

Official Matchday Programme of Luton Town Football Club



TALK OF THE TOWN

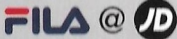
ISSUE 26 • £3



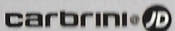
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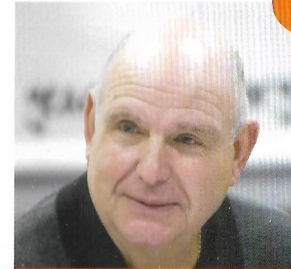


LUTON TOWN v TAMWORTH

SATURDAY 23rd MARCH 2013 • 3PM

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LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2020 LTD

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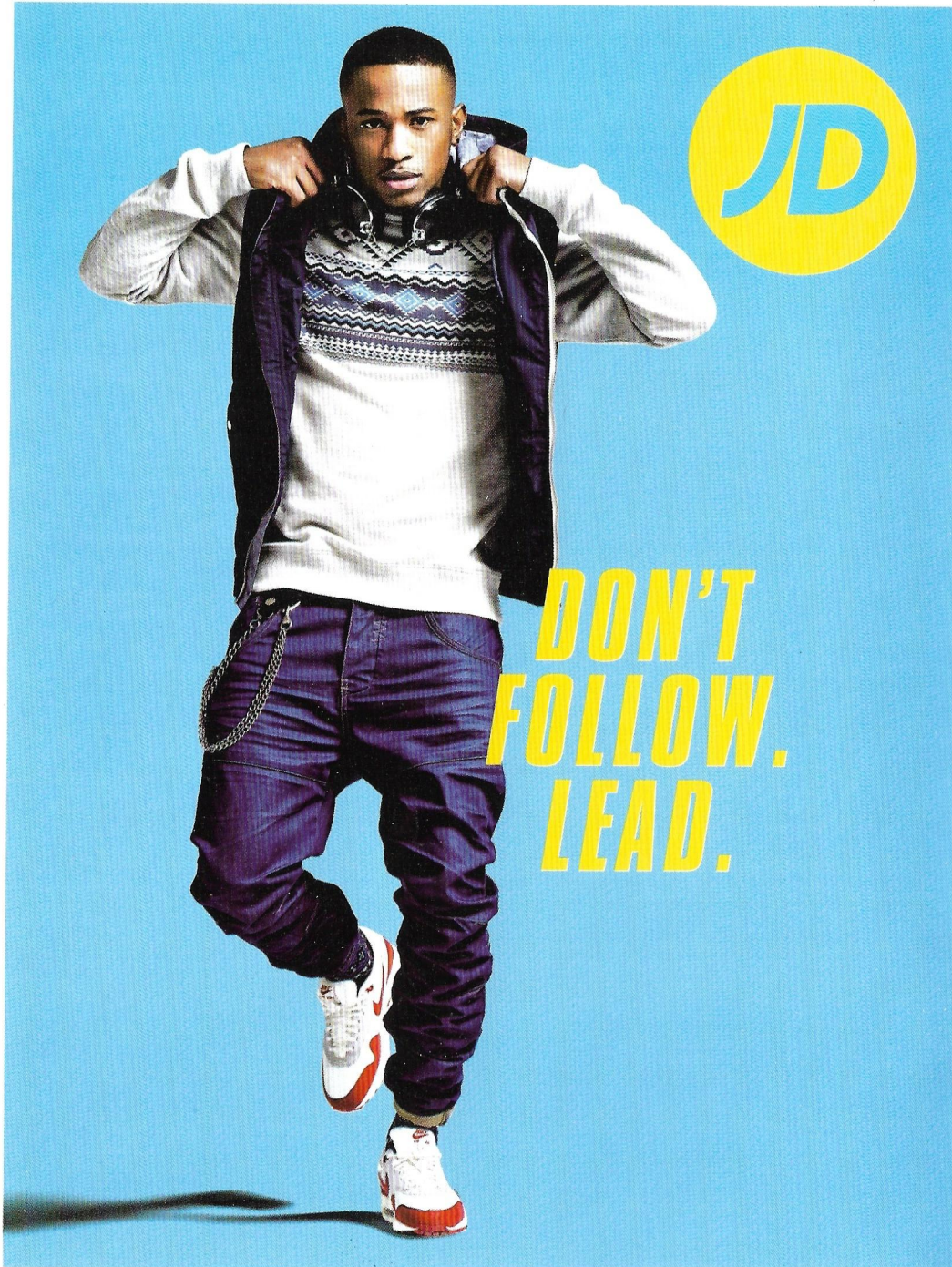
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JOHN STILL

Good afternoon and welcome to Kenilworth Road for another important match in the Blue Square Bet Premier.

I'd also like to welcome our visitors from Tamworth, their manager Dale Belford, his players and staff and the directors and supporters of the Lambs.

This afternoon is our second home game in succession and I'm sure it will be very similar to the match with Stockport County on Tuesday night. Like all games in this league it will be tough. I just hope we can provide that little bit extra quality, determination and effort that will make the difference.

Victory

I felt we did that on Tuesday with our 1-0 win over Stockport. I felt it was a good performance but it should have been more comfortable. The pluses of the victory were of course winning but also keeping another clean sheet.

For me the only negative point was that we didn't convert as many chances as I would have liked. I felt we should have created more and subsequently we only scored the one goal which always invites pressure in the final few minutes. We need to be able to kill teams off a lot earlier, but it is still early days.

However, football being football the three points were the most important thing.

After today's game we have another home game when Ebbsfleet visit Kenilworth Road on Tuesday night. We know that they are a team that will be fighting for everything as they go in search of the points required to stave off the threat of relegation. Whatever we do, though, we must not take anything for granted. All games are tough, especially against those teams who have something important to play for. The players will be made well aware of this.

Next Saturday we are away to Cambridge United, who have had a mixed season. I know the Cambridge team quite well and I have always enjoyed my trips to the Abbey Stadium as a manager, so I am very much looking forward to that particular game.

Back to today's match, though. Again you are likely to see a little tinker or two here or there with the team. It won't be massive chopping and changing but it is necessary.

The point of this exercise is to try and identify the players I feel can be a part of a squad that can help us get promotion out of this league. It's really, really important that I do that with the time and matches remaining this season.

It's also vital that I go out and watch players that I would like to bring to this football club. At the moment, because of our Saturday-Tuesday-Saturday schedule, I haven't been able to do that. This might mean that before the end of the season I sacrifice one or two games in order to go out and look at possible acquisitions for next season.

Thank you for your fine support of the team on Tuesday night.

The vocal encouragement shown since my arrival has been second to none, and it was great to get that first home win under my belt on Tuesday night.

As I said in my notes last week, getting behind the team is of huge importance to me. Your support can help players find that little extra per cent. And it's little increases in per cent that we might need. Remember it could be the difference between winning and losing.

Enjoy the game and see you on Tuesday.

FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH FINANCIAL DIRECTOR ROGER BANNISTER



Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road. We wish a very warm welcome to the officials, players and supporters of Tamworth at this, the last Saturday afternoon home league game of the season.

Since I last wrote my last programme notes there has been some tumultuous

happenings both on and off the pitch at Kenilworth Road.

On the pitch we experienced the excellent run to the fifth round of the FA Cup including tremendous wins against Wolves and, in particular, the win at Premier League club Norwich City, which has surely been the highlight of the season. Unfortunately we have endured a disappointing run in the Blue Square Bet Premier which makes it very hard – but not impossible – for us to qualify for the Play-Offs this season.

Meanwhile, matters off of the pitch have been equally turbulent with Paul Buckle leaving Luton Town for personal reasons. The status of the club has, however,

enabled it to attract a very high calibre replacement in John Still. The board has every confidence that John will achieve success for the club, perhaps not instantly, but certainly in the medium-term. This has certainly been shown in the past six matches where the team have lost once and kept four clean sheets.

Hardest league?

The media and many footballing pundits often state the Championship is the hardest league in football to get out of and gain promotion to the Premier League.

Each season there is always at least 10 to 12 clubs vying for automatic promotion or elevation via the Play-Offs. And once you're out of the Premier League it seems to get increasingly harder to regain your status, as so many clubs have found in recent years.

Yet I would argue strongly that the press has got it wrong. Within the Blue Square Bet Premier, there are 13 former League clubs. Each of those clubs - their fans, directors and investors - believe they are in the wrong division and should be back in the Football League.

Looking at the league table it would seem that perhaps five or six teams (for reasons of their catchment area or fan base) belong at this level and that they have reached

their zenith. That leaves, potentially, 18 or 19 clubs who have high hopes at the beginning of each season.

The margin between success and failure is a very fine one, but I believe your club has a number of advantages.

It has in place an experienced, very able and committed team running the business side of the organisation, it has a number of committed investors and most importantly it has its supporter base.

Strengths and weaknesses

The new manager has won two, drawn three and lost just one of his first half dozen games and I would argue that nine points out of 18 is an excellent return while he assesses and gets to know the strengths and weaknesses of his squad. There will inevitably be changes in personnel during the close season but I sense a confidence and determination to succeed.

I offered the officials, players and supporters of Tamworth a warm welcome at the head of these notes but as soon as the whistle goes let's try and make it as hard as possible for them to leave Kenilworth Road with any points.

On a final note, it is a very special game for me today as my three-year-old grandson Ethan and his cousins Joe, eight, and Jake, seven, are mascots for the day. It is Ethan's first ever football match while Joe and Jake are old hands.

The last time we went to a match together was to see West Ham play Manchester United. Joe is a United fan (I blame his upbringing) and was terribly upset when the Hammers beat them 5-0. I think Jake was four years old at the time and sat under the boardroom table eating a bowl of chocolates.

Please give them and the other mascots a great cheer of encouragement as, after all, they are the fans of the future.

Have an excellent afternoon, encourage the team noisily and I'm sure we will get our reward.

Roger



The highlight of the season so far: The Town players celebrate the FA Cup win at Norwich

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

Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road once more. It's hard to believe that this is our final Saturday home fixture of the season.

We go into this important game with Tamworth looking to build on Tuesday night's 1-0 win over Stockport. It was a good, solid performance and won thanks to a great header from Steve McNulty. The lads were excellent, gave nothing away, and kept yet another clean sheet.

The Hyde game apart, we have made a promising start under the new manager. In the six games we have kept four clean sheets which is an impressive record, winning twice by 1-0 scorelines. I think I speak on behalf of everyone when I say I'd take nine more 1-0 wins between now and the end of the season.

Our focus has been on improving confidence and results in the past month and I believe that is slowly starting to show. We won't give up on reaching the top five until it is mathematically impossible and with six of our last nine matches at home anything can happen.

It was good to finally get a home victory under the new manager on Tuesday night. Stockport did not put up the best of fights but a win's a win, and we got the job done. Our home form has been strange this season. It started indifferent, got a lot better before it tailed off again prior to Tuesday's win. Now we have to build on that.

Winning at home, drawing away and keeping clean sheets are the perfect recipe for winning titles and, whilst promotion might not come around this season, already there are a couple of small signs of encouragement for the future.

In my notes this season I've bored you to death of my obsession of keeping clean sheets but, as the manager has said, a solid platform is the way to go about building success. Our recent record of keeping clean sheets is definitely cause for optimism.

All of the players have been impressed with the manager's new approach. It is something different and we are all learning new things all the time. We are still a million miles away from where he wants us to be but so far, so good. We're taking positive steps in the right direction and long may it continue.

This afternoon we host Tamworth, a side who will want to extinguish any fears of relegation with a



victory. The division this season has been frighteningly unpredictable so any win, or any point is vital. It's been a season where you cannot afford to look over your shoulder because by the time you do somebody has already overtaken you. Take Kidderminster for example. Bottom of the table and without a win after 10 games and now look at them: top of the league and with an outstanding chance of promotion to the Football League.

It's frustrating for me to sit here writing these words without mentioning ourselves in the title race but unfortunately we have paid the price for a run of inconsistent performances and results. As I've said, though, the season is not over and who knows...a win today and eight more and we'll have a great chance.

Last week we said our goodbyes to Carl Emberson and Stuart Cash who were both excellent coaches. On behalf of all the players I wish them well for the future.

All of our remaining matches are of vital importance and to help us we need your support so please keep up your fantastic vocal backing of the lads.

Enjoy the game.

AROUND TOWN

THE LATEST NEWS AT KENILWORTH ROAD

THE SPIRIT OF 88

The Hatters will be marking the 25th anniversary of the Littlewoods Cup triumph over Arsenal by holding a very special end-of-season kit sponsors' dinner in April.

Members of Town's famous cup winning side from 1988 will be in attendance, as will all of the current Hatters squad from this season.



The event kicks off at 7pm and will be held at the Auction House, in Luton, on Monday 29th April and will be compered by Kevin Piper.

For £65, guests will be treated to a three-course meal and an evening filled with entertainment, as well as the opportunity to bid for rare 1988 memorabilia in the auction and scoop great prizes in the raffle.

Tickets are available now from the Hatters' commercial team by calling 01582 411622 or by emailing commercial@lutontown.co.uk.

CHANGES TO BACKROOM STAFF



Carl Emberson

The Hatters have made changes to John Still's backroom staff by parting company with coaches Carl Emberson and Stuart Cash with immediate effect.

Emberson, 39, a former Town goalkeeper, joined the club as first team development coach in the summer, whilst 48-year-old Cash arrived at Kenilworth Road at the turn of the year.

Manager John Still told lutontown.co.uk: "They are two really good coaches who gave their all for this club.

"However, unfortunately when a new manager comes in there has to be changes.

"Carl and Stuart were brilliant during my time here so far and helped me learn a lot of about the players. They are good friends of mine and I wish them all the best in their future careers."

Still will continue to be assisted by assistant manager Terry Harris, first team coach Alan Neilson and goalkeeping coach Dmitri Kharine.

HOME TICKET OFFERS

Last week we announced a number of ticket offers available to supporters for remaining homes games of the season in the Blue Square Bet Premier.

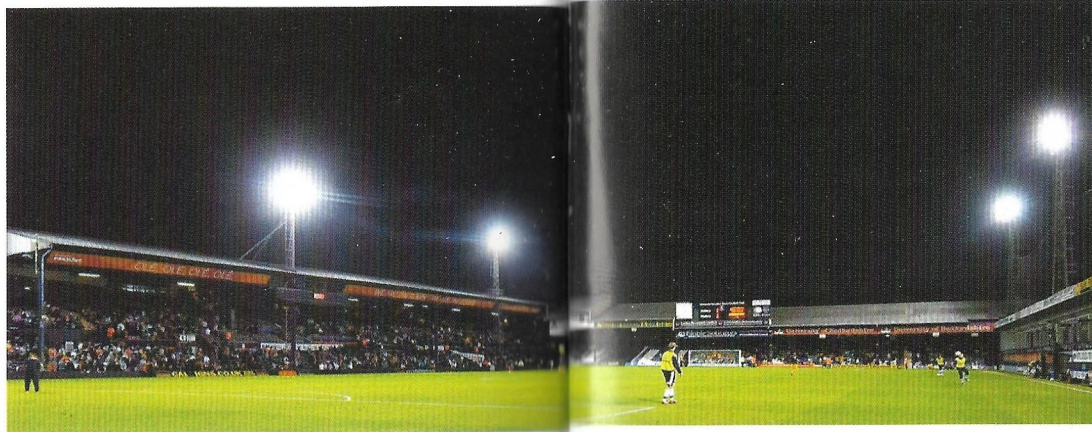
The Town face Tamworth today and Ebbsfleet on Tuesday, before taking on Kidderminster, Lincoln, Grimsby and Newport in April.

The offers:

- Free admission for supporters under 17
- Two three-for-two offers
- Half price guest tickets for season ticket holders

FREE ADMISSION FOR SUPPORTERS UNDER 17

Supporters aged under 17 have the chance to watch the final seven home matches of the season absolutely free. Any fan that falls into this age bracket will be entitled to free entry at any of the Town's remaining games in the Blue Square Bet Premier at Kenilworth Road this season when they are accompanied by an adult, senior or golden senior.



Tickets for this offer must be obtained from the ticket office in person or over the phone (the offer is not available at cash turnstiles), and a maximum of two free tickets for under-17s will be admitted per paying supporter.

Season ticket holders can also obtain up to two free tickets for under-17s. Again, these must be acquired at the ticket office.

THREE-FOR-TWO

Any supporter can purchase three tickets for the price of two for Lincoln, Grimsby and Newport matches

Tickets for two of the games would need to be purchased, and a third ticket would be given for the same price category for the third game.

HALF-PRICE FOR SEASON TICKET HOLDER GUESTS

For all remaining games, season tickets holders can bring a guest for half of the normal matchday price.

This would need to be at the same price category, or less.

Tickets would need to be purchased from the ticket office in person or via phone.

