

# TALK OF THE TOWN



LUTON TOWN v  
HARTLEPOOL  
UNITED

SATURDAY 18th APRIL 2015

KICK-OFF 3PM



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# welcome

## TO KENILWORTH ROAD



66 Welcome back once again to Kenilworth Road for what could be the penultimate time this season.

Positive thinking, though, please! Today the Hatters welcome Hartlepool United to town for what will be a crucial match for both clubs in their respective battles for the points.

On Tuesday the Town's goalless draw at John Still's former club Dagenham & Redbridge keeps us in the hunt for a Play-Off place – just three points behind the final spot with just three games to go. Hartlepool on the other hand need the points to stave off the threat of relegation to the Conference – a scenario which looked a distinct possibility about 10 games go.

Although our visitors arrive winless in four matches they have shown in the past month they are more than capable of stringing a run of results together.

You can find out more about Hartlepool in this issue of Talk of the Town – our 27th programme of the season. Time really has flown, hasn't it? As the season draws to its dramatic climax be sure to read the notes of the boss, the captain and of chief executive Gary Sweet.

Enjoy your reading and enjoy the game and get behind the boys – we'll see you again in two weeks when Stevenage are (hopefully not our) last visitors to Kenilworth Road. #COYH ”

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editor and/or Luton Town.



# JOHN STILL

Good afternoon and welcome back to you all for this important Sky Bet League 2 match with Hartlepool United.

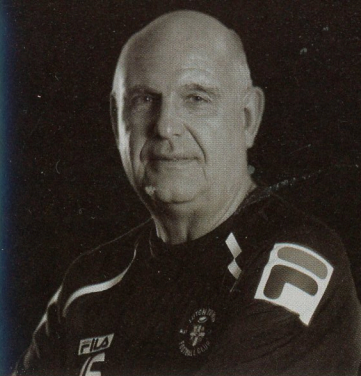
A big welcome to Ronnie Moore, someone I know very well, who has gone in at Hartlepool and done a good job. That makes today's game I think a really tough one, especially with both teams needing the points. I don't think either team will be playing for just one point, which I hope makes for an entertaining game.

Our last home game here saw us lose 1-0 to Burton Albion. That was also a match in which both teams went for the win, but unfortunately it went against us. However I was delighted with our performance but the only thing that was missing were goals. We had three or four good opportunities to win the game and I think we were the better side.

## Pleased

I was pleased with our football, pleased with our application and really, really pleased that our work-rate meant, at times, we overran the opposition. But as I say, it wasn't to be. A deflected goal meant the points ended up with Burton and as much as I wish them the best of luck in their run-in, obviously we need to make sure that we can try and get the points that we believe might lead us to the Play-Offs.

Then along came Dagenham on Tuesday night. It was the first time I had taken a team there since I left. It was a strange occasion, but what made it better for me was the fantastic support that we had from the Luton supporters. I won't say it was emotional, but it was special for me because I had lots of friends that I had made at Dagenham that I hadn't seen that much of recently.



## STILL PUSHING

I even had five people present me with various things that they'd planned and that was really, really, nice.

The off the field part of the night was absolutely brilliant from both sets of fans, but especially our own. I actually said to Dagenham's manager after the game that we didn't actually play with 10 we played with 11 because our support gave us that extra man. That's exactly how I felt. I want to thank each and every one of you for that because that was a big part of what could be a very, very important point.

## Disappointed

The game itself, where to I start? I thought we started very well; Ryan Hall had a chance in seconds, Benno had a header cleared off the line and Shaun Whalley was really disappointed after the game that he didn't make a better job of an opportunity made for him by Elliot Lee.

Then we lose Paul Benson and as I write these notes we are waiting to hear of decision of an appeal. I was really disappointed with the decisions on the night but what can we do? We worked our socks off, it finished 0-0 and at the end of the day with 10 men it was a fantastic effort and I was really pleased.

Just a note on one or two injuries, Nathan Doyle came off on Tuesday and we'll have to wait and see on his fitness. Mark Tyler is still out, Alex Lawless has picked up a bout of shingles, while Pelly Ruddock's injury is an on-going situation that we're monitoring day in, day out.

But back to today and after this afternoon's 90 minutes we have two games to go. We firmly believe if we were fortunate enough to win our remaining matches we would give ourselves every opportunity, and that's got to be the aim from everyone here. We've overcome so much this year, so with three games to go to still be within a shout is a great effort.

We need to keep the season going and we need to come out of today's game with that little bit of hope to take into the last two.

**WE DIDN'T ACTUALLY PLAY WITH 10 WE PLAYED WITH 11 BECAUSE OUR SUPPORT GAVE US THAT EXTRA MAN. THAT'S EXACTLY HOW I FELT. I WANT TO THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR THAT BECAUSE THAT WAS A BIG PART OF WHAT COULD BE A VERY, VERY IMPORTANT POINT.**

And who knows, with players coming back we could end the season with quite a strong squad that would give us a great opportunity in the Play-Offs.

Once again, thanks for your continued support, get behind your team again today and hopefully we can find three points that can push us on and threaten the Play-Off places.

Enjoy the game.

# BOARDROOM

WITH CHIEF EXECUTIVE GARY SWEET



Good afternoon one and all to Kenilworth Road for today's fascinating encounter versus Ronnie Moore's Hartlepool United.

In practical terms, the match we're about to witness presents our last chance to make a

claim to a promotion Play-Off spot whilst our opponents are equally in need of the points to help them avoid the dreaded drop into the new National League, as it will be called from next season.

Whatever the result, let's all make the staff, officials and supporters who have made the 460-mile round trip warmly welcome and applaud their brave efforts to achieve safety since Ronnie took control.

Other than to say that we've been relatively pleased with our upturn in performances over the last couple of weeks even if the results haven't been what we'd have wished for, I hope you can forgive me for avoiding the topic of football in these notes today. Whilst some of you will, no doubt, believe this sidestep is intentional or, indeed, whether my message today is designed to divert your attentions from the topic in general, I can absolutely assure you it isn't.

**The primary purpose of my notes in this edition – as my last of the season – is to provide a focus on the exciting developments relating to our new stadium.**

Since my last notes published in the Exeter programme – when I very briefly hinted that progress had been made – I'm in a position today to be more specific, having passed another important project milestone in the last fortnight which allows me to further expand as to where we are in the process.

I'm sure you're all eager to learn where our new home will be, what it'll look like and when we'll be moving. What I do need to explain is that due to the complexities of football stadium developments in general that the laborious nature of the project shouldn't be underestimated.

Consequently, for reasons of commercial confidence and to protect the project's probability of success, I apologise that I'm not in a position to expose the specific details of our preferred site just yet. Indeed, we are still taking the

precaution of looking at how our objectives might work on more than one site while we plough through the more technical components of the qualification process. Your understanding on this is very much appreciated.

Over recent weeks, however, we have made some significant breakthroughs.

Firstly, we have obtained an encouraging support for our plans amongst the Labour Party group members at Luton Borough Council after a series of initial engagements. This important development has been achieved with an open-minded approach – from the leader and deputy through to other members and officers – coupled with a determination and desire that matched our own, to relocate the Club and help provide a more stable and ambitious long term future for professional football in the town.

Secondly, not only is the Council supportive of our plans to relocate – but we have also been sufficiently encouraged to push ahead with the necessary enabling development plans to ensure that the stadium's construction can be funded through building other facilities. Not only would this wide-ranging, mixed-use plan assist the Club, we believe it will also benefit the town greatly.

Accordingly, we have now formally entered the pre-application stage with the Council's planning office, but regardless of how much work has been accomplished so far, the strict formalities of the planning process means we still have significant work to do before our application can be assessed appropriately by the planning officers.

Further to these developments, thanks to the astonishing generosity of those wonderful people closer to home, we are now in a position to buy land, secure the best possible professional advice from specialist consultants (to design and build the scheme) and to see the application process through to receipt of consent.

As you may expect, there are numerous items marked on our 'to do list' before we pass the next significant milestone.

We will need to restructure the company – both to ensure that we protect the Club during this historical phase and to allow for independent partnerships with compatible companies to help us achieve our goals.

Naturally, as a shareholder of the football club, Trust in Luton will be fully involved with these proceedings as they will be in other decisions affecting the Club. We met again this week to bring them fully up to speed with the latest developments.

Similarly, we intend to hold forums with the Trust and other supporters groups prior to submitting an application to consult on certain aspects of the stadium. For example, the working capacity of the stadium is likely to be governed by the shift in behaviour towards public transport. I'm confident some very constructive and helpful debates could be held about that.

We believe it is our duty, as a major traffic generator in Luton, to not only help to protect our town's landscape and amenities but to improve them; not just on 23 matchdays but 365 days per year. With the cordial and progressive nature of the relationship between Luton Borough Council and Luton Town Football Club, I am confident we can accomplish something that has been looming for almost 60 years.

Whatever the reasons are for Luton Town remaining at Kenilworth Road for 11 decades (without paying any disrespect to her beauty and charm) the backdrop is different now. The football club is looked upon as a valuable social, community and image asset to Luton by the Council and with a new-found partnership between the parties based upon mutual respect and honesty, I genuinely believe this time, we can achieve our goal.

So, what now?

By the time we kick off the new season we should be ready to announce the location and provide details of the broader enabling development. Meanwhile, we'll continue to update and consult our supporters' Trust and work tirelessly to make sure we get this done and dusted!

My final word goes out to the 860 or so supporters who were the envy of every Luton Town representative in the directors' box on Tuesday night's game at Dagenham.

Your enthusiasm, passion, humour and sheer noise displayed throughout that game genuinely made each and every one of us wish we were among you. Not only am I convinced that your performance inspired the 10 on the pitch but it is precisely that kind of faith and loyalty that motivates us to build the permanent foundations for a more successful and ambitious football club representing this wonderful town and county.

Now, with your vocal support, let's give our very best to make it a rip-roaring end to the season!

Gary



## HONOURS

**Littlewoods Challenge Cup:**  
Winners 1988, Runners-up 1989

**FA Cup:**  
Runners-up 1959

Semi-finalists 1959, 1985, 1988, 1994

**Johnstone's Paint Trophy:**  
Winners 2009

**Simod Cup:**  
Runners-up 1988

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

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

**Football League Division Three:**  
Runners-up 1969/70

**League One:**  
Champions 2004/05

**Football League Division Four:**  
Champions 1967/68

**Football League Division Three:**  
Runners-up 2001/02

**Skriff Premier Champions:**  
2013/14

**Blue Square Premier:**  
Runners-up 2009/10

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

**Southern League Division Two:**  
Runners-up 1913/14

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

**Southern Alliance:**  
Runners-up 1913/14

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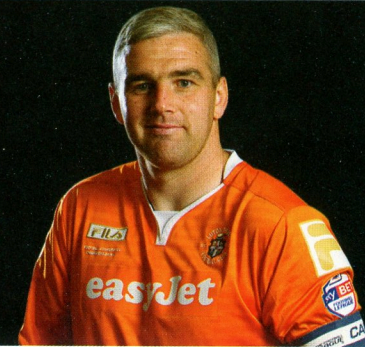
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# MACCA

THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING

FROM THE DRESSING ROOM WITH STEPHEN McNULTY



Tuesday's game at Dagenham was a frustrating one. We set out to win every match we play but in the circumstances we were happy to leave with a point.

We all thought Paul Benson's red card was harsh and I hope the Football Association are able to overturn the decision so he is available for today and our remaining matches. Benno's dismissal meant we had to hang on with 10 men and try and nick a goal on the break. We had a few half-chances but all in all it was disappointing.

#### Form

One of the positives from the evening was another clean sheet, our second in three matches.

I thought we were unlucky to concede against Burton, a team who are within touching distance of promotion to League 1. We've now taken four points from the last three matches and I feel as though we should have taken something from the Burton game, so while it doesn't look like it on paper, I think we are returning to the kind of form we showed earlier in the season.

Whether or not that has come too late remains to be seen, but with three games to go and three points separating us from the top seven it is all to play for still. Our form throughout March was quite frankly appalling so if we can turn the tide and win our last three matches we can give ourselves a great chance. Until somebody says we can't make it we'll be doing our utmost, but I've been saying for weeks now that it will go down to the last game of the season and I sincerely hope that is the case.

Our run of results in the past 10 games has been difficult to take but one of the bright spots has been the form of Elliot Justham. He has been terrific. He bailed me out twice on Tuesday after I had made two mistakes and during our bad run of form all of the lads have felt

There will be plenty of nerves and tension in the squads of all the sides who need the points, and at this stage of the season you need to have strong characters in the dressing room to cut through the anxiety.

sorry for him because he hadn't put a foot wrong. He really has taken his chance with both hands following Mark's injury, he's sat on our subs bench for a season-and-a-half, waiting patiently and now he is repaying the faith shown in him by the gaffer. Well done Elliot.

Today we entertain a Hartlepool side who need the three points today as desperately as we do. They have struggled for the majority of the season at the wrong end of the table but have strung some excellent results together in the past month or so. That has given them a great opportunity of survival and credit must go to their manager Ronnie Moore.

#### Dangerous

Our last three matches all take place against teams who have

something to play for and I wouldn't want it any other way. I think the most dangerous teams to play are those with nothing to play for as the pressure is off and they can relax. There will be plenty of nerves and tension in the squads of all the sides who need the points, and at this stage of the season you need to have strong characters in the dressing room to cut through the anxiety.

I'd like to end once more by thanking you all for your backing in recent weeks. I know it's been tough to watch but your noise levels have never dropped. At Dagenham on Tuesday it felt like a home game such was the noise, especially in the second half. I think I'm running out of superlatives – there's not much more I can say about your fantastic support but simply: keep it up!

Get behind us once again this afternoon and enjoy the game.

## Entering the pitch Is it worth it?

Luton Town Football Club were extremely disappointed that one of our supporters entered the field of play to confront a match official during last Saturday's fixture against Burton Albion.

The supporter was apprehended by stewards and subsequently arrested and charged by the police and will appear in court at a later date.

We have also written to the supporter suspending him from attending home matches until further notice having been investigated by the Football Association as to how this pitch incursion took place and to establish what systems are in place to avoid any repetition of such events.

As part of that process we would like to remind all supporters that entering the field of play is an arrestable offence by law – this is not optional for the Club or police – and any supporter entering the field of play – in anger or celebration runs the very real risk of being banned from the Kenilworth Stadium for a lengthy period.

Is it worth it?

## Mark Ovendale Memorial Cup

For the second time this season Hatters fans will take part in a special match in May to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support and SoLYD.

The game will see the Hatters Talk internet forum (including a certain Enoch Showunmi) and a Macmillan representative side contest the Mark Ovendale Memorial Cup on Saturday 30th May, in memory of the former Town goalkeeper who died from the disease aged just 37 in 2011.

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**

A number of Mark's former clubs, including the Town, have donated various raffle prizes, and the game kicks-off at 2pm. Entry is free so why not go along and help raise some money for two great causes.

LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS CLUB & TRUST IN LUTON

# PLAYER OF THE SEASON PRESENTATION EVENING

Sunday 26th April 2015

7:00pm 'til late at Luton Rugby Club,  
Newlands Road, Luton LU1 4BQ



MANAGEMENT, COACHING STAFF  
AND PLAYERS IN ATTENDANCE



Smart Casual Dress • Cold Buffet • Grand Prize Draw  
£20 Adults • £15 Accompanied Juniors (16 and under)

## TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Download and complete a booking form and then either email it, post it or drop it in to the Ticket Office. Tickets will also available by calling 01582 416976.

Bookings by phone or in person will be taken from Tuesday 7th April 2015. Subject to availability.

## DEV SQUAD AWARDED WITH TROPHY TODAY

The Town's development squad will be presented with the Final Third Development League trophy prior to today's kick-off, after we were confirmed as winners of the inaugural South Division.

The Final Third Development League, known historically as the Central League, is the oldest reserve league in England, and featured a southern competition for the first time in its 103-year history this season.

Now a national competition for the first time since it was formed in 1911, the South Division operates in addition to the East and West Divisions that include teams from the Midlands, as well as north Wales and north England.

We are one of the founder members of the new South Division, and we secured the maiden title in style last week after comprehensively beating Gillingham 6-1.

