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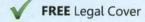
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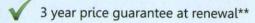


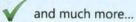










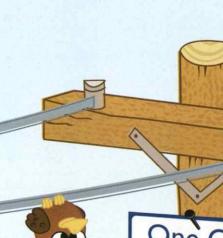






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Mansfield Town Football Club

Field Mill Ground, Quarry Lane, Mansfield, Notts NG18 5DA Tel: 01623 482 482 Fax: 01623 482495 Email: info@mansfieldtown.net

AT THE TOP

Chairman: John Radford

Chief Executive Officer: Steve Barker Non-Executive Director: Darren Shaw (Fans Representative) Financial Director: James Beachill Head of Media and Communications: Mark Stevenson Safety Officer: Alan Lakin Football Secretary: Catherine Hannant Sales Manager: Joanne Scully Football in the Community Officer: Mark Hemingray Club Shop & Administration: Anne Matthews Sales administration: Diane Jankiewicz & Adam Parkin Conference & Banqueting Manager: Donna Clay Accounts Manager: Elaine Bachir Media and Communications Assistant: Paul Stephen Head Groundsman/ Kitman: Michael Merriman **Ground Maintenance:** Andy Johnson & Colin Needham Club Photographer: Richard Parkes Tannov Announcer: Alan Wilson Scoreboard Operator: Stuart Eggleshaw Club Historian: Paul Taylor Club Chaplain: Tim Mitchell

FOOTBALL OFFICIALS

Manager: Duncan Russell
Assistant Manager: Paul Hall
Fitowness Coach: Steve Bonnington
Goalkeeping Coach: Chris Adamson
Sports Therapist: Jason Truscott
Medical Officer: Dr. Prabu

Pride to play for

WELCOME back to Field Mill for our third home game in five days.

As this programme goes to print, the scoreline of the Bath match on Thursday is unknown, but as I write these notes I am still feeling the disappointment from Tuesday night's home match against Barrow.

Good performances in front of our home fans are crucial to any promotion charge and this, in my opinion, is where we have faltered most this season. Our away form matches most of the sides in the top five and so it is critical that we recreate Field Mill into a ground where teams fear to come next season.

Battles between us and today's opponents are usually memorable affairs. In our past few encounters there have been an

outbreak of red cards shown as well as some edge-of-your-seat moments. Today I am hoping to see some good football in front of a healthy crowd. We are treading water in the league, but there is plenty of pride still to play for.

As the league season draws to a

close, we must remember the people who keep our club flowing from season to season. Along with you, the fans, our staff and supporters groups, it is rare to see appreciation head towards our Vice Presidents, who generously sponsor many of



our various packages throughout the season as well as enjoying all the

"...it is

critical that

we recreate

where teams

fear to come

next season."

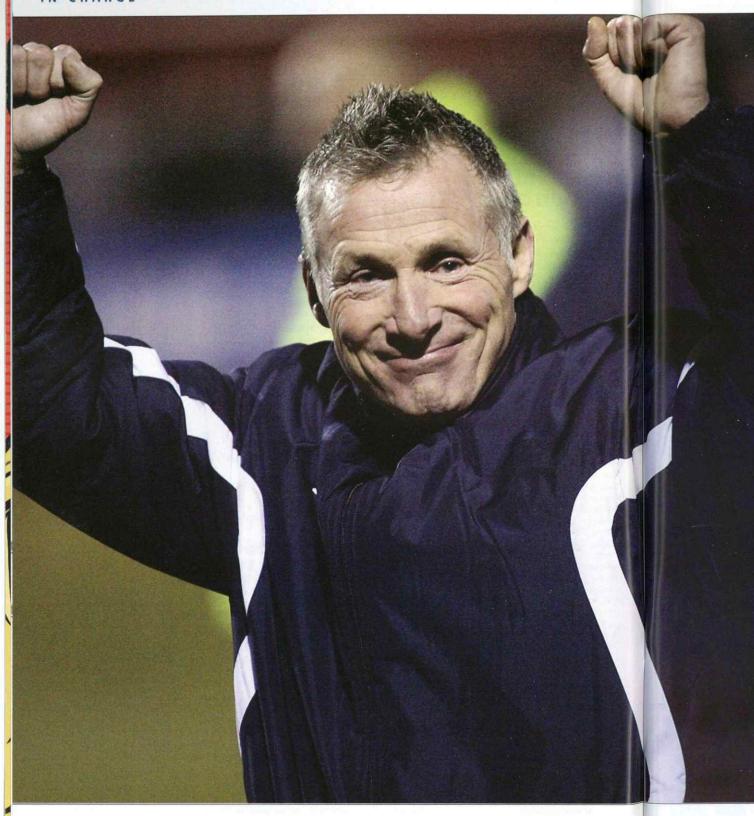
Field Mill

benefits of their Vice Presidency. I would therefore like to thank our 15 VP's: Mike & Carolyn Abbs, Darren Bland, Barry Coleman, Vikram Desai, Mark Fretwell, Paul Gibson, Edric Kimberley, Terry Hates, Dilip Malkan, Saffron Naylor, Jim & Kate Phillips, Bryan Radford and Jim

Wilkinson. If you would like to join this elite group for next season then contact Jo Scully at the club on 01623 482 482 for more details.

> John Radford Chairman

www.mansfieldtown.net The Stag / 05



Duncan Russell

WELCOME to Gary Brabin and his players along with the Chairman, Directors, Staff and Supporters from Kenilworth Road for this afternoon's match.

"It is at this

stage in our

Hook to my

to give a

squad."

lads in our

season where

senior players

helping hand

to the younger

Due to printing deadlines, the score of Thursday's match at home to Bath is not yet known as I write these notes.

Football can be frustrating for all involved at times: directors, managers, players, staff and fans, and there are fewer games which could have been

more frustrating to watch than on Tuesday night at home to Barrow. We were on top in the match when Louis Briscoe opened the scoring and looked to be heading for a victory. However, a fantastic long range strike meant that we would be denied three points. Those type of strikes don't hit the net nine times out of ten

but you have to give credit where it's due.

After the equaliser, we had a perfectly good goal by Danny Mitchley ruled out, but the fact that it was disallowed seems to sum up our luck just now.

Out of all of the teams in this division, we are the team with the most games left to play, and four matches in the space of eight days will take its toll on even the strongest of athletes. We will have to face these head-on though and I do believe we have the character in the squad to

obtain a respectable number of points from now until the end of the campaign.

It is the type of character showed against Newport, when we were three goals behind and came back to level

the game, which we need to unearth once again, and it is at this stage in our season where I look to my senior players to give a helping hand to the younger lads in our squad who are still learning the ropes.

As I write these notes, I am waiting on the news of an injury to Kevin Sandwith who suffered a knee problem on Tuesday night. Kevin is another player who has fought

hard for the cause this season and has amassed a large number of appearances for us.

Finally and most importantly, never forget that you can make the difference.

Enjoy the game.

4. of full



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Man in the Middle

...Seb Stockbridge

TODAY'S man in the middle, Seb Stockbridge, is a complete stranger to Field Mill having only been promoted onto the Conference referees' list last summer.

Able to officiate in the BSBP and run the line in the Football League, Stockbridge of Tyne and Wear has taken charge of eight games so far this season



including our goalless draw away at Darlington back in January.

We can only hope for better luck this afternoon against the Hatters than we experienced at the Darlington Arena that day when two goals were disallowed by Mr Stockbridge and his assistants to deny us maximum points.

Used to being in high pressure scenarios, Stockbridge was on linesman duties at Oakwell on Tuesday night where QPR went within touching distance of promotion to the Premier League with a 1-0 win over Barnsley.



LAWS OF THE GAME LAW 15 - THROW INS (CONT)

LAW 15 - THROW INS (CONT)

If one team enter the field of play wearing gripped rubber gloves that will give them an advantage over their opponents when taking throwins, can the Referee insist that the gloves be removed?

If one team wear a type of glove that will give them an advantage over their opponents whilst taking a throw-in, there is nothing much that the Referee can do about it.

This would be no different, to one team wearing the latest designed football boots, whilst their opponents wear gym shoes or cheap boots.

Therefore, if a team wears gripped rubber gloves, as long as they pose no danger, and as long as they were not ridiculously sized (for example, having false extended fingers) then there is nothing that the Referee can do.

As far as the Laws are concerned, there has never been any mention of prohibiting the wearing of gloves. In situations like this, the Referee should play the game, and report his concerns to the Football Association.

During a throw-in, the ball travels along the touchline. What action should the Referee take?

None. The touchlines are part of the field of play, and the ball is deemed to be in play from a throw-in, the moment the ball touches or crosses the touchline. The whole of the ball does not have to be inside the field of play - so long as a part of the ball is over the touchline, it is deemed to be in play.

A ball thrown along the touchline itself, is deemed to be back in play.

What action should a Referee take if a goalkeeper picks the ball up after it has been thrown directly to him by a colleague (without having been touched by another player)?

An indirect free kick should be awarded to the other team if the goalkeeper touches or picks the ball up inside his own penalty area

A direct free kick should be awarded to the other team, if the goalkeeper touches or picks the ball up outside of his own penalty area.

In both cases, the free kick should be taken from the spot where the goalkeeper touched or picked the ball up.

A goalkeeper is allowed to pick the ball up if it is thrown to him by an opponent.

Is a goalkeeper allowed to take a

Once a goalkeeper leaves his penalty area, he becomes another normal outfield player and is subject to the same rules and permissions as the other outfield players.

There is therefore no reason why the goalkeeper cannot take a throw-in for his team.

www.mansfieldtown.net The Stag / 09





FA Trophy Final seats sold out of our allocation of 15,000. Don't delay, book your seat at Wembley today!

Stags v Grimsby Town

Tuesday 19th April, 7.45pm

WE take on the Mariners in the last of four consecutive home games squeezed into just eight days.

Grimsby have struggled to adapt to life in the BSBP since being relegated from League Two last May ultimately resulting in the dismissal of previous manager Neil Woods in February.

Now under the guidance of former Boston managerial pair Rob Scott and Paul Hurst, the Blundell Park outfit have slid from Play-Off hopefuls to 13th having failed to win in any of their previous six outings.

Stags fans will be hoping for no repeats of the reverse fixture in which Grimsby beat us 7-2 on New Year's Day. Prices are as follows:

Stand	Adult (16 c	or over)	Concessions	Under 16's
Quarry Lane End		£15	£12	£7
North Stand (aw	ay end)	£16	£12	£7
The Ian Greaves sponsored by Na		£18	£12	£9
The Ian Greaves sponsored by Na	Stand	£17	£12	£8

Stags v The Mariners

The previous ten meetings

Season	Date	Home	Score		Comp
2010/2011	Sat 01 Jan	Grimsby Town	7-2Mansfield	d Town	BSBP
2007/2008	Sat 22 Mar	Mansfield Tow	n1-2 Grimsby	y Town	Lge Two
	Sat 15 Dec	Grimsby Town	1-0Mansfield	d Town	Lge Two
2006/2007	Sat 17 Feb	Mansfield Tow	n1-2 Grimsby	y Town	Lge Two
British Trail	Tue 31 Oct	Mansfield Tow	n3-0 Grimsby	y Town	AMT
	Fri 18 Aug	Grimsby Town	1-1Mansfield	d Town	Lge Two
2005/2006	Tue 14 Feb	Mansfield Tow	n2-1 Grimsby	y Town	Lge Two
	Sat 14 Jan	Grimsby Town	2-1Mansfield	d Town	Lge Two
2004/2005	Sat 02 Apr	Mansfield Tow			
	Sat 28 Aug	Grimsby Town	2-0Mansfield	d Town	Lge Two



12th Stag striker scoops top award

TAKING place on the pitch before kick off on Thursday night was the presentation of the inaugural Richie Barker Award, organised by Ollerton Stags Supporters Club in recognition of their Honorary Lifetime Member.

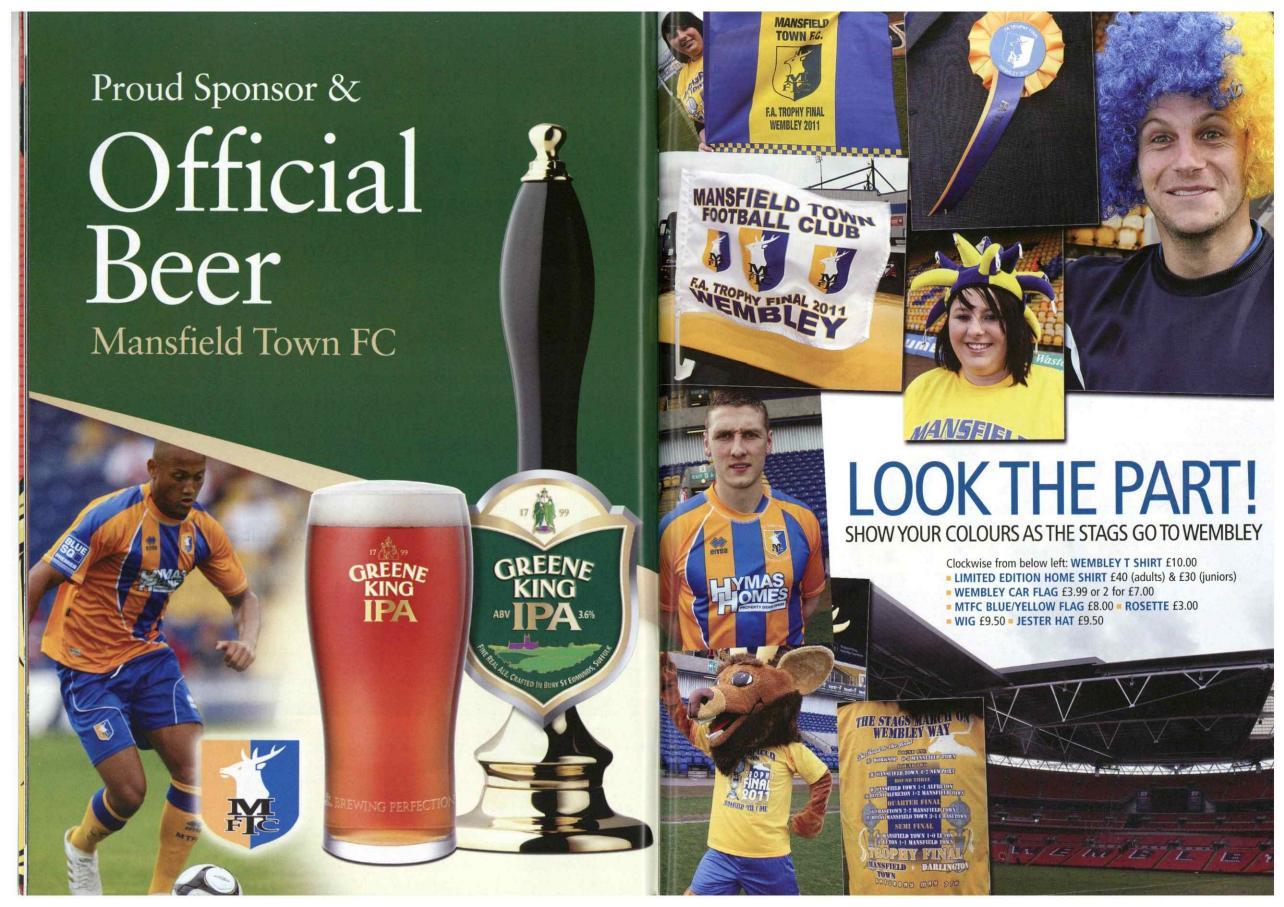
Richie presented a special Trophy to the player who has received the most Man of the Match awards at Field Mill during the course of this season – Paul Connor.

