

Bucks

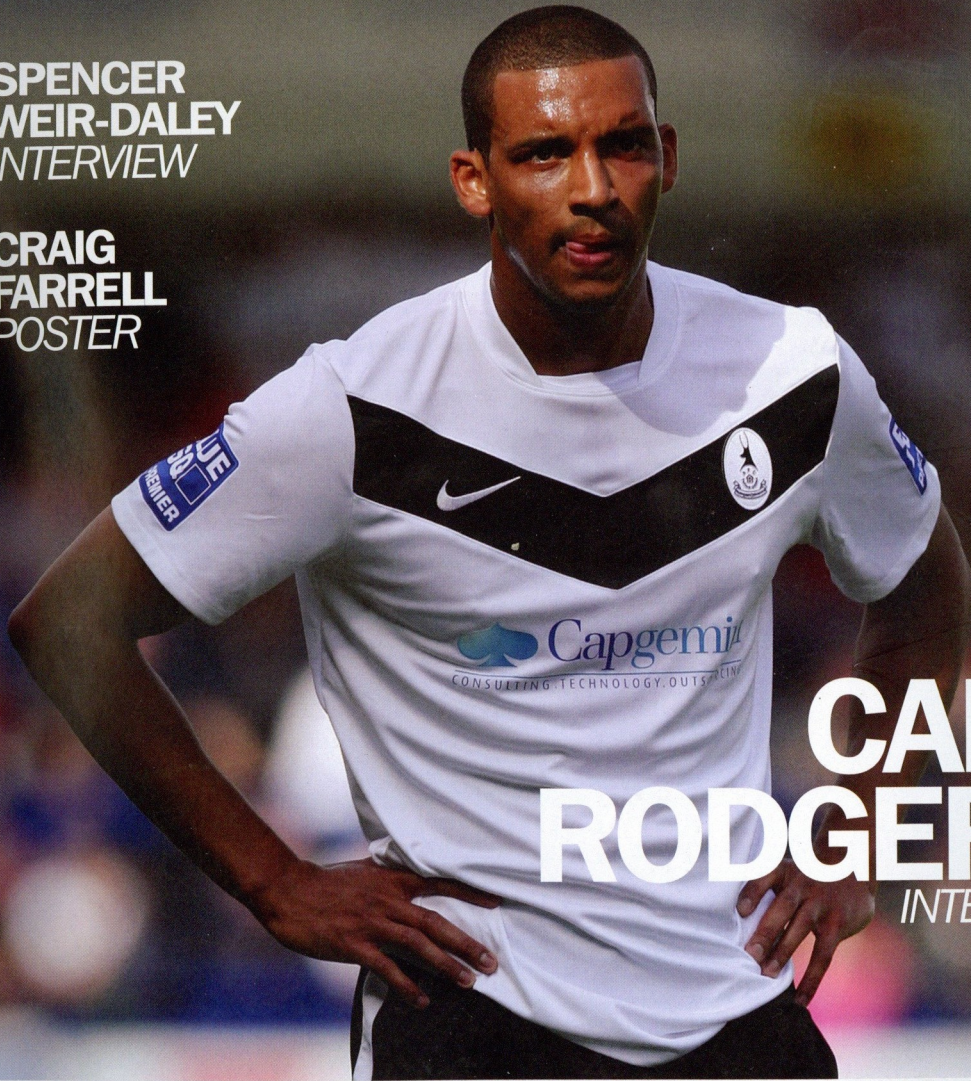
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AFC Telford United v LUTON TOWN

Tuesday 13 September 2011 / 7.45pm

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WELCOME TO THE MATCH



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Telephone 01952 640064
Fax 01952 640021
email office@telfordutd.co.uk
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Life Members Stan Storton
Jack Bentley (deceased)
Bob Turner (deceased)
Les Wilson (deceased)

Company Secretary Ian Tyrer
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Groundsman Mick Conway
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Stadium Announcers Mike Claridge
Phil Shieber
Press Officer Steve Humbles
Club Statistician Maurice Barker

TONIGHT'S MATCH



Welcome to tonight's match against
Luton Town at the New Bucks
Head, thank you for your support!



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ANDY SINTON

Welcome to the New Bucks Head for this game against Luton Town, who are undoubtedly the biggest club in this league.

I've seen Luton and had reports on them. They've got pace, energy and can play three in the middle so we need to ensure we don't get outnumbered in there. They're probably the biggest spenders, full-time and they get the biggest crowds so we're under no illusions that it's going to be a tough test this evening and we'll need all hands to the pump.

Reflecting on Saturday, I was delighted with how we responded after Southport. I don't want to dwell on that but we've picked holes in it individually and as a team and I felt that Saturday's performance was more like us. We were solid, on the front-foot and tried to stop the opposition playing but were also creative as well. We might have won the game with a bit more luck - fine lines again make a difference at this level. However I've got to be pleased and the crowd were great again.

They stuck with us because they saw the players having a go.

It was testament to our performance that I was a little disappointed we didn't win but it's another brick in the foundations against a side I would expect to be there or thereabouts. Six months ago that would have been a League side against a Conference North team and we'd have treated it like a cup final. Just because we're in the same league now we still need to treat it like a cup final and we went about our business well. The boys deserve a big pat on the back.

I changed the team around and I don't think anyone can have any qualms. It was great to have Shane Killock and Carl Rodgers back and we saw how valuable Bruno is in that role. As for Dan Preston, he's been one of our best players but he'd had flu all week and I'd got the quality and depth to rest him, which is what I did with Richard Davies too.

I know the players because I see them more than anybody. We've strength-in-depth all over and for everyone I please I have to disappoint someone; that's my job.

Overall I've got to be pleased with how the seven games have gone and we're more than holding our own. We've got to be wiser and our understanding and fitness levels need to be improved, but I haven't gone home after one game and thought we're out of our depth. We could have had another four points on the board and no one could have complained.

In my mind I know where I'd like to be. There will be ups and downs as we make that transition - but we'll get there.

Enjoy tonight's game . . .

Andy Sinton
Manager



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THE BIG KICK OFF



Bucks fan **Ben Jameson** previews tonight's match

Another big test tonight



> **Richard Davies** - could be in line for a recall after missing Saturday

AFC Telford United will be looking to build on another positive performance against Stockport to secure three points tonight against in-form opponents Luton Town.

The Buck's will feel disappointed at claiming only a point from the game, where a combination of better finishing and a string of fine saves from Hatter's keeper Matt Glennon denied Telford all three points.

Telford boss Andy Sinton was optimistic of the performance on Saturday claiming the performance was more like "us" and "we might have won the game with a bit more luck" and citing that this is the difference at Conference level.

Sinton may again ring the changes for tonight's game as the boss continues his rotation policy. Saturday's game saw five changes to the first team, and Sinton may look to recall Dan Preston and Richard Davies as both were left out of Saturday's squad as precautions.

Adam Proudlock will be in contention for a place in the squad on Tuesday night after completing ninety minutes last week.

The Buck's will need to be on the top of their game as the team face arguably their greatest test of the season in Luton Town, Conference play-off finalists last season.

Since the original fixture was postponed on the opening day, Luton remain unbeaten in their first seven games which has seen three wins and four draws.

Luton is another full-time club who have undergone a decline in recent

years.

Under Mike Newell the club won League One in 2004/05, following two seasons in the Championship the Hatters then suffered consecutive relegations from both the Championship and League One.

At the end of the 2007/08 season, Luton entered administration just before their relegation from League One; where severe consequences followed into the next season.

The club were docked 30 points for the start of the 2008/09 season by the FA and the Football League for the clubs financial irregularities and despite many appeals, the decision stood and the club were relegated at the end of the season.

Both teams collected silverware during this season with Luton claiming the Johnstone's Paint Trophy and AFC Telford United won the Setanta Shield.

Luton Town reached the Play-off final in May facing AFC Wimbledon at The Etihad Stadium, where after a goalless draw they were defeated on penalties.

A win tonight for AFC Telford will see the club move into the top half of the table, where a success for Luton will move them up to third.

On reflecting on the opening seven games of the season, Andy Sinton believes the club need to be wiser and calls for improvement on fitness levels and understanding, if the club are to acclimatise to the Conference.