Under the club's development coaches, the Hatters competed against AFC Wimbledon, Cambridge United, the Gills, Leyton Orient, Peterborough United and Portsmouth in the Final Third Development League South Division.

## Honeymoon on hold!

Congratulations to two Town supporters who were married on Thursday whose honeymoon is on hold until the season has ended!



Spencer Burt and Elaine Green – now Burt of course – tied the knot this week having met in 2013 with one of their many dates taking place during some winter evenings at Kenilworth Road.

Spencer has been a Town fan since he was a youngster, coming to matches with his dad. A big congratulations to you both – and enjoy your belated honeymoon!

## END OF SEASON DINNER TICKETS

Tickets for our end-of-season and kit sponsors' dinner are selling well ahead of the event on Sunday 3rd May at Venue 360 in Gypsy Lane, Luton.

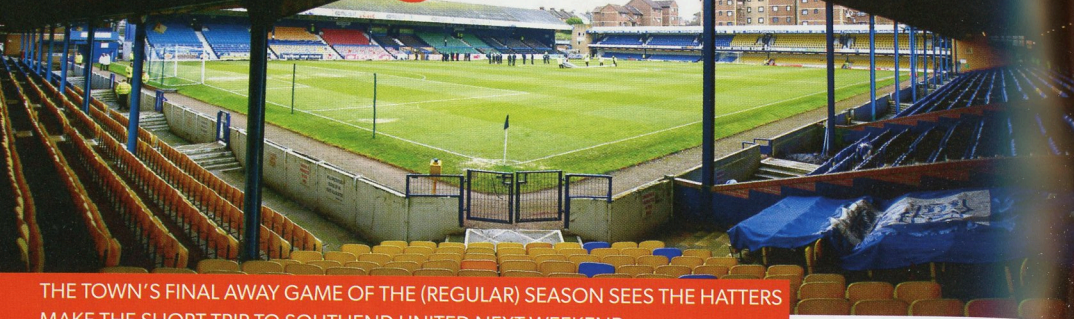
This year's event will feature presentations from manager John Still and his coaching team. Guests will be joined by the Hatters squad for a fantastic night in the company of the whole first team.

As with previous years we are expecting the demand for tickets to be high, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Tickets cost £70, including a two course meal - book yours now by emailing [commercial@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:commercial@lutontown.co.uk). The dress code for the evening is lounge suits, and guests should arrive at 7pm prompt. Our thanks to the University of Bedfordshire for sponsoring this year's dinner.



# let's go



THE TOWN'S FINAL AWAY GAME OF THE (REGULAR) SEASON SEES THE HATTERS MAKE THE SHORT TRIP TO SOUTHEND UNITED NEXT WEEKEND

## SOUTHEND UNITED



**WHO?** Southend United, aka the Shrimpers, aka the Blues, from Southend-on-Sea in Essex. Formed 108 years ago in May 1906, they are currently managed by Phil Brown and play their matches at Roots

Hall. Their nickname the Shrimpers in reference to the area's maritime industry – as indicated in their club crest.

**WHERE?** A trip to Southend, 67 miles by road from turnstile to turnstile, takes about 90 minutes on a decent day. It has only been until relatively recently that the Shrimpers have played at Roots Hall. The stadium which now holds 12,392, was built in 1952 and opened three years later. The club occupied the Roots Hall site in their early years before the stadium was built and then went onto play at the Southend Stadium. Hatters fans have been given the all-seater North Stand behind the goal – the site of a former covered terrace. Good luck if you need leg room!

**HOW TO GET THERE?** M1 south, M25 clockwise, M127. From M25 take Junction 29 and follow the A127 to Southend. Continue towards the town centre, through the lights near to the Bell Pub. At the next roundabout turn right, continuing on the A127. The ground is on the right just past the next traffic lights. If you turn right as you reach the ground, this will put you behind the away end where there is plenty of street parking to be found. Otherwise there is a car park at the ground, behind the Main Stand which costs £5. Bear in mind that if the weather is pleasant enough the whole of East London heads down the A127 on a Saturday afternoon, so allow an extra half-hour if the temperature is on the warm side! The postcode for Roots Hall is SS2 6NQ.

**HOW THEY DOING?** Very well. The Shrimpers still stand a good chance of grabbing the final automatic promotion place with their game in hand particularly important as it comes against fellow-promotion chasers Bury next week. That match will have a defining bearing on who goes up to League 1 this season. Phil Brown's side have been in the top seven for almost the whole campaign. They will be aiming to go one better this season after losing in the Play-Offs at the semi-final stage to Burton last year.

**HOME COMFORTS.** Brown's boys have been in ruthless form on home soil, losing just three times and conceding just nine times. The Hatters will be tasked with trying to become the first team to score a goal against the Shrimpers at Roots Hall in 12 matches. Southend have kept 11 successive clean sheets at home.

**HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?** Next weekend's meeting will be the 86th meeting between the clubs. The Hatters hold the edge in the head-to-head records, winning 38 to Southend's 28, while 19 of the 85 matches have ended all square. Although the Town hold sway at Kenilworth Road, the Essex club have won the last two meetings at Roots Hall. The Hatters' last win at Southend came in the Championship in April 2007 when goals from Calvin Andrew, Matthew Spring and Besian Idrizaj gave the Town a 3-1 win.

**CLUB CONNECTIONS.** Hatters midfielder Luke Guttridge twice won promotion while on the Shrimpers' books. Winger Ryan Hall is another ex-Shrimper, while other players to have played for both clubs include striker Trevor Benjamin, defender Duncan Jupp and on-loan goalkeeper Simon Royce.

# tickets please



## SOUTHEND UNITED v LUTON TOWN

SKY BET LEAGUE 2

SATURDAY 25th APRIL 2015, KICK-OFF 3PM

This is an all-ticket match for Luton Town supporters.

We have received 2,500 seats in the North Stand at Roots Hall.

Tickets are in unreserved, covered seating.

**Selling arrangements:** Tickets are now on sale to all season ticket holders at one per person until close of business after today's game.

Any remaining tickets will be available on general sale online from 6pm tonight and, subject to availability, will be available from the Ticket Office from 10am on Monday 20th April.

**Prices:** £19 adults, £13 seniors over 60, £12 students and 17-20-year-olds, £9 under-16s, £4 under-8s. Disabled £12 with carer free of charge.

Wheelchair disabled supporters should contact Southend directly on 08444 770077.



## LUTON TOWN v STEVENAGE

SKY BET LEAGUE 2

SATURDAY 2nd MAY 2015, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets for this match are now on sale at normal matchday prices.

£20 adults, £15 seniors and young adults, £12 golden seniors, £8 youths, £5 juniors.

Tickets for this match will be available to supporters on the ticket office database.



# SEASON TICKETS

REMEMBER TICKETS FOR NEXT SEASON ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT THE REDUCED PRIMETIME PRICE.

SEE OVERLEAF FOR FULL DETAILS.

Buy tickets: Ticket office, Kenilworth Road | [www.eticketing.co.uk/lutontown](http://www.eticketing.co.uk/lutontown) | 01582 416976



# SEASON

**PRIMETIME\*\*  
SEASON TICKETS  
ON SALE NOW**

If you haven't renewed your season ticket yet, or you're considering purchasing your first season ticket, check out the great benefits available to season ticket holders:

- Guaranteed seat for all home league matches
- First option on your seat for all cup games
- Priority booking for all-ticket away games
- Free admittance to all reserve and development games played at Kenilworth Road
- 10% discount on full-price merchandise in our club shops\*
- Entry to the Eric Morecambe Lounge for drinks and food before, during and after games†
- The chance to upgrade to hospitality areas for individual matches, with the cost of a match day ticket discounted†

\* On production of your season ticket

† Subject to match availability

**FULL DETAILS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE  
WWW.LUTONTOWN.CO.UK**

# TICKETS

**UPGRADE TO A  
DIAMOND  
SEASON TICKET**

**3RD APRIL  
31ST MAY**

**PRIMETIME**

Pay a reduced rate before the end of the 14-15 campaign

**FROM 1ST  
JUNE**

**ANYTIME**

Our standard season ticket price, available pro-rata throughout the season.

## YOU CAN PAY IN THREE WAYS:

- 1) In full on application
- 2) In four monthly instalments
- 3) \*In eight monthly instalments paying a £30 admin fee.

\*\*Please note that if you buy your ticket during the Primetime period you are committing to paying the full League 1 price if we gain promotion. Tickets purchased before promotion is decided will be sold at League 2 prices, and these will be held until the balance is paid.

	PRIMETIME		ANYTIME	
	League 1	League 2	League 1	League 2
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\* AGE CONCESSIONS: The date used to determine the correct age category for supporters is the first day of the 15/16 season.

† If you are purchasing a concessionary priced ticket, you are required to provide proof of age by post or in person when purchasing or collecting of your season ticket.

\*\* Accompanied youth and junior season tickets must be purchased at the same time as the accompanying adult, and seated together.

†† Disabled supporters are required to join the Luton Town Disabled Supporters Association (LTDSA) free of charge to qualify for concessionary price. For further details, please contact the ticket office.



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WITH COMMERCIAL MANAGER DAVID HOSKINS

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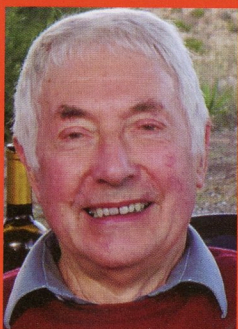
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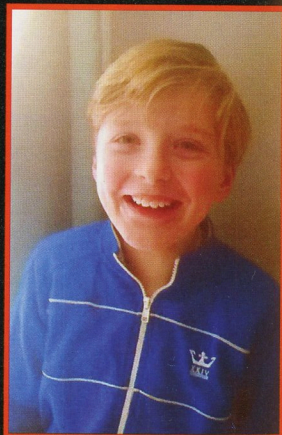
Les Goodge, who celebrates his 80th birthday soon, has been a Luton fan all his life. He remembers when they were known as the Lillywhites. His claim to fame is that Seamus Dunne (Irish international full back) lent him his boots when he played in the Beds Intermediate Cup at Kempston!

Les saw his first match at Kenilworth Road during the war in 1994, when Northern Command played Southern Command - and ever since he's hoped to have a chance to see what it's like to walk onto the pitch.

Although he lives far away now, he was previously a member of the Century Club and for many decades was a season ticket holder. He still attends whenever he can, joining his childhood friend Geoff French who still has a season ticket. We hope you have a fantastic day with us at Kenilworth Road today Les!

## TODAY'S MASCOT

Today we welcome one mascot to Kenilworth Road this afternoon who is 10-year-old Oscar Hoyle. Oscar is from Barton and he attends matches here with his mum, Caroline. He attends Arnold Academy and his favourite player is Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu. Oscar will get the chance to meet Pelly and all the players before the game and then lead the team out onto the pitch prior to kick-off. We hope you have a great day with us today Oscar!



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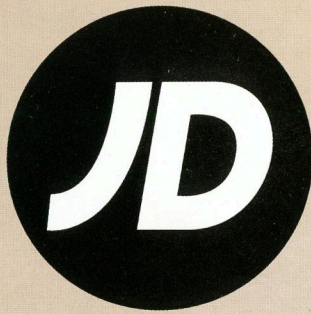
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|---|--|--|---|
| <b>1</b> <b>MARK TYLER</b><br><br>H: Tim Fordham<br>A: Whosh<br>G: Elliot Prentice       | <b>2</b> <b>FRASER FRANKS</b><br><br>H: Emma Banks<br>A: Nigel, Ben & Sam Martin                          | <b>4</b> <b>JONATHAN SMITH</b><br><br>H: Holly Kemp<br>A: SoYD Gold Hatters                           | <b>5</b> <b>STEPHEN McNUITY</b><br><br>H: Simon Coward<br>A: Whosh             |
| <b>6</b> <b>ALEX LACEY</b><br><br>H: Peter & Linda Little<br>A: In memory of Billy Lacey | <b>7</b> <b>ALEX LAWLESS</b><br><br>H: David Goodge<br>A: Gill, Julie & Yvonne                            | <b>8</b> <b>ANDY DRURY</b><br><br>H: Raj Koyes<br>A: Key Holder Lettings                              | <b>9</b> <b>PAUL BENSON</b><br><br>H: Ben & Richard Banks<br>A: Mad Hatter     |
| <b>10</b> <b>ALEX WALL</b><br><br>H: Ben & Richard Banks<br>A: The Coles Family          | <b>11</b> <b>JAKE HOWELLS</b><br><br>H: Neil Ehrenzweig<br>A: Sports262 & Lutontownfans.co.uk             | <b>12</b> <b>SCOTT GRIFFITHS</b><br><br>H: CME Heating<br>A: Matthew Crossland                        | <b>13</b> <b>MARK CULLEN</b><br><br>H: Peter & Linda Little<br>A: Kelly Knight |
| <b>14</b> <b>ANDY PARRY</b><br><br>H: R S Robinson Heating<br>A: Available               | <b>16</b> <b>ELLIOT JUSTHAM</b><br><br>H: Les Miller Miller & Company<br>A: Available<br>G: Mark Francome | <b>17</b> <b>PELLY RUDDOCK MPANZU</b><br><br>H: David Alexander<br>A: Ben Gray                        | <b>18</b> <b>ROSS LAFAYETTE</b><br><br>H: Jacqui Peacock<br>A: Maddie Knight   |
| <b>19</b> <b>RICKY MILLER</b><br><br>H: Tom<br>A: Tommy Lennon                           | <b>20</b> <b>SHAUN WHALLEY</b><br><br>H: G Owen Ceramic Tiling Ltd<br>A: G Owen Ceramic Tiling Ltd        | <b>21</b> <b>LUKE GUTTRIDGE</b><br><br>H: Luton Outlaws<br>A: Richard & Zak Tilley                    | <b>23</b> <b>MATTHEW ROBINSON</b><br><br>H: COYH<br>A: Whosh                   |
| <b>24</b> <b>CURTLEY WILLIAMS</b><br><br>H: St Neots Cakes<br>A: Available               | <b>26</b> <b>NATHAN DOYLE</b><br><br>H: Paul Watmuff<br>A: Available                                      | <b>28</b> <b>JIM STEVENSON</b><br><br>H: CME Heating<br>A: Liz Herrick Informatic Computing Ltd       | <b>30</b> <b>LUKE WILKINSON</b><br><br>H: Tommy Lennon<br>A: Dean Kemp         |
| <b>31</b> <b>NATHAN ODUWA</b><br><br>H: A-Top Properties<br>A: Available               | <b>34</b> <b>ZANE BANTON</b><br><br>H: Loyal Luton<br>A: Mad Hatter                                     | <b>35</b> <b>CHARLIE WALKER</b><br><br>H: Jonathan Perry of JP Life Therapy<br>A: Mad Hatter        | <b>39</b> <b>IAN REES</b><br><br>H: Available<br>A: Mad Hatter               |
| <b>50</b> <b>CAMERON MCGEEHAN</b><br><br>H: Ben & Richard Banks<br>A: Simon Pitts      | <b>LUKE TROTMAN</b><br><br>H: Available<br>A: Bobbers Travel Club                                       | <b>C</b> <b>HAKAN HAYRETTIN</b><br><br>H: Luton Town Supporters Club of Scandinavia<br>A: Available |   |
| <b>M</b> <b>JOHN STILL</b><br><br>H: Thompsons Accountants<br>A: Country Properties    | <b>AM</b> <b>TERRY HARRIS</b><br><br>H: Doug Knight<br>A: Colne Consultants Ltd                         |  |   |

H: HOME | A: AWAY | G: GLOVES

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# welcome

## HARTLEPOOL UNITED



It gives us great pleasure to welcome everyone associated with Hartlepool United to Kenilworth Road this afternoon.

Today's game promises to be a nervy and potentially exciting affair given what is at stake for both clubs with just three games left to play.

While the Town need the points to gatecrash the Play-Offs, Pools need the points for altogether different reasons. Tuesday night's draw keeps Ronnie Moore's side out of the relegation zone – but just by one point.

It might seem like a perilous position but Pools fans in the away end this afternoon never thought that they would get to this point of the campaign with a fighting chance of staying up after an awful first half of the campaign.