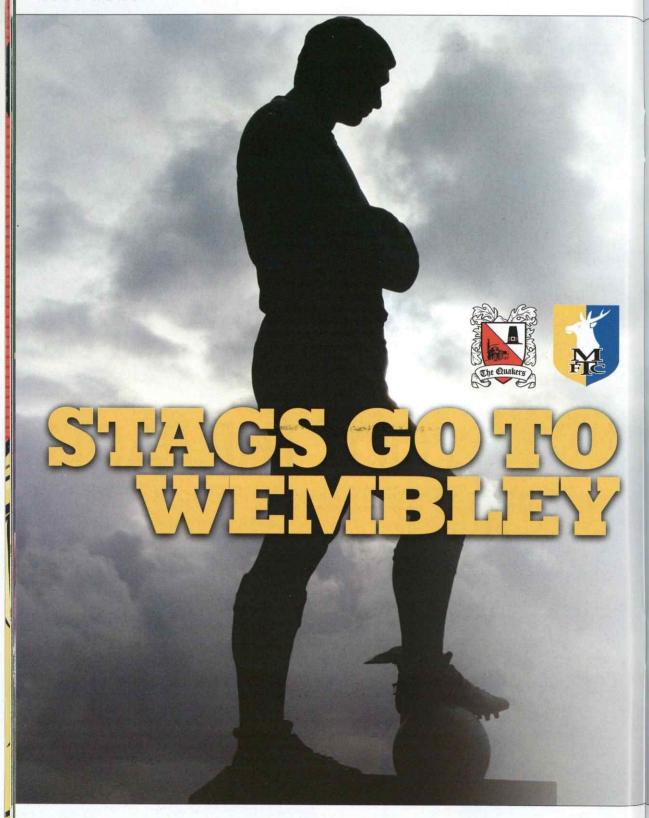
We're sure you will join us in congratulating Richie on his recent appointment as Caretaker Manager at Bury after Alan Knill's departure to Scunthorpe, and of course wish him and the team luck in their fight to catch Chesterfield who are now only seven points clear of them at the top of League Two. Richie has led Bury to three successive wins in his first few weeks in charge and it will be a pleasure as always to welcome him back to Field Mill.

New edition of The Stag for Grimsby

The decision has been taken at the 11th hour to produce a full new programme for our home match against Grimsby in three days time, after it had previously been decided to use today's edition as a 'double header'.

After discussions with the printers, our editorial team will work around-the-clock to deliver you the very latest news and features right from the heart of Field Mill for just £3. Pick up your copy from the club shop or around the ground.





We bring you a comprehensive round up of all essential information ahead of our first appearance at Wembley for 24 years.

Darlington v Stags

FA Trophy Final Saturday 7th May, 3pm Wembley Stadium, London HA9 OWS

MATCH TICKETS

- Adults £30
- Concessions (Over 60s / U16s) £15
- Tickets for disabled supporters will be priced £15 (or £30 with a ticket for a carer).

Tickets went on general from Wednesday (30th March) and will be available until Wednesday 4th May. There is no limit on how many tickets can be purchased by an individual.

Tickets can be bought either in person at the ticket office at Field Mill (on Quarry Lane), in the Sandy Pate Bar (at the rear of the lan Greaves Stand, cash only) or by phoning us on 01623 482 482.

Supporters are advised that due to the anticipated level of demand, Wembley tickets will not be on sale on any matchdays.

Both us and The Quakers have been allocated 15,000 tickets each in the lower tier at Wembley with further allocations available should they be required.

We can also confirm that we have been designated the West End at Wembley meaning that our team will be using the West dressing room which is England's home dressing room.

BLOCK BOOKINGS

Anyone wishing to make a block booking for coach parties etc can do so by calling the ticket office and prearrange a day/time to come and collect tickets.

Full payment will be required when booking or collecting tickets and we advise organisers of coach parties to collect monies beforehand.

AWAY TRAVEL

We advise all supporters to travel with our official supporters' club – Stags Supporters Association. Coach tickets are available from the ticket office midweek of from the Sandy Pate Bar on home matchdays.

- SSA members £20
- Non-members £25

RAIL TRAVEL

Full details of National Rail train times are available at Information relating to London Underground, London Overground or London Buses services are available at

http://journeyplanner.tfl.gov.uk or by phoning 020 7222 1234.

Please remember to plan your journey in advance checking for planned engineering works or service alterations which may impact your journey to and from the stadium.

To avoid ticket office queues when leaving the Stadium, we recommend you buy your Tube ticket as part of your National Rail ticket. Alternatively, buy an Oyster card online in advance. Using an Oyster card is the quickest and cheapest way to travel when using the London Underground or selected National Rail services including Chiltern Railways. Wembley Park and Wembley Central Stations are in Zone 4. Visit www.tfl.gov.uk/oyster for information.

The stadium is served by three stations as follows: Wembley Park Station

The station is served by the Jubilee and Metropolitan Underground Lines. On exiting the Station, follow the pedestrian route along Olympic Way to the front of the Stadium. Allow for a 10 minute walk. After the event, the only way you can get into the Station is via Olympic Way, which has a comprehensive crowd management system implemented to control the flow of people into the station. Please allow for up to 30 minutes of queuing following the event.

Wembley Stadium Station

Use this station for Chiltern Railways services from the Midlands, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and London Marylebone. The Station is located on the south side of the Stadium with access from South Way. Please allow for a 5 minute walk. After the event, a comprehensive crowd management system is implemented to control the flow into the station. Please allow 10-15 minutes to queue for services from this station post event.

Wembley Central Station

This station is served by the London Overground and National Rail Lines. On exiting the station, turn right and walk in an easterly direction along the High Road, past McDonalds and Burger King, to the Wembley Triangle junction and Clock Tower Island. Turn left into Wembley Hill Road, cross the road and follow the pedestrian route across the White Horse Bridge. Allow for a 15 minute walk. Please note that Virgin Trains DO NOT stop at this station

HOSPITALITY

Add that extra sparkle to your day at Wembley with us on May 7th by treating yourself to a first class hospitality package at England's national stadium...

Vice Presidents and match sponsors at Field Mill will have first opportunity today to book their package, whilst any remaining seats in this exclusive lounge will be available from tomorrow. Ring Jo Scully on 01623 482 482 to book your package today.

With a seat which boasts unbeatable views from the Bobby Moore Club on the halfway line, you can enjoy...

A hot buffet including....

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- Chicken supreme in red wine and mushroom sauce
- Roasted shallot and garlic tart served with a sweet tomato and chervil sauce
- Selection of seasonal vegetables and potatoes
- Assorted breads and rolls
- Bowls of seasonal and exotic fruits
- Selection of British farmhouse cheeses.
- Assorted dried fruits and biscuits
- Assorted handmade patisserie
 Freshly brewed coffee and fudge
- Drinks package

 Beer, wine and soft drinks two hours
- prior to kick off

 Half time drinks-pre-ordered beer,
- wine and soft drinks

 Cash bar facility for one hour post
 match
- Match Day Programme

Please note there is a dress code of Smart/Casual-(no Football Shirts or Trainers, or the wearing of football shirts in the seats to watch the game). Please be aware that if you are not wearing the correct dress code you will not be allowed into the Bobby Moore Club.

Cost is just £125 + VAT (£150 per ticket)

MERCHANDISE

Stay tuned for official Mansfield Town 'Road to Wembley' merchandise by visiting our online shop at www.stagsclubshop.com.

BROADCASTING

There are currently no plans to televise this match. Stags Player will cover the match with full commentary from Nigel Pinnick and Steve Hartshorn. You can sign up for Stags Player online at www.mansfieldtown.net/page/player/Home.



JOIN THE TEAM!

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Adult	£280.00	£260.00	£18.00	£154.00
Concessions	£170.00	£150.00	£12.00	£126.00
Under 16's	£90.00	£70.00	£9.00	£137.00
Under 7's	£25.00	£25.00	£2.00	£21.00

IAN GREAVES STAND LOWER TIER

Adult	£260.00	£240.00	£17.00	£151.00
Concessions	£170.00	£150.00	£12.00	£126.00
Under 16's	£90.00	£70.00	£8.00	£114.00
Under 7's	£25.00	£25.00	£2.00	£21.00
OUARRY LAN	E END			

Adult	£250.00	£230.00	£15.00	£115.00
Concessions	£170.00	£150.00	£12.00	£126.00
Under 16's	£90.00	£70.00	£7.00	£91.00
Under 7's	£25.00	£25.00	£2.00	£21.00

ALL CONCESSIONS: Under 16s and Under 7s must produce ID to purchase season tickets.

■ All season tickets can be purchased over three months with a deposit equivalent to one month equal payment. E.g Ian Greaves Stand Upper Tier: Adult early bird is priced £260.00 with a deposit of £90.00. Please note that season tickets can be collected once final payment has been made. The early bird deadline is 01 May 2011.



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Football in the Community



Rainworth**Škoda**



Sammy the Stag goes to the Races

Sammy the Stag will make his debut tomorrow in the Mascot Gold Cup. In the annual racing event held at Wetherby Racecourse, Yorkshire, over 60 mascots from professional sporting outfits and charities will enter the sprint to raise money for Sue Ryder Care - a charity which raises money to improve care for those with terminal illnesses. Sammy is full of confidence and rates his chances highly whilst we will bring you a full report of his progress in a future edition of the matchday programme.

Meet the team

T: 07977 428 147 E: stagsfitc@hotmail.com

MARK HEMINGRAY FITC Director GARY SHAW Community Officer MARK LYNK Community Officer

Activities Co-ordinator ORDAN FERRER Community Coach **ULIE HEMINGRAY Admin and Accounts ERNARD WALE Secretary**

Anybody interested in a fun day at the races can check out www.wetherbyracing.co.uk

Wembley trip full

Football in the Community and Mansfield Radio 103.2FM are pleased to announce that their childrens coach trip to Wembley is now officially FULL. All the people who are attending the day out on May 7th are asked to report to the Community Office to the rear of the Ian Greaves Stand on the day before 9am. A packed lunch is required and spending money is optional. For further information call 07977 428

FITC in full voice

Finally, the FITC team would like to say a big thank you to Dougie Carroll and Nick Turner for their help in the making of Football in the Community's Wembley song. The kids who featured on the track all had an incredible time and the CD is now available to purchase from Football in the Community for just £3. All proceeds go towards helping fund Football in the Community which is Registered Charity 1124621.

Today's mascots

Joining us this afternoon is Aaron Bott. aged six, who attends All Saints School in Huthwaite. enjoys playing football and going swimming and lists his favourite player as Alan Marriott. Joining Aaron is seven-year-old James Chadburn whose favourite player is Luke Medley and attends King Edward School. Charlie Whitlam also joins us who is aged 11, goes

to Thornhill Junior and Infants School likes watching Stags, playing tennis and cycling. He lists Steven Istead.

Alan Marriott

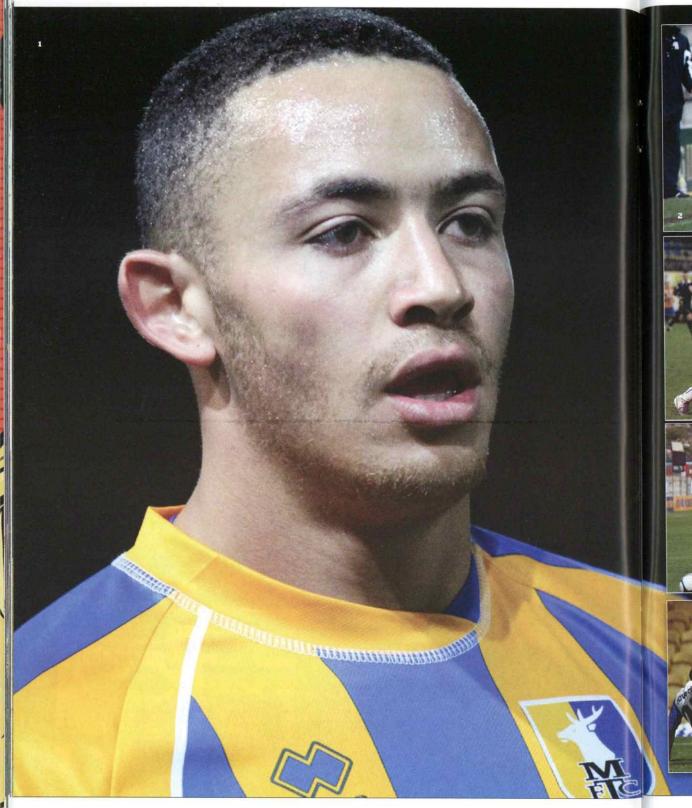
and Adam



Smith as his favourite players. Last but not least, we also welcome Alyssa (6) and Jay Sharpe (5) who both attend John T Rice School. Alyssa likes to play on her scooter, sing and dance and likes Conor Higginson whilst Jay's hobby is football and favourite player is Rhys Day.

