OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME • £4 • ISSUE 7 v MANSFIELD TOWN







Luton TOWN







SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2025 3PM

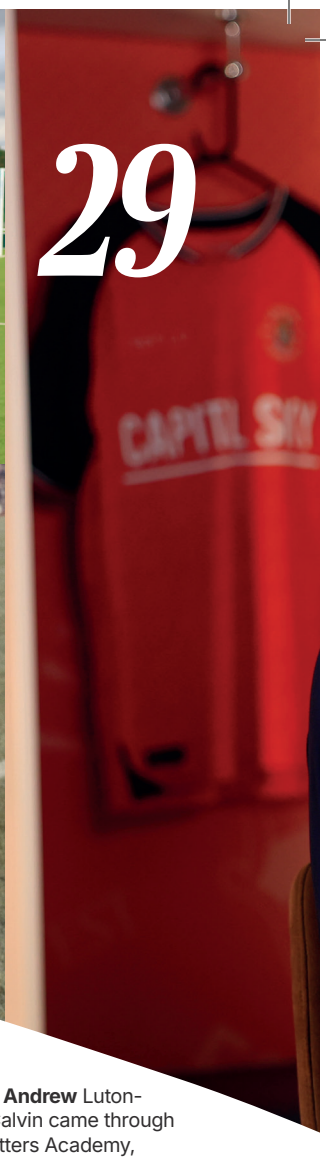
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COVER CHARACTERS













Ashley Cain A man who played for Luton Town but didn't... Winger Ashley played once for the Hatters on loan from Coventry at Chester in 2009 but the game was removed from the records. He moved to Mansfield in 2010/11, playing 20 games in the Conference.

Mike Saxby Centre-half Mike made his debut as an 18-year-old for Mansfield and soon became a cult hero at Field Mill. He joined the Town for £200,000 in 1979 where he soon formed a solid defensive partnership with Paul Price and later Mal Donaghy.

John Aston Having won the title and European Cup with Manchester United, winger John joined the Town in 1972 from Manchester United. He soon became a crowd favourite with his clever wing play and helped us to win promotion to the top flight in 1974.

Marek Štěch Czech goalkeeper Marek joined the Hatters in the summer of 2017 and helped us to win promotion from League Two in his first season at the club. He featured just five times the following campaign before joining Mansfield in 2020.

Calvin Andrew Luton-born Calvin came through the Hatters Academy, making his debut in September 2004. After becoming a regular in 2007/08 the striker was sold to Crystal Palace for a cut-price with the Town in financial difficulties. He joined Mansfield in 2013/14 and only stopped playing in 2021.

Jorge Grant Grant joined the Town on loan in 2018/19, scoring twice in 17 appearances. After the spell ended he joined Mansfield that same season, scoring four times in 17 appearances. The midfielder is now plying his trade with Salford City.

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the PROGRAMME

MADE IN LUTON
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With thanks to the media department at Mansfield Town
The views in this programme are not necessarily those of Luton Town Football Club

Welcome

It's been a while since we were last on home turf and it's safe to say a lot has happened in the wake of that victory over Doncaster.

The most notable, of course, was this week's unveiling of Jack Wilshere as our new first team manager, taking over following Matt Bloomfield's departure.

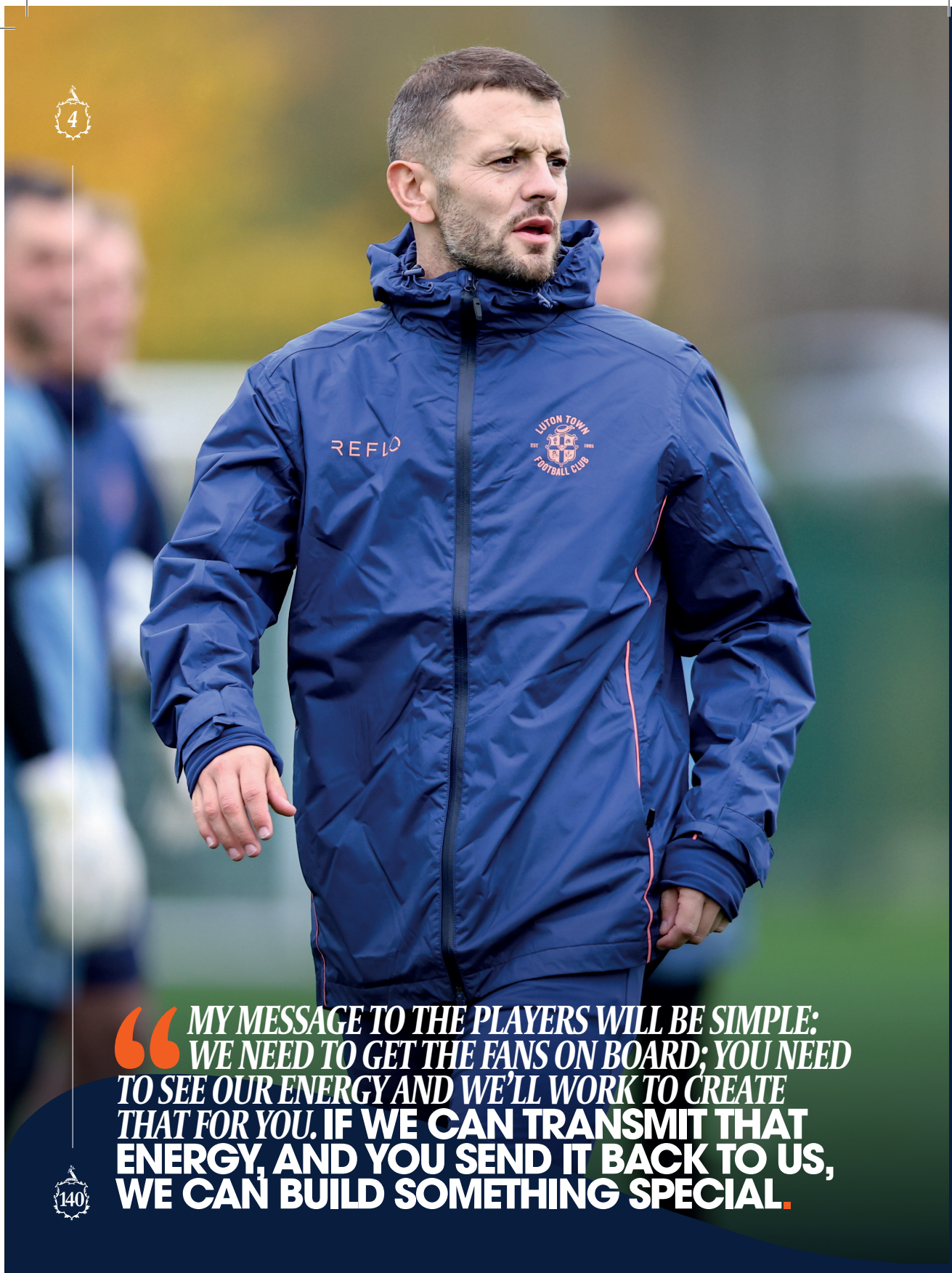
It has been a whirlwind week for Jack so far, meeting the staff, the players and the media but today is the most important as he is introduced to the crowd.

We're sure Jack and his assistant Chris Powell will receive a fantastic reception as they walk out onto the Kenilworth Road pitch for the first time and you can read Jack's first programme notes and everything the duo said in their press conference elsewhere in today's issue.

Now's the time to get behind the lads as we entertain Mansfield, our old foes from our League Two and Conference days, for Jack's first game in charge so bring the noise from minute one!

Come on Luton!

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"MY MESSAGE TO THE PLAYERS WILL BE SIMPLE: WE NEED TO GET THE FANS ON BOARD; YOU NEED TO SEE OUR ENERGY AND WE'LL WORK TO CREATE THAT FOR YOU. **IF WE CAN TRANSMIT THAT ENERGY, AND YOU SEND IT BACK TO US, WE CAN BUILD SOMETHING SPECIAL.**

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Jack WILSHERE

Good afternoon and welcome to Kenilworth Road for this afternoon's important League One fixture with Mansfield.

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome I've received after being appointed manager of this great club. From the board, the players, football staff, the staff behind the scenes and the fans, everyone has been incredibly supportive and it goes without saying we all need to back each other as we begin this exciting journey together.

I want people to know that it's an absolute honour to be here to represent this club, the town, the people, the fans, the players and the staff. It's extra special for me because it's Luton. I'm so glad to be here and can't wait to get started this afternoon.

It doesn't feel like I'm coming back to the area because, as I said in the week, I never truly left. I still live locally, I grew up in Hitchin and spent two years in the Centre of Excellence here, which gave me the foundation and the opportunity to go to Arsenal and have the career I did. I've always stayed in touch and always kept an eye on the club's progress as it has moved up and down the divisions.

And it's that rollercoaster, together with the ambition, that really drew me here. The aspiration of climbing the leagues again and, of course, moving to Power Court, really matches my level of ambition.

I saw it first-hand when I came back to train with Nathan Jones a few years back. I could feel something special building then. I wanted to be part of it, but my body wouldn't allow me to then. Now I feel like I can help bring that feeling back. This club has been in the Premier League, and you have to hold on to that spirit. Not many clubs go on a journey like that. There's something special here – it's a family – and I want to fit into that and put my own stamp on it.

You have always been great with me and your support is going to play a huge part. My message to the players will be simple: we need to get the fans on board; you need to see our energy and we'll work to create that for you. If we can transmit that energy, and you send it back to us, we can build something special, especially here at home, where want to make Kenilworth Road a fortress.

This week's training in the lead-up to today's game has been brilliant and the players have been superb. I had done plenty of homework before I was given this opportunity but from what I have seen so far, I am fortunate to be working with an incredibly talented group. We just need to get the energy, belief, and unity back. That will not miraculously appear immediately. There is a lot of work to be done. But once confidence is restored, I believe results and performances will show on the pitch.

It all starts today against Mansfield, and a warm welcome to Nigel Clough and his team who will want to stop us celebrating come 5pm. Nigel is a manager whose achievements in the game in a career spanning over 1,500 matches in the dugout is a testament to his ability, determination and dedication to management.

Finally, this is your team, and they need your support no matter what. I believe in this club and this group of players so please get behind the lads from the off.

Enjoy the game.



BOARDROOM

David WILKINSON



Good afternoon, everyone, and a very warm welcome to Kenilworth Road.

Today's visitors are Mansfield Town, and we look forward to meeting Nigel Clough and his team. We last met in April 2018 in League Two, winning 2-1 here in what turned out to be a big three points on our way to promotion from the fourth tier.

So, to today and no prizes for guessing the main content of these notes. What a dramatic time we are having! It's a sort of badge of honour to say that we are never boring, but it's at times like these that make me wonder. We know that manager movements are an inevitable part of the game, yet every time a new one is recruited, it's tempting to feel that this is the one for the long-term, and these appointments are no exception.

The average tenure for a manager these days is less than 18 months, which is still somewhat below our actual experience. We have had nine managers in 17 years, despite when signing them believing they would be with us 'forever'. The type of club we are means that we are likely to be a pathway for managers and players, so we are more suited to choosing up-and-coming young managers, who may be hungry and ambitious to move on to bigger things.

If we look back at our successful managers, there was a common theme – either players who had their careers cut short by injury – David Pleat and John Still – or had a Luton connection – Pleat, again, Mick Harford and Nathan Jones.

As a club, we are different. Our culture is what makes us tick and isn't always easy to grasp but it's what we need to return to right now. We are owned by supporters, and we are mostly run by supporters, which is a rarity in today's game. We are not, as a club, always popular in the game, and initiatives such as avoiding gambling sponsorships on shirts are taken on knowing we could be commercially compromised in an industry massively sponsored by them. But that connection and moral compass feel important to us.

This leads slightly tenuously to Jack Wilshere – at least as far as having a Luton connection and being unable to continue playing at such a young age.

As you would expect, and will have both seen and heard, the appointment of both Jack and his assistant, Chris Powell, has attracted a huge amount of media interest, so there is nothing I can add to their impressive press interviews.

Our recruitment process has become well-developed over the years, and although there are now many more people involved, it ends with a unanimous decision of the whole board, along with those involved in the process. It is also worth noting that we never begin this process prior to the departure of the manager in post.

The recruitment team and executive team maintain a current list of managers and coaches, just as they do for players, including details of agents, background and records. From a longlist of potential candidates, further assessment is done to establish appropriateness, their availability, and their affordability, and, as that list is reduced, contact will be made, meetings will be had, and a shortlist will be developed.

As the process continues, a panel of Luton football people interviews a small number of

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candidates, and then the board of non-executive shareholders get involved more to get a feel for the candidates before conducting final interviews recommended by the panel.