For further information contact the ticket office on 01582 416976 or email ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk.

GOLDEN GAMBLE

There were four winners of our Golden Gamble draw on Tuesday when we entertained Stockport County.

A four-man syndicate won the £410 between them after ticket number 31006 was plucked out of the barrel at half time. Andrew Gordon, Bill Mitchell, Rob Farmer and Graham Howell were the lucky quartet, who are all safety stewards on matchdays at Kenilworth Road.

One lucky supporter is missing out on a cool £650 prize following our draw from our Hereford match on 9th March.

Ticket 29444 is the number you need to look for and, if it's you, then please contact the commercial department on 01582 411622 or email commercial@lutontown.co.uk to claim your prize.

REST IN PEACE CATHLEEN



It is with deep sadness to report the death of Hatters fan Cathleen Stevens.

Cathleen had been a regular at Kenilworth Road for the last 35 years, during which period she had been a wheelchair user for the whole time.

Her first game saw the Town beat Charlton 7-1 on 3rd September 1977. As it came at a time that Kenilworth Road had very few requests to accommodate wheelchairs, she had to get out of her chair and sit in the Bobbers Stand - long before the health and safety was dreamt of.

The following season Cathleen came to a few more matches and she sat at the top of the slope leading down to the enclosure before she moved to a position at the side of the players' entrance and then finally to the Kenilworth Road end.

Cathleen promoted the Hatters to the family whenever she could and was proud of the fact she persuaded five of her grandchildren to become season ticket holders.

Our condolences go to her family and friends at this sad time.

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FROM THE TICKET OFFICE



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LUTON TOWN v EBBSFLEET UNITED BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 26TH MARCH 2013, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.



CAMBRIDGE UNITED v LUTON TOWN BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 30TH MARCH 2013, KICK-OFF 3PM

This match is all-ticket for Town supporters.

We have an allocation of 1,400 seats and 200 terrace places.

Tickets are now on general sale.

Prices: Seating - £18 adults, £12 over-60s and students with ID, £8 under-16s, free for under fives. Terracing - £15 adults, £10 over-60s and students with ID, £5 under-16s.



LUTON TOWN v KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

MONDAY 1ST APRIL 2013, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.



GATESHEAD v LUTON TOWN BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 6TH APRIL 2013, KICK-OFF 3PM

Please note this match will be played at Brunton Park, Carlisle United Football Club.

We are yet to receive ticket information for this match.



LUTON TOWN v LINCOLN CITY BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 9TH APRIL 2013, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.



Buy tickets online at www.eticketing.co.uk/lutontown or call 01582 416976

COMMERCIAL BREAK

WITH COMMERCIAL MANAGER DAVID HOSKINS

Last week we released details of our end-of-season kit sponsors' dinner which will celebrate the 25th anniversary of our Littlewoods Cup final win. Tickets are going well and more details can be found on page 10 of today's programme.

MATCH SPONSOR

JONATHAN PERRY



Jonathan is a British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) senior accredited Psychotherapist, Counsellor and Therapeutic Supervisor and a member of the BACP Register of Counsellors and Psychotherapists. He is also a Life Coach.

His private practice is based in Northampton and he works on contracts for the NHS in Bedfordshire and for The Counselling Foundation which has centres in both Bedford and Luton. He has over 16 years experience and is able to work in a range of therapy models.

Full details of his services can be found on his website www.jplifetherapy.co.uk

A Bedfordshire boy, he was born and grew up in Toddington and went to school in Dunstable. The Hatters are part of his DNA. His father, who has supported the club since 1935, saw Joe Payne's 10 goals in 1936 and it was his late Uncle George, one of the 30,069 here against Blackpool in 1959, who brought Jonathan to his first match in August 1966. Initially an Oak Road Ender, along with his brother and sister, Jonathan has been a season ticket holder since 1980 and still has the same seat in the Main Stand.

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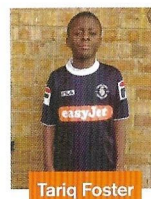
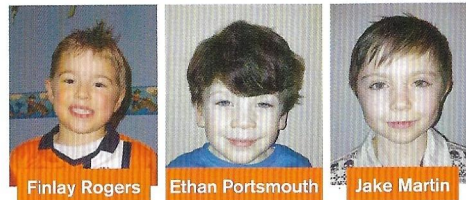
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For more information on EJOT visit www.ejot.co.uk

TODAY'S MASCOTS



First up is four-year-old Finlay Rogers who is attending his first game at Kenilworth Road. Finlay is from Kempston and his favourite player is Stuart Fleetwood. He is here today with dad, granddads and friend Bradley.

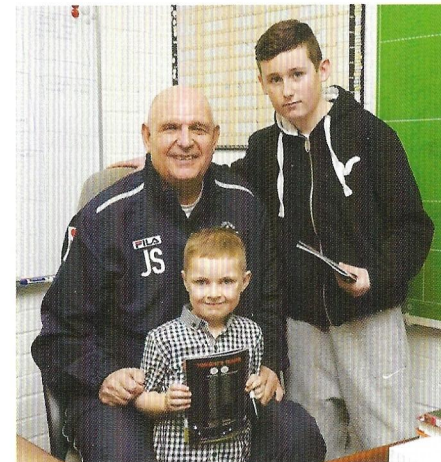
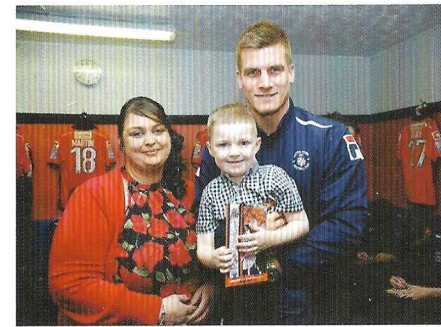
Three-year-old Ethan Portsmouth is next. Ethan is from Cropston near Leicester and his favourite player is Andre Gray.

We also have brothers Jake and Joe Martin from Witney in Oxfordshire. Jake is seven and Joe is eight.

Next up is eight-year-old Niamh Creamer who has travelled from the Republic of Ireland to be with us this afternoon. Her favourite player is Mark Tyler.

Mark is also the favourite player of our sixth mascot, who is six-year-old Archie Haldane from Rushden.

Finally, and by no means least, we have 10-year-old Tariq Foster from Luton. Tariq's favourite player is also Andre Gray.



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WELCOME

TAMWORTH



This afternoon the Hatters welcome Tamworth to Kenilworth Road for the final weekend fixture of the season in Bedfordshire.

After this afternoon the Hatters' remaining five home fixtures will all be played on weekdays including two televised fixtures. Tamworth, meanwhile, will play their penultimate Saturday away game this afternoon.

The fixture between the two sides has been largely in favour of the Hatters when played out in Kenilworth Road with all three of the previous matches ending up with Luton securing maximum points.

Last season the Town secured a 3-0 win with Stuart Fleetwood and Janos Kovacs on the score sheet. Overall, the Hatters have netted seven times conceding just the once.

The Lambs were formed in 1933 and since their formation have only matched up against the Hatters seven times, winning just once. That solitary win came at The Lamb ground back in 2010 as they ran out 3-1 winners in an early season Blue Square Bet Premier clash under Richard Money.

The sides have already met this season when the Hatters clinched the three points away from home with a 2-1 win. Fleetwood was again on target against the Lambs on that occasion and has an exemplary record against today's opponents and will be disappointed to be watching on from the sidelines through injury.

There is one strenuous link between the two dressing rooms this afternoon as Town full-back Greg Taylor has an added influence in the Hatters squad this afternoon. Taylor spent part of this campaign on loan at The Lamb Ground so will be linking up with former team mates on the battlefield. If selected his inside knowledge could stand him in good stead for the match up.

One interesting name that will highlight the Tamworth squad list and ring home with many of the Hatters fans is Lee Hendrie.

The former England and Aston Villa midfielder will wear the number eight jersey this afternoon in central midfield and his experience and vast array of talent will be one for the Hatters to keep a watchful eye on.

Another name that those of you familiar with league proceedings will recognise is the Blue Square Bet Premier's leading marksman Adam Cunnington. The Leighton Buzzard-born striker has been in scintillating form this campaign notching up 18 league goals already, joint with Michael Gash of Kidderminster at the top of the scorers charts.

Players to have played for both sides include current Town coach Alan Neilson, former Town front man Taiwo Atieno and full back Richard Dryden.

The Hatters head into the game on a high after midweek win against Stockport, as do Tamworth, who arrive in good form after 2-1 triumph over Southport.

THE LAMBS

AN AT-A-GLANCE LOOK AT THE TAMWORTH SQUAD

DALE BELFORD

Currently in his second spell as Lambs caretaker boss since hanging up his boots in 2011. Started his career at Aston Villa.

JAMES WREN

Birmingham born 19-year-old goalkeeper who penned a deal with the Lambs in the summer. Previously at Burton Albion.

RICHARD TAIT

Current club captain joined in March 2009 after impressing whilst on loan from Nottingham Forest.

MARCUS KELLY

Joined in the summer from Kettering Town. Made over 150 appearances for Rushden & Diamonds in the Football League between 2004 and 2009.

MICHAEL WYLDE

26-year-old defender back for his second stint with the Lambs. Initially joined in 2008 before spells at Cambridge United and AFC Telford. Returned earlier this year.

TOM MARSHALL

Another former Lamb back to reignite his Tamworth career after penning a deal from Kidderminster in the summer. Initially signed in 2010 before departing for a two-year absence from the Lamb Ground.

ADAM CUNNINGTON

Leighton Buzzard-born Cunnington is the league's top scorer with 17 league goals this campaign. Formerly of Hitchin Town, Aylesbury United and Leighton United.

LEE HENDRIE

Former England international signed for Tamworth in the summer. The 35-year-old spent 14 years with Premier League side Aston Villa where he is still seen as a club legend.

TOMMY WRIGHT

Ex-Hatter joined the Lambs in the summer after a short spell at Forest Green. The former England Under-20 International made four appearances at Kenilworth Road scoring one goal.

DARREN BYFIELD

36-year-old Jamaica international began his career with Aston Villa alongside current team-mate Lee Hendrie. Former clubs include Millwall, Bristol City and Sunderland, among others.

LLOYD KERRY

Began his career at Sheffield United before switching to Chesterfield in 2008. Also spent time at Torquay, Alfreton and Kidderminster on loan, before joining the Lambs from Hinckley in 2012.

TONY BREEDEN

Another player currently in his second spell with the club after a brief stint in 2005/06 season. Joined from Kidderminster in the summer.

DUANE COURTNEY

28-year-old central defender signed from York City in 2011. Made his first professional start for Championship side Burnley against the Hatters in 2005.

JAKE HESSENTHALER

Joined on a work experience placement from Gillingham in March. The 18-year-old is the son of former Gills manager Andy.

CONNOR GUDGER

A product of the Coventry City academy who impressed watchers whilst on loan at Hinckley, earning a move to Tamworth in 2011.

PETER TILL

Started out as a schoolboy at Birmingham City before a succession of loan spells earned him a contract at Grimsby Town. Signed for Tamworth from Conference winners Fleetwood in the summer.

SCOTT BARROW

Wales Under-23 international who joined Tamworth from Welsh side Port Talbot in 2010.

STUART HENDRIE

Brother of fellow Lamb Lee, Hendrie signed in January after spells Redditch, Stourbridge and Hinckley. Like his brother, he started his career with Aston Villa.

KYLE PERRY

Striker who penned a deal from Nuneaton on emergency loan until the end of the season. He is the cousin of manager Dale.

SAM OJI

27-year-old defender began his career with Arsenal. Spent time at Hereford and Swedish side Ljungskile, before joining Tamworth in 2011.

BEN RICHARDS-EVERTON

Joined last week from Hinckley until the end of the season. The 21-year-old central defender was previously on the books at Crawley and Carlisle.



Established: 1933
Nickname(s): The Lambs
Stadium: The Lamb Ground
Capacity: 4,195 (Avg. attendance '12/13 - 958)
Manager: Dale Belford (Two months)
Final league position '11/12: 18th BSP

DID YOU KNOW?

- Tamworth manager Dale Belford has played for the Lambs in four different decades (80s, 90s, 00s, 10s).
- Tamworth have kept as many clean sheets as Luton this season.

Since gaining promotion to the Blue Square Bet Premier in the season 2008/09, **Tamworth** have battled to the death of each season to ensure their non-league top-flight status.

In the 2009/10 season, the Lambs earned 49 points and finished three points above the drop zone. They finished with the exact same total the very next season and survived by the same points difference after then (and current) caretaker manager Dale Belford led them to a final day win over Forest Green which saved Tamworth at the expense of Southport.

Last season, Tamworth flirted with danger more so than ever. The Lambs went without a win in the final 14 games of the season yet still, rather incredibly, managed to stay up.

This season, however, the Staffordshire club are likely to have an easier ride and should steer clear of relegation comfortably.

Darren Byfield's late winner against Southport saw Tamworth move on to 47 points putting them seven points clear of the relegation zone which should be a big enough cushion, seeing as five teams separate them and the drop zone.

A closer look at Tamworth season so far

The Lambs' have played 38 of which they have won 13, drawn eight, lost 17, scored 47 and conceded 55.

A typical mid-table side, Tamworth have neither a stand-out home record nor away record: they are 14th in the home table and 15th away.

Interestingly, Tamworth are one of the lowest scoring sides at home in the division with only 21 goals scored in 20 games, however, on the road, the Lambs have tallied 26 in 18 and top-scorer Adam Cunnington has netted 12 of his 18 BSBP strikes away from The Lamb Ground. Therefore, backing the 25-year-old hitman to score today may be a wise move.

Tamworth's recent away form is similar to the Hatters', except that they have scored nine and conceded 13 whilst the Town have only scored two but conceded just four. Tamworth will be confident of gaining a result at Kenilworth Road today as they have picked up shock wins



away at Wrexham and Newport earlier in the campaign, and earned draws at Forest Green Rovers and Dartford, both of whom have an impressive home record.

How will they play? Who are their danger men?

Tamworth possess the Conference's top scorer in their ranks. Adam Cunnington has scored 18 goals this season. At 6'3", the number 7 will be a real handful for Steve McNulty and Jake Goodman today.

Another one to watch for the Lambs will be Darren Byfield who is now 36 and has been deployed in central midfield in recent games. Byfield has scored two goals in his last three games and will be looking to improve on that record here.

Another big name, perhaps even bigger, is former Aston Villa midfielder Lee Hendrie who was at Villa Park for some 14 years before gradually dropping down the leagues.

At 35 Hendrie may not have the physical attributes he once had, but his technique and experience is likely to shine in the middle of the park.

Finally, Hatters fans may remember Tommy Wright who played four league games for Luton last season and scored the winning goal at Grimsby.

If he doesn't start today, Wright is likely to make a substitute appearance.

THOUGHTS FROM THE OAK ROAD

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

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

Paula Bird

AGE?

A lady never divulges her age!

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SUPPORTING YOUR CLUB?

My parents were involved in the club when I was a young girl. I used to help out in the tea huts and behind the bar at The Lamb and also at the old Lamb Inn when I was old enough. A couple of seasons ago I started following the club home and away again and now work on the turnstiles. I am also on the Supporters' Club committee.

HOW WOULD YOU ASSESS YOUR SEASON SO FAR? WHAT'S BEEN THE HIGHLIGHT AND THE LOW POINT?

As usual, we do well against teams doing well and not so well against struggling sides. The highlight was probably the six-match unbeaten run when Dale Belford took over as caretaker manager; it lifted everyone involved with the club. The lowlight was dropping out of the FA Cup at Barrow and FA Trophy at Gainsborough.

THE CLUB PARTED COMPANY WITH MARCUS LAW IN JANUARY. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT WAS THE RIGHT DECISION? HOW HAVE THE TEAM FARED SINCE HIS DEPARTURE?

Marcus had big ideas and a different approach but results weren't going the right way so it was probably the right decision. As I said before, we went on a good run and picked up some much needed points when Dale came in. The team seem to have a different spirit in the camp now.

WHO'S YOUR PLAYER TO WATCH?

Duane Courtney has been superb all season. He was almost released by Marcus Law but now wears the captain armband, which says it all.

WHAT ARE YOUR MEMORIES FROM PLAYING LUTON?

We've never beaten you at Kenilworth Road and lost at The Lamb earlier in the season, so it's not a fixture we look forward to too much to be honest!



WHAT'S THE BEST TAMWORTH MATCH YOU'VE WITNESSED SINCE YOU'VE BEEN SUPPORTING THEM?

The FA Vase replay at Peterborough was amazing. I travelled with loads of family and friends and will never forget the afternoon, which a lot of kids waggged off school (including me!).

