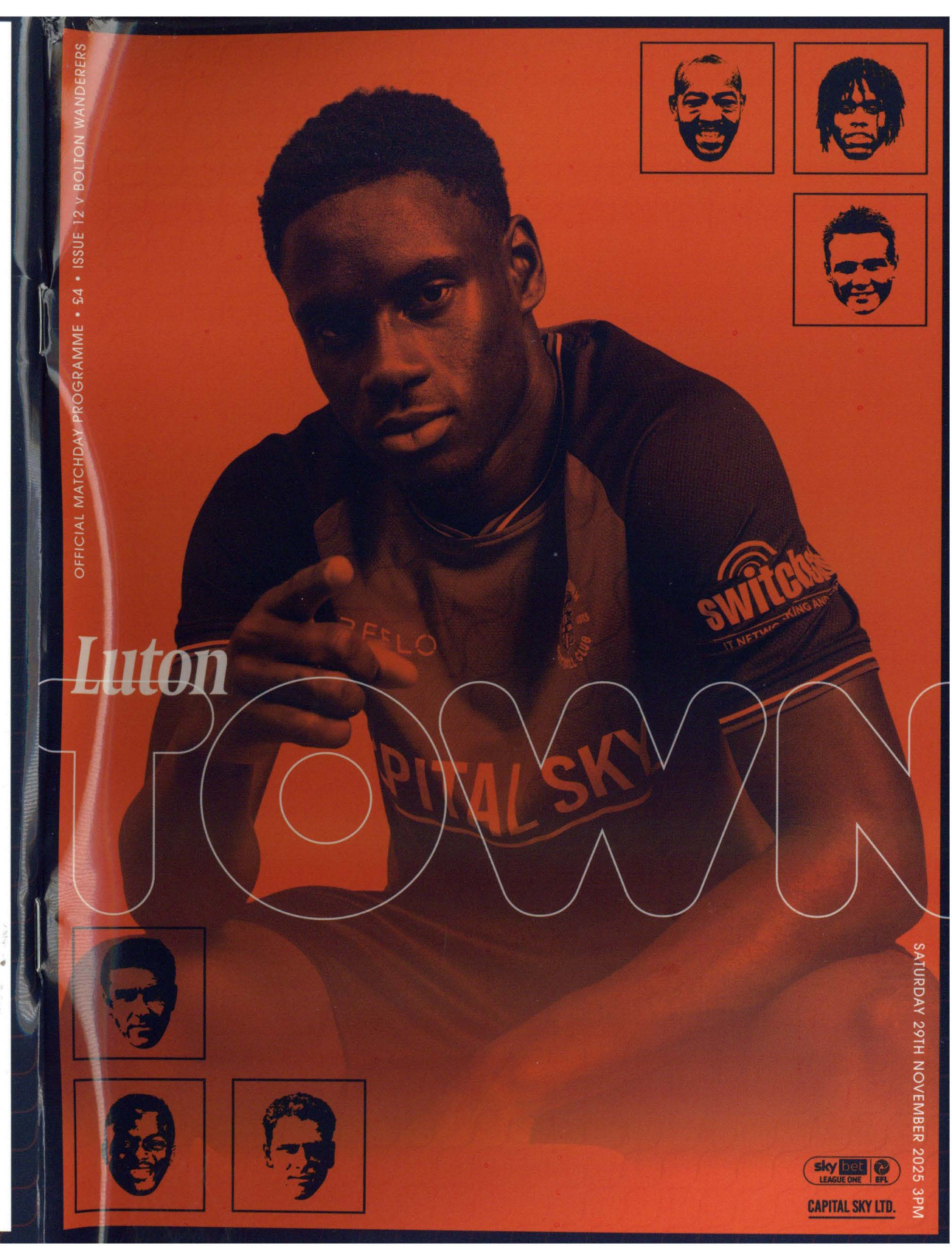
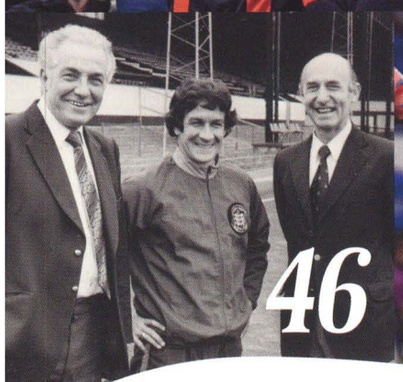
OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME • £4 • ISSUE 12 v BOLTON WANDERERS



SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2025 3PM



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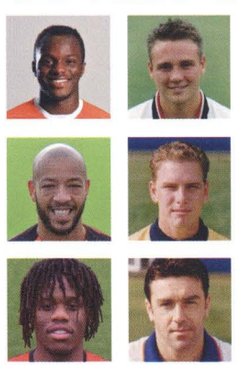


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COVER CHARACTERS



Carlos Mendes Gomes Attacking midfielder Carlos arrived at Kenilworth Road in 2021 after a productive spell at Morecambe, who he helped earn promotion to League One. He was restricted to just 15 appearances – scoring twice – and after a loan spell at Fleetwood he joined Bolton in 2023/24. He's now on loan at Exeter.

Matt Taylor Hatters academy graduate Matt made his debut as a 17-year-old and in his third season helped us win promotion in 2001/02, scoring 11 times. The flying left wing-back moved to Portsmouth where he made over 200 appearances before moving to Bolton in 2007 where he stayed for four seasons.

Alex Baptiste. Centre-back Alex arrived on-loan at Kenilworth Road in our 2018/19 League One title-winning season where, although he made just two appearances, his experience was vital. Started his career with Mansfield before a lengthy spell at Blackpool but enjoyed two spells with Bolton, winning promotion in 2021/22.

Juergen Sommer American goalkeeper Juergen arrived in the UK and signed for the Town in 1991, making 82 appearances between the sticks before leaving for QPR in 1995. The US international made one appearance for the Trotters at the end of his career, answering an SOS call from manager Sam Allardyce.

Peter Kioso Full-back Peter began his career with Dunstable Town where his form alerted the attention of Hartlepool. He joined the Hatters in 2020, making 17 league appearances. He joined Bolton on loan in 2020/21, scoring three goals in 13 games to help them to promotion. Now on loan at Peterborough from Oxford.

John Dreyer Centre-half John joined the Town from Oxford in 1989 and went on to make exactly 250 appearances for the Hatters. Famous for his one-step penalty technique, he scored 15 times in Luton colours before moving to Stoke in 1994. Played four times for Bolton on loan in 1994/95 and ended his career at Stevenage.

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the PROGRAMME

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

Welcome

Welcome back once more to Kenilworth Road for the second time this week for yet another big game in League One as we entertain Bolton Wanderers.

There were plenty of smiles after Tuesday night's excellent win over Huddersfield, earned thanks to goals from Jake Richards and Jerry Yates.

The three points were the first in the league here for Jack Wilshere and the reaction of the players after the game told its own story. As proud professionals, the result and performance at Barnsley hurt, and the character shown to bounce back with an excellent win against one of the pre-season promotion favourites meant a lot.

The players also revealed how important it was to have your backing throughout – especially during the time after Huddersfield's equaliser. Your support does make a difference and it will be needed again against an in-form Bolton.

So sing up and get behind the lads once more. Come on Luton!

THE BOSS

Jack WILSHERE

Welcome back to you all to Kenilworth Road for the second time this week and a warm welcome to Bolton Wanderers and their staff, players and supporters.

They arrive in very good form, Stephen has a strong side at his disposal at this level, and we know we'll have to be at our best. It will be a tough game, an exciting game, but it's exactly the type of challenge we need as we keep pushing forward.

I said this week after last weekend's defeat to Barnsley, it felt like we were punched in the face. That was because that's genuinely how it felt. It was tough to take. But the most important thing was how we responded. The boys were in on Sunday, we sat down together, reviewed the game honestly, and both staff and players shared opinions. The message was simple: the next performance had to be about character and passion. It wasn't about tactics or complicated ideas; it was about desire, winning duels and playing forward with purpose.

And the players delivered that. I was proud of them. Even when we got punched again in the second half, we stood up and showed even more character. That resilience is what I want this team to be known for.

Purpose has been a big focus for us. We spoke about it, we trained for it – using our bravery in the build-up, trusting the football we can play – but always remembering that the purpose is to score goals and to put the opposition under pressure. The more pressure you apply, the more chances you create, and I thought we did that well. We also showed we can mix our game up. You have to against the stronger sides in this league. We feel we can play through teams, but we're comfortable being able to go more direct when the moment is right and I liked the variation and the energy we played with.

More than anything, though, I was pleased with the response. Securing a home win, scoring goals and playing well is always good, but the key thing was showing who we are after a setback. Over the last few days,

I've spoken to staff, players, and people around the training ground, and not one person questioned the character of this group. That means a lot. Externally, after a 5–0 defeat, people will rightly ask questions – that's football. However, we've got unity and belief, and we'll need that throughout this season and especially during the upcoming busy period.

Against Huddersfield, the players deserve credit for how they handled the momentum swings. We suffered the right way – something we didn't do well at Barnsley – and we defended our box when we had to. This league gives you nights like Stockport or Northampton where it's not clean or simple, but how you cope is what matters.

Today is another chance to build. Bolton will test us, and we'll need the same character and purpose again.

Thank you for your continued brilliant support. After tough moments, it means even more. Stay with us, sing loud and enjoy the game.



"EVEN WHEN WE GOT PUNCHED AGAIN IN THE SECOND HALF, WE STOOD UP AND SHOWED EVEN MORE CHARACTER. **THAT RESILIENCE IS WHAT I WANT THIS TEAM TO BE KNOWN FOR.**

BOARDROOM

Bob CURSON



Good afternoon, and a very warm welcome to today's game against Bolton Wanderers.

A special welcome to the directors, management, staff and players of the Trotters – a strong side who are sitting just above us in the table. Among the visiting party we welcome back Richie Kyle and John McAtee, who we look forward to seeing back here on familiar territory.

Everything about this afternoon has the makings of a fierce, full-blooded contest between two teams with one shared ambition: promotion to the Championship. Both clubs go into the game in good form; us winning five of our last seven in all competitions and Bolton eight wins in their last 11.

So, after the performance we produced against Huddersfield earlier in the week, I'm sure you'll agree the momentum is building – and today is another huge opportunity to push forward. One look at the league table will show just exactly what three points can do.

But football...
what a wonderfully unpredictable game. Just when you think you've found your rhythm, it throws you a curveball. After five unbeaten under Jack's leadership, we travelled to Barnsley full of confidence – only to be hit with a 5-0 defeat that stunned every one of us. Jack referred to it as a punch in the face and he's right. It was a painful reminder that nothing in football, or in life, is simply handed to you. Success comes only through relentless hard work, total commitment and absolute belief – the kind of values we as a Board we have tried to stick to since we took over custodianship back in 2008.

But what a response. From the long, quiet journey home from Barnsley to the fight we saw on Tuesday night, the transformation was remarkable. We looked a different team – hungry, determined, playing with pride. A Luton Town team we all want to see.

The lads and staff earned that win, and they earned it the hard way, and what impressed me the most was the way in which the players reacted to the disappointment of being pegged back by a wonderfully executed free kick. It's in moments and times like this when you find the most out about your team. Therefore to go on and win the game after suffering that sucker punch highlights just how much spirit, character and quality lies in the team.

Today is another test, another challenge and another chance to show that same spirit against a Bolton side with lofty ambitions of their own. Stephen Schumacher is doing a fine job with a talented squad with a club who, like us, are dreaming of being back among English football's elite. But the confidence the team can take from Tuesday must not be underestimated. However, as I have alluded to earlier, you can't take anything for granted in this game. I'm positive that Barnsley result will act as a good reminder of how things can go if you're not at it for 90 minutes, especially in this league.

As I sat in the ground on Tuesday, with the freezing wind swirling around my legs in the main stand, my thoughts drifted towards the future – our future – and to Power Court in 2028. Yes, 2028. It's getting close now. Just under three years.

From my view on the train into Luton last week,



If we can dream it – we can do it

"WE ALL LONG FOR SUCCESS ON THE PITCH – AND THAT WILL NEVER CHANGE. BUT BUILDING ANYTHING TAKES TIME – A FOOTBALL TEAM INCLUDED.

the site still looked like a mountain of earth. A dream hidden beneath the mud. But not for much longer. Piling begins very soon and, before we know it, the stadium we have imagined for years – a stadium that our club have longed for decades – will begin to rise majestically out of the ground. I hope you will share that sense of pride, excitement and belief as we watch it grow – because if you can dream it, you can do it.

Throughout the years I've been involved at this club, Gary and the Board have been driven by one vision: a home worthy of Luton Town Football Club. And now, that dream is becoming reality. We are part of something extraordinary – a new era for the club, the town and the entire community. Gary, Michael, and everyone behind the scenes have worked miracles over the past decade, pushing us forward year after year, even taking us to the Premier League along the way. Just think of the dedication, the patience, the belief and the sheer determination it has taken to navigate COVID, Brexit and two relegations – and still keep moving forward.

And when results don't go our way, remember how far we've come. Think of the journey, the progress, the resilience. It puts everything into perspective and fills you with pride for what we have achieved – and what we are still building.

Results and performances are, of course, at the forefront of our minds. We all long for success on the pitch – and that will never change. But building anything takes time – a football team included – and with Jack, Chris and the coaching team getting to grips with a squad that is also relatively new with over a dozen new faces signed in the summer, the signs are encouraging. It's turned into a bit of a cliché, but our history has shown how much of a rollercoaster it is following the fortunes of Luton Town. We believe, once Power Court is up and running, those dramatic ups and downs can be a thing of the past as we aim to compete consistently at the higher end of the football pyramid.

Before I finish, I wish to mention something very close to my heart: the Luton Town FC Community Trust. Daniel Douglas, the Head of Trust, is now working seamlessly alongside the football club. Daniel and his staff are now operating at our main club headquarters, aligning shared responsibilities, strengthening key areas and collaborating with football club staff on a range of topics, including marketing, communications, finance, human resources and purchasing. This unity – one club, one vision, one voice – will set us up for a powerful, confident future. >>



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CS

The far-reaching work the Community Trust has undertaken in and around our local areas knows no bounds. Like many of our projects, this will only continue to soar once we are sitting in Power Court – further highlighting the significance and impact our new stadium will have for the future of our community. I take so much pride in the Community Trust's progress as it has been a regular part of my life for the past 17 years.

