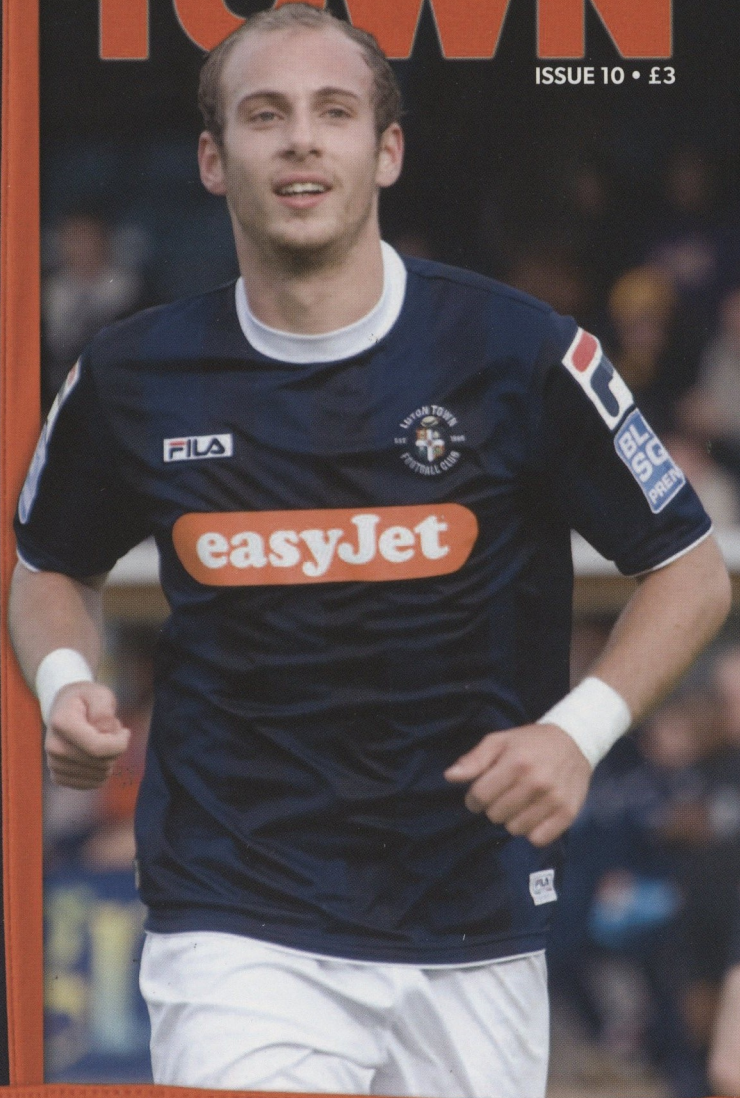


Official Matchday Programme of Luton Town Football Club



TALK OF THE TOWN

ISSUE 10 • £3



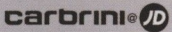
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COMPETITION



LUTON TOWN v DARTFORD

SATURDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2012 • 3PM



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WELCOME

4



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PROUD KIT SUPPLIERS TO LUTON TOWN



PAUL

BUCKLE

Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for today's Blue Square Bet Premier fixture with Dartford.

Our visitors are where they are in the table on merit and it promises to be an exciting game against two sides in very good form.

Tuesday night's defeat at Hereford was really one of those nights that happens in football. To dominate the game and create the amount of chances that we did and to lose was naturally very frustrating. It was really hard to take because the performance levels on the night were arguably the highest they've been so far this season.

I have been hugely encouraged by the improvement in the performance levels, both individually and collectively as a team. At Hereford we played with skill and swagger but fell behind to a goal out of nothing.

Like we have done all season when we've had set-backs, we will not be panicking. The biggest thing is to keep believing in ourselves. We know if we play like we did at Hereford we are going to be a hard team to stop. When one unbeaten run ends it's important to start one up as soon as possible and that's what we'll be aiming to do this afternoon.

Intensity

I know that we didn't get what we deserved at Hereford but if we continue to play at the same kind of intensity that we showed at Edgar Street we can become a real force. We took a bump on Tuesday but we'll dust ourselves down and go again. That's part and parcel of the game.

I had no complaints with the performance of the players on the night and the body language of our new signing Jonathan Smith at the end said it all. He couldn't believe he was involved in such a one-sided game yet was on the losing side.

On that note I'd like to welcome Jonathan to Kenilworth Road. His performance at Hereford was fantastic. He's a player I tried to sign in the summer which didn't work out at the time, but I am delighted

that we have managed to acquire him and I am certain he will go on to make a positive impact for us – just like he did on Tuesday.

Win, lose or draw we go back and analyse what we could do better – which team doesn't? Since Tuesday the players' response has been magnificent – just like it always is. A result like Tuesday's can knock a squad's morale but not ours.

First class

The players' attitude has been first class. Their work ethic, professionalism and desire to do well for this football club has shone through all season so far.

There is an awful long way to go and, as I eluded to earlier, if we play anything like we did at Hereford we will be in a great position. It's a feeling shared by everyone in the camp.

Another plus from Tuesday night was the terrific backing we received from the supporters who made the journey to Hereford.

Like the players, I was absolutely devastated that we didn't even earn a point from our performance, and I felt the backing on Tuesday reflected that, too.

Those who were there were just as shocked as I was with the result. Like the team on the night, the support never wavered.

There's no doubt we are heading in the right direction. Tuesday was an anomaly and we will look to get back on track this afternoon with a positive result.

Your support at Kenilworth Road is unbelievable and the envy of many managers, players and directors in this league and several leagues above.

I feel the belief and togetherness and so do the players, so please continue to get behind us.

Thanks for your support.

Paul

BOARDROOM

WITH DIRECTOR DAVID WILKINSON



Good Afternoon everyone. We wish a warm welcome to all the officials, players and supporters from Dartford.

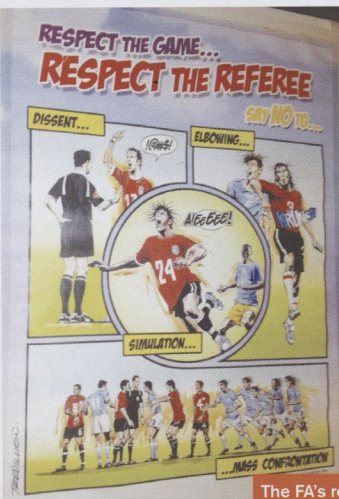
Promoted last season, what a magnificent start they have made to this year's campaign and that after three promotions in the last five years.

This will be the first time we have played each other. It is good to be able to add another name to the list. There cannot be many clubs who have had as many different English opponents as we have over the years. I have visited well over a 100 different grounds following the Town. Maybe I'll do a proper count for my next notes.

I am writing this still in shock from the result on Tuesday night. It was truly incredible that we came away empty handed from such a dominant performance. Sometimes I feel that if it wasn't for bad luck we'd have no luck at all. At least this time we had no cause to question the officials, which is a convenient link to my last notes.

I last wrote in the Braintree programme and many of you, like me, will still be astonished by the events in and outcome of that game.

The Board have invited me to be the "Respect" Director so I thought it might be good to say a few words on the subject. I say the subject, but it is more than that it covers, as they say "a multitude of sins." Respect for others, respect for the rules, respect for authority, which all should lead to respect for ourselves.



The FA's respect campaign posters are in dressing rooms up and down the country

I have been brought up to believe that respect has to be earned and it is earned by the example you set for others and your behaviour towards them. It is not deserved for merely wearing a uniform or issuing commands and punishments in an unjust or unfair manner.

Rules are crucial, and for the good of all sport need to be administered fairly and efficiently and it is my opinion that football is falling behind.

The game has changed enormously over the last 50 years, the most important change being television and the ability to film every movement and pick up every word. I'm told that some of the bigger clubs film each player throughout a game so that they can analyse independent performances and play them back during training the following week.

My point is that technology is being used by Clubs to a sophisticated level for training purposes and by TV pundits to pull games apart, but is being used sparingly, if at all, to help the officials during a game.

Football is the richest and most popular sport and yet rugby, cricket, hockey, tennis and, I'm sure, many others have adopted all sorts of technology to assist the officials to "get it right" and yet football hasn't. I have no doubt in

my own mind that the respect campaign would benefit a lot from its implementation.

We are all wound up by different things during a game. Diving, shirt pulling, bear hugging in the penalty area, questionable offsides, dissent, time-wasting and just plain wrong decisions by officials are just some of the gripes that could be reduced by providing more information to the officials and possibly strengthening the rules. There is a lot of talk about bringing in goal-line technology - fine, but, for me, there are far more important issues to address.

Other sports have adopted such things as advancing free-kicks for dissent - which could easily be adopted and would be a real deterrent particularly if a free-kick near the box became a penalty; sin bins

for yellow cards; replays of controversial decisions, which lead to a goal; and a central clock as in rugby - the hooter goes and that's it, no question.

Beyond all this, of course, officials can be wired up so that they can talk to each other and the "man upstairs", who must by definition be able to see more and from a different angle. We have assessors, who rate the performance of officials and report after a game. Why could someone like that not assist during play?

Players need to respect the referee and would do so more readily if they knew that he was the leader of a team of officials, who were his extra eyes and ears. Supporters need to respect all the officials and I feel the same applies, as the resolution of controversy in a more balanced way would lessen tensions and antagonism towards them.

It is hard to understand why there is not a more serious debate within football on the subject of technology to help the decision making process. It must be good for the game. Rugby has done it and you can see that it works.

I have heard it said that controversy is an important part of the game. It may be, but there is so much money at stake now that one poor decision can cost a club millions.

I do not understand the seeming reticence to, at least, explore the possibilities. Maybe they could be trialled at our level. Failure to consider chances to improve must surely lead to one question - WHY?

One of the other most important aspects of respect is respect for each other. We have seen a lot of comment recently about racism. We take our responsibilities as custodians of this football club very seriously. It is a club for all - no matter what race, colour, creed or sex. We want everyone to feel welcome and love the club as much as we do. We put a lot of our resources into trying to engage with local communities and support such movements as Luton in Harmony and Show Racism the Red Card. We will continue to strive for better relations in all areas and welcome suggestions for improvement.

These notes are somewhat more serious than my norm, but I am reminded of another cause to respect. Tomorrow is Remembrance Sunday when we show our respect for those who died to preserve our freedom and way of life. It is sobering to think that those who died were of similar ages to the players on the pitch today.

Enjoy the game
COYH

David

HONOURS

Littlewoods Challenge Cup:
Winners 1988
Runners-up 1989

F.A.Cup:
Runners-up 1959
Semi-finalists 1959, 1985, 1988, 1994

Johnstone's Paint Trophy:
Winners 2009

Simod Cup: Runners-up 1988

Football League Division Two:
Champions 1981/82
Runners-up 1954/55, 1973/74

Football League Division Three (South):
Winners 1936/37
Runners-up 1935/36

Football League Division Three:
Runners-up 1969/70

League One: Champions 2004/05

Football League Division Four:
Champions 1967/68

Football League Division Three:
Runners-up 2001/02

Blue Square Premier:
Runners-up 2009/10

Southern League Division One:
Runners-up 1894/95, 1895/96

Southern League Division Two:
Runners-up 1913/14

United League: Champions 1897/98
Runners-up 1896/97, 1900/01

Southern Alliance: Runners-up 1913/14

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RONNIE

HENRY

Welcome back to Kenilworth Road once again as we look to put Tuesday night's disappointment at Hereford behind us by bouncing back to winning ways.

I'll start by reflecting on last Saturday's home draw with Nuneaton in the FA Cup. We should have known it was going to be a similar game to the league one we'd played three weeks previous, and in the end we needed a late goal to earn a replay.

We'll go there on Tuesday night for the replay at their place confident of reaching the second round. With a home tie the prize for both clubs in the next round I'm sure it will make for an exciting game. Every club dreams of playing one of the big boys in the third round of the competition. We are no different, and a positive result next week will give us the chance to aim for such a prize.

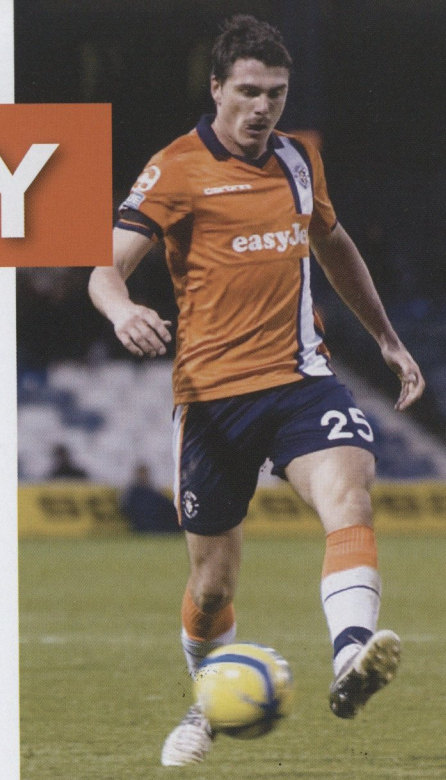
At the moment it seems as though we are facing teams who are intent on employing negative tactics. It's frustrating, but it's part of the game and one we must learn from. We know we need to deal better with teams who have this approach.

We've seen it twice with Nuneaton at home and, on Tuesday, we saw it away for the first real time this season. We were looking very comfortable at Hereford but they scored with their only shot at goal and it's flown in the top corner giving Dean Brill no chance. Before and after the goal we were bossing possession and creating numerous chances.

It isn't easy coming up against two banks for four but we want to play football the right way. However, I don't see this as a massive problem because we created enough chances to win three games on Tuesday, let alone one. As any manager or player will tell you, you only get concerned when those goal-scoring opportunities begin to dry up. With the quality we have in the team that simply isn't going to happen.