The Stag / 21





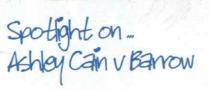












Official photographer Richard Parkes will be aiming his long lens in the direction of a different player through the course of a game this season.

Here, he keeps a close eye on Stags' flying winger Ashley Cain during Tuesday evening's 1-1 draw with Barrow here at Field Mill.

- 1. Ashley Cain stands deep in thought
- 2. Wing play
- 3. Tussling with Barrow's Paul Edwards
- 4. Sandwiched by the Barrow defence
- 5. A surge forward is thwarted by Edwards
- 6. Defensive duties are upheld

ONE ON ONE

SILKCUT

OUR CURRENT LONGEST SERVING PLAYER, GARY SILK, SPEAKS TO THE STAG'S EDITOR MARK STEVENSON ABOUT THE WINDS OF CHANGE AT FIELD MILL OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS WHILST HAVING HIS BARNET CUT.

WITH THANKS TO POWER CUTTS, NOTTINGHAM ROAD, MANSFIELD

THE BIO

Gary Silk's impressive displays in 2008/2009 earned him several accolades at our awards ceremony including player of the season and the players' player of the season awards.

Silk played for Notts County between 2006 and 2008 and is credited with several tremendous performances from a right back position.

Although he began his career at Portsmouth, Silk made his professional debut whilst on a loan spell at Barnet. After that he spent the majority of the 2004/05 season on loan at Wycombe where he featured 28 times.

When his Portsmouth contract expired he joined Notts County where he played over 70 times, scoring two goals before joining us in 2008.He is held in high regard by supporters and is considered one of our best ever right-backs. He lives near

MS: You're the last-man-standing, as it were, having been with us since the start of our first season in non-league three years ago. You've witnessed three different Chairman, as many managers and have played with over 100 different players...you are still with us now so it must mean you're doing something right...

GS: I think that is mainly down to the consistency in my performances that is one of my main strengths. It's nice to be the longest serving player but three seasons at one club isn't a real long stint. I feel at home here and hope to sign a new contract in the summer to extend my stay.

MS: Are there any plans to open fresh contract talks?

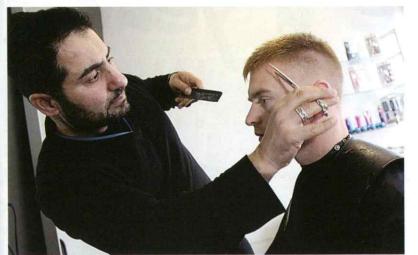
GS: I've not spoken to the gaffer at the minute, as things are still up in the air in that respect, but I hope to open talks soon.

MS: You want to stay with us then? GS: Definitely. The new Chairman has stabilised the club. In the past there have been money worries but he has settled things down and looks to take the club forward, which I want to be a part of.

MS: And what about your assessment of the managers you've played under, they're all very different characters: Billy McEwan, David Holdsworth and now Duncan Russell...

GS: Billy was very old school in his ways and not all the players took to him but he played me every week so I had little qualms. Perhaps he was too stubborn in his ways in terms of formations and things like that but he is an experienced man and I am grateful for him for giving me the opportunity here. David Holdsworth was a manager who liked to be in control of everything. He was a good motivator but maybe too intense at times. It's now a much more relaxed atmosphere and I think the gaffer has done well by cutting the squad down, which has led to the players feeling like a tighter unit.











SENIOR APPEARANCES

Team	Debut	Apps (sub)	Goals	Yellows	Reds
Mansfield Town	09 Aug 2008	112 (2)	2	17	0
Notts. County	05 Aug 2006	55 (18)	2	7	0
Boston United	14 Jan 2006	11 (3)	0	2	0
Wycombe Wdrs	07 Aug 2004	25 (3)	0	8	1

MS: Which has been your best season out of the three?
GS: Either the first or second. I've been up and down this season and have had a few minor injuries, but I think I'm starting to find form now.

MS: How would you sum up this season?

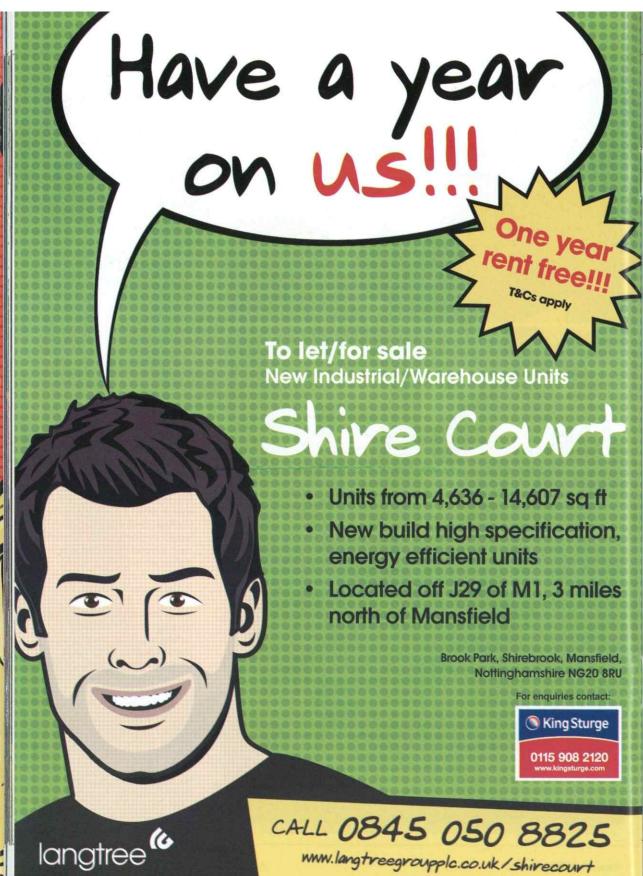
GS: It will be a fantastic day at Wembley next month for the Trophy final and we've had a really good run in that competition this year. The league has been a disappointment and we should be higher than where we are.

MS: Out of the 100+ players that have been on the first team books in your three years here, if you could pick any three players from that list to bring back, who would you have?

GS: Aaron O'Connor would be one. He showed the reasons why I would have him back when we played Rushden recently. Nathan Arnold would be another. I had a good relationship with him in my first season here and it was a shame when he left the club. My final choice to have back would be Soms [Matt Somner]. He is a good mate and was in my car school, and I would have him back for his banter in the changing rooms.

MS: In the last three seasons we have just failed in the final furlong to get into the promotion places. What are we missing?
GS: Consistency. We've scored a lot of goals this season, but have also conceded a lot. It's frustrating for the fans, but equally so for us players. It only takes a few wins to push up the league but we've not been able to do that.

MS: Any plans for the summer? GS: I'll be going to Cannes for a long weekend and then to Turkey for my dad's 50th.





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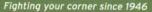
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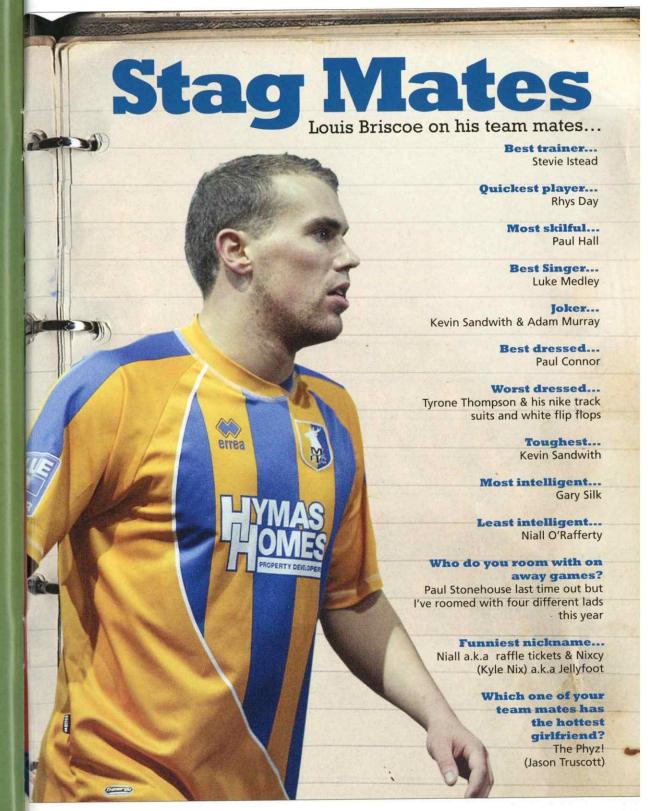
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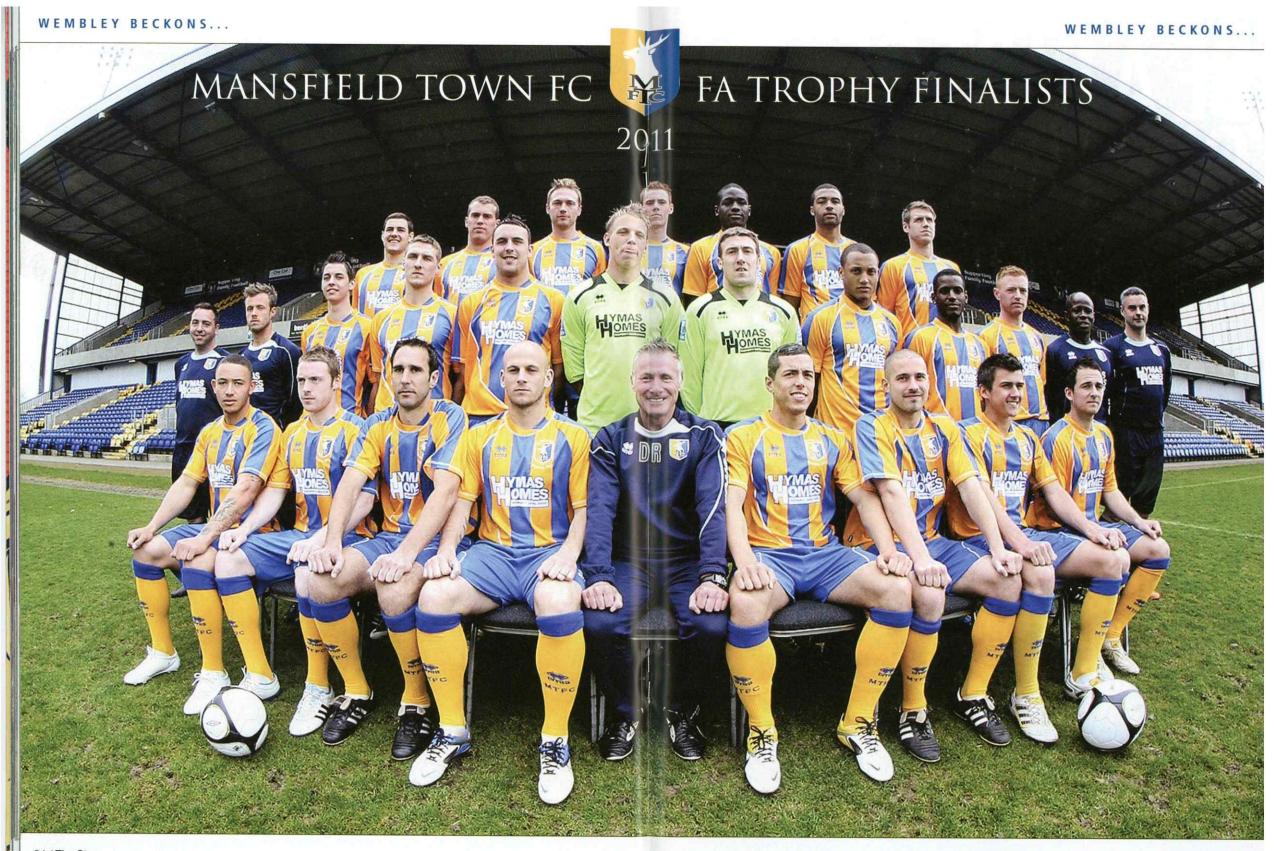
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Can you find the eight footballers? Clichy • Larsson • Murphy • Ferdinand Bentley • Dyer • Kightly • Defoe

home games?

A. Whaddon Road B. Kenilworth Road

C. Vicarage Road What colour is Luton's home kit?

A. Orange and white

B. Blue and Grey C. Blue

Where did they finish in the league last year?

A. 6th B. 18th

C. 2nd

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DID YOU KNOW?

Luton Town won the League Cup in 1987-88, and were runners up the following season!

ANAGRAMS...

Move the letters around in the jumbled up words to find the countries!

A Hang =? Can Lied =? Aid In =?

RIDDLE

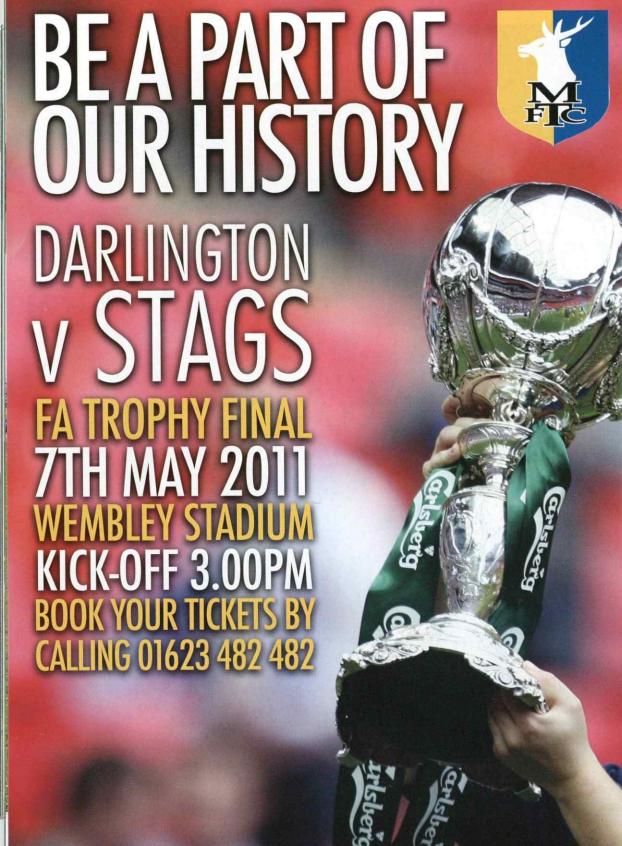
What is higher without the head, than with it?