SUPPORTERS TRUST NEWS

Annual General Meeting

> Thursday 17 November 2011

The 2011 annual general meeting will be held at 8.00 pm on Thursday, 17th November 2011, in the Learning Centre at the New Buck's Head Stadium, Wellington, Telford. The business will include the election of members to the Board of the Society (Trust). There will be eight vacancies. Three of the vacancies exist already, and the remaining five places are currently occupied by members of the Board who will retire at the meeting.

Candidates must have been members of the Trust by the 31st March 2011, and must be nominated by three members of the Trust on an official nomination form, which can be obtained from the website, from the registered office, by email from mooresofbeveley@bluebottle.com or by telephoning 01952 616573.

Nomination papers (with supporting manifestoes) and motions for placing on the agenda must reach the registered office by noon on the **6th October 2011**.

D H A Moore
Secretary

Annual Golf Day Challenge

> Wednesday 21 September 2011

This year's event will soon be coming along. It will again take place at The Shropshire Golf Centre, Muxton, and proceedings will start at 9am with tea/coffee and a roll. They will conclude with a meal and the presentations. The competition will follow a team stableford format. The cost will be £200 for a team of four, but individuals are welcome to enter - they can be formed into teams depending on their handicaps.

If you would like to enter, please contact the Football Club's office (01952 640064) or Steve Clark by email at the address s.clark@tust.org

Staffing arrangements

AFC Telford United would like to announce some changes to current roles and responsibilities at the club.

With club secretary Sharon Bowyer currently on compassionate leave, matchday secretary Stuart Massey has taken on the role of Referee's Liaison Officer in the interim whilst chairman Lee Carter is temporarily taking charge of player registration and disciplinary procedures.

Meanwhile Donna Murray - who is currently studying Events Management at Leeds Metropolitan University - is assisting Commercial Manager Paul Riley.

The club have also brought in some temporary administration staff to assist during this period.

MOTM

Corporate man of the match award presentations

v **STOCKPORT COUNTY**

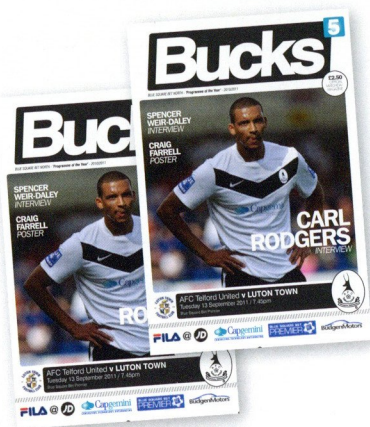
Saturday 12 September
Blue Square Bet Premier



> **Dave Teece** representing **QA Kitchens**, match sponsors of the Stockport County game is presented with a signed AFC Telford shirt from man of the match **Dwayne Samuels**

Corporate Man of the Match Awards

Lincoln City	DAN PRESTON
Newport County	SEAN NEWTON
Stockport County	DWAYNE SAMUELS
Luton Town	
Bath City	
Alfreton Town	





Shane KILLOCK

Club Captain



■ Sean Newton puts last weeks penalty miss behind him as he scores from the spot against Stockport on Saturday..



Good evening and welcome to the New Bucks Head. We've got a great game in store tonight, with Luton Town being the bookies' favourites to win the title. We should have been playing them on the first day of the season of course, but the game was postponed due to reasons that were very well publicised at the time. It was frustrating but since then they have got off to a good start and we have been pleased with our own progress as well. If we can make a little more progress tonight then we will be



Shane was talking to **CHRIS HUDSON**

very pleased but we know Gary Brabin's side will prove to be very decent opposition indeed. They are, of course, an ex-League club with a big history and they are keen to get back. But the same could be said of plenty of the sides we have faced already and we haven't done too badly against those. The latest was Stockport County on Saturday and we felt we were the better side in that one

and were unlucky not come away with all three points. The season has been a steep learning curve for us but we are adapting fast and I definitely think there is more to come over the next few weeks. It's been great for me to get back in business after missing a couple of games through injury. I had no reaction on Saturday and I'm looking forward to getting out there again tonight – if selected of course!

Enjoy the game,
Shane



September

Wed	14	AFC Telford United v Luton Town	
Thu	15	Dawley Supporters Branch 7.30pm start, The Station, Horsehay	
Fri	16		
Sat	17	AFC Telford United v Bath City	
Sun	18		
Mon	19	Newport Supporters Branch 8pm start, The Bridge, Newport Sean Newton in attendance	
Tue	20	Mansfield Town v AFC Telford United	
Wed	21	AFC Telford United Annual Golf Day	
Thu	22		
Fri	23		
Sat	24	Fleetwood Town v AFC Telford United	
Sun	25		
Mon	26		
Tue	27	AFC Telford United v Alfreton Town	
Wed	28	Shifnal Supporters Branch 7pm start, The Anvil, Shifnal	
Thu	29		
Fri	30		

Bucks Diary

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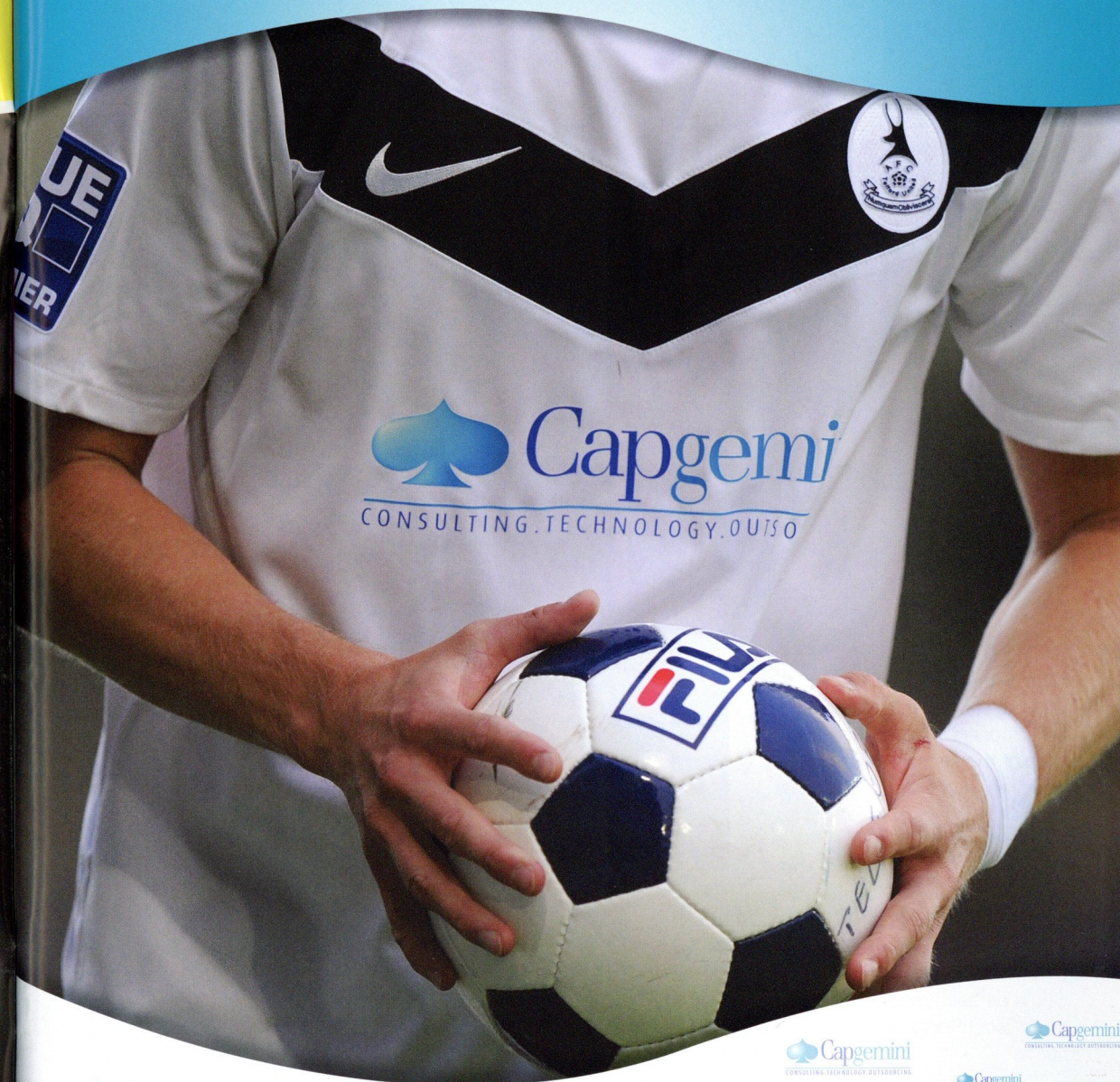
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Bruno's back

"It's brilliant to be back," that was the view of Telford midfielder Carl Rodgers who made his first start of the season in Saturday's 1-1 draw with Stockport County.

