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OUR TOWN - LUTON TOWN OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

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THE MANAGER

Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for another big Sky Bet Championship fixture, this time with the league leaders Fulham.

I extend the welcome to everyone who has made the short journey up from Craven Cottage, including Marco Silva, his staff and their squad, and wish them a safe journey back to west London after the game.

We know that this afternoon's match should present our toughest test of the season so far. Fulham were a Premier League club last season, they still have a squad packed with Premier League players, and a manager who has operated in the top-flight for most of his time in English football.

We always rise to these occasions though, as was the case last season when Norwich and Watford came to the Kenny. The difference between then and now is huge, however, because we have the backing of 9,000 Lutonians here with us physically in the ground.

You know how important you are to us, and that was never more noticeable than last Saturday when almost 1,400 trekked 200 miles north and endured those apocalyptic conditions. I know many of you will have spent a lot of money making a weekend of it, and we can't thank you enough.

During the game it was deceptive from the other side of the pitch to see exactly how many of you there were,

but we could certainly hear you through the driving rain and wind, and of course we were ecstatic to come over at the end having given you something to celebrate on your night out.

It would also be remiss of me not to mention the efforts of Mark Crowther, who is cycling to every away game this season to raise funds for Prostate Cancer UK, Keech Hospice and CALM. What an achievement to get through freezing conditions, snow and then that horrendous storm over three days. So well done Mark, you certainly deserved the meal and seat in the directors' box!

In terms of the performance, I thought we were outstanding from start to finish. We'd been on a difficult recent run in terms of results, but I thought we were excellent in both the QPR and Forest games, and were unfortunate to only have one point to show for it.

We knew we had to defend our box better than we had against Cardiff, and the lads did that superbly with Sheasy making a couple of terrific saves when he was needed and we then took our chances when they came along to head into today in a good place.

As this is our last home game before Boxing Day, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas. Hopefully we can all enjoy it a bit more than last year, together with our families, but please stay safe and we look forward to seeing you for another sell-out against Bristol City.

Enjoy today's game and COYH!



NOTES FROM THE BOARDROOM

STEPHEN BROWNE
DIRECTOR



Good afternoon, and it's a warm welcome on a cold day for Fulham supporters and Marco Silva and his staff and players.

Today we take on the table-toppers, the highest scorers, and the meanest defence. That is some record after 21 games and I'm sure we will see an end-to-end game full of excitement.

The league remains extremely tight where any score predictions are impossible. This is proper competition and we wouldn't have it any other way. We may be seen as a minnow by many, but your support bolsters us to be able to punch far higher than our ability to spend would suggest.

Talking of expenditure, some of you will have seen the next steps being taken by Tracy Crouch MP in her drive (in conjunction with some clubs and most fans) to ensure the stability and security of our national sport. Of course there is a long way to go, but it is heartening to see real discussion on things like parachute payments and the division of monies to the grass-roots of the game. These issues have always been of concern to clubs like ourselves.

We have never had an issue with clubs being able to spend large sums on transfers and wages, because there are some clubs that have those means through their very large supporter bases and commercial revenue streams. Where a club has excelled at maximising their income, then of course they should be able to use those monies to further their ambitions.

The issue we have always had is where clubs spend money they simply do not have, or when money is generated by selling key 'community' assets like a stadium - often for inflated and unrealistic sums. This fiddling of rules, this exploitation of loopholes, is what destroys their long-term future.

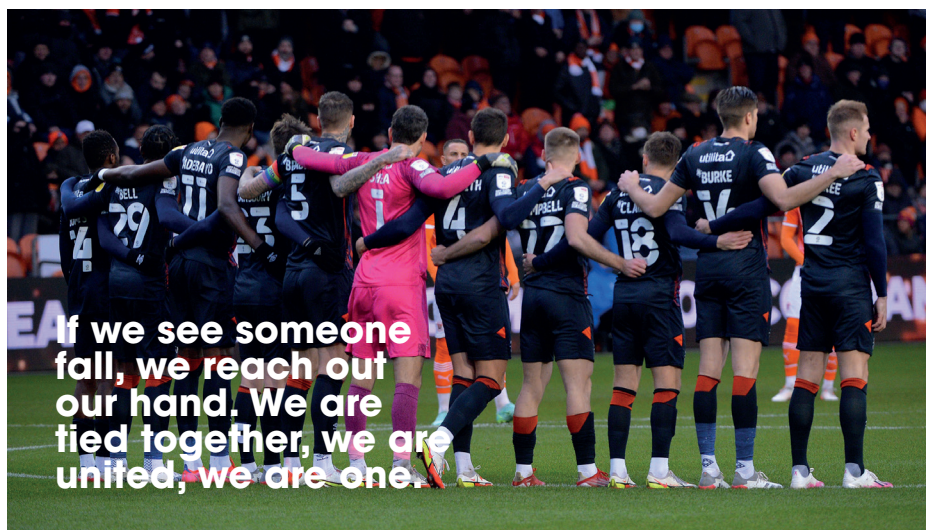
Some clubs have made it their mission to utilise financial trickery to gain an unfair advantage on the pitch. Not only is that bad for their own supporters, but it also places huge pressure on clubs like us when supporters do not fully understand why we will not follow those same paths, or compete in the same way in things like the transfer market.

As we have seen at Bury, the mindless actions of one or two people can destroy a club, and as Derby County fans now see, no-one is immune. We have been there ourselves and fought our way back, but it's a very long road when the roof caves in. And who always suffers? Supporters. We must call time on such idiotic behaviour and ensure it never goes unchecked again. Many of us will remember our years in the lower leagues where even smaller clubs copied this type of mismanagement.

We do not know how, if, or when any reforms will take place, but what we do know is that they are vital. The train is rolling and we hope that this time it cannot be stopped and we find resolutions that are sensible, fair to all, allow genuine competition, and do not stop clubs with real and sustainable income streams from using that money to reach their ambitions.

Fans too have to play their part. They/we cannot expect to have disproportionate control when their respective custodians have often put huge sums on the line as well as immense effort, time and energy. Many custodians forgo family responsibilities because football is 24/7. Many custodians deal with high stress situations because after all, you do not win anything without 110% effort. There are many genuine and hardworking people in the sport who give everything and we should respect this - we cannot tar everyone with the same brush.

A successful club that adds to its community



is an extremely powerful force. This can only be achieved when supporters, custodians, and governing bodies work together. We know this has been sadly lacking, but we do feel that the current pathway is positive.

We feel that as a club we have been leaders in this field for over a decade now - in 2007 we all came together as fans and set out our stall of how we would operate and be unified. We agreed our core values and none of us have wavered. At that time all supporters came together, led by all the Supporters' groups and 2020, and we have doggedly maintained our way is the right way, even in the face of severe criticism and unfair competition.

Today, that is still the case and we all have complete respect for each other. Of course we do not always agree (although I have to say that 99% of the time we do) and different views and debate are very healthy. But one thing is for sure - every single one of us, every single representative of a supporters' group, and every single person that is part of 2020, bleed orange. We are arm-in-arm, together, and act as one.

That is what makes us special and unique. We can look at our neighbours in the seats around us and immediately we know we have the same belief and core values. We can travel the world, see an orange shirt, and know we have a friend. We can stumble, we can doubt, but we know there are a thousand to stand by us and support us should we need. If we see someone fall, we reach out our hand. We are tied together, we are united, we are one.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Brian Rourke. Whilst money is so futile in this tragic situation, again you have all shown how united we are. We are all praying, although it feels like we are helpless. None of us can know what he and his family are going through.

Brian has a long road to recovery. We also pray for his family that they can remain strong in such a terrible situation.

Please visit the GoFundMe page and make a donation however small - every single penny goes to Brian and his family. These funds will make a difference and allow the family to support Brian rather than worry about food bills or the next direct debit. Many of you will have seen the auction that Loyal Luton have also organised and I urge you to bid. Tell everyone you know to bid. By supporting Loyal Luton you can support the Rourke family and show your solidarity. It's completely irrelevant what Lot you win - if you win at all - but it is the one very small thing we can do to show Brian and his family that we love them.

When you sing today, you are singing for so much more than just a game.

COYH!

Stephen

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SONNY BRADLEY

Good afternoon, everyone. I hope you are well and excited for today's game against the league leaders.

It goes without saying that Fulham are one of the best teams in the division and it will be a difficult game, but confidence is high in camp after a good win against Blackpool last weekend.

Firstly, a massive thank you must go out to the supporters who attended the match at Bloomfield Road. As always, you travelled in great numbers but factoring in the terrible weather conditions as well, it really does mean a lot to us players.

After a run of four matches without a win, it was brilliant to get back to winning ways, especially considering a lot of the things we worked on in the week, we had to do during the match. It wasn't pretty at times, much owed to the strong wind and icy rain, but it was a case of digging in and going back to basics.

We know that if we score the first goal in a game, more often than not, we go on to get the result we want. To defend the way we did, and for Sheasy to come back in and make some top saves, really helped us out.

Rather than complaining about the conditions, we used them to our advantage, especially for the first goal. I had a word with Kal beforehand and said the wind was bad so make sure to put it under the goalkeeper. It really is great when a plan comes to fruition! It was a great ball in, and I've just had to nod it in.

I've had it pointed out to me that it was my first Luton goal without the Sky cameras being present, which has been a strange sequence, and hopefully it'll be the first of many. We do need to start chipping in more from the back.

It was a good goal going into the break and for me and the rest of the team what is encouraging is we came out in the second half, we stayed on the front foot and we went for the second goal. We maintained our standards as a defensive unit and Clicker and Elijah worked incredibly hard all day and definitely deserved their goals. It was a solid performance and I think we certainly deserved the three points.

Believe it or not, as bad as the weather was, I remember playing in worse. Coventry away in the League One season was pretty grim and similar to last week. Funnily enough I quite enjoy the conditions – maybe not as much as Allan Campbell, who's mad, always training and warming up in short sleeves. I'm sure he's experienced some bad weather up in Scotland, and I'm from the north too, so we're used to it.

