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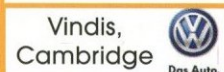
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vs Luton Town



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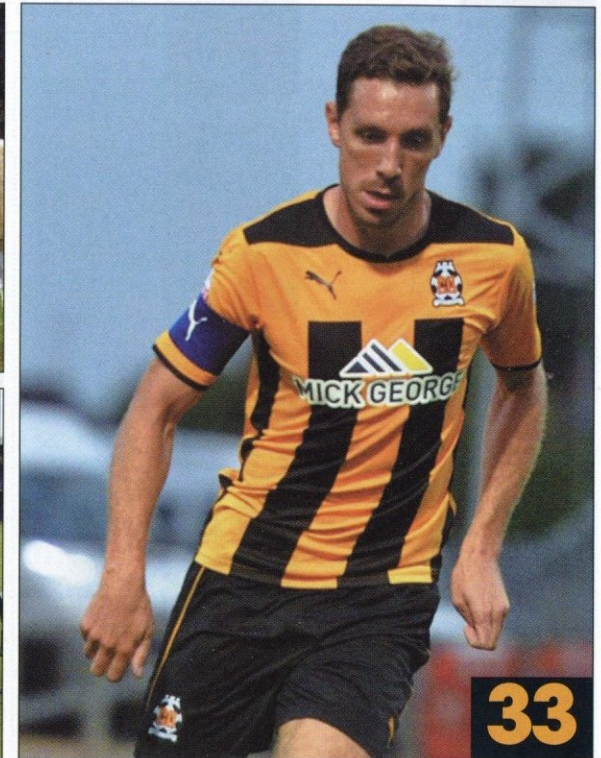
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MICK GEORGE

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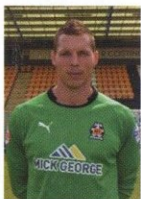
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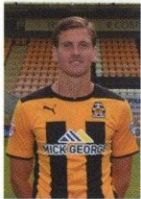
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Front cover Tom Champion in action for the U's at Tranmere



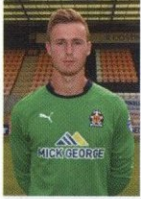
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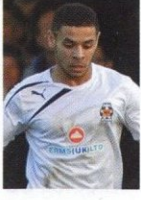
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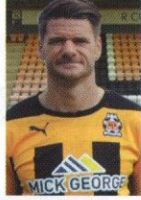
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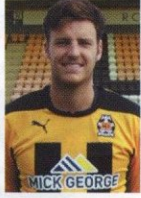
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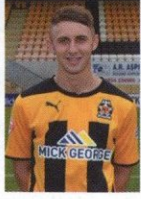
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MICHAEL NELSON
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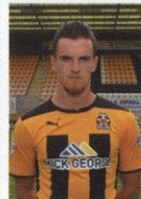
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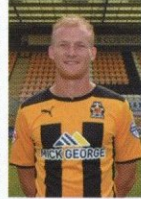
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Alt. Away:



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Alt. Away: Dennis Rawlings




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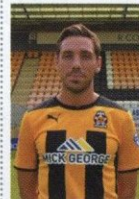
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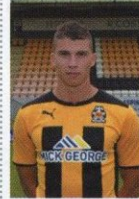
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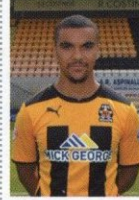
TOM CHAMPION
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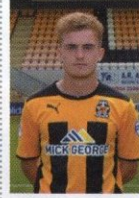
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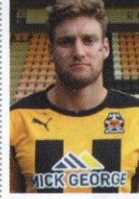
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Alt. Away: Crafting Time



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Away: KC Manual Solutions
Alt. Away:



BOBBY JOE TAYLOR
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Away:
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Home: Postscript
Away: Penny Morris
Alt. Away:

RICHARD MONEY

The pre-match thoughts of the Head Coach

I trust everyone had a very happy Christmas with family and friends. Football is a major part of many peoples festivities so apologies if our results have put a dampener on it all for you.

With 23 games gone and therefore exactly half way through it is a good time to write a half season progress report. I would probably give us a C+ so far. Worked hard, tried hard, played well at times, haven't made the most of the opportunities put in front of us but can do a lot better. We have probably done well enough to consider ourselves a League 2 club but need to improve if we are to put ourselves into a position where we can be considered challengers at any time in the future.

Managers talk a great deal about consistency both in team selection and performance as one normally affects the other. That we haven't had either in the first half is concerning. Injuries have a bearing for certain, as does individual form. There are injuries and injuries. Severe and short term, key players or squad players. They can be thought of an excuse at times or they can be real reasons for results depending on which category they fall. I am not suggesting the following list is one or the other but will leave you to decide which.

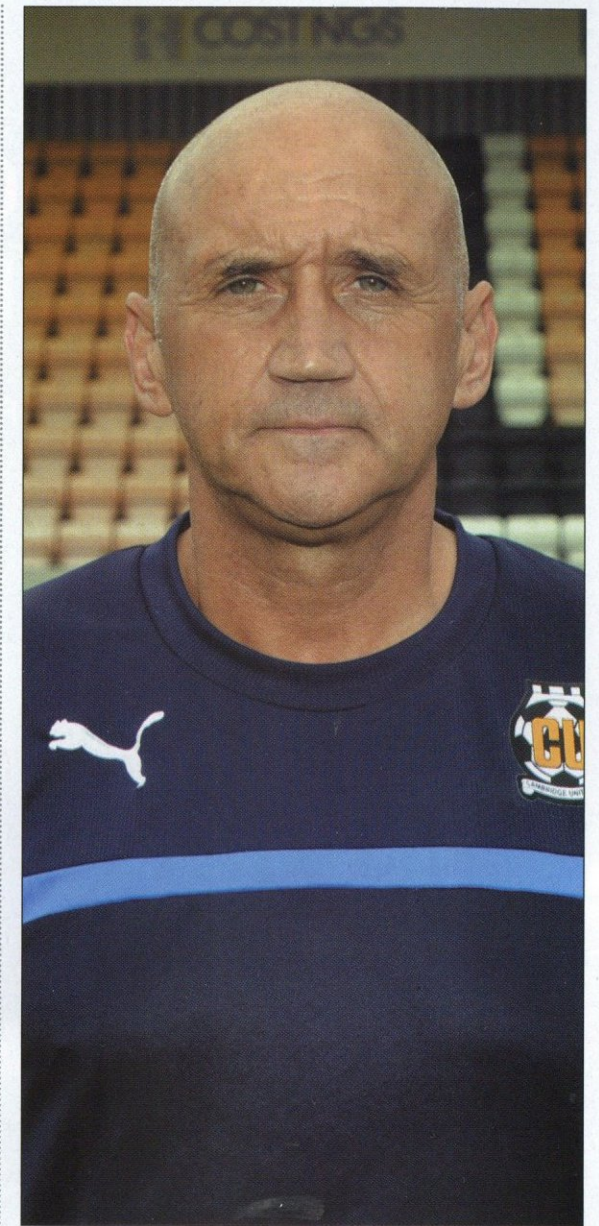
We continually monitor the type of injury we have had to endure to see if there is anything we should change with regards to the training

schedule. So far Miller and Diallo, (torn Achilles) Champion, (broken cheekbone) Hughes, (broken wrist) Donaldson (knee ligaments), Elliott, (knee ligaments) and Dunk (Hernia) have each missed more than half the fixtures thus far. All major injuries that can be considered impact but not unusual, although incredibly hurtful when they all happen at the same period. If you add in normal tissue injuries to Simpson, Chadwick and Appiah which have kept them out for short periods you can begin to picture the real environment we have to work within so far. It isn't just match day selection that is affected but equally as crucial training intensity.

You may evaluate that we haven't covered those difficulties well enough and I am happy to accept that criticism. I wouldn't give myself much more than C+ either!

Hopefully we are turning the corner with those injuries and we have strengthened already for the window. Jordan Chiedozie has impressed already and Rory Gaffney and Gearóid Morrissey are two more names to welcome to the club.

Today brings our old foes in Luton Town to the R Costings Stadium for this afternoon's FA Cup Third Round. You really couldn't make it up when the draw was made could you. When you consider last year's rivalry until they pulled away and last season FA Trophy matches this afternoon's



encounter takes on significant importance. We are well aware they have pulled away from us again this season but all of the matches between the two clubs since I arrived here have been tight, hard fought tussles and today's will be no different. No one would bet

against a replay would they!

So whilst wishing everyone here a very happy and prosperous New Year I would like wish all from our opponents the same sentiments and welcome them to the stadium today.

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●●● LUTON TOWN ●●●

Doug Shulman introduces today's visitors

United host a Luton side today in what will be a ninth meeting between the two sides in just over two years. Having been promoted along with the U's at the end of last season, Town are experiencing a fine first term back in the Football League. The 1-1 draw at Wycombe on Boxing Day saw John Still's men maintain their challenge for an automatic promotion place, but it is FA Cup action that provides a distraction this afternoon and the opportunity for a potential money-spinning fourth round tie.

Relegated from the Football League in 2009, they played Conference football for five years and, like the U's, twice suffered Wembley play-off heartbreak during that time.

The Bedfordshire club reached the 2011 showpiece final but, were pipped at the post by AFC

Wimbledon courtesy of a dramatic penalty shoot-out and, worse was to follow the following season when York put them to the sword at the national stadium. Town concluded the 2012/13 campaign thirteen points adrift of the top five, but the arrival of John Still towards the end of that campaign triggered the start of a rebuilding programme that prepared them for last season's assault on the title.

The squad was bolstered by the arrival of experience in the shape of defender Steve McNulty, prolific goalscorer Paul Benson and former U's man Luke Guttridge and, despite the Hatters starting slowly with just two wins in the opening eight matches, a 2-0 victory over Barnet kick-started a remarkable run of league form. Town remained unbeaten during the next 27 matches, aside of an FA Cup exit to

Welling and FA Trophy loss at the hands of United, as they eased into top spot, above the U's, at the turn of the year. The Hatters men never looked back, with the Championship rubber-stamped in mid-April to spark wild celebrations and an outpouring of relief.

They recommenced Football League life with a 1-0 triumph at Carlisle, although, this proved to be their only win during the opening seven matches of the campaign. However, just one loss in the next thirteen fixtures has cemented their season, despite losing front man Paul Benson to a broken leg. A 1-0 loss at Burton broke the mould, likewise a 3-0 reverse at Morecambe in mid-December but, the Boxing Day point at then leaders Wycombe, coupled with victories over Newport and Bury has underlined resilience.

That latter success, after Town had gained a head-turning draw at fortress Gigg Lane, has set up today's FA Cup clash at the R Costings Abbey Stadium. In the previous round, John Still's side had disposed of Newport, courtesy of a fine 4-2 victory at Kenilworth Road.

A new division, a step up in class, but Luton are progressing well and, of today's clash, well, encounters between the U's and the Hatters are never short on entertainment.

Form Guide ●●●

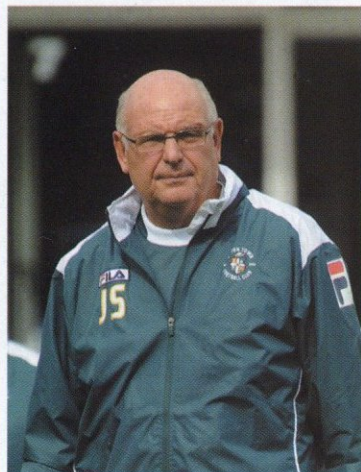
vs Portsmouth (H)	D 1-1
vs Wycombe Wals (a)	D 1-1
vs Newport County (H)	W 3-0
vs Bury (H) FAC	W 1-0
vs Morecambe (a)	L 0-3
vs Bury (a) FAC	D 1-1

Leading Scorers ●●●

Mark Cullen	9
Luke Rooney	5
Jake Howells	4
Luke Wilkinson	3

In the visitors dressing room today

The Manager ●●●



John Still

64-year-old John joined Town in March 2013 following a 10-year spell at Dagenham.

Having cut his Managerial teeth with Leytonstone, Dartford and

Redbridge Forest, he guided Maidstone to Conference glory in 1989, then established Dagenham as a non-league force before departing for Peterborough in 1994.

After 14 months he joined Barnet, via a coaching spell at Lincoln, filling the role of both Manager and Director of Football. A year after the Bees' relegation to the Conference in 2001 he became assistant boss at Bristol Rovers, but rejoined Dagenham in 2004.

The Daggers lifted the Conference title in 2007, with promotion to League One following in 2010. His side dropped back into League Two within a year, before John agreed to the challenge at Luton.

Assisted by Terry Harris and former U's midfielder Hakan Hayrettin, John steered Town to the Conference title last season.

Mark Tyler Goalkeeper ●●●

37-year old Mark is a hugely experienced goalkeeper. Having signed a one-year contract extension with the Hatters last May, he has now made over 740 career appearances and shows no sign yet of hanging up his gloves. Over 250 of those matches have come at Luton, with the stopper now working under his former boss at Peterborough, whom he left to join Town in June 2009. As well as donning the gloves for Posh in over 480 matches, this former Norwich youth was despatched on loan deals to Hull, Watford, Bury, Billericay and Yeovil whilst at London Road. He played every league game of the 2013/14 season, keeping an impressive 23 clean sheets along the way.

Elliott Justham Goalkeeper ●●●

Former Brentwood and East Thurrock stopper Elliott was signed from the latter at the beginning of last season. A commanding figure at 6'3" he kept 14 clean sheets in 31 matches during the 2012/13 campaign, prompting trials with West Ham and Reading. Providing sup-

port for Mark Tyler, he made his Hatters debut in the FA Cup defeat to Welling during November 2013.

Brett Longden Defender ●●●

20-year Brett, a second year professional, made an instant impression during the close season of 2013 thanks to some fine performances. His league appearances were limited last season, although, Brett did feature regularly in the opening rounds of the FA Trophy. He is has spent time on loan with both Maidenhead United and Arlesey Town during recent months.

Danny Fitzsimons Defender ●●●

22-year old left-sided defender Danny joined the club from our neighbours Histon during the summer of 2013, having served his apprenticeship with Millwall, Queens Park Rangers and Yeovil. Player of the Year at the Glassworld Stadium in 2012/13, he missed the majority of last season following knee surgery but, now fully fit, hopes to finally make his Hatters bow.

Luke Wilkinson Defender ●●●

Centre-half Luke played under

Manager John Still whilst with Dagenham. Formerly on the books of Bristol City and Portsmouth, he also enjoyed a successful spell at Dartford before cementing a first team berth with the Daggers. Player of the Year in 2012/13, he signed a one-year deal with the Hatters last summer.

Fraser Franks Defender ●●●

Town swooped for Fraser during January transfer window of 2014 and, after joining the Hatters, the 24-year old formed a solid centre-half pairing alongside Steve McNulty. He began his career as a youngster with Chelsea then Brentford, before moving to AFC Wimbledon, with whom he won promotion to the Football League in 2011. Fraser left Kingsmeadow for Welling shortly after, helped the Wings secure the Conference South title in 2013.

Paul Connolly Defender ●●●

A vastly experienced right-back, Paul boasts ten years of experience from playing in the Championship with Leeds, Derby, Millwall and Plymouth, with whom he enjoyed two promotion campaigns. Paul departed Millwall during 2013 to sign for Crawley, but opted for a change of scenery when the Hatters came calling last summer.

Scott Griffiths Defender ●●●

29-year old Scott penned a contract extension with Town during last summer after appearing in every game of the 2013/14 campaign. A left-back formerly on the books of Dagenham, Peterborough and Chesterfield, whilst with the Daggers he won the 2007 Conference title under John Still and also claimed a League Two winners medal with the Spireites in 2011.

Alex Lacey Defender ●●●

A highly-rated young centre-half, 21-year old Alex was handed the captain's armband by Manager John Still throughout the build-up to last season and progressed to make 22 first team appearances during the 2013/14 campaign. After making his debut as a 17-year-old, Alex spent the 2012/13 season on loan with Conference South outfit Eastleigh but is now an integral member of Town's match-day squad.

Andy Parry Defender ●●●

Former Blackburn youth Andy was recruited from Southport during the summer of 2013 and went on to make 26 appearances for Town last season, scoring four goals, despite missing the opening months of the campaign due to a hernia operation. The 23-year old centre-half played regularly at Haig Avenue for two years before arriving at Kenilworth Road. Unfortunately Andy is currently on the sidelines due to injury following a loan spell with AFC Telford.

Curtley Williams Defender ●●●

A former Ipswich scholar, right-back Curtley joined the Hatters from Lowestoff in September. Aged 24, he spent time at the Glenn Hoddle Academy in Spain before touring the non-league circuit, helping the aforementioned Lowestoff achieve promotion to the Conference North last season. Curtley has made three times for Town since arriving.

Michael Harriman Defender ●●●

On loan from Queens Park Rangers until 10 January, 22-year old right-back Michael has been a regular in the Hatters starting line-up since arriving at Kenilworth Road during early October. A former Republic of Ireland U21 international, he has also taken in loan spells with St Albans, Wycombe, whilst Gillingham benefited from his talent in 34 games League One matches last season.

Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu Midfield ●●●

A highly-rated 21-year-old central midfielder, Pelly signed a permanent deal with the Hatters in January 2014 following his initial loan spell from West Ham. An imposing figure, he made his debut for the Hammers in August 2013 and, having impressed all at Kenilworth Road, John Still persuaded the Premiership club to part with him in exchange for an undisclosed fee.

Luke Rooney Midfielder ●●●

A creative presence, Luke penned a six-month deal with the Hatters earlier this season, having spent the final two months of the 2013/14 campaign at Kenilworth Road. The 24-year old began his career with Gillingham and became a first-team regular prior to signing for Swindon in 2010. He helped the Robins achieve promotion from League Two but, following loan spells with Rotherham, Burton and Crawley, he opted for a switch to Maidstone last February. He made just six appearances for the Stones, before Town swooped for his services.

