

TALKOF THE



SATURDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2014 KICK-OFF 3PM



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welcome

TO KENILWORTH ROAD

Welcome back to Kenilworth Road after two weeks away and welcome everyone associated with Newport County AFC to Bedfordshire this afternoon for this FA Cup first round tie.

For the first time since 2008 the Hatters enter the FA Cup at this stage and today the Town will be aiming for a place in the second round for the first time since the 2012/13 season that saw the Hatters go all the way to the fifth round as a non-league club.

The memories of the wins over Wolves and Norwich still remain very much engrained on the minds of every Luton Town supporter. That's the magic of the FA Cup. What will the competition hold for the Town this year? Well, we'll know a little bit more by 5pm this afternoon.

Today we will pay our respects to those who lost their lives in action. We will be holding a minute's silence in their honour before kick-off, and you can read more about the Hatters players involved in combat in a number of excellent pieces by club historian Roger Wash in this programme.

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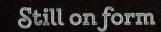
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JOHN STILL



Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for this FA Cup first round tie against Newport County AFC.

A warm welcome to Justin Edinburgh and his staff and players, plus the directors and supporters of our visitors who have made the trip from South Wales. Justin is a person I've known for some time and I hope he enjoys his short visit to Kenilworth Road - but obviously I hope he doesn't enjoy a favourable result.

This afternoon we go in search of a victory that would send us further into the greatest cup competition in the world. I think for players, supporters, directors and managers the FA Cup holds a lot of memories and favourite FA Cup moments. They are matches and occasions you remember for forever, and that is the beauty of this competition and of the game of football. The FA Cup has provided so many people with incredible, everlasting memories and given others moments of massive, heart-wrenching disappointment - isn't that why we all love the game?

Newport arrive here in good form, like ourselves, but the journey in the competition will end for one of us but we will be focusing all our efforts on ensuring our name is in the hat for the second round draw.

It's been two weeks since my last notes and during that time we have experienced one of those weeks on top of the League 2 table. Our last home match saw a late goal from Luke Guttridge give us all three points against Northampton. The script was pretty much written for Luke; coming on as a substitute against his former club to score the goal that sent us top of the table. His winner was a moment of quality in an otherwise tough match which I think, on balance, we just deserved to triumph in, especially after our second half performance. Northampton were resilient opposition and worked their socks off to keep us at bay but in the end, a moment of quality decided the game.

Last Saturday we made the long trip to Exeter which was another tough game against another side in good form. They had previously beaten two previous league leaders, in Bury and Wycombe, so we knew that we wouldn't be having it all our own way. Scott Griffiths nodded us into an early lead which gave us a real

THE FA CUP HAS PROVIDED SO MANY PEOPLE WITH INCREDIBLE. **EVERLASTING MEMORIES** AND GIVEN OTHERS MOMENTS OF MASSIVE. HEART-WRENCHING DISAPPOINTMENT - ISN'T THAT WHY WE ALL LOVE THE GAME?"

opportunity to win once again, but a late penalty meant we had to share the points and I think a draw was a fair result. Having led for so long it was tinged with a little disappointment.

This past week saw the youth team reach the second round of the FA Youth Cup after beating Didcot 4-1 at Kenilworth Road in a game that I witnessed. My congratulations go to all involved in that victory. Before the game we were delighted to sign Luke Trotman on professional forms. He is a very promising young player who was unfortunate to suffer a bad injury earlier this season and it is great to see him on the road to recovery. I am delighted to see that his disappointment has been superseded by a full-time, professional contract - many congratulations Luke.

Before I sign off: one last thing. As a group we were absolutely blown away by the support we received at Exeter last weekend. The trip isn't a short one and it was fantastic to see so many of you there, coming out in your club colours to get behind the team. These are the sorts of things I believe can decide close games. So a huge thank you - we were all extremely grateful.

I am sure you will back us to similar levels again once more this afternoon to spur the team to grab a place in the next round of the FA Cup.

Enjoy the game.

BOARDROOM

WITH VICE CHAIRMAN DAVID WILKINSON



Good afternoon everyone and a very warm welcome (croeso cynnes) to Kenilworth Road for today's game against the Exiles.

Special greetings go out to our visitors this afternoon, the players, officials and supporters from Newport County AFC.

The FA Cup is always a bit special and I am sure that both sides are looking to progress with the opportunity of meeting bigger clubs in future rounds.

Since last writing these notes for the Southend game we have had a tremendous run of results (four wins and a draw), which has culminated in John Still being nominated as manager of the month and Mark Cullen (remember that perfect hat-trick against Dagenham?) as player of the month for October. On behalf of us all I congratulate them both, although I am sure they would say that everyone has played their part and deserves to share in their accolades.

For all of us on the Board this is an opportunity to congratulate and thank a lot of people connected directly or indirectly with our club.

Our development squad has been getting some fantastic results and high praise for its performances and is close to the top of the Final Third Development League South. Well done and congratulations.

Meanwhile our Under-18s youth team is through to the second round of the FA Youth Cup and riding high in the Youth Alliance. Again, very well done and congratulations.

It has been announced this week that Luke Trotman has signed his first professional contract. We were all really concerned when the game at Peterborough had to be abandoned when he broke his leg, but we are all so relieved and delighted that he is making such a good recovery and been rewarded for some tremendous performances and obvious potential. Well done Luke very well deserved.

As always our fans have been turning out in vast numbers at home and away, but this year is exceptional. Selling out at home and away week after week shows us, even more, that we are outgrowing our beloved Kenilworth Road. In League 2 taking, so far, an average of 1.084

A big thank you to the 1,043 of you that made the trip to Exeter last week - it was hugely appreciated

fans away from home, which is 19th in the Football League, is absolutely amazing. Thank you so much.

We will say more in future programmes, but great strides are being made in the community and there are a number of fresh initiatives, which we hope will receive the support they deserve. Thousands of kids in Bedfordshire are getting the opportunity to benefit from the Football in the Community scheme and serious efforts are being made to be all inclusive. We welcome any ideas from any quarter to improve and strengthen our efforts. Thank you to all those, who put in so much time and effort, to helping advance this cause.

The Board and more particularly the chief executive should also be recognised for working tirelessly to secure the long term future of our Club.

Finally, tomorrow is Remembrance Sunday and a particularly significant Remembrance Sunday it being 100 vears since the beginning of World War I.

Almost all, if not all, of us are too young to remember that dreadful war, but the horror of it all hits hard when you think that young men the age of those in our youth team were being sent to the front line. We remember those young men from these parts, and from South Wales, who died at the front and just as tragically in the

It was supposed to be the "War to end all Wars", but wasn't, however it seems to me that passing down memories from generation to generation can keep alive the insanity, injustice and cruelty of it all, in the hope of influencing the future.

I think it was Delia Smith who said that football is one of the few events where an eight-year-old boy can sit next to an 80-year-old man and feel exactly the same about what he is watching. It truly joins the generations in a single cause. This is of course not only true of age, but race, religion, sex and all the modern worldsists. Football, by recognising this, can be a massive cause for good.

Enjoy the game. Come on you Hatters





HONOURS

Littlewoods Challenge Cup:

Winners 1988, Runners-up 1989

FA 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

Skrill Premier Champions: 2013/14

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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THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING

FROM THE DRESSING ROOM WITH STEPHEN McNULTY



This afternoon we take a break from the rigours of League 2 and concentrate on the FA Cup, the biggest cup competition in England and the most famous knockout competition in the world.

We go into the tie against Newport today buoyed by a fantastic run of form. This afternoon's tie gives us the chance to put the League to one side for a couple of weeks. Our recent form will give us a massive confidence boost going into this match. The pressure of playing for League points will also benefit us,

as will of course playing at Kenilworth Road. Our home performances in recent weeks have been absolutely top drawer and we'll be aiming to continue that today against Newport.

Like all teams in action this weekend, everyone will be dreaming of getting through this and the next round in the hope of drawing one of the big Premier League clubs in the third round. That is our aim. We realise that we're not going to win the FA Cup, but going as far as you can in the competition is what every player strives for. It can do wonders for confidence and can put clubs and players on the map.

The competition really is a special one and I know a number of the lads in the dressing room were a part of the Luton team that did so well a couple of years ago. I joined the club shortly after the Norwich game but couldn't play against Millwall. The buzz around the place was unbelievable. If we can recreate that kind of run this season then that would be fantastic.

Today, though, we face a tough test in the shape of Justin Edinburgh's Newport. His teams play the right way so it should also be an entertaining affair. Like ourselves, they're on a good run of form and will be confident of earning a positive result.

Like all teams in action this weekend. everyone will be dreaming of getting through this and the next round in the hope of drawing one of the big Premier League clubs in the third round.

That is our aim.

I am sure both clubs are happy to have avoided a potential banana skin tie against a lower ranked side and, as we're in the same division, I am expecting a tough, competitive

Since my last notes we have kept the unbeaten League run going and briefly topped the table for a week following the 1-0 win over Northampton.

Quality

That win over the Cobblers was made sweeter by the timing of the winner. There's no better time to score than the last minute and it was a terrific finish from Gutts. It was a tight game and both sides probably would have said a draw would have

been fair, but we had that little bit of extra quality to pinch all three points. It also underlined the strength in depth to our squad. For Gutts to come off the bench and score a goal of such high quality underlines the work the gaffer and the club have done to ensure we have a talented group of players capable of winning us football matches.

At Exeter last week we earned a point from a tough match. A lot of people have questioned why we sat so deep during the match and allowed Exeter so much possession. It was purely tactical. We knew Exeter would play in front of us and dictate the play and so it proved. Defensively I thought we were comfortable throughout and the only disappointment being we conceded a penalty that led to their equaliser.

Last Saturday saw over 1,000 of you make the long trip to Devon and on behalf of all the lads a huge thank you - it really is appreciated. Your backing so far this season has been unbelievable. Even at Shrewsbury when we were played off the park you were still cheering us on. Please keep it up again this afternoon and get behind us.



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COMING SOON

Trotman pens pro deal

Luton Town were delighted to announce that Luke Trotman penned his first professional contract with the Hatters last Week

The Luton-born 17-year-old has impressed John Still and Town the coaching staff over the past 12 months. which saw the right-back make his first team debut in the FA Trophy against Cambridge United at Kenilworth Road in

Trotman, who is the cousin of another Town academy graduate, Leon Barnett, only began the second year of his youth scholarship this season.

The defender was an integral part of the Hatters youth team last term, playing a key role in the side that reached the third round of the FA Youth Cup.

This season the youngster suffered a double-leg break in the Youth Alliance fixture against Peterborough in September but has since made rapid progress in his rehabilitation.



Town boss John Still told lutontown. co.uk: "It's difficult not to be impressed with the attitude and application of Luke. The injury has only served to make him mentally stronger which is an important characteristic in any player.

"Luke is a very good player, too, and he has already shown me in the time that I have been at the club what an intelligent and athletic defender he is.

"His performances for the youth team, development squad and in the first team - on the one occasion he played last

season - has shown us all what a bright future Luke has in the game."

Academy chief Wayne Turner added: "It's fantastic for Luke to be rewarded by the manager with a professional contract. Only seven weeks ago he broke his leg, yet before the FA Youth Cup match with Didcot on Tuesday he was jogging - a testament to Luke's dedication and determination, and the work of our medical staff.

"Luke has all the attributes to make a top player. He's got great running capacity and a real engine to get up and

LOAN WATCH

Since our last home match the Hatters recalled striker Zane Banton and midfielder lan Rees from their loan spell at Biggleswade in the Southern Premier and a day later were sent to Conference South outfit Hemel Hempstead

Midfielder Matthew Robinson has joined Conference Premier side Kidderminster Harriers for a month, and he made his debut in their victory over Torquay United last weekend. Meanwhile midfielder Solomon Taiwo has extended his loan at Dover Athletic for a third and final

Northampton Golden Gamble

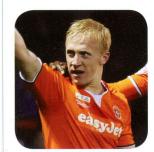
Town fan Patrick Quille had extra reason for cheer the last time we were at Kenilworth Road after winning the half-time Golden Gamble draw against Northampton.

