



AFC WIMBLEDON LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER PROMOTION FINAL

**CITY OF MANCHESTER STADIUM
THE HOME OF MANCHESTER CITY FC**

SATURDAY 21ST MAY 2011 3PM

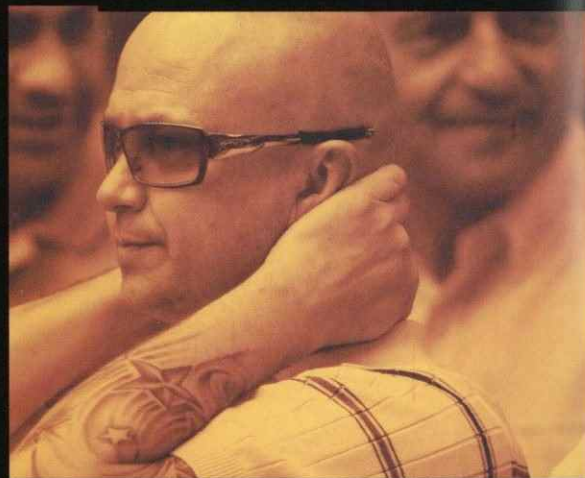


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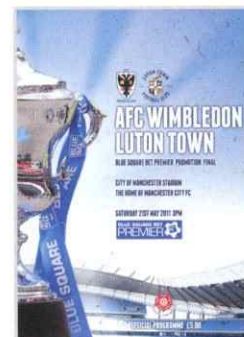
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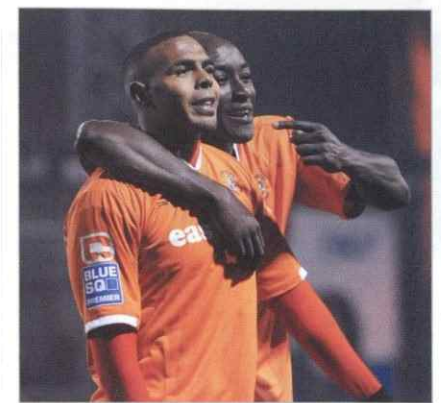
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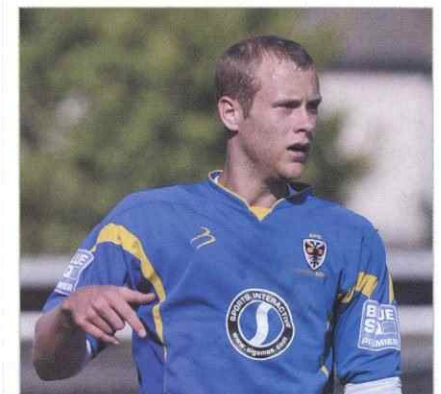
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DESIGN & PRINT OF TODAY'S MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

BRIAN LEE

THE CHAIRMAN



IT IS MY GREAT PLEASURE, ON BEHALF OF MY FELLOW DIRECTORS, TO WELCOME YOU ALL TO TODAY'S FOOTBALL CONFERENCE PROMOTION PLAY-OFF FINAL AT THE CITY OF MANCHESTER STADIUM.

Due to the Champions League Final being played at Wembley, we had to find another venue for the Conference's Premier game of the Season and we are extremely grateful to 'City' for allowing us to use Eastlands as well as for their wonderful cooperation in staging today's game. The two contesting teams, having very different backgrounds and history, are Luton Town and A.F.C. Wimbledon.

Before that though; we are here in the football mad City of Manchester and we offer our congratulations to our hosts for winning the Football Association Challenge Cup Final and for qualifying for the Champions League. We should not forget the 'other team' who have again won the Premier League title and have yet to contest the Champions League Final.

We have again enjoyed many special moments during the season and one of the highlights was the performance of Champions Crawley Town playing against Manchester United in the F.A. Cup at Old Trafford in front of 74,000 people. Both clubs are known as the 'Reds' and our 'Reds' did our competition proud; on the field technically and in an exemplary manner in front of their faithful supporters.

We are extremely pleased and proud to welcome our Principal Guest, David Bernstein, the recently appointed Chairman of The Football Association. David, a former Chairman of Manchester City, has got a real job satisfying everyone's needs whilst restoring The FA to a real Governing Body of Sport and we wish every success.

Our Match Officials led by Referee James Adcock have merited officiating in this match and again we

thank and wish them well and a quiet afternoon. It has again been a season of progress on and off the field for all the Blue Square Clubs and we are indebted to our title Sponsor for their continued support, particularly to the familiar faces of Richard Jaques and Alan Alger.

Crawley Town have won the Blue Square Bet Premiership at a canter, shouldering the 'hype' of being the 'Chelsea of this league'. They have played good attacking football and with strong financial backing should do well in the Football league. Congratulations to Manager Steve Evans, his assistant Paul Raynor and all their players. Enjoy your new experience.

Luton Town who have been in The Conference only two years, lost in last year's Play-Offs and will be keen to go one better this year. A club steeped in history are rebuilding and still attracting a good following of supporters. The air of expectancy is great and the pressure to succeed can work the opposite way. There is no place for lack of concentration the essential ingredients for success are relaxation, composure, determination and good decision making. Luton can play today with patience and confidence.

A.F.C. Wimbledon are a unique Club having progressed through the league structure and at every stage have got better technically and stronger in performance. Manager Terry Brown has brought them through every stage to the Blue Square Bet Premier.

Again consistency and patience has been demonstrated. The Club's history is well known but to have the prospect of playing in the Football league must be the ardent wish of the faithful supporters since their old glory days at Plough Lane. A.F.C. Wimbledon is a fairy tale, one that doesn't happen too often— will the happy ending be today?

Brian Lee,
Chairman



WELCOME TO MANCHESTER

EVERYONE AT MANCHESTER CITY FOOTBALL CLUB IS DELIGHTED TO WELCOME TWO VERY SPECIAL SETS OF SUPPORTERS, STAFF AND PLAYERS FOR TODAY'S CONFERENCE PLAY-OFF FINAL.

It promises to be a wonderful occasion and we are proud to be able to host the game here at City of Manchester Stadium.

Promotion to the Football League is obviously a mouthwatering prospect to the supporters of both Luton Town and AFC Wimbledon, and one set of fans will be smiling this afternoon while one will already be reluctantly looking to the possibility of mounting an assault on the Conference title next season.

Here at Manchester City we will be able to empathise with both of those sets of emotions, following our recent FA Cup triumph and further back, the disappointment of missing out on the Champions League when we lost a crucial decider with Spurs a year ago.

Football brings incredible highs and crushing lows, so to those who are celebrating tonight I say 'well

done, enjoy the moment and savour the memories', and to those who are commiserating I say 'applaud your team, focus on the positives and help your club come back stronger next year.'

Luton Town are of course a club the football league already knows very well indeed. They have a very proud tradition, and it really doesn't seem so long ago that they were celebrating League Cup titles at Wembley and playing in the top division of English Football. Malcolm Macdonald, Bruce Rioch, Mick Harford, Brian Stein, Paul Walsh, Mal Donachy, John Hartson... the list of notable former players goes on and on.

And so, it has been sad to see a club like Luton fall from grace, but today obviously gives a fantastic opportunity for them to begin the climb back to the higher reaches again.

And the AFC Wimbledon story is clearly a very emotional and exciting one too. They have made remarkable progress since their formation less than 10 years ago. If they were to win today it would be their fifth promotion in less than a decade, a truly remarkable feat which mirrors the amazing progress of the Wimbledon FC side of old, who

rose from the bottom division to the old Division One in a matter of a few seasons before winning the FA Cup.

The Wimbledon fans have clearly big issues with the way that Club was relocated to become Milton Keynes Dons, but I'd imagine a win today would go some small way to erasing those memories.

So the stage is set. Our award-winning playing surface should make for a great game of football. Hopefully the sun will shine and everyone will have a fantastic day. Enjoy it and best of luck to everyone.

Mike Summerbee
Club Ambassador
Manchester City Football Club



using it for the first time in a friendly against Barcelona on 10th August 2003. Nicolas Anelka scored the first goal at the stadium in the aforementioned game, won 2-1 by the hosts.

It is now the fifth-largest stadium in the FA Premier League with a seating capacity of over 47,000 with plans afoot to increase the capacity to over 60,000.

The City of Manchester Stadium became the 50th stadium to host an England international football match when England played Japan in June 2004. It has also hosted the 2008 UEFA Cup Final, the rugby league match between Great Britain and Australia in the Tri-Nations series and numerous music concerts including Oasis, U2, Bon Jovi and Take That.

2000 by John Laing at a cost of approximately £110 million and it was opened to the public for the first time on 25th July 2002 for the opening ceremony of the 2002 Commonwealth Games. Four Commonwealth records were set at the stadium during the games, including the women's triple jump and the women's 5000 metres.

The Stadium has won a number of design awards, including the 2004 Royal Institute of British Architects Inclusive Design Award for inclusive building design and the 2003 Institution of Structural Engineers Structural Special Award.

Extensive work was carried out to convert it for use as a football stadium and Manchester City FC moved to the new ground for the 2003/4 season,

THE CITY OF MANCHESTER STADIUM

This afternoon the City of Manchester Stadium will become the fourth venue used for the Football Conference promotion finals. It follows Stoke City's Britannia Stadium (2003-2005), Leicester City's Walkers Stadium (2006) and Wembley Stadium (2007-2010).

Home to FA Cup winners Manchester City it was designed as part of the Manchester bid for the 2000 Summer Olympics and built for the 2002 Commonwealth Games.

Designed by Arup, construction began in January

ONE PERSON WHO KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT GARY BRABIN AND TERRY BROWN WILL EXPERIENCE THIS AFTERNOON IS CHRIS WILDER.

He suffered defeat in the 2006 promotion final when manager of Halifax Town, but returned to the final last year with Oxford United and guided his team to a 3-1 victory over York City.

"Looking back, I think my main memory from last season's final was the fantastic support that we took to Wembley Stadium. 35,000 people went to the game and the drive to the ground was unbelievable", exclaimed the Oxford chief.

"My other memory was me making a right idiot of myself when I slid on my knees when the final goal went in."

The play offs are sometimes criticised with the theory that teams shouldn't need to play 46 games to decide semi-finalists however they do bring excitement to the end of the season and keep the season alive for a lot of teams. They can bring heartache or ecstasy for fans of those who qualify and for Oxford United it was the latter of the two.

"I still remember everything about the play-offs", said Chris. "The run-up and the final itself were tough games but you have to win those games to go up. I've seen them back on tape and it still brings a shiver down my back.

"It's such a pressure for the bigger clubs, and that's no disrespect to smaller sides, but from the moment the season started we were expected to win the league by fifteen points and that isn't always the case.

"The smaller sides don't come under the radar so much. They have a smaller budget and don't come under the same pressure and therefore don't have the expectancy.

"The pressure was always on us and the relief was getting back into the Football League and everyone knows Oxford United are a football league club but wasn't. There was no doubt about it that we were there for a reason because we hadn't done well enough but we got our chance and we took it."

For the victors today there's the initial joy of winning a final then the realisation that you'll be playing in a higher league the next season. Whilst the Championship play-off is the classed as the richest final in football due to the windfall the promotion to the FA Premier League will bring with it, the Football Conference Promotion final brings the reward of Football League membership for the winners.

Chris added, "We certainly celebrated afterwards, into the night and up to another week afterwards. There were great scenes and ones that will live with us for a long time."



CHRIS WILDER

LOOKING BACK



Oxford were members of the Football League until 2006 when defeat by Leyton Orient relegated them into Football Conference. In each of their four seasons of membership they reached the end of season play-offs but fell at the semi final stage until last season when the victory gave them their return ticket to the Football League.

One year on and a twelfth place finish in League Two, Chris looks back.

"We've really enjoyed our first season back in the Football League and that's no disrespect to the Conference.

"We've acquitted ourselves pretty well. It's been a little frustrating at times because we should have done a touch better but I've enjoyed it and its part of a journey that hopefully we'll keep progressing and improving.

"I certainly think it's harder to get out of the Football Conference than to stay in the Football League. It's just a war of attrition week in and week out at the top of the league.

"Both clubs who went up last year have acquitted themselves well. Most teams that go up do and if you look at Torquay United, who went up from the play offs, they had a season of consolidation and have kicked on this year.

"You don't see teams go up and come straight back down. Burton Albion was a different situation because of the number of games called off during the season but they've been pretty strong over two years and I expect they'll kick on.

"There's not a lot of difference between the top of the Conference and the Football League. There is a little gap but if you get a little bit of a run and a bit of luck you can get into the play-offs."

So does a person who's been there, seen it and done it have any advice for the two managers here this afternoon?

"My message to this afternoon's teams is just go for it. We drilled that into our players that we were going to go and try to win the game and we did.

"We were a disappointed we didn't go three up because we started the game fantastically well and we really played in an attacking formation and seized the opportunity.

"You only get one chance at it and I've no regrets on that and just have a right go at it and be really positive and I'm sure if both teams today do that it'll make for a cracking game."

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AFC WIMBLEDON

ALTHOUGH THE TITLE ELUDED THEM, THE DONS HAD A PARTICULARLY STRONG FINISH TO THE CAMPAIGN AS THEY LOOK TO RETURN THE NAME WIMBLEDON TO THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP.

In the close season, the defence was restocked with former Bristol City left back Andre Blackman, whilst Fraser Franks came from nearby Brentford, Ed Harris joined from QPR and Ismail Yakubu moved from Barnet. In midfield, Fulham's Reece Jones joined the club alongside Gillingham's Rashid Yussuff, Tonbridge Angels' Lee Minshull and Dover Athletic's Sammy Moore. The attack was boosted by Christian Jolley from Kingstonian and Mark Nwokeji of Dagenham & Redbridge, whilst Woking's Delano Sam-Yorke completed the picture.

During the season defender Chris Bush signed on loan from Brentford, whilst there was some impressive squad reinforcement in the New Year as Rushden captain Jamie Stuart joined the Dons' defence alongside Dagenham loanee Gareth Gwillim, Chelmsford winger James Mulley and Brentford loan striker Kirk Hudson. Further additions to the forward line were Lincoln's Drewe Broughton, again on loan, and Bath's Kaid Mohamed.

This campaign began with a 1-0 win at Southport, a 2-0 home success over Histon and a 3-0 home success over Tamworth as Kedwell collected a brace, but the trip to Rushden brought a 1-0 loss. They bounced back, though, by securing a 3-2 win at Eastbourne Borough thanks to another Kedwell double, before a 2-2 home draw with Newport and the strong form continued with a 2-1 win at Kettering and 4-0 home win over Bath

City. The significant trip to Luton ended in a disappointing 3-0 loss, though, but they bounced back in perfect fashion as they beat Crawley 2-1 at Kingsmeadow.

After a 2-0 loss at Kidderminster, they won five of their next six games, as Fraser Franks scored twice in a 3-0 home win over Cambridge United, a 1-1 home draw with Forest Green and a 5-2 victory at Mansfield, in which Sammy Moore claimed a brace.

Another away trip saw a 2-1 win at Wrexham before consecutive 1-0 wins at home to Gateshead and at Basingstoke in the FA Cup. A 2-0 home defeat was suffered to Darlington, prior to a 0-0 home Cup draw with Ebbsfleet, whilst Kedwell got both goals in a 2-0 success at Altrincham.

As November continued, a 2-0 reverse came at Barrow, but the 3-2 replay win at Ebbsfleet where Sammy Moore earned extra time, then settled it as penalties loomed, didn't set up a showdown with Milton Keynes, but instead a home tie with Stevenage, which was lost 2-0. Meanwhile, though, Luke Moore netted two of the goals in a 3-2 home victory against Kettering.

The Trophy began with a 3-0 home win over Braintree, whilst the London Senior Cup got underway with victory at Dulwich. The goals continued to flow as a 3-0 home win over Eastbourne ended 2010 and 3-1 home success against Hayes & Yeading began 2011.

Unexpectedly, though, a slump set in, but Crawley's Cup run saw them accumulate games in hand and saw the Dons have a sustained spell at the top in the Spring. The New Year continued

with a 3-3 draw at Newport and 0-0 draws at Darlington and at home to Luton. A shock home defeat came at the hands of Woking in the Trophy, but a 1-1 draw was collected at Fleetwood before Mulley claimed a double in the 5-0 demolition of Southport. At Bath, they secured a 2-2 draw ahead of a Surrey Cup exit at Colliers Wood and 2-0 win at Gateshead, but the mixed form continued into February as a 4-1 reverse came at York.

February brought improved results, though, with 1-0 home wins against Fleetwood and York and a 5-2 victory at Tamworth, helped by two Kedwell goals. A rare home loss was suffered to Wrexham, but Kedwell roared back with a hat trick as Altrincham were seen off 4-1 at Kingsmeadow. However, a disappointing March effectively ruled out a late surge for the title with the 0-0 draw at Hayes being followed by three successive defeats at Grimsby, at home to Kidderminster and at Crawley.

Despite that, they ended the regular campaign with six wins and a draw from their last seven matches as a 1-0 home win against Rushden was backed up by a 2-0 home success against Barrow. The trip to Cambridge United brought a 2-1 win before Luke Moore and Kedwell each claimed two in a 4-0 victory at Histon. A 2-1 home victory against Mansfield came ahead of a 0-0 draw at Forest Green and 2-1 home win over Grimsby which ended the league season.

The play-offs brought a visit to Fleetwood and a 2-0 lead was secured after the first leg, thanks to Luke Moore and Mohamed, who collected the matchball in the stunning 6-1 second leg success.

FROM THE MANAGER

"OUR TARGET AT THE START OF THE SEASON WAS TO MAKE THE PLAY-OFFS AND REACHING THE FINAL HAS BEEN A FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT."

"I couldn't have envisaged how well the Play-Off semi-final went. To win 8-1 on aggregate against what I think is a very good Fleetwood side was beyond my wildest dreams. To finish second in the league; and to get 90 points was also a massive achievement for us. So we'll take a lot of confidence going into today's game."

"Crawley were worthy winners this year, and I mean that; they won it by a mile. The only thing I would say though is that the side I have now is a much better one than the side that competed against Crawley. We've got two front runners on fire and we didn't have those available to us. We've got Sammy Hatton who's now available, and he's a key figure."

"One thing that pleases me as much as anything is that I've got a squad of 22 players to choose from who are fit and hungry. I looked at my bench on Wednesday night and all four changes I could have made would be really positive; I've got a massive centre half and I've got one forward and two midfielders that could change any game – and I hadn't had that until about the last six games."

"After the Crawley game, we sat them down and said, 'The season starts here. Ten wins and you're a Football League Club.' That sounds all right now after we've won eight of the nine, but the boys have done it. We are absolutely on fire at the moment. We are confident, I have got my best side and my best squad available and we've never been stronger. This is a young side, this is a side that's progressively got better as the year went on; we started the season off brightly, but we've got a much better side now. If we get the ball down and play football, then we would cause any side some trouble."

"I think this is the perfect final; in Luton you've got the biggest side ever in non league football, who are long overdue going back into their rightful place, as they see it, in the Football League. But you have to earn that right."

"Today, I'm expecting the start of the match to be a very cagey, nervy affair. I think, with Luton being the bigger club that there's a little bit more pressure on them, but I'm not playing mind games with that one – there's pressure on both of us."

"This isn't a pitch where you can lump the ball up the park and hope to get all the seconds; it's the second biggest pitch in the Premier, it's a carpet and we're going to get it down as soon as we can and play our football. And however well Luton play, they're going to have to work really hard to get the ball off us."

"The fans had the club stolen from them, so to get their rightful place back in the Football League would be part closure. The FA said that it wouldn't be in the best interests of football for us to start up,



TERRY BROWN

"I THINK THE ATMOSPHERE IS GOING TO BE ELECTRIC TODAY. IT'S WONDERFUL ARENA TO PLAY IN, IT'S A FANTASTIC WEEKEND AWAY FOR BOTH SETS OF SUPPORTERS AND I THINK IT WILL BE A CLASSIC FINAL."

which is absolute nonsense. The fans have proved, and the various managers and players at this club through the last nine years have proved, that we are a good force in football. We take pride

in that we do everything the right way. We're very proud of having the best disciplinary record in the league for the last four years; we see that as being part of our ethos now. We've got a youth structure that is absolutely flying with kids coming through and it would be a real boost for our fans to get back in the Football League and achieve one of their goals.

"Yes, we'd like to get back to Wimbledon eventually and personally I'd love to be finishing above Milton Keynes. I think the atmosphere is going to be electric today. It's wonderful arena to play in, it's a fantastic weekend away for both sets of supporters and I think it will be a classic final Play-Off between two confident sides, two sides in good form with two sets of fans that think it's their destiny to be back in the League."



MEET THE DONS

PLAYER TO WATCH



BRETT JOHNSON

Brett joined the Dons from Brentford during the 2009 close season. The tall defender began his career with Ashford Town (Middx) and in 2004 moved to Terry Brown's Aldershot where he helped the club to the play offs. He attracted the attention of several League sides and in June 2005 moved to Northampton Town for a season. He then had a season at Brentford before he joined the Dons and made 42 starts in 2009/10. Brett has missed part of this season through injury but is now back at the heart of the defence.

TERRY BROWN (MANAGER)

Terry was appointed AFC Wimbledon's first full-time manager in May 2007. His managerial prowess became evident during a nine-year spell in charge of Hayes, whom he took from the lower half of the Ryman Premier Division to third place in the Conference in 1999. He moved to Aldershot Town in 2002 and in his five years in charge at the Recreation Ground he steered the Shots to a Ryman Premier League title and a 2004 Conference playoff final in which they missed a Football League place only by losing to Shrewsbury Town in a penalty shootout. Terry left Aldershot in March 2007, but returned to football with the Dons. He and trusted lieutenant Stuart Cash are relishing the challenge of returning the Dons to the Football League, having steered the side to two promotions and an eighth-place finish in the Blue Square Premier.

As a player Hillingdon-born Terry joined Hayes from local football as a 19 year-old and made his debut against Enfield in April 1971. He was a member of the team which defeated Football League Bristol Rovers during the 1972/3 season. After two seasons, he joined Sutton United briefly and then moved to Slough Town, before rejoining Hayes in August 1977 where he stayed until October 1979. In both spells he made a total of 148 appearances and scored 45 goals for the Rebels. After Slough he played for Wokingham Town, where he eventually became a coach. Terry also won FA Amateur XI honours.