And the Bucks star felt his side were unfortunate not to come away with all three points against a side who, has recently as 2009, were plying their trade three leagues above Telford.

"It was tough and we knew it would be because they're full time," said Rodgers after the game.

"It was especially hard for myself because I haven't played a competitive game really but I enjoyed it."

Rodgers benefited from a

change in system which saw Telford deploy five in midfield as he started alongside Phil Trainer and Nathan Rooney in the middle of the park.

"We tried to get on top of them in the midfield and play from there," said Rodgers.

"If you've got five in there then the wide men have got to join in.

We didn't create enough in the first half but I thought the second half we were the better team."

And Rodgers is sure the Bucks are coming to terms with a league made up of a host of former League and full-time sides.

"They're all tough games in this league as we saw at Southport >

Alex James catches up with Bucks midfielder Carl Rodgers who made his first appearance of the season against Stockport County last Saturday.



written by
ALEX JAMES



during pre-season.

He suffered an eye and groin injury but it appeared his decision to take a two week holiday at the start of the off-season angered boss Andy Sinton the most.

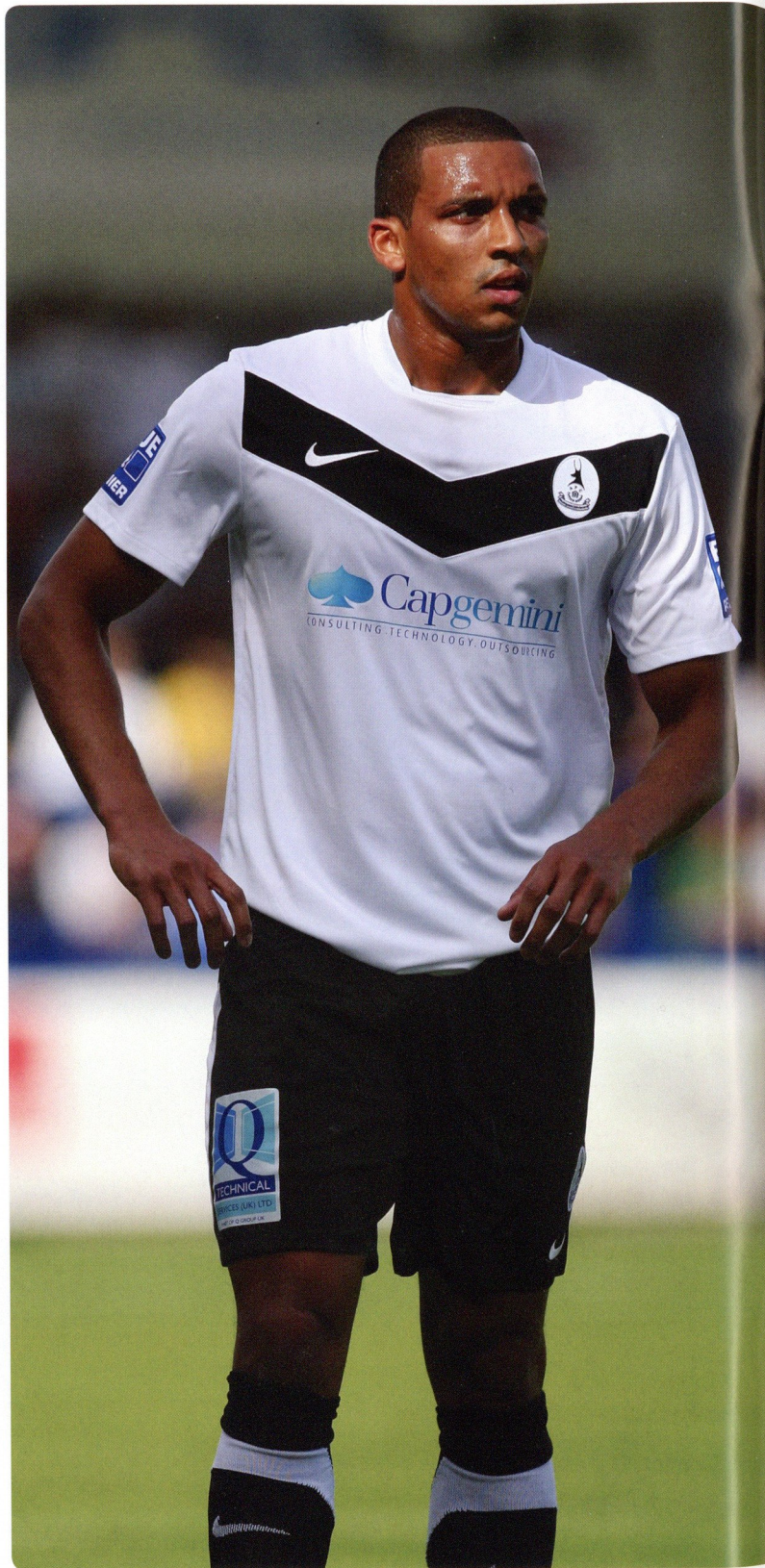
"Andy said to me that he didn't think I was fit enough because I haven't played any games," said Rodgers.

"Hopefully I've proved that I am fit enough now and I think I did alright. It's down to him to see whether he agreed with me but hopefully he will.

"I missed the first couple of weeks of pre-season when I was on holiday. Then I came back and split my eye open and then picked up a little calf injury.

"It's been frustrating for myself as well as for Andy. I've come back and I've worked hard and he's given me another chance hopefully I've taken that chance."

And the manager's thoughts after his first game of the season: **"I've been waiting to get Bruno in. You see how valuable he is in the role we play him."**



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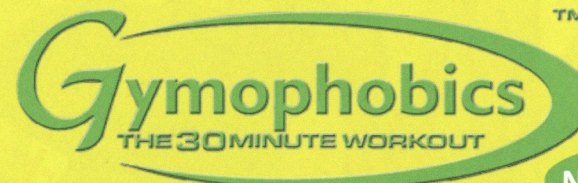


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LUTON TOWN

After 89 years in the Football League, Luton Town began life in the Blue Square Premier for the first time in 2009.

In their first season in non-league football the Luton finished second behind champions Stevenage but lost in the Play-Offs at the semi-final stage to York City.

During that campaign Richard Money took over from Mick Harford where the Town also reached the third round of the FA Cup.

The Hatters again suffered Play-Off heartache in 2010/11 and again there was a change in manager - Gary Brabin taking over from Money in March.

After finishing third this time around and beating Wrexham in the semi-finals the Town lost on penalties to AFC Wimbledon in the Promotion Final at the City of Manchester Stadium after the game ended goalless after 120 minutes.

CLUB HONOURS

Littlewoods Cup

Winners 1988
Runners up 1989

FA Cup

Runners up 1959
Semi-Finalists: 1986, 1988, 1994

Johnstone's Paint Trophy

Winners 2009

Highest League Finish

Division One: 7th 1986-87

Football League Division Two

Champions 1982

Football League Division Three (South)

Champions 1937

Football League One

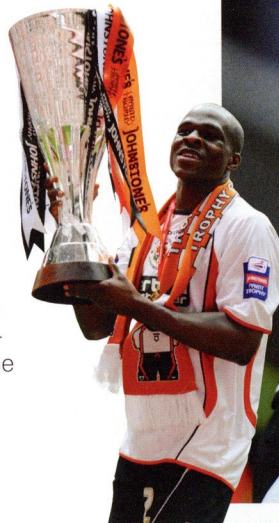
Champions 2005

Football League Division Four

Champions 1968

Simod Cup

Finalists 1988



THE MANAGER

Gary Brabin

Originally brought to the club as Chief Scout at the time Richard Money was appointed manager in October 2009, Brabin was reassigned in the new role as assistant manager in the summer of 2010.

Following the departure of Richard Money in March 2011, Brabin took control of the Hatters until the end of the 2010/11 season.

After playing over 275 times in League football as a tough-tackling midfielder, Brabin moved into management firstly with Southport - guiding them to the Conference North Play-offs - before moving south to manage Cambridge United in 2008.

In his first - and eventually only - season at the Abbey Stadium he guided the U's to the Blue Square Premier Play-off final after finishing runners-up to champions Burton Albion, but lost to Torquay United at Wembley.