Patrick scooped our biggest prize of the season, £1,080, after his ticket, 15238, was plucked out of the barrel during the break.

Look out for our sellers in and around the ground this afternoon. Remember tickets only cost £1.

CULLEN WINS

PFA AWARD



Mark Cullen has won the Professional Footballers' Association Fans' Player of the Award for October.

The Town striker

netted five goals in four matches during the month, including his first senior hat-trick against Dagenham &

The former Hull forward is also in contention for the Sky Bet League 2 Player of the Month, as one of the four nominations. John Still is also up for the managerial honours. By the time you read this you will know the results, as they were released yesterday and before we went to press.

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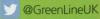


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SHOULD IT END A DRAW TODAY.... NEWPORT COUNTY VIUTON TOWN



WEDNESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 7,45PM

Although any potential replay will not be all-ticket, tickets for the match would be available from the ticket office at a reduced rate, going on sale from Monday 10th November. In the event of a replay Hatters supporters will be allocated the Bisley Stand. Pre-order prices: £15 adults, £11 seniors and students, £6 under-16s, £5 under-12s.

On the night: £17 adults, £13 seniors and students, £6 under-16s, £5 under-12s,



LUTON TOWN v TRANMERE ROVERS



SKY BET LEAGUE 2

SATURDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets for this match are now on sale at normal matchday prices. £20 adults, £15 seniors and young adults, £12 golden seniors, £8 youths, £5 juniors.



BURTON ALBION V LUTON TOWN



SKY BET LEAGUE 2

SATURDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

This game is an all-ticket match for Luton Town supporters. We have received a full allocation of 380 Seats and 1.071 terrace tickets for this fixture. Tickets are now on sale to season ticket holders via phone or in person at one per person from up until 6pm today. Any remaining tickets will then be available on general sale from 6pm today online and from Monday 10th November from the ticket office. Prices. Seats: £18 adults, £16 over-65s and 17-22-year-olds, £8 under-16s. Terracing: £15 adults, £13 over-65s and 17-22-year-olds, £5 under-16s. Wheelchair disabled supporters should contact Burton directly on 01283 565938 to book wheelchair bays.



LUTON TOWN v MANSFIELD TOWN



SKY BET LEAGUE 2

SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets for this match are now on sale at normal matchday prices. £20 adults, £15 seniors and young adults, £12 golden seniors, £8 youths, £5 juniors.



LUTON TOWN v NEWPORT COUNTY



SKY BET LEAGUE 2

SATURDAY 20th DECEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets for this match are now on sale at normal matchday prices. £20 adults, £15 seniors and young adults, £12 golden seniors, £8 youths, £5 juniors.



WYCOMBE WANDERERS v LUTON TOWN



SKY BET LEAGUE 2

SATURDAY 26th DECEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

This match is all-ticket for Luton Town supporters with none available on the day at Adams Park. We have received an allocation of 1.800 Seats in the Panache Stand for this fixture. Tickets are now on sale to Season Ticket holders by telephone or in person until close of business on Saturday 15th November. Any remaining tickets will then be available on general sale from 6pm Saturday 15th November online and from Monday 17th November from the ticket office.

Prices: £18 adults, £14 over-60s, £12 19-25-year-olds, £9 under-8s.

Wheelchair disabled supporters should contact Wycombe directly on 01494 441118 to book wheelchair bays.

SPEAKING OMMERCIALLY

WITH COMMERCIAL MANAGER DAVID HOSKINS

Good afternoon and welcome back to all of our corporate guests and sponsors who are here present at Kenilworth Road for this FA Cup tie with Newport County AFC

We were able to release details of our Christmas celebratory dinner last month and we are thrilled at welcoming back members of the 1973/74 promotion-winning side for a trip down memory lane in December. Tickets are already selling well and for more information check out the details on page 45.

With the team's performance on the pitch comes the increased interest in all of our hospitality and sponsorship packages. So if you want to hire a box or sponsor a player now is the time to give us a call!

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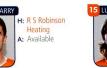


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Billy Lacey









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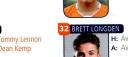




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welcome

NEWPORT COUNTY AFC



It gives us great pleasure to welcome everybody associated with Newport County AFC to Kenilworth Road this afternoon for the first FA Cup between the two clubs.

Today is County's first visit to Kenilworth Road since the back end of the 2012/13 campaign that saw our visitors complete their season with a Play-Off final victory over Wrexham to be promoted to the Football League.

Their promotion back to the Football League under the club's new guise of Newport County AFC – which reformed in 1989 – completed a remarkable return from spells in the Hellenic League and Southern Leagues through the 1990s and 2000s.

The Exiles – known because of the time they spent playing outside of Newport when the club reformed – were playing in the Southern Premier League as recently as 2004, and only won promotion to the Conference in 2010

Last season was Newport's first season back in the Football League since they were relegated after finishing bottom of Division Four in 1988. Boss Justin Edinburgh has been instrumental in the Exiles' fortunes, arriving at the club with the side languishing in the Conference.

In his first full season in charge they won the Play-Offs and last term Newport finished in 14th place in League 2.

Whisper it quietly but Newport will be aiming for their first ever victory at Kenilworth Road with the Hatters defending an unbeaten record across the matches played on Bedfordshire soil between the two teams.

However, Edinburgh's side will be confident of a victory this afternoon given their fine run of form in recent weeks. County arrive at Kenilworth Road in eighth place in League 2 having lost just once in their last 10 matches. Newport are five games unbeaten and last lost 1-0 at Oxford United on 4th October. Since that defeat County won three on the spin, against York, Dagenham & Redbridge and Southend and have drawn their last two against Accrington and Hartlepool.

Away from Rodney Parade, County have won two, drawn three and lost three, with goals sparse in those eight matches. Edinburgh's side have scored six and conceded seven on their travels, and have won at Dagenham and, impressively, at Portsmouth.

As you will read on the following pages there are a number of familiar faces in the County squad, although only one is likely to feature this afternoon. Aaron O'Connor, Danny Crow and Robbie Willmott are on Newport's books, but the latter two will be missing through injury this afternoon.

CHRISTMAS AT WARDOWN FREE ENTRY

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in opposition



OUR AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO THE MEN FROM RODNEY PARADE

▶ THE MANAGER

JUSTIN EDINBURGH. Former Tottenham defender who took over as boss in 2011 and within 18 months of his appointment won promotion to the Football League. Previously in charge at Rushden & Diamonds, Grays and Fisher.

GOALKEEPERS

JOE DAY. Stopper on-loan from League 1 Peterborough who previously played under manager Edinburgh at Rushden & Diamonds, where he came through the ranks. The 6ft 1in keeper joined Posh in 2011.

LENNY PIDGELEY. Former England youth international goalkeeper who signed for Newport in 2012. Started his career at Chelsea, playing twice in the Premier League. Also played for Millwall, Carlisle, Bradford and Exeter.

DEFENDERS

KEVIN FEELY. Young Republic of Ireland Under-21 defender who arrived this close season following a successful loan spell last season from Charlton. Began his career in Ireland with Bohemians.

DARREN JONES. Experienced centre-half who joined County in May this year after leaving AFC Wimbledon. Played over 120 times for Forest Green, and enjoyed spells at Hereford, Aldershot and Shrewsbury.



ISMAIL YAKUBU. Former Barnet and AFC Wimbledon centre-half who is now in his fourth year with the Exiles. Played over 250 times for the Bees before joining the Wombles in 2011.

ANDREW HUGHES. Former

Cardiff youngster who joined Newport as a scholar and has since gone on to make over 100 appearances for the

CURTIS OBENG. Another Swansea loanee, the full-back shot to prominence with Wrexham before he left for the Liberty Stadium in 2012. Spent last season on loan at Stevenage.

MIDFIELDERS

MAX PORTER. Former Tottenham scholar who began his pro career with Cambridge. After spells with Bishop's Stortford and Barnet he joined Rushden, playing under Edinburgh. Joined County from Wimbledon in 2012.

ADAM CHAPMAN. Former Northern Ireland Under-21 international in his second season with County. Began his career at Sheffield United before joining Oxford for two spells. Arrived in South Wales after a successful loan spell.

LEE MINSHULL. Midfielder with over 100 games' experience for County having joined in 2012. Another to have signed from AFC Wimbledon, he has also played for Ramsgate and Tonbridge.

ANDY SANDELL. Experienced left-footed player capable of playing anywhere down the left flank. Signed for Newport in 2012 and has since scored 14 goals in 87 games.



YAN KLUKOWSKI. Midfielder with a real eye for goal who joined County this summer for Forest Green. Scored over 50 goals for Rovers in four years and has played in Canada and the United States.

MARK BYRNE. Former Barnet and

Rushden & Diamonds midfielder who arrived at Rodney Parade this summer after three years with the Bees. Another to play under Edinburgh with Rushden.

STRIKERS

RENE HOWE. Former Bedford Town striker who played under Edinburgh with Rushden during a loan spell in 2010/11. Joined County this year from Burton and has played for 12 clubs, half of which have been during loan spells.

AARON O'CONNOR. No stranger to Kenilworth Road, after one season for the Town in 2011/12. The striker joined County in 2012 but played under Edinburgh during a prolific spell in front of goal while at Rushden.

CHRIS ZEBROSKI. Experienced forward who has played for nine different clubs. Enjoyed two goalscoring spells at Torquay, but joined County in 2013 and has since scored 17 goals in 50 league games.

JAMES LOVERIDGE. Young forward currently on loan from Premier League Swansea. Yet to make his Swans bow, the Wales Under-21 international spent last season out loan at MK Dons.

JOE PIGOTT. Highly-rated striker on loan from Charlton. Made his league debut for the Addicks in the Championship last season and has also had experience on loan at Bromley and Gillingham.



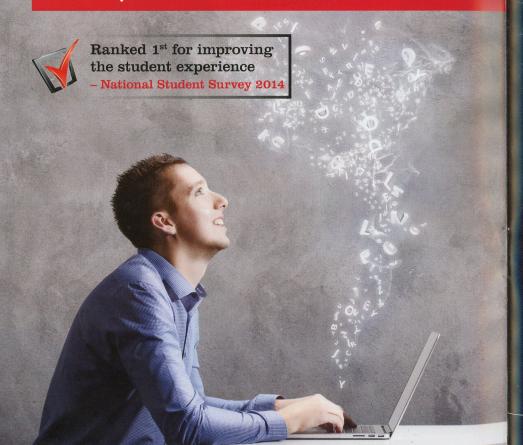
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AND AN EXILE

O'Connor, who joined the Hatters from Rushden & Diamonds in the summer of 2011 scored nine goals in 39 matches for the Town before making the switch to South Wales.

Fellow striker Crow notched 17 goals in 70 appearances after joining the Hatters from Cambridge United. Winger Willmott also signed for the Town from Cambridge and netted 15 goals in 67 matches.

Other players to have played for the Town and Newport include Ian Hillier, Charlie Henry and current Hatter Fraser Franks, who made one appearance for County during a loan spell at the end of the 2011/12 campaign.

However one player in particular will be familiar to both sets of supporters: Mark Aizlewood. Born a stone's throw from County's old ground

Somerton Park, he joined his local club from school and made his league debut at 16 in March 1976.

David Pleat paid £50,000 for his services to bring him to Kenilworth Road in 1978 and he made 98 league appearances for the Town in a variety of defensive and midfield roles before losing his place to Richard Money in 1982.



Mark moved to Charlton that summer before making transfers to Leeds and Bradford and then Bristol City and Cardiff. In total he racked up over 500 appearances in a magnificent career.

HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

The Town and Newport meet for the first time ever in cup competition this afternoon, with the Hatters aiming to maintain a decent record against Newport, in the club's different guises, over the years.