You try and take advantage because the opposition players



may not fancy it as much, and as a unit, we coped with the weather, stayed in our shape and had plenty of defensive discipline.

Off the pitch, however, us defenders are struggling a little bit this season with the pre-match quiz, hosted by our analyst Dan Bond!

He's a good quiz master is Bondy, and on away trips and sometimes before home matches, on a Friday, he organises one with all the defenders, midfielders and attackers in competition against each other. Unfortunately for our defensive unit, we're not doing too well at the minute.

It was good to get away for two nights ahead of last week's game, with the club ensuring we were prepared as well as we possibly could be. As well as training on the Friday at Burnley, we were well rested ahead of the game and it is good to have some time to bond as a team.

During my time at Plymouth I became accustomed to long away trips on a Friday, and spending five hours plus on a coach isn't always great the day before a game, so it is important to have the right balance and the extra night gave us that.

On the back of a good away win, I hope today we can give a better account of ourselves than we did in the last home game against Cardiff City. The fans were rightfully frustrated after the match, which we felt too, and we expect to play a lot better than that.

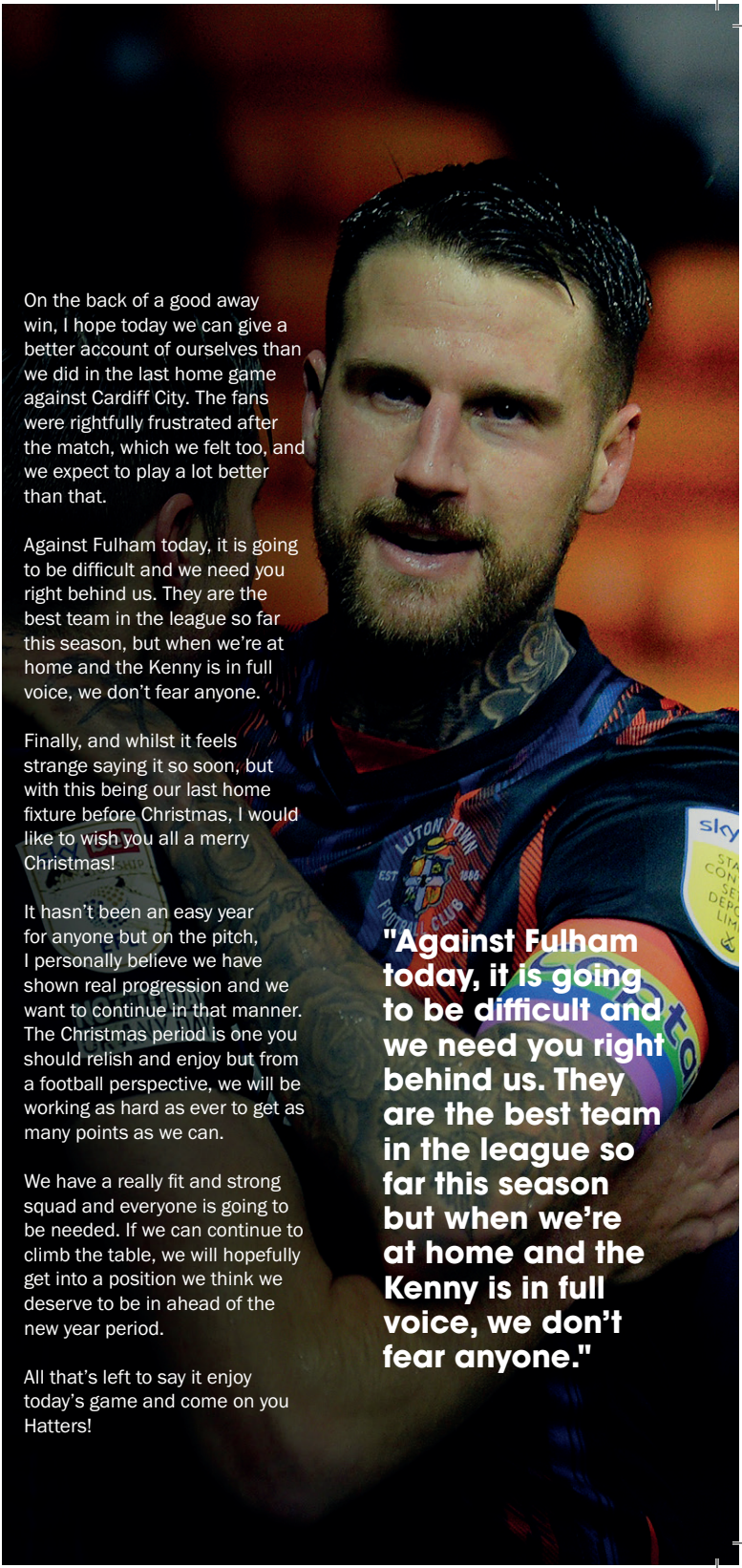
Against Fulham today, it is going to be difficult and we need you right behind us. They are the best team in the league so far this season, but when we're at home and the Kenny is in full voice, we don't fear anyone.

Finally, and whilst it feels strange saying it so soon, but with this being our last home fixture before Christmas, I would like to wish you all a merry Christmas!

It hasn't been an easy year for anyone but on the pitch, I personally believe we have shown real progression and we want to continue in that manner. The Christmas period is one you should relish and enjoy but from a football perspective, we will be working as hard as ever to get as many points as we can.

We have a really fit and strong squad and everyone is going to be needed. If we can continue to climb the table, we will hopefully get into a position we think we deserve to be in ahead of the new year period.

All that's left to say is enjoy today's game and come on you Hatters!



"Against Fulham today, it is going to be difficult and we need you right behind us. They are the best team in the league so far this season but when we're at home and the Kenny is in full voice, we don't fear anyone."



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The 61 members of Luton Town staff who took part in the Prostate United challenge during November would like to thank everyone who donated to an amazing LTFC total that currently stands at just under £28,500!

We all wanted to do something to show our support for assistant-manager Mick Harford as he battles the disease, while raising funds for Prostate Cancer UK – the charity to whom we dedicated the front of shirt space for the last home game against Cardiff City (pictured).

More than 300 football club staff across the country took part in the Prostate United challenge that has so far raised an unbelievable total of £139,000.

Participants had the option to choose a daily distance to run or cycle – either 10km, 5km, or 3km on foot, or 25km, 15km or 10km on the bike – with some going for a bit of both.

As a club, we were by far and away top of the table for donations, so thank you to our current squad, directors, family members, friends, our wonderful supporters and some of our old players – James Justin, James Collins and Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall among them – who gave so generously.

Anyone wishing to do so can still donate by searching **'ltfcprostateunited'** on **JustGiving.com** up to December 19th.

And equally as important, you can find out more information on getting yourselves or a relative checked out by visiting prostatecanceruk.org

Thank you so much, Hatters!



HATTERS FIXTURE UPDATE

The Hatters have been drawn at home to Sky Bet League Two club Harrogate Town in the third round of the Emirates FA Cup.

Scheduled to meet for the first time in their history over the weekend of Friday 7th January, Town will look to progress past this round of the competition for the second successive season.

The exact date and kick-off time will be confirmed once live TV selections have been made, so keep an eye on the club website and social media channels for those, along with ticket information.

Elsewhere, the Hatters have been drawn away against Dunstable Town in the first round of the Beds Senior Cup and should they proceed, they will face Kempston Rovers or Leighton Town in the following round.

The tie at Creasey Park is due to be played on Tuesday 18th January, but this is also still to be confirmed.

On the league front, the Sky Sports cameras will once again be in place at Kenilworth Road in January when AFC Bournemouth are the visitors for a match that has been moved to a 12:30pm kick-off on Saturday 15th January.



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THE OPPOSITION

WORDS: RYAN PAYNE

Table-toppers Fulham come to Kenilworth Road on the back of ten games without defeat, following their 1-1 draw with fellow pace-setters Bournemouth last Friday night, when a late equaliser from Tosin Adarabioyo rescued a point for the Cottagers and kept the west London side on top of the Sky Bet Championship.

Scott Parker's first return to west London looked like being a successful one after Dom Solanke's earlier effort, but the ex-England international midfielder had to go back to the south coast with just a share of the spoils.

Parker left the club following relegation from the Premier League, and Marco Silva was the man tasked with the role of a swift return to the top flight. And so far, the Cottagers have been in impressive form. Out of their first 21 games, the side have won 13 times, drawing five and losing three. They've also been emphatic in front of goal, scoring 50 times so far in the league.

The draw to Bournemouth last Friday meant Fulham haven't lost in ten Championship fixtures, a run in which Silva's side won seven of those fixtures. During the run, they recorded impressive wins, including wins over QPR, West Brom, as well as a 7-0 thrashing against Blackburn Rovers away at Ewood Park.

One man who knows how to find the back of the net is Aleksandar Mitrovic. The Serbian has scored

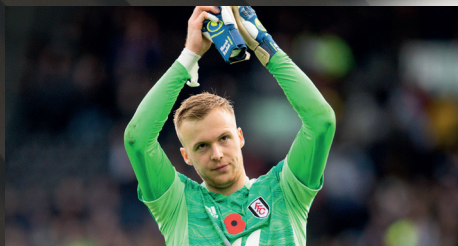
21 times for Fulham in the Championship so far this season, and will be an obvious threat to the Hatters' back-line.

In their last visit to the Kenny, Fulham scored an injury-time equaliser to claim a point in a 3-3 draw on Boxing Day in 2019. Kazenga LuaLua put the Hatters ahead, before Bobby Decordova-Reid made it one apiece. James Collins restored Luton's lead, before an equaliser from Mitrovic. Harry Cornick netted to give Luton the lead, with Decordova-Reid scoring in the fourth minute of injury time to save a point.

