

# BARROW AFC

H E B L U E B I R D S

The Official Programme 2009/10 £2.50



**BLUE SQUARE  
PREMIER** 

versus **LUTON TOWN**

Blue Square Premier

Saturday, 6 February, 2010 – kick-off 3.00pm

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## FROM THE BENCH

Every match is important but today's visit by Luton has to be looked on as a very, very big game. We all know it wasn't on-the-field events that saw them lose their Football League place and you can be sure they are determined to climb back as quickly as possible.

But we know what our players can do. We know how well we can perform and we need to show that we have no trouble matching teams in the top eight in the table.

I am so frustrated that we have to go to Gateshead next week for an FA Trophy replay. We should have finished them off on Tuesday. We are already facing 22 games in the last three months of the season. That is asking a lot of the players.

We had the better chances, put good balls into good areas and hit the post in the first half. Then we gifted them a goal and they came into the game.

It was horrendous defending. It is worrying when we cannot deal with one simple ball down the centre of the pitch. Then we couldn't deal with a header – and then to compound it all we gave them a free header at a corner.

From 1-0 up and never being in danger, we were on level terms. It was so frustrating for me and Shez. Players must be prepared to be strong and mentally tough. If we cannot show an ability to see a game through, then we will change the personnel.

I was pleased with the way Luke Powell performed on his debut. It was probably not the ideal time to blood an 18 year old but he did what we wanted. He is raw but we know we can work on one of two pieces of his game.

I am a little disappointed we were not able to land Marc Goodfellow for the rest of the season after his time on loan with us. He said he loved it at Barrow and everything seemed sorted but things broke down at the last minute and he joined Kidderminster. Location wise, it is probably better for him at this time but it's a move I wouldn't rule out in the future.

However on Tuesday our present wingers showed they can do a job for us. They did all we asked of them. And there will be more to come from Simon Wiles because the recent bad weather has not allowed him the game time that he needs to get fit and be in full flow. However he has shown already that he knows how to put balls in to the box.

Thanks for your support. Another big helping today, please. And do all you can to bring a mate to our next game because we need to see our attendance figures climbing.

DAVE BAYLISS



### WATCH IT IN THE CROSSBAR

All the big game are shown on the TV screens in the Crossbar on match days. Before our game next Saturday with Kettering Town, you will be able to see the Championship clash between Swansea and Newcastle (kick-off 12.45pm).

## BARROW AFC LTD

(Founded 1901)



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# HOLKER STREET REVIEW

A warm welcome to Holker Street this afternoon for our first Blue Square Premier home game of 2010.

Our visitors are Luton Town and I am sure that when the fixture list came out last summer, this is a game that many fans put down as one to watch.

The Hatters were relegated from League Two at the end of last season simply because they had to deal with a 30 point deduction as a result of their financial challenges and they became the first club relegated from the Football League to win the Johnstone's Paint Trophy with an outstanding win at Wembley over Scunthorpe United, who are now in the Championship.

The club are now managed by former player Richard Money and he has used the transfer window to boost his squad. They, like us, reached the FA Cup Third Round this season but now their goal is promotion – they could still win the title but it is

more likely they will reach the play-offs.

Their win at Histon ten days ago was evidence that the re-shaped team is growing in strength and confidence.

You can read elsewhere in the programme of a previous visit by the Hatters to Holker Street when both clubs were in the Football League.

## No Reebok trip

Our visit to Haig Avenue for the United Co-operative Trophy quarter-final tie against Southport was certainly eventful. With several players deemed ineligible, we perhaps fielded a team different to what the managers might have liked but the team worked hard and on the night were perhaps a little unlucky not to win the game.

Our goals came from Carlos Logan and Gregg Blundell – both netting their third goals of the season.

In some ways the biggest talking point was the attendance

–with both ourselves and the home side, lying second in Blue Square North, fielding strong teams just 107 fans turned out to watch.

I think that goes to emphasise the difficulties all clubs outside the Premiership now have in trying to entice fans to watch live games on winter mid-week evenings.

## Tommo joins club

One of the more unusual aspects of the game at Haig Avenue was the sight of goalkeeper Stuart Tomlinson coming on in the second half as an outfield substitute and playing in a striking role for the remainder of normal time and all of extra time.

Actually his appearance is not as unusual as you might think as since losing our League place in 1972 three other goalkeepers have found themselves either starting games or coming on as a substitute in an outfield role.

In the FA Trophy against Durham City at Holker Street in

November 1978, local goalkeeper Lionel Duffin came on as an outfield substitute for the second half of the game as not all the players based in the Fylde area had made it to Holker Street because of atrocious weather. We won the game 2-1 and, ironically, it was Lionel's last appearance in a Barrow first team shirt.

In 1984-85 we played in a pre-season competition called the Cambrian Cup – we had won the competition the two previous seasons and reached the final again, this time against Horwich RMI at Grundy Hill just four days before the season started.

We lost the game on penalties and local goalkeeper Kevin Brockbank was fielded in attack with Colin Cowperthwaite.

The 1993-94 season saw goalkeeper Ian Senior make not one but two outfield appearances in attack. The first came in the ATS Trophy first round (now the United Co-operative Trophy) against Blackpool Mechanics

away from home. We had lost an FA Trophy replay at Emley 48 hours earlier and a shortage of players saw Darren Hoyland keep goal and Ian perform passably well up front. He also made a substitute appearance for the final 20 minutes in a league game at Emley towards the end of that season.

## Re-arranged games

Confirmation of dates for two of our outstanding away games.

On Tuesday, March 23, we will travel to Kingsmeadow to play AFC Wimbledon

On Tuesday, April 13, we will be on the road to Aggborough to play Kidderminster Harriers.

## On the road

On Tuesday night we should have been heading across the Pennines to KitKat Crescent to play York City and renew our friendship with Richard Brodie, whose career was revived when with us on loan last season. Richard is currently on 24 goals

for the season and is going great guns.

But that date will have to be put on ice as, instead, we make the trek to the North-east for our FA Carlsberg Trophy third round replay with Gateshead. Ironically, the quarter-final reward will be a home tie against York.

There has been little to separate us and Heed in our two meetings this season.

We were always chasing things when they came to Holker Street on Boxing Day for the Blue Square Premier meeting. It was a 3-3 cracker and we had to thank Marc Goodfellow, Andy Bond and Gregg Blundell for the goals that gave us a point.

The boot was on the other foot in the Trophy last Tuesday when Bondy gave us the lead from the penalty spot and then Gateshead went chasing after the equaliser.

It could have been so different had Carlos Logan's curling shot found the net instead of clipping the crossbar.

by Phil Yelland

This winter has not been at all helpful to football clubs this season and, hopefully, we will not have a repeat of last Saturday and today's game goes ahead as planned. On that note we welcome to Holker Street, the chairman, directors, management, players and supporters of Luton Town for their first visit here since our Football League days.

Last week Luton were very surprisingly beaten at home by Ebbsfleet United and they will want to bounce back in style today. We usually put in our best performances against the better teams in this league, and with a big crowd anticipated, and a fair few travelling fans, there should be a great atmosphere.

Cashflow has been a nightmare for all clubs this winter and if, indeed, we do play today it will be our first home league fixture since Boxing Day - yes some six weeks ago!

We have been fortunate in that our FA Cup run brought in some useful funds. Without those we would have been like most clubs, struggling to pay wages and bills with no income.

Following our FA Carlsberg Trophy draw with Gateshead we travel next Tuesday for the replay and that sets problems as we already had a full Saturday and midweek schedule for the rest of the season.

But that won't stop us wanting to win the replay and have a home quarter-final match with last season's Trophy runners up York City.

The glut of games means that we have a number of home matches very close to each other and we hope that our supporters can turn out in force to all the games and give the club a much needed cash injection.

You will probably have noticed that all Setanta's TV gantries have been removed and that the car park created on the Popular Side has been finished. What a huge parking area has been created. It has helped tidy up an area of the ground often neglected.

The club is having a feasibility study of the ground undertaken by an outside company over the coming weeks, after a very favourable initial conversation.

There are some very exciting developments which could be possible should the feasibility study be positive - but as yet they remain confidential.

We do understand that some of the toilet facilities at our ground are out of date and we will be looking as soon as possible to improve these. In the short term we will be making the toilets on the area behind the goal, Cross Bar end, operable in the very near future which will help the problems on the Popular Side.

We often forget to thank a group of "volunteers" without whom matches at Holker Street could not take place. Our Safety Officer Mike Forsythe and his stewards do a great job on match days, sometimes a thankless task, and in all weathers. Thank you all.

Finally, the improving Cross Bar is a great place to hold a function and can cater for parties and sportsman's dinners etc. Speak to our general manager Martin Lewis or Suzanne Hutton for further details

Enjoy the game. Make some noise. See you all again next week.

**Neil Chalker**

*Director,*

*On behalf of the Board of Barrow AFC*



Luton Town Football Club was formed on April 11, 1885 with the merger of two local clubs, Wanderers and Excelsior. With a strong committee behind them, the club began to attract stronger opposition, better players and more spectators, such as the growth in industry in Luton at the time.

The foresighted decision to pay three players was taken in 1890 with the remainder being included the following year. Because of this expense friendly matches were not enough to keep finances straight and an invitation to become a founder member of the Southern League in 1894 was grabbed with both hands.

Their initial bid for election to the Football League failed and a season had to be spent in the United League before they were accepted into Football League Division Two in 1897.