The Hatters and Newport have met in total 54 times down the years, with the Town coming out on the top an impressive 27 times. 13 games have gone Newport's way whilst 14 have ended all square.

If the record books are anything to go by then we'll be in for an exciting game. In the 54 matches a total of 197 goals have been scored, which works out at a staggering average of 3.65 goals per game. The Town have netted 119 of those, with Newport responsible for 78.

Newport County AFC won promotion to the Football League after winning the Conference Play-Offs in 2012/13 – a season in which 11 goals were scored in

County came out well on top in 5-2 win at Rodney Parade in December 2012 before a 2-2 draw at Kenilworth Road in April.

Some of the high scoring matches accountable for that high average goals-per-game ratio include the first season the two clubs met in the Southern League Second Division in 1912/13. Newport won the first meeting 5-1 in January but three months later the Town triumphed 5-0!

The Town have also beaten Newport 4-0 (1920, 1921), 5-2 (1929), 4-1 (1935), 7-0 (1935), 5-0 (1937) and 6-3 (1947). Meanwhile Newport have recorded a 7-2 win over the Hatters in the Division 3 (South) in March 1928.

At Kenilworth Road the Hatters have enjoyed an extraordinary run of results against Newport, who arrive in Bedfordshire looking for their first win at Kenilworth Road. The Town have won 19 and drawn eight of the 27 meetings, scoring 81 and conceding 27. However, three of the last four matches at Kenilworth Road have ended



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back to the future

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN **LEIGH EDWARDS** TRACES WHAT HAPPENED TO TWO OF **NEWPORT COUNTY'S** GREATEST POST-WAR TEAMS

▶ 1948/49 FA CUP GIANTKILLERS

ALICK GRANT: Goalkeeper who later played for Leeds United, York City, Worksop and Corby Town, then was a PE teacher at Sherwood Hall School in Mansfield. He died in Taunton in August 2008.

LEW BRADFORD: Right-back who played 24 League games prior to joining Trowbridge in August 1949, then Bath City. He returned to Preston as a youth coach and died in Chorley in October 1984.

DOUGIE HAYWARD: Left-back who scored 11 times in 260 League games before joining Bath City in July 1956, then was Frome Town's player-boss and managed Weston-Super-Mare, where he settled.

GEORGE ROFFI: Ever-present right-half who netted 27 goals in 112 League outings before suffering a mental breakdown. He spent 20 years in a mental hospital and died in Penrhiwceiber in February 1973.

RAY WILCOX: Long-serving centre-half who made a then club record 487 League appearances, becoming trainer for ten years in May 1960. He worked for Girling's and died in Newport in January 2003.

DANNY NEWALL: Tough-tackling left-half who scored four times in 236 League games for his hometown club before hanging up his boots in May 1955. He was a local licensee and died in March 1997.

HAROLD WILLIAMS: Winger who joined Leeds United in June 1949. The Welsh international returned to Newport in March 1957, then Bradford PA, becoming a publican in Beeston and Gildersome.

LEN COMLEY: Inside-right who moved to Scunthorpe United in March 1951, then played for Llanelli and Aberwystwyth. He was later employed at the RTB Cwmfelin Press Works, settling in Swansea.

REG PARKER: Centre-forward who scored 99 times in 201 League games before leaving in May 1954. Later an insurance broker, then a licensee and Barry Town director, he died in Bridgend in June 1997.

EDDIE CARR: Inside-left who moved to Bradford City in October 1949. Later with Darlington, he managed them and Tow Law, then scouted for Newcastle United. He died in Hartlepool in June 1998.

BOBBY HARPER: Scottish winger who netted 12 goals in 114 League games before joining Southend United in July 1950. Later playing for Linfield, he settled back in Glasgow and died in January 1980.

▶ 1963/64 FA CUP GIANTKILLERS

LEN WEARE: Goalkeeper who made a club record 528 League appearances before moving to South Africa in May 1970. He settled back in Newport as a painter and decorator and died in September 2012.

IOHNNY BIRD: Right-back who reunited with Billy Lucas at Swansea in July 1967. Later at Hereford United. Merthyr Tydfil, Caerau and Pontyclun's player-boss, he worked for Amey on rail maintenance.

GEORGE WALTERS: Polished left-back and captain who joined Cinderford Town in May 1965, then Newport again, Abergavenny Thistle and Cinderford again. He worked for IMI Santon for over 20 years.

IOHN ROWLAND: Welsh U-23 international who scored 11 times in 462 League games, joining Barry Town in May 1969. He ran a local fish and chip shop, then was a licensee and died in November 2002.

GRAHAM RATHBONE: Centre-half who joined Grimsby Town in November 1966, then Cambridge United and Caerleon, Settling back in his native Newport, he became a joiner at Llanwern Steelworks.

LEN HILL: Glamorgan cricketer who netted 64 goals in 366 League games in two spells before joining Barry Town in July 1974. He became a local building contractor and died in Newport in April 2007.

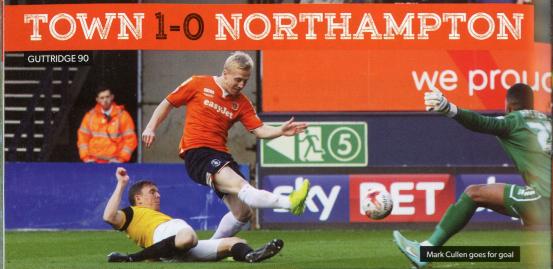
COLIN WEBSTER: Former Welsh international who scored four times in 31 League games, joining Worcester City in July 1964, then Merthyr Tydfil and Portmadog. He died in Swansea in March 2001.

LAURIE SHEFFIELD: Forward who moved to Doncaster in August 1965, then Norwich, Rotherham, Oldham, Luton, Doncaster again and Peterborough, He became a car salesman, then a financial advisor.

IOE BONSON: Leading marksman who joined Brentford in June 1964, then Lincoln City, Hednesford Town and Lower Gornal. He later worked as a tyre builder for Goodyear and died in November 1991.

RALPH HUNT: Ex-England Youth forward who netted 38 goals in 83 League games, moving to Chesterfield in July 1964. He was tragically killed in a car crash on the A1 near Grantham in December 1964.

GRANVILLE SMITH: Long-serving winger who joined Bath City in December 1967, then Glastonbury. He had a spell back at Newport as reserve team boss and worked for Monsanto's, settling in Newport,



WHAT'S THE STORY?

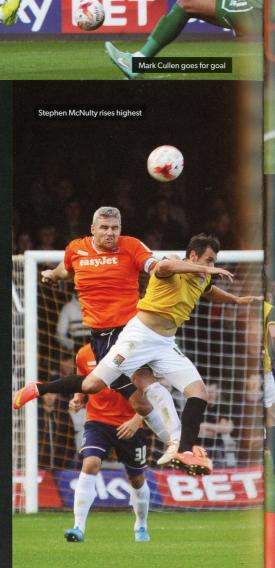
Substitute Luke Guttridge scored a 90th-minute winner as the Hatters made it seven successive victories to reach the top of the League 2 table. The former Northampton midfielder was the coolest man in the penalty area when receiving Michael Harriman's perfect pass to slot home and send a sell-out Kenilworth Road crowd into ecstasy.

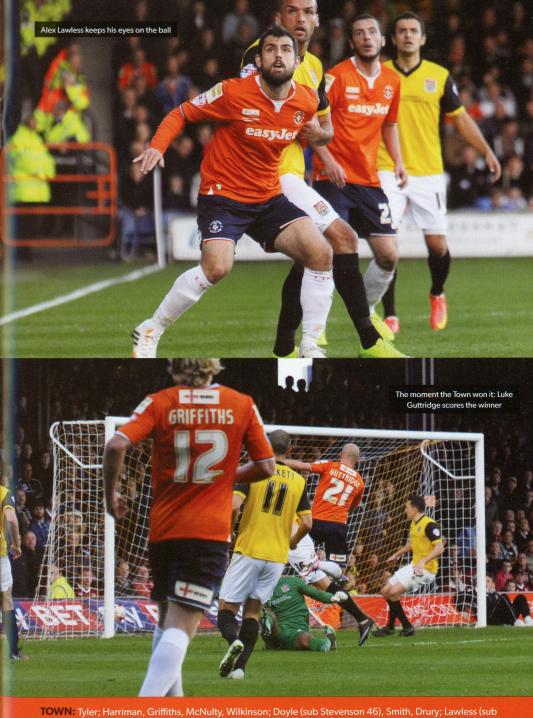
It may have been harsh on the Cobblers but the Hatters did not care as they overcame a resolute visiting side with a goal that turned out to be the last chance of a game low in clear-cut chances. In the first half Mark Cullen – fresh from scoring his first senior hat-trick in the week – nodded over before Andy Drury cut inside from the right and curled a left-foot shot just wide. Mark Tyler was tested on 25 minutes when Cobblers midfielder John-Joe O'Toole headed straight at the Town keeper from inside the six-yard box – it was the closest either side came to scoring in the opening half.

After the restart the Town had Tyler to thank for a fantastic block to keep out Ashley Nicholls' low strike after the forward was found unmarked in the penalty area.

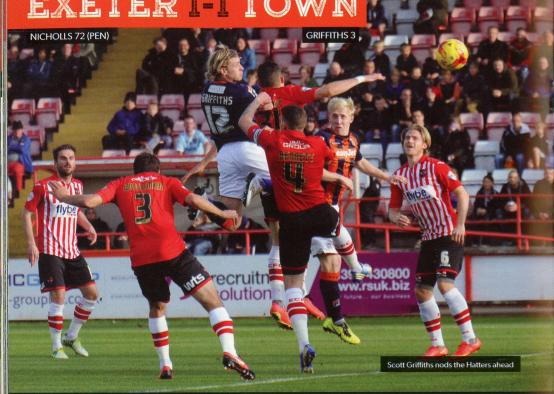
On the hour Guttridge was introduced and within two minutes of being on the pitch the midfielder had the Town's best chance – a sharp low shot which arrowed towards the bottom corner that Cobblers keeper Jordan Archer did well to keep out with a strong hand.

As time ticked down and hope of a winner seemingly out of reach, Guttridge then won it for the Town. Drury poked the ball to Harriman and his deft pass found Guttridge in space and he picked his spot low into the bottom corner to bring the house down.





TOWN: Tyler; Harriman, Griffiths, McNulty, Wilkinson; Doyle (sub Stevenson 46), Smith, Drury; Lawless (sub Guttridge 60), Ruddock Mpanzu (sub Benson 45), Cullen. SUBS NOT USED: Lacey, Wall, Walker, Justham.



WHAT'S THE STORY?

The Hatters had to settle for a point at Exeter but extended their unbeaten run in League 2 to 10 games. A tidy passing move in the opening minute led to a corner, and from Andy Drury's left-wing inswinging corner Scott Griffiths, on his 68th appearance for the Town, nodded home unchallenged.

After weathering the early Hatters storm the home side gradually worked their way into the game and Mark Tyler kept out Graham Cummins' low shot with a fine stop.

As half-time approached Drury curled a shot into the arms of home goalkeeper Christy Pym; Stephen McNulty bravely threw himself in front of a goal-bound drive, before Paul Benson side-footed agonisingly wide following Drury's superb pass. After five minutes of exclusive Exeter possession at the start of the second half, Mark Cullen twice went close in as many minutes, firstly blasting a left-footed effort over the crossbar before then testing Pym with a drive from the edge of the box.

Jake Howells shot wide on his right-foot after nutmegging his marker 20 yards from goal but on 58 minutes the Town had Tyler to thank for another excellent save, this time from Cummins' header. The Hatters were then relieved to see Bennett hook the loose ball over the bar from inside the six-yard box.

Exeter pressed and after a series of close calls the home side levelled via the penalty spot. Christian Ribeiro darted into the penalty area and tumbled under pressure from Griffiths' challenge and referee Whitehouse pointed to the spot. Substitute Tom Nichols stepped up and with his first touch rolled home the equaliser.