Pools were knocked out of the FA Cup live on television at home to near neighbours Blyth Spartans in December but a week later the Victoria Park boardroom appointed former Tranmere boss Moore. Their turnaround in fortunes have been slow if steady, but it's worth remembering that eight games ago Pools had only won five of their 35 matches in League 2 this term and seemed destined for a drop into the Conference for the first time in their history.

Their mini revival began in March with four successive victories. A 1-0 win at Morecambe was followed by a 2-0 win at Oxford before back-to-back home wins – against Mansfield and Cambridge – lifted them nearer safety.

However, Pools fans of a nervous disposition will have been anxious at their last four results which has seen Moore's side take two points from the 12 available. A 2-2 draw at Newport was followed by two successive defeats – at home to Southend and, crucially, away at York in which over 2,000 Pools fans made the trip. On Tuesday, while the Town were drawing at Dagenham, a vital equaliser from veteran striker Marlon Harewood rescued a point for Pools at home to Accrington.

With Carlisle, Mansfield and Cambridge carrying a definite points advantage above them in the table it looks as though the fight to stay up is between the Pools, Cheltenham and Tranmere – although Pools' final game of the season is away to Carlisle.

Along with Portsmouth, Pools share the worst away record in the division, and only Mansfield have scored fewer goals on their travels than Hartlepool's 14. But at this nervy time of season and with so much to play for, both clubs will be desperate for all three points.

# in opposition



## OUR AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO THE MEN FROM VICTORIA PARK

### ► MANAGER

**RONNIE MOORE.** Vastly experienced boss who took charge in December 2014. Played over 300 times for Tranmere as a player, who he also managed for two spells. Also been at the helm at Rotherham and Oldham.

### ► GOALKEEPERS

**SCOTT FLINDERS.** Commanding goalkeeper who moved to Pools in 2009. Started his career at Barnsley before moving to Crystal Palace. An almost ever-present since his arrival he has even scored once.

**JON MAXTED.** Young stopper who penned a permanent deal with pools in November following a successful trial. Started his career at Doncaster but most recently with Bradford Park Avenue.

### ► DEFENDERS

**NEIL AUSTIN.** Determined full-back who was snapped up from local rivals Darlington in 2009. Popular defender who won fans and players' player of the year in his first season.

**STUART PARNABY.** Versatile arrival of 2014 who can operate in defence or midfield who came through the ranks at Middlesbrough, making over 100 appearances for Boro. Also played for Birmingham.

**JORDAN RICHARDS.** Pools academy graduate who has risen through the ranks to become a first team regular. Originally a midfielder he has been converted into a talented right-back.

**DAN JONES.** Another academy product who turned professional after successful display in the youth and reserve teams. A left-back by trade but comfortable operating at centre-half.

**MICHAEL DUCKWORTH.** Right-back who arrived at Victoria Park in August 2013 from Bradford Park Avenue. Began his career as a youngster at York, and was last season's Away Player of the Year.

**SCOTT HARRISON.** Powerful centre-half who made a third loan switch to Pools from Sunderland on deadline day in January.

**DAVID MIRFIN.** Hugely experienced central defender who joined Pools on loan from Scunthorpe in January. Has over 400 senior games to his name during spells at Huddersfield and Scunthorpe.

### ► MIDFIELDERS

**JONATHAN FRANKS.** Pacy right winger who signed for Pools in the summer of 2012 after his departure from Middlesbrough. Played 28 times for Boro before arriving at Victoria Park.

**BRADLEY WALKER.** Powerful midfielder and graduate of the Pools' youth academy. Came to prominence in the 2013 pre-season and has a real eye for goal – capable of the spectacular.



**JACK COMPTON.** Lightning-quick winger who arrived at Victoria Park in June 2013. The tricky midfielder has spent time on the books at Cardiff, Portsmouth, West Brom, Falkirk and Bradford.

**EBBY NELSON-ADDY.** Central or wide midfielder who put pen to paper on a deal last month having spent 12 years in the youth ranks at Aston Villa. Previously played at Worcester and Brackley.

**NICKY FEATHERSTONE.** Former Hull and Hereford midfielder now in his second full season with Pools. Spent two years at Walsall before dropping into non-league with Harrogate.

**LEWIS HAWKINS.** Young, hard-working midfielder who was given his debut in March 2012 after impressing for the Pools youth team.

**AARON TSHIBOLA.** Highly-rated midfielder on loan from Reading, an academy graduate at the Madjeski Stadium, he signed pro forms aged just 16.

### ► STRIKERS

**MARLON HAREWOOD.** Hugely experienced striker who joined Pools in January 2013. Began his career at Nottingham Forest before spells at West Ham, Aston Villa, Blackpool, Barnsley and Bristol City.

**SCOTT FENWICK.** Centre-forward who signed after a prolific spell in non-league with local side Dunston UTS. Left a job in civil engineering to become a professional footballer.

**JORDAN HUGILL.** Talented attacker on loan for the rest of the season from Preston. Middlesbrough-born he made his name in non-league before moving to Port Vale in 2013 and a year later signed for North End.

**JORDAN JONES.** Youngster on loan from Middlesbrough. Comfortable as either a midfielder or in a central striking role he is has represented Northern Ireland at under 17 and 19 level.

**MARVIN MORGAN.** Experienced forward who arrived at Victoria Park on loan in January from Plymouth. Made his name following successful spells at Aldershot and Shrewsbury.

# FROM THE OAK ROAD

A sparkling run of form has lit up a gloomy season for Hartlepool – and given Pools fan **Colin Foster** hope that his team won't follow bitter rivals Darlington into the non-league abyss...

**TALK OF THE TOWN:** Pools have given themselves a chance of getting out of the mire after an amazing run of back to back victories. Did supporters see this coming? What's been behind this sudden upsurge in form?

**COLIN:** The club have a history of a 'Never Say Die' approach when it comes down to it. This, the new management approach applied by Ronnie Moore and Sam Collins, the players' realisation of their plight and the great support from the fans has all come together. Did I see it coming? No, after the abysmal game at Dagenham, I thought we were long gone.

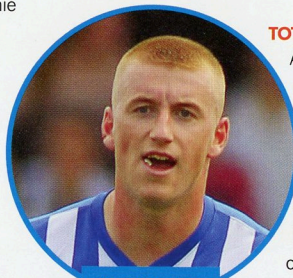
**TOTT:** Why do you think Hartlepool have struggled this season? When did you become concerned? Was the defeat to near neighbours Blyth Spartans the point when alarm bells firmly started ringing?

**COLIN:** I have always said that if Hartlepool are struggling by the second round of the FA Cup, we'll struggle for the rest of the season. It doesn't matter it was Blyth that beat us, it could have been Chipping Sodbury. All of our major summer signings have been injured for the bulk of the season too. It doesn't help when you are on a tight budget.

**TOTT:** Who is Hartlepool's best player that Hatters' fans should keep a close eye on today and why?



**COLIN:** On their day, they're all superb. Consistently though, Scott Harrison the centre half and midfielder Nicky Featherstone have stepped up to the mark considerably over the last few weeks.



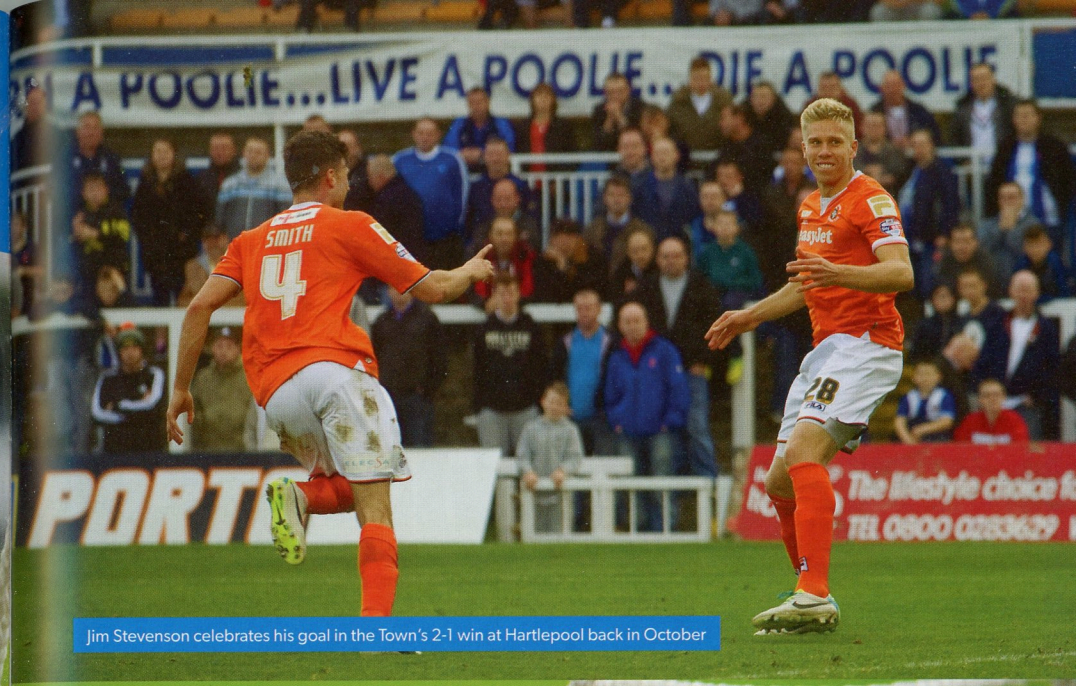
Scott Harrison

**TOTT:** Steve Howard, Mike Newell and Adam Boyd: three larger than life characters who enjoyed varying amounts of success at both clubs. Tell us about the impact these men made at Hartlepool and their legacy. Have you got any good stories about them?

**COLIN:** You could fill a book with tales of these three during their spells at Hartlepool. Here's ones that I could legally mention:

On the pitch, Howard in his first spell was a brute and a developing youth who was regrettably sold. He went on to have a decent career elsewhere (Ed: Over 100 goals for Luton is more than 'decent'!) and when he came back to the club, I didn't expect a lot of goals. I did expect a lot of knock downs and taking the knocks. Did we play to his strengths or had his legs gone? Who knows? But the second spell was an expensive failure. All I can really say about Mike Newell was he got us promoted.

Adam Boyd was one of THE best players I have ever seen, whose career was ruined by a terrible knee injury. Despite his will, he eventually realised he just wasn't



Jim Stevenson celebrates his goal in the Town's 2-1 win at Hartlepool back in October

able to compete. He's totally disillusioned with the game and has nothing to do with it anymore. He's still only 32 years old. Great player, great loss, great shame.

**TOTT:** What are your favourite memories from your time supporting Hartlepool United? What makes the club so special to you?

**COLIN:** Every game is etched in the memory for some reason. There have been so many periods of doom and gloom over the past 40 years I have been following the club, so you do take the odd bits of success as a good memory. Class is permanent and the likes of Adam Boyd, Joel Porter, Eifion Williams, Rob McKinnon and Paul Dalton had it in abundance. Great moments were always derby games against now non-league Darlington. It didn't matter where you were in the league, as long as you were safe, this is all that mattered. The other 44 games in the season meant little.

**TOTT:** What makes the club so special to you?

**COLIN:** Hartlepool's a hard town. It's a great place and the majority of people are fiercely loyal of their roots. We're the north-eastern outpost of the lower levels

of the Football League, struggling to retain our core fans and introduce new ones due to the local three of Middlesbrough, Newcastle and Sunderland.

So everything about the town is important and the club is one of those. I am Hartlepool. Hartlepool is me.

**TOTT:** How important is it for Hartlepool to maintain their Football League status?

What would relegation to non-league mean for the club and town?

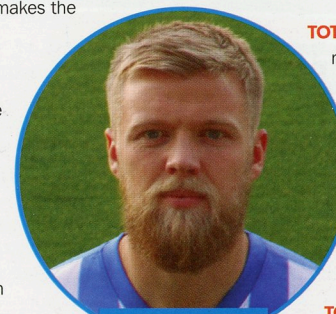
How easy would it be for you to bounce back if you did go down?

**COLIN:** Staying up - crucial. Relegation - disaster. Bouncing back - difficult.

**TOTT:** Hand on heart – will you stay up? Who will go down? And what's your prediction for today's game?

**COLIN:** With a fair wind and the right approach, we will survive. I don't care who goes down as long as it isn't us, but Cheltenham and Tranmere look to be in cheap seats at the minute.

I would like to see us win today, would be happy with a draw. Worst case scenario, even if we lose, as long as the other results go in our favour, I can live with that.



Nicky Featherstone

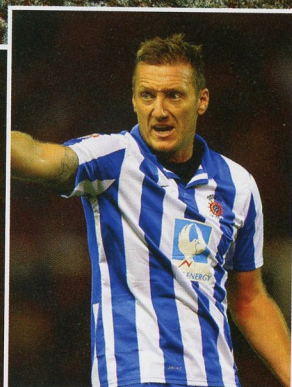
# A HATTER...

## AND A POOLIE

Mike Newell took control of both the Town and Hartlepool during his managerial career, guiding the two clubs to promotions, but of the players who have represented both Steve Howard is perhaps the most significant.

The big, strong target man scored goals wherever he went but born in Durham it was with Tow Law Town that he was spotted by Hartlepool as a 19-year-old. He was thrust straight into the first team at Victoria Park and finished joint-top goalscorer in his first season.

Bigger clubs showed interest and a £120,000 bid took him to Northampton in 1999, but despite being successful at Sixfields – including a goal against the Town at Kenilworth Road – he was surprisingly allowed



Former Hatter Steve Howard has spent two spells with today's visitors

to move to Luton for £50,00 two years later.

With the Hatters he became the third highest post-war goalscorer and top scored in each of his five campaigns in Town colours before he was sold to Derby for £1m in 2006. He netted his 100th goal for the Hatters in a 1-1 draw at Leeds and in total netted 103 in 228 matches.

Howard has since gone onto play for Leicester and Sheffield United before rejoining Pools for a short spell in 2012/13.

Other players to have played for both clubs including Adam Boyd, who the Town paid Pools £500,000 for in 2007, and Barry Hawkes who made his debut for the Hatters against Manchester United in the top flight in 1959.

It doesn't take a mathematician to work out that's an average of four goals per game. The Hatters have also triumphed in seven of these games, also winning five of the last seven. Hartlepool inflicted a 4-0 defeat on the Hatters in February 2008 League 1 and also won 4-3 in a Tuesday night thriller at Victoria Park in April 2004.

The Hatters did the double over Pools on their way to the League 1 title in 2004/05, winning 3-0 at home thanks to goals from Steve Howard, Ahmet Brkovic and Gary McSheffrey before coming away with three important points on another midweek trip in February that season. Chris Coyne, Enoch Showunmi and Kevin Foley giving the Hatters a fine 3-2 win.

Hartlepool's last visit to Kenilworth Road took place on the opening day of the 2007/08 season – a game that the Town ran out 2-1 winners thanks to goals from debutants Darren Currie and Alan Goodall before a crowd of 8,013.

## HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

Today is the 19th meeting between the two clubs since the Town won the first ever meeting back in February 1966: a 2-1 win thanks to a brace from John O'Rourke.

Overall the Town hold sway in the head-to-head record, winning 10 to Hartlepool's seven. The two sides have only ever drawn once – a 2-2 draw here at Kenilworth Road in December 2001. Marvin Johnson curling home a memorable equaliser for the Hatters.

The Town's 2-1 win at Victoria Park earlier in the campaign was the Town's fifth win in their last seven meetings with Pools and their fourth on Hartlepool soil.

Pools' record at Kenilworth Road isn't particularly impressive with the Hatters winning six of the eight meetings here. Hartlepool's sole win at Kenilworth Road came back in 1967 – a 2-0 defeat on 27th March.

Since 1988 the last 10 meetings between the two clubs have generated an impressive 40 goals.

# back to the future

## FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS TRACES WHAT HAPPENED TO TWO OF HARTLEPOOL UNITED'S GREATEST POST-WAR TEAMS

### ► 1990/91 PROMOTION WINNERS

**BRIAN COX:** Goalkeeper who made 34 League appearances before joining Buxton in November 1992. He has since run betting shops back in his native Sheffield and now works for a tributary of the NHS.

**KEITH NOBBS:** Utility player who joined Gateshead in August 1993. He was an officer for English Churches Housing Group in Middlesbrough and became Hartlepool's community officer in August 1998.

**ROB MCKINNON:** Left-back who moved to Motherwell in January 1992. The Scotland international later played for Twente Enschede, Hearts, Clydebank and Bellshill Athletic, becoming assistant-boss.