Anagram - 1. Ghana, 2. Iceland, 3. India

Riddle - A pillow. Question Time - 1b 2a 3c **ANSWERS:**

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Top refs must set new precedence

By Matt Badcock

IN his recent column in a national paper, former Premier League referee Graham Poll gave his view on Wayne Rooney's F-word outburst down the camera lens at Upton Park a fortnight ago.

Poll recalled his past dealings with Rooney's mouth, called for a three game ban and quotes part of Law 12 from the FA rule book.

It reads as follows: A player is sent off and shown the red card if he uses offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures.

Quickly in your head, and it is pretty unlikely you can remember every occasion, count up how many times you have heard or seen a player or manager from your team fall foul of that particular rule.

Now count up how many times you've seen the first part of that rule – the red card bit – enforced. Not many I'd wager.

In fairness to Poll he has admitted in the past he has been guilty of not going to his back pocket in that situation.

A lot of column inches are filled with talk of professional footballers acting as role models – but what about referees at this level? They need role models too.

If a referee at a Non-League game this weekend sends a player off for foul and abusive language it is unlikely that player's manager will come out and say, 'Yes the referee was right to go by the book'.

However if officials at the top of the game start acting then referees



learning their trade further down the pyramid will feel confident in sticking to the rules.

A high-profile referee taking the correct course of action at a Premier League ground on live TV will go a long way to providing young, upcoming referees the support they need.



week, and there are plenty of Non-League grounds in the limelight.

The new semi-pro league features eight teams – all have signed up to a salary can – and it is boned playing i

eight teams – all have signed up to a salary cap – and it is hoped playing in the summer will help drive up the profile of the women's game and increase attendances.

With games being shown live on TV groundsmen will be working hard to make sure there playing surface is fit for the cameras.

Women's football heavyweights Arsenal Ladies play at Boreham Wood's Meadow Park and the WSL's inaugural game between the Gunners and Chelsea Ladies was at Tooting & Mitcham's home last Wednesday.

Everton Ladies play at Evo-Stik Premier Marine, their Merseyside rivals Liverpool call Skelmersdale home and Lincoln Ladies will host games at Lincoln United's Ashby Avenue.



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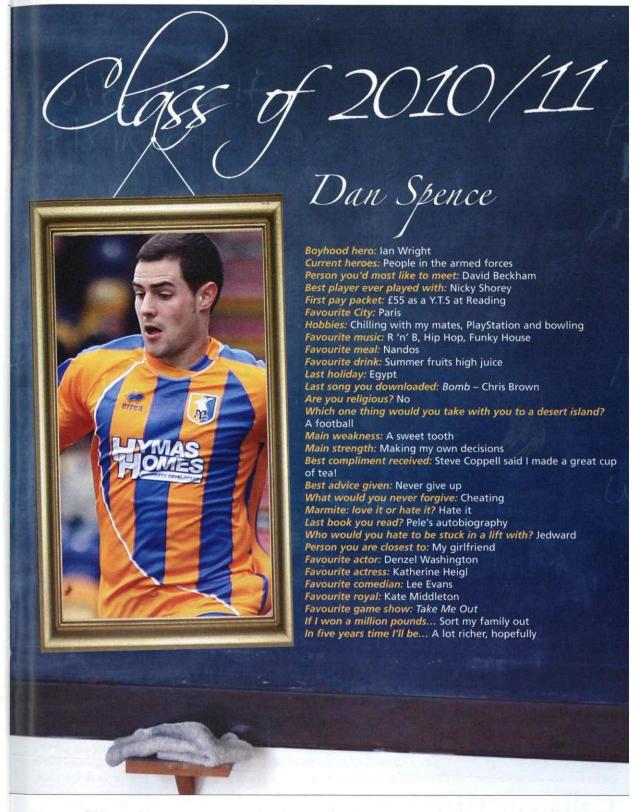
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Ambition, selflessness and a desire to learn



IT'S NEVER easy for a new performances. Yet 'Brabs' was manager to come in and take assistant manager under over of the reigns of a club Money and explains that at the business end of the there's no hard feelings season, especially when the between the two men: team he's been appointed to "Richard was certainly is pushing for promotion. going to move on to better Attempting to fulfil things, that was always the the expectations plan. He's a professional and of a team, understands that every desperate to managerial job has a return to certain life-span. its former "We both learned off glory days of each other and there of the is a huge amount of Football respect between the League, two of us." with only The fact that the ten new boss has come games to in and not go is a aggrieved anyone big ask at the club with his for any appointment is manager. clearly a bonus. But But after a slow luckily for start to Brabin's Luton Town, short campaign new manager at Kenilworth Gary Brabin Road, the (pictured) Hatters are exudes a finally starting tenacity and to kick on, with desire to a 6-0 thrashing push his team of Southport forward last weekend towards reigniting the League 2 - he club's promotion wants to go charge. Yet 'Brabs' is places with well aware that the club Luton. The have not secured a top Hatters boss was five place yet, and is given the job last taking every day as it month after comes before thinking former manager about a playoff push: Richard Money "We should never take our was sacked position for granted. I was following a string given ten league games to of poor turn things around and during

that period were set little targets, some of which we have chipped away at and achieved. One of these targets is reaching the playoffs, and once we do that we then need to believe we will get promoted."

The manager is not looking any further than this season; his whole task is to get the club into the playoffs and achieve promotion. He is still unsure as to where he will be in the future, and although he hopes to remain at Kenilworth Road, there are also other targets on his mind:

"In five years time I would love to be a respected and successful manager at a great club, preferably still Luton Town. I understand the shelf-life of most football managers and my aims are to be as successful as possible.

"I have a desire to learn and gain more experience, but also I want to go places, help the club and its players and be thorough in everything I do. I don't want to forget where I have been, but most importantly I want to be managing a team with ambition and Luton fits that description."

Brabin is not looking beyond the next few weeks, and both he and his players are fuelled by a desire to get Luton Town out of the BSBP as quickly as possible, which underlines the man's ambition. The new boss could be easily summed up in three words: ambitious, selfless and keen to learn more; traits not always common to your average football manager, and this is a reason that Luton Town have a real chance of achieving promotion with him.

 Danny Crow and Shane Blackett are the only long-term injury concerns for the Hatters and will miss the game at Field Mill

The Lowdown

Ground Kenilworth Road Capacity 10,226 Nickname The Hatters Year formed 1885 Likely Formation 4-4-2 Last Game D1-1 v Crawley Town (A)

The Dossier...

The Stag takes a look at the strengths and weaknesses of this afternoon's opponents.

Mark Tyler

This hugely experienced goalkeeper signed a two-year contract at Kenilworth Road in June 2009 following his release from Peterborough United. Mark made 483 appearances in 15 years at London Road and was rewarded for his loyalty with a testimonial against Liverpool in 2007. A former England Youth international, Tyler was handed the number one shirt by the Hatters boss and has kept goal all season, making 40 appearances so far.

Dan Gleeson

Dan joined the Hatters in the summer of 2010 from his home town club Cambridge United. A product of the U's academy, Gleeson made 61 appearances at the Abbey Stadium, before an unsuccessful spell at Notts County led to him moving to Kenilworth Road. This tall, athletic defender primarily plays at right-back and has seven England C caps to his name.

George Pilkington

This highly experienced defender began his career as an Everton trainee and before joining Port Vale in June 2003, starting 223 league games for the Valiants and being named Player of the Year there twice. The centre-half joined the Hatters on a free transfer in August 2008, and has picked up a Johnstone's Paint Trophy winners' medal, along with a string of end-of-season awards. He has started 40 games this season.

Zdenek Kroca

Kroča began his career with his hometown club Tescoma Zlín in his native Czech Republic, making 169



Above: Mark Tyler

LUTON TOWN ROLL CALL 2010/2011

No.	Name	Pos	Date of Birth	Previous Club
1	Mark Tyler	G	02-04-77	Peterborough U
2	Dan Gleeson	D	17-02-85	Cambridge U
3	Fred Murray	D	22-05-82	Grays Ath
4	Keith Keane	M	20-11-86	None
5	Luke Graham	D	27-04-86	Kettering T
6	George Pilkington	D	07-11-81	Port Vale
7	Adam Newton	M	04-12-80	Brentford
8	Amari Morgan-Smith	F	03-04-89	Ilkeston T
9	Matthew Barnes-Homer	F	25-01-86	Kidderminster H
11	Robbie Willmott	M	16-05-90	Cambridge U
12	Shane Blackett	D	03-10-82	Peterborough U
13	Zdeněk Kroča	D	29-09-80	Zlín
14	Alex Lawless	M	05-02-83	York C
15	Jake Howells	D	18-04-91	None
16	Ed Asafu-Adjaye	D	22-12-88	None
17	Paul Carden	M	29-03-79	Cambridge U
18	Claude Gnapka	D	09-06-83	Peterborough U
19	Danny Crow	F	26-01-86	Cambridge U
21	Charlie Henry	M	28-09-86	Newport Co
23	Jason Walker	F	21-02-84	Barrow
24	Alex Lacey	D	31-05-93	None
25	Godfrey Poku	M	22-07-90	St Albans C
26	JJ O'Donnell	F	29-10-91	St Albans C
28	Adam Watkins	M	08-09-91	None
30	Kevin Pilkington	G	08-03-74	Notts Co
31	Lewis Kidd	G	28-10-92	None
32	Jordan Patrick	Ė	14-10-92	None
34	Lloyd Owusu	F	12-12-76	Adelaide U
36	Newman Carney	D	23-03-94	None

appearances. Last season the imposing six foot five inches defender helped his former team reach second place in the Czech second division, before joining Town on a one-year contract, where he has forged a vital partnership in the centre of defence with George Pilkington.

Freddie Murray

This left-footed, versatile defender joined the Hatters on a six-month loan deal from Blue Square Premier side Grays Athletic in August 2009, and the deal was made permanent in January 2010. The Irishman has had spells with Northampton Town, Stevenage Borough and Cambridge United and he began his career as a trainee with Blackburn Rovers.

Robbie Willmott

Harlow-born Willmott penned an 18-month contract with the Hatters in January 2011. Capable of playing on either wing or behind the front two, Willmott started off Cambridge United, spending four years wowing the home faithful with his pace, dribbling, close control and eye for goal. Willmott's turn of foot and delivery from setpieces has become a highly sought-after commodity from many Football League clubs. Since moving to Kenilworth Road he has scored four goals in nine appearances.

Keith Keane

Having made his debut as a 16-year-old in November 2003, Keane is a product of the youth system who regularly appeared for the Republic of Ireland at schoolboy level. He joined the Hatters at the age of nine having been scouted in local football and has proved to be one of the, if not the most, versatile players to pull on a Luton shirt. Featuring most prominently on the right of midfield and bursting forward to great effect to provide many goals for himself and his team-mates, the midfielder has made forty one appearances this campaign.

Alex Lawless

This former Wales Under-21 midfielder signed in November 2010 initially onloan from York City before joining permanently last January. He previously had spells at Cardiff, Fulham and Torquay, where he made performances

in a variety of positions in both defence and across midfield. Since joining the Hatters he has scored two goals in 11 starts.

Jake Howells

This young winger, who can also play at left-back, came through the ranks as a youth player at Kenilworth Road. After making 36 appearances for the Hatters in the 2008/09 the England C international was rewarded for his efforts with a professional contract in May. The youngster has been in fine form this season scoring three goals in 39 appearances.

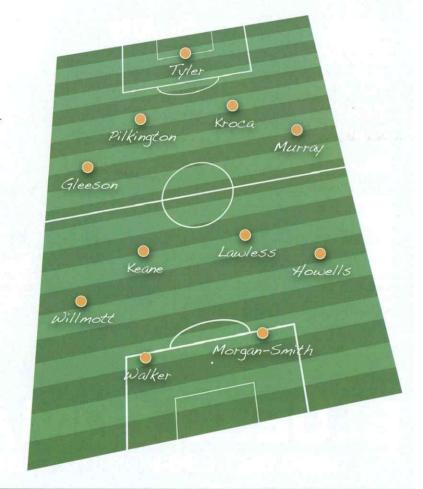
Dan Walker

Dan is a quick, young forward, capable of playing down the flanks who signed a one-year deal in July 2010 after impressing in pre-season in games for and against the Hatters. Previously with Bedford Town, Walker has played for Stony Stratford Town and Leighton Town.

Amari Morgan-Wmith

This six foot striker arrived at Kenilworth Road as a free agent following a two-year spell at Ilkeston Town. He put pen to paper on a two-year deal after two years with the Blue Square Bet North side in which he scored 34 goals in 77 starts.

Wolverhampton-born Morgan-Smith started his career as a trainee with Wolves before stints at Crewe, Stockport and Derby County. The fast and skilful front-man has an England C cap to his name, and has scored seven goals this season.



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Fan File

With Stuart Lindsey, who once locked former manager Mike Newell in the Main Stand at Kenilworth Road on the day of a big game...

AWAY TEAM

What are the strengths of the club?

Our entire team right now, as well as a superb crop of youngsters coming through. The team have rediscovered their love of playing and it is certainly showing.

What about the weaknesses?

Honestly speaking, none. Though occasionally Super Claude Gnakpa forgets that the pitch is 100 yards long and not just the last 40 near the opposition goal.

Player of the season?

For me, Freddie Murray. He's had a few injuries recently but has been superb all season, and he finally scored on Saturday against Southport! If we hadn't sold him to lpswich, Andy Drury would have also been a top contender.

Was it right for the board to sack former manager Richard Money at such a late stage in the season?

I was in two minds about this as football history suggests that changing managers so late on doesn't tend to work. However, "Dickie" obviously felt he could no longer successfully continue doing the job.

Is new boss Gary Brabin the right man for the job?

If you're going to get a new manager this late on, get that man from within. "Brabs" certainly has the credentials to perform in this league, and the past three games have shown a marked change in our players, so I have to say yes, we only wish we could understand him!

What are the club's chances of winning the playoffs?

You mean what are anyone else's chances of beating us?! Having seen the way we're playing at the

moment and factoring in Murphy's Law – that anything can go wrong, will go wrong – as well as a bad referee, about a 15% chance!