Despite that set-back Brabin was awarded the BSP Manager of the Year award before behind the scenes differences at the Abbey led to him leaving the club in July 2009 before arriving at Kenilworth Road.

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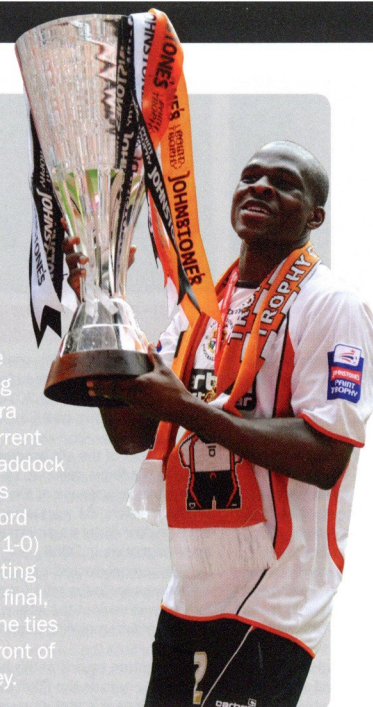
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▶ TODAY'S VISITORS IN NUMBERS

2009

Johnstone's Paint Trophy

This was the year Luton won the Johnstone's Paint Trophy beating Scunthorpe United 3-2 after extra time. The goals coming from current Norwich striker Chris Martin, Craddock and Claude Gnakpa. The Hatters beat off competition from Brentford (2-2, 4-3 on penalties), Walsall (1-0) and Colchester (1-0) before beating Brighton in a 2 legged southern final, winning 4-3 on penalties after the ties were level to reach the final in front of a crowd over 55,000 at Wembley.



16

Jordan Patrick

16 years and 7 days was how old Jordan Patrick was when he made his Luton debut in 2008. This made him the youngest player to play for Luton in a 2-2 away draw against Grimsby Town. His assist for Tom Craddock secured the point. He made his second and last 1st team appearance a month later in a 3-0 defeat to Shrewsbury town. He was released at the end of the 2010-11 season.

PLAYING BY NUMBERS

Today's visitors in numbers by **Nathaniel Holland**

£3,000,000

Curtis Davis

That is how much West Brom paid for Curtis Davies in 2005 from Luton. This is the joint record fee that the Hatters have received for a player. Davies went on to play 73 times for the Baggies before making the switch to near neighbours Villa after a successful loan spell. 66 games at Villa and a short loan spell with Leicester last season saw the defender to join Birmingham in January 2011.

2005 Promotion

Luton gained promotion to the Championship after finishing top of League One. Managed by Mike Newell the Hatters ended up with 98 points, 12 points clear at the top with Hull City finishing in second. Sheffield Wednesday completed the trio of teams promoted that season via the play offs. Luton lost 6 games all season against Huddersfield, Walsall, Hull, Brentford, Port Vale and Barnsley. The Hatters also went undefeated in the league until October spanning 11 games.



AFC TELFORD UNITED

Sean Newton (49, pen)

STOCKPORT COUNTY

Antonio German (51)

ATTENDANCE: 2,375 / REFEREE: MR RICHARD WIGGLESWORTH (YORKSHIRE)



AFC TELFORD UNITED

1. Ryan Young, 2. Will Salmon, 3. Sean Newton, 4. Carl Rodgers, 5. Stuart Whitehead, 6. Shane Killock, 7. James Reid, 8. Phil Trainer, 10. Andy Brown, 12. Dwayne Samuels, 15. Nathan Rooney.

Substitutes: 23. Ryan Valentine, 32. Ryan Robinson (GK), 24. Greg Mills (for Reid, 65 minutes), 25. Chris Sharp (for Rooney, 65 minutes), 19. Craig Farrell (for Brown, 79 minutes).

STOCKPORT COUNTY

1. Matthew Glennon, 25. Chris Blackburn, 17. Andy Halls, 3. Euan Holden, 5. Daniel O'Donnell, 22. Carl Piergianni, 19. Nick Chadwick, 6. Antonio German, 23. Michael Paton, 7. Sean McConville, 14. Sam Sheridan.

Substitutes: 13. Ian Ormson, 10. John Miles, 8. Jon Nolan (for Sheridan, 86 minutes), 20. Tom Elliott (for Chadwick, 75 minutes), 21. Nabil Bounab.

Pictures by James Baylis AFC Images and Darren Jeffery

Saturday 12 September 2011 / Blue Square Bet Premier

AFC Telford United secured another point against draw-specialists Stockport County at the New Bucks Head this afternoon, although the Bucks' performance was worthy of all three points as they created most of the chances against their former Football League opponents.

written by
STEVE HUMBLER



Boss Andy Sinton rang the changes following last week's disappointing defeat at Southport, with Carl Rodgers, Shane Killock, James Reid, Dwayne Samuels and Nathan Rooney all being introduced to the starting line-up. Perhaps the most notable omission from the side was recent signing Chris Sharp, with Andy Brown preferred as the lone striker in a 4-5-1 formation.

Telford had a fantastic opportunity to take an early lead after just 6 minutes. Phil Trainer's pass released both Andy Brown and Dwayne Samuels behind the County backline, but Samuels lifted the ball onto the roof of the net with only goalkeeper Matthew Glennon to beat. As for County, their first sight of goal came on 14 minutes when Nick Chadwick laid the ball off to Chris Blackburn and his drive from the edge of the box flew just wide.

With clear chances few and far between Trainer's shot was comfortably held by Glennon on 32 minutes and James Reid's floated cross landed on the roof of the net on 37. Brown - who was getting little protection in the face of some physical Stockport defending - was booked on 34 minutes after voicing his frustration to referee



GOAL - Sean Newton celebrates as his penalty strike beat Matt Glennon in the County goal

MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 24 >

Wigglesworth but the striker nearly set up an opener on 39 minutes. Rodgers' ball to the back-post picked out Brown and his back-heel found Reid whose left-foot drive zipped just wide.

Telford came desperately close again on 44 minutes after a good forward move. Centre-half Shane Killock found himself with the ball at his feet in the Stockport area and he showed vision more akin to an attacker by squaring for Salmon who had found space in the inside-right channel. Salmon had time to take a touch and pick his spot, but his shot - which appeared to be arrowing into the net - was superbly blocked by the diving challenge of Carl Piergianni.

The half-time break brought a significant change in the weather as

driving rain descended on the New Bucks Head from an increasingly black sky. Telford, however, started brightly and Brown tested Glennon in the first minute of the second-half before the Bucks surged into a deserved lead. Brown again was at the centre of the action with the striker being hauled down in area as he attacked a high ball. Sean Newton then stepped up to banish memories of last week's penalty miss at Southport, confidently smashing the ball past Glennon on 49 minutes.

The lead was no more than Telford deserved after forcing the best of the first-half chances. Sadly, though, the Bucks' advantage didn't last long as County pulled level almost immediately through Antonio German on 51 min-

utes. The County man - who had also tested Young with a shot just minutes earlier - was allowed too much space to advance on goal and drive a left-foot strike into the bottom-left corner of Ryan Young's net from just outside the area.

As the rain started to fall within increasing vigour Trainer's left-foot drive was beaten away by Glennon on 55 minutes and Newton's corner also struck the near-post on 67 minutes as Telford refused to let the shock of County's equaliser affect them. As for County, Sean McConville's strike was easily-gathered by Young on 80 minutes and substitute Tom Elliott's header from McConville's centre also forced Young into action on 83 minutes.

However it was Telford who continued to look stronger and, after forcing a series of corners, the Bucks nearly sneaked a deserved winner on 87 minutes as substitutes Greg Mills and Craig Farrell combined. Mills did well down the right and Farrell's header from Mills' cross looked destined for the top-right corner of Glennon's net until the goalkeeper intervened with a superb diving save to push the ball around the post for yet another corner.

Telford came close again in injury-time thanks a stunning piece of individual skill from Mills. The winger ran down the left-flank and cut inside from the wing before curling a superb shot towards the far post which had Glennon beaten, only to sneak fractionally wide.