WHAT'S YOUR CLUB'S FAVOURITE SONG?

A local rock band called Wolfsbane made a song called 'Paint The Town Red' in the 1980s which we have adopted, and there was a fans' song 'Tamworth Boys' brought out for the FA Vase. Both get played regularly at The Lamb.

IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE ASPECT OF MODERN FOOTBALL, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

I can't stand it when games are decided by penalty shoot-outs. It's a lottery.

DO YOU FEEL TAMWORTH HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO PROGRESS AND BECOME A FOOTBALL LEAGUE CLUB?

With enough financial backing and the right results on the field anything is possible. To say we are happy where we are is unfair to the club as everyone wants to progress, but we would need much bigger attendances and a lot more besides to sustain ourselves at a higher level.

WHO'S GOING TO WIN PROMOTION FROM THE BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER THIS SEASON?

Wrexham have been the more consistent, although Kidderminster are knocking on the door quite loudly.

WHAT'S THE SCORE GOING TO BE TODAY?

2-1 to Tamworth would make the trip home a good one - and it would also give the Hatters fans at least one cheer in the afternoon!

CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS SELECTS 10 POST-WAR TAMWORTH CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS

1963/64

John Bayliss was top scorer as Tamworth won the West Midlands League title for the first time in 1963/64. The Lambs won their first three games and a 3-2 victory over Hednesford in late December heralded a remarkable run of 21 straight wins, including a 6-1 demolition of Redditch, before they were held to a 1-1 draw at home to Dudley Town in their final match. They won 29 of their 36 West Midlands League games, finishing nine points ahead of runners-up Kidderminster Harriers.

The Lambs also won the Staffordshire Senior Cup final, beating Brierley Hill Alliance 6-2 on aggregate, and were Birmingham Senior Cup finalists but lost 3-2 against Kidderminster.

1965/66

John Bayliss was again leading marksman as Tamworth won the West Midlands League and Cup, Birmingham Senior Cup and Staffordshire Senior Cup in 1965/66. They kicked off with a 4-1 defeat at Wolves 'A', but soared to the top of the table with a 22-match unbeaten run before a shock 5-0 defeat at Dudley.

The Lambs bounced back to hammer Lye Town, Port Vale Reserves and Halesowen in quick succession, scoring 123 goals and finishing nine points clear of runners-up Walsall Reserves. They beat Bilston 4-2 on aggregate in the League Cup final, Kidderminster 3-1 in the Birmingham Senior Cup final and Walsall Reserves 3-1 in the Staffordshire Senior Cup final.

1969/70

Tamworth reached the FA Cup second round for the first time in 1969/70. The Lambs battled their way through from the first qualifying round, beating Lower Gornal Athletic, Stafford Rangers, Dudley Town and Nuneaton Borough, before goals from Ray Holmes and Graham Jessop secured a 2-1 first round victory over Torquay United in front of a capacity crowd at The Lamb. It was the first time that Tamworth beat Football League opposition in the FA Cup. They lost 6-0 at Gillingham in the second round.

1971/72

The Lambs won the West Midlands League and Cup double in 1971/72.

They won six of their opening seven games and maintained their title challenge after the departure of manager Hughie Morrow in September.

Ray Holmes and new player-boss Tony Foster netted a total of 93 goals in all competitions. Tamworth lost 1-0 at title rivals Atherstone in late March, one of only four defeats, but a six-match unbeaten run culminated in a thrilling 5-0 victory at home to Atherstone on the final day. The Lambs finished two points ahead of their local rivals, winning 25 of their 36 games. They beat Bromsgrove Rovers 2-1 on aggregate in the League Cup final.

1987/88

Tamworth won the West Midlands League and Cup double in 1987/88. The Lambs began with a 1-0 defeat at Oldbury United but then went 12 matches unbeaten before losing 4-2 in the return game.

Mark Stanton was top scorer as they finished with five straight wins, pipping Oldbury to the title after Terry Blewitt's goal clinched a 1-0 victory at Gresley Rovers in their final match of the season.

Graham Smith's side scored 98 goals and won 27 of their 34 games, losing just four, as they regained Southern League status. They also hammered Malvern Town 5-0 in the League Cup final to achieve the West Midlands League double for the first time in 16 years.

1988/89

The Lambs became the first Southern League club to win the FA Vase in 1988/89. Graham Smith's side beat Bridgnorth, Gresley Rovers, Ilkeston, Eastwood Hanley, Wiskech and North Ferriby before drawing 1-1 with Sudbury Town in the Wembley final watched by 26,487. Two goals by Mark Stanton plus another from Ian Moores gave Tamworth a 3-0 win in the replay at London Road. Tamworth were pipped to promotion by Atherstone on goal difference.



1996/97

Tamworth swept to the Southern League Midland Division title with a club record 97 points in 1996/97, losing just three matches in the process.

The Lambs made an impressive 20-match unbeaten start that included a 6-0 hammering of RC Warwick and ended with a 2-0 defeat at Solihull Borough in late January. Solihull achieved the double over Tamworth by winning 4-2 at The Lamb in the last match of the season.

Tamworth's only other Southern League defeat was 1-0 at Ilkeston in late March. They won 30 of their 40 games and finished 26 points ahead of runners-up Rothwell Town. Ian Bennett, Paul Hunter and Gary Smith scored 57 goals between them.

2002/03

The Lambs stormed to the Southern League title and were FA Trophy finalists in 2002/03. They defeated Accrington Stanley, Nuneaton Borough, Stevenage, Margate, Farnborough and Havant & Waterlooville before losing 2-1 to Burscough in the FA Trophy final watched by 14,265 at Villa Park.

Top scorer Mark Cooper and Scott Rickards netted 25 goals between them as Tamworth won the Southern League Premier Division title by 13 points.

2005/06

Tamworth reached the FA Cup third round for the first time in 2005/06. Mark Cooper's side beat Altrincham in the fourth qualifying round, then won 2-1 at League 1 clubs AFC Bournemouth and Hartlepool United before holding Stoke City to a 0-0 draw in front of 9,366 at Britannia Stadium.

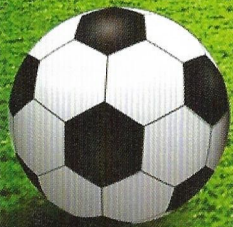
Tamworth went close to beating Stoke in the replay watched by 3,812 at The Lamb, leading in a 1-1 draw with their Championship opponents before losing 5-4 on penalties.

2008/09

The Lambs won the Blue Square North title with 85 points in 2008/09. They lost their opening home game 3-0 to Stalybridge Celtic but bounced back to hammer Burscough 6-2 and went top with a 15-match unbeaten run. They were trounced 5-1 at title rivals Gateshead in mid-January and the Tynesiders displaced them in pole position for a couple of months before Tamworth returned to the top with a 12-match unbeaten run. Gary Mills' side clinched the title with a 1-0 victory at home to Hinckley United in their penultimate game and they finished five points ahead of runners-up Gateshead. Gareth Sheldon was leading marksman with 23 Blue Square goals.



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TOWN 1-0 STOCKPORT



The Town celebrate Steve McNulty's goal

OFF THE MARK AT HOME

Steve McNulty's first-half header gave John Still his first home win in charge and the Hatters' first league win at Kenilworth Road in over two months.

Showing three changes to the side that drew at Wrexham on Saturday, Still handed a full debut to midfielder Solomon Taiwo, whilst Andre Gray and Jon Shaw started in attack.

Shaw, making his first appearance since the 1-1 draw at Macclesfield, had the first effort of the night on six minutes when drilling a low shot half a yard past the post following fine wing play from Dave Martin.

Stockport, beaten by the Hatters in Still's first game in charge at the beginning of the month, came close to going in front themselves a minute later when Simon Hackney burst into the box but couldn't test Mark Tyler.

Jonathan Smith volleyed over for the Town on the 15-minute mark before shooting over three minutes later after more skilful play down the left flank by Martin.

Clear-cut chances were at a real premium but, just as half time approached, the Hatters took the lead. Winning the first corner of the game, Martin drilled in the flag-kick from the left and McNulty was unmarked to rise and nod home his first goal for the club.

Gray almost made it 2-0 three minutes after the break when he raced down the left and sent a stinging low drive goalwards that Richard O'Donnell, the Stockport goalkeeper, did well to turn away from danger, diving at full stretch. Taiwo, impressive all evening on his home bow with his range of passing,

warmed O'Donnell's hands a minute later when curling a free-kick towards goal.

It was all the Town as County offered little going forward, and Martin came inches away from scoring a fine goal shortly before the hour mark when sending a first-time volley just wide of the target following Simon Ainge's high right-wing cross.

That near-miss sparked the visitors into life and on 61 minutes Mark Cullen's low shot needed to be stopped by Tyler, who saved well down to his right to prevent an equaliser.

All of a sudden it was end-to-end stuff. Gray almost teed up Shaw and Martin after snaking into the penalty area, before Tyler did well to cling onto a volley from Jon Macken.

The Hatters of the Bedfordshire variety were almost made to pay for their profligacy in front of goal when County left-back Sean Newton hit an effort a yard wide of the post with 11 minutes left.

That would be the visitors' last meaningful effort on goal as the Town lay siege in their opponents' half in search of a second goal in the final minutes.

Shaw had a shot on the turn blocked with 10 minutes left before substitute Dan Walker raced clear of the visiting defence with 90 seconds remaining but was unable to find an unmarked Jake Howells.

Walker then poked a shot at O'Donnell's legs in the first of three additional minutes and that proved to be the last action as the Town picked up a vital three points to leave them 10 adrift of the Play-Offs.



TOWN 1

1



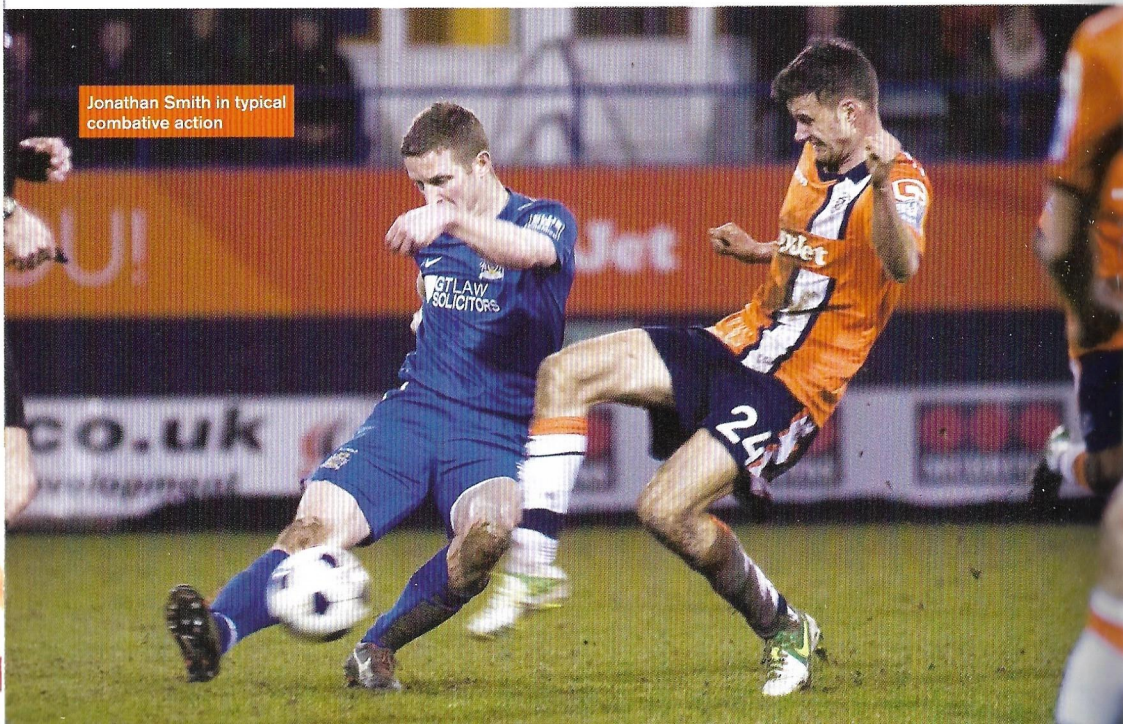
STOCKPORT 0

McNulty 44

The moment the Hatters took the lead through Steve McNulty



Jonathan Smith in typical combative action



Andre Gray holds off the attentions of James Tunnicliffe



POSSESSION	SHOTS OFF TARGET
56%	10
CORNERS	FOULS
6	10
OFFSIDES	YELLOW CARDS
4	0
SHOTS ON TARGET	RED CARDS
4	0

TOWN: Tyler, Ainge, Rowe-Turner, McNulty, Goodman, Martin, Howells, Taiwo, Smith, Shaw, Gray (sub Walker 76). **Subs not used:** Brill, Thomas, Robinson, Rendell.

STOCKPORT: O'Donnell, Newton, Vidal (sub Tunnicliffe 20), Fagbola, Charnock, Kenyon, Mainwaring (sub Cirak 82), Hackney, Schofield (sub Macken 58), Bullock, Cullen. **Subs not used:** Ormson, McDermott.

ATTENDANCE: 5,106 (83 Stockport)



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TOWN 1-0 STOCKPORT

BOSS SATISFIED WITH THREE POINTS

Happy with a win but disappointed the margin wasn't bigger was manager John Still's verdict after he saw his side recorded a 1-0 win over Stockport County.

Steve McNulty's header a minute before half time was enough to see off struggling County but, despite dominating the game for long spells, the Hatters couldn't find another goal, much to Still's frustration.

"I'm satisfied with the performance but we should have scored more goals," the boss told Hatters Player afterwards.

"However, I'm always happy with a clean sheet. Most of our work has been on the defensive side of things. We haven't done a lot of work attacking-wise but we do need to.

Pleased

"I was pleased with the defensive performance but we have some decent attacking players and we just need to move the ball quicker and be more positive. That's something we need to work on in the future - I wasn't happy with that aspect of our game tonight.

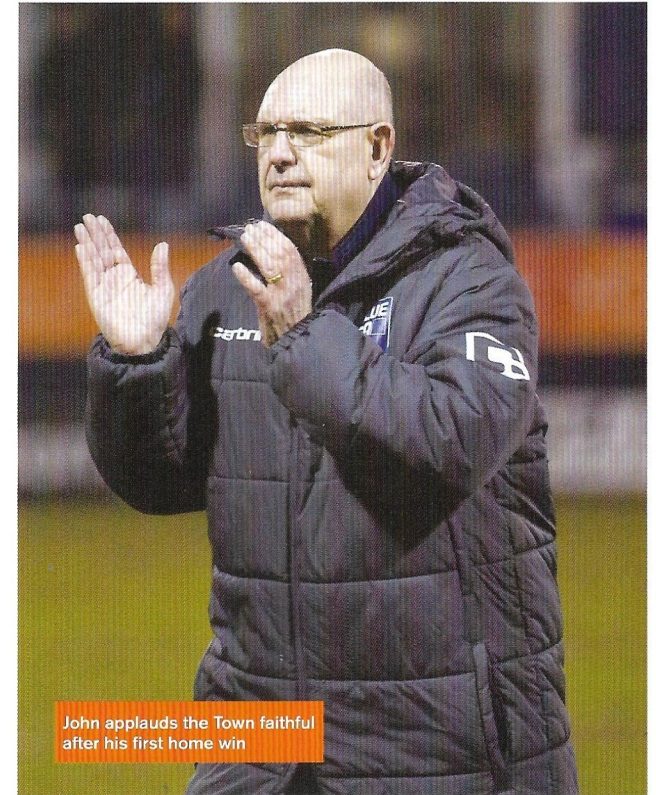
"That said, the biggest positive of the night was the victory - a win always is."

The victory was the Town's first at Kenilworth Road in the Blue Square Bet Premier since a 6-1 win over Barrow in early January and lifts Still's side to eighth in the table and 10 points off the Play-Offs.

And for Still, building momentum is key.

"It was important to get the first home win," he said. "We go again on Saturday, it's our second of three games on the bounce at home so let's try and win them shall we?"

"I want us to be bold, brave and positive. I don't mind losing when you're trying to win a game.



John applauds the Town faithful after his first home win

Keep winning

"Losing and winning are habits and you can get into either. We've got the habit of not conceding at the minute, which is pleasing - now we just need to keep winning."

The boss also revealed that the Hatters' busy schedule and the recent bad weather hasn't helped preparation for matches.

"I would have like to have worked on a lot more things but we've been playing games Saturday-Tuesday-Saturday," said Still.

"We haven't had an awful lot of time on the training pitch, the pitches we have been training on have been covered in water."

THE TRUST MEET...

JOHN STILL AND FRIENDS

On Thursday 7th March Trust in Luton met new Hatters boss John Still and his assistant Terry Harris as well as members of the Hatters board who were responsible for his appointment.

