

Half-time

By Hatters for Hatters

# ORANGE

Season 07-08 No10

Summer Clear-out Edition



Luton



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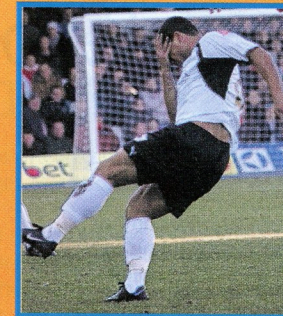
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# hatters matters

... a word from the editor

HAS a season that promised so much ever delivered so little?  
Perhaps that's a little unfair. You can't beat the entertainment at Kenilworth Road. We've had the third instalment in our series of administration crises, a couple of cup classics and a change in management. With Neighbours shifting from the Beeb to Five does anyone else think we should have our own sitcom? Personally I can't wait for the new season to begin.  
I had enough of this one the moment that Chris Coyne was sold. However, with the storm cloud of further possible points deductions still hovering, next season might not be quite the



Some players have been going into their shells in recent months. Here's one example of the lack of on-field confidence. Calvin's played a simple pass but can't bear to look to see if it's found the intended recipient

cakewalk we are all dreaming of. Thanks to Uncle Ken over at Elland Road Towers and some of our erstwhile owners, we may well end up flirting with the Blue Square Premier. Big Mick should at least have his hands untied with the help of 2020 and if his managerial career can come anyone near the magnificence of his playing days then we should be in for fireworks in the

forthcoming months. Mick was one of the cornerstones of our greatest ever squad in the 1980s and he is set to pull his boots on again on May 10, when the Hatters mark the 20th anniversary of their Littlewoods Cup victory at Wembley. Big Mick in his pomp could probably have pulled us out of League Two single-handedly. Let's just hope he hasn't lost his touch. Up the Hatters!



## TEXT your verdict on today's game to 84070

(start your message with LDNEWS followed by a space and then add your view on the action)

alternatively EMAIL  
[orange@bedsnews.com](mailto:orange@bedsnews.com)

The best messages will be featured in the sports pages of the Luton News/Dunstable Gazette... on sale every Wednesday, priced 40p

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## The news at Add some balance

ONE of our dressing room insiders tells me that there's a reason why Steve Robinson's been prancing around the pitch like a bit of a fairy this season.

Our snout has heard that Robbo has been taking time out from training to improve his poise by attending ballet dancing lessons.

Sorry, mate... it's going to take a lot more than that to add a bit of balance to Town's line-up.

The Northern Ireland international is so taken by his new interest that he's been performing sneaky pirouettes during games, as can be seen from this photo.

There were also a few sniggers in Robbo's direction at a recent Marvin Johnson Soccer School training session at the Brache. He's pictured, right, getting an earful from the cheeky blighters who turned up to find out what Marv could teach them.

LORD OF THE DANCE: Robbo has a spring in his step after learning ballet



## Scratching the surface



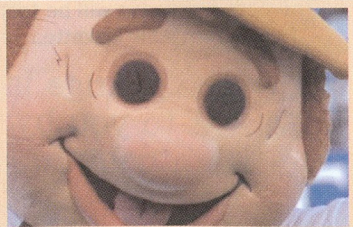
OVER the years, Luton Town has been famous for its production line of young talent. Upson, Telfer, Pembridge, Hartson... the list goes on (well it doesn't, we can't be bothered to add any more!).

With the need to manage costs better, Hatters will be relying more on youngsters coming through the ranks, rather than forking out for big money signings. We've already seen Ryan Charles and George Bevan in action, who look good prospects.

We haven't seen much of another youth teamer, Harry Hogarth. But looking at this photo from the stiffs, it looks like he'll be up to scratch, too!

### Henry feels strain

WITH Happy Harry's head still missing, brother Henry has upped the reward cash to £10,000. Please help solve the mystery. Just look at the wrinkle lines around Henry's eyes which have suddenly appeared because of all the anxiety.