Nathan Jones' side come into this fixture on the back of a trip to Blackpool, where the Hatters were 3-0 victors last Saturday - a win that lifted them up back up to 12th in the table.

We welcome the Fulham supporters who have made the trip from Craven Cottage this afternoon.





THE GOALKEEPER: MAREK RODAK

Slovakian international Rodak has managed to keep his place as Fulham's first-choice keeper, despite the summer signing of Paulo Gazzaniga. Having started his career with Fulham, he spent time on loan with Non-League Farnborough and Welling before making his EFL bow at Accrington. He spent 18-months on loan at Rotherham, before returning to be Fulham's first-choice in 2019-20, then playing back-up to Alphonse Areola during their Premier League campaign. Back in the Championship, the 24-year-old has been battling Gazzaniga for the number one spot, with Rodak favoured in recent weeks.



THE DEFENDER: TIM REAM

Born in St Louis, Missouri, Ream spent time at St. Louis Scott Gallagher in his youth, before going onto play for Saint Louis Billikens while at Saint Louis University, and had a spell with Chicago Fire Premier. He was drafted by New York Red Bulls in the MLS SuperDraft, and became a regular in the side. Across the 2010 and 2011 seasons, Ream made 58 MLS appearances, scoring once. In January 2012, he signed for Bolton, then of the Premier League, spending three-and-a-half years at the club. In August 2015, he joined Fulham. Since his move to Craven Cottage, the USA international has made over 230 appearances.



THE MANAGER: MARCO SILVA

The man brought into replace Scott Parker this summer, Silva is no stranger to English football, having had previous spells at Hull, Watford and Everton. Silva began at Estoril Praia, winning the Segunda Liga and promotion to the Portuguese top flight. After three seasons, he moved onto Sporting CP, but his time in Lisbon lasted just a year. He later managed Olympiakos, winning the Greek Super League, then Hull, although he was unable to keep the Tigers in the Premier League. A spell at Everton followed between May 2018 and December 2019, before joining Fulham this summer.



**ON THE RADAR:
FULHAM**

I N I T I A T E S T E



THE MIDFIELDER: JEAN MICHAEL SERI

Seri began his career at Africa Sports d'Abidjan, before moving onto ASEC Mimosas. After impressing in his native Ivory Coast, Seri joined FC Porto on loan, featuring for the reserves. He joined fellow Primeira Liga side Pacos de Ferreira, with his impressive performances in Portugal earning him a move to Nice. Across three years with the club, Seri made over 100 Ligue 1 appearances. The Ivorian international signed for Fulham in 2018 and made 32 Premier League appearances, before spending the next two years on loan at Galatasaray and Bordeaux. The 2021/22 season saw Seri return to the Fulham side.



THE ATTACKER: HARRY WILSON

Wilson joined Liverpool as an eight-year-old, joining up with the U9s squad. His professional debut came out on loan at Crewe, where he played seven times during the 2015/16 season. Wilson made his debut for Liverpool in an FA Cup game against Plymouth in January 2017. He later spent time on loan at Hull, scoring seven times in 13 Championship appearances. He spent the 2018/19 season on loan at Derby, scoring 15 times in 40 games. The Welshman had later loan spells at both Bournemouth and Cardiff, before eventually leaving Liverpool permanently in the summer of 2021, signing for Fulham.

WATCH OUT FOR... ALEKSANDAR MITROVIC

With 24 goals to his name already this season, Mitrovic is in prolific form. He began his career at Partizan Belgrade, and made his debut for their affiliate side FK Teleoptik. He returned to the Partizan first-team and finished his debut season as the club's top goalscorer. His performances earned him a move to Belgian side Anderlecht. After two seasons in Belgium, the Serbian later moved onto Newcastle before joining Fulham on loan midway through 2018/19. He scored 12 times in 17 games, and signed permanently that summer. In total, he now has 74 goals in 148 games for Fulham.



**ON THE RADAR:
FULHAM**

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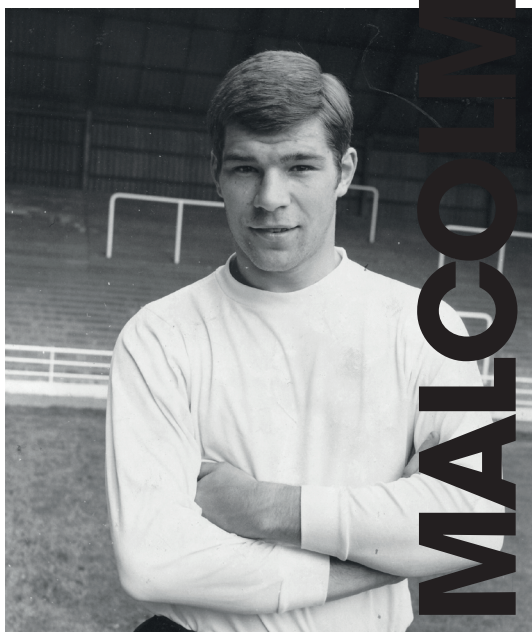
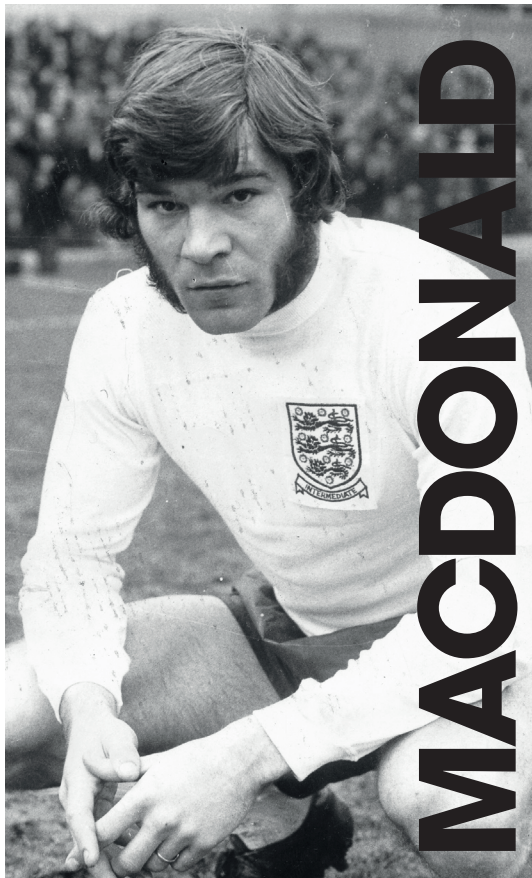
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A HAT IN BOTH CAMPS

Words: Roger Wash

Going nowhere at Fulham, Malcolm had made only fleeting appearances for the Cottagers but after a recommendation from Luton Entertainments Manager Harry Haslam, who had managed him at Tonbridge, Town boss Alec Stock took the plunge.

The signing of the little known full-back for £17,500 in the summer of 1969 raised no more than a couple of column inches in the local newspapers, but a move to the forward line in pre-season, due to an injury crisis, unleashed a goalscoring phenomenon on to the football world.

With Luton supporters still sobbing over the sale of Bruce Rioch, it was not long before they had a new hero to worship with Macdonald seemingly able to score at will, netting 25 times in his first season as the Hatters secured promotion to Division Two (now the Championship).

Fast and strong, Macdonald showed self determination to the point of greed but his teammates knew that if they knocked a ball over the top, a goal was the likely outcome. Macdonald was, at times, simply unstoppable. Playing at a higher level Macdonald became, if anything, even better and the big clubs started to take notice after he notched a hat-trick during a televised 5-1 win at Sheffield Wednesday.

Financial problems at Kenilworth Road meant that it was one of football's worst kept secrets that Macdonald would be sold at the end of his second glorious season at the club and, after signing off with a hat-trick, he slipped off to Newcastle for £180,000 where he, unsurprisingly, became an instant hero once more.

After five years on Tyneside the by-now England international signed for Arsenal, but knee problems eventually brought his playing days to an end at 29. In a second career, Malcolm went back to Fulham, this time as manager, for an initially successful spell in which promotion was achieved.

FULHAM (1968-1969)

APPEARANCES:	13
GOALS:	5

LUTON TOWN (1969-1971)

APPEARANCES:	101
GOALS:	58

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LAST TIME AT THE KENNY

HATTERS 3 COTTAGERS 3

26th December 2019. Championship.

Words: Roger Wash

The Town had found life difficult on their return to the Championship, after 12 years away, and by the time of the Boxing Day clash at Kenilworth Road against high-flying and promotion favourites Fulham, they were at the wrong end of the table without a win in four.

The game got off to a blistering start when Fulham's Alfie Mawson cleared the ball against James Collins, leaving Kazenga LuaLua to fire home the rebound. Fulham were soon level though when Bobby Decordova-Reid was left in acres of space to head home a cross from Cyrus Christie.

Another defensive error saw the Hatters re-take the lead on 28 minutes when Collins took advantage of an attempted clearance to fire home, but the game was all-square again with 13

minutes left when the previously quiet Aleksandar Mitrovic nodded in a corner from close range.

The game then swung back in the Town's favour when, with six minutes to go, Harry Cornick was the beneficiary of another mix-up to slot home a pass from Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu.

With the seconds ticking down, and an unlikely victory in sight, Decordova-Reid struck in the fourth minute of added time to break Luton hearts.

Fulham boss Scott Parker said afterwards: "When it gets that late, you're thinking this is not going to be our day", while Luton manager Graeme Jones felt inspired by the performance irrespective of the result, and said that six weeks previously the Town would have been beaten.

LUTON TOWN:

Sluga, Bolton, Pearson, Bradley, Bree, Tunnicliffe, Mpanzu, Berry, McManaman (Cornick), LuaLua (Jones), Collins.

FULHAM:

Rodak, Mawson, Mitrovic, Cairney, Ream, Decordova-Reid, Cavaleiro (Kebano), Reed (Knockaert), Christie, Bryan (Kamara), Onomah.