It's always sad when a manager leaves. We always get behind our managers and their staff and give them all the support possible. However, obviously, it doesn't always work – hence the departure of Matt and his team. It's not always because they aren't up to the job but usually because timing doesn't allow it to work as well as it should at our Club. We are grateful for Matt's time with us, and we all wish him well in the future.

It may not be well known that the main board always makes the final decision with the view that it agrees with the recommendations of the panel, and so, after reviewing the shortlist, we gathered last weekend for the interviews. Overall, 16 people took part in this process, so it can't be argued that it wasn't thorough or robust.

Jack thoroughly impressed going through his coaching experience and his philosophy. He is clearly driven and ambitious, and I think our worst fear was that he might outpace us with his progress.

Running alongside this was the search for new additions to his team. Three had left with Matt, two coaches and an analyst, and at least some would need to be replaced. Taking into account Jack's age and experience, it was felt that a more experienced assistant would be beneficial and we are delighted that Chris Powell agreed to fulfil that role. Now the two of them are looking to add good talent and experience, which may even be in place by the time you read this.

It goes without saying that we are excited about these appointments. They already feel part of us and are keen to be open and inclusive and build a relationship with you, the supporters, just as they have already done with staff and the media.

Personally, and I imagine all of you haven't enjoyed much of the football this year, but as with every manager we interviewed, I believe we have one of the best squads in League One and clarity and refreshment could make all the difference.

It feels as though there is no limit to where Jack and Chris can take us. We are still on the up – we just must rekindle our belief on the pitch.

Since we were last at Kenilworth Road, we also said our goodbyes to a Luton Town legend. Tom Lockyer, as he says in his own words, almost died for this club. His achievements on and off the pitch will be forever remembered, not least his performances leading our defensive line as he captained us to – and in – the Premier League.

Tom conducted himself brilliantly in the face of adversity, especially >>



A warm welcome to Jack Wilshere

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>> in his work with the British Heart Foundation. It was emotional to see him in a Luton shirt again at The Brache as part of his rehabilitation over the last few months, and now we wish him all the very best in what lies next in his career. Thank you, Tom!

Finally, a subject that affects us in many ways, which is freedom of speech. We are all strong supporters and, while we may not always agree with what some may write, we will always defend their right to say it. However, when it becomes defamatory, it can be highly damaging to the business, especially when so much is at risk for us all. We are now operating in highly regulated industries and in a high-value environment, and consequently, we are under so much detailed independent scrutiny as we are examined by central government departments, banks, lending authorities, and indeed, our own code of conduct to protect our credibility and reputation. We kindly ask that facts be checked before spreading the word.

"Take the risk. If you succeed, you'll be happy. If you fail, you'll be wiser." – Maxime Lagace.

Enjoy the game!

COYH

David

> *"IT WAS EMOTIONAL TO SEE TOM IN A LUTON SHIRT AGAIN AT THE BRACHE* **AS PART OF HIS REHABILITATION.**



Thank you for everything, Tom

CLUB HONOURS

LEAGUE CUP
Winners 1988, Runners-up 1989

FA CUP
Runners-up 1959

FOOTBALL LEAGUE TROPHY
Winners 2008/09

SECOND DIVISION/CHAMPIONSHIP
Champions 1981/82, Runners-up 1954/55, 1973/74, Play-Off Winners 2022/23

THIRD DIVISION/LEAGUE ONE
Champions 1936/37, 2004/05, 2018/19
Runners-up 1935/36, 1969/70

FOURTH DIVISION/LEAGUE TWO
Champions 1967/68
Runners-up 2001/02, 2017/18

CONFERENCE PREMIER
Champions 2013/14

CLUB DIRECTORY

DIRECTORS & SHAREHOLDERS

Chairman: David Wilkinson
Chief Executive Officer: Gary Sweet
Directors: Paul Ballantyne, Glyn Taylor, Bob Curson, Rob Stringer CBE
Shareholders: Kailesh Karavadra, Stephen Browne, Luton Town Supporters' Trust

FOOTBALL MANAGEMENT

Manager: Jack Wilshere
Assistant Manager: Chris Powell
First Team Coach: Kevin Foley
Team Operations Manager: Kevin Dearden
Head of Goalkeeping: Kevin Pilkington
Head of Medical: Danny Murphy
Club Ambassador & Senior Scout: Mick Harford
Head of Recruitment Analysis: Jay Socik
Player Recruitment Manager: Yousuf Sajjad
Chief Scout: Marc Tracy

CLUB OPERATIONS

Chief Revenue Officer: Ben Kensell
Chief Finance Officer: Tom Schofield
Operations Director: James Mooney
Human Resources Director: Jenn Smith
Football Operations Manager: Kelly Francis
Safety Officer: Barney McGhee
Head of Press & Communications: Stuart Hammonds
Ticket Office Manager: Mike Hooker

VICE PRESIDENTS

Richard Banks, Gary Chamberlain, Ian Gazeley, Doug Knight, Ben Banks, Emma Banks

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THE CAPTAIN

Kal NAISMITH

Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road as we aim to bounce back to winning ways in League One with a home game against Mansfield Town.

In what has been a difficult time in recent weeks, I would like to begin by thanking Alex Lawless and Paul Benson for the way they stepped in and conducted themselves, taking training and overseeing the game at Cambridge. They are proper Luton men and have done the club and themselves proud.

Training was fun, and in no way was the result at Cambridge a reflection on them. That was down to us as players. There were no excuses that night. As a team we were way below our standards.

After the game Alex and Paul spoke passionately, making us reflect on what it means to be a Luton player and what it takes to be a success here. Their words hit home with the group. I can honestly say they are an absolute credit to this football club. Thank you, guys.

So now we enter a new era, and we welcome Jack and Chris to the club. It has only been a few days but the early signs have been great. Training has been amazing, it's been a breath of fresh air, and the boys have taken to it really well. It certainly has the feeling of the start of something special.

To give you a little insight into these early days, I'll share with you a conversation that the manager had with players in the leadership group. Jack asked us, what is a good Luton Town side and what does that look like?

Every single player in the room,James Shea, Jordan Clark and myself answered the same: it looks like a front-footed, aggressive team that has the fans on side. We all said how important it is to get you behind us.

We know we're not the biggest club or have the biggest stadium (yet!) but the one thing we could always rely on was togetherness. That has been something we have lost a little, and I feel now, with the new manager coming in, this is a fresh start. Now's the time for us all to show him and Chris what this club is all about and make them feel special standing on the touchline.

It's your club, our club and now their club, so let's unite together. So strap in and enjoy the latest ride in the Luton Town story and let's show them both this afternoon what Kenilworth Road is like when it's bouncing.

Finally, I'd like to end my notes by paying tribute to Tom Lockyer. What a man. What a player. What a captain. What Locks did for this club will never be forgotten and, on behalf of all the lads, we wish him and his family all the best in his new adventure.

Enjoy the game and get behind us.



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"IT'S YOUR CLUB, OUR CLUB AND NOW THEIR CLUB, **SO LET'S UNITE TOGETHER.**

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LUTON TOWN V DONCASTER ROVERS

WATCH THE UNDER-21S NEXT WEEK!

Alex Lawless' Under-21s return to action at Kenilworth Road next week when they face Brentford under the lights (7pm).

Tickets are priced at £3 for adults and £1 for under-17s and will be for unreserved seats in the Main Enclosure Blocks A to G and Main Stand A and B.

Season Card holders and Members can obtain a free ticket for this fixture but are encouraged to book in advance if possible. Tickets are available online, or via phone and in person from the Ticket Office during opening hours.

ANOTHER YEAR OF PARTNERSHIP



We were proud to celebrate our 19th consecutive season in partnership with rail operator GTR Thameslink earlier this month.

A major aspect of the partnership is Thameslink's provision of train travel passes for our Club's Academy players which have enabled young Hatters to travel freely across the network to and from training sessions, supporting their football development, education. and wellbeing.

Members of the Under-18 squad recently joined Thameslink for a rail safety activation day at Blackfriars Station, highlighting the importance of rail safety for young people and passengers alike, while also giving players the chance to experience first-hand the skills, responsibilities and pressures faced by train drivers.

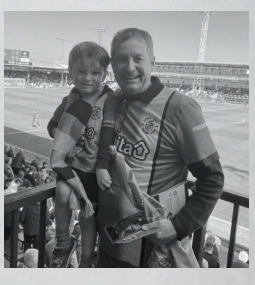
DIAMOND AWARD

The winner of the Diamond Player of the Month for August is goalkeeper Josh Keeley after the Irishman polled almost half of the overall votes thanks to some strong performances throughout his first month in Town colours, keeping four clean sheets in six league games in the process.

Josh was presented with the Trophy after last Saturday's home win over Doncaster by Diamond Season Ticket holders Ed and Margaret Glancy. Congratulations, Josh!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DAVID!

Happy belated birthday wishes to Town supporter David Williams. David is a lifelong Hatters fan who loves attending the games with his daughter and four-year-old grandson.

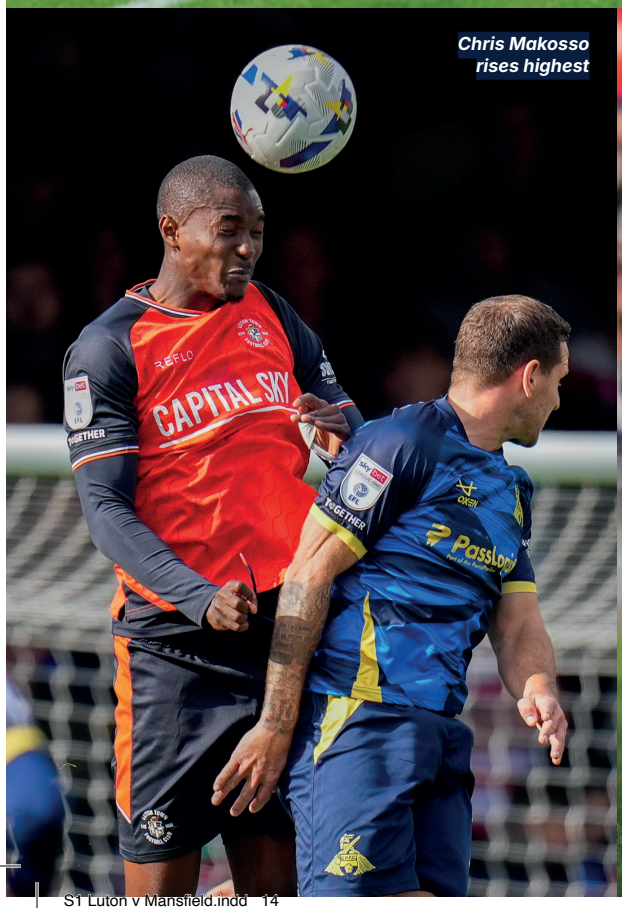


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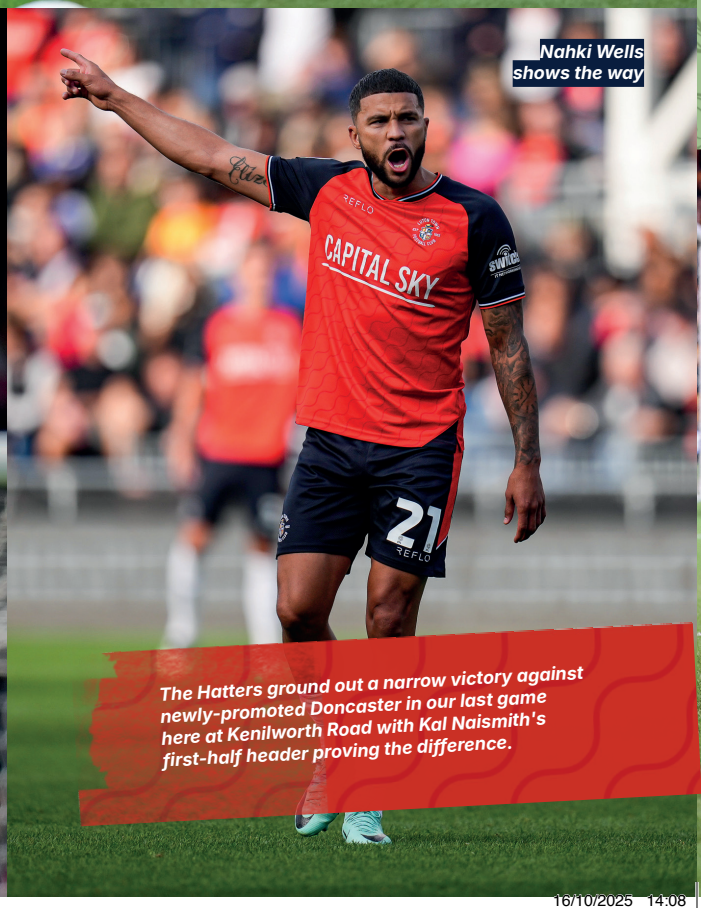
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Kal Naismith celebrates his goal against Rovers