It was a predominantly northern based competition with the subsequent high cost of travel gradually becoming a burden. After three years of increasing struggle the club took the decision to rejoin a, now much stronger, Southern League.

After hostilities ceased, the Southern League, en bloc, was asked to form a new Division Three of the Football League and Town then enjoyed 17 seasons at this level.

With the population growth of the town and surrounding area, the board, in the mid-1930s, decided to make a concerted bid to achieve a higher status. Players were brought in to help achieve this objective and in 1936 when they finished runners-up to Coventry in the days when only one side was promoted. The next season promotion was secured.

Over Easter 1939, good results forced the team into the promotion positions but a draw and two defeats from the final three games meant they missed out. Unfortunately, no one will ever know how far this squad could have progressed as in September 1939, with the Town sitting proudly at the top of the table, war broke out.

After a seven-year break, it was back to a few seasons of mid-table mediocrity until, in 1954/55 a Division One spot came when Town clinching the runners-up spot on goal average.

They swept all before them early in the following season, beating Newcastle, Blackpool, Wolves and league leaders Sunderland in quick succession. They finished eighth in 1957/58 and early the following campaign actually hit top spot before dropping back to mid-table.

The Hatters had never progressed beyond the quarter-finals in the FA Cup but, in 1958/59 the Wembley band wagon took off as the Town fought their way past Leeds, Leicester, Ipswich and Blackpool before seeing off Norwich in the semi-final. The final itself was a massive disappointment compared to the run up, with Town not performing on the day, leaving ten man Nottingham Forest to win comfortably 2-1.

From that moment, the Hatters' fortunes went into a steady decline. They sank to Division Three at the end of 1962/63 and only six years from their FA Cup Final appearance, they slumped to the football basement of Division Four in 1965 amidst apathy and crowds of less than 3,000.

Gradually things improved with manager Allan Brown's enthusiasm and astute playing of the transfer market. They went to the top of the

table in February 1968, never looked back and walked away with the title.

The Hatters seemed capable of walking through Division Two back to a top flight they had left in 1960, but the March 1970 announcement of the collapse of directors Reggie Burr and Tony Hunt's Vehicle and General business reverberated around the corridors at Kenilworth Road for some time and made the club sellers rather than buyers.

In 1973/74 promotion from a very average Division Two was achieved and new manager David Pleat led a return to Division One in 1981.

Pleat found the call of Tottenham too great and he departed amid much acrimony. His replacement, John Moore, led Town to seventh in Division One of seventh in 1986/87. But they sank back down in 1992 and did not find life much easier at the new level and in 95/96 the loss of talismanic goalscorer, Dwight Marshall, with a broken ankle, knocked the stuffing out of the side with relegation the inevitable consequence.

On April 12, 2005, the club celebrated gaining a place in the Championship after 10 years in the bottom two divisions of the Football League. However, the success of the team was always under scrutiny from rival managers and it wasn't long before the club was receiving substantial bids for the team's top performers. A £3m bid from West Bromwich Albion for centre-back Curtis Davies was too good to turn down.

Season 2006-2007 was largely dominated by the Hatters' off-the-field problems beginning with manager Mike Newell blowing the whistle on underhand transfer activity that he knew of within the game. The Hatters then went on to equal their all time record of eight consecutive defeats and relegation was confirmed.

Kevin Blackwell signed eight players during the summer of 2007 in preparation for a tilt at promotion.

But form began to tail off and worse news followed when the club were deducted 10 points for falling into administration in November and the New Year saw the beginning of player sales which affected the team's performances. Town lost their final six matches and were relegated to League 2.

With the new owners - a consortium headed by famous Hatters fan and TV presenters Nick Owen - set to take full control of the club in the summer the only problem the Hatters prepared themselves for was beginning their League 2 campaign with 15 points deducted for failure to agree to a Company Voluntary Agreement.

However the Football League decided that because the club had been in administration for the third time in nine years, they would punish them by deducting a further five points.

Worse news followed. The club were still being investigated by the Football Association for the past financial irregularities made public during Mike Newell's time at the club two years previously and as a result the club had a further 10 points docked by the FA which meant the club had to start the season with an incredible 30 point penalty.

The burden of the points deductions proved too much to shoulder and relegation out of the Football League came, meaning the club starting life in the Blue Square Premier this season after 89 years in the Football League.

**MARK TYLER** (Goalkeeper)

Signed two-year contract in June following release from Peterborough. Made 483 appearances in 15 years at London Road and rewarded with testimonial against Liverpool in 2007. After falling down pecking order at Posh, was loaned out to Bury where he made 11 appearances. A former England Youth international.

**SHANE GORE** (Goalkeeper)

Former Wimbledon stopper arrived at Kenilworth Road on short-term deal on eve of this season. Came through ranks at Selhurst Park but made only one substitute appearance before leaving for Peterborough in 2003. Also had spells with Barnet and Stevenage and featured for Maidenhead United prior to joining Hatters.

**KEVIN PILKINGTON** (Goalkeeper)

Vastly experienced, signed on one month loan deal from Notts County.

**CLAUDE GNAKPA** (Defender)

Born Marseille, signed on free transfer in August 2008. Plied his trade across Europe with Montpellier HSC, Racing de Santander, Deportivo Alaves and FC Vaduz of Liechtenstein before moved to Swindon Town for a brief spell. In July 2007 joined Peterborough and was regular in League 2 promotion winning side.

**KEITH KEANE** (Defender)

Made debut as 16-year-old in November 2003 and had extended run in side, finishing season with 14 appearances, while still in first year of his scholarship. Regularly appeared for Republic of Ireland at schoolboy level. Joined Hatters at age of nine and made rapid progression through club's centre of excellence and youth teams.

**GEORGE PILKINGTON** (Defender)

Joined club on free transfer in August 2008. Began as an Everton trainee, joined Port Vale in June 2003, after loan spell at Exeter City. Started 223 League games for Valiants and named Player of Year twice.

**GEORGE BEAVAN** (Defender)

Spotted by former Youth team coach Marvin Johnson, who gave him a trial and soon became consistent member of Luton youth team in 2006/07. Promoted to Reserve team, then injuries and player sales saw him get unexpected debut against Bournemouth. Sent on loan to Salisbury City in 2008 and then Grays Athletic.

**LEWIS EMANUEL** (Defender)

Arrived at Kenilworth Road in summer of 2006 after leaving home town club Bradford City. Made over 150 appearances for Bradford in six years and in first season at Kenilworth Road made 40 appearances. Signed new contract in July.

**ED ASAFU-ADJAYE** (Defender)

Made significant progress through club's youth set-up. Sent on loan to Walton & Hersham and then Salisbury City where earned rave reviews and when Mick Harford arrived as Luton manager at one of first things he did was to recall the young defender. Made full debut in March 2008 against Crewe Alexandra.

**JAKE HOWELLS** (Defender)

Has come through ranks at Kenilworth Road and made first team debut as second half substitute in May 2008. After 36 appearances for Hatters in 2008/09 rewarded with professional contract in May.

**JANOS KOVACS** (Defender)

Giant Hungarian-born defender signed last month from Lincoln City where spent 18 months before placed on transfer list. A cult hero in Lincolnshire, he joined the Imps following successful two years with Chesterfield.

**SHANE BLACKETT** (Defender)

Luton-born, signed in summer from Peterborough United. Began career with Dunstable Town before switch to Arlesey Town where form alerted attentions of Dagenham & Redbridge who signed 6ft 3in defender in May 2004. Made 83 appearances at Victoria Road and helped Daggers win Conference and promotion to Football League in 2006/07. Snapped up by Peterborough in January 2007 and made 38 appearances for them.

**FREDDIE MURRAY** (Defender)

Joined Hatters on six-month loan deal from Blue Square Premier Grays Athletic in August 2009 and made permanent in January. Began as trainee with Blackburn Rovers and had time with Northampton Town, Stevenage Borough and Cambridge United.

**ADAM NEWTON** (Midfield)

Mick Harford's second summer signing following release from Brentford. Started career at West Ham United, coming through their respected academy, but only made three substitute appearances before signing for Peterborough in May 2002. Former England Under 21 international made name for himself with Posh making 249 appearances in six years and winning promotion in 2007/08. Signed by Brentford and helped them to League 2 title. A St Kitts and Nevis international, has spent time on-loan at Portsmouth, Notts County and Leyton Orient.

**ROSSI JARVIS** (Midfield)

Came through Norwich City youth system, being youngest player to appear for Reserve team at the tender age of 14. Went on loan to Torquay United and Rotherham United before joining Luton in August 2008 on free transfer.

**ASA HALL** (Midfield)

Began career in Wolverhampton Wanderers youth system, before signing first pro contract with Birmingham City in 2004 and was regular in Reserve team. Capped for England Under-

19s and Under-20s and had loan spells with Boston United, Ashford Town and Shrewsbury Town.

**KEVIN NICHOLLS** (Midfield)

Enjoyed six successful seasons at Kenilworth Road between 2001 and 2006, captaining side to League One title in 2004-2005. Began at Charlton Athletic, before moving to Wigan Athletic in 1999, (28 appearances) and then joined Luton in 2001 (175 appearances). Following Luton's successful first season in the Championship and spirited FA Cup performances, became player in demand and moved to Leeds United for £700,000 in July 2006 but very public fall-out with then boss Dennis Wise saw him fall down pecking order and he moved to Preston North End for £750,000. Change in management team at Preston saw opportunities limited so delighted to re-sign for Luton in August 2008.