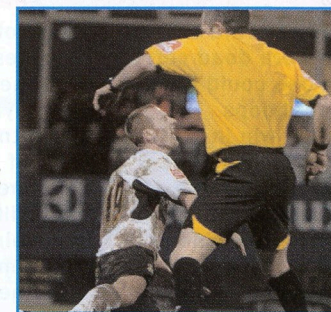
## Ken Rumours, speculation, gossip and half-truths

### Talbot, we love Drew

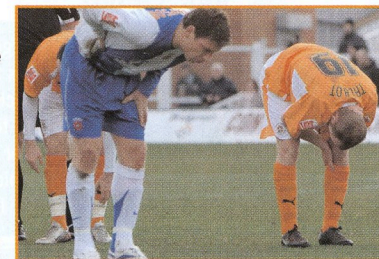
HERE at Orange, we're often debating the merits of our Ginger Maradona, Drew Talbot.

With a strike record which makes Stuart Douglas look like Cristiano Ronaldo, Drew nevertheless runs his socks off for the team and never lets anyone down.

We wish him a speedy recover from his ligament injury, but in the meantime, it looks like we've found out the reason for his naff goal record. It turns out the poor lad has been playing for months with a visual impairment. It all stems from the away game at Hartlepool, where his contact lenses popped out, prompting an emergency stoppage in play.



REFFEING HELL: It's not just Drew's strike ratio that stinks



Calvin's scored the odd header this season and it's mainly due to his self belief in his aerial ability. But his attempt to get on the end of this cross was a stretch too far. We're told by our source that before this match Calvin was listening to R Kelly on his iPod, presumably the track I Believe I Can Fly.

## Up the creek without a pad-dle

A 10-point deduction isn't the only handicap Hatters have had to deal with this season.

Town players have also had to struggle on with some seriously awful shin pads.

The old ones are so worn out (not the players, the pads) that they're splitting in places, but the club can't afford replacements.

The squad has been told to adjust the pads as best they can to make them as comfortable as possible, with a cheap bit of masking tape offered to keep everything held together.



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# from the allotments



... with 'orrible 'ornet Don Monty



THE season is nearly over – not before time for you, and probably for us, too.

I'm sure you've really enjoyed your 20th anniversary celebrations of winning some tin-pot trophy. Seem a long time ago?

Dropping into the Fourth Division (don't pretend it's Division Two, nobody believes you) isn't much fun but at least you can sit back and watch us make a mess of things, too.

We were walking the league. Chris

Kamara said on Sky we were dead certs. No-one could beat us. Whoops.

One win in 12 isn't exactly giving Sir Alex Ferguson a squeaky bum. Two home wins since October. By some miracle we're still fifth by the virtue of everybody else being so appalling.

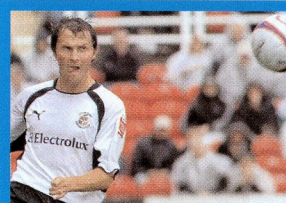
One of our latest debacles was defeat at home to Palace – and anybody who has witnessed the sight of 2,500 south Londoners going mad will realise just how painful an experience that is.

So the play-offs may or may not loom for the golden boys. To say we're

not confident of making it through three more games is the understatement of the year.

If you're lucky we'll make it to Wembley and then make a complete pig's ear of it. But then again....

Chin up, there's always next season. Glory Horns.



WHEN the going gets tough, the fans often vent their frustrations at the team scapegoat. This season poor Richard Jackson has come under attack for his inability to find a white shirt (unless we're playing Swansea or Leeds!). But we've managed to dig out a photo which proves he is capable of making a tasty pass. Just look at him licking his lips...

# Captain's log

star date  
03.05.08

Poor Keano's got a lot to remember as captain. He's new to the job, he's got his hands full trying to organise what's left of our squad, and he's got to lead by example. No wonder he's tattooed little coded reminders on his arms about the job in hand!

## ON THIS ARM:

>> Remember my stepladder so I can compete at centre-half

>> I'm a Luton lad, so kiss the badge every other game

>> I'm Mick's golden boy, so ask him if I can finally play in my favourite centre mid position

>> Keep concentrating, no calamities in months... one must be due soon.

>> Bully the boys into attending tomorrow's end of season awards night – so they see me win everything!

This tattoo actually is... The Lord's Prayer (presumably it was inked on during the past 18 months as the wheels fell off)

## ON THIS ARM:

>> Note to self: Get the lads playing – or threaten them with my uncle Roy

>> Practice running style so I don't look so laboured

>> Remember to put pen to paper for a new contract

>> Find out who really wants to play for this club

This tattoo actually is... the Scorpio star sign (did his horoscopes warn Keith in advance of the current crisis?)

