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THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF HARTLEPOOL UNITED

# VICTORIA PARADE

 **Coca-Cola** LEAGUE 1

**ISSUE 21**  
**vs LUTON TOWN**  
Tuesday 15th  
February 2005



**ADAM BOYD:**

# HITTING THE TARGET

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## Programme CONTENTS

**Vs: Luton Town**

Tuesday February 15th 2005 Kick-off 7.45pm



### IN THIS ISSUE:

- 04- Manager's Comments
- 09- Micky Barron
- 10- 4-3 Win
- 13- Our Visitors
- 18- Joe Allen
- 22- Action v Chesterfield
- 24- Pools Commercial
- 26- Kit Sponsors
- 28- Pools World
- 30- Adam Boyd
- 35- Mayor Stuart Drummond
- 36- Club Shop
- 38- Top Ten
- 39- Monkey Puzzle
- 40- Reserves Report
- 41- Physio/Fitness
- 42- Youth Team
- 44- Centre of Excellence
- 46- PFS/HUDSA
- 47- FITC
- 48- Head to Head
- 52- Junior Poolies
- 55- Away Travel
- 56- Action Replay - Brentford
- 58- Nick Loughlin
- 60- Final Score 2004/05



10



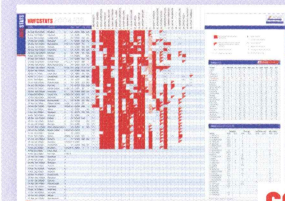
26



36



56



60

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**Programme Contributors**

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**First Team Division 3**

Play Offs

1999/2000,

2000/2001,

2001/2002

**Runners Up & Promotion**

2002/2003

**North East Team of the Year**

2002/2003

**Division 2**

Play Offs

2003/2004

**Reserve Team Division 1 East**

League

Champions

2003/2004

**Youth Team**

FL Youth

Alliance

Champions

2002/2003

**USA Dallas Cup**

Under 19s

Champions

2003/2004





# Neale COOPER



**Neale Cooper is hoping that the players can bounce back from Saturday's defeat in the right manner here this evening.**

**Good afternoon and welcome again to Victoria Park for this evening's game with Luton Town.**

We were all bitterly disappointed by the FA Cup exit on Saturday, though I still maintain I can't fault the players for the effort they put in to the game.

It was really difficult conditions to play football in and, although it was the same for both sides, it didn't really suit the way we like to try and play.



Obviously the sending-off so early in the match has a great effect on proceedings and it lead to us having to change our system to try and get the best we could from the ten men. It is not easy playing with a man down for so long

**"The lads gave it their all, never gave up and just didn't get that bit of luck that I felt we maybe deserved."**

but I thought the lads worked terrifically hard.

Then, on top of the red card, we also lost Mark Tinkler to injury, which was a massive blow. Mark has been very influential for us in the

centre of midfield and it was cruel on us to lose him too.

It would have been great for the players and the fans to have had the chance to go and play a Premiership side in Southampton but it

wasn't meant to be. The lads gave it their all, never gave up and just didn't get that bit of luck that I felt we maybe deserved.

So now, as the old saying goes, we have to concentrate on

the league. We have obviously missed a few games due to our involvement in the Cup and it was nice to see that teams around us haven't moved too far away from us.

In fact, there have been some excellent results in other games but now it is down to us to make the most of our games in hand and that starts tonight. It was a great victory here against Luton Town last year and one of the most exciting matches of the season. Of course, it will be remembered for that unbelievable strike from Hugh Robertson - another like that would go down a treat this evening!

Our home form has been the major factor in us getting to where we are currently in League One and, now we have started to turn our away form around, it is important we

and with some massive games coming up it is vital the players show their steel.

It was a superb crowd inside the ground on Saturday and

**"Of course, it will be remembered for that unbelievable strike from Hugh Robertson - another like that would go down a treat this evening!"**

don't take our eye off the ball here at The Vic.

The spirit we have in the camp will ensure that we come back positively from the defeat at the weekend

the players were upset they couldn't reward you for a victory. They are determined to make up for that tonight so make some noise and get behind them and let's pick up another three valuable points.



**Hugh Robertson was on target against Luton last season.**



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**THE STORY SO FAR...**

Date	Event	Manager
1997	IOR purchase HUFC and the debt	M Tait
18/01/99	Mick Tait leaves the Club (22nd - Div 3 - 27 points)	
24/02/99	Chris Turner appointed (22nd - Div 3 - 33 points)	
1999/00	Division Three Play Offs	C Turner
2000/01	Division Three Play Offs	C Turner
2001/02	Division Three Play Offs	C Turner
07/11/02	Chris Turner Leaves Club (1st - Div 3 - 6 points clear)	
21/11/02	Mike Newell appointed (1st - Div 3 - 4 points clear)	
2002/03	Division Three Runners up	M Newell
31/05/03	Mike Newell dismissed	
28/06/03	Neale Cooper appointed	
2003/04	League One Play Offs	N Cooper
15/02/05	5th in League One	N Cooper





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## Micky BARRON

Micky Barron is focusing on the league after the weekend's cup exit.



WEE CAPTAIN

It was a disappointing way for our FA Cup run to come to an end on Saturday. The lads battled ever so hard in both the away game and in the replay but, as the gaffer has said, it just wasn't our day.