Kazenga LuaLua hits home the Town's first goal.



MEMORY MATCH

**Luton Town 4 - 0 Fulham
Division Two (now Championship).
16th February 1980.**

WORDS: ROGER WASH

LUTON TOWN:

Findlay, Aizlewood, Donaghy, Saxby, Price, Grealish, Hill, West, Hatton, Stein, Moss.

FULHAM:

Peyton, Peters, Strong, Banton, Money, Gale, Beck (Marinello), Lock, Gayle, Maybank, Kitchen.

After the traumas of 1978-79, when the Town narrowly avoided relegation to the third tier, it was hoped that the team could push on without the restraints of long term injuries to influential players which had be-devilled the club the previous campaign.

David Pleat's first full season in charge certainly had its issues, but he was determined to see his stated aim of 'top-flight football within three years' back on track.

The summer of 1979 brought with it the normal merry-go-round of players departing and arriving. Centre-half Mick Saxby came in from Mansfield for £200,000 and Irish international midfielder Tony Grealish was signed from Orient for £150,000. The 'O's originally wanted £350,000 but the

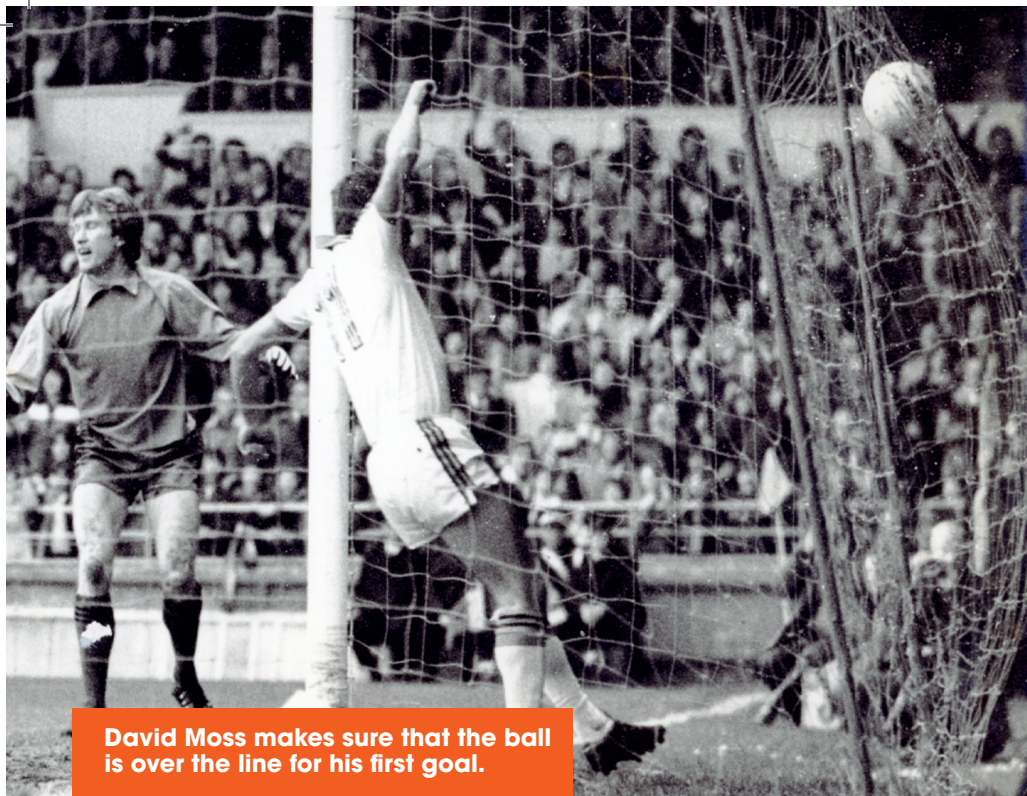


astute Pleat, in one of the earliest transfer tribunals, exploited the system as he was to do many times again over the years.

Leaving the club were Chris Turner, Steve Taylor, Gary Heale, Alan Birchenall and David Carr, but Pleat now had a more streamlined squad which, barring injuries, had the makings of a top side.

The season surprisingly started with a whimper as Gillingham knocked the Hatters out of the League Cup and only a point was gained from the first two League games which did not auger well, but three straight wins followed to catapult the team to the top of the table.

The Town continued to bubble around the top few places, but the home form was beginning to become a stumbling block preventing the team from putting daylight between themselves and the chasing pack. Dropped points at Kenilworth Road, especially against teams at the wrong end of the table, became a frustration for the Hatters especially when compared to the



David Moss makes sure that the ball is over the line for his first goal.

excellent record on their travels.

By the time of the visit of relegation-threatened Fulham in mid-February the Town had dropped a couple of places with a shock defeat at Oldham the latest setback. Pleat demanded that the team be more ruthless in front of goal, and that is what he got!

In the third minute, left-back Mark Aizlewood surged down the wing and after taking a return pass from Bob Hatton hammered in a shot which Fulham goalkeeper Gerry Peyton pushed on to the underside of the bar. Whether the ball had crossed the line or not, top scorer Moss tapped it in to the empty net to make sure.

On 29 minutes, Hatton was fouled on the edge of the box by Geoff Banton and after a clever free-kick routine involving Alan West and Ricky Hill, Moss was allowed a clear sight of goal and he hammered the ball home. Four minutes later Moss was left in the clear by a superb cross-field pass from Hill to complete his first hat-trick in Luton colours.

Moss almost added to his tally before the half-

time whistle when he volleyed a cross from Aizlewood only inches wide.

Fulham showed more in the second period and on a rare attack Saxby had to clear an effort from future Hatter Richard Money off the line. This seemed to wake the Town, who had been cruising, out of their lethargy with Hatton shooting narrowly wide after turning Banton inside out.

The cherry on the icing on the cake came on 71 minutes when Moss sent over a long corner which was headed back into the box by Saxby to Stein who, with his back to goal, volleyed a spectacular overhead kick into the net.

Fulham boss Bobby Campbell said afterwards: "We were out-powered by Luton but I am confident that we can get out of trouble," as his side dropped to the bottom of the table.

Pleat who saw the Town move back to top spot refused to be drawn on the possibility of promotion back to Division One, but was quietly pleased with the ruthlessness shown in the penalty area.

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HARRY ISTED

Matchday routine?

Get up. Have some breakfast with a coffee, might go on a walk depending on the weather. I tend to have a bit of pasta and then make my way in.

Superstitions?

Only if something good happened in a game, and I did a certain thing, I would try and copy that. But nothing I do all the time.

Biggest influence?

Mum, dad and sister. They are the people who have influenced me and they are the ones I want to do it for, they spur me on. My dad got me into football from a young age, he took me everywhere, training and matches, so I owe a lot to him.

Sporting hero?

When I was younger, I was an outfield player and a Leeds fan, so I'd say my hero was Alan Smith. Now being a goalkeeper, I would look at someone like Kasper Schmeichel as hero or an idol.

Best player you've played alongside?

There was a few at Stoke but I'd say Charlie Adam.

Toughest opponent?

When I was playing in the youth team I would say Dominic Solanke when he was playing at Chelsea, he was always tough.

Most treasured possession?

My dog, Rory. He's a French Bulldog!

What would you do if you weren't a footballer?

I'd be a cricketer. I'm a bit of an all-rounder, I used to play county cricket for Sussex. I was opening bowler, and then I would come in and bat, but I'd just slog it rather than defend it! I loved it in the field as well. It was either be a footballer or a cricketer, and I chose football!

Best stadium played at?

London Stadium for Stoke U23s against West Ham.

Something people may not know about you?

I have a brilliant TikTok account called 1sted_gk!

Favourite song?

It's Johnny B. Goode by Chuck Berry, favourite artist though is Elvis Presley.

Favourite film?

It would have to be the Batman trilogy.

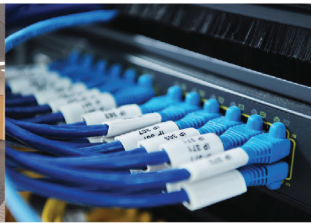
Favourite meal?

Anything Asian – Japanese, Chinese, that kind of thing.



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MATT JANES

Everyone at Kenilworth Road would like to wish lifelong Hatters fan Matt Janes a happy 40th birthday for tomorrow.

Matt is at the game today celebrating with his son Elliot – who plays for the Town's Arlesey player development centre U8s – dad Stephen, brother Jono, Darren and Freddy.

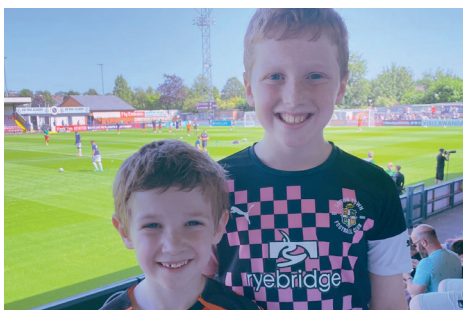
Let's hope the lads can deliver him the perfect present of three points this afternoon!



EMMA FAY

Congratulations to Hatters season ticket holder, Emma Fay, who recently got married.

Husband Richard got in touch with Our Town to say: "Thank you for loving me almost as much as you do Luton Town. Love you always Mrs Fay!"



AIDAN ENLANDER

Happy 7th Birthday Aidan!

Hope you enjoy the match, lots of love, Daddy, Dillon & Grandpa Gary x



JOIN AN AWARD-WINNING TEAM

We are currently recruiting for our Here To Help matchday volunteer team.

If you are interested in helping fellow supporters on matchdays, please email John Miller (Supporters' Liaison Officer): john.miller@lutontown.co.uk for full information on the role.