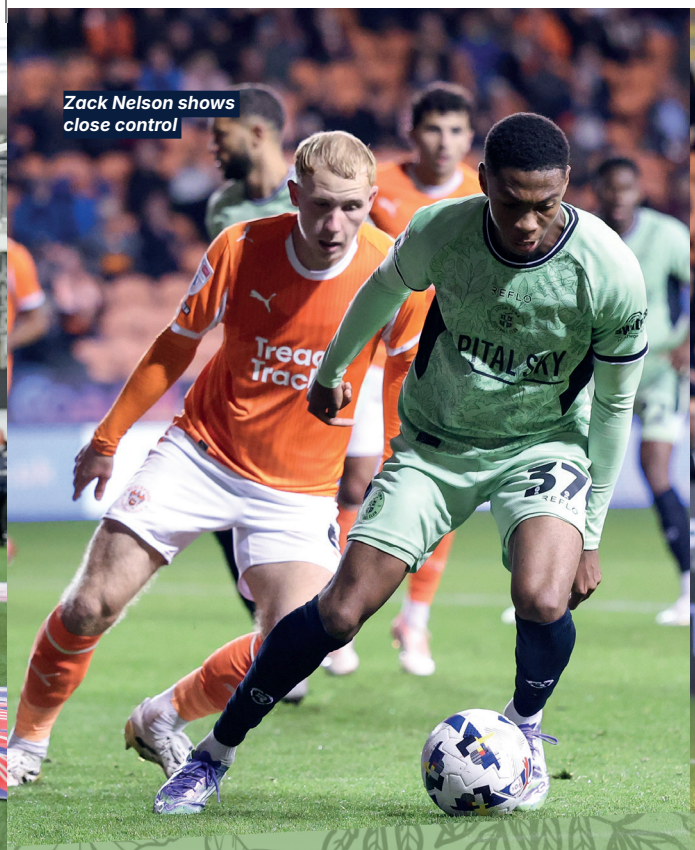


Chris Makosso rises highest



Nahki Wells shows the way

The Hatters ground out a narrow victory against newly-promoted Doncaster in our last game here at Kenilworth Road with Kal Naismith's first-half header proving the difference.



Zack Nelson shows close control



Lasse Nordås goes for goal

Two goals in a dramatic final 12 minutes earned the Hatters a point as they fought back from two goals down at Bloomfield Road. The Town had trailed to two CJ Hamilton goals either side of the break but goals from substitutes Jordan Clark and Gideon Kodua rescued a point.



Gideon Kodua celebrates his last-gap equaliser

BLACKPOOL FOOTBALL CLUB **2-2** LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

The Town slipped to a disappointing defeat to Stevenage at Broadhall Way as two second-half goals from Chem Campbell and substitute Jordan Roberts gave Boro all three points.



Teden Mengi hits a shot at goal

STEVENAGE FOOTBALL CLUB 1976

2-0

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB EST. 1885



Lamine Fanne wants it played here



George Saville battles for possession



Shayden Morris looks to cross

The Town went down to League Two side Cambridge United in the Vertu Trophy. Mads Andersen gave the Hatters an early lead, but a stunning strike from the excellent U's midfielder Glenn McConnell and two from Elias Kachunga gave the hosts a deserved win.



Nigel Lonwijk keeps his eyes on the ball



Celebrations after Mads Andersen's opener

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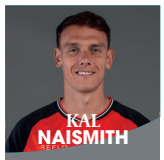
JAMES SHEA

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REUELL WALTERS

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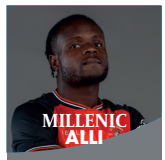
KAL NAISMITH

H Stewart Robertson
Crossco Luton Ltd
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MADS ANDERSEN

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MILLENIC ALLI

H The Angell Family
A WHOSH



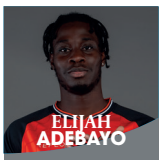
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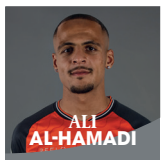
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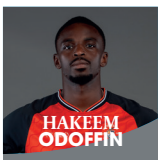
SHAYDEN MORRIS

H Mark Crowther
(Talking Hatters)
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TEDEN MENGI

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HAKEEM ODOFFIN

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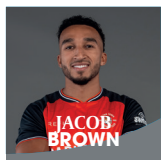
NIGEL LONWIJK

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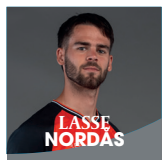
JORDAN CLARK

H Julie & Yvonne
A Ben Bowler



JACOB BROWN

H Kwesi Francis
Edubatey
A AVAILABLE



LASSE NORDÅS

H Scandinavian
Hatters
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NAHKI WELLS

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LAMINE FANNE

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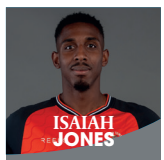
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H Doug the Hatter
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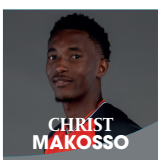
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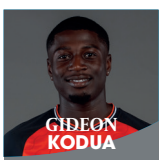
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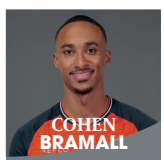
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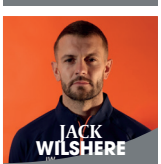
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S1 Luton v Mansfield.indd 18 16/10/2025 14:09

SPONSORSHIP & HOSPITALITY

At our last home game against Doncaster, midfielder Lamine Fanne was named man-of-the-match and we also had the pleasure of welcoming three mascots to the game.

Our guests in the Eric Morecambe Lounge also got a surprise before and after the game with Rovers. Defender Reuell Walters and striker Jerry Yates popped in to meet and greet guests, signing autographs and posing for photos.

The duo also took part in a question-and-answer session where the pair gave an update on the season so far, as well as giving their thoughts on the season ahead.

Post-match our guests then were introduced to goalkeeper Josh Keeley and forward Milli Alli after the pair helped us to a 1-0 victory.

This is just one of the many benefits to matchday hospitality at Kenilworth Road, so if you're interested in becoming a match or matchball sponsor or wish to catch the Hatters in action in style, you're just one phone call or email away!













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MANSFIELD TOWN

The Stags make the journey down to Bedfordshire as Nigel Clough's Mansfield Town side visit Kenilworth Road this Saturday afternoon.

Having won promotion from League Two in 2023/24, last term the Stags comfortably avoided relegation, finishing 17th in the third tier.

This afternoon Mansfield arrive in Bedfordshire in 12th in the table, just one place below the Hatters.

The Stags have enjoyed another decent start in League One this campaign as they won three out of their first five league games. Their season began with a 2-1 defeat against Burton and a defeat to Doncaster, but they soon turned this around.

Consecutive wins against Exeter, Blackpool and Leyton Orient saw them fly up the table.

However, since then, it's been much tougher as the Stags have just one win in their last eight competitive matches, that victory coming over Rotherham at Field Mill at the end of September.

Stags fans in the Oak Road end this afternoon will be hoping to see their side win here for only the fourth time in 19 games. It was back in the National League in 2013 that the visitors last tasted victory in these parts thanks to a 3-2 win. It was an important victory on their way to winning the title.

There could be goals, too. In the previous 18 meetings between the two clubs here at Kenilworth Road, there have been 65 goals – an average of 3.6 goals per game.

A warm welcome to Kenilworth Road to all those associated with Mansfield Town today.

MANSFIELD TOWN AT-A-GLANCE

FOUNDED: 1897

MANAGER:
Nigel Clough

NICKNAME:
The Stags

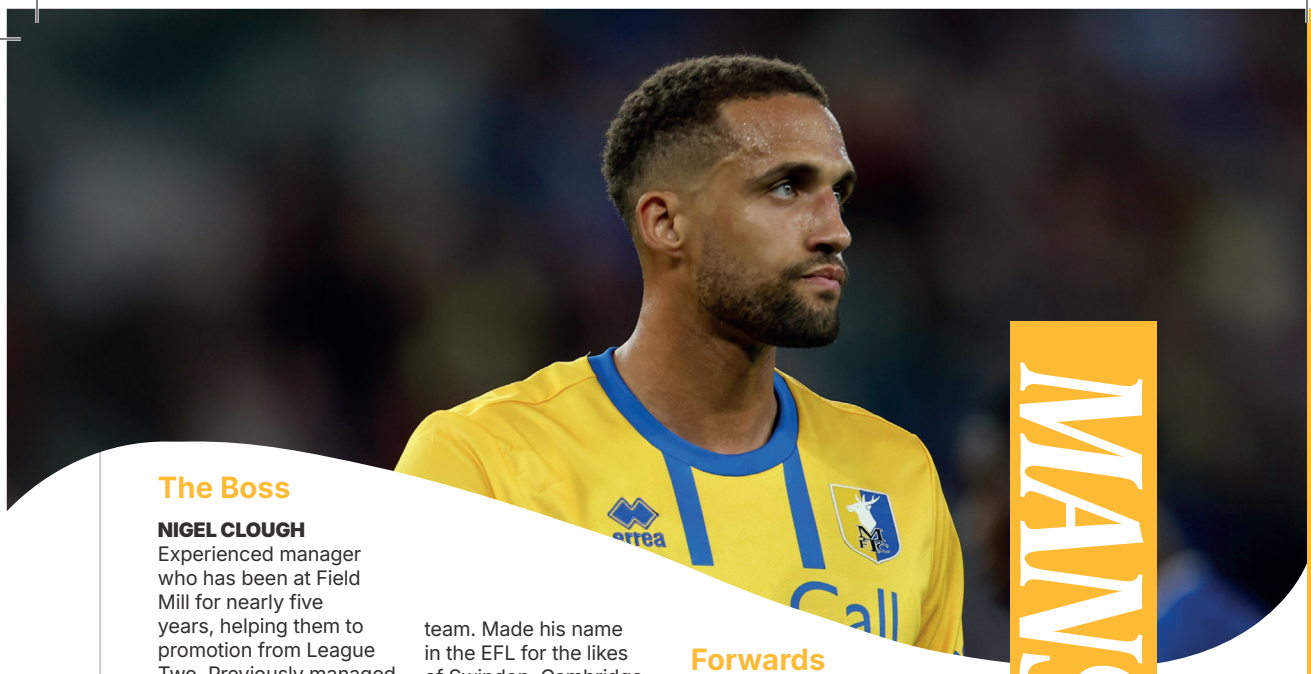
STADIUM:
Field Mill

MAJOR HONOURS:
Third Division Champions 1977, Fourth Division Champions 1975, Conference Champions 2013

RIVALS: Chesterfield

LAST TIME AT THE KENNY:
Town 2-1 Mansfield 2/4/18

S1 Luton v Mansfield.indd 23 16/10/2025 14:09



MANSFIELD TOWN

THE AWAY END

The Boss

NIGEL CLOUGH Experienced manager who has been at Field Mill for nearly five years, helping them to promotion from League Two. Previously managed Derby, Sheffield United and Burton.

Goalkeeper

LIAM ROBERTS 30-year-old goalkeeper who joined the Stags this summer following his departure from Millwall. Has featured in every league game so far.

Defenders

STEPHEN McLAUGHLIN Irish defender who has made over 200 appearances for Mansfield since making the move to Field Mill from Southend in 2020.

FRAZER BLAKE-TRACY Entering his second season with the club. Scored in the Stags' 2-1 win away at Exeter at the start of this season.

ADEDEJI OSHILAJA Former Charlton, AFC Wimbledon, Gillingham and Burton man who signed for Mansfield in June 2024.

KYLE KNOYLE Came through the West Ham academy without really breaking into the first team. Made his name in the EFL for the likes of Swindon, Cambridge United, Doncaster and Stockport.

RYAN SWEENEY Another player signed from Burton Albion by Nigel Clough, making the move to Field Mill last July. Now on his third spell with Mansfield.

Midfielders

AARON LEWIS Welsh central midfielder who has been with the Stags for three seasons now. Featured 42 times for Mansfield in the league last campaign.

JAMIE McDONNELL Nottingham Forest loanee gaining more experience in senior football following his loan spell with Colchester last year.

TYLER ROBERTS Former Leeds United and QPR man who has joined Mansfield on loan from Birmingham. Has scored in his last two league games for the club.

GEORGE MARIS Veteran midfielder who has made over 200 appearances for Mansfield since he signed for the club five years ago.

Forwards

WILL EVANS Scored 14 goals in 46 games for the Stags last campaign following his move from Newport. Scored in Mansfield's 4-1 demolition of Leyton Orient back in August.

RHYS OATES Made over 100 appearances for Mansfield since he signed in 2021 and scored 24 goals in that time. Scored in the Stags recent defeat against Port Vale.

NATHAN MORIAH-WELSH Guyana international who has represented his national team over 20 times. Signed for Mansfield in the summer following his departure from Hibernian.

DOMINIC DWYER Former American international and 35-year-old striker who signed for the Stags in March. Has scored five goals since he made the move to Field Mill.