We have to put that behind us now and put our minds on the

Of course, tonight's match is a massive one for both teams but the players here have a tremendous spirit and togetherness and we are desperate for the result.

Every time we play Luton I get asked about my mate Steve Howard who is scoring plenty of

**"...the players here have a tremendous spirit and togetherness and we are desperate for the result."**

important League One fixtures that we have in store in the forthcoming weeks.

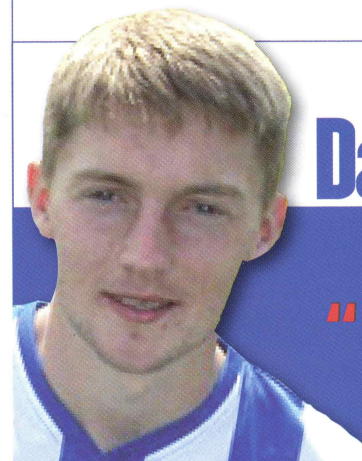
goals for them. He is a handful for any defence so it's a bit of good news for us that he is

missing through suspension this evening!

Despite the loss on Saturday, it has been really enjoyable for me to get back involved with the First Team.

I have had a strange season so far but hopefully now I can stay injury-free until the end of the campaign and challenge for a place in the starting line-up. It's an exciting time to be a Hartlepool United player and I am glad to be back.

Get behind the lads again this evening and let's hope the game can live up to the fixture between these two sides here last season!



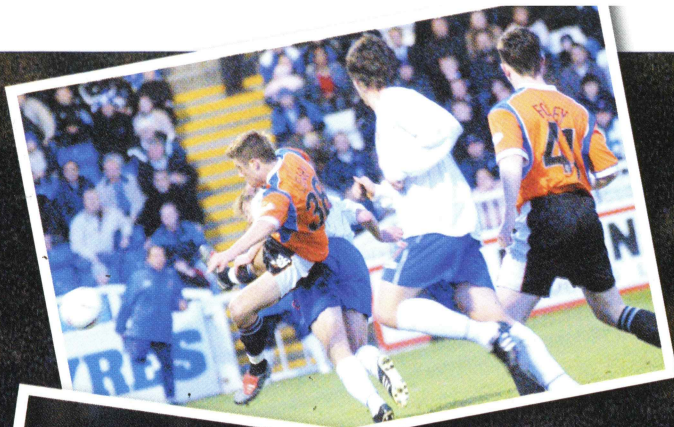
## Darren Craddock

tip of the week...



**"When defending close to goal, don't take risks. There is a saying: 'When in doubt, put it out!' This means if you are under pressure, don't get caught and lose possession close to your own goal. Play safe."**



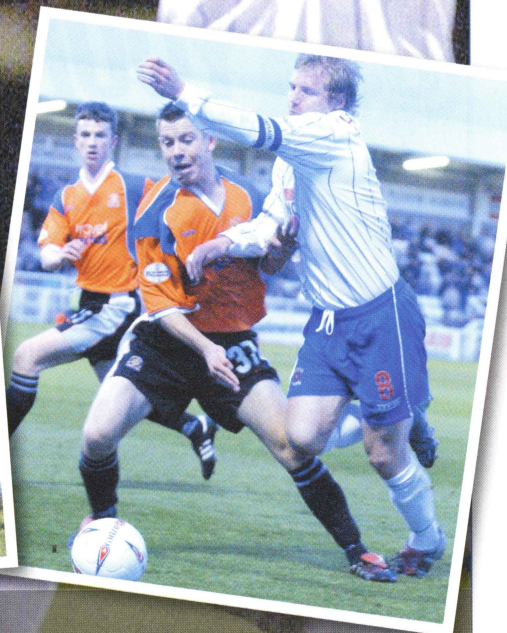


# FLASHBACK

When Luton Town arrived for last season's match here at Victoria Park, there were few who could have expected the footballing treat that was in store.

In a topsy-turvy game Pools took the three points with the odd goal in seven as the crowd looked on in awe.

It was The Hatters who struck first and it was former Pools man Steve Howard who found the target - he made a bit of a habit of scoring against Pools! Antony Sweeney stooped to head home a leveller ten minutes later as the game really began to warm up. Town held the initiative going in to the break after Michael



Leary fired through a crowded goalmouth to restore the visitor's lead. Pools pressed on in the second half and got their reward when Adam Boyd headed Ritchie Humphreys' cross in to the roof of the net. Then came the moment that would live with Pools fans for a long time - Hugh Robertson took centre stage to unleash

an unstoppable effort past Luton keeper Hyldgaard. It looked like the game was heading for a draw when Leary bagged his second of the night and tied things up moments later but Boyd's last-gasp penalty kick secured the points for Neale Cooper's men on a memorable night at The Vic.



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## Introducing LUTON TOWN



**Luton Town will be looking for more joy this season at  
The Vic than they had last.**

Luton Town's game with Pools here at Victoria Park last season went down in the history books as a bit of a classic. The two sides tussled for a full ninety minutes with Adam Boyd keeping his nerve to fire a decisive last-minute winner from the penalty spot.

**“ the transfer window is shut and I feel quite content really... ”**

Games with these two sides always seem to produce goals in recent seasons though they have not come up against each other too often through the years.