**RYAN CHARLES** (Forward)

Been at Kenilworth Road since age of nine and worked way through ranks, scoring 29 goals in two seasons in Youth team and given first team debut as second half substitute at Southend, then scored on home debut against Oldham.

**TOM CRADDOCK** (Forward)

Did well at Youth and Reserve team levels with Middlesbrough and was eighth member of Boro's 2004 FA Youth Cup-winning side to progress to first team level. Joined Hatters on-loan from Riverside in October 2008 and once loan expired Mick Harford snapped him up on permanent basis in £80,000 deal and signed two-and-half year contract last January. Previously spent spells on loan with Wrexham and Hartlepool United.

**JORDAN PATRICK** (Forward)

Youngest ever player to feature for the Hatters, making his first team bow as substitute at Grimsby Town in October 2008 aged 16 years and seven days - and set up Tom Craddock for 90th minute equaliser. Is regular for Town's Under-18s.

**KEVIN GALLEN** (Forward)

A Shepherds Bush native, established himself as something of legend at QPR as notched up over 400 appearances and hit

97 goals in two spells spanning nearly 14 years. Joined Huddersfield in 2000 (30 starts, ten goals) and then joined Barnsley following summer but call of West London saw him return to QPR within few months. Scored nine goals in 16 League starts for MK Dons before joining Luton on loan and move made permanent in January 2009.

**LIAM HATCH** (Forward)

6ft 3in striker signed on season-long loan from Peterborough United in June 2009. Started career with Herne Bay before move to Gravesend & Northfleet in 2001 and then £17,500 deal took him to Barnet and he helped them to promotion to Football League with 11 league goals in 2004/05. Peterborough paid £150,000 for his services and he then had time on loan at Darlington during 2008/09.

**STEVE BASHAM** (Forward)

Joined Hatters on one-year deal in August following release from Exeter City. Began career with home-town club Southampton but only made one start. On loan to Wrexham and Preston North End and, following second successful spell at Deepdale, signed permanently for £200,000 in summer of 1999. After 61 appearances - and winning promotion with North End in 2000 - signed for Oxford United in August 2002 (43 goals in 139 League starts). In 2007 moved to Exeter City and helped Grecians win promotion back to Football League.

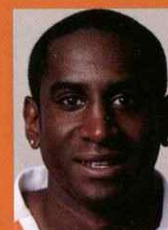
**MARK NWOKEJI** (Forward)

Signed on loan from League 2 outfit Dagenham & Redbridge.

**MATTHEW BARNES-HOMER** (Forward)

Joined Hatters initially on month's loan from Kidderminster Harriers and agreed two-and-a-half year contract to move permanently when the transfer window opened last month. Netted winner on debut for England C in 2-1 win over Poland in November. Trainee at Wolves and tried luck in United States before returning to have success with clutch of non-League sides before being signed by Wycombe Wanderers. form at Kidderminster has alerted number of Football League teams.

Some of the Luton Town squad are pictured below -



Adam Newton



Claude Gnakpa



Keith Keane



Kevin Nicholls



Rossi Jarvis



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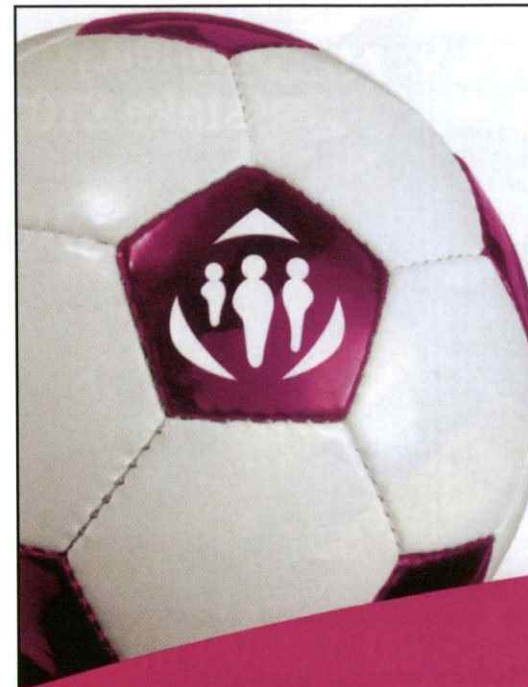
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## LUTON IN THE MONEY NOW...

Lowestoft-born Richard Money became the Hatters' 24th post-war permanent manager when he succeeded Mick Harford in October.

Dubbed "Dicky Dosh" by Walsall fans after he guided the Saddlers to the League 2 title in 2006/07, Richard played 49 times during his season-long stay at Kenilworth Road in 1982/83.

He scored once – in a 2-2 draw at Rotherham – and made his final appearance in a Luton shirt at Old Trafford as Luton went down 3-0 to Manchester United just days before the famous victory at Maine Road which kept Town in the top-flight.

Richard cut his managerial teeth at Scunthorpe United – who he also served as a player – before continuing his education overseas with two clubs in Sweden.

After a brief stint in Australia it was to the Bescot where he enjoyed his most successful spell before joining Newcastle United as academy director prior to returning to Bedfordshire.

**Alan Neilson** joined the Kenilworth Road staff in the summer of 2008 as youth team coach but was appointed first team coach alongside Kevin Watson in January 2009 and even had a spell as caretaker manager following the departure of Mick Harford on October 1.

Born in Wegburg, Germany, he was once a player with the Hatters when his experience and versatility made him a valuable member of their squad between 2002 and 2005 as he filled any role asked of him with dependable consistency.

The former Welsh international was signed from Grimsby in 2002 as part of a cost-cutting exercise.

His international career began with appearances for Wales at Youth and Under-21 level, followed by five full caps, and he enjoyed a good career in the Premiership with his first club Newcastle and then with Southampton and Fulham.

**Kevin Watson** originally signed for the Town on a free transfer in August 2008, after being released by

Colchester United, but only managed 11 appearances in the Luton first team before taking his first coaching role.

He started his career with Tottenham, making a handful of first team appearances and spending time on loan at Brentford, Bristol City and Barnet. In 1996 he moved to Swindon Town, where he helped assure their Division 1 status.

From the County Ground, he went on to spend three years with Rotherham United, where he made 109 appearances and captained the Millers to two successive promotions.

His influence was noted by then Reading manager Alan Pardew who took him to the Madejski Stadium for a £150,000, where he won yet another promotion. He then joined Colchester United where he started 132 League games and added a fourth promotion to his list of achievements.

## LUTON TOWN

# Six of the Best

Football historian **LEIGH EDWARDS** profiles six of the biggest names associated with Luton Town...

### BRUCE RIOCH

Influential midfielder Bruce Rioch was capped 24 times by Scotland after leaving Luton Town. Signing professional for Luton in September 1964, he starred in the 1967-68 Fourth Division title triumph and netted 46 goals in 149 League games prior to joining Aston Villa for £100,000 in July 1969. He was a key figure in their 1971-72 Third Division title success and moved to Derby County in February 1974, helping to win the League Championship in 1974-75. He played for Everton, Derby again and Torquay, since managing Middlesbrough, Millwall, Bolton Wanderers, Arsenal, Norwich City and Wigan Athletic.

### RICKY HILL

England international midfielder Ricky Hill was 'Player of the Year' when Luton Town won the Second Division title in 1981-82. Signing professional at Kenilworth Road in May 1976, he was 'Player of the Year' again in 1982-83 and starred as Luton were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984-85. He featured in two consecutive Littlewoods Cup finals including the 1988 Wembley triumph and netted 54 goals in 436 League games before moving to Le Havre in July 1989. Reuniting with David Pleat at Leicester City in August 1990 and later as a coach at Sheffield Wednesday and Spurs, he briefly rejoined Luton as manager.

### BRIAN STEIN

England international striker Brian Stein scored twice in Luton Town's 1988 Littlewoods Cup final triumph. Moving to Kenilworth Road from Edgware Town in October 1977, he was leading marksman in Luton's 1981-82 Second Division success and also starred as they were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984-85 and 1987-88. He joined French side Caen in July 1988 and moved via Annecy back to Luton in July 1991. Voted 'Player of the Year' for the second time in 1991-92, he netted 130 goals in 427 League games overall for the Hatters before joining Barnet in August 1992. His younger brother Mark also played for Luton.

### MICK HARFORD

England international striker Mick Harford played for Luton Town in consecutive Littlewoods Cup finals including the 1988 Wembley triumph. Signing professional for Lincoln City in July 1977, he had spells with Newcastle United, Bristol City and Birmingham City prior to joining Luton in December 1984. He starred as the Hatters were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984-85 and 1987-88, moving to Derby County in January 1990 and returning to Luton in September 1991. Joining Chelsea in August 1992, he then played for Sunderland, Coventry City and Wimbledon. He has since been coach and manager back at Luton.

### MALCOLM MACDONALD

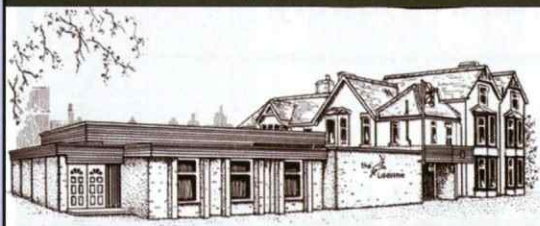
Ace marksman Malcolm Macdonald was capped 14 times by England after leaving Luton Town. Initially with Tonbridge, he joined Fulham in August 1968 and moved to Kenilworth Road in July 1969. He was Luton's top scorer in two consecutive seasons including the 1969-70 promotion success and netted 49 goals in 88 League games before being sold to Newcastle United for £180,000 in May 1971. An FA Cup finalist in 1974, he joined Arsenal for £333,000 in August 1976 and was an FA Cup finalist again in 1978 before injury ended his career. He managed Fulham and Huddersfield Town and has since worked in the media.