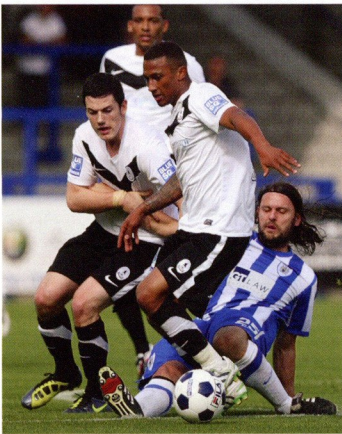
Sinton Says

"I'm really pleased because that was more like us; solid, on the front-foot and trying to stop the opposition playing but being creative as well."

"We arguably might have won the game with a bit more luck but fine lines again make a difference at this level. We've made half a mistake and been punished but that's the learning curve."

The crowd were great today and stuck with us because they saw the players having a go."





Sinton Says

"I know in the seven games we've played we are more than holding our own," Sinton said. "We've got to be a little bit wiser and our understanding and fitness levels need to be improved, but I haven't gone home after one game and thought we're out of our depth."

In my mind I know where I'd like to be. There will be ups and downs as we make that transition, but we'll get there."



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More details from Neil Nash on **01952 222743** or email: **telfordpfc@yahoo.co.uk**



■ The launch of the Telford Powerchair Football Club at AFC Telford United with members of the club, Shropshire FA, TCAT, Telford & Wrekin Council and Lee Carter, Chairman of AFC Telford United all in attendance.

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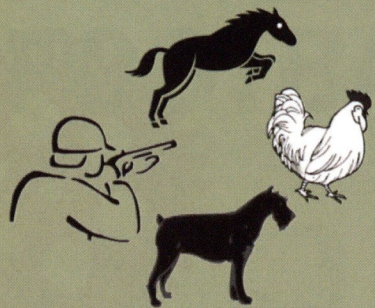
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> Telford's own Paralympic star Mickey Bushell.



Just half a mile away from the Bucks Head lives an extraordinary young man. He was born without the last seven vertebrae in his spine leaving him in a wheelchair. He has a condition called Lumbar Sacral Spinal Agenesis Congenital Paraplegia.

Just four years ago he suffered a serious kidney infection which led to him having a major operation.

Despite these set-backs, Telford's Mickey Bushell is a name many will associate with the world

of the Paralympics. As tickets went on sale last week for 2012, Mickey has been busy preparing for his biggest challenge yet.

Mickey hopes to better the success he had in the Paralympics in Beijing three years ago. He won a silver medal in the T53 100m wheelchair race, finishing runner-up to gold medallist Josh George from the United States.

But the British youngster went on to set a new world record in Switzerland in 2009.

"I haven't had an operation this year and it's all sorted now, I want to stay fit and healthy. I'm just looking forward to the Paralympics and my goal is to win the gold medal," he told BBC Radio Shropshire.

The Telford College student has been keeping an audio diary for BBC Radio Shropshire as part of our Olympic Dreams series and you can keep up to date with his progress on 96fm and through our sports pages at bbc.co.uk/shropshire.

Bushell will start as one of the favourites to win the T53 100m in 2012 and fingers crossed he'll fulfil his lifetime ambition!

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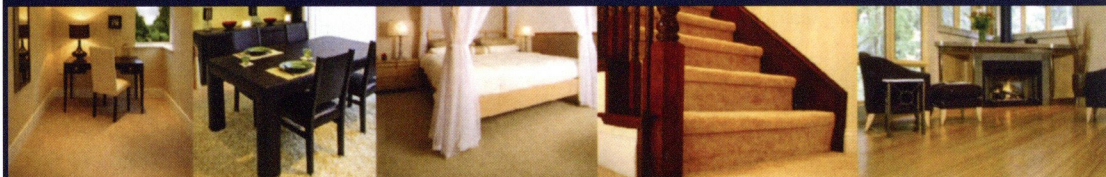
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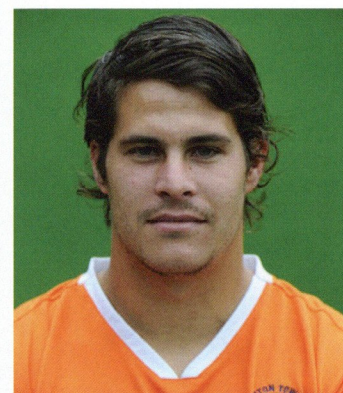
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RICHARD WORTON

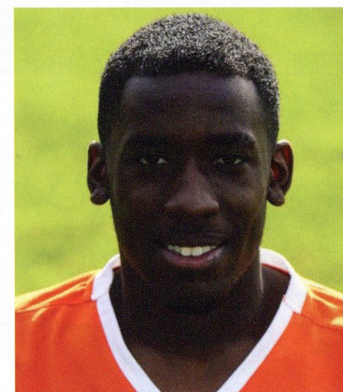


Bucks fan **Richard Worton** loves a stat or two . . .

Unbeaten Hatters find the net



> **Danny Crow** - on the mark for Luton in their 2-0 win against Darlington on Saturday.



> **Amari Morgan-Smith** - has scored 4 of Luton's 15 goals so far this season.

A combination of Saturday's 2-0 win at Kenilworth Road over Darlington and defeats for early pace-setters Wrexham and Gateshead means that tonight's visitors Luton Town currently boast the only unbeaten record in the Blue Square Bet North. Their three wins to date have all come at home, whilst all three of their away games have ended honours even.

The Hatters have found the target in every one of their seven games to date, suggesting the Bucks' defence will need to show their mettle this evening. However, until they blanked Darlington on Saturday the Bedfordshire side had also conceded in every game, five opponents breaching their defence once each whilst Hayes and Yeading managed it twice in a 2-2 draw on 30th August.

Probably the stand-out result from Gary Brabin's men to date was their 5-1 home thumping of Southport. However it may be worth noting that the Sandgrounders were level at 1-1 until central defender Steve Akrigg was dismissed on 68 minutes, after which Luton ran riot with four unanswered goals in seven minutes.

Southport led in that game, and indeed the Hatters have found themselves behind in four games so far. Other than eventually overcoming Southport, they drew the three other games in which they trailed, and they have twice conceded a lead, most notably to a second-half injury time goal by Stockport County.

Gary Brabin has rotated his starting

XI regularly; twenty-four players have featured in total, with nineteen different players starting games and five players restricted to being a named substitute.

Brabin has selected an unchanged side only once, that being for the trip to Hayes and Yeading which followed a 3-1 home win over Braintree Town. The former Southport and Cambridge United boss has for the most part tended to make around three changes per game. As a consequence, defender Will Antwi is Luton's only ever-present player this season, featuring in the starting line-up for every game.

Close behind him with six starts each are goalkeeper Mark Tyler, defender Dean Beckwith and midfield duo Keith Keane and Alex Lawless, suggesting it is the forward line that is most frequently shuffled. Luton's top scorer is a player familiar to Bucks' fans; former Ilkeston Town front-runner, Amari Morgan-Smith, who has four of their fifteen goals to date. None of Luton's goals are yet to come from the penalty spot, a record Bucks fans will be keen to see continue tonight.

Don't be surprised if striker Danny Crow features from kick-off tonight but fails to last ninety minutes; as Luton's most substituted player he has been withdrawn in four of his five starts.



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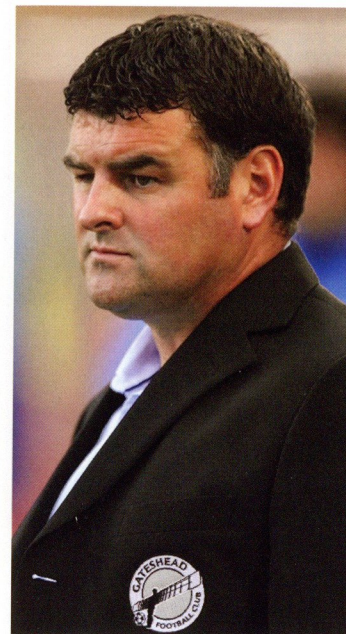
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TALKING NON LEAGUE

MATT BADCOCK

Reporter, The Non-League Paper



Ian Bogie, Gateshead manager.

A MONTH into the season and those bold predictions over a couple of pints with mates are already looking vulnerable.

Pre-season tips are a bit like New Year resolutions in that by mid January you hope everyone has forgotten your outlandish claim at five past midnight.

Every summer we all talk about who we fancy for the up-coming season. Everyone has their opinion and doesn't it feel good when yours comes off.

And if you were spot on, in which case no chance to drop it into the conversation goes unmissed.

Seven games into this campaign and there will surely be a few smug grins about.

A look at the top of the Blue Square Bet Premier and there are probably not many who would have had Wrexham and Gateshead down as early front runners.