The latter part of the 1960's was the period when the two teams met most frequently and this marked an era when Pools enjoyed their best successes against Southern rivals, Luton.

Five wins compared to The Hatters' three, highlighted Pools' superiority, although in many of these matches there was only a one-goal difference to separate the two sides.

Since then Luton have managed to reduce the deficit and, following the current side's victory over Neale Cooper's team earlier in the season, have now beaten the North-East Club seven times, compared to Pools' six victories over the years.

Therefore, tonight's match offers Cooper's men the opportunity to even out the scores - a target that has been boosted by the exclusion of ex-Pools frontman, Steve Howard.

The Hatters striker has enjoyed immense success against his old Club in recent times, as he has managed to find the net in Luton's last four encounters with Pools. However, the burly striker is suspended for this game due to picking up ten yellow cards in this campaign.

His four goals have contributed to the twenty-two-goal tally that both teams have amassed since the turn of the century. Since there have been five meetings, this equates to there

being just over four goals scored in each game, which - from a spectator's point of view - offers great value for money!

Hopefully this exciting trend will continue again tonight in a game that promises plenty of excitement, passion and indeed, goals.





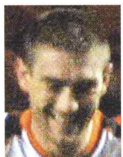
# LUTON TOWN

Luton Town are looking to take more League One points at Victoria Park this evening.



## CALVIN ANDREW

The young striker has made an explosive start to this current season, scoring an incredible eight goals in three games for the Under-18 side, including hat-tricks against Northampton and Rushden. He was rewarded with a first-team squad number and a place in the travelling party for the Hatters' trip to Sheffield Wednesday at the start of September. A tall, powerful and direct front-man, Calvin possesses a lightning turn of speed and the ability to score goals with his head and on the ground.



## DAVID BAYLISS

Has been looking forward to the start of this season more than most of the squad, he missed a large chunk of the 2002/03 season with a shoulder injury but forced his way back into the side at the start of last season, only for a ruptured Achilles tendon sustained at Charlton in the Carling Cup back in September to rule him out for the rest of the campaign. Signed in November 2001, Bayliss soon became a regular in Luton's team which secured promotion from Division Three in 2001/02.

## ROBERT BECKWITH

Along with Curtis Davies and Stephen O'Leary he made the most of the first-team opportunities that came his way and was rewarded with a two-

year pro contract at the end of the 2003/2004 season. Quietly learning his trade in the Luton youth team he found himself thrust into the first-team picture because of the circumstances the club found itself in but was unfazed by starting last season as the first choice goalkeeper at the age of eighteen.

## MARLON BERESFORD

Mike Newell strengthened his squad with the signing of 6'1" goalkeeper at the beginning of July 2004 from League One rivals Barnsley. The 34-year-old is a vastly experienced goalkeeper with over 400 appearances under his belt and he returned to Kenilworth Road on a two-year contract after impressing during a successful three month spell with the Hatters last year. The Lincoln-born goalkeeper picked up the Umbro Isotonic Division Two Player of the Month and twice received the Travel Extras Player of the Month during his first spell with Luton.

## DEAN BRILL

Luton-born goalkeeper Dean Brill is another young player of whom big things are expected. Having enjoyed a taste of first-team football last season he will, along with Robert Beckwith, provide healthy competition for the goalkeepers jersey and keep Marlon Beresford on his toes. A tall, commanding goalkeeper standing at six foot three, Brill is a great organiser whose voice

will always be heard throughout a game.

## AHMET BRKOVIC

The Croatian midfielder is tidy and hardworking member of the squad, who agreed a new one-year contract in the summer to extend his stay at Kenilworth Road into a fourth season. Believing a move would be good for his career, he refused new terms at Leyton Orient in the summer of 2001, to join Luton on a Bosman free transfer - Orient had signed him on a free from HNK Dubrovnik in the autumn of 1999. He was bitterly disappointed when Orient failed in the play-offs to win promotion to the Second Division, and decided he might have a better chance if he joined the Hatters.

## CHRIS COYNE

The centre-half was playing for Perth Soccer Club when he was selected for the Australian Under-17 squad for the 1994 youth World Cup, and came to the notice of Harry Redknapp, then manager of West Ham. Coyne signed for the Hammers as a teenager, but Premiership chances were few and far between, and after loan spells at Brentford and Southend, Coyne went to Dundee. A £50,000 cheque persuaded the Scottish Premier League club to let the defender move to Kenilworth Road in September 2001 and Coyne rapidly became a crowd favourite in the promotion run that followed. It was a big

boost to the Club when the solid and dependable defender agreed a two-year contract during the close-season.

## SOL DAVIS

It was a huge disappointment to Swindon Town, and a coup for Luton, when the highly-rated defender decided to leave the County Ground after his contract expired at the end of the 2001/02 season. Swindon boss Andy King failed in attempts to persuade him to sign a new deal, and Luton swooped for the tough-tackling left back. Davis had joined Swindon as a trainee in the summer of 1998, and made rapid progress through the youth and reserve teams.

## CURTIS DAVIES

Central defender Curtis Davies was rewarded with a two-year professional contract at the end of last season after impressing during a spell in the side at the tail-end of the campaign. Having been a solid and consistent performer in the club's Under-19s over the past three years, he made the step-up to first-team level and turned in some encouraging displays when called upon. Previously with Wimbledon as a schoolboy, Curtis initially joined Luton as a trialist at the age of sixteen, and he made the best possible impression with two goals in his first three games to earn himself a scholarship at Kenilworth Road.

