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Luton TOWN

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SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY 2026 3PM

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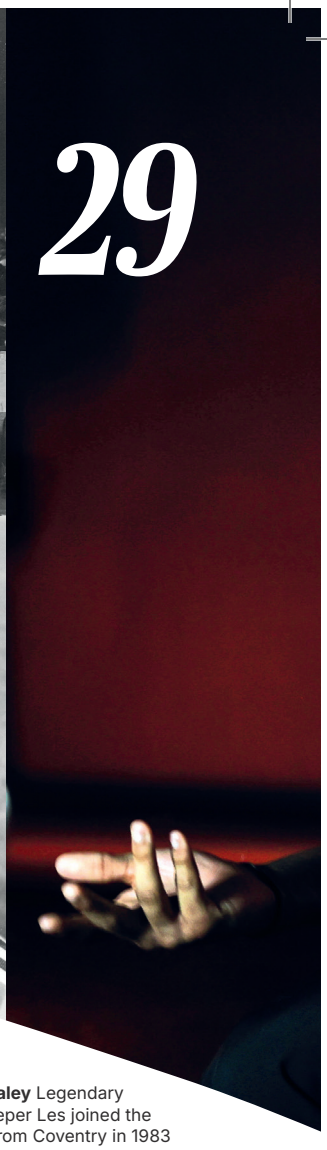
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S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 1 28/01/2026 10:17









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COVER CHARACTERS













Allan Brown It was regarded as a major coup when the Hatters signed the Scottish international in 1957 from Blackpool and became part of the side that reached the FA Cup final. After spells at Portsmouth and Wigan, Allan returned to Kenilworth Road as manager in 1966 and steered the club to the Division Four championship.

Matthew Blinkhorn Striker who was born in Blackpool and came through the ranks at his hometown club. Town boss Mike Newell remembered him from a spell with the Seasiders and brought him on loan in 2004. Made his debut in a 4-3 League Cup defeat at Boston and played just twice more. Is now the Seasiders' Under-18s boss.

Adrian Forbes Winger who came to Kenilworth Road from Norwich in 2001 and helped the Town to promotion in his first season. After a move to Swansea he joined Blackpool in 2006 and was part of the Tangerines side that won the League One play-offs. Adrian returned to Kenilworth Road, coaching the academy, before joining Texoma in 2024.

Bob Hatton Centre forward Bob joined the Town from Blackpool in 1978 after scoring 32 goals in 75 league games for the Tangerines. Bob was just the sort of experienced player that manager David Pleat needed, scoring 31 times in 90 games while taking a young striker Brian Stein under his wing.

Les Sealey Legendary goalkeeper Les joined the Town from Coventry in 1983 and went on to enjoy a fine career at Kenilworth Road, making 259 appearances as the Hatters stayed in the top-flight. After moves to Manchester United and Aston Villa, he joined Blackpool briefly in 1994, making seven appearances.

Callum McManaman After a spell in the Everton academy, winger Callum started his career at Wigan, making his debut in the Premier League. Spent three months on loan at Blackpool, scoring his first senior goal, before spells at West Brom and Sunderland. Arrived at Kenilworth Road in 2019/20, scoring four times to help the Town avoid the drop.

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 2 28/01/2026 10:17



CONTENTS

4 Jack Wilshere
6 From the Boardroom
10 Kal Naismith
14 Match Action
25 Welcome Blackpool
36 Supporters' Trust
41 Hatters History
48 From the Academy
64 Fixtures and Results

the PROGRAMME

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The views in this programme are not necessarily those of Luton Town Football Club

Welcome

Welcome back to you all to Kenilworth Road for the first of back-to-back home games on home turf as we entertain Blackpool.

It has been a testing time on the road in the past week as the lads have gone down to two 1-0 defeats in a row after putting in the miles at Plymouth and Huddersfield. A huge thank you to those who made either of those trips to support the team. It never goes unnoticed.

Back at home this afternoon, Jack, Chris and the players will need your support as they look to get back to winning ways against a Blackpool side who are also in the need of the points after losing three of their last four matches.

Since our last home game against Lincoln, Jordan Clark surpassed the 200-appearance milestone in Hatters colours and inside today's programme you can look back on the midfielder's superb career to date at Kenilworth Road. Congratulations, Clicker!

Get behind him and the team this afternoon as we aim to bounce back to winning ways.

Come on Luton!

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 3 29/01/2026 15:58



"I WANT TO SAY A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORTERS WHO MADE THE LONG TRIPS TO HUDDERSFIELD AND PLYMOUTH. **THOSE JOURNEYS AREN'T EASY, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE RESULTS DON'T GO THE WAY WE ALL WANT.**

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 4 29/01/2026 15:59

THE BOSS

Jack WILSHERE

Welcome back to Kenilworth Road for our home game against Blackpool, and for the first of two back-to-back fixtures here.

These are important games for us and ones we're really looking forward to. Our home form has been a real positive and something we're determined to continue. This place, the atmosphere you create and the connection between the players and you in the stands gives us real belief, and it's something we want to keep building on.

Last time out here we showed real character against Lincoln. To come back from two goals down shows the spirit and togetherness in the group, and on another day, we should have gone on to win the game after Mads' goal was harshly ruled out when it would have made it 3-2. That performance summed up a lot of what we want to be about, especially at home. There was a belief and a willingness to keep pushing to the end.

However, there's no hiding from the fact the last two away games have been bitterly disappointing.

At Huddersfield, it wasn't good enough and that's something we've been honest about. We spoke at half-time about doing the basics better, creating more threat and getting more bodies into the box, but we didn't deliver that well enough.

Against a team defending in a block, particularly when they go down to 10 men, we have to create more clear-cut opportunities and be more ruthless when moments come. That responsibility sits with me – it's my job to make the players better and to find the solutions that help us win those games.

Against Plymouth, the result was another tough one to take, but I did feel there were positives in the performance. Away from home, it's not always possible to control the game the way you'd like, so sometimes you have to find something different, compete and suffer together.

I thought the players showed that, especially in the first half. We conceded from a set-piece and, although we created some moments in the second half, our decision-making in key areas let us down. Again, those fine margins are something we're working hard on.

There's no doubt it has been a difficult week but I want to say a huge thank you to the supporters who made the long trips to Huddersfield and Plymouth. Those journeys aren't easy, especially when the results don't go the way we all want. Your backing doesn't go unnoticed by me or the players. We feel that support, it drives us to keep pushing to improve and we will be aiming to put things right this afternoon.

Today is about bouncing back and continuing our good home form and using your energy to our advantage.

Your support can make a real difference. It lifts the players, creates momentum and turns this into a difficult place for any team to come. We need that again today as we look to start this run of home games in the right way.

Enjoy the game.



S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 5 29/01/2026 15:59

BOARDROOM

David WILKINSON



Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road after what we all know has been a tough few days on the road for the 1,200 Hatters who have travelled to Plymouth and Huddersfield and given the team their full support.

We thank every one of you for that, and there can be no hiding from the fact that successive defeats, especially playing for 70 minutes against 10 men in the latter, were hugely disappointing. Jack was clear in his post-match interview that in those circumstances, going on to win that midweek game in Yorkshire was what everyone should expect, with not losing it being the minimum requirement.

Jack was hurting after the match, as we all were, and that came across to everyone who watched or listened. As a young manager he is experiencing these feelings possibly for the first time, and the players will have been left in little doubt that he expects much better over the next 18 games.

On the subject of frustration, we are aware of supporter opinion on individuals' performances, both on and off the pitch. We read it and hear it. We might agree with a lot of it. However, there is also a lot of unsavoury opinion, especially online, which crosses the line. We have thick skins and have been there before, but I would ask you to bear this in mind when getting abusive and personal about our players and staff, especially young ones who need support at this stage of their careers.

Today's home game against Blackpool is an important opportunity to get back on track. We met them back in September and came from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 at their place – a reminder of the resilience and character this squad can show when it's at its best.

The Seasiders have been regular visitors to Kenilworth Road over the years, from the days of Sir Stanley Matthews in 1959 when a record 30,069 crammed in for an FA Cup quarter-final replay on a week day afternoon because the great man didn't want to play under our floodlights, to most recently when Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu scored his final two goals for us in a 3-1 win as we closed in on Championship promotion.

We welcome everyone who has travelled from Bloomfield Road this afternoon and wish them good luck for the remainder of the campaign.

The season so far has been a period of significant transition, both on and off the pitch. The summer transfer window was one of the busiest in the club's history: 14 players in, 21 out, including loans – and now it's the winter window – where at the time of writing we had welcomed Emilio Lawrence and Kasey Palmer to Bedfordshire.

We have seen flashes of Emilio's quality in his appearances so far, in what is his first loan away from Manchester City. At this point I would stress that it is not part of the deal that he HAS to play. Indeed, there appears to be an awful lot of similar rumours issued as apparent fact, especially on values of fees and wages, and I'm not sure there's one I've read that is correct.

Blackpool's visit does remind me that one of our most successful loanees, Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall, gained his first experience of senior football with them in the second half

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 6 29/01/2026 15:59

of the 2019/20 League One season before he came to us for the following campaign in the Championship. We all want Emilio, City and most importantly, our team to benefit in the same way.

Kasey, on the other hand, is an experienced campaigner at the level above, who has dropped down to League One with the stated aim of a swift return. We saw with that 25-yard shot that was heading for the top corner at Plymouth what threat he can possess, and he will only get better with every game he plays.

We have two full days left of the window after today, and while we may have already seen, or will see more movement before 7pm on Monday, there are a few important things that supporters need to bear in mind.

It is, of course, Jack's first window and he is involved in every part of the process, along with the recruitment committee and other members of the coaching staff, especially Chris. Since the summer window, we've changed manager, and with that, there has been a transition in style of play, which Jack naturally wants to recruit players for.

Every manager is going to have his own views on how players fit into their system, and while there have been undoubted successes in players who were recruited to play under the two previous managers, some are just not suited to how Jack wants his team to play and it is better for their development to move elsewhere to play regular football, even if it is temporarily. That doesn't make them bad players, or poor signings, and their time may come again with us, or build their value resulting in that re-investment into the squad.

Milli Alli has started well at Portsmouth, and Ethon Archer and Zack Nelson have chosen to join fellow League One clubs where they could hurt some of the teams around us, because we know their quality.

Lasse Nordås is gaining great experience in the Dutch top-flight, while Joe Gbodé could only move to a National League club domestically because he'd already played in the EFL for Gillingham and ourselves this season – a move he wanted to play more football. Joe could end up playing at Wembley twice if he impacts Woking's season positively, and we wish all of our boys well out on their loans.

We all know how historically difficult the January window is. Generally, clubs hold on to make their moves very late in the day, and often other clubs make signings as knee-jerk reactions.



Please continue to get behind Jack, Chris and the team

As a board of directors, we have a principal responsibility for budgeting. We meet in June to agree a budget for the season ahead, and give the executive that amount to work with. It is not the recruitment committee who are making the decision on how much we spend.

What we also must consider are the new, more stringent financial rules that are being voted on next month that come into effect for next season as the Independent Football Regulator becomes more influential. League One clubs will be restricted to a lower percentage of our turnover to spend on players as part of SCMP (Salary Cost Management Protocol), which is the Financial Fair Play Protocol for Leagues One and Two, than is currently the case. Different rules will also be introduced into the Championship.

We are having to plan for that now, and if we sign a player in this window for three years, for example, we are then committed to those wages for that period of time. Broadly, it's irrelevant what cash a club has rather than the player budget being attached to turnover. >>

"SINCE THE SUMMER WINDOW, WE'VE CHANGED MANAGER, AND WITH THAT, THERE HAS BEEN A TRANSITION IN STYLE OF PLAY, WHICH JACK NATURALLY WANTS TO RECRUIT PLAYERS FOR.

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 7 29/01/2026 15:59



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"JACK, CHRIS AND THE PLAYERS HAVE ALL SAID HOW GOOD THE ATMOSPHERE WAS FOR THE STEVENAGE AND LINCOLN GAMES RECENTLY, AND RECOGNISED THE PART YOU ALL PLAYED.

>> We have always said since we became custodians of the Club, that we will not spend beyond our means, and with parachute payments ending this summer, we must adhere to that policy as we can't forecast which league we will be in.

What is clear is that on the way up, recruitment was a much more pleasant process as you could persuade players to join the journey. The damage our visit to the Premier League has done to us on recruitment is enormous, and I don't think anyone fully appreciates the gulf in wages, even now between League One and the Championship, which is only going to widen.