Nathan Doyle Midfielder ●●●

Town swooped for Nathan last September, with the 27-year old having penned a one-year deal at Kenilworth Road. Released by Bradford during the summer, he played in the 2013 League Cup Final for City, as well as the League Two Play-off Final win over Northampton later that season. A former Derby scholar, he has also plied his trade at Hull, Barnsley and Preston, making 260 plus career appearances.

Jonathan Smith Midfielder ●●●

An influential and industrious midfielder who numbers Morecambe, Forest Green, York and Swindon amongst his previous clubs, Jonathan missed four months of Town's 2013/14 title-winning campaign after suffering a broken leg in the Boxing Day encounter with Barnet. He made an emotional return on the final day of last season and has appeared regularly this term.

Jim Stevenson Midfielder ●●●

Ex-Histon man Jim signed for the Hatters in May 2013. A box-to-box midfielder, he was the Stutes 11-goal top scorer during the 2012/13 campaign after making his debut as a 17-year old, ironically against his current employers. Now aged 22, he enjoyed a productive loan spell with Dartford last season, but

has been a regular in the Town squad this season.

Alex Lawless Midfielder ●●●

Additional know-how in central midfield is supplied by this 29-year old former Fulham, Torquay and Forest Green man. Creative and with an eye for goal Alex, who arrived from York in November 2010, has now made in excess of 150 appearances for the Kenilworth Road side. He popped up with a useful six goals during Town's title-winning campaign, but has played just four times to date this season.

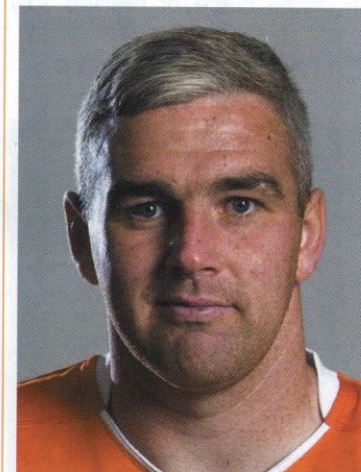
Andy Drury Midfielder ●●●

Adding further experience to the squad, this skilful midfielder returned to Kenilworth Road during last summer, having left Crawley. Recruited from Stevenage in 2010, some sparkling performances caught the eye of Ipswich, who swooped for him in January 2011. Andy quickly became a key member of the Tractor Boys' squad, before falling out of favour and opting to join Crawley during July 2012, after an initial loan spell. Earlier in his career Andy wore the colours of Sittingbourne, Gravesend and Lewes.

Jake Howells Midfielder ●●●

A livewire on either flank, Jake is the Hatters' longest serving player despite being aged just 23. Making

One To Watch ●●●



Steve McNulty Defender

A former Conference title-winning captain at Fleetwood, 31-year old man-mountain Steve provides a

commanding presence within the Town rearguard.

On the books of Liverpool as a youngster, he captained the Reds U19 side but was released during the summer of 2003.

He moved on to Burscough, stayed for two seasons, then took in spells with Vauxhall Motors and Barrow before arriving at Fleetwood, where he also picked up a Conference North Championship medal.

The aforementioned Conference Premier title soon followed, before Steve opted for a moved to Town in January 2013.

Steve was red-carded in the 3-0 loss to Morecambe last month.

his debut on the final day of the 2007/08 season, this predominantly left-footed midfielder, capped by Wales at under-21 level, has progressed to make 285 plus appearances for the club. Jake, who has a keen eye for goal, netted a useful eight times during Town's title-winning campaign.

Ian Rees Midfielder ●●●

Recently returned from a loan deal at Biggleswade Town, 18-year old central midfielder Ian penned a first professional in February 2014, having impressed the coaching staff at Kenilworth Road. He made four appearances last season, including a full debut in the FA Trophy win over Wrexham and also had a temporary spell with Concord Rangers.

Luke Guttridge Midfielder ●●●

United fans will recall Luke playing in a black and amber shirt from June 2000 until March 2005, following his arrival from Torquay as a youngster. Playing over 135 games for the U's, a good proportion of them as captain, Luke, now aged 32, moved on to Southend where he won promotion from both League One and Two and, has since been emblazoned in the colours of Leyton Orient, Colchester, Aldershot and Northampton. Boasting 498 career appearances, this industrious midfielder was signed from the Cobblers in June 2013 and, key to the Hatters' promotion success last term, he scored a more than useful 13 league goals, despite missing the final two months of the campaign through injury. Sadly, Luke is likely to miss a return to the Abbey today due to a foot complaint.

Shaun Whalley Midfielder ●●●

Operating in the wide areas or within an attacking midfield role, 25-year old Shaun penned a two-year deal with Town having left Southport in June 2013. Scoring ten goals for the Sandgrounders during the 2012/13 campaign and collecting a number of Player of the Year awards, his prowess in the final third is an undoubted asset. Shaun has also seen service at Wrexham and Chester.

Matt Robinson Midfielder ●●●

20-year old Matt is in now in his third year with the Hatters having joined from then Championship side Leicester. He impressed John Still towards the end of the 2012/13 season, was duly rewarded with a new two-year deal and progressed to make 31 appearances during Town's promotion season, scoring two goals. Matt had a six-game loan spell with Kidderminster in

November.

Zane Banton Forward ●●●

Bringing down the average age of the squad, 18-year old Zane was rewarded for his performances within the Hatters' youth team during the 2012/13 season when earning a first professional contract. He made his debut shortly after, during the 4-0 home victory over Woking, and has further increased his matchday experience with Biggleswade Town this term.

Charlie Walker Forward ●●●

A prolific striker, Charlie joined the Hatters from Peacehaven & Telscombe FC in July. A member of the side romping to the Ryman South title last season, he bagged a head-turning 43 goals for the East Sussex outfit. 24-year old Charlie has made three appearances for Town this season.

Ross Lafayette Forward ●●●

Another summer signing, Ross was been snapped up on a two-year deal from Conference side Welling. Strong and pacey, he scored an impressive 39 goals in 90 appearances for the Wings, whom he helped win the Conference South title in 2012/13. A regular in the Town squad this season, United fans may recall Ross scoring the opener in a 2-2 draw at Park View Road during August 2013. Ross has yet to find the back of the net in 11 matches this term.

Ricky Miller Forward ●●●

An astute piece of business saw

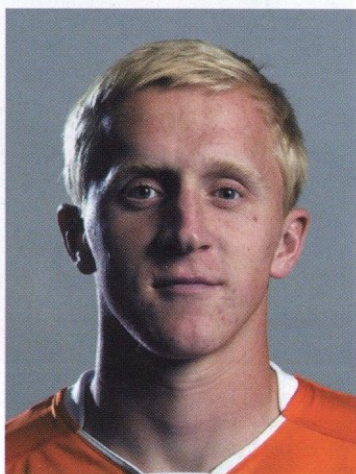
Ricky pen a deal with the Hatters last June. Chased by a number of clubs, the 25-year old was named Conference North Player of the Year whilst with Boston last term. Also bagging 28 goals throughout the campaign, he was previously on the books of Charlton, Rothwell, Stamford, Hitchin, Corby and our neighbours Cambridge City. Prolific in front of goal, Ricky made a surprise loan move to Dover earlier this season, but has since returned to Kenilworth Road.

Paul Benson Forward ●●●

35-year old Paul bagged an impressive 17 goals in 36 games for Town last season, whilst on loan from Swindon. An experienced forward who has now signed a permanent deal at Kenilworth Road, he worked under Manager John Still at Dagenham, helping them to promotion from the Conference in 2007. Also elevated to League One with the Daggers, he bagged 75 goals in total before a spell with Charlton, where he netted 10 times in 33 matches prior to signing for Swindon in January 2012. Loaned to Cheltenham and Portsmouth during the 2012/13 campaign but, re-united with his former boss, Paul has now added another promotion to his CV, but will miss today's game with a broken leg.

Doug Shulman

One To Watch ●●●



**Mark Cullen
Forward**

A livewire striker, Mark scored Town's winner in the 1-0 victory over United earlier this season, likewise their first goal back in the Football League during the opening day success at Carlisle.

U's fans will also recall Mark bagging a late equaliser in the 1-1 draw here at the Abbey last season.

Signing a two-year contract following his release from Hull in May 2013 - a deal which has been extended for a further three years - this 22-year old who has spent time on loan at Bury, Bradford and Stockport, was given his career debut by the Tigers and also netted in the 2-2 Premier League draw with Wigan in 2010.



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MANAGING TO SUCCEED

Football historian Leigh Edwards profiles ten leading Luton Town managers

Ned Liddell

Ned Liddell managed Luton Town to the Third Division (South) title in 1936-37. A former centre-half, he played for Whitburn, Southampton, Gainsborough, Clapton Orient, Southend United and Arsenal before rejoining Southend as manager in April 1919. He was appointed QPR's boss in April 1920 and guided them to the FA Cup quarter-finals in 1922-23, then scouted for Fulham before becoming their manager for two years in May 1929. After a period scouting for West Ham, he managed Luton from August 1936 until February 1938, then scouted for Chelsea, Portsmouth, Brentford and Spurs. He died in November 1969.

Dally Duncan

Former Scotland international winger Dally Duncan managed Luton Town to the top-flight in 1954-55. Signing professional for Hull City in August 1928, he moved to Derby County in March 1932 and featured in their 1946 FA Cup final success. He became Luton's player-boss in October 1946 and steered them to eighth place in the top-flight in 1957-58. Appointed Blackburn Rovers' manager in October 1958, he led them to the 1960 FA Cup final and remained in charge at Ewood Park until sacked in June 1960. He later scouted for Luton and ran a guest house in Brighton, residing there until his death in January 1990.

Syd Owen

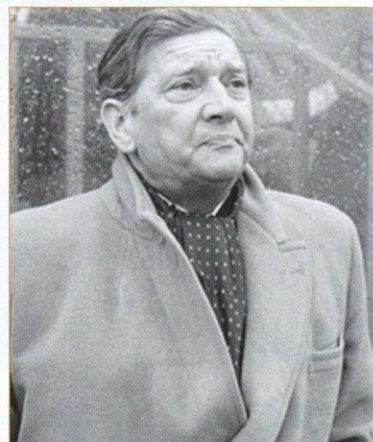
Long-serving England international centre-half Syd Owen was both a player and manager at Luton Town. Signing professional for Birmingham City in October 1945, he moved to Luton in June 1947 and starred in their 1951-52 FA Cup run, 1952-53 promotion near-miss and 1954-55 promotion success. He was voted 'Footballer of the Year' as Luton were FA Cup finalists in 1959 and netted three goals in 388 League games before becoming manager for a year in May 1959. Later Leeds United's chief coach under Don Revie until October 1975, he then coached at Birmingham, Hull City and Manchester United. He died in August 1998.

Allan Brown

Ex-Scotland international inside-forward Allan Brown managed Luton Town to the Fourth Division title in 1967-68. He was a Scottish Cup finalist with East Fife shortly before joining Blackpool in December 1950 and moved to Luton in February 1957. Appearing in the 1959 FA Cup final, he netted 51 goals in 151 League games prior to joining Portsmouth in March 1961. He helped win the Third Division title in 1961-62, then was Wigan Athletic's player-boss and Luton's manager from November 1966 until December 1968. Later managing Torquay, Bury, Nottingham Forest, Southport and

Blackpool, he died in April 2011.

Alec Stock



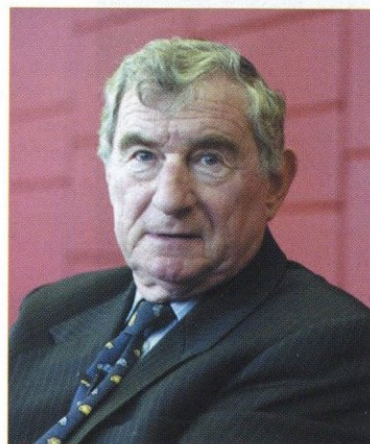
Alec Stock managed Luton Town to promotion in 1969-70. He was a forward with Charlton and QPR before becoming Yeovil Town's player-boss, plotting their epic 1948-49 FA Cup run. Appointed Leyton Orient's boss in August 1949, he led them to the FA Cup sixth round in 1953-54 and Third Division (South) title in 1955-56, returning from spells at Arsenal and Roma. He became QPR's boss in August 1959, taking them to the top-flight and League Cup glory, then managed Luton from December 1968 until April 1972. Guiding Fulham to the 1975 FA Cup final, he later managed AFC Bournemouth and died in April 2001.

Harry Haslam

Popular manager Harry Haslam steered Luton Town back to the top-flight in 1973-74. Starting with Rochdale, the full-back played for Oldham Athletic, Brighton, Leyton

Orient, Guildford City and Hastings United, then managed Eastbourne United, Barry Town and Tonbridge before becoming Fulham's chief scout. He assisted Alec Stock at Luton prior to succeeding him as manager in May 1972, remaining in charge of the Hatters until leaving in January 1978 to manage Sheffield United. He scouted for England under Bobby Robson and died in September 1986. His son Keith was Mansfield's managing director.

David Pleat



David Pleat managed Luton Town to the Second Division title in 1981-82. A former winger, he played for Nottingham Forest, Luton, Shrewsbury, Exeter and Peterborough before appointed Nuneaton's player-boss. He rejoined Luton as coach in July 1972, becoming manager in January 1978, guiding them to the FA Cup semi-finals in 1984-85. Taking charge of Spurs in May 1986, he led them to the 1987 FA Cup final, then managed Leicester City before rejoining Luton in June 1991. He took the Hatters to the FA Cup semi-finals in 1993-94, leaving in

June 1995, then was Sheffield Wednesday's boss and Spurs' director of football.

Ray Harford

Ray Harford plotted Luton Town's 1988 Littlewoods Cup final triumph. A centre-half with Charlton, Exeter, Lincoln, Mansfield, Port Vale and Colchester, he was appointed youth team coach at Layer Road. He joined Fulham in a similar capacity in June 1981 and was manager for two years before moving to Luton as assistant-boss in July 1986. Becoming manager in June 1987, he also guided them to the Simod Cup final and FA Cup semi-finals in 1987-88, then the 1989 Littlewoods Cup final. Sacked in January 1990, he later managed Wimbledon, Blackburn Rovers, West Brom and QPR. He died in August 2003.

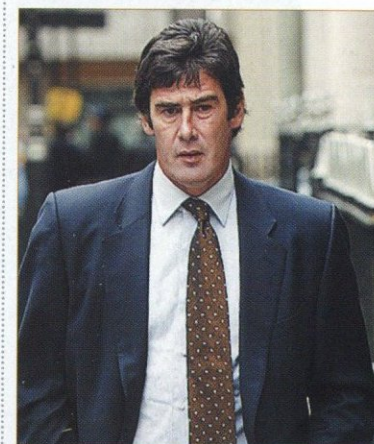
Joe Kinnear

Former Republic of Ireland international right-back Joe Kinnear plotted Luton Town's 2001-02 promotion success. Initially with Spurs, he helped them win the FA Cup in 1967, League Cup twice and UEFA Cup in 1972. He moved to Brighton in August 1975, then coached



overseas before assisting Dave Mackay at Doncaster Rovers. Joining Wimbledon as coach in September 1989, he became manager in January 1992 and led them to the semi-finals of both the FA Cup and League Cup in 1996-97. He left after a heart-attack, then managed Luton from January 2001 until June 2003, Nottingham Forest and Newcastle United.

Mike Newell



Ex-England U-21 striker Mike Newell managed Luton Town to the League One title in 2004-05. Initially with Liverpool, he moved via Crewe to Wigan Athletic in October 1983 and scored in their 1985 Freight Rover trophy final triumph. He played for Luton, Leicester City and Everton prior to joining Blackburn Rovers in November 1991, helping win promotion in 1991-92 and the Premiership title in 1994-95. Later with Birmingham City, he became Hartlepool's boss in November 2002, plotting their 2002-03 promotion success. He rejoined Luton as manager from June 2003 until March 2007, then managed Grimsby Town.

●●● WIN, LOSE OR DRAW ●●●

Kevin Palmer looks back at three matches against today's visitors

Luton Town 1
Cambridge United 2
LDV Vans Trophy
Southern Quarter-Finals
10 December 2002 – Att. 2,578
Luton: Mark Owendale, Ian Hillier, Sol Davis (Alan Kimble), Matthew Spring, Emmerson Boyce, Chris Coyne, Steve Robinson, Ahmet Brkovic, Dean Crowe (Peter Holmes), Tony Thorpe (Andrew Fotiadis), Paul Hughes; (Manager – Joe Kinnear)
United: Shaun Marshall, Adam Tann, Stephen Jordan, Andy Duncan, Stev Angus, Terry Fleming, Luke Guttridge, Shane Tudor (Dan Chillingworth), David Bridges (Franco Nacca), Tom Youngs, Omer Riza; (Manager – John Taylor)

We had been starting to enjoy this competition having reached the final the season before and having already stuck four goals past Rushden and Northampton in earlier rounds.

We put out a strong side to counter the fact we were playing a side a division above us away from home, but within 15 minutes Luton took the lead through Thorpe's volley, but we responded well and deserved our equaliser through Fleming not long after half-time. Ex-U Alan Kimble came on as sub, but it was Luton's forwards who were providing most of the threats. Marshall's fine saves from Thorpe, Crowe and Fotiadis ensured that we made it to extra time.

With penalties looming a U's attack broke down and Guttridge (who had spurned a couple of good chances) was too exhausted to backtrack. A pass fell to him and he scored the golden goal to take us through. We also beat Brentford 2-1 away in extra-time, before succumbing to Bristol City in the Southern Final. Luton finished short of the Play-Off places in Division Two having got off to a bad start.

Luton Town 1
Cambridge United 0
Football League Division Two
2 March 1982 – att. 10,597
Luton: Jake Findlay, Kirk Stephens, Mark Aizlewood, Brian Horton, Clive Goodyear, Mal Donaghy, Ricky Hill, Brian Stein, Steve White, Lil Fuccillo (Raddy Antic), David Moss (Manager – David Pleat)
United: Richard Key, Dave Donaldson, Jamie Murray, Lindsay Smith, Steve Fallon, Chris Turner, Tommy O'Neill (Les Cartwright), Steve Spriggs, Roger Gibbins, George Reilly, Joe Mayo; (Manager – John Docherty)

Luton were comfortably on top of the Second Division and were looking certain to return to the top flight after a seven-year absence, having only suffered three league defeats all season. We had eased ourselves away from the bottom end of the table and were sat in no-man's land.