Gareth Owen was on hand to photograph the evening whilst we tweeted the all-important soundbites from those involved on the evening.

Check out Hatters Player for a 50-minute video of the Q&A session, and if you're not already a member of the Trust, head over to www.trustinluton.info.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS: "In my time here I want to make you happy and your children happy watching your club."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS: "I would take a hard-working player over a talented player any day. I'm not impressed by star players, I want workers."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

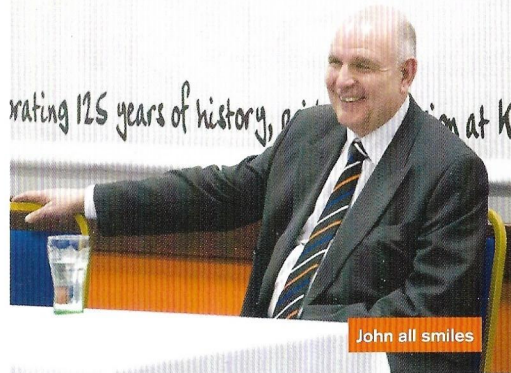
JS on transfer policy: "I want hungry, ambitious, loyal players that want to play for this club and make this club better."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS: "I like to find, coach, educate and develop players for Luton Town. I'll bring youth players through 100% - if they're good enough."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS: "This challenge is another unbelievable challenge. I know what I want, this is no quick fix. It's about finding the recipe."



John all smiles

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS on agents: "I'd never sign a player through an agent - I want to sit down and talk to the player. I'm not dictated by agents."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS: "I'm non-negotiable. I don't negotiate. That's the John Still way."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS: "I'm a small man in a big team." Praises Terry Harris, his assistant and network of scouts and coaches. "Without them I'm hopeless."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

Q: What is a John Still player? A: Ability isn't enough. They are players who want to get better and be part of a team.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

"Decisions on players will be made, I need to make an assessment first before I take the first step. I'm building the foundations."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS: "Players are here to play football - if it's not happening for an outside reason, he's not a John Still player."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS: "All day, every day I'm on the training ground." - In response to if he leaves training to coaches or not.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

Terry Harris on JS: "His football knowledge is second to none. He'll work 24/7 to achieve success. He's football through and through."



Gary Sweet explains

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

Confirmed he will use Fergie 'hairdryer' "if necessary". Said he won't ever publicly criticise a player.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

"The club will grow. If there's no foundation it isn't going to last. JS does success, but doesn't quick success."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS on squad: "I'm not looking to go crash, bang, wallop and bring loads of players in."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS on Solomon: "Foolishly turned down too many clubs when chance came but he's waited for me."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

Terry Harris asked if he wanted to stay at Dagenham for manager's job: "I've never been a #1"

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

TH: "Right time to leave Dagenham." Had 40-year association with the Essex club.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS: "A player has one job. To be a footballer. If they have another job they can go and do that."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

"You can't be a footballer Monday, Wednesday and Friday. You can't be a little bit pregnant. You're a footballer or you're not."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS hopes that local, young players will have a chance but structure of youth football has changed.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

"The dream would be that 11 players from around Luton would get us promoted...but that is a dream these days."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

Gary Sweet: We've invested £450,000 to keep youth system running this year. If in L2 we'd get £350,000 of that back.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

GS: Youth football is such an important part of our heritage and we want to keep it going.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

Over 150 applied for the managerial job, says Gary.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

Board met to decide "characteristics" of new manager, Wednesday after Macclesfield game.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS fitted the criteria, approached via third party, asked if an interest - came back positive.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

Bill Jennings: "The club is in the Conference and needs to get out and John's the man to do it"

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

Contracts of players out of contract. JS: "They'll be some I'll want to keep and others I won't - but I care about players."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

GS asked about three up, three down. "Even if we went up this year I hope there would be progress."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

Three up, three down wouldn't come into play until 2014/15 season at earliest, says Gary.

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

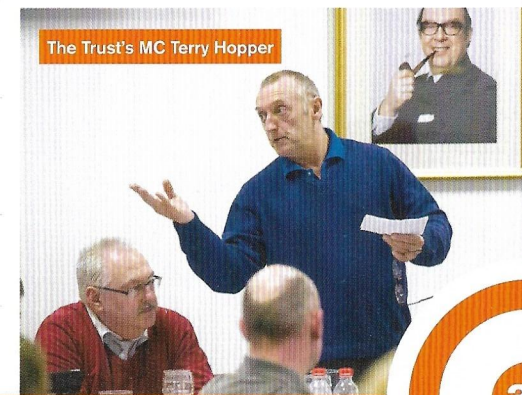
JS: "I am like a little kid. I love football and everything about."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

JS: "I want the players to become legends at Luton Town."

Luton Town @LTFC_Official

"You can find the prettiest girl in the world and it's not right...then you find not the prettiest in the world and it is." - Combinations.



The Trust's MC Terry Hopper

The Hatters Business Breakfast Club

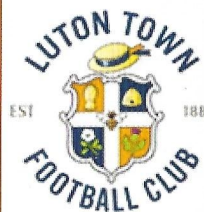
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ON THIS DAY

MARCH 23

THE RECORD

It's fair to say the Town haven't enjoyed this day in history, if you were to look at the results. However, there have been a few notable results to cherish and more of that later. But, back to the results, the Hatters have won just four of the 14 matches played on this day in the past, drawing two and losing eight times. The Town have scored just 18 times (just 1.28 goals per game) and have conceded 24 (1.7 goals per game). That doesn't make for pretty reading.

LAST TIME OUT

Those above figures would make for even worse reading if the Town hadn't had beaten Halifax Town 5-0 in their last action on this day back in 2002. The Hatters were in the midst of a record-breaking run of 12 successive wins on their march to promotion from League 2 when the Shaymen were seen off in style thanks to five goals from five different goalscorers. Strikes from Matthew Spring, Chris Coyne, Steve Howard, Dean Crowe and Jean-Louis Valois made it nine victories on the spin for Joe Kinnear's side. Halifax were relegated at the end of the campaign.

SEMI-FINAL BOUND

The Hatters booked their place in the semi-final of the FA Cup back on this day in 1994 following a dramatic 3-2 victory in a quarter-final replay over West Ham at Kenilworth Road. A dubious opener from Martin Allen had the Hammers ahead on the half-hour, before Scott Oakes levelled five minutes later. Oakes notched his second two minutes after the restart before the visitors equalised through Steve Bishop. However, on a topsy-turvy night before a crowd of 13,166, Oakes had the last word when robbing Steve Potts of the ball on the half-way line before unleashing an unstoppable shot to seal his hat-trick and earn the Town a place in the last four.

ONE MICKY HARFORD

Two trademark headers from striker Mick Harford secured the Town a 2-0 victory over Queens Park Rangers in the top flight at Kenilworth Road in 1985. His first came following a cross from Emeka Nwajobi, whilst his second was a bullet header from a perfect David

Preece cross. The Hatters spurned the chance of a third goal when Brian Stein had a penalty saved.

WE'RE ON OUR WAY

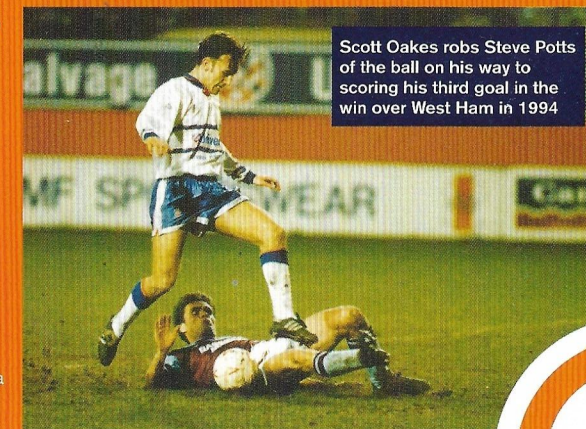
The Spring of 1968 saw the Hatters tighten their grip at the top of the Fourth Division (now League 2) with a hard-earned 2-1 win at Darlington. Bruce Rioch blasted the Town ahead direct from a free-kick before the Quakers equalised. But the Hatters had other ideas and Rodney Green secured the win with a goal just after the hour mark.

BAD DAYS...

So the above takes care of the four games worth shouting about, but the only other worthwhile result of note was a 2-2 draw earned against local rivals Watford at Vicarage Road in a Division 3 South fixture in 1935. The Town's only other draw on this day came in 1999 when Reading were the visitors to Kenilworth Road in Division 2 (now League 1). Graham Alexander missed an early penalty before Matthew Spring put the Town in front. The Hatters missed a host of chances before conceding an equaliser six minutes from the end.

THE NOT-SO-GREAT EIGHT

Of the Town's eight defeats on this day, only one has been at home – a 1-0 reverse against Clapton Orient in 1931. The Hatters' biggest margin of defeat is by three goals. A 4-1 defeat against Manchester United at Old Trafford in 1991, a 1951 5-2 loss at Doncaster and a 3-0 defeat at the hands of Crystal Palace in 1929.



Scott Oakes robs Steve Potts of the ball on his way to scoring his third goal in the win over West Ham in 1994

CENTRE SPOT



Simon Ainge bursts forward from right-back during the Town's 1-0 win over Stockport on Tuesday

PICTURE

THE PAST

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



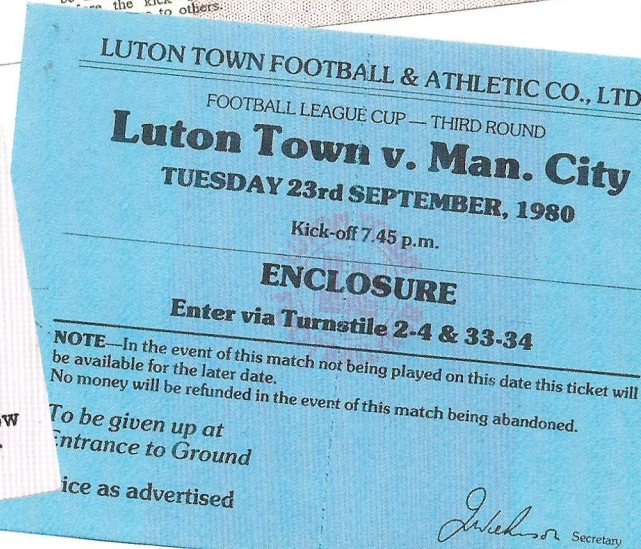
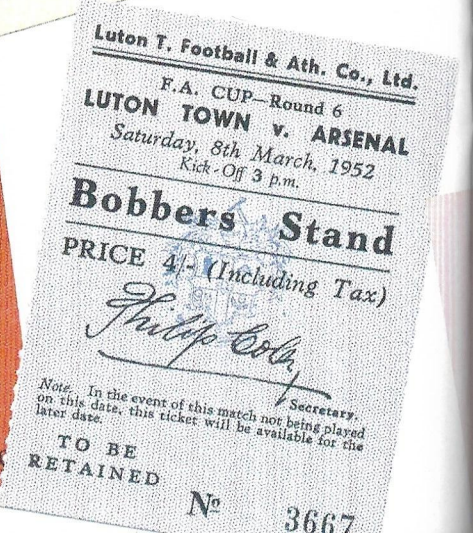
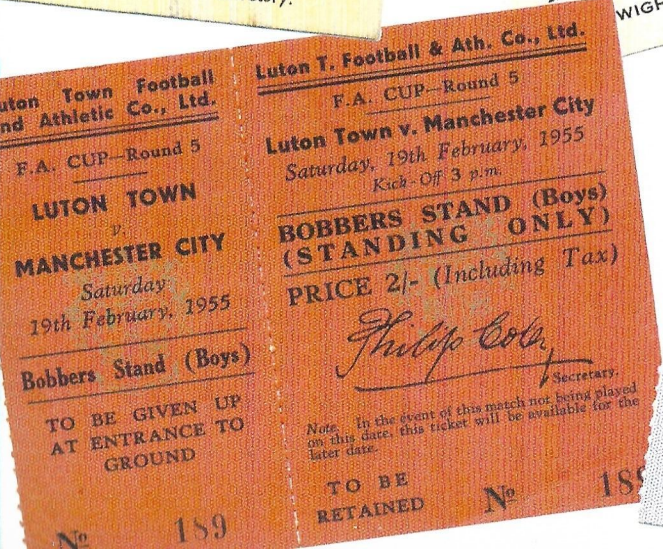
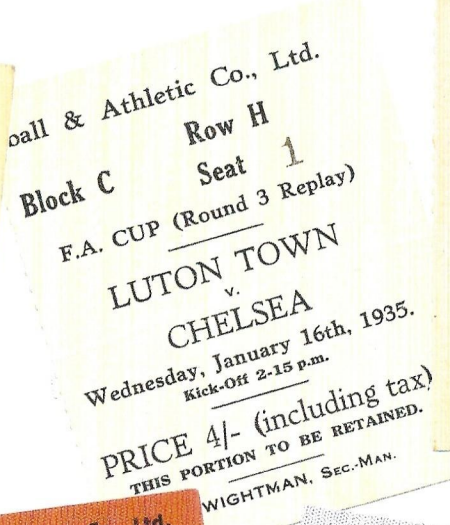
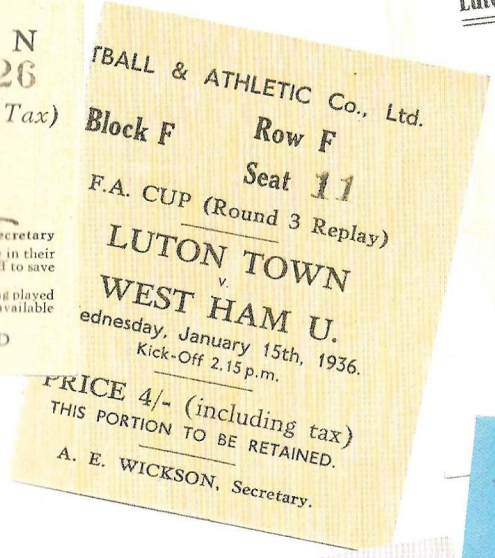
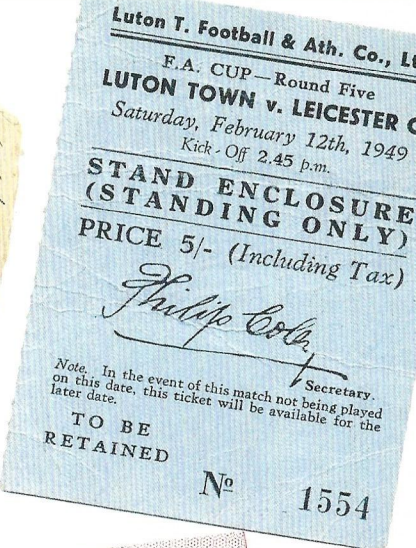
John Aston, on his home debut for the Hatters, shoots for goal in the 1-0 home win over Preston at Kenilworth Road in August 1972.

Aston, one of the best left wingers to play for the Town, made 201 first team appearances scoring 36 goals in a five-year spell at Luton.

TOWN TREASURES

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

Match tickets through the ages, featuring games at Dallow Lane, Dunstable Road and Kenilworth Road.



THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



Hugh Billington receives a rub down from trainers Tom Mackey and Arthur Pembleton in the spartan Kenilworth Road changing rooms of the 1940s.

Despite this rough treatment, Billington netted 70 goals in only 94 first team games for the Town before earning a transfer to Chelsea.

MEMORABLE MATCHES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH PICKS OUT THE BEST TOWN MATCHES DOWN THE YEARS

LUTON TOWN 7-0 SOUTHAMPTON

19TH OCTOBER 1985

On 19th October 1985, the Hatters were due to take part in a run of the mill Division One game against Southampton at Kenilworth Road but, by the time of the final whistle, the word 'ordinary' was the last one that could be used to describe an amazing match.

The 1985/86 season had started off to a fanfare of trumpets as the club unveiled its new artificial surface at Kenilworth Road but, after the London press had travelled up the M1 to take a look and offer their grudging approval, the football started off in a gentle fashion.