### PAUL WALSH

England international striker Paul Walsh was capped five times while at Luton Town. Signing professional for Charlton Athletic in October 1979, he starred in their 1980-81 promotion success and moved to Luton in July 1982. He was 'Player of the Year' in 1982-83 and leading marksman in 1983-84, netting 24 goals in 80 First Division games for the Hatters prior to joining Liverpool in May 1984. Helping to win the League Championship in 1985-86, he joined Tottenham Hotspur in February 1988 and was an FA Cup winner in 1991. Later with Portsmouth and Manchester City until injury ended his career, he is now a football agent.

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# the commercial SCENE



Good Afternoon

Welcome to Holker Street for what promises to be a mouth watering clash with Luton Town. I think at the start of the season all the smart money was on Luton to run away with the Blue Square Premier and make an immediate return to the Football League.

The fact that they currently sit in only eighth place shows just how competitive this league is.

I watched us lose 1-0 at Kenilworth Road back in September in front of nearly 6,500 supporters. We were by no means outclassed and with the progress the team has made since then under Darren and Dave, I am sure we can get something out of today's game.

Today will be the first day of the 2010 challenge. Hopefully more and more people are becoming aware of the nature of the challenge, and what a difference it will make to the club if we can achieve an average home gate in excess of 2010 for the last 10 home league games of the season.

I am sure the atmosphere today will be exceptional. We know that Luton Town will bring a good following with them and I hope that any newcomers to Holker Street have a fantastic day and come back on a regular basis.

Some of you will have seen in Tony Keen's recent article that the board have reviewed my role at the club following my first six months here and I have now become general manager.

I will still be responsible for generating as much income as possible for the club from the commercial activities that we undertake on an ongoing basis - but I will now have overall responsibility as well for the day-to-day operations of the football club.

I'd like to thank the board for showing their faith in me to carry out the role and I am delighted to be given the opportunity to be a part of everything that goes on here.

People have to remember that off the field, the club has grown at a tremendous rate over the last five years and to sustain this growth, there has to be certain structures and procedures in place so that as the business continues to grow, and new people come in to the organisation, we can operate at the highest level possible.

The new car park behind the Popular Side was completed late last week and was in operation for the first time for Tuesday's FA Carlsberg Trophy tie with Gateshead. The board have decided to let supporters have use of this facility at no charge for the rest of the season and then review it again during the close season.

Early estimates were that between 150 and 200 cars would be able to park in the space provided, which has to be a boost for supporters who drive to the ground.

Thanks to Neil Martin for the excellent and speedy job that he has done on the project.

In next week's programme notes I shall give you details of our World Cup draw that we are going to run for this summer's football feast; and also more details of some of the themed days that we plan to have before the end of the season.

I notice that Mansfield Town have offered fans the chance to pay what they want to get into the league game against Gateshead today. Very innovative, hope it works out for them. Something to consider!!!!!!

Have a fantastic afternoon.

**Martin Lewis**  
Commercial Manager



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# ON THIS DAY 30th January

by Phil Yelland

## 2001 • ULCG Barrow 3 – Gretna 2

Following a 2-2 draw the previous Saturday in the UniBond Premier Division at Bishop Auckland, Barrow boss Kenny Lowe made four changes for the club's final UniBond League Cup Group game against Gretna.

Local defender Mike McKechnie returned to defence in place of Anth Hall; Andy Hill and Wayne Bullimore were given runs in midfield in place of Neil Doherty and Jason Ainsley; and in attack Dalton United striker Gareth Jones made his debut in place of Darren Roberts. There were two local youngsters on the Barrow bench – Joe Murphy, of Furness Cavaliers, and Stuart Pattinson, of Millom.

The visitors, who were playing in the UniBond First Division, included former Barrow striker Mark Dobie and a number of players with Workington connections. Knowing that a win was needed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the Chairman's Cup, surprisingly Barrow did not start with any real urgency but on 20 minutes they were denied a penalty when Coxall seemed to handle a Housham effort in the box.

They immediately increased the pace, took control of midfield and took the lead just past the half hour as Nick Peverell pulled the ball back into the path of Andy Hill who fired home. Six minutes later Barrow increased their advantage with a goal from debutant Gareth Jones. They were pegged back on 57 minutes when a Matty Lea gave Bishop no chance and 60 seconds later former Bluebird Dobie showed that he still knew the way to goal as he turned the ball home from close range.

Gareth Jones then hit the bar from close range before, on 67 minutes, Barrow netted what turned out to be the winner and Mark Hume created havoc in the visiting defence and Peverell who was able to turn the ball home and Barrow were through and on the way to winning the Chairman's Cup.

**BARROW:** Bishop, McKechnie, Hume, Rogers, Maxfield, Anthony, Housham, Hill, Bullimore, Peverell, Jones. Subs: Gill for Hill – 45 mins; Murphy for Jones – 85 mins; Pattinson for Gill – 85 mins.

**GRETNA:** McCombie, L. Armstrong, Coxall, Close, Potts, Errington, Corrie, Hodgson, Lea, Dobie, Mawson. Subs: Cleeland for Hodgson – 51 mins; Strong for Errington – 83 mins; C. Armstrong – unused

**REFEREE:** Mr J. Waring (Bolton).

**GATE:** 201

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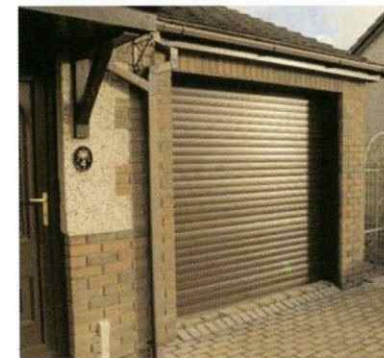
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# IT CHANGED THE SEASON

by Phil Yelland

Our meetings with Luton Town have been few and far between – the Hatters first dropped into Division Four in the 1965-66 season and we subsequently met them a total of eight times during our Football League days.

Their visit to Holker Street on November 19, 1966, however, was a pivotal moment in a season which eventually saw us win promotion out of the bottom division of the Football League for the first time.

Going into that game we were well placed competing for fourth spot in the table but our home form was dreadful. In nine home games we had lost just once but we had only won once – at home to Exeter City at the start of October - and we needed to turn our ability to draw into an ability to win at home.

In contrast we had won six times in ten starts on the road and went into this game having won the last two games away from home – at Aldershot and York City.

Barrow boss Don McEvoy made one change to the side that had won at York with fit again defender Malcolm Edwards returning in place of his deputy Larry Carberry. The Hatters, who had taken just one point from eight away games, included

David Pleat – now a well known football pundit - in midfield along with a very young Bruce Rioch who went on to play for Scotland.

Barrow began well and took the lead in the sixth minute when Mick Hartland collected the ball in midfield and played it through to Billy McAdams. He laid it into the path of striker Tony Field and he fired home his first home goal since joining the club.

That was just the start that Barrow needed and it became even better two minutes later when the normally reliable John Read, in the visiting goal, dropped a cross and Field was on hand to stab the ball home.

It might have been three just seconds later as Brian Pilkington beat Read with a superb shot only to see it hit the bar and bounce to safety.

The visitors were rarely seen as an attacking force and Slough had to clear a Mulholland effort with Read beaten before Field was denied his hat-trick by an excellent save from Read after McCarthy had put him in.

On the half hour Rivers fired wide before, as half-time approached, Read was again the Hatters hero in saving from Edwards.

Barrow began the second half well with Mulholland firing over after a

good run by Pilkington and while the visitors had come more into the game, they fell further behind on the hour mark to a disputed penalty.

Field was allowed to continue when he seemed well offside and was hauled down in the box by the chasing Slough. Despite the Luton protests the penalty was awarded and duly converted by Jim Mulholland.

Thear then tested Fred Else in a rare visiting raid before it took another fine save by Read to deny Barrow a fourth goal – this time he had to save from his own midfielder Alan Slough after his attempted header looked likely to find the net.

The visitors did find the net in the final five minutes of the game but to complete their frustrations Rivers' effort was ruled out for offside.

That win began a run of five Barrow home wins in the next six League games at Holker Street and helped the side head for a third place finish in Division Four and promotion.

**Barrow:** Else; Mallon, Arrowsmith, Smith, Edwards; McCarthy, Hartland, McAdams, Pilkington; Mulholland, Field. Sub: Harrison - unused

**Luton Town:** Read; Thompson, Moore, Conroy, Jardine; Slough, Thear, Rioch, Pleat; Rivers, Whittaker. Sub: Riddick for Pleat – 45 mins.

**Referee:** Mr F. Nicholson (Manchester).

**Gate:** 5,061

On that same afternoon, back in 1966, Chelsea drew 1-1 at home to Sheffield United to continue to head Division One. They were one point in

front of Liverpool, 5-0 winners over Leeds United at Anfield and Manchester United who won 2-1 at The Dell against Southampton. At the foot of the table, bottom markers Blackpool lost 1-0 at home to Stoke City who went fourth in the table.

In Division Two, Wolves were joint leaders along with Ipswich Town. Both recorded 3-2 home wins – Wanderers at home to Preston North End and Town at home to Rotherham United.