It's winning that counts, though. At the moment, to give us a chance of doing that we need to be able to score the first goal. In the past two games we haven't done that and we've been punished.

That said, on Tuesday it was almost like a training ground exercise of attack versus defence. You even see the great sides like Barcelona fail to take their chances and they lost to Celtic. I'm not for one minute comparing us to Barca, but I can imagine Messi and co. feeling exactly the same as we did on Tuesday.



Despite the defeat the mood in the camp has been great. We knew in our heart of hearts that the very least we deserved was a point at Hereford but it's important we do what we've done best this season - and that's react well to a set-back.

Today is only our 18th league game of the season and there is a lot of games to played between now and the end of the campaign. We're four points off the top of the table and anything can change.

As a group we feel that with a bit more luck we should be top of the table. Defeats against Telford, Braintree and the other night should have returned nine points, yet somehow we didn't even get one. All of us are in high spirits and the new lads have been fantastic. Jonathan Smith and Arnaud Mendy have settled in really well already.

Dartford will no doubt pose a threat but, together with your support, I know we have the ability and confidence to start another winning run today.

Your support has been incredible. For 400 of you to travel to Hereford we know that you believe like us that we can be successful this season.

Thank you for your backing, stay positive and get behind us!

Ronnie is sponsored by Mark Francome and Key Holder Lettings & Management

AROUND TOWN

THE LATEST NEWS AT KENILWORTH ROAD

CUP REPLAYS & FIXTURES CHANGES

Last Saturday's FA Cup first round draw with Nuneaton Town means the Hatters are back in action this coming Tuesday for a replay to see who hosts Dorchester Town in the second round of the competition.

Should the Town progress to the second round, Dorchester will visit Kenilworth Road on 1st December, meaning the Blue Square Bet Premier fixture with Barrow will need rescheduling.

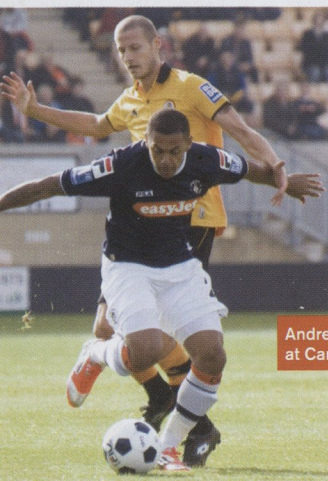
Tuesday's cup replay also means the Town's proposed televised game with Mansfield Town, scheduled for Thursday, has been restored to a Saturday 3pm kick-off, but will not be shown by Premier Sports TV. However, Premier Sports have confirmed the trip to current league leaders Newport County on 4th December will be shown live by the channel. The kick-off time will remain at 7.45pm.

Ticket information for our next three away matches can be found on page 13.

GRAY NAMED PLAYER OF THE ROUND

Andre Gray's scintillating performance at Cambridge United last month has won the striker the FA's player of the round award for the fourth qualifying round. The 21-year-old fired the Hatters into a seventh-minute lead at the Abbey Stadium before laying on Jon Shaw's goal in the second half following a terrific 50-yard run and cross. The former Hinckley United man was the clear winner of

the supporters' poll on the FA website - with 41% of the vote. It means Gray will be a guest of honour at Wembley for the FA Cup final in May.



Andre Gray in action at Cambridge

REST IN PEACE

It is with great sadness that the club were informed of the sad passing of Town fan Richard Gates aged 77.

Richard was a lifelong supporter of Luton Town, inheriting his love of the club from his father. He first started attending matches at Kenilworth Road shortly after World War II and was present through all the highs and lows that being a Luton fan brought.

Initially attending Town games with his father and brother, then later on with his daughter Rebecca, cousin Andrew as well as many other family members and friends over the years, he barely missed a game both home or away in over 50 years until illness made getting to games difficult for him.

Even then he always kept up to date with the club via the press, spending many a Saturday afternoon glued to Teletext.

With many stories to tell of his half century of support, Richard really did live and breathe Luton Town and instilled a great sense of loyalty and love for the club, its history and culture in his family and friends.

A kind, funny, caring gent, dad, husband, friend, son, and brother he will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He will always be in attendance in spirit, with the best seats in the ground.

LTSC CLUB EVENING RE-ARRANGED

Due to the FA Cup Replay against Nuneaton being played on Tuesday 13th November 2012, Luton Town Supporters' Club are sorry to announce that their planned Fans' forum event with Ronnie Henry, Jon Shaw and JJ O'Donnell, due to be held on the evening of 12th November 2012, has been postponed.

The popular event will now take place on Monday 7th January 2013. Tickets obtained for the original date will remain valid for the revised event but we would appreciate it if you could advise if you unable to attend the rearranged event.

In the meantime, the next LTSC event will be the Annual Christmas Quiz on 10th December 2012. Tickets for this event are now available priced £6 for LTSC Members and £9 for non-members. You can also join now to take advantage of the discounted price.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy birthday to Town fan Robert "Big Bob" Mayfield who is celebrating his 40th birthday in style by marrying Angela Skennerton.

Happy birthday and congratulations from everyone at Luton Town Football Club.

WELCOME JONATHAN

The Hatters strengthened their midfield on Monday by signing York City's Jonathan Smith on loan until January 5th.

The 26-year-old central midfielder had been on Paul Buckle's radar since the summer after helping Swindon to lift the League 2 title last term. Smith missed just eight games and scored three goals as the Robins swept all before them under Paolo Di Canio season.

However, he left the County Ground in the summer to re-join the Minstermen who he left in June 2011 and, so far this season, Smith has made 13 appearances for City. Capable of scoring goals - he scored 15 goals in two-and-a-half season whilst with Forest Green - Smith began his career as a youngster with Morecambe and has a fine reputation of a box-to-box midfielder.

A delighted Town boss told Talk of the Town: "Jonathan was a player I tried to sign in the summer. He played a major part in winning the title at Swindon so he gives us another winner in the squad.

"He was keen though, to stay in the Football League and we understood that, but I'm thrilled that we've been able to get him now. He joins at a time when the pitches are getting heavier and he'll give us that bit extra in the centre of midfield.

"He played a disciplined role in midfield for Swindon last season in a deeper position where he was responsible for breaking up play and protecting the

Luton Town Football Club prides itself on the passion, commitment and loyalty of our supporters. You support the Club in fantastic numbers both home and away and we will always be grateful for that fantastic support. The Club is working hard to introduce a new generation of supporters to watching matches here at Kenilworth Road by encouraging local schools and football clubs to bring groups to our home matches.

For this long-term scheme to be successful we then rely on these young fans asking their parents to bring them back to another match and to do that we need to ensure that Kenilworth Road is a safe and enjoyable environment for them to come to. Therefore the Club seeks



New signing Jonathan Smith

defence, but he still popped up with three terrific goals. Jonathan's arrival is a massive boost to us at a time when injuries and suspensions will crop up at an important segment of the season in the run up to Christmas and the New Year."

A MINUTE'S SILENCE

It's Remembrance Sunday tomorrow and in keeping with tradition we will be holding a minute's silence prior to kick-off to remember those who lost their lives serving our country at war.

The silence will also be held to remember former Town goalkeeper Milija Aleksic, who passed away last month.

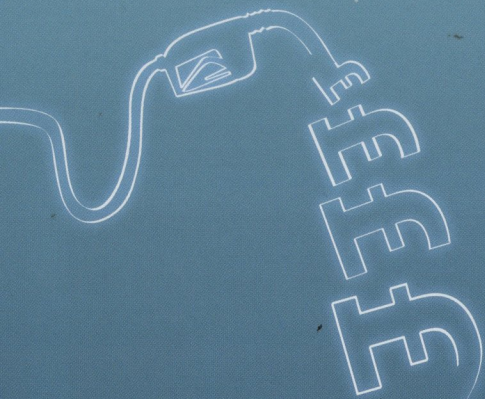
Furthermore, the players will be sporting black armbands with a red poppy which have been kindly funded by the owners of the Swan Pub in Grendon Underwood, near Aylesbury, who are avid Town fans.

the support of our existing fans in doing just that, and one way you can really make a difference and to help us create the next generation of Luton Town fans is to please mind your language.

Foul and abusive language is unacceptable - as is discriminatory language or actions of any kind. To help us eradicate such language and behaviour from our stadium, please report any instances directly to a steward or member of staff.

We want you all to be loud and proud and we also want our younger fans and their parents to want to come back to future games and not be put off by such bad language. COYH!

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NUNEATON TOWN v LUTON TOWN FA CUP FIRST ROUND REPLAY



TUESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2012, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

Admission will be pay on the night for Town supporters at Liberty Way. Prices: £14 adults, £10 over-60s and full-time students, £5 12-16-year-olds, £2 under-12s.



MANSFIELD TOWN v LUTON TOWN BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER



SATURDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2012, KICK-OFF 3PM

Please note the second change in date for this match. This game will not be shown on Premier Sports TV and has been moved from the Thursday back to the Saturday due to our involvement in the FA Cup. Admission is pay on the day at Field Mill for Luton Town supporters. Seating prices: £15 adults, £12 concessions, £8 11-16-year-olds, £4 under-10s



LUTON TOWN v BARROW BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER



SATURDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2012, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices. Please note, this match will be replaced with a home FA Cup tie with Dorchester Town IF we are successful in Tuesday's replay at Nuneaton.



NEWPORT COUNTY v LUTON TOWN BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER



TUESDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2012, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

This game will be screened live by Premier Sports TV. This game is all-ticket for Luton Town supporters. We have received an initial allocation of 424 seats. The full allocation of 589 will be made available should there be demand. Tickets are on sale now to season ticket holders who will be able to purchase two tickets per person until close of business on 16th November. On Saturday 17th November tickets will be available on general sale until close of business on Monday 3rd December. Seating prices: £15 adults, £11 over-60s and students, £5 under-16s, free for under-6s with a paying adult. Ambulant Disabled supporters can gain admission at the concession rate plus a carer free of charge

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB PRESENTS

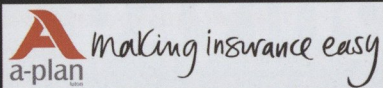


JOHN HARTSON



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COMMERCIAL BREAK

WITH DAVID HOSKINS

There's just a month to go until our eagerly-anticipated evening with John Hartson. Ticket sales have been fantastic but there are still a few spaces left. Tickets cost £60 and if you're interested please get in touch.

This afternoon I have the pleasure of welcoming a match sponsor, matchball sponsor and five mascots to today's game. Remember if you would like to be a match sponsor or if you are interested in any of our corporate hospitality package, again, please get in touch with myself at the club.

MATCH SPONSOR

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RICHARD SMITH

Richard Smith turned 60 this month and has been a lifelong Town fan. He is a teacher of many years and part-time dog sitter for his son. We wish him a happy birthday and all the luck for the Hatters in their promotion push this season from his wife Anita and son Dan.

COMMERCIAL MASCOTS

We have five commercial mascots here this afternoon. First up are brothers Liam and Niall Maddock who have come all the way from Ripon to be here today. Liam is 11 and Niall is seven and both attend matches here with their dad.

Our third and fourth mascots are also brothers. Wayne and Jackson Baldwin are nine and eight respectively and attend games at Kenilworth Road with mum, dad, granddad and, of course, each other.

Last but by no means least, we have nine-year-old Nathan Foster from Westoning. His favourite player is Jake Howells and he goes to games with his dad Damien.

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WELCOME

DARTFORD



This afternoon we welcome Blue Square Bet Premier new-boys Dartford in the first ever clash between the two sides.

After a promotion-winning campaign last season through the Blue Square South Play-Offs, Tony Burman's side have won a lot of admirers across the division for their approach to the step up. After an impressive-start to the season, which has seen them claim notable wins against Mansfield, Hereford and league leaders Newport County, the Kent side sit comfortably in the Play-Off picture.

A lot of Burman's side are part-time and he has already commented about the worry of losing a number of those part-timers to other occupations upon completion of their first season back in the top tier of non-league football.

Another worry for the Darts would be holding on to their top performers once the transfer window opens come the beginning of next year. Top scorer Harry Crawford has notched up seven league goals for the Darts already this campaign, including a magnificent treble in a 5-1 demolition of Alfreton Town back in September.

The Darts have been in peerless form at Princes Park picking up 18 points from a maximum 24. Despite their

blistering start in their own back yard, it has been on their travels they have failed to adapt to life in the Blue Square Bet Premier, picking up three points on just three occasions from their eight journeys on the road.

However, the three games they have picked up victories away from home have been against very tough opposition in the form of Grimsby Town, Braintree Town and Cambridge United. A 2-0 away success at Grimsby is a result that is likely to keep Town players and fans wary of the threat that the Darts can cause.

Experience at a higher level is no stranger to some of the Darts playing staff with the likes of Adam Green, Jon Wallis, Jacob Erskine and Mark Arber. Green made 13 appearances for Premier League Fulham during a three-year spell which also saw him make loan moves to Sheffield Wednesday, Bournemouth and Bristol City. Wallis and Erskine both have been on the books at League 2 leaders Gillingham whilst Arber, a 35-year-old South African, has spells with Tottenham Hotspur, Peterborough and Stevenage on his CV.

The Hatters will need to be on top form to see off the razor-sharp Darts as both sides look to dent eachothers' promotion push.

THE DARTS

AN AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO THE DARTFORD SQUAD

TONY BURMAN

The boss. A legend as a player at the Kent club, Burman made over 300 appearances for the Darts. He was appointed player-manager of the reformed club in 1993/94 before resigning in December 1996. However, he returned in 2004/05 and has since masterminded three promotions in the last five seasons.