**JOHN TINKLER:** Versatile midfielder who moved to Preston in July 1992, then played for Walsall, Bishop Auckland, Gateshead, Fleetwood Town, Spennymoor United, Prudhoe Town and Durham City.

**JOHN MACPHAIL:** Central defender who became player-boss, netting four goals in 163 League games before leaving in March 1995. He ran a kitchen business and is now a car sales executive on Teesside.

**IAN BENNYWORTH:** Central defender who scored three times in 82 League outings, rejoining Scarborough in November 1991. Later with Gainsborough again, he works in the corporate travel industry.

**JOE ALLON:** Leading marksman who joined Chelsea in August 1991, then Brentford, Port Vale, Lincoln City and Hartlepool again. He has been a summariser for Radio Cleveland and coached at Leeds.

**STEVE TUPLING:** Midfielder who netted three goals in 89 League games before returning to Darlington in August 1992, then played for Gateshead and Prudhoe. He has become a teacher in Tynemouth.

**PAUL BAKER:** Striker who later played for Motherwell, Gillingham, York, Torquay, Scunthorpe, Hartlepool again and Carlisle. He managed Blyth and Newcastle Blue Star before scouting for Norwich.

**BRIAN HONOUR:** Midfielder who scored 25 times in 319 League games, moving to Spennymoor in October 1994, then Durham and Peterlee. He coached Hartlepool, since holding management posts.

**PAUL DALTON:** Ever-present winger who moved to Plymouth in June 1992, then Huddersfield, Gateshead, Dunston Federation, Billingham and Crook. Now with Middlesbrough's community scheme.

### ► 2002/03 PROMOTION WINNERS

**ANTHONY WILLIAMS:** Ever-present goalkeeper who joined Grimsby in July 2004, then Carlisle, Wrexham and Neath. He has since been Bury's goalkeeping coach and now Crawley's assistant-boss,

**MICKY BARRON:** Inspirational right-back who was captain and helped Hartlepool to win promotion again in 2006-07. He netted three goals in 325 League games before becoming their youth coach.

**MARK ROBINSON:** Left-back who made 85 League appearances prior to joining Hereford United in August 2004, then Stockport, Torquay United, York City, Gateshead, Gainsborough and Whitby.

**GRAEME LEE:** Central defender who joined Sheffield Wednesday in July 2003, then Doncaster, Hartlepool on loan, Bradford City, Notts County and Darlington. He now runs a soccer school in Stockton.

**CHRIS WESTWOOD:** Ever-present central defender who scored seven times in 250 League games prior to joining Walsall in July 2005, then Peterborough, Wycombe, Wrexham and now Alfreton.

**MARK TINKLER:** Ex-England Youth midfielder who netted 34 goals in 211 League games before moving to Livingston in June 2007, then Whitby. He is now coaching at Middlesbrough's Academy.

**DARRELL CLARKE:** Winger who reunited with Tommy Widdrington at Salisbury City in June 2007 and became their player-manager in August 2010. He is currently Bristol Rovers' manager.

**TOMMY WIDDRINGTON:** Midfielder who moved to Macclesfield Town in August 2003. He then had a spell with Port Vale and became Salisbury's player-boss. Now managing Eastbourne Borough.

**FIFION WILLIAMS:** Welsh Under-21 striker who was leading marksman and netted 50 times in 208 League games before joining Wrexham in June 2007. He has since had a spell with Jarrow Roofing.

**MARCUS RICHARDSON:** Has since played for Lincoln City, Yeovil, Chester City, Weymouth, Cambridge United, Crawley, Bury, Farnborough, Henley, Windsor & Eton, Reading Town and Marlow.

**RICHIE HUMPHREYS:** Former England Under-21 midfielder who was ever-present in his first five seasons. He netted 34 goals in a club record 481 League games before joining Chesterfield in July 2013.

# TOWN 0-1 BURTON

PALMER 79



Nathan Doyle keeps his eyes on the ball

Nathan Oduwa battles for possession



## WHAT'S THE STORY?

The Town dropped behind in the race for a place in the Play-Offs as league leaders Burton Albion condemned the Hatters to a fourth straight home defeat.

Despite enjoying the majority of the play and ball the Town fell to Matty Palmer's deflected goal 11 minutes from time to give Burton their second smash-and-grab win over the Hatters this term.

The Town created most of the clear-cut opportunities, and the first of those came in the ninth minute when Paul Benson volleyed over after Burton skipper John Mousinho's back-header presented the striker with the chance.

Three minutes later the Town came mighty close to breaking the deadlock when Michael Harriman hammered a first-time shot from the edge of the area that flew off the outside of the post.

Burton were offering little in the way of attack, with the Hatters restricting the leaders to shots from distance which were either off target or comfortable for goalkeeper Elliot Justham.

On 19 minutes the Town came close once more. Cameron McGeehan bulldozered his way through on the edge of the penalty area and Alex Lawless sent a curling first-time, left-foot shot wide of the post.

As half-time approached the Town upped the ante, and Elliot Lee came close to breaking the deadlock on 39 minutes only for his back-post header to drop wide after being found by Jake Howells' free-kick.

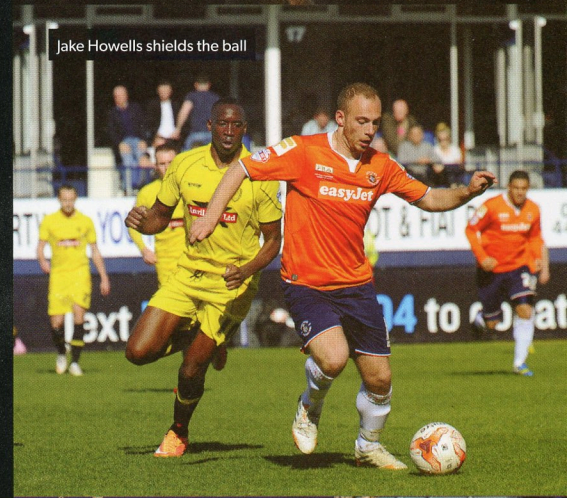
Town came close again after the break when Lee and Howells combined excellently on the edge of the area to play Scott Griffiths through, but the defender's left-foot shot zoomed inches over the crossbar.

But just as the Town were hunting a winner they fell behind. There was a hint of offside as the Brewers crept in behind the Hatters' defence, but after the ball was played back into his path Palmer hammered a firm shot that took a deflection and whizzed past Justham into the roof of the net and that goal proved decisive.



Scott Griffiths in an aerial challenge

Jake Howells shields the ball



Stephen McNulty clears under pressure



**TOWN:** Justham; Harriman, Griffiths, McNulty, Wilkinson, Doyle, Lawless (sub Oduwa 67), McGeehan, Howells (sub Guttridge 76); Benson, Lee (sub Cullen 61). **SUBS NOT USED:** Hall, Kinsella, Lacey, King.

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# reaction

## HARRIMAN WANTS TO BE A HATTER

The Town's season might be coming to a close but on-loan defender Michael Harriman is hoping this campaign isn't his last in Luton colours.

The 22-year-old has been a regular for the Hatters this season having joined from Premier League side Queens Park Rangers in October.

And despite being on the end of another home defeat – their fourth on the spin – against Burton Albion in our last match here at Kenilworth Road, Harriman is eyeing a permanent move come the end of the season.

"My thoughts are firmly here and if, at the end of the season, I can stay here, I'll be happy," said the former Republic of Ireland Under-21 full-back.

"That's my aim. I'm going to work on trying to stay here because I've enjoyed being here at this club. I've enjoyed every minute of it and this is where I want to be. I don't know what has happened at the moment, but there were talks in January so we'll see where we go. I'll try to push it as hard as I can so we'll just see where we go."

"I haven't heard from QPR recently, but we'll see when it comes to the end of the season."

Having lost their previous three home games, all by a 3-2 scoreline, the Town looked set to pick up at least a point against high-flying Burton – only for Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink's side to steal all three points thanks to Matty Palmer's winner 11 minutes from time.

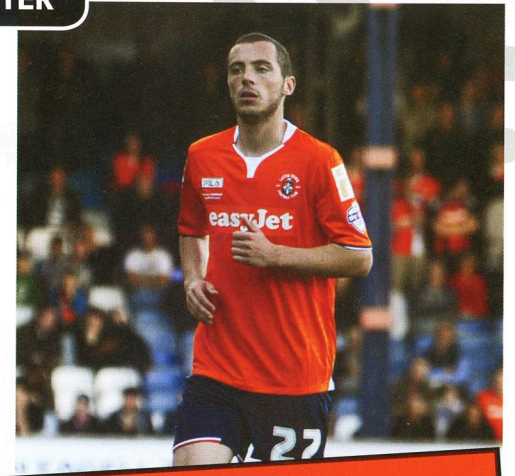
"It was very tough to take because I think we showed that we can mix it up with the big boys up there," said Harriman. "We put in a solid performance but we were just unlucky with the goal that they got."

"A couple of decisions didn't go our way and then the deflection which took it away from Elliot Justham. It was unlucky but there were plenty of positives."

"It's a kick in the teeth that we didn't get any goals but we've just got to keep working hard and go again in the final four games of the season."

The Hatters face a fight to end the season in the top seven to get in the Play-Offs with the last two games, at Southend and Stevenage potentially taking on particular significance as the campaign comes to a climax.

"Now we are coming into the crunch time in the season," said Harriman. "We need to get in there so every game is going to be a big game from now on."



## DID YOU KNOW?

Michael Harriman has been an ever-present in the Hatters side since making his debut in the 2-0 win over Southend in October. No player has enjoyed more minutes on the pitch for the Hatters during that time.

"You've got to believe, we won't stop believing until the final whistle of the final day has gone. We know what we need to do, we've just got to go out there and do it."

"We all want to get in the Play-Offs, we want those extra games and want to get to Wembley. We've had a great season and it would be a shame if we didn't make it."

Harriman has yet to find the net in Town colours in League 2 since making the temporary move from West London but was close to getting off the mark against Burton when his shot from just outside the box struck the post.

"It was some great play on the edge of the box to fashion the chance it was just unlucky that the ball veered away and hit the post," said Harriman, who scored his only goal in the FA Cup tie at Cambridge in January.

"Defensively we were strong and I was given the licence to get forward and attack. I thought it would at least test the keeper but perhaps it just summed our luck up at the moment."

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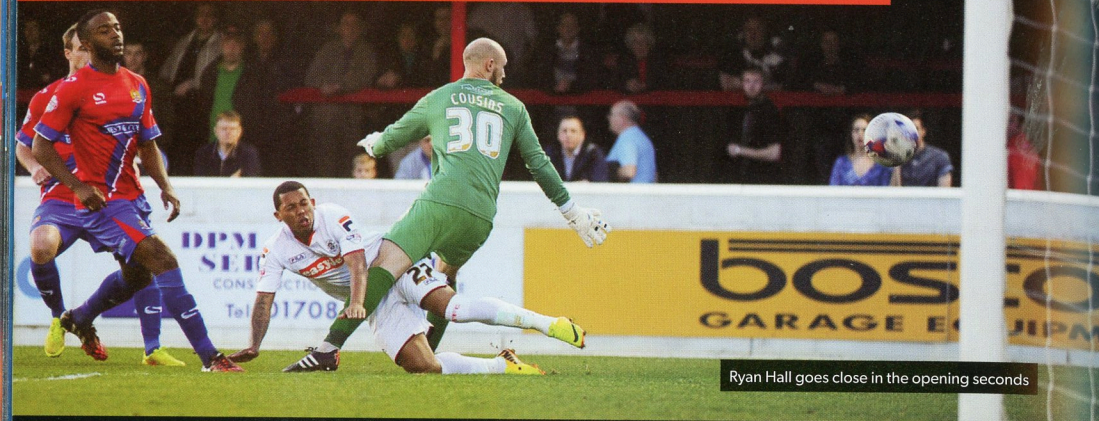
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# DAG & RED 0-0 TOWN



Ryan Hall goes close in the opening seconds

## WHAT'S THE STORY?

The Hatters kept themselves in the race for the final Play-Off place in League 2 with a battling 0-0 draw at Dagenham & Redbridge despite being reduced to 10 men late in the first half.

Striker Paul Benson, on his return to Victoria Road, was shown a straight red card seven minutes before half-time for a high challenge on Ian Gayle. Benson had earlier seen a header cleared off the line while Ryan Hall poked a shot wide of the target inside the opening seconds.

But Benson's dismissal hindered the Town's chances of going for all three points after that and after the break the Town were indebted to a series of excellent saves from goalkeeper Elliot Justham to deny home forward Jamie Cureton.

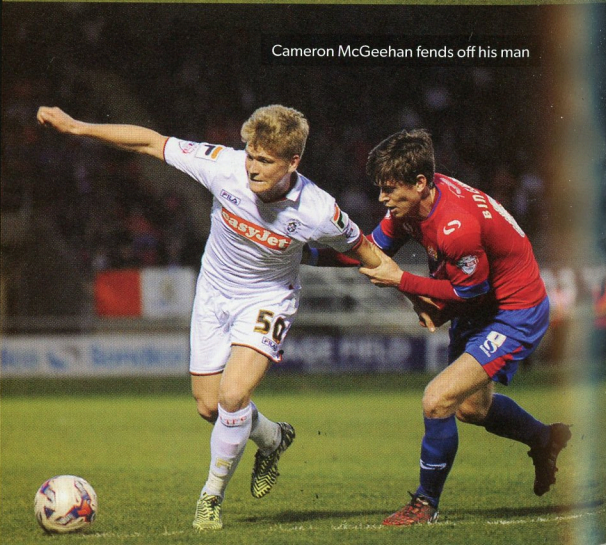
Justham came to his side's rescue twice in the second half after Cureton – who had hit the side-netting in the first period for the Daggers – raced one-on-one with the keeper but on both occasions Justham was equal to the home forward's efforts.

The Hatters came close to snatching victory with Elliot Lee twice going close in the second period, including a goal-bound free-kick that had to be kept out by home goalkeeper Mark Cousins.

However as time ticked down and the chances ran dry, the Town and John Still had to settle for a point on his first return to his old club which leaves the Hatters three points off the Play-Offs with just three games to go.



Elliot Lee on the move



Cameron McGeehan fends off his man



Shaun Whalley goes for goal in the first half



Scott Griffiths tip-toes down the touchline

**TOWN:** Justham; Harriman, Griffiths, McNulty, Wilkinson; Doyle (sub Whalley 27 (sub Cullen 66)), Smith, McGeehan, Hall (sub Guttridge 46); Benson, Lee. **SUBS NOT USED:** King, Lacey, Howells, Cullen, Guttridge, Kinsella.

# Travellers' TALES

HATTERS FAN KEVIN HARPER CONTINUES TO WRITE ABOUT FOLLOWING THE TOWN ON THEIR TRAVELS THIS SEASON. THIS WEEK HE LOOKS BACK ON TUESDAY'S TRIP TO DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE.

## THE JOURNEY

On a warm sunny day a packed Bobbers coach made the journey to Essex for the latest away game of the season at Dagenham. With matches running out the necessity to win was lost on nobody. Whether it was the sunshine or the encouraging last two performances I'm not sure but there was much more positivity around as we set off from Luton station just after 4.15pm.

That was 15 minutes late due to a crash on Hatters Way which by the time we had got to it saw cars turning back and changing routes. We were so far down that a coach couldn't turn around so the driver got into the opposite lane and reversed all the way back to the roundabout – very skilfully it has to be said!



After hitting the usual M25 and London traffic we eventually made it down to Dagenham around 6.15 on what was still a really nice, warm evening, perfect for football. I'm not superstitious in any way but after hitting a pub before the Tranmere win it felt appropriate to do that again with some time to spare before kick-off so once the coach parked up off we went in search of cider!

## THE GROUND

It had been a while since I'd been to the Victoria Ground or the 'London Borough of Barking and Dagenham Stadium' to give it its full moniker! The first change is that the 'Traditional Builders Stand' behind the goal that the Town fans were in had been transformed into an all seated stand from a terrace.

Underneath the stand there was a bar which was doing a roaring trade as you would expect on a warm evening. There was a refreshment kiosk as you go in through the turnstiles and that didn't look short of custom either.

