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hatters matters

... a word from the editor

FIRST there was
Stevenage. Then
there was Crawley.
Now there's...

And that's the
point, now there's
no name to fill that
space.

There is no team
that should, in my
opinion, run away
with the league this
season.

Things would be
even closer if we
hadn't put in such
a disappointing and
dull display against
leaders Wrexham.

Today we wel-
come the team that
again in my opinion
are our biggest
rivals for the title,
but there is no team
we should ever be
afraid of.

We are good
enough and a big
enough club to be
bullish.



MUST WIN GAMES: Action from Wrexham

Fleetwood
undoubtedly have
money and have
spent big to attract
the like of Richard
Brodie and Jamie
Vardy.

But they are not
the machine-like
entities that both
Stevenage and
Crawley were.

We must become
more consistent
against the league's
lesser lights, but in
these crucial games
we must find the
edge, the flair and
guile to triumph
if we are to win
promotion.

And our support
could be the key.



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With special thanks to Gareth Owen

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I SEE that El Hadji-Diouf has signed for Doncaster. Some strange situation going on there by which big name players currently out of contract and/or without a club, will put themselves in the public domain while playing on a short-term basis for Dean Saunders.

I wonder what Donny fans will feel about that? Will they be pleased to see big names like him in their club colours, or rather object to being used in this way?

It got me wondering about what it has been like to see unexpected players popping up in Hatters' colours from time to time.

The closest equivalent for us to the Diouf arrival (betting without the enigmatic Lars Elstrup, of course) would, in my opinion, be when we signed Kerry Dixon.

It never felt right to see him in a Town shirt and for sure I have always felt that when he played for us in the semi-final against Chelsea, not only their fans but also the player himself, felt he really should have been playing for them!

I don't think anyone can think other than that Janos Kovacs (whether we are supposed to call him Ko-varch, or Ko-vax!) has been fully committed in his time with us on loan from Hereford – and I'm sure Southport fans in turn have been delighted by what Godfrey Poku and Dan Walker have done for them!

The loanees I most enjoyed seeing at Kenilworth Road were the remarkable Rory Allen, a good few seasons ago now, who almost single-handedly turned the Town's season around through exuberance and sheer force of will – which he later exercised by walking away from his career if I remember correctly.

Then there was Gary McSheffrey. What an impact that human dynamo created in his time with the club. It seems to me he never really fulfilled the exciting potential he was exhibiting when he was with us when he went on to ply his trade with other clubs on a full-time basis.



SIGNING: Kerry Dixon

The player with the single greatest impact on a Luton side, though, was not a loanee – although his arrival was certainly unexpected.

I had no idea who he was and what he was doing on the Kenilworth Road pitch when we kicked off against Torquay.

Within seconds he had instantly controlled a mishit pass, as though it were the easiest skill in the world, and as he then rolled out the most spectacular debut any Town player can ever have enjoyed I stared open-mouthed at the spectacle of a man with the silkiest of skills imaginable, who quite clearly could have graced a rather more elevated stage than the one we could ever offer him. He remains the greatest player I have witnessed in our shirt. Yes, I saw Mick H, Ricky H, John H, Scott O, etc, etc – but none of them had the natural flair of JLV.

And it may be over-egging the pudding and tempting fate, but the closest equivalent to JLV's impact in recent seasons has been the excitement and anticipation which follows JPK on to the pitch – I only hope he ends up making half the impact of JLV. If he does, then we're going up... if not, well maybe his lookalike, Lionel Messi, fancies a short-term break from his current employers by taking a sabbatical in Bedfordshire...

Follow my twitter feed, which features plenty of LTFC content – @sharpeangle.

Saturday's odds: Luton win 5/4, Fleetwood win 2/1, draw 11/5.

Hatters Q&A

HTO bullies a Luton Town player into answering questions from Hatters fans. Why not follow @LutonNews_LTFC on Twitter for the chance to put your own question to next month's victim

> Q. Who takes the longest to get ready before coming on the pitch?