LOUIS WELLS

Goalkeeper signed from Staines in November 2011. Previously had spells with Uxbridge, Maidenhead, Aldershot and Hayes.

MACRUS BETTINELLI

Talented young goalkeeper who joined the Darts this season on loan from Premier League Fulham.

STEVIE SUTTON

Young goalkeeper who has progressed through the youth ranks to be part of the first-team squad this season.

DEREN IBRAHIM

Another product of the Darts' youth set-up. Has experience having enjoyed spells with Sittingbourne and Margate, and also in Malta.

RICHARD ROSE

Versatile defender who can operate anywhere across the back four as well as in midfield. Signed in 2012 following his release from Dagenham & Redbridge and has Football League experience with Gillingham and Bristol Rovers.

MARK ARBER

Vastly experienced South African centre-half who can count Tottenham, Barnet, Peterborough, Oldham, Dagenham and Stevenage among his former clubs.

TOM CHAMPION

Former England Under-18 international midfielder who started his career with Watford. Signed for the Darts in 2010 from Braintree and has also had spells with Bishop's Stortford and Barnet.

TOM BONNER

Scotland Under-16 international who had spells as a youngster with QPR and Northampton before turning professional with Rushden & Diamonds. Signed in 2011 from Ilkeston.

ADAM GREEN

Left-back who signed for the Darts in the summer of 2011 from Hayes & Yeading. An experienced defender, he has also featured for Fulham, Sheffield Wednesday, Bournemouth, Bristol City, Grays and Woking.

NATHAN COLLIER

Defender or midfielder who joined at the start of this season having enjoyed a successful three-year spell with Hampton & Richmond.

ELLIOTT BRADBROOK

Midfielder and club captain who signed from Maidstone in 2009 and has been at the fore of the Darts' promotion campaigns in recent seasons.

LEE NOBLE

Eye-catching midfielder who signed for the Darts in the summer of 2008 from Brentwood Town.

JAMES ROGERS

Left-sided defender or midfielder in his third season at Princes Park. Signed from Margate having shot to prominence with Dover.

JOHN WALLIS

Skilful and creative midfielder who signed from Kent rivals Dover in the summer of 2011. Started his career as a youngster with Gillingham and has also played for Hereford.

LEE BURNS

A defender or striker in his fourth season with the Darts. Signed from Braintree and has gone onto become a vital member of the squad.



RYAN HAYES

The club's current longest-serving player having joined the Darts in 2004/05 from Kent League side Slade Green. Quickly established himself as a crowd favourite with his skilful wing play.

DANNY HARRIS

Former Bishop's Stortford and East Thurrock frontman who is in his fourth season with the Darts.

JACOB ERSKINE

Striker who signed for the Darts in October 2011 following his release from Hampton & Richmond. Started his career with Dagenham before spells with Gillingham and Ebbsfleet.

HARRY CRAWFORD

Striker who was on trial with the Hatters in the summer. He signed for Dartford on the eve of the season and is the club's top goalscorer this term. Started his career with Southend and is a former Republic of Ireland Under-18 international.



Established: 1888
Nickname(s): The Darts
Stadium: Princes Park
Capacity: 4,100 (Avg. attendance *12/13 - 1,331)
Manager: Tony Burman (7 years, 10 months)

Final league position '11/12: 2nd BSBS (Play-off winners)

DID YOU KNOW?

Dartford's match with Mansfield on 26th October 2012 was the club's first televised game in their history.

The term 'surprise package' has become something of a football cliché over the years, but there really is no better way to describe the case of Dartford Football Club. Darts fans would not argue against being one of the smallest clubs in the Blue Square Bet Premier, so it is staggering to see the club sitting pretty in sixth place after gaining promotion to this division last season through the Blue Square Bet South Play-Offs.

A closer look at Dartford's season so far

The Kent club have done exceptionally well this season and find themselves all the way up in sixth place with 29 points. To put that into perspective, they are just three points behind the Hatters going into today's game and should they grab a victory, they would overtake the Town. It is also worth noting that the Darts' remarkable league position comes after they lost their first three opening games this campaign.

There is reason to be cautious going into today's game given that Tony Burman's Dartford have the second best away form in the division having earned 11 points from a possible 18 away from their innovative eco-friendly stadium. Another reason to be anxious going in today's encounter is the statistical quirk which shows that have won eight of the nine games in which they've taken the lead. That may not appear to be all that significant, but when you consider the Hatters' knack for conceding first, it presents a worrying thought. In terms of individuals, ex-Luton trialist Harry Crawford has scored six goals for the Darts this season, but a red card against Forest Green on Tuesday night means he will not have a chance to show the Kenilworth Road crowd what they are missing. Burman's side, however, can score goals from other sources. In fact, no less than 14 different players have weighed in with goals already this term.

How will they play? Who are their key men?

Dartford will likely line up in a flat 4-4-2 today. Unlike most other opponents, this side are expected to come out and play rather than sitting in behind the ball trying to frustrate the Hatters.

So far this season, the Darts have shown themselves to be a very dynamic side with a great deal of energy.

They have a good blend of power and pace, and will likely make the game an enthralling contest all over the pitch. There may well be a bundle of goals in today's clash as Dartford are a very lively attacking outfit, but have conceded 10 goals in their last six games in all competitions.



Marcus Betinelli, on loan from Fulham, will start in goal. The versatile Lee Burns should start at right-back with Richard Rose on the opposite flank. In the centre of defence, Tom Bonner will partner the ever-present Mark Arber who has featured in every game in the league this term. Captain Elliot Bradbrook will be a driving force in the centre of midfield with the more creative Jon Wallis pulling the strings. On the right, the exciting Ryan Hayes will be involved heavily in the majority of Dartford's play. The skilful winger is the club's longest serving player and has been the team's outstanding player in recent times. On the other side of the pitch, right-footed Lee Noble is more likely to cut in and create chances with incisive passes and whipped crosses rather than with direct running. Up front, with loanee Adam Birchall having returned to parent club Gillingham and Crawford suspended, Danny Harris - who has three three goals in 10 games, will be joined by Jacob Erskine, who came on as a second half substitute on Tuesday night.

THOUGHTS FROM THE OAK ROAD

TALK OF THE TOWN GETS THE INSIDE WORD FROM THE VISITORS' CAMP

WHAT'S YOUR NAME? Gary Clark

AGE? 30

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SUPPORTING YOUR CLUB?

Since about 1989.

DARTFORD HAVE MADE A STORMING START TO THE SEASON. WHAT'S THE SECRET TO YOUR SUCCESS? HAS YOUR FORM SURPRISED YOU?

I think it's surprised everyone at the club - we've made a lot of progress in a short space of time. It's been a lot of fun moving up through the leagues, but nothing can compare with travelling across the country in the Blue Square Bet Premier and coming home with points!

WHO'S YOUR PLAYER TO WATCH?

We've got a good squad of players and every one of them has a role to play, but for the sheer ability to pull something out of the hat when it's needed, it'd be Ryan Hayes. Ryan joined us from the Kent League before we moved back to Dartford and he's been with us on the whole journey, and is still excelling.

WHO'S THE BEST SIDE YOU'VE FACED IN THE BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER THIS YEAR?

I was very impressed by Wrexham at the Racecourse Ground. They were the first side we came up against that I thought we were going to struggle against. Getting a point there was a really good achievement, and a hard-earned one!

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR MANAGER TONY BURMAN?

Tony's a true ambassador for our club. He was in charge of us in our first game back after our season off in 1992/93, he was at the helm for our first game back in our town in 2006, and he has been there every step of the way. Every year, people have wondered how far he could continue to take us as we've progressed and every year he has taken us further.



Darts boss Tony Burman

TODAY IS THE FIRST EVER MEETING BETWEEN LUTON AND DARTFORD. ARE YOU EXCITED? NERVOUS? OR IS IT JUST ANOTHER GAME?

It'll be nervy playing in front of a huge crowd, and it's a nice feeling to be playing on a level playing field with a side who were a top flight club as I was growing up, but ultimately, it is just another match. I'm sure myself and every other fan that travels with the Darts will enjoy ourselves.

WHAT'S THE BEST EVER DARTFORD MATCH YOU'VE WITNESSED?

It's difficult to single one out. Notable matches would be the 7-2 win over Witham Town in the Ryman League Division One North when we genuinely could have scored 15 goals, our trip to Port Vale in the FA Cup after holding them to a draw at Princes Park, and our Play-Off victory over Welling United last season.

WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT SUPPORTING YOUR CLUB?

It's the togetherness of everyone. We've had our share of tough times in the past 20 years or so, and seeing crowds back at Dartford Football Club make you feel that it might just have all been worth it.

DO YOU THINK DARTFORD HAVE THE STRENGTH IN DEPTH TO END THE SEASON IN A PLAY-OFF POSITION?

I think that if the players, the fans and the management all believe we can do it then there's a chance. There's no doubt there will be tough spells in the season but we've done well so far, so why can't we carry on and make a push for promotion?

WHAT'S THE SCORE GOING TO BE TODAY?

I hate predicting scores, but realistically an away point would be a good result. I'll go 1-1.

CLASSIC

CAMPAIGNS

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS SELECTS
10 POST-WAR DARTFORD 'CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS'

1961/62

Dartford won promotion back to the Southern League Premier Division at the first attempt in 1961/62. New player-manager Alf Ackerman led a strong attack as the Darts were top scorers with 89 goals, slamming six past Trowbridge and Tunbridge Wells and winning 5-0 against both Canterbury City and Gloucester City. Former West Ham star Malcolm Pyke was the defensive king-pin as Dartford finished third behind Wisbech Town and Poole Town. Goals by Jimmy Fletcher and Bob Taylor clinched a 2-1 FA Cup first round replay victory over Exeter City in front of 6,739 at Watling Street. The reserves won the Metropolitan League and Cup double.

1969/70

Ernie Morgan guided Dartford to promotion back to the Southern League Premier Division in 1969/70. The Darts started with an 18-match unbeaten run, hammering Trowbridge Town 8-0 and scoring five goals past both Cheltenham Town and Cambridge City. Tony Nicholas, Doug Webb and John Ripley netted 47 goals between them as Dartford finished third behind Bedford Town and Cambridge City. They also won the Kent Senior Cup for the first time in 23 years, beating Margate 5-1 on aggregate in the two-legged final, and defeated Bexley United 4-3 in the Kent Senior Shield final held over until the following season due to a backlog of fixtures.

1973/74

Dartford were Southern League champions and FA Trophy finalists in 1973/74. Ernie Morgan returned as manager after a spell at Maidstone United and Dartford raced to the top of the table, dropping just one point in their opening five games. Striker Tommy Henderson arrived from Gainsborough in mid-season and Dartford stretched their lead with eight successive home wins, clinching the title with a 3-0 victory over Guildford City. The Darts finished eight points clear of runners-up Grantham. They beat Ashford Town, Minehead, Banbury United, Weymouth and Macclesfield in the FA Trophy but lost 2-1 to Morecambe in the Wembley final.

1976/77

Dartford won the Southern League Cup for the first time in 1976/77. Roy Dwight, uncle of rock star Elton John, replaced Peter Reeves as manager. Dartford beat Ashford Town, Folkestone & Shepway, Maidstone United, Chelmsford City and Kettering Town to reach the Southern League Cup final. Leading scorer Brian Greenhalgh netted to give the Darts a 1-1 draw at Yeovil Town in the first leg before goals from skipper Vic Akers and Keith Robinson secured a 2-0 second-leg victory at Watling Street and 3-1 aggregate triumph. Dartford won 1-0 at home to champions Wimbledon but narrowly avoided relegation from the Southern League Premier Division.

1980/81

Dartford won the Southern League Southern Division title in 1980/81. The Darts were six points clear at the top by mid-November. Graham Carr left for Nuneaton the following month and Glenn Coupland replaced him as player-boss, with Dartford stretching their unbeaten run to 17 games. They trounced rivals Waterlooville 6-1 and overcame a crowded end to the season to clinch the title with a 2-2 draw at home to Poole Town but lost on penalties to Alvechurch after a 4-4 draw in the championship Play-Off. Dartford beat Slough Town, Ashington, Blyth Spartans and Altrincham en route to the FA Trophy semi-finals before losing 3-2 to Bishop's Cleeve.

1983/84

New manager John Still guided Dartford to the Southern League championship in 1983/84. The Darts made a fine start and overcame a lean spell with a 17-match unbeaten run. They beat rivals Fisher Athletic 3-1 in front of 1,591 at Watling Street in early April and drew 1-1 in the crucial return match watched by 1,812 three weeks later. Dartford clinched the title with a 2-0 win at Sutton Coldfield on the last day of the season. They also reached the Southern League Cup final, beating Chatham Town, Chelmsford City, Fisher Athletic, Hillingdon and Welling United before AP Leamington ended their hopes of the double with a 3-0 victory on aggregate.



Dartford celebrate their promotion last season

1986/87

Dartford reached the FA Trophy semi-finals for the third time in 1986/87. Former England international Peter Taylor was appointed player-manager and the Darts beat Merthyr Tydfil, Newcastle Blue Star, Runcorn and Nuneaton Borough in the FA Trophy before losing 4-1 on aggregate to Burton Albion. The disappointment of the Wembley near-miss was forgotten as goals by Kurt Davidson and Garry Britnell gave Dartford a 2-0 win over Maidstone United in the Kent Senior Cup final. They made an excellent start in the Southern League Premier Division and were amongst the front-runners for most of the season but faded to finish in fourth place.