On a much lighter note, one of the best free transfers in football history is still very much with us, and still playing his part in our own history. Congratulations to Jordan Clark on becoming the 73rd player to make 200 appearances for the Club. We all remember him finding the net twice at Wembley, but the enthusiasm, commitment and composure, not to mention skill he brings to any position he is asked to play is admirable, and we have been privileged to enjoy watching him wear a Luton shirt for the past six years.

Off the pitch, you may have seen last week our newly launched Fan Engagement Strategy. It sets out how we listen, involve and communicate with you. It reflects a simple truth: that our supporters are central to everything we do. The insight and feedback we receive is helping us shape matchday experience, communications, and community programmes in ways that are meaningful and sustainable.

Today is also our EFL Community Weekend fixture, where you will see QR codes on the screens and posters around the ground, which you can scan with your phone to watch a video of how participants benefit from the work of our Community Trust in local schools. The campaign is called 'Scan to Smile', and we all hope we can buy into that by the end of today's 90 minutes.

Jack, Chris and the players have all said how good the atmosphere was for the Stevenage and Lincoln games recently, and recognised the part you all played in those come-from-behind results. They will need you once again today as we start a run of 18 matches that all Hatters want to end in one way. Give them everything you've got.

"Tough times don't last. Tough people do" – Unknown.

Come on you Hatters!

David

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 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

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 9 29/01/2026 15:59

THE CAPTAIN

Kal NAISMITH

Welcome back to Kenilworth Road after what has been a tough week.

There's absolutely no hiding from that but it's good to be back at home. There's nothing like playing here, and being around our supporters again makes a huge difference.

I want to start by saying a massive thank you to everyone who has travelled up and down the country to support us in the past week. We see and we feel your frustrations.

The past two results, at Plymouth and Huddersfield, clearly were no where near what we wanted – and I won't pretend otherwise. It's frustrating for us, for the staff, and for you.

Against Plymouth, it was a set-piece which we know we should have defended better. At Huddersfield, we went down to a goal-of-the-season contender right at the start of the second half when we looked to take the game to them. We know these results and performances are not good enough. They're not good enough for ourselves as players and they certainly do not match your expectations.

But now it's up to us to put it right. I promise you, there won't be a lack of effort from anyone. We'll keep working hard, we'll keep learning, and we'll make sure we improve – especially on the road.

There are 18 games left this season. 18 chances to get it right, 18 chances to climb the table, 18 chances to show what Luton Town is all about. And that's what I want you to take away: this club doesn't have quitters in its DNA. That's not who we are. We stick together, we fight, and we bounce back, no matter what. History shows that. The setbacks we've had don't define us but how we respond does.

Being back at home is important. Kenilworth Road is where we feel strongest and where we feel that connection with you. Your energy, your voices, it drives us, especially in tough moments. Against Lincoln in our last game here was a prime example. Two goals down, we got it back to 2-2 and we should have gone on to win that game.

It was similar here against Stevenage, too. A goal down, we go on and win that game. Your energy helped us. Please continue that. Every match is a team effort, on and off the pitch.

Since my last notes, we welcomed Kasey Palmer to the club, who adds real quality and experience to our midfield, and Jordan Clark made his 200th appearance in Luton colours. What a player, what a professional, and what a servant to this club. Clicker's performances and dedication remind us why we fight for the badge and why this club means so much.

Back to today. We know we've let you down this week but we need everyone to stick together this afternoon and for the remainder of the season.

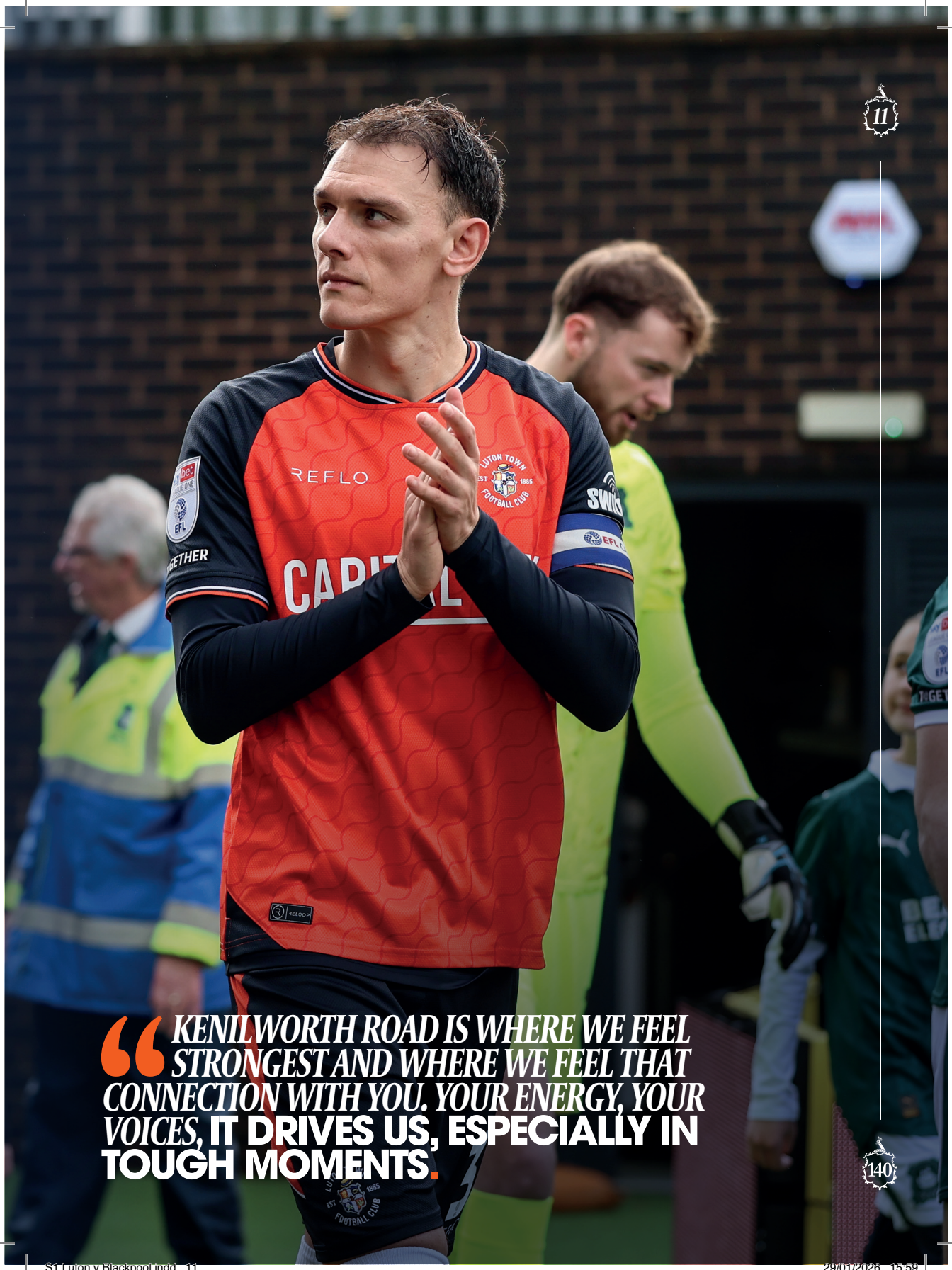
Believe in this team. We're going to give everything in these last 18 games. No giving up, no excuses. Fight, pride and togetherness. Because that's what this club is all about.

Let's bounce back and make every game count.

Get behind us and enjoy the game.



S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 10 29/01/2026 15:59



"KENILWORTH ROAD IS WHERE WE FEEL STRONGEST AND WHERE WE FEEL THAT CONNECTION WITH YOU. YOUR ENERGY, YOUR VOICES, **IT DRIVES US, ESPECIALLY IN TOUGH MOMENTS.**

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 11 29/01/2026 15:59

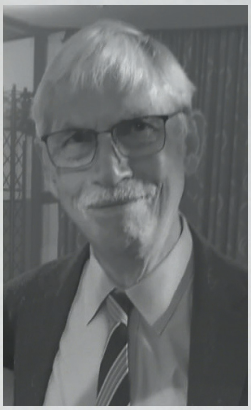

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LUTON TOWN V BLACKPOOL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, HATTERS



A very special happy 80th birthday to a wonderful husband, dad and grandad – **Geoff James** (above). Having been a Hatters' supporter since his teens, what better way to send birthday wishes than via the LTFC match day programme! Lots of love from Carol, Sarah, Paul and Olive.



A happy 18th birthday to **Sam Gooderham** (above). From Tamworth and Nuneaton to Wembley and Manchester United, it has certainly been a footballing journey! With lots of ups and downs, some fantastic away trips as well as being a season ticket holder at the home of football Kenilworth Road. Have a fantastic 18th birthday and hopefully three points today will start the celebrations. Lots of love Mum, Dad and Ben.



Four generations of the Smith family celebrated a very special occasion at the Lincoln game as lifelong Hatter **John Smith** (left) marked his 90th birthday. A Town supporter since the 1950s, John first attended matches as a young boy and later passed his love for the club on to his sons. Joining him in the Bobbers were sons Grahame and Mike, grandson Sam and great-grandson Vincent.

REST IN PEACE, BRYAN



Our condolences to the family and friends of Town supporter **Bryan John Racher** who passed away in November.

Bryan was born in Bedfordshire on 20th November 1939. He was a lifelong, loyal supporter, never missing a game and travelled all over the country to games, supporting the club through all the highs and lows.

He had great times seeing them at Wembley but also loved the atmosphere of Kenilworth Road.

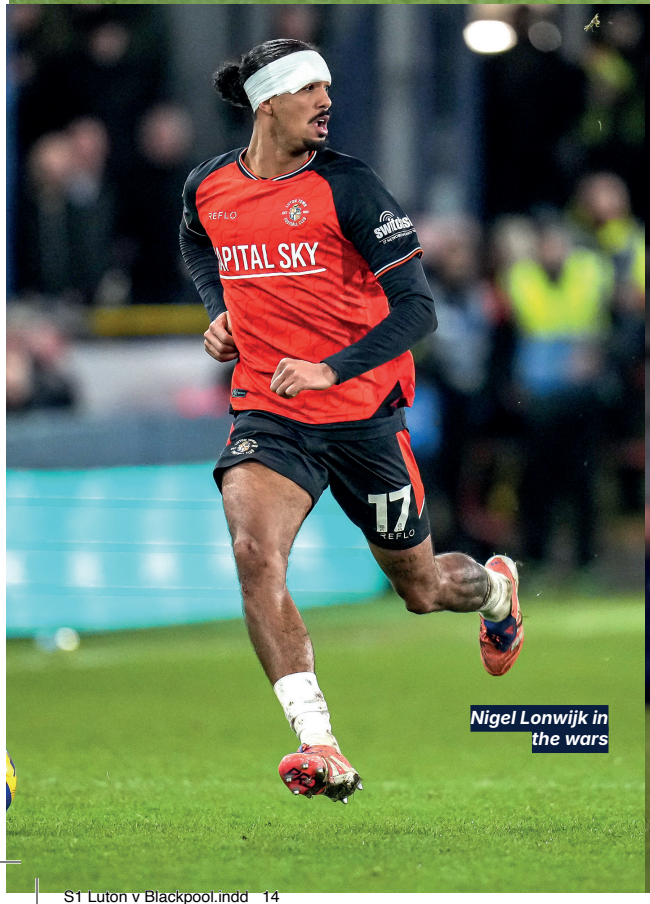
In recent years he became blind but still tuned in on the radio for matches. Bryan leaves his wife of 65 years, Mary, and daughters, Louise and Sarah.

Rest in Peace, Bryan. Once a Hatter, always a Hatter.