MAX DICKOV Former Brentford academy prospect who left the club in the summer to join Mansfield Town. Has played in eight league matches so far.

S1 Luton v Mansfield.indd 24 16/10/2025 14:09

HATTERS *versus* STAGS

Historic meetings between the clubs down the years

OCTOBER 1989
LEAGUE CUP GOALFEST

Lars Elstrup scores the first hat-trick of his career as the Town demolish Mansfield. The Stags play with a sweeper but are totally overrun by a Hatters side who also hit the woodwork three times. After the first leg 4-3 win, the Town advanced 11-5 on aggregate and would eventually reach the final where we would lose to Nottingham Forest.

APRIL 2002
PROMOTION PARTY

The Hatters exact full revenge for their hammering at Field Mill earlier in the season. Joe Kinnear's side are 4-1 up after 35 minutes in an open game which also sees chances missed at both ends. The game is played in a carnival atmosphere but the final result puts a dent in the promotion hopes of Mansfield. Jean-Louis Valois, Dean Crowe, Kevin Nicholls and a brace from Steve Howard beat Stags keeper Kevin Pilkington.

AUGUST 2009
CONFERENCE WELCOME ▼

Two goals from defender George Pilkington helped the Hatters make a winning start on our first night of non-league football at Kenilworth Road. Mick Harford's side trailed but two goals from the centre-back put the Town in front. A Kyle Perry own goal made it 3-1 before Tom Craddock's late penalty sealed an emphatic victory in front of 7,295.



George Pilkington celebrates during our 4-1 win in 2009



Paddy McCourt in action at Field Mill in 2016

JANUARY 2016
FIELD MILL SUCCESS ▲

The Hatters had gone eight games without winning at Field Mill, losing half of those, a run stretching back to 1989. However, under Nathan Jones the Town ended that run thanks to goals from midfield duo Paddy McCourt and Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu.

APRIL 2018
ALMOST THERE

The Hatters' promotion credentials were being scrutinised after a run of one win in seven games in League Two. After a defeat 2-1 at Colchester, the Town looked on nervously as Kane Hemmings' goal gave the Stags a 1-0 lead. However, the Hatters upped the ante and two goals in the final 29 minutes secured a huge win. Firstly, James Collins slammed home his 20th league goal of the season before Glen Rea won it when tapping in after Alan Sheehan's shot was spilled by Conrad Logan.

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WELCOME

Jack!

We were excited to announce the return of Jack Wilshere to Luton Town Football Club as our new first-team manager earlier this week

S1 Luton v Mansfield.indd 27 16/10/2025 14:09



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The 33-year-old is back at the club where it all started for him in our Centre of Excellence, before joining Arsenal at the age of nine and embarking on an elite playing career that saw him win 34 England caps.

Wilshere, who has held coaching positions in the Arsenal academy, as well as a short spell as Norwich City interim manager at the tail end of last season, will be supported by vastly experienced assistant manager, Chris Powell, also a former England international and coach.

WHAT THEY SAID

JACK WILSHERE

"It's a huge honour and a privilege to be named Luton Town manager.

"It feels like a full-circle moment for me. I was eight when I first came to Luton as a boy, so I guess you could say it's fate that my first full-time club managerial position is at this club.

"I couldn't be more delighted to be here – I can't wait to manage this football club."

Wilshere, of course, enjoyed a stellar career as a player, making 197 appearances for Arsenal, before spells at West Ham United, AFC Bournemouth and Aarhus GF.

"This Club's story inspires me," he said. "Built on belief, unity, and hard work.

"The Club have shown incredible character on and off the pitch in recent times, and I'm honoured to take the responsibility to lead this group into the future.

"There's so much of the season still to play for and I'm excited about getting to work and putting my own stamp on things, and moving this club forward in a positive direction.

"I want to give the Luton fans a team they can be proud of, and the work to do that starts today."



Can you spot Jack in Luton colours?



S1 Luton v Mansfield.indd 29 16/10/2025 14:09

GARY SWEET

"Jack's passion, intelligence and modern approach to the game align perfectly with the values and ambitions of Luton Town. His experience at the highest level and commitment to developing talent make him the ideal fit for our next chapter.

"He has impressed everyone involved in our extensive selection process with his passion for football, his determination to succeed in management and his deep knowledge of all things Luton Town.

"That started as a very young boy in our youth system, and has continued throughout his life, always living locally and with close friends who are long-term season ticket holders at Kenilworth Road.

"It was during his time training with our first team at The Brache in the summer of 2021 where he refamiliarised himself with the Club, and realised the time was right to follow his coaching path, which took him back to Arsenal, where the world of course had seen him come through as a generational midfield talent.

"Luton has always been a part of his journey, and as a club renowned for giving young coaches their break in management, we are so pleased to welcome him back.

"He already knows a number of our squad, and as a Board we are all excited at the prospect of seeing his career progress alongside someone as respected in the game as Chris."



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> *"I THINK WE NEED TO GET TO KNOW THE ESSENCE OF LUTON TOWN AND WHAT IT MEANS TO THE PEOPLE OF LUTON.*

CHRIS POWELL

"Once I knew of the interest, I wasn't sure exactly how it was going to happen, who was going to be named but when I heard that it was most probably going to be Jack, we reached out to each other late Saturday night and then spoke again the next day, a couple of times, and now we're here, and so it's a good feeling and we know exactly what the club's about.

"We need to get to know people quickly and time is against us a little bit, but that's fine. We understand what's required and we have to get to know players particularly.

"But I think we need to get to know the essence of Luton Town and what it means to the people of Luton, the supporters that come from far and wide to support the team, and we'll do our utmost best to make that happen.

"I'm really excited by it because I've been here a few times and Kenilworth Road can be some place, but equally the team have to play a massive part in that and then the fans do what they do.

"I've had a few long walks from the other side going into that tunnel, so I'm looking forward to that being on the home side now."

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THE VIEW FROM THE PRESS BOX

The Luton News' ***Mike Simmonds*** *reflects on the appointment of Jack Wilshere*

It felt like being back in the Premier League once more on Monday, when a full press pack was in attendance to witness Jack Wilshere being officially unveiled as Luton Town's 39th manager.

With the 33-year-old having played almost 200 times for Arsenal during his career, featuring at a World Cup Finals too, it was easy to see the star attraction that the former midfielder had to the wider media.

Flanked by new assistant Chris Powell and chief executive Gary Sweet, Wilshere was back at a club that he once turned out for in their centre of excellence as an eight-year-old, before his talents, clearly destined for greater things, were spotted by the north London giants and the rest, as they say, is history.

In fact, if he hadn't suffered so much with injury, then Wilshere could have been one of the greatest players of his generation and still going strong now, but as it was, he eventually took the decision to retire at the age of just 30.

Rather than jump straight into management, what came across from Wilshere's first public address was that he clearly wanted to wait until he felt he was ready for the job in hand, turning his hand to academy coaching at first.

He enjoyed success at the Emirates as Under-18s boss, reaching an FA Youth Cup Final, but more importantly, brought through the likes of Ethan Nwaneri and Miles Lewis-Skelly through to the senior team, the latter part of an England side who qualified for the World Cup on Tuesday evening.


Jack Wilshere and Chris Powell meet the media

However, he now believes it is time to follow a number of his former Three Lions team-mates in dipping their toes into the management game, with Frank Lampard, Steven Gerrard and Wayne Rooney to name just three, all doing so to various degrees of success in recent years.

Off the pitch, Luton's star has faded somewhat in recent years due to the back-to-back relegations from the Premier League, with a choice of chairs now available in press conferences, but this appointment will certainly get tongues wagging again, and maybe the odd extra camera bulb and dictaphone will be found at Kenilworth Road on a match day, particularly if he starts to get things right on the pitch.

Wilshere was brought in to replace Matt Bloomfield, who unfortunately saw the role that fan power can play in the modern game, with away ends turning quite vociferously at Lincoln and Stevenage. Bloomfield finding out that once you lose their support, it's very hard to win it back.

A very decent and likeable man, had his players just managed to nick a point at the Hawthorns on the final day of last season, then it might have been so much different. But as it was, 11th in League One simply wasn't good enough, and neither were the majority of performances that were being thrown up.

Which brings us back to "Jack Wilshere's Luton Town" as they will now obviously be known as.

At 33 years, nine months and 12 days, he was the second-youngest manager ever to be appointed by the Hatters in their history, which some have pointed out is a huge risk.

However, just 277 days separate him and a certain David Pleat when he agreed to move to Kenilworth Road for the first time back in 1978.

And that turned out okay, didn't it?

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BOSS JACK WILSHERE





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LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST



Update from the Trust chair...
Paul Stephens

A big Luton welcome goes out to local lad Jack Wilshere in his first managerial role, and his hugely experienced and respected assistant Chris Powell.

Today sees a new chapter beginning in our club's story, after a thoroughly disappointing start to the season leading to the departure of Matt Bloomfield – a good man who put his all into trying to turn the team's fortunes round, but who ultimately failed to meet the results we all expect as we seek to redress the failings of the last 18 months.

Firstly though, this is a good opportunity to bring you up to speed with what's been happening with the Trust, and what's coming up. We're aware of criticism from some that we don't challenge the club enough. I can assure you, we do. We challenge them on things and issues which impact all fans and Trust members – our role is to 'support and protect' the club, and that role has a wide reach. But we don't do this through social media or public demands: we go direct to the club. My aim as Trust chair is to build positive but challenging relationships with 2020, and we're working hard at that. I believe you'll always achieve more by being 'in the room', working with the club, and I'm very pleased to report that we're making real progress in addressing issues raised about commercial aspects with Ben Kensell, Chief Revenue Officer.

Club and Trust communications have come on in leaps and bounds through them – I know I can pick up the phone to Ben and get answers and actions right



Please give our new management team a warm Luton Town welcome this afternoon

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away. We have already seen assurances and agreements about replica shirt colours and supplies next season – the earliest this has ever been done, with an orange home kit and a white away kit ensured for 2026/27. Not only that, the new kits will be available from July so there will be none of the problems and delays that have frustrated fans recently. We've arranged a lower price – £150 – for academy shirt sponsorships, too, with the Trust managing them and funds going to SoLYD. You'll find details on the Trust website.

We're also in the process of having face-to-face meetings with Ben to cover a range of key issues, from the formation of a Fans' Advisory Panel to arranging events and opportunities which engage fans with club more directly and consistently. Take the Trust Interviews series in matchday programmes, for instance – we'll be inviting members to submit their questions for interviewees where appropriate, as we did with the Gary Sweet Power Court Q&A session a while back. Ben is in line for this too – look out for member emails! We know that we need to improve our member communications, and we're working on it.

In other news, we're active across all areas of our national game, and this week met online with Martyn Henderson, interim Chief Operating Officer for the Independent Financial Regulator, to discuss how their initiatives will impact clubs and fans. We've long been involved in trying to establish a fairer future for football as active members of the Football Supporters' Association, Fair Game and the Union of European Clubs. And we're looking to the future of the Trust, too – look out for news of the LTST Youth Advisory Panel we're setting up. The aim is to invite people aged between 16 and 35 to help modernise and shape the Trust so it appeals to, and represents, younger people.


Have your say on Power Court!

We'd love more members to get involved, so with our AGM coming on 27th November, why not consider standing for election to the Trust Board? You could make a real difference. Especially if you feel we could and should be doing things better - please don't just sit and moan, get your application in! But you'll need to be prompt as the deadline is 21st October – see our email of 1st October for details. The only proviso is that you need to have been a paid up member for 12 months. And if you'd like to attend the AGM, please register too. It'll be on zoom if you can't make it in person.

It's your Trust, your official voice with the club, so please be 'in the room'! We're your route for having a say in the future of Power Court, too, and if you'd like to be involved in that, look out for how you can be part of it as the process begins. We will also be working together towards an effective ground protection scheme for generations to come. The club is building a ground and infrastructure which ensures a bright future – they've already massively invested in and upgraded The Brache, as we saw when we toured the facilities after a board meeting there. Impressive!

Back to today: Jack, Chris and the team will have been working hard at The Brache to prepare for this first game of a new era. So please let's all be the 12th man. In Jack's own words,

"There's obviously some things that we have to get right really early and get the energy, get the belief, get the unity back and really try and, especially when we're at home at Kenilworth Road, use that, use the energy of this amazing old stadium that has so much tradition, so much history."

Let's boost the lads' confidence by getting right behind them and make our home a fortress once again!

DON'T MISS OUT!

Tickets are still on sale for our hospitality event for the Under-21 match against Brentford at Kenilworth Road next Tuesday. If you'd to like to watch the match in style, visit this the link to book your ticket!

S2 Luton v Mansfield.indd 37 16/10/2025 14:19



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Supporting STREET CHILD UNITED



Since 2010 Street Child United has run the Street Child World Cup in parallel to the FIFA World Cup.