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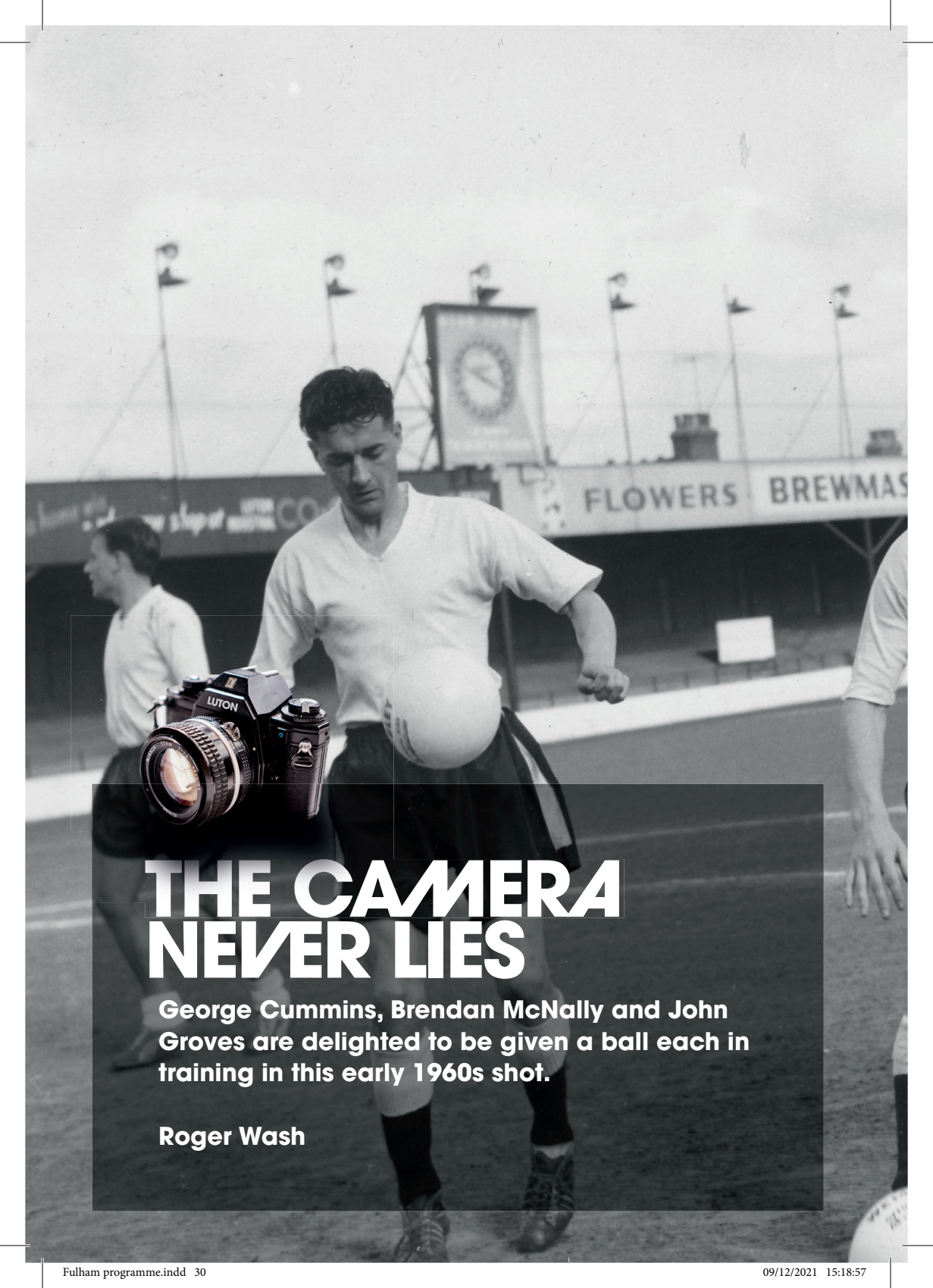


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THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

George Cummins, Brendan McNally and John Groves are delighted to be given a ball each in training in this early 1960s shot.

Roger Wash



MATCH SPONSOR DAVID STRONELL

The match sponsor today is David Stronell who celebrates his 40th birthday on the 21st December. All he wanted to do to celebrate this milestone was to sponsor a match.

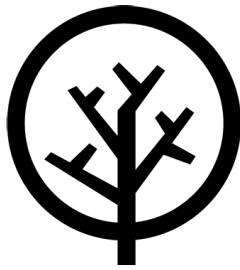
David was born in Luton but moved to Surrey when he was young. His love for Luton Town Football Club was inspired by his grandad, who supported Luton Town until he passed away in 2015 at the grand age of 100. David is now a diamond season ticket holder and he travels to every home match from his home in West Sussex, along with his parents, and goes to away matches when he can. The photo is of David with his grandad when his grandad sponsored the match ball.

David's partner states that he quickly learnt of the importance of the football club in his and the family's life, and over the years his partner has also taken an interest in the club and has got used to the ever growing collection of memorabilia in the home, which includes Cups, Scarves, Calendars, The Kit, Jackets, Clocks, Wallpaper (no, only joking, but if the shop sold it, we'd have that as well).

All of his family and friends who are here today would love to wish him a happy 40th birthday on the 21st December.

Have a wonderful day and yes, you can have something from the club shop!





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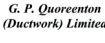
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DYLAN BHUNDIA

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Last Saturday's win against Blackpool was coming – despite the run of four games without a win leading up to Luton's trip to face the Tangerines, unlike the weather, it wasn't all doom and gloom.

The defeat to QPR two weeks before was a very good all-round performance decided by the fine margins that define the Championship. The tie three days later at the historic City Ground a similarly tight affair with the Hatters missing a penalty after Forest went down to ten men.

So, it came as no surprise when the Hatters turned in a resilient away performance coupled with three moments of quality to win the game and end their winless run, courtesy of goals from Sonny Bradley, Elijah Adebayo and Jordan Clark.

Despite the recent good performance levels (barring the 2-1 defeat to Cardiff), Nathan Jones opted to tweak Luton's starting system and personnel. For most of the season, Luton have operated with two out-and-out forwards, usually Elijah Adebayo and Harry Cornick, with three central players behind them, often with one of these operating behind the forwards.

In an attempt to turn the tide, Jones switched to using Adebayo as a lone striker with two players behind him in Jordan Clark and Carlos Mendes Gomes working in slightly wider spaces, with only two central midfielders. How did this change the dynamic of Luton's attack?

Using Mendes-Gomes and Clark as opposed to Cornick gave Luton additional cleverness in the final third. Rather than a game plan that looked to primarily exploit space behind the hosts' backline,

Luton's two wide 'roamers' provided the technical quality to receive in pockets of space and create opportunities in and around the box. It's what Mendes-Gomes did so well at Morecambe last term – dropping his shoulder, playing clever passes into forward areas and executing final deliveries.

Using Kal Naismith through the middle of the back three, as opposed to the left, gave Luton the ability to build from central positions because Blackpool allowed the Town's central centre-back to have space on the ball, much like Middlesbrough back in early November.

Out of possession, Luton began with a slightly wider press that emphasised forcing Blackpool to their right by pushing Clark high and dropping Mendes-Gomes and Amari'i Bell deeper to funnel Blackpool away from their left.

Once again, Jones showed his in-game tactical nous and flexibility, switching to a 5-3-2 at half-time to ensure that Blackpool stopped creating 3v2s against Henri Lansbury and Allan Campbell. Pelly Ruddock-Mpanzu was introduced to deal with the mobile Keshi Anderson as Luton's manager re-organised his side's press to stop Blackpool building through central areas. Tactically, it was a very solid performance and Luton largely controlled their opponents.

Despite the recent dip, Town are in a good place – 12th in the Championship after 21 games, underlying metrics that show high volume chance creation and a sturdy defence, and a young squad that will continue to blossom. Long may it continue.

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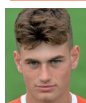
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3 BURNLEY U18 0 LUTON TOWN U18

FA YOUTH CUP THIRD ROUND

The Under 18s exited the FA Youth Cup in the third round after a 3-0 defeat against Category One opponents Burnley on Tuesday night.

The hosts took a two-goal advantage into half-time thanks to goals from Will Hugill and George Walters, before Sean Etakulu added a third against the run of play midway through the second period.

In windy conditions at the County Ground in Lancashire, it was a competitive start and Luton threatened first with Jake Burger, after he received the ball on the edge of the box and fired towards goal, but an important block from Keelan Williams sent it behind for a corner.

Tyrelle Newton started the game well and led a fine attacking move for the Hatters after winning possession and driving forward with the ball.

He picked out Josh Allen with a good pass, and with a flick in behind, Oliver Lynch found himself with only goalkeeper Sam Waller to beat, but his effort was tame and easy to gather.

The Hatters went even closer just before the half-hour mark as Ed McJannet rattled the crossbar from range, before the hosts made Dan Walder's side pay moments later.

After threatening with a number of corners during the opening stages, the Clarets took the lead through Hugill inside the six-yard box. Jack Leckie managed to keep the ball alive as it dropped for the Burnley number eight, who beat Jacob Cowler from close range.

Deep into added time, Walters added a second for the hosts after good work from Etaluku on the wing. He forced a good save from Cowler, but the



Luton keeper was unable to stop the rebound that was smashed home.

The young Hatters showed plenty of fighting spirit as the second half began, twice going close to pulling a goal back in the opening five minutes.

Newton latched onto a long ball and ran through on goal, but was denied by the outstretched leg on Waller. From the following corner, Adam Wedd towered above his man at the back post but once more, the Burnley number one was equal to it.

After Cowler was called into action to deny Ratchford twice in quick succession, the hosts did secure a third goal through Etaluku, courtesy of a wicked deflection off Wedd, which ended Town's hopes of a comeback.

Town: Cowler; Pinnington (Odell 77), Bateson, Wedd, Heron; Corbit (C), Burger, Newton, McJannet; Lynch (Matthews-Lewis 65), Allen.

Subs not used:

Bentley, Nelson, Moffat, Martucci, Hemlin.

