane, the Magpies turned in a fantastic performance to defeat promotion hopefuls Bradford City.

Jonathan Forte is not involved in Magpie Manager but each of his well-taken goals earned a bonus point for all of the attackers on display, as did the third goal from Delroy Facey.

That meant four points each were provided by Jamie Forrester, Myles Weston and Richard Butcher. Adam Nowland earned five thanks to his

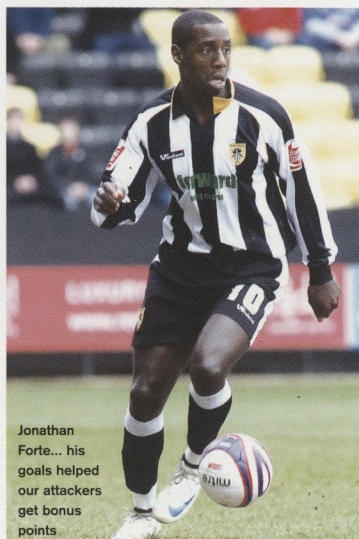
'Man of the Match' award, while Facey's seven point haul, along with the one at Darlington, makes him the first player this season to reach a century of points. Only one team achieved the best score of 19: 'Jimmy's Rays' managed by James Mee. That was enough to boost them out of the bottom 50. They are now in 105th spot, too high to appear in the part of the table shown today, as I'm featuring the basement section.

That victory marked the end of February, so it is time to look back over the month. Two postponements meant that it didn't get going until the 14th, but the Macclesfield game was quickly rearranged making it four opportunities for point scoring.

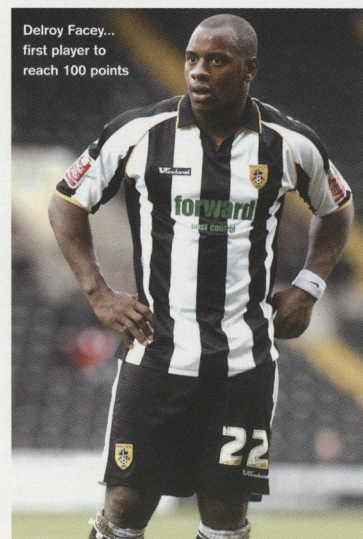
And that contributed to making it one of the closest races yet for the monthly prize. Four teams achieved the highest total over those games. The three runners-up were Sarah Pritchard's 'Football Widow', who rose six places to 147th, Ian Gill's 'Bullet-Proof Feet', who stepped up 36 to 69th spot, and A. Jones' 'County Ranger' who soared 37 places to 20th position.

The best team during February though, certainly punching above their weight, are the 'Shadow Boxers'. The front three of Butcher, Facey and Matt Hamshaw, along with new signing Jamie Clapham, all racked up double figure scores. It meant they moved from 108th position to 70th over the course of the month and made Giles Holt February's 'Magpie Manager of the Month.'