In the stand itself the view was one of the best we've had all season. The seats were built a bit above the pitch so wherever you sat you were looking down on the action which is always good. The lowish roof meant we could create a good atmosphere and I that's exactly what the 875 of us who travelled did!

## THE FOOD

The refreshment kiosk was serving burgers, hot dogs, bacon rolls, pies and pasties along with the usual confectionery. It was all reasonably priced and as a 1/2lb burger was lucky at Tranmere I decided to try its luck again. Sadly it didn't have the same effect this time! Once that was devoured it was down to the bar for a quick pint before finding our seats. Beer was £3.50 a pint in the bar so a pint of cider went down well and from there it was up into the stand for the game.

## THE PROGRAMME

As you would expect given it was his first return, John Still got plenty of mentions in the programme. Wayne Burnett was very complimentary towards him as were some others.



A big thank you to the 875 supporters who made the trip to Dagenham

There were six pages in total on the current Town side and two more highlighting the best players from our past. There was also a fans interview as well so there was plenty more for Town fans in this programme than recent ones at away games.

## THE MATCH

Looking to build on a win in our last away match the Town were nearly ahead after about 15 seconds when Paul Benson flicked a ball on to Ryan Hall who poked it past the keeper but the ball just trickled wide.

The positive start continued and we nearly led when a Benson header from a corner was hacked off the line but the match changed just after the half hour mark when Benson was sent-off for a high boot. All bias aside it looked a poor decision not least because if Benson wasn't getting held and pulled back he would have headed the ball rather than raise his foot to kick it. Even then he didn't seem to take his eyes off the ball and the Dagenham player just charged into him. Really poor decision but sadly we're getting used to them!

That changed the path of the match slightly and Dagenham came on strong either side of half-time although I thought we defended well. Elliot Lee nearly put us in front when he twice linked up with Mark Cullen who had come off the bench but now but he fired just over both times. He also had a low free-kick well saved.

At the other end Elliot Justham was called into play to deny Jamie Cureton a couple of times when he went

clean through and he made another save from a long distance shot. Just before full-time Michael Harriman cleared one off the line as well and after a real backs to the wall rear guard we got the draw which was the least we deserved.

## MAN-OF-THE-MATCH

Another fairly obvious choice. Elliot Justham kept us in the game with a string of saves in the second half when even with 10 men we were trying to commit men forward to win the game.

The big stopper did nothing wrong in this match and I'm sure performances like this one and the one at Tranmere are giving John Still a real headache as and when Mark Tyler is fit again.

## SUMMARY

Although it wasn't the result we were looking for I have to say this was one of the better away nights I've had in a while.

Everyone at Dagenham was friendly and welcoming and the atmosphere was fantastic in our end. It was probably helped by the injustice of many officials' wrong decisions but even so it was really good to get behind the boys when they needed it.

Unfortunately the journey home wasn't as nice with lane closures and M25 traffic so after taking the scenic route we were back to Luton just before midnight which was later than expected but all in all not too bad.



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# reaction

## SMITH AIMING TO END SEASON ON A HIGH



Jonathan Smith is hoping the Town can squeeze into the Play-Offs and help himself earn a new contract with the club once the season is over.

The 28-year-old midfielder's deal at Kenilworth Road comes to an end in the summer but former Swindon man wants the Hatters to finish the campaign on a high by defying the odds and earning a second successive promotion.

Smith arrived at Kenilworth Road in 2012 and made his debut in a goalless draw on a Tuesday night away to Hereford.

The midfielder has come a long way since and is closing in on the 100 appearance mark.

"I love this club to bits. It's easy to say that but I really enjoy playing for Luton and I'd be very sad if I didn't get to play anymore because I've really enjoyed my time here," Smith told Hatters Player after the 0-0 draw at Dagenham on Tuesday night.

"My aim was to get promotion and I'll do everything I can to get that and hopefully that shows in my performances."

Smith missed last weekend's 1-0 home defeat to Burton as his partner gave birth to baby daughter Alice.

But the midfielder revealed he wanted to line up against the Brewers.

"I was desperate to play and do my bit for the team," Smith said.

"I said to the gaffer that I would be back in time for the game.

"I'm also playing for my future with my contract up at the end of the season, so I've got to prove to the club that they want to keep me."

At Victoria Road the Town battled to earn a point to keep their Play-Off hopes alive for another week despite playing the whole second half with 10 men after Paul Benson's red card.

And although the Hatters were desperate for three points, Smith felt a point was a decent return given the circumstances.

"Going down to 10 men changed the game but we've all put a shift in and

we have to be happy with a point," said the midfielder.

"All of the lads worked really hard. Dagenham aren't a bad side but we came here looking for the three points.

"I'd have to see it [Benson's challenge] again, but in League 2 you're going to get challenges like that and I think the ref was a bit quick to get the red card out.

"After that we were really determined to get at least a draw which we got and now we have to go again on Saturday. I know it's a cliché but we have to take every game as it comes, it's all we can do. We've still got a chance.

### Massive

"The fans' backing was amazing. I was saying to a couple of the lads how tough the last 10 minutes were but the noise of our fans really pushed us on, it really made a difference. Honestly, it makes a massive difference and we're going to need their support in the last three games."

The Hatters also lost Nathan Doyle through injury in the first half against the Daggers and together with Benson's red card, the Town may have to make changes once more this afternoon – and Smith believes that has held the Hatters back this term.

"We're a hard-working team but I think the injuries and suspensions this season have meant we've had an ever-changing team," he said. "If we can keep a settled side in the last three games I think we can still get something out of this season."

# centre spot



Elliot Lee keeps his eyes on the ball on his return to the first team in our last home game against Burton Albion

# PICTURE THE PAST

Club historian **ROGER WASH** delves into his photographic archive

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Mick Harford (on all fours) heads in a typically brave goal against QPR at Kenilworth Road in March 1985. Harford was also on target with the other goal in the 2-0 top flight victory watched by a crowd of 9,373.

# Camera Never Lies

Club historian **ROGER WASH** delves into his photographic archive



Wally Shanks watches on as Billy Waugh gets the 'Box Brownie' treatment at the rear of the Main Stand in this unusual 1940s shot.

# YESTERDAY'S PAGES

Club historian **ROGER WASH** looks back to an FA Cup giantkilling over West Ham at Kenilworth Road in 1936.

Luton Town 4-0 West Ham United.  
FA Cup Round Three replay. 15th January 1936.

Due to the Town's good record in the FA Cup in 1933 when, as a Division Three (South) club, they reached the quarter finals before bowing out to mighty Everton they were exempted until the third round the following season.

This time they went down narrowly 1-0 at home to Arsenal but the impressed FA Committee obviously felt that the Hatters should not be roughing it in the early rounds and allowed another exemption for season 1934/35.

The Town did not disappoint those who had shown faith in their abilities and beat top flight Chelsea after a replay before going out at Burnley in round four.

It was no surprise, therefore, that for the third year running the Hatters were granted exemption until the third round and the pairing with West Ham from Division Two (now the Championship) at Upton Park created a great deal of interest given that both sides were on good runs of form at the time. Over 9,000 Luton supporters made the trip, paying a return train fare of 3/- (15p), and swelling the crowd to 42,000 which was close to the ground record.

The Hammers took an early lead through big centre forward Dave Mangnall but with everyone expecting the floodgates to open, Luton's own number nine Jack Ball levelled. In the second period the Town surprised their opponents by taking the game to them and it was no more than they deserved when Fred Roberts fired in goal number two with 20 minutes to go. The game was not yet over, though, with Jimmy Ruffell earning the Hammers a replay with a late, fortunate equaliser.

The replay was scheduled for the following Wednesday afternoon and a crowd of 17,527, paying receipts of £2,099, turned up to see if the Town could finish the job and extend their unbeaten run which stretched back to 28th September.



Happy Hatters on the Kenilworth Road terrace before the West Ham Cup replay

The game was equally as close as the first tie, with the scoreline goalless at the interval but once Ball bagged the opener after 51 minutes there was only going to be one winner. On a frosty pitch, the Luton players adapted much better and with mercurial winger George Stephenson running riot, further goals arrived at regular intervals.

## Marvellous

First Wilf Crompton and then Roberts took full advantage of the trickery of Stephenson to increase the Town's lead before the winger capped a marvellous performance by scoring the final goal to make it 4-0 and send the supporters into raptures and the West Ham team back to London (along with the disappointed Fleet Street corps) with their tails between their legs.

Unfortunately, the newspapers the next day glossed over the Luton performance to concentrate on the shortcomings of the West Ham forward line as well as the state of the pitch. But the Luton fans did not mind, next stop Manchester and a clash with the City.

Sadly, Wembley dreams ended abruptly as the Town lost 2-1 at Maine Road, but some consolation was gained by the gate receipts generated by a massive crowd of 65,978, the largest to watch the Hatters in this country outside Wembley.

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LEAGUE III (Southern)	PLD	W	L	D	PTS
Luton Town	22	14	4	4	32
Reading	22	15	7	0	32
Coventry City	22	12	7	3	27
Queens Park Rangers	22	11	8	4	26
Torquay United	22	11	8	4	26
Croyal Palace	22	9	6	7	24
Bournemouth	22	10	8	5	23
Gillingham	22	10	8	7	23
Notts County	22	9	7	6	22
Warrford	22	9	9	4	22
Brighton & Hove A.	22	7	8	8	22
Millwall	22	9	10	3	21
Clapton Orient	22	7	9	6	20
Swindon Town	22	7	12	3	18
Exeter City	22	7	11	4	18
Aldershot	22	7	11	4	18
Bristol City	22	7	14	1	18
Northampton	22	5	10	7	17
Southern United	22	5	10	7	17
Cardiff City	22	6	11	5	17
Bristol Rovers	22	6	11	5	17
Newport County	22	6	11	5	17

## THE PROGRAMME

The Town produced a 16-page programme for the visit of West Ham. The Club Notes section praised the level of football played at Upton Park the previous Saturday and everyone at the club was amazed that 9,000 made the trip from Bedfordshire.

The Hatters were sitting in pole position in Division Three (South) at the time and had won their last League match at Southend to make it 14 games unbeaten. This was still not good enough for the general Press who felt we were lucky in our 1-0 victory despite having the ball in the Southend net three times.

Wilson Hallett, 'The Greatest Child Mimic in the World' was appearing at the Grand Theatre - intriguingly it did not say whether he mimicked children or was but a child himself!

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2 Finlayson (Right Half)	12 Fellows (Centre Left)
3 Crompton (Outside Right)	13 Roberts (Inside Left)
4 C. P. WEST (Striker)	14 Stephenson (Centre Left)
5 Ruffell (Outside Left)	15 Marshall (Centre Right)
6 Goulden (Inside Left)	16 Simpson (Centre Right)
7 Cockcroft (Left Back)	17 Fenton (Right Back)
8 Walker (A.) (Left Back)	18 Chaikley (Right Back)
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10	20
21	22

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LEAGUE III (Southern)	PLD	W	L	D	PTS
Luton Town	22	14	4	4	32
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Warrford	22	9	9	4	22
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Millwall	22	9	10	3	21
Clapton Orient	22	7	9	6	20
Swindon Town	22	7	12	3	18
Exeter City	22	7	11	4	18
Aldershot	22	7	11	4	18
Bristol City	22	7	14	1	18
Northampton	22	5	10	7	17
Southern United	22	5	10	7	17
Cardiff City	22	6	11	5	17
Bristol Rovers	22	6	11	5	17
Newport County	22	6	11	5	17

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## ELSEWHERE IN FOOTBALL

- 82,905 attend the Chelsea v Arsenal League game at Stamford Bridge - a new record.
- Aston Villa spend £23,000 (a huge sum in those days) to bring in seven new players in a bid to avoid relegation from the top flight. A fight they ultimately lose.
- 79 years ago last weekend Joe Payne hit the headlines when scoring 10 goals for the Town against Bristol Rovers in a 12-0 victory. At the time of the West Ham Cup replay he was an unknown Luton reserve who had netted only once that season.

# CHANGING ATTITUDES! WEEKS OF ACTION

The Luton Town Disabled Supporters' Association was formed on 8th October 2014 at an Open Forum of interested parties held at Luton Town.

It was formed following an extended series of discussions between the Club and volunteer supporters primarily to improve communications between the Club and Disabled Supporters, but also to assist the Club with policies, procedures and matters applying directly to all disabled supporters.

18th April 2015 marks the 'Level Playing Fields Weeks of Action' initiative the purpose of which is to promote access and inclusion within football as widely as possible.

The Club's weeks of action will be called 'Changing Attitudes' beginning with today's home game against

Hartlepool United. During the next few days the Club will be sharing some short films which will give a few different examples of how Luton Town are supporting their disabled supporters, so have a look out for Nicky and Zach's stories as well as a short information film featuring our own Simon Fraser.

## Vulnerable

And remember, not all disabilities are visible. Just because a person isn't using a stick or a wheelchair, or doesn't have an obvious visual impairment, it doesn't mean that they don't have a disability.

People with learning disabilities are one of the most vulnerable groups - just read Kieran's story.

It is a bit shocking, but hopefully it will encourage people to be more tolerant of things that we are unsure about.

Nicky Toone, pictured here on the right with his father Terry Toone at Kenilworth Road. Nicky undertakes a variety of roles around the club on a weekly basis and is a valued member of the behind-the-scenes staff



## WITH RICHARD HILL – LUTON TOWN DISABLED SUPPORTERS' ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN

## SOCIAL MEDIA

In conjunction with the launch of the Changing Attitudes - weeks of Action Campaign, the Disabled Supporters Association are also launching their social media presence with a new twitter account and Facebook page.

Find us and follow us on Twitter at @LT\_DSA or on our Facebook page: facebook.com/ltdcsa.

Give our campaign a mention on twitter using the hash tag #United4Success and let's see if we can top the trends!

If you need any help or assistance with any matter that affects your match day experience that we can help with, please just send us an email and we will do our best to resolve it for you.

Our email address is: ltdsa@lutontown.co.uk

The LTDSA committee meet every other month and are always looking for ways to help ensure the best possible experience at Kenilworth Road Stadium.

During the next two weeks of action we are looking to feature some insight into the world of disability. Nothing shocking, just information to hopefully make you think about things and the fact that others have to do things slightly differently on a daily basis.

Please do check our section on the Luton Town website in the 'Fans' section for updates.

## DID YOU KNOW?

All Luton Town registered disabled supporters become FREE members of the LTDSA automatically.

Verification of disability status results in all LTDSA members being issued a credit card style membership card - no need to keep having your documents verified!

## KIERAN'S STORY

Keiran, an ardent Hatters fan with Autism was at the ground watching a match when an opposing player was injured close to where he was sitting with his brother.

The incident was upsetting to Keiran, and unfortunately his reaction provoked a nearby fan to verbally abuse him and then continued even after Keiran's brother explained about his Autism.

Keiran and his brother didn't report the incident at the time, choosing instead leave early missing the remainder of the match. His mother phoned the club the next day and they were fantastic, showing real empathy.

They found us two new seats and told us what to do if anything happened in the future. The section we are in is full of families and very welcoming and Keiran can just be himself and he loves it.

## DISABILITY FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY

Luton Town are very active in the community in building links and partnerships with all areas, including schools and colleges.

The club have now adopted a team who have changed their name to Luton Town - the first disabled team to represent the club, which is fantastic.

By way of a demonstration of their skills, members of the team are here today to take part in a penalty shoot-out at half time so please give them your legendary support!



# New Year... NEW CAR...

IN 2014, NEARLY 2.5 MILLION NEW CARS WERE REGISTERED IN THE UK, AND THIS YEAR THAT NUMBER IS SET TO RISE!

In fact 2014 was the fourth largest year of all time for new registrations, and the UK is the second largest market in the EU. With an exciting year ahead and some fantastic new vehicle launches just around the corner, now's the time to step into spring, and a **brand new car!**

At **Hartwell Dunstable** we have an impressive line-up of the latest models from **Ford, Fiat** and **Peugeot** including the brand new Ford Mondeo and Fiat 500X, due in showrooms in the Spring. Packed with cutting-edge design and world-class technology, our stunning range of new cars offer ultimate comfort and driver experience.

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have something for you. With vehicles from as little as **£62.61 per month**, we've got a car to suit every budget too. What's more, we've got plenty of exciting events coming up this year including our **Weekend Factory Specials**, where you can meet official manufacturer representatives and unlock exclusive savings and deals.