How important was Town's 6-0 destruction of Southport and their first win in five games?

Obviously it was important – goals had been scarce and the players were a bit down, and although we'd been playing better Brabs' first win was still eluding us. Now that it's done and dusted it's all about momentum for the last few league games and into the playoffs.

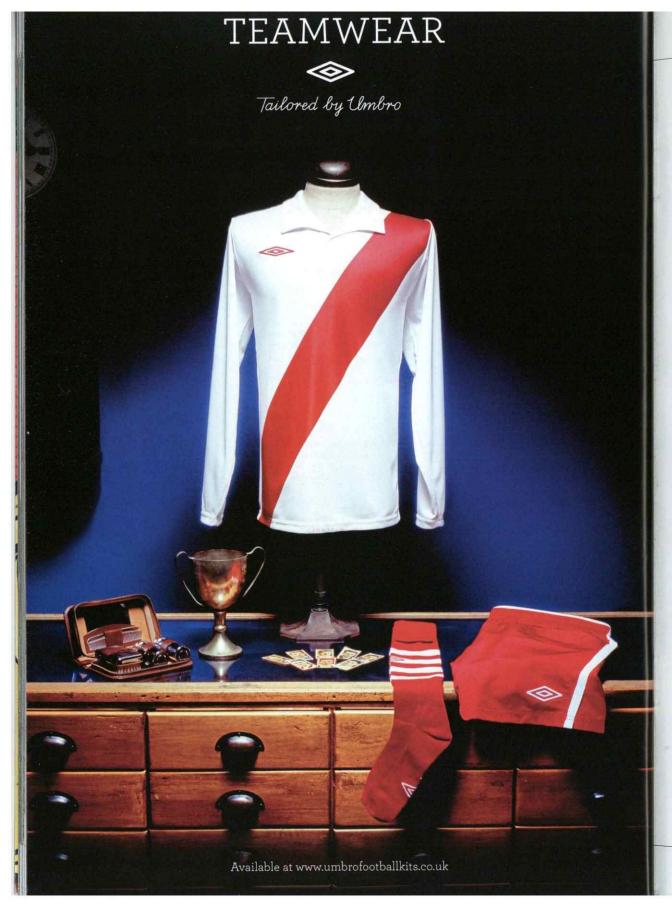
Are you disappointed to have missed out on the FA Trophy Final after losing to the Stags in the semi finals?

We didn't lose, we were robbed! Initially I didn't give a "mango sherbet" about the Trophy, but having got so far to be denied by controversial refereeing decisions and especially after the effort the nine remaining lads put in; I was more than a bit gutted.

How devastating has Luton's demise down the Football League been to such a long-standing fan?

Painful obviously – I have witnessed the halcyon days of our club and then also its near extinction. We were really that close to being no more and over 100 years of history vanishing, yet thankfully now we're on the rise again. One thing though – we will never forgive and never forget what was done to us.





Names & Games

Football historian Leigh Edwards looks at The Hatters' leading lights

Classic Campaign 1987-88

Ray Harford plotted Luton Town's 1988 Littlewoods Cup final triumph. Danny Wilson replaced Peter Nicholas in midfield, while Micky Weir arrived from Hibernian and Mike Newell moved to Leicester. The Hatters won 5-2 at Oxford and Ian Allinson was signed from Stoke in October, with Luton losing just twice in 12 matches including a 7-4 win the return match against Oxford, finishing ninth in the top-flight. They defeated Wigan 5-2, Coventry 3-1, Ipswich 1-0, Bradford City 2-0 and Oxford 3-1 in the Littlewoods Cup before beating Arsenal 3-2 in the final. Luton were also FA Cup semi-finalists and Simod Cup finalists.

Fab Four

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



Managing to Succeed David Pleat

Articulate manager David Pleat guided Luton Town to the Second Division title in 1981-82. A former winger, he played for Nottingham Forest, Luton, Shrewsbury, Exeter and Peterborough before becoming Nuneaton's player-boss. He rejoined Luton as coach in July 1972 and became manager in January 1978, guiding the Hatters to the FA Cup semifinals in 1984-85. Taking charge of Spurs in May 1986, he led them to the 1987 FA Cup final, then managed Leicester City before rejoining Luton in June 1991. He took the Hatters to the FA Cup semi-finals again in 1993-94, leaving in June 1995.

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

Now working in the media.

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.

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.

Match winner: Louis Briscoe

celebrates at Luton last month

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Old friends reunite

With Matt Halfpenny of the Nottingham Post

FOR those who have witnessed the three previous clashes between Mansfield Town and Luton this season, it will come as no shock that history has thrown up a number of memorable clashes between the two sides.

What is more of a surprise, though, given that the Hatters have enjoyed a great deal more success down the years, is that the Stags come out on top in overall head-to-heads, having won nine, lost eight and drawn six...

Luton first became a footballing force in the 1950s when they reached the top flight of English football and the 1959 FA Cup Final where they lost 2-1 to Mansfield's near-neighbours, Nottingham Forest.

The club attained Division One status again in the mid-70s, but it was in the following decade that they enjoyed a considerable boom period under the managership of, primarily, David Pleat.

The Bedfordshire club held their own at the top level for a number of seasons with players such as Brian Stein, Ricky Hill, Les Sealey and Steve Foster (no, Mansfield fans, not that one!) to the fore.

Not only that, but they reached the final of the League Cup twice in a row in 1988 and 1989 at Wembley Stadium.

As all Hatters fans will know, the first of those occasions saw them triumph 3-2 over Arsenal with late goals from Danny Wilson and Stein.

Luton made a worthy defence of their crown when they returned to the capital the following year, only to lose 3-1, again to Forest.

It was not until the end of 1991-92 that the Hatters were relegated out of the old Division One before slowly slipping down the pyramid.

With that in mind, it is no surprise that Mansfield, who have spent most of their time in the Football League's bottom two divisions, have not taken on Luton too often.

Even so, the first meeting of the two clubs did come pretty quickly after Mansfield's election to the Football League – their very first season of 1931-32, in fact.

That Division Three South clash on Good Friday, March 25 1932, saw Luton 3-1 victors, but the Stags quickly gained ample revenge by winning 5-2 at Field Mill on the Easter Monday, three days later.

Both teams had their moments in clashes of the 1960s, but there were only two meetings in the following decade, when the Stags climbed into the old Division Two for the only time in their history, in 1977-78.

Mansfield were 3-1 winners at Field Mill and also drew 1-1 at Kenilworth Road, but it could not prevent relegation at the end of the campaign.

It was not until the League Cup draw threw the two sides together for a Second Round tie in 1989-90 that they met again.

An exciting game in Mansfield saw the visitors win 4-3, but the Stags were outclassed in the second leg, succumbing to a 7-2 defeat.



Almost a decade on, in 2001-2002, there were goals galore again in a year both sides won automatic promotion to what is now League One.

Mansfield triumphed 4-1 at Field Mill before Luton were deserved 5-3 winners of the return clash.

A season later, the Stags did the double, winning both games 3-2, but they still could not beat the drop.

Subsequent match-ups have been with both sides in the Blue Square Bet Premier, during which time Luton have had the better of things.

In 2009-10 they were handsome 4-1 winners at Kenilworth Road and then secured a 0-0 draw up north.

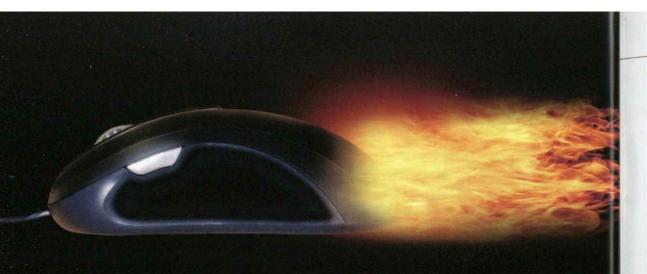
And earlier this season, the Hatters won 2-0, even though they missed three penalties.

There has also been a significant, two-legged FA Trophy Semi-Final clash just last month, which saw Mansfield claim a place at Wembley.

Danny Mitchley's goal clinched a 1-0 home victory at Field Mill before Lloyd Owusu did the same in Bedfordshire.

But it was Mansfield who went through as Louis Briscoe scored a late goal in extra-time to level the game at 1-1 and seal a 2-1 aggregate success.

Don't miss THE MATCH in Monday's NOTTINGHAM POST for analysis and reaction to today's game





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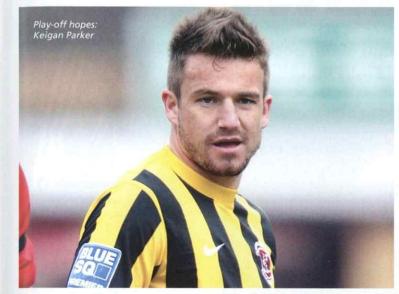
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Blue Square Review



Parker predicts close finish

STAGS' striker Keigan Parker remains hopeful that Fleetwood, who he has joined on loan until the end of the season, can hang on to their place in top five.

With only two points separating the Lancashire outfit from sixth placed Kidderminster, last weekend's 6-0 hammering of Eastbourne was a welcome boost for both club and player as Parker bagged his second goal for the promotion-hopefuls.

"We've been on a good run and getting six goals against anybody in this league is very impressive," Parker told The Gazette.

"I think we had a bit of a sticky patch when we were beaten by Eastbourne earlier on this season, so we had a point to prove down there. I think we are over that banana skin now when we were struggling against teams near the bottom. Getting so many goals can show we're the form team of the division with only four fixtures left."

FGR on course to go green

WITH the club struggling just above the relegation zone, shareholders at Forest Green Rovers have this week agreed a process allowing Chairman Dale Vince to invest further sums of money into the club.

The new process allows for the board to issue shares throughout the year without the need to call a board meeting in order to ratify any issue.

Vince became the majority shareholder in August when the team was part-time. In November, the money invested by Vince enabled the club to become full time and it was hoped that this move would stave off any threat of relegation. However, with just four games remaining, Forest Green find themselves only two points off the drop zone.

Vince has announced that should relegation happen, it will not change his plans to see the club succeed. He has outlined that the long term aim is to see the club break even and that as the founder of green energy company Ecotricity, raise the eco-message and to turn the place 'green'.

Diamonds prove their worth

RUSHDEN & Diamonds CEO Steve Beasant was forced to issue a statement last weekend denying rumours that the club is days away from entering into administration.



The Northamptonshire outfit's financial worries have been muchpublicised lately with the players threatening to go on strike prior to our home clash with the Diamonds a fortnight ago over non payment

The dispute was eventually settled with funds from the sale of goalkeeper Joe Day to Peterborough was but questions persist over the club's long term viability.

"Administration is not being considered by the board," he said in a statement on the club's official website. "This is based on the income anticipated from season ticket sales, shares, commercial sponsorship and contracts. April's sales of 'Early Bird' season tickets allows the club to finish the season.

"So we can't stress enough that the club isn't about to 'go under' but does need the fans to show their commitment now to season tickets and shares to aid the club financially.

"In the close season we will have a big push commercially to bring in extra funds to clear any debts before the start of the 2011/12 season."

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Where are they now?

Colin Holmes profiles some of the post-war players who have graced Field Mill



Jason Pearcey

Goalkeeper Jason Pearcey played for Mansfield from 1986 putting pen to paper at just 15 years old. He was at Field Mill until 1994, starting out as the backup for Andy Beasley before eventually making the number one jersey his own.

He made his home debut against Birmingham in April 1990, after regular keeper Andy Beasley failed a late fitness test, and recalled that day: "It was a bit of a shock. My family didn't even have time to get up from Leamington Spa so I just had the folks from my digs there. The lads put me at ease before the start. Trevor Christie and some of them started stuffing toilet rolls and a toilet brush in my jacket. But they were great and helped by talking me through it."

Stags won the match 5-2 and Jason's next game earned him a man of the match performance at just 18 years old. Andy Beasley managed to reclaim his place after coming back from injury, but Jason was to get another chance in the 1991/92 season earning him a present from George Foster - a new pair of gloves after he complained his own were falling to pieces and George promised him a new pair if he kept clean sheets in his next two games.

Being in and out of the side, Jason was unsure if his future was in football and took the decision to take his tests to enable him to drive heavy goods vehicles. The emergence of Darren Ward, and the boo-boys getting on Jason's back, made up his mind when manager Andy King received an offer from



Barry Richardson
Starting his career in 1988 at
Sunderland, Barry Richardson has
enjoyed a varied career as a
goalkeeper. Despite hanging up
his boots in 2004, Barry has been
used by three different clubs
since, all three times as an
unused substitute, firstly at
Nottingham Forest in 2009 then
Cheltenham and, more recently
last year, at Peterborough where
he is also the Goalkeeping Coach.

Grimsby, which was accepted. After several successful years at Field Mill, Jason moved from Mansfield to Grimsby for a fee of £10,000 where he spent nearly four years before switching to Brentford in 1998. During the 2000/01 season, Jason unfortunately sustained a serious leg injury which ended his career professionally.

Determined to play on, Jason made further non-league appearances over the next few years but his leg injury got worse and says that today he is thankful just to be walking. Jason today is part of Just for Keepers - a coaching company who look to develop youngsters in the hope of attaching them to a club. He also works full-time driving heavy goods vehicles for a large petrol company.

Sandy Pate

Kevin Randall

Many fans before the game enjoy a pre-match drink or two at Field Mill in the Sandy Pate bar, named after the former Stags' full-back. The Scottish-born player started his career with Watford and joined Mansfield in October 1967. Pate's stay at Field Mill lasted 11 seasons,

playing 413 league games and winning the old Fourth and Third Division titles before retiring after Mansfield spent their only season in the second tier of English football. Since retiring from the game, Sandy has always stayed locally and ran a pub for many years, even having a brief spell in management for

Former Stags' striker Kevin Randall scored 20 times for Mansfield between 1975 and 1978. He went on to play for York City after his time here and in 1981 became the Minstermen's Manager. However, after just one win in twelve games, he was relieved of his duties, and joined Chesterfield as Coach. In 1987 he became Spireites' Caretaker Manager before being handed the position permanently in which he lasted for just over a year before leaving the club. Today Kevin can be found at QPR as their Chief Scout.



neighbours Rainworth Miners Welfare.