By Geoff Kemm



Jonathan Forte... his goals helped our attackers get bonus points



Delroy Facey... first player to reach 100 points



Magpie Manager 2008-09 League Table

Position	Manager	Team	Points	Subs	21/02	28/02	03/03
115	Brandon Chambers	Brandon's Creamy Pies	319	125	4	10	2
116	DJ Walster	Walster's Wingers	319	117	5	15	3
117	Rebecca Allen	GR8 Pies	319	90	4	10	2
118	James Lake	Railwaymen	317	205	4	10	2
119	Steve Hayden	Hayden's No Hoppers	317	151	4	10	2
120	Crowned Kim	Kop Up 2 Nite	317	132	4	10	2
121	Catrina McCollam	Watched From The Kop - Once	317	125	4	10	2
122	Trevor Middleton	SincePreston71	316	51	6	17	4
123	Alex Shepherd	American Pie	315	152	5	14	4
124	Lee Bowmar	Bow's Electric Pie Squad	315	120	3	6	2
125	Chris King	Trap Six Stars	315	78	3	9	2
126	Steven Widdowson	FC Widdowson	314	128	5	15	4
127	Terry Andrews	The Roadheaders	313	165	4	11	3
128	David Prest	Presty's Magpies	312	209	5	17	4
129	Fanny Haddock	Conference Pies	312	203	4	10	2
130	Ben Greenwood	NZ Pies	310	190	2	6	2
131	John Crossdale	Promotion	310	186	6	17	5
132	Steve Hill	FC 51	310	178	4	16	3
133	Jeremy Putman	Jezza's Magpies	310	136	5	11	3
134	Richard Taylor	Ideal Pies	310	122	5	16	4
135	Chris Hopkins	Chris' Pies	308	235	5	13	4
136	Helen Lee	Helen's Heroes	308	147	5	14	3
137	Sam Bowles	FC Nuthouse	307	190	3	12	3
138	Kim Welby	Magpie Chix 1	307	134	6	17	4
139	Lauren Webster	Smashing FC	305	138	4	11	5
140	Adrian Swan	Portion of Peas	305	56	4	10	3
141	Joe Ashurst	Delboy FC	304	138	5	14	3
142	Duncan Gething	Logans Three	303	238	3	14	2
143	Nicki Gill	The N-uu Pies	303	170	6	14	5
144	Mick Hyde	Mickpies	303	101	5	10	4
145	Robert Robotham	McPieland's Marvels	299	172	4	15	3
146	Daniel Ellis	Trigger FC	296	111	5	17	3
147	Sarah Pritchard	Football Widow	296	38	6	18	4
148	Sally Brealey	Borrower FC	294	219	4	10	3
149	Jay Rich	Magpie 1862	294	111	5	11	3
150	Jean Webster	Team Handsome	293	87	4	11	4
151	John Fells	Odd Eyes FC	292	117	5	16	4
152	Erin Harby	Extremely Erin	291	161	4	10	2
153	Joshua Hargreaves	Josh's Piez	282	128	5	17	3
154	Susan Fells	Pucker Pies	280	186	4	11	2
155	Paul Chance	Chanceypies	275	174	5	14	3
156	G and J Lee	Mischievous Magpies	271	111	5	17	4
157	Sarah Taylor	Skate Pies	270	177	4	11	2
158	Stuart Burgan	Vigour	267	125	5	15	5
159	Roxy Carter	Rox County	267	111	2	10	2
160	Andrew Bowler	HIM	265	94	4	10	3
161	Thomas Curson	7303 Utd	256	50	5	11	2
162	Bethan Ricketts	Hicking Heroes	242	112	4	11	3
163	Cameron Stewart	Cam's Champs	236	68	4	11	2
164	Trenty	SOS FC	225	155	4	10	3

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FARAWAY FANS



Glenn Coulthard

Manchester
82 miles

Faraway fan Glenn Coulthard is a man on a mission to convert everyone he meets to our way of thinking. Not only has he successfully introduced his wife Claire to Meadow Lane, he also makes it clear to everyone he sees that we are the only team to follow.

Said Glenn: "I am proud of the fact that I am a supporter and I have a mission to inform everyone that meets me about Notts County.

"There are so many friends and colleagues in the North West that now look for our results on a Saturday because of me."

The 34-year old electrical consulting engineer moved to the Manchester area in 1997 to live with Claire. Now married, the couple go to every home match and all away games within a two-hour drive of Manchester.

Glenn's love of all things black and white began in 1990 when his dad took him to see our Play-off victory over Tranmere - and he's been hooked ever since.

He added: "The atmosphere outside the



stadium and the whole excitement of the day is still vivid in my mind. The chant of 'I had a wheelbarrow' ringing around Wembley was fantastic."

He introduced Claire, a veterinary nurse, to Meadow Lane soon after they met and she now accompanies him to most of our games. It must be a labour of love however, as Glenn admitted she has become a 'reluctant' fan only because of her husband's obsession.

It's not all bad news for Claire though as they always watch matches at Meadow Lane in style. She was so impressed with the extra comfort of the seats in the executive box that Glenn bit the bullet and upgraded their season tickets to the Vice President's Club.

Together they have fond memories of their first away game which was at Stockport in August 2002. Glenn added: "All of our fans kept looking up every few minutes to see the planes which came in to land at Manchester Airport. They flew so low over the ground."

Disappointingly for Glenn, who buys home and away shirts every season, he is yet to convince Claire to own any replica kit - although she does regularly steal his NCFC fleeces.

His favourite player is Tommy Johnson, who he regards as the best striker to have played for us in the time that he has been a fan.