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JAKE BURGER

How did you get into football?

I just got thrown into it when I was around three or four when I just started kicking a ball about. I played for a few different teams and then I signed for Luton when I was nine.

Do you have a matchday routine?

Nothing specific, I don't have any superstitions, so I keep my routine quite basic. I wake up quite early. I always have a bath in the morning, stretch and eat right before the game.

Who is your favourite footballer and why?

Currently I like James Maddison and Emile Smith-Rowe. I like the way Maddison gets into the pockets, and I like the way Smith-Rowe runs and dribbles with the ball.

What music are you into?

A bit of everything to be honest. I like old music, a bit of pop, rap as well. Favourite artist I'd say is D Block Europe.

Favourite film?

I prefer watching a series to a film. I've watched Prisonbreak a few times through, I really like that.

What do you do to relax?

I play a bit of golf in my free time. I'm alright I'd say! Then I watch football, play a bit of PlayStation and that's about it really.

Biggest fear?

Probably being stuck in the middle of a fire or buried alive, hate the thought of that!

If you had to have a superhero power, which one would you choose?

The ability to read minds. I would love to know what people were thinking which would be good.

If you were stuck on a deserted island, what is the one thing you'd bring with you?

It would be have to be my phone, if not I'd bring a football.

YOUNG HATTER CHATTER





TRUST BTEC FOOTBALLERS TACKLE SCHOOL UNIFORM POVERTY IN LUTON

As part of our BTEC student's National Citizen Service (NCS), our U17/18 footballers, who all study at Chalk Hills Academy 6th Form, organised a used uniform collection across The Shared Learning Trust's two Academies as part of their social action project aimed at tackling school uniform poverty in Luton.

NCS is a voluntary personal and social development programme for 16–17 year-olds delivered by the Trust which features three phases. Phase 1 saw the students make the short journey to Action4Youth activity centre in Milton Keynes for three days of physical challenges and team building activities. Phase 2 involved three days of workshops at the stadium with local groups meeting the students to talk about many of the challenges facing different communities in the most deprived areas of Luton as part of helping our students understand their local community.

Out of phase 2, the students started phase 3 with a 'Dragon's Den' presentation to decide which ideas would be part of their Social Action Project and from all of the ideas, the vote went to tackling school uniform poverty. Many families rely on charitable donations to make sure all of their children turn up for school in the right uniform and the students linked in with our friends at local charity Level Trust's Uniform Exchange. Over 3

days, more than 100 items of school uniform were collected and delivered to the Uniform Exchange, who will distribute the uniform to families referred by each academy.

CEO of The Shared Learning Trust, Cathy Barr said 'how proud they were of their footballers', and Head of Trust, Kevin Thoburn said: "As well as providing a first class education and excellent football coaching, we want to develop young people with an awareness of the issues facing their local communities, and to also empower them to make a difference which is a core aim of the Trust's strategic aims – the NCS programme provides this."

Trials for our next intake of Year 11 leavers in September 2022 are being held at Chalk Hills Academy for girls on Thursday evening 16th December, with the boys' trials on the following Saturday morning, 20th December. To register a place, email Matt at BTEC@lutontown.co.uk



NEW FIT HATTERS MALE & FEMALE PROGRAMME STARTING EARLY 2022

We're on the Kenny concourse today at the start of our recruitment campaign for the next two cohorts of Fit Hatters, starting in the new year.

We've just completed our latest two cohorts with over 50 Fit Hatters achieving some really fantastic results across a number of underlying health issues.

FIT HATTERS is a free health programme for men and women aged 35-65, delivered by staff from the Hatters Trust at the stadium. You will meet Hatters just like you, who want to lose weight, go behind the scenes at the club, learn about healthy eating and take part in an exercise programme. The main aims of the programme are to improve eating habits, cut down on alcohol and increase activity levels – one step at a time, while reducing weight and waistlines and importantly supporting each other to stay on track!

Our 12-week programme comprises 45 minutes looking at diet and lifestyle, and 45 minutes of activity sessions in the main stadium, once a week. The programme aims to show participants how to eat better, be

more active and importantly stay that way long term to achieve long-term improvements in weight loss, physical activity, diet and general wellbeing.

So, if you are aged 35-65 and want to lose weight and make a change, why not take inspiration from Dale, a previous FIT HATTER, who said: "I lost 8kg on the 12-week programme, which also brought my blood pressure under control. Meeting others like me encouraged me to make small changes in my lifestyle which have had a huge benefit and I've also made a couple of great friends."

Secure your FREE place on our next course by simply giving Tom Ford a call at the community offices on 01582 561 622, or email health@lutontown.co.uk for further information. Induction sessions will take place early January with the female cohort starting on Wednesday 19th, and male cohort the following evening on Thursday 19th.



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LUTON LADIES

Hatters take a point off league leaders

Luton Town Ladies continued to climb the table after taking a point off top-of-the-table Wymondham at The Brache.

The away side took a first half lead, but Olivia Abraham netted her 14th of the season with a stunning free-kick in the 80th minute to earn her side a deserved point.

The game was played in drab conditions and started fairly slow, with neither side able to get a nailed on chance.

Much of the first half was played in the middle of the pitch with both teams limited to shots from distance, but a straight ball through the middle undid the Town defence and the Wymondham striker fired past Hannah Payne to take the lead.

At half-time Hatters manager Nikki Baker made two changes and introduced Nicola Henman after a long lay-off with an ACL surgery. Adi Milton replaced young striker Lil Sanders, and a slight change in shape meant the ladies were more on the front foot from kick off.

Captain Jess McKay was unlucky with a couple of

long shot efforts, and at the other end Wymondham had a scrambled corner cleared off the line, but despite pressing for an equaliser it wasn't looking like it would come.

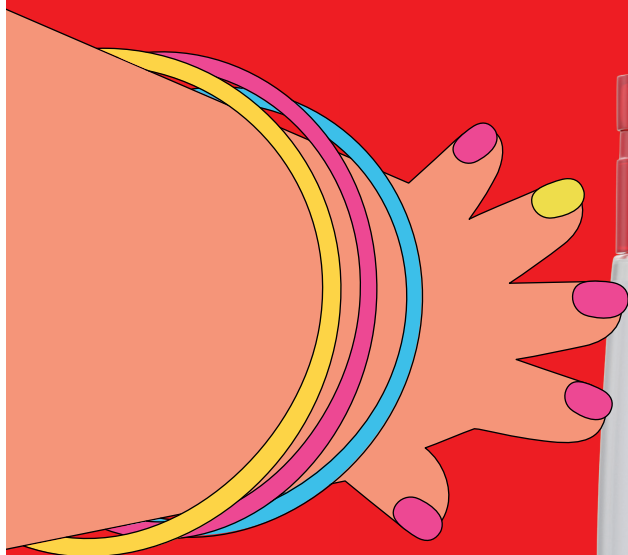
That was until McKay was brought down 25 yards out and Abraham stepped up, once again superbly hitting a free-kick into the top corner.

Once back in the game the Hatters were going for the win and Henman was unlucky seeing her shot saved.

In the dying moments a long-range effort from Wymondham caused a heart in the mouth moment, but Payne superbly tipped it onto the bar and after it bounced on the line Elly Wade was able to clear, earning a point.

"Before the game I probably would have taken a point," said manager Baker afterwards. "I am disappointed we couldn't capitalise and take all three, but it was a good overall point.

"We weren't at our best today and the game was fairly sluggish, but it's another point on the board and sees us continue to climb the league."



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JUNIOR HATTERS



CAN YOU SPOT THE 5 DIFFERENCES IN THE PICTURES BELOW?



CREATE YOUR OWN DECORATION

Decorate the tree on the left, then ask an adult to cut along the dashed outlines and put a piece of string through the hole at the top and tie it together in a loop.

FULHAM TINYSTATS

Formed: 1879

Stadium: Craven Cottage

Capacity: 25,700

Last season: 18TH (PL)

Head to head with Luton:

Luton wins - 15

Draws - 9

Fulham wins - 18

Manager: Marco Silva





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1 LUTON TOWN 2 CARDIFF CITY

Kenilworth Road – Sat 27th November 2021 -
Sky Bet Championship

Luton Town: Sluga; Bree, Burke, Naismith,
Bradley (C), Bell; Osho (Clark 80'), Campbell,
Mpanzu; Cornick (Onyedima 64'), Adebayo.

Cardiff: Smithies, McGuinness, Morrison (C),
Nelson; Ng, Pack, Ralls, Giles, Colwill (Harris
72'); Collins (Davies 81'), Moore.

Scorers:

LT - Clark 64

CC - Colwill 10, Morrison 77

“It is disappointing giving sloppy goals away, we’re addressing it every week and that is the worst part because obviously we’re not learning from it. We have to change, go back to basics, keep clean sheets and work even harder in training.”

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0 BLACKPOOL 3 LUTON TOWN

Bloomfield Road – Sat 4th December 2021 - Sky Bet Championship

Blackpool: Maxwell (C); Sterling, Ekpiteta, Husband, James; Wintle, Dougall (Carey 78'); Mitchell (Bowler 59'), Anderson, Dale (Lavery 64'); Yates.

Luton Town: Shea; Bree, Burke, Naismith, Bradley (C), Bell; Campbell, Lansbury (Mpanzu 45'); Clark, Mendes Gomes (Muskwe 77'); Adebayo (Hylton 82').

Scorers:

LT - Bradley 42, Adebayo 54, Clark 91

“It is a tough place to come the way they play, but I thought we were excellent. We were spot on in terms of our pressing and we limited them to very little.”

NATHAN JONES

ELIJAH ADEBAYO

Words: Dan Briard

Top scorer Elijah Adebayo and his team-mates will take confidence from last week's victory against Blackpool as they head into today's game against the current league leaders.