The Hatters weren't at their sharpest, hampered by the fact that our feisty players were disrupting them and mitigating the extra quality that Pleat's side undoubtedly possessed. The Luton boss said it was the second half shower of rain that allowed his side's passes to zip along the grass and make the difference. In truth it was the sheer quality of Horton's winner 15 minutes before the end that separated the sides.

Luton finished the season as champions (helped by signing Richard Money from Liverpool), whilst we remained a mid-table side.

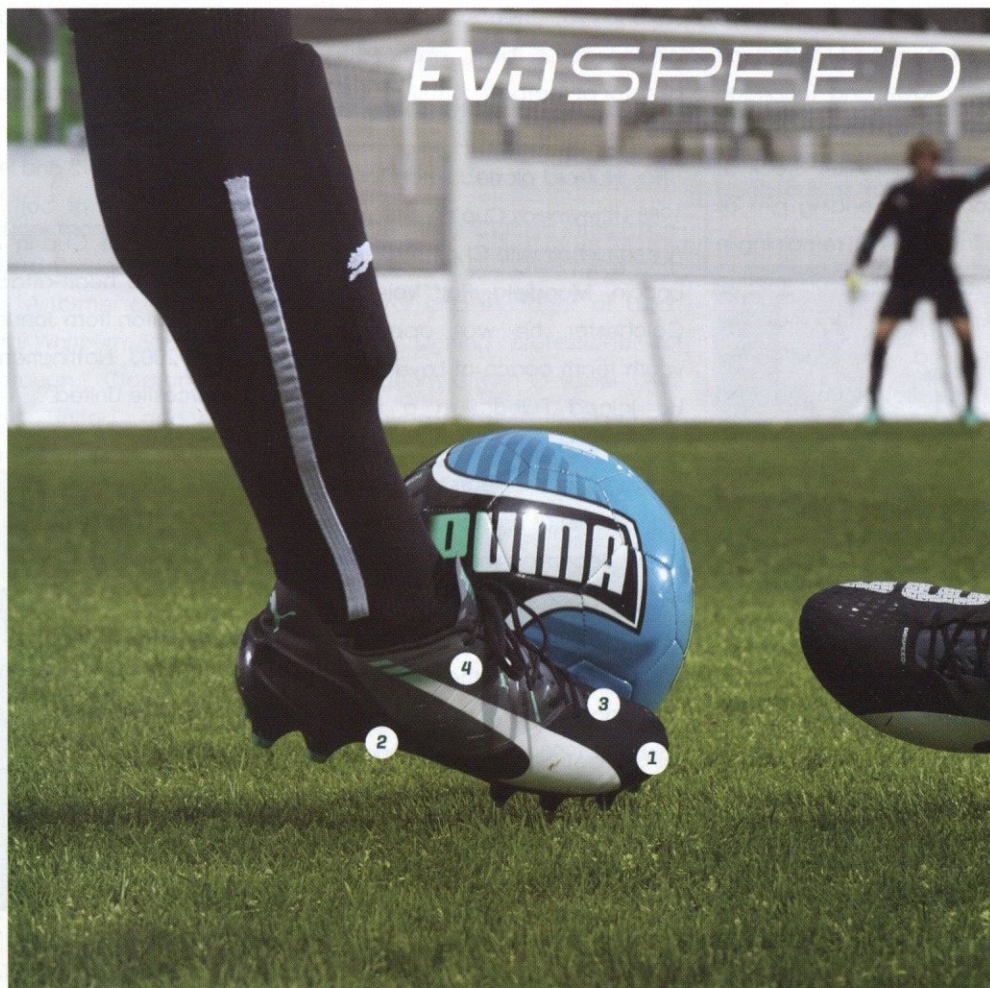
Cambridge United 3
Luton Town 3
Football League Division One
3 November 1992 – att. 5,716
United: Jon Sheffield, Andy Fensome, Alan Kimble, Paul Raynor, Mick Heathcote, Danny O'Shea, Gary Rowett (John Francis), Mick Norbury, Devon White, Gary Clayton (Gareth Ainsworth), Lee Philpott; (Caretaker Manager – Gary Johnson)
Luton: Andrew Petterson, Des Linton, Julian James, Darren Salton, Marvin Johnson, Trevor Peake, Steve Claridge, Chris Kamara, David Preece, Philip Gray, Scott Oakes; (Manager – David Pleat)

Both sides had got off to a poor start in what is now known as The Championship, but Luton were already in the relegation zone, whilst we weren't too far above it.

A pinpoint shot from Oakes put Luton in front after 22 minutes. Within ten minutes of the second half the game looked beyond as Phil Gray made Heathcote suffer, firstly by making a 20-yard shot deflect off him into the net and then by dispossessing him to make it 3-0. Ex-U Steve Claridge was making a nuisance of himself with the defenders as usual.

Losing 3-0 at home against a lowly side, you might expect the fans to be barracking their players, but the U's fans were still cheering their side on and it was this support according to O'Shea that led to the greatest comeback in our League history. The first goal came after 73 minutes when White's cross was stabbed home by Philpott. Four minutes later substitute John Francis won a race with the keeper to knock home Norbury's through ball and Francis equalised spectacularly with three minutes left with a sizzling volley.

The point ultimately did us no good and we were ultimately relegated whilst Luton narrowly escaped.



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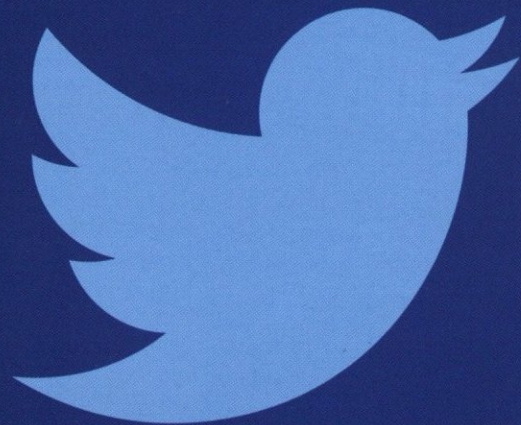
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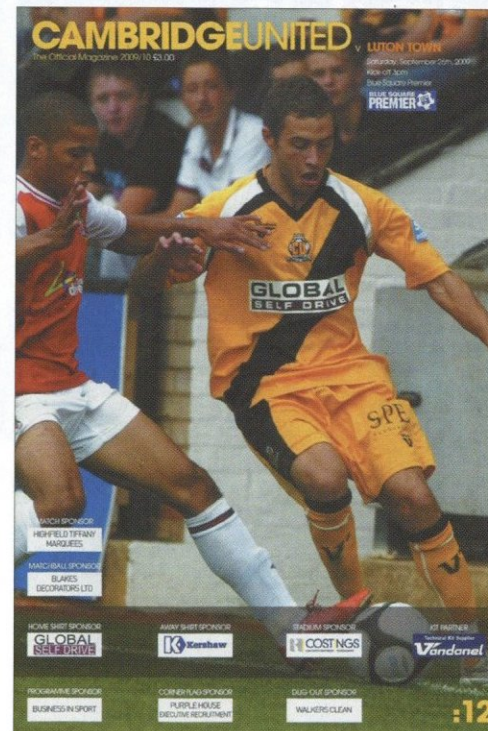
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PROGRAMME PARADE

Andrew Bennett recalls the match day programme from a previous encounter between the clubs



He admits it was a good campaign on a personal basis, although clearly overshadowed by a second successive play-off final defeat: "Obviously we nearly won the league, which is what we all strive for, but it wasn't to be and we had to go through the heartache of losing at Wembley again.

"It's in the past now and we've got to try to move on, and I think we have to aim to win it this year because I don't want to go through the Wembley experience again! Although if we have to go through it again, of course we'll take it."

"With the fanbase we have here it was really special to get their recognition at the end of

the season," he adds. "They support us home and away and it was nice for them to show that they thought I'd done quite well. We had a good season and a good defensive record so it was good to be part of that, although in the end we didn't succeed and get promotion."

For the second summer running Wayne experienced a change of manager during the summer and he is hoping for a period of stability now. "We've got a new manager (Martin Ling) on a long-term contract and we're taking little strides in the right direction, and hopefully

Like Danny Potter, Hats played for more than half of last season with a hernia problem but delayed the surgery until the end of the season. Despite that handicap and the increasing need for painkillers as the season drew to its exciting climax, his performances earned him a clean sweep of Player of the Year awards.

we can keep that going and keep on track."

Having formed a solid partnership with Phil Bolland last season, Wayne started the campaign alongside Josh Coulson and is now forming a new partnership with former Leyton Orient defender Brian Saah.

"It can take time to get an understanding but Brian has settled in really well," he observes. "He's a quiet lad in the dressing room but he's only 22 and he goes about his business brilliantly, and hopefully we can get a good partnership. Obviously with Tonks coming back into the side as well and Gless being settled in his position we've got a settled defence like we did last year, and I hope we do as well as we did last season."

The day's match was eventful to say the least. Courtney Pitt fired United ahead on 20 minutes, Chris Holroyd made it 2-0 from the spot 13 minutes later, and when Luton's Liam Hatch was sent off on 38 it all looked over for the visitors. However, Kevin Gallen pulled one back shortly after the break, Rossi Jarvis blasted an equaliser on the hour, and a minute later Jake Howells made it 3-2. United bounced back to level the scores through Holroyd shortly afterwards, but a harsh penalty award on 74 saw Gallen fire the winner for Luton.

United: Potter; Gleeson, Saah, Hatswell, Tonkin; Willmott (Ives), Carden, Reason, Pitt (Phillips); Beesley (Crow), Holroyd
Luton: Tyler, Gnakpa (Reynolds), White, Pilkington, Murray, Newton, Jarvis, Hall, Howells (Blackett), Gallen (Craddock), Hatch

Head To Head

	HW	D	AW	HG	AG
at Cambridge	4	8	5	24	25
at Luton	5	6	4	16	13

Overall Record:

U's wins: 8 Draws: 14 Hatters' wins: 10

Goals:

Cambridge United: 37 Luton Town: 41



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●●●FAN SCENE●●●

The magic of the Cup! That's what they say, isn't it? Even Richard Money, a man not often given to fanciful outpourings of descriptive prose, used the phrase "a little bit of stardust" when, after the U's victory at the One Call Stadium (Field Mill to the more seasoned traveller) describing the effect of a win in the FA Cup and the effect on a club's season which, with luck, might ensue.

There can be no doubt that the FA Cup remains a special competition, encompassing everyone from the "grass roots", of part-time battlers, whose occasional successes against the giants of the English game are long remembered and frequently recounted, accompanied by the often grainy television footage from years past, to the wealthy inhabitants of the Premier League.

The eager anticipation of a potential money spinning tie at the Emirates, Old Trafford or the Etihad as the celebrities dip their hands into the Perspex bowl to extract a numbered ball which will signify our club's fate in the round to come. Did they actually put our ball in there, we wonder, as the draw proceeds. I'm assuming that a clear

container is the FA's method of demonstrating the absence of draw rigging, the apocryphal "hat" having been abandoned long since.

"Arsenal are still in, and Man Utd." And then it is pulled out: "Fantastic; happy days!" "Not great, but we should have a chance to progress." "Rubbish draw; that's all we ever get".

Realistically, I suppose that most supporters of each of today's contestants would say that the second reaction would be what they thought. Not Manchester United at Old Trafford, but a match which both would think would be winnable, offering the prospect of something further to come.

Each of us has had to earn our place at today's match by overcoming opposition from our own league in a replay, and did so by a slender margin, which simply indicates that the league is close, this season.

With today's opposition being Luton Town, the temptation to look back on last season is too tempting to ignore. Both clubs were in the Conference Premier still, though with aspirations of promotion which were to come to pass, as the sea-

son drew to its close. But also a pair of quite memorable ties in the FA Trophy, a competition which neither of us will be involved in this year, except, of course when Dave Doggett returns the enormous trophy which, I believe, resides under his bed for security (and possibly, sentimental) reasons.

Cambridge United may not have the financial resources which are available to our Bedfordshire cousins, but we have lately made a pretty decent stab at managing what we do have to good effect, thanks to good football brains and a huge amount of hard work by so many, in all parts of the club and by those who have come into the place on lots of occasions to give their time for free.

The spoils of the FA Cup can't be used to benefit the club in lots of ways, and today we simply ask for the players and management to deliver the success on the field which will return our numbered ball into the bowl when the Fourth Round draw is due.

Happy New Year, everyone (Everyone who is U's fan, especially)

Robert Osbourn

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PLANET FOOTBALL

Mike Barnes reports as Fabio Capello's reign as Russia manager comes to an end



Fabio Capello's four years as England manager were by no means the happiest in the history of the national team and ended in his acrimonious departure. The Italian's spell in charge of Russia has been no less controversial both on and off the pitch.

The former Milan, Roma, Juventus and Real Madrid tactician took over as head coach in Russia just five months after his ill-fated spell with England, but has been under fire in Russia, both for poor results and his controversial £6.8m annual salary, which the Russian Football Union have admitted they cannot afford.

The scale of Capello's salary has caused widespread unrest in Russia, with nationalist politician Vladimir Zhirinovskiy branding him "a thief," while fellow MP Oleg Pakholkov said the Italian was simply in the job for the salary. "I think Capello knew very well he would achieve nothing with our team, but he simply decided it was a good way to make money, he wanted to

hoover up bundles of cash for his retirement."

Capello's contract is due to run until the 2018 World Cup, which Russia remains due to host, despite attempts to expose corruption in the bidding process. Russia's sports minister, Vitaly Mutko, had previously suggested that the RFU's failure to pay salaries had caused the team's slump in form.

The Russian economy is in a less than healthy state, with President Vladimir hiking the country's interest rates following the dramatic collapse of the rouble. The RFU has clearly felt the fall out, failing to pay Capello since June. Sergei Stepashin, a member of its executive committee, said Capello's salary remained unaffordable.

"I can declare that the money to pay Capello is not there," he said. "Clearly it's wrong to fail to pay the salary of your national team's coach, but when they (the RFU) signed the contract they should really have thought about how to fund it. Today we're still looking for

a source of funding."

Capello admitted earlier this month that his patience over the dispute was running out. The financial crisis at the RFU led to two members of Capello's coaching staff, Christian Panucci and Massimo Neri, refusing to travel with the side to their Euro 2016 qualifier in Austria in November due to what the governing body called an ongoing "contractual dispute". Capello was targeted by the Russian media after the 1-0 defeat in Vienna, which left Russia third in their qualifying group behind Austria and Sweden with just four points from five games.

Former Roma defender Panucci had worked without a contract since the World Cup in Brazil. He recently revealed that he had he turned down other job offers in the expectation his contract under Capello would be renewed.

"When we returned from Brazil I was promised a new deal several times but that never happened. I worked without a contract and in the end I just had to say: 'that's enough'. And to think I turned down other jobs for that," Panucci, who played under Capello at Roma, Milan and Real Madrid, told La Gazzetta dello Sport.

"I thank Fabio for the opportunity he gave me but he behaved in a shameful way towards me and all the other Italians on the staff. I will tell him that to his face the next time I see him. A great manager has to defend his men and he hasn't done that."



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●●● BUSINESS MATTERS ●●●

Commercial News and Opportunities



Good afternoon and a Happy New Year to you all. Let's hope it's still a happy one and we are in the hat for the next round at the full time whistle today.

Today we welcome Darrell May of Premier Foods as our Match Day Sponsor. Premier Foods is a Great British food company and one of Britain's largest branded food producers. You will find their cakes, meals, cooking sauces, desserts, flavourings & seasonings in nearly every British kitchen. Premier Foods are proud of their brands and British heritage and consciously source as

many ingredients, goods and services from UK suppliers as they can, championing British farmers and British jobs. We are pleased to have Darrell and his guests return to the R-Costings Abbey Stadium and hope they enjoy a great day with us.

Our Match Ball Sponsor today is Clark Chilled Transport. They provide chilled and frozen courier and distribution services throughout the UK and Ireland. We are happy to have Managing Director Anthony Clark, Transport Manager Zachery Clark with us today.

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Up the U's

Tom Lee

●●● GOLDEN GAMBLE ●●●

Latest winners of our half time draw

The winner of the half time Golden Gamble draw against Southend United was Pat Morgan who won a cheque for £607 with ticket number 28698.

Second prize of a cream tea at the Gonville Hotel was won by the holder of ticket number 28702 but was not claimed whilst the third prize of a free computer

health check and service was won by Peter Hampton with ticket number 28296.

Golden Gamble tickets are available from sellers around the ground on all home match days. They cost just £1 a ticket and the proceeds are split equally between the winner and the club.

SPONSORS GALLERY

Recent Match Sponsors



Garry Heslop and other representatives of Able Construction, our Matchday sponsor presenting Luke Chadwick with his man of the match award from our fixture versus Southend United.



Ania Durrant-Pine of Viewnique Installations, our match Match Ball sponsor for our fixture versus Southend United receives a signed ball from Luke Chadwick.

TEN TO TACKLE

Test yourself and your friends with Neil Cole's quiz of the week. Answers on page 63.

1. Including today's clash, how many times have Luton and Cambridge Utd met since September 2012
2. Who were last season's beaten FA Cup finalists?
3. Which Championship team has reached at least the semi-finals in each of the last two seasons?
4. What was unusual about the second-round tie between Scunthorpe Utd and Worcester City?
5. Which Premier League side must travel to Yeovil, renowned for their giant killings?
6. Which Test Match ground has also hosted FA Cup finals?
7. The last team from outside London and the north-west to win the Cup was Portsmouth - who was it before them?
8. Two teams have won the Cup eleven times - one is Man United, who is the other?
9. Which team win the last final at the old Wembley, and the first at the new Wembley?
10. Which Premier League team was the last side to win the Cup as a non-league side?