1987/88

Peter Taylor so nearly guided Dartford to the Southern League and Cup double in 1987/88. After winning their first round group, the Darts defeated Hastings Town, Tonbridge, Cambridge City and Waterlooville to reach the Southern League Cup final, fighting back from a 3-1 first-leg deficit at Bromsgrove Rovers to win the second-leg 3-0 and triumph 4-3 on aggregate. Dartford won 11 of their last 13 Southern League games but unluckily lost the title on goal difference to Aylesbury United after the two clubs finished level on 89 points. The Darts retained the Kent Senior Cup with a 1-0 win over Maidstone United in the final at Gillingham.

DID YOU KNOW? This is actually Dartford's second visit to Kenilworth Road. The ground played host to an FA Trophy second replay in February 1972 between Dartford and Wellingborough that the Darts won 3-0.

2009/10

Dartford stormed to the Ryman League title in 2009/10. Tony Burman's side were unbeaten in their opening 15 games, including 5-0 wins at home to Kingstonian and Hendon, before losing 1-0 at home to AFC Hornchurch. They maintained their title charge but lost two consecutive matches in February including their only away defeat of the campaign, at Billericay, who then went on complete the double over Dartford as they lost three times in four games. The Darts lost just one of their final 12 matches of the season, winning nine, including a 6-2 victory at Kingstonian. They scored 101 goals overall and finished a huge 18 points clear of runners-up Sutton United.

2011/12

Dartford returned to the top level of non-league football after an absence of 26 years in 2011/12. They kicked off with a 4-0 win at Weston-Super-Mare and were unbeaten in their first six Blue Square South games. Tony Burman's side overcame an inconsistent spell to maintain their title challenge in the New Year, hammering Thurrock 6-0 and winning six out of seven matches. Six different players scored in their 6-1 demolition of Sutton United and Dartford finished runners-up to Woking after a seven-match unbeaten run. They defeated Basingstoke Town 3-1 on aggregate in the Play-Off semi-final, then beat Welling United 1-0 in the final to win promotion to the BlueSquare Bet Premier.



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TOWN 1-1 NUNEATON

The Town pile on the pressure against Nuneaton



RENDELL HEADER EARNS REPLAY

Boss Paul Buckle thought Scott Rendell's equaliser was no more than his side deserved as the Town fought back from a goal down to draw 1-1 with Nuneaton Town in the FA Cup first round.

Rendell's header six minutes from time got the Hatters' name in the hat for Sunday's second round draw when it seemed as though the visitors would hang on victory after their 20th-minute strike.

But the Town are made of stern stuff, and not to be undone, their patience paid off when Rendell popped up to head his seventh goal of the season to ensure a replay at Liberty Way in 10 days time.

"It knew it would be tough, especially after the league game we had against them," Buckle told Hatters Player afterwards. "Nuneaton took great confidence from that game. They were negative and sat back and in my opinion we thoroughly deserved to take them back to their place.

"It was obviously a worry to go a goal down but I was pleased with the players today because they remained patient. We didn't panic and didn't opt for the route one approach and I thought the fans understood that and stuck with us really well.

"We stuck at it and we got a draw. We're in the hat and we'll go there and try and finish it off."

The Town dominated the tie for long spells but, much like the league meeting three weeks ago, Buckle's side were frustrated by a wall of maroon shirts in their path.

"The problem when teams come here and sit in is that it gives our back players a lot of time on the ball," Buckle continued. "We don't like to thrash it forward, we want to play football. We did just that and stayed patient.

Probed

"I did feel as though we lacked a cutting edge, which is unlike us, but we probed and probed and probed.

"We got the equaliser – it was a great header, Scott's a threat in the 18-yard box – and I think we deserve to be in the second round draw. If the game had lasted another 10 minutes I think we might have won it."

The draw for the second round saw the Town or Nuneaton draw Blue Square Bet South Dorchester Town after the Magpies caused one of the upsets of the round by beating League 2 side Plymouth.



TOWN 1

Rendell 84



NUNEATON 1

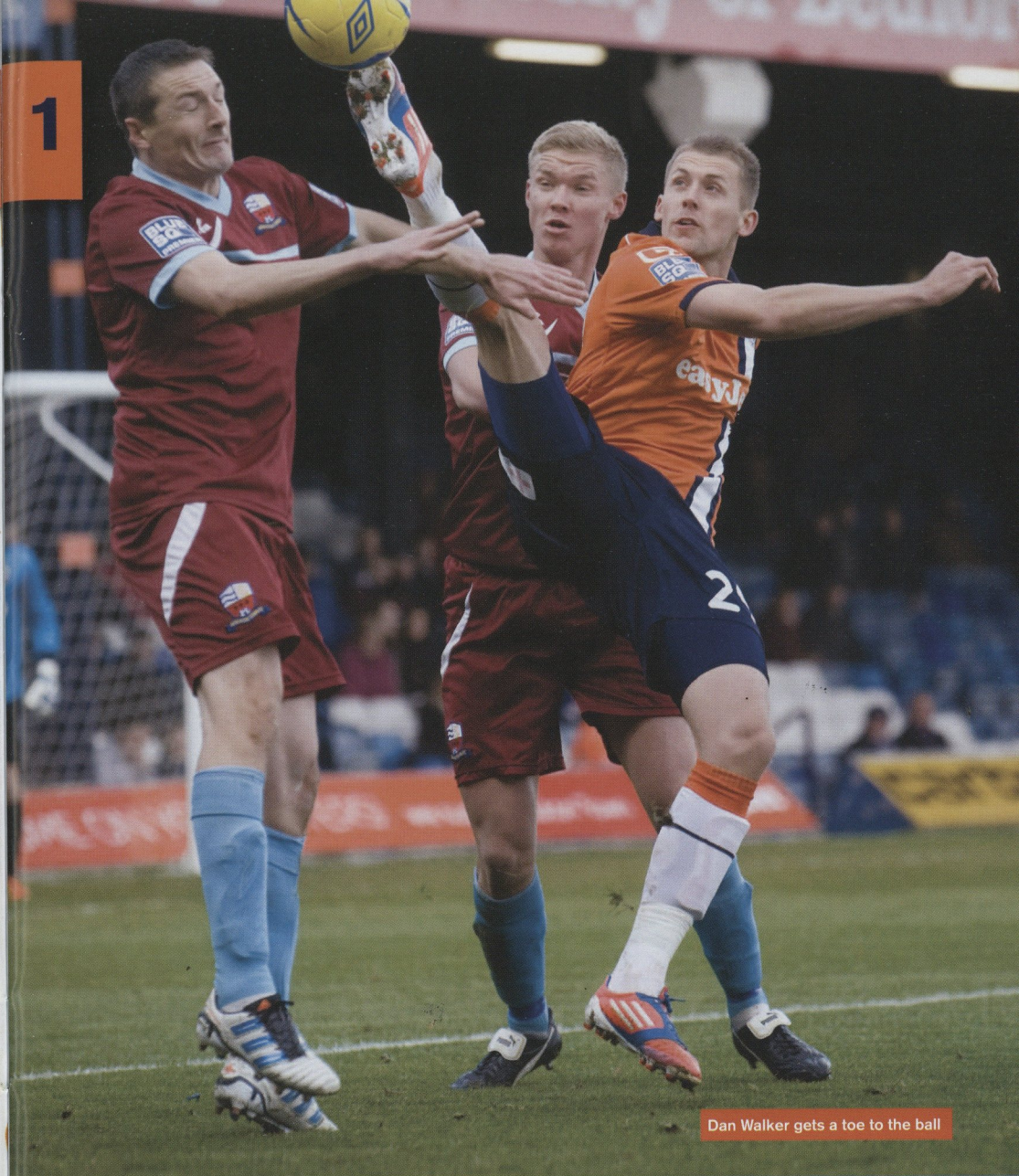
Waite 20



Andre Gray goes for goal



JJ O'Donnell bursts forward



Dan Walker gets a toe to the ball

POSSESSION		SHOTS OFF TARGET	
56%	44%	5	1
CORNERS		FOULS	
9	2	13	16
OFFSIDES		YELLOW CARDS	
5	3	1	2
SHOTS ON TARGET		RED CARDS	
7	6	0	0

TOWN: Brill, Rowe-Turner (sub J. Robinson 70), Kovacs, Henry, Howells, Mendy, O'Donnell, Rendell, Fleetwood (sub Watkins 83), Gray, Walker. **Subs not used:** Tyler, Lacey, Longden, Dance, M. Robinson

BRAINTREE: McNamara, Malaga, Cowan, Dean, Forsdick, James, McNamee (sub Armson 46), Walker, Sleath, Brown, Waite (sub Taylor 71), **Subs not used:** Gordon, O'Halloran, York, Thompson-Brown

ATTENDANCE: 3,089 (355 Nuneaton)



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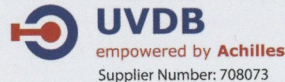
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HEREFORD 1-0 TOWN



Stuart Fleetwood goes for goal at his old stomping ground

PRESSURE DOESN'T PAY OFF

The Town fell to only their third away defeat of the season – despite dominating at Edgar Street.

The Hatters created a number of chances and were kept at bay by a string of saves from home goalkeeper James Bittner, but ultimately it was James McQuilkin's shot that won it for the hosts.

His fine curling effort 11 minutes after half-time proved to be the difference as Hereford held out in the face of a barrage of Town attacks and corners.

Stuart Fleetwood, Scott Rendell, Simon Ainge and debutant Jonathan Smith were thwarted leaving the Hatters to think on what might have been on their first trip to this part of Herefordshire since March 1977.

A frustrated Paul Buckle could not believe his side fell to defeat against the Bulls.

"I feel as though we've played well tonight," the manager said afterwards. "We've been in good form and looked in the mood this evening. It wasn't the case that we didn't come out of the traps, and we didn't look lacklustre or lethargic.

"Hereford have scored a very well taken goal and got their noses in front and after that they've looked after it and have sat in to protect it.

"It's frustrating, but if we're going to lose that's the way to do it.

"We know we can't just turn up at places like Hereford and for it to just happen, and I told the lads that before the game. We were bright, alert but I just don't know how we haven't scored!"

Under pressure

The Town found home goalkeeper James Bittner in inspired form as he kept out a number of chances and was later voted the home sponsors' man-of-the-match.

"You know you're doing something right when the opposition's keeper is man-of-the-match," Buckle said. "We were continually putting them under pressure.

"Hereford had come off the back of beating a League 1 side on Saturday so we knew it would be tough.

"But at times they were holding on for dear life, especially at the end, and I thought it was only a matter of time before we scored.

"I'm frustrated we haven't closed their man down for the goal, but I can't pick any player of mine who was poor tonight. On another day we win so it's important we don't be too despondent."



HEREFORD

1



TOWN

0

McQuilkin 56

The Hatters lay siege on the Hereford goal



Scott Rendell saw this shot saved



Lathanial Rowe-Turner on one of his breaks upfield

POSSESSION

44% 56%

CORNERS

1 12

OFFSIDES

0 4

SHOTS ON TARGET

4 12

SHOTS OFF TARGET

2 8

FOULS

11 13

YELLOW CARDS

1 1

RED CARDS

0 0

HEREFORD:

- Bittner
- Gallinagh
- Heath
- Clist
- (sub Graham 88)
- Stam
- McQuilkin
- (sub Smikle 84)
- Evans
- Clucas
- Bowman
- (sub Perry 46)
- O'Keefe
- Tood

Subs not used:

- Hanford
- Marsh

TOWN:

- Brill
- Rowe-Turner
- (sub O'Donnell 84)
- Henry
- Ainge
- Kovacs
- (sub Lawless 69)
- Smith
- Mendy
- Howells
- Rendell
- Gray
- (sub J. Robinson 70)
- Fleetwood

Subs not used:

- Tyler
- Walker

ATTENDANCE:

2,108 (372 Luton)



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JONATHAN SMITH

NEW BOY'S DISBELIEF AT HEREFORD SET-BACK

Despite a debut defeat for the Hatters, newest acquisition Jonathan Smith was upbeat about his new side's promotion push.

Manager Paul Buckle spoke of his delight in adding "another winner" to the dressing room before Tuesday night's fixture, and Smith will be looking to emulate last season's success he tasted under Paulo Di Canio at Swindon Town.

Smith made 48 appearances for the Robins as they won the League 2 crown before returning to previous club York City in the summer.

Talk of The Town caught up with the Minstermen loanee after his Edgar Street bow.

A BIT OF A WHIRLWIND 24 HOURS FOR YOU I IMAGINE JONATHAN?

Yes definitely, everything happened very quickly, but I have a lot of respect for the manager here so having the chance to come here I didn't hesitate.

WAS IT A CASE OF GETTING TO KNOW YOUR TEAM-MATES STRAIGHT AWAY?

Absolutely, I've been getting to know them pretty quickly after turning up today but they're a great set of lads helping me settle in straight away. Every single one of them made me welcome so I really appreciate that.

THE MANAGER MADE A BID FOR YOU IN THE SUMMER BUT YOU OPTED FOR YORK. WAS THAT PURELY BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO GIVE THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE ANOTHER CHANCE?

Yes and because of the distance really because I'm from up that way, but it was the chance to play in the Football League still. Obviously this has happened now and despite the loss I really enjoyed my debut.

IN A GAME WE DOMINATED LARGELY, IS IT TOUGH TO UNDERSTAND HOW WE CAME AWAY FROM THE MATCH WITHOUT REWARD?

I don't think I've played in a one-sided game like that before. It was just constant pressure from ourselves but unfortunately we just couldn't get the breakthrough. Then Hereford have had one shot and bang, we're 1-0 down. There were times where they've got five or six guys on the line it just wasn't our night.