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## What's on . . . ENTERTAINMENT MAY 2008

**Saturday 3rd - AMANDA**  
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**Sunday 4th - DISCO (from 7pm)**  
(From the 60's to Modern Pop)  
**Friday 9th - KARAOKE**  
(Perry's Karaoke - Probably the best in Luton)  
**Saturday 10th - WELLINGTON BOOTLES**  
(Playing together for over 40 years - still going strong)  
**Sunday 11th - DISCO (from 7pm)**  
(From the 60's to Modern Pop)  
**Friday 16th - KARAOKE**  
(Perry's Karaoke - Probably the best in Luton)  
**Saturday 17th - DJ JANET DISCO**  
(from 7pm)  
(From the 60's to Modern Pop)  
**Sunday 18th - DISCO (from 7pm)**  
(From the 60's to Modern Pop)  
**Friday 23rd - KARAOKE**  
(Perry's Karaoke - Probably the best in Luton)

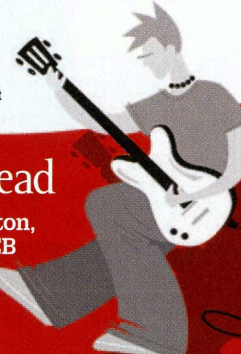
**Saturday 24th - MIKE WILLIAMS**  
(Soul to Swing Singer)  
**Sunday 25th - DISCO**  
(From the 60's to Modern Pop)  
**Wednesday 28th - WELLINGTON BOOTLES**  
Jamming/MIC session with the Bootles - All singers/musicians are welcome to sing/play along  
**Friday 30th - KARAOKE**  
(Perry's Karaoke - Probably the best in Luton)  
**Saturday 31st - CHRIS JONES**  
(Vocalist/Guitarist)

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What to look out for in today's game

Youngsters outshine our senior pros ☐

Subs board can't be read in sunshine ☐

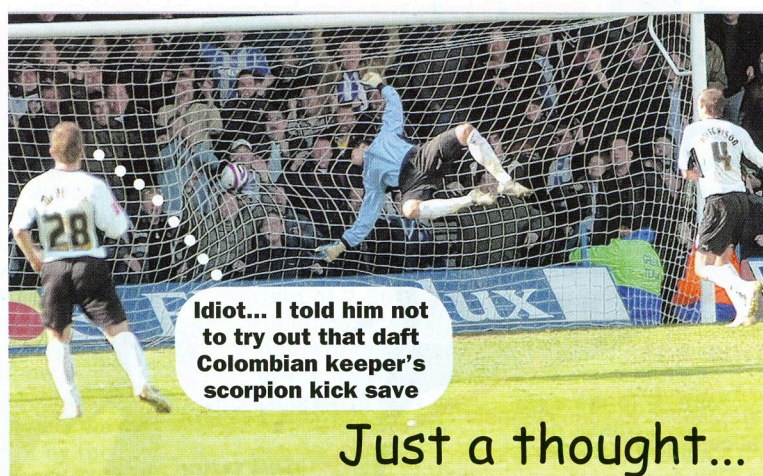
Mascot head stuck together with plasters ☐

Concede - 30 secs after going 1 up ☐

No lap of honour from the players ☐

No 2007/08 video out this summer ☐

Go home and stick on Lit Cup 88 DVD ☐



Just a thought...

**head to head...** The orange 'experts' get their crystal balls out (ahem).

**THE RESULT >>** Today's match can't alter the outcome of this season's challenge. Steve wins the silverware. If you fancy challenging Steve next season, email [orange@bedsnews.com](mailto:orange@bedsnews.com)

Steve Hudd'field (H): 2-1 win | Andy Hudd'field (H): 1-1 draw

**Correct result 1pt, exact score 2pts: Latest score - Steve 30 Andy 24**

# Kenny capers

The latest news from our guest cartoonist Sally-Anne Johnson



Away the lads...  
**Hud'field**

Da gaffer

**Gerry Murphy**

At least the caretaker boss won't lose any hair if Town go on a losing run.

**O.G. King**

**Frank Sinclair**

Reputation as O.G. specialist. Could be our best hope of netting today.

Rock boy

**Robbie Williams**

"Let Me Entertain You," says the naff midfielder, more in hope than expectation.

**Sure bet**

**Luke Beckett**

Get down the bookies, he always scores against us.