## KEVIN FOLEY

The emergence of Kevin Foley was one of the success stories of last season for Luton, during the course of the campaign he went from the Hatters youth team to the Republic of Ireland Under-21's. Each time he has comfortably adjusted himself to the level of football and great things are expected of this cultured footballer. He has been brought through the junior ranks at Kenilworth Road and in pre-season game last year he was thrown into

the first-team because of injuries to other defenders.

## IAN HILLIER

No-one was more surprised than the Welsh Under-21 international himself when he made his league debut for Luton in the second game of the 2001/02 season. The day before he was training with Spurs, where he was captain of the reserves, but a crop of injuries at Kenilworth Road led to Luton taking the young right back on loan and Hillier settled in so quickly that Luton soon decided to buy him for a bargain £30,000 fee and he became a regular squad member.



## PETER HOLMES

Holmes found first team opportunities limited when he first arrived due to a midfield that boasted new signings of the calibre of Nicholls, Valois, Forbes, Hughes and Brkovic but former Manager Joe Kinnear turned to him for an important match against Swansea, where he scored the second goal of a 3-1 win which secured promotion to Division Two. After initially being released in the summer of 2003 as a result of the club's financial situation he continued to train with the club and agreed a fresh deal to stay with the Hatters in November 2003.

## STEVE HOWARD

Rarely can £50,000 have been better spent in football than the fee Luton paid Northampton Town on deadline day in March 2001 to prise the bustling striker away from the Cobblers. He has been the Hatters leading marksman in for the last three seasons and is a huge favourite at Kenilworth Road - he was the fans player of the year in 2002, and the players' player of the year 12 months later. Howard had cost Northampton a then record fee of £120,000 when they recruited him from Hartlepool two

years previously.

## MAX HOWELL

A solid and reliable defender from Middlesex, Max was handed a first team squad number midway through the 2003/04 season for the trip to Rushden & Diamonds in the LDV Vans Trophy although he didn't make the squad on that occasion. The youngster's impressive form in the Under-19s led to him being offered the third year of his football scholarship at the club. He has been involved with the first team in pre-season, and will be hoping to make the breakthrough this year to earn a professional contract at the end of the season.

## PAUL HUGHES

Hughes worked his way up at Chelsea from trainee to Premiership, learning his trade under Hoddle's management, and gained experience on loan to Stockport, Norwich and Crewe. When Hoddle became manager of Southampton he soon recruited Hughes, but a serious groin injury put the midfielder out of football for nine months. He joined Luton at the start of the 2001/02 season and with Kevin Nicholls ruled out at the start of the season with a knee injury Hughes formed a formidable central midfield partnership with Matt Spring before a injury sustained in training revealed a fractured tibia.

## KEITH KEANE.

Having made his debut as a 16-year-old last season he went on to enjoy an extended run in the side from February onwards whilst Kevin Foley was out injured. Such was the contribution he made that the return of Foley didn't signal the end of his involvement at first-team level and he finished the season with fourteen appearances under his belt, all this whilst still in the first year of his scholarship.



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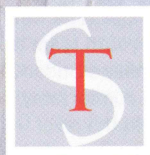
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## **MICHAEL LEARY**

The London-born central midfielder signed an extension to his contract in the summer which will tie him to the Hatters until 2006. He has had to wait patiently for his first-team chance but has taken the opportunity with both hands whenever it has presented itself. The scorer of two goals at Hartlepool back in March, in one of only eight first-team starts last year, he will be looking to add to both tally's throughout the course of the new.

## **LEE MANSELL**

The Gloucester-born midfielder arrived on the scene in January 2001 to make a dramatic surprise debut. An injury crisis saw the youth teamer thrown into the team for the F.A. Cup third round replay against Queens Park Rangers and his debut was less than a minute old when he scored the opening goal. Luton had looked after him since he was an eleven-year-old, and signed him as soon as he left school.

## **ALAN NEILSON**

Experience and versatility has made Neilson a valuable member of Luton's squad. The former Welsh international was signed from Grimsby in 2002 as part of a cost-cutting exercise. His international career began with appearances for Wales at youth and Under-21 level, followed by five full caps, and he enjoyed a good career in the Premiership, with his first club Newcastle and then with Southampton and Fulham.

## **KEVIN NICHOLLS**

Snapped up from Wigan in 2001, tough-tackling Nicholls quickly became team captain, and his huge enthusiasm and ferocious tackling soon made him a big favourite with Hatters fans, although opponents did not always view his all-action style with similar relish. Just five games into 2003/2004 season he picked up a nagging knee injury which ruled him out for five months but he returned at the end of January, adding strength and experience to

the right hand side of midfield.

## **STEPHEN O'LEARY**

A player with a bright future ahead of him, he became the third of the three graduating scholars who signed a two-year professional contract in the summer. The skillful midfielder made the most of his chance in the first-team spotlight in the final few matches of last season to show what he could do. His game is a mixture of skill and determination, and he is equally at home going forward or in a midfield holding role.