He always looks forward to us meeting Carlisle, as his dad is an avid supporter of the Cumbrians and the family can get together for some friendly rivalry.

"It's great for the family to have a meal before the game, exchange some banter and then sit in opposite ends of the ground," he said.

"It's also funny to see the looks we get when my parents, clad in Carlisle shirts, get into my car with a huge Notts County flag in the back window."

OUR SEARCH FOR THE MOST FARAWAY FAN

Leading contenders so far:

	Name	Location	Distance
1	Julian Jarrett	Adelaide, Australia	10,108 miles
2	John Smalley	Manila, Philippines	6,790 miles
3	Daniel Baker	Connecticut, USA	3,300 miles
4	Michael Baraniak	San Fulgencio, Alicante	1,010 miles
5	Tony Martin	Dundee, Scotland	362 miles

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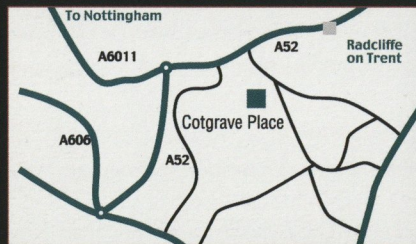
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COLIN SLATER



Colin Slater re-lives some of his visits to opposition territory and recalls some of the fascinating football characters he's met along the way.

Whereas it hasn't always been an unalloyed pleasure to visit Luton Town it was, happily, different when Notts went there in August.

The reason was that an old professional colleague of mine had just taken over the daunting challenge as chairman, thereby confirming his lifelong devotion as a Luton supporter.

A lounge at the club was named after him quite a while ago, while another part of the ground honours Eric Morecambe as surely the club's most famous director and fan.

Nick Owen is, I suspect, still best known - at least outside Luton - as a BBC TV presenter and remembered by millions for the four years between 1992 and 1996 when he was one half of the duo who, at breakfast time, presented "Good Morning with Anne and Nick."

The Anne in question is Anne Diamond and the pair have also been associated with other television programmes.

Now Nick finds himself in the Luton chair that was always hot, and made even hotter when the Football League and FA combined last summer to dock the club 30 points. A 10 point haul was taken off for so-called transfer misdealings, and a further 20 removed for failing to meet stringent rules on coming out of Administration.

From the off it's made Luton favourites to be relegated to the Conference on the basis that bridging 30 points was, in the view of many, unachievable.

Considering that, Nick was remarkably

chipper when we met at Kenilworth Road on the third day of the season. He had reason to be so.

Having lost their opening League game at home to Port Vale, Luton had then beaten Plymouth in the Carling Cup and won away at Gillingham in the League. Given the unpromising circumstances it was an encouraging start.

Nick and I hadn't met for a few years.



Hatters' chairman
Nick Owen

Our last encounter was during the benefit season of Andy Pick, the Notts cricketer, whose wife organised a Ladies' Lunch at which he was the guest speaker and I was the MC. He told some fascinating stories about personalities and events from behind the television screen.

Why, you may wonder, has Luton not usually been one of my favourite football destinations? Two reasons will suffice. One is that car parking is inadequate and, more seriously, the media view is impaired by substantial stanchions in front of the main stand.

The Hatters have also achieved notoriety over the years that presumably they would be happier to forget.

Remember how they were among the pioneers of plastic pitches? Also, does anyone recall how a game against Millwall at Kenilworth Road was abandoned after 14 minutes because of scenes of shocking violence?

Local MP David Evans reacted furiously by proposing a membership scheme to ban away fans altogether, to the fury of supporters everywhere.

It's all a far cry from Luton's circumstances half a century ago. In just seven weeks it will be 50 years to the day since they lost 2-1 to Forest in the FA Cup Final.


Relegation from the League could sadly be confirmed on the very same day, May 2, when their season ends at Brentford, who themselves could be celebrating promotion to League One.