All this talk of Power Court brings me back to today and this big game at Kenilworth Road. Remember to embrace every game we have left at our dear old stadium. We all know when the atmosphere here is at its best and, when it is, it is one of the most intimidating places for opposition teams to come. Get behind the team, give them that fanatical vocal support when the players need it most and remember patience is a virtue and stick with the dream.

"If we can dream it – we can do it."

We are Luton Town.

Come on you Hatters.

Bob.

> *"THE FAR-REACHING WORK THE COMMUNITY TRUST HAS UNDERTAKEN IN AND AROUND OUR LOCAL AREAS KNOWS NO BOUNDS. LIKE MANY OF OUR PROJECTS,* **THIS WILL ONLY CONTINUE TO SOAR ONCE WE ARE SITTING IN POWER COURT.**



The work our Community Trust continue to do will help even more young people in the local area once we're in Power Court

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, Bob Curson, Kailesh Karavadra, Rob Stringer CBE, Glyn Taylor
Shareholders: Stephen Browne, Luton Town Supporters' Trust

FOOTBALL MANAGEMENT

Manager: Jack Wilshere
Assistant Manager: Chris Powell
First Team Coaches: Kevin Foley, David Bridges & Tim Corcoran
Team Operations Manager: Kevin Dearden
Head of Goalkeeping: Kevin Pilkington
Head of Physiotherapy: Chris Philips
Head of Physical Performance: Michael Amoah
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

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

THE CAPTAIN

Kal NAISMITH

It was an emotional feeling for us all after the referee blew for full-time on Tuesday night.

As captain I was incredibly proud of the lads, the staff and the club, including you for your backing as we bounced back to winning ways against Huddersfield.

I thought from the first minute to the last we were exceptional, and we fully deserved our win against a very good Huddersfield team.

You saw that from the very start and you got behind us. I think you saw a team who was willing to fight and right the wrongs from Barnsley. Last Saturday was nowhere near where we want to be so to bounce back in style was a credit to everyone involved.

As I said, I was so proud of my teammates, and I know I can look around the dressing room and know that we can stand side-by-side knowing we each have others' backs. It meant for a special night and an excellent three points which moves us further up the table.

A huge mention to Jake Richards. He's a young player who whenever comes into the team comes up with a little bit of magic. We know we can rely on him to deliver big moments which is a testament to him given he's still only a teenager. I know his goal on Tuesday took a deflection, but he hit it so sweetly. As a club we all need to get behind him because he's a special talent that deserves all the plaudits and long may it continue.

Another shout out goes to Jerry Yates. I couldn't be prouder of him. He has a lot of responsibility on his shoulders, and I promise you that you don't see how hard he works every day. He is a big character in the dressing room and in training, and is another player who gives absolutely everything. It was fantastic to see him net the winner against Huddersfield and we all hope he can go from strength to strength with that goal under his belt.

The three points saw us make a massive jump up the table and we want to keep improving this afternoon as we go into another big game today against Bolton. It will be another difficult test against a team in great form of late. The Barnsley blip apart, we have been in good form, winning five of our last seven in all competitions, and we must continue to build on that.

As I say, it won't be easy against Bolton but if we start the game how we did against Huddersfield – on the front foot and playing with aggression – I have every confidence we can achieve a good result today. Plus, with your backing behind us, we know we can be a match for any side in this division.

We are growing as a team with a new manager and know we must grow together. Like anything in life, things are easier when you do things together. We need each other in this if we're to achieve what we want between now and the end of the season.

So please get behind us once more and help us when we need it this afternoon. As always, we'll do our best to make you proud.

Enjoy the game.





"WE ARE GROWING AS A TEAM WITH A NEW MANAGER AND KNOW WE MUST GROW TOGETHER. **LIKE ANYTHING IN LIFE, THINGS ARE EASIER WHEN YOU DO THINGS TOGETHER.**

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THE HATTERS HERALD

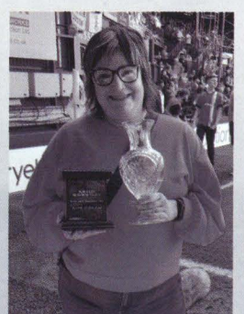
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LUTON TOWN V BOLTON WANDERERS

REST IN PEACE

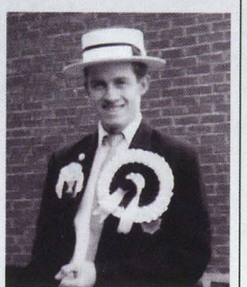
We are saddened to receive news of the passing of two members of the Luton Town supporting family.

The family of **Sarah Bates** are sad to announce her passing in September. Sarah was born in Luton and was a loyal Hatter all of her life. She enjoyed many matches with her late dad, Robin Snoxell, and late husband Rob Bates, former Chairman of Loyal Luton Supporters Club. In recent years, Sarah sat in the Kenilworth Road end and was extremely proud when her daughter Daisy could join her. Sarah will be dearly missed by all her family and friends. RIP Sarah, never forgotten.



On Thursday 13th November, we lost long-standing Town fan Derrick Mutton.

Derrick was 92 and a lifelong Hatter who attended the 1959 FA Cup Final. The photograph shows him wearing his straw boater and holding his rattle on the big day.

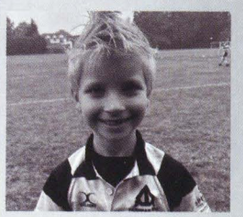


He is survived by his three sons – Tony, Guy and Stephen – who are all Hatters.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Sarah and Derrick. We will be thinking of you all throughout this afternoon.

Once a Hatter, always a Hatter x

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHARLIE!



Happy eighth birthday to Charlie Flattery.

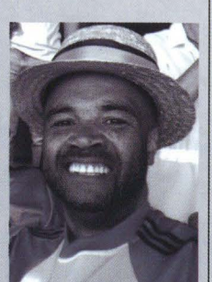
Charlie has been coming to matches with big brother Joseph, Dad and Grandad for years. He will be cheering the Hatters on today from the Kenilworth end.

His favourite player is Jordan Clark as he thinks he's very similar to the attacking player that he is on the pitch. Another three points and plenty of goals would make for a truly special birthday. Come on you Hatters!

REMEMBERING WESLEY

A huge welcome to the friends and family of Wesley Jean.

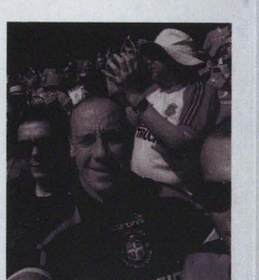
A Town supporter who passed away on 24th November last year. A group of his friends have travelled far and wide to be at Kenilworth Road this afternoon to remember a great man who will never be forgotten.



HAPPY RETIREMENT, MARTIN!

Now's the time to sit back and relax, Martin Mabbott!

Ardent Hatters fan Martin officially retires tomorrow after 40 years. Love comes from us all Kenilworth Road but, most importantly, your wife, Mandy. Enjoy!



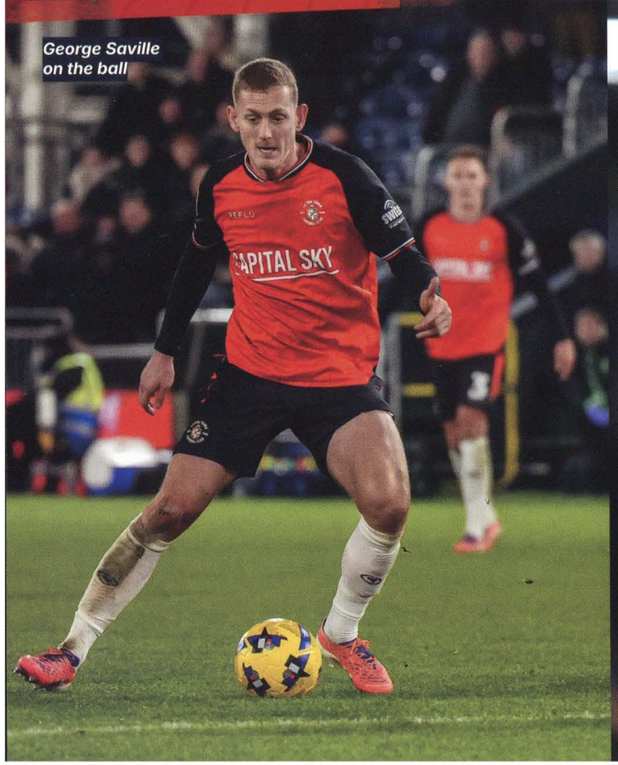


Hakeem Odoffin and Teden Mengi rise highest in this aerial duel

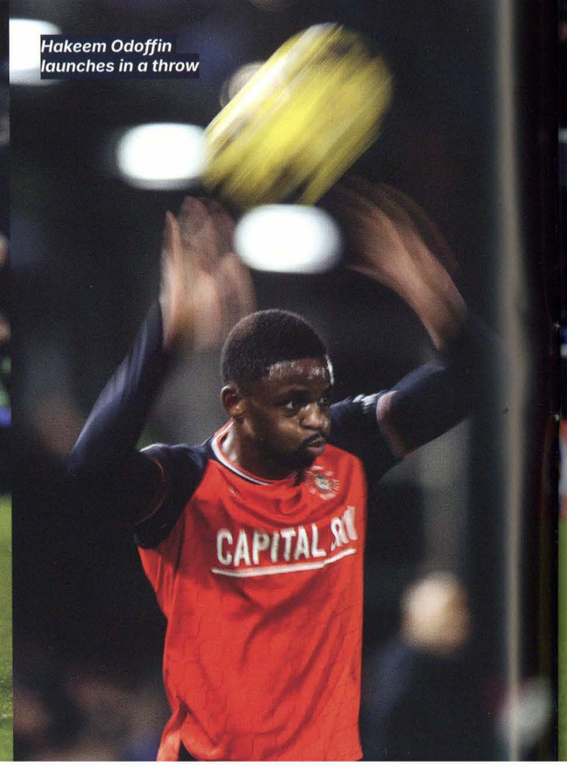


Jerry Yates goes close early on

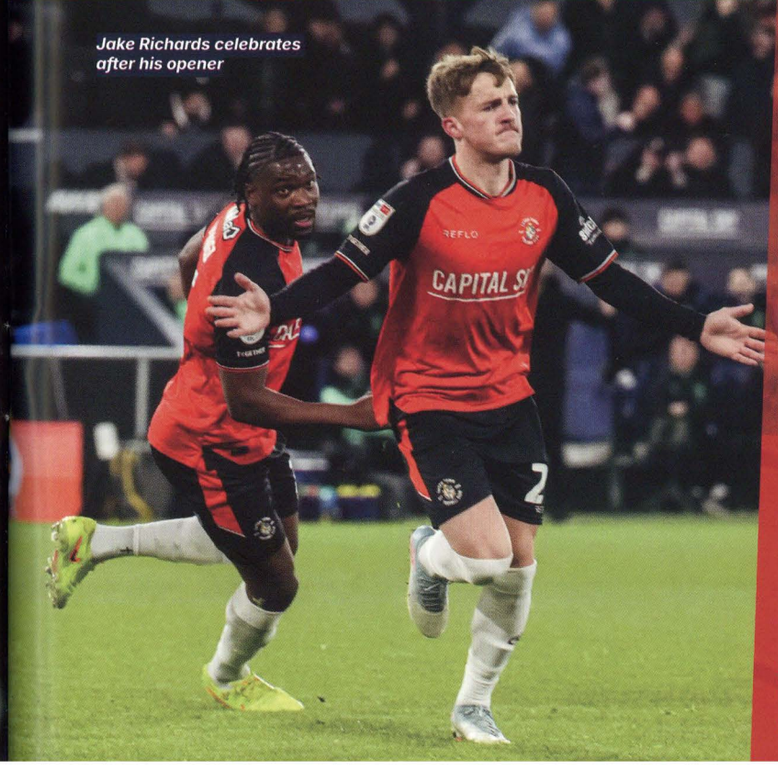
LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2-1



George Saville on the ball



Hakeem Odoffin launches in a throw



Jake Richards celebrates after his opener

Jerry Yates' second-half winner helped the Town banish the disappointment of Saturday's defeat at Barnsley with victory over Huddersfield at Kenilworth Road.

The Hatters were in front at half-time against the Terriers thanks to a fine strike from Jake Richards that flew home via the aid of a deflection.

The Town were good value for their lead but the visitors levelled thanks to a superb free-kick from Leo Castledine on 64 minutes.

But the Hatters were back in front six minutes later when Lamine Fanne's shot was saved and the midfielder reacted quickest to feed Yates who slid home the winner from close range to give Jack Wilshere his first league win at Kenilworth Road.