Today he has fully retired and can occasionally be seen at Field Mill where he is always warmly greeted. An interesting fact about him is that Sandy is only a nickname as his real name is Alexander Montgomery Pate.

Nick Platnauer

Leicester born Nick Platnauer started life as a non-league left back with Bedford before earning himself a move into League football with Bristol Rovers in 1982. Some consistent performances saw him play in the top flight of English football with Coventry City and Birmingham City, the latter unfortunately being relegated.

In the Second Division he struggled to make himself a regular and went to join Reading on loan prior to dropping down to the old Fourth Division with Cardiff, thus making Nick one of the few players to have played in all four English divisions. Moves followed to Notts County (where he played at Wembley), Port Vale, Leicester City, Scunthorpe and then Mansfield Town in 1993. Nick did not enjoy a successful time at Field Mill, although he managed 25 appearances, before moving on to his 11th club Lincoln City. In 1997 Nick went to join Hinkley United as Player Coach and had a go at management with Rothwell Town between 2000 and 2003.

After impressing there, Nick was given the chance to take charge of Kettering, however this only lasted a few months when he left by mutual consent. He went on to join Bedford Town and guided them to promotion to the Conference South but Platnauer resigned in January 2007 with the club rooted to the bottom of the table. It was October 2007 when Nick came back to football linking up again with Dean Thomas at Hinkley United who had signed him as Player Coach several years previously. Nick is still part of the setup at Hinkley today and has ambitions to manage full time in the Football League in the near future.

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Rolling Back The Field Will Clock

JOURNALISM can be an unforgiving trade (don't believe anyone who tries to convince you it's a profession).

t's relentless, you're only ever as good as your last story and the pay is pretty average, unless you're a big noise in Fleet Street. But the long hours spent toiling away at the computer coalface are worth it for many reasons, not least the sense that you're at least making your mark on the world at large. Or you always hope you are, even if much if your work seems to end up as wrapping paper for fish and chips. But the privilege of writing a column for The Stag is a different matter entirely, and in any case, nobody ever ate a fish and chip supper out of The Stag, as far as I am aware. So let me share with you the sentiments of Stags' fan Christopher Marsh, who wrote me a marvellous letter recently which only a fellow football fan could have penned. It struck a chord with me,

and I hope it will with other Field Mill followers.....

"Allow me to introduce myself: Chris Marsh, born in Mansfield, 1959, living in Kidderminster since 1983, of which more later. I am inspired to write to you as I attended the FA Trophy Semi-Final First Leg v Luton Town and greatly enjoyed your article Memory Mill. My parents, now in their 80s, still live in Mansfield, and I go to see them about every two months. So I don't see the Stags much. But like you, they are, and always will be, my number one team.

I was born on 25 March 1959 in an upstairs bedroom of my grandfather's shop on Nottingham Road; Mr AV Storey ran a Newsagents/General Store opposite Titchfield Park; I gather the shop is still running today. My dad, now 89, was a member of the RAF football team that played morale-boosting games in the war: he was a right-half (how many younger fans know what that means?) and the

team's regular centre-forward was Ronnie Rooke (Arsenal and England). Anyway, Dad soon inspired in me enthusiasm for football, and I attended my first MTFC match a year after yourself.

Dad took me to see Town v Shrewsbury on my eighth birthday, 25th March 1967, we sat in the West Stand and lost 0-1. I still have the programme somewhere in the loft; I think it cost sixpence! I don't remember anything about that game.

first memory of an event at Field Mill is Dave Hollins, our goalkeeper, being sent off on a freezing day in December 1967 against Gillingham. And now I come to the event that prompted myself to write to you...I have seen hundreds of games but my ultimate number one memory is also the 1969 FA Cup Fifth Round tie against West Ham. As you will recall, it was eventually played on February 26 after five postponements in front of 21,117! I can still recall, as if it were yesterday, as Nick Sharkey rattled the ball past Bobby Ferguson in the West Ham goal en route to that amazing win of 3-0. Do you recall that the

"The privilege of writing a column for The Stag is a different matter entirely, and in any case, nobody ever ate a fish and chip supper out of The Stag."



Sixth Round then put us through at home against Leicester or Liverpool? I think it's fair to say most fans would have seen Liverpool as the more glamorous opposition, but Leicester beat the Reds 1-0 at Anfield, with Peter Shilton, aged 19, saving a penalty. And then in front of 23,500, I can still see Rodney Fern rising above the Town defence in the Quarter-Final and nodding the ball into the net in front of the North Stand faithful to give the Foxes a 1-0 win. I made a scrapbook of that cup run, which I still have; on the front cover is an imaginary picture of Stuart Boam holding aloft the FA Cup, which was published in the Chad... If only! As a teenager, I attended

Nottingham High School (my dad, like yourself, is a Brunts Old Boy) and my best friend's dad was the Accountant at the City Ground. We both moved on to Birmingham University and his dad got us tickets to lots of big Forest games when they were at their peak in the late 70s and early 80s. Tremendous as those times were, it was never quite the same as Field Mill.

The FA Cup was always special. As well as the 1969 campaign, I remember as a teenager attending a Third Round tie against Cambridge in 1975. I sat in the Bishop Street Stand next to a nice old man who told me that as a teenager himself, he had gatecrashed the first ever FA Cup Final at Wembley in 1923 between West Ham and Bolton.

He could vividly remember the White Horse which helped to clear the pitch of spectators before kick-off. Amazing! Remember we lost 0-1 at home to Carlisle that season in the Fifth Round? I remain convinced to this day that had we beaten them we would have reached the final...

Soon after that, of course, our greatest achievement in the league, being promoted to the old Division Two at the end of the 1976-77 season. I remember going with Dad to the opening game of the 1977-78 season at home v Stoke City.

A certain Peter Shilton was in goal for them, but we won 2-1! Another stand-out memory of that season was the home game v Tottenham on my 19th birthday, March 25 1978. Amazingly, Town went into a 3-2 lead, with Dave Syrett scoring a hat trick. Then, right at the death, Glen Hoddle scored a piledriver from a free kick and it ended 3-3.

And of course we were relegated at the end of the season, and that was that....

aving left Mansfield to go to Birmingham University in 1977, and subsequently settling in Kidderminster in 1983, my choices of seeing the Stags have been infrequent subsequently, but it's their result I always look out for first. Living near the Aggborough Stadium, I soon adopted Kidderminster Harriers as my regular team, and have had some great times with them too...

It was a tragedy to see the Stags drop down to this league and, as exciting as the Trophy run this season is, a return to the League is clearly the priority.....

As mentioned earlier, I went to some great occasions with Forest; my first trip to Wembley was their thrilling 3-2 win over Southampton in the 1979 League Cup Final. But somehow, and for reasons that cannot be put into words, but which a fellow supporter like yourself will understand, give me that magical day at Field Mill in 1969 any day!

I do hope you have enjoyed my memory tales as much as I enjoyed yours in The Stag. Cmon on you Stags!!!

Yours, Christopher Marsh."

Many thanks to Chris for allowing me to roll back the years and reproduce the letter, which should strike quite a few chords of nostalgia out there in Stags Land far and wide. I do hope our paths cross at Wembley on May 7 - West Ham cup veterans of February 69 have to stick together...

Defining Moments

Celebrating 100 years of Mansfield Town Football Club

1985-86: Promotion again

It took lan Greaves a while to settle into Fourth Division football but by the end of the 1984-85 season, the signs were there that the club was ready to mount a serious promotion push. Greaves built a team around a solid defence with centre half George Foster at its heart. Colin Calderwood emerged as a great prospect also during this time when the club conceded only 38 goals in 46 league matches. The problem was obviously in attack where only 41 goals were scored and this, together with poor away form, meant a final placing of 14th.

In the summer of 1985 Greaves persuaded Keith Cassells and Neville Chamberlain (not the former prime minister!) to throw their lot in with the Stags. Unfortunately Colin Calderwood was tempted away to Swindon Town. A derisory fee of £27,500 was the paltry tribunal award but as it was later discovered that Swindon had lied to the tribunal about Calderwood's contract. The fee was upped to all of £30,000. However, there was a 50% sell-on clause that would eventually pay dividends.

The season opener was a cracking game, Hereford were beaten 4-0 with Cassells becoming only the third Stag to score a hat-trick on his Football League debut. By the end of 1985 Town were third in the table and looking good. The Stags maintained their top four placing until a point against already promoted Swindon Town on 19 April meant a win the following Tuesday evening would ensure promotion. Hartlepool United were the opponents that evening and were easily brushed aside - the points from the 4-0 win enough to take Town back into Division Three.



Revenge is sweet

With The Chad's Deputy Editor Tim Morriss

REMEMBER the 2-1 derby win at Chesterfield - Liam Lawrence, Craig Disley, Rhys Day et all - which for me wiped out the memories of the Play-Off Semi-Final defeat at Saltergate a few years earlier.

Or this season's FA Trophy semifinal second leg at Kenilworth Road. How many years have we waited for a result at Luton, to wipe away the memories of a 4-2 league reverse then in the 'golden' Lawrence years, for example.

So how must Roy Hodgson have felt when his new club, West Bromwich Albion, toppled Liverpool 2-1 earlier this month – just a few weeks after Anfield axed Hodgson in favour of Dalglish?

In favour of the man who was waiting in the shadows throughout Hodgson's short, six months in charge of the mighty Liverpool.

The man who wanted the job before it was given to Hodgson. The man who was wanted by the fans. The man who was wanted by the club's new owners, who took over shortly after Hodgson was appointed.

Hodgson was a dead man walking for most of his time at Anfield because of 'King Kenny'. Dalglish, for me, should have done the decent thing when Hodgson was appointed.

He should have distanced himself from the club, should not have let it be known that he still wanted to be manager.

It is no good him now saying that all he wanted to do was 'help the club'. No matter how broad the TV smiles, how witty the one-liner comedic answers to reporters' questions, Dalglish did Hodgson no favours.

How I smiled when I saw that result ... West Bromwich Albion 2 Liverpool 1. Justice is done!

Senseless Stars

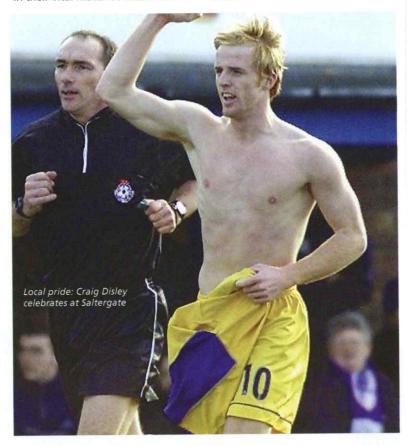
THEY'RE at it again. Our grossly overpaid Premier League stars just don't seem to understand that with the fame, adulation and millions of pounds in the bank comes responsibility. A responsibility to the millions of youngsters who watch them play on television around the world, a responsibility to their employers (their clubs) and even a responsibility to themselves.

So why then did Wayne Rooney 'celebrate' his vital penalty in the stirring, even thrilling 4-2 fightback in their vital match at West Ham

earlier this month by swearing loudly into the TV cameras of the live coverage of the clash?

Afterwards he said: "I want to apologise for any offence that may have been caused by my goal celebration especially to any parents or children that were watching. Emotions were running high and on reflection my heat of the moment reaction was inappropriate. It was not aimed at anyone in particular."

The problem is that Mr Rooney has previous. Remember his reaction to the fans booing England during an abject 0-0 draw with Algeria? 'Nice





to see your home fans boo you. That's what loyal support is', he spat into the TV cameras.

This time what was even worse was that his words came not in the immediate aftermath of his goal, but after he had first celebrated with his fellow players.

Never mind, perhaps across Manchester we will find better behaviour at Eastlands. After all, Mario Balotelli has already been warned on several occasions for his selfish, childish conduct on and off the pitch.

Sadly, his reaction to being admonished for a ridiculous challenge that effectively cost Manchester City a place in the Europa Cup was to throw darts out of a window at members of the club's youth team at the club's training HQ.

Words fail me!

As they did while watching Gordon Strachan on TV's Football Focus sofa defending players abusing referees. He claimed that it was not like Rugby, where he said players respect match officials but then go and take out their anger physically on other players. Because

this couldn't happen in football, he said it was natural then for players to let off steam at referees!

He blamed adrenalin! I blame a lack of self-control! Of course players - just like us fans - are passionate about the game; but I am passionate about my job and when I disagree with my Editor or MD I don't run up to them and scream obscenities, or question their integrity, or question their parenthood.

Yes, we all are incensed by referees' decisions, but they too are human and make mistakes. While watching from the Lower West Stand in the second half of the win over Rushden, I was incensed at the linesman's inability to spot a blatant foul a few feet in front of him. Did I run up to the match officials and scream obscenities - or did I just simply shout REFEREEEEEEEEE and then move on!

There is a limit to our criticism of match officials - both as players, managers and fans. If we don't remember that they are human, soon there will be no referees at all and then football will finally totally descend into anarchy.

Classic Gordon

Memorable quotes from Gordon Strachan

Reporter: Gordon, Do you think James Beattie deserves to be in the England squad? Strachan: I don't care, I'm Scottish

Reporter: "Gordon, car we have a quick word please?"

Strachan: "Velocity" [walks off]

Reporter: Welcome to Southampton Football Club. Do you think you are the right man to turn things around?

Strachan: No. I was asked if I thought I was the right man for the job and I said, "No, I think they should have got George Graham because I'm useless."

Reporter: Are you getting where you want to be with this team?

Strachan: We're not doing bad. What do you expect us to be like? We were eighth in the league last year, in the cup final and we got into Europe. I don't know where you expect me to get to. Do you expect us to win the Champions League?

Reporter: This might sound like a daft question, but you'll be happy to get your first win under your belt, won't you? Strachan: You're right. It is a daft question. I'm not even going to bother answering that

Reporter: Bang, there goes your unbeaten run. Can you take it?

one. It is a daft question, you're spot on there.

Strachan: No, I'm just going to crumble like a wreck. I'll go home, become an alcoholic and maybe throw myself off a bridge. Umm, I think I can take it, yeah.

Reporter: So, Gordon, in what areas do you think Middlesbrough were better than you today?

Strachan: What areas? Mainly that big green one out there....