## **RUSS PERRETT**

Having signed a one-year contract in the summer he will be looking to make up for lost time this season after a frustrating spell on the sidelines last year. The ex-Portsmouth man was restricted to just six games during the 2003/2004 season but when fully fit the experienced campaigner is an important member of the squad.

## **STEVE ROBINSON**

Was the first of the out of contract players to agree a new deal with Luton in the summer after enjoying a campaign where he firmly established himself in the Hatters side. A hard working midfielder who topped the Hatters assists chart last season. Looking to add experience to a young midfield department, Luton snapped up a man who had earned respect wherever he played.

## **DINO SEREMET**

The 6' 4" Slovenian goalkeeper impressed on trial in July 2004 to earn a two-year contract and signed on a Bosman transfer from Maribor Pivovarna Laako. With youngster's Robert Beckwith and Dean Brill recovering from injury he will provide healthy competition for Marlon Beresford for the goalkeeper's jersey.

## **ENOCH SHOWUNMI**

The big striker will be looking to build on his growing reputation

this season and continue the good start he made to his professional career, which resulted in a close season call-up to the Nigerian national squad for the Unity Cup which was staged in England. The London-born forward joined the club fresh from non-league football with Willesden Constantine - the same side that nurtured the early years of Barry Hayles career - after completing university.

## **STUART SINCLAIR**

Sixteen-year-old midfielder Stuart was handed a first-team squad number and a place on the bench for the trip to Swansea City in the LDV Vans Trophy just three months into his two-year scholarship at the club. A stylish and technically accomplished footballer, Stuart is happiest in central midfield but can also play on either flank, and anything he lacks in size he certainly makes up for in tenacity.

## **PAUL UNDERWOOD**

Luton Town fought off competition from a number of clubs to complete the free transfer signing of Paul Underwood from Second Division rivals Rushden & Diamonds on transfer deadline day. Unfortunately a hamstring injury sustained twenty minutes into his Luton Town debut against QPR ruled him out for the rest of the season and he has made in a Hatters shirt this season now that he has regained his full fitness, forming a formidable partnership with Sol Davis on the left hand side.

## **ROWAN VINE**

The Basingstoke-born striker initially joined Town on a three-month loan deal from Premiership Portsmouth on the eve of the new season but that arrangement was extended in September for the whole season after he had made an impressive start to life as a Hatter. His performances during that month were recognized when he was named as the Powerade League One Player of the Month.



# Famous Fan NICK OWEN



Nick Owen will be hoping The Hatters can take the points tonight – he's a mad keen Luton Town fan.

**D**ue to his live tea time TV role in the heart of Birmingham, it is unlikely that Nick Owen will be at Victoria Park for tonight's game. But he does remember paying and visit to a Hartlepool Utd v Luton Town game in 1967 when he swears he was the only away fan in the ground. It was a midweek game, a 'bleak night' and Town were languishing in the bottom four of the lowest division, so not a lot of supporter interest in travelling. And even Nick took the hard road to get there, he was a student at Leeds University and hitch hiked there and back.

Nick is probably best known as one of the pioneer presenters of Breakfast Television but he is also a devoted Luton Town supporter. For the last eight years he has been one of the main presenters of the Birmingham based 'Midlands Today' TV programme. He is very content in this role and sees himself as "an adopted Brummie". Born in Hertfordshire, thirteen miles from Luton he has supported the Hatters for 46 years and remembers his first game clearly, being taken by his father to see his team draw 1-1 with Leeds United in September 1958. His allegiance to the club has shown unbroken support

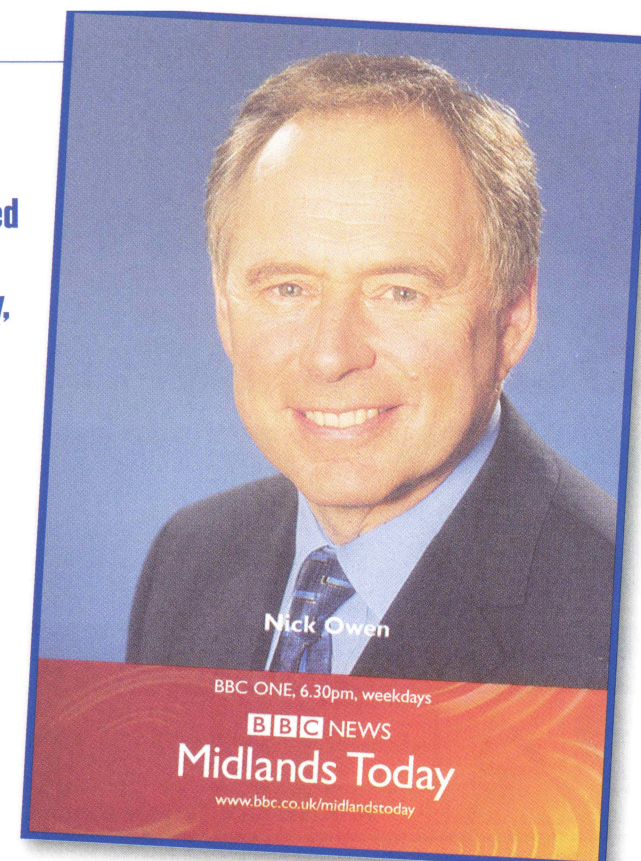
even through his University years and the demands of working in television. Having achieved a B.A.(honours) in Classics at Leeds University, he opted for a career in Journalism beginning with a job on the Doncaster Evening Post. After a stint on the Birmingham Post and moving into Radio with the forerunner of BBC Radio Birmingham, he joined ATV Network's sports department, covering the 1982 World Cup. When Central won the Independent Television franchise in the Midlands, Nick became a general presenter, teaming up with Anne Diamond for the first time. As early morning television was introduced, he played his part by taking on the role of sports presenter on TV AM. But within eight weeks he renewed his partnership with Anne Diamond as a general presenter to become one of the mainstays of Breakfast TV. The pair presented the show until late 1986 when Nick returned to a sporting role, mainly as the presenter of the ITV flagship programme 'Midweek Sports Special'. And his move to the BBC was again to team up with Miss Diamond to co-present 'Good Morning', which they did between 1992 and 1996. His sporting work has seen him travel extensively but he always looks forward to returning to the home of his favourite football team.