In conditions at Bloomfield Road that manager Nathan Jones described as "apocalyptic", the Hatters took the lead just before half-time with a Sonny Bradley header, with Adebayo later nodding in his ninth goal of the campaign soon in the second period.

Man-of-the-match Jordan Clark added a third in injury-time, with the victory ending a run of four games without success to lift the Town back up to 12th in the Sky Bet Championship table.

After a month without taking maximum points, it was the victory Elijah and the rest of the team were craving, with the striker saying post-match: "Goals win games. Forget the 3-0 scoreline. Any win today would have been perfect to stop the rot.

"We've had a few disappointing weeks of late, but we know we are a good team, it's just about putting those things together and being clinical in both boxes, which we haven't been over the past couple of games.

"Today, with the conditions, we've had to ride our luck at some stages of the game, but if you defend properly and do the basics right, like the gaffer says, you've got every chance of winning a game.

"The first goal is always important. If we score the first goal, then it's very rare that we lose games, so we know how important those two factors are – and yes, it's been a good day."

He continued: "With football, especially in this league, you get loads of chances to try and put

things right and I know exactly what I'm going to do.

"If I miss a chance, I know I'm going to get another one and I'm going to make sure I'm even more focused on that next chance to make sure I put it away and help the team. I haven't had many chances of late, but today I had a couple."

The task at hand was made much harder on the day due to the icy winds and rainfall, to which the 23-year-old understandably added: "It affected me, I don't know if it affected everyone else! Listen, you can't control the weather. It is what it is, you just have to play what's in front of you.

"I felt like the boys dealt with it fantastically well today. Sheasy did fantastic coming in with some key saves, some good saves, coming and collecting things. Outstanding from him and the back five, and yes, I'm incredibly proud of the boys today given the conditions, and we took our chances when they came, so all good."

Elaborating on the impact James Shea has made since returning to the starting line-up twice in the last three matches, Adebayo admitted: "He is an excellent pro. He knows when he comes in that he has a job to do and we can trust him because everyone in the team trusts each other.

"As long as he's confident, then we're confident and we believe in him. I'm delighted for him today because he deserved the clean-sheet."

Ahead of today's meeting with Fulham, who have strong aspirations of making an immediate return to the Premier League, the striker knows just how tough the match will be having come through the ranks at Craven Cottage.

BLACKPOOL REACTION

"I'm looking forward to it just like I look forward to any game," he said. "It is another game I have to knuckle down for and hopefully we take the three points. I still have massive respect for everyone at Fulham because they helped me develop into the player I am today, along with the help of other clubs.

"We know it's going to be a tough game. They are at the top of the league for a reason, we know we will have to do the basics well and be clinical because against the top teams you might not get many chances. That's where the concentration comes in and you have to make sure you take those chances because if we get the first goal, we rarely lose games."

Aleksandar Mitrovic was a player he admired during his time at the

club, but he is backing the Town defence to come out on top this afternoon!

"We know his qualities, we know he has scored a load of goals, but I don't see him beating Sonny Bradley to a header," said Adebayo. "I have full faith in Sonny and the rest of the back five, whoever is playing, to go and do a job."

"I'm looking forward to it just like I look forward to any game. It is another game I have to knuckle down for and hopefully we take the three points."



FIXTURES 2021-22

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	PENALTY (F)	PENALTY (A)	OWN GOALS	SENT OFF	OPP. SENT OFF	SHEA	BREE	POTTS	NASMITH	BRADLEY	REA	CORNICK	BERRY	HYLTON	LEE	ADGANO
AUGUST																							
Sat 7	3.00pm	H	Peterborough United	W 3-0	10,019	1,032	2	-	-	-	-	-	*	y				*	1a				1
Tue 10	7.45pm	A	Stevenage (Carabao Cup R1)	D 2-2*	3,052	1,291	-	-	-	-	-	-	*					y	a			c	
Sat 14	3.00pm	A	West Bromwich Albion	L 2-3	23,283	1,433	11	-	-	1	-	-	*						1				d
Tue 17	7.45pm	A	Barnsley	W 1-0	12,999	748	3	-	-	-	-	-	*					c	a	y		*	y
Sat 21	3.00pm	H	Birmingham City	L 0-5	10,014	1,006	11	-	-	-	-	-	*					a	y	c		*	
Sat 28	3.00pm	H	Sheffield United	D 0-0	9,774	1,036	12	-	-	-	-	-	*			y							
SEPTEMBER																							
Sat 11	3.00pm	A	Blackburn Rovers	D 2-2	11,241	810	12	-	-	-	-	-	*		b	y	b			c	2		
Wed 15	7.45pm	A	Bristol City	D 1-1	16,878	572	13	-	-	-	-	-	*	y				*	a	c	b	1	a
Sat 18	3.00pm	H	Swansea City	D 3-3	9,721	831	14	1	-	-	-	-	*			y		c	b	1	a		2 c
Sat 25	3.00pm	A	AFC Bournemouth	L 1-2	9,737	1,125	16	-	-	1	-	-	*				*	*	c	b			
Wed 29	7.45pm	H	Coventry City	W 5-0	9,805	1,032	9	1	-	-	-	-	*					c	2	a	1		2 b
OCTOBER																							
Sat 2	3.00pm	H	Huddersfield Town	D 0-0	9,977	1,009	13	-	-	-	-	-	*					y	a	c			
Sat 16	3.00pm	A	Millwall	W 2-0	14,227	1,631	10	-	-	-	-	-	*	y		y			2	a	*		c
Tue 19	7.45pm	A	Derby County	D 2-2	20,258	1,057	9	-	-	-	-	-	*			y	a		c				1
Sat 23	3.00pm	H	Hull City	W 1-0	9,999	793	5	-	-	-	-	-	*								a		1 b
Sat 30	3.00pm	A	Preston North End	L 0-2	11,059	989	10	-	1	-	-	-	*					a	b	c		*	
NOVEMBER																							
Wed 2	7.45pm	H	Middlesbrough	W 3-1	9,790	987	6	-	-	-	-	-	*	y	y			1	*	1	b	b	1 c
Sat 6	3.00pm	H	Stoke City	L 0-1	10,068	1,005	11	-	-	-	-	-	*					*	b		*		
Fri 19	7.45pm	A	QPR	L 0-2	15,062	2,452	11	-	-	-	-	-	*				y		a		*		y
Tue 23	7.45pm	A	Nottingham Forest	D 0-0	25,715	1,418	11	-	-	-	1	-	*				y	*	a		c		c
Sat 27	3.00pm	H	Cardiff City	L 1-2	9,987	1,032	14	-	-	-	-	-	*					y	c	b	b		
DECEMBER																							
Sat 4	3.00pm	A	Blackpool	W 3-0	11,366	1,391	12	-	-	-	-	-	*					1			b		1 c
Sat 11	3.00pm	H	Fulham																				
Sat 18	3.00pm	A	Reading																				
Sun 26	3.00pm	H	Bristol City																				
Wed 29	7.45pm	A	Swansea City																				
JANUARY																							
Sat 1	3.00pm	A	Coventry City																				
Sat 15	12.30pm	H	AFC Bournemouth																				
Sat 22	7.45pm	A	Sheffield United																				
Sat 29	3.00pm	H	Blackburn Rovers																				
FEBRUARY																							
Sat 5	3.00pm	A	Peterborough United																				
Tue 8	7.45pm	H	Barnsley																				
Sat 12	3.00pm	A	Birmingham City																				
Sat 19	3.00pm	H	West Bromwich Albion																				
Wed 23	8.00pm	A	Stoke City																				
Sat 26	3.00pm	H	Derby County																				
MARCH																							
Sat 5	3.00pm	A	Middlesbrough																				
Sat 12	3.00pm	H	QPR																				
Wed 16	7.45pm	H	Preston North End																				
Sat 19	3.00pm	A	Hull City																				
APRIL																							
Sat 2	3.00pm	H	Millwall																				
Sat 9	3.00pm	A	Huddersfield Town																				
Fri 15	3.00pm	H	Nottingham Forest																				
Mon 18	3.00pm	A	Cardiff City																				
Sat 23	3.00pm	H	Blackpool																				
Sat 30	3.00pm	A	Fulham																				
MAY																							
Sat 7	3.00pm	H	Reading																				

KEY: Starting XI Substitute • Unused sub y: yellow card r: red card p: penalty scorer *: penalty missed *: lost 0-3 on penalties

AUDITU	SLUGA	MENDES GOMES	LOCKYER	BURKE	MPANZU	CLARK	PEREIRA	KOSO	ISTED	CAMPBELL	LANSBURY	ONYEDINMA	MUSKWE	BELL	OSHO	BECKWITH	JEROME	JONES	MCJANNET	FRANCIS-CLARKE	SUB TIMES				SENT OFF		GOAL TIMES
1	12	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	26	29	32	33	35	36	37	40	a	b	c	d*	L#	O#	
		b			c		*			c	1 b	a					*				78	82	85	-	-	-	30, 68, 71
						b		*	c	y		1 b			y		1 a	*	*		72	72	79	-	-	-	2, 5, 26, 40
d		*			1	b	*	c		yc	a	a	b			y	d				46	60	74	89	-	-	5, 36, 66, 70, 98
y		*	b					*	*	*	y		yc	1	b		a				69	88	90	-	-	-	4
		*						a	*	b		b			*		c				28	46	57	-	-	-	7, 26, 47, 84, 88
		*	*				*	*		a		b	b								83	84	-	-	-	-	
	y	c	*				*		*	a	ay				y		y				11	46	59	-	-	-	27, 31, 73, 98
a							*				y				*		b				63	63	74	-	-	-	57, 91
c			*			a	*				y						b		*		61	76	89	-	-	-	7, 15, 23, 63, 86, 92
		b					*							a	a		c				46	71	75	-	-	-	17, 31, 64
b		a		*						*	*				c		b				71	71	80	-	-	-	3, 18, 30, 45+7, 58
		c		*		b			*	b				*			ay				66	73	87	-	-	-	
c			d	d	y	b				b	*	c					a				68	76	79	87	-	-	11, 53
l					y	b				c	a	1	b				*				31	31	65	-	-	-	20, 48, 60, 83
b		*		c	a				*		c	*					b				22	46	78	-	-	-	17
		*	y	*						a	c	b	y								46	46	70	-	-	-	27, 45+3
								*	*	y	ay	*					c				55	81	89	-	-	-	15, 57, 60, 62
c				a		c				y	b	a	*	c		*					63	64	80	-	-	-	34
y								b	y		a	*	*			b					68	79	-	-	-	-	10, 55
c			y		y	b		*	b		a	*	*			*					74	74	87	-	-	61	
			*		1			*	*	c	a		a			*					57	66	84	-	-	-	10, 64, 77
c		b			a	1	*	*	*	a	*	c		*							46	77	82	-	-	-	42, 54, 91



REST IN PEACE, MIKE WHITE

We are sorry to report the passing of loyal Hatters season ticket holder Mike White last Friday, aged 76. Mike was attending Kenilworth Road up until the Stoke fixture last month, despite a lengthy fight with illness, and today's match will have added poignancy.