> *Amari likes to be the last person coming out of the tunnel so I would say him.*

> Q. Who's the best player you have ever played with?

> *Aiden McGeady or Kevin Foley, not many people realise how good Kevin Foley is.*

> Q. What is the capital city of Bolivia?

> *I haven't got a clue what the capital of Bolivia is!*

> Q. What's the best half time team talk given by a Town manager?

> *The best/funniest team talk was given by Mike Newell when he came in kicking and throwing the hot tea pots around, the lads were ducking!*

> Q. If you hadn't been a footballer what would you be?

> *I think I would definitely have*



HATTER: Keith Keane

been a labourer of some kind as I didn't really like the school stuff too much.

> Q. Which of your goals is your favourite?

> *My favourite goal is the*

Oxford one at home one, but my best is the West Brom away goal

> Q. Who do you support other than Luton?

> *I support Liverpool as well as Luton.*

> Q. What's been your highlight and lowlight in football?

> *Highlights would be winning League One, the JPT and playing at Anfield.*

Lowlights are regretfully getting relegated three times, think I've had enough for a career already.

> Q. Do you ever regret not leaving to play at a higher level?

> *I have never regretted not leaving Luton as there has never been a team I thought of as worth leaving for to play for.*

> Q. What are your views on the UK inflation rate?

> *I haven't got any ideas or views on inflation if I'm totally honest!*

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our survey says...
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8 pts mark wood	Town 2 Fleetwood 0 Money, yes, champions, no. The Cod Army will push us hard but you can't buy support.	Cambr'dg 0 Town 2 Shocked by the U's at home this game is a very different story as the Hatters dominate.	Newport 1 Town 2 Testing place to go and not a good stadium to be a spectator in, but the result's right.	Town 4 Telford 1 Having had a few tricky matches this one turns out to be something of a rout for the Hatters.
10 pts steve sims	Town 3 Fleetwood 2 Expect fireworks and a real cracker of a match that could go either way, but Town edge it.	Cambr'dg 1 Town 2 The onus is on the home team to attack, and Town take advantage on the break.	Newport 1 Town 3 Away to a side near the foot of the table... there can only be one outcome - I hope!	Town 5 Telford 1 5-1 is quite a popular scoreline at the Kenny this year so here we go again as the goals flow.
8 pts mike simmonds	Town 2 Fleetwood 2 Two of the division's title contenders come head-to-head but the spoils are shared.	Cambr'dg 2 Town 1 The U's pinched all three points at Kenilworth Road recently, and they do so again.	Newport 1 Town 2 Luton back on track with a professional performance against a struggling County side.	Town 3 Telford 0 Telford are an ordinary side at best, so Hatters will have no problem picking up three points.
4 pts steve nolan	Town 2 Fleetwood 1 Fleetwood are downed by Fleetwood (Stuart, that is) as we claim a crucial victory.	Cambr'dg 1 Town 1 It was tough at home and I can't see it being much easier away. A hard-fought point.	Newport 0 Town 2 Routine win, and this time we won't concede late on to set up a traditional panic at the death.	Town 4 Telford 0 Can't see much trouble coming our way. I'll go for four, but if we click it could be eight!

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Tom's take



Tom Skinner gives his thoughts on the latest Hatters news

LUTON'S erratic results make penning this column very difficult.

I generally make sure I don't write in the immediate aftermath of a game, when the excitement/frustration is coursing through my veins. I think I made this mistake after the Lincoln game though, where I confidently talked up Luton's chances of success, only for my optimism to drain away when our bubble burst at Bath.

It shows how post-match interviews can't be easy, which is perhaps why managers trot out clichés like 'leagues aren't won

and lost in October', as they don't want to say something they'll regret. (Incidentally, when do leagues start being won and lost?)

I suppose the banal questions that the media sometimes ask are hardly likely to elicit very original responses.

So, looking at the big picture, where do we stand?

