

Half-time

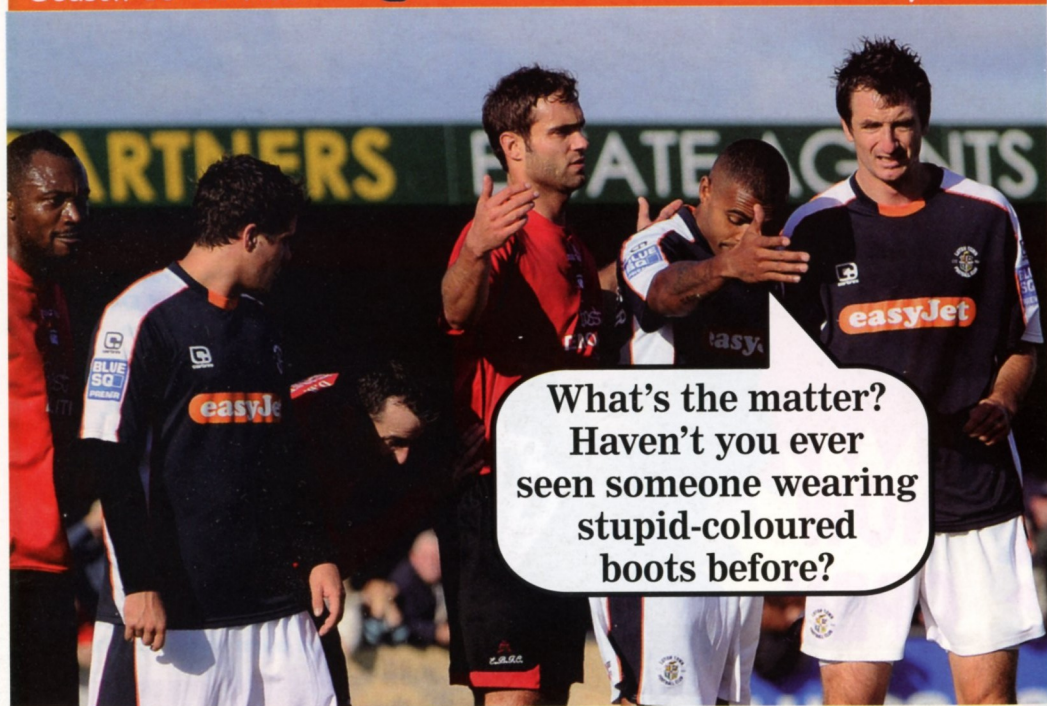
By Hatters for Hatters

ORANGE



Season 10-11 No3

Bath City Edition



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hatters matters

... a word from the editor

TODAY there is more than one reason to feel in the pink about our beloved Hatters.

The new generation at Kenilworth Road have really started to find their feet in the last few weeks and begun to show the promise they undoubtedly possess.

Town made not be setting the pace and leading the pack, but we're certainly there out thereabouts and more than capable of making our move in the coming weeks and months. And while victory against Bath City would mean a welcome three points it pales in comparison with the wider implications of today.

This afternoon



PAST AND PRESENT: Current Hatters star Andy Drury in Luton Town's commemorative pink and blue strip that will be worn today

the Hatters celebrate their 125th birthday. Nobody is left alive who will remember that first game against Great Marlow in the FA Cup back on October 31, 1885.

Nobody knows exactly what the

pink and blue kit they wore looked like. But today the Hatters will once again wear those colours and while we may still be at one of our lowest lows, perhaps we can start to see the highs of tomorrow.



Life at Luton Town is never dull. So why not send us your views on the Hatters by emailing

orange@bedsnews.com

The best messages will be featured in this fanzine or the letters pages of the Luton News/Dunstable Gazette

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The news at

It's all a bit hit and miss

IF you put a player on the spot, some can take the pressure and some can't.

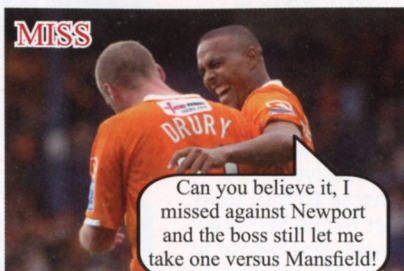
And this season we've had more than a few fail-ings from 12 yards.