SEB BROWN (GOALKEEPER)

Seb is a product of Brentford's youth system who made his Bees' first-team squad as an unused sub in a League Cup game when only 16 years old. He made his competitive debut in September 2008 in a Football League Trophy tie against Yeovil Town, which ended in a penalty shootout victory for Brentford. Whilst at Griffin Park he had a loan spell at Windsor & Eton in 2007 where he made 25 appearances. He signed for the Dons in August 2009 and has been the first-choice keeper for both the Dons and the England C team.

JACK TURNER (GOALKEEPER)

Jack has worked his way through the Dons youth system and is a highly talented young keeper. He made his first-team debut in October 2008 in the London Senior Cup against Erith Town and found himself on the wrong end of a hat-trick scored in four minutes. Jack was rewarded with a contract in summer 2009 after turning down offers to trial with League sides. His first-team chances have been limited, but he is now second-choice keeper and made one first-team appearance, against Mansfield Town in April.

RYAN JACKSON (DEFENDER)

Twenty year old Ryan is a hard-working, pacy young right-back with a long throw. He joined the Dons' reserves in 2008 and graduated to the first-team squad towards the end of last season. His outstanding league debut against Tamworth in

April 2010 earned him a man of the match award and two days later a contract for the 2010/11 season. This season he has started 27 games plus made another 16 appearances from the bench.

ISMAIL YAKUBU (DEFENDER)

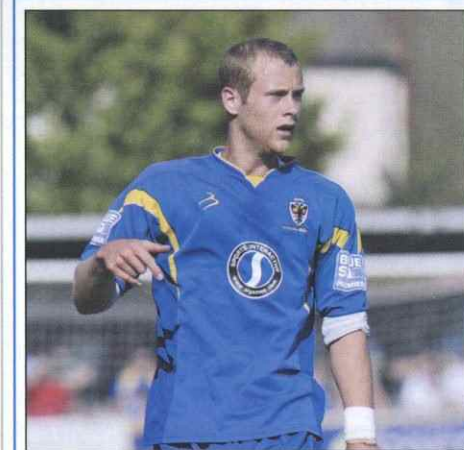
Ismail joined the Dons in July 2010 from Barnet, where he had spent his entire career. The Nigerian-born central defender joined them at the age of eleven, turning professional at 16. He made his first-team debut at seventeen under manager Peter Shreeves and captained the Bees from August 2007 to November 2008. After missing the second half of the 2009/10 season through injury he was released in May. "Yaks" has made 31 starts this season.

FRASER FRANKS (DEFENDER)

Twenty-year old Fraser is a centre-back who signed for the Dons in July 2010. He made 18 starts this season and another 10 as a substitute before injury ended his season early in March. He began his career as a trainee in July 2008 and Brentford and was converted to a central role having played much of his youth football at right-back.

Fraser signed pro forms a year later, but despite being the bench on several occasions he failed to make a first-team appearance. At the start of last season he has a spell on loan at Basingstoke Town.

PLAYER TO WATCH



SAM HATTON

Sam is a product of the Stevenage Borough youth academy who made the Boro first team on two occasions in 2005 before loan spells at Yeading, Maidenhead United, Northwood and Diss Town. He was a prize capture by the Dons in May 2007. One of the first names on the team sheet over the past three seasons, he has made a total of 172 first-team starts and contributed 27 goals. Sam has just been voted AFC Wimbledon's Player of the Year for 2010/2011 and is an established member of the England C squad.

ED HARRIS (DEFENDER)

Centre-back Ed signed for the Dons in July 2010. He was previously with Queens Park Rangers where he captained the reserves and made the first-team squad without making an appearance. He went out on loan to Hayes & Yeading last February until the end of the season and appeared for them 13 times. This season he has taken his chance well, filling in when the first-choice central defenders were injured. Ed spent a period on loan at Dover Athletic last month.

JAMIE STUART (DEFENDER)

Jamie signed in January 2011 from Rushden & Diamonds where he was the Club Captain. The centre back joined Rushden in June 2009 and played 47 times for them during the 2009/10 season. He began his career as a youth player with Charlton Athletic and progressed to their first team. During his time with Charlton Athletic, he won four caps for the England under-21 team. He joined Millwall in 1998 and spent two years at the New Den before joining Bury. To move nearer his family in London he joined fellow Third Division side Southend United for the 2003/4 season. A year later he dropped into non-league football and played for Conference South Hornchurch, making 17 appearances before a financial crisis at the club forced a number of players to leave in November 2004. Jamie joined Grays Athletic where he won the Conference South and FA Trophy in his first season. He helped the Essex side retain the FA Trophy and won an England international cap at semi pro level. He moved to Nene Park in June 2009 and was named in the league side of the year.

RICKY WELLARD (MIDFIELDER)

Ricky signed for the Dons from Ashford Town (Middx) in June 2009 after several previously unsuccessful attempts by Terry Brown to prise him away from the club where he had spent nearly all his football career. The tall midfielder made 32 starts last season plus 11 from the bench. Ricky spent time on loan at Cambridge United earlier this year and returned in March.

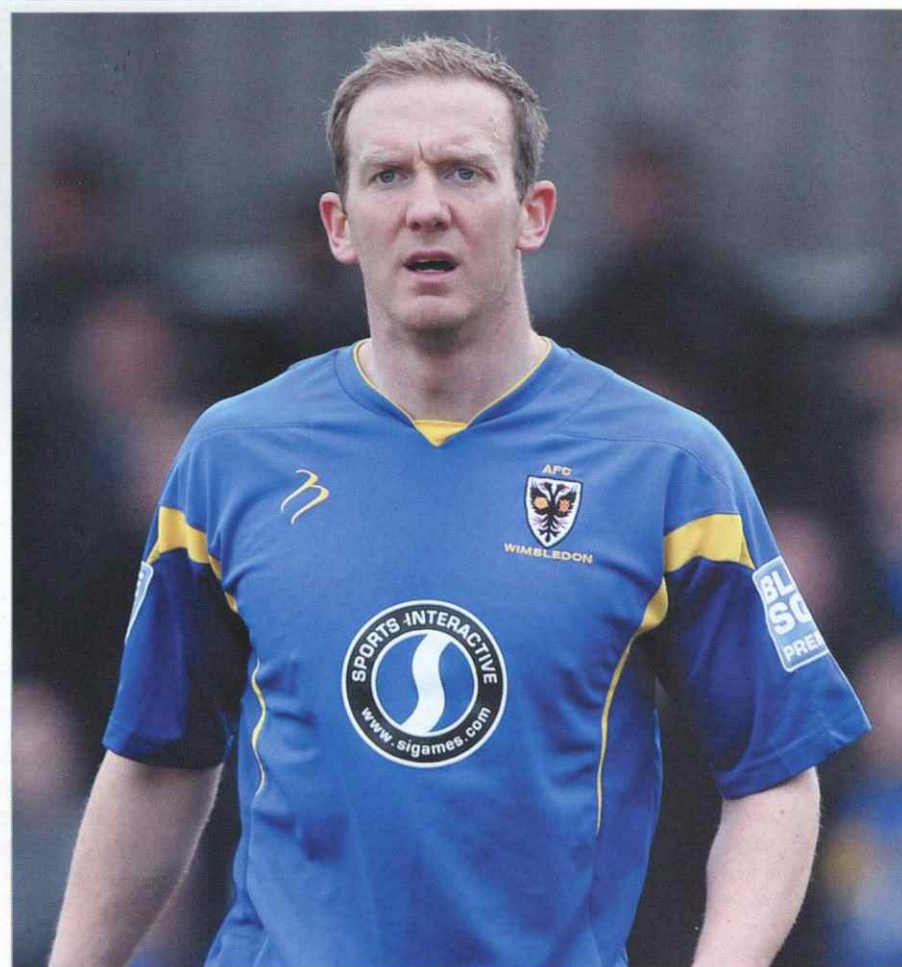
LEE MINSHULL (MIDFIELDER)

Tough-tackling midfielder, Lee, signed for the Dons from Tonbridge Angels in May 2010. He started his career as a centre-back at Ramsgate but moved into an attacking midfield role when he moved to Angels in 2009. In his first season he scored 17 times from 40 appearances, finishing the season as second top scorer and being voted player of the year. Lee has put his career as a quantity surveyor on hold to join the full-time Dons. Injury has limited his appearances this season but he is now back to full fitness.

SAMMY MOORE (MIDFIELDER)

Sammy is a former youth player with Charlton who came through the Chelsea and Ipswich academies to earn a contract at Portman Road. After making one substitute appearance for Ipswich he went on loan to Brentford in 2007/8, making 17 starts and scoring twice. Released by Ipswich, he signed as a non-contract player at Stevenage, where he made 11 starts before joining his local side Dover in 2008 and making nearly 60 appearances in two seasons, scoring 11 times. Sammy signed for the Dons in July 2010 in pursuit

PLAYER TO WATCH



GARETH GWILLIM

Gareth is on loan from Dagenham & Redbridge where he has yet to make a first team start. The left-back began his career as a youth player at Crystal Palace, moving to Farnborough and Ashford Town in 2002 before settling at Bishop's Cleeve, where he made over 150 appearances in four seasons. He moved to Histon in 2007 and after 120 games for them was signed by the Daggers in June 2010 having been courted by John Still for four months. Currently the first-choice Dons left-back, Gareth has 23 appearances under his belt.

of full-time football and has appeared 34 times, scoring seven times, before injury ended his season.

REECE JONES (MIDFIELDER)

Welsh schoolboy international Reece was registered with Wimbledon FC until 2003 and when the Club relocated to Milton Keynes, he joined Fulham. At Fulham he became captain of the Under-16 side and has been capped by Wales at Under-16, Under-19 and Under-21 levels. Reece signed for AFC Wimbledon in August 2010 from the Craven Cottage side.

RASHID YUSSUFF (MIDFIELDER)

Left-sided midfielder Rashid signed from Gillingham in June 2010. "Toks", as he is known, started as a trainee with Charlton in 2006 and whilst at the Valley he made a handful of appearances on loan at Northwich Victoria and Ebbsfleet. He joined the Gills in August 2009 and made eight first-team appearances. He has won England International caps at Under-16, Under-17

and Under-18 levels. This season he has made 46 appearances this season, including 20 as a substitute and has weighed in with six goals.

JAMES MULLEY (MIDFIELDER)

James is a versatile midfielder who joined Yeading FC at the age of 16. He remained with the club to become Hayes & Yeading's longest-serving player until his release last July. After a pre-season trial with Charlton Athletic he returned to Church Lane and in October moved to Essex side Chelmsford City. He signed for the Dons on a non-contract basis on New Year's Day and has played 24 games, scoring six times.

BRENDAN KIERNAN (MIDFIELDER)

Brendan is a former Crystal Palace youth player who moved to the Dons when he was released at the age of 16. After playing for the Senior Academy sides he impressed in a county cup game against Dulwich Hamlet in December 2010 and was rewarded with promotion to the first-team squad.



MEET THE DONS

JON MAIN (FORWARD)

Jon was AFC Wimbledon's record signing in November 2007 just days after playing and scoring against them for his previous club, Tonbridge Angels. At Tonbridge he bagged 52 goals in just 57 appearances including a spectacular 2008/9 season, scoring 33 times in the league and passing Rocky Baptiste's previous Blue Square South record total with two months of the season still to go. Injury restricted his appearances last season but he was still the second-highest scorer, with 15 goals. Jon spent spells on loan this season at Blue Square South sides Dartford and Dover Athletic.

LUKE MOORE (FORWARD)

Luke worked his way through the youth and reserve ranks at Ebbsfleet and soon established himself in the first team. He joined the Dons in June 2009 and made 30 appearances last season, scoring eight goals. He added another eight goals this season from 41 games including 16 games as a substitute.

CHRISTIAN JOLLEY (FORWARD)

Christian began his career at county-level side Oxted & District in September 2009 and had an outstanding season with them, making 40 appearances, scoring eight times. He was signed by Kingstonian where he was a part of the side that reached the Ryman Premier final but lost to Boreham Wood. He joined AFC Wimbledon in May 2010 and has appeared 41 times this season, scoring 14 goals.

MARK NWOKEJI (FORWARD)

Mark joined the Dons in June 2010. A former England schoolboy 200-metre champion, he began in youth football with Charlton and Colchester. He played for various non-League sides, notably Walton & Hersham, and in 2006 moved to Staines Town, where his 46 goals in 75 appearances caught the attention of Dagenham & Redbridge. He joined the Daggers in 2008 and scored his first goal for the Club in the Johnstones Paints Trophy tie at

PLAYER TO WATCH



DANNY KEDWELL

Powerful centre-forward, Danny, signed in September 2008 from Grays Athletic. He played for Welling before moving to Grays in May 2007. At the Dons he quickly formed a powerful striking partnership with Jon Main and scored 15 times in his debut season. Danny was last season's Player of the Year and leading goalscorer, with a tally of 26 which he matched this season with his goal in the second leg of the play-off semi-final against Fleetwood Town.

PLAYER TO WATCH



STEVEN GREGORY

Steven began his career as a 15-year old in the youth ranks of Wycombe Wanderers, his highlight being captaining the side in the Berks & Bucks Senior Cup final win over Milton Keynes Dons. He spent most of 2007/08 on loan at Hayes & Yeading and Havant & Waterlooville and moved to the Middlesex club at the end of that season. The tall central midfielder signed for AFC Wimbledon in the 2009 close season and has appeared 48 times for the Dons this season. He has also won England C team International honours.

Peterborough. A cruciate ligament injury sustained in a training match put him out of action for nine months, after which he went on loan to Luton Town. This season Mark has scored five times in 10 starts.

DELANO SAM-YORKE (FORWARD)

Delano graduated from the Woking academy and was awarded a first-team contract in August 2008, making five first-team appearances in his first season, with another dozen from the bench. With a change of manager he had few opportunities, and he was released at the end of the 2009/10 season and signed for the Dons in July 2010. With first-team opportunities limited, Delano has had a loan period at Basingstoke Town for much of the season.

KAID MOHAMED (FORWARD)

Kaid signed in March 2011 from Bath City. Born in Cardiff, "Mo" made his mark with Welsh Premier League side Carmarthen Town and was snapped up by Swindon in 2007. After a loan spell at Torquay United he joined Forest Green Rovers, going out on loan to Newport County. He signed for Bath City in August 2009 and scored 26 times in 65 appearances, including three in City's Blue Square South play-off games last season, the most important being the winner against Woking in the final. Mo scored four times in the two legs of the semi-final against Fleetwood Town.

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THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT...

AFC WIMBLEDON

The club was formed in 2002 following Wimbledon FC's controversial move to a new town in Buckinghamshire.

The supporters of AFC Wimbledon assert that club is a continuation of the spirit that formed the Old Centrals Football Club in Wimbledon in 1889 and kept Wimbledon Football Club alive until 2002.

Starting in the Combined Counties League, the club has enjoyed four promotions in eight years.

During their first season in the Combined Counties League, AFC Wimbledon's average gate was over 3,000.

They remained unbeaten between 22 February 2003 and 4 December 2004, a 78 match run that is a record for league games at any senior level of football in the UK.

AFC Wimbledon Club President Dickie Guy was the hero of Wimbledon FC's FA Cup run of 1975 when the non league side beat First Division Burnley at Turf Moor in the Third Round. They almost repeated the trick against Leeds United in the next round. Guy saved a penalty as the reigning English Champions were held to a 0-0 draw before the non leaguers succumbed to a deflected goal in the replay.

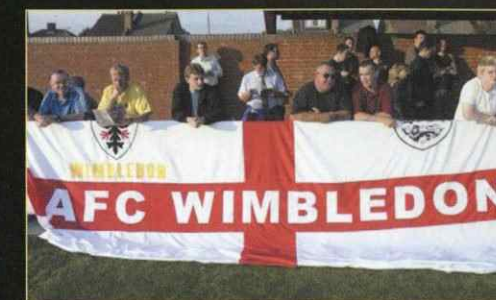


Terry Brown was appointed manager in 2007 and won promotion in his first two seasons at the helm.

AFC Wimbledon's Mascot, Haydon the Womble, is named after Haydons Road which leads to Plough Lane - Wimbledon FC's former home.

AFC Wimbledon is still wholly owned by its supporters via the one-fan, one-vote Dons Trust.

The name 'Wimbledon' is derived from the Old English 'Wunenannedune' which, as you probably know, means 'hill of a man called Wynnmann'.





FIRST LEG

Friday May 6th, 2011

Fleetwood Town 0

AFC Wimbledon 2 (Moore 39, Mohamed 48)

Fleetwood: Hurst (Davies 46), Beeley, Barry, McNulty, Clancy (Parker 52), Vieira, Mullan (Harvey 52), Brown, McGuire, Seddon, Gregan. Unused Subs: Cavanagh, Donnelly.

AFC Wimbledon: Brown, Hatton, Gwillim (Yakubu 55), Gregory, Stuart, Johnson, Yussuff (Minshull 75), Wellard, Kedwell, Mohamed, Moore (Jolley 88). Unused Subs: Turner, Mulley.

SECOND LEG

Wednesday May 11th, 2011

AFC Wimbledon 6 (Mohamed 1, 35, 63, Kedwell 28, Jolley 68, Mulley 80)

Fleetwood Town 1 (Seddon 47)

AFC Wimbledon: Brown, Hatton, Gwillim (Yakubu 46), Gregory, Stuart, Johnson, Yussuff, Wellard, Kedwell (Mulley 72), Mohamed, Moore (Jolley 57). Unused Subs: Turner, Minshull.

Fleetwood: Hurst, Barry, McNulty, Harvey, Vieira (Clancy 46), Brown, McGuire, Seddon, Cavanagh, Donnelly, Gregan. Unused Subs: Davies, Mullan, Parker.

AFC Wimbledon win 8-1 on aggregate

HERE WAS AN INTRIGUING ENCOUNTER: THE DIVISION'S TWO IN-FORM SIDES, BOTH WITH MORE PROMOTIONS IN THE PAST FEW YEARS THAN MANY CLUBS MANAGE IN A LIFETIME, BOTH WITH AMBITIONS ON THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE, BOTH DESPERATE FOR A PLACE IN TODAY'S PROMOTION FINAL.

It should have been a close call; instead, it produced the highest winning margin in the Conference National play-offs since they were introduced back in the 2002/3 season.

The first leg was played at Fleetwood in front of a record Highbury crowd of 4,116. The home side's marauding left-back Junior Brown shone in the opening minutes, though the Dons' central defenders Brett Johnson and Jamie Stuart dealt with everything Fleetwood threw at

them. The home side sought out wide men Sean Clancy and Jamie Mullan, but it was Junior Brown who put in some telling crosses that called Seb Brown into action in the Wimbledon goal.

When the Dons' leading scorer, Danny Kedwell, finally shook off his marker and whipped in a first-time cross, it had slightly too much power for Luke Moore to connect with, and Steven Gregory wasted an opportunity to give the Dons the lead. But in the 39th minute a mix-up in the home defence allowed Moore to nip in and slot the ball home. Fleetwood struggled to respond as the Dons piled on the pressure, and cards were shown after a 21-man melee at the end of the half that followed a studs-up tackle by Sean Gregan on Dons left-back Gareth Gwillim.

Three minutes after the break, Ricky Wellard slid a perfectly weighted pass in behind Gregan, and Moore latched onto the ball and cut it back to Kaid Mohamed, who calmly doubled the Dons' lead. Wimbledon continued to dominate the opening 20 minutes of the half, and had several good chances to extend their lead, as the already charged atmosphere was heightened by thunder and lightning.

With Gwillim unable to continue, Wimbledon reorganised their defence, and Fleetwood took this as their cue to up their game. Junior Brown forced Seb Brown into a fine save, and Magno Vieira had his best effort of the night turned behind for a corner. Fleetwood's more direct play created counter-attacking opportunities for Wimbledon, but neither side added to their score, and the Dons carried their two-goal advantage into the second leg.

Fleetwood, needing an early goal themselves in the second leg at Kingsmeadow, saw their hopes of a place in the final begin to evaporate in the first 30 seconds. When Johnson launched a hopeful long ball into space behind the Fleetwood rearguard, Gregan failed to cope with the pace of Mohamed, who took the ball round him and slotted home past keeper Danny Hurst.



THE SEMI-FINALS

AFC WIMBLEDON



Undaunted, Fleetwood began to pour forward at every opportunity. George Donnelly, Gareth Seddon and Vieira all had chances to pull a goal back, and the Dons then had to weather a series of corners. But two Wimbledon goals put the tie beyond Fleetwood's reach. Sam Hatton found Kedwell with a sublime crossfield pass, and the skipper turned and slid the ball past Hurst. Then Moore sped into the penalty area and set up Mohamed to tap the ball into the empty net.

At half-time Fleetwood brought on Sean Clancy for Vieira and Paul Linwood for Gregan, and within two minutes of the restart they struck back. Seb Brown could only parry Clancy's shot to the feet of Seddon, who couldn't miss from two yards. Spurred on, Fleetwood staged a mini-revival. Alex-Ray Harvey tested Brown's reflexes with a free-kick, and Donnelly shot over, but when Wimbledon bagged their fourth the visitors wilted.

Substitute Christian Jolley found Kedwell in space down the right, and the captain dinked a cross into the box to Rashid Yussuff, whose shot was blocked by Hurst, and eventually Mohamed prodded the ball over the line for his hat-trick. Five minutes later came the Dons' fifth of the night. Stuart's through-ball set Jolley off on a run through the Fleetwood defence, and Hurst did well to block his shot, but when the ball span loose Junior Brown knocked it back into Jolley's path for the substitute to steer past the helpless keeper.

Kedwell was subbed five minutes later, and his replacement James Mulley added a sixth. Intercepting a loose pass on the edge of his own box, he carved through Town's midfield, took on two defenders, found Yussuff in space to his right, accepted the return pass, rounded Hurst and slotted home for the choicest of the tie's nine goals.



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CAPTAIN BEEFHEART · THEM · IVOR CUTLER



DORIS DAY · ENNIO MORRICONE · BURT BACHARACH



BARCLAY JAMES HARVEST · MAN · JACK BRUCE



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AFC WIMBLEDON

MANAGING TO SUCCEED – DAVE BASSETT

One of the most significant figures in Wimbledon's history, Dave Bassett gave inspirational service as a player and manager. The England Amateur international midfielder helped Walton & Hersham win the Amateur Cup in 1973 and followed Allen Batsford to Wimbledon in July 1974. He starred in three Southern League title wins and assisted Dario Gradi before replacing him as manager in January 1981. Plotting the Crazy Gang's meteoric rise to the top-flight, he took charge of Watford in May 1987, then had spells as manager of Sheffield United, Crystal Palace, Nottingham Forest, Barnsley and Leicester City.