There was one occasion though when despite having his name in lights, he could not get in the ground.

"Whenever I walk into Kenilworth Road I always experience a feeling of sheer pleasure and anticipation. Ten years ago I also was very privileged to have one of the Lounges at Luton Town named after me. Imagine my surprise when twelve months ago I arrived at the Lounge door only to find I was refused entry! The steward on the door clearly did not know who I was and told me that the lounge was full. I soon realised that he was so serious that not even the Pope would have got in. As I walked away I looked up at my name above the door in big block capitals and I remember thinking I have commented all over the world including extensively at the 1990 World Cup and I can't get in to see my own team. To everyone there who knew me it must have been very funny and I am pleased to say that I found it funny too."

For an extensive read about the Nick Owen devotion to Luton Town FC, you are encouraged to read his recently released autobiography "In the Time of Nick". Before you do here is a precis. Other than the various promotions, his best day as a Town fan was in April 1988 when

**"Born in Hertfordshire, thirteen miles from Luton he has supported the Hatters for 46 years and remembers his first game clearly, being taken by his father to see his team draw 1-1 with Leeds United in September 1958."**



the Hatters beat the mighty Arsenal in the League Cup final at Wembley. What made it particularly exciting was how close the game was and the turning point of Andy Dibble's penalty save from which the team went on to overturn a 1-2 scoreline. Not surprisingly his two favourite players, Ricky Hill and Mick Harford were from the same era. With the wealth of talent that has passed through Kenilworth Road over the years including the legendary Malcolm McDonald, why does he single out those two? And given the superb run by the team so far this campaign how does this seasoned supporter rate the club's chances of converting it into a promotion season?

"Ricky Hill had sublime skill and superb vision whilst Mick Harford was your all action traditional centre forward. Both did play

briefly for England and you can't help thinking that if they had played for one of the more fashionable clubs then they might have played even more. The start to this season was very exciting, to have amassed so many points so early on and despite losing Mick Harford a few months ago and drawing quite a few games recently, I am quietly confident. Mick was doing a great job as coach so it is credit to Mike Newell and Brian Stein that they have kept that momentum going so well. This match is very important, we know how strong Hartlepool are at home and it will be disappointing to be without striker Steve Howard, who is suspended. I feel for Steve because he started out with Pool and I am sure he was looking forward to this one more than most."

So as Nick wraps up the evening show in the new BBC studio

in Birmingham, the 'Mailbox', which before conversion was the biggest sorting office in Europe, he will be hoping that Town go on to deliver the points without him (he does get to most home and away games). However he will be kept in touch by his family representatives. Nick and his wife Jill, a Practice Nurse, have four children two of whom will be at the game and all of them have an interest in following Luton Town. "My three lads go to most games but on this occasion just Tim and Chris will be there, Andy is playing cricket in South Africa! And for my daughter Jenny who is now 16 football is not the priority it once was; I am sure you know what I mean."

**Stuart Clarkson**

Nick Owen's autobiography "In the Time of Nick" is now available published by Brewin Books.



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**Saturday February 5th 2005 KO 3.00pm**  
The Recreation Ground 4,606



**Photo Credit**  
- FRANK REID



**Chesterfield**

**0**

**GOALS: -**



**Hartlepool United**

**1**

**GOALS: Boyd**

**TEAM:** Konstantopoulos, Ross, Robertson, Westwood, Nelson, Humphreys, Sweeney, Tinkler, Clark, Porter, Boyd.

**SUBS:** Provett, Barron, Strachan, Istead, Williams.

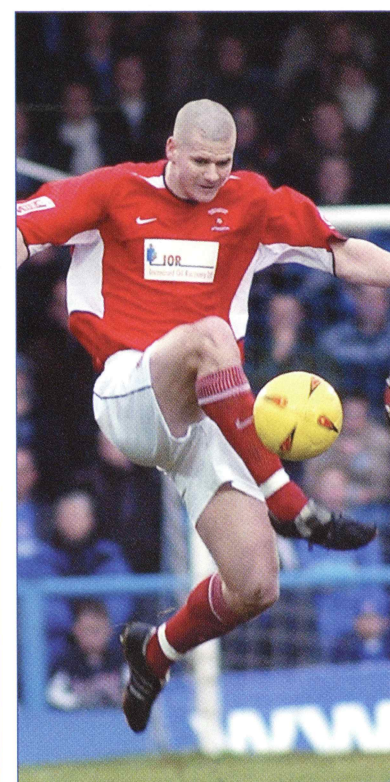
### STAR MAN: Chris Westwood

With Wayne Allison up front for The Spireites it was always likely to be a tough afternoon for the Pools' rearguard. Chris Westwood marshalled the big striker superbly, hardly lost a header all afternoon and made some vital blocks and tackles. The big defender has been in excellent form this season but enjoyed a particularly impressive ninety minutes at The Recreation Ground in a brilliant victory for Pools.