Firstly there was Mat-thew Barnes-Homer's tame effort against Newport County then there was the fiasco against Mansfield which saw Claude Gnakpa and Danny Crow both miss before Barnsey blasted a third spot-kick into row Z to a chorus of boos.

Thankfully we've man-aged to bang home a couple since then, with Andy Dru-ry's rocket against Crawley and then Crow's placed effort at Eastbourne.

Let's just pray we don't pay the ultimate penalty come the end of the season if missed spot-kicks result in too many dropped points.

WE quite liked Adam Murray, so it was rather upsetting to see him depart to Mansfield. Ironically his last Hatters ap-pearance was as a sub against the Stags, so perhaps it was a case of putting him in the shop window. Adam lives near Mans-field and he was so keen on the switch that he said he'd swim all the way to Nottinghamshire if it meant the deal was secured. No-one was expecting him to dive off so soon though (as shown in the photograph from the Stags encounter).



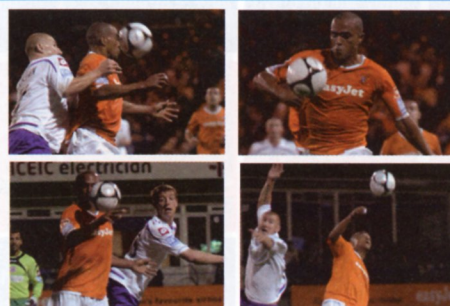
Move went swimmingly



Ken

Rumours, speculation,
gossip and half-truths

Everyone back for corners, except Taiwo



FANS love to put themselves in the role of the gaffer, although you've got to be brave to dare to question the tactics/team selection these days.

One aspect which has caused the odd rumble of discontent in the terraces is Town's tendency to bring everyone back for a cor-ner, often meaning a clearance is pumped straight back in our box (although to be fair when we

left a man up against Grimsby we conceded twice after corners).

Here at Orange we say leave at least one man up front and make that man Taiwo Atieno, who, as you can see from these photos, has a horrible habit of trying to handle the ball.

What's the betting when he finally bags his first Town goal it'll be a Maradona-style hand of god effort!

There's no
use crying
over lost
points Dan



WE know things don't always go to plan, if they did we'd be 10 points clear at the top of the league already. But it's good to see some of the squad clearly getting emotional after we 'annihilated' Crawley (well according to Shane Blackett) but left the field with nothing. The visitors' winner came following a defensive error which clearly was deeply upsetting for one of the back four. Get over it you big baby Dan!

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7 pts  mark wood	Town 3 Bath 0 The Romans are put to the sword by the Hatters who show them what cultured football is all about.	Wrexham 1 Town 1 Far from the happiest of hunting grounds so this surely will go down as a good result.	Alty 0 Town 2 Another tough place to go but it turns out to be quite a straight forward outing.	Town 5 Histon 0 Playing with some abandon the Town let rip against sorry Histon who simply have no answer.
5 pts  steve sims	Town 4 Bath 0 City sunk as Town sail into an early lead and can then afford to take their foot off the gas.	Wrexham 2 Town 1 Early goal gives Town hope, but two second-half efforts means it's the usual defeat in Wales.	Alty 0 Town 3 This one should be straightforward, we might not even pull everyone back for the corners!	Town 4 Histon 0 I'm tempted to go 8-0, but let's not heap too much pressure on. I'll settle for half that!
4 pts  mike simmonds	Town 4 Bath 0 Bath are swiftly washed away down the plughole by a rampant Hatters performance.	Wrexham 1 Town 1 Hatters concede in the first half but fight back strongly to continue their unbeaten run.	Alty 1 Town 2 Altrincham away is the place where result outweighs performance and it happens again.	Town 3 Histon 0 Another home game, another fistful of goals for Richard Money's sharpshooting men.
4 pts  steve nolan	Town 5 Bath 1 Another goal glut against strugglers Bath as Town celebrate 125 years in some style.	Wrexham 1 Town 1 Town can only draw with their Welsh rivals after conceding late on at the Racecourse Ground.	Alty 0 Town 5 Optimistic of a rout for this one with Altrincham struggling at the bottom of the table.	Town 1 Histon 0 No repeat of last season's goal fest in this one as Hatters scrape a narrow win.