Nigel Lonwijk attempts to win a sliding tackle

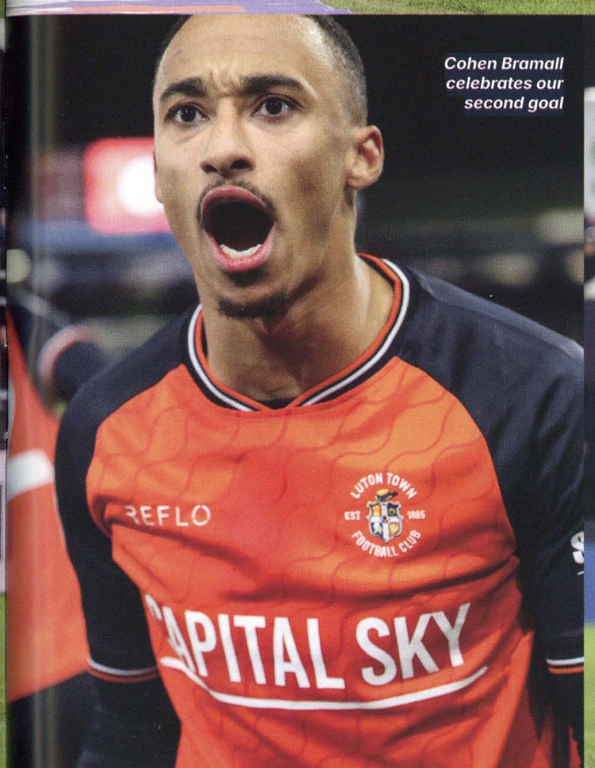
2-1



Lamine Fanne watches on as Jerry Yates pokes the Hatters in front against the Terriers



Lamine Fanne goes for goal



Cohen Bramall celebrates our second goal



My ball! Jerry Yates after scoring the second goal

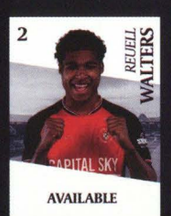
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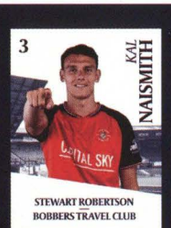
GOALKEEPERS

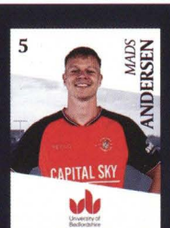




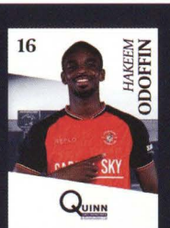
DEFENDERS





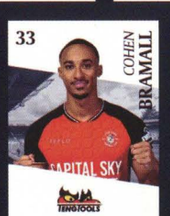










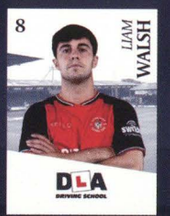




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MIDFIELDERS

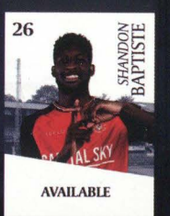


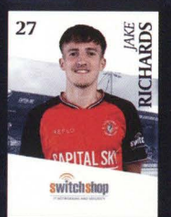






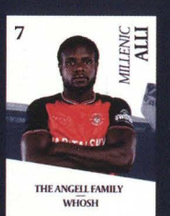








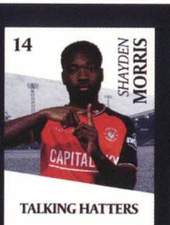
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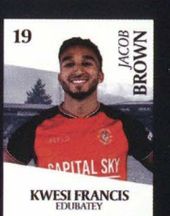




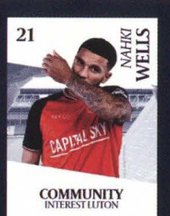




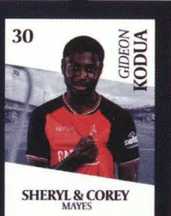














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At our last home game against Huddersfield on Tuesday night, Cohen Bramall was named man-of-the-match and we also had the pleasure of welcoming three mascots to the League One fixture against the Terriers.

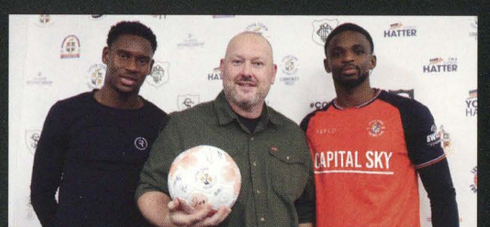
Our guests in the Eric Morecambe Lounge also had the pleasure of hearing from Town duo Lamine Fanne and Hakeem Odoffin after the game, with the pair popping in to meet and greet guests, signing autographs, posing for photos and answering supporters' questions after the 2-1 win.

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!

With the team on a roll and with the busy Christmas period make sure you get in touch with our team to book your place at one of our home games between now and the end of the season.

There is availability for our festive fixtures against Wycombe, on Boxing Day, and against Leyton Orient three days later, and kit sponsorship opportunities as well.

Finally, a warm welcome to our matchball sponsors who are a group celebrating the 18th birthday of Kai Richardson.













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BOLTON WANDERERS

Bolton Wanderers are in town this afternoon with Steven Schumacher's in-form side arriving in sixth place in League One.

The Trotters had a rocky start to the season and had just one league win from their first six, drawing four games 1-1 in a row.

However, things have changed since then. A derby victory against Wigan was followed with a 2-0 loss against Northampton and a win against Peterborough was followed with a tough defeat to Burton.

But Bolton followed this up with a five-game win streak. Two injury time goals got them a huge away win against Huddersfield, and victories against Cardiff, Huddersfield again in the FA Cup, Port Vale and Oldham, also in the FA Cup, saw them have an excellent start to the month.

This will be the first time the Trotters have visited Kenilworth Road for a league game in over 30 years. You have to go back to September 1994 for the last time Bolton came here for a league fixture – one Wanderers won 3-0.

Their last visit was more recent. In January 2024 the two clubs played out a goalless draw in an FA Cup third round tie at Kenilworth Road. The Town would go on to win the replay 2-1.

For fact fanatics, you have to go back to November 1981 for the last time Luton have beaten Bolton in a league fixture, here at Kenilworth Road in the second tier.

A warm welcome to Kenilworth Road to all those associated with Bolton Wanderers today.

BOLTON WANDERERS AT-A-GLANCE

FOUNDED: 1874

MANAGER: Stephen Schumacher

NICKNAME: The Trotters

STADIUM: Toughsheet Community Stadium

MAJOR HONOURS: Second Division/First Division champions 1908/09, 1977/78, 1996/97. FA Cup winners 1923, 1926, 1929, 1958

RIVALS: Blackburn, Burnley, Bury

LAST TIME AT THE KENNY: Town 0-0 Bolton FA Cup 3/1/24



BOLTON WANDERERS

THE AWAY END

The Boss

STEVEN SCHUMACHER Former Plymouth Argyle and Stoke City boss who joined the Wanderers in January. Taken charge of 40 league games so far, winning 18.

Goalkeeper

TEDDY SHARMAN-LOWE Chelsea loanee who spent last year with Doncaster Rovers in League Two, helping guide them to promotion back to League One.

Defenders

MAX CONWAY Came through the Bolton academy and spent time on loan with Buxton, Rochdale, AFC Fylde and Crewe before breaking through in the Trotters team this year.

GEORGE JOHNSTON Scottish defender who began at Liverpool before signing for Feyenoord and later Wigan. Has now made over 150 appearances for the Whites.

EOIN TOAL Northern Ireland international who signed for Bolton from Derry City in July 2022. Has now featured over 100 times for the club.

CYRUS CHRISTIE Experienced right back across the EFL for the likes of Swansea, Hull, Fulham, Nottingham Forest, Middlesbrough, Derby and Coventry City.

CHRIS FORINO-JOSEPH Joined the club in 2024 and has played 30 times since. Scored a last-minute winner away at rivals Wigan last season.

Midfielders

JOSH SHEEHAN Welsh international who is in his fifth season with Bolton Wanderers. He has made over 150 appearances, scoring 14 times.

AARON MORLEY Box-to-box midfielder who has been a regular for the Trotters since 2022. Spent a brief period on loan at Wycombe Wanderers.

KYLE DEMPSEY Midfielder who has plenty of League One experience for the likes of Fleetwood Town, Peterborough and Gillingham.

JORDI OSEI-TUTU Came through the Arsenal youth team and spent time abroad with Bochum and Giannina before returning to England with Bolton.

XAVIER SIMONS Young midfielder who came through the Chelsea academy and spent time with Hull City and Wycombe before joining the Trotters.

Forwards

MASON BURSTOW Young striker on loan from Hull City. Scored seven goals so far this campaign for the Trotters.

AMARIO COZIER-DUBERRY Brighton loanee who is having an excellent season so far. Has scored six and assisted six more, he has the highest combined goals and assists in League One.

SAM DALBY Signed from Dundee United in the summer. Scored against Huddersfield in the 2-1 win earlier this season.

IBRAHIM CISSOKO Currently on loan from Toulouse and scored once so far this season in the FA Cup. Scored twice against Luton for Plymouth last year.

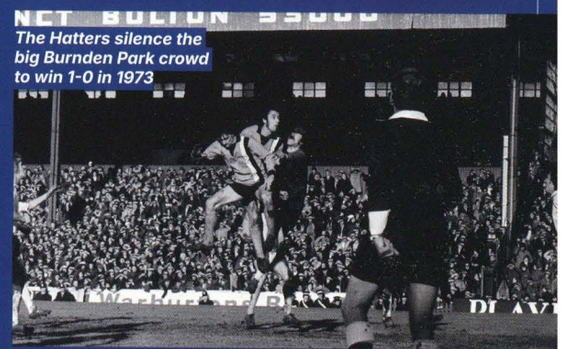
HATTERS *versus* TROTTERS

Historic meetings between the clubs down the years

FEBRUARY 1973

GARNER'S GLORY ▶

The Town travel to Bolton looking for a place in the quarter-finals of the FA Cup but come up against a Trotters side who have not lost in their last 26 home games. What Bolton don't count on is the Hatters' away day expertise. Alan Garner is the Town's hero, silencing the majority of the 39,556 in the crowd, to earn us a place in the sixth round of the competition for the first time in 14 years.

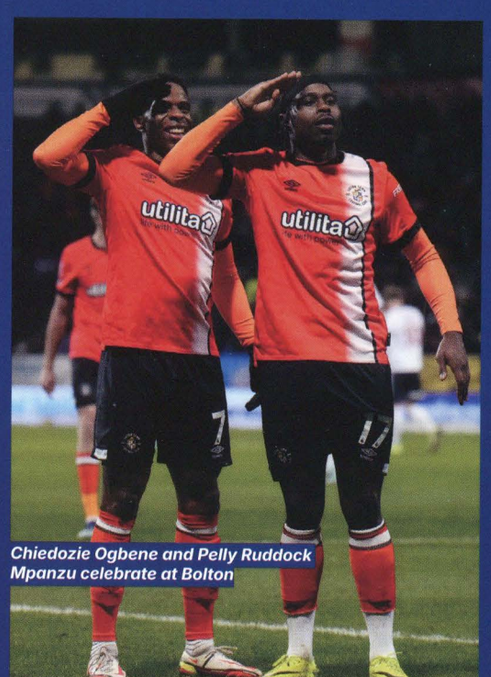


The Hatters silence the big Burnden Park crowd to win 1-0 in 1973

MAY 1981

END-OF-SEASON SUCCESS

A meaningless end of season game sees the Town going into the break fortunate to be level at 0-0. However, the Hatters step up a gear in the second period and turn on the style against the Trotters with the speed of their counter attacks. Brian Stein fires the Town in front before Steve White doubles the lead. Kirk Stephens scores his first goal of the season with a thumping shot in the final minute to seal victory – our biggest on Bolton soil still to date.



Chiedozie Ogbene and Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu celebrate at Bolton

NOVEMBER 1981

IMPORTANT HOME VICTORY

Battling against the drop, the Trotters defend in depth but cannot prevent Brian Stein scoring his first goal in 10 games to break the deadlock at Kenilworth Road. David Moss makes the points safe when scoring direct from a free-kick as the Town continue their good form. Milija Aleksic is injured in the final minute and Mal Donaghy takes over between the sticks for the final moments.

JANUARY 1997

CUP DEFEAT IN THE COLD

John McGinlay expertly shoots into the far corner early on to give the Trotters the lead in this FA Cup third round replay, but the Hatters fight back and a flick from Tony Thorpe and a Dwight Marshall volley gives us the lead at half-time. Bolton, First Division leaders at the time, turn on the power in the second half and crush the Town as they push up chasing the game, as the hosts run out 6-2 winners.

JANUARY 2024

CUP WIN IN THE COLD ◀

The last time the two sides met was in an FA Cup third round replay in what was our first ever trip to Bolton's new stadium. With the Trotters in League One and the Town in the Premier League at the time, the hosts were eyeing an upset and they were on their way to one when Dion Charles put them in front. However, the Town rally, Tahith Chong equalising minutes later before Chiedozie Ogbene scores a second-half winner.

ENGLAND LEGACY CAPS FOR LUTON LEGENDS

Mick Harford became the latest Hatters legend to be honoured by the Football Association at the recent international against Serbia, when he was presented with his England legacy cap.

Our current senior scout and club ambassador was invited to Wembley by the FA, having been unable to attend a month earlier alongside his former team-mates Ricky Hill and Brian Stein and the family of Frank Soo, due to a prior commitment raising funds for Prostate Cancer UK with a golf day.

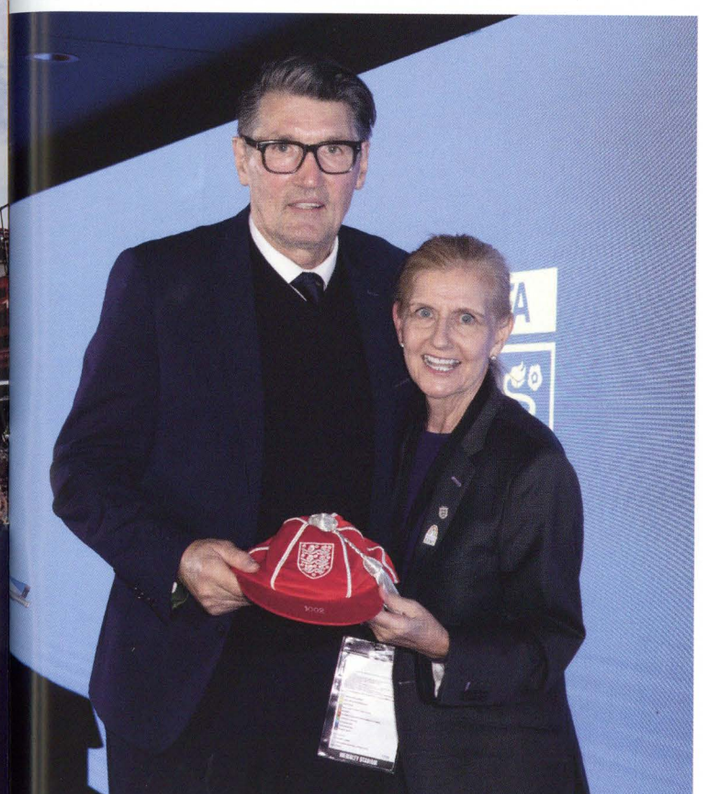
Big Mick received his cap at a ceremony alongside his former Wimbledon team-mate Warren Barton, ex-Tottenham players Graham Roberts and Paul Stewart, former Arsenal full-back Kenny Sansom and the families of the late Cyrille Regis and David Rocastle.

The first of Mick's two England caps came in a goalless draw in Israel in February 1988, with his second arriving seven months later in a 1-0 friendly win over Denmark at Wembley.

Like with Ricky and Brian, Mick won his caps under the management of Sir Bobby Robson while playing his trade at Kenilworth Road, where he scored 92 goals in 217 matches across two spells.

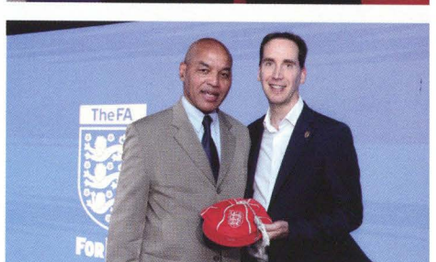
His England legacy number is 1,002.