Remarkably, after 18 games, we have exactly the same amount of points and goal difference as we did at this stage last season. While I don't think there's going to be a juggernaut like Crawley to compete with this year, incon-



PLENTY TO PONDER: Will Brabs get Hatters back into the League?

sistency, which was our Achilles heel last year, is still holding us back. Inconsistency which ultimately cost Richard Money his job.

Brabs has acknowledged we need to be braver, which is absolutely right. The quality of some of

the goals we scored against Barrow and Gateshead shows what talent we've got in the squad, and when we're struggling to break teams down, it's vital that we have the likes of Watkins and Kissock on the pitch to find that killer pass.

The debate about Luton fans not giving the players enough encouragement rumbles on. There's no excuse for booing the team or individuals, but the apparent elusiveness of top spot is deeply frustrating.

Keep the faith and get behind the lads, because when we finally get promoted, it will be all the sweeter.

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Steve's line-up for today



SUBS: Kissock, Wright, Osano, Crow, K Pilkington

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



It seems a long time since the last home BSBP game (it's only been a couple of weeks), but I'm still reeling a little bit from that Wrexham defeat.

If I'm honest I haven't brought myself to watch Town since, what a spineless whimper of a performance that was against the league leaders.

It's a bit worrying that we've been awful against the two best teams we've faced to date so far (York being the other side).

But unlike previous years it's lucky that no-one's running away with it and a good win today against high-flying Fleetwood with results going our way and we're right back in the mix again.

There seems a relative embarrassment of riches at the back compared to earlier in the season with the likes

of Pilkington and Blackett available for selection.

I'm not a massive fan of Osano, so think I'd sit Keane at right back with Kovacs and Pilks in the middle with Howells on the left.

Midfield wise, I've liked Hand since he arrived on loan, but the gaffer has once or twice played a defensive central midfield paring, a bit unnecessary given some of the opposition those tactics have been deployed against.

So I'd rather see Watkins play (with Kissock on the bench ready to come on with a bit longer left of the 90 than the last four or five minutes) and Willmott and O'Connor as attacking wingers.

Fleetwood and AMS would be my first choice strikers if fit. Otherwise I'd throw in Tommy Wright.

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From the Kenny End



With Petey Staniforth

THE timing of this column and issue coinciding with the visit of Fleetwood, actually got me thinking on a broader scale on a certain subject.

In recent times, I don't think any opposing player has had the intense heat from the fans that Richard Brodie has.

Most people know me as the guy who took full advantage of his position of running a professional wrestling company and challenged Mr Brodie to a wrestling match – with the profits going to charity.



I will say that it was certainly not a publicity stunt, and I was definitely looking for some kind of response, but as I suspected would be the case, no reply ever came.

But this got to me to thinking, on a much wider level, who is your least favourite opposition player of all time?

Interestingly, it didn't take much

thought for me as, despite a little bit of competition, the one player who always managed to really annoy me (and I believe, many others), was a particular ex-Watford player, Andy Hessenthaler.

I'm an easy person to find, via social media networking, so I openly encourage people to find me on Facebook, and drop me a message; so that I can write a follow-up column based on your replies.

On a cheerier note, it's great at time of writing to see the injury list clearing up at last, and especially

George Pilkington back in the heart of the defence where he belongs.

When the team is on form, I feel there isn't a team in the division that can compete with us.

And with Amari Morgan-Smith doing exactly what I said at the start of the season he'd do if given chance, which is scoring a lot of goals, I have this funny little feeling that by Christmas/New Year, our Hatters will be top of the table where we belong!

*Take it easy,
Petey*

A Diverse view



Steve Moore at Diverse FM has his say on all things Hatters

NOBODY said it would be easy.

We are Luton Town for goodness sake, easy is not in our vocabulary.

No surprise really, considering that none of the letters in 'easy' are actually in our name.

This is something on a whole new level though.