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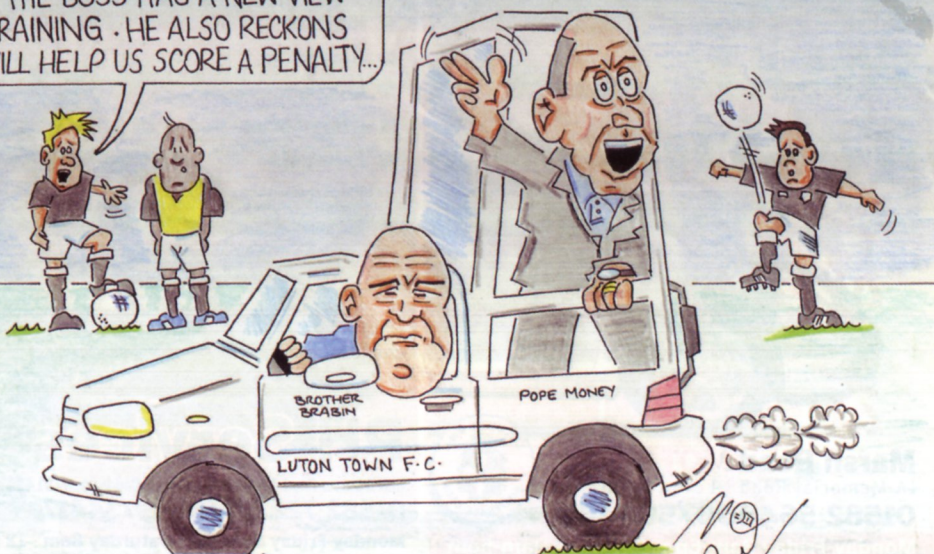
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Tom's take



Tom Skinner
gives his thoughts
on the latest
Hatters news

TODAY we are celebrating the 125th anniversary of Luton's first ever match and, hopefully, the pink and navy kit won't be the only thing the club are parading.

Although there's been no official announcement, I'm hoping to see a procession of past players prior to the game - Kevin Nicholls should be invited back so that we can show our appreciation for his loyal service.

He should combine the visit by showing the team how to take a penalty, following the farce against Mansfield last month.

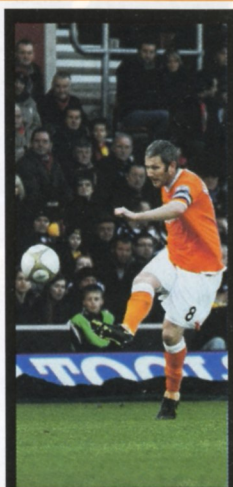
I'm a big MBH fan

and I can't believe the amount of people who don't rate him.

He's strong, athletic, holds the ball up well and has nine goals to his name already - he's on target for at least 24 this season, the same as Saint Tom Craddock registered in the last campaign.

However, Jonny Wilkinson would have been proud of MBH's penalty against the Stags. It's a shame he didn't receive three points for the effort - it would have put us that little bit nearer to the league leaders.

Anyway, the game also marks one year in the job for Richard Money. What might he



PENALTY KING: Kevin Nicholls

say to mark the occasion?

How about: "Now

look, anyone who thinks my first year in charge hasn't been a resounding success, needs to go and see a doctor, 'cos you must have lactate on the brain."

I jest. While I share fans concerns when the excellent Jake Howells is left out of the team and whilst I feel we need to become a better defensive unit, I'm not in the Money boo-boy camp.

Money's made us a more offensive team this year with better players. Yes, he can be touchy and defensive, but wouldn't you be if fans jumped down your neck the moment things go wrong?