Teams of street children – boys and girls – from more than 20 countries will head to Mexico to compete in 2026.

Sport, football especially, is a universal language – drop a ball down in front of a group of kids, boys and girls, anywhere in the world and they will begin to play! But not everything in life is on such a level playing field. An estimated 150,000,000 children worldwide live and work on the streets. These children have no official identity, no papers, no birth certificate – which means they are denied access to healthcare, education and other support. Street Child United's mission is to change this by advocating for their core demands: identity, protection from violence, gender equality and access to education.

In the summer, a team of Street Children from Pakistan played a game against a Luton Town Community Trust youth team, hosted by the club at The Brache training ground – following a training session with academy coaches and a bonding session with the club's own young players. The team were also fabulously well received and welcomed by the local community, attending a reception at the Town Hall.

The game came about through close connections made with Street Child United by a group of Luton fans through football and friendship, leading to a great relationship between Luton Town and SCU. Now they're looking to build on this relationship by raising funds for a team of street children to get to and participate in the Street Child United World Cup 2026.

This initiative was inspired by a visit by one of the group to a SCU (Brazil) project in one of the favelas in Rio: a place where local street children find refuge from the challenges and dangers of daily life in a safe and welcoming environment where they can play and take first steps towards a new life.

Getting a team from Brazil to the SCU World Cup will make a huge positive difference to the project in Rio and beyond, as it did for street children in Pakistan, whose achievements in 2022 led to changes in laws and attitudes and to the team who came to Luton becoming ambassadors for street children worldwide.

You can be somebody who helps Street Child United transform lives. Please support this funding appeal and help a team of disadvantaged children from Rio head to the Street Child World Cup in 2026!

WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL YOUR SUPPORT MAKE TO THE LIFE OF A STREET CHILD?

£100 gives a street-connected young person a birth certificate and passport, allowing them to access healthcare, education, and social services. They'll officially 'be somebody'.

Luton Town fans are committed to raising an initial £5,000 by the end of October – can you help please? It's an urgent deadline!

Every pound you contribute will make a difference, so please give what you can by visiting www.justgiving.com/page/scu-brazil-1 or scanning the QR code.

Please help spread the word through your socials too – and reach out to your contacts!

PS: Just Giving automatically suggests a large extra 'donation' to them – this money does not go to cause, and you can reduce it to the basic £1.50 with the JustGiving tip 'slider' as you make your contribution.

S2 Luton v Mansfield.indd 39 16/10/2025 14:19



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Our resident kit collector ***David Foxen*** *runs the rule over the hits and misses of our kits from the past.*

Wearing HISTORY

2013/14 AWAY

This afternoon we feature a shirt that has aged like a fine wine. A shirt that went completely under the radar when released and a shirt you very rarely see now on matchdays.

Our away shirt for the 2013/14 season was made by Fila in the first year of our agreement with them. It was white with very subtle chequered squares on the body, a Luton orange V-neck collar and a dark navy blue loop that went under the arm and over the lower shoulder.

The big 'F' for Fila appeared on the sleeves just above that large Skrill Premier sleeve patch, and easyJet were once again our sponsor, this time with white text and an orange background.

It was a magical season. Manager John Still achieved hero status, managing to do what no one before him had successfully achieved; bringing unity and togetherness, he controlled the controllables and we finally ended our stay in non-league.

This shirt didn't get off to the best start, though – a 1-0 defeat away at Southport was its debut! This was followed by a draw at Forest Green and a defeat at Wrexham. We finally won in it with a 4-3 away victory at Tamworth, with Jonathan Smith, Andy Parry and a brace from Paul Benson earning victory.

The two standout moments for this shirt was Mark Cullen's last-gasp equaliser to salvage a draw at Cambridge United, which kept our 15-point lead at the top, and our final non-league match away at Hyde where Alex Wall scored the winner.

What a season and what a shirt!



Mark Cullen celebrates THAT equaliser at Cambridge in 2014

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Club historian ***Roger Wash*** *delves deep into the Hatters Heritage image library*

From the Archives



S2 Luton v Mansfield.indd 42 16/10/2025 14:20

Ron Futcher hammers in the Town goal during the 1-1 draw with Mansfield at Kenilworth Road in December 1977.

The odd spot in this game was that Mansfield turned out in the Town's white away strip. Referee Brian Daniels was not happy with the Stags' amber and blue kit and, as they had not brought an alternative set, this was the outcome.

Inset: John Faulkner flies in with a header in the same game marked by future Hatter Mike Saxby.



S2 Luton v Mansfield.indd 43 16/10/2025 14:20

We look back on some of the most iconic matches played on this day in our history

ON THIS DAY

18th October



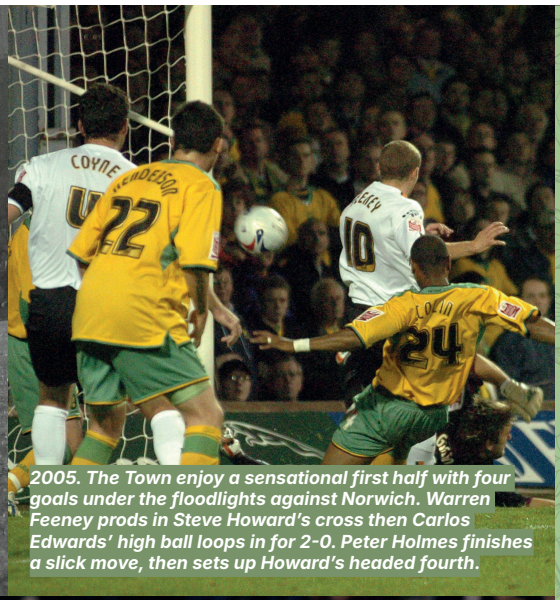
1986. The Town have never won at Old Trafford and have not scored a goal there since 1959. The record is maintained when a poor back pass from Ashley Grimes lets in Frank Stapleton for an easy winner.



1958. The Town earn a top-flight victory over Chelsea in front of 24,864 at Kenilworth Road with Allan Brown and George Cummins on target against the Blues.



1969. At a sun-soaked Goldstone Ground, two accurate crosses from Graham French are converted by John Collins to inspire the Hatters to a 2-1 victory at Brighton in the old Third Division.



2005. The Town enjoy a sensational first half with four goals under the floodlights against Norwich. Warren Feeney prods in Steve Howard's cross then Carlos Edwards' high ball loops in for 2-0. Peter Holmes finishes a slick move, then sets up Howard's headed fourth.



2022. Nobody knows it yet but the Town are on their way to the Premier League. That's some way off but on a midweek trip to Carrow Road a solitary goal from Canaries academy graduate Carlton Morris gives the Hatters all three points.



1952. Goals from Bernard Moore, Jesse Pye, Bert Mitchell and Charlie Watkins earned the Hatters a 4-1 win over Sheffield United at Kenilworth Road in Division Two (now Championship).

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As we celebrate 140 years of football, Hatters Heritage's ***Will Foster*** *looks back at some of the people who form part of our rich history with a story to tell.*

TOP HATTERS

Tony Read – The goalscoring goalkeeper

Read, Dougan, Jardine, Slough, Branston, Moore, French, Buxton, Allen, Rioch, Whittaker.

Eleven names to leave Luton fans of a certain age misty-eyed with memories of the team that started a resurgence back through the divisions, beginning with the 1968 Division 4 (now League Two) title win.

In today's game of large squads and player rotation, it's remarkable to consider that seven of the side appeared in 40 or more league games. Among those was the goalkeeper Tony Read, who had started his time at Kenilworth Road in quite a different fashion.

Though he had joined both Sheffield Wednesday and Peterborough as a goalkeeper, strong competition for places had led to him volunteering to play up front. It was while doing so for Peterborough reserves against Tottenham, scoring past Pat Jennings no less, that he was spotted by Town boss George Martin, who promptly splashed out £800 for his signature in March 1965.

Oddly, despite this goalscoring prowess, Read was signed as a goalkeeper and in particular to replace the great Ron Baynham who, no longer able to play through the pain caused by a hip injury, had just retired. In keeping with the fortunes of the club at the time, it was only when Read arrived that it was spotted that his foot was broken. Martin was aghast, decreeing, "it never rains but it pours".

By the time Read was fit again, Colin Tinsley had taken ownership of the goalkeeper's jersey. However, during an injury crisis George Martin remembered his keeper/striker and picked him as a forward in a League Cup game against Brighton. He then turned to Read again for a trip to Rochdale, thinking that his height and strength would help protect and free up John O'Rourke.

> *"IT WAS THE FIRST OF 69 CLEAN SHEETS FOR THE CLUB, A NUMBER BETTERED BY ONLY BAYNHAM, LES SEALEY AND MARK TYLER.*

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Tony and Eric Morecambe

Though he was penalised early on, forgetting his role in the team and punching a ball launched towards him, the plan was successful with O'Rourke scoring first and then Read adding a second after the hour. It started an excellent scoring run in which he managed 11 goals in 21 games, including a fondly remembered hat-trick against Notts County at Kenilworth Road.

But then almost as soon as the dalliance with goalscoring glory had begun he was back between the sticks, making his debut as a goalkeeper in a home game against Stockport in a 2-0 victory. It was the first of 69 clean sheets for the club, a number bettered by only Baynham, Les Sealey and Mark Tyler. It would also mark the end of his time further up the pitch, save for a few sporadic starts and substitute appearances.

The arrival of Allan Brown as manager brought new challenges. Brown was determined to find a Scot to keep goal and it began a tradition of Read seeing off challengers to his jersey. Over the years Colin Tinsley, George Ramage, Ron Swan, Billy Taylor, Sandy Davie, Alan Starling and Keith Barber found themselves unable to dislodge Read, who would eventually make 229 appearances over seven seasons at Kenilworth Road.

He was born in Haydock in Lancashire in 1942 and married Maureen in 1962, going on to design and build his own house in Chalton. He was also given the job of having Graham French live next door, the club's directors thinking the more mature Read would be a good influence.

"Graham was a lovely man but it was a nightmare," Tony told Hatters' Heritage in a 2022 interview. "When we were playing Watford away he threw a party the night before. Air hostesses, the works. I told him Graham, 'come on, we have a match tomorrow.'" French apologised and sent the revellers home.

Though he lost his place to Davie for most of the 1969/70 promotion-winning season under Alec Stock he had the pleasure of watching Malcolm Macdonald first hand. "He was the fastest player I'd ever seen. I gave him a 25-yard start in a race and he still beat me!"

By the time Read had turned 30 he'd won his place back but wasn't enjoying the game. He was also suffering from an injury to his right knee. Despite interest from Millwall and Cambridge, he took the decision to retire. "I just wanted to end at Luton. Luton served me well and I had a lot of affection for them."

He owned a second-hand car business in Park Street and became the landlord of the Old Bell in Greenfield in 1976. He remained a familiar face at Kenilworth Road, attending every week as a member of the Century Club and in his role as a hospital commentator. He also often played for the Luton Old Boys XI, helping to raise money for charity.

Tony retired to Dersingham in Norfolk where he has spent many years perfecting his golf swing and where he still lives. He deserves his place as one of our greatest goalkeepers.


Tony pictured on hospital radio commentary duties

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LTFC academy

with Kobie Dee
Head of Education







From classroom to Cambridge!

It's been an outstanding few months for Harry Fox, who continues to impress both academically and on the football pitch.

After smashing his AS Level in Business over the summer, Harry is now on track for a fantastic A Level grade while also working at Distinction level in his BTEC studies. His commitment, drive, and consistency make him a brilliant example to all our scholars.

Harry's hard work hasn't gone unnoticed on the football side either. He recently earned a place in the first team squad for the fixture against Cambridge United, a tremendous achievement that highlights his dedication and progress.

All our scholars are now fully into their BTEC Level 3 studies, with several also completing A Levels alongside their football. A huge thank you goes to Paul Benson, Joe Deeney, Ronnie Henry and Alex Lawless, it's a credit to them, especially considering how incredibly busy they've been working across the first team, Under-21s and the academy. Their continued commitment to supporting our scholars' education, despite their demanding schedules, is a real reflection of their dedication and passion for developing both the players and the people at our football club.

New scholars off to a strong start – are they future coaches in the making?

It's been an excellent start to the year for our new scholars, who have been showing real dedication both on and off the pitch.

As part of their apprenticeship programme, the group are currently working towards their UEFA C Coaching Certificate, which also includes vital qualifications in First Aid and Safeguarding.

These young professionals are not only learning what it takes to perform at a high level as players, but also gaining the knowledge and confidence to become future coaches and leaders within the game.

In the classroom, the scholars have impressed staff with their hard work, enthusiasm and willingness to learn. They've been studying the principles of coaching, session planning and player development, before putting their learning into practice on the training ground.

The standard of their written work, presentations and practical coaching sessions has been described as exceptional by their tutors and mentors.