The Grecians sensed a winner. Tyler stopped a deflected shot as the hosts poured forward but after Ricky Miller's introduction with 10 minutes to go the Town came back to life. Miller drew a decent stop from Pym from a snap-shot before Jonathan Smith's left-foot effort from the edge of the box was also saved by the home stopper.





Travellers

Luton are back in the Football League after five years away, and ardent Hatters fan **Kevin Harper** will see it all this season. In between sleeping on the coach and munching on a pie at away games he'll be writing of his experiences for Talk of the Town... This week, Kevin recalls last weekends trip to Exeter.

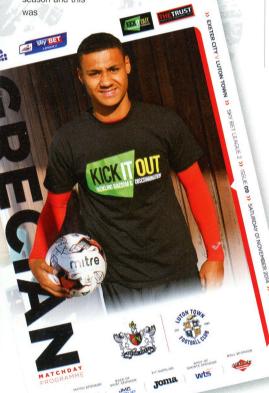
TALES

THE IOURNEY

Having made various long trips north this season it was time for the first trip to the south-west last Saturday. The journey was made a lot easier knowing we were making it with the Town top of the league. Such was the demand to see the Town, the Bobbers had to put on two coaches. both of which left Luton Station at 8.30am.

We've been quite lucky with the weather on most of the journeys this





another sunny day as we travelled down the M1. M25 and then the M4 and M5 into Devon. After a short stop at Leigh Delamare services, which reminded me of the excellent Gavin and Stacey programme, we finally arrived at St James Park just after 1pm.

As we had almost two hours to kick-off we decided to find a bar. We ended up in the supporters' club bar around the side of the ground which was very friendly and was showing the lunchtime Premier League game on TV. After a couple of Jack Daniels and cokes, which were pretty well-priced at £2.70 each it was off to the away end to cheer the Town on to what would hopefully be three more points.

THE GROUND

St James Park was pretty basic in terms of facilities but it had a very family feel about it. Everywhere you looked on the way in there were messages welcoming Town fans and thanking us for making the long journey which was a nice touch. The toilets weren't the cleanest nor the biggest so you had to queue to get in after the game which wasn't good but generally the ground was ok.

In terms of layout the ground was very similar to York and Stevenage. Luton fans had an open terrace behind the goal for this game, very reminiscent of York, and we also had a block of seats to the left of the terrace which was just like Stevenage. Another similarity to Stevenage was having to look over the dugouts when the action was to our left. Thankfully the sight of Graham Westley was replaced by the suave and stylish Paul Tisdale who was looking immaculate in a really fetching flat cap and green jumper combo that few managers in football could pull off so well. You just can't buy class like that anywhere!

THE FOOD

There aren't many grounds where you can't get a burger but this was one. Just pies, pasties and hot dogs were among the hot food options on offer but they were decently enough priced at least.



I went with the steak and kidney pie option which went down well after the earlier drinks and from there it was into the seats ready for the game. The usual array of hot and cold drinks were on offer as well as various chocolate and sweets if you didn't want hot food.

THE PROGRAMME

The programme was a big 80 page book which was the usual £3. After the usual welcomes from manager and captain and then a page dedicated to their supporters trust there was a decent section on the Town. The first two pages outlined our history and covered last week's win with the next two detailing our squad player by player. There were two pages defining our top 10 moments in history followed by a page on facts about Luton so we were well covered in the programme. The family and community based theme continued throughout the programme. All in all it was one of the better away programmes of the season.

THE GAME

Given Exeter's form I think most people, along with myself, expected a tough game so it maybe came as a surprise that we scored as early as the third minute when Scott Griffiths got his first goal of the season when he headed in a pinpoint Andy Drury corner. From there I wondered if this was going to be a defining afternoon much like Alfreton away in similar circumstances last

Exeter made it clear they weren't going to surrender as easily as Alfreton did on that occasion and Mark Tyler had to pull off a big save halfway through the half. Paul

Benson narrowly missed a chance from an excellent cross to put us 2-0 up.

The second half was one of cat and mouse. Exeter threw the kitchen sink at us which we repelled and looked to counter attack to great effect. We did just that but couldn't find a second goal which would have won the game I think and in the end we had to make do with a point when Scott Griffiths conceded a penalty which was comfortably converted by the Exeter sub. A couple of chances to win came and went for both sides with Andy Drury and Jonathan Smith forcing saves from Exeter's goalkeeper so a point was probably a fair result.

MAN-OF-THE-MATCH

I think you can take your pick between Jonathan Smith and Nathan Doyle in this match. Smith covered every blade of grass with the passion and enthusiasm we come to expect from him and had a couple of chances to score, while Doyle was the solid shield he's been for the defence ever since he arrived. He reads the game so well and broke up plenty of danger and launched our own counter attacks. Both gave lessons in how their position should be played and continued their superb recent form for us.

SUMMARY

It was another long day but another perfectly enjoyable one. Town fans were treated well in Devon and the game itself wasn't the worst even though we didn't win. We arrived back in Luton just after 9pm after a 421-mile round trip. Although we were knocked off top spot I think most of the 1,043 travelling fans will see that as a good point to go into the FA Cup break with.

Lest We Forget

When war broke out across Europe in August 1914 it was very much a case of 'business as usual' as far as football was concerned despite protests on many fronts that able-bodied men should not take part in sport when others were losing their lives across the Channel.

Whether there was a general feeling that 'it will all be over in three months', that professional footballers should honour their contractual obligations or financial interests were coming to the fore, the Football League and the FA decided to continue with the normal programme of games but that money should be raised to support the war effort.

Pressure

The Town kicked off the their 1914/15 Southern League season as normal but crowds were down and as it became clear that the war would last longer than three months the increasing pressure put on the football authorities ensured they began to crack.

'Pals' battalions (where recruits were from a particular town or profession) were seen as a clever initiative to increase the number of men needed in an increasingly terrible conflict.

SGT ARTHUR WILEMAN MM. THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE.

Born in Newhall, Derbyshire in 1889. Arthur started with the local Swifts side before joining Gresley Rovers where he was top scorer and catching the eye of Football League outfit Burton United.

At Burton his efforts were not enough to save the club from re-election but his career took an upward turn when four years old Chelsea took him to Stamford Bridge in 1909. His stay at Chelsea lasted two seasons. where he managed five goals from 14 appearances, before he spent a year at Millwall.

Coming to Kenilworth Road in 1912, just as the Hatters had been relegated to Southern League Division Two. Arthur made a steady start before coming to the fore in 1913/14 when the Town won promotion back to Division One.

Forming part of a deadly strike force with Ernie Simms he scored 27 goals to Ernie's 28 as the



Town netted 92 times in only 30 games in a glorious season.

"His brilliant drives from the inside-right position are not merely spectacular. They are deadly," said the Luton News as the Town settled back to Southern League Division One football.

Arthur joined the 11th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment rather than the Footballers' Battalion, enlisting at the Kingsway recruiting office in London. He won the Military Medal (MM) for bravery in the field during the third battle of Ypres, better known as Passchendaele,

in late 1917. On 28th April 1918, with war slowly coming to an end. Arthur's unit was in the front line at Elzenwalle Chateau repulsing the German Spring Offensive when he was part of a reconnaissance patrol that was heavily shelled.

His body was never recovered and he is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial to the Missing in Belgium.



With this in mind a meeting took place at Fulham Town Hall on 15th December 1914 to form a Footballers' Battalion with its official title the 17th (Service) Battalion (Football), Middlesex Regiment.

Any recruits would be given leave to play for their clubs in league and cup matches for the rest of the season while the battalion received military training, and the usual height requirements would be dispensed with.

'Colours'

At the end of the meeting 35 professional footballers from the south east joined the 'Colours' including Hugh Roberts and Frank Lindley from Luton, Within a month the ranks had swelled to 600.

Normal football was suspended at the end of the 1914/15 season with a London Combination League set up in 1915/16 for clubs less than 18 miles from the capital which precluded the Town. Intense lobbying by Hatters secretary Charles Green eventually allowed us to take part in a supplementary tournament at the back end of the season.

We were allowed to participate in the London Combination in 1916/17 but even the persuasive powers of Green could not convince the authorities

that we should take part over the next two seasons, on grounds of security, so we had to make do with friendly fixtures.

With war finally over, three Luton players who were on the books in 1914 had given the ultimate sacrifice. Arthur Wileman, who had made 107 first team appearances for the Hatters, together with Ernest Dodd (one appearance) and Frank Gilder who were on amateur forms. Former players who had died were Walter Fairgrieve, Julius Gregory, Thomas Clifford, George Porter and John (Jock) Jarvie.

Of those who survived the war, Frank Lindley was wounded, as was Ernie Simms while Sid Hoar was gassed. Westby Heath, who had joined the Royal Army Medical Corps, was wounded as was Arthur Roe.

Robert Frith had two toes amputated and returned to a reserved occupation as a furnace man at a Sheffield steelworks while John Dunn was called back from service for 'more important work' in a munitions factory in Liverpool. Both Fred and Bob Hawkes were exempted service in June 1916 as they were both sole heads of businesses in the Luton hat trade.

Hugh Roberts, Thomas Wilson and James Brandham returned from war physically unscathed.

ERNIE SIMMS 'CAUSE CELEBRE'

Born in Murton in 1891, Ernie played for South Shields Adelaide and Murton Colliery Welfare before joining Barnsley in 1912.

He could not get into the first team at Oakwell but averaged a goal a game for their Central League side (reserves) and came to Luton at the start of the 1913/14 season, our second in Southern League Division Two.

His 28 goals from 24 games helped to win promotion and he then went on to bag 22 in 38 games in Southern League Division One in 1914/15.

He joined the Footballers'

Battalion (17th Middlesex) in May 1915 and was transferred to the 23rd Battalion in July 1915. He was recorded as being absent several times during the 1915/16 season which probably ties in with him playing for the Town in the London Combination Supplementary Tournament that season scoring four goals from nine starts.

Soldiers waiting to be posted abroad were then allowed, in 1916/17, to return to play for their clubs and Ernie scored 39 goals in 30 starts that season in the London Combination which was a new national record.

It is recorded that the 23rd Battalion served in Italy from November 1917 until March 1918 and it is in this period that Ernie suffered a severe leg injury and was sent home. The injury left him with a pronounced limp and an ungainly running style but he was determined to return to full fitness and re-commence playing football.

Kenilworth Road was by now closed for the duration of the war and Ernie gained entry to the ground each night by climbing up a drainpipe with the 'agility and ease of a practiced cat-burglar'. He then stripped down to his vest and underpants and completed lap after lap of the cinder track surrounding the pitch and raced up and down the terraces.

One winter morning a caretaker arrived at the ground and noticed footprints in the snow.



Fearing there was a burglar at large the police lay in wait for him that evening and after his arrest he was forced to reveal all.

The story hit the press and the matter became a 'cause celebre' with Simms' spirit and determination catching the national mood of the time.

Rewarded

The Town's directors could hardly refuse him another contract and he rewarded them by scoring 12 goals in 33 Southern League games in 1919/20 and 29 from 40 games in 1920/21 when the Southern

League formed Division Three of the Football League.

On 22nd October 1921 he played for England against Northern Ireland in Belfast (two of his Luton team mates Allan Mathieson and Louis Bookman were on the other side – missing three influential players the Town still managed to beat Portsmouth 1-0 that day) after being named as travelling reserve twice previously.

He scored 18 in 25 starts in 1921/22 before moving to South Shields then of Division Two in March 1922. He netted three in nine in 21/22, seven in 36 in 22/23 and nine in 17 in 23/24 before transferring to Stockport (also of Division 2) in December 1923. He scored six in 20 starts in 23/24, six in 23 in 24/25 and eight in 23 in 25/26, a season which saw Stockport relegated.