It just shows the fantastic job the two managers have done - both for different reasons.

Dean Saunders at Wrexham will certainly be enjoying the feeling of topping the pile so early on. Guiding the Red Dragons into the play-offs last season was a real testament to his managerial skills with the on-off-on-off takeover saga.

This summer there was serious doubt over the club's very existence and players were owed wages. There was even a whip round for midfielder Jamie Tolley after the news he couldn't afford to throw his young daughter a birthday party.

The exit of Andy Mangan to rivals Fleetwood looked to have weakened

their attack but it hasn't caused that many problems as Saunders' men won six and drew one before this weekend's fixtures.

Saunders took the Blue Square Bet Premier manager of the month award, but it was no easy decision with Gateshead matching the Welsh side's record this season.

Manager Bogie has his side playing some of the best football in the league and with proven goalscorer Jon Shaw banging them in, the Heed deserve to be mentioned as promotion candidates.

The north-easterners have established themselves at Non-League's top table over the last two seasons and by adding extra quality in the summer - Sam Rents from Crawley and Stevenage's Yemi Odubade both have Conference winners' medals - this could be their breakout year.

Last season Hyde avoided relegation from the Blue Square Bet North by just four points. Powered by goals from Scott Spencer they have picked up maximum points from the opening seven games.

Big pre-season shouts were for FC Halifax and Altrincham. Both currently occupy mid-table.

Not many would have predicted that and in the BSB South Maidenhead are going well after a season of struggle.

The Magpies arrived in the play-off places last weekend after back to back wins against Farnborough and Truro City - and all that after getting hammered by Tonbridge Angels 4-0 on the opening day.

As Ian Wright once said: "I never make predictions, I never have and I never will."

Quite.

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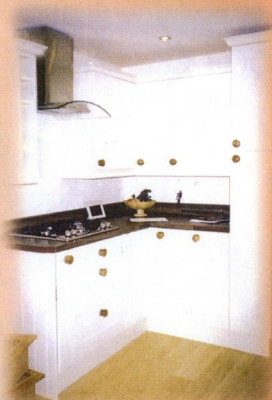
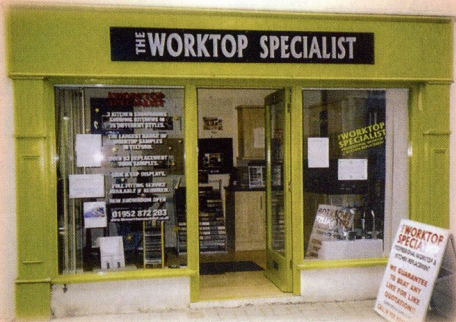
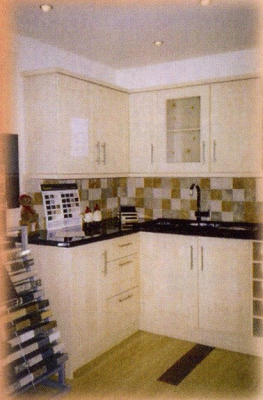
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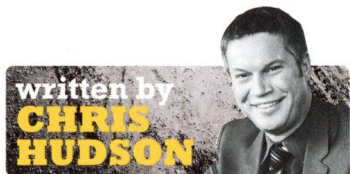
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SPENCER'S ON THE GOAL TRAIL



Striker Spencer Weir-Daley has been brought to AFC Telford United for one reason - to score goals.

And the 26-year-old is relishing the challenge ahead after agreeing an initial deal that will keep him at the club until at least the end of September.

Weir-Daley enjoyed a goal-laden spell at Boston United and featured high in the Blue Square Bet North goal charts last season.

The move to Telford represents a step up in class but the confident hotshot has the CV that suggests he can take it in his stride.

Starting at Nottingham Forest, he made just seven appearances for the Trees before moving on to enjoy a spell with their near neighbours Notts County as well as loan stints with the likes of Macclesfield, Lincoln and Bradford.

"I'd like to think I can score goals at this level," said Weir-Daley. "I've

got a pretty decent scoring record and I feel confident in front of goal.

"I've played League football and I've scored goals in the League. I've been around a bit, considering my age, and I'm anxious to get going again.

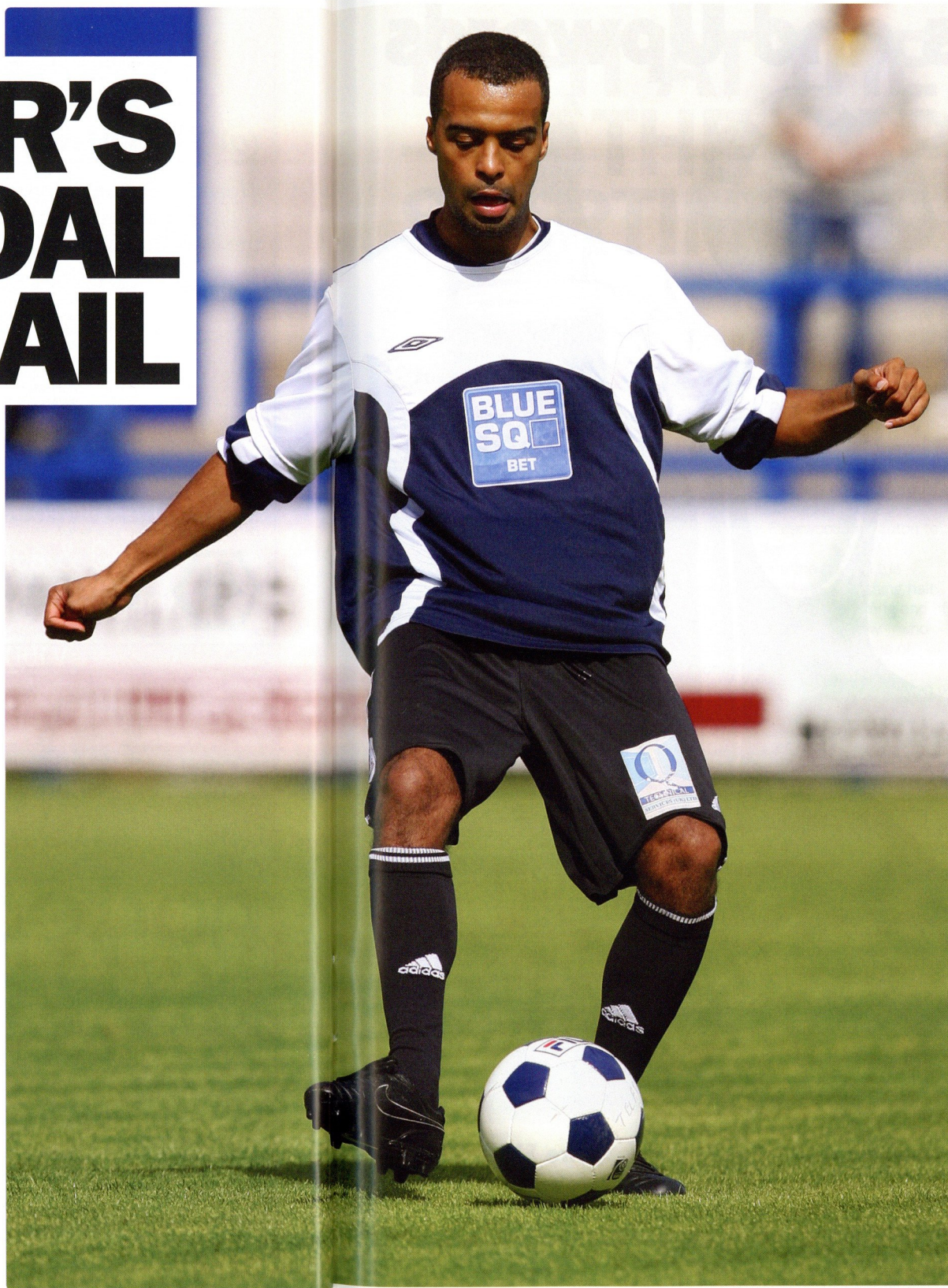
"I'm getting to that age where I know the game and I need to be kicking on.

"I'm a bit short of fitness at the moment but I'm sure I'll pick up the minutes I need as time goes on, and hopefully I can bring something to Telford."

The Leicester-born striker may only have joined the Bucks late last month, but he admits the deal was first muted far earlier in the summer.

"We were talking quite a while back but, for one reason or another, it didn't materialise," he said.