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IAN McPARLAND



Full kit: Pete Dennis

Bt: David Harby Harrbottle
Sk: David Harby Harrbottle

DAVE KEVAN



Hm: The Pie
Aw: still available
Tr: still available
Bt: Paul Puss McGrath
Sk: Paul Puss McGrath

TOMMY JOHNSON



Hm: still available
Aw: still available
Tr: John Ross
Bt: Jackie Hollowell
Sk: Emily LeMottee

PAUL SMITH




Hm: Paul Hawksworth
Aw: Jon Pashley
Tr: Geoff Moss
Bt: Ben Hawksworth
Sk: Josh Pashley

1 RUSSELL HOULT



Gl: NCFE Fans United



1 RUSSELL HOULT



Full kit: The Oldroyd Family

Bt: Steve LeMotte
Sk: Steve LeMotte

4 MIKE EDWARDS



Hm: Jean Webster
Aw: still available
Tr: David Richmond
Bt: Etherington Family
Sk: Etherington Family

5 ADAM TANN



Full kit: Andrew Bramley Ltd.



Bt: Libby Mae Jarman
Socks: Teagan Golland-Wileman

6 MICHAEL JOHNSON



Full kit: Graphic Reproductions

Bt: Jacob Gunton
Sk: Hannah Etherington

7 MATT HAMSHAW




Full kit: The Kerry Family

Bt: Lorraine Walster
Sk: Max Etherington

9 JAMIE FORRESTER



Full kit: Luminous Frog



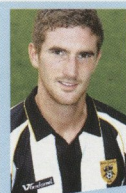
Bt: Jack Todd
Sk: Jack Todd

11 MYLES WESTON



Hm: Mark Odell
Aw: still available
Tr: Adrian & Jennifer Etherington
Bt: Harry Nagington
Sk: Conner Nagington

12 KEVIN PILKINGTON



Hm: Jean & Ray Webster
Aw: still available
Tr: John Ross
Bt: James Taylor
Sk: Daniel Taylor

14 SEAN CANHAM



Full kit: still available
Hm: still available
Aw: still available
Tr: still available
Bt: John Hartley
Sk: Isbell Family

15 GAVIN STRACHAN



Hm: still available
Aw: still available
Tr: John Ross
Bt: Kim Walster
Sk: Alice & Louis Isbell

16 BEN FAIRCLOUGH



Hm: A Newton Building Services Ltd.
Aw: still available
Tr: still available
Bt: Joshua Wilson
Sk: Irene, Susan & Alice Isbell

17 JAMIE CLAPHAM



Hm: Jackie Davenport
Aw: still available
Tr: Kerstin Fletcher
Bt: Jamie Edwards
Sk: Jamie Edwards

18 STEPHEN HUNT



Hm: still available
Aw: still available
Tr: Alan Dunnett
Bt: Phoebe Gunton
Sk: Ethan Etherington

20 JOHN THOMPSON



Hm: Ms Dutchess
Aw: Ricky & Tina Rayiru
Tr: Ms Dutchess
Bt: Lydia Amanda Kristensen
Sk: Joseph Waplington

22 DELROY FACEY



Hm: Richard & Ben Glover
Aw: still available
Tr: In memory of Martin Hickey
Bt: Robert & Louis Isbell
Sk: Ben Maliszewski

23 RICHARD BUTCHER



Hm: still available
Aw: still available
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Sk: Thomas Waplington

25 ADAM NOWLAND

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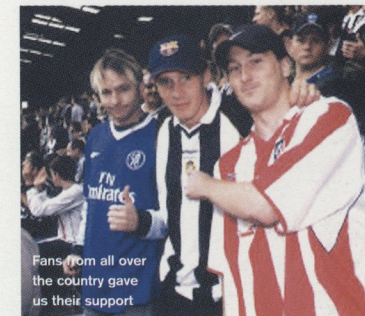
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SURVIVAL FIGHT

We welcome all 'Trust in Luton' members and other Luton fans to the game today and wish them well as their club fights for survival. No Notts fan present at Meadow Lane on September 3, 2003 for our last home League game against Luton will ever forget what looked increasingly likely to be our last League game. Looking at the familiar surroundings and wondering whether we would ever see them again was an experience we fervently hope never to repeat. Fans appeared from all over the country to show their support in our time of need and to throw coins into the clanking buckets. Forest's David Johnson even appeared on the pitch to wish us luck and to make a £500 donation there and then, a gesture that will always be remembered by Notts fans.