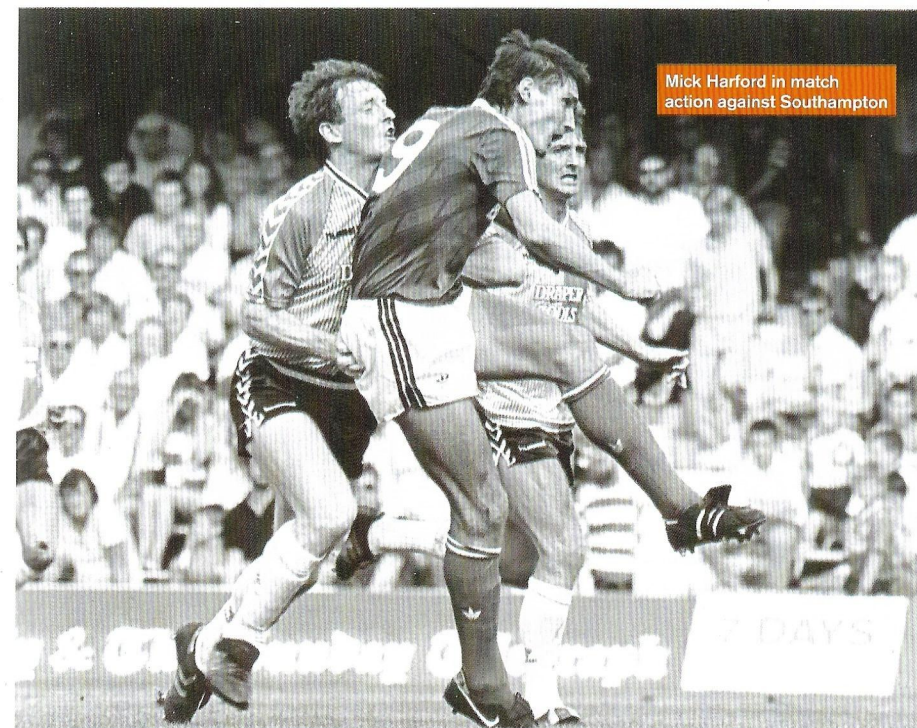
After an opening day draw at home to Nottingham Forest, the Town drew at Newcastle before winning 1-0 at West Ham with Mick Harford netting the only goal from the spot.

The next three away games were all lost and although points were still being picked up at home, the season was rapidly turning into a disappointment given the high expectations of the club following the massive investment on the playing side during the previous campaign.

At great cost, by normal Luton standards, Mick Harford, David Preece, Peter Nicholas and Steve Foster had been brought to Kenilworth Road and a position in the bottom half of the table was seen as unacceptable.

The season then actually turned with, of all things, a home draw. Manchester United came to Kenilworth Road in early October on the back of 10 straight wins and were hoping to equal the record winning start to a campaign set by Tottenham in 1960. In a tremendous game, watched by a crowd of 17,454, the Town were more than a match for United and but for a glaring late miss by central defender Paul Elliott, all three points would have been won.

Manager David Pleat felt that he still needed more firepower and was on the lookout for another forward, after narrowly losing out in the chase for Frank McAvennie, who had decided to opt for West Ham rather than the Town in the summer. In the lead up to the Southampton game Pleat was quoted as saying that he was frustrated by the lack of goals which the general build up played deserved.



Mick Harford in match action against Southampton

Equally frustrated were the Luton supporters, as only 8,876 bothered to turn up for the visit of the Saints - half the attendance that had witnessed the game with United only a fortnight previously. The fans who stayed away missed a treat as the Hatters went goal crazy making a complete mockery of Pleat's misgivings.

Seven goals were slammed past England goalkeeper Peter Shilton without reply, making it the most miserable day of his career. He was offered no protection by his defenders when Harford and Brian Stein interchanged passes to set up Emeka Nwajobi to open the scoring after only five minutes.

Ricky Hill and Harford combined to put in Stein to double the score on the half hour and, when Hill side-footed home the third before the interval, the game was as good as over.

Harford was dragging another England international, Mark Wright, around in circles as the Town continued in the second period as they finished the first.

With gaps appearing all over the place, Foster found time to join the attack and when his shot was blocked Stein followed up to make it 4-0. Preece was on hand to touch in a far-post cross for the fifth with substitute Ray Daniel knocking in number six just before the end. Stein's hat-trick was completed in the final minute when he converted a penalty after Harford was pushed by Wright in the area.

Pleat was as dumbfounded as the crowd and could only say at the post-match press conference, "Just write about the football, it spoke for itself," he said.

Saints manager, and ex-Luton centre-half, Chris Nicholl bravely attended the conference even though he was shell-shocked. "It was just rank bad defending," fumed Nicholl, "my defenders badly let me down. I was always an honest player but there are a few in the dressing room who can't look me in the face right now."

Exonerated from blame was Glenn Cockerill who was making his debut for the Saints after turning down the overtures of David Pleat and probably regretting the decision. Also blameless was Shilton who had not let in seven goals since he was a 19-year-old at Leicester and who kept the score down with a string of fine saves.

"No-one likes letting in seven but I don't think I made a bad mistake for any of them. There is no self pity. I don't want to talk about how I felt after the match, but I can tell you that the dog was in its basket when I got home!"

Luton: Sealey, Breacker, Thomas, Nicholas, Foster, Donaghy, Hill, Stein, Harford, Nwajobi, Preece (sub Daniel).

Southampton: Shilton, Baker, Wright, Bond, Dennis, Case, Lawrence, Armstrong, Townsend, Cockerill, Moran.



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STEVE

McNULTY

MATCH-WINNER ON COUNTY VICTORY

Tuesday's match-winner Steve McNulty believes the Town have responded in the best possible way to the disappointing home defeat to Hyde with four points and two clean sheets in their last two matches.

The 29-year-old centre-half popped up with the only goal of the game against struggling Stockport on Tuesday night as the Hatters picked up their first victory at Kenilworth Road under new manager John Still.

With a point at title-chasing Wrexham last Saturday and the win over County on Tuesday, the defender believes the Town are steadily heading in the right direction.

"The supporters had every right to tell us what they thought of the performance against Hyde because it wasn't good enough," said McNulty, who has skipped the side in the last two games in the absence of Ronnie Henry.

"The fans pay good money to watch us, they help fund our wages and it's only right they air their opinion.

"We're just as disappointed as the supporters, though. We don't go out and perform the way we did that night deliberately. Losing hurts us, too – no footballer wants to lose.

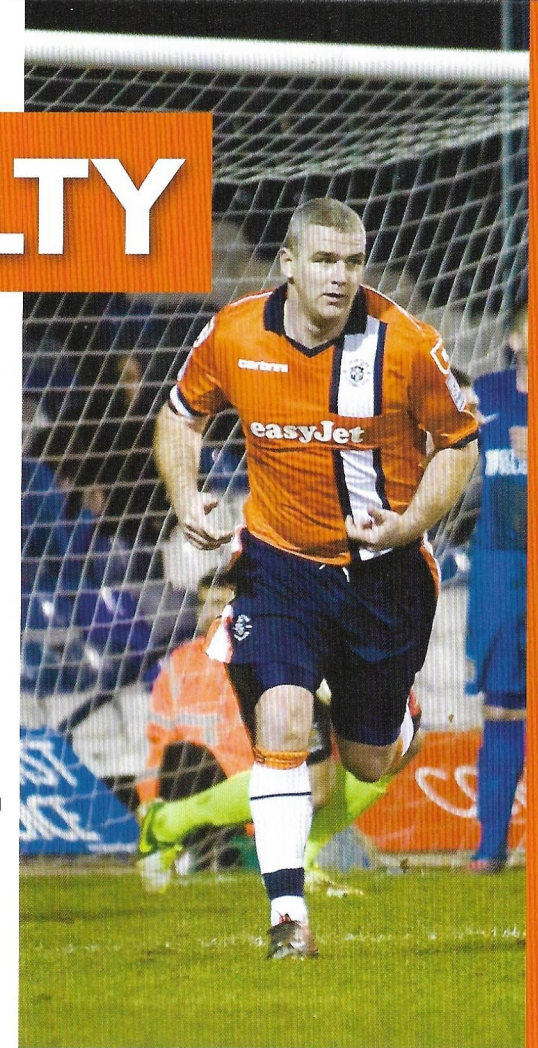
Work

"We've done a lot of work on the training ground on defending and it's slowly starting to pay off. We've kept four clean sheets under John now and we're improving all the time. Now we've got to keep it going and build some momentum."

Still has admitted most of the work on the training ground has been on defending and four clean sheets in six matches is testament to that hard graft.

"There have been games where we have been conceding three goals at home and you can't expect your strikers to go and score four," added McNulty. "We've tightened up considerably at the back and we've put that right.

"John's told us what he expects of us. He wants us to push up quicker and work harder and I think we are becoming much more organised as a team."



In 93 league appearances for former club Fleetwood, McNulty notched three goals from central defence.

His first for the Town on Tuesday was as simple as they come – a bullet header from Dave Martin's corner.

But it's clean sheets and three points rather than goals and plaudits that Tuesday's man of the match prefers.

"I'm happy to get off the mark but as a defender a clean sheet is always more important," said McNulty.

"It was a great cross for the goal – it was the delivery that made it. All I had to do was head it. I had plenty of the goal to aim at.

"It's a good three points and we have two more home games on the spin now. We've got to take advantage of these home matches. You never know what might happen."

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JON SHAW

STRIKER LOOKS AHEAD

Jon Shaw is anticipating good times ahead for the Hatters as he looks end a frustrating season with a flourish.

The Sheffield-born striker has scored nine goals in all competitions during a stop-start first campaign at Kenilworth Road and was back in the starting XI on Tuesday night having fully recovered from a hamstring injury.

And the forward, who scored 35 times for Gateshead last season, believes the Town still have a squeak at the Play-Offs if they continue to improve under new manager John Still.

"If you take away the cup run – which was an amazing once-in-a-life-time achievement for a club of our size – it's been a frustrating season all round," Shaw told Hatters Player after the 1-0 win over Stockport on Tuesday – his first appearance since the 1-1 draw with Macclesfield in February.

"I came here in the summer with the intention of helping this club win the league, play 40-50 games and score 20-30 goals. A lack of form, being played out of position and injury has meant that hasn't materialised which is disappointing. As a team our form slipped too, and we only have ourselves to blame.

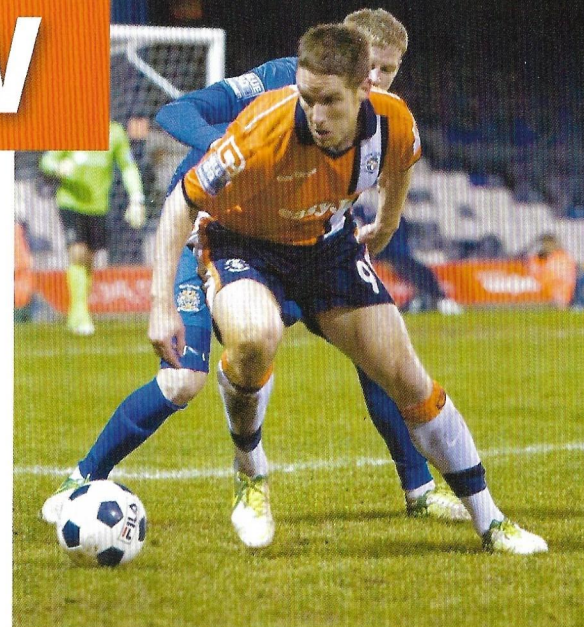
"However, we have nine games left. I'm sure there are people out there who say we can't get in the Play-Offs but the pressure is off of us now. Let's see where we are in the next four or five games. It's interesting now.

Bad run

"We all knew that we had been on a bad run and whilst we weren't winning the teams above us were, and the gap opened. It's bad timing on our part and we only have ourselves to blame. We have nine games left though, and if we can pick up some more 1-0 wins, stay undefeated and continue to keep clean sheets then we have a chance.

"We have a new manager with his own ideas. Let's hope it's the winning formula."

That formula could play into Shaw's hands – or head, rather. The new boss has already gone on record to explain the importance of playing the striker with two wingers on either flanks.



And it was a comment that did not go unnoticed by the 29-year-old.

"It's nice to hear the new gaffer saying that," said Shaw. "I've preached before saying that I score the majority of my goals from balls into the box.

"I really worked well under Paul Buckle and always understood how and why he wanted us to play the way we did. Wherever I've played, or whoever I've played under, I've always done a job for the team.

"I made no secret of my frustration that I wasn't always in the box playing with wingers because, as I've said, that's how my game works."

Find the target

The striker naturally wanted to find the target against Stockport but it wasn't to be on his comeback.

"It was frustrating but as a forward you have to keep going, keep making those runs and believe that the ball is going to find you," added Shaw.

"But it was good to get back in the team. I've been fit for about 10 days but the manager wanted to give me a proper week's training to get back to full fitness first.

"It was good to get 90 minutes under my belt. I was half-expecting to have 60 or 70 minutes and I had a little glance to the bench around the 70 and 80 minute mark to see if I'm number would come up but I'm happy to be back playing and pleased we've won as well!"

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SOLOMON

TAIWO

MIDFIELDER PLEASSED WITH FULL DEBUT

There were a number of positives from the Town's 1-0 win over Stockport on Tuesday and one of those was the display of midfielder Solomon Taiwo.

After making his debut as a substitute in the 0-0 draw with Wrexham last Saturday, the 27-year-old was given his first start by manager John Still against County and impressed in the heart of midfield alongside Jonathan Smith.

His boss had hinted before the game that he would only be given an hour, but Taiwo was given the full 90 minutes and was understandably pleased.

"I think the boys did well and I was relatively pleased with my own performance too, as I haven't played in a while," the Town's number 31 told Hatters Player.

"I'm still getting to know the players and the system and, all things considered, I'm happy."

Training

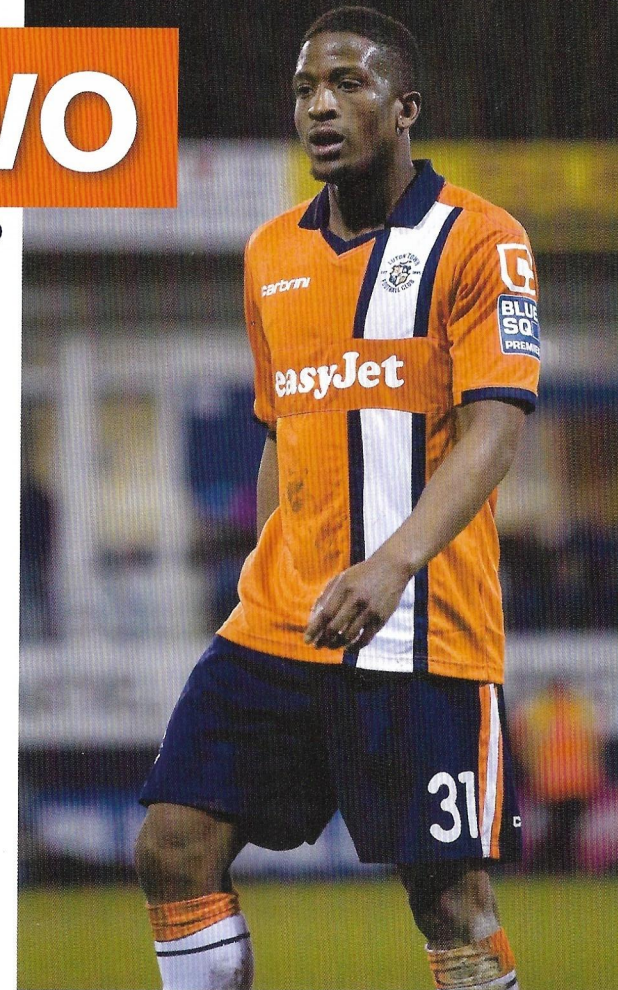
Fixture congestion and inclement weather have hampered the Town's training routine, which has frustrated the midfielder in his attempt to return to full fitness.

"It's not been ideal since I arrived here to be honest," said Taiwo. "The weather hasn't been great but that's no excuse, I've had to knuckle down and try and prove my fitness and get sharp.

"As it was my first game I was taking it all in my stride – I was running on adrenaline for much of it. I wanted to do well on my debut. But you need to do well in the next game, and the next, and so on.

"I was playing at around 80-85 per cent fitness. I did have to conserve my energy because it is difficult when you haven't played much recently.

"There were certain times when I could have made runs forward and I'm positive I'll get back to that stage



very soon. Now I'm older and wiser now I can now play the simpler pass, I can play smart and stay disciplined.

"I've played 90 minutes, but do I want to play another 90 minutes on Saturday? Of course I do, without a doubt. I want to play in every game."

At Dagenham, under Still, Taiwo was renowned for his eye-catching, all-action displays, and that's something the midfielder wants to bring to Kenilworth Road.

"The manager has said in our half we have to play the percentages – get out of there, but in the opponents' half we've got the license to go and play," said Taiwo.

"That's what I try and do. If I see where I can play a defence-splitting pass then I will try and execute them if it's for the good of the team."

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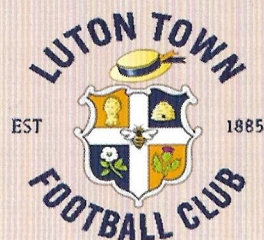
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FROM THE PRESS BOX

WITH FORMER LUTON NEWS SPORTS EDITOR BRIAN SWAIN

On my final Kenny pilgrimage of the season, I hope this afternoon to meet the man I consider the best signing Luton Town have ever made.