As an aside he took part in an FA Tour of Australia in 1925 and scored 36 times in 18 games. The FA had a record of played 25, won 25, goals for 139, against 13! Simms was not even top scorer as Batten of Plymouth scored 47 goals from 21 starts.

He then went on to play for Scunthorpe and York (both then in the Midland League) where he was a prolific scorer before returning to Luton to work at Vauxhall and turn out for the works side.

He continued to work at Vauxhall until retirement and died in Luton in 1971. He was living in Winch Street at the time of his death.





YESTERDAY'S PAGES

Club historian **ROGER WASH** looks back to a classic FA Cup run that finally ended in disappointment

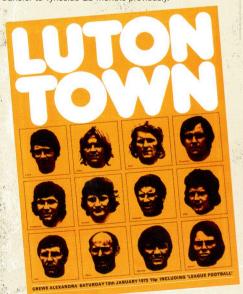
The state of the s

When the draw for the third round of the FA Cup was announced for the 1972/73 season, a home pairing with Crewe from Division Four (now League 2) was seen by the Hatters, two divisions higher, as a certain passport to the next stage for the first time in 12 long years.

A crowd of 9,411 assembled at Kenilworth Road on a bitterly cold afternoon to see the Luton players make hard work of what should have been a simple exercise, but goals from Jim Ryan and Barry Butlin eventually saw off a fighting Crewe side who were ably prompted by ex-Town player Gerry Jones.

The reward for this less than glorious victory was a trip to top flight Newcastle, and from the moment the draw was made the local and national press were in their element.

The sports pages were filled with stories of the damage about to be caused by Malcolm Macdonald, who would be playing against his old side for the first time since his transfer to Tyneside 18 months previously.



Macdonald, who was by now the hero of the Newcastle terraces, was never backward in coming forward when talking to the media, and turned the match into a personal crusade to put one over his old team-mates (in the nidest possible way).

Intimidating

Despite the fact that the Town stood little chance of winning, several train loads of Luton supporters made the long trip north and were confronted by an intimidating atmosphere created by a partisan, capacity crowd of 42.170 in a three-sided St James Park.

The Town, having failed to register their proposed new orange and black second strip with the Football League, had no such problem with the FA and so turned out in their new shirts and shorts, purchased by director Eric Morecambe, for the first time.

The new-look Hatters had to endure the predicted fierce initial onslaught in the opening minutes with Macdonald, made captain for the day, missing an early sitter.

Confidence

Gradually, the Luton players increased in confidence and, out of the blue, took the lead in the 28th minute when the wily John Aston advanced on Magpies goalkeeper lam McFaul and calmly hit a left foot shot into the net.

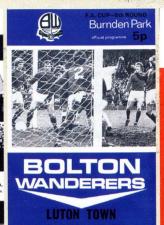
Again Newcastle pressed, but it was the Town who increased their lead just before half-time when Alan Slough broke down the right before cutting the ball back to Aston, who hit it into the top corner for a picture goal.

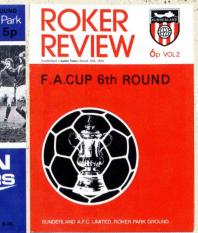
THE PROGRAMMES

Of all the programmes from the cup run that season, the Town's was far and away the best. 10p gave you 16 pages plus the 'League Football' insert and only one page equivalent of adverts.

Manager Harry Haslam was bemoaning the Town's home record – only three wins from 14 games – as opposed to games on our travels where we had won seven from 11. We had to go back four months for the last home win but fortunately that 'duck' was broken with Crewe seen off after a struggle.







Not surprisingly it was 'backs to the wall' stuff in the second half with John Moore putting in one of his finest ever defensive performances even though the ball was sometimes blocked with unorthodox parts of his anatomy!

If the Town were to reach Wembley, they would have to do it the hard way as the fifth round draw saw the team travelling again, this time to Bolton who were chasing promotion from Division Three and were unbeaten at home for almost a year.

Control

Another partisan crowd greeted the train loads of Luton supporters, but the Bolton following among the attendance of 39,556 could never really get worked up as the Hatters took control of the game from the start. It came as no real surprise when Alan Garner headed the only goal in the second-half, to set up a quarter-final tie for only the fourth time in the club's history.

Cup fever had, by now, hit the streets of the town and the slight dampener of being drawn away again, this time to Sunderland, was tempered by the fact that the Hatter's away record that season was better than their form at Kenilworth Road.

The Town had already won at Sunderland during the league campaign and the week before the FA Cup clash, the return at Luton saw the Hatters win 1-0.

Confidence was therefore sky-high, but as in 1959, when Nottingham Forest were thrashed 5-1 just before the Cup Final, perhaps it was bordering on over confidence.

Sunderland cleverly rested several first choice players for the league game, which probably gave the Town a false sense of security.

The week leading up to the big game was disruptive to say the least and did not help the team's preparation. Firstly a rail strike meant that the Town's players, directors and supporters would not be able to take advantage of the special charter trains that were the norm for away matches at the time. This meant that every available coach in the area had to be mobilised to carry the thousands of fans on the long trek to the north-east.

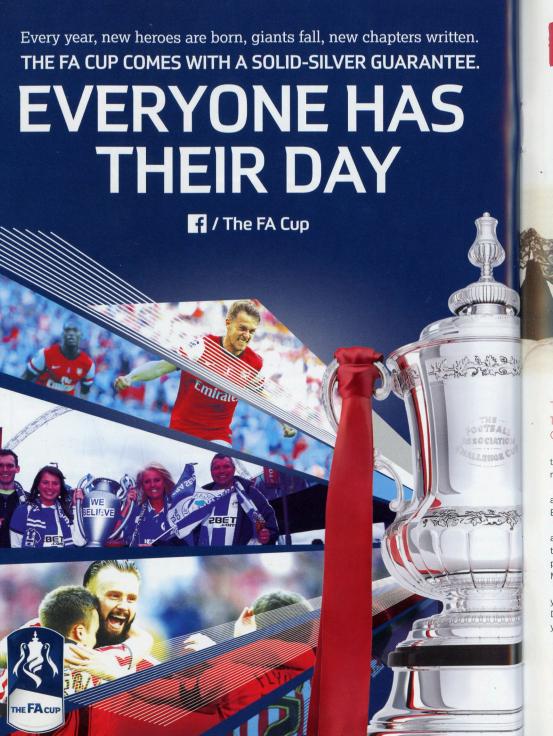
If this was not enough it was then learnt that £50,000 buy from Derby, Barry Butlin, would be out for the season having picked up a bad knee injury. It was then announced that goalkeeper Keith Barber, who had broken a leg only a month before, would play at Roker Park. Clearly, manager Harry Haslam did not rate reserve goalkeeper Willie Carrick but to put a less than match fit Barber back in the firing line could well turn out to be a big mistake.

Massive

A massive crowd of 53,151 packed the Roker Park terraces, a figure that was never subsequently beaten, which was almost 40,000 more than had turned up for the league meeting earlier in the season!

The Sunderland fans were in full voice from the off, as the men in red and white stripes tore into a surprisingly limp Luton rearguard. Quite frankly the Town did not perform on the day with Viv Busby, in for the injured Butlin, ploughing a lone furrow up front and barely troubling the Sunderland defence.

It was all a major disappointment after all the hard work that had gone into the breathtaking cup run and the home side were fully deserving of their all too easy 2-0 win which set them up for going all the way to lifting the trophy after beating Leeds in the final.



CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH

THE PROMOTION BOYS FROM 1974



FORTY YEARS AFTER WINNING PROMOTION TO THE TOP-FLIGHT, MEMBERS OF THE HATTERS' 1973/74 PROMOTION SEASON ARE REUNITED AT OUR CHRISTMAS DINNER THIS DECEMBER.

It was the second time in history that a Town team elevated themselves to the top division, and the heroes of that successful campaign are coming back to relive their memories of a season to remember.

The names in that Town side are still imprinted in Kenilworth Road folklore, and roll easily off the tongue: Alan West, Alan Garner, John Faulkner, Barry Butlin, Jimmy Ryan, Keith Barber – to name half a dozen.

Together with chairman Nick Owen, members of the squad will reminisce about that campaign, which saw the Hatters recover from a 4-0 defeat on the opening day of the season at Nottingham Forest to celebrate winning promotion in the dressing room bath at West Bromwich Albion with Eric Morecambe come April.

The event, proudly sponsored by A-Plan Insurance, promises to be yet another wonderful occasion at Venue 360, so put Wednesday 17th December in your diary and contact the commercial department to book your table. Tickets cost £65, which includes a three-course meal.



TO MAKE A RESERVATION EMAIL COMMERCIAL@LUTONTOWN.CO.UK OR CALL 01582 411622

The magic of the FA Cup

BY BBC COMMENTATOR STEVE WILSON

The Final has the coveted trophy and the glory, the Semi-Finals have the tension and, for the losers, the trauma. The Third Round is a weekend simply not to be missed, but for sheer enjoyment I always think the FA Cup First Round is very hard to beat.

For 32 of the 80 clubs involved in the first round draw just getting that far is an achievement. As many as 608 teams have already fallen by the wayside over six qualifying rounds before we even get to November's big

A special mention here should go to Willand Rovers of the Western League Premier Division, the only club from the ninth tier of English football to make it from the

INTO THE 4th ROUND

extra preliminary round all the way to the fourth qualifying round, where in their seventh game in this season's FA Cup they played Gosport Borough only to lose 3-1.

Slingshot

In Round One those clubs more used to being relative minnows in the Football League are suddenly turned into Goliaths, all hoping to avoid a slingshot from some sharp eyed David emerging from the non-league pyramid to make the headlines. It's a magical transformation which can catapult an almost unheard of club into the nation's consciousness. This season that opportunity goes to Warrington Town and Exeter City. Their match has been selected for live coverage by the BBC was shown last

For me the weekend of the First Round always stirs

memories of 2005. I've been lucky enough to go to five World Cups and five European Championships in my commentating career, but a game played at the tiny Scholar's Ground nearly ten years ago ranks as one of the most memorable I've covered. It was the year that Chasetown Football Club made that journey from obscurity to prime time.

the replay at home to Oldham.



long throws from the M6 toll road at Burntwood and in 2005 they played in the ninth tier of English football in the Midland Football Alliance. They'd already played six games in the competition before reaching the Fourth Qualifying Round where they'd earned a 2-2 draw at Blyth Spartans. The draw for the first round proper pitched the winners of



For the Match of the Day bosses looking for a first round tie to televise live, this was too good to miss. Not much than a decade earlier Oldham had been a Premier League club and FA Cup semi-finalists, Blyth had their own special FA Cup history when they came within a few moments of reaching the quarter-final as a Northern League Club in 1978, and Chasetown? Well, Chasetown against Oldham seemed too fanciful to be true.

Memories

Chasetown's manager in 2005 was Charlie Blakemore: "Knowing that we'd be on Match of the Day if we beat Blyth sent the whole thing into orbit. We knew if we won we would raise 10 times our normal annual income in just one game: no pressure then! The night of the replay will live in the memories of all the players, supporters, management, staff and committee members and all their families for the rest of our lives. We had supporters in trees, on the fences and on the roof of the stands. It was awesome. We scored the winner with 4 minutes to go and it was pandemonium!"

Chasetown's game against Gedling Town in the First Oualifying Round of FA Cup that season had attracted a crowd of 76; more than 2,000 people had used every vantage point to watch them win that replay against Blyth. Oldham and the people from the telly were coming to Chasetown.

Football League neighbours Walsall printed the match tickets and provided stewards, temporary stands were built, a local firm tarmacked the car park to prevent the TV trucks from sinking into the mud, new dugouts were bought, new advertisers battled to have their board placed

round the perimeter of the pitch and after torrential rain the night before the match volunteers and club staff helped to dry the pitch with blowers.

Again 2.000 fans crammed inside for kick off and 3.2 million more watched on BBC One as the team from the ninth tier unbelievably took the lead with a goal from Nicky Harrison against an Oldham team 154 places above them in the League ladder.