Luton fans were particularly supportive as they were facing ownership problems of their own, and were also in Administration, although they were not waiting an imminent Football League decision on their future. One prospective buyer was to promise a stadium built on stilts over the M1, complete with Formula 1 track and multi sports facilities! They were busy starting their Supporters' Trust - 'Trust in Luton'

- soon after we were setting up our own. In November 2007, Luton's third Administration since 1999 earned them a 10-point deduction - as is now regulation - which contributed to their relegation from Division 1. The deduction of 20 more points for failing to reach a Company Voluntary Arrangement with creditors, which the Football League has demanded since Leicester used the Administration process to their advantage in 2002, and a further 10 point deduction by the Football Association for irregular payments to agents, meant that they started this season on -30, a mountain to climb indeed. It is this FA imposed 10 point deduction which has most aggrieved Luton fans. As the Chairman of the Trust in Luton



said at the time: "While the FA are right to try to protect the game against this type of behaviour, this particular decision is a massive kick in the teeth to Luton supporters and, we believe, hugely disproportionate to the offences that were found to have been committed. "Even the FA categorically stated on June 4, that no evidence of bungs or backhanders was found. We can only conclude that LTFC - and by extension its supporters - have been punished for technical offences that were carried out by people no longer at the club.

"It is easy to see why our members and the wider fan base are saying 'one rule for some, one rule for others', when last year West Ham were not deducted points for a serious breach of FA rules.

"Indeed the panel hearing for that case said that to deduct points would have been 'unfair on supporters' at that stage of the season. Are we to conclude that during the close season, considerations of supporters are not important?"



NOTTS COUNTY SUPPORTERS' TRUST BOARD AND CONTACT DETAILS:

Glenn Rolley (Trust Chair): chair@nottscotrust.org.uk Nigel King (Vice-Chair and Administration): vice-chair@nottscotrust.org.uk
Eric Kerry (Supporter Director): supporter-director@nottscotrust.org.uk John Collin (Secretary): secretary@nottscotrust.org.uk
Margaret Cobb (Public Relations): publicity@nottscotrust.org.uk Steve Thompson (Fundraising): fundraising@nottscotrust.org.uk
Paul Gibbs (Community): community@nottscotrust.org.uk Peter Dennis (Treasurer): treasurer@nottscotrust.org.uk
Trevor Woolley (Membership): membership@nottscotrust.org.uk Cheryl Thompson (Membership Deputy): membership@nottscotrust.org.uk
John Armstrong-Holmes (Supporter Director and NCFE Chairman): supporter-director@nottscotrust.org.uk
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Emma Trent shows off the rowing machines, a major activity in our 'Active Schools' scheme



ACTIVE SCHOOLS SCHEME DELIVERED CITY WIDE

Our 'Active Schools' scheme, which was initially planned to be delivered to 18 city based primary and junior schools, has proved extremely popular over the past five months. Started last September, its initial success at the educational institutions we visited has paved the way for us to extend the project further. And following the submission of an application to Nottingham City NHS, we have been successful in gaining funding to propel the project to all 72 schools in the city. It means we will be attending no less than 25 schools every week and Activity Development Manager Emma Trent, who

was responsible for designing the scheme of work for the project, was delighted by the proposed expansion. She said: "Its a fantastic opportunity to increase children's awareness of the importance of living a healthy and active lifestyle and by teaching them the various ways they can do this. "The expansion of the project allows us to reach thousands of children across the city." The extended programme will utilise indoor rowing machines supplied by Nottingham's Concept 2, and with additional schools now expecting a visit, many more machines will be required -

often being left with the schools for the 10 week duration of the programme. 'Active Schools' has already been run in six schools and early feedback has been positive. It has shown that more than 80 per cent of the children improved their fitness levels over the course of the programme, while 90 per cent showed an interest in continuing rowing in their spare time. Other results from the activity sessions indicated the improvement of children's self esteem. Almost 80 per cent involved said they were more confident to try new things after taking part in the programme.