FAB FOUR DAVE BEASANT

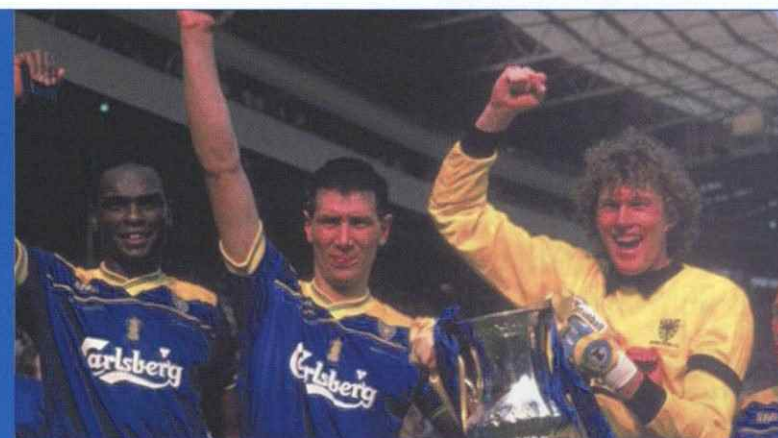
Long-serving goalkeeper Dave Beasant was ever-present throughout Wimbledon's meteoric rise and skippered their 1988 FA Cup success, saving a

penalty in the Wembley final. He retired a year later to concentrate on his acting career after success in the film 'Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels'.

ROBBIE EARLE

Jamaican international midfielder Robbie Earle was Wimbledon's 'Player of the Year' in 1991-92. Signing professional for Port Vale in July 1982, he starred in their 1985-86 and 1988-89 promotion successes and cost Wimbledon a then club record £775,000 in July 1991.

He was ever-present for the Dons in two consecutive seasons and inspired successive Cup runs, playing for his country in the 1998 World Cup finals. Scoring 59 goals in 284 top-flight games for Wimbledon, he was awarded the MBE in June 1999 but a stomach injury forced his retirement four months later. He has since worked extensively in the media.



CLASSIC CAMPAIGN – 1987-88

Skipper Dave Beasant saved a penalty as Wimbledon won the 1988 FA Cup final. New manager Bobby Gould signed John Scales and Terry Phelan, with the Dons soaring up the table after a poor start, losing only once in 13 matches and finishing seventh in the top-flight. They overcame West Brom, Mansfield, Newcastle, Watford and Luton in the FA Cup before Lawrie Sanchez's header defeated Liverpool 1-0 at Wembley: Dave Beasant, Clive Goodyear, Terry Phelan, Vinnie Jones, Eric Young, Andy Thorn, Terry Gibson (John Scales), Alan Cork (Laurie Cunningham), John Fashanu, Lawrie Sanchez, Dennis Wise.

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS LOOKS AT LEADING LIGHTS FROM TEAMS CALLED WIMBLEDON

NAMES & GAMES

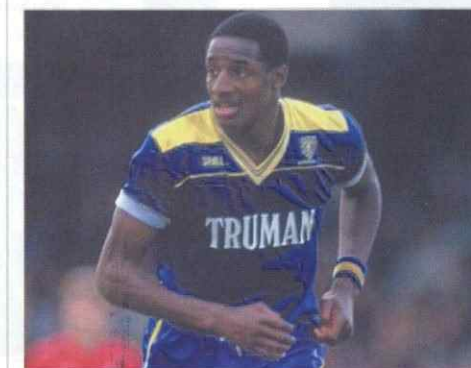
penalty in the Wembley final. He joined the Dons from Edgware Town in August 1979 and was 'Player of the Year' in 1980-81, making 340 League appearances before moving to Newcastle United for £850,000 in June 1988. Joining Chelsea for £750,000 nine months later, he was capped twice by England and moved to Southampton for £300,000 in November 1993. He then played for Nottingham Forest, Portsmouth, Bradford City, Wigan Athletic, Brighton and Fulham.

VINNIE JONES

Welsh international midfield hardman Vinnie Jones was an inspirational figure during two spells at Wimbledon. He joined the Dons from Wealdstone in November 1986 and starred in the 1988 FA Cup final triumph, moving to Leeds United for £650,000 in June 1989. Reuniting with Dave Bassett at Sheffield United in September 1990, he joined Chelsea in August 1991 and returned to Wimbledon in September 1992, netting 21 goals in 254 League games overall prior to joining QPR in March 1998.

JOHN FASHANU

England international striker John Fashanu was capped twice while at Wimbledon. A former Cambridge United junior, 'Fash' joined his older brother Justin at Norwich City in October 1979 and moved via Lincoln City and Millwall to Wimbledon for £125,000 in March 1986. He helped to clinch top-flight status that season and starred in the Dons' 1988 FA Cup final triumph. Top scorer in six successive seasons, he netted 107 goals in 276 League games before being sold to Aston Villa for £1,350,000 in August 1994 but a knee injury ended his career a year later. He is now a successful TV presenter and businessman.





Launch £2.4m: Sir Dave Richards and Gordon Taylor join Brian Lee and children from Altrincham's programme to launch the fund

THE FOOTBALL CONFERENCE COMMUNITY CLUB DEVELOPMENT FUND

AS EVERY SUPPORTER KNOWS, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHICH COMPETITION A CLUB PLAYS ITS FOOTBALL IN, IT IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF ITS LOCAL COMMUNITY.

This year, the Football Conference was pleased to see the efforts that clubs make to work in their communities, rewarded with the creation of the Football Conference Community Club Development Fund. The Fund is a unique partnership between the Football Conference, the Premier League and the Professional Footballers' Association and is designed to encourage Football Conference clubs to develop and deliver community projects. It was made possible by generous contributions from the Premier League and the PFA with both partners committing £400,000 each for three years, creating a total grant fund of £2.4m.

The Fund is open to all members of the Football Conference Premier, North and South divisions and each club could apply for a grant of up to £12,000 in this first year, as a 50% contribution towards project costs. These included buying equipment, hiring facilities and



Mansfield with officials: Match day mascots at Mansfield Town from their Saturday Club

employing coaches or other staff. The Fund can help clubs improve current activity or start new schemes.

In a short space of time, the Fund has made a real difference. 43 clubs have received grants totalling £450,000 for projects costing £1.08m. Work has ranged from supporting men's health, music, dance and other arts activities, encouraging volunteering, work with young people not in education or training (NEETs), helping disability groups to play sport, and creating educational initiatives for both adult and children - including literacy and numeracy programmes. There has been work with isolated community groups, green projects, information about healthy eating and lifestyle, support for existing community programmes running a variety of projects, and working in partnership with schools to deliver football coaching and other initiatives.

Of course, there has been more football too. This has included creating new age group teams, additional coaching hours and more opportunities to play. Some projects are particularly focused on developing women and girls teams, and two clubs have employed qualified development officers who can then increase the number of initiatives that a club is involved in.

Brian Lee, Chairman of the Football Conference said: "Our clubs have embraced the Fund wholeheartedly and we have a number of inspiring projects coming forward for support. The future looks very exciting. We are grateful to both the Premier League and the PFA for their generosity in creating this Fund - it has given a tremendous boost to Football Conference clubs, many

THE FOOTBALL CONFERENCE COMMUNITY CLUB DEVELOPMENT FUND



of whom have been working with their local communities for a number of years, mostly supported from their own funds. We hope that this opportunity will allow clubs to grow and sustain their work."

The Fund was launched at Altrincham in February, when Sir Dave Richards, the Premier League's Chairman, and Gordon Taylor joined Brian Lee and met some of the youngsters involved in the coaching programme at the Club, one of the projects to be funded.

Here are some other examples: Mansfield Town's project focuses on working with disabled young people and integrating them into their Saturday morning club and Bishop's Stortford have helped to create two new disability football groups.

Bath City is offering film and video tuition to local young people who did not remain in education. Farnborough have piloted work with a local, newly arrived Nepalese community. Wrexham will be working with boys in the last year at Primary School where levels of literacy are below average, encouraging them to see reading and writing as important. Welling United have piloted a programme focusing on healthy eating and exercise particularly targeted at young children of five and six years.

Boreham Wood offer a number of playing opportunities and coaching both during school hours and out of school time, including physiotherapy. Weston-Super-Mare has been able to launch three new teams for Under 14s, 15s and 16s age groups.

Nuneaton Town have worked with local residents and the police to devise and run evening activities for young people and so reducing their anti-social behaviour. Kettering Town have encouraged their local community to become involved in running a Futsal league and then volunteering in other community groups in their spare time.

Both of today's finalists have been successful in their applications to the Fund, coming from different levels of experience. Luton Town have a long tradition of community involvement and a fully fledged team working in different areas. They used their funding to help support a football

coaching programme in Bedfordshire schools.



WSM: Lord Faulkner of Worcester presents Weston Super Mare with their grant cheque



Bishop's Stortford are creating football chances for people with disabilities (from the Herts & Essex Observer Series)



Welling - dressing room: Welling United's project included a tour of the ground

AFC Wimbledon have more limited experience, but put together an innovative programme which includes an arts project to create giant flags working with six primary schools, a music project for pan-disability groups, a literacy project for 16 and 17 year olds where they are encouraged to produce their own magazine, and an education project involving visits to the ground by local schools where they follow sessions based on football and how the club is run.

All of these projects focus on the Club's traditional home in Merton. And in both cases they will be prepared for life in the Football League, where every club is expected to deliver a community programme, Richard Scudamore, Chief Executive of the Premier League said about the Fund: "We are extremely pleased to be working with the Football Conference to establish the development fund that will allow Conference clubs, all extremely important within their local communities, to invest more funds into local youth

development and good cause initiatives. The Premier League and our member clubs recognise the importance of the continued health of football outside the Football League and it is with this in mind that we have made this commitment to the Football Conference."

Gordon Taylor OBE, Chief Executive of the PFA said "The PFA have built strong relationships with the Premier League and the Football League to encourage football club community schemes, to be at the heart of effecting positive change and supporting them to develop innovative projects that respond to local needs.

We at the PFA are very pleased to extend our financial support to the Football Conference clubs and trust that their players will embrace the concept that they can harness their potential and develop club community activities in education, health, social inclusion and equality and help make a difference!"

Whatever the result is at the end of today's match, it is certain that both clubs will continue to do much more in their communities than most observers realise. This has been a tremendous first year for the Football Conference Community Club Development Fund. Next year, it will offer further opportunities - both for existing and new member clubs - to help create more chances and enhance the lives of local people - funding that can make a real impact.



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TOP MATCHES

THE GAMES WHICH HELPED SHAPE THE PROMOTION RACE

**Fleetwood Town 0-3 Luton Town,
Saturday 21 August 2010, Highbury**

This comfortable early season away win showed that the Hatters had recovered from last season's play-off disappointment, but was misleading in terms of how Fleetwood's season would emerge. Matthew Barnes-Homer and Claude Gnaka scored inside the opening 22 minutes, whilst Tom Craddock settled it with two minutes remaining.

**Luton Town 3-0 AFC Wimbledon,
Friday 17 September 2010, Kenilworth Road**

Town struck another decisive blow in the battle between the two sides who would challenge Crawley for the title. George Pilkington and Zdenek Kroca provided a two goal interval lead for the Bedfordshire club, and another commanding display was wrapped up when Barnes-Homer was on target after 49 minutes.

**AFC Wimbledon 2-1 Crawley Town,
Thursday 23 September 2010, Kingsmeadow**

The Dons' response to this defeat was stirring, and a collectors' item, as it was one of only three league defeats for Crawley. The visitors looked on course for a key win when Matthew Tubbs opened the scoring after 43 minutes, but Samuel Hatton replied on 77 minutes, and Danny Kedwell got the winner just two minutes later.

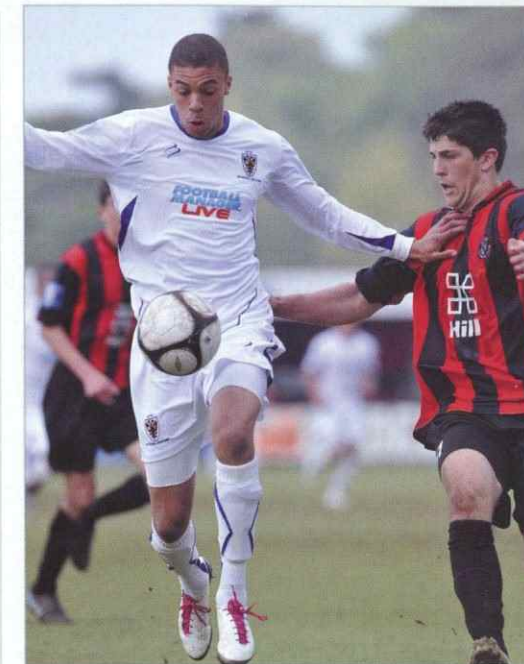
"THIS WAS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF CRAWLEY'S ABILITY TO SECURE AWAY WINS AT PROMOTION CHASING SIDES, AND LOOKED TO HAVE GIVEN KIDDERMINSTER THE ADVANTAGE IN THE BATTLE FOR FIFTH PLACE."

**Luton Town 1-2 Crawley Town,
Tuesday 5 October 2010, Kenilworth Road**

A more common scenario for Crawley was earning priceless points with late goals. In this case, they secured one of the decisive results of the campaign after they trailed to Andy Drury's opener, but came back through Richard Brodie's leveller ten minutes from the end, and Craig McAllister's stoppage time winner.

**AFC Wimbledon 1-0 Fleetwood Town,
Saturday 5 February 2011, Kingsmeadow**

Although many of the Dons' wins had been comfortable, they showed an ability, particularly after Christmas, to close out tight wins as well, including this significant victory against Fleetwood, whose dreams of a second successive promotion appeared to be slipping away at this stage. Christian Jolley got the only goal of the game with six minutes remaining.



**Luton Town 1-3 Fleetwood Town,
Saturday 12 February, Kenilworth Road**

This was the result which really seemed to reignite Fleetwood's bid for the play-offs after some mixed mid-season results. Luton looked on course for victory when Lloyd Owusu struck after just six minutes, but Gareth Seddon levelled two minutes later. Anthony Barry put the visitors into the lead after 53 minutes, and Seddon's second, moments later, settled it.

**Crawley Town 3-2 Wrexham,
Saturday 12 February, Broadfield**

With Wrexham in excellent form on their way to fourth spot, having won seven in a row, it seemed ominous, even for Crawley, when the Red Dragons established a two goal half-time lead through an Andy Mangan double. However, Matthew Tubbs' second half hat trick showed the resilience and spirit within the Red Devils' side, as they closed in on the title.

**AFC Wimbledon 0-1 Wrexham,
Tuesday 22 February, Kingsmeadow**

With only one point in three games, including a bizarre 7-2 home loss to Gateshead, the North Wales side halted their slide by securing an excellent away victory, one of only three suffered by the Dons. Mathias Pogba scored the only goal as they strengthened their grip on a top five spot.

**Fleetwood Town 1-2 Crawley Town,
Saturday 12 March, Highbury**

This was another example of Crawley's ability to secure away wins at promotion chasing sides, and looked to have given Kidderminster the advantage in the battle for fifth place. Tubbs and Brodie put the Sussex visitors two goals in front, before George Donnelly pulled a goal back for the home side.

**Crawley Town 3-1 AFC Wimbledon,
Friday 18 March, Broadfield**

With Town taking full advantage of the games in hand accumulated during their FA Cup run, any hopes of the Dons overhauling their hosts at the summit were extinguished by this defeat. Tubbs and Kyle McFadzean took just nine minutes to create a 2-0 lead, and though Brett Johnson made it 2-1 in the 39th minute, James Dance's 53rd minute goal ensured the win.



BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER PROMOTION FINAL

TEAMWEAR



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WOULD YOU BET ON IT?



BY ALAN ALGER FROM LEAGUE SPONSORS BLUE SQUARE.

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER HISTORY OF BOTH SIDES

The opening day of the 2009/10 Blue Square Premier season saw the reigning Blue Square South champions AFC Wimbledon host Luton Town who had just been relegated from League 2. The match at Kingsmeadow ended in a hard fought 1-1 draw as both teams got their first taste of football in Non League's top-flight.

Luton were strong favourites for that season's title and that specific game even though they were the away side, but it was to be a familiar story throughout the season as the bookmakers failed to judge The Hatters' strengths.

Luton eventually finished a commendable second place but ultimately failed in the play-offs, whilst AFC Wimbledon confirmed the continual progression of the club as a whole in finishing a highly respectable eighth even with a late season slump.

The title and promotion prices for this season took into account the strong finish of Luton from the previous campaign and the way in which the Wombles had struggled with injuries to win only six of their last 21 games. Consequently the huge investment at Crawley Town shifted the markets in the Sussex side's favour and led to some attractive prices elsewhere.

Those willing to forgive Terry Brown's team for that poor form in the Spring of 2010 availed themselves of juicy prices for them to be promoted and also to finish in Blue Square's each-way places of the 'top 4'. Luton were highly respected by the market and no such double-figure odds surrounded their place in the pre-season lists but there was still a clamour from a number of hard hitting gamblers that thought the Crawley price was an overreaction and that the real value existed in Bedfordshire.

The Hatters ended the 2010/11 regular season in third place, one behind AFC Wimbledon who landed some big each-way bets as runners-up.

Nearly two years on from that opening day draw in south west London Luton approach their 95th game at this level against an AFC Wimbledon team who will be competing in their 93rd.

The two game difference takes in Luton's experience of last season's play-offs and it could be said that the disappointment from the two-legged defeat to York City spurred them on to play so well at Wrexham in the first leg this time.

AFC Wimbledon demolished Fleetwood Town 8-1 on aggregate after their runners-up finish and we now have a mouth-watering final.

MATCH BETTING PREVIEW

Despite finishing one place and six points behind today's opponents in the final Blue Square Bet Premier table it's Luton Town that are the narrow 7/5 favourites to win today's match. AFC Wimbledon are the 8/5 outsiders with Blue Square and the draw is available at 12/5. Terry Brown's team have not tasted defeat since March 18 when they were 3-1 losers at eventual champions Crawley Town.

In nine games since that defeat they have failed to win in only one (a goalless draw at Forest Green) and conceded just four goals in over 800 minutes of competitive football. Finding a way past that solid Wombles defence will be a real challenge for Luton boss Gary Brabin who does at least have some real striking options at his disposal. Brabin's team have scored 13 goals in their last five matches and averaged 1.85 goals per game in the regular season. The Kenilworth Road side have been scoring goals from all sections of the pitch recently which bodes well for this final.

Tempting 'First Goalscorer' prices for Zdenek Kroca and George Pilkington of 20/1 and 22/1 respectively could be very tempting on our unlimited each-way terms for the Luton centre-backs who like to get forward for set-pieces. Recent signing Kaid Mohamed was in excellent goalscoring form for AFC Wimbledon as they made it through to the final and he is 80/1 to repeat his hat-trick from the second leg against Fleetwood on this big stage today.

Claude Gnakpa is no stranger to scoring important goals for Luton and he is priced at 9/2 to score in any Hatters' victory on our exclusive 'Score/Win Double' market this afternoon.

A price of 8/1 for 'No Goalscorer' in the standard 90 minutes points to a game with plenty at stake and limited goalmouth action. Whilst early goals could obviously change that cautious attitude with decent defences on show and an average of two goals per game between these sides in this division - 'Under 2.5' on the goals market could be a good investment at 8/11.

Over a quarter of Luton's matches this season have ended in either a 1-0 win or a 1-1 draw and those outcomes are priced at 13/2 for a one goal win and 6/1 for the 1-1 stalemate. AFC Wimbledon's most common result is a 2-1 win and that can be backed at 9/1.

It's 8/11 that Luton achieve promotion today and Evens that AFC Wimbledon can prevail by any means. Those means could entail 'Extra-Time' or even a 'Penalty Shoot-Out' which have been accounted for in our Blue Square Match Specials section. You can back either side to win on penalties at 10/1 or take Luton at 8/1 to win in extra-time, with AFC Wimbledon available at 11/1 to do likewise.