My co-commentator Mark Bright and I could hardly believe what we were describing. Soon, David Eyres equalised for Oldham: but Chasetown thoroughly deserved

Charlie Blakemore remembers: "When we scored I felt the ground shake - it was absolutely magic.

"Oldham drew level but we still had a go and 1-1 felt like a win for us. That one game brought us hundreds of new supporters and gave the club a profile on which we have improved our ground and facilities and we now have a full time academy with 45 16-18-year-olds developing in both education and football. It's no exaggeration to say it transformed Chasetown."

At Boundary Park in the re-match footballing logic finally exerted itself and Chasetown were beaten 4-0, but a club with an average crowd of a little over a hundred took almost 2,500 fans north for the replay. That's why they talk about the magic of the Cup.

Three years later Charlie Blakemore led Chasetown still further in the competition, beating Port Vale and taking the lead against Cardiff City before succumbing 3-1 as they became the lowest ranked club ever to reach the Third Round of the FA Cup.

But that's another story.



Youth Team &

Development

McGhan-George

ΔΜΔΟΙ 1 Δ

ALLMAN 1

ΔΗΜΔΝ 1

NGWALA 1

NGWALA 1

Allman .

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FIXTURES & RESULTS

Sat 22 11 00am

Sat 29 11.00am

Sat 13 11,00am

Sat 6 11.00am A

Tue 6 11.00am H

Sat 10 11.00am A

Sat 24 11.00am A

DECEMBER

Sat 20 11.00am

IANUARY

DECEMBER

Tue 9 TRA

Tue 13 1pm

Tue 20 1pm

Tue 27 1pm

Tue 24 1pm

Tue 10 1pm

Mon 23 7pm

Tue 31 1pm

FEBRUARY Tue 3 1pm

MARCH

TBA

TBA

ANUARY

Tue 2 1pm

Northampton Town

Southend United

AFC Wimbledon

Gillingham

Stevenage Peterborough United

Levton Orient

AFC Wimbledon

AFC Wimbledon (Cup)

Milton Keynes Dons (Cup)

Peterborough United

Cambridge United

Cambridge United (Cup)

AFC Wimbledon

Portsmouth

Gillingham

AFC Bournemouth

Brighton (Cup)

Gillingham

Leyton Orient

TRΔ

Milton Keynes Dons

Peterborough United

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DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	STARTING	i XI				
AUGUST					The second second					
Sat 2	11.00am	Н	Milton Keynes Dons	W 3-1	King	TROTMAN 1	Hawkes	Atkinson ◆	Tamplin	Musonda
Tue 12	12 noon	A	AFC Bournemouth (LC)	W 2-1	King	Justin	Magaraushe	Tamplin	Musonda	McGhan-George
Sat 16	11.00am	Н	Stevenage	D 1-1	King	Trotman	Hawkes	Justin	Musonda	Tamplin
Wed 20	11.00am	Н	Cambridge United	W 2-0	King	Trotman	Magaraushe •	Tamplin	Musonda	Justin
Sat 23	10.30am	Α	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 5-0	King	Trotman	Perry +	Justin	ATKINSON 1	Tamplin
Sat 30	11.00am	Н	Watford	W 3-0	King	TROTMAN 1	Perry	Justin	Tamplin ◆	Musonda
SEPTEMBE	R						,		Tumpini	Masonaa
Tue 2	12 noon	Α	Dagenham & Redbridge (LC)	L1-3	King	Trotman	Perry	Hawkes	Musonda	Magaraushe .
Sat 6	10.30am	Α	Barnet	L2-4	King	Trotman	Magaraushe •	TAMPLIN 1	Musonda	Justin
Sat 20	11.00am	Н	Northampton Town	D 1-1	King	MAGURAUSHE 1	Parry	Hawkes	McJannett	McGhan-George
Sat 27	10.30am	Α	AFC Wimbledon	D 1-1	King	Maguraushe	Perry	Justin	Hawkes	McJannett
OCTOBER										aria di mara
Sat 4	11.00am	Н	Southend United	D 1-1	King	Maguraushe •	PERRY 1	McGhan-George	Musonda	Hawkes
Sat 11	10.30am	Α	Leyton Orient	W 2-0	Gooch	Maguraushe	Perry	Justin	Musonda	Hawkes •
Sat 18	11.00am	Н	Gillingham	W 4-0	King	Hankins	Perry	McJannett •	Musonda	Justin
Sat 25	11.00am	Н	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 4-2	Gooch	Justin	Perry	Musonda	Fanewo	McGhan-George
NOVEMBE	R		ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY OF				,		·	median deorge
Sat 1	11.00am	Α	Cambridge United	W 4-3	King	Maguraushe	Perry	Musonda	Hawkes	Justin
Tue 4	7.30pm	Н	Didcot Town (FAYC1)	W 4-1	King	Perry	Hawkes	Musonda	Justin	Bakinson
Sat 8	11.00am	Н	Barnet		9	,		musorida	Justin	Dakinsoll
Sat 15	10.30am	Α	Watford							-
Tue 18	7.30pm	A	Oxford City (FAYC2)			TTATT	ED 10.	ONT THE	TAT CE	

UNDER-18&	ON	TOP	IN
SEVEN-GOAI	TH	RILL	ER

The Town Under-18s fought back from two goals down to triumph 4-3 against Cambridge United in the Youth Alliance last weekend. Paul Driver's side trailed 2-0 inside five minutes before Akene

ATKINSON 1 Bakinson ▲ ALLMAN 1 ΤΔΥΔΙΙ 1 AMADI 1 • Fanewo + Atkinson ▲ **GALLIFORD 2** Allman + AMADI 2 Tavali Maguraushe • AMADI 1 . GALLIEORD 2 Atkinson Allman Tavali • Craig + GALLIFORD 1 * TAYALI 1 ALLMAN 1 A Cotter 4 A two-goal blast in as many minutes from Isaac Galliford – the second from a fine free-kick from the edge

ALLMAN 1 A

Nowala +

Tavali •

Nawala

ALLMAN 1

ΤΔΥΔΙΙ 1

Craig +

Craiq •

Craig

Atkinson

NGWALA 1

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Tayali

Crain +

Amadi

TAYALI 1 .

ΔΜΔΟΙ 1 •

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Galliford

Musonda

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GALLIFORD 1 *

STEVENSON 3

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Atkinson A

GALLIFORD 1

GALLIFORD 1 A

GALLIFORD '

Galliford

Galliford

Galliford

Justin

Justin

Atkinson

Saunders

WHALLEY 1

And although the U's levelled the score on 75 minutes. the Town were not to be denied a winner when Tyreed Bakinson, only on the pitch two minutes, hit the winner

Walker

of the penalty area – put the Hatters in front for the first

in the final minute.

Driver told lutontown.co.uk: "We attacked well but didn't defend too well, as the 4-3 scoreline suggests. But the boys dug in, especially at 2-0 down because they could have easily given in.

"They kept going and naturally I'm pleased to get another victory."

EVELOPMENT

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	STARTING	XI			
SEPTEMBI	ER								
Tue 9	1pm	Н	AFC Bournemouth	W 5-0	Justham	McNeil ◆	Brown	Tamplin ●	Williams
Tue 23	2pm	A	Portsmouth	D 2-2	Justham	Justin	Brown •	Perry	Andoh
Tue 30	1pm	Н	Gillingham (Cup)	W 5-2	Justham	Robinson	Brown	Lacey	Parry
OCTOBER									
Tue 28	1pm	H	Peterborough United	W 4-0	Justham	Williams	Howells	Lacey	Franks
NOVEMBE	R							1	
Tue 18	1pm	А	Cambridge United	1000000					
Tue 25	1pm	Н	Leyton Orient	FIN	AI THII	RD DEVE	LOPMENT	YOL	ΙΤΗ ΔΙΙΙΔ

LEAGUE SOUTH DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 LUTON TOWN	3	2	1	0	11	2	9	7
2 Cambridge United	3	2	0	1	4	4	0	6
3 Portsmouth	3	1	2	0	7	6	1	5
4 AFC Bournemouth	3	1	1	1	9	8	1	4
5 Leyton Orient	3	1	1	1	4	5	-1	4
6 Peterborough United	4	1	0	3	6	14	-8	3
7 AFC Wimbledon	2	0	1	1	4	5	-1	1
8 Gillingham	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0

SOUTH EAST TOP FIVE

Smith

Doyle +

Guttridge

		P	VV	GD	PIS
1	Barnet	14	9	11	30
2	Peterborough United	13	9	15	29
3	LUTON TOWN	13	8	19	28
4	Milton Keynes Dons	14	8	12	26
5	Watford	14	6	8	20

LAFAYETTE 1 ▲Wall MUSONDA 1 . Ngwala ▲ Trotman * McGhan-George WALKER 1 Lafavette Amadi + Galliford Maguraushe • **BENSON 2** WALKER 2 Stevenson + Hawkes ▲ Galliford •

lawless • Doyle + SMITH 1 A Amadi King Stevenson 4 Guttridae Whalley Walker . **BENSON 2** Musonda Robinson + MILLER 2 .

STRIKERS AT THE DOUBLE FOR DEV SQUAD

Two goals apiece from Paul Benson and Ricky Miller helped the Town development squad to a 4-0 victory over a similarly strong Peterborough United side at Kenilworth Road 10 days ago. Benson also saw three goals ruled

development fixtures at Kenilworth Road Miller came off the bench for the

injured Charlie Walker in the opening 15 minutes and helped himself to a brace, although he was denied a hat-trick when a late penalty struck the crossbar.

that saw the Hatters take their tally to



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TOWN YOUNGSTERS PROGRESS IN YOUTH CUP

TOWN UNDER-18S 4-1 DIDCOT UNDER-18S

Four first half goals from four different players helped the Hatters Under-18s progress to the second round of the FA Youth Cup following victory over Didcot on Tuesday.

The Town took the lead on 13 minutes when Isaac Galliford smashed home from a direct free-kick inside the penalty area after the visiting goalkeeper picked up a backpass.

The Hatters doubled their lead nine minutes later when Alex Atkinson seized on a loose pass to stride forward and finish with aplomb from the edge of the penalty area.

Four minutes later two became three when Galliford showed great tenacity to beat his man down the left, race into the area and put the ball on a plate for Tuki Tayali who slotted home.

Before Didcot could recover it was 4-0 on 31 minutes when the lively Allman swept home an assured finish from the left-hand edge of the six-yard box.

Chances continue to fall the Town's way before the break and indeed after the half-time whistle.

Tayali and Galliford both went close to making it 5-0, only to be denied by Didcot goalkeeper Beckham Janes.

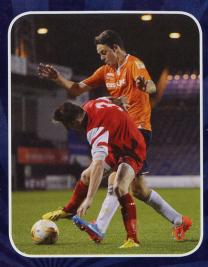
But the last word went to Didcot when, with nine minutes left, striker Charlie Noble struck the goal of the game with a fine volley from just inside the penalty area following a right-wing cross.

The victory meant a place in the second round which gives Paul Driver's side a trip to Oxford City in a fortnight's time.

But despite the win Driver was less than satisfied with the level of performance.

He told Talk of the Town: "Although it is nice to win and to progress to the next

www.ltyd.co.uk



round I would have preferred it if it had been a much better performance.

"We've set ourselves some really high standards with our displays so far this season and the performance was below

"We have to be brighter and more positive with the ball and we have to be more committed when we are defending when the opposition have the ball.

"The only positive is that we have won the game and are in the next round. All I hope for his a return to our normal high standards sooner rather than later."

This morning the Town youngsters hosted Youth Alliance league leaders Barnet at Ely Way - and you can find out how they did by logging onto lutontown. co.uk for a brief summary of how the Hatters faired.