### COOPER'S COMMENT:

We came to a side who play with a system that doesn't necessarily suit us and we matched them to take three vital points - earlier in the season we couldn't have done that. Big strikers have some times caused us a problem in the past but today the defending was superb - the lads' spirit and work ethic is second to none and it is great for Martin and myself. I am running out of words to describe them!





# Commercial & HOSPITALITY

For all Commercial information visit [www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk](http://www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk) and click on 'Club'



**G**ood evening and welcome to tonight's game with Luton Town. Tuesday night games are always special, the atmosphere in the ground is great, and the boxes are full. Let's hope this all bodes well for a good result to round off the evening.

Well after the disappointment at the weekend it is back to league action tonight on what will be the first of many up and coming midweek games. As I have said previously, Tuesday nights are extremely popular in the hospitality boxes and currently we have availability in the 1908 Lounge and SIBCAS Lounge for the Brentford, Peterborough and Huddersfield games which are all midweek fixtures.

## Dallas Cup - Sponsorship

We received some excellent news at the Club this week, after winning the A Group in the Dallas Cup last year, our Youth Team have been invited to take part in the Super Group of the Tournament. This means that we will be competing with the cream of the world's teams. This year there will be teams from Europe, South America and Asia, there will even be teams from Japan. As you can imagine, to take the lads over to Dallas is another considerable expense to the Club and we are looking for sponsors to sponsor a player on the tour, for this you will be featured in

the special feature in our Official Matchday Programme on the return of the team from the Dallas Cup and you will be given 2 tickets for our end of season presentation evening for our HUFC Player of the Year. If you can sponsor one of our players please contact the Commercial Department on 01429 272584.

**Sponsor a Youth Player @ The Dallas Cup For £100**

**"Help the boys bring back the Super Cup"**

Tonight we have the temporary bar in the Town End, although this is just a temporary measure we are hoping to have the "Real Thing" in place for the Wrexham game on the 5th March 2005. We will then have all three home ends of the ground serving alcohol. The bars are proving to be a popular venue for the fans and this is one area that we are working on to improve as the season progresses. Anyhow, just enjoy the beer at fantastic prices for the rest of the season.

Finally lets all get behind Neale, Martin and the lads and hope the lads get back to winning ways tonight!

## 2012 SUPER 7 LOTTERY

WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW AGENTS -

you only need to collect a minimum of £15 each week to receive a free match ticket to Victoria Park for every home game. On top of that you will also receive 10% commission on any winnings over £20 from your members.

Don't worry if you can't think of 15 potential members - we'll even recruit members for you, all you need to do is collect the money.

Contact Carole Sennett on 07764 310036 if you're interested in becoming an agent or simply want more details.

## MASCOT:



Name - Jack Smith  
Age - 8  
School - Jesmond Road School  
Favourite Sports - Football, kick boxing

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#### EAST DURHAM MANUFACTURING

East Durham Manufacturing are here this evening to cheer on the lads and enjoy the hospitality at Victoria Park. Guests from East Durham Manufacturing would like to wish Neale, Martin and the team all the best for the rest of the season.

You can contact East Durham Manufacturing on 01429 869688

In the SIBCAS Lounge this evening we have guests from Niramax Recycling and Manufacturing. Enjoy the evening lads and lets hope for another three points!!!

Once again in the Executive Boxes we have with us Blackhall Rafa, Crest ID, Pyeroy, Pool Respray, Camerons Brewery, Playing For Success and Greenlake Leisure. Lets cheer the lads on tonight to hopefully another three points in the League!

Hartlepool United would like to welcome guests in our CK Carvery this evening from Coatings Plus, Universal Coatings, Glamal Engineering, Williamson Motors, Paramount Homes, Reg Vardy, Redwood Homes North East Ltd and Hartlepool Snooker Centre.



## Child Boot SPONSORS

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John Connor Sharpe  
Adam Boyd: Rachel Swan  
Antony Sweeney: David Totty  
Jim Provett:  
James Owen Gallagher  
Matty Robson: Emily Newton  
Michael Nelson: Andrew Bell  
John Brackstone: Ryan Bradshaw  
Steven Istead: Sarah Robinson  
Gavin Strachan:  
Daniel & Joseph Liddell  
David Foley: Fiona Henderson  
Jack Wilkinson: Kym Thomson  
Darren Craddock: Lewis Redhead  
Dimi: Kayleigh Paylor  
Jack Ross: Emily Wray  
Andy Appleby: Ben Spowart  
Neale Cooper: Robbie Armstrong  
Ben Clark: Marty Rathbone  
Martin Scott: Ryan Bradshaw  
Jon Daly: Thomas Nicholson