When we destroyed Gateshead at the Kenny, it seemed that maybe we had clicked into gear just in time for the most important run of the season so far.

Come Tuesday night, with belief

finally flowing, we decided to come up with a repeat of what some would call our lowest moment in this division.

Dull, drab but ultimately it seemed like we would scrap our way to a 0-0 that at the end of the day would not be a debilitating result against the league leaders.

Then centre-half slips, striker scores, 1-0. The York away play-off game all over again.

As much as we did not make Mayebi make a save (maybe we did, but I do not remember one),



Tommy Wright netting versus Hendon

Tyler did not make one either.

Fans then looked on wondering about the need to bring in a 6ft striker just for the sake of it.

Surely we can play our football on the deck, can we not?

Then that same 6ft striker, Tommy

Wright, comes up with an absolutely outstanding header by throwing his body in front of Darran Kempson to meet the dink-ball from Stuart Fleetwood, winning the game at Grimsby in the process.

Yes, so Grimsby are awful, but do you remember us ever winning at Grimsby?

Well, Simon 'Statto' Pitts said we had when Rory Allen scored the winner but I do not remember it!

So, Fleetwood today...

Goodness knows what is coming next!

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Landlords continue to inform us that rent arrears is their greatest worry, followed closely by the potential costs of the eviction process.

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Luton Fireworks
Saturday 5 November 2011
Popes Meadow, Old Bedford Road

FREE ADMISSION
6.30pm • Rides and refreshments
7.30pm • Firework displays starts
www.lutonculture.com

Parking only at Town Centre • No parking at the site except for disabled parking - call 01582 878 100 for details • Road Closure - Old Bedford Road - 5-9pm • Please do not bring any fireworks, including sparklers • No animals to be brought to this event • This event is subject to weather conditions • Noise and nuisance please call 07796 586 585 • Donations are welcome to support the work of Luton Culture •

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From beyond these shores

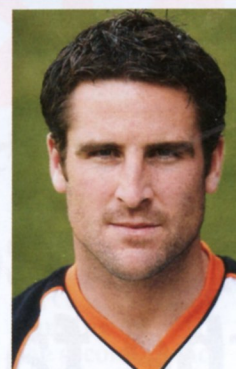
Roger Wash goes globetrotting to feature players born across the world who found their way to Hatters

Born in Australia: Chris Coyne

BRISBANE-born Chris Coyne came to these shores in 1996 following a £150,000 transfer from Perth SC to West Ham.

Frustratingly, the tough tackling centre-half could only manage one substitute first team appearance for the Hammers although he was part of the Hammers youth team that reached the FA Youth Cup final in 1996.

After loan spells at Brentford and Southend he joined Dundee



on a free transfer in 2000.

Seeking a commanding centre-half to help secure the Luton Town back line as they attempted to win promotion from

Division Three in 2001, manager Joe Kinnear paid £50,000 to bring Coyne to Kenilworth Road and rarely was that sum of money better spent.

Forming part of the spine of the side that included Kevin Nicholls and Steve Howard, Coyne helped the Hatters to promotion in his first season and again in 2004-05 when the championship of League One was won in glorious style.

Coyne was named in the PFA League One Team of the Season as a further reward for

his efforts.

With the Town entering into administration in 2007, Coyne was seen as a saleable asset and the reluctant centre-half was sold to Colchester for £350,000 which was a record fee for the Essex club.

After 18 months at Colchester, Coyne returned to Australia to sign a three-year deal with Perth Glory.

In doing so Coyne hoped to be in full view of the international side selectors, to add to his seven full caps and earn a place in the squad for the World Cup in 2010.

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Photo of showhome.



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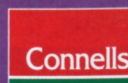
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Santa Run

on your marks, get set, ho ho ho!

A 5km sponsored fun run for all the family!

Wardown Park, Luton
Sunday 11th Dec 2011. 11:00am

Kick start the countdown to Christmas by dressing up as Santa and joining hundreds of others for a fun-run in aid of your local hospices.