In Division Three Workington lost 3-0 at Swindon Town to remain fourth from bottom of the table while in Division Four our win lifted us to fourth – behind Southport and Wrexham on goal average and four points adrift of leaders Stockport County.

(Thanks to Andy Smith who suggested reviewing this game.)

## Barrow v Luton Town. Previous Meetings by Phil Yelland.

This season sees us playing the Hatters for the first time in 40 seasons. We did not meet in the Football League until 1965 as prior to 1958 while we were in Division Three North, Town were in the Southern Division. We have yet to meet in any cup competition. Our record against them to date is -

Season	Comp	Venue	Score	Gate	Scorers
1965-66	Div 4	H	0-1	5,186	-
1965-66	Div 4	A	2-3	10,647	P. Marshall & B. Pilkington
1966-67	Div 4	H	3-0	5,061	T. Field (2) & J. Mulholland (p).
1966-67	Div 4	A	1-3	5,710	R. McGarry.
1968-69	Div 3	H	0-0	6,628	-
1968-69	Div 3	A	1-5	14,244	R. Knox.
1969-70	Div 3	A	0-3	12,080	-
1969-70	Div 3	H	2-1	3,843	T. Morrin & J. Mulvaney
2009-10	BSP	A	0-1	6,264	-

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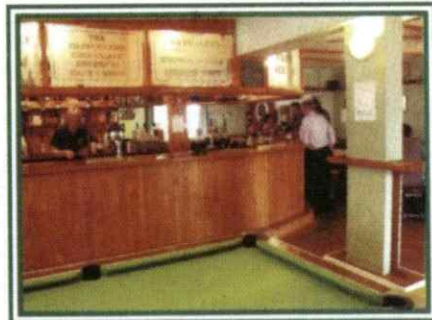
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# Our Trophy draw with **GATESHEAD**

On a cold, frosty evening, a rather disappointing crowd of 1,200 saw Barrow draw 1-1 with Gateshead in the third round of the FA Carlsberg Trophy.

Tim Deasy who was first called into action in the 9th minute, injuring himself blocking a breakaway by Gate.

Barrow's pressure increased as the half went on. Following good work by Andy Bond, Carlos Logan hit a superb 25th minute strike from the right-edge of the penalty area which clipped Gateshead's left hand upright. Despite a number of corners we couldn't make the breakthrough before half-time.

Gateshead came out of the starting blocks quickest after the break and Deasy did well to punch away a dangerous shot by Armstrong within two minutes of the restart. Although Gregg Blundell came close with a shot that whizzed past the left hand post in the 51st minute, it was Gateshead who were winning the corners and free kicks.

However, after a Deasy save from new substitute Wake in the 61st minute, Barrow raced down the field and Robin Hulbert was felled in the penalty area. Bond made no mistake with a well-taken penalty into the left-hand corner.

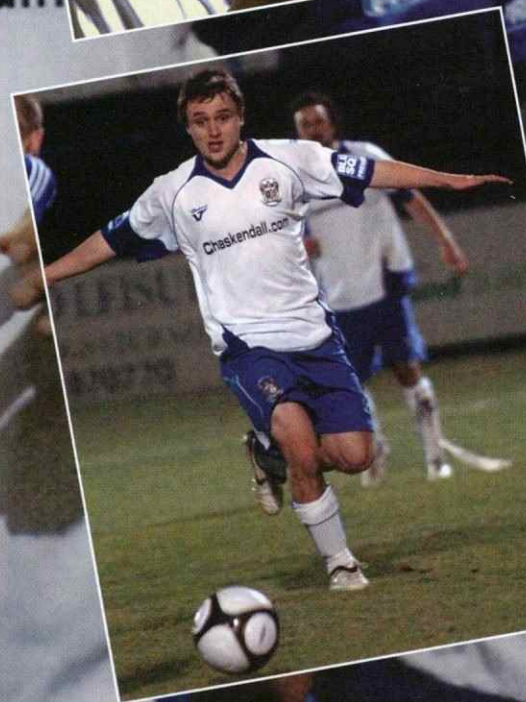
This galvanised Gateshead who upped the pressure. In the 68th minute, Wake earned a rather debateable free kick in a dangerous position. Deasy not only punched out McDermott's shot but also the rebound from Robinson. The resultant corner finally proved too much for Barrow, a rather statuesque defence allowing Curtis to head home the equaliser.

Despite substitutes by both teams, neither could find the winner. Barrow won a number of corners in the last 15 minutes but they came to nothing.

Two players made their Holker Street debut - Luke Powell, who started, and Simon Wiles, who played the last 15 minutes.

Andy Bond was awarded Man of the Match.

DW



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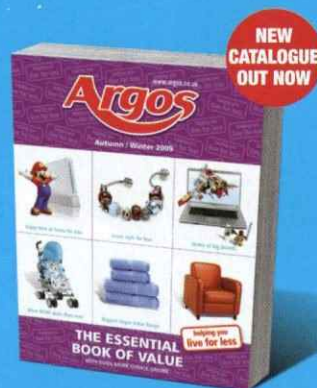
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# BARROW AFC in the community



Good afternoon and welcome to the next instalment of Barrow AFC in the Community.

Street Soccer has started a new block taking place in the Ormsgill and Central areas of Barrow with an excellent turnout for both areas. Some 35 young people turned up at Ormsgill and 20 for Central which is great for a first session. Hopefully numbers will continue to grow.

Street soccer takes place on a Wednesday night for 9-12 year olds and Thursdays for 13-16 year olds, 6.30-8pm. Boys and girls are welcome

Our school projects are progressing very well. My next goal is to link in with secondary schools and their national curriculum in English, using football and Barrow AFC to motivate young pupils to progress with their school work.

With this I hope to build strong relationships with the secondary schools, as we have with our current primary

schools.

On January 26 Martin Lewis and myself attended a conference at Rheged in Penrith to inform community agencies and governing bodies about increasing leisure opportunities for children and young people.

There were speakers from across the North-west telling of the need for these opportunities for young people and to share some projects that have been successful.

The success of Street Soccer and its contribution to our community has not gone unnoticed, as I was asked to speak about the project and share the success we have had. Hopefully this will put Barrow AFC on the map for our work in the community. It is a credit to the club for the hard work that goes in to ensure we deliver a first class community initiative.

I hope you all enjoy the game today and wish the lads all the best!

**CRAIG RUTHERFORD**

# Our non-league HEROES

by Phil Yelland

## 18: Glenn Skivington - 1989-90



The 1989-90 season will always be remembered for our FA Trophy triumph at Wembley and whilst arguably the whole squad

were heroes that season, the player I have chosen as a non-League hero is the man who lifted the Trophy at Wembley - Glenn Skivington - 11 years after his debut in a Barrow shirt.

Glenn had made his debut in a struggling side in October 1979 in the APL and his form that season convinced Derby County, then in Division Two (now the Championship) to part with a five figure fee to sign him in the summer of 1980. Both Arsenal and Leeds United had been credited with an interest in him but neither came forward with formal transfer bids.

He spent four seasons with the Rams at the Baseball Ground and had a spell on loan with Halifax Town but he was unlucky with injuries and

illness. He joined Southend United in the summer of 1983 but he was released in February 1984 and returned to Barrow in time for the run in to the NPL title.

From 1984 until Ray Wilkie was in charge, there were arguments over Glenn's best position as he played in midfield, central defence and right back. In some ways his versatility was a dis-advantage as he was unable to establish himself in a single position.

However his leadership qualities had been recognised by Wilkie who appointed him skipper during the 1988-89 season.

With the departure of central defender Peter Harrison in the summer of 1989, Glenn began the following season partnering Ken Gordon in central defence and it led him to play the best football of his career over the 1989-90 season.

Glenn's classy performances were reported to be attracting Football League scouts again when in February 1990 he became the first Barrow player to be capped by England at semi professional level. He made his debut against Italy in a game in Salerno and followed

that with a further cap against Wales.

He led Barrow out in the FA Trophy Final at Wembley in May 1990 and skippered the side to a 3-0 win.

That was arguably Glenn's finest hour as a player as whilst he played on for the club his consistency perhaps never quite reached the same heights again.

His loyalty to the club could not be questioned and in March 1994, the Barrow public paid tribute to him when a packed house watched his testimonial game against a Glasgow Rangers XI.

His final appearance for the club came in October 1994 and he played occasionally thereafter for Holker OB.

Glenn made a total of 416 appearances for the club, scoring just twice. A classy defender, Glenn was not the quickest of players. However what he lacked in pace he more than made up in terms of his positional play.

His leadership qualities were second to one and Glenn thoroughly deserves the title non-League hero for this efforts that season and the triumph at Wembley.

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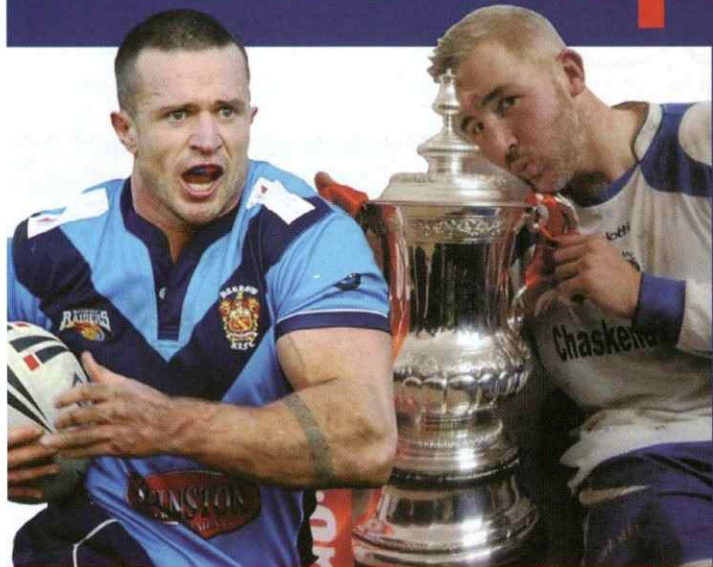


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# AROUND THE premier

In this and upcoming home programmes we'll update you about moves during the transfer window – there might not have been many games played recently but there is plenty of news to catch up on.