Now there's a subject to spark a debate. My early memories throw up several contenders, headed by Bob Morton, Gordon Turner and Syd Owen, stars of our first-ever team in the old First Division. That was in the 50s, but the early 60s were awful.

We slumped from top to bottom, although there were a few inspired signings even in those grim days, such as Terry Branston, John Moore, John O'Rourke and Bruce Rioch. You might include young winger David Pleat, not for his playing contribution but for his later brilliance as manager.

Our top player in the 70s was Malcolm Macdonald, a £17,500 snip from Fulham in the summer of 1969, while Jim Ryan was another who was a double delight as a player and manager. The other contender from Harry Haslam's reign is Brian Stein, second behind Turner in our all-time marksmen's list, and hero of Maine Road '83 and Wembley '88. Ray Harford later called Stein, "the best finisher I have ever seen," and that after knew what he had managed Alan Shearer at Blackburn.

Harford won the plaudits for taking us to the 3-2 Littlewoods Cup victory, but his team owed much to the work of the two managers before him, David Pleat and John Moore.

Inspired signings

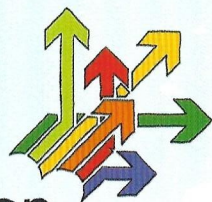
Pleat's first foray into management surpassed all our hopes, and he was our best manager at recruiting contenders for the 'best-ever signing' debate. He inherited a few from Haslam, notably Steve Buckley, Ricky Hill, Paul and Paul Futch. But to build the squad that gave us a decade of First Division football, Pleat's inspired signings included Kirk Stephens, Mal Donaghy, David Moss, Mick Harford, Brian Horton, Steve Foster, Paul Walsh, and David Preece.

Our slump of the 1990s saw the club follow painful selling policies. A chairman from that era would perhaps offer as 'best-ever signings' players who cost nothing but were sold for seven-figure fees: Kingsley Black £1.5m, John Hartson £2.5m, Mark Pembridge £1.25m, Paul Telfer £1.5m and Matthew Upson £2m.

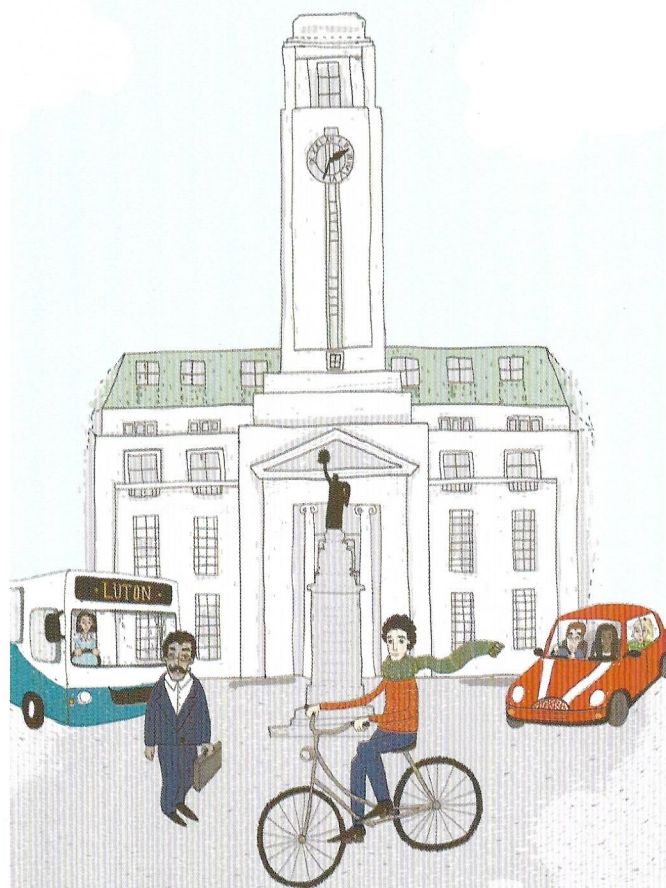


To go back to where I began this column, my choice of our best-ever signing is John Moore. Born in Scotland, he came to Luton in 1965 as a 22-year-old after only three first-team opportunities in two years at Motherwell. A solid defender and natural leader, he played a major part in lifting the Town from the old Fourth Division up to the Second, and made 274 appearances in 10 years. He played briefly for Northampton before Pleat brought Moore back to join the coaching staff. When Pleat went to Tottenham in 1986 Moore took over and led the Town to seventh in what is now the Premier League, still our highest-ever finish.

But being a high profile manager was not for Moore. After one season he walked away from football so as not to queer the pitch as his assistant, Harford, took charge. Four years later new boss Ryan brought Moore back to coach the youth team. He retired 10 years ago, at 60, but is still a dedicated Town fan, with the John Moore lounge a well-deserved tribute to a great clubman.



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THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

BY CHIEF REPORTER STUART HAMMONDS

We've all been at a game and heard a tannoy man get a little too excited, going that bit too far with the authority of a mic conveying his views to a couple of thousand pairs of open ears.

Like the Cambridge United man who, at the end of the disappointing recent home defeat to Blue Square Bet Premier strugglers Nuneaton Town, thanked "everyone for turning up in this freezing weather...and putting up with this!"

Admittedly, that one was quite mild compared to the temperature that January night, and also by comparison to one of his Abbey Stadium predecessors who taunted under-pressure Cambridge City manager Jack White at the end of a 1960s derby win by playing 'Hit The Road Jack'. Ouch!

Last season, the Hibernian PA man Willie Docherty lost his job for playing Beatles track 'Taxman' during an Edinburgh derby with Hearts, mocking their rivals' impending winding-up order over an unpaid tax bill of £450,000.

And the local wind-ups go on and on, like when the Kidderminster PA played the Casualty theme tune as a Burton Albion player received treatment following a theatrical fall in pre-season 2009.

I was at Aggborough towards the end of the following season when Stevenage turned up to seal their Conference title win. Before kick-off, the expectant travelling fans sang 'this time we're going up', as Harriers tried to make their own end-of-season presentations. "You've not gone up yet, so shut up while we make our presentation," ordered the PA man, who was soon warning that two cars were in danger of being blocked in by local residents. "If you can afford a Mercedes and a Lexus, you can both afford to pay for the car park," he announced.

Then, when Boro's players made their way over to manager Graham Westley's technical area for their regular 'time-out' session as a team-mate received treatment midway through each half, the PA man came back on to say: "If I can just remind you during the Stevenage tea-break..."

On the subject of cars, what is it about Mansfield fans and their inability to close windows?

Twice this season when I've been there, the One Call Stadium tannoy man has informed fans that one of their number needs to return to their vehicle because "you've left your window open". The first time was a freezing December midweek night when he simply read the registration number out.

The second time – against AFC Telford – we got the make, model, colour and location, though he stopped short of telling everyone there was a sat-nav stuck to the window, an iPod on the front seat and a suitcase full of cash in the boot!

Like the Kiddy man, Wealdstone's PA guy likes to issue orders. As Newport County fans celebrated reaching last season's FA Trophy final on the Stones' pitch, he asked: "Newport fans, can you please get off the pitch so our lads can do a lap of honour?"

When they failed to move, the man with the mic started to bellow: "NEWPORT! NEWPORT! Get off the pitch!"

Then there is simply the classic comedy timing, like in a League 2 Play-Off semi-final at The Rec when Aldershot's Aaron Brown played a backpass blind and Rotherham's Adam Le Fondre nipped in to tap it home.

As everyone trudged back to halfway for the restart came the announcement: "And the Aldershot man of the match...Aaron Brown!"

Let us know your favourites by emailing nlp@greenwayspublishing.co.uk.



Anyone for drinks? Former Stevenage boss Graham Westley

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	A	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	W 4-0	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	Amu 2, Smith

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 17	Watford	A	W 2-1	Banton, McKenzie-Lowe
Sat 24				In Service Training

DECEMBER

Tue 04	Peterborough United	H	W 2-0	Amu, Mwgala
Sat 08	Northampton Town	A	W 3-0	Jibodu, Banton, Amu

JANUARY

Sat 12	Milton Keynes Dons	H	L 2-3	Magarushe, Pittfield
Sat 26	Leyton Orient	H	D 2-2	Banton, Smith

FEBRUARY

Sat 09	Stevenage	H	W 2-0	Amu, McKenzie-Lowe
Tue 19	Dagenham & Redbridge	A	W 2-0	Smith (pen), Banton
Sat 23	Aldershot Town	A	D 1-1	Banton

MARCH

Sat 02	AFC Wimbledon	H	W 4-3	Banton, McKenzie-Lowe, Smith (pen), Longden
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APRIL

Sat 16	Southend United	H	P-P	
Tue 26	AFC Wimbledon	A	2.00pm	
Sat 23	Portsmouth	A	11.00am	
Sat 06	Gillingham	H	11.00am	
Sat 13	Crawley Town	A	11.00am	

YOUTH UPDATE

The Town Under-18s travelled to Portsmouth this morning in search of a victory that could put them top of the Youth Alliance table.

Paul Driver's youngsters sit in joint second place, behind Watford on 28 points with a game in hand over the Hornets, and leaders Leyton Orient - who are three points clear at the top.

Last weekend's home game with Southend United was postponed and has yet to be rearranged but the trip to AFC Wimbledon, also called off earlier this month, has now been pencilled in for this coming Tuesday, kick-off 2pm. That afternoon also sees Orient and Watford take on each other at London Colney.

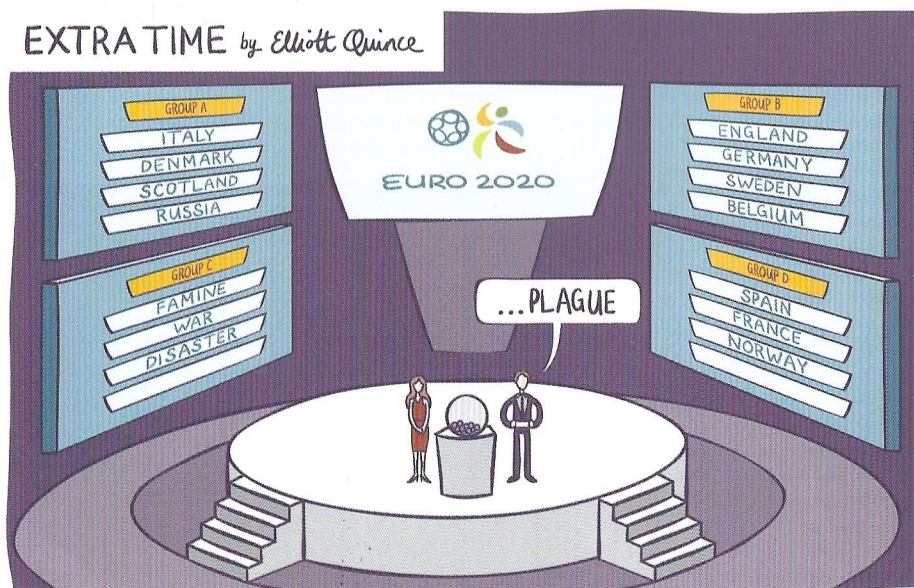
A report of this afternoon's match with Portsmouth will be in Tuesday's issue of Talk of the Town.

Under-18 goalscorers: Banton 11, Amu 9, McKenzie-Lowe 9, Smith 8, Jibodu 2, Davis 1, Longden 1, Magarushe 1, Nwagla 1, Pittfield 1, Trotman 1, own goals 1.

YOUTH ALLIANCE SOUTH EAST TABLE

Team	P	W	GD	PTS
1 Leyton Orient	17	9	14	31
2 Watford	17	8	13	28
3 Luton Town	16	8	7	28
4 Dagenham & Redbridge	17	7	0	26
5 Gillingham	16	6	1	23
6 Aldershot Town	15	7	-1	23
7 Milton Keynes Dons	14	7	-4	23
8 Southend United	14	6	2	22
9 Portsmouth	14	5	7	20
10 AFC Bournemouth	12	4	-2	17
11 Peterborough United	15	5	-8	17
12 AFC Wimbledon	15	3	-3	16
13 Stevenage	14	4	-8	15
14 Northampton Town	16	4	-7	13
15 Crawley Town	14	2	-11	9

EXTRA TIME by Elliott Quince



Group C was shaping up to be the group of Death

2012/13 YOUTH TEAM

KIT SPONSORS

 ZANE BANTON HOME: First Capital Connect AWAY: Available	 TINASHE CHABATA HOME: Available AWAY: Available	 LEEROY MAGARUSHE HOME: Available AWAY: Available	 AREL AMU HOME: DW Sports AWAY: Available
 JEMALE MCKENZIE-LOWE HOME: Available AWAY: Available	 IAN REES HOME: Available AWAY: Available	 CHARLIE SMITH HOME: Peter Mitchell AWAY: ZMB	 BEN MCFARLANE-BARNES HOME: Available AWAY: Available GLOVES: Available
 JOSH CARPENTER HOME: Harborough Town Football Club AWAY: Available GLOVES: Available	 JORDAN DAVIS HOME: Lucy Francome AWAY: Available	 JEROME JIBODU HOME: Doug Knight AWAY: Doug Knight	 NICK BURTENSHAW HOME: Available AWAY: Available
 JERRY NASH HOME: Moira Spain AWAY: Available	 ZAK STEPHENS HOME: Available AWAY: Available	 BRETT LONGDEN HOME: Mike Tearie AWAY: Available	

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ACADEMY

UPDATE

WITH SCOTT SMITH

Good afternoon and welcome to Kenilworth Road. I am pleased to be able to update you all with what has so far proven to be an extremely positive season for the foundation phase at Luton Town's Academy, which encompasses the age groups between under 6 and under 10.

As you read this I will be in the North West of the country with our Under-8s who will just be finishing their weekend of games against Liverpool and Manchester United. The boys will now be recovering and looking forward to the stadium tour of Old Trafford tomorrow. The weekend away will be a great experience for the boys both on and off the pitch. Not only will the boys be pitting their wits against two of the biggest clubs in the country – if not the world – but for many it will also mark their first overnight trip away from home. It is opportunities like these that we as a football club are proud to offer our boys, and illustrates how serious we are in continuing to provide the best level of development for our players.

At the club we encourage bright, creative, free-flowing attacking football especially at the younger age groups, with the aim of empowering the players with the freedom to go and express themselves on the pitch. With this in mind I was recently asked to write a report on the progress of our academy teams at the foundation phase and began reviewing our under-9 and under-10 teams' progress this season.

Despite winning or losing holding little importance at youth football, the scores are still logged (away from the players) for administrative purposes. On inspection of these I think it is fair to say we are

definitely moving towards the aforementioned target of attacking football with our under-9s and under-10s notching up a remarkable combined goal difference of plus 384! These age groups have played some scintillating football this season and a goal difference of such significance is a pleasing by-product of some exceptional performances. It is pleasing to see that the high quality of player Luton Town's famous academy is renowned for is only getting stronger with the current crop of players at the academy's youngest age groups.

I would also like to congratulate Leighton Gibbs on signing for our under-10 academy side this season. Leighton's path into academy football advocates the youth structure in place at the club which provides a large number of boys the opportunity to be coached by Luton's top coaches in our development centres, whilst staying with their club sides.

Each age group has a pre-academy side and two centre of excellence teams which allows for a more longitudinal development approach. Leighton started with Luton via our Talent Identification Programme. He missed out on being signed as an academy player during his under-8 season, but stayed with the club and spent last season in our centre of excellence and started this season in our pre-academy.

This allowed us to monitor Leighton's progress and during this season we felt he had made sufficient improvements to his game to be signed for our academy. Leighton's success story is just one of many, with 12 players having progressed from within the club's tiered youth system into academy football with Luton Town. We look forward to this number to continue to grow.