*This February, we're also giving you £500 off any Ford vehicle if you test drive a Ford between 1st - 28th February!*

Get down to **Hartwell Dunstable** now to find brilliant deals, exclusive previews of the latest **Ford, Fiat** and **Peugeot** models or book a test drive.

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*Proud supporters of Luton Town Football Club*

**Hartwell Dunstable**  
77-87 London Road, Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU6 3DT  
Tel. **0844 225 4479**



# reaction

## JUSTHAM AIMING FOR A PLACE FOR KEEPS



Town goalkeeper Elliot Justham has, just like the Hatters, come a long way in the past 18 months.

The 24-year-old stopper arrived at Kenilworth Road in the summer of 2013 with the Town in the Conference and Justham fresh from playing part-time with East Thurrock and working on the London Underground.

After a knee injury sidelined regular number one Mark Tyler in February, Justham has stepped up to the plate to deliver a number of fine performances despite the Town's poor form.

### Battle

And with Tyler returning to fitness, Justham is hoping he can keep hold of his place between the sticks.

"I want to battle with Mark. Hopefully, when he's fit, we can have a right good battle for the number one jersey, and hopefully I've given the gaffer a bit of thinking to do," Justham told Hatters Player after Tuesday night's goalless draw at Dagenham, in which he kept his third clean sheet in Town colours.

"Mark's one of my best mates at the club, so he's been very supportive. He's always wanted me to do well and he backs me 100 per cent as well, as does the goalkeeper coach [Kevin Dearden], who has come in and been excellent."

Tyler's woe has been Justham's gain and after sitting on the bench for the whole of last season as the Town romped to the Conference title a year ago, the stopper is happy to have finally got his chance – even if it has come at his friend and team-mate's expense.

### Delighted

"I've been delighted," said Justham. "I'd never wish injury upon anyone, but it has been nice to get my chance.

"The gaffer could have easily got someone in on loan but he's stuck with me and hopefully I've repaid him well."

Justham had been a virtual ever-present for the Town's development squad prior to his promotion to the number one spot.

And while a number of the Hatters' development group have gone out on-loan, Justham was happy to be kept around – and he's now pleased to be repaying the faith the manager has shown in him.

"There was a little bit of talk about going out on loan, but I believe in myself and hopefully the gaffer believes in me, so I'm glad I've played the last 12 games, it's been nice," said Justham.

"I'd been waiting a long time. You can play in all the development games you want but this is a different level.

"It's much quicker, the strikers are much sharper and I think it's hopefully growing me as a goalkeeper."

### Excellent

Justham helped the Hatters to a goalless draw on Tuesday with a series of excellent saves – twice from Dagenham's Jamie Cureton – which keeps the Town's hopes of reaching the Play-Offs alive going into today's game with relegation-threatened Hartlepool.

"Our point could be a very big point," said the keeper. "We'll go again on Saturday and hopefully get three points against Hartlepool."

"They're battling against relegation so it will be another tight game."



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WHAT'S IN STORE ONLINE AT THE HATTERS OFFICIAL WEBSITE

Hatters Player has been busy already this season with exclusive interviews, match highlights and exclusive live online commentary on the channel, which complements our official YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/lutontown](http://www.youtube.com/lutontown).

Player really is the best way to keep up-to-date with everything at Kenilworth Road with the biggest change from previous seasons in the Conference being exclusive online match

commentary. Player is the only way that you'll be able to listen to commentary online through your computer or mobile device this season with the Hatters back in the Football League.

A number of previous subscribers have returned to the new improved video service and if you are wondering what complementary services the video subscription site, [www.player.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.player.lutontown.co.uk), provides in addition to the official website, [www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk), on a matchday, we have provided a taster below.

TEAMSHEETS

Match line-ups have to be confirmed in writing to the referee one hour before kick off; not long after the match officials have seen them they are available to for you to view on [www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk).

FREE CLOCKWATCH

On the homepage of [www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk), you can see our popular live, minute-by-minute text commentary, absolutely free, direct from the press box. Every incident is reported from the games - chances, goals, substitutions, bookings, you name it - it is the most comprehensive free service for Town games anywhere on the internet.

LIVE COMMENTARY

If you want to get closer to the action, Hatters Player's Match Live console brings you full live and interactive audio commentary in association with Diverse FM. Complemented with score flashes from around the country and real-time match stats everything you need to know will be right here.

FULL-TIME REPORT

As soon as the full-time whistle blows, a match report is available to read on [www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk). Complemented by all the statistics that matter, as supplied to us by Opta, as well as our breakdown of the key incidents as the match unfolded.

POST-MATCH REACTION

We will bring you all of manager John Still's reaction from his post-match press conference on [www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk). Hatters Player subscribers can then watch to a more in-depth interview on the site, later in the evening, along with player reaction from the dressing room.

SEE THE HIGHLIGHTS

Approximately 24 hours after the final whistle, you can re-live all of the action again with home match highlights on Hatters Player.

MOBILE INTERNET

If being by a PC isn't practical for you, you will be pleased to know you can view our Mobile Internet site on a handheld device. You can see the team line-ups, read the live updates, check the match report and find out what the manager and the players had to say after the game. Simply visit [lutontown.wap.com](http://lutontown.wap.com) on your phone. For full details, please visit the Mobile Services section of [www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk).

STAY IN TOUCH AND HELP THE HATTERS TOO...

On the occasions when you can't make it to a match, you can connect to the club's official services and keep abreast of event, knowing that the cost of these products is directly benefiting Luton Town.

Visit [www.hattersplayer.co.uk](http://www.hattersplayer.co.uk) for more information.

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HATTERS ONLINE



# community trust

WITH HEAD OF COMMUNITY TRUST KEVIN THOBURN

## LONDON LUTON AIRPORT YOUTH FUND

Our Community Trust received some really good news this week, that its bid for funding from London Luton Airport Ltd Youth Fund through the Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation to establish a sustainable youth football structure for boys and girls on Marsh Farm and Farley Hill has been successful.

Neither the Marsh Farm nor Farley Hill parts of town have



London Luton Airport Limited

any organised youth football teams, and this has been the situation for many years. Our community project will aim to set up five teams on each estate to compete in local leagues next season at under-11 to under-15 age groups as well as establish a volunteer community Youth Club structure to administer the teams.

Luton Borough Council and London Luton Airport Ltd (LLAL) are working in partnership to improve the quality of life of the people of Luton through their youth fund and in particular the principles agreed by the partners of the Luton Forum in the Sustainable Community Strategy (2012-26) for residents of Luton to:

- Provide positive activities for children and young people and reduce anti-social behaviour.
- Support our children and young people to achieve skills and experience to enhance their prospects for the future.
- Strengthen community cohesion.
- Improve health and promote health equality.

Now we have received the green light from the Airport that funds are available to get the project off the ground, we can begin to implement our plan straightaway. Phase 1 will be to establish community weekly coaching centres in Marsh Farm and Farley Hill where all young players can come and be trained and selected by our qualified coaches. The centres will be based at Lea Manor Recreation Centre on a Thursday evening and Barnfield South Academy on a Friday evening beginning in May.



Phase 2 will see the establishment of a volunteer club structure. Both centres will need a club committee with a chairman to oversee the smooth running of the club a club secretary to oversee administration of players and facilities, a treasurer to oversee finances and a welfare officer to oversee

safeguarding and equality issues. Team managers and coaches will be the responsibility, initially, of Luton Town Football Club and will involve the appointment of volunteer team managers and coaches to work alongside our coaching staff at the weekly coaching centres.

Phase 3 will be the beginning of organised fixtures in September for the 2015/16 football season all the way through to next April.

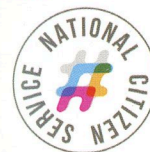
It's an ambitious project targeted at two socially disadvantaged areas of Luton and while we acknowledge there are other parts of the town equally disadvantaged, we needed to make a start somewhere. If we can make this project work in Marsh Farm and Farley Hill and show successful outcomes we can take this template and use it elsewhere.

Youth work in Luton is grounded on the principle and understanding that all young people benefit from additional opportunities and support but some, particularly the most disadvantaged and vulnerable, need specific additional and targeted help to address their challenges and reach their potential thereby narrowing the gap in outcomes between the most disadvantaged young people and their peers.

We believe that to have two such large areas of Luton without youth teams competing in our national game is unacceptable in 2015. We aim to try and address this with the help of the local community.

If you live in Marsh Farm or Farley Hill and would like to get involved in our community project please email us at [community@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:community@lutontown.co.uk).

## NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE WITH LUTON TOWN



The Community Trust are also getting involved in the National Citizen Service (NCS) programme for 15 to 17 year olds this summer and are offering a great opportunity for local youngsters to work in teams from different backgrounds - face

challenging activities which take them out of their comfort zone- live and work with their team during residential weeks away at an activity centre and locally sample student life and also get involved in their local community.

The aims of NCS are to promote a more cohesive, responsible and engaged society and offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that helps young people build skills for work and life, while taking on new challenges and meeting new friends.

In week one you'll live with your team at an outdoor activity centre, getting to know each other and experiencing the freedom of being away from home with new friends. In this week you'll get the chance to take part in adrenaline-fuelled activities with your team mates like: rock climbing, canoeing, hiking and archery.

Next up is being reunited with your group to live away from home in university style accommodation and not only will you be learning to cook for yourselves (think roast dinners, not beans on toast!), but you'll also learn some huge life skills that make for a killer CV. You could find yourself meeting organisations and important people from your local community, whilst learning about the issues



facing them, as well as developing new personal skills (teamwork, leadership and communication). You could also find out more about skills you have a passion for, such as photography, editing, football coaching or even how to set up your own business

Weeks three and four you get the chance to put all the skills and experiences you've learnt into practice as a team agreeing on a social action project that will really make a mark on your local community.

Once you've completed the programme, you're now part of the bigger NCS family - our grads have the chance to attend some of the greatest shows and events going. We forgot to mention at the end of each programme we'll throw you a big party to celebrate everything you've achieved too.

So if you are up for:

- Staying away from home at an outdoor activity centre
- Developing new skills and meeting new people
- Learning to budget and live for yourself
- Making your mark in your local area delivering your social action project ....

Then NCS is for you!

NCS is an inclusive programme for all young people. There's nobody that it isn't right for and we're yet to meet someone who hasn't had the time of their lives and met their greatest mates - no matter how shy you may be.

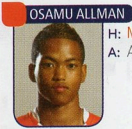
We cater for all religious/cultural beliefs and are here to talk to you about how we can accommodate such beliefs at any time. If you have additional needs then we'll make every effort, where possible, to ensure additional support is put into place to allow all young people to benefit and take part in this incredible programme. Also, NCS is amazing value for money. The most you'll ever pay for this unbeatable experience is £50, but this cost could be less or even free depending on your circumstances.

If you or any friends fancy NCS with the Hatters and would like further information just call our community office on 01582 737568 or drop us an email at [community@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:community@lutontown.co.uk).

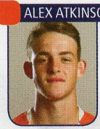


# Youth Team Sponsors

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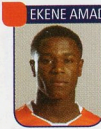
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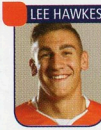
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A: Available



**ISAAC GALLIFORD**  
H: Available  
A: Available



**LEE HAWKES**  
H: Available  
A: Available



**CRAIG KING**  
H: Mike Tearle  
A: Available



**DARIL NGWALA**  
H: Available  
A: Available



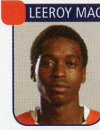
**LUCAS PERRY**  
H: Available  
A: Available



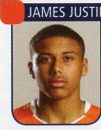
**TUKI TAYALI**  
H: Available  
A: Available



**HARRY TAMPLIN**  
H: Allianz  
A: NPA Commercial



**LEEROY MAGURAUSHE**  
H: Available  
A: Available



**JAMES JUSTIN**  
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## BUILDING THE FOUNDATION OF FOOTBALL

Since 2000 the Football Foundation and its funders have invested in £1 billion worth of grassroots projects. This is providing quality playing surfaces and changing rooms for communities across the country – helping to increase participation and supporting player development.



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## WITH UNDER-18S MANAGER PAUL DRIVER

As any season draws to its close, there are always mixed emotions as we experience the highs when we offer boys contracts but then also the lows as we have to let other boys know that they will not be offered anything and will be released, sometimes after having been with the club for a number of years.

The highs have seen Craig King and Isaac Galliford offered professional contracts for next season to join Luke Trotman in the senior ranks, and the lows have seen the release of Osamu Allman, Ekene Amadi, Lee Hawkes, Leeroy Maguraushe, Daril Ngwala, Lucas Perry and Tuki Tayali.

We wish Luke, Craig and Isaac every success with the club in the coming years as they push for a regular place in the first team and they know that they will have the continued support of everyone in the youth set-up.

With the released boys – all of which have been a credit to themselves, their families and the club throughout their time at Luton Town – we sincerely thank them for all of their efforts on and off of the pitch during their time with us and wish them success also in finding the progression with their football in whichever route they wish to take and we will continue to support and help them in their search for a club for next season.

On the pitch, we have done very well in the new Merit League Structure that has been introduced this season where the top sides from the South East and South West Divisions have come together for a mini league where we play each of the other 11 sides once. Having finished in a very creditable fourth position in the South East Division, we qualified comfortably for Merit League 1.

### Success

With the added bonus of avoiding away trips to Exeter and Plymouth, the Merit League 1 campaign has been a great success and we sit in second place going into today's final round of games and will hopefully get the required result at Stevenage to finish in the top two of all the Category 3 teams in the South of England which would be a superb achievement given that the predominant part of the campaign has seen us fielding sides with the major proportion of the players every week coming from our current Under-16s and first year scholars.

The major gain for us in this will be the exposure to youth level football experienced by the younger boys even before they start their two year scholarship at the end of June and one of them, Cameron McJannet has already played for Hakan's title winning Development Squad when he came on as a substitute in the win away at Gillingham. Indeed, Cameron along with Akin Famewo and Tyreeq Bakinson have all played in over 15 games for the youth team already and this will stand them in good stead for the next two years.

So, after three end of season Under-17 friendlies to work together as next years' squad, we will break for the summer and re-charge our batteries before returning to pre-season on 24th June and start the preparations for what we expect to be another successful season as a team and as individuals.

THE ACADEMY



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# Luton Ladies

## LADIES LEFT TO SETTLE FOR A DRAW

The Ladies' penultimate game of the season sent us to Ipswich Town which has not been a happy hunting ground in the past.

Conditions were windy with the Town choosing to go with the wind. Hatters were on the ascendency playing direct football and pinning Ipswich in their own half. The first real chance came from a Zara Carroll free-kick which curled just over the crossbar striking the top of the goal frame.

Michelle Byrne's shot was well saved by the keeper's legs but after 20 minutes Luton took the lead when Nicky Livingstone played in Rebecca Kane and her powerful shot found the bottom corner of the net. Lydia Radley smashed a volley that looked to be on its way into the net but was charged down by a defender.

Ipswich equalised after half-an-hour with their first serious attempt on goal. What seemed a harmless through ball was misjudged by goalkeeper Hollie Staples when she missed her clearance leaving the striker with the simple task of rolling the ball into the empty net.

Town almost fell behind right on half-time when a header appeared to be going in only for Erica Byron to clear off the line.

In spite of the heavy wind the second half was completely dominated by the Hatters. Shannon Pratt, making her first team full debut, played in Radley who only had the keeper to beat but she managed to divert the shot out for a corner. A free-kick from Kane was inches away from being met by Rachel Carter's head and Kane again fired high and wide at the far post. Pratt then played in Byrne who was brought crashing to the ground and the referee awarded a penalty. Carroll stepped up but screwed her spotkick wide of the post as yet another penalty opportunity was spurned.

However, it did not seem to matter when with just five minutes to go Byrne broke through the offside trap and rounded the keeper before scoring – only to be denied by a very late and ill-judged offside flag. There was still time for the elusive winner as Kane beat the keeper to a swirling through ball rounding her but when faced by two covering defenders she was unable to convert the opportunity.

A disappointed manager Nikki Baker: "I cannot believe that we did not take all three points.

"The second half performance was excellent until we got into the final third where our finishing was quite honestly woeful. On another day we could have scored five or six.