"We got back in touch after a time of not talking and now I'm here I'm delighted to get going again and I want to try and establish myself.

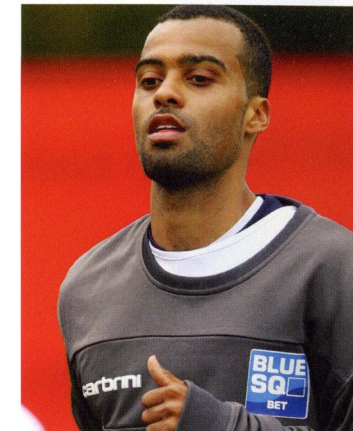


"I'm trying to find my feet," added Weir-Daley, speaking after the August Bank Holiday fixtures.

"I've been joining in training sessions and gradually building up my fitness.

"It's quite an exciting season for the club and I'm hoping to play a part soon.

"From the game's I've seen, the team doesn't really look out of place in this division. I know it's still early but they've competed in every game."



Weir-Daley also feels he can work with manager Andy Sinton, having been impressed with what he has seen from the Bucks chief - both in negotiations and on the training field.

The plain-spoken Telford boss has told the new recruit exactly what he expects from him when he gets his chance in the starting line-up.

"I've had slightly different roles in different teams but he sees me best as playing off the shoulder of the striker and I like that as well," said Weir-Daley.

"I like that as well - I like being high up the pitch and trying to unsettle defences.

"He's been quite clear in what he wants from me and why he's brought me to the club.

"It's a good thing that I know what he is looking for and I know what I need to do."

■ Since signing for the Bucks Weir-Daley has been working on his match fitness playing for Buxton in the Evo-Stik Northern Premier League and has scored four goals in three matches.

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Blue Square Bet Premier round-up with **Chris Airey**

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2 Gateshead	8	6	1	1	16	8	8	19
3 Mansfield Town	8	4	3	1	14	6	8	15
4 Kidderminster Harriers	8	4	2	2	13	10	3	14
5 Tamworth	8	4	2	2	9	8	1	14
6 Fleetwood Town	8	4	2	2	9	9	0	14
7 Luton Town	7	3	4	0	15	7	8	13
8 Braintree Town	8	4	1	3	13	8	5	13
9 Barrow	8	4	1	3	14	10	4	13
10 Cambridge United	8	3	3	2	8	7	1	12
11 Darlington	8	3	2	3	7	8	-1	11
12 Southport	8	3	2	3	11	16	-5	11
13 Forest Green Rovers	8	2	4	2	13	8	5	10
14 York City	7	3	1	3	11	7	4	10
15 Grimsby Town	8	3	1	4	7	11	-4	10
16 Stockport County	8	1	6	1	7	7	0	9
17 AFC Telford United	7	2	2	3	9	10	-1	8
18 Kettering Town	8	2	2	4	9	15	-6	8
19 Hayes & Yeading	8	2	2	4	8	14	-6	8
20 Ebbsfleet United	8	1	4	3	10	12	-2	7
21 Newport County	8	1	2	5	9	15	-6	5
22 Lincoln City	8	1	2	5	7	13	-6	5
23 Alfreton Town	8	1	2	5	5	17	-12	5
24 Bath City	7	0	2	5	3	12	-9	2

LEADING SCORERS

	Goals	Pens	Total
Boyes (Barrow)	7	0	7
Shaw (Gateshead)	4	3	7
Styche (Forest Green Rovers)	6	0	6
Walker (York City)	5	1	6
Green (Mansfield Town)	5	0	5
Marna (Kettering Town)	4	1	5
Speight (Wrexham)	4	1	5
Briscoe (Mansfield Town)	4	0	4
Morgan-Smith (Luton Town)	4	0	4
Morrell (Wrexham)	4	0	4
Rose (Newport County)	4	0	4
Vardy (Fleetwood Town)	4	0	4
Buchanan (Newport County)	3	0	3
Christie (Tamworth)	0	3	3
Cook (Barrow)	3	0	3
Crow (Luton Town)	3	0	3
Duffy (Grimsby Town)	3	0	3
Gate (Gateshead)	3	0	3
Gray T (Southport)	3	0	3
Griffin (Forest Green Rovers)	3	0	3

After a slow start to the season, the Blue Square Premier favourites are starting to show their true potential - as it begins to become tight at the top.

The joint leaders both suffered shock defeats which allowed Mansfield, Fleetwood and Luton to close the gap.

Wrexham's fine start to the campaign came to a crashing halt after they were on the wrong end of a 3-1 drumming at Barrow - who themselves have new hopes of promotion.

But the Welsh outfit remain top of the league after Gateshead lost 3-1 to a rampant Fleetwood side.

Despite defeat, the Tynesiders' hopes of promotion are still high after the arrival of Newcastle United goalkeeper Jak Alnwick - and boss Ian Bogie insists Jon Shaw remains fully-focused after Luton Town failed in a bid to land the in-form striker. Fleetwood, who were tipped for success, are beginning to find their feet and some form as the Lancashire club move up to sixth place and are eyeing up those at the top.

Mansfield Town are the leagues biggest movers after their 5-0 thrashing of Newport County - and manager Paul Cox was delighted with his side who now sit in third place.

"The guys worked tremendously hard and we got our rewards," he said. "To be honest I think we are a very good side and I still think we will be there or there about come the end of the season.

"I'm pleased that we have not only made it four wins in a row, but four clean sheets as I believe success is



Paul Cox - delighted as his Mansfield side sit in third.

built on clean sheets."

Luton Town's resurgence continues and manager Gary Brabin was impressed with his team's 2-0 win over Darlington which moved the Hatters up into sixth position.

"It was definitely an improved performance because we got a clean sheet and I'm delighted with that," he said.

"I think our performances have been there so far, it's just a case of doing all the right things and I thought we thoroughly deserved the win."

Bath City remained bottom and winless this season after defeat to Southport, but they are still only three points adrift after Alfreton Town, Newport County and Lincoln all suffered similar losses.

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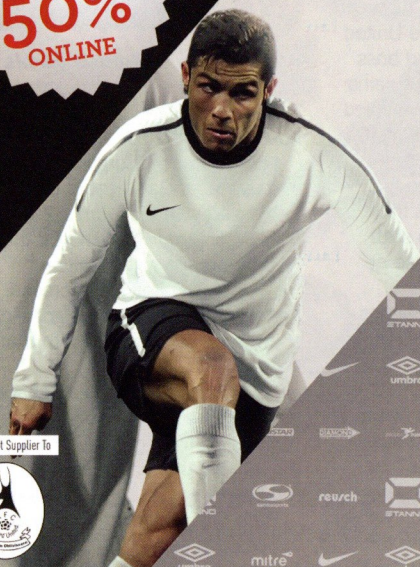
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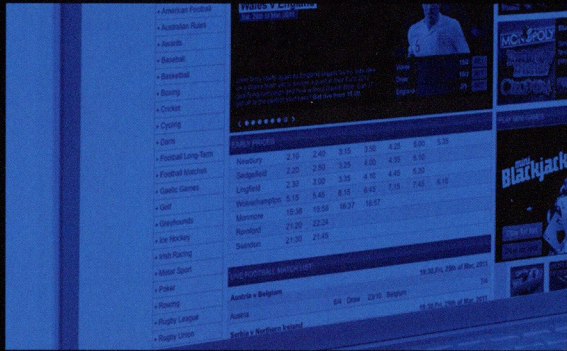
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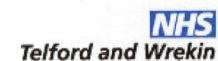
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BOBBY'S BUCKS



Hi everyone and welcome to my page!
Come down and say hi and get a Big Bobby high five! I want to hear lot's of noise tonight- lot's of shouting and singing please- let's cheer our boys to victory! Have a fab evening and I will see you all soon...

Bobby x

CAN YOU GUESS WHO?

> Answer at the bottom of the page...



JOKE OF THE DAY

Q WHY DO FLAMINGOS LIFT UP ONE LEG?

A BECAUSE IF THEY LIFTED UP BOTH LEGS THEY WOULD FALL OVER!

HA HA HA!
HA HA HA!
HA HA HA!

Guess Who answer: ALEX MEECHAN

BOBBY'S **BIG** FACT...

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that our visitors Luton Town are called 'The Hatters'? This is because of their connections with the hat making trade since the 17th century.