Last season's under-8 group line up prior to their match against Manchester United

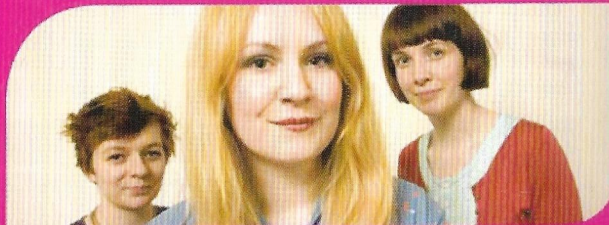
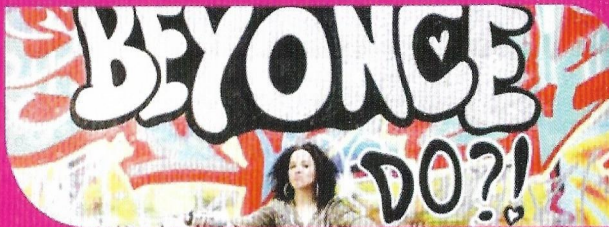
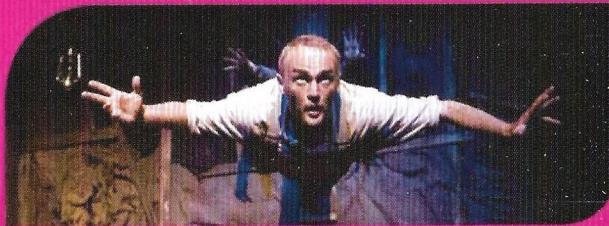


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LUTON LADIES

The Ladies' season so far has very much been one of inconsistency punctuated with glimpses of just how good the squad could be going forward.

A mid-table finish looks likely which is disappointing considering the players we have available without the issues of injury and work commitments. "The season did not begin too well with us gifting goals to the opposition and not being able to get back into the game," manager Nikki Baker told Talk of the Town. "We have on the face of it an experienced and well-organised defence and have spent many sessions working more on the unit as a whole as our goals conceded doesn't reflect the quality of defence we have.

"Creating opportunities at the other end has not proved a problem but converting them is something else. We have been inconsistent as a group in front of goal and that has meant that a defensive error is always going to be costly if we cannot right that at the other end. We do need to work harder at eliminating errors to give ourselves a chance of returning to the Premier League in the future. The women's game is undergoing another restructure at the end of next season and we need to be in the strongest possible position by then to be in the shake up.

"Without doubt the best performance of the season so far was the 4-2 away win at Norwich in the FA Cup (now there's a coincidence!) where we carried out the game plan to perfection and looked like the team we are capable of being."

Due to the number of injuries that the club has had to endure this season it has been very difficult for our reserve squad to have anything like a consistent line up and that has reflected their results when they have suffered a heavy defeat one week but bounced back the following week to win well. Being the only reserve squad in a very competitive league the anticipated mid-table finish will be some achievement.

The senior youth squad at under-18 have had an excellent season where they are chasing the treble of the league title, league cup and county cup. They have a 100 per cent record in all competitions this season and it is encouraging to see eligible players moving into the reserve squad and performing admirably.

Ladies general manager Dave Baker is hoping the team's success can attract more players for next season.

He said: "We are now actively looking for players for next season aged 16 and over who feel that they are capable of performing at up to National standard or working towards.

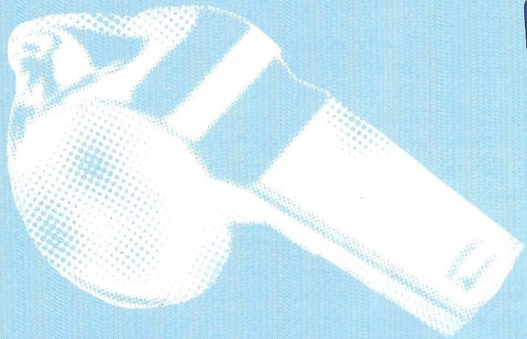
"We remain ambitious to regain Premier League status and experience shows that this will only happen if we keep refreshing the squad on a regular basis as competition for places is very important."

Any players interested in becoming part of the Luton Town Ladies set up please contact lutontownlfc@hotmail.co.uk to express an interest. We also seek players at both under-14 and under-15 players for next season to strengthen those squads.



#NONSENSEINFOOTBALL

"AN INCH OR TWO
EITHER SIDE OF THE POST
AND THAT WOULD HAVE
BEEN A GOAL."



ENOUGH
SAID.
JUST
BET

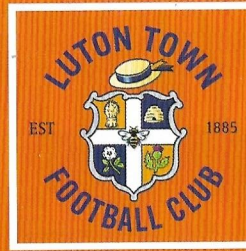


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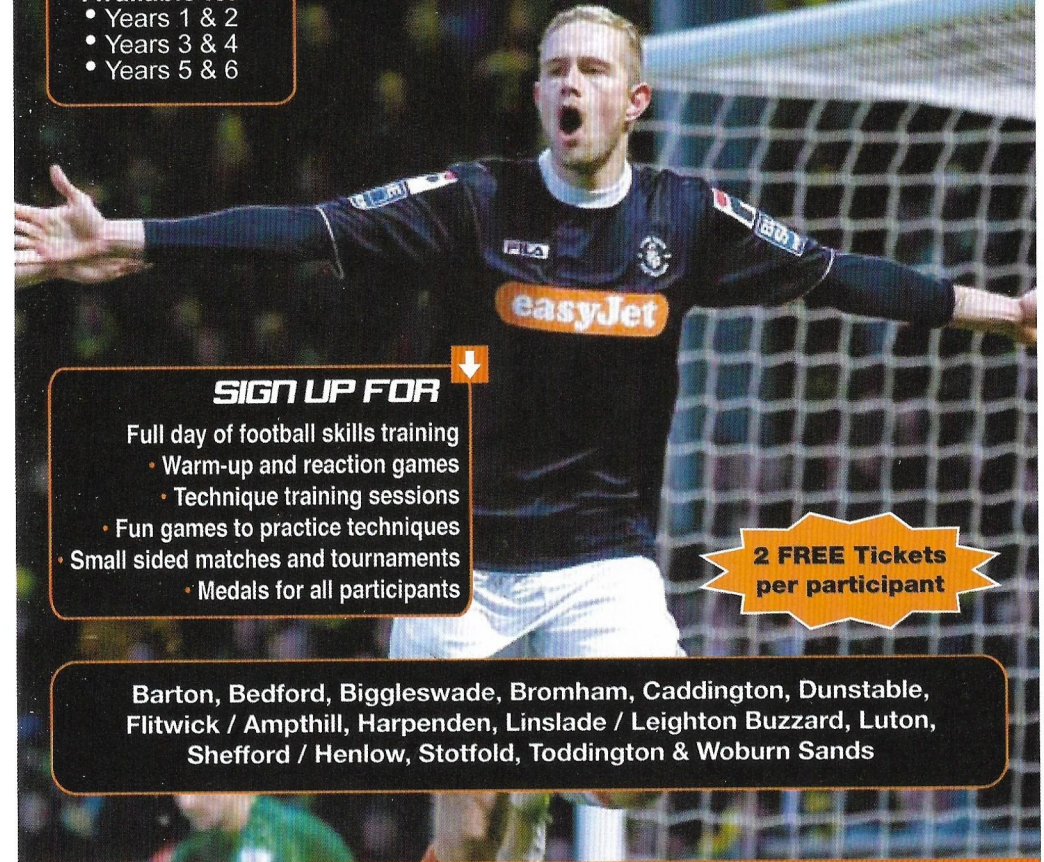
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LEAGUE LOOK

**JOE FLEMONS ROUNDS UP
THE LATEST IN THE BSBP**

After a season of high-tempo, extravagant, unpredictable football the Blue Square Bet Premier ruffled up another epic round of fixtures this past week with yet another different side topping the table at the death.

Kidderminster now hold the mantle and sit in the prime position for automatic promotion after they triumphed over fellow promotion hunters Newport County. The Exiles have slipped off the pace in recent weeks and it was a sense of déjà vu for County when Michael Gash netted for the 17th time of the campaign in 30 minutes. Andy Sandell restored hope for the hosts, however, to level at the interval but Cheyenne Dunkly netted in injury time to secure all three points for Harriers and hoist them to the top of the table.

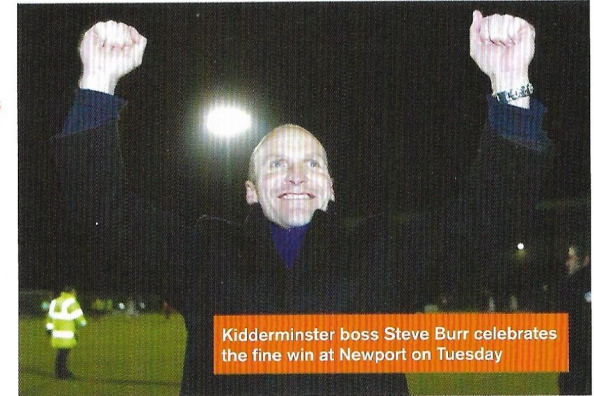
Harriers' lead the way from Mansfield, whose proposed fixture with Wrexham fell victim to the weather meaning yet further fixture list concerns for both of the sides still in the race for promotion.

Their promotion bids remain on course for the automatic push but one side who will now have their sights set on the Play-Offs alone is Grimsby who slumped to yet another defeat against Nuneaton. The Mariners now find themselves 10 points off the summit with games ticking down as they prepare for this weekend's FA Trophy final at Wembley against Wrexham.

Macclesfield kept their faint promotion hopes alive with a home win against basement club Telford. Waide Fairhurst opened the scoring at Moss Rose just three minutes into the game before Steve Jones drew the game level before half time.

The home side seemed to be heading for a disappointing two points dropped at home when former Hatter Matthew Barnes-Homer popped up to net a stoppage time winner and push the Silkmen to within six points of the final Play-Off place.

The defeat leaves AFC Telford five points adrift of the pack at the foot of the table and nine points off safety. Even more worryingly for the Bucks they have played more games than any other in the division and, with the



Kidderminster boss Steve Burr celebrates the fine win at Newport on Tuesday

teams above them playing catch up, that gap could be extended over the coming weeks.

Ebbsfleet are the side that lie just above Telford and also find themselves in relegation trouble after Cambridge's Lewis Dunk's 80th-minute equaliser stole two points away from Fleet after Matt Godden had given them a 70th minute advantage.

Barrow took a step closer to a fighting chance of survival with a crucial 1-0 win away at Dartford. A combative hour had passed with very little chances until Richie Baker stepped up to the penalty spot with 15 minutes remaining. Baker calmly dispatched the spot kick to give the Bluebirds their first win in four.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

SOUTHPORT v KIDDERMINSTER (1PM)

BARROW v EBBSFLEET

BRAINTREE v ALFRETON

DARTFORD v GATESHEAD

HEREFORD v HYDE

LINCOLN v AFC TELFORD

MANSFIELD v MACCLESFIELD

NUNEATON v WOKING

STOCKPORT v NEWPORT

FIXTURES AND RESULTS

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	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**
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 Gray**
Fri 17	19:30	A	Hyde	W 2-1	1,141	477	3	Tyler Henry Taylor* Rowe-Turner Henry Kovacs Kasim* Lawless O'Donnell 1 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	Ebbsfleet 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**
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 Howells Rendell 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	2,812	1,002	2	Brill Henry Rowe-Turner Kovacs Ainge Howells Mendy Rendell 1 Gray Shaw
November								
Sat 3	15:00	H	Nuneaton Town (FAC1)	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 0-2	2,108	372	3	Brill Henry Rowe-Turner*** Kovacs** Ainge Smith Mendy Howells Gray* Shaw
Sat 10	15:00	H	Dartford	L 0-1	6,567	484	6	Brill Lawless Howells Henry Ainge Smith Mendy* O'Donnell Gray Rendell
Tue 13	19:45	A	Nuneaton Town (FAC1R)	W 2-0	1,590	471	-	Tyler Rowe-Turner Henry Kovacs Howells Mendy Lawless O'Donnell*** Walker* Rendell 2
Sat 17	15:00	A	Mansfield Town	D 2-2	2,619	522	6	Tyler Henry Rowe-Turner Kovacs Ainge Mendy Smith Lawless Howells Rendell
Tue 27	19:45	A	Dorchester Town (FAT1)	D 2-2	688	163	-	Tyler Henry Rowe-Turner Kovacs Ainge O'Donnell Smith Howells Rendell
December								
Sat 1	15:00	H	Dorchester Town (FAC2)	W 2-1	3,287	458	-	Tyler Henry Rowe-Turner Kovacs Beckwith* Lawless 1 Howells Smith O'Donnell*** Rendell
Tue 4	19:45	H	Dorchester Town (FAT1R)	W 3-1	897	16	-	Brill Lawless Lacey* Ainge Rowe-Turner O'Donnell*** Watkins Robinson Dance** Walker 2
Sat 8	15:00	H	Alfreton Town	W 3-0	5,648	58	5	Tyler Henry Rowe-Turner Ainge Kovacs O'Donnell 1*** Smith 1 Howells Lawless Rendell**
Tue 11	19:45	A	Newport County	L 2-5	2,247	177	5	Tyler Henry Rowe-Turner Ainge Beckwith O'Donnell** Mendy* Howells Lawless Rendell
Sat 15	15:00	A	Matlock Town (FAT2)	W 2-1	823	100	-	Brill Henry Howells Ainge 1 Kovacs O'Donnell** Mendy Lawless Rendell Gray*
Wed 26	15:00	H	Woking	W 3-1	6,744	235	4	Tyler Henry Howells Ainge Kovacs 1 Lawless Mendy Rendell 1 Fleetwood* Gray**
January								
Tue 1	13:00	A	Woking	L 1-3	2,961	989	5	Tyler Henry Howells*** Ainge Kovacs Lawless Mendy* Neilson Rendell Gray 1
Sat 5	15:00	H	Wolves (FAC3)	W 1-0	9,639	1,500	-	Tyler Henry Taylor Rowe-Turner Kovacs Lawless 1 Mendy Smith O'Donnell** Shaw
Tue 8	19:45	H	Barrow	W 6-1	5,165	31	5	Tyler Henry Taylor Rowe-Turner Kovacs 1 Lawless Mendy Smith* Neilson 1 Shaw 3*
Sat 12	15:00	H	Skelmersdale United (FAT3)	W 2-0	2,479	220	-	Brill Lawless Howells Ainge Rowe-Turner Robinson Mendy Howells Dance** Walker**
Tue 15	19:45	A	AFC Telford United	D 0-0	1,806	100	6	Tyler Henry Taylor Rowe-Turner Kovacs Lawless Mendy Smith Neilson* Shaw
Sat 26	15:00	A	Harwich City (FAC4)	W 1-0	26,521	4,000	-	Tyler Henry Taylor Rowe-Turner Kovacs Lawless Mendy* Smith Howells Shaw**
Tue 29	19:45	A	Grimsby Town (FATQF)	L 0-3	2,791	75	-	Brill Henry Howells Rowe-Turner Kovacs Lawless Mendy* Smith O'Donnell*** Fleetwood
February								
Sat 2	15:00	A	Barrow	L 0-1	1,189	188	7	Tyler Henry Taylor*** Rowe-Turner McNulty Lawless Mendy* Smith Martin Shaw**
Sat 9	15:00	H	Forest Green Rovers	D 1-1	6,374	110	7	Tyler Henry Howells Kovacs McNulty Lawless Smith Neilson* Martin** Shaw
Tue 12	19:45	A	Dartford	L 0-1	1,802	475	7	Tyler Henry Howells McNulty Mendy*** Smith Neilson Martin** Shaw*
Sat 16	12:45	H	Millwall (FAC5)	L 0-3	9,768	1,530	-	Tyler Taylor Kovacs Henry Howells Lawless Mendy** Smith O'Donnell* Rendell
Tue 19	19:45	A	Macclesfield Town	D 1-1	1,994	278	8	Tyler Henry Taylor*** Rowe-Turner McNulty Howells Lawless Smith** Shaw Rendell*
Sat 23	15:00	H	Mansfield Town	L 2-3	5,968	410	8	Tyler Henry Rowe-Turner Thomas McNulty Smith Lawless Martin** Neilson** Rendell 1
Tue 26	19:45	A	Braintree Town	L 0-2	1,003	351	10	Tyler Henry Rowe-Turner* Thomas McNulty Mendy*** Smith Lawless Rendell** Fleetwood
March								
Sat 2	15:00	A	Stockport County	W 1-0	4,074	372	8	Tyler Henry Rowe-Turner Kovacs* McNulty Howells 1 Smith Mendy Lawless Fleetwood**
Tue 5	19:45	A	Nuneaton Town	D 0-0	1,173	587	7	Tyler Henry Rowe-Turner McNulty Howells Smith Mendy* Lawless Fleetwood**
Sat 9	15:00	H	Hereford United	D 1-1	6,001	220	8	Tyler Henry Taylor** Goodman McNulty Howells Smith Mendy*** Lawless Rendell*
Tue 12	19:45	H	Hyde	L 1-2	4,947	19	8	Tyler Henry Taylor*** Goodman McNulty Howells 1 Smith Mendy Lawless* Wall
Sat 16	15:00	A	Wrexham	L 0-0	3,807	160	11	Tyler Ainge Rowe-Turner Goodman McNulty Martin Smith Mendy Howells Rendell*
Tue 19	19:45	H	Stockport County	W 1-0	5,106	83	8	Tyler Ainge Rowe-Turner Goodman McNulty 1 Martin Smith Taiwo Howells Shaw
Sat 23	15:00	H	Tamworth					
Tue 26	19:45	H	Ebbsfleet United					
Sat 30	15:00	A	Cambridge United					
April								
Mon 1	15:00	H	Kidderminster Harriers					
Sat 6	15:00	A	Gateshead*					
Tue 9	19:45	H	Lincoln City					
Fri 12	19:45	H	Grimsby Town					
Tue 16	19:45	H	Newport County					
Sat 20	15:00	A	Southport					