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 13 29/01/2026 15:59



Celebrations after Nahki Wells' superb strike



Nigel Lonwijk in the wars

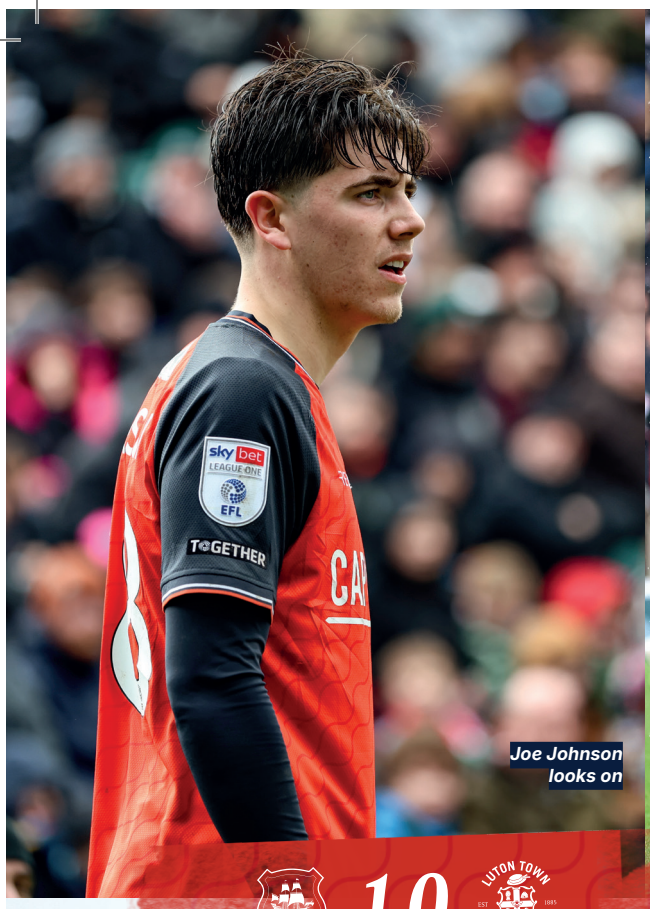
Jordan Clark, on his 200th appearance, and ex-Hatter Sonny Bradley





A thunderous low drive from Nahki Wells helped secure a point for the Hatters as they came from two goals down to earn a point in an entertaining 2-2 draw against Lincoln City. It was a disastrous start for the Town as goals from Freddie Draper and Rob Street helped the in-form away side to a healthy advantage midway through the first half. But strikes from Gideon Kodua and Wells levelled matters to earn the Town a share of the spoils.

Gideon Kodua rises highest to bring the Town back into it



Joe Johnson looks on



Nahki Wells goes for goal

P.A.F.C 1-0 LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB EST 1885



Kasey Palmer in action on his debut



Shayden Morris bursts down to the right as the Town search for an equaliser

1-0



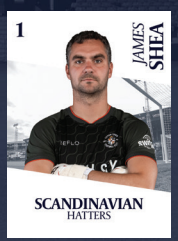
The moment the hosts were reduced to 10 men



Ali Al-Hamadi came on for his second Town appearance

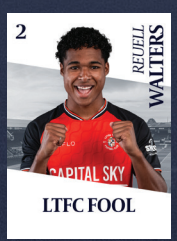
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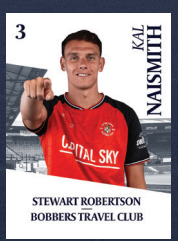
GOALKEEPERS

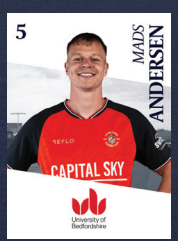




DEFENDERS



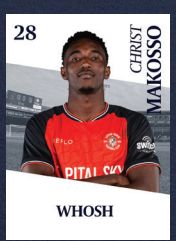














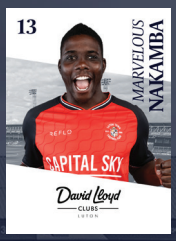


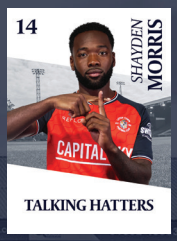
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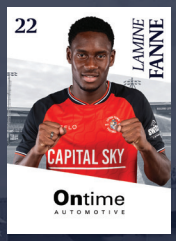
MIDFIELDERS



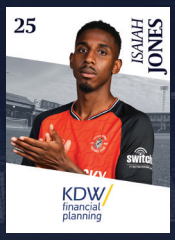












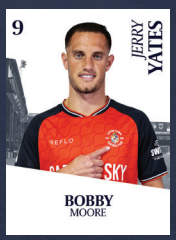




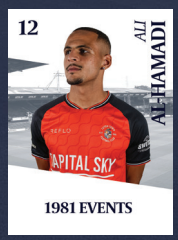


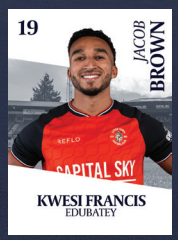


FORWARDS





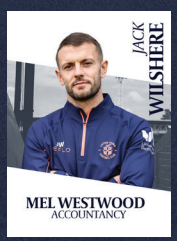








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S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 22 29/01/2026 15:59

SPONSORSHIP & HOSPITALITY

At our last home game against Lincoln two weeks ago Liam Walsh was named man-of-the-match and we also had the pleasure of welcoming three mascots to the League One fixture against the Imps.

Our guests in the Eric Morecambe Lounge also had the pleasure of hearing from Town duo Harry Fox and Zack Nelson after the game, with the pair popping in to meet and greet guests, signing autographs, posing for photos and answering supporters' questions after the 2-2 draw.

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 in great form here at Kenilworth Road, make sure you get in touch with our team to book your place at one of our big matches here, including next weekend's game against Bradford City.

There is availability for our games in February and March, too, so please get in touch with us by calling 01582 411622 or emailing commercial@lutontown.co.uk.

Finally, a big hello to our guests from match sponsors SD Shopfitting. We hope you have a wonderful afternoon with us.













VIEW OUR CORPORATE BROCHURE FOR 25/26!

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BLACKPOOL

The Seasiders are in town this afternoon as they make the long trip down from the North-West coast to Kenilworth Road.

Blackpool had a very rocky start to the season under manager Steve Bruce and were sat comfortably in the relegation zone, winning just three league games in the first three months of the season.

Bruce was let go and was replaced by Ian Evatt, who was appointed as manager in October. The new boss got off to a flying start, beating Peterborough, Scunthorpe in the cup and table-topping Cardiff.

A winless run of five games in all competitions was to follow before another strong spell came around. The Tangerines won five games in December and rocketed back up the table.

However, things haven't been as sharp in the new year with a 5-1 thrashing against Port Vale on New Year's Day. This was followed with losses against Bradford and Barnsley, but Evatt's side were victorious in their last outing at the time of writing, beating Northampton.

Earlier in the season the Hatters came from two goals down to earn a late point thanks to goals from Jordan Clark and Gideon Kodua at Bloomfield Road.

Kodua's injury-time equaliser denied the Tangerines only their second win in 15 meetings against the Hatters.

While the Town have held the upper hand when it comes to the recent head-to-head record, the Seasiders won the one game that really mattered when the two sides met in the League Two play-offs in 2017.

But Blackpool fans in the away end this afternoon will be aware that Kenilworth Road has been far from a happy hunting ground – only winning once in their past 17 visits – the last victory coming back in 2003.

A warm welcome to Kenilworth Road to all those associated with Blackpool.

BLACKPOOL AT-A-GLANCE

FOUNDED: 1887

NICKNAME: Tangerines or Seasiders

GROUND: Bloomfield Road

MAJOR HONOURS: FA Cup 1953, Second Division champions 1929/30. Six-time play-off winners

RIVALS: Preston

LAST TIME AT THE KENNY: Town 3-1 Blackpool 10/4/23

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 25 29/01/2026 15:59



BLACKPOOL

THE AWAY END

The Boss

IAN EVATT Former Blackpool player and now manager over at Bloomfield Road. Appointed in October 2025 after parting ways with Bolton, who he led to the League One play-off final.

Goalkeeper

BAILEY PEACOCK-FARRELL Over 50 Northern Ireland appearances to his name and currently is with Blackpool on loan from Championship side, Birmingham City.

Defenders

JAMES HUSBAND Long-standing defender for the Seasiders who has made over 200 appearances for the club since he arrived in 2019.

OLIVER CASEY Came through the ranks at Leeds but never broke into the first team at Elland Road. Signed for Blackpool in 2021 and has now played over 100 times since.

KAMARL GRANT 23-year-old loanee from Millwall with experience in the National League and League Two with Bromley, now testing himself in the third tier.

ZAC ASHWORTH A product of the West Brom academy who has previously spent time with Burton, Bolton and Ross County. Scored in the recent victory over Northampton.

Midfielders

JORDAN BROWN Gained lots of senior experience at Leyton Orient where he spent three years. Made the move up north to Bloomfield Road in July 2025.

GEORGE HONEYMAN – A product of the Sunderland academy who broke through with the Black Cats in 2017 before going on to play for Hull, Millwall and now Blackpool.

LEE EVANS Welsh midfielder with vast amounts of experience across the EFL having previously played for Wolves, Bradford, Wigan, Sheffield United, Ipswich and Portsmouth.

JOSH BOWLER Now onto his third spell with Blackpool and second permanent one. Spent the second half of last season on loan with the Hatters, making eight appearances.

CJ HAMILTON Irish winger with over 200 appearances to his name with Blackpool. Scored twice so far this season, both goals coming in the 2-2 draw against the Hatters.

Forwards

ASHLEY FLETCHER Blackpool's top scorer so far this campaign with 12 goals at the time of writing. Currently sitting on 18 in all competitions so far.

TOM BLOXHAM 22-year-old striker who has mainly played alongside Fletcher up top. Scored six and has three assists so far this season in all competitions.

MICHAEL OBAFEMI Irish striker who signed this January on loan from Burnley. Previously spent time with Southampton, Swansea, Millwall, Plymouth and Bochum.

NIALL ENNIS Signed for the club on loan for the second half of last season and joined permanently in the summer after scoring seven times in his loan spell.

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 26 29/01/2026 15:59

HATTERS *versus* SEASIDERS

Historic meetings between the clubs down the years

1955
TOP-FLIGHT TRIUMPH

The Town are victorious in the top-flight against the Tangerines, who came into the game top of the table, before a crowd of almost 25,000 at Kenilworth Road. Gordon Turner was the Hatters' hero who scored twice in this well-deserved victory with many tipping the striker for England recognition after his latest showing in front of goal. "The Town won because they were more thrustful" the next day's paper would read.

1959
RECORD ATTENDANCE BROKEN

On a historic day in the club's history, the Hatters earn their place in the semi-final of the FA Cup for the very first time – in front of Kenilworth Road's highest ever attendance of 30,069. After a goalless first half the Town have a 33-year-old Allan Brown (who you can read more about him elsewhere in today's programme) to thank for the winner, the Scottish international hitting the winner to spark scenes of wild celebrations. The Hatters would go on and beat Norwich in the semi-final but would lose to Nottingham Forest in the final.

2017
HATTERS HEARTBREAK ▼

The Hatters' promotion dreams ended in the cruellest fashion as Blackpool progressed to the League Two play-off final with a 95th-minute goal. The Town fought back from a goal down on the night, and 4-2 on aggregate, to lead 5-4 with a quarter-of-an-hour to play – Alan Sheehan's



Football, eh?



Jordan Clark celebrates at Bloomfield Road

36th-minute shot being turned into his own net by Kelvin Mellor, captain Scott Cuthbert's header and a Danny Hylton penalty giving the Town the upper hand. But the Seasiders levelled matters at 5-5 on aggregate with a 76th-minute header from substitute Armand Gnanduillet before Mellor's header found its way into the Town net with the very last kick of the game.

2021
BLOOMFIELD ROAD BRILLIANCE ▲

Sonny Bradley, Elijah Adebayo and Jordan Clark netted the goals that saw the Hatters win for the first time in five matches at Bloomfield Road. In atrocious conditions, with a swirling wind and driving rain, the Town scored once in the first half and twice after the break to bring the recent run of indifferent form to an end and move back up to 12th in the Championship table. They also had a number of fine saves from James Shea to thank to deny the Seasiders.

2023
PELLY PUSHES FOR PROMOTION

A Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu-inspired Town came from behind to beat the Tangerines at Kenilworth Road. Andy Lyons had given the Seasiders a surprise lead before Mpanzu equalised on the stroke of half-time. Top scorer Carlton Morris fired the Hatters in front with just under 20 minutes to play, before Mpanzu scored his second and Town's third with a superb finish to secure four points across the Easter period.

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 27 29/01/2026 15:59











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KASEY CAN'T WAIT *to be back home!*

On-loan midfielder is back with his family and ready to enjoy his football again

New signing Kasey Palmer is relishing the opportunity to play regular football again after signing on loan from Hull City – and also to get back to living at home.

The 29-year-old has spent the past 18 months with the Tigers, spending most of his weeks away from his young family, who remained at their home in Buckinghamshire from his time with Coventry City.