"Credit to the ladies as they restricted Ipswich to just a single shot on target during the second half which was quite some achievement with a strong wind in our faces.

"Our finishing continues to be a concern as I cannot begin to count how many points we have thrown away because of this area of weakness."

The Town are now guaranteed at least a fifth placed finish going into the final game of the season at Norwich City tomorrow. A victory will lift them into fourth spot so we will be going all out for the win to complete the double over the Canaries.

The Reserve squad earned a 1-1 draw at Clapham United taking the lead through Shelley Hankins. The hosts equalised soon after leaving the Town requiring three points from six to stave off the threat of relegation.



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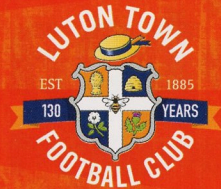


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# THE SOCIAL NETWORK



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Last Saturday saw us celebrate our 130th birthday. Social media was full of birthday wishes. Here are the best....

**Bobby Campbell** @bobsyshams

Happy 130th birthday to @LutonTown! A club the authorities should have helped, instead they tried to kill! Sound familiar? #lutonareback

**George** @GKLob

@LutonTown you old git

**Breffni Consulting** @BreffniHugh

Happy Birthday to the love of my life. 130 years old and still knows how to make a man happy. @LutonTown

**Leigh Welch** @TheWelchy4

@LutonTown @nickowentv Happy 130th birthday to my beloved Luton Town. Thanks for the highs the lows the luton town roller coaster #COYH

**MalStevens** @Ms1Lffc

Happy 130th birthday to simply the best football team #lffc #coyh @LutonTown

**Simon Darwen** @Darwen88

Happy 130th birthday to my one true love @LutonTown Still Beautiful (in a weirdly ramshackle and shambolic way).Xx

**Barry Ennis** @beenascoreboard

@LutonTown Happy 130th Luton, supported you guys all my life (49yrs)from Australia and sadly will never see you guys live I'm so jealous

**Gary Howard** @GaryLTFC

Happy Birthday @LutonTown 130 years of history, ups and downs, highs and lows, good and bad... A roller coaster but years of enjoyment

**Jade Kirby** @JadeK093

Happy birthday @LutonTown 130 years today there have been many events written with highs and lows over the years here's to the next 130!

**Nils Tore Heggstad** @NilsTHeggstad

The world's greatest club is 130 years today!! Happy birthday @LutonTown!!

**Mason Lewis Smith** Happy birthday Luton town FC, I'll support you ever more.

**Jamie Cooper** I love how it's also my birthday today. Me and Luton are just meant to be.

**Esther Jeffery** Very happy birthday Luton Town always very proud of you.

**Daniel Hughes** Happy Birthday to The Hatters. I have fond memories of the 95/96 season while studying in the town.

**Linda Rogers** Here's to the next 130 years. COYH!

**Roger Dinallo** 60 years a luton supporter happy birthday Luton town.

**James Martin** Funny to think 5 years ago we were facing the death of our club, now we are celebrating 130 years of existence, just shows that our club will never die. Happy birthday LTFC.

**Paul Stewart** Brilliant! Many have tried to destroy us, from past boardroom level to the footballing authorities. Still we live and breath as one! Something that franchise fc up the m1 will never experience! Up the hatters!

**Giuseppe Romano** Happy birthday ...and be prosperous for the right reasons. To be famous like the the Wanderers. may the hatters be protected from evil forever.

**Jonathan Petty** Happy 130th birthday Luton Town FC - from a lifelong fan from my days at Tennyson Road Primary School via Rotheram High School up to this very day. Happy memories of Graham French waltzing down the wing in the 60s.

**Callum** @callumLffc

Happy Birthday @LutonTown I'll always love you whatever you do !! #COYH

**David Gentle** @DgGentle

The famous Luton Town are 130 years old today and been the vain of my life for 38 of those,HAPPY BIRTHDAY #coyh

**Rhett** @Rhett1971

Happy Birthday Luton Town. 130? you look younger every day.

**Robson O'Reardon** @LTFCROBBOX

@LutonTown Happy Birthday to my beloved football club. You make me happy & sad but wouldn't change it for the world.

**Rob Kovacs** @Robkov1

Happy Birthday to the love of my life...Luton Town FC ...130 today!

**Luton Town FC** @LutonTown

130 years old today. Defeated today. But we'll be here tomorrow and for the next 130 #wewillneverdie #COYH

# Steam Fair

Sunday 17 May, 10am - 4pm

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# JUNIOR HATTERS



Poor old Harry is lost in the tunnels under the main stand... can you help him escape?



## WHERE'S HARRY?

Cheeky Happy Harry is hiding somewhere in this programme! Can you find him? Ask your parent or guardian to tweet us with a picture if you do.  
#COYH #WEFOUNDHARRY



Our visitors Hartlepool Utd's mascot is H' Angus the monkey. We've done some research, and he's well know for being a very cheeky monkey indeed.



Did you know that the little bee that appears at the centre of the Luton Town crest represents industry. Luton has a long history of industry, and in the olden days, the biggest of all was the straw plait trade. Straw plait was used to make among other things... **HATS!** Luton was famous for its straw hats, which is where we got our nickname - **THE HATTERS**





# FUT5AL CUP FINALS

**SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
COPPER BOX ARENA**

- Soccer AM Semi-Final 1
- Soccer AM Semi-Final 2
- FLT Futsal Plate Final
- FLT Futsal Ladies Challenge
- Soccer AM V Select Team

## SOCCER AM FINAL

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Challenges | Music | Cheerleading

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U16 £2 | Adult £3 | Family\* £8 | Squad Special\* £25

**TICKETLINE.CO.UK**



Doors Open 10:00 AM | Action Starts 11:00 AM  
Copper Box Arena, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, London E20 3HB

Ticket proceeds support The Football League Trust in changing lives through the power of sport

\*Family = 2 adults & 2 children OR 1 adult & 3 children | \* Squad Special = up to 3 adult coaches & up to 16 U16 players

**18th APRIL**

# ON THIS DAY

## ► THE RECORD

The Town's record on this day is a mixed one with the successes just outweighing the disappointments from the 25 matches over the years on 18th April. The Hatters have won 10, drawn eight and lost seven, scoring 40 goals and conceding 32. On home soil the Town have won eight, drawn five and lost three, scoring 29 and conceding 17. Only three times have the Hatters failed to score on this day, but you have to go back to 1933 to find the last time the Town scored more than two goals in a match on 18th April – that came in a 3-1 win over Queens Park Rangers at Kenilworth Road in Division 3 (South).

## ► THE LAST TIME

You don't have to go back far for the last time a Town team took part on 18th April – just two years in fact. The Hatters hosted Ebbsfleet United in the Conference in 2013 and ran out comfortable winners against the already-relegated visitors thanks to two goals from Alex Wall – his first two goals in Luton colours. Only 5,934 witnessed the game which took place on a Thursday night. It was the Hatters' final home match of the 2012/13 campaign.

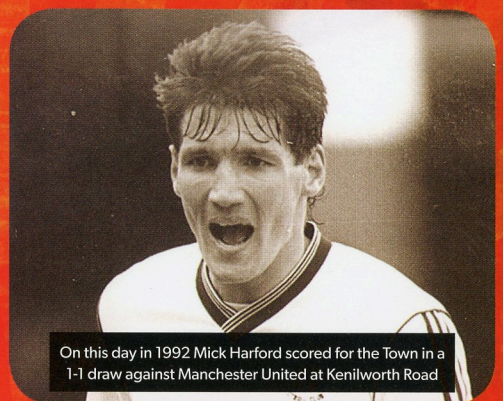
## ► TOP FLIGHT TOWN

On four occasions have the Town played in the top flight of English football on 18th April. The record reads one win, one defeat and two draws in matches played in what was Division One. A goal from Mick Harford earned the Hatters a point in a 1-1 draw with Manchester United at Kenilworth Road on this day in 1992. The Red Devils had taken a first half lead through Lee Sharpe before Harford's leveller.

Five years earlier the Town beat Coventry City 2-0 at Kenilworth Road in the top flight thanks to goals from Brian Stein and Mike Newell in front of a crowd of 9,380.

That was the Hatters' first top flight fixture on 18th April since a 1-1 draw in 1960 against Blackburn Rovers in which Billy Bingham netted the Town goal before a crowd of 14,167 at Kenilworth Road.

The Town were hammered in their first match in the First Division on this day when going down 5-0 at Wolves in front of 41,000 at Molineux. The home side were crowned champions of England over a few weeks later.



On this day in 1992 Mick Harford scored for the Town in a 1-1 draw against Manchester United at Kenilworth Road

## ► THE BIGGEST WINS

The Hatters' largest margin of victory on 18th April is by four goals, which has happened only twice, once in 1903 the second time in 1927. In their first ever match on this particular day the Hatters romped to a 4-0 win over West Ham in the Southern League, watched by approximately 2,000 people. Then, 23 years later, the Town beat Brighton & Hove Albion in Division 3 (South) by the same scoreline.

## ► ON THE ROAD

Away from home the Town have struggled for results on 18th April, winning just twice, drawing three times and losing on four occasions – and only scoring 11 times in the process. The Town won 2-0 at Newport County in 1936 with a certain Joe Payne on target the same week in which he netted 10 goals against Bristol Rovers (on 13th). The Town's only other win away from home on this day came in 1969 when goals from John Moore and Bruce Rioch gave the Hatters a 2-0 win at Tranmere Rovers in Division 3 (now League 1).

## ► AND THE REST

A David Moss penalty gave the Town a 1-0 win over Bristol Rovers at Kenilworth Road in 1981, while the Hatters' last Football League match on this day came in 2009 when a goal from Rossi Jarvis gave the Town a point in a 1-1 draw at Underhill against Barnet.

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# The FOOTBALL LEAGUE Paper

THE ONLY PAPER FOR THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FAN

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BY CHRIS DUNLAVY

Poor old Rotherham. Just when they were clinging to the gravelly edge of Championship survival, someone comes and stamps on their fingers.

The Millers have been charged with fielding an ineligible player and look almost certain to lose three precious points in their battle against relegation.

Farrend Rawson played in Rotherham's victory 1-0 over Brighton on Easter Monday, with manager Steve Evans apparently under the assumption his 28-day loan from Brighton had been extended.

It hadn't - and now the Football League are set to take action. It is a bitter blow, and not the first time someone has been on the pitch when they shouldn't have.

## JAMES ROBINSON

These days, deductions are limited to a maximum of 12 points - no matter how many times the offender played.

A decade ago that wasn't the case, meaning Conference side Altrincham found themselves smashed with an eye-watering 18-point hit for fielding an ineligible player in April 2006.

When striker James Robinson arrived from Accrington, nobody dreamed he would need international clearance. He was, after all, a scouser from a club 35 miles up the M60.

What the Robins didn't realise was that Accrington had signed him from Icelandic side IBV (or Íþróttabandalag Vestmannaeyja if you'd prefer) and hadn't registered him properly in the first place.

As a result, Robinson was still registered in Iceland. By the time the error came to light, Robinson - who scored four goals in 14 games - had moved to Australia, the season was almost over and the deduction doomed them to relegation.

Incredibly, however, lady luck rode to the rescue as Canvey Island resigned from the league, Scarborough went bust and Alty - despite finishing bottom - stayed up.

## DARRELL GRIFFITH

Fair enough, a wrongly-registered player shouldn't be on the pitch. But rugby league side Salford took things to a whole new level when they sneaked on an extra man in a Super League victory over Castleford in 2009.



Rotherham boss Steve Evans is facing up to seeing his side being docked points

Prop forward Darrell Griffith was supposedly 'replaced' by Vic Mauro - only for TV footage to show them both in the thick of the action as the Reds held on for a narrow 34-30 win.

A count-up subsequently revealed that Salford had indeed spent the last three minutes a man up, no doubt aiding their desperate last-ditch defence.

Unwisely, the Manchester outfit appealed the £10,000 fine handed down by the RFL, who responded by throwing a two-point deduction into the mix as well.

## NAZIM AND ZABID MOHAMMED

During a match in the Merseyside cricket league in 2009, identical twins Nazim and Zabid came up with a seemingly ingenious ruse - at the end of the innings Nazim, a bowler, would swap with his batsman brother, injecting an unexpected bit of class into the tail. Unfortunately, their eagle-eyed opponents realised that only one of them was left handed. Both of them were banned for life.



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# league look

## LEAGUE 2 NEWS IN BRIEF

The Town face a battle to extend their season in the League 2 Play-Offs with three games to go.

The Hatters need to overhaul either Stevenage, in sixth, or Plymouth, in seventh, to gatecrash the Play-Offs.

Stevenage's visit to Kenilworth Road on the final day of the season could be particularly significant, but the Hertfordshire will need to drop points before then for the Hatters to stand a chance of catching them. Boro lie five points ahead of the Town and face a trip to Accrington today before taking on Carlisle at home next Saturday.

The team closest to the Town in the table are Plymouth who sit three points above the Hatters with a superior goal difference. Argyle, who drew 1-1 at home to Wimbledon on Tuesday face a long trip to Carlisle this afternoon before hosting Tranmere at Home Park next Saturday. The Pilgrims end the season, however, with a trip to Shrewsbury, who could still be challenging for the title.

Still in the hunt for the Play-Offs are Newport and Exeter, who lie in ninth and 10th respectively.

County, who host Dagenham today, are level on points with the Town, while Exeter are a point back and today they host promotion-chasing Southend.

Elsewhere in League 2, Burton missed the chance to seal promotion on Wednesday after being held to a 1-1 draw with Carlisle. However the Brewers and Shrewsbury can both seal promotion today if results go their way. Burton travel to Morecambe while the Shrews host York.

At the other end of the table it is looking increasingly like two from three clubs who will face relegation to the Conference. Cheltenham boosted their survival chances with a 3-1 win over Cambridge in the week and are just a point behind our visitors today who like just outside the relegation zone.

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

Accrington v Stevenage, AFC Wimbledon v Wycombe,  
Cambridge v Mansfield, Carlisle v Plymouth,  
Exeter v Southend, Morecambe v Burton,  
Newport v Dagenham, Northampton v Cheltenham,  
Portsmouth v Bury, Shrewsbury v York,  
Tranmere v Oxford.