FULL BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER RECORDS (INCLUDING PLAY-OFFS)

2009/10 onwards	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Win%
Luton Town	94	53	25	18	174	80	+94	56%
AFC Wimbledon	92	47	19	26	152	95	+57	51%

STATATTACK 1011



RESULTS 1011

	AFC	ALT	BAR	BAT	CAM	CRA	DAR	EAS	FLE	FGR	GAT	GRI	HAY	HIS	KET	KID	LUT	MAN	NEW	R&D	SOU	TAM	WRE	YOR
AFC Wimb'don	xxx	4-1	2-0	4-0	3-0	2-1	0-2	3-0	1-0	1-1	1-0	2-1	3-1	2-0	3-2	1-2	0-0	2-1	2-2	1-0	5-0	3-0	0-1	1-0
Altrincham	0-2	xxx	2-0	0-3	2-2	0-1	2-2	3-4	1-0	2-1	1-1	2-2	4-2	0-3	3-2	1-2	0-1	0-4	1-3	2-2	1-1	2-0	0-0	0-0
Barrow	2-0	1-0	xxx	0-1	1-2	1-1	1-1	4-0	0-2	3-0	1-3	0-2	2-0	1-1	5-0	2-1	0-1	2-2	2-1	2-0	2-1	2-0	0-2	2-2
Bath City	2-2	2-2	1-1	xxx	4-0	0-2	2-2	1-1	1-1	2-4	1-0	2-1	3-1	2-1	1-1	2-0	0-0	2-0	2-2	2-1	2-1	2-0	0-2	2-2
Cambridge U	1-2	4-0	3-1	1-2	xxx	2-2	0-1	2-0	0-1	1-1	5-0	1-1	1-0	0-0	3-0	1-2	0-0	1-5	0-1	0-2	0-0	3-3	1-3	2-1
Crawley Town	3-1	7-0	3-2	2-1	3-0	xxx	1-0	3-1	1-1	1-0	2-1	0-1	5-2	5-0	2-1	2-0	1-1	2-0	2-3	4-0	1-0	3-1	3-2	1-1
Darlington	0-0	0-1	3-1	3-1	1-0	1-1	xxx	6-1	4-0	3-0	2-0	0-1	0-1	3-1	1-1	1-1	2-2	0-0	1-0	2-0	1-0	1-0	0-1	2-1
Eastbourne	2-3	5-0	0-2	2-0	0-2	1-2	1-1	xxx	0-6	0-0	0-3	2-3	5-0	2-2	1-3	1-1	2-4	1-3	0-0	0-2	4-1	1-4	4-3	2-1
Fleetwood T	1-1	3-1	1-0	2-1	2-2	1-2	1-0	0-1	xxx	2-0	0-0	3-0	1-1	1-1	4-1	1-1	0-3	3-0	1-1	1-1	2-0	2-1	1-0	2-1
Forest Green	0-0	1-0	2-3	0-0	1-1	0-3	1-1	3-4	1-0	xxx	1-1	3-3	1-0	0-1	0-2	1-1	0-1	2-1	0-0	2-2	0-0	4-0	3-0	2-1
Gateshead	0-2	2-0	3-0	1-1	2-3	0-0	2-2	3-0	0-2	1-1	xxx	0-0	1-0	2-0	0-0	2-2	1-0	1-1	1-7	2-2	1-0	3-1	0-1	0-3
Grimsby Town	2-1	0-1	1-1	2-2	1-1	0-0	0-1	2-2	1-2	1-1	2-2	xxx	1-2	2-1	2-1	3-3	2-0	7-2	2-0	1-1	1-1	2-2	2-1	0-0
Hayes & Y	0-0	0-1	2-0	2-1	2-0	0-3	3-2	2-1	1-2	3-4	3-1	0-3	xxx	1-2	3-2	0-4	0-1	4-0	1-2	3-3	1-0	2-1	0-3	1-2
Histon	0-4	3-0	3-1	1-2	0-2	0-2	0-1	1-1	1-0	0-3	1-3	1-6	0-1	xxx	0-3	0-1	0-4	2-3	0-0	0-2	2-1	1-2	1-1	1-2
Kettering T	1-2	3-3	1-1	2-1	2-2	0-0	0-0	3-0	2-1	2-1	1-4	1-2	2-1	4-3	xxx	1-1	1-3	0-2	2-0	0-1	3-1	0-1	1-1	1-1
Kidderminster	2-0	2-1	2-0	1-0	0-0	0-0	1-2	2-1	2-1	1-0	2-1	3-2	3-1	2-2	4-1	xxx	3-3	1-3	2-3	1-0	3-4	2-2	1-0	0-0
Luton Town	3-0	2-1	0-0	3-1	2-0	1-2	4-0	3-0	1-3	6-1	2-2	1-0	1-1	5-1	2-2	1-1	xxx	2-0	1-1	3-0	6-0	2-0	1-1	5-0
Mansfield T	2-5	0-1	1-1	2-0	1-0	1-4	1-1	4-0	2-5	3-1	3-2	0-2	3-2	1-0	1-1	1-2	0-0	xxx	3-3	2-1	2-2	0-1	2-3	5-0
Newport C	3-3	2-1	5-0	1-2	1-1	0-1	2-1	3-3	1-3	3-1	2-1	2-1	2-1	2-2	1-2	3-0	1-1	1-0	xxx	1-3	2-0	1-1	1-1	4-0
Rushden & D	1-0	1-2	5-0	5-1	2-1	0-1	2-1	2-0	1-1	2-2	0-2	4-1	1-1	2-0	1-2	2-1	0-1	1-0	0-1	xxx	2-2	1-1	2-2	0-4
Southport	0-1	1-0	2-4	2-3	1-1	0-4	1-1	1-3	1-0	4-0	5-1	2-2	0-0	3-1	1-2	2-2	2-1	1-2	2-2	xxx	2-1	0-1	4-0	
Tamworth	2-5	1-1	2-2	2-2	1-1	0-3	1-1	4-2	0-2	2-1	1-1	2-1	2-3	0-1	3-1	2-2	3-1	0-2	3-2	1-2	0-1	xxx	1-1	1-3
Wrexham	1-2	2-1	1-1	2-0	1-0	0-0	2-1	2-1	0-0	2-1	2-7	2-0	0-2	4-0	2-0	2-2	1-0	1-1	1-0	1-1	2-1	4-2	xxx	1-1
York City	4-1	3-0	0-0	1-1	0-0	1-1	0-0	1-0	1-0	2-1	2-1	1-0	2-0	1-0	0-1	1-2	1-0	2-1	2-1	2-0	2-0	1-2	1-1	xxx

FINAL LEAGUE TABLE 1011

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Crawley Town	46	18	3	2	57	19	13	9	1	36	11	+63	105
AFC Wimbledon	46	17	3	3	46	15	10	6	7	37	32	+36	90
Luton Town	46	14	7	2	57	17	9	8	6	28	20	+48	84
Wrexham	46	13	7	3	36	24	9	8	6	30	25	+17	81
Fleetwood Town	46	12	8	3	35	19	10	4	9	33	23	+26	78
Kidderminster Harriers	46	13	6	4	40	27	7	11	5	34	33	+14	72
Darlington	46	13	6	4	37	14	5	11	7	24	28	+19	71
York City	46	14	6	3	31	13	5	8	10	24	37	+5	71
Newport County AFC	46	11	7	5	44	29	7	8	8	34	31	+18	69
Bath City	46	10	10	3	38	27	6	5	12	26	41	-4	63
Grimsby Town	46	7	12	4	37	28	8	5	10	35	34	+10	62
Rushden & Diamonds	46	10	6	7	37	27	6	8	9	28	35	+3	62
Mansfield Town	46	9	6	8	40	37	8	4	11	33	38	-2	61
Kettering Town	46	8	8	7	33	32	7	5	11	31	43	-11	58
Gateshead	46	8	9	6	28	28	6	6	11	37	40	-3	57
Hayes & Yeading United	46	10	2	11	34	38	5	4	14	23	43	-24	51
Cambridge United	46	7	7	9	32	28	4	10	9	21	33	-8	50
Barrow	46	9	6	8	31	22	3	8	12	21	45	-15	50
Tamworth	46	6	8	9	34	41	6	5	12	28	42	-21	49
Forest Green Rovers	46	7	10	6	28	25	3	6	14	25	47	-19	46
Southport	46	9	6	8	39	33	2	7	14	17	44	-21	46
Altrincham	46	6	8	9	29	38	5	3	15	18	49	-40	44
Eastbourne Borough	46	6	5	12	36	46	4	4	15	26	58	-42	39
Histon	46	4	3	16	18	45	4	6	13	23	45	-49	28

Kidderminster Harriers deducted 5 points

Histon deducted 5 points

FINAL TABLES



FINAL LEAGUE TABLE : BLUE SQUARE BET NORTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Alfreton Town	40	16	3	1	55	11	13	2	5	42	22	64	92
AFC Telford United	40	12	6	2	42	17	11	7	2	29	12	42	82
Boston United	40	13	4	3	34	14	10	6	4	38	19	39	79
Eastwood Town	40	13	2	5	40	23	9	5	6	42	27	32	73
Guiseley	40	9	6	5	29	21	11	7	2	27	20	15	73
Nuneaton Town	40	10	5	5	30	21	11	4	5	36	23	22	72
Solihull Moors	40	11	4	5	36	24	7	6	7	30	25	17	64
Droylsden	40	11	2	7	41	36	6	7	7	28	31	2	60
Blyth Spartans	40	9	5	6	30	22	7	5	8	31	32	7	58
Stalybridge Celtic	40	8	6	6	28	22	8	3	9	36	32	10	57
Workington	40	10	3	7	32	28	6	3	11	20	32	-8	54
Harrogate Town	40	9	7	4	34	24	4	4	12	19	42	-13	50
Corby Town	40	7	5	8	28	33	6	5	9	30	47	-22	49
Gloucester City	40	7	3	10	26	31	7	2	11	23	32	-14	47
Hinckley United	40	9	4	7	47	29	4	3	13	29	47	0	46
Worcester City	40	7	4	9	29	29	5	6	9	20	26	-6	46
Vauxhall Motors	40	7	5	8	28	34	5	4	11	23	37	-20	45
Gainsborough Trinity	40	4	4	12	20	40	8	1	11	30	34	-24	41
Hyde United	40	4	3	13	18	38	6	3	11	26	35	-29	36
Stafford Rangers	40	5	3	12	20	43	3	5	12	19	35	-39	32
Redditch United	40	1	6	13	16	52	1	2	17	14	53	-75	9

Redditch United deducted 5 points

FINAL LEAGUE TABLE : BLUE SQUARE BET SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Braintree Town	42	15	4	2	45	17	12	4	5	33	16	+45	89
Farnborough	42	12	5	4	37	22	13	2	6	46	25	+36	82
Ebbsfleet United	42	9	7	5	34	26	13	5	3	41	25	+24	78
Chelmsford City	42	14	3	4	48	16	9	5	7	34	34	+32	77
Woking	42	13	5	3	35	17	9	5	7	27	25	+20	76
Welling United	42	14	3	4	44	20	10	5	6	37	27	+34	75
Dover Athletic	42	9	5	7	36	26	13	3	5	44	25	+29	74
Eastleigh	42	12	1	8	39	30	10	5	6	35	23	+21	72
Havant and W	42	8	5	8	31	27	8	5	8	25	24	+5	58
Dartford	42	9	7	5	37	28	6	5	10	23	32	0	57
Bromley	42	7	6	8	24	30	8	6	7	25	31	-12	57
Weston-super-Mare	42	12	3	6	34	24	3	5	13	22	43	-11	53
Basingstoke Town	42	8	4	9	34	32	5	6	10	16	31	-13	49
Boreham Wood	42	8	5	8	35	33	4	6	11	21	34	-11	47
Staines Town	42	7	5	9	25	30	4	9	8	23	33	-15	47
Bishops Cleeve	42	6	3	12	19	38	7	3	11	29	41	-31	45
Dorchester Town	42	5	9	7	23	28	5	5	11	26	31	-10	44
Hampton and Richmond	42	3	8	10	19	30	6</						



CRAWLEY TOWN ACHIEVED FOOTBALL LEAGUE STATUS FOR THE FIRST TIME AS THEY ACHIEVED AN UNPRECEDENTED NUMBER OF POINTS (105) IN NON LEAGUE'S TOP FLIGHT, WHILST LUTON TOWN OR AFC WIMBLEDON LOOK TO JOIN THEM, WITH COMMANDING FIRST LEG ADVANTAGES PROVING TO BE DECISIVE IN THE PLAY-OFFS.

In contrast to previous seasons, where Steve Evans had still delivered credible finishes despite money being tight, this season saw the West Sussex club undertake some ambitious recruitment under "Project Promotion". Crucially, though, this saw the arrival of proven Conference performers of the calibre of top scorer Matt Tubbs, who collected no less than 37 goals this season. Other arrivals included Richard Brodie, Sergio Torres, Craig McAllister and Jamie Cook. However, whilst the squad was clearly expensively assembled, Evans' achievement was immense in shaping this array of talent into a formidable unit, seen by the number of late goals they scored, not to mention the superb FA Cup run and a single goal exit at Manchester United. As well as their record points haul, a 30 match unbeaten spell at the end of the season was the best ever at this level, whilst they only lost three league matches. Little wonder, then, that the title was won with five games to spare.

Despite that, AFC Wimbledon spent an extended period at the top of the table, although Crawley used their games in hand to their full potential. The Dons started and finished the season strongly and in many other seasons their 90 point haul wouldn't have been far off winning the title. Danny Kedwell remains a focal point at the club and collected 23 goals this season. Luton Town were tipped to be the principal challengers to Crawley and, as with last season, they were a testing prospect when their attacking game was at its best. However, they had a tendency to slip up against sides not in the promotion race and indeed, defeat at Southport late in the season saw the replacement of Richard Money with Gary Brabin. Wrexham pushed forward in the second half of the season, with seven straight wins in January and February producing the foundation for their renewed challenge. Pushes for consecutive promotions are not as common as they were a few seasons ago, but Fleetwood Town made a real impression following their elevation from Blue Square North. After they emerged from a mixed mid-season, they held off the challenge of Kidderminster Harriers side, although the latter's five point deduction was not as decisive as it might have been, with the final gap being six points.

Newport County were another side to make an impression in the first half of the campaign, carrying on from their domination of Blue Square South. They were

one of the handful of sides to defeat Crawley Town, but a twelve match winless run in the early weeks of 2011, coinciding with manager Dean Holdsworth's switch to Aldershot, left them too much ground to catch up when results did improve. After York struggled to recover from defeat in the Play-Off final to Oxford, the slow start meant that Martin Foyle left the club. Gary Mills arrived from Tamworth to take over and got the Minstermen into the top ten, but the play-offs proved to be slightly too far out of reach. Another former Lambs' chief, Mark Cooper, did an effective rebuilding job at Darlington following their relegation from the Football League and Simon Davey's brief spell in charge. Although they lacked the consistency for a top five berth, a Wembley final was booked.

In the relegation battle, several clubs were involved and whilst Histon looked to be able to upset the odds in the first half of the season, a miserable New Year saw them fall to the foot of the table. Eastbourne Borough's key failing was a defence which conceded 104 goals a game, as relegation long looked on the cards. The other two places could have been occupied by any of seven clubs, but in the final analysis, a poor start to the campaign meant Altrincham occupied one place. The other spot changed hands with just three minutes of the season left as Southport made an immediate return to Blue Square North after a 3-1 loss at Kettering, meaning that Forest Green Rovers and Tamworth were safe. Barrow, Cambridge United and Hayes & Yeading United were safe before the last day. However, Hayes face a groundshare at Woking whilst their redeveloped ground at Yeading is completed, as they signed off from Church Road with a 3-1 home win against Gateshead.

With these issues decided, attention turned to the play-offs and few would necessarily have expected the commanding away wins for Luton and AFC Wimbledon, despite their obvious attacking talent. Luton began the series with a fine 3-0 win at form side Wrexham, as Alex Lawless opened the scoring after 16 minutes and Claude Gnakpa claimed the second in the 28th minute. Seven minutes later, it was three, through Ed Asafu-Adjaye. Moving north, AFC Wimbledon travelled to Fleetwood Town and came back with a 2-0 win through



BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

REVIEW 2010/11



L-R

Top left: Sergio Torres helped Crawley to League & Cup success.
Bottom left: Luton's Zdenek Kroca has proved a rock in the Hatters' defence as well as netting some important goals.
Main picture: Action from Cambridge United v Crawley Town.
Bottom right: AFC Wimbledon's Seb Green has caught the eye of a number of league clubs.

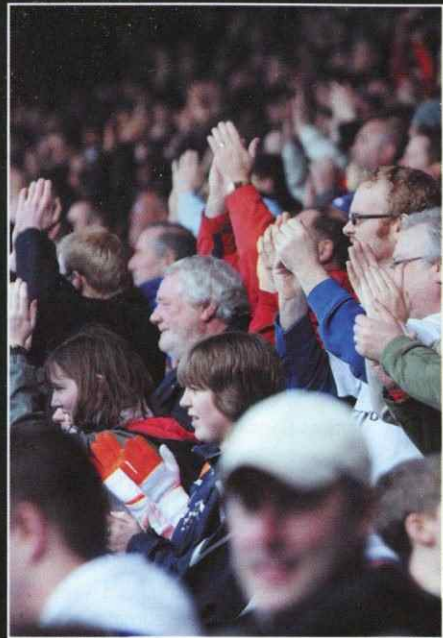


Luke Moore and Kaid Mohamed. Switching to the second leg, both home sides consolidated their advantage, although Andy Mangan did put Wrexham ahead at Kenilworth Road. Zdenek Kroca restored parity on the night with 29 minutes played and Jason Walker sealed a 5-1 aggregate triumph with nine minutes left. AFC Wimbledon did even better, as they won 6-1 the following night, progressing 8-1 on aggregate thanks to a Mohamed hat trick, as well as other contributions from Danny Kedwell, Christian Jolley and James Mulley.

The FA Trophy was once again dominated by the Blue Square Bet Premier clubs, although the First Round Proper brought some upsets. Rushden were held 1-1 by Eastwood before losing the away replay 4-3, whilst Kettering succumbed at home to Chasetown following a 3-3 away draw. Notably, holders Barrow were dislodged at home by Guiseley and Crawley were shocked in an away replay defeat at Dartford, whilst Hayes & Yeading United lost at Ebbsfleet. Mansfield were the biggest scorers of the round as they won 5-0 at Worksop. Second Round action served up a remarkable 6-3 home replay defeat for Cambridge United at the hands of Alfreton, whilst AFC Wimbledon were upset at home by Woking and Chasetown eliminated Grimsby. Meanwhile, Altrincham lost out at Blyth and Wrexham reached the end of the road at Salisbury, but Gateshead hit six without reply at home to Hampton & Richmond Borough.

Into the last sixteen and only one "shock" as Eastbourne Borough were defeated in a replay at Guiseley. Mansfield made it through to the Quarter Finals after their 2-1 replay win at local rivals Alfreton and were joined by Darlington, who won 3-0 at AFC Telford United, Gateshead, who defeated Dartford 3-0 and Luton, who edged past Gloucester by the only goal. Oddly, all four of the top flight representatives were kept apart in the last eight and all made it through, although Mansfield needed a second match to get past Chasetown. Elsewhere, Gateshead won the derby at Blyth, 2-0, Luton claimed a 1-0 victory at Guiseley and Darlington beat Salisbury 2-1. That set up an intriguing pair of Semi-Finals between Gateshead and Darlington and Mansfield and Luton.

In the all-North East affair, Darlington won their home leg 3-2 before a 0-0 draw at the International Stadium, whilst Mansfield won 1-0 at Field Mill. This advantage was cancelled out at Kenilworth Road, but a goal just before the end of extra time took the Stags to Wembley. It was a very late goal which settled the final too, as Chris Senior netted in the 119th minute to win the Trophy for Darlington, 1-0, 20 years after they first won it.



1,028,741

The total number of fans who saw Blue Square Bet Premier matches during the regular season.

NUMBERS GAME

Luton Town averaged the highest home crowds (6,242), with Hayes & Yeading United averaging 386 supporters per game.

30 Crawley Town are the division's meanest defence, conceding just 30 goals during the regular season ...

93 And Crawley are the hot shots too, finding the net on 93 occasions.

31 Crawley may have scored first in 31 matches, a figure matched by Wrexham, but it's AFC Wimbledon who went on to claim the most points (75) in the matches in which they opened the scoring.

17 When it comes to the draw specialists, it's perhaps not surprising that no one has a clear lead! Kidderminster, Dartington, Grimsby, and Cambridge all drew 17 of their games.

9 Two games brought nine goals this season; Grimsby Town's 7-2 win against Mansfield on January 1st and Gateshead's 7-2 win at Wrexham on February 19th.

23 Seasons between Lincoln City's last and next game in the Football Conference

40 Matt Tubbs of Crawley Town ended the season with the Golden Boot, with 37 league goals plus 3 in cup competitions. 10 of the 40 came from the penalty spot.

3 Only Cambridge United, York City and Halifax Town have appeared in a Football Conference Promotion Play off final and have still not been promoted yet to the Football League

45 If games only lasted 45 minutes then Wrexham would have been champions! The Red Dragons would have finished the season on 83 points based purely on half time scores; Champions Crawley would have finished fourth, six points adrift. But if the results were based purely on the second halves, then Crawley would have taken the title by six points from AFC Wimbledon with Bath City coming third!

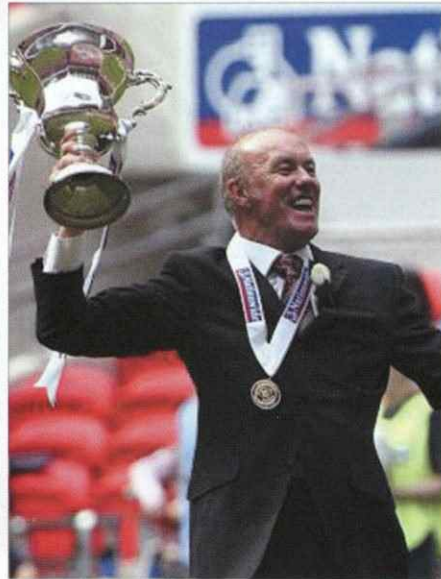
364 The distance by road between Eastbourne Borough's Priory Lane ground and Barrow's Holker Street Stadium and the distance by road between Priory Lane and Gateshead's International Stadium is 364 miles. Fortunately, Barrow's trip to Eastbourne and Eastbourne's trip to Barrow were both on Saturdays ... unlike the matches between Eastbourne and Gateshead which both took place on Tuesday evenings due to adverse weather on the scheduled weekend dates.



8 The City of Manchester Stadium's toroidal-shaped roof is suspended by steel cables attached to eight towers.

103 Goals scored by Barnet in 1990/1 and Hereford in 2003/4

3 Managers to win promotion to the Football League with two difference sides. John Still Maidstone 1988/9 and Dagenham & Redbridge 2007, Sammy McLroy with Macclesfield in 1997 and Morecambe in 2007 and Steve Evans with Boston United in 2002 and Crawley Town in 2011.



218 There are two hundred and eighteen 2,000-watt floodlights illuminating the City of Manchester Stadium's pitch.

42,669 The largest attendance at a Football Conference Promotion final on 16th May 2010 at Wembley Stadium between Oxford United and York City beating the previous best in 2008 for Cambridge United and Exeter City by 158

Good luck to the Hatters



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BLUE SQUARE BET NORTH REVIEW

IN WHAT WAS A FAIRLY CLOSELY CONTESTED PROMOTION RACE, ALFRETON TOWN TOOK THEIR PLACE IN THE TOP FLIGHT OF NON-LEAGUE FOR THE FIRST TIME, AS THEY BUILT ON TWO CONSECUTIVE THIRD PLACE FINISHES.

The Derbyshire club put the disappointment of their play-off final defeat to Fleetwood Town behind them, as they set a new record by beginning the new season with eight straight wins and it wasn't until February that they would taste defeat away from home. They also had the division's Golden Boot winner, Liam Hearn, in their ranks and he found the net 30 times. Fittingly Hearn scored twice, alongside Paul Clayton, as the title was secured, with two games remaining, through a 4-0 win over relegated Redditch United at North Street. They have already announced their intention to go full-time next season.