The course is suitable for all abilities, whether you want to run, walk or push a buggy along the route! Entry is just £15 and for that you'll be given your very own Santa suit to keep. Children under 15 are £5 and will be given festive head boppers.

Sign up for the Santa Run today and help us care for more local families this Christmas...

it's all in a good Claus!

For more information visit
www.keech.org.uk/santarun
or call 01582 707940



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Hospice Care
for adults and children

Registered charity number 1035089



from the allotments

...with 'orrible 'ornet Don Monty



GET gloating guys.

At last, a glimmer of hope on your horizon. A shard of light. A beacon of a brighter future.

No, don't be daft, I'm not suggesting you're actually going up. Your ability to mess that one up remains firmly in place. Let's be honest, you didn't beat Bath and that result is now looking worse by the week (sorry Bath).

No, the reason for some possible joy for you boys in orange is that you can finally see us

hurtling downhill and downhill fast.

First came the debacle, a home defeat against the hated Palace that will live long in the memory for being a truly awful showing.

I got a long service medal for hanging on until the second Palace goal flew in and they went 2-0 up. It wasn't like a fire drill, more like a major peacetime evacuation.

Then came the expected midweek loss to moneybags

Leicester City, the final victory of Sven's short reign. Expected, but depressingly so.

Then it was the heartbreak. Well, our heartbreak. 2-1 up at Fortress Hull only to lose 3-2 in the last minute. Gutter. Gutter.

I couldn't make the journey to Humberside (and it wasn't just because a day on the Humber is one of Britain's lesser spotted days out), so I saw the final score unfold on Sky Sports in a clubhouse in

Kingston. And they shared the fact we were now in the bottom three for the first time.

Yes, I went to the big non-league game of the week-end. AFC Wimbledon v Crawley Town. Ah, hang on, my mistake, a high flying league game now.

Sorry, I didn't mean to rub it in but I haven't got many things to gloat about right now. A long battle looms. Enjoy.

Yellow Army!

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TREASURE HUNTERS ROADSHOW IS COMING TO LUTON!

By Bill Jones
Treasure Hunters Roadshow
STAFF WRITER

Clean out your attics, cupboards, closets and jewellery boxes, because the Treasure Hunters Roadshow is coming to Luton. Our Roadshow experts will be in town examining gold, silver, coins, antiques and collectibles.

While the Roadshow will accept anything that's old, they will be focusing on gold, silver,

"U.K. coins made before 1971 are most sought after by collectors. Some coins made before 1947 are silver and valuable because of the silver content or could be worth even more if one happens to be a rare date."

pre-decimal coins, military items, vintage toys and trains, musical instruments, pocket and wrist watches, oil, watercolour and pastel paintings, pottery, porcelain and glassware

At the roadshow, we see

Visitors can cash in on gold, silver, coins, antiques and collectables or just about anything that is old.

some exceptional pieces of original paintings, artwork that has sat in storage, attics and cellars alike. Treasure Hunters are proud to work on behalf of a number of worldwide collectors and galleries that re-display some amazing artworks to the public.

Scrap gold is expected to be a popular category this week due to soaring gold prices. Tish McCutcheon, a recent customer from Altrincham, who we spoke to, attended a recent event and walked away with £412.87 from a little jewellery box with unwanted and broken jewellery, said "This is great, I had expected maybe £150 but to get over £400 for jewellery I never wear or was broken is amazing."

Other types of items Roadshow experts hope to see include old toys and train sets. Archie Davis, roadshow toy expert spoke about some of the top toys getting great offers. "Old tin windup toys from the late 1800's through the 1960's are in great demand now."

said Davis, "Especially those that are character related. Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, the Flintstones or any character toys are sought". Basically any toys made before 1965 are wanted. Train sets made by Lionel, American Flyer, Marklin, Hornby and cars by Dinky and Matchbox have the potential to fetch high prices. Davis also stressed, "Toys with boxes and in mint condition bring sensational prices. Most

of the toys that come to the Roadshow are not in perfect shape but can still bring good prices from collectors."