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On the pitch, our scholars have also been taking an active role in supporting the club's younger age groups, working closely with our Under-10 and Under-11 academy teams during evening training sessions. Their energy, communication skills and positive attitudes have made a real impact, helping our younger players enjoy their sessions and continue to develop their technical ability.

Everyone at the club is proud of how the scholars have started the season, they're setting high standards for themselves and showing real promise as future professionals. You never know, in a few years' time, we might see one or two of them returning to Kenilworth Road to help coach or manage our first team, following in the footsteps of our new manager Jack Wilshire, who began his journey in exactly the same way.

The scholars and I would like to wish Jack every success today and throughout the season. We'll be fully behind the team every step of the way, showing the same passion, pride and togetherness that defines Luton Town Football Club.

COYH!

"EVERYONE AT THE CLUB IS PROUD OF HOW THE SCHOLARS HAVE STARTED THE SEASON, THEY'RE SETTING HIGH STANDARDS FOR THEMSELVES.



Harry Fox warms up before the first team's game at Cambridge

U18 FIXTURES

AUGUST
Sat 8 Plymouth Argyle W 5-1
Tue 12 Leyton Orient W 6-4
Sat 16 PDLC Oxford Utd W 3-0
Sat 23 Cheltenham W 4-2
Sat 30 Forest Green L 0-3

SEPTEMBER
Sat 6 Exeter City W 4-0
Sat 13 Oxford Utd W 4-1
Sat 20 Newport County W 3-0
Sat 27 Swindon W 7-0

OCTOBER
Sat 11 Portsmouth D 1-1

NOVEMBER
Sat 8 Bristol Rovers 12pm
Sat 15 Wycombe 10:30am
Sat 22 PDLC Watford 10:30am

DECEMBER
Sat 6 Milton Keynes 10:30am
Sat 13 Cambridge Utd 10:30am
Sat 20 Northampton 10:30am

JANUARY
Sat 3 Stevenage 10:30am
Sat 10 Sutton United 11am
Sat 17 AFC Wimbledon 10:30am
Sat 24 Barnet 11am
Sat 31 Bromley 10:30am

FEBRUARY
Sat 7 Cambridge United 11am
Sat 14 Gillingham 10:30am
Sat 21 Leyton Orient 11am
Sat 28 Wycombe 10:30am

MARCH
Sat 7 Milton Keynes 11am
Sat 14 Northampton 10:30am
Sat 21 Stevenage 10:30am
Sat 28 Gillingham 10:30am

APRIL
Sat 11 Sutton United 10:30am
Sat 18 AFC Wimbledon 10:30am
Sat 25 Barnet 10:30am

MAY
Sat 2 Bromley 11am

U21 FIXTURES

AUGUST
Tue 26 Exeter City L 0-1

OCTOBER
Tue 21 Brentford 7pm

NOVEMBER
Tue 18 West Brom 7pm

DECEMBER
Tue 2 Exeter City 7pm
Sun 14 Brentford 1pm
Mon 22 West Brom 7pm

Bold denotes home fixture

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youth PROFILE

Zach Ioannides



WHERE ARE YOU FROM? London

WHAT POSITIONS DO YOU PLAY? Anywhere in midfield

WHEN DID YOU JOIN THE ACADEMY? Under-11s

WHO WAS YOUR FOOTBALL HERO GROWING UP? Lionel Messi

GO-TO BOOTS RIGHT NOW? Mizunos

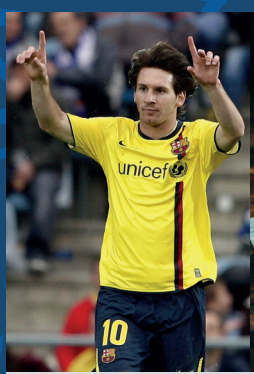
FIRST TIME YOU KICKED A BALL? Four years old

BIGGEST LESSON FOOTBALL'S TAUGHT YOU? Never too high when you win and never too low when you lose

FUNNIEST TEAMMATE? Joshua Phillips

HARDEST WORKER? Oliver Pipa

BIGGEST INSPIRATION OUTSIDE FOOTBALL? My family







TEAMMATE MOST LIKELY TO BE A MANAGER? Claude Kayibanda for the Rwandan national team

MOMENT YOU'LL NEVER FORGET? When I dribbled from the halfway line and scored against Millwall in the Under-17 PDL Cup

BEST BIT ABOUT BEING AT LUTON? The welcoming environment

ONE THING YOU'RE WORKING ON? Communication

PRE-MATCH ROUTINE OR SUPERSTITIONS? Eat pancakes before the game

FAVOURITE MUSIC... Dave

FAVOURITE GAME... Chess

GO-TO CHEAT MEAL... Souvlaki

IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER? That was never an option

PERSON YOU'D SWAP PLACES WITH FOR A DAY? St John the Apostle to witness the Resurrection

THREE WORDS TO DESCRIBE YOURSELF. Composed, intelligent, resilient

ONE THING PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU? I have pet cat called Mabel

BIGGEST FOOTBALL DREAM? Score the winning goal for my country in the World Cup final

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LUTON TOWN FC

COMMUNITY TRUST

Community Trust event showcases mental health awareness



To mark World Mental Health Day, and as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Luton Town Community Trust hosted a special event at Challney High School for Girls, combining football, boxing and honest conversation to help young women explore the importance of mental health.

As part of the Community Trust's Premier League Inspires programme, the event brought together 30 students from Challney High with inspiring local role models, Luton Town Ladies captain Leyah Maddix and Luton-born boxer Tysie Gallagher.

Together, they created a safe and supportive environment where girls could talk openly, learn new skills and experience how physical activity can be a powerful tool for managing emotions and building confidence.

During the event, Leyah, a former Challney High student who also scored twice in the Ladies' win at Milton Keynes, led a football-based activity and spoke to the students about her experiences.

Leyah said: "It's important for anyone to have role models to look up to and relate to. It's nice for me to come back here and engage with the students and it helps forge a closer connection.

"For me and my mental health, having suffered serious injuries, the biggest thing was being around my teammates, they helped me prepare mentally and showed that there's light at the end of the tunnel. Having people around you really helps."

Meanwhile, boxer Tysie,the British, Commonwealth and WBO super-bantamweight champion, gave the students a light-hearted training session.

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Tysie, a former Luton Town Ladies player before focusing on her boxing career, said: "It was great to show the students how we as athletes manage our mental health because it's very important.

"For me, with the platform I've now got, what I need to do is to give back and be the woman I needed when I was their age. Now I'm doing that by giving my time and inspiring them, to show them there's no limit to what you want to achieve and say to them, don't let anyone tell you that you can't."

The event also saw Charlotte Lockley, CEO of our club charity of the year Stepping Stones, the Luton-based charity that supports women who have experienced domestic abuse, give an insight to the charity and work they do.

Charlotte spoke to the students about recognising emotions, seeking help and supporting one another – sharing the message that no one should face mental health challenges alone.

Our club charity of the year provides a wide range of services, including one-to-one counselling, group programmes, and practical advice, helping women to rebuild their lives with confidence and independence.

Bert Klemmer, Programmes Manager (Education, Employability & Learning) for the Luton Town Community Trust added: "It was inspiring to observe the level of engagement and understanding demonstrated by the students, reflecting the excellent work carried out by staff at Challney High School for Girls.

WATCH THE VIDEO OF THE VISIT HERE!

"THE BIGGEST THING WAS BEING AROUND MY TEAMMATES, THEY HELPED ME PREPARE MENTALLY AND SHOWED THAT THERE'S LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL.

"The event formed part of our Premier League Inspires programme, which uses football to foster confidence, resilience, and essential life skills within local secondary schools and educational settings. It also provided an important opportunity to discuss the mental wellbeing of local young women.

"Pupils connected with highly respected local role models, Tysie Gallagher and Leyah Maddix, who shared how they manage setbacks and maintain their mental wellbeing, as well as Luton-based support organisations Stepping Stones and Public Health Luton, who offered valuable insights into their work within the community and ways for young people to get involved."

The Premier League Inspires programme uses the power of football to help young people aged 11 to 18 reach their potential, developing the personal skills and positive attitudes they need to succeed in life. 54 Premier League and EFL club charities deliver the Inspires programme in local schools and education establishments this season, up from 45 in season 2024/25. Premier League Inspires has been developed by the Premier League in partnership with professional football clubs, and is supported by the Professional Footballers' Association.

For further information about the Premier League Inspires programme and our schools' offer in Luton and Bedfordshire, please contact community@lutontown.co.uk.



Leyah and Tysie Gallagher

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Ladies captain reflects on the season so far

Owen Williams caught up with Luton Town Ladies captain Leyah Maddix to gather her thoughts on the Ladies' first few months back in the fourth tier.


Leyah Maddix

Leyah Maddix, who made her debut for Luton Town Ladies in 2010, expressed her pride on being named captain at the beginning of the season.

"It's a proud moment for sure, I've been at the club since I was 13 years old, it's the only club I have ever played for – from youth, through to the senior team," she says.

It was a hectic start to the season with the Hatters making 10 signings before the season opener against Dulwich Hamlet as the squad welcomed the new arrivals.

"There were quite a few new faces but I think everyone here is really nice, really sociable. All we tried to do was embrace them as much as possible," continued Maddix. "We tried to be together as a team, regardless if they were new players or players who were here previously and I think the girls have done that really well."

The Ladies kicked off their campaign in style with back-to-back home wins, first a 3-1 victory in the league over Dulwich Hamlet and then a 4-1 victory over Tottenham Hotspur PGA just three days later in the WNL Cup.

But despite a strong start to the season, the Town suffered consecutive heavy defeats, with a 5-0 loss away against Cambridge United, followed by a 4-0 loss at Barton to Actonians the week after.

When asked about what went wrong in those defeat, the Ladies skipper said: "I think we have got to stay focused throughout the full 90 minutes and maybe that is something we probably could've gotten away with last season and now we know this season that we can't, we've got to be on it from the start of the game, until the end.

"In that Actonians game, there was a blip for ten minutes and in that time they scored four goals, but it's all a learning curve, we are new to this league and all we can do is move on, get over it and do better next time."

A week after a defeat before a crowd of 3,000 at Carrow Road against Norwich, the Ladies kept their first clean sheet of the season, defeating Milton Keynes Women 2-0 at Stadium MK.

"Having played them beforehand at Barton and experiencing another stadium, this time it was a much closer game," says Maddix. "It was 0-0 for almost 90 minutes so to get the goal, followed by another on top, gave us such a boost into the next few games and says 'we are still here, we are still fighting and we will compete in this league.'"

The Ladies' number 9 then scored her first two of the season in a 5-1 victory over Milton Keynes in the Women's FA Cup.

"It was a great confidence booster for myself," Leyah adds "I've been working on my shooting, getting to training early and practicing my technique, so for it to pay off within the first 20 minutes was a huge boost and a pretty decent goal too."

You can catch Leyah and the rest of the Ladies' squad in action tomorrow afternoon, when they host London City Lionesses Academy in the WNL Plate at Barton Rovers' Sharpenhoe Road ground, kick-off is at 2pm.

2025/26 FIXTURES

AUGUST
17 Dulwich Hamlet W 3-1
20 Tottenham (NLC) W 4-1
24 Cambridge Utd W 5-0
31 Actonians L 0-4
SEPTEMBER
7 Milton Keynes (NLC) W 2-1
14 Norwich City L 0-4
21 Milton Keynes W 2-0
28 Oxford Utd (NLC) L 0-4
OCTOBER
5 Milton Keynes (FAC) W 5-1
26 Mansfield Town (FAC)
29 Chesham Utd
NOVEMBER
2 London Bees
16 QPR
30 Chatham Town
DECEMBER
7 Fulham
14 Dulwich Hamlet
JANUARY
4 Cambridge Utd
25 Norwich City
FEBRUARY
8 Actonians
18 Chesham Utd
22 AFC Sudbury
MARCH
8 Milton Keynes
22 London Bees
29 QPR
APRIL
12 Fulham
26 Chatham Town

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*UK data



A big shoutout to our mascots at the Doncaster game!

JUNIOR HATTERS



Reggie Gentle

Age: 9
Hobbies: Football
Favourite Player: Josh Keeley



Ben Kelly

Age: 7
Hobbies: Football, Tennis and Minecraft
Favourite Players: Josh Keeley & Kal Naismith



Maddock Ashmenall

Age: 11
Hobbies: Football
Favourite Player: Liam Walsh



Tommy Reid

Age: 10
Hobbies: Football
Favourite Player: Jordan Clark

SPOT THE BALL

Can you guess where the correct ball is?



SPOT THE BALL: Tennis ball

HATTERS! HATTERS! HATTERS!