AFTER SCHOOL SESSIONS RETURN

With the winter months behind us and the nights staying lighter for longer, our after school sessions will soon be up and running again soon. All the 'Active School' sessions include an after school club for a maximum of 30 children to attend, but the majority of these have taken a break since October. As we enter Spring, delivery of these clubs will be getting underway again at a couple of our old favourites, Lovell House and St Edmund Campion. A couple of sessions are delivered at

Lovell every Friday, the first working with five and six-year-olds, before providing a more structured coaching session to the Nottingham High Junior school pupils. Campion is an establishment we have been working closely with for more than six years. Over that time we have built up an excellent relationship with both staff and pupils at the West Bridgford based school, delivering sessions to them every Wednesday. Working with five age groups, starting with reception children as young as four,



After school coaching in full swing

the sessions are full of fun activities, often involving our coaches being taught the children's favourite games. Football activities are also run with students in Year 1 through to Year 4, and the after school sessions with both these schools will run until the summer holidays.



Springwood Dat Centre on tour at Meadow Lane

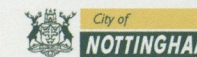
MORE DISABILITY COACHING ON THE WAY

Football coaching with disabled footballers across the county has recently been given the green light. It means for the next 20 weeks we will be attending Nethergate Special School in Clifton, as well as running a six-week course with Springwood Dat Centre at Southglade Leisure Centre. We are no strangers to Springwood students though, having worked with them on various projects in the past and

welcomed them on a guided tour of Meadow Lane last year. Our staff have also been putting on coaching sessions to a group of men with mental health problems at the Wells Road Centre in St Anns. On the back of our 'On the Ball' project, we have been visiting and delivering sessions to both these institutions and look forward to doing so for the foreseeable future.

CALLING ALL COACHES

Due to the expansion of a number of our programmes, the Football in the Community team is looking to add some qualified coaches to its ranks. The successful candidates will be responsible for assisting and leading coaching activities on all our various projects and must currently hold a 'first 4 Sports' Level 2 Coaching Football Certificate. Experience of working with and coaching young people, including youngsters with physical impairments and learning disabilities, would also be an advantage. Candidates must have excellent planning, organisational and communication skills. For further information about how to apply, contact Community Director Steve Hill on 0115 9557 215.



Mothers Day

at

Meadow Lane

Sunday 22nd March 2009

3 Course Carvery Lunch,
in the
County Suite Restaurant
here at
Notts County Football Club

Adults—£15.95 per person
Children 10 years & under—£8.00

All Mothers will receive a gift

To make your reservation contact Pat Worthington on
0115 9557222 or e-mail patworthington@nottscountyfc.co.uk



Matt Hamshaw is our inside man as we reveal the secrets from the dressing room...

YOU TAKE THE HIGH ROAD...

I've made a mental note not to ever get a lift from John Thompson having seen how good his sense of direction is at Macclesfield recently.

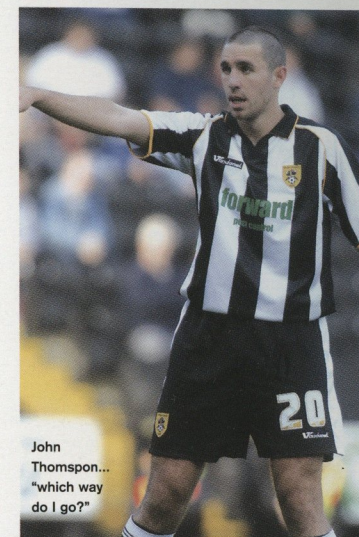
We were just finishing our warm-up when he decided to head inside early for a visit to the toilet. Unfortunately, he didn't realise that Moss Rose has two tunnels - one on halfway and one roughly in line with one of the penalty areas - and went jogging down the wrong one.

Of course, Thommo is more used to playing in glamorous surroundings like the Madejski Stadium or the Stadium of Light, but we still found it difficult to believe he'd managed to lose his way. He must have ended up using the toilets for the cleaners, because by the time he reappeared in the dressing room looking a bit sheepish we had already started the pre-match team talk.

We all did our best to keep a straight face while he sat down. I doubt that any giggling would have gone down too well with the gaffer at that stage.

JOHNNO THE GAFFER

I don't know what it is with Michael Johnson but perhaps he's taking his future responsibilities as youth team manager too seriously.



John Thompson...
"which way do I go?"



Michael Johnson gets some advice from the real gaffer

I sometimes sit with him on the coach for away matches and he always has an incredible amount of paperwork, files and folders spread out over the table. I always feel like I'm his personal assistant and should be taking all his phone calls. Johnno has also been mastering his management speak with the Under-16s, as we've noticed how he always stresses to us that those matches are all about improving player performance, rather than the actual result. We've come to interpret that as meaning they've been stuffed by the opposition, particularly when he came bouncing in recently and proudly announced how they'd done well against Forest. Now that must have been a good performance by his players...