SUBS	
Fleetwood 1	Brill Beckwith Lawless** Watkins*** Shaw 1
Fleetwood* 2	Brill Beckwith Walker Gray* Robinson**
Fleetwood*** 1	Brill Beckwith Howells* Gray** Robinson***
Fleetwood	Brill Beckwith Taylor* Gray** Woolley
Fleetwood 2	Brill Lacey Watkins** Kasim Woolley*
Fleetwood 1	Brill Essam*** Watkins* Woolley** Walker
Fleetwood**	Brill Essam** Watkins Woolley** Kasim
Gray	Brill Essam** Kasim** Fleetwood*** Rowe-Turner
Shaw	Rowe-Turner* Essam Kasim*** J. Robinson Walker**
Shaw	Rowe-Turner* Essam** Kasim*** J. Robinson** Walker
Shaw***	Fleetwood*** 1 Kasim** 1 J. Robinson* Kovacs Walker
Fleetwood 1**	Brill Rowe-Turner* Shaw** Robinson*** Walker
Fleetwood	Brill Rowe-Turner** Shaw 1* Kasim*** Walker
Fleetwood	Brill Rowe-Turner Lacey Kasim** Walker 1**
Fleetwood	Brill Kovacs** J. Robinson M. Robinson Walker*
Fleetwood**	Brill M. Robinson* J. Robinson** Beckwith** Walker Lacey Woolley
Fleetwood 1*	Essam O'Donnell* M. Robinson J. Robinson Walker
Fleetwood**	Tyler Lacey Longden Watkins** Dance M. Robinson J. Robinson*
Fleetwood	Tyler Lawless** O'Donnell*** J. Robinson* Walker
Fleetwood	Tyler Rowe-Turner Lacey Watkins Walker*
Gray**	Brill Beckwith Lacey Longden Dance*** Robinson* Woolley**
Gray 2*	Brill Beckwith O'Donnell Robinson Fleetwood**
Gray*	Brill Beckwith Walker Fleetwood 1* Dance**
Gray 1**	Brill Lacey* Mendy*** Watkins Dance Shaw Fleetwood**
Shaw	Fleetwood** Gray Mendy Woolley** Howells*
Gray 1*	Brill Mendy Shaw** Fleetwood** Walker***
Gray 1	Brill Taylor Dance Shaw 1* Fleetwood**
Shaw 1	Lacey Dance Robinson Fleetwood* Rowe-Turner*
Shaw 1	Brill Robinson** O'Donnell* Rowe-Turner Taylor
Shaw**	Brill Fleetwood** O'Donnell Rowe-Turner*** Smith*
Gray**	Brill Lacey Robinson Rendell** Fleetwood** Woolley Walker
Gray 1***	Brill Howells* Fleetwood*** Rendell** Ainge
Gray	Brill Howells** Fleetwood** Rendell Ainge
Gray 1	Brill Watkins O'Donnell* Dance Robinson Rendell 1** Fleetwood***
Rendell**	Tyler Watkins*** Gray Ainge** Shaw**
Gray	Howells*** Neilson* Fleetwood Rendell** O'Donnell
Gray 1***	Taylor Mendy* O'Donnell** Rendell Fleetwood**
Gray	Brill Taylor*** O'Donnell** Rendell Robinson**
Gray	Brill Lacey Longden Robinson Shaw** Fleetwood* Woolley
Gray 1	Kovacs Mendy** O'Donnell* Neilson Fleetwood***
Gray 1	Brill Howells** Ainge Mendy Fleetwood*
Gray	Brill Taylor* Ainge*** Martin Neilson**
Gray***	Brill Taylor* O'Donnell Rendell** Walker***
Gray**	Taylor Smith O'Donnell* Rendell** Wall**
Gray	Brill Rowe-Turner O'Donnell*** Martin 1** Wall*
Gray**	Brill Rowe-Turner*** Martin** Robinson Walker*
Wall**	Brill Thomas Taiwo* Shaw Walker**
Gray*	Brill Thomas Rendell Robinson Walker*

LEAGUE TABLE 2012/13

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Kidderminster Harriers	39	22	8	9	64	30	34	74
2 Mansfield Town	37	23	5	9	74	46	28	74
3 Wrexham	38	20	12	6	69	36	33	72
4 Newport County AFC	35	20	6	9	72	52	20	66
5 Grimsby Town	37	18	10	9	55	31	24	64
6 Forest Green Rovers	39	17	10	12	57	40	17	61
7 Macclesfield Town	37	16	10	11	55	51	4	58
8 Luton Town	37	15	9	13	55	49	6	54
9 Hereford United	37	14	11	12	57	55	2	53
10 Cambridge United	39	14	11	14	62	61	1	53
11 Woking	38	16	5	17	61	67	-6	53
12 Dartford	36	14	7	15	53	56	-3	49
13 Braintree Town	34	14	6	14	48	56	-8	48
14 Alfreton Town	38	12	14	12	55	64	-9	48
15 Tamworth	38	13	8	17	47	55	-8	47
16 Southport	38	12	10	16	62	71	-9	46
17 Gateshead	36	11	11	14	46	46	0	44
18 Hyde FC	38	12	6	20	52	62	-10	42
19 Nuneaton	37	10	12	15	42	56	-14	42
20 Stockport County	39	11	9	19	50	65	-15	42
21 Lincoln City	38	10	18	11	63	12	40	42
22 Barrow	38	10	10	18	47	70	-29	40
23 Ebbsfleet United	37	8	12	17	50	73	-23	36
24 AFC Telford United	40	5	16	19	47	66	-19	31

PLAYER STATS 2012/13

PLAYER	LEAGUE		THIS SEASON CUP		TOTAL		DISCIP	CAREER TOTAL APPLS GLS		
	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS				
Simon AINGE	14 (1)	1	4 (1)	1	18 (2)	2	3	0	20	2
Dean BECKWITH	8	0	1 (1)	0	9 (1)	1	3	0	21	2
Dean BRILL	3	0	5	0	8 (0)	0	0	0	105	0
James DANCE	0	0	2 (2)	0	2 (2)	0	0	0	32	4
Connor ESSAM	5 (4)	0	0	0	5 (4)	0	2	0	9	0
Stuart FLEETWOOD	19 (11)	10	3 (8)	1	22 (19)	11	2	1	88	27
Jake GOODMAN	5	0	0	0	5 (0)	0	0	0	5	0
Andre GRAY	33 (3)	11	9 (1)	3	42 (4)	14	5	0	58	21
Ronnie HENRY	32	0	10	0	42 (0)	0	4	1	42	0
Jake HOWELLS	30 (5)	3	10 (1)	0	40 (6)	3	2	0	229	18
Jerome JIBODU	0	0	1	0	1 (0)	0	0	0	1	0
Yaser KASIM	5 (6)	1	0	0	5 (6)	1	2	0	11	1
Janos KOVACS	19 (1)	3	10	0	29 (1)	3	5	0	91	8
Alex LACEY	0	0	1 (1)	0	1 (1)	0	0	0	9	0
Alex LAWLESS	31 (2)	2	11	0	42 (2)	4	6	1	120	11
David MARTIN	6 (2)	1	0	0	6 (2)	1	0	0	8	1
Arnoud MENDY	16 (2)	0	9 (1)	0	25 (3)	0	8	0	28	0
Steve McNULTY	12 (1)	0	0	0	12 (1)	0	2	0	13	0
Scott NEILSON	6 (2)	1	0	0	6 (2)	1	1	0	8	1
JJ O'DONNELL	19 (6)	2	10 (1)	1	29 (9)	3	3	0	47	3
Scott RENDELL	26 (5)	8	8 (2)	4	34 (7)	12	3	0	41	12
Jake ROBINSON	3 (4)	0	0	0	3 (6)	0	0	0	9	0
Matt ROBINSON	0 (3)	0	2 (2)	0	2 (5)	0	1	0	7	0
Lathaniel ROWE-TURNER	24 (5)	0	10 (1)	0	34 (6)	0	1	1	40	0
Jon SHAW	19 (5)	7	5 (2)	2	24 (7)	9	1	0	31	9
Jonathan SMITH	18 (1)	1	6	0	24 (1)	1	4	0	25	1
Solomon TAIWO	1 (1)	0	0	0	1 (1)	0	0	0	2	0
Greg TAYLOR	13 (4)	0	3	0	16 (4)	0	1	0	43	0
Wayne THOMAS	2	0	0							

UP NEXT

EBBSFLEET UNITED



You won't have to wait long for your next football fix as the Town are back in action on Tuesday when they host Ebbsfleet United at Kenilworth Road.



EBBSFLEET UNITED

Who? Ebbsfleet United. Or, in old money, Gravesend and Northfleet. The club changed their name in 2007 to coincide with the opening of the new Ebbsfleet International

Eurostar station and are in the midst of their second successive season at this level following promotion in 2010/11.

Take two. The Town and the Fleet try again this evening after the original game, scheduled for 29th December, was called off 20 minutes before kick-off due to a waterlogged pitch. Merry Christmas.

Hello Mr Chairman. You can become a member of the Ebbsfleet board if it's something that tickles your fancy. Since February 2008 the club has been owned by MyFootballClub.com, whose members vote on player transfers, budgets and ticket prices, among other things, instead of those decisions being made exclusively by the club's management and staff, like at most other clubs. Unfortunately the option to pick the team is no longer available, so you can put the phone down if you're in the middle of asking to them to select their striker in goal.

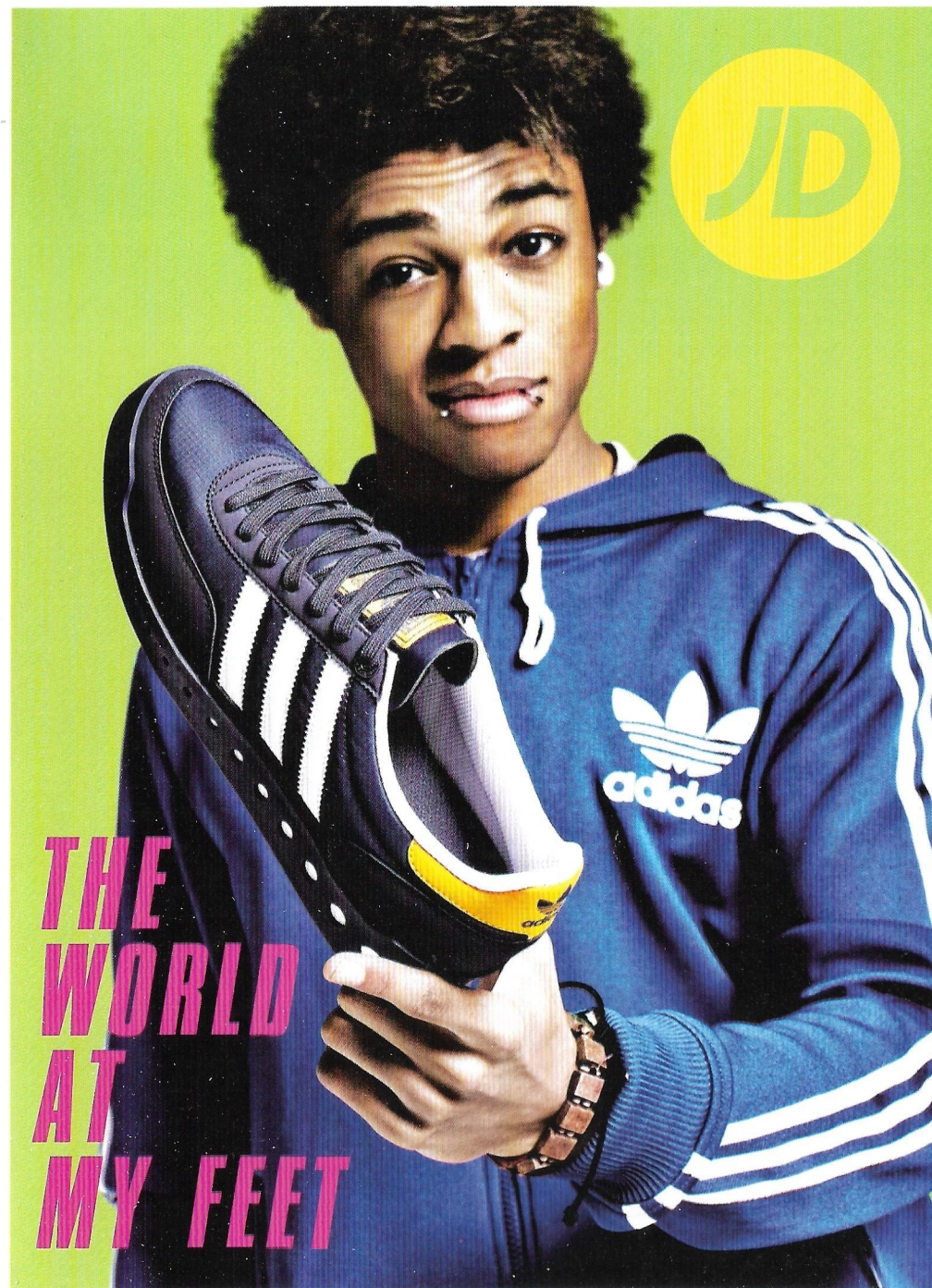
Haven't we met before? Oh yes. The Town have the upper hand when it comes to meetings with the Fleet, winning three of the five clashes – including the 3-1 victory at Stonebridge Road back in August. Ebbsfleet have won at Kenilworth Road before, however, recording a shock 3-2 victory back in January 2010 that left then

manager Richard Money speechless. That was soon forgotten when the Town triumphed 6-1 at Stonebridge Road in the return match two months later. The Hatters were also victorious when Ebbsfleet last stepped foot inside Kenilworth Road back in April when two goals from Stuart Fleetwood and one from Craig McAllister sealed a 3-0 win.

Town trialists. At a first glance it would seem there are no players in the Ebbsfleet squad with a connection to Kenilworth Road – until the press officer delves deep into his memory bank of previous pre-seasons. Three current Fleet players have trialled with the Hatters. Goalkeeper Preston Edwards even won a winners medal in the South West Challenge Cup in 2009. Midfielder Neil Barrett and striker Nathan Elder, meanwhile, featured for the Hatters in pre-season last season with Elder notching in the home friendly against Azerbaijani outfit Gabala.

Trophy Tales. Among the silverware at Stonebridge Road is their pride and joy; the FA Trophy. The Fleet triumphed 1-0 at Wembley in 2008 over Torquay United. But it's the Kent Senior Cup that dominates their trophy cabinet. The Fleet have won the competition seven times.

How they doing? In a nutshell: not too well. The Fleet sit in the bottom four and are staring relegation to the Blue Square Bet South firmly in the face. However, they have games in hand over a number of their rivals above them in the table with Tuesday's game one of those. That adds extra importance to Tuesday's meeting.



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TODAY'S TEAMS



LUTON TOWN

Mark Tyler	1
Lathaniel Rowe-Turner	2
Greg Taylor	3
Garry Richards	4
Steve McNulty	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
Dave Martin	18
James Dance	19
Scott Neilson	20
Wayne Thomas	22
Matt Robinson	23
Jonathan Smith	24
Ronnie Henry	25
Alex Wall	26
Andre Gray	27
Jake Woolley	28
Dan Walker	29
Jake Goodman	30
Solomon Taiwo	31
Dean Brill	33



TAMWORTH

1	James Wren
2	Richard Tait
3	Marcus Kelly
5	Matthew Regan
6	Tom Marshall
7	Adam Cunnington
8	Lee Hendrie
9	Tommy Wright
10	Darren Byfield
11	Lloyd Kerry
13	Ton Breedon
14	Ben Richards-Everton
15	Duane Courtney
16	Jakob Hessenthaler
17	Connor Gudger
18	Peter Till
19	Scott Barrow
25	Danny Lloyd
28	Stuart Hendrie
29	Jonathon Thorpe
30	Sam Oji
31	Dale Belford
33	Kyle Perry

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: A. Bromley
ASSISTANT: S. Leaf
ASSISTANT: A. Parker
FOURTH OFFICIAL: G. Ions

HERE NEXT

EBBSFLEET UNITED
BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER
TUESDAY 26TH MARCH 2013
KICK-OFF 7.45PM