Kasey had his family with him at The Brache as he completed his move, and he told LTFC+: "It's a huge thing, living so far away and not seeing my kids and family, it's been difficult.

"My kids are here now and they never really got to come to Hull as much I wanted them to because of school, or football and stuff like that.

"But being at home I'll be doing the school run in the morning, and then driving into training, so it'll be back to normal and it'll be like when I was at Coventry.

"It's going to definitely help, being familiar. Everything is going to be a bit more normality than it was when I was at Hull, where I was kind of by myself, and you miss out on big moments, like when your boy is at football and I couldn't take him training, and stuff like that. So I can't wait."

Kasey has made over 250 appearances for Championship clubs including Huddersfield, Bristol City, Derby, Blackburn, Swansea and Coventry, for whom he appeared in the Championship play-off final against the Hatters in 2022/23.

"Let's not talk about that!" he smiles. "Obviously, that day was a good day, but at the same time it didn't end how I wanted it to as a Coventry player at the time. But yes, I did play in that game, but let's not talk about it!"

Looking forward, as a midfielder, the chance to play under manager Jack Wilshere was also a big draw for the former England youth and full Jamaica international.

"I've grown up watching him," said Kasey. "I'm not an Arsenal fan but I've seen him play for England, and I'm sure he's got a lot of things I can learn off, and a lot of advice he can give from his playing career and now onto coaching, so I'm buzzing to be here and working under him."

The south Londoner is already looking forward to stepping out at Kenilworth Road for the first time as a Hatter this afternoon against Blackpool.

"I've played at Kenilworth Road a few times, and it's always a feisty atmosphere coming as an away player, so hopefully I'm on the right side of it this time and it's an enjoyable occasion," he said.

"I can't wait just to be playing football again, knowing that I can express myself and feel free."

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 29 29/01/2026 15:59



Jordan Clark's Luton scrapbook

There aren't many greater servants to Luton Town in recent years than Jordan Clark.

Clark, who signed for the Hatters back in August of 2020, reached his landmark 200th appearance for the club recently in the 2-2 draw against Lincoln City at Kenilworth Road.

With a whole host of memories to look back on, LTFC+ recently took the time to make a scrapbook with the legendary midfielder while looking back at some of the greatest moments in his Luton career.





A photo that means a lot to you:

"It has got to be my missus and little man; I've got two little men now but that is the photo that means the most to me, family is everything, when you have kids it changes you so much because you don't do anything for yourself anymore, you do it for them.

"The play-offs were the main goal of that season and we got there, when my boy scored a goal in the net at the Kenny with the crowd cheering, it was one of the best things ever and hopefully I can do it with my second little boy now too."

A moment you'll never forget:

"It has to be the Wembley one, doesn't it? I'll never ever forget that goal at Wembley in my lifetime, but it was seeing the orange behind the goal and seeing family members crying that has stuck with me.

"The club deserved that day so much and it was amazing to be part of it."

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 30 29/01/2026 15:59

A photo that proves that hard work pays off:

"I might get a bit of stick for this because it is one with Nathan, but he gave me a chance and it wasn't always plain sailing, I was in and out of the side, but he always said I'd be a big player for this club.

"It is never easy going through the lower leagues but when I heard Luton were potentially coming in for me I was praying it would happen. I think that shows why hard work pays off."

Famously nicknamed the best free transfer ever by former manager Nathan Jones, Clicker was keen to show his appreciation at being signed for Luton, and what a journey it has been.



A moment you are grateful for:

"Captaining the club for the first time against Wigan in the FA Cup, that was a special moment. I've been captain a few times now – this place is so special, everyone from the fans to the players to the staff, to be trusted to lead this club is what I am grateful for.

"I know I have captained the side on a few occasions more recently but that first time was a real honour for me. I am not a screamer or shouter, definitely not the Roy Keane type. I just try to lead by example and show the standards needed and I always try to be there for anyone who needs me."

Regardless of who wears the armband, with seven goals this season the Hatters midfielder has made his presence known in helping the club fight for the play-off spaces.



The photo you would choose if you could only keep one:

"I can't pick the toboggan ride in Slovenia, can I?" the midfielder laughed.

"Actually, I'll pick the parade picture from the event in the town centre. To have that, with so many people there, it's a real credit to the fanbase. I'd love this in my house to be honest; it was a special day with special people in front of the fans."



Watch the video here >>

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 31 29/01/2026 15:59

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THE VIEW FROM THE PRESS BOX

The broadcaster, England correspondent and Hatters fan is hoping the Town can continue their fine home form this afternoon

It's been a busy start to 2026 already with the games coming thick and fast and an active transfer window.

I'm writing this on Wednesday so there may be more incomings and outgoings to come before deadline day, but it's been good to see Kasey Palmer get two games under his belt already – albeit in narrow losses away from home. I'm not sure having his hair pulled at the Accu Stadium was on his bingo card and it's a shame we didn't capitalise on the man advantage.

I won't sugarcoat it, the Huddersfield and Plymouth results were incredibly frustrating, and you could see from Jordan Clark's post-match interview on Tuesday night how disappointed the players were. But in a league where Saturday-Tuesday is the rhythm, there's no time to dwell. All there is time to do is improve.

Anyone who's read my programme notes before will know I'm more of a glass half full kind of person and so my focus is on the two home games we have coming up and the opportunity to climb back up the table.

Something that has been really pleasing to see since October is our form in LU4 and the energy we have back here at Kenilworth Road. The fight we showed to get back into the game against a top Lincoln side two weeks ago is what we all want to see. Three points we'd like to see more of obviously, but fight and drive and goals always spur us on more to get behind the team.

We're now eight games unbeaten at home in the league – a run we would love to keep going today against Blackpool. Back in September, a late Gideon Kodua penalty earned us a point at Bloomfield Road and the team will be looking to get the win this afternoon to keep the momentum we have here at the Kenny going.

I know there is still progress to be made, but we're on the right track and in the mix, we just need to get some consistency. I also know that Jack Wilshere, Chris Powell and the team are working tirelessly behind the scenes to make that happen.

Back in December, I was privileged to be invited to a pre-Christmas dinner at the club by Luton Town partners Utilita. Myself and my nephew Jake, sat in a room with the other guests listening to the footballing insights of both Jack and Chris and felt fully confident in their vision for Luton Town.

I don't want to speak on behalf of others, but from those I spoke to, we were all mesmerised and hung on their every word – because they were so real. It didn't feel like they were giving platitudes, or saying what fans, sponsors and the board wanted to hear. It was honest, heartfelt and fascinating exploring their thoughts and impressions of the club, what it stands for, where it's going and what they bring to the party. I left feeling we're in safe hands. It just takes time and patience to bring change.

Let's keep the noise today despite the frustrations of the past week. Get behind the team and push us on to three points to keep Kenilworth Road a fortress.

COYH!


Jack pictured at the partners event before Christmas

S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 33 29/01/2026 15:59

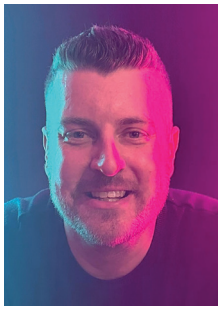
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S1 Luton v Blackpool.indd 35 29/01/2026 13:59

LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST



The Trust Interviews...

Ben Tunnell *Head of Commercial*

Ben Tunnell joined the club as Head of Commercial in August 2025. He took time out to talk to us about his background, how he has found his first six months with Luton Town – and what his work involves, for the present and the future.

Ben, before we get on to your role at the club, please tell us a bit about yourself

I'm from Great Yarmouth, and proud of it. It might not be your immediate thought, but it's a town with many similarities to Luton – not least that strong sense of pride. I'll come back to that.

Football has always played a huge part in my life. From the age of four, I watched Norwich City – my local club – with mum and dad, home and away, for over a decade. Sadly, both my parents passed away during my teens, and I faced a number of challenges that have shaped who I am today. I went to some dark places, but through those experiences I found resilience, self-determination, and a belief that I could still build something meaningful with my life. I carry that with me, and now try to harness it as a superpower to help inspire others facing similar challenges.

I was determined to build a career I would be proud of – I quickly knew that this wasn't going to be as a footballer. Despite being 6ft 9in, and the largest baby ever born at my local hospital (yes, really), I have two left feet and am easily the clumsiest person you'll ever meet!

So I did my best to move up the corporate ladder and eventually I was leading a large call centre supporting several UK charities, including Macmillan Cancer Support. That work was incredibly close to my heart, having lost both my parents to cancer. Through Macmillan, I learned that it is possible to build a working life that combines your skill set with something you are genuinely passionate about. That led me to challenge myself with a simple question: how could I do this in football?

After years of hard work and gaining experience, I landed a role at Norwich City as Head of Commercial, working alongside Ben Kensell – who was, of course, here at Luton until recently, before moving to the UAE. Our partnership over six and a half years was phenomenally successful, building the club's commercial operation into the most successful in its history. Crucially, that success off the pitch played a meaningful role in supporting success on it. That same principle is exactly what we're aiming for here.

What brought you to Luton Town?

After Norwich, I wanted to explore more of the wider sports world. Over five years, I was fortunate enough to work across Europe and internationally within motorsport, rugby, combat sports and even American sports.

Before joining Luton, and shaped by my earlier life experiences, I spent 18 months supporting a mental health platform, helping to build their sports sponsorship portfolio. In many ways, that brought me full circle. Mental health is something I care deeply about, informed by my own experiences. Difficult though those periods were, they taught me an enormous amount – and I'm always keen to use those lessons for good.

Football, however, has always been my first love. I knew I would return to working with a club at some point, but it had to be the right club and the right project. I wanted to be in an environment where I could make an impact, bring real value, and also continue to be challenged and to learn. Most of all, I wanted to be part of something that, in years to come, I could look back on and say to my young son, "Daddy was part of that".

I certainly didn't need any introduction to Luton Town's story. Back in 2013, I was at Carrow Road when Luton became the first non-league club to knock a Premier League side out of the FA Cup. That kind of result leaves a lasting impression!

But when Gary Sweet first shared the vision and plans for Power Court, and once I truly understood the culture of the club and the town, it became the easiest decision of my career to join.

What does 'Head of Commercial' cover?

I lead the commercial team and oversee all revenue-generating areas, supporting my teams across partnerships, hospitality, ticketing, retail and more. The role has a significant amount of horizontal overlap, which gives me the opportunity to influence and be involved across a wide range of areas.

It's also important to stress that I was fully across the areas and strategies Ben Kensell was involved in as Chief Revenue Officer. We worked in close partnership throughout his time at the club, which means we have strong continuity.

The other, main, aspect of my role is preparing us commercially for our move to Power Court. We have an incredibly exciting challenge ahead of us in maximising its potential.

S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 36 29/01/2026 15:58

I always encourage my colleagues to keep in the front of their minds that sport is deeply emotional. The commercial decisions made by supporters, sponsors and other stakeholders are far more often driven by the heart than the head. So while we must operate through a lens of revenue and growth, we also have a wider responsibility as custodians of the football club. Our role goes beyond numbers on a spreadsheet; it's about building trust, strengthening relationships and ensuring people feel genuinely connected to their club. If we get that right, the numbers tend to take care of themselves.

What have you learned about Luton in your time with the club?

I mentioned at the start the similarities between Luton and my home town – it's those shared qualities that have made getting to know Luton so much fun, and it already feels like home from home. I place great importance on values such as humility, authenticity, integrity, respect, hard work and resilience – and this town and football club have those in abundance.

I'm also deeply curious about the diverse communities that make Luton so special. I've had the pleasure of working with, and attending local community events alongside, people such as Kailesh Karavadra, one of the 2020 directors, Daniel Douglas, from the LTFC Community Trust, and our community ambassador, Mostaque Koyes. These communities are truly special, and I'm incredibly passionate about ensuring that, as a football club, we do all we can to authentically engage and connect with them – and with all our communities – over the coming years.

Inclusivity is essential. As a commercial team, we must work hand in hand with community leaders to ensure the opportunities we create are relevant to the entire population of Luton and beyond. Kenilworth Road's capacity, combined with the incredible loyalty of our season ticket holders, has made it difficult for many people to experience a Luton Town matchday. That will change at Power Court, and it's vital that we ensure there are accessible opportunities for everyone.

It's easy to get caught in the 'football bubble' and allow results on the pitch to influence behaviour and emotion. But when you step outside that bubble and speak to people who may attend only a handful of matches each season and hear their excitement about the regeneration of Luton and the progress of Power Court, it's a powerful reminder of just how important the project is to the town.