His son Nick wrote to Our Town to say: "Despite being a schoolboy Fulham fan, Dad had been season ticket holder since 1982 after moving out of the capital to Milton Keynes, taking me along too, and

subsequently attended matches with his grandsons Rory and Ewan, who are all season ticket holders.

"He was a well-known face to all in the Lower Tier Block E of the Kenny end. We will be attending the game on Saturday which, ironically is against Fulham and is also Rory's birthday, raising a glass or two to his memory."

Our condolences go to Nick and all of Mike's family and friends.



Luton Town Football Club's commitment is to promote inclusion and to confront and eliminate discrimination, whether by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief. People can be assured of an environment in which their rights, dignity and individual worth are respected, and in particular that they are able to work and watch football in an environment without the threat of intimidation, victimisation, harassment, bullying and abuse. Should you wish to report a specific incident, please contact your nearest steward or download Kick It Out's free, confidential reporting app on the App Store or Google Play.

UP NEXT



FORMED: 1871

NICKNAME: THE ROYALS

LAST SEASON: 7TH IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP

FOLLOW THEM ON TWITTER: @READINGFC

COLOURS: BLUE & WHITE SHIRTS, WHITE SHORTS

GROUND: MADEJSKI STADIUM

MANAGER: VELIJKO PAUNOVIC

WHO?

The Royals have spent the last eight seasons competing in the Championship following relegation from England's top tier in 2013, qualifying for the play-offs once in 2017 resulting in a heart-breaking penalty defeat to Huddersfield. Reading's last piece of silverware came in 2012 as they were crowned Championship champions and won promotion to the Premier League.

GROUND?

Reading opened the Madejski Stadium in 1998, replacing Elm Park which had been their home ground for over 100 years. The Royals' home ground boasts a capacity of 24,161 and the Berkshire outfit have shared their ground with rugby union side London Irish since 2000.



HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

The two sides last met in April at Kenilworth Road in a game that ended 0-0, whilst Luton ran out 1-0 winners against a young Reading side in the FA Cup third round, setting up a tie against Premier League giants Chelsea.

KNOWING ME, KNOWING YOU

The Hatters recently signed former Reading defender Gabriel Osho after his release from the club, with the youngster now out on loan with Rochdale A.F.C. Former Hatters full-back Jack Stacey signed for Luton from Reading in 2017, going on to win back-to-back promotions with the Town before moving to then Premier League side Bournemouth.

Words: Dylan Bhundia

LUTON TOWN PLAYER STATISTICS

	2020-21 SEASON										CAREER		
	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		CARDS		TOTAL		APPS	G	
	APPS	G	APPS	G	APPS	G			APPS	G			
Elijah Adebayo	18	(1)	9	0	(0)	0	18	(1)	9	2	0	37	14
Sam Beckett	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	1	
Amari'i Bell	15	(1)	1	0	(0)	0	15	(1)	1	1	0	16	
Luke Berry	6	(1)	4	0	(0)	0	6	(1)	4	0	0	129	18
Sunny Bradley	12	(1)	2	0	(0)	0	12	(1)	2	2	0	144	5
James Bree	21	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	21	(0)	0	4	0	90	1
Roscoe Burke	8	(2)	0	0	(0)	0	8	(2)	0	0	0	10	0
Allan Campbell	9	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	9	(1)	0	2	0	10	0
Jordan Clark	11	(3)	2	0	(0)	0	11	(3)	2	1	0	53	5
Harry Cornick	18	(2)	7	0	(1)	0	18	(3)	7	1	0	190	30
Danny Hylton	0	(5)	1	0	(0)	0	0	(5)	1	0	0	153	59
Cameron Jerome	4	(10)	0	1	(0)	1	5	(10)	1	2	0	15	1
Peter Kioso	2	(1)	0	1	(0)	0	3	(1)	0	0	0	7	0
Henri Lansbury	8	(8)	0	1	(0)	0	9	(8)	0	7	0	17	0
Elliot Lee	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	124	30
Tom Lockyer	14	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	15	(0)	0	2	0	38	0
Carlos Mendes Gomes	2	(5)	0	1	(0)	0	3	(5)	0	0	0	8	0
Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu	16	(2)	1	0	(0)	0	16	(2)	1	2	0	316	20
Admiral Muckwe	3	(9)	0	1	(0)	1	4	(9)	1	1	0	13	1
Kai Naismith	20	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	20	(0)	0	5	0	43	1
Fred Onyedinma	6	(6)	2	0	(0)	0	6	(6)	2	1	0	12	2
Gabriel Osho	8	(2)	0	1	(0)	0	9	(2)	0	3	0	12	0
Dion Pereira	0	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	0	(1)	0	0	0	2	0
Dan Potts	2	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	1	0	178	11
Glen Roa	7	(4)	0	1	(0)	0	8	(4)	0	4	0	206	8
James Shea	2	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	0	0	88	0
Simon Sluga	19	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	19	(0)	0	1	0	94	0

2021-22 CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE

#	Team	PL	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Fulham	21	13	5	3	50	17	33	44
2	Bournemouth	21	12	7	2	37	17	20	43
3	West Bromwich Albion	21	10	7	4	29	17	12	37
4	Blackburn Rovers	21	10	6	5	35	27	8	36
5	Queens Park Rangers	21	10	5	6	33	27	6	35
6	Stoke City	21	10	4	7	26	21	5	34
7	Coventry City	21	9	6	6	28	25	3	33
8	Millwall	21	7	9	5	23	22	1	30
9	Middlesbrough	21	8	5	8	24	23	1	29
10	Sheffield United	21	8	5	8	28	28	0	29
11	Huddersfield Town	21	8	5	8	24	24	0	29
12	Luton Town	21	7	7	7	30	26	4	28
13	Nottingham Forest	21	7	7	7	26	23	3	28
14	Swansea City	21	7	6	8	25	27	-2	27
15	Blackpool	21	7	6	8	20	25	-5	27
16	Birmingham City	21	7	5	9	20	24	-4	26
17	Bristol City	21	7	5	9	22	30	-8	26
18	Preston North End	21	6	7	8	22	27	-5	25
19	Hull City	21	6	4	11	17	24	-7	22
20	Reading *	21	8	3	10	27	33	-6	21
21	Cardiff City	21	6	3	12	23	37	-14	21
22	Peterborough United	21	4	4	13	17	40	-23	16
23	Barnsley	21	2	7	12	14	32	-18	13
24	Derby County *	21	4	10	7	17	21	-4	1

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NATHAN JONES

- 01 JAMES SHEA
- 02 JAMES BREE
- 03 DAN POTTS
- 04 KAL NAISMITH
- 05 SONNY BRADLEY
- 06 GLEN REA
- 07 HARRY CORNICK
- 08 LUKE BERRY
- 09 DANNY HYLTON
- 11 ELIJAH ADEBAYO
- 12 SIMON SLUGA
- 14 CARLOS MENDES GOMES
- 15 TOM LOCKYER
- 16 REECE BURKE
- 17 PELLY-RUDDOCK MPANZU
- 18 JORDAN CLARK
- 19 DION PEREIRA
- 21 HARRY ISTD
- 22 ALLAN CAMPBELL
- 23 HENRI LANSBURY
- 24 FRED ONYEDINMA
- 26 ADMIRAL MUSKWE
- 28 ELLIOT THORPE
- 29 AMARI'I BELL
- 32 GABRIEL OSHO
- 35 CAMERON JEROME

MARCO SILVA

- 01 MAREK RODAK
- 02 KENNY TETE
- 03 MICHAEL HECTOR
- 04 DENIS ODOI
- 05 TERENCE KONGOLO
- 06 HARRISON REED
- 07 NEESKENS KEBANO
- 08 HARRY WILSON
- 09 ALEKSANDAR MITROVIC
- 10 TOM CAIRNEY
- 11 ANTHONY KNOCKAERT
- 12 NATHANIEL CHALOBAH
- 13 TIM REAM
- 14 BOBBY DE CORDOVA-REID
- 16 TOSIN ADARABIOYO
- 17 IVAN CAVALEIRO
- 19 RODRIGO MUNIZ
- 20 DOMINGOS QUINA
- 21 PAULO GAZZANIGA
- 22 CYRUS CHRISTIE
- 23 JOE BRYAN
- 24 JEAN MICHAEL SERI
- 25 JOSH ONOMAH
- 26 ALFIE MAWSON
- 28 FABIO CARVALHO
- 33 ANTONEE ROBINSON

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE
THOMAS BRAMALL
ASSISTANT REFEREE 1
ADRIAN WATERS
ASSISTANT REFEREE 2
MARK POTTAGE
FOURTH OFFICIAL
DAVID ROCK

LUTON TOWN
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