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# boys 'r' us



Billy Suggest with the lads' outlook on everything that's kicking off at Hatters

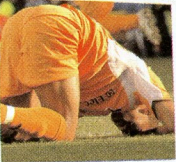
FOR the second successive season we've endured a disastrous campaign – although lately, in Mick's words, we've been playing with half a deck due to the impact of administration.

So do the players who remain give a monkey's about the club? They had better. Despite our relegation, the fans have still paid for their tickets and deserve to get some entertainment served up, even if we don't win.

The stresses and strains have obviously got to some of the players because we've spotted them crying on numerous occasions.

Maybe footballers on big(ish) wages can care. Just look at this selection of photos.

Actually... What a bunch of wussies. Get that tough winning mentality to return and we might eventually bounce back. Would we ever have seen Nico blubbing?



AH the magic sponge, the deep heat spray, the smelling salts... all essential ingredients you'll find in the physio's bag.

With everything they ram inside, it's a bit of a surprise they could ever sprint across the pitch to treat an injured player. But did you spot the Brighton sponge man at the recent home game?

He came dashing across the turf with nothing more than a bumbag tied around his waist. What a girl he looked!

# girls' world



so women and football don't mix? not so, says our Orange girlie Becky Gazeley

AFTER a season of ups and lots of downs, it's time to bid farewell to League One, as we did The Championship last season, and draw on what we have learned. These are just a few tips for the LTFC2020 crowd:

1. You should be a fan, if you're questioning it: Name the 1988 team?
2. Remember businessmen who have no interest in football are just after profit.
3. Managers who have been sacked in mysterious circumstances have done something wrong!
4. If you get a rich investor, buy in new players before getting a new ground.

5. Dean Morgan may be well fit, but he's not to my taste.
  6. The fans don't care about decor or sound systems.
  7. Put hair straighteners in the loos?
  8. The fans are what are important. Neglect your fans, you lose them.
  9. Start selling nice women's tops in the club shop.
  10. Mick Harford is a legend, don't upset him. Well, girlies, it's time to look forward to months of sunbathing, shopping, lunch dates, reading, knitting, baking... Oh, dear!
- When did you say the season started again?

## CELEB WATCH:

The lower we go, the less celebrities seem to appear, but you might see Zoe Lucker – from Footballers' Wives fame. Ooh, some competition, ladies.



## MAN OF THE SEASON:

Keith Keane: It couldn't go to anybody else. If everybody had been as fabulous as him, we would have stayed up. Hot stuff!



## TIP OF THE MONTH:

Tissues and mascara ready to re-apply, it could be Dean Morgan's last game... or just whip out the balloons and silly string for a good old party!



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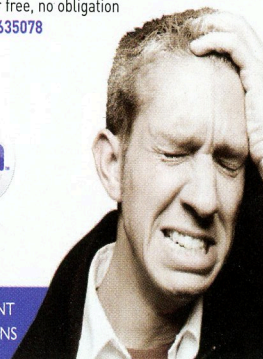
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# Natalie

# What a beauty!



Electrolux

## VITAL STATISTICS

**Full Name:** Natalie Reid

**Age:** 21

**Occupation:** Administration assistant

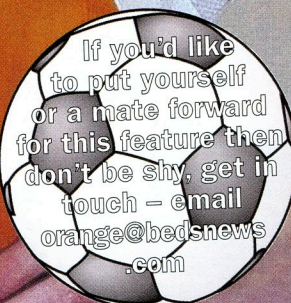
**Attached?** Yes, to boyfriend Ryan  
**Been a supporter since:** From the age of four

**Best looking Hatter:**  
David Bell

**Most valuable player:**  
Ryan Charles

**Player to flog:** We need them all  
**Ideal night out:** Cinema, romantic meal

**Favourite TV show:**  
Friends



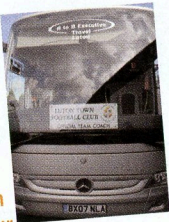


# The Half-time Orange

For the second successive season it's been a disastrous campaign. But we always try to look for

## BEST COACH

No, not Big Mick or Blackers or Carvs, it has to go to the swanky team bus that Kevin loved. With our away form, it didn't do much good though, did it?