## End of an era

I had no sooner filed the notes for the programme for the home game with Histon when it was announced that after a brief period of re-instatement as manager, long serving boss Steve Fallon had been sacked.

Fallon, who had been in charge at the Glassworld Stadium for over ten seasons, during which the Stutes had risen from the Eastern Counties League to Blue Square Premier, was originally suspended back in December after a fall out with the recently appointed club chairman.

Having agreed to a return, within 48 hours it was announced that the arrangement was not working and Fallon was dismissed. In his absence former Weymouth boss Alan Lewer had been in charge and having then left that role, he was appointed to it on a permanent basis within 48 hours.

On the playing front the move of midfielder Josh Simpson to Championship side Peterborough United has been confirmed for an undisclosed fee.

## Inevitable

It always seemed inevitably once former Kettering Town and Halesowen Town boss Morrell Maison was appointed Director of Football that Chester City boss Jim Harvey would leave. He was reported not to have known about Maison's appointment and he left in early January.

In reality Harvey's job had become close to impossible with a dwindling squad of players whose wages had not been paid for some time. Before Harvey's departure there were two loan signings who arrived from fellow Blue Square Premier side Mansfield Town – midfielder Steven Istead, who had just completed a loan spell with Alfreton Town in Blue Square North, and defender Scott Gardner. They have signed for the rest of the season.

Two of the players who have been just about ever present throughout the turbulent season, James Owen and Anthony Barry, have left the club with the latter having signed for Fleetwood Town of Blue Square North, having at one stage been set to join Wrexham.

Another distraction according to reports is the likelihood that Cambridge United will report City for failing to make payments to them in relation to sums due for the loan of

striker Mark Beesley earlier in the season.

## More trouble

Following his suspension by the Football Association just before Christmas, Kettering Town chairman Imran Ladak has stood down after just over five years at the helm of the club. He remains as the club owner. The issue that continues to cause issues for the club is their future in terms of the ground.

On the field, boss Lee Harper is trying to finalise his squad for the second half of the season with the confirmation that Exodus Geoghagan has completed his move to Peterborough United for an undisclosed fee.

Strikers Kithson Bain and Craig Dobson have returned to Tranmere Rovers and Mansfield Town respectively after decisions were taken not to extend their loans whilst the club was working to extend the loan of Barnsley midfielder Simon Heslop. Marcus Kelly has completed his move from Oxford United after a successful loan.

However one player unlikely to join the Poppies is much travelled striker Anthony Elding. Having been released by Crewe Alexandra, he seems set to shun the Poppies in favour of a stint in Hungary with Ferencvaros.



by Phil Yelland

The club have also made a series of non contract signings to boost their squad options with goalkeeper Nathan Abbey arriving from local rivals Rushden & Diamonds along with former Macclesfield Town midfielder Jordan Hadfield, who has been turning out for struggling Stockport County, and much travelled striker Anthony Robinson, who was scoring goals for fun earlier in the season for now defunct UniBond Premier Division side Kings Lynn before joining Rushall Olympic.

In addition they have brought in Peterborough United striker Kwesi Appiah on a one month loan – Appiah also had a spell at Kings Lynn earlier in the season.

## Kiddy name their man

After quite a lot of speculation, Kidderminster Harriers have named their new manager to replace Mark Yates. He is Stalybridge Celtic boss Steve Burr who joins the Aggborough club after they agreed to pay significant compensation to Celtic. His assistant will be midfielder John Finnegan who was caretaker boss. The appointment meant disappointment for former Chester City and Forest Green Rovers boss Jim Harvey who had been widely tipped to get the job.

## Replacing experience

Cambridge United boss Martin Ling has been trying to replace two experienced members of his defence after early moves in the window. The first saw Anthony Tonkin agree a deal with title challengers Oxford United and that was followed by the news that skipper Wayne Hatswell had agreed a move to join League of Ireland side Dundalk as player coach.

Midfielder Ben Farrell does not feature in the manager's future plans and has joined Grays Athletic initially on a one month loan.

The club stepped in to sign 23 year old former Leyton Orient defender Aiden Palmer who has been playing recently for Bishops Stortford in Blue Square South. Another move has seen the arrival of York City midfielder Simon Russell on loan for the remainder of the season with United winger Courtney Pitt heading to City on the same basis.

Off the field there is a suggestion that former Histon chairman Guy Baldwin may be interested in assisting the club.

## Yet more changes

Mansfield Town boss David Holdsworth continues to wheel and deal to try to find a consistent winning formula.

When the window opened he quickly allowed midfielder Steven

Istead and defender Scott Gardner to join Blue Square Premier outfit Chester City on loan for the rest of the season.

He also allowed striker Daryl Clare to make his move to Gateshead permanent. That came less than 48 hours after it had been strongly suggested that Clare had a good future at Field Mill.

Another departure saw defender Luke Graham make his loan move to York City into a permanent deal

Three loan players who had joined the club in the latter part of last year - Jon Challinor, from Cambridge United, Andy Burgess, from Luton Town, and Michael Brough, from Torquay United of League Two - saw their moves made permanent whilst, having been released by League One leaders Leeds United, midfielder Oliver Hodgkiss will spend the rest of the season with the Stags.

The Stags have signed John Shaw who was on loan here earlier this season, following his release by League Two leaders Rochdale. Another new signing - defender Luke Foster from Oxford United - was only completed after fans helped to pay the transfer fee.

However one of the new signings – Andy Burgess - has been suspended for one month by the FA after issues involving betting on games in which he was involved.



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# 100 years OF HOLKER STREET

Barrow created a little bit of history on October 9, 1961 when they played in a game that had to be abandoned – and the Football League decided, for the first time, that the result of the uncompleted match should stand.

It was the bane of many of the smaller clubs when the Football League decided in 1958/59 to do away with the Third Division (North) and Third Division (South) structure and introduce a Third Division and a Fourth Division. It meant long journeys and overnight stays some could hardly afford.

In 1961 there was also the lifting of the maximum wage and clubs could pay players what they wanted – leading to Fulham and England captain Johnny Haynes becoming the first £100 a week man. It meant smaller clubs had to cough something up if there were to compete for the better players.

With this financial worry lurking in the background, Gillingham decided that for a Monday night game at Barrow (who had no floodlights, as nor did Gillingham) they should make the journey on the day of the game rather than travel on the Sunday, stay overnight and return home immediately after the game on the overnight train with sleeping accommodation.

It was no easy journey from north Kent because in those days there was no M25, M1 or M6 and the only realistic way of making the 5.15pm kick-off was by train. So the Gillingham players set off by coach to catch the 10am from Euston. Their coach got stuck in the morning rush-hour and when they got to Euston at 10.20am the train was long gone.

No later train would make the scheduled kick-off time so they asked the Football League for a postponement – which was refused. The only answer was to fly somewhere close to Barrow and continue by road.

Internal flights were in their infancy then and the daily flights to Manchester and Newcastle were fully booked. And not having too many good swimmers, they rejected a flight to the Isle of Man!

The only other option was to charter a plane to Blackpool and then travel by road. No charter planes were available at London Airport so they had to get one to fly from Gatwick to collect the players. The plane left Gatwick at 1.15pm, leaving four hours to kick off. No problem – until AirGFC-1 arrived at London Airport and the pilot overshot the runway, had to take another pass and then get back in the landing queue for a third time.

Checks on the plane meant it was not airborne and en route to Blackpool until 2.35pm - and some of the players were a little worse for wear after hitting turbulence over Birmingham. After unloading formalities were complete at Blackpool, they had 90 minutes to make the 71-miles to meet the kick-off time.

The Football League then stepped in, agreed a 5.30 start and no half-time interval so the game could be completed before darkness fell. And the Gillingham party set off from Blackpool in four taxis with a police escort. Then the taxis hit heavy traffic around Lancaster so the game didn't kick-off until 5.45pm - in fading light.

Gordon Brown scored for Barrow after two minutes; Jackie Robertson got a second; Johnny Kemp a third; George Darwin got another, made it 5-0 before half-time and completed his hat-trick – with 40 minutes left. The referee ordered Barrow to switch on the training lights strung along the grandstand roof but they made no difference and he called it a day when Kemp made it 7-0 with 76 minutes gone.

Acknowledging the trip cost Gillingham over £1,000, the FL eventually ruled that the score should stand as the result – the first time they had done that for an incomplete game.

TO BE CONTINUED

# DARREN GARDNER'S half-time quiz

## LEEDS UNITED

1. Where do Leeds play their home games?
2. Can you name the club's chairman?
3. In October 1988 Howard Wilkinson took charge of the club. Who did he replace?
4. In which year did Leeds United win the FA Cup?
5. Which Leeds United player won the PFA Player of the Year award in 1974?
6. In 1972 Leeds United released a single which reached No.10 in the UK singles chart. Can you name it?
7. Can you name the present Leeds manager?
8. Who was appointed Leeds manager in 1974 and lasted only 44 days?
9. Who defeated Leeds in the 1975 European Cup Final?
10. Which former Leeds United player during the 1970s had the so called hardest shot in world football, recorded at one time to be a penalty of 107mph?