Town: King, Perry, Hawkes, Musonda, Justin, Bakinson, Atkinson, Galliford (sub Cotter 73), Allman (sub McJannett 73), Amadi (sub Craig 59), Tayali. Subs not used: Gooch, Snelus.

Attendance: 254

@LTFC_Academy













Tuton Ladies

LADIES THROUGH IN FA CUP VICTORY

The Town Ladies comfortably progressed into the next round of the FA Cup with a 6-1 win away to Leighton United Vixens.

Luton pressed forward from the first whistle and after a couple of near misses took a ninth-minute lead. Rachel Kosky floated a 40-vard free-kick high into the box and a number of players attacked the ball which sailed into the net with no one able to get the touch.

Vixens keeper Kelly Moss pulled off the first of many saves when she tipped Jess McKay's thunderbolt over the bar and the score remained unchanged until the last minute of the half when Michelle Byrne seemed to hang in the air before planting a well-placed header just inside the post from Kosky's corner.

Town came out for the second half and quickly settled the tie. McKay picked the ball up 25 yards out and, as the options opened up in front of her, she moved forward before chipping Moss to make it 3-0. Soon after it was 4-0 when Rebecca Kane broke the offside trap and looped the ball high into the net with some precision.

The hosts did pull a goal back on the hour when the lively Shanice Sanderson won a tackle and smashed her shot home from 12 vards. Town were far from finished and created and wasted a number of chances before finally putting Vixens to the sword. Kane added her second with five minutes remaining with a shot off the inside of the post and two minutes after that a deep cross from Byrne eluded all before striking the post and rebounding to Nicky Livingstone who finished neatly.

Manager Nikki Baker told Talk of the Town: "I was pleased with the overall performance as we barely offered Leighton a chance all game while still being destructive at the other end of the pitch.

"It was good to score six goals and this represents a third win on the bounce for us and gives us a platform to build on. It was also pleasing to see two first team debutants doing so well."

The Town have been draw at home to Cambridge in the next round, which will take place on 7th December. The next home league game brings Enfield Town to Stockwood Park for a 2pm kick-off.



Youth Team Sponsors

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COMMUN

WITH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER JAMES HATCH

OCTOBER HALF-TERM

Our community coaches had a full on week last week as over 650 youngsters enjoyed games of football and soccer camps with us during the school holiday.

MONDAY

We took over the fantastic facilities at Creasev Park Community Stadium in Dunstable for the visit of Crystal Palace's Development squads who played our Luton Centre of Excellence South Development squads at under-8 to under-14 age groups along with our under-9 to under-13 Kempston Player Development Centre boys who travelled down from the North of the County and Milton Kevnes area.

The games were competitive at all age groups with lots of our boys commenting on how "small and technical" the Palace boys were and how well they kept the ball'. It proved to be a good lessons for our third tier boys to play Premier league opposition and appreciate their style of play and also pleased to receive an invite from Palace to travel down to them next year for return fixtures.

TUESDAY

A day off from development games but our coaches were all still very busy on our holiday soccer camps which over the course of the week saw 250 boys and girls from all over Luton and Bedfordshire enjoy full days of coaching and football fun. From Bedford to Luton and Stotfold to Dunstable our 12 soccer camp locations gave all of our soccer mad youngsters the opportunity to enjoy full days of skills training and mini tournaments right on their doorsteps.

WEDNESDAY

Another day of development Games at Creasey Park Community Stadium as our pre-Academy under-7 to under-15 squads welcomed the Tractor Boys from Ipswich Town. The weather took a turn for the worse, unfortunately, but all of the boys enjoyed another good



day of games against our East Anglian neighbours. Our pre-Academy squads are our tier two boys just below academy level and so quite strong and our Championship neighbours certainly knew the Hatters were back by the end of the day! All good games and very competitive.

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

Our final two days of the school holiday saw Northampton Town and Wycombe Wanderers visit us at our Creasey Park half-term base as our under-7 to under-16 pre-Academy and Dunstable Centre of Excellence north squads played a four-ball tournament spread over two days.

The weather was great and the banter even better with our Division Two visitors as we all tried - not very successfully - to mention Luke Guttridge's last-minute winner the week before against the Cobblers and how much we were all looking forward to knocking the Chairboys off the top of the table!

It led to two great days of games played in very competitive tournaments and lots of our boys showed the same kind of determination and ability that our first team are currently showing, and that our Academy are trying to produce for the future.

All in all it was a very busy and enjoyable week. Roll on Christmas and more games with MK Dons and also lots of indoor soccer camps. We'll keep you posted.











55

















THE SEASON

Fixtures & Results

DATE	TIME H	/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	STARTING XI						
UGUST														
Sat 9	3.00pm	Α	Carlisle United	W 1-0	6,760	1,088	6	Tyler	Connolly	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Lacey	Robinson
Tue 12	7.45pm	Н	Swindon Town (C1C1)	L 1-2	4,410	436		Tyler	Connolly	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Franks	Robinson A
Sat 16	3.00pm	Н	AFC Wimbledon	L 0-1	9,101	690	14	Tyler	Franks A	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Robinson	Drury •
Tue 19	7.45pm	Н	Bury	D 1-1	7,890	289	14	Tyler	Franks	Griffiths ◆	McNulty	Wilkinson	Robinson	Drury
Sat 23	3.00pm	Α	Accrington Stanley	D 2-2	1,562	586	12	Tyler	Connolly	HOWELLS 1	McNulty	Wilkinson	Lacey •	Robinson
Sat 30	3.00pm	Α	Shrewsbury Town	L 0-2	5,888	1,037	18	Tyler	Connolly	Howells	McNulty	Wilkinson	Robinson =	Stevenson
ЕРТЕМВ	ER													
V Sat 6	12.15pm	Н	Plymouth Argyle	L 0-1	7,864	527	19	Tyler	Connolly	Griffiths	McNulty	Lacey	Ruddock	Drury A
Sat 13	3.00pm	Н	Cheltenham Town	W 1-0	7,793	221	18	Tyler	Williams ◆	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Lacey •	Smith
Tue 16	7.45pm	Α	York City	D 0-0	3,649	445	18	Tyler	Williams	Griffiths	Lacey	Wilkinson	Smith *	Ruddock
Sat 20	3.00pm	Α	Cambridge United	W 1-0	6,533	2,050	13	Tyler	Williams •	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Lacey	Ruddock
Sat 27	3.00pm	Н	Oxford United	W 2-0	9,101	868	10	Tyler	Lacey	Griffiths	McNulty	WILKINSON 1	Smith •	Doyle •
CTOBER	R													
Sat 4	3.00pm	A	Stevenage	W 2-1	5,236	1,897	7	Tyler	Lacey	Griffiths	McNulty	WILKINSON 1	Smith •	Doyle
Tue 7	7.45pm	Н	Crawley Town (JPT2)	L 0-1	2,186	125	-	Justham	Lacey	Griffiths •	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith •	Doyle
Sat 11	3.00pm	Н	Southend United	W 2-0	9,238	1,033	4	Tyler	Harriman ●	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	Doyle
Sat 18	3.00pm	Α	Hartlepool United	W 2-1	4,225	525	4	Tyler	Harriman	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	Doyle
Tue 21	7.45pm	Н	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 3-1	7,746	166	3	Tyler	Harriman	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	Doyle
Sat 25	3.00pm	Н	Northampton Town	W 1-0	10,040	1,018	1	Tyler	Harriman	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	Doyle •
OVEMB	ER													
Sat 1	3.00pm	Α	Exeter City	D 1-1	5,400	1,043	2	Tyler	Harriman	GRIFFITHS 1 •	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	Doyle
Sat 8	3.00pm	Н	Newport County (FAC1)											
Sat 15	3.00pm	Н	Tranmere Rovers											
	UGUST Sat 9 Tue 12 Sat 16 Tue 19 Sat 23 Sat 30 Sat 30 Sat 30 Sat 31 Tue 16 Sat 20 Sat 41 Tue 7 Sat 11 Sat 18 Sat 18 Sat 20 OVEMB Sat 1 Sat 8	Sat 9 3.00pm 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Sat 9 3.00pm A Tue 12 7.45pm H Sat 16 3.00pm A Sat 23 3.00pm A Sat 13 3.00pm H Tue 16 7.45pm A Sat 27 3.00pm A Sat 27 3.00pm A Tue 7 7.45pm H Sat 11 3.00pm A Tue 21 7.45pm H Sat 18 3.00pm A Tue 21 7.45pm H Sat 25 3.00pm H Sat 28 3.00pm A Sat 38 3.00pm A	Sat 9 3.00pm	Sat 9 3.00pm A Carlisle United W 1-0	Sat 9 3.00pm A Carlisle United W 1-0 6,760	Sat 6 3.00pm A Carlisle United W1-0 6,760 1,088	Sat 9 3.00pm	Sat 9 3.00pm A Carlisle United W 1-0 6,760 1,088 6 Tyler	Sat 9 3.00 m	Sat 9 3.00 pm	Sat 9 3.00 pm A Carlisle United W 1-0 6,760 1,088 6 Tyler Connolly Griffiths McNulty	Sat 9 3.00pm A Carlisle United W 1-0 6,760 1,088 6 Tyler Connolly Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson	Sat 9 3.00pm A Carlisle United W 1-0 6,760 1,088 6 Tyler Connolly Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Lacey Tue 12 7.45pm H Swindon Town (C1C1) L1-2 4,410 436 - Tyler Connolly Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Franks Sat 16 3.00pm H AFC Wimbledon L0-1 9,101 690 14 Tyler Franks A Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Robinson Tue 19 7.45pm H Bury D1-1 7,890 289 14 Tyler Franks Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Robinson Sat 23 3.00pm A Accrington Stanley D2-2 1,562 586 12 Tyler Connolly HOWELLS 1 McNulty Wilkinson Robinson Sat 30 3.00pm A A Shrewsbury Town L0-2 5,888 1,037 18 Tyler Connolly Howells McNulty Wilkinson Robinson Sat 30 3.00pm A Shrewsbury Town L0-2 5,888 1,037 18 Tyler Connolly Howells McNulty Wilkinson Robinson Sat 20 3.00pm B Cheltenham Town W1-0 7,793 221 18 Tyler Connolly Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Lacey Williams ← Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Lacey ← Wilkinson Sat 20 3.00pm A Cambridge United W1-0 6,533 2,050 13 Tyler Williams ← Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Lacey Sat 4 3.00pm A Cambridge United W1-0 6,533 2,050 13 Tyler Williams ← Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Lacey Sat 27 3.00pm H Oxford United W2-0 9,101 868 10 Tyler Lacey Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Lacey Sat 4 3.00pm A Stevenage W2-1 5,236 1,897 7 Tyler Lacey Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Smith ← CTOBER Sat 4 3.00pm H Oxford United W2-0 9,238 1,033 4 Tyler Harriman ← Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Smith ← Sat 13 3.00pm H Dagenham & Redbridge W3-1 7,746 166 3 Tyler Harriman ← Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Smith Sat 25 3.00pm H Oxford United W2-1 4,225 525 4 Tyler Harriman Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Smith Sat 25 3.00pm H Northampton Town W1-0 1,040 1,043 2 Tyler Harriman Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Smith Sat 25 3.00pm H Northampton Town W1-0 1,040 1,043 2 Tyler Harriman Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Smith Sat 25 3.00pm H Northampton Town W1-0 1,040 1,043 2 Tyler Harriman Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Smith