SWEET TEETH

We can be a superstitious bunch and our recent run of good results at home has prompted us to follow a new routine on the Fridays before each game. The normal volunteers for driving to training have started taking it in turns to bring cakes as a Friday treat. It was all working out nicely until it came around to Gavin Strachan's turn. He didn't deliver the goods because he said he was too busy - so he's got the blame for the Darlington defeat.



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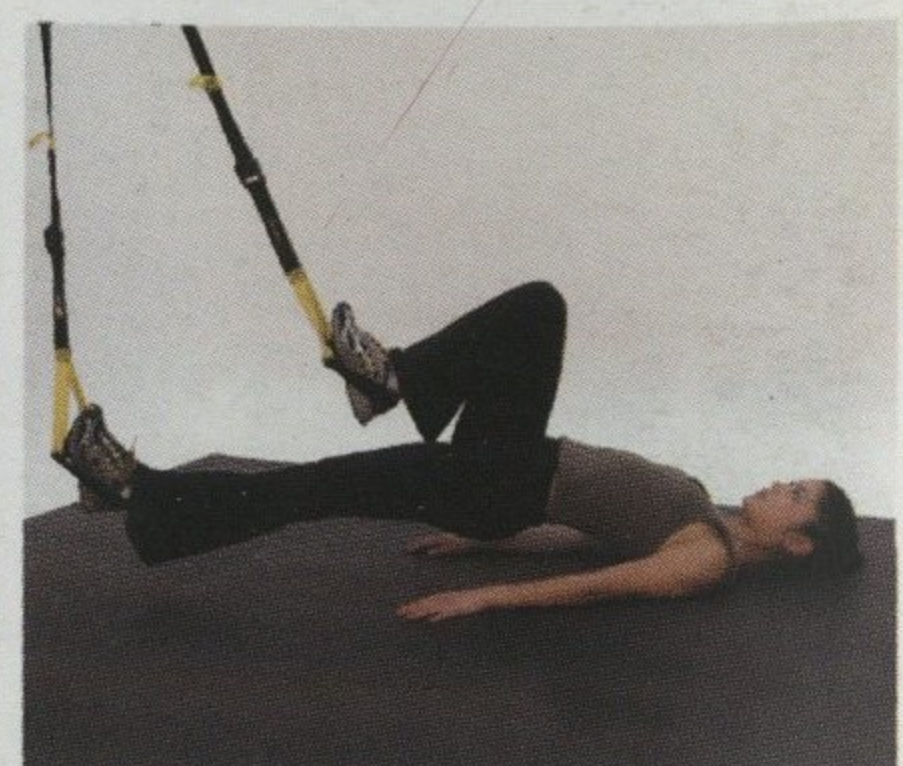
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Developed in the Navy SEALs, the TRX is the original bodyweight-based Suspension Training™ station that will give you more functional training capabilities than any other single piece of equipment—regardless of price. Top trainers and group instructors agree that the TRX Suspension Trainer™ is the revolutionary bodyweight training system that is challenging, fun and will deliver results.

ULTIMATE PERSONAL TRAINING TOOL

Perfect for clients of all levels. 250+ strength, balance and flexibility exercises with resistance from 0% to 100% of your bodyweight.

BUILD FUNCTIONAL STRENGTH

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Use our fitness guides, online training and instructor specialty courses to maximize your benefits.

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The Pinnacle of Functional Training: Bodyweight training is being recognized as the ultimate form of functional fitness. However, until now it has been difficult to adjust resistance and vary body position sufficiently to train the entire body and avoid creating muscular imbalances.

Breakthrough System: The TRX combines variable-resistance bodyweight training for every part of the body and is suitable for all user levels. It adds elements of instability that demand greater joint stabilization and a capacity to work across multiple planes, all in a single station.

Loaded Instability™ – All Core, All the Time: The foundation of peak physical condition is a strong, stable core that delivers power and stability whenever you need it. From performance coaching to Pilates, TRX training employs multi-joint integration across all three planes of movement.

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