ANSWERS  
1. Elland Road, 2. Ken Bates, 3. Billy Bremner, 4. 1972, 5. Norman Hunter, 6. Leeds United, 7. Simon Grayson, 8. Brian Clough, 9. Bayern Munich, 10. Peter Lorimer



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### Executive Club

Our Executive Club is a select and exclusive members' club. Membership is limited and provides the perfect opportunity to entertain at all home games in real style at Britain's leading Non-League Football Club. With newly created hospitality suites you will be able to savour the build-up to the games as you enjoy your matchday experience. Reserved VIP seats ensure you see all the big match action, and after the games you'll be able to relax, socialise and enjoy sandwiches and complimentary drinks in the company of players and directors.

Executive Club Memberships are available from **£4,200+ VAT** (includes 4 people at every home games including cup matches)

### Premier Club

The continued success of our Executive Club has led to the introduction of the Premier Club. More companies are seeking hospitality on a seasonal basis and the Premier Club guarantees you hospitality in our Hospitality Suite at ten Barrow AFC first team match played at Holker Street Stadium. You will receive full VIP matchday hospitality at the home games of your choice and have a recognised association with the most famous Non-league Football Club in the country. Premier Club Memberships are available from **£1,600 + VAT** (Includes 4 people at 10 home games of your choice)

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# The Beautiful GAME

by Ade Roberts

## THE COLD HARD FACTS

Have you ever had such a boring start to a year? 2010 got off to a rubbish start, especially for keen footy enthusiasts.

Saturdays were invented for football, not building snowmen or curling up in front of the gas fire with a mug of coffee. I for one, and I'm sure you'll agree with me, would rather be sat on a cold damp seat, shaking like crazy, clutching a cup of Bovril and watching the boys enchant us with their magic out there on the pitch!

Sadly, the latter was snatched from us thanks to Mother Nature and the dreadful Siberian weather.

In the last decade, we've seen very little snow as climate change kicks in. But all of a sudden, at the start of 2010, we get the last decade's worth of snow all in one foul swoop and the football fixtures are frozen out.

You hear or see those dreaded words "Match postponed" – you instantly feel gutted and want to crawling back into bed to hibernate until the next game (which, again, was probably called off).

Even Premiership games fell foul of the weather – you know it's bad then! Of course it's not always due to the

pitch surface being unplayable; sometimes it's for our sake, as fans, for health and safety reasons in and around the stadium.

Arsene Wenger said (or whinged) publicly that games are sometimes called off for no reason because of an "obsession with health and safety" – thanks for the concern, Arsene!!

For the players, it can be a chance to rest, possibly an opportunity for those carrying an injury to get back to full fitness. For those due to serve match bans or suspensions, it means a prolonged wait if games are called off.

From the clubs' point of view, depending on the size of the club, it can be a time of crisis. No games means no revenue; no revenue means players and staff maybe don't get paid – and the longer it goes on, the more dire it becomes. Some non-League clubs didn't play a home game for over a month and were unable to pay the players for three to four weeks.

The lousy weather at the start of January certainly wasn't the worst start to the year for football in the UK. The winters of the 78/79, 83/84 and the 91/92 seasons were particularly bad when clubs saw very few games played from the end of December to early February time.

The worst winter was back in 1962/63 season when very few games took place between the end of December and early MARCH – yes, over two months without hardly seeing a game.

There have been calls from some Scottish players and managers to the Scottish FA to move the football season to summer months, similar to the football season in Norway (it's cold there, too) where the season starts in March and ends in November, allowing the games to flow virtually uninterrupted by the weather.

Anyway, here we are, a game going ahead. Let's hope for no more interruptions from Mother Nature. If next January brings a similar "freeze" to our footballing pleasure, I'm moving to Norway, there are some great world famous teams out there.

The Norwegian Premier League has such teams as Molde, Tromso and Viking FC. Errrm, I think I'll stick with being sat on a cold damp seat, shaking like crazy, clutching a cup of Bovril, thank you very much!

Enjoy today's action – whatever the weather.



# Ex-Bluebirds in the news

Firstly, news of three players who used to play for us during the Phil Wilson era who have been on the move.

Many regulars will remember the whole hearted performances of defender Chris Butler who left us just over two years ago to join League of Ireland side Sligo Rovers. People might also remember that he suffered horrendous injuries in a road accident last year which might have finished his career. He has now fought back to fitness and returned to English football, signing for Blue Square North side Droylsden.

In the summer striker Kyle Wilson agreed a deal to move from UniBond Premier Division side FC United of Manchester, where he had been top scorer, to League Two side Macclesfield Town. Unfortunately Kyle has failed to hold down a regular spot with the Silkmen as a result of injuries and he has now agreed to return to FC United, still managed by former Bluebird Karl Marginson, for at least one month.

United are having their most difficult season yet and need Kyle's goals to pull them away from the lower reaches of the table.

In the UniBond First Division North, James Olsen, who played for us during the second half of

the 2005-06 season, has returned to Colwyn Bay to help the Welsh side push for promotion. He was allowed to leave UniBond Premier Division side Marine to cross the border.

While there has been no deal as yet, it appears that the Rhyl side that have done well in the League of Wales in recent seasons is breaking up. Striker Lee Hunt who played for us last season returned to the Lilywhites in the summer but there is a suggestion that he may be about to leave the club – favourites for his signature are said to be another League of Wales side, Aberystwyth Town.

On the goalscoring front, news of five ex-Bluebirds last midweek.

In League Two, our former loanee Tom Pope got back on the goal standard after a drought by scoring a last minute winner for Rotherham United at Chesterfield – that enhanced the Yorkshire side's hopes of automatic promotion.

In the UniBond Premier Division, there was a rare goal for Scott Maxfield, now with Buxton, but his side's recent revival came to an end in a 3-1 defeat at Guiseley.

Meanwhile in the UniBond League Cup, there was a win for Lancaster City of the First Division North over Premier Division Ashton United at the

Giant Axe. One of the goals for City came from former Bluebird Mike Rushton and that sets up a quarter final tie for City against Premier Division neighbours Kendal Town.

In the Cheshire Senior Cup, the competition has reached the semi-final stage and Northwich Victoria cruised to a 7-1 home win over Vodkat League First Division side Runcorn Linnets with our former defender Nat Kerr bagging one of the goals.

In the Vodkat League First Division there was a goal for former Bluebird Dave Swarbrick who left Holker OB earlier in the season to join ambitious Derbyshire side New Mills. He scored for them in their 4-0 win at St Helens Town that put them a distant second in the season – leaders Newcastle Town will take some stopping with 23 wins in 23 games so far.

On Saturday in Blue Square North Nick Rogan scored as Fleetwood Town retained their place at the top of the table with a 3-1 home win over Hinckley United.

In the UniBond Premier Division, Carl Heiniger, who featured for us during 2005-06, scored for Durham City as they went down 2-1 at home to FC United of Manchester.

# The Reserves CORNER

## WOODLEY SPORTS RESERVES 4 BARROW RESERVES 0

In a damp grey part of Manchester, the Reserves found themselves up against a well-organised, experienced team who lead the league by 12 points.

Although they were to leave the John Rouke Stadium beaten 4-0, it was an interesting experience that threw up one or two firsts.

This was the first of four Saturday league matches the Reserves face between now and the end of the season – and the game was played on a G3 (artificial) surface that allowed boots with either blades or moulded soles but no studs.

It also allowed the ball to bounce high, zip off the surface and continually run out for a series of throw ins – a distinct advantage to the home team who worked the pace of the pitch much better.

The best part of the day was when Darren Sheridan produced five of his Salford lads to play, something muted at the beginning of the season.

The coach left and returned to Barrow with only two players showing the continued challenge to engage local lads to play regularly for the Reserves. However regular players were picked up on route and the coach arrived at the ground with 15 players.

The Salford lads were up for the game: chatty and good natured, listening to what the Reserves coaches were trying to do.

But the Reserves were expecting a torrid time because the Woodley Sports first team game was off and there was a fair smattering of them, plus returning injured players, starting the match.

The Reserves had Ben Daniels in goals and although small in stature, he showed really crisp handling skills and lovely quick distribution. Phil Morris and Liam Holmes combined with the two new centre-backs, Kane Brown and Steve Richardson, really well and continued to frustrate Woodley right up to half-time.

Unfortunately just as the whistle was about to be blown for the break, a well-struck shot from outside the box looked to be well saved by Daniels but as he landed on the hard unnatural surface, the ball jarred from his grasp and while it appeared to have been rescued from crossing the line by his quick reactions, the assistant referee on the home supporters' side of the ground, some 30 metres away, flagged furiously to attract the referee and indicate a goal. This was a crushing blow right on half-time.

Thoughts were that the Reserves were realistically still well in the game and the opposition had begun to play the long ball game as they were frustrated by the resolute defending shown by Barrow.

The game was to fall apart within five minutes of the restart when a penalty, given as the ball raced out of play when the centre forward fell over in a vain attempt to stop it, was duly dispatched.

It was followed seconds later by a great goal when the Woodley Sports winger effortlessly laid on a superb ball that was brilliantly headed home.