As with Frank, Ricky and Brian, everyone connected with Luton Town is proud to see Mick honoured by the FA for playing for his country. Congratulations, Mick.













YATES STRIKE GETS US BACK ON TRACK

*Matchwinner **Jerry Yates** hopes he can add to his goal tally and give the Town momentum after his goal against Huddersfield on Tuesday night*

Jerry Yates expressed both relief and quiet satisfaction after scoring the winning goal in the Town's hard-fought victory over Huddersfield on Tuesday night – a result that helped steady the group following a difficult week.

The striker's close-range finish, coming late in the second half, was his first open-play league goal at Kenilworth Road this season and arrived at an important moment for a side still processing the 5-0 defeat at Barnsley days earlier.

Yates reacted quickest when the ball broke loose inside the area, nudging home Lamine Fanne's cross from close range, turning what had threatened to be a frustrating evening into a much-needed three points.

For the 29-year-old striker, the significance was as much about rhythm as statistics. "As soon as you get the opportunity, you need to take it," Yates said afterwards. "A striker needs rhythm and once he gets one it's like London red buses – they all come at once. But you never get too high, you never get too low about those situations."

Yates has long acknowledged that his seasons often take time to settle. The slow start this year had mirrored previous campaigns. At Blackpool, a prolific spell in League One came after a lean period in front of goal.

But, as he explains, it's something all strikers go through.

"The first 10, 15 games... I don't know what it is, whether I must be a slow starter or whatever, but it happens every time," he said.

"I seem to never score in the first 10, 15 games and then usually, once you get one, you end up cracking on."

Yates was on hand to win it for the Town seven minutes after Huddersfield had levelled, nipping in to make sure Fanne's pass crossed the line.

"I've told him it was going wide, but it was definitely going in," smiled Yates. "But I'm a striker, so I've got to tap that home. I've got to be a little bit selfish. I'm just glad I wasn't offside.

"But I'm my biggest self-critic. I know what I should be doing and how many I should have scored. I've missed some easy opportunities. But it's one of them – like buses, when one comes they all come."

The victory carried wider importance. After a five-match unbeaten run ended abruptly at Barnsley it was vital the Hatters responded in the right manner – which they did after Huddersfield equalised midway through the second half on Tuesday night.

"Most teams might have crumbled under that, but we stuck to our guns and got the goal back," Yates said.

"It's massive for the group. After Barnsley it hurt the lads. It humbled us. We knew we had to work hard Sunday and Monday to put things right."

Yates explained how helpful the video nasty the squad watched was after the Oakwell defeat that brought into sharp focus what went wrong.

"You end up watching the game back and seeing where you go wrong," he said.

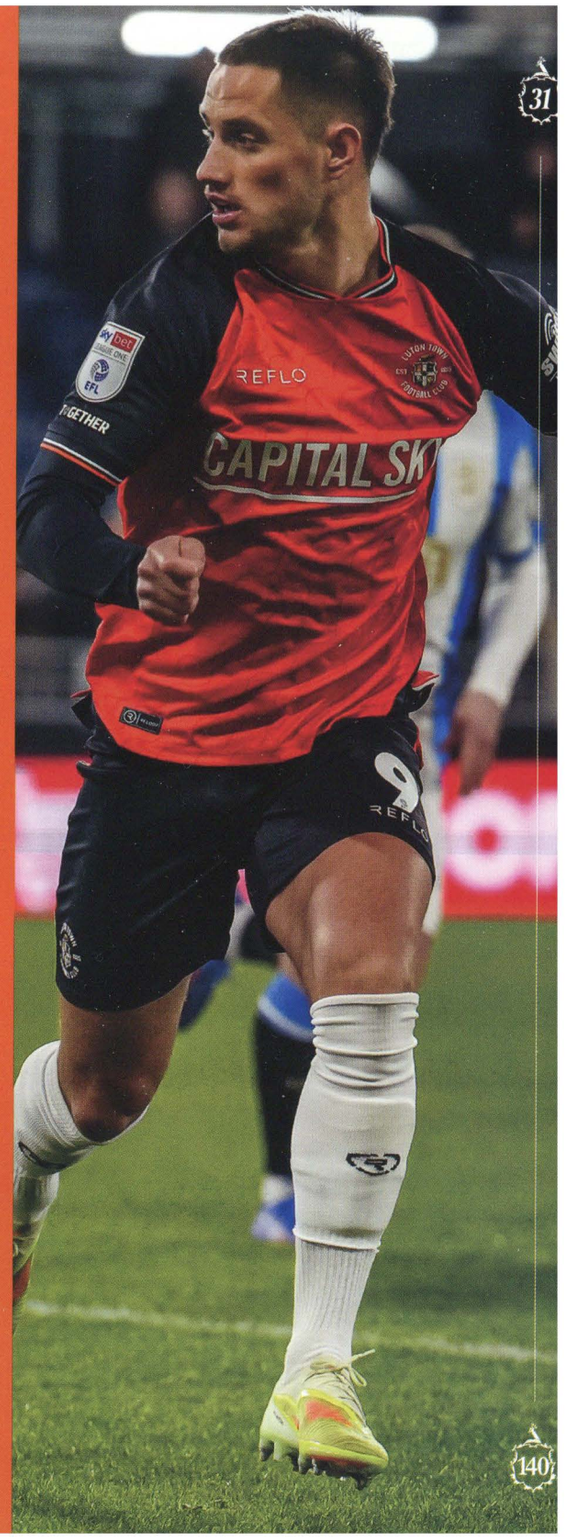
"It humbled us because we'd gone five unbeaten and maybe got a bit too high. That result knocked us a bit, but the character of the group was massive."

But against Huddersfield that character showed in a more composed second-half display.

And they were rewarded when Yates struck the winner to make it five wins in the last seven in all competitions to lift the Hatters up to seventh in the League One standings – just three points off second place in a tight table.

"We're going in the right direction," the striker said. "We don't get too high, we don't get too low.

"It's nice to get a victory over a team like that, and maybe it boosts our confidence even more. We forget about that now and move on to Bolton."



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THE VIEW FROM THE PRESS BOX

The Luton News' ***Mike Simmonds*** *on the Hatters' bouncebackability*

Was there any surprise that Luton bounced back from their humbling experience at Barnsley by beating Huddersfield Town on Tuesday night? Not really.

Take the top-flight season out of the equation and Luton have often responded well to such drubbings in the past.

Fulham away in the 2022/23 campaign. A 7-0 hammering against the champions at Craven Cottage saw Luton go up against Reading on home soil in their next outing, taking the points with a 1-0 victory courtesy of Harry Cornick's moment of hide and seek genius.

Brentford away in the 2019/20 season. Going down 7-0 again, this time under Graeme Jones, Town hit back again on home soil when facing Wigan Athletic, a 2-1 success sealed by a late goal from ex-Latics attacker Callum McManaman and George Moncur's even later strike sending the Kenilworth Road faithful into raptures.

Even back in the 2017/18 campaign when Nathan Jones was at the helm in his first spell, travelling to Port Vale, they were dispatched 4-0 before taking on Lincoln City on New Year's Day storming to a 4-2 triumph against the Imps.

So it was no real shock that the Hatters quickly put the Tykes debacle behind them instantly, but it was also imperative they did.

And such is the nature of the league then despite a campaign which hasn't gone anywhere like how many would have wanted or expected it to, the result means Luton are now just four points off top spot and knowing victory over Bolton Wanderers today will take them into the play-offs, which according to the hierarchy is the very least they except this term, and even potentially as high as third.

It was also good to see Jerry Yates on target as well and boy do Luton need him to fire now as the injury issues which are usually reserved for centre halves at Kenilworth Road, appears to have moved up to the top of the pitch.

Nahki Wells faces some time out and he has been joined by Ali Al-Hamadi, who was just starting to get fit only to pick up an injury on international duty for Iraq which will sideline him for the next few months.

Lamine Fanne is beginning to show all the hallmarks of becoming a goalscoring midfielder, while Jake Richards is displaying the "magic in his feet" that boss Jack Wilshere has spoken about.

But if Yates can do what he did for Blackpool when last at this level, netting 20 times, it will do wonders for Luton's aims at making their time in the third tier as short as possible.



Harry Cornick celebrates his winner as the Town bounce back from a 7-0 defeat to beat Reading in May 2023

NO.22 FANZINE



LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST

The Trust Interviews...



James Mooney *Operations Director*

In this interview, we take a look behind the scenes with James Mooney, Operations Director, and how he works across all operational aspects of the club.

We found James to be a quietly understated and modest person who plays a massively important part in the smooth, seamless and structured operations of so many areas, bringing them all together impressively across a broad and deep portfolio of responsibilities. We were very impressed, and we hope this interview provides you with a snapshot of what he does, today and for the future.

Thanks for taking time out to talk to us, James. First up, can you tell us what your role involves?

The title Operations Director sums it up neatly really – I'm responsible for overall supervision of all the operational functions of the club, from IT and safety and security to match days, home and away, the stadium, medical and performance and also the community and academy operations. Each of those functions is taken care of by great people and teams, who report to me as part of the Executive Team who support the playing side and management and put into action the strategy directed by the Board and Gary Sweet.

You're part of the connective glue that ensures that all the essentials work smoothly together then?

Yes, you could definitely say that!

Before we investigate that in more depth, tell us a little more about yourself and what brought you to Luton Town please.

I'm from Stroud in Gloucestershire – my accent is a giveaway there! I was a keen footballer in my school days, with Forest Green Rovers, my local team, as a youth player.

When I finished school, I did a public services course at college for two years, with a view to a career in that sector. At the end of the course, I didn't want to go off to university, and looked into doing a summer camp in America, in Connecticut, coaching football. After talking to the recruiter, I was invited to go a bit earlier than just turning up for the four-week programme, to explore the culture and do some work with an additional needs camp.

I was initially a bit reserved about that as I felt my strength was purely football and coaching, but I found it really rewarding and it became a full-time job, supporting families as well and mentoring young children. That's where I met my wife, who was working with that side of the additional needs camps too. It was a momentous time in our lives – we got married and had our first child in America, but then decided to move back to Stroud, where I started working with a local energy company whose owner also owned Forest Green Rovers.

I moved over to that side and, over a 10-year stay with Forest Green, I developed my business skills, became company secretary and then eventually headed up operations.

Rob Edwards was there for a year, so I knew him briefly. When he moved to Luton there was a potential job vacancy within the operations department and Rob put me in touch with Gary and although it was a big move for me and my family to come to Luton, that's what we did.

> **"BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TRUST ON BOARD HAS BEEN, I WOULD SAY, ONE OF OUR BEST ACHIEVEMENTS INTERNALLY SINCE I'VE BEEN HERE.**

Although I was in a hotel for a while, we now live locally. I'm very much a family man, and there's a real family feel at Luton. I know that's a bit of a cliché, but like a family we really care about each other and work hard to make the club the best it can be. Yes, we've had a hugely disappointing 18 months or so but believe me everyone is united in that aim, on and off the pitch.

So, back to your role – how does it work on a day to day and overall basis?

So, my direct reports – the people who report back to me weekly or, where needed, daily, cover a whole host of specialist functions.

There's IT – Thorsten Gfrarer, our IT specialist. Safety and Security – that's the one and only Barney McGhee. Catering with Cris da Silva – overseeing this is shared with Ben Kensell, who takes care of the commercial side while I oversee catering functions for the first team and academy facilities at The Brache.

I'm responsible for Academy operations alongside Paul Benson and oversee the structure of the Medical and Strength and Conditioning teams, but both teams report directly to Jack Wilshire.

They're led by Chris Phillips, Head of Physiotherapy, after Danny Murphy, who did a really good job improving some of the processes in the medical department, left to explore other opportunities.



One of our best acheivements – bringing Daniel Douglas and his Community Trust team into the club offices on a full-time basis

Then there's Football Operations, under Kelly Francis, who you interviewed earlier in the season - and two unsung heroes who I'd like to give a special mention to as they've done fantastic jobs for the club for over 50 years combined – Peter Kemp, Site and Facilities Manager, and Richard 'Dickie' Bird, our Head Groundsman.

While they all report back to me, I'm involved in and responsible for all those functions and spend time with them and their teams every day to support them and ensure that all the moving parts are working well together and developing smoothly. As Operations Director, I'm also part of the Executive Team who report to Gary and the Board.

What's the Executive Team, who is on it – and how does that work, too. It's fascinating to hear how the club is structured and how many people are involved in making it tick!

The Executive Team consists of myself along with Ben Kensell, Chief Revenue Officer, Tom Schofield, Chief Financial Officer, and Jenn Smith, Human Resources Director. Jenn, amongst a wide range of other key functions, is also responsible for safeguarding, which is hugely important for a football club, especially with all the academy and community work we do.

We also have a management team, on the non-football side, and we meet every Monday with Gary, so that we can bring him up to speed on what's going on. If we need his input on something, that's our set meeting time – but we're all on the same floor, and we talk to each other – including Gary – all the time. And when there are operational decisions to be made, we make them together.

I think it's important for fans to understand that we're all working together in a unified structure, not in silos. It has to be that way of course, because any change or decision one of us makes may impact others, so we need to talk about that together – and Gary, as CEO, needs an overall picture, so he can keep the Board fully informed.

You've mentioned the Community Trust and the Academy. Can you tell us more about how you work with them, and what developments are on the way?

Let's start with the Community Trust. Bringing them into the offices at HQ has been a massive step forward.

Daniel Douglas sits alongside the management team, and we're much more closely involved together now. Bringing the Community Trust on board has been, I would say, one of our best achievements internally since I've been here actually – seeing them working within our offices when there was previously a bit of distance.

Director Bob Curson, one of the 2020 investors, is chair of the Community Trust. I'm also one of the Trustees, and Daniel is in the office every day. If you spoke to the Community's Trust staff before, they would say they work for Luton Community Trust, but they don't really work for Luton Town Football Club. Now they say we work for Luton Town Football Club because they're >>



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in our offices every day and involved in meetings daily with football club staff. Daniel's at our management meetings, too. We're working towards the same things; it's already making a real difference and it's going to bring such positive change in years to come.

The club and the Community Trust do an enormous amount of work, engaging with local communities through sport and social action and that's so important to us – we're here for the town and surrounding areas, for everyone.