How are you planning to engage with potential partners?

Luton is one of the most densely populated regions in the country for small-to-medium-sized enterprises, start-ups and micro-businesses. It has one of the strongest entrepreneurial spirits you'll find anywhere, and that must actively shape our business strategy – not simply be a consideration.

I've already had hundreds of conversations with business owners and senior leaders who've shared honest feedback on their relationships with the club over recent years, and I have a clear vision for how we can improve. But it starts with a simple commitment: wherever we are in the leagues, we operate under a local-first strategy.

Football is, of course, a rollercoaster of emotions. There are highs and there are lows. During the highs, we need to reward our local community for the support they give us during the lows – not punish them with higher fees or increased barriers to entry. That's where many clubs get it wrong.

Some of my strongest values were instilled in me by my father. I believe in honest and transparent communication. If someone sends you an email, you respond within 24 hours. If someone wants a conversation, you pick up the phone. We're not Manchester United – we're Luton Town. We have the time, and when we don't, we make it. We owe local businesses a great deal of gratitude, and I'm determined to repay that trust.

That said, it's important to stress that we are a self-funded football club. We have to operate responsibly and sustainably, and every investment must deliver a positive return. With that in mind, we've made some changes to how commercial operates at entry level. I'm grateful that everyone I've spoken to about those changes has understood the rationale behind them.

I also know there are still many business owners, executives and hospitality members I haven't yet had the opportunity to speak with. My message to them is simple: give my team a chance. Let's talk. We want to understand your story with the club and explore whether we can reconnect. You have our commitment that we're working every day to bring about positive change.>>



S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 37 29/01/2026 15:58



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Can you tell us a little about the changes in the commercial department?

Gary, the Executive and the Board have been tremendous in their support. We've restructured much of the commercial team, brought in new colleagues who understand our renewed mission, and are investing in systems and technology that will enable us to take the next step and become truly ready for Power Court.

I also want to recognise the new colleagues who've joined the club, whether that's interns coming through our evolving partnership with the University of Bedfordshire, or those who've joined us on a full-time basis within commercial. They've embraced the challenge wholeheartedly, and their positivity and contributions have been infectious. Jenn, our HR Director, does an outstanding job of creating such a welcoming environment and culture for new members of staff, which will be incredibly important as we continue to grow and scale the team ahead of Power Court. I take huge pride in being able to offer young people the same opportunities I was given over a decade ago, and the trust placed in me to help build a new team here at the club is something I don't take for granted.

A big part of that is providing a positive working environment. I speak from experience of having worked across many different cultures, and ours is an excellent one. People understand their roles and responsibilities, and everyone is pulling in the same direction. We're acutely aware of the challenges we face, and of the pain supporters – and the club as a whole – have felt after two relegations, and recent disappointments. There is a collective determination across the club to put that right.

What are the challenges – and how can supporters have their input?

We're not able to deliver every improvement overnight, but we are working relentlessly towards it. What I would say to supporters and businesses is this: if there's something you want to talk about – whether it's a concern, suggestion or an idea – please pick up the phone or drop me an email at ben.tunnell@lutontown.co.uk, and I'll get back to you as quickly as I can. Apologies if I missed anyone during the recent changes: equally, if you were previously in dialogue with Ben Kensell, and would like to continue that conversation, please do get in touch.

I also want to reassure supporters that, thanks to the excellent work of Lisa McEvoy, our Fan Engagement Officer, and our supporter-facing colleagues, we're very aware of where improvements are needed. For example, we know we must make it easier to book and amend hospitality packages, and that will improve over the next two years. We're investing in a new website and mobile app, launching next season, alongside improved data systems that will help us better understand the needs and behaviours of our supporters and make more informed decisions.

We're also expanding experiences for younger fans, including making mascot packages available to Junior Members via ballots and through the Community Trust. Most importantly, we're making a commitment to open and honest communication. Our renewed fan engagement strategy, alongside fan forums, partnership forums and hospitality forums, gives us clear opportunities to listen, capture feedback and act on it. While we do have limitations at the current stadium, no piece of feedback will go unheard or without careful consideration. Ultimately, everything we're learning is shaping our direction between now and our move to Power Court.

Through all of this, I genuinely feel I've quickly become part of the Luton community too. I'm learning as much as I can about the town and the club – its values, history, heritage and diverse communities – and I'm fully invested as a supporter. Despite being a lifelong Norwich City fan, and with my family still living there while I'm based locally in Luton, my 16-month-old son recently wore his first football kit. I couldn't be prouder to say it was a Luton Town shirt.

Lastly, I just want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has made me – and the new members of the commercial team – feel so welcome. Your support has been incredible, and our commitment is to do everything we can to make these remaining seasons at Kenilworth Road as special as possible, delivering the best possible experience as we move towards Power Court.

Come on you Hatters!

Thank you, Ben.

If you've been affected by any of the life challenges Ben mentions, why not pop along to the Trust's Talking Hatters gazebo, found at most games on the Kenilworth Road apron and find out all about our online chats?

Here's to three points this afternoon!



Ben alongside Jack Wilshere and Chris Powell at last December's partners evening

S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 39 29/01/2026 15:58

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SIGN-UP TODAY

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

Wearing HISTORY

2016/17 HOME CHARITY SHIRT **(LEVEL TRUST)**

Cast your minds back to 11th February 2017 and our game against Crawley Town.

If you're struggling to remember or understand why that game and date is of significance, let me help! It was the game that we assigned to our Charity of the Year for the 2016/17 season. This meant replacing our existing sponsor, SsangYong, with Level Trust, thus creating a very rare shirt.

The original was made by Puma and was in our typical orange with white Puma logo and SsangYong sponsor. It also featured white panelling down the sleeves. It is a popular shirt with Hatters fans thanks to the 2017/18 being a promotion season.

The Level Trust sponsor was very different to the original. It featured a pink and black colour combination and took up a lot more of the shirt. The black was bold and striking, whereas the pink was softer and less intrusive against the orange background of the shirt.

In this special charity edition of the home shirt, we only played one game. We beat Crawley Town 2-1 thanks to a Danny Hylton brace. What a player! The Crawley scorer might also be familiar to you, a certain James Collins equalising for the visitors before Hylton scored his 17th goal of that season.

These shirts were only made for the starting 11 and subs, which included the likes of Glen Rea, Alan Sheehan, Jonathan Smith, Jack Marriott and Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu.

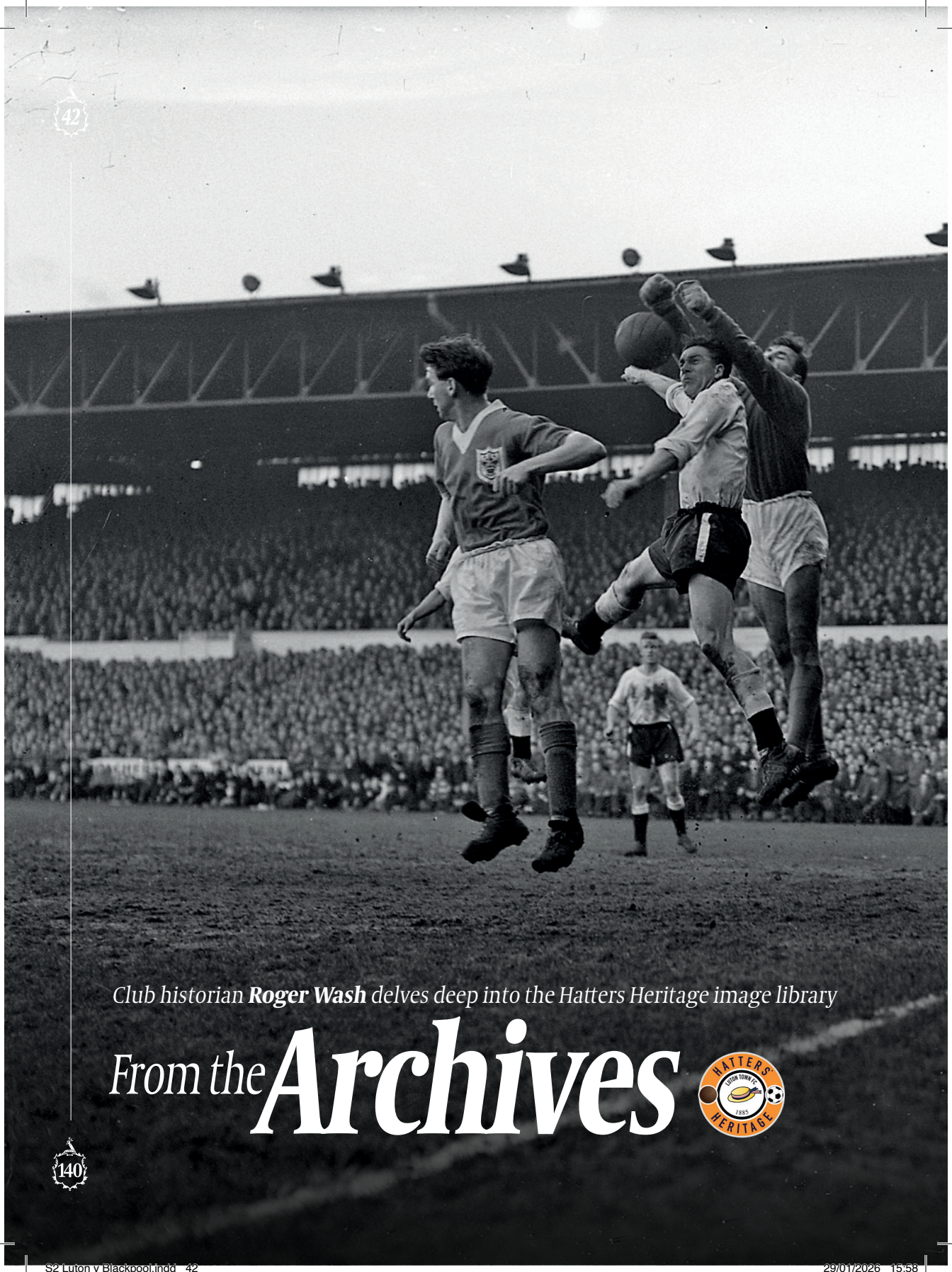
A young academy graduate called James Justin was also on the bench. The club hosted a silent auction for the shirts to raise money for Level Trust. You simply filled out a form with your bid, and the highest bid got the shirt.

I put a bid of £50 on Justin's shirt and couldn't believe my luck when I got the call to say I was the highest bidder. It is one of my most prized shirts!



Isaac Vassell keeps his eyes on the ball during the win over Crawley here in 2017

S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 41 29/01/2026 15:58



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

From the Archives

S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 42 29/01/2026 15:58

The Kenilworth Road ground record attendance was set in March 1959 when 30,069 crammed in for an FA Cup quarter-final replay against Blackpool.

Pictured is Bob Morton going in hard on Blackpool goalkeeper George Farm.

Inset: A single goal from ex-Tangerine Allan Brown sent the Town through with the crowd surging on the pitch at the end of the game.



S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 43 29/01/2026 15:58

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

ON THIS DAY

31st January



2006 – A Kevin Nicholls penalty and a superb strike from Rowan Vine gives the Town a 2-0 midweek win at Hillsborough against Sheffield Wednesday.



1976 – On a frozen pitch, Ron Futcher scores the Town's goal in a 1-1 draw at home to Nottingham Forest in the Second Division (now Championship).



2023 – A solitary strike from Elijah Adebayo gives the Hatters a 1-0 win over Cardiff at Kenilworth Road to move them up to fourth in the Championship.

1987 – Mick Harford levels from the spot as the Hatters are held at home to QPR at Kenilworth Road in an FA Cup fourth round tie. Rangers win the replay 2-1.