Their closest challengers AFC Telford United had the distinction of being the first club to inflict an away defeat on Town. Indeed Andy Sinton's side could also boast of victories against all three of their fellow play-off qualifiers. Boston United, freshly promoted from the Northern Premier League, had realistic title aspirations too, reaching the second spot eventually occupied by Telford. The departure of joint managers Rob Scott and Paul Hurst to Grimsby failed to disrupt their run-in, as Jason Lee and Lee Canoville continued the momentum. Notably, United were the only away side to win at Alfreton, completing the double over them too.

Guiseley were particularly impressive on the road, only losing twice and this helped to keep them around the play-off zone, alongside the goals of Golden Boot runner up James Walshaw. A late March win at Nuneaton was instrumental in sealing their play off place, though. At this time, there was a three way battle for two play-off spots, also involving Eastwood Town. A blistering second half of the season would see the Badgers rise from 17th to fifth spot, with five games remaining. However, whilst their Chewton Street ground was acceptable for regular season games, this did not apply to play-off matches, a decision upheld on appeal to the FA and the club was subsequently put up for sale before manager Paul Cox resigned. Hence Nuneaton Town took their place, as the reformed side look to continue their return up the Non-League pyramid.

Second placed AFC Telford United consequently made their fifth appearance in a play-off scenario and second at this level, in seven seasons since their 2004 reformation. Likewise, their opponents Nuneaton Town, only reformed in 2008, have now been involved in the end of season knock-out for all three campaigns since then. Town appeared to



have got a decisive advantage in the first leg as Kyle Storer opened the scoring after 74 minutes, but Phil Trainer got another priceless goal as he equalised in stoppage time. At the New Bucks Head, Jon Adams put United ahead after 16 minutes, whilst Sean Newton's 45th minute penalty stretched the aggregate advantage to 3-1. Danny Spencer pulled a goal back as the tie finished 3-2 to Telford.

The other match saw Guiseley renew acquaintances with a Boston United side who they beat to the Northern Premier League title at the end of last season. Warren Peyton scored the only goal of the first leg at Nethermoor Park to give Guiseley a slender lead to take to York Street. The Pilgrims wiped out that advantage within ten minutes of the second game starting, as Stephen Pearson scored, but Gavin Rothey restored aggregate advantage for the visitors. However, Anthony Church's 79th minute goal for the hosts meant extra time. Darryn Stamp made it 2-2 on the day, 3-2 on aggregate, with 108 minutes played, but Danny Davidson replied five minutes later. That meant penalties, which Guiseley won 3-2.

Over 5,000 at the New Bucks Head saw the home side come from behind to win the play off final and win promotion to the Blue Square Bet Premier. Sean Newton gave Telford the lead from the penalty spot before James Walshaw drew Guiseley level with another spot-kick on the stroke of half-time. Darryn Stamp made it 2-1 to the visitors soon after the restart and Liam Murray brought the Bucks back level before Phil Trainer netted the dramatic decider in injury-time.

Solihull Moors had been the only other side with an interest in the play-offs in the closing weeks of the campaign, but fell just short in seventh place despite an 18 match unbeaten run which ended at the hands of Alfreton in late March. However, Stalybridge Celtic announced their intentions as

they moved to full-time this campaign, on their way to tenth place. There was a solid campaign for Gloucester City, who, after being on the fringes of the congested relegation battle, claimed 14th spot, all the more impressive as David Mehew's side continued their exile at Cheltenham, but a planning application has been submitted for a revamped Meadow Park ground with enhanced flood defences. Worcester City, though, announced that they would have two more seasons at St George's Lane, with ambiguity about their replacement ground. Harrogate Town and Vauxhall Motors, who both finished in the relegation places last season, made the most of reprieves earned by the demise of Farsley Celtic and demotion of Northwich Victoria, by avoiding relegation, Town improving to twelfth place.

However, the division would again be depleted this season, as Ilkeston Town was wound up in September after an unpaid tax debt of a previous regime could not be settled, which was a blow after last season's solid showing. As with the previous campaign, this saw the number of relegation places cut to two, however, it was still a battle between many sides to avoid them. In a difficult year, which also saw a points deduction for financial reasons, Redditch United only won two games all season and were relegated well before the end. Joint managers Mark Gardiner and John Snape resigned in the second half of the season and were replaced by Simon Redhead, but he couldn't inspire a change of fortunes and parted company with the club after the last game. 20th spot was only settled on the final day, though. Gainsborough Trinity seemed in particular danger, but won four of their last six matches to pull clear, whilst Worcester City and Hinckley United also did enough. The final issue was between Hyde and Stafford Rangers and Hyde's win over Corby meant that Stafford went down, however the Tigers still parted company with manager Neil Tolson.



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BLUE SQUARE

EXPERT EYE



STEVE EVANS - THE CHAMPIONS MANAGER

Blue Square PR Manager Alan Alger caught up with Steve Evans manager of this season's Blue Square Bet Premier champions Crawley Town for his verdict on today's big game:

Alan Alger (AA): Steve you've seen both sides over the course of the season, how do you think today will pan out?

Steve Evans (SE): Well it's such a big game that you'll be looking who best handles the pressure on the day. Luton have to cope with the tag of favourites and if they can do that as individuals and as a team then I think it will be them joining us in the Football League next season.

AA - Terry Brown has the difficult choice of whether to stick to the starting eleven that trounced Fleetwood in the second leg, as a manager how hard is it to change a winning side?

SE - It's always a nice position to be in but overall I think Terry will be cautious that even though it was a good performance against Fleetwood, heads may have dropped on the other side. A good manager, as Terry is, will judge players on what they can do for him over a whole season and that should be the basis of his team selection today.

AA - Although he was recently appointed as manager, Gary Brabin has been a Luton a while now, how do you rate their form going into this final?

SE - The first half performance at Wrexham was the key 45 minutes of their season and put them in this final. The early goal that they conceded in the home leg was a wake-up call and they responded well. Gary has been here before and the experience of his defeat in the final with Cambridge a couple of years ago can be drawn on to improve his chances and methods today.

AA - With Stevenage in the League 2 play-offs this season and other recently promoted clubs doing well, what does this say about the Blue Square Bet Premier and where yourselves and today's winners may feature next year?

SE - This is a strong league and a great level of competition, so no wonder promoted clubs do well. At Crawley we'll be as professional as always and get the right squad together to push for another promotion next season. It's a different type of challenge at the next level. Some things are easier and some things are harder. I'd expect today's winners to feature in the top half of the League 2 table next season with the right tweaks.

PREMIER SPORTS TV / BLUE SQUARE - Commentators Charity Bet

Throughout the course of the season league sponsors Blue Square have donated a £100 charity bet to Premier Sports TV's Blue Square Bet Premier commentary team of Steve Bower and Ian Snodin. The duo have placed £50 worth of bets each on all live matches this season. Pitted head-to-head, the one with the largest total after today's final at the City of Manchester Stadium will be able to choose the charity receiving their winning amount. Steve and Ian will be given a bonus £100 of free bets EACH before kick-off to top up the amounts in the hope of winning for the following charities:

STEVE BOWER - ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE in WIRRAL

Steve says "This is a charity close to my heart and particularly poignant at this time of year. "Five years ago this month my mum passed away under the care of St. John's and I've chosen them to receive my winnings as a thank-you for all they did for her".

IAN SNODIN - BLUEBELL WOOD CHILDREN'S HOSPICE in SOUTH YORKSHIRE

Ian says "It's a great cause and I try to do as much as I can for them throughout the course of the year. "Bluebell Wood provides care and support to families who have a child who has a life limiting condition and is not expected to live into adulthood."

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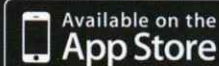


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BLUE SQUARE BET SOUTH REVIEW

BRAINTREE TOWN TOOK THE TITLE BY SEVEN POINTS, WITH TWO GAMES TO SPARE, AS THEY MADE UP FOR SOME PREVIOUS NEAR MISSES IN THE PROMOTION RACE.



New manager Rod Stringer got off to a good start as the Iron were unbeaten in their first seven matches, as he assembled a squad with plenty of Non-League experience, especially in the forward line, which saw the addition of Roy Essandoh, Cliff Akurang, Kevin Gallen and Glenn Poole. After they hit the summit in October, they didn't leave it, apart from a short spell in November when early pacesetters Bromley returned there after the Kent club had inflicted one of only two home defeats on Braintree. In the Spring their lead varied between one and eleven points as games progressed. Despite manager Stringer moving on in the past week, Braintree will be looking forward to their first Premier campaign and discussions continue over the replacement of Crossing Road with a purpose built stadium in the town.

As demonstrated by the 14 point gap in the final table between eighth and ninth place, there was a very clear group of sides involved in the play-off challenge. Farnborough were the last challengers to Braintree at the top of the table after they beat them in early March, but when the Hampshire side lost at home to a resurgent Woking side on Good Friday, it was confirmed the title was heading for Essex. The Hampshire club continued their momentum after promotion last season under the guidance of Steve King, who masterminded Lewes' meteoric rise a few years ago.

Ebbsfleet United's challenge for promotion under Liam Daish was an unusual example of a side bouncing back after relegation. Their consistency saw them around the play-off zone for the whole campaign, and it was a similar case with Chelmsford City, who continue to challenge for promotion each season. Whilst these two clubs continued with their existing management, early January saw Woking make a change as Garry Hill was appointed in succession to Graham Baker. A strong run saw the Cards edge into fifth place almost at the end of the season, helped by seven straight victories in the Spring.

The play-off semi finals paired second place Farnborough with Woking, both of whom had recent experience with the play-offs; Farnborough lost out two seasons ago in the Southern League Premier division before last season's title win, whilst Woking's hopes of an immediate return to the Blue Square Bet Premier were dashed last season when they were beaten by Bath City in the play-off final. It was Farnborough who claimed what ultimately proved to be a decisive advantage at Kingfield in the first leg as Gary Holloway's goal secured a 1-0 win. Elvis Hammond levelled things

up on aggregate as Woking went ahead at the Rushmoor Stadium, leading to extra time which saw Dean McDonald equalise on the day and giving the Hampshire club a 2-1 aggregate win.

Chelmsford City have been involved in the play-offs in all three of their Blue Square Bet South campaigns since winning the Ryman League in 2008. They had previously missed out in the semi-finals to Hampton & Richmond Borough and Bath City, and were paired with Ebbsfleet United. The Fleet recorded a powerful 4-1 win at Melbourne Park in the first leg thanks to two goals from Michael West midway through the first half, and a second half double from Ricky Shakes. City's only reward was a goal just before the break by Rocky Modeste. In the second leg, United completed a commanding 6-2 aggregate success as West scored two more first half goals, as Chelmsford's solitary reply came from Wayne Gray after they break, and they faced disappointment once more.

The final saw Ebbsfleet United triumph over Farnborough at the Rushmoor Stadium to return to the Blue Square Bet Premier at the first attempt. Two Michael West goals either side of a Ricky Shakes effort appeared to have promotion secured. But Daryl McMahon and Paul Booth set up an nervy finale before Calum Willock's last-minute strike settled it 4-2 to the Kent side.

Welling United were the side who were dislodged from the play-off picture by Woking, as the five point deduction for the Wings effectively cost them third place. It was still a fine effort by Jamie Day's side who maintained a strong push for the top five despite the club's financial problems. Dover Athletic were fairly close to adding a second successive play-off berth to their fine Cup heroics, but Martin Hayes continued the momentum as they finished seventh. Adam Birchall claimed the Golden Boot for the division as well. Eastleigh were

the last remaining side in the play off picture, but costly defeats late in the season, in particular to struggling Maidenhead United, meant they missed out. The Hampshire club opted for stability as they extended Ian Baird's contract.

There were managerial changes elsewhere, though, as after their strong start was followed by a loss of form, Bromley saw Mark Goldberg depart as manager, to be replaced by Hayden Bird, who was already on the club's coaching staff. There was a notable improvement at Weston-Super-Mare, where Craig Laird took charge in the close season, as the Seagulls finished comfortably in mid-table and were one of the relatively few sides not to be involved in promotion and relegation, alongside Dartford, who made a solid start to life at this level after elevation from the Ryman League. One side who were in relegation danger were Bishops Stortford who replaced Mark Simpson with former Tottenham Hotspur keeper Ian Walker, in his first managerial post.

Despite the tightness of the division, St Albans City finished a distant last and were relegated early in April, not helped by a ten point deduction. After the heroics of Steve Ibbitson in the previous campaign, this season proved to be a bridge too far for Lewes as Tim O'Shea and Neil Smith couldn't prevent the East Sussex club from the drop and they went down with a game to spare after a defeat to Bishops Stortford. The managers left the Dripping Pan following the conclusion of the campaign. Dorchester Town, Hampton & Richmond Borough, Maidenhead United and Thurrock were the sides who were vying to avoid the third spot. It was Thurrock who finished there in a season which had seen three managers; Hakan Hayretin, Greg Lincoln and Grant Gordon, with Maidenhead's win at Thurrock with three games left proving to be absolutely crucial in the final outcome.

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THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT...

LUTON TOWN

Founded in 1885, Luton Town has played at their Kenilworth Road ground since 1905.



During the 1936/37 season, striker Joe Payne scored 55 goals in 39 games, including ten in one match which remains a Football League record.

Luton first played in the top flight of English football in 1955. They may have done so earlier but for the intervention of Adolf Hitler! They were top of the old Second Division when the outbreak of the Second World War brought the suspension of the league in September 1939.

Luton reached the FA Cup final in 1959, losing 2-1 to Nottingham Forest.

Just six years after that Cup final appearance, Luton slumped to the Football League's basement division where they stayed until 1968.

Luton's most memorable day came in 1988 when they won the Football League Cup, beating Arsenal 3-2 at Wembley. But it wasn't their first visit

to Wembley that season; they'd also been in the shadow of the old twin towers twice that season - losing to Reading in the Simod Cup and in the Football League's centenary tournament. They'd also suffered heartbreak in an FA Cup semi-Final defeat to Wimbledon in the FA Cup semi-final that season.

Kenilworth Road saw the installation of a plastic pitch in 1985. It was removed in 1991 after the initially warm reception from the football press turned into a crescendo of disapproval.

Luton has had a number of famous fans including television presenter Nick Owen and the late, great comedian Eric Morecambe.



For many years Luton was the centre of the hat making industry - hence the nickname 'The Hatters'. A nod to that industry has been retained in the club badge.

First recorded at 'Lygetun' in 792, then as 'Loitone' in the Domesday Book, the place name Luton comes from the Celtic meaning 'Farmstead on the River Lea'.



BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER PROMOTION FINAL



2020 CRICKET

SATURDAY 28TH MAY 9AM-7PM
KENILWORTH ROAD STADIUM, LUTON

BEDFORDSHIRE GIRLS DEVELOPMENT XI v HERTFORDSHIRE GIRLS DEVELOPMENT XI

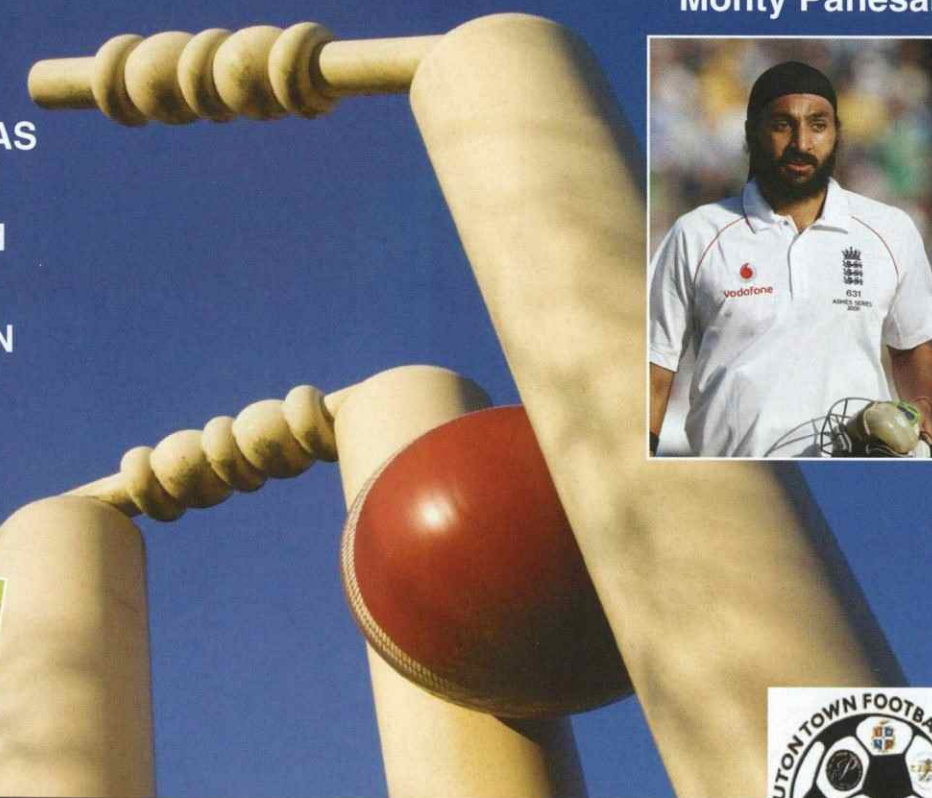
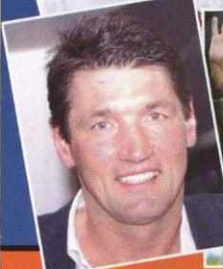
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 Hertfordshire County Champions Bedfordshire County Cup Finalists

LUTON TOWN FC INVITATIONAL XI v LUTON PAKISTANIS

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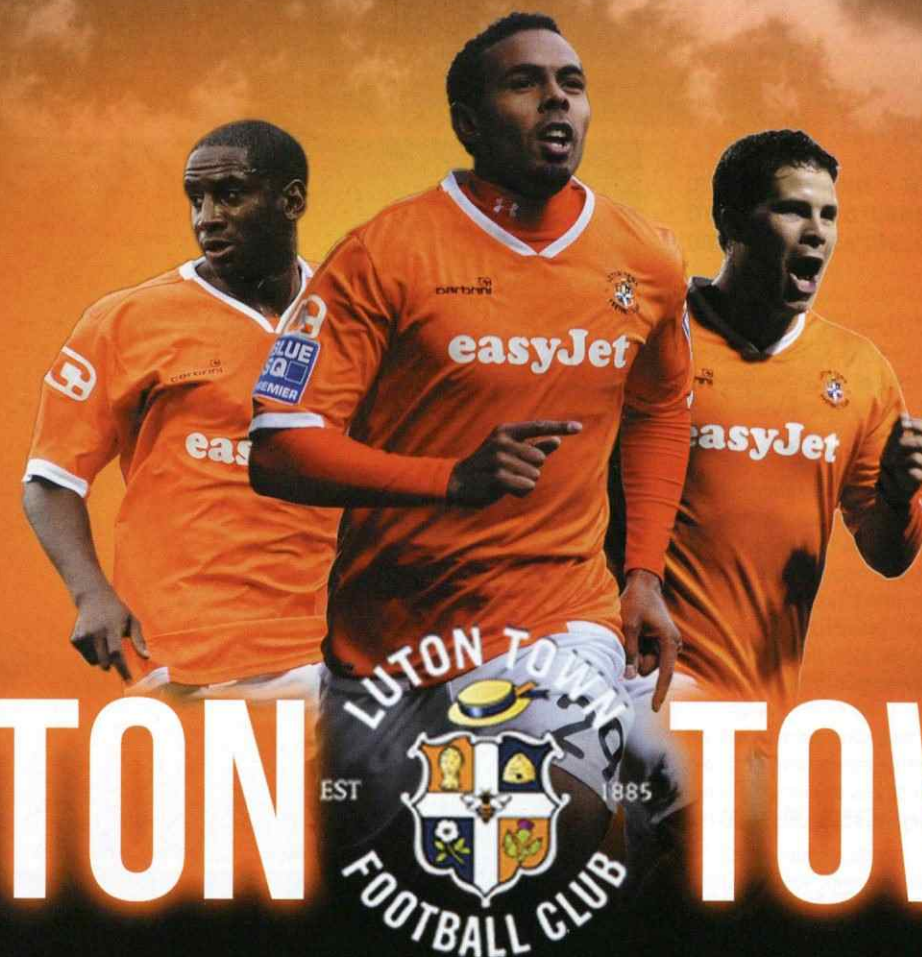
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- JAKE FINDLAY
- TONY THORPE
- AND MANY MORE



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LUTON TOWN

LUTON SURPRISINGLY PARTED COMPANY WITH RICHARD MONEY IN LATE MARCH AS THEY LOOKED TO CLOSE IN ON THE PLAY-OFF FINAL UNDER GARY BRABIN.

In the close season, Kevin Pilkington added competition in goal following his arrival from Notts County, whilst Dan Gleeson switched from Cambridge United alongside Zdenek Kroca who arrived from Tescoma Zlin in the Czech Republic. In midfield Andy Drury signed from Stevenage, but was sold to Ipswich in the transfer window. The attack was augmented by Cambridge United's Danny Crow and Bedford's Dan Walker.

During the season Ilkeston striker Amari Morgan-Smith signed for the club, whilst midfielders Alex Lawless and Charlie Henry joined on loan from York and Newport County before permanent moves, alongside Barrow forward Jason Walker. In the New Year, defender Luke Graham joined on loan from Kettering, whilst winger Robbie Willmott signed from Cambridge United, later followed by fellow midfielder Paul Carden on loan. Lloyd Owusu provided yet another option in attack following his return from Australia.

The season started with three straight wins; a 2-1 home victory over Altrincham, a 3-1 win at Kettering, in which Barnes-Homer got a treble and a 3-0 victory at Fleetwood. A 1-1 home draw was shared with Newport, but a surprise 3-1 reverse at Tamworth was followed by a 1-1 home draw with Hayes & Yeading. September started with a 2-0 loss at Grimsby, but then brought a 2-0 home success over Cambridge United and a 3-0 home win against AFC Wimbledon.

A 2-2 draw came at Darlington, before a 1-0 defeat at Gateshead and Town stood in sixth spot after their 2-0 home win over Mansfield.

October began with a 1-0 victory at Barrow, ahead of a 2-1 home defeat to Crawley, but the trip to Eastbourne brought a 4-2 win through Crow's brace. Back home, Forest Green were humbled 6-1 with two more from Crow, whilst in the FA Cup, a derby with St Albans was won 4-0 through Morgan-Smith's treble and the month was rounded off by a 3-1 home victory against Bath.