## LEAGUE TABLE 2014/15

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Burton Albion	43	25	10	8	61	35	26	85
2 Shrewsbury Town	43	25	8	10	65	29	36	83
3 Wycombe Wanderers	43	22	14	7	64	42	22	80
4 Bury	42	23	7	12	56	39	17	76
5 Southend United	42	21	12	9	50	35	15	75
6 Stevenage	43	19	11	13	59	50	9	68
7 Plymouth Argyle	43	18	11	14	50	33	17	65
<b>8 Luton Town</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>62</b>
9 Newport County AFC	43	17	11	15	47	50	-3	62
10 Exeter City	43	16	13	14	58	61	-3	61
11 Northampton Town	43	17	7	19	62	56	6	58
12 Morecambe	43	15	12	16	48	49	-1	57
13 AFC Wimbledon	43	14	14	15	53	57	-4	56
14 Portsmouth	43	13	14	16	49	51	-2	53
15 Dagenham & Redbridge	43	15	8	20	50	55	-5	53
16 Oxford United	43	12	16	15	44	49	-5	52
17 Accrington Stanley	43	14	10	19	54	70	-16	52
18 York City	43	11	18	14	45	47	-2	51
19 Cambridge United	43	12	12	19	56	60	-4	48
20 Mansfield Town	43	13	9	21	35	55	-20	48
21 Carlisle United	43	13	7	23	51	70	-19	46
22 Hartlepool United	43	11	8	24	34	63	-29	41
23 Cheltenham Town	43	9	13	21	39	63	-24	40
24 Tranmere Rovers	43	9	12	22	43	60	-17	39

## PLAYER STATS 2014/15

	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		DISCIP		LFC				
	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	Y	R	APPS	GLS			
Zane Banton	0	(0)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	
Paul Benson	16	(5)	1	3	(0)	1	19	(5)	2	5	1	62	20
Paul Connolly	4	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	6	(0)	0	3	0	6	0
Mark Cullen	30	(9)	12	5	(0)	1	35	(9)	13	3	0	80	23
Nathan Doyle	25	(0)	0	4	(0)	0	29	(0)	0	7	0	29	0
Andy Drury	30	(5)	2	4	(0)	0	34	(5)	2	2	0	65	10
Fraser Franks	10	(3)	0	4	(0)	0	14	(3)	0	2	0	34	0
Scott Griffiths	32	(0)	1	4	(0)	0	36	(0)	1	2	0	88	2
Luke Guttridge	17	(7)	3	2	(1)	1	19	(8)	4	1	0	60	17
Ryan Hall	4	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	4	(0)	0	0	0	4	0
Michael Harriman	32	(0)	0	4	(0)	1	36	(0)	1	2	0	36	1
Jake Howells	25	(8)	3	3	(2)	1	28	(10)	4	1	0	314	30
Elliot Justham	12	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	13	(0)	0	0	0	20	0
Lewis Kissella	2	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	1	0	2	0
Alex Lacey	10	(8)	0	2	(0)	0	12	(8)	0	0	0	51	1
Ross Lafayette	1	(10)	0	0	(3)	0	1	(13)	0	2	0	14	0
Alex Lawless	7	(8)	3	0	(1)	0	7	(9)	3	1	0	172	21
Elliot Lee	6	(2)	3	0	(0)	0	6	(2)	3	3	0	8	3
Cameron McGeehan	10	(2)	2	0	(0)	0	10	(2)	2	3	0	30	5
Steve McNulty	38	(0)	0	4	(0)	0	42	(0)	0	9	2	110	2
Ricky Miller	2	(9)	1	1	(2)	1	3	(11)	2	1	0	14	2
Nathan Oduwa	3	(8)	0	0	(0)	0	3	(8)	0	1	0	11	0
Andrew Parry	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	26	4
Ian Rees	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	4	0
Matt Robinson	7	(2)	0	1	(2)	0	8	(4)	0	0	1	57	3
Luke Rooney	8	(3)	3	2	(0)	2	10	(3)	5	2	1	19	5
Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu	10	(6)	1	0	(2)	0	10	(8)	1	1	0	42	3
Charlie Smith	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	3	0
Jonathan Smith	32	(0)	2	5	(0)	0	37	(0)	2	5	0	97	5
Jim Stevenson	2	(9)	1	1	(0)	0	3	(9)	1	1	0	18	1
Jayden Stockley	11	(2)	3	0	(0)	0	11	(2)	3	3	0	13	3
Mark Tyler	31	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	36	(0)	0	2	0	266	0
Charlie Walker	0	(3)	0	1	(2)	0	1	(5)	0	0	0	6	0
Alex Wall	1	(5)	1	1	(0)	0	2	(5)	1	3	0	34	7
Shaun Whalley	13	(4)	3	1	(0)	0	14	(4)	3	2	0	40	5
Luke Wilkinson	39	(0)	4	6	(0)	0	45	(0)	4	7	2	45	4
Curtley Williams	3	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	0	0	3	0

# THE SEASON

# Fixtures & Results

DATE			TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	STARTING XI	SUBS															
<b>AUGUST</b>																										
Sat 9	3.00pm	A	Carlisle United	W 1-0	6,760	1,088	6	-	0	Tyler Connolly Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Lacey Robinson	Griffiths Griffiths McNulty Wilkinson Wilkinson Lacey Robinson	McNulty McNulty Wilkinson Lacey Robinson Stevenson	Wilkinson Franks Robinson Robinson	Lacey Franks Lacey Lacey	Robinson Robinson Drury Drury	Drury Drury Guttridge Guttridge	Howells <b>ROONEY 1</b> Cullen Cullen <b>ROONEY 1</b>	Benson Benson Benson Benson	Franks Lacey Wall Lacey Franks Lacey	Wall Wall Wall Wall	Rooney Howells Williams Howells	Ruddock Ruddock Ruddock Ruddock	Guttridge Guttridge Stevenson Stevenson	Stevenson Lafayette Lafayette Stevenson	Justham Justham Justham Justham	
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>																										
Sat 6	12.15pm	H	Plymouth Argyle	L 0-1	7,864	527	19	-	0	Tyler Williams Griffiths Griffiths Lacey	Connolly Williams Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths	McNulty McNulty Lacey McNulty McNulty	Lacey Wilkinson Wilkinson Lacey <b>WILKINSON 1</b>	Ruddock Lacey Smith Lacey Smith	Drury Smith Ruddock Ruddock Doyle	Guttridge Ruddock Drury Stevenson Ruddock	Howells Guttridge Guttridge Guttridge Whalley	Rooney <b>CULLEN 1</b> Howells Cullen <b>CULLEN 1</b>	Benson Benson Cullen Lafayette	Smith Drury Wall Rooney Whalley Drury	Lawless Wall Rooney Whalley Lafayette	Wall Howells Lafayette Whalley Stevenson	Lafayette Rooney Whalley Lafayette Robinson	Stevenson Stevenson Stevenson Stevenson Robinson	Wilkinson Walker Walker Walker Walker	Justham Justham Justham Justham Justham
<b>OCTOBER</b>																										
Sat 4	3.00pm	A	Stevenage	W 2-1	5,236	1,897	7	-	0	Lacey Lacey Harriman Harriman Harriman	Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths	McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty	<b>WILKINSON 1</b> Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson	Smith Smith Smith Smith Smith	Doyle Doyle Doyle Doyle Doyle	Ruddock Guttridge Drury Drury Drury	Drury Guttridge Howells Ruddock Ruddock	Cullen Wall Lawless Miller Miller Lawless	Benson Benson Cullen Cullen Cullen	Howells Walker Walker Lacey Lacey	<b>WALL 1</b> Robinson Stevenson Wall Wall	Stevenson Stevenson Wall Wall Wall	Robinson Lawless Guttridge Guttridge Guttridge	Walker Walker Walker Walker Walker	Justham Justham Justham Justham Justham	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>																										
Sat 1	3.00pm	A	Exeter City	D 1-1	5,400	1,043	2	-	0	Harriman Harriman Harriman Harriman Harriman	Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths	McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty	Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson	Smith Lacey Franks Smith Smith	Doyle Doyle Doyle Doyle Doyle	Drury Smith Smith Howells Drury	Howells <b>GUTTRIDGE 1</b> Guttridge Guttridge <b>WHALLEY 2</b>	Cullen Benson Benson Benson Cullen	Benson Cullen Cullen Cullen Cullen	Lacey Franks Lacey Lacey Lacey	Miller Griffiths Drury Griffiths Howells	Rooney <b>MILLER 1</b> Griffiths Rooney Rooney	Guttridge Whalley Guttridge Guttridge Ruddock	Stevenson Rooney Ruddock Stevenson Miller	Whalley Walker Walker Walker Walker	Justham Justham Justham Justham Justham
<b>DECEMBER</b>																										
Sat 6	3.00pm	A	Bury (FAC2)	D 1-1	2,790	434	-	0	0	Harriman Harriman Harriman Harriman Harriman	Griffiths Howells Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths	McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty	Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson	Franks Franks Smith Smith SMITH 1	Doyle Doyle Doyle Doyle Doyle	Smith Smith Drury Drury Drury	Drury Drury Walker Whalley Whalley Whalley	Walker Whalley Whalley Whalley Whalley	<b>CULLEN 1</b> Cullen Cullen Cullen Cullen	Robinson Lafayette Lafayette Franks Franks	Howells Griffiths Howells <b>HOWELLS 1</b> Connolly	Miller Miller Lafayette Lafayette Stevenson	Stevenson Stevenson Miller Miller Howells	Rooney Rooney Rooney Rooney Miller	Lacey Lacey Lacey Lacey Lafayette	Justham Justham Justham Justham Justham
<b>JANUARY</b>																										
Sat 3	3.00pm	A	Cambridge United (FAC3)	L 1-2	7,063	1,380	-	0	0	Tyler Harriman Harriman Harriman Harriman	Howells Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths	Franks McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty	Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson	Connolly Smith Smith Smith SMITH 1	Smith Doyle Doyle Doyle Doyle	Stevenson Drury Drury Drury Drury	Drury Howells Howells Howells Howells	Miller Rooney Whalley Whalley Whalley	Cullen Stockley Stockley Stockley Stockley	Lacey Franks Lacey Lacey Franks	Rooney Cullen Wall Wall Lawless	Robinson Miller Cullen Wall Wall	Ruddock Whalley Whalley Whalley Whalley	Lafayette Robinson Walker Walker Walker	Walker Walker Walker Walker Walker	Justham Justham Justham Justham Justham
<b>FEBRUARY</b>																										
Sat 7	3.00pm	A	Oxford United	D 1-1	7,541	2,264	4	-	0	Harriman Harriman Harriman Harriman Harriman	Howells Howells Howells Howells Howells	McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty	Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson	Smith Smith Smith Smith Smith	Doyle Doyle Doyle Doyle Doyle	Drury Drury Drury Guttridge Howells	Hall Hall Oduwa Howells Drury	Whalley Oduwa Cullen Oduwa Lee	<b>STOCKLEY 1</b> Stockley Stockley Stockley Stockley	Lacey Lacey Lacey Lacey Lacey	Wall Wall Wall Lafayette Wall	Cullen <b>CULLEN 2</b> Ruddock Whalley Whalley	Guttridge Guttridge Guttridge Guttridge Guttridge	Robinson Robinson Oduwa Oduwa Oduwa	Oduwa Whalley Hall Hall Gooch	Justham Justham Justham Justham Justham
<b>MARCH</b>																										
Tue 3	7.45pm	A	Bury	L 0-1	2,915	328	4	-	0	Harriman Harriman Harriman Harriman Harriman	Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths	McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty	Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson	Smith Smith Smith Smith Smith	McGeehan McGeehan McGeehan McGeehan McGeehan	Howells Howells Lawless Lawless McGeehan	Guttridge Whalley Whalley Guttridge Guttridge	Lee Cullen Cullen Cullen Cullen	Stockley Cullen Cullen Cullen Benson	Franks Franks Franks Lacey Lacey	Lawless <b>LAWLESS 1</b> Benson Robinson Miller	Drury Robinson Robinson Lawless Guttridge	Cullen Stockley Stockley Oduwa Oduwa	Whalley Oduwa Oduwa Oduwa Hall	Oduwa Lee Lee Lee Cullen	King King King King King
<b>APRIL</b>																										
Fri 3	3.00pm	H	Exeter City	L 2-3	8,755	429	9	-	0	Harriman Harriman Harriman Harriman Harriman	Kinsella Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths Griffiths	McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty McNulty	Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson Wilkinson	Smith Doyle Doyle Doyle Doyle	Doyle Smith Lawless Smith	Howells Howells Howells Hall	Guttridge Guttridge Guttridge Guttridge	Lee Lee Lee Lee	Stockley Benson Benson Benson	Lacey Lacey Lacey Lacey	Miller Lawless Cullen Cullen	Stockley Howells Guttridge Howells	Hall Guttridge Hall Whalley	Oduwa Robinson Oduwa Oduwa	McGeehan Stockley Kinsella Kinsella	King King King King
<b>MAY</b>																										
Sat 2	3.00pm	H	Stevenage																							

# HOLD THE Back Page

WITH DIVERSEFM'S MARK WOOD

So with just three games to go our promotion dream is still alive – just.

It's been a very strange season so far and who knows what twists and turns yet may be in store. During September and October we won seven straight games and still hold the record in the division for the largest number of consecutive wins. In fact the season had promised so much as we regularly flirted with top spot and my wild imagination raced forward to packed gates as we battled for a second straight title.

However, this is Luton Town Football Club and we do things differently here. Since then our form has somewhat imploded. We've lost four straight games at Kenilworth Road, have picked up just seven points out of a possible 39 and plummeted out of the Play-Offs. During that time we've also completed the rare double of setting the longest run of straight defeats in the league with seven as we just avoided equalling our previous 'best' of eight back in 1899/1900. And yet, despite being bottom of the form table, we are still just three points off the Play-Offs (well four because of goal difference, but who's counting). Given our recent run of form it is incredible we are still in the mix – as is the phenomenal support from the fans.

At Dagenham & Redbridge on Tuesday I am in no doubt it was Town's raucous away following that helped our 10 men to valiantly cling on to a draw. So three games, three wins – who knows what could happen and what a madcap season that would turn out to be for the Hatters.

It is also extraordinary to think how far we have come in just a year and how our expectations have soared accordingly. It is hardly surprising given the run we were on, but it was only 12 months ago (the Wednesday just gone as I am writing this in fact) that



our long exile in the Conference was ended and our return to the Football League was confirmed. On that day it was Kidderminster Harriers who beat Cambridge to seal our return and this time around we need some other clubs to do us a favour if we are to reach the Play-Offs. But we must also take care of the task in hand and defeat relegation-threatened Pools today who will surely be buoyed by their recent rejuvenation and our failings. Fighting for their Football

League lives they are sure to scrap for everything in this crucial clash for both teams as they look to avoid their own non-league travails. No-one better than us knows how difficult it is to get out of that division.

Our cause hasn't been helped by some inconsistent and unpredictable officiating that has left both boss John Still and most supporters mystified. Red cards and penalties have both regularly gone against us and, if we still make the top seven in spite of this, what an heroic effort that would be.

The disappointment we would feel at missing out on the Play-Offs shows just how far we have come in such a short time. Whether we make them or not Still will undoubtedly look to strengthen and tinker with his squad in the summer. Some less experienced players like Elliot Justham have seized their chances when they have come, while others have not. The players that have done this need to be given the chance to continue to grow and develop, while loyal servants like Jonathan Smith, who has recovered amazingly from that double leg break, are surely worth new deals. So for me it is definitely a case of evolution not revolution at Kenilworth Road this summer, but the Hatters would surely benefit from a more streamlined playing squad with added quality.

So as we celebrate 130 years of history and unrivalled plot lines, perhaps this see-saw chapter still has some more twists to capture our imaginations.



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# THE SQUADS



## LUTON TOWN

- |                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Mark Tyler            | 21 Luke Guttridge   |
| 2 Fraser Franks         | 22 Michael Harriman |
| 3 Danny Fitzsimons      | 23 Matthew Robinson |
| 4 Jonathan Smith        | 24 Curtley Williams |
| 5 Stephen McNulty       | 26 Nathan Doyle     |
| 6 Alex Lacey            | 27 Ryan Hall        |
| 7 Alex Lawless          | 28 Jim Stevenson    |
| 8 Andy Drury            | 30 Luke Wilkinson   |
| 9 Paul Benson           | 31 Nathan Oduwa     |
| 10 Alex Wall            | 32 Brett Longden    |
| 11 Jake Howells         | 33 Mark Onyemah     |
| 12 Scott Griffiths      | 34 Zane Banton      |
| 13 Mark Cullen          | 35 Charlie Walker   |
| 14 Andy Parry           | 36 Charlie Smith    |
| 16 Elliot Justham       | 37 Kynan Isaac      |
| 17 Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu | 38 Elliot Lee       |
| 18 Ross Lafayette       | 39 Ian Rees         |
| 19 Ricky Miller         | 40 Lewis Kinsella   |
| 20 Shaun Whalley        | 50 Cameron McGeehan |



## HARTLEPOOL UNITED

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Scott Flinders      | 17 Scott Fenwick     |
| 2 Neil Austin         | 18 Lewis Hawkins     |
| 3 Darren Holden       | 19 Jordan Richards   |
| 4 Matthew Bates       | 20 Dan Jones         |
| 5 Sam Collins         | 21 Michael Duckworth |
| 7 Jonathan Franks     | 22 Josh Nearney      |
| 8 Brad Walker         | 23 Connor Smith      |
| 9 Marlon Harewood     | 24 Jordan Hugill     |
| 10 Tommy Miller       | 26 Scott Harrison    |
| 11 Jack Compton       | 27 Jordan Jones      |
| 12 Stuart Parnaby     | 28 Kieran Green      |
| 13 Jon Maxted         | 29 David Mirfin      |
| 14 Michael Woods      | 30 Marvin Morgan     |
| 15 Ebby Nelson-Addy   | 31 Aaron Tshibola    |
| 16 Nicky Featherstone |                      |

## TODAY'S OFFICIALS



Gary Sutton



Steven Meredith



Alan Young



4 Gavin Ward

## NEXT UP

v STEVENAGE • SATURDAY 2nd MAY 2015 • 3pm • SKY BET LEAGUE 2