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£21 Under 19	£18 Under 19
£13 Under 17	£10 Under 17
£10 Under 14	£8 Under 14

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Saturday 15th November, 3pm
Category B

FOOTBALL FOR **A FIVER!**

We are offering first team football for a fiver again when Brighton & Hove Albion Under-21s visit Kenilworth Road later this month!

Kick-off for our second fixture in Southern Group H fixture is at the earlier time of 7pm, which we hope will appeal to fans who can bring their children to watch live football at a family-friendly price of £5 for adults, with all kids in for a quid.

Why not make it a night to remember? Upgrade your matchday with one of our exclusive hospitality packages – perfect for a relaxed evening with friends, family, colleagues or clients.

Enjoy premium seating, delicious food, and first-class service, all while soaking up the electric atmosphere of live football under the lights.

Whether you're celebrating a special occasion or just want to experience the Hatters in style, our hospitality options have an option for you!

Spaces are limited – book now and don't miss your chance to watch the Hatters in hospitality!

Contact the Commercial Team on 01582 411622 option 3 or commercial@lutontown.co.uk for more information or to book your places!



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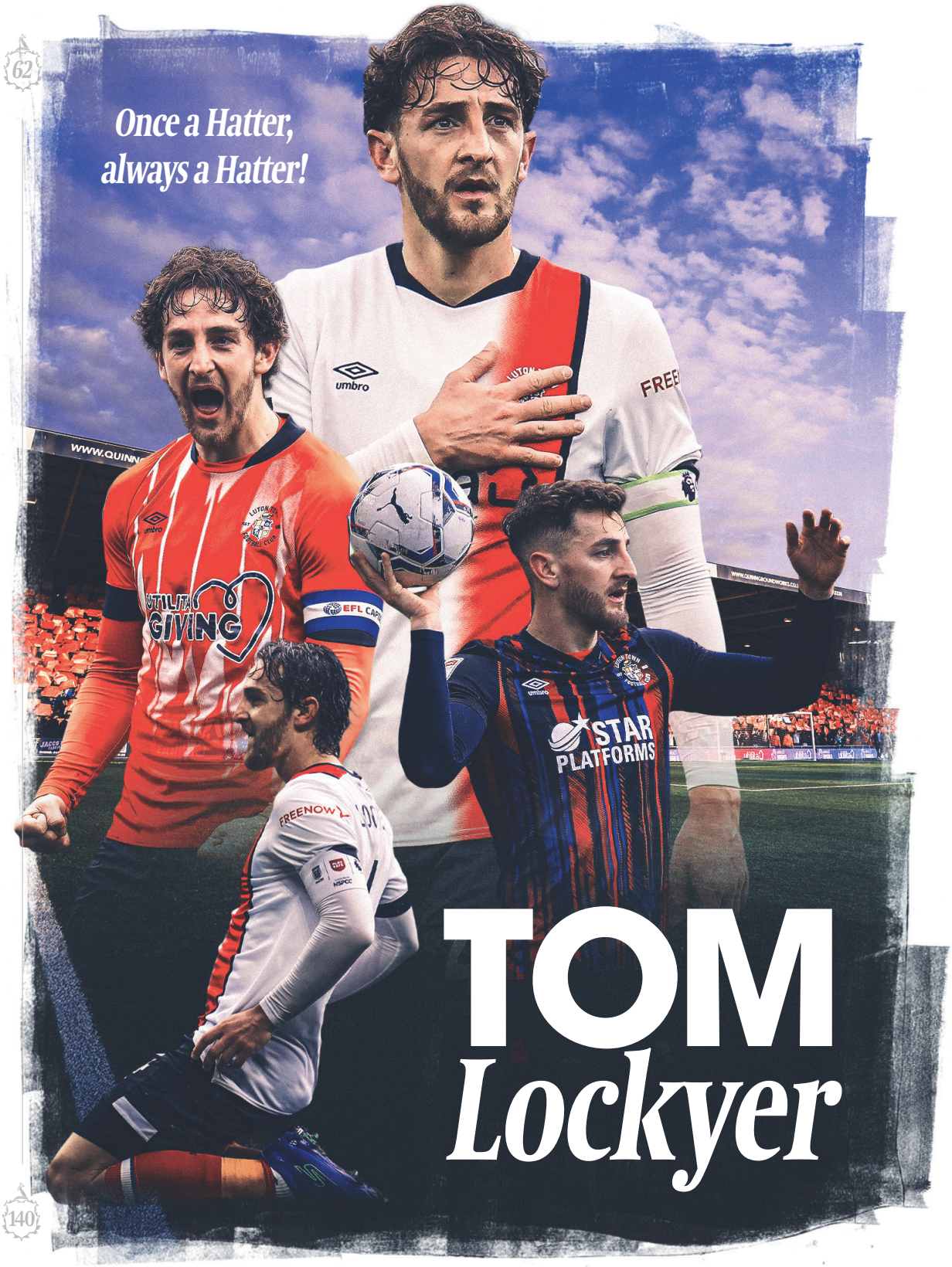
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Last week, we bid a fond farewell and celebrated the Luton Town career of Tom Lockyer as the man who led us into the Premier League left Kenilworth Road.

In the last month Locks returned to a football pitch three times in a Luton number four shirt. First, he played 45 minutes against Chelmsford City. Then came an hour against Reading Under-21s, before he completed a full 90 minutes against Barnet's youngsters at The Brache.

Locks leaves Kenilworth Road aiming to resume a career that has taken in three promotions from National League to Premier League, European Championship and World Cup squad inclusion while a Luton player, not to mention a goal in our historic maiden Premier League win at Everton.

He joined us from Charlton in the lockdown summer of 2020, helping Nathan Jones' side to a 12th-place finish in the Championship. Locks then became a regular in the team that made the play-offs the following season where we lost out to Huddersfield.

The following campaign saw him wear the captain's armband in Sonny Bradley's absence, playing 45 times, scoring in the memorable play-off semi-final win over Sunderland and being named Player of the Year and joint Players' Player with his great friend, Carlton Morris.

Leading us out at Wembley was his proudest moment to that point, but the first episode with his heart, when he collapsed due to an atrial fibrillation, saw his game against Coventry end after just eight minutes.

It was from his hospital bed that the Instagram picture of him and his family celebrating the penalty shoot-out win went viral, and he soon passed all the medical tests to resume playing that summer, signing a new contract and leading the team out for the first Premier League game at Brighton.

He made 14 top-flight appearances before suffering cardiac arrest at Bournemouth in December.

In the 22 months since, Tom and his partner Taylor have become parents to their daughter, Mila, and he has become a fine ambassador for the British Heart Foundation and their campaign highlighting the need to learn the CPR skills that saved his life.

We are all so grateful for those heroes who not only brought him round, but who have since helped rehabilitate him at The Brache to the point of being able to play again, with the additional hurdle of two ankle operations.

"It's been a long old road, but I am very lucky to have had such wonderful support from those brilliant medical people and everyone at the club to get to this stage," said Locks.

"It has been an absolute pleasure to represent and captain this great club on the biggest stage. A stage some never thought possible. I left everything out on the pitch every time I pulled on the orange jersey and I have loved every minute of my five years with Luton. A lot might say they'd die for their club, but I can say I actually have!

"I want to give playing another go, because at least then I can say I gave it everything. I know that I can't be here at Luton, but this club has been a huge part of my life, it's where I became a Premier League player and a dad, and I'll never forget the great times we've shared.

> *"I LEFT EVERYTHING OUT ON THE PITCH EVERY TIME I PULLED ON THE ORANGE JERSEY AND I HAVE LOVED EVERY MINUTE OF MY FIVE YEARS WITH LUTON.*

"I can't emphasise enough how proud I am to have been your captain. I'll never forget the feeling of scoring against Bristol City, then in the play-off against Sunderland – what a night at the Kenny!

"Leading the team out at Wembley, then at Brighton for the first game in the Prem and scoring in the first-ever Premier League win at Everton was schoolboy dream stuff.

"Thank you to all the supporters who have backed me. Your messages of love and support have helped me through some tough times. And to all of my team-mates, managers, staff and friends right through the club, I can't emphasise enough how knowing that you've had my back has brought me to this stage.

"Luton Town will always have a place in my heart. Our results will always be the first I look for, and I look forward to the day I can come back and say a proper farewell in person. Once a Hatter, always a Hatter."



S2 Luton v Mansfield.indd 63 16/10/2025 14:20

FIXTURES & RESULTS 2025/26

		KO	RES		POS	ATT	AWAY							
AUGUST														
FRI 1	**AFC WIMBLEDON** TV	**20:00**	W	1-0	12	11,735	1,321	Keeley	Walters	Lonwijk	Makosso	Andersen	Naismith	Saville
SAT 8	PETERBOROUGH UNITED	12:30	W	2-0	4	10,827	2,995	Keeley	Walters	Alli	Makosso	**ANDERSEN 1**	Naismith	Saville
TUE 12	COVENTRY CITY (CC1)	19:45	L	0-1	-	10,536	515	Shea	Kodua	Bramall	Chigozie	McGuinness	Holmes	Walsh
SAT 16	BRADFORD CITY	15:00	L	1-2	9	20,233	1,338	Keeley	Alli	Lonwijk	McGuinness	Andersen	Naismith	Saville
TUE 19	**WIGAN ATHLETIC**	**19:45**	W	1-0	6	10,751	562	Keeley	Kodua	Bramall	Lonwijk	McGuinness	Naismith	**SAVILLE 1**
SAT 23	**CARDIFF CITY** TV	**12:30**	L	0-1	11	11,456	1,345	Keeley	Lonwijk	Alli	Makosso	McGuinness	Naismith	Saville
SAT 30	BURTON ALBION	15:00	W	3-0	7	4,487	1,675	Keeley	Kodua	**ALLI 1**	Makosso	McGuinness	Lonwijk	Saville
SEPTEMBER														
TUE 2	**BARNET (VT)**	**19:30**	W	4-1	-	3,157	404	Shea	Kodua	**BRAMALL 1**	Chigozie	Makosso	Naismith	Richards
SAT 13	**PLYMOUTH ARGYLE**	**15:00**	L	2-3	9	11,801	1,342	Keeley	Kodua	Alli	Makosso	Andersen	Lonwijk	Saville
SAT 20	LINCOLN CITY TV	12:30	L	1-3	11	9,255	1,433	Keeley	Lonwijk	Alli	Mengi	Andersen	Naismith	Saville
SAT 27	**DONCASTER ROVERS**	**15:00**	W	1-0	10	10,597	1,072	Keeley	Makosso	**NAISMITH 1**	Mengi	Andersen	Fanne	Saville
TUE 30	BLACKPOOL	19:45	D	2-2	7	8,530	520	Keeley	Makosso	Bramall	Naismith	Andersen	Fanne	Saville
OCTOBER														
SAT 4	STEVENAGE	15:00	L	0-2	11	7,228	1,363	Keeley	Makosso	Naismith	Mengi	Andersen	Fanne	Saville
TUE 7	CAMBRIDGE UNITED (VT)	19:00	L	1-3	-	1,767	591	Shea	Lonwijk	Bramall	Mengi	**ANDERSEN 1**	Naismith	Nelson
SAT 18	**MANSFIELD TOWN**	**15:00**												
SAT 25	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	15:00												
TUE 28	**BRIGHTON & HA U21 (VT)**	**19:00**												
NOVEMBER														
SAT 8	STOCKPORT COUNTY	15:00												
SAT 15	**ROTHERHAM UNITED**	**15:00**												
SAT 22	BARNSLEY	15:00												
SAT 29	**BOLTON WANDERERS**	**15:00**												
DECEMBER														
TUE 9	LEYTON ORIENT	19:45												
SAT 13	**PORT VALE**	**15:00**												
THU 18	READING TV	20:00												
FRI 26	**WYCOMBE WANDERERS**	**15:00**												
MON 29	**LEYTON ORIENT**	**15:00**												
JANUARY														
THU 1	EXETER CITY	15:00												
SUN 4	DONCASTER ROVERS	15:00												
SAT 10	**STEVENAGE**	**15:00**												
SAT 17	**LINCOLN CITY**	**15:00**												
SAT 24	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	15:00												
TUE 27	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	19:45												
SAT 31	**BLACKPOOL**	**15:00**												
FEBRUARY														
SAT 7	**BRADFORD CITY**	**15:00**												
SAT 14	CARDIFF CITY	15:00												
TUE 17	WIGAN ATHLETIC	19:45												
SAT 21	**BURTON ALBION**	**15:00**												
SAT 28	PORT VALE	15:00												
MARCH														
SAT 7	**READING**	**15:00**												
SAT 14	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	15:00												
TUE 17	**EXETER CITY**	**19:45**												
SAT 21	**STOCKPORT COUNTY**	**15:00**												
SAT 28	ROTHERHAM UNITED	15:00												
APRIL														
FRI 3	**PETERBOROUGH UNITED**	**15:00**												
MON 6	AFC WIMBLEDON	15:00												
SAT 11	**NORTHAMPTON TOWN**	**15:00**												
SAT 18	MANSFIELD TOWN	15:00												
SAT 25	**BARNSLEY**	**15:00**												
MAY														
SAT 2	BOLTON WANDERERS													
	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	**TBA**												

TOGETHER AGAINST RACISM

EFL

This afternoon we're wholeheartedly supporting the EFL's Together Against Racism Campaign.