Moving into November, a late equaliser prevented an upset in the 1-1 FA Cup draw at Corby, but a 1-0 defeat followed at Wrexham, corrected by a 1-0 success at Altrincham. Corby were beaten 4-2 in the Cup replay and the goals continued to flow as Histon were seen off 5-1, whilst Drury levelled twice in a 2-2 FA Cup draw at Charlton. The replay was lost 3-1, before the Trophy opened with a 0-0 home draw with Welling and a 2-1 replay win.

An undefeated January saw the Bedfordshire side move to within two points of the top, although Crawley had two games in hand. Barnes-Homer scored twice in the 3-0 home success over Rushden, ahead of the 1-0 success at Hayes, whilst 0-0 draws were collected at Bath and AFC Wimbledon, followed by a 4-0 home Trophy victory against Uxbridge in which Atieno and Adam Watkins both scored twice.

They hit five without reply against York, before a 2-2 home draw with Gateshead and 1-0 home victory against Grimsby. Gankpa scored for the fourth game in a row in a 4-0 home win over

Darlington, alongside Owusu's brace, which was followed by a 1-0 home Trophy victory against Gloucester. League results slipped, though, with a 3-1 home defeat to Fleetwood and 1-1 draw at Newport. However, a 1-0 win at Guiseley, thanks to Barnes-Homer, earned a Trophy semi-final place.

Moving into March, Luton won 1-0 at Forest Green, preceding a 1-1 home draw with Kidderminster and 2-0 home success against Tamworth. However, the first leg of the Trophy semi-final brought a 1-0 reverse at Mansfield. A 0-0 draw at Cambridge United divided the two legs, with Owusu levelling the tie at Kenilworth Road, but a late extra time leveller denied the Hatters a penalty shoot-out. Back in the league, Willmott netted the winner as they won 1-0 at Rushden, but a shock 2-1 loss at Southport ended Money's spell at the club.

The Brabin era began in a 0-0 home draw with Barrow, before a 3-3 draw at Kidderminster and a 2-2 home draw with Kettering. His first win came in some style as six different players scored in a 6-0 home win over Southport and a credible 1-1 draw was collected at Crawley, prior to a 0-0 draw at Mansfield and 1-0 loss at York. Eastbourne Borough were seen off 3-0, as Willmott scored two, ahead of a 4-0 win at Histon, where Barnes-Homer got a brace and the regular season ended with a 1-1 home draw with Wrexham.

It was a quick reunion in the play-offs, as three goals in the first 35 minutes set up a 3-1 first leg win at Wrexham, their place today comfortably confirmed by a 2-1 home second leg success.

FROM THE MANAGER

"WE MISSED OUT ON AUTOMATIC PROMOTION, SO WE SHOULD BE GETTING TO THE PLAY-OFF FINAL AND WE'VE ACHIEVED THAT."

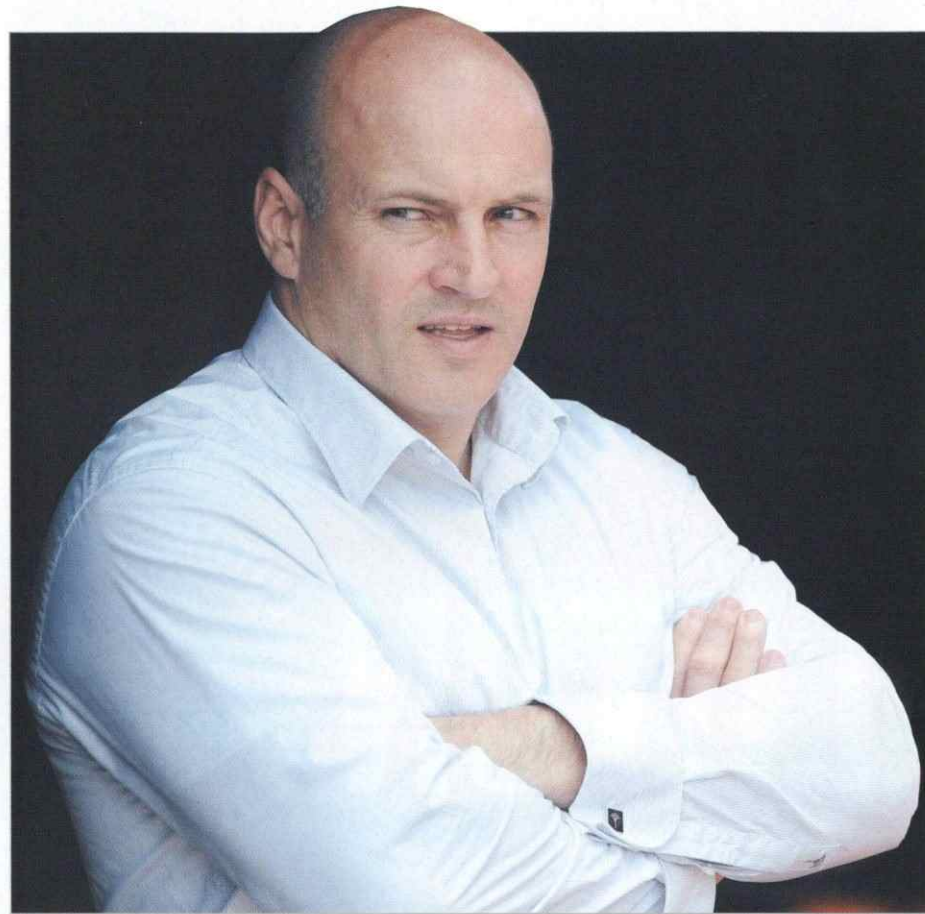
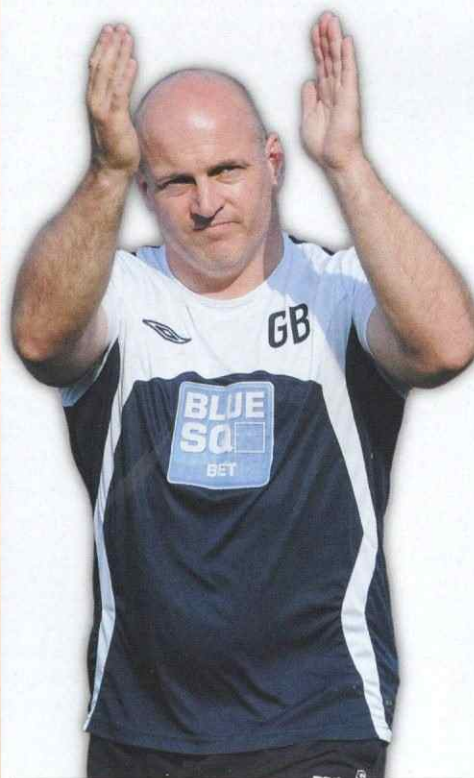
"We've changed things round a little and I think we've done it in style. I'm sure everyone agrees that we've done well getting to where we are, but we know that the job's not done yet and we need to finish it off in Manchester.

"The first leg of the semi-final was fantastic. We had a game plan that we'd worked on and everything we'd practiced came to fruition on the day, and it was really pleasing to see. But the flip side was that I think everyone automatically presumed that we were through to the final. We knew Wrexham are a good side, they're a tough side and they weren't going to lie down.

"We knew they'd be a wounded animal and we expected a tough game in the second leg. One thing we were trying to stress to everyone - not just the players, but everyone at the club - was not to be complacent.

"I thought that for the first 20 to 25 minutes, Wrexham put us under a bit of pressure. But over the two games, I don't think it's a bad thing to be under pressure for only 20 minutes. We ended up winning the tie 5-1 on aggregate and, to be fair, it could have been even more.

"I think that 20 minute spell of pressure has done us a bit of good. They'd had a little nervous moment where there was a little bit of pressure and I think it was a good test for us. To come through that and eventually win the game on the night, as well as going through on aggregate, I thought was a real bonus.



GARY BRABIN

"WE TRY TO PLAY ATTRACTIVE AND ATTACKING FOOTBALL AND I THINK THE LADS HAVE DONE THAT REALLY WELL THIS SEASON. WE'VE GOT SOME GREAT PLAYERS AT THE CLUB; THEY'RE CERTAINLY GOOD ENOUGH TO GET PROMOTED".

"Today's match is between two big clubs with good traditions who've had their fair share of hardship over the last few years. I think both thoroughly deserve to be in the final.

"Luton and AFC Wimbledon are two fantastic clubs so I think it's a great advert for the league. It should be a good game of football, a great occasion for both sets of fans and hopefully it's us who are celebrating after the game.

"AFC Wimbledon is a good side and we've done well against them this season, but I don't think

that will count for anything on the day. A lot's changed since we played them so we've got to be focussed, not take anything for granted and just keep doing the things that we've been doing for the last couple of months.

"We try to play attractive and attacking football and I think the lads have done that really well this season. We've got some great players at the club; they're certainly good enough to get promoted and I just hope we can perform to our capabilities.

"You're going to have a certain amount of pressure at every club worth its weight; I certainly wouldn't want to go to a club where there's no expectancy and no pressure. I want to be competing with the best and certainly the ambition of this club matches mine. That comes with a bit of pressure and expectancy and I think that's all part and parcel of the job.

"The main objective is to get this club back into the Football League where it belongs. We're so close now, but the work's not done; we've just got to carry on what we're doing.

"Everyone's excited about it; people keep going on about where we should be, but we are where we are. We've got a great opportunity to put that right and get back where we belong - back in the Football League."



MEET THE HATTERS

PLAYER TO WATCH



MARK TYLER

Mark is a hugely experienced goalkeeper who arrived 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. After falling down the pecking order at Posh the former England Youth international found first team opportunities hard to come by and in 2008/9 he was loaned out to Bury where he made 11 appearances for the Shakers.

GARY BRABIN (MANAGER)

Gary began his managerial career as assistant manager of The New Saints. In April 2008 he took the reigns at Southport and guided the team into the Nationwide North play-offs. He took over as manager of Cambridge United in June 2008 and guided the U's to their second successive promotion play-off final at Wembley. He was also named the Conference Manager of the Year for 2008/9 before leaving the Abbey Stadium following a series of disputes. He returned to football as chief scout at Luton and after a spell as assistant manager he took over as manager in March 2011.

As a player the England Semi-Professional International played for Stockport County, Runcorn, Doncaster Rovers, Bury, Blackpool, Hull City, Boston United, Torquay United, Chester City, TNS, Halifax Town, Southport and Burscough and had loan spells at Gateshead and Lincoln City

KEVIN PILKINGTON (GOALKEEPER)

Vastly experienced goalkeeper, Kevin, joined the Hatters in May 2010 after his release from Notts County. Pilkington began his career with Manchester United playing six times in the Premier League under Sir Alex Ferguson. During his six years at Old Trafford Pilkington enjoyed loan spells at Rochdale, Rotherham and Celtic before a two-year stay at Port Vale. After 23 league appearances for the Valiants, he moved to Aberystwyth Town and Wigan Athletic before

joining Mansfield Town in 2000. He featured 167 times in five years with the Stags before making the short journey to Notts County where he enjoyed another five year stay. He played 141 times for the Magpies including a loan spell in November 2009 with Luton.

LUKE GRAHAM (DEFENDER)

Luke signed on-loan from Kettering in January 2011. He started his career with Northampton before moving to Rockingham Road following a successful loan spell. The versatile defender spent a short time at Mansfield before signing for York City whom he helped to last season's Blue Square Bet Premier Promotion Final. Luke rejoined Kettering in the summer before moving to Kenilworth Road.

ZDENEK KROCA (DEFENDER)

Zdenek joined the Hatters after impressing in two pre-season fixtures in 2010. He made 169 league appearances in 10 years with hometown club Tescoma Zlín in his native Czech Republic. Last season the imposing 6ft 5in defender was in fine, commanding form, scoring four times in 27 league appearances with the Letná Stadium outfit as they finished in second place in the Czech second division.

DAN GLEESON (DEFENDER)

Dan signed for the Hatters in the summer of 2010 from his home town club Cambridge United. A

product of the U's academy, Gleeson made his debut at 18 and made 61 league appearances at Abbey Stadium before Notts County snapped up his signature in 2006. Gleeson spent a season at Meadow Lane, featuring 17 times before he was back at the Abbey, firstly on-loan before re-signing in 2007. Recognised as one of the best right-backs outside the Football League, Gleeson's performances have seen him rewarded with seven England C caps.

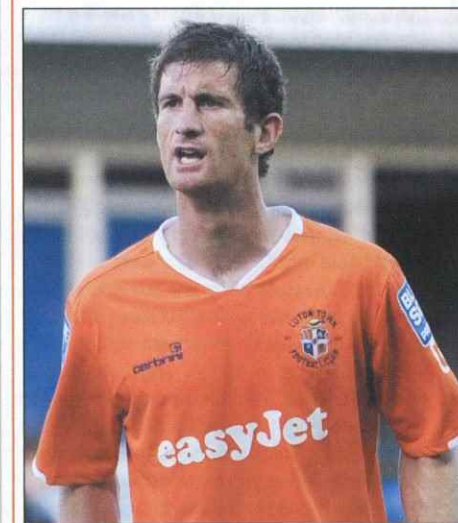
ED ASAFU-ADJAYE (DEFENDER)

Ed has made significant progress through the Club's ranks. Following a loan spell with Walton & Hersham he made the breakthrough into the first team under Mike Newell. The defender went on-loan to Salisbury City where he earned rave reviews and made his full debut for the Hatters in March 2008 against Crewe Alexandra. Ed is capable of playing in any position across the defence and was part of the Town team that won the Johnstone's Paint Trophy at Wembley in 2009.

SHANE BLACKETT (DEFENDER)

Luton-born Shane began his career with Dunstable Town before a switch to Arlesley Town in 2003. The Ryman League Club's FA Trophy run in 2004 earned a lot of admirers and, along with Craig Mackail-Smith, he was signed by Dagenham & Redbridge in May 2004. Shane went on to make 83 appearances during his time at Victoria Road and helped the Daggers on their way

PLAYER TO WATCH



GEORGE PILKINGTON

George signed for the Hatters on a free transfer in August 2008. He began his career as an Everton trainee, joining Port Vale in June 2003 after a loan spell at Exeter City. The highly-regarded defender started 223 league games for the Valiants before moving to Kenilworth Road where he won a Johnstone's Paint Trophy winners' medal in his first season. He underlined his loyalty to the Hatters by signing a new contract at the end of the last campaign.

to the Conference title and promotion to the Football League in 2006/7. Shane, along with Craig, was snapped up by Peterborough for a six-figure fee and made 38 appearances during his time at London Road. The 6ft 3in defender signed a contract at Kenilworth Road in the 2009 close season.

FREDDIE MURRAY (DEFENDER)

Freddie initially 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 during the January transfer window in 2010. He began his career as a trainee at Premier League side Blackburn Rovers before joining Cambridge United, initially on loan. He made over 100 appearances at Abbey Stadium in two seasons before moving to Northampton Town in July 2004. Injuries hampered his time with the Cobblers and in August 2007 he joined Stafford Rangers before moving to Stevenage Borough. Freddie joined Exeter City for the 2008/9 season then Grays during the following close season.

ALEX LACEY (DEFENDER)

Alex has risen through the ranks at Kenilworth Road earning a squad number ahead of the current season. The centre-back made his first team debut as a 17-year-old in the FA Trophy first round tie against Welling, earning the man-of-the-match award for an excellent performance.

ROBBIE WILLMOTT (MIDFIELDER)

Robbie arrived at Kenilworth Road in January 2011 after hitting 10 goals for Cambridge United. The Harlow-born winger came through the ranks at the Abbey Stadium, making his debut as a 17-year-old in September 2007. Having scored ten goals and eight assists from just 29 starts for Martin Ling's side this season, the Hatters swooped to acquire his skills. His set-pieces, dribbling, close control and eye for goal are all skills which have impressed the Luton faithful.

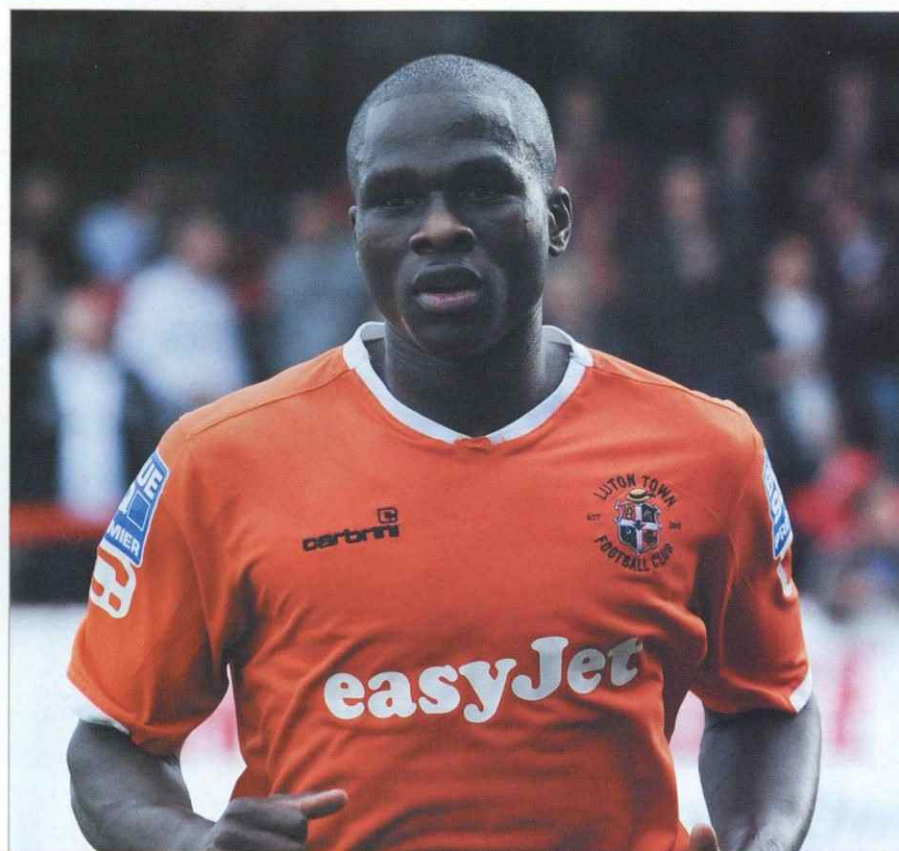
PAUL CARDEN (MIDFIELDER)

Paul made his Football League debut as a 17-year-old for Blackpool in December 1996 before moves to Rochdale and Chester City whom he joined in March 2000 where he made 200 appearances in two spells with a brief stint at Doncaster Rovers in between. He captained Chester to the Football Conference title in 2003/4 and a return to the Football League. Paul teamed up with his former boss Mark Wright at Peterborough in 2005 but left a year later, registering with Burscough but playing on loan at Burton Albion. He returned to the Football League with Accrington Stanley but joined Cambridge United on loan in November 2007, helping them to Wembley in the Promotion Final. After signing for the Abbey Stadium side he became assistant manager and had two spells as caretaker manager too before linking up with former manager Gary Brabin at Kenilworth Road on-loan in February 2011.

JAKE HOWELLS (MIDFIELDER)

Jake came through the ranks at Kenilworth Road and made his first team debut in May 2008. The England C international was rewarded for his efforts with a professional contract in May having made 36 appearances for the Hatters during the

PLAYER TO WATCH



CLAUDE GNAKPA

Claude joined the Hatters on a free transfer in August 2008, having plied his trade across Europe with Montpellier HSC, Racing de Santander, Deportivo Alaves and FC Vaduz of Liechtenstein. He moved to Swindon Town for a brief spell then Peterborough United where he was a regular in the League 2 promotion winning side. A favourite with the Kenilworth Road crowd the Frenchman scored the Hatters' winning goal in the Johnstone's Paints Trophy final against Scunthorpe United in April 2009.

2008/9 season. In his first year as a pro, Jake made huge strides with impressive performances on the left-side of midfield, ending the 2009/10 campaign with six goals, including his first senior goal in the 4-3 win over Cambridge in September.

GODFREY POKU (MIDFIELDER)

Godfrey joined the Hatters together with JJ O'Donnell from Blue Square South St Albans City in January 2010. Town beat off competition from several Football League clubs for the tenacious defensive midfielder. He featured and impressed in the Hatters' reserves during the remainder of the 2009/10 season and made his debut as a substitute at Barrow in October 2010.

KEITH KEANE (MIDFIELDER)

Keith joined the Hatters at the age of nine having been scouted in local football, and made a rapid progression through the club's centre of excellence and youth teams, making his debut in November 2003. Capable of playing right the way across the back four or in midfield the only positions he's not featured for the Town as yet are in goal and up-front. The former Republic of Ireland schoolboy international won the Hatters' Goal of the Season award at the end of the 2009/10 season.

JJ O'DONNELL (MIDFIELDER)

JJ is a tricky winger who joined the Hatters along with St Albans team-mate Godfrey Poku in January 2010. The youngster featured for the Hatters' reserve and youth teams during the 2009/10 season. He made his first team debut as a substitute in the FA Cup first round replay win over Corby Town in November.

ADAM NEWTON (MIDFIELDER)

Adam signed for Luton during the summer of 2009 following his release from Brentford. He started his career at West Ham United, coming through the Hammers' Academy and made three appearances during his time at Upton Park before signing for Peterborough United in May 2002. The former England Under-21 international went on to make 249 appearances in six years at London Road, winning promotion at the end of the 2007/8 campaign. After leaving Peterborough, Adam was snapped by Brentford manager Andy Scott where he helped the Bees to the League 2 title. A St Kitts and Nevis international, he has spent time on-loan at Portsmouth, Notts County and Leyton Orient.

ADAM WATKINS (MIDFIELDER)

Young midfielder, Adam, signed professional forms at Kenilworth Road in June 2010. A self-



MEET THE HATTERS

confessed Hatters fan, he made his first team debut in a defeat at Southampton in the FA Cup third round in January 2010. To gain experience, Adam joined Arlesey Town on loan at the end of the 2009/10 campaign.

ALEX LAWLESS (MIDFIELDER)

Former Wales Under-21 midfielder, Alex joined the Hatters from York City initially on loan in November 2010 before signing permanently during the January transfer window. A former Cardiff City scholar he signed his first professional contract with Premier League Fulham in 2003 then had a year and 16 appearances at Torquay. He joined Forest Green Rovers in 2006 and in his three seasons he helped the Gloucestershire consolidate in the Conference. At the start of the 2009/10 season he joined York City and helped the Minstermen reach the 2010 Promotion final at Wembley.