Building great relationships across all groups is not just about attracting the people who will fill Power Court, it's about being at the heart of the town.

The Academy falls under my remit too, and we've made some major advances with their facilities at The Brache, with their gyms, strength and conditioning, medical, changing rooms and so on. It's a pretty impressive set up and part of moving towards earning Category 2 academy status, which brings so many benefits and promotes and protects our future. I know some people have been asking what's happening with the Dome. We do need to make that step up, but the decision on the land we require is still going through approvals. That delay suits us in some ways as we're also waiting to see what the new deal for football brings our way. Some of the conversations have been about funding, which potentially may involve academies.

Something fans may not know about, but which is really important to how we develop the academy, is the Academy Technical Board, which meets every three months to oversee and direct progress. The Board includes me, Gary, David Wilkinson, Paul Ballantyne (David and Paul watch a huge amount of our Academy games, at every level), along with Paul Benson, Wayne Turner, Alex Lawless – and Jack Wilshire. The manager's input on the Academy is really important, as we're preparing players to be part of future – and in some cases present – first team squads. We obviously want more and more of 'our own' to be part of that.

The Technical Board is another example of the systems and processes which structure the club. Decisions aren't made in isolation, or by any one person – we have a sort of eco-structure that facilitates growth, now and into the future.

We're already looking at how operations will work at Power Court in detail and right now I'm looking at player facilities, the recovery areas, hydro pool and so on. I see the team from Limak, who are leading construction every day. They're in our offices too. Everyone is so excited about the new stadium – it's a fabulous design and will transform the whole town and, of course, our football club.

We're also looking to develop a closer working relationship with Luton Ladies, bringing them into our thinking and planning a lot more with a view to Power Court. There's a lot of potential there.

Do you have any input on the playing side?

Not as such, though I make sure I'm available to sit and talk to the manager and the coaches. Jack is responsible for day-to-day activities at the training ground. It's important to be in touch as our operations are there to support them in many ways, from the football operations like travel and hotels under Kelly Francis with Kevin Dearden, and the medical and kit team, to providing them – the players, coaches and management – with the best facilities we possibly can.

I sit on the recruitment panel, too. Something I'd like to point out on this subject is that we now have our largest number of scouts, I believe, that we've ever had physically out in the field, who report to Marc Tracy. My input is largely on the operational side of signing and selling players and transitioning new players into the club. I'm a football man, so I like to be involved – but not being in Jack and Chris's ears (or the players!) – with advice. I don't think my Forest Green Academy experience half a lifetime ago qualifies me for that!

Finally, what is your message to the fans?

I'd really like to stress how closely everyone works together: to repeat my earlier point, there's a family feel to the whole club – we all work hard, and love doing it. We believe in what the club is about, and right across everything there is that connective glue of having the same vision for the club, our supporters, the community and the future. Yes, there have been some very difficult times over the last two seasons, but our resolve and energy never falters.

Thank you James! We all share that vision, we're all Luton, and we can do our bit by being the best support we can be, today and as we move back upwards with Jack, Chris and the team!

> *"BUILDING GREAT RELATIONSHIPS ACROSS ALL GROUPS IS NOT JUST ABOUT ATTRACTING THE PEOPLE WHO WILL FILL POWER COURT,* **IT'S ABOUT BEING AT THE HEART OF THE TOWN.**



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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

2022/23 AWAY

Today, we feature another shirt from our historic, epic, legendary promotion from the Championship season. This time, the 2022/23 away shirt.

Our away shirt, along with our home and third, was manufactured by Umbro for the for this campaign, and they did a cracking job with this away number. It blends both modern football shirt style, with nods back to our history with the lovely sleeve pattern.

A per the norm with our away shirts at the time, the white shirt features a sleeve pattern style not too dissimilar to the 1991/92 home shirt (which, in my opinion, is one of the best shirts of all time) and the same sort of style as worn on the 2020/21 away shirt.

The blue, white and orange pattern turns this shirt from a plain white, uneventful shirt into a smart, nostalgia-tinged effort that brings back amazing memories. Even the sponsor, Star Platforms, colour co-ordinated their logo to match the sleeves!

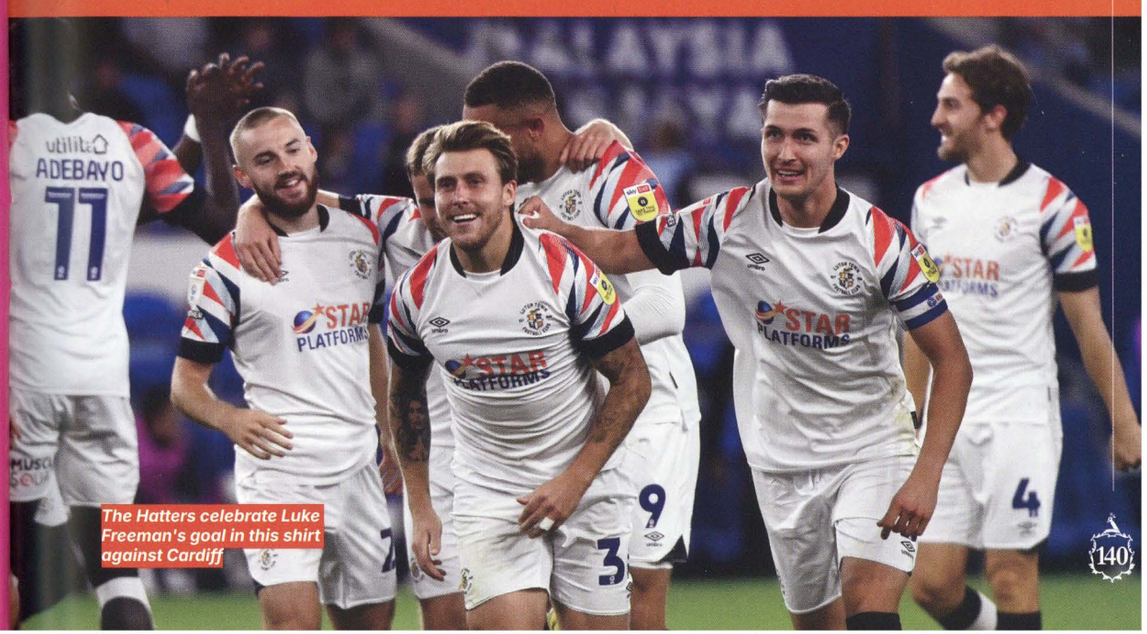
The league debut for this shirt started off with a 2-1 away win at Cardiff, with Luke Freeman the first player to score in this delightful shirt. Gabe Osho got the other that day.

Another win, this time away at Hull City, in a 2-0 triumph with *the moment* for this shirt: Henri Lansbury scoring that 25-yard screamer, followed by his lawnmower celebration! One of many iconic moments of the season, and this shirt's history!

Carlton Morris scored the winner against his former club, Norwich City in another win for this shirt (1-0), before some event down the M1 that, for some reason, I've completely erased from my memory...

We got back to winning ways in this shirt against Blackpool thanks to Luke Berry, earned a 1-1 draw with Coventry thanks to Tom Lockyer, before another win away at Birmingham City thanks to another winner from Morris.

Our final appearance in this shirt came in a goalless draw at Millwall. A wonderful season, and a lovely shirt to have in our promotion winning season wardrobe!



The Hatters celebrate Luke Freeman's goal in this shirt against Cardiff

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

From the Archives

Early arrivals from Bolton help to clear the Kenilworth Road pitch of snow before an FA Cup tie in February 1953.

Their efforts were rewarded as the game went ahead with the Trotters winning 1-0 although (inset) the match would not be played today given the conditions.



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

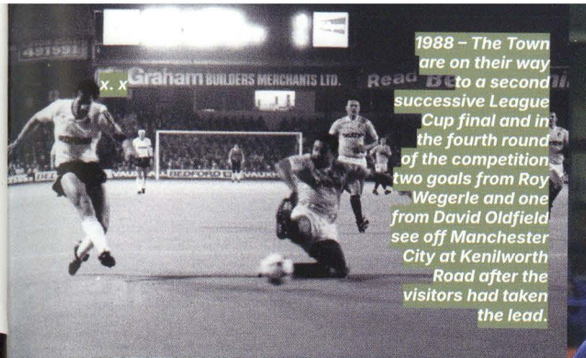
ON THIS DAY

15th November

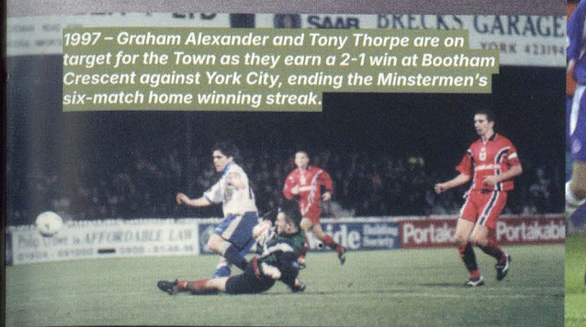


1992 – This local derby is overshadowed by the road accident which leaves Darren Salton critically injured. On a muddy pitch, the Hornets are hardly in the game and Ian Benjamin dives in to head home a cross from John Dreyer, closely followed by a drive from Scott Oakes to round off a solo run.

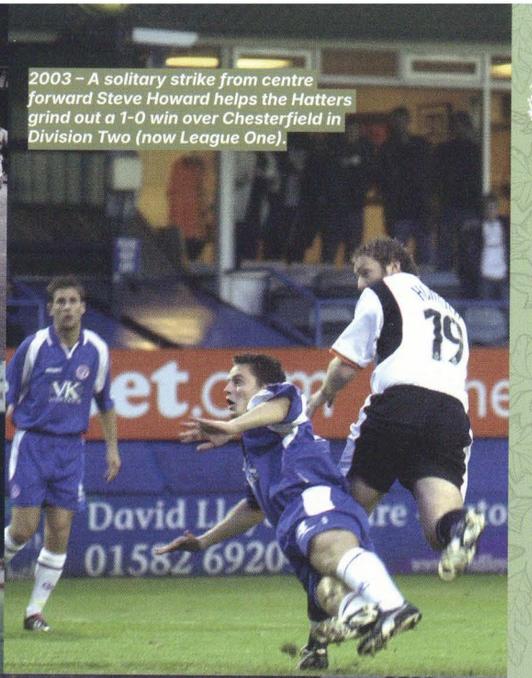
1952 – The Town topple the Toffees in the Second Division as goals Bernard Moore, Jesse Pye, Bert Mitchell and an own goal gift us a 4-2 win over Everton at Kenilworth Road.



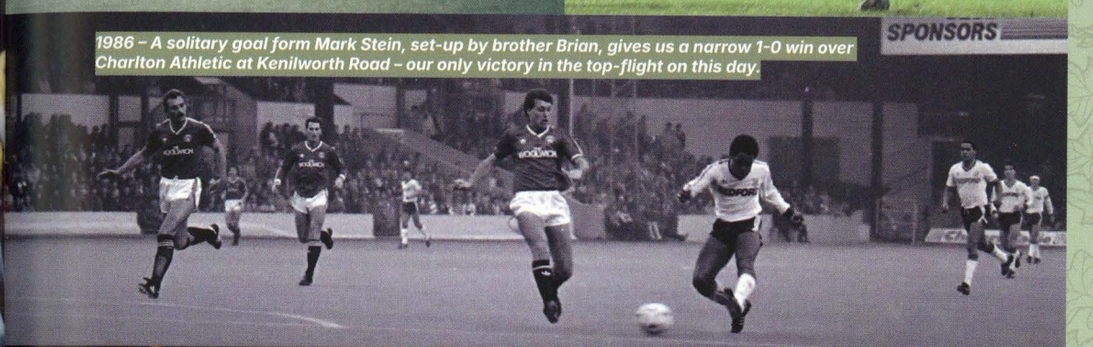
1988 – The Town are on their way to a second successive League Cup final and in the fourth round of the competition two goals from Roy Wegerle and one from David Oldfield see off Manchester City at Kenilworth Road after the visitors had taken the lead.



1997 – Graham Alexander and Tony Thorpe are on target for the Town as they earn a 2-1 win at Bootham Crescent against York City, ending the Minstermen's six-match home winning streak.



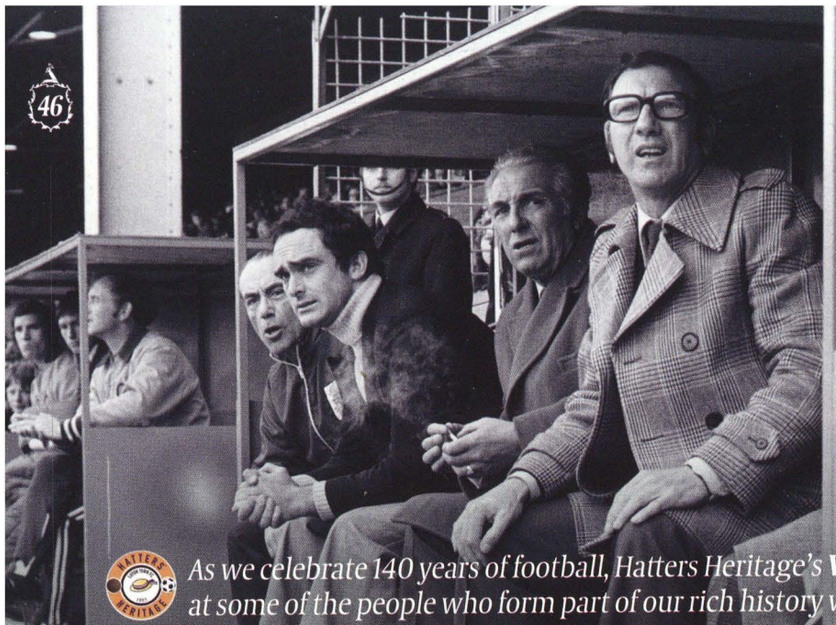
2003 – A solitary strike from centre forward Steve Howard helps the Hatters grind out a 1-0 win over Chesterfield in Division Two (now League One).

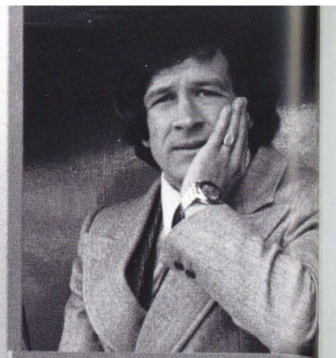


1986 – A solitary goal form Mark Stein, set-up by brother Brian, gives us a narrow 1-0 win over Charlton Athletic at Kenilworth Road – our only victory in the top-flight on this day.