TODAY'S MASCOTS

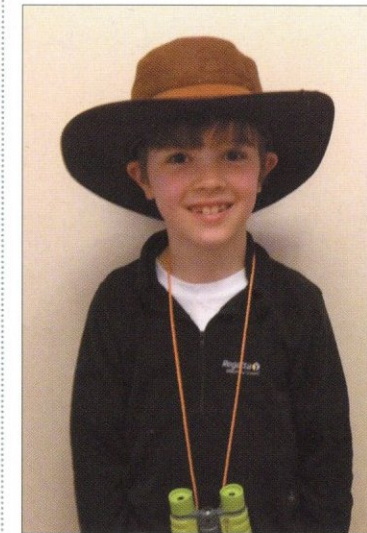
Introducing this afternoon's mascots



We extend a warm welcome to our mascots William Blatch, Benjy Eddleston, Amy Clark and Hayden Clark who are leading the teams out ahead of this afternoon's match.

William Blatch (above), who is eight years old, celebrates his ninth birthday on January 20th.

Wills lives in Godmanchester where he attends St Anne's school, which has an ardent Posh fan for a Head Teacher, so William does what he can to keep the U's flag flying high.



Wills enjoys cricket and tennis as well as football and he holds a season ticket with his Dad in the main stand.

Benjy Eddleston (centre) is William's best friend and is eight years old. He lives in Godmanchester and he enjoys playing football, rugby, tennis and cricket - and being a mascot!

Amy Clark (top left) is twelve years old. Amy attends Witchford Village College and enjoys cycling, music, playing her flute and swimming for City of Ely Barracudas.

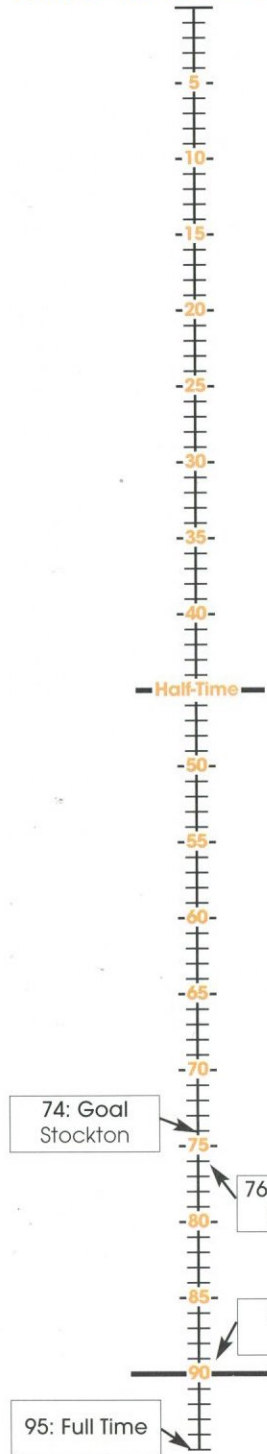


Hayden Clark (above) is nine years old. Hayden attends Robert Arkenstall Primary School and plays rugby for Ely Tigers. He also enjoys cycling, swimming, playing his saxophone and playing with his Xbox and Lego.

ON REFLECTION

Action from our match against Tranmere Rovers

Time Line



Match Report

Tranmere Rovers 1 Cambridge United 1
Sky Bet League 2 - 19/12/14

Michael Nelson's 89th minute header secured a point for United at Prenton Park.

United dominated the match for long periods, but the game turned on its head in a mad two minutes for United. Cole Stockton put Tranmere in front on 74 minutes after capitalizing on a loose pass from United before Robbie Simpson was sent off for picking up his second yellow card for a late challenge.

United continued to press and the equaliser came on 89 minutes when Nelson rose at the back post to head home Kaikai's corner.

Action Photos: Simon Lankester



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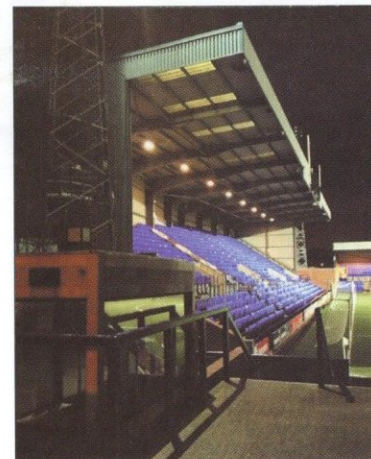
●●● TRAVELLERS' TALES ●●●

Mark Johnson looks back at our recent trip to Tranmere Rovers

The match day venues in League 2 consist of a real mixture of grounds; some - Accrington or Wimbledon for example - are decidedly Division Four in style and quality, whilst others such as Portsmouth would look quite at home a couple of divisions up the pecking order. Tranmere's Prenton Park falls firmly amongst the latter category.

A stadium with vertiginous stands on three sides of the pitch, the only side that doesn't tower over the playing surface is rather charmingly known, unofficially at least, as the 'Cow Shed' stand. And sure enough, that's just what it used to look like in the days before the ground was converted into an all-seated facility. Now, any cattle occupying this stand that runs the length of one side of the pitch would probably look quite bewildered should they try to pick their way between the dozen or so rows of blue seats that are housed beneath a low roof ... although, having said, that, cattle always seem to look quite bewildered; I suspect it's their natural state of being.

The main stand, which runs the length of the opposite side of the pitch, and the stand to its right are two-tiered, as steep as the north face of the Eiger and are covered by high roofs. The press area is at



the back of the main stand and is almost perfect. A long, wide bench provides a commodious workspace, the near-vertigo-inducing height over the halfway line affords a wonderful view of proceedings and my opposite number from BBC Radio Merseyside could not have been more friendly or helpful. There were a couple of downsides to this area. Its proximity to the gutters that ran Niagara-like to cope with the rain that fell in torrents before the match turned one into Private Godfrey from Dad's Army needing to be 'excused' a couple of times before kick-off. The other disadvantage to the lofty position in the upper tier is that you have to weave your way through a confusing warren of myriad corridors, doorways and passageways to make your way down to the pitch for the post match interviews.

Between the main stand and the stand to its right, a two-tiered set of shipping crates perch precariously on stilt-like girders like an L.S. Lowry painting of a stork (had he painted such a beast) cast in metal by an Avant-garde sculptor. These crates turned out not to be crates at all; instead they housed the match

day control box, the occupants of which had the task of announcing Important Things over the public address system such as the start and end of 'Operation Tranmere'. In case you're wondering, 'Operation Tranmere' involves the stewards moving from their positions in the stands to crouch either side of the gaps in the advertising hoardings that surround the pitch - and then to move back to the original positions just a few moments later once the 'operation' has been completed. The announcement of its beginning and end were greeted by some of the loudest cheers of the night by the Tranmere fans.

Behind the goal to the left of the main stand, the seats in the high-roofed, single-tier away stand increase in number of rows as you move from left to right. This stand, like all the others, is in splendid isolation from all the other spectator areas so the gaps in each corner of the ground allow all the Merseyside weather can muster to pass through without let or hindrance ... and on the evening of our visit there was more than enough Merseyside weather to go round.

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●●●CHAPLAIN'S COMMENT●●●

The thoughts of Club Chaplain Stuart Wood

Can I begin by wishing you all the best for the New Year. I trust you had a good time over the Christmas/New Year season.

I don't know whether some of you do this or not, but each Christmas we write a Wood family letter, or more accurately, an update. We also receive family news from other friends and family, which used to get sent by post, but now increasingly they arrive electronically.

It is one of those labours of love – as we contemplate doing it, the heart sinks and we have to fight to make the time to actually sit down and compose the news. It is my job each year to put the thing together and to try and find photos to break up the text and show the family as they are at the end of another year.

But invariably, once I turn to the previous year and read what we wrote, and as I reflect on the events of another 365 days, I am struck again and again by a deep sense of gratitude. It is all too easy, isn't it, to lurch from week to week and month to month and not take the time to fully appreciate what we have.

This Christmas we have been reminded that we need to make the most of each and every day, to appreciate that this might be the last Christmas that we spend in this way – our parents are getting more elderly, our boys are getting older and will soon start spreading their wings... who knows what 2015 will bring and what will be our situation come 25th December next year.

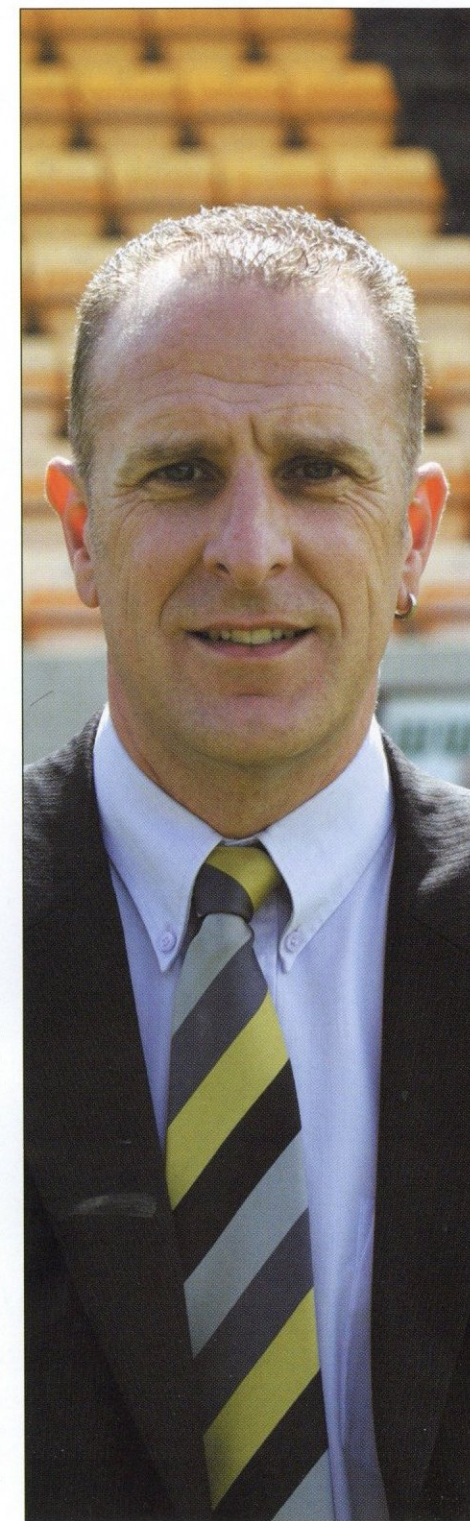
I have been involved in a number of funerals these past two weeks, and with each family there has been a sense of gratitude for the life lived, but a

natural sense of loss made more poignant by the time of year. I have visited folk with terminal illness and others with increasing frailty who honestly don't know how much longer they will be on this earth for. But in the face of this, I have tried to encourage them to make the most of each and every day, to find help and strength from God for the present and whatever they have of the future.

12 months ago, for us United fans, with no game over the equivalent weekend and contemplating an FA Trophy Third Round tie against today's visitors, if someone had said that 12 months on we would have won the Trophy, finished runners-up in the league and won the Play-off final, be in the Third Round of the FA Cup and be sitting in mid table, we would all have gladly accepted that. As a club, we have so much to be grateful for and so much to be rightly proud of.

So as we move into a New Year, let us not forget where we have come from; in pursuing the next goal, let us not become ungrateful for what we have. We've had a reminder again just recently in the news emerging from Hereford of just how fortunate we are to still have a football club – it could so easily have been us, couldn't it? And yet, thanks to the hard work and generosity of many over the years and in the darker days, here we are, back in the league and in FA Cup Round Three action.

May you know God's special blessing on 2015, and as we wind our way through the year, make the most of each and every day. Who knows what tomorrow will bring.



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●●● TOM CHAMPION ●●●

Tom Champion tells Matt Ramsay how he relishes every game that he plays this season.

"The game's obviously a huge one for both clubs. They'll be the same as we will be, which is desperate to get into the fourth round and to get the job done on the day. I expect nothing less from them."

U's fans should be reassured to hear that Tom Champion is aware of the importance of today's home clash with Luton Town. The midfielder, who was named Cambridge United captain for the opening months of the campaign while Ian Miller recovered from the major Achilles injury he suffered in May's play-off final, is also familiar with today's opponents and their strengths as the sides renew acquaintances for the fourth time at the R Costings Abbey Stadium in less than 13 months.

"They've found their feet maybe a bit quicker than we have in the League and been on good form," he continues. "We definitely respect their quality and what they can do, but at the same time we can take confidence from our last performances against them. We're at home and have to make it a real cauldron, try to get that atmosphere going. Hopefully we can have a performance to make the fans proud because it will be a tremendous atmosphere, I would have thought."

Due to the tight print deadlines the busy festive period entails, this interview takes place before the club's last three League Two outings and just after the rain-swept 1-0 win at Mansfield in this competition on December 16. As such the memories of the tie are fresh in Tom's mind and he is able to reflect on the result and the predictable late onslaught the side had to weather.

"It's always a case with Cup games that form and everything else tends to go out the window and you've just got to get performances right to get in the hat for the next round. We knew we'd made



Autograph



●●● TOM CHAMPION ●●●



▶ it a bit more difficult for ourselves having taken the tie away to their ground (after a 2-2 home draw in the original fixture) but we were still confident of getting a result.

"I think it was in many ways a bit of a classic Cup tie towards the end, it was wet and windy and a bit wild. The game was a bit frantic and we had to defend and dig in, especially for the last half hour or so. That's what the Cup's about, you've just got to dig in there and do whatever it takes to get into the next round and thankfully we're there."

While the club gained attention in the early months of the campaign for the number of goals they were able to score, placing them as the division's most prolific, the Mansfield game earned plaudits for the defensive solidity that led to a clean sheet and sealed the result after Sulley Kai'ai's early opener. Indeed, in the final three outings before Christmas, Tranmere's Cole Stockton was the only player to breach the United back line. After the Field Mill win, head coach Richard Money was moved to comment on the performance of the more attacking players in the team and the defensive qualities they showed, and Tom reflects on this improving aspect of the side's performances.

"With any team, especially the level we're at now having coming up a league, it takes a real team effort to get clean sheets. You really have to earn them, they don't just come along easily. Defensively we haven't been as solid as we'd like at times, and we've found that little bit of extra quality in finishing from the opposition has been a difference. Clean sheets are a bit harder to come by, it makes it even more rewarding when you get one.

"It takes a real effort from every player to grind one out and it takes the attacking players sometimes to relieve the pressure off the defence when we counter attack, especially away from home. So the more attacking players in the team have a massive role in keeping a clean sheet as well and I think they did well again at Mansfield."

With both of today's sides residing in League Two it will be seen by both as a good opportunity to progress to the last 32. Luton last did this two years ago, while for United victory would see them into the fourth round for the first time since 2000. Today sees Tom break new ground in the competition, as he explains.

"I haven't been very lucky at all with the FA Cup, this is the furthest I've been. I've never managed to get to the third round in my years of

playing in the competition, I've never really put together a huge run. The stand-out tie was probably the Sheffield United game last season, which on another day might have gone a different way. Our performance was pretty good but in the end their quality shone through.

"This is the biggest potential I've had in my years of playing to go furthest in the competition so from a personal point of view I'm desperate to go as far as I can. With it being a realistic ambition to get to the fourth round this year it would be an amazing achievement."

Were the result to go in United's favour this afternoon there is no hesitation in Tom's answer when asked who he would like to face next if he was somehow able to influence the draw.

"I grew up supporting Tottenham, I'm a life-long fan and was born into that from my dad and his dad before him. It would definitely be Tottenham away as number one, but failing that I guess it would be any of the top four away from home. An Old Trafford or an Anfield would be next in line but White Hart Lane would be an absolute dream come true."

While he would love to experience one of English football's iconic stages first hand, the midfielder himself will forever be etched into Cambridge United history as a star of one of the club's most memorable days, and a focal point in an accompanying photo that will be remembered for nearly as long as the goal it celebrates.

Every U's fan will surely know the image. Ryan Donaldson has just put the side 2-0 up against Gateshead in the Conference play-off final and sprinted to celebrate in one corner of the national stadium, his side 20 minutes (plus substantial, excruciating injury time) away from promotion back to the Football League after nine years away. His team mates mob him and Tom Champion arrives late, being captured in mid-air joining the top of the bundle. It is an image that has been reproduced countless times in the months since, is

mounted on canvas in the director's lounge at the ground, is Tom's own chosen display picture on social media.

As a focal point of such a monumental moment, it would be remiss not to encourage him to describe his memories of the goal and of the day overall.

"It sounds like a bit of a cliché but it's a feeling you can't explain. It's the best feeling I've ever had, on or off the pitch. I don't think you can compare that to many other feelings that you get in life. To see Ryan strike that freekick in and thinking that we've won the game and possibly secured promotion for the club, with pretty much everyone I knew watching at Wembley... I don't think I'll ever beat that feeling.

"It was amazing to see those pictures, it brings it back every time you see them. It always feels like a bit of a dream now when you see those pictures and struggle to believe that it really happened.

"I remember my exact reaction when Ryan hit the freekick. I sort of collapsed almost. I knew there was a long time left but I remember just completely falling down and putting my head in my hands. I think I knew then that that was going to be it. Before I ran over and joined the bundle I was a bit of a mess on the floor! There was still a lot of work to be done, and I was definitely nervous in the last few minutes, but there was that feeling around the team that year that it was going to be our day. Thankfully it was."

Roll forward eight months and for both of today's sides the painful memories of years in the Conference are starting to drift further into the past. With the club performing well in League Two and also in this stage of the FA Cup for the first time in seven years, people might be forgiven for thinking that the squad would be delighted with the first half of the season. Yet speaking to Tom, and indeed a number of other players, it becomes clear that the standards are set so high that there is almost a sense of disappointment that the

U's are not still further up the table. He is probed on this, and quickly agrees.

"It says a lot about us, the manager especially. What he instils in us is never to be happy with where we are. We know that we've still got a lot of improvement to do and we think there's a lot more still to play for in this season. It definitely says a lot when you think of it: when you think about the position we are now it's certainly not a bad position to be in by any stretch of the imagination. We're not happy with that, we want to push on and try and finish as high as we can up the table."