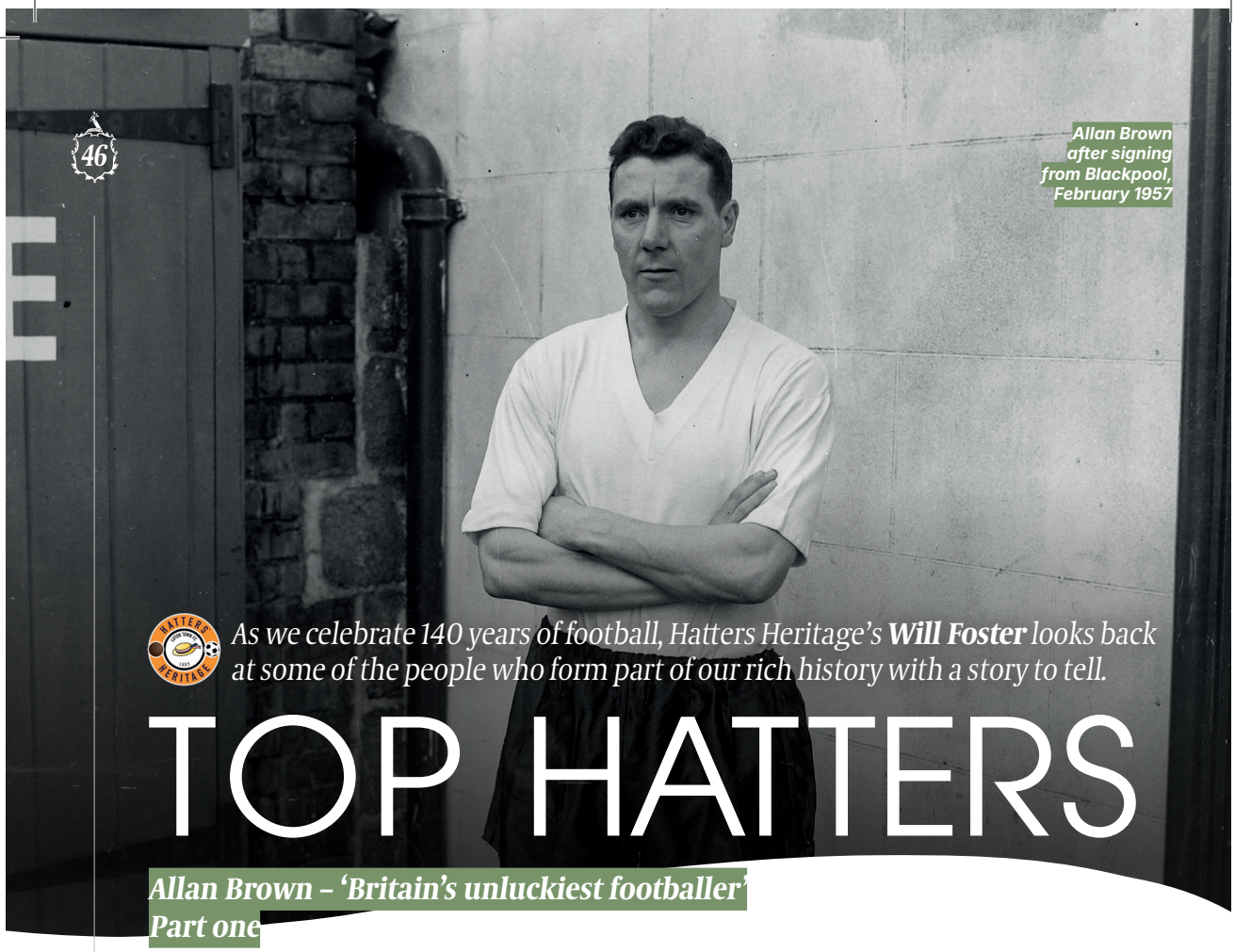
2015 – Andy Drury, Luke Wilkinson and Jonathan Smith are on target as the Hatters see off Cambridge 3-2 in League Two having led 3-0 at half-time.



1996 – Bulgarian Bontcho Guentchev's free-kick earns the Hatters a crucial win over Sheffield United to lift them off the bottom of Division One (now Championship).



S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 45 29/01/2026 15:58



Allan Brown after signing from Blackpool, February 1957

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

Allan Brown – 'Britain's unluckiest footballer' Part one

"Where is Allan Brown?" That was the question being asked at East Fife in the summer of 1950.

Not even Allan's wife appeared sure. He had left for home from the south of England the previous morning, where he was looking for a new club, but had not yet arrived.

"I do not know what to think," she told reporters. "He was not interested in Bogota and anyway I do not think I would go there at the moment with two young children."

The Bogota reference was in relation to the short-lived trend of British players heading to Colombian sides Millionarios and Santa Fe, who were offering wages 10 times that which could be earned in England. That it was even under discussion shows the lengths to which Allan was desperate to leave East Fife.

He had made it clear he wouldn't sign a new contract and the impasse turned bitter over the next few months, at a time when clubs held a player's registration until an acceptable offer was received from another club.

It was a sad end to a successful spell at Bayview Park for Allan where, under the management of Scot Symon, he had helped East Fife reach the First Division and to a Scottish Cup final against Rangers in April 1950, though they were defeated 3-0.

He had joined the Methil side from Kennoway Hearts in 1944 as a 17-year-old and marked himself out as a quick, powerful forward. Indeed, such was his pace that he would often take part in sprint events at the Highland Games.

With the contract dispute continuing as 1950 wore on, he even threatened to give up playing altogether and join Croydon Rovers as a coach for £15 a week. Fortunately, that point was never reached. Instead, amid interest from Portsmouth, Glasgow Rangers and most notably

> *"I SLIPPED THROUGH THE ARSENAL'S DEFENCE AND HIT MY SHOT JUST BEFORE (ARSENAL 'KEEPER) JACK KELSEY CAME OUT AND COLLIDED WITH ME. THE BALL WENT INTO THE BACK OF THE NET... AND I WENT OFF TO HOSPITAL WITH A BROKEN LEG.*



S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 46 29/01/2026 15:58

Liverpool, who made East Fife multiple offers, he signed for Blackpool in December for what was then a record fee of £25,000 for the Seasiders.

This was a Blackpool side teeming with household names such as Stan Mortensen, Stanley Matthews and fellow Scot Jackie Mudie, and it was among that lofty company that Brown made his debut at Charlton two days before Christmas as Blackpool ran out 3-2 winners.

He would remain an almost constant presence in that famous forward line for the next couple of seasons, scoring regularly and winning the majority of his 14 caps for Scotland, but he would also gain the title as 'Britain's unluckiest footballer'.

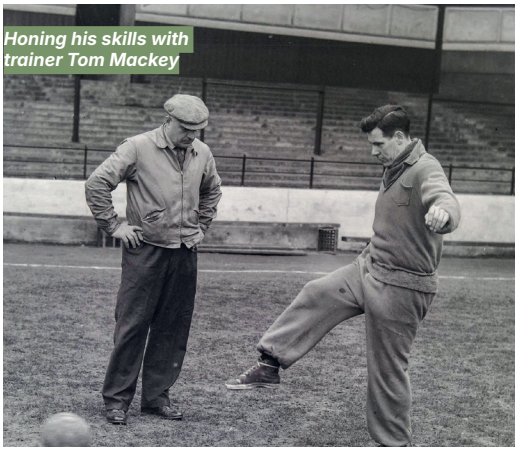
An injury suffered at Huddersfield in April 1951 caused him to miss the FA Cup final against Newcastle, but worse was to come two years later when he suffered an awful leg break in an FA Cup quarter-final at Arsenal.

With the game poised at 1-1 in the dying moments, Brown saw his chance to win the tie. "I slipped through the Arsenal's defence and hit my shot just before (Arsenal 'keeper) Jack Kelsey came out and collided with me. The ball went into the back of the net... and I went off to hospital with a broken leg."

It would all mean that Brown would miss perhaps the most famous FA Cup final of them all, Blackpool's 4-3 win against Bolton Wanderers, aka 'The Matthews Final'.

From that point he struggled, through both loss of form and injuries, to hold down his place at Bloomfield Road. Many clubs were interested in his signature including Sunderland, who were not afraid of splashing out on transfers at the time, but it was Dally Duncan who won the race in February 1957, signing the Scot for around £14,000 in a deal that was seen as a big coup for Luton.

The feeling within the club was that Brown, now 30, could do a similar job as Jessie Pye had done previously, bringing nous and experience to Kenilworth Road and



Honing his skills with trainer Tom Mackey

getting the best out of those around him. The Hatters had finished a comfortable 10th place in their first season in the top-flight but the second was proving rather more difficult, and they were hovering around the relegation zone when Brown made his debut against Leeds.

The move certainly paid early dividends. Allan would score on his debut in a 2-1 win at Elland Road before taking part in a 4-1 thumping of Newcastle. Even better would follow two games later at Highbury against Arsenal.

With Town trailing 1-0 at half-time, the decision was made to move Brown to centre-forward, and he responded with two goals as Luton came back to win 3-1.

"Scottish selectors will be delighted to hear that Brown is back to his best," roared the Daily Post the following day. For the Hatters it meant a third win in four and was surely sweeter for Brown having come at the ground where he'd suffered his broken leg.

Brown would continue to show his class the following year, scoring 13 times in 37 appearances as the Hatters fared even better against the giants of the First Division, hitting top spot after a win against Brown's old side Blackpool in August and finishing eighth, the highest the club had ever managed in the pyramid at the time.

However, in many regards an even more remarkable season would follow. One in which all eyes turned to the FA Cup and where Brown would get the chance, finally, to appear in England's showpiece event.

To be continued...



Slamming home one of his hat-trick goals in the 4-0 against Arsenal, Dec 1957

S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 47 29/01/2026 15:59

LTFC academy

With Ben Strevens
Head of Academy coaching





The Under-18s celebrate during their recent game with Stevenage

I was delighted to rejoin Luton Town in June 2025 as Head of Academy Coaching, returning for a second time having been Lead of the Foundation phase during the 2022/23 season.

My aim was to continue on the good work that had been done by Craig Alcock previously.

I enjoyed a long and varied playing career, making more than 600 senior appearances across clubs including Barnet, Dagenham and Redbridge, Brentford, Wycombe Wanderers, Gillingham and Eastleigh. My time playing in the lower leagues from National league to League One exposed me to a wide range of coaching philosophies and competitive environments, experiences that now inform my approach to youth development.

Following my retirement, I transitioned into coaching and management. I spent four years as manager of Eastleigh, guiding the club through competitive National League campaigns and a play-off semi-final defeat, before taking charge of Dagenham & Redbridge in 2023.

During my time with the Daggers, I led the team to the FA Cup third round, securing notable victories over EFL opposition such as AFC Wimbledon and Crewe Alexandra.

My tenure at these clubs demonstrated my ability to develop players, manage staff, and build cohesive footballing structures – skills that I hope will translate directly into my responsibilities at Luton Town.

My return to The Brache is rooted in both familiarity and ambition. Having previously coached within the academy, I already understand the club's culture, expectations, and development philosophy. This continuity allows me to step back into the environment with clarity and purpose, ready to elevate coaching standards across all phases.

As Head of Academy Coaching, I oversee the entire coaching program from the Foundation Phase through to the Under-21s. My role includes designing and implementing the academy's coaching curriculum, ensuring alignment with the club's playing identity, and supporting the professional growth of academy coaches.

I am lucky to work closely with the Academy Manager Paul Benson, Head of Academy Development Wayne Turner, and all the phase leads to maintain a consistent, high-quality

S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 48 29/01/2026 15:59

development pathway for young players.

My remit also includes integrating modern coaching methodologies, such as data-driven analysis, individual development plans, and holistic player care, into daily practice.

The experience I've gained as both a manager and a former professional player gives me a unique perspective on what the coaches and young players need to succeed in senior football. I have aimed to build rapport with the players and coaches, create an environment where they feel comfortable to perform and balance support with challenge to hopefully help them fulfil their potential.

I have also been delighted to see the faith the manager has placed in integrating some of the young academy players into the first team match day squads, this demonstrates the continued hard work being done by all involved in the academy and a pathway for these young talented players.

I hope it's another enjoyable victory today at the Kenny.

Come on you Hatters!

Town bow out of Beds Senior Cup

The Hatters Under-21s fell short in the Beds Senior Cup quarter-final as Leighton Town came out on top 3-1 at Bell Close on Tuesday night.

Taylan Harris struck early in the first half before goals from Sydney Ibie, Bernard Christie and Jamie Breen guaranteed the home sides semi-final place.

It was the perfect start to the evening for the young Hatters as Harris found the net early with an impressive finish.

The forward cut in on his left foot to fire a powerful low drive into the back of the net, leaving Jesse Bedford helpless in the Leighton goal.

Town continued to fight and pile on the pressure in the first half but never managed to find that crucial second goal and it proved costly, as just four minutes from the interval Ibie hit a deflected effort that sailed over Liam Coyne to draw the home side level.



Our Under-21s exited the Beds Senior Cup at Bell Close

Bad turned to worse for the Hatters in the second half, as just minutes after the restart Leighton found their second, as a whipped in cross evaded the Town defence which allowed a flick on at the near post to be bundled in by Christie to put his side in front.