DANNY CROW (FORWARD)

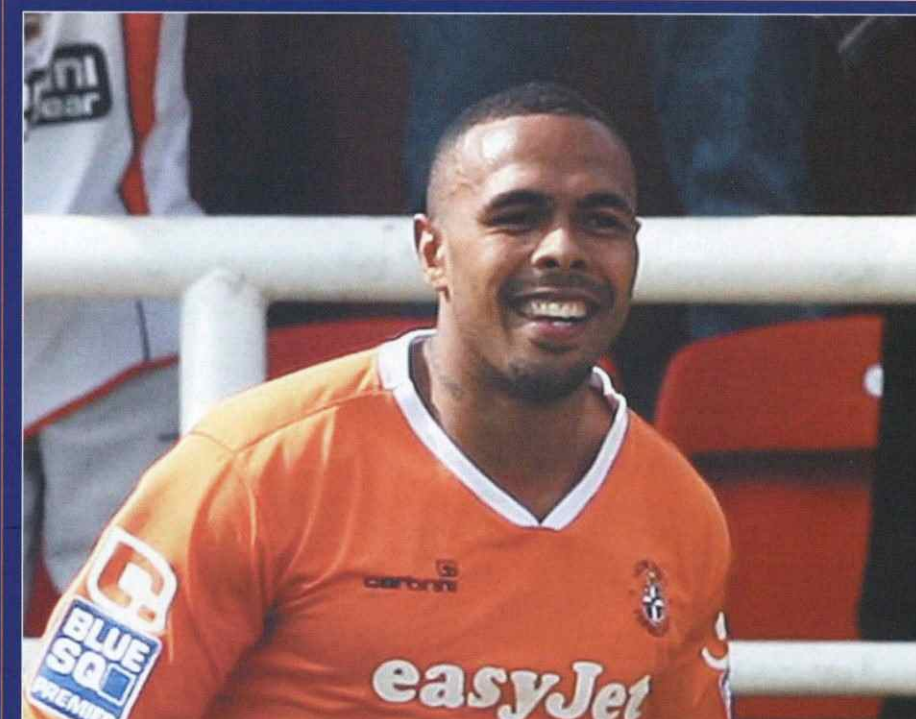
Danny joined the Hatters from Cambridge United in May 2010. The front man started his career as a trainee with Norwich City and made his senior bow in the Premier League in December 2004. A loan

spell at Northampton followed towards the end of the 2004/05 season before he was released and signed for Peterborough in the summer of 2005. He notched 17 goals in his debut season at London Road. Following a short loan spell at Notts County, Crow was released by Posh and was snapped up by Cambridge in September 2008. The energetic forward's strike-rate of 22 goals in 43 league starts won him many admirers at the Abbey Stadium and his 19 goals during 2009/10 saw him scoop the U's online Player of the Year award.

AMARI MORGAN-SMITH (FORWARD)

Amari arrived at Kenilworth Road as a free agent following a two-year spell at Ilkeston Town which ended in May 2010. Wolverhampton-born Morgan-Smith started his career as a trainee with Wolves. He then signed for Crewe and then Stockport where he made one Football League appearance before moving to Ilkeston. In his two years with the Blue Square Bet North side he scored 34 goals in 77 starts earning him a call-up to the England C squad. He scored on his Hatters debut against Mansfield at the end of September.

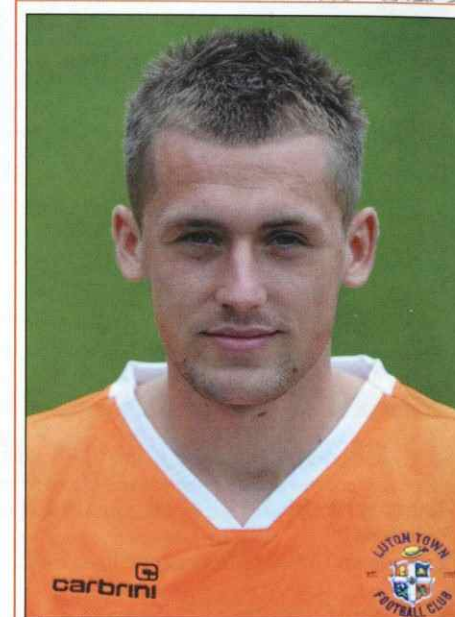
PLAYER TO WATCH



MATTHEW BARNES HOMER

Matthew joined the Hatters initially on a month's loan from Kidderminster Harriers before signing a contract when the transfer window opened on 1st January 2010. The powerful forward began his career as a trainee at Wolves before going on to lead something of a nomadic life prior to finding his feet at Kidderminster. After leaving Molineux he tried his luck in the United States before returning to England and, following success with a clutch of non-league sides, he was snapped by Wycombe Wanderers. He failed to make an impression at Adams Park and joined Harriers in July 2007. The England C international scored 21 goals during 2008/9 then hit nine goals in 20 league appearances last term.

PLAYER TO WATCH



DAN WALKER

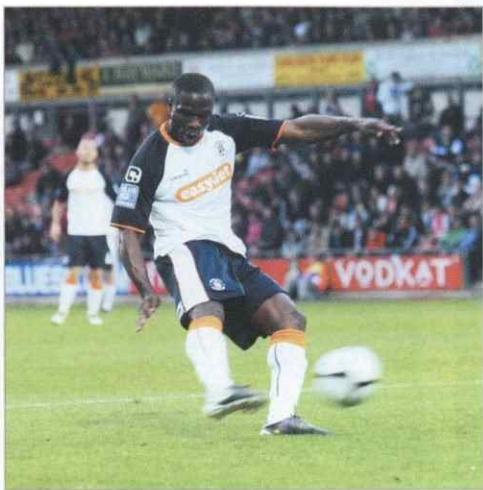
Dan joined the Hatters in July 2010 after impressing in pre-season whilst on trial at Kenilworth Road. The youngster has also played for Stony Stratford Town and Leighton Town before joining his previous Club Bedford Town. He made his first team debut for the Hatters as substitute in win over AFC Wimbledon in September 2010 before scoring his first senior goal against Forest Green a month later.

JASON WALKER (FORWARD)

Jason joined Luton in November 2010, initially onloan, from Barrow. The front man hit eleven goals in just 18 appearances for the Bluebirds at the start of the 2010/11 campaign before making the switch south. He began his career in Scotland coming through the ranks at Dundee then moved to Greenock Morton in 2004. Morecambe signed him in 2007 but it was with his home town club Barrow that the forward began to make his name, firing 50 goals in two-and-a-half seasons at Holker Street. The England C international striker scored a stunning and ultimately FA Trophy-winning goal in extra-time last May against Stevenage in the final at Wembley.

LLOYD OWUSU (FORWARD)

Ghanaian international Lloyd joined the Hatters in January after returning from Australia and scored on his debut against York City. It was back in 1988 that Brentford signed Lloyd from Conference side Slough Town for a five-figure fee and he went on to score 64 goals in 148 starts for the Bees. A move to Sheffield Wednesday followed and after a loan spell at the Madjeski Stadium he switched to Reading on a permanent basis in 2004. He returned to Griffin Park in the summer of 2005 but after missing most of the 2006/7 season through injury he left Brentford once more and signed for Yeovil Town in July 2007. After nine goals for the Glovers in his first season at Huish Park he was again on the move and played at both Cheltenham and Brighton before accepting a move to Australian side Adelaide United in June 2009.



FIRST LEG

Thursday May 5th, 2011

Wrexham 0

Luton Town 3 (Lawless 16, Gnakpa 28, Asafu-Adjaye 35)

Wrexham: Maxwell, Obeng, Creighton, Sinclair, Ashton, Keates, Blackburn (Fowler 66), Harris, Mangan, Taylor (Tolley 78), Knight-Percival (Anoruo 64). Unused Subs: Mayebi, Andrews.

Luton: Tyler, Gleeson, Kroca, G. Pilkington, Asafu-Adjaye, Gnakpa (Barnes-Homer 82), Lawless, Willmott, Keane, Howells, J. Walker. Unused Subs: K. Pilkington, Graham, Newton, Owusu.

SECOND LEG

Second Leg

Tuesday May 10th, 2011

Luton Town 2 (Kroca 29, Walker 81)

Wrexham 1 (Mangan 8)

Luton: Tyler, Gleeson, Kroca, G. Pilkington, Asafu-Adjaye, Gnakpa (Barnes-Homer 87), Keane (Newton 90+2), Lawless, Howells, Willmott, J. Walker. Unused Subs: K. Pilkington, Graham, Owusu.

Wrexham: Maxwell, Obeng, Creighton, Sinclair (Andrews 65), Ashton, Keates, Fowler, Harris (Anoruo 76), Mangan, Cieslewicz. Unused Subs: Mayebi, Knight-Percival.

Luton win 5-1 on aggregate

THE HATTERS WENT ONE STEP FURTHER THAN LAST SEASON IN THE PLAY-OFFS TO SEAL A PLACE IN THE PROMOTION FINAL AFTER A FANTASTIC AGGREGATE VICTORY OVER WREXHAM.

The Town went in front in spectacular fashion on 16 minutes when Alex Lawless drove forward from midfield before hammering in an unstoppable strike from 25-yards. Jake Howells almost added to it almost immediately afterwards, spanking the ball against the bar from just inside the area.

With the home side in disarray Keith Keane saw shot saved before the Town doubled their lead on 28 minutes with another truly phenomenal goal, this time from Claude Gnakpa. Ed Asafu-Adjaye won the ball and fed Howells who laid a beautiful ball to the left for the in-

form Frenchman who thrashed the ball into the net at the near post.

Dreamland turned to heaven on 35 minutes with another goal of the season contender, this time from Asafu-Adjaye, for the newly-retired defender's first ever senior goal driving home from the edge of the area following Robbie Willmott's training-ground corner routine.

Gnakpa shot at Maxwell to almost make it 4-0 before Zdenek Kroca blocked two Wrexham efforts as the hosts pressed for a response.

In the second half the Town still dominated. The first chance of the half came to Gnakpa on 53 minutes, whose shot was blocked on the line after Kroca's knock down. The Hatters should have been four up when Walker found Willmott, whose centre found Lawless free with the goal at his mercy but the former York midfielder flashed a shot over.

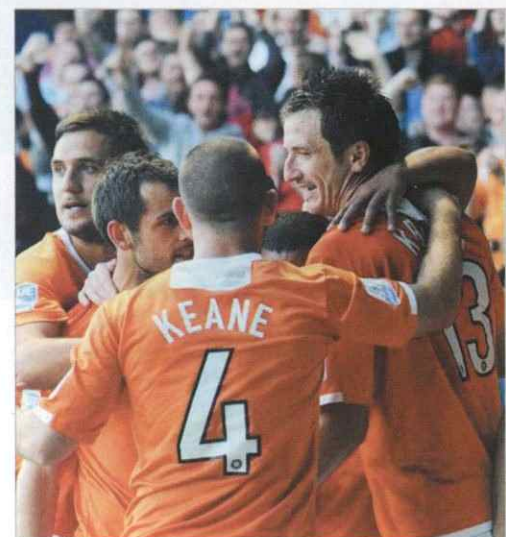
It was 81 minutes before Wrexham mustered their first shot on target and, though Curtis Obeng's run into the area was menacing, his shot was tame and caused Mark Tyler no problems.

Kroca thought he'd effectively put the tie beyond doubt with eight minutes left on the clock with a double effort that somehow didn't result in a goal, including one shot that spun onto the post.

In the second leg Mark Tyler was the hero at Kenilworth Road, saving a first-half penalty with the aggregate score at 3-1 as the Hatters produced another fantastic performance to book their place in the final.

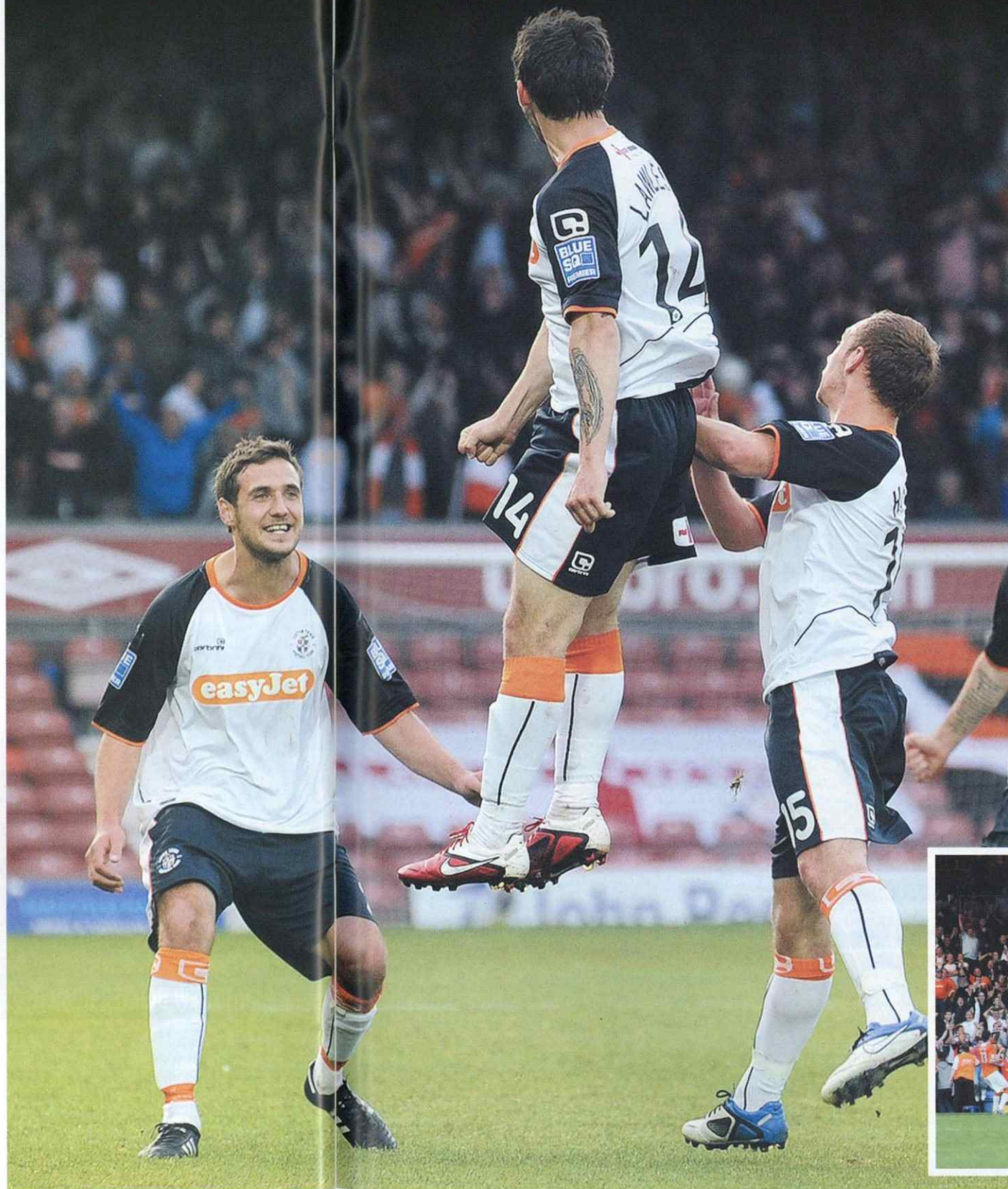
If Wrexham were to get anything from the game they knew they would have to start quickly, and they really came out of the blocks strongly as they created chances early on. And a breakthrough didn't take long to come as Andy Mangan netted the early goal the Dragons needed on nine minutes when he converted a low cross from Adrian Cieslewicz to give the visiting fans hope.

The capacity Kenilworth Road crowd responded magnificently and the players rallied immediately; neat football between Asafu-Adjaye and Willmott down the left allowed first-leg hero Lawless to get into the box and win a corner. From the resulting dead-ball Pilkington was involved in a tussle in the box which could have seen a penalty awarded on another day.



THE SEMI-FINALS

LUTON TOWN



The speedy Cieslewicz was causing problems down the right early on, and Dan Gleeson had to be alert to head clear from inside the six-yard box when another dangerous cross caused panic in the box.

Though under pressure at one end, the Town were still looking dangerous at the other, and Howells went close with a 18th-minute half-volley from the edge of the area which curved just wide. Tyler produced his moment of magic on 20 minutes with a superb low penalty save to avert disaster, saving Gareth Taylor's 12-yard effort after Gleeson had been adjudged to handle Mangan's cross.

To great relief, Kroca blew the roof off the stadium and settled the home crowd's nerves with a straightforward header that looped over Wrexham 'keeper Maxwell's head and into the net on the half-hour mark to send the Town into raptures.

The goal settled the Hatters, and the midfield increased their control on the game in the latter stages of the half, even managing to bring out some of the slick one-touch passing that was so effective in the first leg.

The Town came close to extending their lead even further just after the break, after a mistake from Wrexham's Mark Creighton. The big centre-back's back-pass was weak, allowing Willmott to nip in and take the ball past the goalkeeper and feed Walker, who managed to square to Gnakpa. The big Frenchman unleashed a first-time pile-driver which the back-peddling Maxwell did very well to tip over the bar.

On a night that could have gone so differently had it not been for the early brilliance of the Town's goalkeeper Tyler, Maxwell was having a super game between the sticks at the other end. He made another top class save on 74 minutes, this time preventing Walker from getting on the score-sheet. Gnakpa's perfectly weighted through-ball beat the Dragons' off-side trap, but the Wrexham 'keeper did fantastically well to get down quickly and save as the Town's diminutive forward kept his shot firm and low.

And the Welsh stopper made the save of the match just moments later, showing phenomenal reflexes to tip over what looked a certain goal from Howells at point-blank range.

But Walker finally beat Maxwell to make the Town's passage to Eastlands secure with 10 minutes to go, finishing well from close range from Gnakpa's cross after Howells had done brilliantly to pick out the winger's run into space on the right.



TEAMWEAR



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THE FOOTBALL CONFERENCE YOUTH ALLIANCE HAS JUST COMPLETED ITS ELEVENTH SEASON AND THE STANDARD OF COMPETITION GETS BETTER EVERY YEAR.

Back in September, it started with 70 Clubs, who are linked with a local School Sixth Form or College to provide both education and football to its students.

For a variety of reasons, four of those clubs did not complete the season, but the remaining sixty six provided plenty of excitement, despite the bad weather, prior to Christmas, which resulted in only 32 games being played during December in six divisions. Together with the League competition, Clubs also compete in a League Cup, which is decided on a knockout basis. The 2010-2011 final will surely go down as one of the most exciting and dramatic on record, at any level.

Two Clubs from the South D Division - Charlton Athletic Trust and Redbridge made it through to the final at Bishop's Stortford Football Club and they produced a thrilling game. After a nervous opening from both teams, Redbridge scored three times in fifteen minutes to put them seemingly in a winning position. However, Charlton produced a stunning fight back and incredibly drew level on the stroke of half time.

Both coaches must have been tearing their hair out at half time with some of the defending and the message seemed to have got across to both sets of players as a cagey 20 minutes ensued. That was until Charlton took complete control of the game with three further goals in a seven minute spell and unlike the first half there was to be no dramatic comeback.

The game was played in an excellent spirit with the referee complimenting both teams for the way they conducted themselves throughout. For the first time in its history, the League introduced a Premier Division this season which improved not only the standard of play but also the facilities that clubs use. In what turned out to be a very competitive division, just four points separated the top three sides, with Rushden and Diamonds finally coming out on top, just ahead of Crawley Town, who finished runners-up and Cambridge United.

The five regional divisions were no less competitive and congratulations go to the following winners:

- North Division** Stalybridge Celtic
- South A Division** Team Bath
- South B Division** Woking
- South C Division** Brightlingsea Regent
- South D Division** Dover Athletic

The Football Conference Youth Alliance, under the Chairmanship of Helen Thompson, one of two Football Conference Board Members on the Youth Alliance Committee, the other being Newport County Chairman, Chris Blight work very closely with the Senior Competition and it is that relationship with the Board and members of Staff that has enabled the League to continue to develop, together with the hard work of the Management Committee.

On behalf of the Chairman and Management Committee of the Youth Alliance, I would like to congratulate both clubs on reaching today's final and wish them every success in the future.