While being a professional is a given when talking about a Football League player, it is easy to forget just how far Tom has climbed in recent seasons, and the fact that it was a big decision to join the club in the summer of 2013 given the secure nature of the non-football job he held while playing for Darford. The opening day of this season in August, a 1-0 home win against Plymouth, marked his first ever appearance in the Football League at the age of 28. He finishes by recalling the path to that milestone, which had looked unlikely after his release by Barnet in 2005 upon their promotion from the Conference.

"There was definitely a crossroads at that point when I was young at

Barnet. We won promotion that year to get up into the League and I left the club then. I was released and I went off to university because I maybe thought it would be my only chance to get a degree and I wanted to make sure I had that. I guess at that time I was turning my back a little bit on full-time football and thinking would I ever get the chance to play in the League again. I definitely went the long way round but managed to get my degree in three years at university and played semi-professionally the whole time.

"I always wanted to get back into it but never knew if it would be realistic. I went on to work the 9 to 5 for a living while playing for Darford and having good seasons with them, winning promotion and having a really good season in the Conference against a lot of full-time clubs. I finally had a chance again with Cambridge.

"I worked for a sports leisure recruitment company up in London. I enjoyed it and it was a secure job. You can't really compare the routine, to do what you love every day is amazing. It took a while but I got there and I'm definitely relishing every game that I play this season."

Tom Champion ●●●



U's Record ●●●	
DOB:	15/05/1986
Signed:	May 2013
Appearances:	76 (1)
Goals:	1
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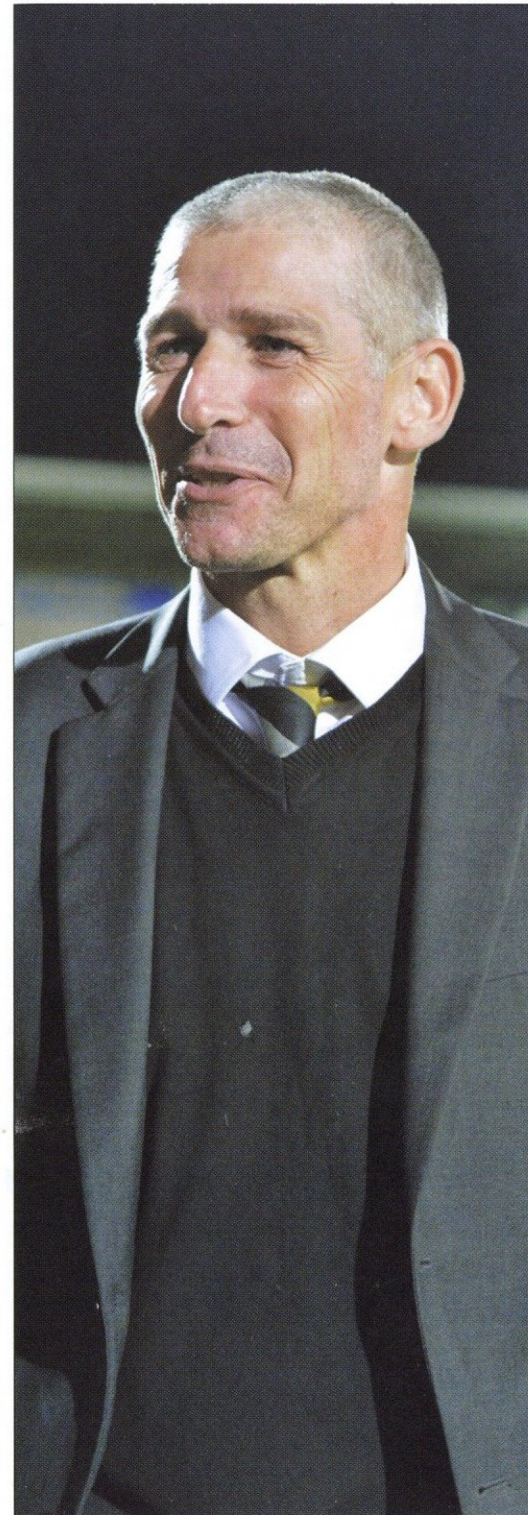


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●●● JEZ GEORGE ●●●

Chief Executive



The programme of fixtures over Christmas highlights the differences between football in this country and throughout the world. Whereas almost every other country in the world closed down a couple of weeks ago for a winter break, England goes into overdrive. The Premier League clubs have fixtures on Boxing Day, two days later, New Year's Day and then again two days after that in the FA Cup. That's four games in nine days. Crazy! And the premier league clubs "only" have 38 league fixtures. When you consider that every club in the Football League play 46 games, plus cup commitments, it really shows the challenge it presents to the players over a 38 week season. It is little wonder that regardless of the advancement in medical and sports science provision at every level, the demands of playing every few days at such intensity starts to take its toll at this time of the year.

The difficulty we will always face is centred around the size of our squad and the balance between quality and quantity when resources are finite. It is why clubs outside the Premier League can sign loan players outside the transfer window. I think that signing short term loan players is very difficult to get right, especially when they are inevitably youngsters with little if any first team experience. However, I can see no sense in the "emergency" loan window closing for six weeks before the beginning of January. It just means that you either have

to stockpile players before the deadline for the "what if" scenario or run the risk of being exposed over the busiest period of the season with no recourse. When finances are tight, and restricted by the salary cap rules, it makes the balance between having enough cover versus too many players a really difficult one to judge. I understand the need to have a deadline for all signings after a certain date before the end of the season but I cannot see any sense in creating a false situation for six weeks before Christmas whereby if injuries hit you badly, there is nothing you can do about it. I think the emergency loan window should either exist or not, but it shouldn't exist for all bar six weeks. The busy schedule over Christmas, before the window re-opens, obviously exacerbates the situation.

The reason for so many games over Christmas is a mixture of tradition and economics. Look at the attendances across the country on Boxing Day. Our crowd of over 7000 for our game against Southend was our biggest of the season so far. That will be replicated at a number of clubs. The sheer volume of people who watch football at every tier of the English game highlights more than anything what is unique about this country compared to anywhere else in the world.

That's why when the FA commission talks about "B" teams, after studying countries such as Spain, it shows a complete lack of understanding about the fabric and structure of English

football. Every club is more than just a football team. It is the focal point for a community. It gives the residents of that town an identity; it's their club, it represents their city, it represents them. You can't swap that for an U21 development team of a larger club. The biggest problem with English football is that for all the money, the biggest clubs can't work out how to solve the biggest problem within youth development. You can spend millions on facilities, hundreds of thousands on staff and give the players everything from 9-18 years old but if you can't work out how to bridge the gap between youth and senior football, and give an opportunity to the best young players at the right time to play in the first team, it will ultimately fail. And one size doesn't fit all. Southampton seem to do a pretty good job and if you look at the Premier League table, it doesn't seem to do their performance on the pitch too much harm. The amount of money they banked from three home grown products in the summer to clubs spending more than them on their academies but buying products of their academies, also makes it look pretty good on their bottom line. It might just be that they operate as a coherent club, with clear long term goals, and employ managers who understand the ethos of development and therefore the importance of giving young players an opportunity. Otherwise, players will never come through.

Fear plays too big a part in football. Fear of relegation, fear of losing, fear of the financial repercussions, fear of losing your job. At the highest level, because the numbers all have so many noughts on the end, the fear is amplified. So, many managers fear playing young players. Why risk mistakes when clubs at the highest level can purchase a "ready-made" player from anywhere in the world. Then, anyone who has watched U21 football would question whether the final part of the development for these young players is realistic and real preparation for what follows. It is a real conundrum because everyone acknowledges that it's wrong but the only people who can put it right are the clubs themselves. I

think pressurising the FA to dismantle the pyramid and do their job for them by giving them the "real" football they need for their young players is a complete abdication of their responsibility. And wait long enough. If that did happen, you would soon get two "B" teams regularly playing against each other in front of a handful of spectators back in the sanitised world of possession football in the most fashionable formations on perfect pitches.

The strength of English football is its strength in depth. The quality of players at the fourth and fifth level of English football is ridiculous and unique. Go lower into the pyramid and delve into the levels of part-time football and you'll still find players. We've done it to some degree. Harrison Dunk signed from Bromley, Jordan Chiedozie from Concord. The manager of our opponents today, John Still, has proved over many years the amount of talent that exists underneath the radar. The difficulty now is that so many clubs are looking, unless you have a lot of money to invest in young players, and unless you move very quickly, then clubs like ourselves have no chance. We thought we were quick in looking at Che Adams at Ilkeston. He'd only played ten games at step 3. But YouTube highlighting his goals, agents, word of mouth and everyone desperate not to miss out on potential players meant that within a couple of weeks over 30 clubs were watching him. He went to Sheffield United for a six figure fee before making 20 appearances in step 3. Crazy!

But that's the strength of English football. It's why two clubs in the fourth level of professional football can sell out a stadium today for a third round domestic cup competition. Unique.

I will also leave you with a thought. The English national team failing to perform at the highest level is nothing new. Since winning the World Cup in 1966 how many countries do you think that England have beaten in the knock out stages of the finals? That's when the big guns are involved and tournaments are decided. While you're thinking, consider the rules that most sports use to ensure that

elite individuals will emerge. The strength at elite level will always be linked to the number of participants at grass roots level. So the tip of any development pyramid will be dictated by the size of the base. That of course relies on the quality of the excellence pathway. And that is the problem in England. There are too many blockages and obstacles in the pathway, maybe too many rewards too early for the participants, but not enough get through. Because if you look at the participation numbers in England, the number of professional clubs, the number of academies, the size of the football pyramid and the number of spectators that support the game, we should be world champions!

In fact, the answer to the question is five. And not the European heavyweights such as Italy, Germany, Holland, France or Spain. Not the South American giants such as Brazil, Argentina or Uruguay. In fact not one previous winner. We have only beaten Belgium, Denmark, Paraguay, Cameroon and Ecuador! That's in 48 years. That's before the Premier League, before foreign players, before Sky TV, before academies, before U21 leagues, before inflated wages, before play stations. In fact, none of the reasons are applicable for the whole period of time.





























































Dan Ashworth, the FA Technical Director, is now charged with coming up with some of the answers. We should be proud that someone who ran Cambridge United's youth scheme is now in such a position. But it won't be easy. Maybe the real reason is that most strengths can be weaknesses and vice versa. Maybe the passion for club football in England and the club's connection with their community is so great that our national team will always play second fiddle. It is also why there will be a raucous atmosphere today, it's also why Blyth could beat Birmingham and it's also why wherever you watch football today, there will be a player who can play at a higher level.

Enjoy the game. Thank you for your tremendous support in 2014. Happy New Year.

Jez

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The Next Generation

Away with tradition! As folk throughout the English-speaking world were linking hands and singing Auld Lang Syne the other night, certain households in the Cambridge area were seeing in the new year with a right old knees-up and a rousing chorus of I've Got a Lovely Bunch of Coconuts.

The volunteers who look after 100 Years of Coconuts are facing up to 2015 in confident mood, following a year in which they have taken big strides in ensuring the history of Cambridge United is recorded and celebrated. We launched a new-look website (still at 100yearsofcoconuts.co.uk), introduced a rather natty line in merchandise and expanded the Coconuts sphere of operation to encompass question and answer sessions with U's legends Bill Leivers and Rodney Slack. We welcomed other old friends to the Abbey, too - flying 50s winger Teddy Bowd and the family of 60s goalkeeper Andy Smith among them.

We expanded our social media presence with hugely popular initiatives on Facebook and Twitter and continued to record on video the memories of members of the extended Cambridge United family. And we laid plans for initiatives that will see Coconuts boldly going where no online football museum has gone before.



What exactly does the year ahead hold? We could tell you everything but then we'd have to kill you, and that wouldn't do much for attendance figures. But there are two events we can shout about.

After the Wycombe game on Saturday, February 7, one of United's most popular players of all time will be answering your questions in the Dublin Suite. During his 285-game, 50-goal career with the U's between 1996 and 2003, Paul Wanless earned a reputation as a real 100 per center, never admitting defeat and always in the thick of the action - and he was blessed with a rare talent, too.

Wannie was a real terrace favourite and looks back on his time at the Abbey with great affection. He's looking forward to fielding supporters' questions, so hurry to the Dublin Suite at the final whistle, slake your thirst and listen to the

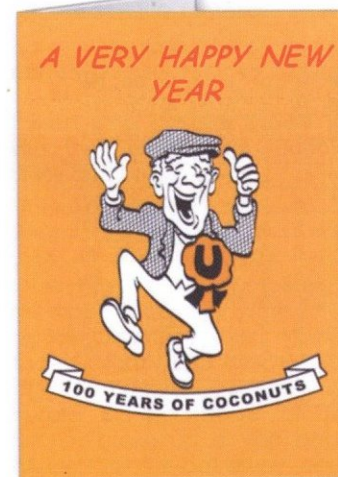
words of a master.

Later that night, the Dublin Suite will be the scene of a new departure for Coconuts: a fundraising evening of non-stop danceability-ness.

From 8pm onwards, DJs from the Alley Club will be spinning their R&B, soul, Latin, ska and jazzy discs, and the sophisticated soul, R&B and 60s pop of Cambridge band The Sound of Pop Art will ensure the floor stays full. Like Coconuts, it's a little bit retro and very, very cool.

All proceeds from the evening will help to fund Coconuts' ambitious development programme. Tickets, £7.50 plus booking fee, are available at tinyurl.com/ngal6z8; entry on the night will cost £10.

Our thanks go to the Alley Club (facebook.com/thealleyclub; 07914 751502) and The Sound of Pop Art for supporting Coconuts as we enter a year that promises so much.



Final Third Development League South ●●●

September		
Wed 10	A Gillingham	W1-0
Tue 23	H Leyton Orient	L0-2
October		
Tue 14	A Portsmouth	P-P
Tue 28	H AFC Wimbledon	W3-2
November		
Tue 18	H Luton Town	L1-4
Tue 25	A AFC Bournemouth	L8-3
December		
Tue 02	A Peterborough United	W4-1
January		
Tue 06	H Gillingham	13:00
Tue 20	H Portsmouth	14:00
February		
Tue 06	A AFC Wimbledon	19:00
Tue 17	H AFC Bournemouth	13:00
March		
Tue 10	A Luton Town	13:00
Tue 24	H Peterborough United	19:00
Tue 31	A Leyton Orient	13:00

Football League Youth Alliance South East ●●●

August		
Sat 09	A Dagenham & Redbridge	L0-1
Sat 16	H Gillingham	D1-1
Wed 20	A Luton Town	L0-2
Sat 23	H MK Dons	D1-1
Sat 30	A Northampton Town	L1-3
September		
Sat 06	H Stevenage	W4-2
Sat 13	A Southend United	L1-4
Sat 20	H Watford	W3-1
Sat 27	A Leyton Orient	D1-1
October		
Sat 04	H AFC Wimbledon	D2-2
Sat 11	A Peterborough United	L2-3
Sat 18	H Barnet	W2-1
Sat 25	A MK Dons	L1-3
November		
Sat 01	H Luton Town	L3-4
Sat 08	A Stevenage	W2-1
Sat 15	H Northampton Town	L2-3
Sat 22	A Watford	L1-4
Sat 29	H Southend United	L0-2
December		
Sat 06	A AFC Wimbledon	L2-3

Final Third Development League Cup - Group A South

Sep 30	H MK Dons	L1-4
Nov 4	H Luton Town	P-P
Dec 09	A Gillingham	P-P
Jan 13	H AFC Wimbledon	13:00

Final Third South ●●●

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Luton Town	6	4	2	0	18	4	14	14
Cambridge United	6	3	0	3	12	17	-5	9
AFC Bournemouth	4	2	1	1	17	11	6	7
Portsmouth	3	1	2	0	7	6	1	5
Leyton Orient	4	1	1	2	4	7	-3	4
Peterborough United	5	1	0	4	7	18	-11	3
AFC Wimbledon	3	0	2	1	5	6	-1	2
Gillingham	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0

Cup Group A South ●●●

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
AFC Wimbledon	2	2	0	0	4	0	4	6
Luton Town	2	1	0	1	5	3	2	3
Brighton & Hove Albion	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
MK Dons	3	1	0	2	4	6	-2	3
Gillingham	1	0	0	1	2	5	-3	0
Cambridge United	1	0	0	1	1	4	-3	0

Top two qualify for the semi-finals

Sat 13	H Leyton Orient	L0-4
Sat 20	A Barnet	L3-5
January		
Sat 03	H Peterborough United	11:00
Youth Alliance Cup		
Aug 12	R1 H Gillingham	D1-1 (L5-4 on pens)
FA Youth Cup		
Nov 05	R1 H MK Dons	L2-5

FLYA South East ●●●

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Barnet	20	14	3	3	70	46	24	45
MK Dons	20	13	2	5	64	41	23	41
Luton Town	21	11	8	2	45	24	21	41
Peterborough United	19	11	4	4	48	26	22	37
Watford	19	8	5	6	55	42	13	29
Leyton Orient	20	8	5	7	33	35	-2	29
Southend United	19	8	5	6	35	40	-5	29
Northampton Town	22	6	8	8	39	45	-8	26
Stevenage	20	6	4	10	37	42	-5	22
AFC Wimbledon	20	5	4	11	32	43	-11	19
Gillingham	19	4	4	11	32	45	-13	16
Cambridge United	21	4	4	13	32	51	-19	16
Dagenham & Redbridge	20	2	4	14	21	63	-42	10

Kevin Palmer looks back at this day in 1981

Cambridge United were drawn away at top-flight Norwich City in the FA Cup Third Round. The first-ever competitive meeting between the two sides was a great game that was decided in the Canaries' favour when Greg Down's speculative long-range shot swirled in the wind, deceiving our keeper Richard Key (pictured).

Luton Town had to visit Orient in their Third Round tie, but left Brisbane Road with a sterling 3-1 victory courtesy of two goals from Dave Moss (including a penalty) and one from Godfrey Ingram.