WHAT DID THE MANAGER SAY TO YOU BEFORE HAND?

Paul was really good with me, he just encouraged me to go out there and play my own game. He believed in me and just trusted me to go out there and do my own thing.

YOU HAD A HEADER SAVED FROM THE KEEPER WHO SEEMED TO BE UNBEATABLE ON THE NIGHT?

Yes there were times like I've said where they've got bodies on the line and I've come off the pitch still wondering how we've lost the game. I'm shocked to come off losing and I don't like losing so we all the lads need to stay positive for Saturday.

The Town's number 24 will be looking to make his home debut this afternoon against Dartford as he looks to rekindle the form that saw him make a significant contribution to Swindon's championship winning side as he and his fellow Hatters look to revamp their title ambitions.



CENTRE SPOT



Scott Rendell heads the Hatters' equaliser against Nuneaton last Saturday

PICTURE

THE PAST

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



Ahmet Brkovic levels the score during the Town's last trip to Watford in April 2006.

TOWN TREASURES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES DEEP INTO HIS VAST COLLECTION OF HATTERS MEMORABILIA

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IMPORTANT

The Directors desire to draw the attention of supporters to the fact that seats for the Centre Stand at 3/6 each, can be booked in advance for all League III matches. All applications for same should be made to the Secretary, Luton Town Football Club, 84 Kenilworth Road, Luton.

Numerous applications for these tickets have been made by Coventry City supporters on the occasion of our League III match with Coventry City on April 25th inst. As these applications will be dealt with in strict rotation as received the Directors desire to bring this information to the notice of our regular local supporters in the hope that they will not delay making their applications until all the tickets for this match have been sold.

We are presenting at each match, to two holders of programmes, a ticket which will enable them to obtain free admission to the Grand Stand at the following match (Cop ties and Special Matches excepted) that is to be played on this ground.

A board will be taken round the ground during the interval intimating the numbers that have been selected, and holders, who are requested to make personal bearing these numbers, are requested to make personal application at the office of the Club immediately after the termination of the match, in order to claim these tickets.

Next Match, Tuesday April 14th.

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FIXTURES 1935-6

RESERVE FIXTURES

League III (Southern)	Reserve	League III (Southern)	Reserve
Wed. Sept. 2 Reading v. Luton	11 A 0 3	Mon. Sept. 1 Watford v. Luton	4 1 H 4
Fri. Sept. 4 Luton v. Watford	1 1 A 0 0	Wed. Sept. 3 Charlton Athletic v. Luton	2 1 H 1
Sat. Sept. 5 Watford v. Luton	1 1 H 0 0	Mon. Sept. 5 Luton v. Charlton Athletic	4 1 H 4
Sat. Sept. 12 Luton v. Watford	1 1 A 0 0	Wed. Sept. 7 Luton v. Watford	1 1 A 0 0
Sat. Sept. 19 Watford v. Luton	1 1 H 0 0	Mon. Sept. 9 Watford v. Luton	4 1 H 4
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THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE

Training 1940's style, with heavy medicine balls being slung around in those far off days before Health and Safety legislation!



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JAKE HOWELLS

200 UP!

It's hard to believe that Jake Howells is still only 21. Yet last Saturday the Town's longest-serving player clocked up his 200th appearance in Luton colours.

Naturally the product of the Hatters' youth system came up with the goods, his perfectly-flighted right-wing free-kick finding the head of Scott Rendell that set-up a replay against a defensive-minded Nuneaton Town.

They say that time flies when you're having fun and, as Jake explains to Talk of the Town, he's loved every minute of his career at Kenilworth Road so far.

"I'm proud to have played 200 times for Luton Town," he says. "Not many players my age get to play so many games by the time they're 21. It's a real honour and privilege to play for Luton and I've really enjoyed it."

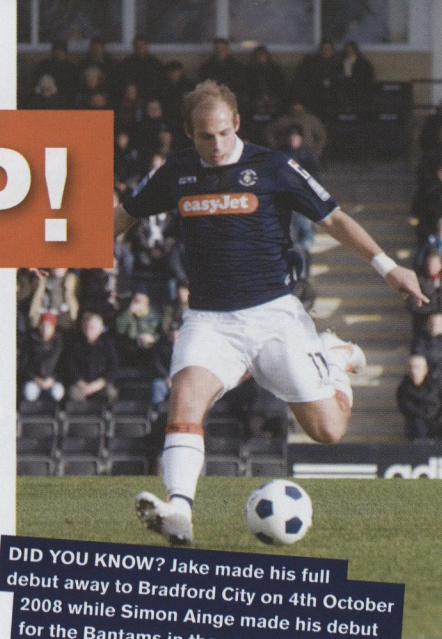
Howells broke onto the scene as a 17-year-old at the tail end of the 2007/08 season when given his debut by Mick Harford as a second-half substitute against Huddersfield. The following season – still as a second-year scholar – he was a mainstay in the Town side that ultimately fell to relegation after a 30-point deduction.

However that disappointment, together with almost 40 games experience, helped young Howells to develop into the player he's become today.

"I still remember by debut," he says. "I came on and had Don Hutchinson playing alongside me which was great but I was just running on adrenaline, it was an amazing feeling. The next season Mick Harford put faith in me. We have injuries to Sol Davis and Lewis Emanuel at the time and I made my full debut in front of 13,000 away at Bradford City. To play as many games as I did that season was incredible, especially as I was just 18 at the time. The only disappointing thing was not to be involved in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final. Mick

pulled me to one side in the week and told me and while I was really disappointed it was still a great time to be around the club and to win it was just fantastic.

"I always wanted to play at Wembley and I was a proud man when I got to play there last season but that's another story."



DID YOU KNOW? Jake made his full debut away to Bradford City on 4th October 2008 while Simon Ainge made his debut for the Bantams in the same game.

Spotted by Chris Cummins as a left-midfielder in his hometown Hemel Hempstead, Jake was snapped up by the Hatters when playing for his local side as the only player in the team not signed up by a professional club. Having impressed everyone at Kenilworth Road at the end of the 2008/09 campaign, it came as no surprise when Howells signed his first professional contract.

"You ask any players what the highlight of being a young footballer is and they'll tell you it was signing your first professional contract," says Howells.

"It was a great feeling and I knew that Luton was the right club. When I first came to the club as a scholar I chose Luton because of their track record with young players such as Curtis Davies and Leon Barnett.

"I'm still young and still learning. Every game is a new experience and I've played under different managers and played with different players. It's that day-to-day learning experience which is so important and I'm sure I will continue to keep picking up new things as my career progresses. The new gaffer has been brilliant to me and helped me out lots and Alan Neilson deserves a lot of credit because he's always working hard to try and improve every player, me included."

If selected today it'll be appearance number 202 for the Wales Under-21 international. But what's his career highlights so far in a Luton shirt?

"The FA Cup games against Charlton and Southampton were special, as were the Play-Off games against Wrexham," he says. "Hopefully they'll be a new highlight come the end of this season."

JAKE HOWELLS

- AGE: 21
- APPEARANCES: 201
- GOALS: 17

DEBUT v HUDDERSFIELD TOWN 3/5/08
FIRST GOAL v CAMBRIDGE UNITED 28/9/08

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ON THIS DAY

NOVEMBER 10

THE RECORD

Remember, remember the 10th of November. But in truth it has been far from a memorable day in history for the Hatters, given they have won just four times in 12 attempts on this day. Three have been lost and five have been drawn.

GOALS ON THE MENU

In the 12 games, the Town have scored 19 and conceded 22 giving a total of 41 goals scored in matches played on this date. That works out at an exciting 3.41 goals per game. The Hatters have failed to score in three of the games and have kept two clean sheets.

DERBY DRAWS

The Town have twice met local rivals Watford on 10th November. Back in 1923, the Hatters held the Hornets to a goalless draw in Division 3 South. Eleven years later it ended all square once more as the two sides played out a 2-2 draw. George Stephenson and Jack Ball hit the target for the Town in front of 11,260 at Kenilworth Road.

GR-EIGHT!

Twice on this day the Hatters have won eight-goal thrillers, coming out 5-3 on each occasion in victories over Crystal Palace and Sheffield Wednesday. In 1938, Palace were seen off at Kenilworth Road with two goals apiece from Lewis Bedford and Jimmy Yardley and one from Andy Rennie. Then, in 1951, Wednesday were brushed aside thanks to two goals from Bert Mitchell and further strikes from Roy Davies, Jack Taylor and Bob Morton.

THE ROAD TO PROMOTION

The Hatters won promotion to the top flight for the second time in their history in 1973/74 and two valuable points earned along the way came at home to Bolton on this day in 1973. The Town trailed to a 37th-minute goal before John Aston saw a penalty saved from Bolton 'keeper Barry Siddall. The Trotters' keeper then stopped Jim Ryan's spot-kick five minutes later – only for the Town man to equalise from the rebound. With three minutes to spare an own goal won it for the Hatters.

TOP-FLIGHT RECORD

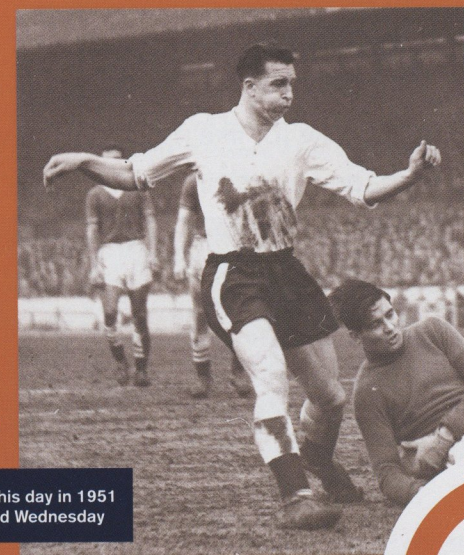
It's played three, won none, drawn one and lost two for the Town on this day in the top-flight. A 1-1 draw at home to Preston North End in 1956 was followed by heavy defeats at Norwich (0-3) and Liverpool (0-4) in 1984 and 1990 respectively. At Anfield, the Hatters trailed 2-0 after just nine minutes.

LAST TASTE OF VICTORY

The Hatters have not won on this day since 1998 when a solitary strike from striker Phil Gray nine minutes from time saw off Barnsley in the League Cup at Kenilworth Road. The win secured the Town's place in the quarter-final of the competition having already seen off Oxford, Ipswich and then Premier League Coventry in style in the previous three rounds.

LAST TIME OUT

It's been five years since the Town last played on 10th November when they drew 1-1 in an FA Cup first round tie with Brentford at Kenilworth Road. Calvin Andrew hit the equaliser for the Hatters 11 minutes from time to cancel out a 20th-minute opener from the Bees' Charlie Ide. The Town won the replay at Griffin Park 2-0 before going onto reach the third round and holding Liverpool to a 1-1 draw at Kenilworth Road.



Bob Morton: Scored on this day in 1951 in a 5-3 win over Sheffield Wednesday

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THE **NON-LEAGUE** PAPER

ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

WITH STUART HAMMONDS
CHIEF REPORTER, THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

Critics of football's loan market are many, and I have been one of them when a team lends a player to a club in the same division, but heavily subsidises their wages.

See Emmanuel Adebayor's spell at Tottenham last year, when Manchester City were still paying him a six-figure sum each week to beat other teams in competition with them, but sit helplessly on the sidelines when the parent and loaning club met.

It happens in non-league, too, but two goals on FA Cup first round weekend underlined for me the importance of the loan system when used in the correct manner.

I travelled down to Dorset on Sunday to see Dorchester beat Plymouth Argyle 1-0 in a West Country derby. The winning goal was scored soon after half-time by Jake Gosling, a 19-year-old left-footer who caused the Pilgrims problems all afternoon cutting in from the right-flank. Gosling was released by Plymouth at 16, then studied at Gloucestershire's Hartpury College for a year before being offered a second chance in League football by Exeter City.

The Grecians have loaned both Gosling and striker Jamie Reid to Dorchester to gain experience in Blue Square Bet South, and Sunday would have been a major lesson in both of the teenagers' development, even if the latter didn't get off the bench.

When they were offered professional terms at St James' Park last April, a press release on the Hartpury website describes the highlight of Gosling's career up to then as scoring the winning goal against Cambridge

United that sealed the City kids an FA Youth Cup tie against Blackpool.

It's safe to say that can be rewritten now! The night before the game he would have dreamt of it turning out like it did, reminding the club that let him go exactly what a talent he is. The emotion he showed when he celebrated with his family and friends in the 3,000 crowd right next to me at the end suggested it was shared.

When he departs the Avenue Stadium to head back to Devon, the Grecians will find they've got a completely different player and person on their books, I'm sure, such is the lift success in 'real' men's football can provide.

I was also delighted to see Adam Birchall tap Gillingham's fourth goal over the line in the final minute of the League 2 leaders' 4-0 hammering of Scunthorpe. About to turn 28, the pint-sized striker is already well-versed in League football with Arsenal, Mansfield and Barnet. But having rebuilt his career once in non-league having been released by the Bees, he needed to rebuild his fitness after injury delayed the kick-off of his Gills career by a year.

A month with Dartford in the BSB Premier got him back on the scoresheet and, more importantly, a teamsheet. After four starts and two sub run-outs at Princes Park, he returned to Priestfield with a bang on Bonfire weekend.

Hopefully now he will go on to have the prolific League career his endeavours in that 45-goal 2010/11 campaign at Dover deserve.



Celebrations for Dorchester after Jake Gosling's strike against Plymouth

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University of Bedfordshire

A SEASON'S

STORY

PART FOUR BY DAVID CAIN

THE FINAL MATCH

What if this was it? What if our season ended today? Would you settle for that? Would you take being frozen in third place? Being left forever in the cup draw?