The young side, hoping to progress further after beating Dunstable Town 5-0 in the previous round of the competition, struggled to find fluidity and momentum in the second half and their evening became much tougher just past the hour mark as Breen converted following another deflection in the Hatters penalty area to make it 3-1.

A late second half rally from the Town proved insufficient, falling to another defeat at Bell Close following the last meeting in which the young side fell just short in a tense penalty shootout in the same round of the Beds Senior Cup.

Report by Liam Wilmot

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 W 4-0
Sat 13 Cambridge Utd L 3-6
Sat 20 Northampton L 0-2
JANUARY
Sat 3 Stevenage D 3-3
Sat 10 Sutton United W 3-1
Sat 17 AFC Wimbledon L 0-4
Sat 24 Barnet P-P
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 W 2-1
Sun 14 Brentford L 1-2
Mon 22 West Brom L 3-4
JANUARY
Tue 27 Leighton Town (BSC) L 1-3

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

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S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 51 29/01/2026 15:59

LUTON TOWN FC

COMMUNITY TRUST

Scan to Smile





Today marks the launch of Scan to Smile, a new feel-good initiative delivered in partnership with the EFL and rolling out across EFL stadiums in England and Wales this month.

Designed to spread positivity, lift the January blues and shine a spotlight on the life-changing work of football club charities, Scan to Smile celebrates the impact community programmes have beyond the pitch.

Around Kenilworth Road today, you'll find posters inviting supporters to scan a QR code. Each scan unlocks a short, uplifting message from real beneficiaries whose lives have been positively impacted by the work of our Community Trust.

From mental health support and tackling loneliness, to improving physical wellbeing, employability and confidence, Scan to Smile highlights the powerful role football plays in strengthening communities.

January can be a challenging time for many, and this campaign uses the reach and influence of football to offer supporters a moment of positivity on matchday, while showcasing the social impact made by EFL clubs across the country every single day.

Our Scan to Smile message today features a group of pupils from Wigmore Primary School in Luton, who benefit from regular weekly sessions delivered by our Community Trust team.

Using the power of the Luton Town badge, these sessions inspire confidence, create positive experiences and open up pathways within the community. Look out for the Wigmore team today – and be sure to give them a big smile if you do!

To find out more about the work of our Community Trust, or to support us, please contact community@lutontown.co.uk.

S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 52 29/01/2026 15:59

Local Schools Represent the Town on the Big Stage





This season more than 70 school teams and over 700 pupils from across Luton and Bedfordshire have taken part in our Premier League Primary Stars Girls Tournament, EFL Utilita Girls Cup and Utilita Kids Cup.

Winners of each competition earn the opportunity to represent Luton Town at regional and national stages, competing against schools from other professional clubs.

Local schools have enjoyed notable success in recent years. In 2022, Sacred Heart Primary School were crowned national winners at Wembley in the EFL Utilita Kids Cup final. Last season, Leighton Middle School finished runners-up in the Under-11 Premier League Primary Stars Girls Tournament after progressing through a national competition involving more than 1,200 schools and 9,000 players, with just 20 schools reaching the finals.

Bert Klemmer, Programmes Manager (Education, Employability and Learning), said: "We are proud to see increasing numbers of schools and young people taking part in our local competitions each year.

"We recorded the highest number of entries across the EFL network in our local Utilita Girls Cup this year, with 24 school teams competing. However, these tournaments are about much more than what happens on the pitch. They give young people the opportunity to take part in football, develop a love for the game, and be inspired to stay active and healthy, while building confidence, meeting new people, and learning to work as part of a team."

The Utilita Kids Cup and Utilita Girls Cup are two of the country's largest national school football competitions, with more than 20,000 boys and girls representing the 72 EFL clubs each year.

Gilbert Inglefield Academy also won the Utilita Under-13 Girls Cup and represented Luton Town at the regional finals in Norwich in January, recording five clean sheets across eight group games and narrowly missing out on a semi-final place.

Meanwhile, more than 40 schools across Luton, Bedford and Central Bedfordshire have competed in the local Utilita Under-11 Kids Cup, with 14 schools progressing to the County Final later this month.

The winning team will earn the opportunity to represent the club at the regional Finals in February.

For more information about our schools programmes, please contact bert.klemmer@lutontown.co.uk.



S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 53 29/01/2026 15:59

SMOOTHER THAN A DOUBLE NUTMEG



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Swarres Screamer earns Town point

Shianne Swarres' late free-kick earned the Town an impressive point against second-placed Norwich City at Barton last weekend.

Myles Maddix made a host of changes from last Sunday's 5-1 victory away at Biggleswade United, including a first start since October for Fiona Buttigieg, and a first since August for Courtnay Ward-Chambers.

The first chance of the afternoon fell the Ladies' way. An inswinging free-kick from Fiona Buttigieg eventually found its way into the path of Courtnay Ward-Chambers, who fired the ball goalwards, but wasn't able to test Quantrill in the Canaries' net.

At the other end, the visitors should have taken the lead. Symonds, unmarked at the back-post, could only put her headed effort wide of Sarah Hudson's left-hand post.

With 25 played, Norwich did take the lead. Faith Harrison found herself in space outside the area and unleashed a powerful strike that sailed past Hudson.

The Town kept the visitors at bay for a majority of the opening 45 but trailed by one at the break.

It was a positive start to the second half from the Ladies, Jànaye Beaufort's effort from the edge of the area was easily held by Quantrill.

Just moments later, another chance came and went for the Town. Ward-Chambers' effort from just inside the area was hit over the bar.

A rare second half surge forward from the Canaries resulted in a tame delivery into the area, allowing a commanding Hudson to claim the ball.

With minutes remaining at the end of the 90, a Swarres screamer drew the game level. After Buttigieg was brought down on the left, Swarres stood over the ball, and from an almost-impossible angle, curled it into the far corner.

After surviving some late Norwich pressure, the Town were able to hold onto a much-deserved point at Barton.

Boss Maddix said: "I think we tested ourselves really well against a good Norwich side. I thought going down one-nil in the first half was quite harsh. We took it to them from the first minute, until the last and I can't wait to see the footage of Shi's goal back.

"Coming into tier-four was a massive jump, we took our time, but now we have found our feet. I can only credit my coaching staff, the work they put in behind closed doors, understanding the concepts of training and preparing for matchdays, they've done a fantastic job."

Words: Owen Williams
Photo: Duncan Jack



Celebrations after Shianne Swarres' equaliser

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 L 0-1

DECEMBER
7 Fulham P-P
14 Dulwich Hamlet D 1-1

JANUARY
4 Cambridge Utd P-P
25 Norwich City D 1-1

FEBRUARY
8 Actonians
18 Chesham Utd
22 AFC Sudbury

MARCH
8 Milton Keynes
22 London Bees
29 QPR

APRIL
12 Fulham
26 Chatham Town

S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 55 29/01/2026 15:59

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A big shoutout to our mascot at the Lincoln game!

JUNIOR HATTERS



Albert Doherty

Age: 9th Birthday yesterday
Hobbies: Football
Favourite Player: Liam Walsh



Cameron Devlin

Age: 11
Hobbies: Football
Favourite Player: Jake Richards



Harry Huddleston

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



SPOT THE BALL

Can you guess where the correct ball is?

ANSWERS SPOT THE BALL: Football

S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 57 29/01/2026 15:59



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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 Cardiff City
Saturday 14th February, 3pm

Luton Town supporters have received an initial allocation of 1,677 reserved seats for our fixture at Cardiff.

Please note physical tickets will be issued for this match. Tickets will be sent via post or left for collection.

Subject to availability, tickets are currently on general sale in person or by calling the ticket office.

Prices

Adults £27
Seniors (Over 60+) £21
Young Adults Under 22 (16-21) - £18
Under 16s - £13

**Under 14s will not be permitted to enter the stadium without being accompanied by an individual aged 18 years or over.*

Ambulant disabled supporters pay their relevant price class with a PA free of charge providing they are in receipt of DLA Middle/Higher Rate of Care or Standard/Higher rate PIP.

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Saturday 7th February, 3pm
Category B

v Burton Albion

Saturday 21st February, 3pm
Category B

v Reading

Saturday 7th March, 3pm
Category A

v Exeter City

Tuesday 17th February, 7.45pm
Category B

v Stockport County

Saturday 21st March, 3pm
Category B

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LEAGUE LOOK

Bluebirds continue to fly high at the top

It was another busy night in League One with a full programme of fixtures taking place on Tuesday evening.

Leaders Cardiff continued their march towards promotion with a fine 4-0 win over Barnsley at the Cardiff City Stadium with Chris Willock scoring twice for the Bluebirds who now sit 10 points clear of third place.

Lincoln maintained their pursuit of the leaders with a home win for themselves, seeing off fellow promotion chasers Bradford 3-0 at Sincil Bank. The Imps trail Cardiff by four points but are now six points ahead of third.

Bolton moved into third place as a last-minute winner from Sam Dalby earned the Trotters a 2-1 win over Burton at the Toughsheet Community Stadium.

Stockport are up to fourth after a third win in four over our visitors today, Blackpool. Goals from Kyle Wootton and Jack Diamond were enough for County to continue their push for the top two.

Huddersfield tightened their grip on the final play-off place after their win over the Town on Tuesday but Stevenage and Wycombe leapfrogged us in the table after they both secured victories.

Stevenage now sit in seventh and three points shy of the top six after beating in-form Peterborough 1-0 at the Lamex Stadium while Wycombe saw off Wigan 2-0 with Cauley Woodrow on target for the Chairboys.

At the other end of the table, bottom-of-the-table Port Vale's game was postponed, leaving Vale 12 points from safety.

The race for survival is tight: just four points separate Rotherham in 23rd and Blackpool in 16th.

Rotherham picked up an important victory to stay in touch, beating fellow strugglers Northampton while Doncaster made it two wins in three after beating Leyton Orient 3-0.

In the pick of the fixtures this afternoon, there's a Yorkshire derby as Bradford host Doncaster while leaders Cardiff go to Burton.



Chris Wilock scored a brace against Barnsley in a 4-0 victory

PLAYER STATS *2025/26*

	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		LTFC CAREER	
	APP(S)	GLS	APP(S)	GLS	APP(S)	GLS	APPS	GLS
Elijah Adebayo	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	182	47
Ali Al-Hamadi	0 (2)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (3)	0	3	0
Millenic Alli	12 (4)	1	3 (3)	0	15 (7)	1	38	5
Mads Andersen	20 (3)	2	4 (0)	1	24 (3)	3	46	4
Ethon Archer	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	1	0
Shandon Baptiste	2 (2)	0	0 (0)	0	2 (2)	0	21	1
Cohen Bramall	16 (10)	2	5 (0)	1	21 (10)	3	31	3
Jacob Brown	3 (4)	0	0 (1)	0	3 (5)	0	60	7
Christian Chigozie	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2	0
Jordan Clark	18 (4)	7	1 (0)	0	19 (4)	7	202	25
Fin Evans	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	1	1 (0)	1	1	1
Lamine Fanne	15 (6)	1	4 (2)	1	19 (8)	2	40	2
Harry Fox	0 (0)	0	1 (2)	0	1 (2)	0	3	0
Dawid Gawel	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	1	0
Joe Gbode	0 (5)	0	1 (2)	0	1 (7)	0	8	0
Tom Holmes	0 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	22	1
Zach Ioannides	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	1	0
Joe Johnson	7 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	9 (0)	0	24	0
Isaiah Jones	3 (1)	1	1 (0)	0	4 (1)	1	23	3
Josh Keeley	27 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	28 (0)	0	28	0
Gideon Kodua	16 (7)	9	4 (3)	1	20 (10)	10	30	10
Emilio Lawrence	3 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	4 (1)	0	5	0
Nigel Lonwijk	20 (1)	1	3 (2)	0	23 (3)	1	26	1
Jack Lorentzen-Jones	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	1	0
Christ Makosso	10 (1)	0	3 (1)	0	13 (2)	0	28	0
Mark McGuinness	4 (2)	0	1 (0)	0	5 (2)	0	51	3
Teden Mengi	17 (0)	0	3 (0)	1	20 (0)	1	75	3
Shayden Morris	4 (13)	2	3 (2)	2	7 (15)	4	22	4
Kal Naismith	21 (2)	1	3 (1)	0	24 (3)	1	105	5
Marvelous Nakamba	0 (1)	0	2 (1)	0	2 (2)	0	61	0
Zack Nelson	6 (12)	1	7 (1)	1	13 (13)	2	51	3
Lasse Nordas	4 (7)	1	5 (1)	3	9 (8)	4	27	4
Hakeem Odoffin	2 (4)	0	1 (1)	0	3 (5)	0	8	0
Kasey Palmer	2 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2	0
Josh Phillips	0 (0)	0	0 (2)	0	0 (2)	0	3	0
Jake Richards	6 (4)	2	3 (3)	0	9 (7)	2	16	2
George Saville	20 (4)	1	3 (0)	0	23 (4)	1	27	1
James Shea	1 (0)	0	7 (0)	0	8 (0)	0	118	0
Liam Walsh	18 (3)	0	4 (1)	0	22 (4)	0	54	0
Reuell Walters	3 (1)	0	3 (0)	0	6 (1)	0	23	0
Nahki Wells	17 (6)	2	1 (0)	2	18 (6)	4	24	4
Cauley Woodrow	0 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	82	6
Jerry Yates	11 (11)	2	3 (4)	5	14 (15)	7	29	7