Game Of The Day

Ipswich Town 1
Aston Villa 0
FA Cup Third Round - Att. 27,721

Ipswich: Paul Cooper, George Burley, Mick Mills, Frans Thijssen, Russell Osman, Terry Butcher, John Wark, Arnold Muhren, Paul Mariner, Alan Brazil, Eric Gates - (MANAGER - Bobby Robson)

Villa: Jimmy Rimmer, Ken Swain, Gary Williams, Allan Evans, Ken McNaught, Dennis Mortimer, Des Bremner, Gary Shaw, Peter Withe, Gordon Cowans, Tony Morley (David Geddis) - (MANAGER - Ron Saunders)

Nobody was surprised that Liverpool topped the First Division table, but the fact that Ipswich and Aston Villa were challenging hard too caused eyebrows to be raised, especially Villa who weren't regarded as title material.

Town were one of the very few teams with foreign players, namely the two Dutch stars Muhren and Thijssen who dazzled English fans with their remarkable technical ability and flair.

This was a clash between two great footballing sides that never quite hit the high-water mark it could have done, hampered by the strong winds that were affecting all today's games. Ipswich started brightly and took the lead after 14 minutes. Home-grown muscle in the shape of Terry Butcher broke up a Villa attack, Thijssen took the ball away, darted



round a couple of bemused Villa players, slipped the ball to Muhren who quickly whipped in a cross that Wark headed into the path of the clinical Mariner who fired home.

Ipswich's bid to extend their lead were foiled by the excellent Rimmer in goal, but all of Villa's attacks were thwarted by the solid rock that was Butcher. The defender's bravery was rewarded by a ripped shirt and a set of stud marks down his back from a frustrated Peter Withe.

Villa's defeat proved to be a blessing in disguise. Both Ipswich and Liverpool won European trophies that season and the distraction allowed Villa to steal the League title using only 14 players - a record that won't be beaten.

Other Matches: There were no major upsets with Enfield's 1-1 draw at Port Vale and Wrexham's 1-1 draw at West Ham coming the closest. Arsenal's defence of the cup ended in 2-0 defeat at Everton, whilst Manchester United were held 2-2 at home by Brighton who were also a First Division side. Altrincham

were the top non-league side at the time and they had a dream tie at Liverpool which ended in a 4-1 defeat.

Headline News: Queen Victoria's last surviving grandchild died today aged 97. HRH Princess Alice had spent much of her life in South America, Jamaica, Canada and Australia, all part of the British Empire. She had retired to Kensington Palace and was often seen travelling on local buses.

In the UK music charts the St Winifred's School Choir reigned supreme with 'There's No One Quite Like Grandma' in a chart largely dominated by John Lennon record's following his tragic murder. Abba were atop the album chart with 'Super Trouper'.

On the TV: BBC's afternoon sports show was 'Grandstand' presented by Bob Wilson, featuring darts, figure skating, basketball and American Football. ITV's equivalent was 'World Of Sport' hosted by Dickie Davies which had Moto-Cross, hot-rods and the inevitable wrestling.

ON REFLECTION

Action from our match against Southend United

Time Line



Match Report

Cambridge United 0 Southend United 1
Sky Bet League 2 - 26/12/14

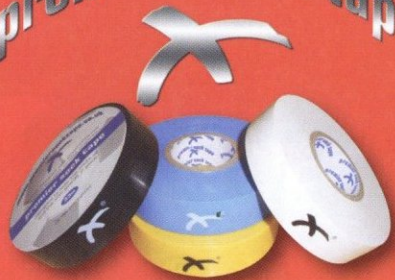
Barry Corr scored the only goal as Southend United secured victory over Cambridge United on Boxing Day.

Corr met a cross from David Worrall to head home in the 62nd minute, and in truth it was the least the visitors deserved as they dominated play for long periods. Jack Payne hit the bar in the first half, and Kevan Hurst was also denied by the woodwork after the break, while for the U's Josh Coulson came closest with a header that was well saved by Daniel Bentley.

Action Photos: Simon Lankester



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●●● PRESS GANG ●●●

Matt Gooding reports on former U's in the news

2015 could be a big year for the newly formed Salisbury FC and their manager Steve Claridge.

Rising from the ashes of Salisbury City, who went out of business in farcical circumstances last year, the new Salisbury are currently without a league but are hoping to ply their trade in the Wessex Premier division in 2015/16.

Their manager will be former U's and Luton striker Claridge (pictured), who is also part of the consortium running the new club, meaning he will also be chipping in with advice about off-field matters.

Claridge will be hoping his time in the Raymond McEnhill stadium hot-seat is more successful than short spells in charge of Portsmouth, Weymouth and Millwall, with the latter lasting just 36 days at the start of the 2005/06 season.

"I don't know about anyone else but there isn't a lot else to do on a Saturday afternoon," he said. "The other day I went and bought a TV with my missus and I lasted about 20 minutes. I had to go home - it's just not right not being at the football on a Saturday afternoon."

Mrs Claridge must be delighted that she will once more be left to purchase electrical goods at her leisure.

With Salisbury having suffered multiple financial catastrophes in the last decade, Claridge has been keen to stress that there won't be any financial risk-taking at the new club.

"We have to be careful the way we run this," he said. "We have the responsibility to leave a legacy, for the next people who come along, which says we did all right and not leave this club in the state other people in the past have done."

"People have to learn to say 'no' in football.

"Sometimes you just cannot have



what you want at a football club. I'm not afraid to say no and we'll work together. If it's feasible and if we can do it, we will, and if we can't, we can't.

"There won't be any bargaining, we'll just say 'no'."

A useful motto for football - and life in general - there, we wish Claridge all the best in his new endeavour.

Another ex-United striker is also back in work at non-league level. Dave Kitson will be assisting Nick Ironton, who has been appointed Arlesey Town manager for a second time.

Ironton was Kitson's manager when he played for Arlesey in the early 2000s, before the striker went on to enjoy a successful career in the professional game.

"I am confident that Nick and his management team have the experience to take the team forward again," said Arlesey chairman Manny Cohen. "I'm sure they will be instrumental as the whole club unites together to write the next chapter in the club's history."

It's seems a life-time ago that another striker, Jamie Guy, was

turning out for the U's as a fresh-faced youngster in what was our first season at non-league level.

Injuries and off-field problems have stalled his career since then, and the now 27-year-old has left Grays Athletic, for whom he had scored four goals this season.

"I know what Jamie brings to a side but he's started a new family and with his commitments away from football it makes sense to go in different directions," rued (then) manager Jody Brown before he too left to become manager of Welling United.

"He's scored some important goals for us, and played a pivotal part in getting our season going. I am sad to let Jamie go but with the emergence of our young front players the squad continues to improve and evolve so we have to move with it.

"There's already interest in Jamie so releasing him now will improve his chances of securing a deal and I'm sure he will score goals wherever he goes."

Indeed, Guy has now re-joined one of his former clubs, Witham Town, where he played briefly last year.

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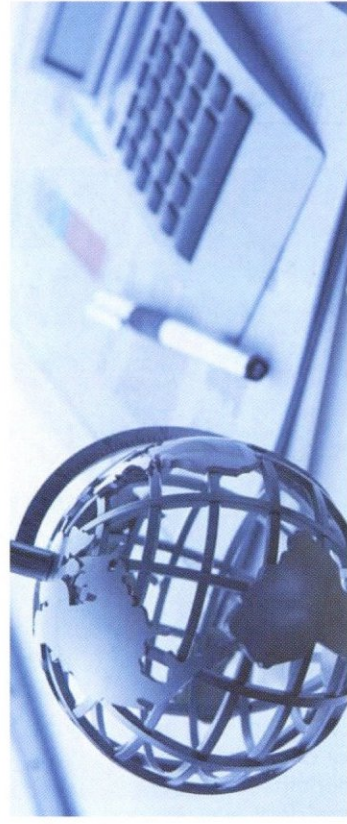
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●●● TERRACE TALK ●●●

It would appear that Henry Milward may have fallen down a hole!

A fiction. At first maps were never escapist tools, they weren't windows into the unexplored, they were artworks. I liked examining the shapes, the nooks and the imperfections: the way South America curled into a fine tip as though it was slowly but glamorously withering from the bottom up. I imagined lighting the very end and watching the land smoked to its equatorial stub. I admired the belligerent hunk of Greenland, oblivious and distant, and the way Greece crumbled into pieces as you moved south as though the mainland was made of biscuit, gradually dissolving into tea. I learned the names of the places but never longed to visit them.

It wasn't just globes, continents, countries and towns, I mapped football pitches, basketball courts, Scrabble boards, and found a beguiling hypnosis in the process. It was here, before I turned professional - which is another story entirely - I began to appreciate the idea of tactics, the chess-like precision with which the greats assembled their elevens. And for all the intricate beauty of the arrange-

ments, which I imitated in my bedroom, I was fascinated by the discrepancy between the great level of planning and the ease at which it could all fall apart when it emerged in 3D.

The maps and charts sat locked in time, emotionless and motionless, even though everything they depicted was entirely the opposite. When I first appeared as three-dimensional on the pitch it felt unreal, as though I was a character stepping into a video game. I played behind the strikers, a creative, I enjoyed mild success in the lower divisions until a Division Three fixture at Gresty Road before the turn of the millennium, when the two dimensional and three dimensional collided, melded, merged.

Stretching for a loose pass I felt my legs buckle, float and fall all at once. I dropped into a subterranean black pitchness; a place without any discernible character or purpose. Around me were wipe-clean walls, patchworked with etchings. With the flashes of light from above I was able to make out 'Nicholas Lyndurst was here', another read 'China Crisis forever'

and a third 'Celebrity Skin'. Very quickly I appreciated I had fallen into the place I had studied with such myopic precision, I was 'in the hole'.

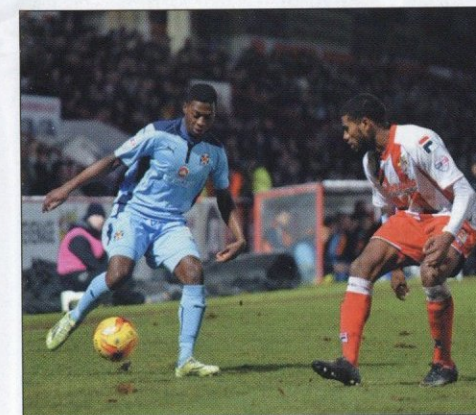
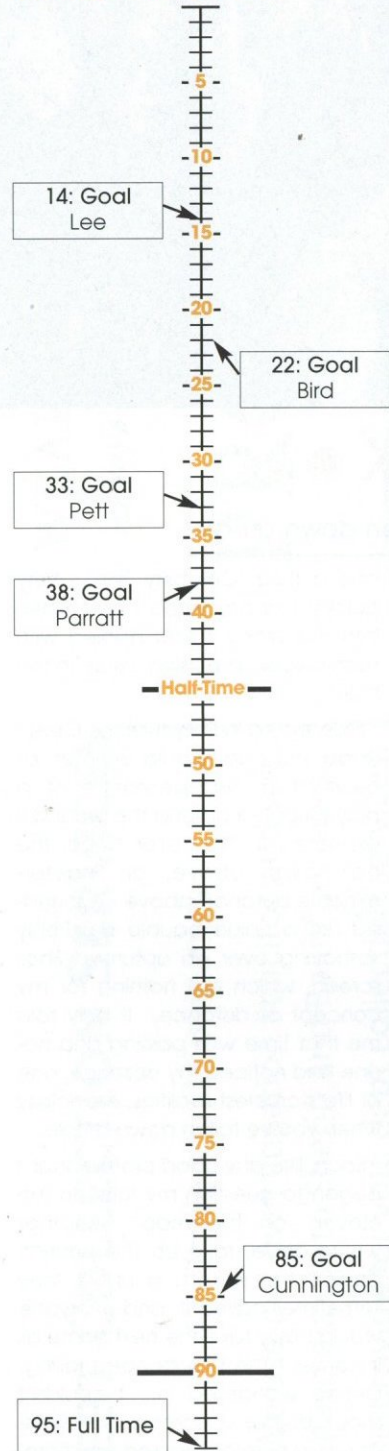
I suspected initially that the Gresty Road hubbub would simmer as news of a disappearance of a player rippled around the ground. I expected it. Once or twice, the ball rolled above, an indeterminate distance above - it sounded like a value bauble drunkenly sashaying over an upturned Shoji screen, which did nothing for my concept of distance. It only told me that time was passing and no-one had noticed my absence, one of life's cruellest realities, especially when you've fallen down a hole.

Soon, like any good professional, I began to question my role. In the eleven, on the map. Another would arrive, take up the position behind the strikers, a luxury they sometimes called it, and everyone would busily take the next game as it comes. The ball stopped rolling, silence wandered in. I couldn't shout, bellow or scream, so I whispered: you're not singing anymore. You're not singing anymore.

ON REFLECTION

Action from our match against Stevenage

Time Line



Match Report

Stevenage 3 Cambridge United 2
Sky Bet League 2 - 28/12/14

A poor first half display saw Cambridge United beaten 3-2 by Stevenage at the Lamex Stadium.

The U's back-line was caught out by Charlie Lee, who lobbed in the opening goal, and though Ryan Bird levelled from close range, Tom Pett and Dean Parratt took advantage of more slack defending saw Tom Pett and Dean Parratt give the home side a commanding lead.

An improved second half display will have encouraged the large travelling support, but Adam Cunnington's late goal wasn't enough to help his team grab a share of the spoils.

Action Photos: Simon Lankester



Mark Johnson looks back at our recent trip to Stevenage

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KINGS HEDGES ROAD, CAMBRIDGE CB4 2QT

Located on the edge of town, beside a dual carriageway, you could barely ask for a more straightforward away trip over the Christmas period than a visit to Stevenage ... at least in terms of travel; some aspects of a visit to Broadhall Way are, of course, less than straightforward.

It's been about four years since we were last there, but you'd have to have sharp eyes to spot too many changes since our last visit. The grey, metal-clad offices on the corner of the ground beside the busy A602 may have mushroomed in the intervening years - after a spat with the local council they've lost the word 'Borough' from the club name adorning them. They've also gained a press room where members of the fourth estate and visiting scouts can collect their passes and a welcoming cup of caffeine before the match; a room that, as it's located behind the away end of the ground, couldn't have been much further away from the press entrance or facilities if it had been built on Mars.

Inside the ground, the away end fills the area behind the goal at the opposite end of the ground to the A602. A stand of similar height to our South Stand - or how our South Stand would look if the front row of seats was at pitch level - the letters 'BORO' are picked out in red amongst the otherwise white seats

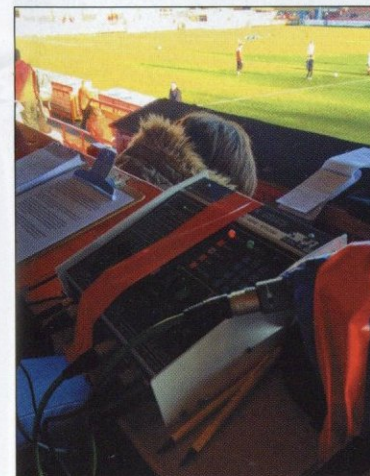


that fill the area. Not that anyone other than the early arrivals would have seen these letters; the stand was quickly filled with United supporters once the turnstiles were opened. The away end is book-ended by an ill-matching pair of establishments. To its left, a caravan serving refreshments is tucked in tightly, as though seeking comfort from the stand's apron strings, whilst a chalet-style two-storey brick building nestles beside the right end of the stand; this building serves as the match day control room.

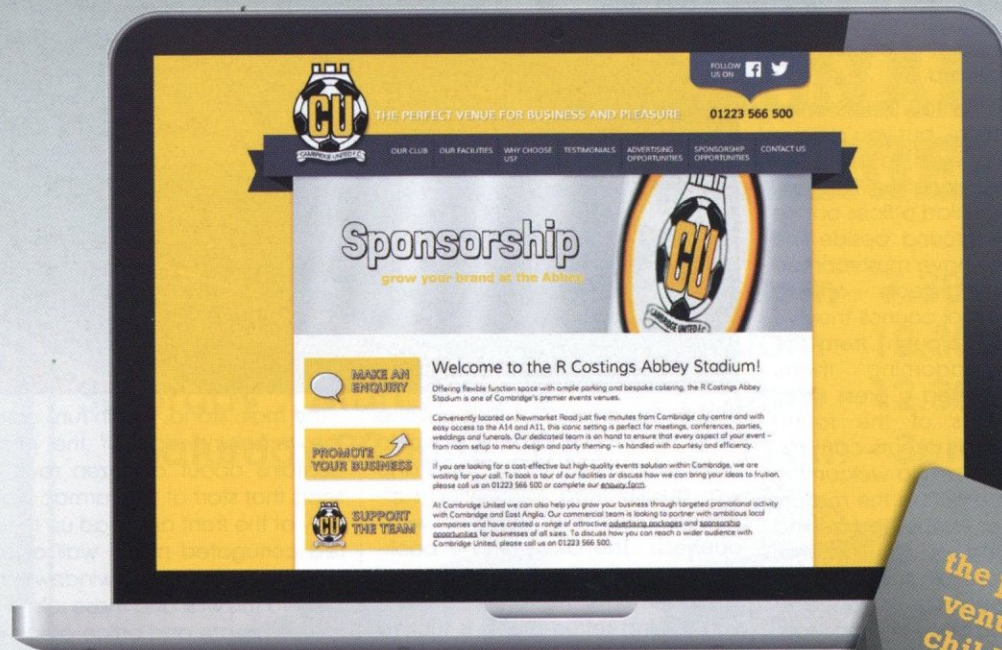
A continuous run of covered terrace is along the side of the pitch to the right of the away end. A television gantry, topped by a triangular clock tower is in the centre of the roof above the liveliest section of Stevenage fans and this was the area of the ground that kept the denizens of the control room busiest, directing the local constabulary as they removed several Stevenage-shirted spectators from the ground during the first half.

Facing the away stand, the end of the ground that runs alongside the dual carriageway also consists of an area of terracing, although here the covered area fills only about two thirds of the available space.