Graham Hill
Secretary, Football Conference Youth Alliance

FOOTBALL CONFERENCE YOUTH ALLIANCE

2010-2011 SEASON FOOTBALL CONFERENCE YOUTH ALLIANCE

South Premier Division								
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Rushden & Diamonds	22	13	5	4	44	26	44
2	Crawley Town	22	13	3	6	51	30	42
3	Cambridge United	22	12	4	6	47	38	40
4	AFC Wimbledon	22	11	3	8	49	36	36
5	Dartford Whites	22	11	3	8	45	37	36
6	Bromley Blues	22	10	5	7	52	33	35
7	Histon	22	9	4	9	42	49	31
8	Ebbsfleet United	22	9	2	11	48	52	29
9	Weston-super-Mare	22	7	5	10	44	56	26
10	Havant & Waterlooville	22	6	7	9	45	54	25
11	Oxford United	22	4	6	12	27	38	18
12	Basingstoke Town	22	2	3	17	13	58	9

North Division								
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Stalybridge Celtic	20	14	1	5	74	31	43
2	Birmingham City Blues	20	13	2	5	52	19	41
3	FC Halifax Town	20	12	3	5	64	26	39
4	Tamworth	20	11	4	5	49	25	37
5	Boston United	20	11	3	6	40	34	36
6	Chasetown	20	8	5	7	36	33	29
7	Fleetwood Town	20	8	5	7	44	48	29
8	FC United of Manchester	19	8	2	9	47	45	26
9	Southport	20	4	2	14	22	58	14
10	MMU/Newcastle	20	3	3	14	22	58	12
11	Spalding United	19	0	4	15	7	80	4

South Division A								
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Team Bath	20	15	4	1	64	27	49
2	Birmingham City Whites	20	15	2	3	85	26	47
3	Watford Hertswood	20	13	1	6	53	20	40
4	JMA Reading	20	12	1	7	52	33	37
5	Chelsea AW	20	12	1	7	45	36	37
6	Football CV Reds	20	8	3	9	37	40	27
7	Eastleigh	20	5	4	11	31	44	19
8	St Albans City	20	6	1	13	48	68	19
9	Oxford City	20	5	2	13	32	67	17
10	Aylesbury	20	5	2	13	23	67	17
11	Kettering Town	20	2	3	15	22	64	9

South Division B								
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Woking	22	19	0	3	67	24	57
2	Tottenham Hotspur	22	14	3	5	71	24	45
3	Tooting & Mitcham United	22	14	3	5	52	28	45
4	Croydon Athletic	22	12	1	9	49	36	37
5	Wingate & Finchley	22	11	2	9	41	44	35
6	Watford CSE	22	11	1	10	62	47	34
7	Hampton & Richmond B	22	8	1	13	35	45	25
8	Carshalton Athletic	22	7	4	11	38	56	25
9	Boreham Wood Blues	22	7	2	13	42	61	23
10	Wealdstone	22	6	2	14	32	59	20
11	Kingstonian	22	5	4	13	21	55	19
12	St Albans Saints	22	5	3	14	35	66	18

South Division C								
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Brightlingsea Regent	18	13	4	1	37	6	43
2	Dagenham & Redbridge	18	9	4	5	38	16	31
3	Halstead Town	18	8	6	4	48	35	30
4	Luton Town	18	8	6	4	25	13	30
5	Bishop's Stortford	18	8	3	7	29	26	27
6	Winchmore Hill	18	8	2	8	36	43	26
7	Southend Manor	18	6	4	8	34	30	22
8	Romford	18	6	4	8	31	35	22
9	Biggleswade Town	18	4	5	9	33	40	17
10	Boreham Wood Whites	18	1	0	17	17	84	3

South Division D								
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Dover Athletic	18	13	3	2	50	20	42
2	Charlton Athletic Trust	18	11	1	6	37	23	34
3	Dulwich Hamlet	18	7	7	4	30	24	28
4	Redbridge	17	8	1	8	35	37	25
5	Welling United Academy	18	7	4	7	31	41	25
6	Tilbury	18	6	5	7	32	30	23
7	Bromley Whites	18	6	2	10	29	34	20
8	Dartford Reds	18	4	6	8	31	33	18
9	Cray Wanderers	16	5	2	9	22	28	17
10	Deal Town	17	5	1	11	24	51	16



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FA CUP MAGIC



THIS SEASON'S FA CUP COMPETITION SAW CRAWLEY TAKE PRIDE OF PLACE. THE SUSSEX SIDE NOT ONLY BECAME THE FIRST SIDE OUTSIDE THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE SINCE 1992 TO REACH THE FIFTH ROUND PROPER BUT THEY ALSO PUT IN A GREAT PERFORMANCE AT OLD TRAFFORD TO ONLY LOST 0-1 TO THE EVENTUAL PREMIER LEAGUE CHAMPIONS MANCHESTER UNITED.

Having won through to the competition proper with a 1-0 success at Newport they defeated Blue Square Bet North Guiseley 5-0 in the first round with goals from Tubbs, Neilson, Hall, Brodie and Torres. They were rewarded with a second round tie with Swindon Town which they drew 1-1 at the Broadfield Stadium. In the replay Ben Smith's volley gave Crawley the lead but Jon-Paul McGovern's far-post header levelled the tie before Charlie Austin put the hosts in front. Swindon's Jonathan Douglas was sent off for a foul on Glenn Wilson then an own goal by Michael Rose forced extra time. Ben Smith was the Crawley hero hitting the late winner from close range to secure a home tie third round tie with Derby.

That tie took place on a Monday night with strong winds causing havoc. The Championship side missed the chance to take the lead when Kris Commons had a penalty saved by goalkeeper Michel Kuipers. Instead Craig McAllister put Crawley ahead from eight yards, but Miles Addison equalised with a header. With a replay looking likely, Torres side-footed in from a corner to hand Crawley a fourth-round tie.

The Red Devils had to travel down to former Blue Square side Torquay United in the fourth round but the long journey was worth it with a 1-0 success courtesy of a Matt Tubbs goal.

That set up a money spinning fifth round tie at Old Trafford where 74,778 spectators, including 9,000 from Sussex, watched Crawley narrowly beaten 1-0 by Manchester United. The eventual Blue Square Bet Champions deserved a replay with David Hunt and Matt Tubbs missing late chances to equalise. Instead the only difference between the two Red Devils was a fortunate Wes Brown first-half header.

The Blue Square Bet Premier was well represented in the first round proper of this seasons completion with Southport taking on Sheffield Wednesday in a televised game with the Haig Avenue side holding their own until the hour mark, finally losing 2-5. Luton Town needed a replay to beat Corby Town whilst York City drew at Rotherham then upset their fellow Yorkshire side with a 3-0 win at Bootham Crescent.

Ebbsfleet held AFC Wimbledon to a goalless draw to force a replay at Stonebridge Road. Two goals in extra time finally saw the Premier club progress 3-1. A Gareth Ainsworth goal in the fifth minute of injury time saw Hayes & Yeading denied a replay with Wycombe Wanderers and Forest Green also bowed out 0-3 at home to Northampton Town. Fleetwood held League One Walsall 1-1 at Highbury but went out in the replay 0-2.

In another live televised game Cambridge United held Huddersfield to a goalless draw at the Abbey Stadium. They looked set for a great upset when they led for most of the game in the replay only for the home side to score twice in injury time and end their brave attempt. The Lamb witnessed Tamworth stun Crewe 2-1 whilst Darlington beat League One Bristol Rovers by the same score. The other two games involving Premier sides saw Mansfield lose to Torquay and Rushden beaten by Yeovil both 0-1.

Luton Town put in a great second round performance getting a 2-2 draw at former Premiership Charlton Athletic with Drury scoring twice.



They bowed out of the competition in the replay at Kenilworth Road 3-1 despite taking the lead. Tamworth twice took the lead at Brunton Park against League One Carlisle but were edged out of a five goal thriller by two goals in the final four minutes.

In an all-premier tie Darlington were knocked out at The Darlington Arena by York City whilst AFC Wimbledon were denied a historic pairing with MK Dons in the third round when they were beaten 2-0 by Stevenage Borough.

York's reward for getting into the third round proper was an away tie with Bolton Wanderers but their run ended there with a 2-0 victory to the Trotters.

Dover Athletic took pride of place amongst Blue Square Bet South sides, with two victories against Football League opposition. The First Round saw them come out on top, 2-0, in the Kentish derby at League Two side Gillingham, managed by former Dover chief Andy Hessenthaler. In the Second Round, this time at the Crabble, they secured a 2-0 home win against another League Two team, Aldershot Town, before bowing out at the next stage, 2-0 at Huddersfield Town, of League One.

There were other excellent showings in the First Round too from the South division as Chelmsford City defeated Ryman League Hendon 3-2, before losing 3-1 in the next round at League Two Wycombe Wanderers. Dartford held fellow League Two side Port Vale to a 1-1 draw before they lost 4-0 away, whilst Woking secured a fine 0-0 draw at League One winners Brighton & Hove Albion, before holding them 2-2 at Kingfield after extra time, only to lose out on penalties. Havant & Waterlooville lost out 2-0 at home to Blue Square North side Droylsden.

Six clubs from the Blue Square Bet North made the First Round Proper of the FA Cup featured. Droylsden were the only winners, as previously mentioned. However, Vauxhall Motors secured an excellent 0-0 draw at League One side Hartlepool United, before they lost 1-0 in the home replay. Nuneaton Town were beaten by the only goal at Lincoln City and Eastwood succumbed 2-1 at Southern League Swindon Supermarine.

In the Second Round, Droylsden sensed an upset against League One Leyton Orient as they took the lead in the 1-1 home draw, and led 2-0 in the replay, before conceding six in an extraordinary spell of extra time in a 8-2 loss at Brisbane Road.



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 semi-finals 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. Now working in the media.



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.

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,

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.



FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS LOOKS AT LUTON TOWN'S LEADING LIGHTS

NAMES & GAMES



FAB FOUR

RICKY HILL

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

Arsenal, Norwich City and Wigan Athletic.

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.

PREVIOUS PROMOTION FINALS

AHEAD OF THE 2002-03 SEASON THE CONFERENCE INTRODUCED A PLAY-OFF COMPETITION TO DECIDE THE IDENTITY OF THE SECOND PROMOTED CLUB INTO THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE. MANY OBSERVERS FELT THAT THIS WOULD PRODUCE EXCITING, TENSE AND DRAMATIC MATCHES AND THEY CERTAINLY HAVEN'T BEEN DISAPPOINTED.

The first final was certainly an example of the drama Conference supporters had in store. Doncaster Rovers and Dagenham and Redbridge battled it out at Stoke City's Britannia Stadium. The game ebbed and flowed and it was Doncaster who took the initiative after Paul Green headed in Tim Ryan's cross. Another header, this time from David Morley, ensured that the South Yorkshire club went two goals up and promotion looked to be a certainty. But the Daggers hit back and reduced the deficit through Mark Stein. They then turned the game right on its head after Tarkan Mustafa weaved his way through the Doncaster defence to level the scores. It meant then that the very first play-off final headed into extra time and was ultimately decided by a golden goal. It was Donny who got it. Paul Barnes set up Francis Tierney who scored the goal that started Doncaster's very impressive journey into the Championship.



It was a much tighter affair the next year with one goal deciding the final between Carlisle United and Stevenage Borough. That goal came in the first half and it ensured Carlisle followed Shrewsbury in returning to the league a year after suffering relegation. Peter Murphy was the hero, heading home a Tom Cowan corner. Carlisle had to survive a late surge from Stevenage, who peppered the Cumbrian's goal. But they could not force an equaliser and had to prepare for another year in the Conference.

Exeter dusted themselves down and found themselves in the final the following year. Their experience this time was to be a much more joyous one. This time 42,511 made the journey to Wembley to watch a tense match decided by just the one goal. Rob Edwards was the scorer of the goal, stooping to score from a well taken Dean Moxey free-kick. The goal was the least that Exeter deserved and were perhaps a little unfortunate not to have won by a more handsome margin. Nevertheless Edwards strike was enough and Exeter have hardly looked back since.

19,216 watched an equally dramatic play-final the following year. This time it was Aldershot and Shrewsbury Town who took part in the showpiece and once again the match headed into extra time. The match finished 1-1 after ninety minutes. The Shots took a first half lead after Aaron McLean latched onto a Ray Warburton header to fire home. That lead just lasted a minute though after Duane Darby finished for Shrewsbury in equally clinical fashion. Extra time however on this occasion couldn't separate the sides and in 2004 promotion was settled by a penalty shoot out. It looked like Aldershot had the initial advantage after Luke Rodgers missed the very first penalty. But that was as good as it got for Aldershot. Shrews keeper Scott Howie saved all three of their penalties, and after Shrewsbury scored their next three penalties it was they who looked forward to an immediate return to the Football League.



The goals returned for the 2006 final which was held at a new venue; Leicester City's Walkers Stadium. Halifax took an early lead against Hereford United after Lewis Killeen fired a powerful shot into the top corner of the net. That lead lasted for just seven minutes when Adam Stansfield set up Andy Williams who headed Hereford back on level terms. In the second half Halifax introduced John Grant from the subs bench and he restored their advantage by scoring from a Killeen cross. Hereford brought on a sub of their own, and it was Guy Ipoua who headed their second goal ten minutes from time. Extra time was once again required to settle a Conference play-off final. Whilst the golden goal rule had been removed, one strike was enough to decide the tie. The goal was scored by Hereford's Ryan Green with what was only his second senior goal of his career.

The final then moved to Wembley Stadium with Morecambe and Exeter City facing off a day after the very first FA Cup final had been held at the new ground. 40,043 watched the game including an excellent 30,000 from Exeter. Lee Phillips gave Exeter the perfect start with an eighth minute goal but that was as good as it got for the Devon side after Morecambe established a stranglehold on the match. Exeter's goalkeeper Paul Jones performed admirably but he was unable to prevent Garry Thompson, and then Danny Carlton from scoring allowing Morecambe to prepare for the

Cambridge's disappointment was repeated in 2009; defeated for the second time by a side from Devon. It was Torquay United's turn to celebrate at Wembley. They took the lead in the first half following a terrific strike from their captain Chris Hargreaves. Cambridge then found themselves down to ten men after Phil Bolland was given his marching orders and their fate was sealed after Tim Sills headed home a Wayne Carlisle cross. Torquay's triumph came after only securing a place in the play-offs on the very last day of the season, following a win at champions Burton Albion.

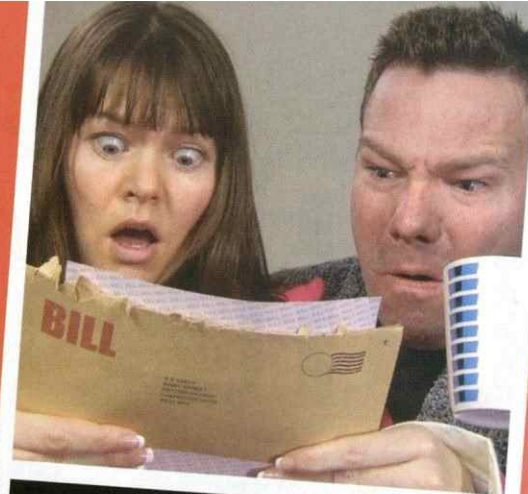
Last season saw another two former Football League sides lock horns in the quest for a return ticket. A competition record 42,669 attended a rain-lashed Wembley to see Oxford United battle it out with York City. Two goals in the space of five first-half minutes put the U's in charge, Matt Green firing them in front from 18 yards with a neat half-volley then James Constable doubling their lead with a fierce left-foot drive. U's keeper Ryan Clarke fumbled in Ben Purkiss's cross to give York a lifeline shortly before half time. York pressed for an equaliser with the U's attacking on the counter but in the 90th minute Alfie Potter sealed Oxford's promotion.

NO CASH 'TIL PAYDAY?

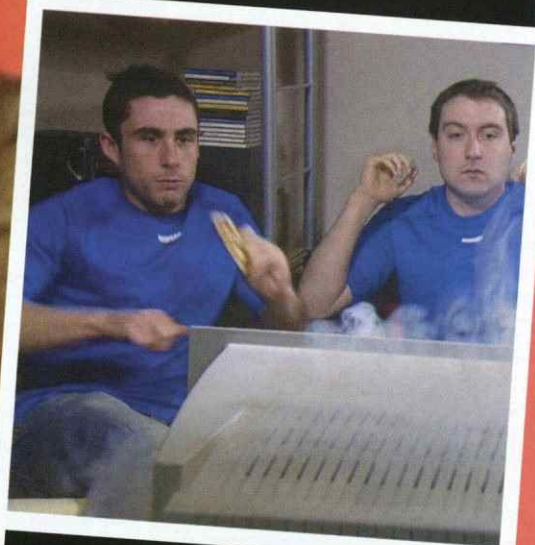
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THE GOOD GUYS

I CAN PICTURE THEM BOTH NOW; TERRY BROWN WITH BOTTLE OF BEER IN HAND IN THE BRITANNIA STADIUM'S PRESS ROOM REFLECTING ON ALDERSHOT TOWN'S 2003/04 SEASON OF OVERACHIEVEMENT.

Five years later, Gary Brabin surrounded by hacks in Wembley's mixed zone, clearly "in a horrible place", using his own words, but facing up to defeat in his usual affable way after what would prove to be his final game as Cambridge United manager.

Yes, the men who will lead their current employers, AFC Wimbledon and Luton Town, into today's big match have experienced Blue Square Bet Premier promotion final heartache.

It is guaranteed one will put those memories behind him. The other will go through it all again.

From a personal point of view they are managers I know well and I can honestly say that for whichever one becomes a Football League gaffer, I will be pleased.

I actually played in Terry's first game as Aldershot manager. It was a Ryman Premier fixture at The Rec in March 2002 which my Sutton United side predictably lost.

A year later Terry was standing on a table in the Sutton clubhouse, leading the fans' singing after the Shots had won the Ryman title at Gander Green Lane. Twelve months after that, his remarkable rise towards League Two was only halted by Shrewsbury Town in a penalty shoot-out at Stoke.

Deep down, the 'Man of the People' - as Stevenage boss Graham Westley once perfectly described him - knew it was too early for his part-time Shots side in their first season in Non-League's top-flight.

That doesn't mean to say he wasn't feeling the disappointment as he reflected on the near-miss the following week over a few San Miguels in Magalluf with his young up-and-coming stars, like Nikki Bull, Adam Miller and Aaron McLean.

After the personal trauma that triggered his 2007 Rec resignation, to help his lovely wife Susan in her successful battle with leukaemia, Terry has - as well all knew he would - led Wimbledon from the Ryman Premier to the top division, this time with the added hurdle of Conference South.

He stands 90, possibly 120 and a few more, minutes away from Football League status that would befit a true Non-League legend after a career spent entirely below the elite 92.



Again he has a young, vibrant side with Seb Brown, Steven Gregory and Danny Kedwell at its spine.

Brabs, on the other hand, experienced the League as a hard-as-nails midfielder after establishing his reputation in the grass-roots game with Runcorn.

In fact, his jaunts into the cockpit to lead his singing team-mates on the way back from England semi-pro trips are the stuff of legend.

I got to know him well following his appointment by Cambridge in the summer of



2008 after experiencing play-off semi-final disappointment in his brief spell as manager of Blue Square North club Southport. He has a great sense of humour - and boy did he need it at times to see him through some, shall we say, interesting times working for Chairman George Rolls!

Brabs' Abbey side pushed Burton Albion all the way, only to miss out on the title on the final day of the season.

But ahead of the play-off final with Torquay I recall him telling me how he saw football as a giant Rubik's cube, with then-League One Leeds trying to get back among the Premier League colours. "I'm looking at putting Cambridge back in with the League Two squares it belongs with," he told me over lunch in a restaurant appropriately called 'The Chop House'.

Within weeks of that defeat to the Gulls at Wembley, he would get the chop after a disagreement with Rolls, who had given Brabin permission to speak to Blackpool about their vacant job earlier in the summer.

Yes, he had made such an impression in his first full year as a manager he might now be in the Premier League, only Ian Holloway beat him to the job.

Unfortunately Brabin had to wait until seven weeks ago for the chance to pick a team and send them out into battle again.

Now, on the ground where he became the first player to receive a yellow card when playing for TNS against Manchester City in a 2003 Champions League qualifier, he has the chance to bury his demons in what he hopes won't be an unlucky 13th game in charge.

What we are set for, I'm sure, is an open, end-to-end encounter between two fine footballing teams whose supporters believe they have been cheated out of League football in the not-too-distant past.

It is up to Terry or Brabs to put them back among the right colours on football's Rubik's Cube - and I wish two of Non-League's genuine good guys well in trying to solve the puzzle.

Stuart Hammonds

THE **NON-LEAGUE** PAPER
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LINE-UPS



TODAY'S OFFICIALS

Referee: James Adcock
 Assistants: Michael Webb
 Dean Treleaven
 Fourth Official: Steve Smith

James is 27 years old and works as a PE teacher at a secondary school. He started refereeing in 2000 following in his father's footsteps and progressed through the Midlands Regional Alliance of supply league football from level 7-5, to a level 3 referee officiating on the FA Contributory Leagues.

He spent two years at this level before being promoted to a Football Conference Referee for the 2008/9 season.

His biggest game refereed to date, in terms of what was at stake, was the 2008 Blue Square North final between Barrow and Stalybridge Celtic. However he has been fortunate to have been appointed at several FA finals since including refereeing the FA County Youth Cup Final this year.

This afternoon will be his first visit to the City of Manchester Stadium as he continues to learn and develop through every game he officiates.

He is assisted in today's final by Michael Webb and Dean Treleaven with Steve Smith as fourth official.

TIMETABLE OF EVENTS

- 13:00 Turnstiles Open
- 14:10 Players Warm-up
- 14:53 The teams enter the Arena
- 14:46 Singing of the National Anthem led by Martin Toal and Presentation of the teams to principal Guest David Bernstein, Chairman of The Football Association, and Brian Lee, Chairman of the Football Conference
- 15:00 Kick Off
- 15:45 Half Time
- 16:00 Second Half
- 16:45 End of match and presentation to Match Officials, Runners Up, Winners

In the event of the score being level at the end of normal play, 30 minutes extra time will be played in two equal periods of fifteen minutes. If the score remains level at the end of this time the winners will be decided by penalty kicks.

AFC WIMBLEDON

LUTON TOWN

Player	Pld	Sub	●	●	Player	Pld	Sub	●	●
01 Seb Brown					01 Mark Tyler				
02 Ryan Jackson					02 Dan Gleeson				
04 Steven Gregory					03 Freddie Murray				
05 Ismail Yakubu					04 Keith Keane				
06 Brett Johnson					05 Luke Graham				
07 Sam Hatton					06 George Pilkington				
08 Ricky Wellard					07 Adam Newton				
09 Danny Kedwell					08 Amari Morgan-Smith				
11 Luke Moore					09 Matthew Barnes-Homer				
12 Christian Jolley					12 Shane Blackett				
14 Lee Minshull					13 Zdenek Kroca				
15 Sammy Moore					14 Alex Lawless				
16 Fraser Franks					15 Jake Howells				
17 Mark Nwokeji					16 Ed Asafu-Adaye				
18 Ed Harris					17 Paul Carden				
20 Jack Turner					18 Claude Gnakpa				
21 Reece Jones					19 Danny Crow				
23 Rashid Yussuff					21 Charlie Henry				
25 Kirk Hudson					23 Jason Walker				
26 James Mulley					24 Alex Lacey				
27 Brendan Kiernan					25 Godfrey Poku				
28 Jamie Stuart					26 JJ O'Donnell				
29 Gareth Gwillim					28 Adam Watkins				
31 Kaid Mohamed					29 Dan Walker				
					30 Kevin Pilkington				
					34 Lloyd Owusu				

MARTIN TOAL - NATIONAL ANTHEM SINGER

Today's national anthem will be sung by Manchester recording artist and one of the UK's leading tenors Martin Toal. Martin has sung at all major UK sporting venues including Twickenham, the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, Old Trafford and Eastlands in Manchester, and in September 2007 at Wembley in front of 90000 people for England's first competitive football international at the new national Stadium, the Euro 2008 qualifier vs. Israel.



Ball Boys (Supplied by Altrincham FC): Joe Blandford, Matthew Loizou, Jake Howarth, Ben Houghton, Laim Heedd, Max Doyle, Daniel Gregory, Luke Vayro, Jack Bowyer, James Antrobus

ODDS FOR WILLS TO BECOME KING: 6-1



ODDS FOR HARRY TO BECOME KING: 50-1

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