## MIRACLE OF THE SEASON

A close-run thing. Mick finally winning a game with his hands tied behind his back came second to the team finally winning an away game - at Port Vale



## SIGNING OF THE YEAR

Rooney in a Luton shirt? We nearly wet ourselves. Sadly it was just a muppet with a mask



## BEST GROOMED PLAYER

On the bench Brko had plenty of time to look his best. His eyebrows raised a few eyebrows as they were kept in shape so brilliantly



## BEST CENTRE HALF

No recipient - as we haven't got any left!

## OWN GOAL OF THE SEASON

Riise's O.G. earned Town a precious replay against Liverpool, but David Pinkney has to win this one for putting us in administration when 2020 were lurking in the wings, which led to points lost, player sales and relegation



## BEST VANISHING ACT

Half the squad and former coaching staff were shortlisted. Winner is Unders. No-one's seen him for years



## OFF HIS HEAD AWARD

Happy Harry wins this one after losing his bounce on the way to a PA at Debenhams. Blackers was the runner-up for playing 4-5-1 in our home matches



# 2007/08 Hatters gongs

positives. Unfortunately we couldn't find any so instead we bring you this set of alternative awards

## MOST USE OF GRECIAN 2000 AWARD

Administrator Brendan must have got a few more grey hairs trying to sort out our complex finances. The tell-tale sign of dye is the bright chestnut hair and the grey sideboards



## PENALTY OF THE SEASON

We've had enough of penalties from the footballing authorities, so this award instead goes to Matty Spring for holding his nerve three times against Bristol Rovers



## MOST UNWANTED PLAYER

The fans didn't warm to Morgs, a move to Leeds fell through and he was loaned out to Southend and Crewe. In the end he asked the crowd to get his coat



## WORST CHAT-UP LINE

'Do you come here often'

'Not likely, after my last visit...'



**HEROES OF THE SEASON:** Has to be LTF2020 for taking on a club in such a mess

## BEST DANCER

Dave Edwards loved a quick cancan before kick off



## WORST DECISION OF THE SEASON + LEAST KNOWLEDGE OF LTF20 (DOUBLE AWARD)

Brendan Guilfoyle (pictured above) wins these gongs. We can't defend (sadly true at the moment) his decision to sell Coyne and then he showed his ignorance by calling the ex-skipper KEVIN Coyne in a subsequent press conference

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# the ones that got away

kicked out by Hatters, but they turned out to be quite good, actually



## RONNY ROSENTHAL:

In the spring of 1990, with the Hatters clinging by their fingernails to their place in the top flight, new manager Jim Ryan was promised funds to replace the recently departed Mick Harford.

Looking abroad, and acting on advice from scouts, Ryan invited over Israeli international Ronny Rosenthal, who had been playing for Standard Liege in the Belgian League. Rosenthal had previously picked up a championship medal with Club Brugge, was given a short trial and responded by scoring three goals in two reserve team

appearances for the Town.

With Rosenthal ready to sign a contract, the new consortium due to take over at Kenilworth Road suddenly pulled out, leaving an embarrassed and skint Jim Ryan to send the bemused striker on his way.

Within days Rosenthal had signed on loan for Liverpool and scored a hat-trick on his full debut and finished the season with seven goals in the final eight matches as the Reds clinched the title.

Rosenthal signed permanently for Liverpool in June 1990 for £1.1 million, which was about four times more than

Luton had agreed with Liege for his transfer. He went on to achieve cult status on Merseyside, partly due to an amazing miss when he hit the crossbar of an open goal from 10 yards out at Villa Park.

Later to turn out for both Tottenham and Watford, Rosenthal now works as a 'football consultant' and lives in England with his Belgian-born wife. One of his sons is on the books of the Watford Academy!



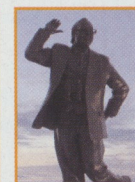
ACCRINGTON Stanley? Who are they? Well after another disastrous season we're about to find out.

Stanley play at the Fraser Eagle Stadium and, of course, when the Town travel there next term it'll be the first time we've ever played there - and hopefully the last.

Get ready for a warm welcome as The Stans recently received a Family Excellence Award for their approachable staff, family-friendly ticketing policies, the half-time entertainment and the general family match-day experience... then again, we also won the same accolade, so don't count your chickens!

Other new grounds to

## your travel guide to... League 2



tick off your list next term as first-timers (not including pre-season encounters) would be Morecambe and Barnet.

Morecambe play at Christie Park, but are aiming to start the 2009/10 season with a new multi-million

pound ground with a whopping 6,000 capacity - whoopee do!