The main stand, which runs along the remaining side of the pitch, contains about a dozen rows of seats that start at the tarmac walkway at the front and lead up to the red corrugated metal wall at the back. A number of windows are cut into this wall and these relate to the corporate and office areas. A block of seats at one end of this stand was segregated off for U's fans. Located midway between the half way line and the away end, the press box is to be found towards the back of this stand. Here, red flip down benches are set at an angle that required judicious use of Gaffa tape to prevent the broadcasting kit from landing in an undignified, unhelpful and uncommunicative heap at my feet. The sponsors' seats are immediately behind the press seats, which added a further degree of difficulty to the afternoon's commentary as they had obviously kept the corporate bar staff very busy. Before the match, I had been warned by the Stevenage Press Officer that this would be a problem; which does beg the question that given that they know it's an issue, why don't they do something about it? Perhaps that's the impression of their club they like to give the outside world.



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●●● HERE & THERE ●●●

Henry Milward looks forward to our next two matches

v Carlisle United ●●●

Sky Bet League 2 - Saturday, January 10th, 15:00

Directions by car: leave the M6 at junction 43 and take the A69 towards Carlisle. After a mile Brunton Park will appear on your right. The club car park (£2.50) can be found by taking the first right immediately after Brunton Park into Victoria Place and then turn first right onto St Aidans Road. There are around 400 spaces in the club car park, otherwise opt for street parking. Post code: CA1 1LL.

Train: it'll cost you, but the journey isn't difficult, with a direct train to Carlisle from London Euston. The journey time is a little short of four hours. From Carlisle station, walk around the Crescent until you reach Warwick Road on the right next to Nando's. Brunton Park is further along Warwick Road, a walk of around a mile.

The Away Travel Club will be running a coach to the game. Contact the club on 01223 566500

to reserve your seat and for more information.

Admission: travelling fans will be housed in the north end of the covered, seated stand on east side of the ground. Tickets are available in

advance at a reduced rate (£3 less). On the day, they are available from the away ticket office behind the east stand at Brunton Park. Match-day prices are: £22 for adults, £19 for seniors, £16 for young persons (18-22-year-olds), £13 for juniors (11-17-year-olds), £7 for under 11s (same price as advance purchase), free for under 7s.



v Newport County ●●●

Sky Bet League 2 - Saturday, January 17th, 15:00

After a frustrating opening to the campaign, Newport raced into top-seven contention thanks to a fine run in autumn and early winter. Justin Edinburgh's men, who won promotion from the Conference in 2013 and went on to finish 14th in their first year in League Two, were

unbeaten from mid-October to mid-December, rising from 15th to sixth in the process. Indeed, were it not for three straight defeats at the start of the campaign, the Exiles would be even better placed.

Edinburgh's side have claimed away triumphs at Portsmouth,

Dagenham, Carlisle and Bury this term, generally making themselves hard to beat on their travels, with further draws at Hartlepool, Tranmere and Shrewsbury. However, their good run came to an end in the final fixture before Christmas with a 3-0 reverse at Luton.

County retain a number of familiar faces in their ranks, including former U's Ryan Jackson, Max Porter, Danny Crow, Ismail Yakubu and Robbie Willmott, although Crow has not featured extensively for the Welsh side, while Willmott is set to be out of action until the spring with a foot injury. Regular adversaries Aaron O'Connor (Grays, Mansfield, Rushden, Luton) and Chris Zebroski (Torquay) have struck 13 times this term, while Yan Klukowski, who impressed for Forest Green in non-league, arrived at Rodney Parade in the summer. The manager has also been boosted by the return to fitness of forward Rene Howe (Peterborough, Rushden, Dating in the Dark), who appeared from the bench against the Hatters for the first time since August.



●●●TWO'S COMPANY●●●

Dave Stacey reviews the latest news from around the League

Christmas came early for Carlisle after former owner Fred Story wrote off a £1.1million loan to the club. With United struggling near the foot of the Football League and in large debts in the boardroom, building tycoon Story, in charge at Brunton Park from 2004 to 2008, waived the charge his company has been owed for nine years with a "no-strings agreement" to help the club out.

Managing director John Nixon said, "The writing off of this loan will certainly help the financial position of the club and will help us bring new investors in to the building which we're currently working on. It's a fantastic Christmas present and we would like to go on record with our thanks to Story Homes and Fred Story in particular."

York Solve Newt Issue ●●●

Good news was also abounding at struggling York who signed a long-term tenancy with a £37million community stadium. The agreement between the club and York Community Stadium secures a £2million contribution from the club towards the cost of the ground. Construction of the 8,000-seat stadium at Monks Cross is due to start in the spring and be finished by summer 2016.

Work was due to start earlier this year but was delayed because of a discovery of great crested newts on the site, the new Monks Cross shopping development on the outskirts of York also delayed by the newts. York Community Stadium will also be home to the York City Knights rugby league team and the city athletics club and as well as the main stadium the complex will include a swimming pool, sports hall, gym and artificial football pitches. It will also have facilities for York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and York St John University. York City Council has invested £8million in the stadium, with the rest coming from grants and revenue from commercial developments.

No Festive Cheer For A Robin ●●●

There wasn't much festive cheer at Cheltenham, however, where manager Paul Buckle released Italian midfielder Raffaele De Vita over the festive period. "We would like to thank Raffa for his efforts and wish him all the best in the future," Buckle told the Robins official website.

Not A Computer Game ●●●

Manager Keith Curle says his rebuilding of the Carlisle United squad is a long-term process that cannot be "switched on and off" like a computer game. "You can't just walk in, wave a magic wand and turn it round," Curle (below) told BBC Radio Cumbria.



"It's not like Fifa 14," he continued. "When things aren't going your way you can't switch it off and start again, turn it back on and be Barcelona, get this player and that player - that isn't reality. I've inherited a squad of 22-23 players and I've got to get the best out of those players and when January comes I'm able to plug a few gaps and holes and bring in different strengths."

Size Matters ●●●

Speaking of the January transfer window, it's usual for managers at both ends of the table to beg, steal and borrow for new players. However, Burton's Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink and Andy Awford of Portsmouth have dismissed this

strategy. "I want a quality squad," Hasselbaink told BBC Radio Derby. "If you have too big a squad, you lose your focus at times because there are just too many people. If I bring people in, then certainly players will go out."

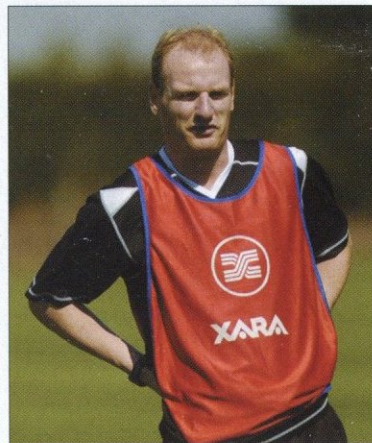
And Awford, who also had to reject claims new assistant manager Gary Waddock had been brought to the club as his long-term replacement this week, told BBC Radio Solent: "We are at the stage now where we have got to split the group. I think now that people will have to be going out of the football club to enable us to work with quality."

The side recently moved in to a new training ground and Awford continued, "Thankfully we've now got an area to be able to do that at the training ground but from a budget point of view we have to look at the size of the squad."

Bad Knee Forces Doherty's Hand ●●●

Wycombe's veteran defender Gary Doherty has had to retire from the game due to a long-standing knee issue.

Having played 501 games for clubs such as Luton, Tottenham, Norwich, Charlton and the Chairboys, as well as having won 34 caps for Republic of Ireland, Docherty (below) claimed, "Retiring is the hardest decision for any footballer to have to make."



You always hope you'll be able to retire in your own time when it is right for you, but injury has forced my hand and it's one of those things you have to deal with."

Far from bitter, Docherty has thrown his weight behind Gareth Ainsworth's men's promotion push, revealing, "The gaffer has put together a really strong team and I would have loved to have been a part of it for the rest of the season."

Speaking of Ainsworth, he has signed a new long-term contract with the club which will keep him at Adams Park for a "substantial period of time."

Murray Keeps Door Open ●●●

New Mansfield manager Adam Murray has revealed he may make a return to playing in the near future, telling BBC Radio Notts, "From day one I have never ruled it out - I won't close the door on it."

Maxted Bides His Time ●●●

Hartlepool's Jon Maxted has been revealing to the BBC what it's like in the life of a back-up goalkeeper.

Maxted, who had been on the bench over 100 times for boyhood club Doncaster by the age of 21 without getting on the pitch, said, "You do get a little bit frustrated, but I was only a young lad. I had Neil Sullivan, Gary Woods and Ross Turnbull to look up to and you learn from them. You train every day but it's just waiting for your opportunity the same as anyone else. I work as hard as any other player out there on the pitch. Obviously they're playing games and I'm on the bench but during the week I'm doing my hardest to get that place in the first 11."

Pooler Not Out Of His Depth ●●●

One young lad certainly getting his chance in the first team, though, is Newport's Regan Poole. Manager Justin Edinburgh praised the 16-year-old defender following the Exiles' 2-0 League Two win over Plymouth. Poole, who had a trial at Manchester United in September, was making only his second league start and Edinburgh said he would have no problem playing Poole when Newport travelled to Cheltenham for their next game.

"It was a fantastic performance from him," Edinburgh gushed. "It



was fantastic for young Regan coming in and playing against one of the best strikers in this league (Argyle's Reuben Reid) and not looking out of place at 16. His temperament in front of a big following and a great atmosphere was outstanding. I would have no worries about playing him again. He's way ahead of his age and you wouldn't know he was 16."

Jumpers For Goalposts ●●●

Over 1,300 Bradford City fans wore Christmas jumpers to the Bantams' League One match with Scunthorpe United at Valley Parade (above) in an attempt to break the world record for the most festive jumpers to be worn in one place. The previous record was 639 and the club is seeking verification.

Womble Fan Pumped Up ●●●

At AFC Wimbledon one lucky fan had a reason to be pumped up after winning themselves a gym session with Adebayo Akinfenwa!

The Dons Trust auction ended with the prize of an hour-long gym session with Akinfenwa, 16 stone and nicknamed The Beast, as your personal trainer earning £600.

Other prizes up for grabs included a trip to an away match with the players and management and a ball signed by members of the Crazy Gang such as Vinnie Jones and John Fashanu. In total £3,700 was raised.

And Finally ●●●

Sticking with the Dons, former

goalkeeper Lutz Pfannenstiel has been revealing his experiences playing for the aforementioned Crazy Gang. Pfannenstiel turned out for 25 different clubs during his career and became the first, and so far only (probably ever!), player to have plied his trade in all six FIFA continents. The German arrived at Plough Lane via a stint in Asia having left giants Bayern Munich as a youngster.

"I was with big strong guys like Mick Harford and Gary Blissett who would eat a goalkeeper for breakfast," he explained.

"The practical jokes I would call edgy but it was a normal thing. Somebody pees in your shampoo bottle, or burns a teaspoon on your neck, nails your shoes to the bench, cuts the fingers off your gloves. I was 19 and my English was average. I heard the rudest word in the English language every single day in training, all the time, but I never knew what it meant. One day we went for some lunch and two nice girls were on another table. The lads said, 'Why don't you talk to them. Say "Hi, I'm Lutz from Germany, nice to meet you two little ****s."' They convinced me it meant darling. The girls nearly choked on their coffee but they knew I didn't know what I was saying. Wimbledon was a nice culture, a little like a family."



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●●● **FIVE STARS** ●●●

A handful of heroes who made The FA Cup an adventure story

Chris Kelly

The 'Leatherhead Lip' scored when the Surrey minnows knocked Brighton & Hove Albion out of the 1975 Third Round, and soon after earned a nickname and national notoriety for his post-match proclamations.

Kelly picks up the story: "I scored the only goal at Brighton in the Third Round and went to a bar after the game to celebrate.

"The BBC tracked me down and asked if I would appear on Match of the Day that night. I had had a few so I just slumped in the chair.

"Jimmy Hill asked me if I thought we would win (in the Fourth Round against Leicester) and I said 'yes, we'll win — they're useless'. Some people thought I was an arrogant little whatever, others thought it was OK."

With the tie switched to Filbert Street and a nation watching the outspoken upstart in action, Leatherhead had a pretty good go, taking a 2-0 half-time lead with Kelly on the scoresheet.

Eventually Leicester pulled through, winning 3-2, but Kelly had had his say and no-one could fail to listen.

Nigel Jemson

The striker will baulk at being branded a Third Round wonder. The two goals for Shrewsbury Town that knocked Everton out of the 2003 FA Cup secured national headlines but they were no means his first.

Jemson had represented England Under-21s when, after joining Nottingham Forest from Preston North End, he scored the only goal as Forest defeated Oldham Athletic in the 1990 League Cup final.

He spent the remainder of his career as happy wanderer, including some time at Bolton, and now works as a fireman.

But it was that header and free-



kick on a frosty day at Gay Meadow that remain burned in our memory to this day.

Tim Buzaglo

He may have played 32 international cricket matches for Gibraltar but he will always be remembered as the man who helped Woking rock West Bromwich Albion at the Hawthorns in 1991.

West Brom were licking their lips when they went 1-0 up against the Isthmian Premier Division side on home turf, but Buzaglo bagged a second-half hat-trick to secure a famous 4-2 victory.

That night Woking fans sang "there's only one Tim Buzaglo" and, of course, they were right.

Mickey Thomas

The Welshman's football career took him to Wrexham and back via Manchester United, Everton, Chelsea and Wichita Wings, to name a few.

An attempt at a very different type of career landed him in jail in 1993 as he failed to make money laundering pay.

But a year earlier he was a hero, as the 37-year-old's free-kick veered into Arsenal's net to equalise for Wrexham, before Steve

Watkin, not even the most celebrated Welsh sportsman of that name, sent the Racecourse Ground into raptures.

Tommy Skuse

The Worcester winger must have watched the great Liverpool sides of the 1960s and 70s and wondered what all the fuss was about.

When he faced up to the Reds in front of 15,000 at St George's Lane in 1959, scored and sent the then Second Division side tumbling, he could hardly have anticipated what happened later that year.

Eighteen-year-old Skuse put Worcester ahead after nine minutes, and an 81st-minute Dick White own goal put the Southern Leaguers in the clear.

Geoff Twentyman halved the deficit, but City held out to secure a 2-1 victory.

Liverpool manager Phil Taylor found it hard to shake off such a humiliation, and later that year had been replaced by Bill Shankly.

There will be Liverpool fans somewhere who will have thanked Skuse for that freezing Thursday afternoon in Worcester.

Pictured: Mickey Thomas



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NEWS FOR U'S

News and information for supporters attending today's match

Cambridge United Football Club is committed to making the R Costings Stadium a safe and welcoming environment for all supporters attending matches.

We are encouraging more families to attend matches and want them to feel comfortable within the stadium.

The club policy and ground regulations are posted around the ground but we would draw your attention to our zero tolerance policy for supporters for

- * Using threatening behaviour, foul, abusive or racist
- * Throwing of any object within the stadium
- * The chanting of anything indecent or racial
- * Entering the playing area or any other restricted areas without authority

Failure to comply with these regulations could result in ejection from the stadium and a ban from attending future matches. If supporters are arrested and convicted of offences under the Football (Offences) Act

1991 as amended by the Football (Offences and Disorder) Act 1999 this could also result in a Football Banning Order being made for all football grounds in the country together with a ban on travelling abroad to watch England matches.

Some key safety considerations

- * All safety announcements will be preceded by a 'bing bong' sound from the tannoy. Please listen carefully to any instructions
- * Beware of footballs coming into the stands especially during the warm up and half time
- * Where seats are provided please use them as standing in seated areas can impact on other supporters view and spoil their enjoyment of the match
- * Please follow the traffic management signs particularly when crossing Newmarket Road or Coldhams Lane.
- * You must be in possession of the appropriate ticket to access the area of the stadium entered
- * If you are using the main car park obey stewards instructions at all

times. Movement may be restricted after matches to allow pedestrians safe egress

Consider our neighbours

- * Street parking is available near the ground but be considerate
- * Do not obstruct driveways and make sure that emergency vehicles have access

Cambridge United Football Club has a proud history and tradition within the City and the County. Help us carry this on as we develop our ambition to be a family friendly club.

Ten to Tackle Answers

This afternoon's answers from page 24 are as follows:

1. Remarkably, nine
2. Hull City
3. Wigan Athletic
4. It featured the longest penalty shootout in FA Cup history (14-13)
5. Manchester United
6. The Oval
7. Coventry City (1986/7)
8. Arsenal
9. Chelsea
10. Tottenham Hotspur (in 1901)

How did you do?

- 0-3: No giant killings for you this year
- 4-7: Replay a week on Monday
- 8-10: You're up for t' Cup!