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									N M	
Drury •	Howells *	CULLEN 1	Benson	Franks	Wall	Rooney *	Ruddock	Guttridge	Stevenson •	Justham
Drury	ROONEY 1	Cullen •	Benson ◆	Lacey	Wall	Howells	Ruddock A	Guttridge •	Lafayette •	Justham
Guttridge •	Howells	Cullen	Benson	Lacey	Wall ●	Williams	Ruddock +	Stevenson A	Lafayette	Justham
Guttridge •	Rooney	Cullen	Benson ▲	Lacey	Wall	Howells •	RUDDOCK 1 •	Stevenson	Lafayette A	Justham
Drury	ROONEY 1	Cullen •	Benson	Franks	Wall ◆	Guttridge •	Ruddock	Stevenson	Lafayette	Justham
Guttridge 🛦	Rooney •	Cullen *	Benson	Lacey •	Wall	Williams	Ruddock 🛦	Miller	Lafayette *	Justham
Guttridge	Howells •	Rooney	Cullen •	Smith	Lawless •	Wall	Lafayette •	Stevenson A	Wilkinson	Justham
Ruddock	Guttridge A	CULLEN 1	Lafayette	Drury •	Wall	Howells A	Rooney	Stevenson •	Walker	Justham
Drury	Guttridge	Howells •	Cullen A	Wall	Rooney	Lafayette A	Whalley	Stevenson •	Connolly	Justham
-	Guttridge A	CULLEN 1	Wall +	Drury •	Lafayette •	Whalley	Robinson A	Doyle	Walker	Justham
Stevenson	2			,						
Ruddock	Whalley •	HOWELLS 1	Cullen	Drury +	Lafayette •	Stevenson •	Robinson	Guttridge	Walker	Justham
Ruddock	Drury	Cullen 🛦	Benson ◆	Howells	WALL 1 A	Stevenson •	Robinson	Guttridge	Walker *	Justham
Guttridge	Howells	Wall ▲	Benson	Walker ▲	Robinson •	Stevenson	Lawless •	Tyler		
Drury	Ruddock	LAWLESS 1	CULLEN 1	Lacey •	Benson	Wall	Guttridge	Stevenson	Walker	Justham
Drury	Ruddock •	Miller ▲	CULLEN 1 •	Lacey	Benson •	Wall	Guttridge A	STEVENSON 1	Walker	Justham
Drury	Ruddock	Miller •	CULLEN 3 •	Lacey	Benson ●	Wall	Guttridge	Stevenson	Walker •	Justham
Drury	Ruddock •	Lawless ▲	Cullen	Lacey	Benson ●	Wall	GUTTRIDGE 1	▲ Stevenson ◆	Walker	Justham
Drury	Howells ◆	Cullen A	Benson	Lacey •	Miller A	Rooney	Guttridge *	Stevenson	Whalley	Justham

		P	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	PT
1	Wycombe Wanderers	16	9	5	2	23	12	11	32
2	LUTON TOWN	16	9	4	3	19	11	8	3
3	Shrewsbury Town	16	9	3	4	25	12	13	30
4	Bury	16	9	3	4	26	17	9	30
5	Burton Albion	16	9	2	5	21	20	1	29
6	Plymouth Argyle	16	8	3	5	18	9	9	2
7	Southend United	16	7	4	5	16	14	2	2
8	Newport County	16	6	6	4	20	16	4	2
9	Portsmouth	16	6	5	5	18	16	2	2
10	Morecambe	16	7	2	7	18	17	1	2
11	Exeter City	16	6	5	5	19	19	0	2
12	Accrington Stanley	16	7	2	7	24	27	-3	2
13	Cheltenham Town	16	6	4	6	15	18	-3	2
14	Cambridge United	16	6	3	7	26	20	6	2
15	Northampton Town	16	6	3	7	25	23	2	2
16	Stevenage	16	6	3	7	21	24	-3	2
17	AFC Wimbledon	16	5	5	6	22	25	-3	21
18	Mansfield Town	16	5	4	7	14	19	-5	15
19	Oxford United	16	4	4	8	18	23	-5	10
20	York City	16	2	9	5	14	20	-6	1
21	Dagenham & Redbridge	16	4	3	9	19	27	-8	1
22	Carlisle United	16	4	3	9	20	30	-10	1
23	Tranmere Rovers	16	2	6	8	15	22	-7	1.
24	Hartlepool United	16	3	3	10	12	27	-15	1.

		LEAG	CHE	UID SEYSON				TO	IΔI	88	SCIP	CAREER TOTAL	
	AP		GLS	AF	PS	GLS	AF	PS	GLS	Y	R	APPS	
Zane Banton	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	6	0
Paul Benson	7	(3)	0	2	(0)	0	9	(3)	0	3	0	50	18
Paul Connolly	4	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	3	0	5	0
Mark Cullen	16	(0)	8	1	(0)	0	17	(0)	8	0	0	53	18
Nathan Doyle	7	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	8	(0)	0	2	0	8	0
Andy Drury	12	(3)	0	1	(0)	0	13	(3)	0	1	0	42	8
Fraser Franks	2	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	1	0	20	0
Scott Griffiths	14	(0)	1	2	(0)	0	16	(0)	1	1	0	68	2
Luke Guttridge	7	(4)	1	1	(1)	0	8	(5)	1	1	0	46	14
Michael Harriman	5	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	0	0	5	0
Jake Howells	8	(2)	2	1	(0)	0	9	(2)	2	0	0	287	28
Elliot Justham	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	8	0
Alex Lacey	8	(3)	0	1	(0)	0	9	(3)	0	0	0	43	1
Ross Lafayette	1	(6)	0	0	(1)	0	1	(7)	0	1	0	8	0
Alex Lawless	2	(1)	1	0	(1)	0	2	(2)	1	0	0	160	19
Steve McNulty	15	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	17	(0)	0	1	0	85	2
Ricky Miller	2	(1)	0	0	(0)	0	2	(1)	0	0	0	3	0
Andrew Parry	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	26	4
lan Rees	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	4	0
Matt Robinson	5	(1)	0	1	(1)	0	6	(2)	0	0	1	53	3
Luke Rooney	4	(2)	1	1	(0)	1	5	(2)	2	1	1	13	2
Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu	10	(3)	1	0	(1)	0	10	(4)	1	1	0	38	3
Charlie Smith	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	3	0
Jonathan Smith	9	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	10	(0)	0	2	0	70	3
Jim Stevenson	2	(9)	1	0	(0)	0	2	(9)	1	1	0	17	1
Mark Tyler	16	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	17	(0)	0	1	0	247	0
Charlie Walker	0	(2)	0	0	(1)	0	0	(3)	0	0	0	3	0
Alex Wall	1	(3)	1	1	(0)	0	2	(3)	1	3	0	32	7
Shaun Whalley	1	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	23	2
Luke Wilkinson	15	(0)	2	2	(0)	0	17	(0)	2	2	0	17	2
Curtley Williams	3	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	0	0	3	0

PLAYER STATS 2014/15

Sat 22 3.00pm A Burton Albion Sat 29 3.00pm H Mansfield Town

 Sat 13
 3.00pm
 A
 Morecambe

 Sat 20
 3.00pm
 A
 Newport County

 Fri 26
 3.00pm
 A
 Wycombe Wanderers

 Sun 28
 3.00pm
 H
 Portsmouth

 NUARY
 Sat 3
 3.00pm
 A
 Mansfield Town

 Sat 10
 3.00pm
 A
 Plymouth Argyle

 Sat 17
 3.00pm
 A
 Cheltenham Town

 Sat 24
 3.00pm
 A
 Cheltenham Town

 Sat 7
 3.00pm
 A
 Oxford United

 Tue 10
 7.45pm
 H
 York City

 Sat 14
 3.00pm
 H
 Carlisle United

 Sat 21
 3.00pm
 A
 A.F.C. Wimbledon

 Sat 28
 3.00pm
 H
 Accrington Stanley

Tue 3 7.45pm A Bury

Sat 7 3.00pm H Morecambe

Sat 14 3.00pm H Norecambe

Sat 21 3.00pm H Newport County

Sat 21 3.00pm H Wycombe Wanderers

Sat 28 3.00pm A Northampton Town

PRIL

Fri 3 3.00pm H Exeter City

Mon 6 7.45pm A Tranmere Rovers

Sat 11 3.00pm H Burton Albion

Tue 14 7.45pm A Dagenham & Redbridge

Sat 18 3.00pm H Hartlepool United

Sat 25 3.00pm A Southend United

Sat 2 3.00pm H Stevenage

DECEMBER

FEBRUARY

For more details call 01528 488864.

HOLD THE BALCIRO BALCI

My family are from Newport and as a result I am hugely proud of my Welsh heritage, shown from the fact that in eight days' time I'll be in Brussels for our game in Belgium.

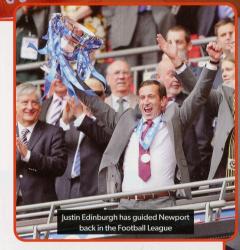
As a result of this, six-and-a-half years ago, in April 2008, I went to see Newport County play in a game on the last day of the Conference South season in which they had to beat Fisher Athletic in order to make the Play-Offs instead of Wayne Burnett's side (yes, that is the man that has replaced John Still at Dagenham & Redbridge). Played in what was then Newport's home ground of an athletics stadium completed unsuited to football, they failed to beat a football club that no longer exists.

Back then, I would have liked nothing more than to see a FA Cup tie between the Hatters and the Exiles, but now, in essence, it is a first round tie between two sides in the same division.

That just goes to prove how much can happen to a football club in a relatively short period of time. I can say that because one of my best mates is an Ipswich fan. Although goodness knows why, as the first time I met him I was watching us get pummelled 5-0, on the day that Sol Davis suffered a stroke.

Ipswich last got relegated from the Premier League in 2001/02. This was the same season we got promoted from Division Three under Joe Kinnear. Meanwhile, Newport were a mid-table club in the Southern Premier and made the FA Cup first round for the first time since reformation.

Since then, Ipswich have stayed in the second tier every single year.



When you consider what has happened to us since then, good and bad, it is sure a darn sight more interesting than playing in the same division every single year.

As my mate put it, they are stuck in "Championship purgatory" for now and evermore, which sure does not sound like a guy enjoying the consistency of the Trotters' situation. However, it is a situation a lot of our supporters consider is something we should aspire to be, and that is fine. Just remember though, if we eventually achieve that, the truly fun part is the rise through the leagues rather than stability after that.

Newport County have achieved everything they set out to do in 1989 when they reformed in the Hellenic League playing in deepest Gloucestershire, but if they sit in League 2 for the next decade, any member of the Amber Army who says the promotions were not more fun is lying.



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LUTON TOWN

- Mark Tyler
- Fraser Franks
- Danny Fitzsimons
- Jonathan Smith
- Stephen McNulty
- Alex Lacey
- Alex Lawless
- Andy Drury
- Paul Benson 9
- Alex Wall 10
- Jake Howells
- Scott Griffiths
- Mark Cullen

13

- Andy Parry
- Luke Rooney
- Elliot Justham
- Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu 39

- Ross Lafayette
- Ricky Miller
- Shaun Whalley
- 21 Luke Guttridge
- Matthew Robinson 23
- **Curtley Williams**
- 26 Nathan Doyle
- Jim Stevenson
- 29 Paul Connolly
- Luke Wilkinson
- Brett Longden
- Mark Onyemah
- Zane Banton 34
- Charlie Walker
- 36 Charlie Smith
- 37 Kynan Isaac
 - Ian Rees

NEWPORT COUNTY AFC

- Lenny Pidgeley
- Ryan Jackson
- Kevin Feely
- Max Porter
- Darren Jones
- Ismail Yakubu
- Adam Chapman
- Lee Minshull
- Rene Howe
- Aaron O'Connor
- 11 Chris Zebroski
- Robbie Willmott Andy Sandell
- Shaun Jeffers
- Scott Tancock

- Andrew Hughes
- Michael Flynn
- Yan Klukowski
- Kyle Pattern 19
- 20 James Loveridge
- 21 Curtis Obeng
- Christian Jolley 23
- 24 Joe Parker
- Jamie Stephens
- Danny Crow
- Joe Day
- Mark Byrne 33
- **Aaron Collins**
- Joe Pigott

TODAY'S OFFICIALS



Christopher Sarginson



Andrew Newbold



Stephen Ross



John Busby

NEXT UP

v TRANMERE ROVERS • SATURDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2014 • 3pm SKY BET LEAGUE 2