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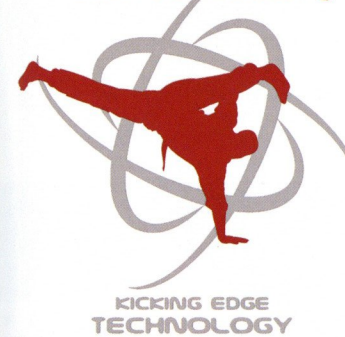
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CONWAY ALL SET FOR WEMBLEY

AFC Telford United are delighted to announce that groundsman Mick Conway (pictured below) is heading to Wembley in early October to attend an FA reception.

Mick's invitation is in recognition of him being awarded third place in the FA's prestigious Groundsman of the Year competition for 2010/11. Fleetwood Town groundsman Dale Frith won the award, with Dover Athletic's Dick Peters the runner-up.

As part of the reception, Mick and his fellow invitees will receive a tour of the stadium, lunch and

a trophy presentation ceremony. There will also be an opportunity to walk on the pitch and meet the Wembley ground-staff.

Everyone at AFC Telford United would like to congratulate Mick on his excellent achievement.

Meanwhile, the New Bucks Head pitch was out-of-action for a week prior to the visit of Stockport County in order to allow essential maintenance work to take place.

The pitch has been 'earth-quaked' to improve drainage and it has also been sprayed and treated for worms.



S&G is proud to sponsor the print of these programmes and wishes **AFC Telford United** good luck for the season.

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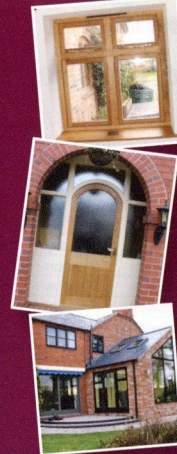
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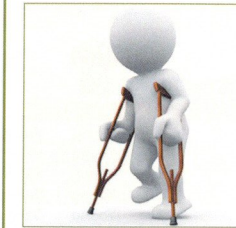
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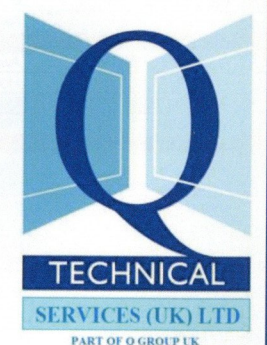
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BATH CITY



Saturday 17 September 2011
Blue Square Bet Premier
The New Bucks Head

Press Officer **Steve Humbles** previews next Saturday's visit of Bath City

AFC Telford United face a third home game in seven days on Saturday as Bath City are the visitors in the Blue Square Bet Premier. In 1979 Bath City and the former Telford United were both founder members of the Alliance Premier League which became the Conference National Division, meaning that Bath and Telford were regular opponents at the summit of non-league football. The Romans did slip to the Southern League following relegation in 1997 but two promotions in four years – culminating in a 1-0 win over Woking in the Conference South play-off final in 2010 – have seen City return to the non-league elite. A highly successful period in the club's history then continued last season as the Romans secured a top-ten placing in the Conference National - their highest league finish since 1993.

City still play at Twerton Park, the club's home since 1932. The ground – which has a ground capacity of 8,880 - has hosted Football League matches having previously been shared with Bristol Rovers whilst Team Bath also used the ground during their spell in Conference South prior to their resignation from the league in 2009. In recent years there has been speculation that the club may move to the Recreation Ground and share with Bath Rugby, although this is yet to come to fruition.



Bath manager Adie Britton strengthened his squad during the summer as the Romans look to build on last year's excellent performance. Midfielder Alex Russell – who has made 566 career appearances for clubs including Rochdale, Cambridge United and Torquay United - has rejoined City on a one-year deal whilst Britton has also signed striker Jamie Cook and goalkeeper Glynn Garner. Cook was released by Blue Square Bet Premier champions Crawley Town after making 27 appearances last season, whilst Garner is best known to Bucks'

fans for his spell at Shrewsbury Town. However, Bath have lost highly-rated full-back Sido Jombati who joined Cheltenham Town for a nominal fee.

Despite high expectations at Twerton Park following last season's top-ten finish, City have had a difficult start to the new campaign and currently sit in the lower reaches of the Blue Square Bet Premier table.

Indeed Britton's men have failed to win any of their opening six matches with just two draws against Mansfield and Hayes and Yeading to show for their efforts.

MATCHDAY INFORMATION

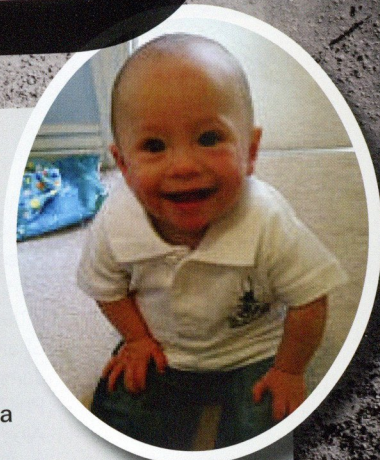
- The match will be segregated with Bath City supporters hosted in the Frank Nagington Stand.
- Admission prices are £13 adults, £10 concessions, £5 for ages 14-18 and £1 for under-14s.
- Car-parking at the ground is limited and supporters are advised to arrive early. There are 85 spaces available at the ground and TCAT car-park will also be open, with all car-parking charged at £3 per vehicle.
- The 64-page matchday programme will be available for £2.50.
- The Learning Centre Bar will be open from 6pm and the snack-bars inside the ground from 6.30pm.

YOUR UNITED

Bucks latest fan!

This is Jack Michael Gadsden, AFC Telford United's latest supporter at only at only 8 months old! He already has his AFC Telford shirt. His Great Granddad supported the bucks for over 75 years, and his granddad is still supporting them after 40 years. He is looking forward to the Luton game particularly as his dad Marc is a Luton supporter, mum Michelle is a AFC Telford supporter!

COME ON THE BUCKS!
Michael Owen



Bobby's Bucks

Charlie and Georgia Bowyer are pictured with mum and dad and Bobby Buck

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- 2 Will **SALMON** ○
- 3 Sean **NEWTON** ○
- 4 Carl **RODGERS** ○
- 5 Stuart **WHITEHEAD** ○
- 6 Shane **KILLOCK** © ○
- 7 James **REID** ○
- 8 Phil **TRAINER** ○
- 9 Alex **MEECHAN** ○
- 10 Andy **BROWN** ○
- 11 Jon **ADAMS** ○
- 12 Dwayne **SAMUELS** ○
- 13 Lee **EVANS** (GK) ○
- 14 Robbie **WILLIAMS** (5) ○
- 15 Nathan **ROONEY** ○
- 16 Daniel **PRESTON** ○
- 17 Craig **KING** ○
- 18 James **LAWRIE** (1) ○
- 19 Craig **FARRELL** ○
- 20 Richard **DAVIES** ○
- 21 Jordan **JOHNSON** (4) ○
- 22 Courtney **PITT** ○
- 23 Ryan **VALENTINE** ○
- 24 Greg **MILLS** ○
- 25 Chris **SHARP** ○
- 30 Spencer **WEIR DALEY** (2) ○
- 31 Adam **PROUDLOCK** ○
- 32 Ryan **ROBINSON** (GK) ○
- 33 Curtley **WILLIAMS** (3) ○
- 34 Philip **JOHN** ○

- 1 Mark **TYLER** (GK) ○
- 2 Dan **GLEESON** ○
- 3 Freddie **MURRAY** ○
- 4 Keith **KEANE** ○
- 5 Dean **BECKWITH** ○
- 6 George **PILKINGTON** ○
- 7 Alex **LAWLESS** ○
- 8 Amari **MORGAN-SMITH** ○
- 10 Danny **CROW** ○
- 11 Robbie **WILLMOTT** ○
- 12 Shane **BLACKETT** ○
- 13 Stuart **FLEETWOOD** ○
- 14 Aaron **O'CONNOR** ○
- 15 Jake **HOWELLS** ○
- 16 Ed **ASAFU-ADJAYE** ○
- 17 Will **ANTWI** ○
- 18 Curtis **OSANO** ○
- 19 James **DANCE** ○
- 21 Charlie **HENRY** ○
- 22 Paul **CARDEN** ○
- 23 Colin **SAMUEL** ○
- 24 Alex **LACEY** ○
- 26 JJ **O'DONNELL** ○
- 28 Adam **WATKINS** ○
- 30 Kevin **PILKINGTON** (GK) ○
- 31 Lewis **KIDD** ○
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