2014 – The Town see off Mansfield at Kenilworth Road in League Two thanks to goals from Paul Benson and a brace from Shaun Whalley.





A nervous, chain-smoking Haslam watches as the Town clinch promotion at West Brom, surrounded by Reg Game, John Aston, Roy McCrohan and Danny Bergara

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

Happy Harry – Part Two

Harry Haslam stepped into the role of manager officially on 5th May 1972.

His first season is best remembered for a swashbuckling run to the FA Cup quarter-finals, during which Newcastle were disposed of 2-0 at St James' Park followed by a tremendous 1-0 victory at Burnden Park in the fifth round against Bolton, who had been unbeaten for 26 games at home.

Hopes had been high for another away success in the quarter-final against Sunderland, a team Haslam's Hatters had done the double over during the season, but in the end an injury -hit side fell 2-0 at a heaving Roker Park.

Around that time a young manager by the name of David Pleat had been sacked by Nuneaton Town. Haslam was an admirer, and though he had no coaching positions available, hired Pleat anyway, leaving the future Town manager to sell lottery tickets and spot the ball coupons until a position became available!

A similar story can be found with the recruitment of Danny Bergara. The Uruguayan had moved to St Albans with his English-born wife at the end of his playing career and had intended to open a travel business. That was until Town scout Paddy Sowden, a friend of a friend, showed Bergara's notes on football to Haslam, who was impressed with what he read. However, unable to sign a foreign national in a playing or coaching role at the time, Haslam had to come up with a workaround, and ended up convincing one of the directors to hire Bergara as a chauffeur, thus enabling him to obtain a National Insurance Number.

Haslam was no tracksuit manager nor particularly interested in tactics. He had brought in ex-Norwich player Roy McCrohan as his coach, and the 'Sergeant Major' demeneour of McCrohan perfectly complimented Haslam's more avuncular style. "Unlike most English managers at the time he was no ranter – he never got too upset," as John Ryan, another of Haslam's discoveries, explained to Luton supporter Joseph Press in a recent interview.

> *"UNABLE TO SIGN A FOREIGN NATIONAL IN A PLAYING OR COACHING ROLE AT THE TIME, HASLAM HAD TO COME UP WITH A WORKAROUND, AND ENDED UP CONVINCING ONE OF THE DIRECTORS TO HIRE BERGARA AS A CHAUFFEUR.*

The following season brought about a change of colours, from white to orange, and a new goalscoring hero at Kenilworth Road in the form of Barry 'The Bullet' Butlin. His 18 goals, coupled with shrewd formational changes and a superb core of players such as Alan Garner, Peter Anderson, John Faulkner, Bobby Thomson and John Aston, saw the Town promoted to the top-flight for the first time in 14 years. The promotion was secured in a 1-1 draw at West Bromwich Albion, during which a nervous Haslam chain smoked almost throughout.

After a lifetime in the game Haslam had finally reached the pinnacle. However it was tough going, and at the turn of the new year his side were rooted to the bottom of the Division One table. Haslam found the strain almost unbearable and the season hit a low point with the sale of Butlin to Nottingham Forest. Form improved in the new year though, and safety was very nearly secured. However, relegation was eventually confirmed after Tottenham secured the point they needed in their last game.

That the Hatters had reached the top-flight was remarkable in itself, and in large part testament to the culture Haslam and McCrohan had created, as well as Harry's eye for a player. The next two seasons brought about credible top 10 finishes in Division Two but they came in a period of continued financial turmoil, the nadir of which came when Anderson was sold to Royal Antwerp in a deal that was said to have saved the club from disaster.



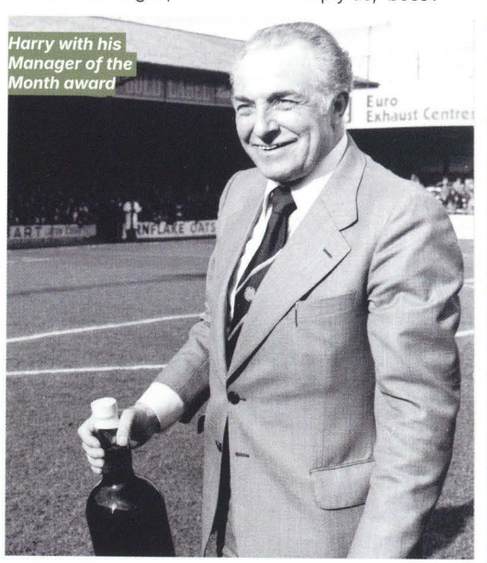
Haslam with Danny Bergara (centre) and club doctor Peter Burrows

One upside of this need to reduce costs was the opportunities it afforded to the young players that Pleat and Bergara had been nurturing in the youth set up. Debuts were handed to Godfrey Ingram, Brian Stein and, on a famous day in April 1976, a 17-year-old Ricky Hill, who Haslam nicknamed 'Smiler' on account of his sunny disposition.

But the financial situation continued to wear Haslam down. He was approached by ambitious Sheffield United chairman Derek Dooley in 1978 and accepted the offer after being refused an extended contract at Kenilworth Road. Then, in one of those moments upon which football sometimes hinges, he tried to take both Bergara and Pleat with him. Bergara, knowing his opportunities were limited at Luton, accepted the offer. Pleat remained, and was able to build on the foundations created by his predecessor.

Haslam's time in Sheffield was not a happy one but is punctuated by a now famous story of very nearly signing a young Diego Maradona for the Yorkshire club. In fact the deal was said to have been all but done until the junta controlling Argentina demanded more money. It would have been the ultimate deal for the ultimate wheeler-dealer!

Harry sadly died suddenly in 1986 and is buried in the village of Southill in Bedfordshire, not far from the lake at which he spent many hours partaking in one of his other great loves, fishing. He is remembered by many who played or worked for him simply as, 'boss'.



Harry with his Manager of the Month award

LTFC academy

With Jack Ainsworth
U7-U10 Foundation Phase Lead Coach





Good afternoon and a warm welcome to everyone today at Kenilworth Road.

My role within the Academy is to primarily oversee the development of the players within the U9 and U10 age groups whilst being the lead coach for the U10s.

I have always been passionate about working with young people within the Foundation Phase – that's Under-9s to Under-12. These age groups are absolutely vital in their development – it's a key moment in time where we can not only support the upskilling of their technical and physical capabilities, but provide them with experiences, moments and memories that help develop their character, resilience and determination.

I'm also responsible for the organisation of our Pre-Academy programme. This entails the recruitment of young, local, talented people with the view of offering those selected a registration with us when they reach the Under-9 age group. It's an incredibly difficult time as we have to make tough and thorough decisions on young players, with only a small number of players we work with at these age groups sign official forms with us.

One of the highlights during this period is when we formally introduce our new cohort of Under-9s to the Kenilworth Road faithful.

This year, our players completed a lap of honour in the fixture against Plymouth. Every year, this introduction goes down so well with players and their parents – it provides them with not only an excellent memory, but the added motivation to feel the applause from the crowd when one day they hopefully step out in an orange shirt at Power Court as a first team player. Thank you again to all those that provided a warm reception to our young Hatters on that day.

We're coming off a busy period – lots of experiences and lots of miles. Recently, we've visited Liverpool, Charlton Athletic and Southampton as well as the recent futsal qualifiers that have taken place at St Georges Park, the home of English football. Both our U9 and U10s were involved – for our U9s, it was their first EFL tournament, and our U10s went the whole day unbeaten, narrowly missing out on qualification for the national tournament. Futsal is becoming ever popular – a brilliant sport in it's own right – but also a hugely valuable addition to support our players' development in football.

In addition to our regular training and games programme, it's always a huge motivation to see players that have come through the Academy feature on the first team stage. Fin Evans, not only making his debut but also scoring, as well as Christian Chigozie, are excellent role models for players within our Foundation Phase. Both Fin and Christian started their journey at the club in this phase, and demonstrate clearly what rewards that hard-work, determination and desire can achieve, while also recognising that they are only at the very start of their potential careers.

We'll be wishing Jack and all the players the very best for today's game. A win and three points always provides a feel good factor to our players, certainly now with colder training nights!

COYH!



"FUTSAL IS BECOMING EVER POPULAR – A BRILLIANT SPORT IN IT'S OWN RIGHT – BUT ALSO A HUGELY VALUABLE ADDITION TO SUPPORT OUR PLAYERS' DEVELOPMENT IN FOOTBALL.

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
Sat 29 Barnet (FAYC) D 1-1*

NOVEMBER
Sat 8 Bristol Rovers W 6-1
Sat 15 Wycombe L 1-2
Sat 22 PDLC Watford W 4-1

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

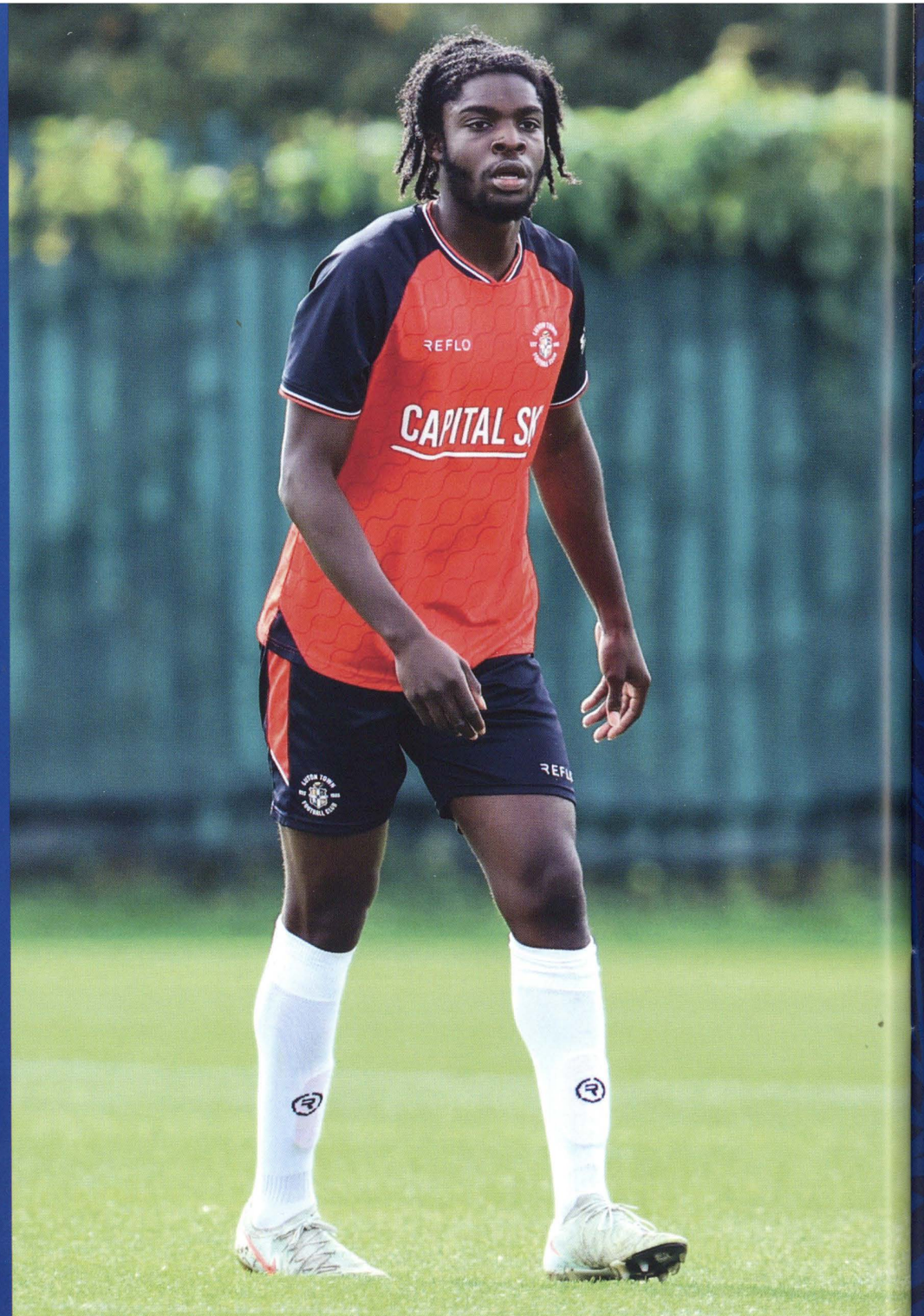
AUGUST
Tue 26 Exeter City L 0-1

OCTOBER
Tue 21 Brentford L 1-6
Wed 29 Dunstable (BSC) W 5-0

NOVEMBER
Tue 18 West Brom L 1-5

DECEMBER
Wed 3 Exeter City 7pm**
Tue 9 Leighton Town (BSC)
Sun 14 Brentford 1pm
Mon 22 West Brom 7pm

Bold denotes home fixture
**lost 6-5 on penalties*
***match at Enfield Town FC*



youth PROFILE

Enoch Kwame Anson

YOUR NAME?
Enoch Kwame Anson

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
Ghana

WHAT POSITIONS DO YOU PLAY? Left back and left-sided centre-back

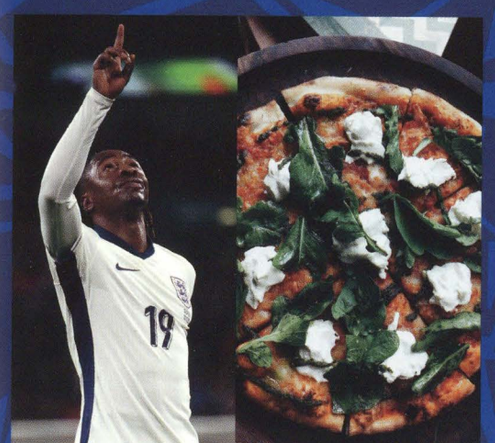
WHEN DID YOU JOIN THE ACADEMY?
Last year

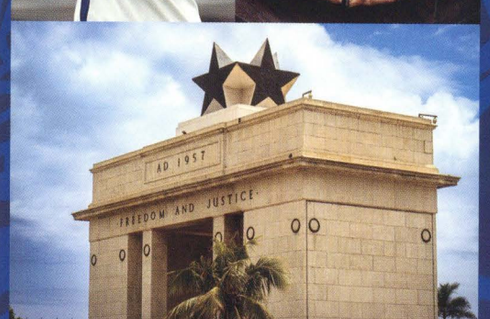
WHO WAS YOUR FOOTBALL HERO GROWING UP?
Marcelo

GO-TO BOOTS RIGHT NOW? Adidas

FIRST TIME YOU KICKED A BALL? When I was nine

BIGGEST LESSON FOOTBALL'S TAUGHT YOU? Patience







FUNNIEST TEAMMATE?
Jordan Iwhiwhu

HARDEST WORKER?
Sam Alfonso

BIGGEST INSPIRATION OUTSIDE FOOTBALL?
Eze

TEAMMATE MOST LIKELY TO BE A MANAGER? Kyron Roberts-Edema

MOMENT YOU'LL NEVER FORGET? FA Youth Cup tie at Crewe

BEST BIT ABOUT BEING AT LUTON? The people

ONE THING YOU'RE WORKING ON? My right foot

PRE-MATCH ROUTINE OR SUPERSTITIONS?
The Gospel

FAVOURITE MUSIC...
Rnb

FAVOURITE GAME...
Call of Duty

GO-TO CHEAT MEAL...
Pizza

IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER?
Basketball

PERSON YOU'D SWAP PLACES WITH FOR A DAY? Ronaldo

THREE WORDS TO DESCRIBE YOURSELF.
Hardworking, Christian, thoughtful

BIGGEST FOOTBALL DREAM? To be the best on the biggest stage in football

LUTON TOWN FC

COMMUNITY TRUST

A Poem for your Club

Today we are delighted to welcome Arts Council England, the National Literacy Trust and Naz Knight, Bedfordshire's Poetry Champion, to Kenilworth Road.