CLUB DIRECTORY

Who's Who at The R Costings Abbey Stadium

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Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8LN

Club Contacts
Telephone 01223 566500
Fax 01223 729220
www.cambridge-united.co.uk

Club Officials
Life President Paul Barry
Chairman Dave Doggett
Vice Chairman Eddie Clark
Directors Terry Baker, Jez George, Graham Daniels, Renford Sargent, Robert Smith

Fans' Elected Director Colin Proctor
email info@cambridge-united.co.uk

Community Trust Chairman Graham Daniels
Community Trust Manager Danny Kerrigan
Chief Executive Jez George

First Team Head Coach Richard Money
Academy Manager Mark Bonner
Head of Sports Science Matt Walker
Head of Physiotherapist Greg Reid MCSP SRP
Goalkeeping Coach Martin Davies

Performance Analyst James Clarke-Reed
Senior Professional Development Phase Lead Coach Alan Neilson
Professional Development Phase Lead Coach Tom Donati
Development Phase Lead Coach Stephen Payne
Foundation Lead Coach Adam Bridgeford
Head of Academy Operations Tom Pell
Head of Academy Recruitment Marc Tracy
Academy Lead Sports Scientist Guy Watts
Football Development Manager James Cutting
Sport Development Manager Luke Harradine
Community Development Manager Amy Ganderton

Operations Manager Andy Beattie
Stadium Manager & Safety Officer Ian Darler
Communications Manager Gareth Daniels
Functions Manager Paul Burling

Club Chiropractor Jasper Hulscher M.Sc. DC
Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon D.J. Edwards FRCS
Club Doctor Dr. B. Boukersi
Crowd Doctor Dr. M. Wharton
Club Chaplain Rev. Stuart Wood

●●● FIXTURES & RESULTS ●●●

All the facts and figures for 2014/15

Date	H/A	Opponents	Res.	Att	Away	PTS	POS	Starting Line-Up					
August													
Sat 09	H	Plymouth Argyle	W1-0	6009	1221	3	4	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Bonner	Taylor	Diallo
Tue 12	A	Birmingham City (CAP1)	L1-3(aet)	9816	1064			Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Bonner	Taylor	Hughes
Sat 16	A	Portsmouth	L1-2	16671	1180	3	13	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Bonner	Taylor	Hughes
Tue 19	A	York City	D2-2	3176	291	4	13	Dunn	Chadwick	Coulson	Bonner	Taylor	Hughes
Sat 23	H	Morecambe	L1-2	3152	103	4	17	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Bonner	Taylor	Diallo
Sat 30	H	Carlisle United	W5-0	3512	366	7	9	Dunn	Lanzoni	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Diallo
September													
Tue 02	A	Crawley Town (JPT1)	L0-2	1252	141			Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Lennon	Taylor	Diallo
Mon 08	A	Newport County	D1-1	2594	121	8	11	Dunn	Lanzoni	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Diallo
Sat 13	A	Dagenham & Redbridge	W3-2	2049	770	11	6	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Diallo
Tue 16	H	Exeter City	L1-2	3266	155	11	11	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Diallo
Sat 20	H	Luton Town	L0-1	6533	2050	11	14	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Naylor
Sat 27	A	Wycombe Wanderers	L0-1	3610	418	11	18	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Diallo
October													
Fri 03	A	Burton Albion	W3-1	2683	452	14	13	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Hughes
Sat 11	H	Oxford United	W5-1	4435	493	17	11	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Hughes
Sat 18	A	Mansfield Town	D0-0	2925	410	18	11	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Hughes
Tue 21	H	Cheltenham Town	L1-2	3252	118	18	15	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Hughes
Sat 25	H	Hartlepool United	W2-1	4931	195	21	11	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Hughes
November													
Sat 01	A	Bury	L0-2	3704	376	21	14	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Simpson
Sat 08	H	Fleetwood Town (FAC1)	W1-0	2870	94			Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Hughes
Fri 14	H	Northampton Town	W2-1	5644	1084	24	8	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Donaldson	Taylor	Hughes
Sat 22	A	Accrington Stanley	L1-2	1364	225	24	13	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Hughes
Sat 29	A	AFC Wimbledon	W2-1	4306	827	27	10	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Hughes
December													
Sat 06	H	Mansfield Town (FAC2)	D2-2	3869	343			Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Hughes
Sat 13	H	Shrewsbury Town	D0-0	5346	346	28	12	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Miller	Taylor	Hughes
Tue 16	A	Mansfield Town (FAC2R)	W1-0	1920	305			Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Miller	Taylor	Hughes
Fri 19	A	Tranmere Rovers	D1-1	4578	204	29	11	Dunn	Naylor	Coulson	Nelson	Taylor	Hughes
Fri 26	H	Southend United	L0-1	7053	1292	29	14	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Miller	Taylor	Hughes
Sun 28	A	Stevenage	L2-3	4579	1624	29	14	Dunn	Tait	Coulson	Miller	Taylor	Hughes
January													
Sat 03	H	Luton Town (FAC3)	15:00										
Sat 10	A	Carlisle United	15:00										
Sat 17	H	Newport County	15:00										
Sat 24	H	Dagenham & Redbridge	15:00										
Sat 31	A	Luton Town	15:00										
February													
Sat 07	H	Wycombe Wanderers	15:00										
Tue 10	A	Exeter City	19:45										
Sat 14	A	Plymouth Argyle	15:00										
Sat 21	H	Portsmouth	15:00										
Sat 28	A	Morecambe	15:00										
March													
Tue 03	H	York City	19:45										
Sat 07	A	Shrewsbury Town	15:00										
Sat 14	H	Stevenage	15:00										
Tue 17	H	Tranmere Rovers	19:45										
Sat 21	A	Southend United	15:00										
Sat 28	A	Hartlepool United	15:00										
April													
Fri 03	H	Bury	15:00										
Mon 06	A	Northampton Town	15:00										
Sat 11	H	Accrington Stanley	15:00										
Tue 14	A	Cheltenham Town	19:45										
Sat 18	H	Mansfield Town	15:00										
Sat 25	A	Oxford United	15:00										
May													
Sat 02	H	Burton Albion	15:00										
TBA	H	AFC Wimbledon											

	SUB	SUB	SUB	SUB	SUB	SUB	SUB	SUB	SUB	SUB	SUB
Champion	Donaldson	Dunk	Cunnington	Appiah	Simpson	Sam-Yorke	Chadwick	Hunt	Austin	Lennon	Norris
Champion	Donaldson	Dunk	Cunnington	Appiah	Sam-Yorke	Chadwick	Simpson	Hunt	Austin	Lennon	Norris
Champion	Donaldson	Dunk	Elliott	Appiah	Simpson	Cunnington	Chadwick	Sam-Yorke	Whittall	Lennon	Norris
Champion	Donaldson	Simpson	Elliott	Appiah	Tait	Whittall	Sam-Yorke	Cunnington	Hunt	Lennon	Norris
Champion	Donaldson	Dunk	Elliott	Appiah	Chadwick	Hughes	Simpson	Sam-Yorke	Hunt	Stockley	Norris
Champion	Donaldson	Hughes	Elliott	Simpson	Chadwick	Stockley	BJ Taylor	Tait	Lennon	Hurst	Norris
Champion	Donaldson	Chadwick	Stockley	Simpson	Hughes	Whittall	BJ Taylor	Hurst	Norris		
Hughes	Donaldson	Dunk	Elliott	Bird	Chadwick	Whittall	Lennon	Tait	BJ Taylor	Stockley	Norris
Austin	Donaldson	Dunk	Elliott	Stockley	Bird	Hurst	BJ Taylor	Lanzoni	Lennon	Bevins	Norris
Lanzoni	Donaldson	Dunk	Appiah	Bird	Hurst	BJ Taylor	Stockley	Whittall	Lennon	Austin	Norris
Simpson	Donaldson	Dunk	Appiah	Elliott	Diallo	Hurst	Lanzoni	BJ Taylor	Lennon	Bird	Norris
Simpson	Donaldson	Dunk	Appiah	Elliott	Bird	Hurst	BJ Taylor	Lanzoni	Lennon	Stockley	Norris
Simpson	Donaldson	Dunk	Appiah	Elliott	Bird	Hurst	BJ Taylor	Lanzoni	Lennon	Stockley	Norris
Simpson	Donaldson	Chadwick	Appiah	Elliott	Dunk	Bird	Lennon	Lanzoni	BJ Taylor	Hurst	Norris
Simpson	Donaldson	Champion	Appiah	Elliott	Dunk	Chadwick	Lennon	Lanzoni	Naylor	Bird	Norris
Naylor	Donaldson	Champion	Appiah	Elliott	Dunk	Bird	Chadwick	Lanzoni	Lennon	Hurst	Norris
Chadwick	Donaldson	Champion	Appiah	Elliott	Naylor	Dunk	Simpson	Lanzoni	Lennon	Bird	Norris
Chadwick	Donaldson	Champion	Appiah	Elliott	Dunk	Hughes	Naylor	Hurst	BJ Taylor	Bird	Norris
Naylor	Dunk	Champion	Appiah	Elliott	Chadwick	Simpson	Bird	Hurst	BJ Taylor	Lanzoni	Norris
Naylor	Simpson	Champion	Appiah	Cunnington	Chadwick	Bird	BJ Taylor	Hurst	Foy	Lanzoni	Norris
Chadwick	Simpson	Champion	Appiah	Blair	Naylor	Bird	Cunnington	Hurst	BJ Taylor	Lanzoni	Norris
Kaikai	Chiedozie	Champion	Appiah	Bird	Chadwick	Blair	Simpson	Atkinson	Naylor	Cunnington	Norris
Kaikai	Chadwick	Champion	Appiah	Bird	Blair	Donaldson	Simpson	Atkinson	Naylor	BJ Taylor	Norris
Naylor	Simpson	Champion	Appiah	Bird	Kaikai	Chadwick	Atkinson	Nelson	Blair	Cunnington	Norris
Chadwick	Blair	Champion	Appiah	Kaikai	Bird	BJ Taylor	Naylor	Nelson	Atkinson	Simpson	Norris
Simpson	Bird	Champion	Appiah	Cunnington	Kaikai	Chiedozie	Chadwick	Tait	Atkinson	BJ Taylor	Norris
Chadwick	Kaikai	Champion	Appiah	Chiedozie	Bird	Cunnington	Atkinson	Nelson	Blair	BJ Taylor	Norris
Chadwick	Simpson	Champion	Bird	Cunnington	Kaikai	Chiedozie	BJ Taylor	Nelson	Atkinson	Hurst	Norris

●●● BY THE NUMBERS ●●●



	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	G	D	Pts
Shrewsbury Town	23	10	2	0	23	3	3	3	5	10	12	18	44	
Wycombe Wanderers	23	5	4	2	16	11	7	4	1	21	9	17	44	
Burton Albion	23	8	1	2	17	7	5	3	4	15	16	9	43	
Luton Town	23	8	2	2	18	5	4	4	3	10	12	11	42	
Newport County	23	6	4	1	20	11	5	3	4	13	13	9	40	
Southend United	23	5	5	2	11	5	6	1	4	12	14	4	39	
Plymouth Argyle	23	8	2	2	21	5	3	2	6	8	12	12	37	
Bury	23	8	1	3	21	12	3	3	5	14	17	6	37	
Exeter City	24	5	5	2	17	13	5	2	5	15	18	1	37	
Stevenage	23	8	1	3	22	13	2	3	6	11	18	2	34	
AFC Wimbledon	23	5	3	4	20	15	4	3	4	13	16	2	33	
Morecambe	23	5	2	4	12	11	5	1	6	13	12	2	33	
Accrington Stanley	22	6	2	3	18	14	3	1	7	14	22	-4	30	
Cambridge United	23	5	1	5	18	11	3	4	5	16	18	5	29	
Portsmouth	23	6	2	3	20	11	1	5	6	6	18	-3	28	
Oxford United	23	4	3	4	12	11	3	4	5	13	18	-4	28	
Mansfield Town	23	5	3	3	12	10	2	3	7	6	18	-10	27	
York City	23	1	6	4	9	12	4	5	3	17	16	-2	26	
Cheltenham Town	23	3	5	4	11	14	3	2	6	9	18	-12	25	
Northampton Town	23	5	1	5	21	18	2	2	8	12	19	-4	24	
Carlisle United	23	5	2	5	19	21	2	1	8	9	22	-15	24	
Tranmere Rovers	23	3	5	4	15	15	2	2	7	8	15	-7	22	
Dagenham & Red.	23	3	0	8	12	18	3	4	5	13	18	-11	22	
Hartlepool United	23	1	4	7	8	20	2	1	8	8	22	-26	14	



Chelsea v Watford
 Dover Athletic v Crystal Palace
 Manchester City v Sheffield Wed.
 QPR v Sheffield United
 Southampton v Ipswich Town
 Stoke City v Wrexham
 Sunderland v Leeds United
 Yeovil Town v Manchester United

Monday ●●●

AFC Wimbledon v Liverpool
 Burnley v Tottenham Hotspur

Tuesday ●●●

Everton v West Ham United



Today ●●●

Burton Albion v Shrewsbury Town
 Dagenham & Redbridge v Bury
 Exeter City v Accrington Stanley
 Morecambe v Stevenage
 Newport County v Carlisle United
 Northampton T. v Southend Utd.
 Oxford Utd. v Cheltenham Town
 Wycombe Ws. v Hartlepool Utd.
 York City v Plymouth Argyle

Appearances ●●●

PLAYER	LGE	FAC	CAP	JPT	TOT
Wesley Atkinson	0+2	0	0	0	0+2
James Akintunde	0	0	0	0	0
Kwesi Appiah	19	3	1	0	23
Mitch Austin	1	0	0	0	1
Aytron Bevins	0	0	0	0	0
Ryan Bird	6+7	1+2	0	0	7+9
Matty Blair	1+1	1+1	0	0	2+2
Tom Bonner	4	0	1	0	5
Luke Chadwick	7+11	2+1	0+1	1	10+13
Tom Champion	16	3	1	1	21
Jordan Chiedozie	2+2	0	0	0	2+2
Josh Coulson	23	3	1	1	28
Adam Cunnington	4+3	0	1	0	5+3
Issa Diallo	7+1	0	0	1	8+1
Ryan Donaldson	17	0+1	1	1	19+1
Harrison Dunk	9+5	1	1	0	11+5
Chris Dunn	23	3	1	1	28
Tom Elliott	14	1	0	0	15
Matthew Foy	0	0	0	0	0
Ryan Horne	0	0	0	0	0
Liam Hughes	16+2	3	1	0+1	20+3
Johnny Hunt	0	0	0	0	0
Liam Hurst	0+4	0	0	0	0+4
Sullay Kalkai	2+3	2	0	0	4+3
Matteo Lanzoni	3	0	0	0	3
Harry Lennon	0+2	0	0	1	1+2
Matt Lowe	0	0	0	0	0
Ian Miller	3	1	0	0	4
Tom Naylor	5+3	1+1	0	0	6+4
Michael Nelson	15	2	0	0	17
Will Norris	0	0	0	0	0
Delano Sam-Yorke	0+2	0	0+1	0	0+3
Robbie Simpson	13+5	0+2	0+1	1	14+8
Jayden Stockley	1+2	0	0	1	2+2
Richard Tait	19+1	3	1	1	24+1
Bobby-Joe Taylor	0+6	0+1	0	0+1	0+8
Greg Taylor	23	3	1	1	28
Sam Whittall	0+2	0	0	0+1	0+3

Goal Scorers ●●●

PLAYER	LGE	FAC	CAP	JPT	TOT
Kwesi Appiah	6	2	0	0	8
Tom Elliott	5	0	0	0	5
Ryan Donaldson	4	0	1	0	5
Ryan Bird	4	0	0	0	4
Michael Nelson	3	0	0	0	3
Robbie Simpson	3	0	0	0	3
Adam Cunnington	2	0	0	0	2
Jayden Stockley	2	0	0	0	2
Luke Chadwick	1	1	0	0	2
Josh Coulson	1	0	0	0	1
Issa Diallo	1	0	0	0	1
Harrison Dunk	1	0	0	0	1
Liam Hughes	1	0	0	0	1
Sullay Kalkai	0	1	0	0	1

Today's Match ●●●

Should this afternoon's match finish level, a replay will take place at Kenilworth Road, Luton on Tuesday 13 January, kick-off 7.45pm. Ticket details and away travel information will be available on our website cambridge-united.co.uk.

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Today's Squads

CAMBRIDGE UNITED

HEAD COACH: RICHARD MONEY
KIT: AMBER & BLACK



LUTON TOWN

MANAGER: JOHN STILL
KIT: WHITE & ORANGE



1	CHRIS DUNN	○	□
2	RICHARD TAIT	○	□
3	GREG TAYLOR	○	□
4	JOSH COULSON	○	□
5		○	□
6	IAN MILLER	○	□
7	RYAN DONALDSON	○	□
8	TOM CHAMPION	○	□
9	ADAM CUNNINGTON	○	□
10	TOM ELLIOTT	○	□
11	HARRISON DUNK	○	□
12	MATTEO LANZONI	○	□
13	WILL NORRIS	○	□
14		○	□
15	ROBBIE SIMPSON	○	□
16		○	□
17	LIAM HUGHES	○	□
18	MICHAEL NELSON	○	□
19		○	□
20		○	□
21	KWESI APPIAH	○	□
22	LUKE CHADWICK	○	□
23	MATTY BLAIR	○	□
24		○	□
25	WESLEY ATKINSON	○	□
26	LIAM HURST	○	□
27	BOBBY-JOE TAYLOR	○	□
28		○	□
29		○	□
30		○	□
31	SULLAY KAIKAI	○	□
32	RYAN BIRD	○	□
33		○	□
34		○	□
35		○	□
36		○	□
37		○	□
38		○	□
39		○	□
40	JORDAN CHIEDOZIE	○	□

1	MARK TYLER	○	□
2	FRASER FRANKS	○	□
3		○	□
4	JONATHAN SMITH	○	□
5	STEPHEN McNULTY	○	□
6	ALEX LACEY	○	□
7	ALEX LAWLESS	○	□
8	ANDY DRURY	○	□
9	PAUL BENSON	○	□
10		○	□
11	JAKE HOWELLS	○	□
12	SCOTT GRIFFITHS	○	□
13	MARK CULLEN	○	□
14		○	□
15	LUKE ROONEY	○	□
16	ELLIOT JUSTHAM	○	□
17	PELLY RUDDOCK MPANZU	○	□
18	ROSS LAFAYETTE	○	□
19	RICKY MILLER	○	□
20	SHAUN WHALLEY	○	□
21	LUKE GUTTRIDGE	○	□
22	MICHAEL HARRIMAN	○	□
23	MATTHEW ROBINSON	○	□
24	CURTLEY WILLIAMS	○	□
25		○	□
26	NATHAN DOYLE	○	□
27		○	□
28	JIM STEVENSON	○	□
29	PAUL CONNOLLY	○	□
30	LUKE WILKINSON	○	□
31		○	□
32		○	□
33		○	□
34		○	□
35	CHARLIE WALKER	○	□
36		○	□
37		○	□
38		○	□
39		○	□
40		○	□

Match Officials

Referee: Tony HARRINGTON

Assistant Referee: Robert HYDE

Assistant Referee: Declan FORD

Fourth Official: Christopher POLLARD