The Barrow team, now looking at an avalanche, pulled themselves together with Brown putting in some great tackles and constantly cajoling players around him to get stuck in. The team retained its shape and resolution.

Luke Powell up front had no service whatsoever but showed glimpses of real talent and on a couple of occasions turned his defender on a sixpence and left him for dead.

In reality, Barrow offered a few long-range efforts that never really troubled the Woodley keeper and the fourth goal came at the death when the young team were really out on their last legs.

There were an enormous number of pluses to take from the game, not least all the players representing the club in an exemplary manner. The after-match crack was good and the Woodley management and supporters were very complimentary of our club and our players.

# STAT ATTACK



## FIXTURES

### BLUE SQUARE PREMIER

#### TODAY

AFC Wimbledon	v	Forest Green
Altrincham	v	Salisbury
BARROW	v	Luton
Chester	v	Ebbsfleet
Crawley	v	Cambridge
Eastbourne	v	Wrexham
Grays	v	Rushden & D
Histon	v	Hayes & Yeading
Kettering	v	York
Mansfield	v	Gateshead
Oxford	v	Kidderminster
Tamworth	v	Stevenage

#### TUESDAY NIGHT

Ebbsfleet	v	Histon
Forest Green	v	Chester
Gateshead	v	Altrincham
Hayes & Yeading	v	Grays Athletic
Luton	v	Oxford Utd
Rushden & D	v	Eastbourne
Salisbury	v	Crawley
Stevenage	v	Mansfield
Wrexham	v	Tamworth

#### NEXT SATURDAY

BARROW	v	Kettering
Cambridge	v	AFC Wimbledon
Crawley	v	Altrincham
Eastbourne	v	Luton

#### NEXT SATURDAY continued

Ebbsfleet	v	York
Grays	v	Salisbury
Hayes & Yeading	v	Gateshead
Kidderminster	v	Forest Green
Oxford	v	Histon
Rushden & D	v	Stevenage
Tamworth	v	Mansfield

#### NEXT SUNDAY (12 noon)

Chester	v	Wrexham
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#### TUESDAY FEBRUARY 16th

Altrincham	v	Eastbourne
Gateshead	v	BARROW
Luton	v	AFC Wimbledon
Oxford	v	Rushden & D
Salisbury	v	Tamworth

#### WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17th

Chester	v	Kidderminster
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#### F.A. CARLSBERG TROPHY QUARTER-FINAL DRAW

Barrow or Gateshead	v	York
Cambridge or Salisbury	v	Tamworth
Oxford	v	Kidderminster
Stevenage	v	Workington

Ties to be played Saturday February 20th



## BLUE SQUARE PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE

### Tuesday February 2nd

Pos	Team	Home					Away					GD	PTS	
		P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F			A
1	Stevenage	28	10	5	0	32	9	7	4	2	17	10	30	60
2	Oxford	26	10	1	1	28	6	8	4	2	22	13	31	59
3	York	28	11	4	0	30	11	5	4	4	13	13	19	56
4	Mansfield	29	8	4	1	27	9	7	1	8	21	25	14	50
5	Kettering	28	4	5	4	17	12	10	1	4	18	12	11	48
6	AFC Wimbledon	28	6	3	4	23	7	7	4	4	23	17	22	46
7	Rushden & D	27	8	2	4	24	18	5	5	3	23	11	18	46
8	<b>Luton</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>46</b>
9	Kidderminster	28	9	1	4	23	11	3	5	6	16	19	9	42
10	Crawley Town	28	7	3	4	22	18	4	3	7	11	20	- 5	39
11	Altrincham	26	3	5	5	14	17	7	3	3	17	10	4	38
12	Wrexham	26	7	3	4	17	11	3	4	5	10	12	4	37
13	Tamworth	28	5	4	5	17	18	3	7	4	12	13	- 2	35
14	Histon	27	5	6	3	17	13	4	2	7	14	21	- 3	35
15	Cambridge	28	6	2	7	25	16	2	7	4	17	22	4	33
16	Hayes & Yeading	30	4	5	6	23	27	4	3	8	14	27	-17	32
17	Salisbury	28	5	4	5	15	12	7	0	7	17	24	- 4	30
18	<b>BARROW</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-12</b>	<b>28</b>
19	Ebbsfleet	31	4	4	8	17	23	3	2	10	13	32	-25	27
20	Eastbourne	28	3	5	5	14	16	2	6	7	11	26	-17	26
21	Forest Green	29	4	4	7	13	20	2	4	8	16	33	-24	26
22	Gateshead	28	4	3	7	13	16	2	2	10	17	30	-16	22
23	Grays	29	3	3	9	14	30	0	5	9	13	31	-34	17
24	Chester	27	3	1	8	12	17	2	6	7	10	23	-18	- 3

# Local SCENE

by Paul Wright

After a brief weekend of football being played locally on January 23, a heavy frost caused even more postponements to the scheduled fixtures last weekend.

Two of the Paul Wilson Memorial Trophy quarter-finals have now been postponed three times but fortunately two of the games went ahead.

Barrow Wanderers didn't enjoy their trip to Bootle as they lost 3-1. Bootle were beaten finalists last season in both this competition and in the Terry Clinton Memorial Trophy so they will be looking to go one better this time round.

The other tie that went ahead was at Haverigg where Dalton United Reserves dug out a 1-0 win, the scorer being George Balm, son over former Barrow player and current Dalton manager Jon.

In the Horne Cup in Group 2 at Tummerhill was honours even between Walney Island Reserves and Barrow Island. The 1-1 draw effectively puts Barrow Island out as they lost their first two games. The group format for the competition seemed a good idea when it was decided on in October but after three months of bad weather none of the groups have been completed yet.

Only one league match was played and it was a good result for Kirkby United as they beat Holker Old Boys Reserves 5-2 to close the gap on leaders Vickerstown Reserves at the top of the Riflemans Garage Premier Division.

Kirkby are unbeaten at home and are scoring goals for fun at the moment, having hit 16 in three games. They certainly seem to be benefiting from playing while so many other clubs are not.

In the Sports 360 West Lancashire League five of the ten local sides played.

Hawcoat Park were unlucky to lose 1-0 at home to Division One leaders Thornton Cleveleys. The sides cancelled each other out and a 0-0 draw seemed likely until the visitors sneaked one with 20 minutes to go.

After last week's cup win, Millom picked up their first league win of the season, beating Mill Hill St. Peters 5-1. There is a real belief in the Millom camp that they can get out of the relegation places despite being six points adrift of safety.

In Division Two Askam United lost 8-0 to table toppers BAC Springfields who now have a four point lead over Longridge Town. With five local sides in the division there's almost a local derby every week and last week Furness Cavaliers and GSK

Ulverston Rangers met at Rampside Road.

Cavaliers were comfortable 6-2 winners scoring three goals in each half including a couple for former Barrow player Mike Robinson, who was coaxed out of semi-retirement due to several players being unavailable. Rangers never gave up and scored twice in the last 10 minutes to make the score slightly more respectable.

There's another derby today as Furness Rovers travel to Walney Island and next week Askam host Rovers at Duddon Road.

It's also the third round of the Travis Perkins Furness Senior Cup today. Cavaliers travel to Askam, Cartmel host Swarthmoor and Dalton United Reserves are at favourites and holders Millom. The two outstanding second round ties are being played in midweek at Holker and next Saturday at Kirkby.

The Lancashire FA under 18 squad have progressed to the semi-finals of the FA County Youth Cup after beating Suffolk 1-0 at The County Ground, Leyland. The one local player involved, Jordan Dix of Furness Cavaliers, put in a man of the match performance and they now face Sheffield & Hallamshire at Hillsborough today.





# The Squads

## BARROW AFC

White Shirts / Blue Shorts / White Socks

1	Tim DEASY	
2	Simon SPENDER	
4	Paul JONES	
5	Phil BOLLAND	
6	Robin HULBERT	
7	Andy BOND	
8	Mark BOYD	
9	Jason WALKER	
11	Carlos LOGAN	
12	Mike PEARSON	
14	Darren SHERIDAN	
15	Paul RUTHERFORD	
16	Dave BAYLISS	
18	Phil MORRIS	
20	Gareth JELLYMAN	
21	Stuart TOMLINSON	
22	Nick CHADWICK	
23	Luke POWELL	
24	Simon WILES	
26	Gregg BLUNDELL	

## LUTON TOWN

Orange Shirts / White Shorts / White Socks

1	Mark TYLER	
2	Ed ASAFU-ADJAYE	
3	Lewis EMANUEL	
4	Keith KEANE	
5	Janos KOVACS	
6	George PILKINGTON	
7	Adam NEWTON	
8	Kevin NICHOLLS	
9	Liam HATCH	
10	Tom CRADDOCK	
12	Shane BLACKETT	
13	Shane GORE	
14	Asa HALL	
15	Jake HOWELLS	
16	Rossi JARVIS	
17	Ryan CHARLES	
18	Claude GNAKPA	
19	Steve BASHAM	
20	Kevin GALLEN	
22	Craig NELTHORPE	
23	Freddie MURRAY	
24	George BEAVAN	
25	Kevin PILKINGTON	
26	Mark NWOKEJI	
29	Matthew BARNES-HOMER	
30	Adam WATKINS	
31	Jordan PATRICK	
32	Jack WOOD	
33	Sam BARKER	
34	Taylor NATHANIEL	
37	Godfrey POKU	

The Officials

Referee: P. E. CURRY – Assistants: B. MCGILL & J. MAINWARING – 4th Official: A. BACKHOUSE