We believe that football is a game for everyone, everywhere, and we are proud of the welcoming atmosphere our supporters create here at Kenilworth Road.

Despite the good work from clubs, players, staff and the EFL in supporting anti-racism campaigns, there were still 141 incidents of racist abuse at EFL grounds last season – and it's likely many more went unnoticed.

Our very own Elijah Adebayo was subjected to online abuse a year ago and we continue to support him and any of our players who are on the receiving end of this pathetic, sad, cowardly act.

Racism will not be tolerated and we stand together to remove it from our game – and from society.

A reminder: those engaging in racist abuse face up to five years in prison. Stadium bans can last 10 years. You certainly won't be welcome at Kenilworth Road.

Last season 17 fans were banned from their clubs and 24 faced police convictions for racist abuse at EFL grounds, with many more being referred for restorative justice or still under investigation.

We have also committed in our customer charter to providing safe matchday experiences for all supporters regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, disability or sexual orientation, and this applies equally to home and away fixtures.

In the event that any Luton supporters do make discriminatory chants, the Club will work with the police and football authorities to help identify such individuals. Any such fans would then face the strictest club sanctions, including football banning orders that would prevent them attending any matches, in addition to any criminal charges.

Furthermore, we would like to warn against pitch incursions and the use of pyrotechnics or missiles – which could lead to potential prosecution.

The Club can also be held responsible for the behaviour of its supporters, which could lead to substantial fines being imposed.

As a diverse and inclusive football club, we stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our fellow EFL clubs in supporting the FA's 'Love Football. Protect the Game' campaign and call on all fans to enjoy the game in a positive spirit.

If you are offended by any discriminatory abuse of any kind at any of our games, you can report it by contacting your nearest steward immediately, by emailing myvoice@lutontown.co.uk or reporting the incident via Kick it Out's free, confidential reporting app on the App Store and Google Play.

We're all Luton.

				SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 3	SUB 4	SUB 5
Clark	Walsh	Alli	Wells	Nelson	Fanne	Baptiste	Woodrow	McGuinness
CLARK 1	Baptiste	Yates	Wells	Lonwijk	Walsh	Fanne	McGuinness	Nelson
Nelson	Fanne	Woodrow	Nordås	Lonwijk	Alli	Richards	Yates	Phillips
Clark	Baptiste	Fanne	Yates	KODUA 1	Bramall	Nordås	Nelson	Walsh
Clark	Walsh	Alli	Yates	Nordås	Nelson	Holmes		
Clark	Walsh	Wells	Nordås	Yates	Kodua	Nelson	Baptiste	Bramall
Clark	NELSON 1	Yates	NORDÅS 1	Wells	Walsh	Naismith	Bramall	
Walsh	Nelson	YATES 1	NORDÅS 1	MORRIS 1	Alli	Lonwijk	Fanne	Phillips
Clark	Nelson	YATES 1	Nordås	WELLS 1	Naismith	Morris	Bramall	Gbodé
CLARK 1	Nelson	Yates	Wells	Gbodé	Morris	Makosso	Bramall	Nordås
Morris	Nelson	Alli	Wells	Kodua	Gbodé	Nakamba	Bramall	Richards
Morris	Nelson	Alli	Wells	CLARK 1	Gbodé	KODUA 1	Richards	Nordås
Kodua	Richards	Bramall	Nordås	Gbodé	Alli	Clark	Morris	Wells
Clark	Morris	Alli	Nordås	Richards	Fanne	Yates	Kodua	Gbodé

HOME DRAW IN FA CUP

The Hatters have been drawn at home to Forest Green Rovers in the first round of the FA Cup, following the National League high-flyers' 4-1 win at Worthing on Monday night.

The tie against Robbie Savage's side will be played at Kenilworth Road around the weekend of Saturday 1st November.

Dates and ticket information were still being finalised as we went to print.

THE QUIZ

Can you answer these 10 Town teasers? Quiz your family members and see if they can get all 10! The prize? Nothing – just pride and honour. Let's get into it…

1. How many England caps did Jack Wilshere earn?

2. In which season did Chris Powell guide Charlton to promotion from League One?

3. With which Danish club did Jack end his playing career?

4. Which club play their home games at Field Mill?

5. Who is the current top scorer for the Hatters' Under-18s this season?

6. Which Hatters player won the FA Youth Cup alongside Jack in 2009?

7. Which nation this week became the second-smallest nation to reach the World Cup?

8. What animal 'invaded' the pitch during Wales' qualifier against Belgium?

9. Salford City fans voted to change their shirts to which colour?

10. Who are the lowest-ranked team left in the FA Cup?

How did you do? 0-3 The Pitts. 4-7 Courtney Pitt. 8-10 Simon Pitts.

1. 34, 2. 2011/12, 3. AGF, 4. Mansfield Town, 5. David Gavel, 6. James Shea, 7. Cape Verde, 8. Rat, 9. Orange, 10. Maldon & Tiptree

TABLE 2025/26

Team	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Stevenage	10	8	1	1	9	25
Bradford City	11	7	3	1	7	24
Cardiff	11	7	2	2	10	23
Stockport	12	6	4	2	4	22
Wimbledon	12	7	1	4	4	22
Lincoln	11	6	3	2	7	21
Huddersfield	11	6	1	4	4	19
Barnsley	10	5	2	3	2	17
Bolton	12	4	5	3	2	17
Doncaster	12	5	2	5	-5	17
Luton	**11**	**5**	**1**	**5**	**1**	**16**
Mansfield	**11**	**4**	**3**	**4**	**2**	**15**
Leyton Orient	12	4	2	6	-2	14
Northampton	11	4	2	5	-2	14
Port Vale	12	3	4	5	0	13
Exeter	12	4	1	7	-1	13
Wigan	12	3	4	5	-2	13
Plymouth	11	4	1	6	-3	13
Wycombe	12	3	3	6	-1	12
Burton	11	3	3	5	-5	12
Reading	11	2	5	4	-4	11
Rotherham	11	3	2	6	-5	11
Blackpool	12	2	2	8	-10	8
Peterborough	11	2	1	8	-12	7

TODAY'S Fixtures

TODAY

12:30AM KO

Burton v Peterborough
Lincoln v Stevenage

3PM KO

Blackpool v Wycombe
Bradford v Barnsley
Cardiff v Reading
Doncaster v Northampton
Plymouth v AFC Wimbledon
Rotherham v Leyton Orient
Stockport v Exeter
Wigan v Port Vale

TOWN Totals

	W	D	L	F	A
HOME	1566	692	634	5775	3253
AWAY	748	717	1417	3316	4968
NEUTRAL	6	4	13	29	43
TOTAL	2320	1413	2064	9120	8264
At KR	1436	664	580	5236	3007

5,797 games played

Hatters Heritage's ***Roger Wash*** *looks back on some of our finest ever campaigns*

SEASONS TO REMEMBER *1974/75*



After an unexpected promotion in 1973/74 the Town were back in the top flight for the first time since 1960.

Still reeling from the fall-out following the Vehicle and General collapse three years earlier, which almost sunk the club, the directors were loath to spend money to make the fragile finances any worse.

This was soon reflected on the pitch, and it took until game 10 for a victory to be recorded and, as Christmas approached, the team was rock bottom and seemed set for a lowest-ever points tally.

A frustrated Hatters manager Harry Haslam decided to go for broke at this stage and throw in the kids with Steve Buckley and the Futcher twins, Paul and Ron, thrown into the side. They proved a revelation with three consecutive wins being recorded over the festive period.

From a seemingly impossible position, the team closed the gap and were off the bottom by mid-March and, with another three straight victories recorded after that – away at Carlisle and at home to Leeds and Arsenal – there was now a glimmer of hope that the drop could be avoided.

Easter, though, proved to be a disaster with heavy defeats at Derby and Wolves followed by a controversial 2-1 reversal at fellow strugglers Tottenham, which seemed to end the brave fight.

Negative thoughts never entered the players' heads, however, as the next three games were won handsomely and if the final game, at home to Manchester City, could have produced two points then real pressure would have been placed on fourth-bottom Spurs.

The game was drawn and Tottenham won their final game to send the Town down by a point. If the first half of the campaign had matched the second the Hatters would have qualified for Europe!

FIRST DIVISION	PLD	W	D	L	GAV	PTS
1 Derby County (C)	42	21	11	10	1.367	53
2 Liverpool	42	20	11	11	1.538	51
3 Ipswich Town	42	23	5	14	1.5	51
4 Everton	42	16	18	8	1.333	50
5 Stoke City	42	17	15	10	1.333	49
6 Sheffield United	42	18	13	11	1.137	49
7 Middlesbrough	42	18	12	12	1.35	48
8 Manchester City	42	18	10	14	1	46
9 Leeds United	42	16	13	13	1.163	45
10 Burnley	42	17	11	14	1.015	45
11 Queens Park Rangers	42	16	10	16	1	42
12 Wolverhampton Wanderers	42	14	11	17	1.056	39
13 West Ham United	42	13	13	16	0.983	39
14 Coventry City	42	12	15	15	0.823	39
15 Newcastle United	42	15	9	18	0.819	39
16 Arsenal	42	13	11	18	0.959	37
17 Birmingham City	42	14	9	19	0.869	37
18 Leicester City	42	12	12	18	0.767	36
19 Tottenham Hotspur	42	13	8	21	0.825	34
20 Luton Town (R)	**42**	**11**	**11**	**20**	**0.723**	**33**
21 Chelsea (R)	42	9	15	18	0.583	33
22 Carlisle United (R)	42	12	5	25	0.729	29

Player focus

Alan West was ever-present in midfield for the Town, leading by example with many silky smooth displays. Not bad for a player who had been told to retire the year before because of a back problem.



Season standout

Signed as a teenager from Chester in the summer of 1974, **Paul Futcher** was eventually given his debut just before Christmas and proved a wonderful surprise with his mature displays at the heart of the Town defence.



S2 Luton v Mansfield.indd 66 16/10/2025 14:20

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SCAN ME

the TEAMS

LUTON TOWN

MANAGER **JACK WILSHERE**

1	JAMES **SHEA**
2	REUELL **WALTERS**
3	KAL **NAISMITH**
5	MADS **ANDERSEN**
7	MILLENIC **ALLI**
8	LIAM **WALSH**
9	JERRY **YATES**
11	ELIJAH **ADEBAYO**
12	ALI **AL-HAMADI**
13	MARVELOUS **NAKAMBA**
14	SHAYDEN **MORRIS**
15	TEDEN **MENGI**
16	HAKEEM **ODOFFIN**
17	NIGEL **LONWIJK**
18	JORDAN **CLARK**
19	JACOB **BROWN**
20	LASSE **NORDÅS**
21	NAHKI **WELLS**
22	LAMINE **FANNE**
23	GEORGE **SAVILLE**
24	JOSH **KEELEY**
25	ISAIAH **JONES**
26	SHANDON **BAPTISTE**
27	JAKE **RICHARDS**
28	CHRIST **MAKOSSO**
30	GIDEON **KODUA**
31	JOE **GBODÉ**
33	COHEN **BRAMALL**
37	ZACK **NELSON**
38	JOE **JOHNSON**
39	JOSH **PHILLIPS**
42	CHRISTIAN **CHIGOZIE**

MANSFIELD TOWN

MANAGER **NIGEL CLOUGH**

1	LIAM **ROBERTS**
2	KYLE **KNOYLE**
3	STEPHEN **McLAUGHLIN**
4	ELLIOTT **HEWITT**
5	RYAN **SWEENEY**
6	BAILY **CARGILL**
8	AARON **LEWIS**
9	JORDAN **BOWERY**
10	GEORGE **MARIS**
11	WILL **EVANS**
12	OWEN **MASON**
14	DOM **DWYER**
15	JAMIE **McDONNELL**
17	MAX **DICKOV**
18	RHYS **OATES**
20	FRAZER **BLAKE-TRACY**
21	KYLE **McADAM**
22	NATHAN **MORIAH-WELSH**
23	DEJI **OSHILAJA**
24	REGAN **HENDRY**
25	LOUIS **REED**
27	LUKE **BOLTON**
28	JOE **GARDNER**
29	TYLER **ROBERTS**

The Officials

REFEREE **ROSS JOYCE**
ASSISTANT REFEREE **HARLEY HETHERINGTON**
ASSISTANT REFEREE **KENWYN HUGHES**
FOURTH OFFICIAL **STEPHEN PARKINSON**

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