But what if this really was it? No cup replay to look forward to on Tuesday. No news of when the next whistle will sound. No place left to sing our songs.

It's hard to contemplate isn't it? There is, of course, nothing to fear. Tuesday will follow Saturday, will follow Tuesday. Dartford will be followed by Nuneaton (again), by Mansfield Town. Our story will go on because that is what football does. It carries on.

At least that is the way it is supposed to be, but as we all know life can change dramatically.

The seasons suddenly scrubbed out in 1915 and 1940. Boys who would become men, and men who were just boys, leaving the ground one last time and going to war.

Worth remembering

During today's minute's silence, in remembrance of all who have died in war, it is hard not to turn your mind towards those players and fans of yesteryear. People like us who stood in our shoes. Each unawares their last match was to be the end of so much more than 90 minutes.

There are some things worth remembering. All the people from our town, who have died in conflict, and continue to do so. Players such our own as Joe Coen who turned out more than 150 times for the Hatters in goal between the wars.

When conflict came Joe trained be a pilot. Tragically, he was killed on 15th October 1941. His sacrifice commemorated, alongside fellow Town men Ernest Dodd, Arthur Wileman, Frank Gilder, Charlie Clark, James Gillespie and Charles Ladd, by a plaque in the John Moore Lounge at Kenilworth Road.



The plaque inside the John Moore Lounge honouring those players who died in action

The story of a season is a long one. There is time enough to spare a thought for those that never got the chance to play, or watch, again. Time too, to cheer when the whistle sounds again today and the silence ends. Happy in the knowledge that, whatever happens, it really is only a game.

FROM THE PRESS BOX

WITH BBC THREE COUNTIES RADIO'S SIMON OXLEY

Covering Luton Town in five divisions down the years has meant a fair share of ups and downs. From the high of the Baseball Ground in 1990 to the low of relegation out of the Football League. One thing though, has remained constant - the need for a new ground.

So here we are again talking relocation, and there's been more relocation talk surrounding the Hatters than even Phil and Kirstie could manage.

When I first came to Kenilworth Road, talk of Sundon Springs was all the rage, with what was regarded then as a space-age stadium design proudly displayed across the front page of the Luton Herald. That proposed move came and went, and then chairman Brian Cole mooted the idea of Butterfield Green at Stopsley. That too faded away.

Preferred location

A council-backed working party, chaired by former Vauxhall director and Hatters fan Eric Fountain, then decided that land by junction 10 was the "preferred location" and that led us to the Kohlerdome. I was working at the club at that time, and it was certainly a scheme that got people talking. For all the criticism David Kohler received, he put his heart and soul into that project.

The idea of a moveable pitch even made it on to 'News at Ten'; we had public meetings - one quite a noisy affair at Vauxhall as I recall; and a week-long display in the Arndale; followed by council meetings, and onto a public inquiry. When the lawyer for the Department of Transport stood up in London's High Court and said that they would oppose anything being built on that land before the motorway was widened, and the slip-road improved, the stadium scheme was doomed.

Milton Keynes came back into the equation, on land where Stadium MK now sits, and after brief talk of a stadium with a Formula One track - say no more - attention switched to land two junctions up the M1 at junction 12.

Throw into the equation the Vauxhall site, and we've pretty much covered all bases. Still the suggestions come of course, and as Gary Sweet admitted in a recent 3CR interview, there

are lots of Google Earth experts out there.

It was frustrating back in 1990. Derby weren't far off moving, and as Hatters fans continued to tick off new stadiums up and down the country, there was even the 'salt in the wound' of being part of Middlesbrough's farewell to Ayresome Park.

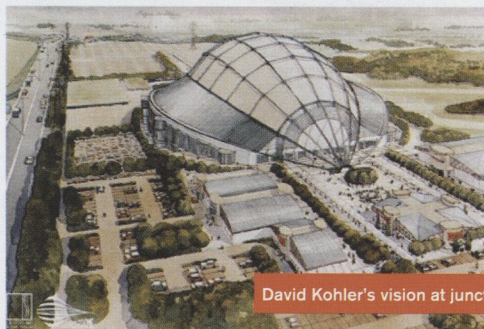
So where now? The M1 has been widened and the slip-road improved. Junction 10 anybody? Stopsley has a sports village, but no stadium.

Special memories

Gary and his colleagues are working hard to examine all possibilities, with plans to improve Kenilworth Road in the meantime. A stand to replace the executive boxes is being considered, and that would be a stand that can then be taken to a new site when the club eventually moves.

Surely there's a location out there somewhere, but whenever it happens it will be emotional. For all the lack of parking, cramped seats, and obstructed views, Kenilworth Road is still home, evoking so many special memories. I can vividly recall that day at Middlesbrough as fans sat there long after the final whistle had gone, taking one last long look around. Even the most jobsworth of stewards didn't dare ask them to move.

Speaking of moves, there are some changes in the sports department at BBC 3CR. Geoff Doyle, who followed the Hatters with Ian Pearce during Joe Kinnear's time here, is returning to become Sports Editor. I am staying at 3CR, with a role combining news and hopefully sport as well.



David Kohler's vision at junction 10

THE PRESS OFFICE PICTURE

WITH ANDREW BARRINGER

REMEMBRANCE

They say that you should live every day as if it's your last and, on Remembrance Weekend, there will be a poignant reminder before kick-off when we stand for a minute's silence to remember those lost at battle.

The subject got me thinking about landmarks and loyalty in football and how time flies. Take Jake Howells for instance - only 21 yet, as you'll read elsewhere in this programme, has already clocked up his 200th appearance for the Hatters.

Dean Brill made his 100th appearance for the club in Tuesday's defeat at Hereford while new signing Jonathan Smith took his first steps as a Luton player when making an eye-catching debut at Edgar Street.

As Jake told this programme time does fly and, in this day and digital age, it's not often we take time out to reflect. But when we fall silent moments before three o'clock it will give everybody the opportunity to blank out all of life's pressures and problems and remember what's really important.

LANDMARKS

Talking of landmark appearances for players and how quickly time has passed since Jake made his Town debut all those years ago, next week will be four years since I first took up residence in the press box reporting on the Hatters.

A 3-1 FA Cup defeat to Southend in 2008 kicked it all off for me and I've never looked back since, despite traffic jams and illness trying to stop me.



Alex Lawless: The saviour at Welling!

Friday night trips to Stockport and Grimsby have seen me snarled up on our roads and I remember fever-like symptoms almost saw me throw in the towel for a midweek FA Trophy trip to Welling two seasons back. It's not the most exotic of memories but Alex Lawless' injury-time winner to prevent 30 minutes extra-time felt like bliss.

I haven't totted up the amount of consecutive games that all adds up to since that defeat at Roots Hall but it's a drop in the ocean compared to the army of loyal Town fans that travel around the country.

The lengths our supporters go to see us in action is quite simply unbelievable and to have almost 400 fans at Hereford on a cold November night this week backs that up.

And, out of how ever many games I've now seen, that was one of the most one-sided games I've seen a team lose...well, that was until Celtic beat Barcelona on Wednesday.

APP UPDATE

I'd like to stress that despite radio reports on Tuesday we have not released an official app. Our marketing team have been busy developing an official app available for everyone to use. Remember, if you don't read it in this programme or on our official website then it's not true!

SUPER JOHN

I can't wait for next month's Evening with John Hartson Dinner - and I have been ever since I was told by our commercial manager David Hoskins that John would be our guest speaker.

It promises to be a great night and I'm hugely intrigued to hear what John has to say about his life and, of course, how his football career all started here at Kenilworth Road.

I was two weeks away from turning 11 at the time but I will never forget the pandemonium inside Kenilworth Road the night when he opened the scoring against Newcastle to burst onto the scene. Super John was born!



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LUTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

ACADEMY UPDATE

WITH MATT STANNARD

CULTURE AND PHILOSOPHY

It's common knowledge that not every player in our academy programme will go on and make a first-team appearance and, therefore, it is important that our culture reflects this.

Our coaching staff will do everything they can in pushing players to reach their potential, in a holistic manner. We focus on every element of football from technical, tactical, physical, psychological and social with the view that, if a player does unfortunately leave our programme, they are not only better footballers but good all-round people.

As a minimum, academy football teaches you the technical and tactical elements but more importantly for life outside of the game, it teaches you discipline, perseverance, communication, competitiveness and confidence, to give just a few examples.

Holistic approach

Coaches at the academy end of football have it drummed into their heads at a very early stage of their careers, that this holistic approach is more important than winning games. Don't get me wrong, it's nice to win and we all want to! It gives you a good indication as to where you are in relation to opposition teams, but I will stand by this comment, as development football for me, is about the holistic development of individual players within the team.

"Winning is not everything – but making the effort to win is."

Vince Lombardi

For those of you who were able to support our Under-18s in their recent FA Youth Cup exit at the hands of Stevenage, what we saw was a group of young men in a technical and tactical battle with a very strong opposition. Going into half-time at 1-0 down wasn't in the plan, but the reaction we showed in the second half was the pinnacle of what we try and achieve at this football club. Kids make mistakes, we accept and acknowledge that, but you can't deny the attitude and perseverance of the lads was nothing short of brilliant.



Jordan Davis: Came close against Stevenage and impressing for the Under-18s this season

They gave everything they could to turn that game around and, in all honesty, were the better side for large majority of the second half.

It seems a strange thing to say maybe, having lost the game 3-0 but I refer to my earlier comment that winning is not everything in youth development football, but the attitude and will to work and excel; these things are so much more important than the game itself.

The majority of the lads will play again in the competition next year.

The seven first-year scholars we had in the starting XI will be backed up by a strong group of Under-16s that are currently coming through the ranks and performing well, week in week out.

For now, we focus on getting as many of the boys ready for first-team football as soon as possible, either this year or next.

Enjoy the game!

Matt Stannard is the Hatters' Head of Youth Operations

YOUTH FIXTURES

PUMA YOUTH ALLIANCE UNDER-18 SOUTH-EAST FIXTURES - SEASON 2012 - 2013

AUGUST

Sat 11	Leyton Orient	A	L 0-2	
Sat 18	Dagenham & Redbridge	H	L 2-3	Jibodu (pen), Smith
Sat 25	Stevenage	A	W 3-2	McKenzie-Lowe, (og), Amu

SEPTEMBER

Sat 01	Peterborough United	A	W 2-0	McKenzie-Lowe, own goal
Wed 18	AFC Kempston Rovers	A	W4-0	McKenzie-Lowe 2, Amu 2
Sat 22	Milton Keynes Dons	A	D 2-2	Amu, Smith (pen)
Sat 29	Northampton Town	H	D 1-1	Davis

OCTOBER

Wed 03	P'boro Northern Star	H	W 6-0	Banton 3, Amu, McKenzie-Lowe, Trotman
Sat 06	Stevenage	A	L 2-3	Smith 2 (1 pen)
Sat 13	Northampton Town	H	D 0-0	
Wed 17	Barton Rovers	H	W 3-1	FAYC
Sat 20	Watford	H	L 0-3	
Sat 27	Peterborough United	H	L 2-6	McKenzie-Lowe, Banton
Tue 30	Stevenage	H	L 0-3	

NOVEMBER

Sat 03	Milton Keynes Dons	H	L 2-4	Banton, Amu
Sat 24				In Service Training

DECEMBER

Sat 01	Peterborough United	H	11.00am	
Sat 08	Northampton Town	A	11.00am	

JANUARY

Sat 10	Milton Keynes Dons	H	11.00am	
Sat 19			South Cup 2	
Sat 26	Leyton Orient	H	11.00am	

FEBRUARY

Sat 02	Dagenham & Redbridge	A	11.00am	
Sat 09	Stevenage	H	11.00am	
Sat 16			South Cup 3	
Sat 23	Aldershot Town	A	11.00am	

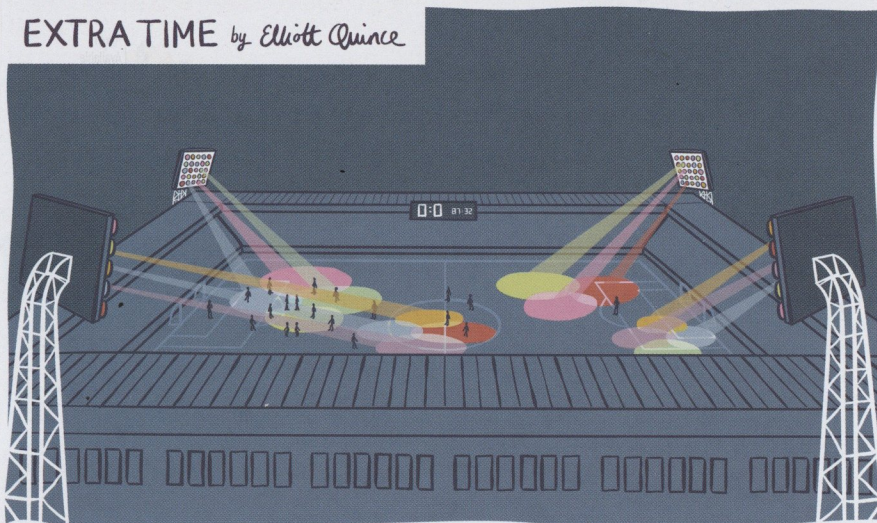
MARCH

Sat 02	AFC Wimbledon	H	11.00am	
Sat 09	AFC Wimbledon	A	11.00am	
Sat 16	Southend United	H	11.00am	
Sat 23	Portsmouth	A	11.00am	

APRIL

Sat 06	Gillingham	H	11.00am	
Sat 13	Crawley Town	A	11.00am	

EXTRA TIME *by Elliott Quince*



With the game petering out to a goalless draw the groundsman decided to liven things up by switching to disco mode

YOUTH LATEST

YOUNGSTERS EXIT YOUTH CUP

The Hatters Youth Team entertained the MK Dons in the last round of games in the League Cup competition on Saturday and a high-tempo, entertaining game finished with the Dons winning 4-2 to progress to the knock-out stages.