Chad

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	Team	p	w	D	L	P	A	w	D	L	P	A	Gd	P
1	Crawley Town	42	17	2	2	52	18	11	9	1	31	11	54	95
2	AFC Wimbledon	42	15	3		42	13	9	5	7	33	32	30	80
3	Luton Town	41	13	6	2	53	16	8	7	5	24	19	42	71
4	Wrexham	42	11	7	3	30	22	8	7	6	28	24	12	7
5	Fleetwood Town	42	10	8	3	31	18	9	4	8	31	21	23	6
6	Kidderminster H	41	12	5	3	35	22	7	10	4	32	30	15	6
7	York City	41	13	5	2	29	11	5	7	9	22	34	6	6
8	Darlington	41	11	6	4	33	13	4	10	6	19	23	16	6
9	Newport County	42	10	7	4	39	28	5	8	8	24	29	6	6
10	Rushden & Dmds	42	9	6	7	35	26	6	7	7	26	27	8	5
11	Gateshead	41	8	8	4	25	18	6	6	9	34	34	7	5
12	Bath City	41	8	10	3	34	26	6	4	10	24	35	-3	5
13	Grimsby Town	41	7	11	3	35	25	6	5	9	30	32	8	5
14	Mansfield Town	40	7	5	7	35	33	8	4	9	32	34	0	5
15	Kettering Town	43	6	8	7	28	30	7	5	10	31	41	-12	5
16	Barrow	42	8	6	7	29	20	3	8	10	21	39	-9	4
17	Cambridge Utd	42	6	7	8	31	27	4	8	9	20	32	-8	4
18	Hayes & Yeading	42	8	2	11	28	35	5	4	12	23	40	-24	4
19	Forest Green R	42	7	8	6	27	24	3	6	12	23	43	-17	4
20	Tamworth	42	5	8	8	32	39	5	5	11	24	37	-20	4
21	Southport	42	9	5	7	38	28	1	7	13	15	41	-16	4
22	Altrincham	42	6	8	7	25	31	4	3	14	16	46	-36	4
23	Eastbourne Boro	42	5	4	12	33	45	3	4	14	22	52	-42	3
24	Histon	42	4	3	14	18	37	4	5	12	20	41	-40	2

STAGS STATISTICS 2010/2011

	1 7		C	
Player	Apps	Gls	Apps	Gls
Alan MARRIOTT	15	-	(Annahaman)	-
Gary SILK	27 (1)		10	
Kevin SANDWITH	31 (1)	1	7	-
Gary MILLS	15 (3)	1	- (1)	-
Steve FOSTER	26	1	2 (2)	-
Peter VINCENTI	3	-	1	
Chris SMITH	17	1	- (2)	- 6
Louis BRISCOE	31 (5)	13	10	6
Tyrone THOMPSON	23	-	8 (2)	
Rob DUFFY	8 (11)	5	8 (2) 1 (2)	1
Kyle NIX	11 (10)	2	4 (2) 3 (1)	
Adam SMITH	21 (2)	6	3 (1)	-
Matthew SOMNER			- (.)	-
Ryan WILLIAMS	2		- 4	<u>i</u>
Louis MOULT	2 3	2	3	-
Tom NAYLOR	14 (1)	1	5 (1)	-
Paul STONEHOUSE	15 (3)	-	5	
Mark PREECE	-	74		-
Steven ISTEAD	15 (10)	1	- (2)	-
Dan SPENCE	3	- 120	4	
Lee GREGORY	2	1	- (1)	-
Keigan PARKER	13 (7)	5	3(2)	2
Luke MEDLEY	8 (19)	6	- (3)	1
Paul CONNOR	31 (6)	12	9	5
Neil COLLETT	3 (1)		4	-
Ashley CAIN	12 (2)	1	7	
Ashley CAIN Niall O'RAFFERTY	2 (3)		3.5	1 5
Adam MURRAY	27	4	8	
Kevin PILKINGTON	10		1	-
Simon GRAND	6	:::	3	-
Mihkel AKSULU	2		1	-
David GROF	9 (1)		4	-
Rhys DAY	8		2	
Connr HIGGINSON	3 (1)	1	-	-
Steve COOK	8		3	-
Paul HALL	0 (1)			- 2
Danny MITCHLEY	5 (9)	2	3	2

TODAY'S OTHER BSBP FIXTURES

Eastbourne Boro v Kidderminster, 15:00 Fleetwood Town v Altrincham, 15:00 Forest Green v Cambridge Utd, 15:00 Gateshead v Rushden & D'mnds, 15:00 Grimsby v Bath City, 15:00 Hayes & Yeading v Darlington, 15:00 Histon v AFC Wimbledon, 15:00 Newport County v Barrow, 15:00 Southport v Crawley Town, 15:00 Wrexham v Kettering, 15:00 York v Tamworth, 15:00

AUGUST Sat 14 Tue 17 Sat 24 Sat 28 Mon 30 SEPTEMBE Sat 4 Sat 11 Sat 18 Tue 21 Sat 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Sat 25 Sat 26 Sat 26 Sat 27 Sat 28 Sat 28 Sat 28 Sat 29 Sat 16 Sat 28	Forest Green Rovers Fleetwood Town Kidderminster Harriers Kettering Town Cambridge United Altrincham ER Tamworth Southport Newport County York City Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds Darlington	15.00 19.45 15.00 19.45 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 19.45 15.00 19.45	W3-1 L0-3 W3-1 D1-1 W1-0 W4-0 L0-1 W2-1 L0-1 W5-0 W4-0 L0-2	2,474 1,849 1,487 2,089 2,257 1,261 2,516 1,289 2,713 2,202 2,312 6,024	48 250 approx 295 88 307 351 160 300 approx 220 309 15 303	3 14 4 6 4 1 3 3 6 2 2 2
Tue 17 Sat 21 Tue 24 Sat 28 Mon 30 SEPTEMBE Sat 4 Sat 18 Tue 21 Sat 18 Tue 21 Sat 25 Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	Fleetwood Town Kidderminster Harriers Kettering Town Cambridge United Altrincham Tamworth Southport Newport County York City Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	19.45 15.00 19.45 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 19.45 15.00 19.45	U0-3 W3-1 D1-1 W1-0 W4-0 U0-1 W2-1 L0-1 W5-0 W4-0 L0-2	1,849 1,487 2,089 2,257 1,261 2,516 1,289 2,713 2,202 2,312 6,024	250 approx 295 88 307 351 160 300 approx 220 309 15	14 4 6 4 1 3 3 6 2 2 4
Sat 21 Tue 24 Sat 28 Mon 30 SEPTEMBE Sat 4 Sat 11 Sat 18 Tue 21 Sat 25 Tue 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 16 Sat 23	Kidderminster Harriers Kettering Town Cambridge United Altrincham Tamworth Southport Newport County York City Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	15.00 19.45 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 19.45 15.00 19.45	W3-1 D1-1 W1-0 W4-0 L0-1 W2-1 L0-1 W5-0 W4-0 L0-2	1,487 2,089 2,257 1,261 2,516 1,289 2,713 2,202 2,312 6,024	295 88 307 351 160 300 approx 220 309 15	4 6 4 1 3 3 6 2 2 4
Tue 24 Sat 28 Mon 30 SEPTEMBE Sat 4 Sat 11 Sat 18 Tue 21 Sat 25 Tue 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 2 Sat 16 Sat 23	Kettering Town Cambridge United Altrincham R Tamworth Southport Newport County York City Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	19.45 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 19.45 15.00 19.45	D1-1 W1-0 W4-0 L0-1 W2-1 L0-1 W5-0 W4-0 L0-2	2,089 2,257 1,261 2,516 1,289 2,713 2,202 2,312 6,024	88 307 351 160 300 approx 220 309 15	6 4 1 3 3 6 2 2 4
Sat 28 Mon 30 SEPTEMBE Sat 4 Sat 11 Sat 18 Tue 21 Sat 25 Tue 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 2 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 16 Sat 23	Cambridge United Altrincham Tamworth Southport Newport County York City Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 19.45 15.00 19.45	W1-0 W4-0 L0-1 W2-1 L0-1 W5-0 W4-0 L0-2	2,257 1,261 2,516 1,289 2,713 2,202 2,312 6,024	307 351 160 300 approx 220 309 15	4 1 3 3 6 2 2 4
Mon 30 SEPTEMBE Sat 4 Sat 11 Sat 18 Tue 21 Sat 25 Tue 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	Altrincham Tamworth Southport Newport County York City Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	15.00 15.00 15.00 15.00 19.45 15.00 19.45	W4-0 L0-1 W2-1 L0-1 W5-0 W4-0 L0-2	1,261 2,516 1,289 2,713 2,202 2,312 6,024	351 160 300 approx 220 309 15	1 3 3 6 2 2 4
SEPTEMBE Sat 4 Sat 11 Sat 18 Tue 21 Sat 25 Tue 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	Tamworth Southport Newport County York City Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	15.00 15.00 15.00 19.45 15.00 19.45	L0-1 W2-1 L0-1 W5-0 W4-0 L0-2	2,516 1,289 2,713 2,202 2,312 6,024	160 300 approx 220 309 15	3 3 6 2 2 4
Sat 4 Sat 11 Sat 18 Tue 21 Sat 25 Tue 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	Tamworth Southport Newport County York City Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	15.00 15.00 19.45 15.00 19.45	W2-1 L0-1 W5-0 W4-0 L0-2	1,289 2,713 2,202 2,312 6,024	300 approx 220 309 15	3 6 2 2 4
Sat 11 Sat 18 Tue 21 Sat 25 Tue 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	Southport Newport County York City Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	15.00 15.00 19.45 15.00 19.45	W2-1 L0-1 W5-0 W4-0 L0-2	1,289 2,713 2,202 2,312 6,024	300 approx 220 309 15	3 6 2 2 4
Sat 18 Tue 21 Sat 25 Tue 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	Newport County York City Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	15.00 19.45 15.00 19.45	L0-1 W5-0 W4-0 L0-2	2,713 2,202 2,312 6,024	220 309 15	6 2 2 4
Tue 21 Sat 25 Tue 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	York City Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	19.45 15.00 19.45	W5-0 W4-0 L0-2	2,202 2,312 6,024	309 15	2 2 4
Sat 25 Tue 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	Eastbourne Borough Luton Town Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	15.00 19.45 15.00	W4-0 L0-2 D1-1	2,312 6,024	15	2 4
Tue 28 OCTOBER Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	19.45 15.00	L0-2 D1-1	6,024		4
Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	Gateshead AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds	15.00	D1-1		303	
Sat 2 Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds			1.046		e
Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds			1.046		c
Tue 5 Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	AFC Wimbledon Rushden & Diamonds			1,040	324	3
Sat 9 Sat 16 Sat 23	Rushden & Diamonds	10110	L2-5	2,699	209	6
Sat 16 Sat 23		17.15	L0-1	1,480	351	7
Sat 23	Darmigton	15.00	D1-1	2,234	169	7
	FC Halifax Town (FAC4Q)	15.00	W1-0	2,986	564	
				2,615	102	8
Sat 30	Crawley Town	15.00	L1-4	2,015	102	d
NOVEMBE		15.00	L0-1	2 170	201	
Sat 6	Torquay United (FAC1)	15.00		2,179	201	-
Tue 9	Kettering Town	19.45	W2-0 ^{og}	1,270	172	8
Sat 13	Forest Green Rovers	15.00	L1-2	767	158	10
Sat 20	Hayes & Yeading United	15.00	W3-2	2,019	21	9
Sat 27	Wrexham	15.00	D1-1	2,505	133	9
DECEMBE						
Tue 14	Worksop (FAT1)	19.45	W5-0	682	n/k	-
Tue 28	Cambridge United	15.00	W5-106	2,505	281	6
JANUARY						
Sat 1	Grimsby Town	15.00	L2-7	3,654	518	8
Mon 3	Altrincham	15.00	LO-1	2,229	93	9
Sat 8	Eastbourne Borough	15.00	W3-1	903	100 approx	8
Tue 11	Fleetwood Town	19.45	L2-5	1,725	53	8
Sat 15	Newport County (FAT2)	15.00	W4-2	1,137	121	
Sat 22	Histon	15.00	W1-0	1,880	8	8
Tue 25	Darlington	19.45	D0-0	1,614	122	7
Sat 29	Wrexham	15.00	L2-3	3,266	498	9
FEBRUARY		15.00	LE-3	3,200	450	
Sat 5		15.00	D1-1	3,408	928	
	Alfreton (FAT3)					
Tue 8	Alfreton (FAT3R)	15.00	W2-1	2,131	869	10
Sat 12	Newport County	19.15	D3-3	1,986	198	10
Sat 19	Barrow	15.00	D2-2	1,130	85	14
MARCH	101	702702				
Tue 1	Chasetown (FATQF)	15.00	D2-2	2,000	800	
Sat 5	Tamworth	15.00	W2-0	1,162	378	12
Tue 8	Chasetown (FATQFR)	19.45	W3-1	2,295	525	
Sun 13	Luton Town (FATSF1L)	12.00	W1-0	3,208	422	- 1
Tue 15	York City	19.45	L1-2	2,261	128	14
Sat 19	Luton Town (FATSF2L)	15.00	D1-1 ^{AET}	6,133	912	9.0
Tue 22	Histon	19.45	W3-2	380	tbc	12
Sat 26	Kidderminster Harriers	12.00	L1-2	2,079	350	14
Tue 29	Crawley Town	19.45	L0-2	3,162	73	14
APRIL	0.5054.00400 P.00000 0000					
Sat 2	Rushden & Diamonds	15.00	W2-1	1,758	125	13
Tue 5	Southport	19.45	D2-2	1,467	38	13
Sat 9	Hayes & Yeading United	15.00	L0-4	316	tbc	14
Tue 12	Barrow	19.45	D1-1	1,253	71	14
Thu 14	Bath City	19.45		.,2200		
Sat 16	Luton Town	15.00				
		19.45				
Tue 19	Grimsby Town					
Fri 22	AFC Wimbledon	15.00				
Mon 25	Gateshead	15.00				
Sat 30	Bath City	17.15				
MAY Sat 7	Darlington	15.00		nbley Sta		