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Leanne

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Lovegrove

Age: 23

Occupation: Human
resources

Attached? No

Been a supporter since: 2001

Best looking Hatter:

Claude Gnaka

Most valuable player:

Claude Gnaka

Player to flog: Adam Newton

Ideal night out: Girls night
out

Favourite TV shows: An
Idiot Abroad, One Tree Hill,
X Factor

Want to strike a pose or know someone who's up for it? Send an email to orange@bedsnews.com





If Half-time Orange's Steve Nolan was in charge of the team, this is what he'd do.



Steve's line-up for today



SUBS: K Pilkington, Poku, Walker, Asafu-Adjaye, Blackett

MONEY, Money, Money. Much has been said about Dickie Dosh, his team selection and the odd media rant of late.

But though I'm not personally his biggest fan, Mr Money seems to have been getting things right, on the pitch at least, since that awful late defeat in the home clash with Crawley.

Fourteen goals in three outings (including the 'big derby clash' with St Albans) is not a bad return and I have my fingers crossed that we might hand out a cricket score-esque spanking and reach double figures at some point this season (I can dream...).

It's been great to see Danny Crow find his shooting boots after finally being given a decent chance in the starting XI, while the signing of Amari Morgan-Smith is beginning to

look like a masterstroke after his classy St Albans hat-trick.

Barnes-Homer has also been banging in the goals again of late so would retain his place with Town hopefully continuing to fire on all cylinders.

Andy Drury looks a cut above and should be the first name on the teamsheet if fit. Alongside Keane, the increasingly impressive Howells in the centre of midfield and AMS on the left.

Freddie Murray has looked good on the left of defence, with Gleeson on the right, Pilkington and Kroca in the middle and Tyler between the sticks.

Still disappointed to see Gallen farmed out to Barnet, think he could've played some role even from the bench after looking a class act last year, but long may the goalscoring glut continue anyway!

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From the Kenny End



With Petey Staniforth

I WRITE this in a good mood, because I've just found out that my girlfriend Hannah is pregnant, and that I'm to be a father for the third time (and I want to thank everyone around LTFC, both staff and fans, who have sent their best wishes to us both).

Every day, I seem to get more Luton fans adding me on social networking websites such as Facebook and it's really great to be appreciated.

Life's odd like that, and it's often about as consistent as our form in the league.

Every time you get used to it, it changes very quickly. Sometimes we're looking

good, but still manage to lose a game we shouldn't.

Sometimes we're scoring goals for fun, and living up to the promise and expectations that many of us (myself included) have.

I must admit, I still remain personally unconvinced with Richard Money being the right man for the job, as for my view for every one thing he does right there's five things that you could take serious issue with.

Until the team's form settles down and we find a winning run, and until in my personal opinion he perhaps learns to han-



dle media situations better, my views won't change.

Positively speaking though it's definitely good to see Danny Crow hitting form at the moment and here's hoping that Amari Morgan-Smith's star keeps shining for the rest of the season.

Also, fingers crossed, players like Godfrey Poku, and

JJ O'Donnell (who I recently had the pleasure of speaking to on the phone), will get introduced into the side more as well and make the sort of impact that Dan Walker, pictured, certainly did against Forest Green Rovers with the goal he scored.

On a self-promoting note, I have one of my PTW Wrestling shows on Saturday, November 13, at Houghton Regis Leisure Centre.

The support we get on the shows from Luton fans is wonderful, and it's always very much appreciated on a personal level.

*Take it easy,
Petey*

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dear dot



Half-time Orange's agony aunt Dorothy Doolittle tackles some of the problems brewing under the surface at Kenilworth Road



PILKS SAYS:
Dear Dot. I am getting a severe case of splinters in my behind at the moment.

Do you have any possible cures or remedies?



DOT SAYS:
A swift trip to the register office is on the cards.

Take the skipper's birth certificate with you, swap his first name for yours, and voila, you will be one of the first names on the teamsheet from here on in.



POKS SAYS:
I've been feeling rather hot under the collar recently, any idea why that may be?

DOT SAYS:
That's because you are, in fact, on fire Godfrey.