An end-to-end first half somehow finished with just one goal scored by the Dons to take them into the lead at the break. The Hatters' best of many chances came when Jerome Jibodu missed a penalty just prior to the break.

Zane Banton struck back for the Hatters early in the second half with MK Dons quickly regaining their lead. After a number of chances for both teams, the impressive Arel Amu fired the home side level on 61 minutes.

The Dons got their noses back in from in the 69th minute before a controversial penalty 10 minutes later enabled them to open up a two-goal lead, which they retained until the end of the game.

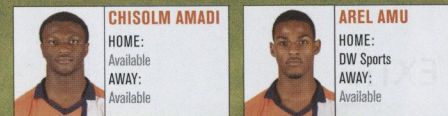
Boss Paul Driver said afterwards: "It's obviously not been a good week for results for us with the Youth Cup exit in the week and now the League Cup. In both games, we have created a mass of chances but only converted two and, ultimately, that has been our big downfall this week.

On the plus side, there were some very good individual performances. Josh Carpenter did well in goal to keep us in the game when they were a goal up, and both Darill Ngwala and Arel Amu had excellent games and are both progressing really well at the moment."

Town: Carpenter, Burtenshaw, Jibodu, Smith, Magurashu (sub Galliford 46), Triallist, Chabata (sub Hawkes 85), Davis (sub Rees 69), Ngwala, Banton, Amu. **Subs not used:** Pittfield, Reading.

2012/13 YOUTH TEAM

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YOUNG

STARS



Zak Stephens:
A big fan of the fans

NAME: Zak Stephens

AGE: 18

POSITION: Central defender

TIME SPENT WITH LUTON TOWN / WHEN JOINED:

One year.

WHAT PART OF YOUR GAME DO YOU CONSIDER THE BEST?

My defending and passing.

WHAT PART OF YOUR GAME DO YOU WANT TO IMPROVE THIS SEASON?

My endurance and communication.

WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT PLAYING FOR LUTON TOWN?

The big fanbase.

WHO ARE YOUR FOOTBALL IDOLS?

John Terry.

WHO HAS HAD THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER SO FAR?

My mum and dad.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE?

To become a professional footballer and play at Football League standard.

WHO ARE YOUR FAVOURITE ALL-TIME PLAYERS?

Thierry Henry and David Beckham.

WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS THIS SEASON? HAVE YOU SET YOURSELF ANY TARGETS?

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Why Luton Town?

Luton Town have a proven track record of producing players to play at the highest level. We have **two** of our Ex-Youth players in the England squad, and **eight** playing in the Premiership. For more details visit lutontown.co.uk.

How much does it cost?

The cost of the two days will be £70 per player. Please note that all participants must submit payment with their application forms. Payment needs to be in £ sterling. All cheques or postal orders must be made payable to "Luton Town FC Community Trust." Bank Transfers can be arranged; Details on request.

The Cost of the Trial Includes:

- A full days training with UEFA A Licence coaches. The training consists of a practice's providing an experience of life as a Professional Footballer.
- Lunch on both days.
- A Luton Town official training t-shirt.
- Minimum 60 minutes match time at our Baldock Arena Training Ground.
- Individual written feedback on your performance.
- The opportunity to gain a contract at Luton Town FC.

Both days will be held at Luton Town's Academy Training Ground.
Address: Baldock Arena, Norton Rd, Baldock SG7 5AU

Accommodation and Transport?

Participants must organise any required accommodation and transport for both days.

Will I receive Confirmation?

Yes, you will receive confirmation by email, within 28 days.

What will happen over the two days? (subject to change)

Thursday 21 st December 2012	Friday 22 nd December
09.30 Arrive at Baldock Arena	09.30 Arrive at Baldock Arena
10.00 Endurance Tests and 6 v 6 SSG's	09.45 Warm-Ups
12.00 Lunch	10.30 Match 1 Kick Off
13.00 Small Sided Games - 8 v 8	12.45 Match 1 Feedback
14.00 11 v 11 Preparation and Games	13.00 Match 2 Kick Off
15.30 Finish	15.00 Match 2 Feedback
	15.30 Finish



What will happen if I Cancel?
Please note that if you have to withdraw from the event due to injury or other commitments, the £70 paid is refundable less a £15 administrative cost, as long as you notify us of your withdrawal prior to the 5th Dec. 2012. If you notify us on or after 5th Dec 2012 or simply fail to attend you will not be eligible for any form of refund. This will not be negotiable.

Please complete the following slip and three attached forms (Player Profile, Declaration of Fitness & Medical Details) and return them together with a £ cheque or postal order for £70 made payable to "Luton Town F.C. Community Trust" (please put your full name plus December 2012 Trials on the reverse of the cheque)

Please send to Phil Simons, Luton Town Youth Development, Kenilworth Stadium, Luton, Beds, LU4 8AW.

Name: Date of Birth:

Address:

Postcode:

Home Tel : Mobile:

Email:

T-Shirt Size(S,M,L,X/L)..... I enclose payment of £

Please book early to avoid disappointment, there will be a limit on places so first come first

#NONSENSEINFOOTBALL

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AND THAT WOULD HAVE
BEEN A GOAL."

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LEAGUE

LOOK

JOE FLEMONS ROUNDS-UP THE LATEST IN THE BSBP

Newport County capitalised on the Town's slip up to cement their spot at the peak of the non-league ladder.

Aaron O'Connor lashed in a brace against Cambridge United in a 6-2 demolition for the Exiles. O'Connor's 11th and 12th of the campaign opened up a four-point gap at the summit of the Blue Square Premier.

Second-placed Wrexham leapfrogged the Hatters with a 4-1 away win at Southport. Jay Harris' 25-yarder levelled the score after Southport's Godfrey Poku received his marching orders for two bookings and Andy Morrell's ruthless Dragons made the one-man advantage count as they dominated the second half.

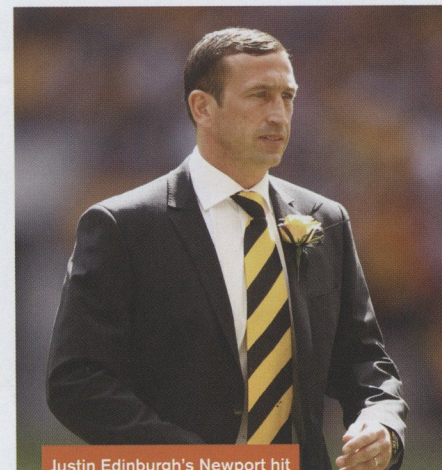
Forest Green Rovers were triumphant over promotion rivals and today's visitors Dartford in a close encounter at the New Lawn as a solitary Yan Klukowski effort sealed the three points. Harry Crawford will be forced to sit out his side's visit today as he saw red in a fiery encounter between the two sides sitting in fifth and sixth place.

Macclesfield Town's fine form continued as they stretched their winning run to four at the expense of Tamworth. Amari Morgan-Smith put the Silkmen in front before Ryan Jackson sealed a 2-0 win. That result came after their cup heroics against Paulo Di Canio's Swindon a week earlier.

Former Hatters' continued to increase their tallies as Liam Hatch produced the goods for Gateshead in an impressive 2-0 home win against Alfreton Town which put the Heed firmly back in the promotion hunt.

A Danny Hattersley double against Barrow ensured Stockport County left Edgeley Park with all three points to keep their rise on the rails, whilst AFC Telford were held to a 2-2 draw by relegation-threatened Ebbsfleet United. Steve Jones had the chance to grab the victory for the Bucks but he failed to convert from the sport as the game finished level.

Nuneaton followed up their FA Cup draw with the Hatters with another draw on Tuesday, against Mansfield Town. The Stags' Nick Wright ensured a share of the spoils as Kevin Wilkin's Boro remain at the foot of the table.



Justin Edinburgh's Newport hit Cambridge for six on Tuesday

Lincoln were the big climbers this week after their midweek encounter with fellow strugglers Braintree ended with City victorious by a three-goal margin. Lincoln's recent form has seen them rise clear of trouble and the Imps are now look up rather than down as their season's aspirations grow on a game-to-game basis. Goals from Andrew Boyce and Jamie Taylor added to Gavin Massey's own goal left Braintree in the danger zone.

Hyde pulled off the result of the night, however, as they ran out 3-2 winners in a tight encounter with Play-Off contenders Grimsby Town. The Mariners recovered from 2-0 down before Alex Brown's second of the evening sealed the win for 22nd-placed Hyde.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

WREXHAM v HEREFORD (1PM)

BARROW v LINCOLN

BRAINTREE v GATESHEAD

CAMBRIDGE v MACCLESFIELD

EBBSFLEET v HYDE

FOREST GREEN v STOCKPORT

GRIMSBY v WOKING

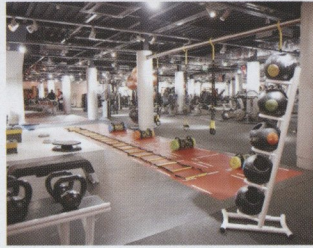
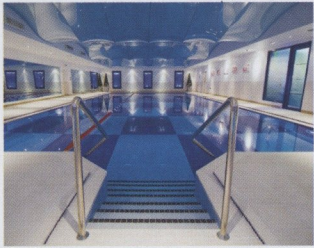
KIDDERMINSTER v NUNEATON

MANSFIELD v SOUTHPORT

TAMWORTH v TELFORD

PLAYED LAST NIGHT:

ALFRETON v NEWPORT

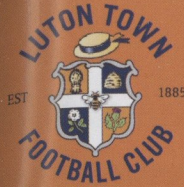


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* Please note facilities may vary between clubs. Prices vary between clubs.



TERM 1

Sept 17th - Nov 23rd
2012
(9 weeks)

TRIAL MATCH

Sat 17th - Nov
2012

TERM 2

Nov 26th 2012 -
Feb 15th 2013
(9 weeks)

TRIAL MATCH

Sat 2nd Feb 2013

TERM 3

Feb 25th - May 10th
2013
(9 weeks)

TRIAL MATCH

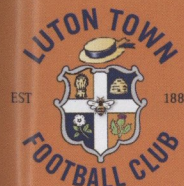
Thurs 25th April 2013
and 2nd May 2013

TERM 4

May 13th - July 19th
2013
(9 weeks)

TRIAL MATCH

Thurs 4th July 2013
and 11th July 2013



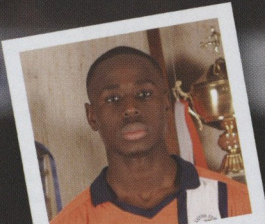
TIPs - Talent Identification Programme

Luton Town FC

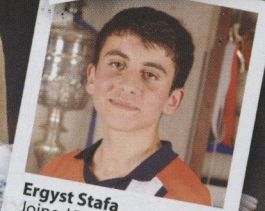
Football Development for 6 to 16 year olds

Youth Development 2012-13

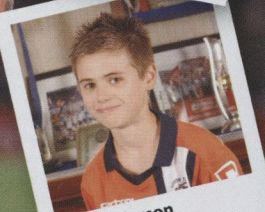
TIPs GRADUATES



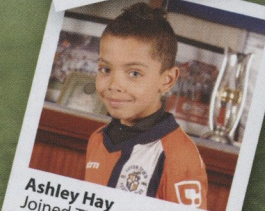
Alasan Ann
Joined TIPs at u13
First Team Debut: 2011



Ergyst Stafa
Joined TIPs at u12
Academy Player u14



Joel Anderson
Joined TIPs at u10
Academy Player u12



Ashley Hay
Joined TIPs at u7
Academy Player u10

Coaching Programme

9 Weeks Plus Trial Match

Soccer Centres in Aylesbury, Bedford, Biggleswade, Bletchley, Dunstable, Flitwick, Leighton Buzzard, Harpenden, Hitchin, Luton and Shefford