When expert Tom Fuller was asked what he enjoyed most about working at the Roadshow, he was quick to answer "Old coins and paper currency. For as long as I can remember I have been fascinated with collecting coins. Once, I found a silver crown that

I sold for £300." Tom went on to explain that any U.K. coins made before 1971 are sought after by collectors and some coins made before 1947 are valuable because of the silver content or could be worth even more if one happens to be a rare date. "We help people sort through their coins for unique dates. We buy all types

If you go to the Roadshow, you can cash-in your items for top dollar. Roadshow representatives will be available to purchase your items at the Leaside Hotel, 72 New Bedford Road, Luton, LU3 1BT - Tuesday 25th through Saturday 29th October.

of coins at the Roadshow from halfpennies to crowns, which are valuable from one coin to an entire carload. See you at the roadshow" said Tom.



Above • Come out and have Tony Enright appraise your collectables. These customers cashed in a large bag of broken and unwanted jewellery. They left with cheques totalling over £425.

Our International Collectors Association members are looking for the following types of items.

• **COINS** Any and all coins made before 1971, all foreign coins, rare coins, entire collections, Sovereigns, Half Sovereigns, Gold Two and Five Pound, Britannia, Gold proofs, Silver dollars, half dollars, Maple Leafs.

• **GOLD, SILVER & JEWELLERY** PRICES AT 40 YEAR HIGHS! for platinum, gold and silver during this event. Broken Jewellery, dental gold, gold coins, Sovereigns, Gold Bars, Kruggerands, Gold, Silver, Platinum, diamonds, rubies, sapphires and all types of stones, metals, etc. Rings, bracelets, necklaces, all others including broken jewellery. Early costume jewellery wanted.

• WATCHES & POCKET WATCHES

Rolex, Tiffany, Hublot, Omega, Chopard, Cartier, Philippe, Ebel, Waltham, Swatch, Chopard, Elgin, Bunn Special, Railroad, Hamilton, all others.

• **TOYS, TRAINS & DOLLS** All types of toys including: Matchbox Lesney, Hot Wheels, Tonka, Buddy L, Smith Miller, Nylint, Robots, battery toys, Mickey Mouse, all other toys - Train sets, all gauges, accessories, individual cars, Hornby, Tri-ang, Marklin, American Flyer, Lionel, Hafner, all other trains all makers accepted.

• **MILITARY ITEMS & SWORDS** Civil, Revolutionary, WWI, WWII, etc. Items of interest include swords, badges, medals, knives, etc.

• **FINE ART** Oil, Watercolour & Pastel Paintings, Sculptures, Pottery & Porcelain, Glassworks etc..

• **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS** Currency Notes, Pre WW2 Postcards, Metal and Porcelain signs etc.



All are welcome to this event. Admission is free.



www.treasurehuntersroadshow.co.uk

The Roadshow is in Luton
25th to 29th October

Tuesday - Friday 9am - 6pm and Saturday 9am - 4pm

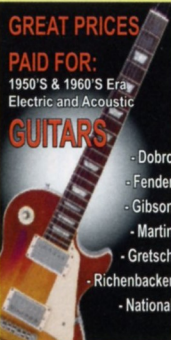
FREE ADMISSION & PARKING

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72 New Bedford Road, Luton, LU3 1BT

Directions: (01582) 417643

The entire process only
takes a few minutes



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- Fender
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- Richenbacker
- National

Gold and Coin Prices High. Cash In Now "It's a modern day gold rush," said Treasure Hunters Roadshow President Jeff Parsons.



Gold is now trading near 40 year highs, and you can cash in at the Treasure Hunters Roadshow. All types of gold are wanted, including gold sovereigns, Kruggerands, Maple Leafs, and other gold bars, etc. All gold jewellery, including broken jewellery is accepted. Anything gold and silver is wanted.