Home games in bold blue. All games Blue Square Bet Premier unless specified

Starting XI **Used Subs Unused Subs** Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith*, Connor2**, Parker*** Cain 80*, Istead 85**, Medley 70*** Collett, Sandwith Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith*, Connor**, Parker Istead 46*. Medley 65** Collett, Navlor, Sandwith Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith*, Connor**, Parker*** Collett, Naylor Sandwith 84*, Duffy 74**, Medley 47*** Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith**, Connor***, Medlev* Parker 62*, Nix 89**, Duffy 90*** Collett Navlor Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe*, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith***, Connor***, Parker** Nix 64*, Medley 73**, Duffy 84*** Collett, Naylor Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe**, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith*, Connor***, Parker2 Nix 64*, Medley 64**, Duffy 76*** Collett, Naylor Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe*, Mills, Thompson**, A. Smith, Connor, Parker*** Medley 66*, Nix 67**, Duffy 81*** Collett, Naylor Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Istead, Mills, Nix, Medley**, Connor, Gregory* Cain 61*, Duffy 83** Collett, Naylor, Parker Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Istead***, Mills, Nix, A. Smith**, Gregory*, Connor Parker 46*, Briscoe 63**, Duffy 82*** Collett Navlor Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Istead*, Mills, Nix, A. Smith, Duffy**, Connor*** Briscoe 58*, Medley 61**, Stonehouse 79*** Collett, Naylor Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Istead**, Mills, Nix, A. Smith, Duffy*, Connor*** Medley² 62*, Briscoe 69**, Stonehouse 82*** Collett, Naylor Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Istead***, Mills, Nix, A. Smith*, Duffy**, Connor Naylor 46*, Mediey 52**, Briscoe 68*** Collett, Stonehouse Marriott, Silk, Naylor, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe**, Mills, Nix*, A. Smith, Murray, Connor*** Stonehouse 68*, Istead 76**, Medley 85*** Collett, Duffy Marriott*, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe, Mills, Nix**, Cain, Murray, Connor*** Collett 45*, Medley 61**, Duffy 76*** Navlor, Stonehouse Aksalu, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe***, Mills, Murray, Cain*, Medley, Connor** Parker 56*, Duffy 76**, Istead 79*** Collett Stonehouse Aksalu, Silk, Foster, Day, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Nix**, Murray, Cain*, Thompson, Connor*** Medley 64*, Istead 90**, Parker 90*** Collett, Grand Aksalu, Cook, Grand, Day, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Nix, Murray, Smith***, Connor** Duffy* Gregory 53*, Medley 72**, Thompson 90+1*** Collett, Foster, Silk, Istead Pilkington, Cook**, Foster, Day, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Thompson, Murray, Smith, Connor*, Vincenti*** Parker 33*, Silk 46**, Duffy 75*** Collett, Nix Pilkington, Cook, Silk*, Grand, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Nix**, Murray, Smith, Parker, Vincenti** Foster 48*, Duffy 65**, Thompson 74*** Collett, Sandwith, Istead, Medley Pilkington, Cook, Foster, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray, Thompson, Smith***, Parker**, Vincenti* Connor 56*, Mitchley 80**, Istead 90*** Collett, Stonehouse Pilkington, Cook, Foster, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray, Thompson, Smith***, Parker**, Vincenti* Connor 52*, Mitchley 59**, Istead 65*** Collett, Stonehouse Pilkington, Cook, Day, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe**, Murray, Thompson*, Smith, Istead, Connor Mitchley 46*, Medley 64** Collett, Navlor, Stonehouse, Pilkington, Cook, Day, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray, Istead, Smith*, Mitchley, Connor** Medley 78*, Duffy 78** Collett, Naylor, Stonehouse. Collett, Silk, Cook, Grand, Sandwith, Murray, Thompson***, Briscoe, Parker**, Connor*, Smith Duffy 35*, Medley 62**, Mills 87*** Navlor, Stonehouse Pilkington, Day, Cook, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray, Istead**, Smith, Duffy***, Parker* Medley 71*, Mills 75**, Mitchley 79*** Collett, Naylor. Pilkington, Cook, Day, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe, Istead, Murray, Smith**, Duffy, Parker* Connor 59*, Mitchley 70** Collett, Mills, Naylor. Pilkington, Silk, Cook, Day, Sandwith, Briscoe**, Murray, Istead***, Smith, Connor, Duffy* Medley 60*, Parker 65**, Mills 70)*** Collett Navlor Pilkington, Silk, Naylor, Foster, Sandwith, Cain, Murray, Nix***, Williams*, Duffy**, Parker Medley 64*, Connor 80**, Mills 86*** Collett, Stonehouse. Pilkington, Silk, Naylor, Foster, Sandwith, Cain, Murray, Nix***, Williams*, Parker**, Duffy. Medley 58*, Connor 58**, Istead 85*** Collett, Stonehouse, Collett, Silk, Stonehouse, Foster, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Connor2*, Parker* Nix 84*, Medley 90** Smith Williams Mitchley Collett, Silk, Stonehouse, Foster, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray*, Cain, Thompson, Connor, Parker** Mitchley 54*, Nix 82** Pilkington, Naylor, Istead Collett, Silk, Stonehouse, Foster, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray*, Thompson, Connor, Mitchley** Nix 5*(***), Medley 65**, Istead 86*** Pilkington, Naylor. Collett, Silk, Stonehouse, Foster, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Connor, Mitchley* Smith 62* Nix, Naylor, Istead, Medley. Collett, Silk, Stonehouse, Foster, Sandwith, Briscoe*, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Connor, Moult Naylor 18*, Parker 83** Grof, Nix, Mitchley Collett, Silk, Day, Naylor, Spence, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Connor, Moult* Parker 68* Grof, Preece, Nix, Mitchley Collett, Silk, Day, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Connor*, Moult2 Parker 74* Grof, Spence, Nix, Smith Grof, Silk, Stonehouse***, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain*, Murray, Thompson, Moult**, Connor Smith2 63*, Mitchley 66**, Nix 82*** Foster, Istead Grof, Silk, Stonehouse*, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain**, Murray, Thompson***, Moult, Connor Foster 62*, Smith 82**, Nix 83*** Marriott, Mitchley Grof, Silk, Spence, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Moult*, Connor Mitchley 81* Marriott, Foster, Nix, Smith Grof, Silk, Spence, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Mitchley, Connor Marriott Foster Nix Smith Istead Grof, Silk, Spence, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe**, Cain*, Nix, Thompson, Mitchley, Connor Smith 74*, Istead 84** Marriott, Foster, Stonehouse Grof, Stonehouse, Spence, Naylor, Foster, Cain**, Murray, Istead, Smith, O'Rafferty*, Mitchley*** Connor 56*, Briscoe 65**, Nix 75*** Marriott, Sandwith. Grof, Silk, Spence, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain*, Nix**, Thompson, Mitchley, Connor Smith 23*, Istead 90** Marriott, Foster, Stonehouse Grof, Stonehouse, Spence, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe³, Murray, Thompson, Smith, Connor, Mitchley O'Rafferty 84* Marriott, Foster Preece, Istead Grof, Silk, Stonehouse, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray, Thompson, Smith, Connor, O'Rafferty Nix 67*, Istead 84** Marriott, Foster, Preece. Grof, Silk, Stonehouse, Navlor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray, Thompson, Istead, Medley, Connor Marriott Foster Preece Marriott*, Stonehouse, Foster, Naylor, Istead, Briscoe, Murray, Thompson, Higginson**, Medley, Connor Grof 41*, O'Rafferty 90** Sandwith Preece Hall Grof, Istead, Stonehouse, Naylor, Foster, Briscoe* Murray, Thompson, Higginson**, Medley, Connor O'Rafferty 79*, Hall 88** Collett, Sandwith, Preece.



Grof, Silk, Stonehouse, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray, Cain, Nix, Medley, Mitchley*

Grof, Istead, Sandwith, Naylor, Foster, Briscoe***, Murray, Thompson, Higginson*, Medley**, Connor.



Collett., Silk

Collett, Foster, Smith, Istead.

Nix 26*, Smith 69**, Mitchley 72***

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Ode to Football

(with apologies to William Blake)

BBC Sports Broadcaster Ross Ellis heads into extra time

ACT ONE

Fergie, Fergie, burning bright With the United of the night, What tactical hand or guile. Could claim thy trophy glory?

In what distant Chelsea skies Burnt the fire of Torres' eyes? Mr Ancelotti, dare he aspire? Mr Torres, Abramovich doth admire?

Pep Guardiola oh! what art, Could twist the sinews of Lionel Messi? And when the midfield began to beat, What sharp minds, what skilful feet?

Where are Tottenham? What disdain? Peter Crouch where is thine brain? Gallas the rock? What dread grasp Ronaldo's deadly terrors clasp?

When the Yanks threw down their spears

Will Arsene be left with tears? Does he smile or does he sigh? Will Arsenal once again ride high?

Kenny, Kenny, burning bright In the forests of the Anfield night, What legendary hand or eye Dare claim Rafa's abandoned cry?

ACT TWO

Roy, Roy, burning bright With West Brom and delight Rescued from the pit of despair Worshipped in the Midland's air

Mick McCarthy's grave concern To stay up, he doth yearn



Kevin Dovle's been struck with fear,

Will the Wolves roar or sneer?

Bruce the Brave has Northern blood Goals conceded begin to flood, What the Bent? What the Villa? Can the Black Cats cling to the pillar?

Jolly Ollie's crop begins to fade Will Blackpool's soul be dismayed? Can the orange fruit bear sweet? Or will the Tangerine's retreat?

When Jose Mourinho threw down his spears We longed for heaven through our tears Come back and save England's shame Abandon Madrid for another game.

Mansfield, Mansfield, burning bright In the Wembley of the night, What immortal man or soul Dare cause Darlington's woe?

Colemanballs

Digging deep into the archive of 'foot-in-mouth' sports quotes

"Billy Gilbert hit a kamikaze back pass which Justin Fashanu pounced on like a black Frank Bruno."

Ian Dark

"I'm not going to drag it out or make a point, because points are pointless."

Simon Jordan

"He'll have a pair of sharp and canny shoulders to listen to."

David Platt

"An inch or two either side of the post and that would have been a goal."

Dave Basset

"In some ways, cramp is worse than having a broken leg."

Kevin Keegar

"For those of you watching who do not have television sets, live commentary is on Radio 2." Ted Lowe (Snooker

"Steve is going for the pink ball - and for those of you who are watching in black and white, the pink is next to the green."

Ted Lov

"Britain's last gold medal was a bronze in 1952 in Helsinki."

Nigel Starmer-Smith



"I thought we started very, very brightly but the Achilles Heel which has bitten us in the backside all year has stood out like a sore thumb."

Andy King

"It took a lot of bottle for Tony (Adams) to own up."

> Ian Wright - commenting on his teammate's alcoholism

"Julian Dicks is everywhere. It's like they've got eleven Dicks on the field."

Metro Rad

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The Squads...



Mansfield Town

Manager: Duncan Russell

from...

mom.	••
1.	Alan MARRIOTT
2.	Gary SILK
3.	Kevin SANDWITH
5.	Steve FOSTER
7.	Louis BRISCOE
	Tyrone THOMPSON
	Kyle NIX
	Adam SMITH
	12th STAG
16.	Tom NAYLOR
	Paul STONEHOUSE
19.	Steven ISTEAD
20.	Dan SPENCE
22.	Luke MEDLEY
23.	Paul CONNOR
25.	Neil COLLETT
26.	Ashley CAIN
27.	Niall O'RAFFERTY
29.	Adam MURRAY
30.	David GROF
33.	Rhys DAY
24.	Conor HIGGINSON
31.	Paul HALL
35.	Danny MITCHLEY



Luton Town

Manager: Gary Brabin

Mark TYLER

from...

1.0	IVIGIN I I LEN	
2.	Dan GLEESON	0
2. 3.	Fred MURRAY	0
4	Keith KEANE	0
5. 6. 7.	Luke GRAHAM	0
6.	George PILKINGTON	0
7.	Adam NEWTON	0
8. 9.	Amari MORGAN-SMITH	0
9.	Matthew BARNES-HOMER	0
11.	Robbie WILLMOTT	0
11. 12.	Shane BLACKETT	0
13.	Zdeněk KROCA	0
14.	Alex LAWLESS	0
15. 16.	Jake HOWELLS	0
16.	Ed ASAFU-ADJAYE	0
17.	Paul CARDEN	0
18.	Claude GNAPKA	0
19.	Danny CROW	0
21.	Charlie HENRY	0
23.	Jason WALKER	0
24.	Alex LACEY	0
25.	Godfrey POKU	0
26.	JJ O'DONNELL	0
28.	Adam WATKINS	0
29.	Dan WALKER	0
30.	Kevin PILKINGTON	000000000000000000000000000000000000000
31.	Lewis KIDD	0
32.	Jordan PATRICK	0
34.	Lloyd OWUSU	0



Match Officials

Referee: Seb Stockbridge (Tyne & Wear)
Assistant Referee: Paul Brown
Assistant Referee: Geoffrey Liddle
Fourth Official: Duncan Carratt



Mansfield Town's Official Match Programme 'The Stag' was brought to you by:

Editor: Mark Stevenson Deputy Editor: Paul Stephen
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Club Charter

The Mansfield Town Club Charter is available to all supporters. The charter outlines our services and commitment to our supporters. To obtain a copy call us on 01623 482482 or visit

www.mansfieldtown.net

Safety Matters

All of our Stewards are trained to look after your safety and comfort during your visit. Stewards will ask spectators to comply with Football League Ground Safety Regulations.

This is a statutory requirement of the club. If spectators have any concerns or problems please ask the nearest steward for assistance.

Spectators with children under the age of five years must sit in seating allocated by the Safety Officer or his Deputy. Spectators are reminded that for your safety and comfort Field Mill is an all seater stadium. It is a condition of entry to the ground that all spectators whenever possible remain seated. Spectators who persistently stand will be asked why they are standing and our stewards will endeavour to make it possible to remain seated. failure to comply with requests to remain seated may result in ejection from the ground. Season ticket holders who are ejected may have their ticket revoked without compensation and refusal of further entry.

If you have any concerns relating to crowd behaviour or management you are welcome to contact Alan Lakin, our Safety Officer, with your comments.