They are here as part of our Poem for Your Club partnership project, celebrating Luton Town's heritage through poetry. Over the past year, the project provided an opportunity for fans from across generations and from different communities to come together to tell their stories about Luton Town and have them recognised and celebrated through poetry.

Naz led workshops and discussions with a range of community groups - including local schools, the Community Trust's programmes and the Supporters' Trust. Poetry contributions were also gathered from across the wider community, and Naz attended Luton Town matches to incorporate the supporters' experiences into the poem.

The aim of the project was to unite community poetry workshops, local poetry contributions, and matchday experiences into a cohesive, collaborative poem that reflects the spirit, pride and identity of Luton Town and its supporters, strengthening links between the club, fans and the local community.

Naz Knight, Bedfordshire's Poetry Champion says: "Our lives are poetry, written across the echoes of the stadium and the silences between our thoughts.

"Football is poetry in motion – bringing people together in ways that transcend language and background. The past is a poem, holding the stories that shape our loyalty, our identity and our dreams. Through this project, poetry becomes the crystallised perfume of our shared emotions, connecting us back to ourselves and our community.

"By inviting fans and families to write alongside poets, we celebrate the hope and belonging that football inspires and create space for creativity to thrive in the heart of



our club. This is why I cherish being part of a project so rooted in the passions and voices of our people."

Bert Klemmer, Programmes Manager - Education, Learning and Employability, at Luton Town FC Community Trust said: "We are proud to be working alongside the National Literacy Trust, Arts Council England, and Naz to bring our community together through creativity and football.

"This project captured the passion, loyalty, and spirit of Luton Town, and it has been inspiring to see fans from across generations and different communities come together to share their stories, and to have them recognised and celebrated through poetry – celebrating our club in such a powerful way."

Commissioned by Arts Council England and funded by The Compton Poetry Fund, A Poem for your Club was an exciting new collaboration between the National Literacy Trust and five football clubs. A Poem for your Club was designed in response to declining writing levels, focused on inspiring a love of creative writing in children, families, and others in the local community.

The Hatters' Call

By Naz Knight, inspired by fans

I'm proud to be a Hatter, feeling strong and proud,
Come on, you Hatters, lift your voices loud!
I'm proud to be a Hatter, in orange, blue, and white,
They see us as the underdogs,
but we are ready for the fight!

In a town where both dreams and planes take flight,
We harness our passion, our hearts burning bright.
Through streets of our Luton, with scarves held high,
Our footsteps like drumbeats, our songs touch the sky.

With belief as our compass, we are charting our course,
Fuelling our journey with unstoppable force.
We stand and cheer, and we'll shake the ground,
As we rally together, our spirits unbound.

From the famous Eric Morecambe,
that star on our screens,
To the orange sunrise, fulfilling our dreams.
Past terraced red bricks where the town sings loud,
We push toward the ground, proud in the crowd.

Through the highs and the lows, we stand side by side,
Chasing glory, powered by pride.
At the turnstiles we gather, the Hatters unite,
Kenilworth calling, its lamps burning bright.

I'm proud to be a Hatter, feeling strong and proud,
Come on, you Hatters, lift your voices loud!
I'm proud to be a Hatter, in orange, white, and blue,
They see us as the underdogs,
but we show what we can do!

As the whistle blows, hear the roar of the crowd,
We're your 12th Man, with our heads held proud.
The stadium opens, the bowl comes alive,
Where echoes of history and passion survive.

We wear our colours, bright as the sun,
With the heart of a Hatter, we're second to none!
From terrace to terrace, our anthem takes flight,
Together we thunder, together we fight.

Respect for the struggle, sharing the grind,
In the pursuit of our goals, our dreams are aligned.
Focused on triumph, we chase what is ours,
Under these floodlights, we reach for the stars.

Luton Town shines, and our dreams take a stand,
With passion and pride, the Hatters' together band.
This is our temple, where legends are told,
In orange and blue, our fire takes hold.

I'm proud to be a Hatter, hear the thunder roar,
With passion unbroken, we will give them more!
I'm proud to be a Hatter, our colours burning bright,
With hearts united, and victory in sight!

From humble roots, this club has grown,
From the streets of the Town we've made our own.
Through every setback, we rose again,
The spirit of Luton will never bend.

Luton Town, our voice, our song,
At Kenilworth Road where we all belong.
From past to present, the fire burns clear,
Each win is sweeter, each roar sincere.

I'm proud to be a Hatter, let the rafters shake,
For the spirit of Luton, no rival can break!
I'm proud to be a Hatter, forever we'll stand,
With one voice united, the pride of this land!

I'm proud to be a Hatter, hear our story told,
The Town and its people, with hearts of gold.
I'm proud to be a Hatter, raise your scarves on high,
For Luton forever, we'll reach for the sky!

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

In partnership with National Literacy Trust Change your story

SMOOTHER THAN A DOUBLE NUTMEG



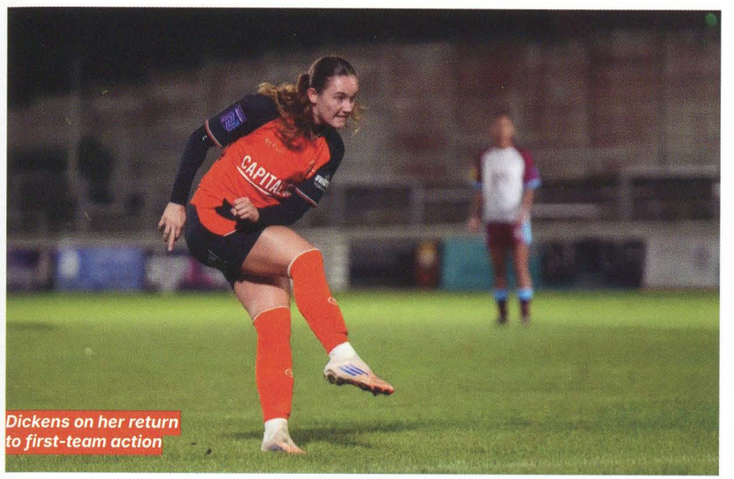
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Andie Dickens on her return from ACL rupture

Hatters midfielder talks to Owen Williams of the nerves she felt in her first game back after injury and her hopes for the rest of the season



Dickens on her return to first-team action

Luton Town Ladies' Andie Dickens ruptured her anterior cruciate ligament in March 2024 and, after 595 days on the sidelines, she made her first-team return in the Hatters' 3-0 victory over Mansfield Town in the Women's FA Cup in late October.

We caught up with Dickens to discuss her recovery period and her return to the field.

On how it felt to get back on the pitch, Dickens said: "It was good, before I came on I was nervous because it has been a long time, a very long wait, it has been a long journey, but I am happy to be back and to get stuck in."

Prior to her injury, the midfielder was a crucial part of the Town side, featuring 34 times in her first 18 months at the club.

Although Andie wasn't able to assist her teammates on the pitch during their title-winning season last term, she played her part off the pitch, assisting with coaching and media duties.

When asked about what it was like having to watch from the sidelines, Dickens responded: "Obviously it was hard to miss, but the girls made it a lot easier, they were amazing and I loved being part of it on the sidelines, they still included me which was a big thing for me.

I'm delighted they got the promotion and now hopefully I can help them progress in the games for this season."

Dickens had been building up her fitness with the Ladies' development side in the early stages of the campaign, even getting on the scoresheet during their 2-1 victory away at South London Women.

On her aims for the remainder of this season, she explained: "My aims are to gradually get back into the first team, against Mansfield I got my first few minutes, I came on and made an impact, did as best as I could. But it is gradually getting back that match fitness and eventually to get a starting position and 90 minutes again."

Dickens has since featured three times for the Ladies, all as a substitute, providing the assist for Taylor O'Leary's late leveller against QPR Women at Loftus Road.

The Hatters are next in action tomorrow when they travel to Chatham Town.

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) W 3-0
29 Chesham Utd W 4-1
NOVEMBER
2 London Bees L 0-1
16 QPR D 2-2
23 Oxford United (FAC) L 1-3
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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A big shoutout to our mascots at the Huddersfield game!

JUNIOR HATTERS



Maisie Stimpson

Age: 11
Hobbies: Dancing
Favourite Player: Jordan Clark



Finley Stimpson

Age: 7
Hobbies: Football
Favourite Player: Jordan Clark



Freddie Stimpson

Age: 10
Hobbies: Football, Judo & Golf
Favourite Players: Kal Naismith & Josh Keeley



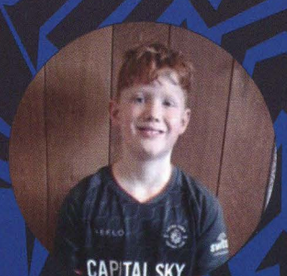
Quinton Smith

Age: 10
Hobbies: Football, Gaming & Maths
Favourite Player: Josh Keeley



Charlotte Callow

Age: 9
Hobbies: Football & Gymnastics
Favourite Player: Jordan Clark



Joshua Hill

Age: 11
Hobbies: Football
Favourite Player: Josh Keeley



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TICKET news

HOME TICKETS

Category A	Category B
£29 Adult	£26 Adult
£25 Senior (over 66)	£22 Senior (over 66)
£21 Golden Senior (over 75)	£18 Golden Senior (over 75)
£25 Young Adult (under 22)	£22 Young Adult (under 22)
£21 Under 19	£18 Under 19
£13 Under 17	£10 Under 17
£10 Under 14	£8 Under 14

AWAY TICKETS

v Fleetwood Town
Saturday 6th December
FA Cup second round

We have received a full allocation of 1,143 tickets, comprising of 399 seats and 730 standing places. In addition, seven pairs of wheelchair spaces are available.

This fixture is being sold directly by Fleetwood Town so please book your tickets through the links below.

Please note no physical tickets will be issued for this match. Digital tickets will be sent via email.

Away Season Ticket Holders
Please note as tickets are being sold by Fleetwood, Away Season Card holders will need to apply and order their tickets for this fixture via the below links.

General Sale
Tickets are now available to all supporters, click the links below to purchase.

Prices and links to tickets

Seats
Scan the qr to buy seating tickets
Adults - £14
Over 65 - £8
Under 16 - £5

Standing
Scan the qr to buy terrace tickets
Adults - £12
Over 65 - £6
Under 16 - £1

Disabled
Ambulant and wheelchair supporters, should they need a carer to accompany them to the game the carer will be free of charge.

HOME GAMES NOW ON general sale

v Port Vale

Saturday 13th November, 3pm
Category B

v Wycombe Wanderers

Friday 26th December, 3pm
Category A

v Leyton Orient

Monday 29th December, 7.45pm
Category B

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*UK data

LEAGUE LOOK

AROUND THE GROUNDS IN THE THIRD TIER

There were just two games played in midweek in League One – one of which was our victory over Huddersfield that pushed the Hatters up to seventh in the table – just three points off the automatic promotion places.

The Town lie four points off the top following the result in the other match played as Stevenage ended a run of four games without a win to earn a 1-0 victory over a Peterborough side who had won three of their previous four matches.

The League One table continues to have a lop-sided feel with some teams having played as many as three games less than others as a result of postponements due to the international break or bad weather.

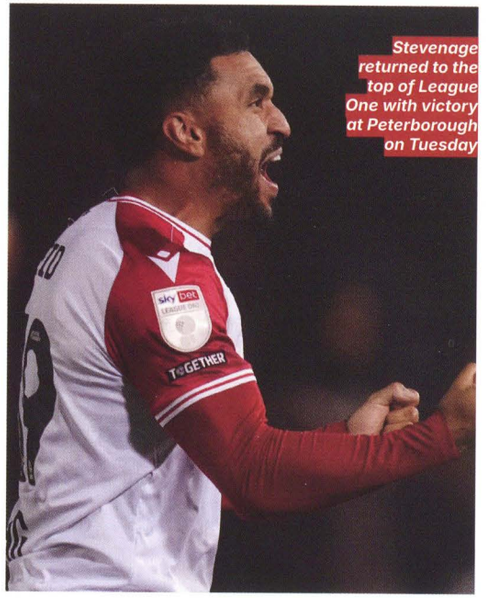
This afternoon, Stevenage go to Wigan looking to extend their lead at the top but the game here at Kenilworth Road is arguably the biggest of the lot in the third tier this weekend.

The Town have won three of their last five but Bolton – who have the second-best defensive record in the league – have won four of their last six. The Trotters lie in sixth, one place and one above us in the standings.

Another fixture to catch the eye is Stockport's meeting with Barnsley at Edgeley Park. The 'other' Hatters lie fifth in the table despite losing their last two games but Barnsley, in 10th, come into the game full of confidence after their 5-0 thumping of another club called the Hatters... The Tykes have played fewer games than anyone in the division (14) and are just six points off the top of the table.

At the other end of the table, Plymouth – relegated from the Championship last term – hauled themselves off the bottom with a win over Port Vale last weekend, leapfrogging Vale in the process, and Argyle host Northampton this afternoon.