Don't forget to check out Eric Morecambe's statue on the seafront. Our ex-director took his name from his home town, but was born Eric Bartholomew.

## directions

>>Drive to Southend (yes, I know they won't

be in the same division)... and throw yourself off a cliff at the

thought of all the rubbish grounds you'll be visiting next term.

## famous fans

### David Lloyd

Ex-England cricket and Sky pundit supports Stanley. Howzat for an interesting fact?



### Mystic Meg

The loony Lottery psychic was born in Accy as Margaret Anne Lake



### Jim Bowen

Quit as the president of Morecambe after criticism on an internet messageboard



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## who are ya?

use the clues to try to  
identify Hatters players  
past and present



Born in Edinburgh, I  
signed for Hatters  
while the Second  
World War was still  
being fought



I made my Football  
League debut against  
Sheffield Wednesday  
and scored in a 4-1 win  
in 1946



I was a nippy winger  
who was nicknamed  
'the rabbit' by Hatters  
supporters



After 147 games and  
10 goals, I fell out with  
manager Dally Duncan  
and joined QPR



Born in 1964, my  
middle name is Connon



I signed for Luton in  
1988 and especially  
enjoyed showing off  
my skills on the  
plastic pitch



58 appearances  
(including a Wembley  
final) and 18 goals  
later I was on my way  
out for a Hatters  
record transfer fee



I went on to play for  
Blackburn and  
Coventy before a stint  
in America. I'm also a  
very handy golfer



I was born in Harrow  
and only played once  
for Luton



I came on unexpectedly  
as a substitute in the  
second minute of the  
away game at  
Brentford in May 2001



My first touch was to  
save a penalty from  
Lloyd Owusu and we  
ended up drawing 2-2



Joe Kinnear preferred  
to play Carl Emberson  
and Mark Ovendale so  
ended up playing for  
Crawley and London  
Colney

ANSWERS: 1. Bill Waugh; 2. Roy Wegerle; 3. Scott Ward

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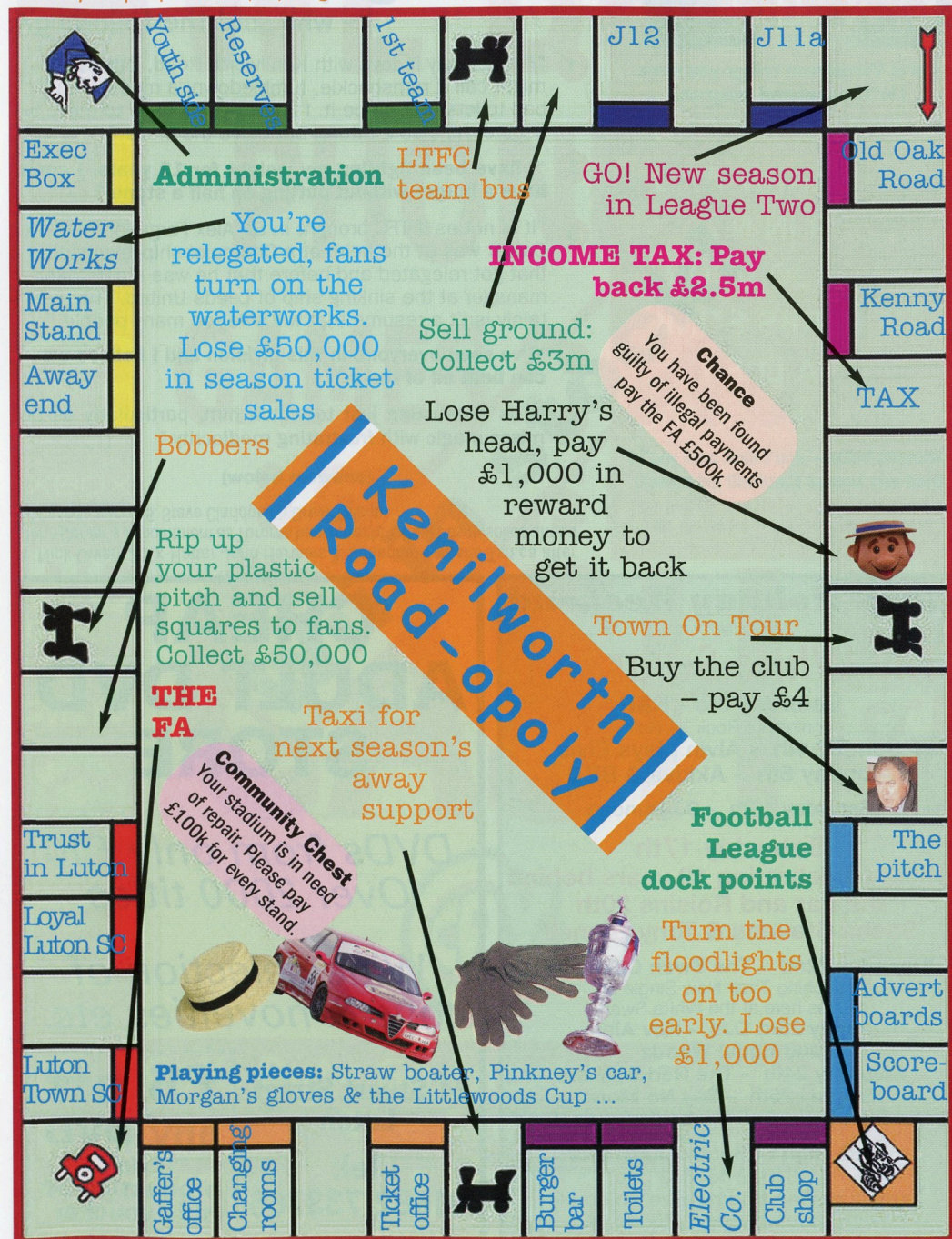
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# Play Kenilworth Road-opoly