My advice would be to carry an extinguisher with you at all times, avoid anything gas-related, have 999 on speed-dial in your mobile, and barring that, make sure a bucket of water is always on standby in the dug out. Hopefully the symptoms will eventually go away, there's a good lad.



CLAUDE SAYS: I'm being bullied by my team-mates. Whenever there is a foul in the opposition area, they crowd around me, call me names and don't let me have the ball.



TYLES SAYS:
After Forest Green, I've been having a recurring nightmare about backpasses.



DOT SAYS:
You wear gloves for a reason Mark. Repeat after me, I am not a tricky winger and next time I receive the ball, I will just boot the damn thing!

DOT SAYS: Listen closely to the gaffer Claude. When he says Danny is on penalties, he means Danny is on penalties!!



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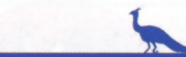
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Blast from the past

Roger Wash looks back to see how the Town fared on this day in years gone by

October 30, 2004
Luton Town 4
Bradford City 0

THE Town started the 2004-05 season like a runaway train winning 10 and drawing two of their first 12 games and quite naturally sat proudly top of the League One table.

Game 13 saw the train slightly derailed when Huddersfield deservedly won 2-1 at Kenilworth Road against a lacklustre Town but the alarm bells started ringing when the Hatters went down 2-0 to a Paul Merson-inspired Walsall.

If the alarm bells were ringing following the Saddlers defeat

they were positively jangling when the Town lost 3-0 on their first-ever visit to the KC Stadium, Hull.

In mitigation one of the Hull goals was a fluke – a cross that deceived keeper Dino Seremet and flew into the top corner. Another followed a comedy defensive error while skipper Kevin Nicholls was controversially dismissed.

After three defeats in a week there was much hand wringing amongst the Luton supporters.

Hatters manager Mike Newell was in bullish mood though stating that the team had not become a bad



one overnight and that they would get back to winning ways with the visit of second-placed Bradford City, above.

The Kenilworth Road crowd was slightly down for this top of the table clash but the 7,975 present welcomed back Ahmet Brkovic from suspension and greeted Charlton loan keeper Simon Royce.

Royce became a spectator as the Town went on the attack.

Brkovic scored with a spectacular overhead kick in the 14th minute and there was only going to be one winner.

The second goal, on 32 minutes, came when Steve Howard netted after some lovely Hatters passing.

The game was over as a contest four minutes later when Paul Underwood drilled home number three.

Town squandered several good opportunities after the break but settled for one more goal – stroked home by Brkovic. All was right in the world again!

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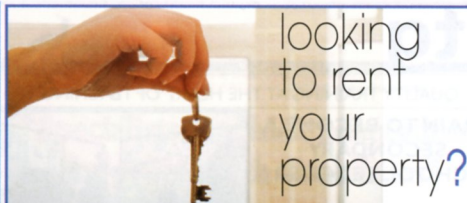
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HAVE a good look
around. I might be
in the ground today.

Yep, the Glory
Horn is swallow-
ing his pride and is
in the Kenilworth
Road stadium. Well,
probably, if I haven't
changed my mind
and found some
paint to watch dry
instead.

And don't worry,
I'm not in the home
end, I've not quite
made that big a con-
version yet.

I could instead be
among the throngs
(well, maybe a
hundred or so) who
have made it up the
M4 from the mighty
Bath City.



I won't claim
lifelong allegiance
to Bath, the most
famous black and
white team the
world has ever seen.

Well, famous if
you don't count
Newcastle.

Or Juventus. And

probably frankly
Notts County.

But I have,
through family con-
nections, seen them
take on the mighty
St Albans and come
away from Clarence
Park with a victory.

So be worried, I do

have a 100 per cent
away record with
them.

So that makes me
a sort of fan. And
it's a friendly club
that I hope stay up
this season.

And today I'll get
to view a match at
the mighty Ken-
nel without having
to watch through
police legs, as was
the case on previous
occasions accompa-
nying the mighty
Horns.

I'll get to sample
the Oak Road end in
all its glory.

Or is that gory... is
there running water
in the bogs yet?

Glory Horns

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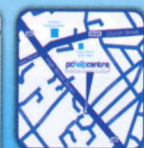
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