Only one club have yet to taste victory on their travels in League One this season and Reading will be aiming to end that run when they make the long, early trip to Blackpool. Both clubs are showing signs of improvement in recent weeks, but the Royals will be looking for that elusive win on the road having ended last season taking 10 points from their last four away games.



Stevenage returned to the top of League One with victory at Peterborough on Tuesday

PLAYER STATS 2025/26

	LEAGUE APP(S)	GLS	CUP APP(S)	GLS	TOTAL APP(S)	GLS	LTFC CAREER APPS	GLS
Elijah Adebayo	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	182	47
Ali Al-Hamadi	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (2)	0	2	0
Millenic Alli	11 (3)	1	1 (3)	0	12 (6)	1	34	5
Mads Andersen	12 (2)	1	2 (0)	1	14 (2)	2	35	3
Shandon Baptiste	2 (2)	0	0 (0)	0	2 (2)	0	21	1
Cohen Bramall	8 (7)	1	5 (0)	1	13 (7)	2	20	2
Jacob Brown	0 (2)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	0	54	7
Christian Chigozie	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2	0	2	0
Jordan Clark	10 (2)	3	1 (0)	0	11 (2)	3	192	21
Fin Evans	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	1	1 (0)	1	1	1
Lamine Fanne	9 (3)	1	2 (2)	1	11 (5)	2	29	2
Harry Fox	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	1	0
Joe Gbode	0 (5)	0	1 (1)	0	1 (6)	0	7	0
Tom Holmes	0 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	22	1
Joe Johnson	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	15	0
Isaiah Jones	3 (1)	1	1 (0)	0	4 (1)	1	23	3
Josh Keeley	17 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	18	0	18	0
Gideon Kodua	7 (6)	2	3 (2)	1	10 (8)	3	18	3
Nigel Lonwijk	9 (1)	0	2 (2)	0	11 (3)	0	14	0
Christ Makosso	9 (1)	0	1 (1)	0	10 (2)	0	25	0
Mark McGuinness	4 (2)	0	1 (0)	0	5 (2)	0	51	3
Teden Mengi	9 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	11	0	66	2
Shayden Morris	2 (4)	0	1 (1)	1	3 (5)	1	8	1
Kal Naismith	15 (2)	1	3 (0)	0	18 (2)	1	98	5
Marvelous Nakamba	0 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	59	0
Zack Nelson	6 (7)	1	4 (1)	0	10 (8)	1	43	2
Lasse Nordas	4 (5)	1	3 (1)	1	7 (6)	2	23	2
Hakeem Odoffin	1 (3)	0	1 (1)	0	2 (4)	0	6	0
Josh Phillips	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	0	0	0	3	0
Jake Richards	5 (3)	2	2 (3)	0	7 (6)	2	13	2
George Saville	16 (0)	1	1 (0)	0	17	1	17	1
James Shea	0 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	4	0	114	0
Liam Walsh	7 (3)	0	4 (0)	0	11 (3)	0	42	0
Reuell Walters	2 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	2	0	18	0
Nahki Wells	11 (3)	1	1 (0)	2	12 (3)	3	15	3
Cauley Woodrow	0 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	82	6
Jerry Yates	8 (5)	2	2 (3)	3	10 (8)	5	18	5

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**	L	0-2	14	11,784	1,308	Keeley	Makosso	Naismith	Mengi	Andersen	Fanne	Saville
SAT 25	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	15:00	W	1-0	10	8,029	1,551	Keeley	Lonwijk	Bramall	Mengi	Naismith	**FANNE 1**	Saville
TUE 28	**BRIGHTON & HA U21 (VT)**	**19:00**	W	3-1	-	2,212	69	Shea	Odoffin	Bramall	**EVANS 1**	Andersen	Nakamba	Walsh
FRI 31	**FOREST GREEN (FAC1)**	**19:30**	W	4-3	-	4,511	462	Keeley	Lonwijk	Bramall	Mengi	Naismith	FANNE 1	Saville
NOVEMBER														
SAT 8	STOCKPORT COUNTY	15:00	W	3-0	9	10,090	1,151	Keeley	**JONES 1**	**BRAMALL 1**	Mengi	Andersen	Naismith	Saville
SAT 15	**ROTHERHAM UNITED**	**15:00**	D	0-0	8	11,091	711	Keeley	Jones	Bramall	Mengi	Andersen	Naismith	Walsh
SAT 22	BARNSLEY	15:00	L	0-5	12	10,882	1,478	Keeley	Jones	Bramall	Mengi	Andersen	Naismith	Saville
TUE 25	**HUDDERSFIELD TOWN**	**19:45**	W	2-1	7	9,971	589	Keeley	Odoffin	Bramall	Mengi	Lonwijk	Naismith	Saville
SAT 29	**BOLTON WANDERERS**	**15:00**												
DECEMBER														
TUE 2	**EXETER CITY (VT)**	**19:00**												
SAT 6	FLEETWOOD TOWN (FAC2)	15:00												
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** TV	**12:30**												
SAT 17	**LINCOLN CITY**	**15:00**												
SAT 24	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE TV	12:30												
TUE 27	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	19:45												
SAT 31	**BLACKPOOL**	**15:00**												
FEBRUARY														
SAT 7	**BRADFORD CITY** TV	**12:30**												
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	15:00												



FOOTBALL FOR A FIVER

Football for a Fiver will return for the Hatters' Vertu Trophy Round of 32 tie against Exeter City at Kenilworth Road next Tuesday.

As has been the case for the two home games in the competition so far, admission for the all-League One clash is being priced to encourage as many families to attend, with kids in for a quid for the earlier-than-usual kick-off time of 7pm.

Prices:
Adults - £5
Concessions (aged 16 and under) - £1

Tickets for this fixture will be unreserved seats initially in the Main Enclosure Blocks A to G and Main Stand A to D. Tickets can be purchased online or by either visiting or calling the Ticket Office during advertised opening hours.

					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	
Clark	Kodua	Alli	Wells	Yates	Nelson	Bramall	Nordås		
Clark	Kodua	Richards	Wells	Yates	Jones	Odoffin	Andersen		
Nelson	Kodua	Gbodé	**YATES 2**	Fox	Alli	Makosso	Nordå	Richards	
Walsh	Richards	Jones	**WELLS 2**	Al-Hamadi	Nelson	Yates	**KODUA 1**	Odoffin	
Walsh	**RICHARDS 1**	Fanne	Wells	Kodua	Odoffin	Yates	Al-Hamadi		
Fanne	Richards	Yates	Wells	Kodua	Nelson	Brown	Alli		
Walsh	Nelson	Kodua	Wells	Yates	Alli	Richards	Odoffin	Fanne	
Walsh	**RICHARDS 1**	Fanne	**YATES 1**	Brown	Andersen	Morris			

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 Who scored the goals when the Town last beat Bolton Wanderers?

2 The Hatters also beat Bolton in the FA Cup in 1973 – but in which round of the competition?

3 Which player won the BBC's Women's Footballer of the Year award?

4 Who is the new manager of Norwich City?

5 In which country was QPR striker Richard Kone born?

6 How many senior hat-tricks had Eberechi Eze scored in his career prior to last week's North London Derby?

7 What was the name of Bolton's old stadium?

8 Which club is Cristiano Ronaldo playing for?

9 What is the nickname of Ayr United?

10 From which club did we sign Christ Makosso from?

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

1 Tahith Chong & Chiedozie Ogbene 2 Fifth Round 3 Hannah Hampton 4 Philippe Clement 5 Ivory Coast 6 None 7 Burnden Park 8 Al-Nassr 9 The Honest Men 10 RWDM Brussels

TABLE 2025/26

Team	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Stevenage	15	9	3	3	8	30
Cardiff	15	9	2	4	10	29
Bradford City	16	7	7	2	6	28
Lincoln	17	8	4	5	4	28
Stockport	16	8	4	4	2	28
Bolton	**16**	**7**	**6**	**3**	**8**	**27**
Luton	**17**	**8**	**2**	**7**	**-1**	**26**
Huddersfield	16	8	1	7	3	25
Wimbledon	16	8	1	7	-2	25
Barnsley	14	7	3	4	7	24
Wycombe	17	6	5	6	6	23
Rotherham	17	6	5	6	0	23
Mansfield	16	6	4	6	3	22
Burton	16	6	4	6	-3	22
Wigan	16	5	6	5	0	21
Leyton Orient	17	6	3	8	-4	21
Northampton	16	6	2	8	-4	20
Reading	16	4	7	5	-3	19
Doncaster	17	5	4	8	-8	19
Exeter	16	5	2	9	-1	17
Peterborough	16	5	1	10	-5	16
Blackpool	17	4	4	9	-8	16
Plymouth	16	5	1	10	-9	16
Port Vale	17	3	5	9	-9	14

TODAY'S Fixtures

12.30PM KO
Blackpool v Reading
Stockport v Barnsley

3PM KO
Bradford City v Exeter
Burton v Leyton Orient
Cardiff v Mansfield
Doncaster v Peterborough
Huddersfield v Wimbledon
Lincoln v Port Vale
Plymouth v Northampton
Rotherham v Wycombe
Wigan v Stevenage

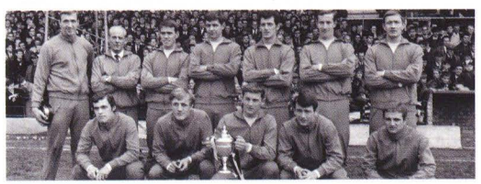
TOWN Totals

	W	D	L	F	A
HOME	1569	693	635	5784	3260
AWAY	750	717	1418	3320	4973
NEUTRAL	6	4	13	29	43
TOTAL	2325	1414	2066	9133	8276
At KR	1439	665	581	5245	3014

5,805 games played

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

SEASONS TO REMEMBER *1967/68*



After finishing the 1966/67 season four points off the re-election places in Division Four (now League Two) manager Allan Brown, who had taken over mid-way through the campaign, sought to bring the good times back.

The signing of centre-half Terry Branston from Northampton, immediately installed as skipper, was a masterstroke as he led by example, encouraging those around him to greater efforts.

Although the start to the season was fairly gentle, the team soon had a settled look about it. Local boys Bruce Rioch and Alan Slough were now a year older, winger Graham French was at times unstoppable and the autumn signing of the clever inside-forward Ian Buxton from Derby knitted everything together.

Never losing sight of the leaders and suffering a little wobble after Christmas, the team bounced back and, following a 2-0 win at Brentford on 17th February, took over top spot for the first time – a position they never relinquished.

The mostly spectacular goals of Rioch drew in the scouts from far and wide leading to chants of "Rioch for England" echoing from the Oak Road end terraces. Little did they realise that he would eventually skipper Scotland, his father's birthplace!

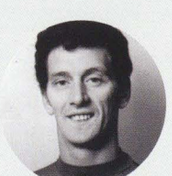
The juggernaut rolled on, and promotion was assured in a 1-0 win at Halifax with five games to go followed by an unforgettable night when, in front of 18,904 at Kenilworth Road, closest challengers Crewe were seen off 4-0 and with it the championship.

For supporters of my generation this was the first time we had seen the Town win anything and the settled side of Read, Dougan, Jardine, Slough, Branston, Moore, French, Buxton, Allen, Rioch, Whittaker still trips off the tongue.

FOURTH DIVISION	PLD	W	D	L	GAV	PTS
Luton Town (C, P)	46	27	12	7	1.977	66
Barnsley (P)	46	24	13	9	1.478	61
Hartlepools United (P)	46	25	10	11	1.304	60
Crewe Alexandra (P)	46	20	18	8	1.51	58
Bradford City	46	23	11	12	1.412	57
Southend United	46	20	14	12	1.328	54
Chesterfield	46	21	11	14	1.42	53
Wrexham	46	20	13	13	1.358	53
Aldershot	46	18	17	11	1.273	53
Doncaster Rovers	46	18	15	13	1.179	51
Halifax Town	46	15	16	15	1.061	46
Newport County	46	16	13	17	0.921	45
Lincoln City	46	17	9	20	1.044	43
Brentford	46	18	7	21	0.953	43
Swansea Town	46	16	10	20	0.818	42
Darlington	46	12	17	17	0.887	41
Notts County	46	15	11	20	0.671	41
Port Vale	46	12	15	19	0.847	39
Rochdale	46	12	14	20	0.708	38
Exeter City	46	11	16	19	0.692	38
York City	46	11	14	21	0.956	36
Chester	46	9	14	23	0.731	32
Workington	46	10	11	25	0.621	31
Bradford (Park Avenue)	46	4	15	27	0.366	23

Player focus

Allan Brown's first signing for the club, **Max Dougan**, proved an extremely competent and reliable right-back in a consistent back line as the Town strode to the championship.



Season standout

Bruce Rioch banged in 24 league goals as the Hatters knocked aside any opposition. He had the confidence and ability to run from deep to fire in using his hammer of a left foot.



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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**

BOLTON WANDERERS

HEAD COACH **STEVEN SCHUMACHER**

1	TEDDY **SHARMAN-LOWE**
2	JOSH **DACRES-COGLEY**
3	CHRIS **FORINO**
4	XAVIER **SIMONS**
5	RICHARD **TAYLOR**
6	GEORGE **JOHNSTON**
8	JOSH **SHEEHAN**
9	VICTOR **ADEBOYEJO**
10	SAM **DALBY**
11	THIERRY **GALE**
13	NATHAN **BROOME**
14	JORDI **OSEI-TUTU**
15	WILL **FORRESTER**
16	AARON **MORLEY**
17	JOEL **RANDALL**
18	EION **TOAL**
19	AMARIO **COZIER-DUBERRY**
20	IBRAHIM **CISSOKO**
21	ETHAN **ERHAHON**
22	KYLE **DEMPSEY**
24	MARCUS **FORSS**
25	MAX **CONWAY**
27	TYLER **MILLER**
28	SONNY **SHARPLES-AHMED**
29	CYRUS **CHRISTIE**
32	SAM **INWOOD**
33	CHARLIE **WARREN**
45	JOHN **McATEE**
48	MASON **BURSTOW**

The Officials

REFEREE **RUEBYN RICARDO**
ASSISTANT REFEREE **CARL FITCH-JACKSON**
ASSISTANT REFEREE **HRISTO KARAIVANOV**
FOURTH OFFICIAL **HARRISON BLAIR**

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HAPPY 18TH BIRTHDAY
KAI RICHARDSON