FIXTURES AND RESULTS

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	PDS	STARTING XI
August								
Sat 11	15:00	H	Gateshead	D 2-2	6,743	76	11	Tyler Taylor** Rowe-Turner Henry Kovacs Kasim* Howells O'Donnell Rendell Gray** Shaw**
Tue 14	19:45	A	Kidderminster Harriers	W 2-0	2,275	542	4	Tyler Henry Taylor Rowe-Turner Kovacs Kasim Lawless O'Donnell Rendell Shaw
Fri 17	19:30	A	Hyde	W 2-1	1,141	477	3	Tyler Henry Taylor Rowe-Turner Kovacs Kasim** Lawless O'Donnell Rendell Shaw
Sat 25	15:00	H	AFC Telford United	L 0-1	5,970	111	9	Tyler Lawless Howells Rowe-Turner Henry Kasim* Watkins** O'Donnell Rendell Shaw
Mon 27	15:00	A	Ebbwfleet United	W 3-1	2,018	1,246	5	Tyler Lawless Taylor Rowe-Turner Beckwith Howells O'Donnell** Rendell 1 Gray** Shaw
September								
Sat 1	15:00	H	Macclesfield Town	W 4-1	5,803	111	3	Tyler Beckwith Kovacs*** Rowe-Turner* Lawless Taylor O'Donnell Howells 1 Rendell 1 Gray 1**
Tue 4	19:45	H	Cambridge United	W 3-2	6,742	622	2	Tyler Rowe-Turner Taylor Beckwith 1 Kovacs* 1 Lawless O'Donnell Howells Rendell Gray 1
Sat 8	15:00	A	Alfreton Town	L 0-3	1,392	768	5	Tyler Henry Taylor Beckwith Kovacs** Lawless O'Donnell Howells Watkins*** J. Robinson
Sat 15	15:00	H	Wrexham	D 0-0	6,675	319	5	Tyler Henry Howells Beckwith Kovacs Lawless O'Donnell Rendell Fleetwood*** Gray**
Fri 21	19:45	A	Grimsby Town	L 1-4	4,074	125	6	Tyler Henry** Howells Beckwith Kovacs* Lawless O'Donnell Rendell 1 Fleetwood*** Gray
Tue 25	19:45	A	Tamworth	W 2-1	1,137	390	5	Tyler Henry** Rowe-Turner** Beckwith Essam Lawless O'Donnell Howells Gray Rendell
Sat 29	15:00	H	Southport	W 3-1	5,696	77	4	Tyler Henry Howells Essam Ainge Lawless O'Donnell Kasim* Rendell 2*** Gray
October								
Sat 6	15:00	A	Lincoln City	W 2-1	2,970	864	4	Tyler Henry Howells Essam Ainge Lawless O'Donnell Rendell** J. Robinson** Gray**
Tue 9	19:45	H	Braintree Town	L 2-3	5,523	55	4	Tyler Henry Howells Essam** Ainge 1 Lawless O'Donnell J. Robinson* Gray Shaw
Sat 13	15:00	H	Nuneaton Town	W 2-0	6,148	264	3	Tyler Henry Rowe-Turner Essam* Ainge Lawless 2 O'Donnell Rendell Gray** Shaw
Sat 20	13:00	A	Cambridge United (FAC40)	W 2-0	2,321	601	-	Tyler Henry Howells Rowe-Turner Kovacs Lawless* O'Donnell Mendy Gray 1*** Shaw 1
Sat 27	15:00	A	Forest Green Rovers	W 2-1	2,112	1,002	2	Brill Henry Rowe-Turner Kovacs Ainge Howells Mendy Rendell 1 Gray Shaw
November								
Sat 3	15:00	H	Nuneaton Town (FAC 1)	D 1-1	3,089	355	-	Brill Henry Howells Kovacs Rowe-Turner* O'Donnell Mendy Rendell 1 Gray Walker
Tue 6	19:45	A	Hereford United	L 0-1	2,108	372	3	Brill Henry Rowe-Turner*** Kovacs** Ainge Smith Mendy Howells Gray* Rendell
Sat 10	15:00	H	Dartford					
Tue 13	19:45	A	Nuneaton Town (FAC 1R)					
Sat 17	15:00	A	Mansfield Town					
December								
Sat 1	15:00	H	Barrow					
Tue 4	19:45	A	Newport County					
Sat 8	15:00	H	Alfreton Town					
Sat 22	15:00	A	AFC Telford United					
Wed 26	15:00	H	Woking					
Sat 29	15:00	H	Ebbwfleet United					
January								
Tue 1	13:00	A	Woking					
Sat 5	15:00	A	Macclesfield Town					
Sat 12	15:00	H	Hyde					
Sat 19	15:00	A	Nuneaton Town					
Tue 22	19:45	H	Lincoln City					
Sat 26	15:00	H	Stockport County					
February								
Sat 2	15:00	A	Barrow					
Sat 9	15:00	H	Forest Green Rovers					
Tue 12	19:45	A	Dartford					
Sat 16	15:00	H	Newport County					
Sat 23	15:00	H	Mansfield Town					
Tue 26	19:45	A	Braintree Town					
March								
Sat 2	15:00	A	Stockport County					
Sat 9	15:00	H	Hereford United					
Sat 16	15:00	A	Wrexham					
Sat 23	15:00	H	Tamworth					
Sat 30	15:00	A	Cambridge United					
April								
Mon 1	15:00	H	Kidderminster Harriers					
Sat 6	15:00	A	Gateshead					
Sat 13	15:00	H	Grimsby Town					
Sat 20	15:00	A	Southport					



Stuart Fleetwood hurdles Nuneaton goalkeeper Ben McNamara in last weekend's 1-1 draw

SUBS					
Fleetwood 1 Fleetwood** Fleetwood*** 1 Fleetwood Fleetwood 2	Brill Brill Brill Brill Brill	Beckwith Beckwith Beckwith Beckwith Lacey	Lawless** Walker Howells* Taylor* Watkins**	Watkins** Gray* Gray** Gray** Kasim	Shaw 1 Robinson** Robinson*** Woolley Woolley*
Fleetwood 1 Fleetwood** Gray Shaw Shaw*** Fleetwood 1**	Brill Brill Brill Rowe-Turner* Rowe-Turner Rowe-Turner	Essam*** Essam* Essam** Essam* Essam	Watkins* Watkins Kasim* Kasim*** Kasim** Kasim**	J. Robinson** Walker Walker Walker Walker	Walker Kasim Walker Walker Walker
Fleetwood Fleetwood Fleetwood Fleetwood** Fleetwood 1*	Brill Brill Brill Brill Essam	Rowe-Turner** Rowe-Turner Kovacs** M. Robinson* O'Donnell**	Shaw 1* Lacey J. Robinson M. Robinson M. Robinson	Kasim*** Kasim* Walker Walker Walker	Walker Walker 1** Walker* Walker Walker
Fleetwood** Fleetwood	Tyler Tyler	Lacey Lawless**	Longden O'Donnell***	Watkins** J. Robinson*	Dance Walker

LEAGUE TABLE 2012/13								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Newport County AFC	17	11	3	3	36	19	17	36
2 Wrexham	16	9	5	2	29	15	14	32
3 Luton Town	17	10	2	5	30	23	7	32
4 Grimsby Town	18	8	6	4	25	14	11	30
5 Forest Green Rovers	17	9	3	5	27	17	10	30
6 Dartford	17	9	2	6	27	19	8	29
7 Macclesfield Town	16	8	3	5	28	25	3	27
8 Gateshead	18	6	8	4	24	21	3	26
9 Stockport County	17	6	6	5	26	23	3	24
10 AFC Telford United	17	5	8	4	29	24	5	23
11 Woking	18	7	2	9	33	35	-2	23
12 Hereford United	17	6	5	6	25	28	-3	23
13 Tamworth	18	7	1	10	22	25	-3	22
14 Mansfield Town	16	6	4	6	23	28	-5	22
15 Lincoln City	17	5	5	7	25	26	-1	20
16 Southport	17	5	5	7	25	33	-8	20
17 Alfreton Town	16	4	6	6	18	26	-8	18
18 Barrow	17	4	6	7	21	32	-11	18
19 Kidderminster Harriers	17	3	8	6	20	19	1	17
20 Cambridge United	17	4	5	8	29	35	-6	17
21 Braintree Town	16	4	5	7	18	25	-7	17
22 Hyde FC	16	4	4	8	21	28	-7	16
23 Ebbwfleet United	17	3	6	8	23	33	-10	15
24 Nuneaton	17	2	8	7	22	33	-11	14

	LEAGUE		THIS SEASON CUP		TOTAL		DISCIP	CAREER TOTAL				
	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS						
Simon AINGE	6	0	1	0	0	6	0	1	6	0		
Dean BECKWITH	7	0	1	0	1	0	7	1	2	0	19	2
Dean BRILL	2	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	100	0
Connor ESSAM	5	4	0	0	0	5	4	0	2	0	9	0
Stuart FLEETWOOD	14	2	1	0	2	0	16	2	1	1	65	26
Andre GRAY	14	3	2	2	0	16	3	3	0	0	31	10
Ronnie HENRY	14	0	0	2	0	16	0	0	1	1	16	0
Jake HOWELLS	15	1	1	2	0	17	1	1	1	0	201	16
Yasser KASIM	5	6	1	0	0	5	6	1	2	0	11	1
Janos KOVACS	10	1	2	0	0	12	1	3	0	0	74	6
Alex LAWLESS	14	2	2	1	0	15	2	2	4	0	93	9
Arnaud MENDY	2	0	0	2	0	4	0	0	1	0	4	0
JJ O'DONNELL	15	2	1	2	0	17	2	1	0	0	28	1
Scott RENDELL	15	0	6	1	0	16	0	7	1	0	16	7
Jake ROBINSON	3	4	0	0	2	0	3	6	0	0	9	0
Matt ROBINSON	0	2	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	3	0
Lathaniel ROWE-TURNER	11	3	0	2	0	13	3	0	0	0	16	0
Jon SHAW	10	3	2	1	0	11	3	3	1	0	14	3
Jonathan SMITH	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Greg TAYLOR	7	1	0	0	0	7	1	0	1	0	31	0
Mark TYLER	15	0	1	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	154	0
Dan WALKER	0	3	1	1	0	1	3	1	0	0	24	2
Adam WATKINS	2	3	0	0	1	0	2	4	0	0	55	8
Jake WOOLLEY	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	8	0

LET'S GO

TO NUNEATON AND MANSFIELD

After today's clash with Dartford, the Town take to the road again twice next week. First up is a first-ever trip to Nuneaton Town for an FA Cup first round replay before heading up the M1 to take on Mansfield in the Blue Square Bet Premier a week today.



NUNEATON TOWN

Where? To give it its full title, the Triton Showers Community Arena. Or, for purists, Liberty Way. Located on an industrial estate in Nuneaton, Warwickshire. Typing in CV11 6RR into your sat-nav will get you there.

We've been here before, right? No, we haven't. This will be the Hatters' first ever trip to Nuneaton. The club moved to this new stadium in 2007 having spent 90 years at their previous home Manor Park. Town fans have been allocated the Stuart Plumbing stand behind one of the goals.

How do I get there then? With ease. The trip to Liberty Way is just 70.7 miles from the Maple Road car park which, should – should – take about an hour and 20 minutes, if the traffic is kind. Take the M1 north, M6, leaving the M6 at junction 3 towards Bedworth/Coventry(North)/Nuneaton. The ground is located in the suburb of Attleborough.

Take it easy. Don't fancy driving? The Bobbers are, as usual, heading to Nuneaton. They leave the Maple Road car park at 4.30pm. The fare is £17 for adults and £15 for concessions. Phone 01234 856542 to book your place.

We've met before. Of course! Only last week remember? And four weeks ago. The Boro have proved a tough nut to crack in the past two games at Kenilworth Road. In the league meeting, two late goals from Alex Lawless won the Town all three points while seven days ago Scott Rendell's equaliser six minutes from time set-up the replay.

What happens next? Well, if it's all square after 90 minutes it's extra-time and then penalties, if need be. For the one team that triumphs, a home tie against Blue Square Bet South Dorchester Town awaits.



MANSFIELD TOWN

Where? From the Triton Showers Community Stadium on Tuesday to the One Call Stadium on Saturday. The Hatters make their customary Blue Square Bet Premier to Field Mill in Mansfield. Postcode junkies should remember NG18 5DA. That should stand you in good stead.

How go get there. As if you didn't know, straight up the M1, exit junction 27 and take the A608 into Mansfield. The ground is sign-posted from the outskirts. If you fancy taking the Bobbers, they leave Maple Road at 11.30am. Their fare is £20 for adults and £17 concession.

Remember, remember. Due to our replay at Nuneaton this game has been switched back to a 3pm Saturday kick-off instead of its televised spot on Thursday night. This game will not be screened live.

We've definitely been here before, haven't we? Absolutely - but with limited success. The Town are yet to beat the Stags in a league game at Field Mill. You have to go back to September 1989 for the one and only time the Hatters have won in this part of Nottinghamshire – a 4-3 victory in the League Cup.

Recent times. The Town's record at Field Mill since that win reads a miserable played six, won none, drawn three, lost three. Since the Hatters' relegation to the Blue Square Bet Premier the Town have scored just once in four visits – including an FA Trophy semi-final first leg tie. Time for a change, eh?

Familiar faces. Mansfield were busy in the summer's transfer market and signed three players who had played for the Town last season. Former club captain George Pilkington, who made 172 appearances, Godfrey Poku and Jamie Hand all arrived at Field Mill before the start of the season. Mansfield's player/assistant manager Adam Murray is another former Town man at the Nottinghamshire club.



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TODAY'S TEAMS



LUTON TOWN

Mark Tyler	1
Lathaniel Rowe-Turner	2
Greg Taylor	3
Garry Richards	4
Dean Beckwith	5
Janos Kovacs	6
Alex Lawless	7
Danny Spiller	8
Jon Shaw	9
Scott Rendell	10
Jake Howells	11
Simon Ainge	12
Stuart Fleetwood	13
Arnaud Mendy	14
Adam Watkins	15
Alex Lacey	16
JJ O'Donnell	17
Yaser Kasim	18
James Dance	19
Jake Robinson	22
Matt Robinson	23
Jonathan Smith	24
Ronnie Henry	25
Andre Gray	27
Dan Walker	29
Dean Brill	33



DARTFORD

1	Louis Wells
2	Richard Rose
3	Adam Green
4	Tom Champion
6	Tom Bonner
7	Ryan Hayes
8	Jon Wallis
9	Jacob Erskine
10	Elliot Bradbrook
11	Danny Harris
12	Marcus Bettinelli
13	James Rogers
14	Lee Noble
15	Nathan Collier
16	Mark Arber
20	Lee Burns
21	Harry Crawford
24	Stevie Sutton
25	Jay Porter
26	George Monger

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: K. Evans
ASSISTANT: S. Purkiss
ASSISTANT: A. Degnarain
FOURTH OFFICIAL: A. Aylott

HERE NEXT

BARROW

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER
SATURDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2012
KICK-OFF 3PM