Plenty of people have played games with the Hatters, so here's our money-making idea ...





# What a mix-up!

Carol Vorderman brings you some Hatters-related anagrams

A SEA FA JAY DUDE  
DOCKYARD WAG  
JAR IN MY  
SNOB JOHN OR  
HE PERKS STINK  
DIVA LOSS  
DRAMA HER GROG

(answers below - don't look until you've tried very hard or Carol will get cross!)

1. Ed Asafu-Adjaye; 2. Gary Waddock; 3. Jim Ryan; 4. Rob Johnson; 5. Kirk Stephens; 6. Sol Davis; 7. Graham Rodger.

(dedicated to 'Motormouth' Mike's memory)

## talking points

- who said the following?



- 1 "I'm actually in love with Kenilworth Road. Others might call it ramshackle, tumbledown, a mess, with bad toilets, but so be it. I know we will have to move to secure the club's future, but I love the place."
- 2 "I have been fighting my weight for 12 years. I can't have a burger without putting on half a stone."
- 3 "It is not as if TFC brought in Sir Alex Ferguson here. Carver was at the helm of a Championship-level side that got relegated and before that he was a caretaker manager at the sinking ship of Leeds United. That certainly isn't a resume that will awe too many people."
- 4 "I've seen everyone in this division and I believe we can beat all of them."
- 5 "It is exhausting just to watch him, particularly as he mixes magic with frustrating mediocrity."

(answers below)

1. Nick Owen; 2. Ex-Hatter John Hartson; 3. Canadianan website 1sn.ca after John Carver's appointment as Toronto head coach; 4. Paul Peschisolido ahead of Carlisle away; 5. Steve Claridge on Drew Talbot

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The NHS in Luton offers lots of choice, and if you make the right choice at the right time, you'll get the best treatment. You might need to see a doctor (please make sure you're registered with a local GP, even if you feel fine now), chat to a pharmacist or visit Luton Walk-In Centre (call 01582 556400 for opening times). You can also visit NHS Direct's website at [www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk).

If you urgently need medical help and the GP's surgery is closed, you can call Luton and south Beds Urgent Care Service on 0845 6340 166. If you're not sure what to do, or whether you need help urgently or not, you can call NHS Direct at any time on 0845 4647, and get advice from a nurse or health information specialist.

So you see, when it comes to your health you have lots of options – it's your NHS and we're here to help you.

**Luton teaching Primary Care Trust is the NHS organisation that plans and pays for NHS healthcare for the people of Luton. If you have any questions or comments about NHS healthcare, please visit our website at [www.lutonpct.nhs.uk](http://www.lutonpct.nhs.uk), send us an e-mail at [enquirieslpct@luton-pct.nhs.uk](mailto:enquirieslpct@luton-pct.nhs.uk) or give us a call on 01582 528840.**