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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**	D	1-1	7	11,204	1,329	Keeley	Odoffin	Bramall	Mengi	Lonwijk	Naismith	Saville
DECEMBER														
TUE 2	**EXETER CITY (VT)**	**19:00**	W	4-0		2,233	136	Shea	Walters	Johnson	Andersen	Makosso	Nakamba	**NELSON 1**
SAT 6	FLEETWOOD TOWN (FAC2)	15:00	D	2-2*		1,180	663	Shea	Walters	Johnson	Andersen	**MENGI 1**	Saville	Nelson
TUE 9	LEYTON ORIENT	19:45	D	1-1	7	8,176	1,246	Keeley	Lonwijk	Bramall	Naismith	Mengi	Saville	Walsh
SAT 13	**PORT VALE**	**15:00**	D	2-2	7	10,867	1,041	Keeley	Lonwijk	**BRAMALL 1**	Naismith	Mengi	**ANDERSEN 1**	Saville
THU 18	READING	20:00	L	2-3	7	9,252	1,101	Keeley	**LONWIJK 1**	Bramall	Naismith	Mengi	Andersen	**CLARK 1**
FRI 26	**WYCOMBE WANDERERS**	**15:00**	W	4-0	8	11,596	1,092	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Mengi	Walsh	Fanne
MON 29	**LEYTON ORIENT**	**19:45**	W	3-0	8	11,736	1,327	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Mengi	Walsh	Fanne
JANUARY														
THU 1	EXETER CITY	15:00	L	0-1	8	7,912	966	Shea	Walters	Johnson	Lonwijk	Mengi	Walsh	Saville
SAT 10	**STEVENAGE** TV	**12:30**	W	2-1	7	11,434	1,299	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Makosso	Walsh	Fanne
TUE 13	**SWINDON TOWN (VT)**	**19:00**	L	1-2		3,243	585	Shea	Walters	Fox	Lonwijk	Makosso	Saville	Fanne
SAT 17	**LINCOLN CITY**	**15:00**	D	2-2	7	11,230	1,328	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Naismith	Walsh	Bramall
SAT 24	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE TV	12:30	L	0-1	7	15,949	790	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Naismith	Walsh	Palmer
TUE 27	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	19:45	L	0-1	9	15,367	397	Keeley	Lonwijk	Johnson	Andersen	Mengi	Walsh	Palmer
SAT 31	**BLACKPOOL**	**15:00**												
FEBRUARY														
SAT 7	**BRADFORD CITY** TV	**12:31**												
SAT 14	CARDIFF CITY	15:00												
WED 18	WIGAN ATHLETIC	19:45												
SAT 21	**BURTON ALBION**	**15:00**												
TUE 24	DONCASTER ROVERS	19:45												
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												

*lost 4-2 on penalties

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 Kenilworth Road's record attendance is exactly what?

2 How many goals did Jordan Clark score up until his 200th appearance for the Hatters?

3 What is Blackpool's nickname?

4 How old was Sir Stanley Matthews when he won the FA Cup for Blackpool in 1953?

				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		
Walsh	Brown	Fanne	Yates	KODUA 1	Morris	Alli		
MORRIS 1	Alli	Kodua	NORDÅS 2	Gbodé	Ioannides	Fox	L-Jones	
Richards	Fanne	Alli	Nordås	Walsh	Kodua	YATES 1	Brown	Morris Naismith
Fanne	Brown	KODUA 1	Yates	Andersen	Morris	Clark	Nordås	Nelson
Walsh	Alli	Kodua	Brown	Morris	Clark	Wells	Fanne	Nordås
Walsh	Fanne	Kodua	Wells	Morris	Yates	Brown	Nelson	Saville
KODUA 2	CLARK 1	Bramall	Wells	Yates	Saville	Odoffin	MORRIS 1	Nelson
KODUA 1	CLARK 1	MORRIS 1	Wells	Saville	Bramall	Nelson	Yates	Walters
Morris	Clark	Bramall	Yates	Wells	Brown	Fanne	Nelson	
KODUA 1	CLARK 1	Lawrence	Wells	Morris	Bramall	Yates	Saville	
Morris	Nelson	Lawrence	YATES 1	Nakamba	Archer	Gawel		
Clark	KODUA 1	Lawrence	WELLS 1	Morris	Richards	Yates		
Clark	Kodua	Lawrence	Wells	Morris	Bramall	Yates		
Richards	Kodua	Bramall	Clark	Morris	Wells	Al-Hamadi	Lawrence	Fanne

5 What was the aggregate score when Blackpool beat us in the League Two play-off semi-final in 2017?

6 Who scored our second goal in that game?

7 Which Bulgarian scored the winning goal for the Hatters on this day in a 1-0 win over Sheffield United in 1996?

8 Which team are currently bottom of the National League?

9 Which club did Kasey Palmer help win promotion to the Premier League with?

10 How many caps for Jamaica has Palmer won?

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

1 30,069 2 25 3 The Tangerines 4 38 5 We lost 6-5 6 Scott Cuthbert 7 Bontcho Guentchev 8 Gateshead 9 Huddersfield 10 22

TABLE 2025/26

Team	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Cardiff	28	18	5	5	23	59
Lincoln	28	16	7	5	18	55
Bolton	29	13	10	6	10	49
Stockport	28	14	7	7	6	49
Bradford City	27	13	7	7	4	46
Huddersfield	29	13	6	10	10	45
Stevenage	27	11	9	7	5	42
Wycombe	28	10	9	9	5	39
Luton	**28**	**11**	**6**	**11**	**3**	**39**
Peterborough	28	12	2	14	-1	38
Exeter	27	11	4	12	7	37
Mansfield	26	10	7	9	6	37
Reading	27	9	10	8	2	37
Plymouth	28	11	4	13	-5	37
Barnsley	24	9	6	9	-3	33
Blackpool	**28**	**9**	**5**	**14**	**-6**	**32**
Wimbledon	26	9	5	12	-7	32
Leyton Orient	28	9	5	14	-8	32
Wigan	27	7	10	10	-4	31
Burton A	27	8	6	13	-11	30
Doncaster	27	8	6	13	-13	30
Northampton	27	8	5	14	-10	29
Rotherham	27	7	7	13	-13	28
Port Vale	25	4	6	15	-18	18

TODAY'S Fixtures

12.30PM KO
Wimbledon v Bolton
Bradford v Doncaster

2PM KO
Northampton v Reading

3PM KO
Barnsley v Stevenage
Burton v Cardiff
Exeter v Rotherham
Leyton Orient v Port Vale
Mansfield v Wycombe
Peterborough v Huddersfield
Stockport v Plymouth
Wigan v Lincoln

TOWN Totals

	W	D	L	F	A
HOME	1573	696	636	5803	3268
AWAY	750	719	1422	3325	4982
NEUTRAL	6	4	13	29	43
TOTAL	2329	1419	2071	9157	8293
At KR	1443	668	582	5264	3022

5,819 games played

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

SEASONS TO REMEMBER *1982/83*



After a momentous 1981/82 season, when the Division Two championship was won at a canter, only one signing of note was made, that of youngster Paul Walsh from Charlton, as manager David Pleat decided to give the existing players a chance to prove themselves back in the top-flight.

The Town soon became the darlings of the television cameras as they were likely to score goals in abundance but just as likely to concede even more.

By the middle of October, following a 3-2 win at Birmingham, the Town were up to eighth, which was a high point, as after that the goals against column started to rise. The loss Brian Stein to a long term foot injury meant that Walsh was ploughing a lone furrow up front while the defence remained porous.

The purchase of young centre-half Paul Elliott from Charlton hardly stemmed the flow and four straight defeats leading up to Easter sent the Town into the relegation zone.

A last-minute David Moss winner at home to Aston Villa stemmed the tide and a run of six games without defeat followed as the Hatters at least gave themselves a chance of avoiding the drop.

That chance came in the final home game where three points against Everton would virtually guarantee safety. Despite taking the lead the Town went down 5-1 while all the fellow strugglers won, dumping the Hatters back into the drop zone.

The scene was now set for a final day showdown at Manchester City. City needed only a point to stay up while the Town had to win.

The late goal by Raddy Antic followed by David Pleat's skip across the pitch is written into Luton folklore but it was a close-run thing.

	FIRST DIVISION	PLD	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Liverpool (C)	42	24	10	8	50	82
2	Watford	42	22	5	15	17	71
3	Manchester United	42	19	13	10	18	70
4	Tottenham Hotspur	42	20	9	13	15	69
5	Nottingham Forest	42	20	9	13	12	69
6	Aston Villa	42	21	5	16	12	68
7	Everton	42	18	10	14	18	64
8	West Ham United	42	20	4	18	6	64
9	Ipswich Town	42	15	13	14	14	58
10	Arsenal	42	16	10	16	2	58
11	West Bromwich Albion	42	15	12	15	2	57
12	Southampton	42	15	12	15	−4	57
13	Stoke City	42	16	9	17	−11	57
14	Norwich City	42	14	12	16	−6	54
15	Notts County	42	15	7	20	−16	52
16	Sunderland	42	12	14	16	−13	50
17	Birmingham City	42	12	14	16	−15	50
18	**Luton Town**	**42**	**12**	**13**	**17**	**−19**	**49**
19	Coventry City	42	13	9	20	−11	48
20	Manchester City (R)	42	13	8	21	−23	47
21	Swansea City (R)	42	10	11	21	−18	41
22	Brighton & Hove Albion (R)	42	9	13	20	−30	40

Player focus

Despite now entering the veteran stage of his career, the wonderful **David Moss** weighed in with nine vital goals to save the Town from the drop.



Season standout

Taking to the top-flight like a duck to water, mercurial midfielder **Ricky Hill** remained ever present and earned an England call-up along the way.



S2 Luton v Blackpool.indd 66 29/01/2026 15:59

Hats off to Luton Town

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the TEAMS

LUTON TOWN

MANAGER **JACK WILSHERE**

1	JAMES **SHEA**
2	REUELL **WALTERS**
3	KAL **NAISMITH**
5	MADS **ANDERSEN**
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**
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**
32	EMILIO **LAWRENCE**
33	COHEN **BRAMALL**
38	JOE **JOHNSON**
54	KASEY **PALMER**

BLACKPOOL

HEAD COACH **IAN EVATT**

1	BAILEY **PEACOCK-FARRELL**
2	ANDY **LYONS**
3	JAMES **HUSBAND**
4	OLIVER **CASEY**
5	FRASER **HORSFALL**
6	JORDAN **BROWN**
7	LEE **EVANS**
8	ALBIE **MORGAN**
9	NIALL **ENNIS**
10	GEORGE **HONEYMAN**
11	ASH **FLETCHER**
12	KAMARL **GRANT**
14	TOM **BLOXHAM**
15	HAYDEN **COULSON**
17	JOEL **RANDALL**
18	DALE **TAYLOR**
19	JOSH **BOWLER**
20	MICHAEL **IHIEKWE**
21	MICHAEL **OBAFEMI**
22	CJ **HAMILTON**
23	SCOTT **BANKS**
25	FRANCO **RAVIZZOLI**
26	ZAC **ASHWORTH**
28	RYAN **FINNIGAN**
32	HARVEY **BARDSLEY**

The Officials

REFEREE **MARTIN WOODS**
ASSISTANT REFEREE **JOSEPH LARKIN**
ASSISTANT REFEREE **STUART BUTLER**
FOURTH OFFICIAL **DARREN DRYSDALE**

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