# 2004-2005 HUFC KIT SPONSORSHIP

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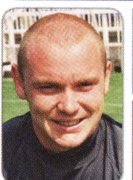
**HOME KITE:** Marty, Chris & Anthony Fidgeon  
**AWAY KITE:** Marty, Chris & Anthony Fidgeon

**No.04 Mark Tinkler**

**HOME KITE:** www.candleicious.biz  
**AWAY KITE:** Industrial & Corporate Finance Ltd

**No.07 Darrell Clarke**

**HOME KITE:** Monkey Business, the Pools fanzine, like!  
**AWAY KITE:** www.monkeybizz.net

**No.01 Jim Provett**

**HOME KITE:** CARDS R hUdSons  
**AWAY KITE:** Robyn & Jack Gibson

**No.02 Michael Barron**

**HOME KITE:** Tilley, Bailey & Irvine  
**AWAY KITE:** Manor College of Technology

**No.08 Ritchie Humphreys**

**HOME KITE:** Daniel Nicholson  
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**HOME KITE:** Manor College of Technology  
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**No.06 Chris Westwood**

**HOME KITE:** HUFCSA  
**AWAY KITE:** Westwood's Hair

**No.09 Eifion Williams**

**HOME KITE:** Playing for Success  
**AWAY KITE:** Playing for Success

**No.15 Antony Sweeney**

**HOME KITE:** The Design Gap Ltd  
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**No.05 Michael Nelson**

**HOME KITE:** Advenc BM/ Wolverhampton Trev  
**AWAY KITE:** HUFCSA

**No.19 John Brackstone**

**HOME KITE:** Engineers Football Team  
**AWAY KITE:** R.J.B Coatings

**No.11 Gavin Strachan**

**HOME KITE:** New County Roads  
**AWAY KITE:** New County Roads

**No.22 Darren Craddock**

**HOME KITE:** Atomic Planet Entertainment Ltd  
**AWAY KITE:** AON

**No.25 Andy Appleby**

**HOME KITE:** Greenlake Leisure Ltd  
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**- Martin Scott**

**HOME KITE:** Coatings Plus Ltd.  
**AWAY KITE:** Coatings Plus Ltd.

**No.20 Steven Istead**

**HOME KITE:** Industrial & Corporate Finance Ltd  
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**No.14 Joel Porter**

**HOME KITE:** The Norton Hotel  
**AWAY KITE:** The Norton Hotel

**No.21 Dimi Konstantopoulos**

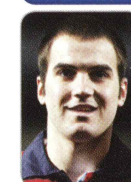
**HOME KITE:** Gretton Court Nursing Home  
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**No.16 Jon Daly**

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# POOLS WORLD

Check out what subscribers have been viewing on Pools World recently.

Good afternoon and welcome to today's game with Luton. We've continued to bring you the latest news from the best possible angles on Pools World - the Club's video website.

**"Everyone has done well from Dimi in goal to Joel and myself up front..."**

Each and every weekday we provide unique TV News Bulletins which include behind the scenes footage from the club and Training Ground, plus exclusive interviews with the players. If you aren't hooked up with Pools World, then here's

a sample of what you've been missing of late...

## Thursday 8th February

Last week Adam Boyd was presented with the Player of the Month award for January.

Therefore, the Pools World cameras decided to visit Boyd at the training ground to get his reaction about receiving this fabulous accolade:

"It's great to get the award - I am overwhelmed," Boyd said.

"Everyone has done well from Dimi in goal to Joel and myself up front and hopefully we can keep that going."

## Friday 9th February

Ian Kerr was back on Pools World last Thursday for the third

edition of 'Coaching Challenge.'

In this feature, Pools' Director of Youth focuses upon the skill of running with the ball and then turning effectively in his bid to help people become better footballers.

Kerr firstly displays how to complete these techniques properly before setting viewers with his all-important challenge - could you be up for it?

**"...Pools' Director of Youth focuses upon running with the ball and then turning effectively..."**

Don't forget, here at Pools World we live for matchdays. Exclusive live commentary accompanies each game, whilst we also upload Neale Cooper's post match interviews just ONE and sometimes TWO HOURS after the final whistle in Pools' home matches.

Remember, it is only £19.99 to subscribe to Pools World until August 2005 or you can gain access to all other World sites at other clubs for the price of £29.99 until August 2005.



Adam Boyd

## Big Vic



Big Vic shares his predictions for the Pools versus Luton match at Victoria Park.

**I'm sitting here writing this piece with a big smile on my face whilst remembering the last time Luton came to The Vic.**

As most supporters - including myself - would admit, this fixture ended up being one of the games of the season due to a variety of reasons.

**"Hugh Robertson's thunderous 35 yard strike, which rocketed into the roof of the net."**

One of the most notable being Hugh Robertson's thunderous 35 yard strike, which rocketed into the roof of the net.

This season Robertson has already bagged two goals, including a sublime trademark free-kick against Tranmere earlier in the campaign, yet many fans expect him to get more due to his excellence at set-plays.

And with it being a while since he last got on the scoresheet, I've got a sneaky feeling that lightning will strike twice today. The defender is a massive 20/1 with Hartlepoolbet to get the last goal in this game, so he is definitely worth a punt at this price.

You'll have noticed that I predicted Robertson would get the 'last goal,' this is because I

believe Adam Boyd will bag the opener in this game at odds of 5/1 with Hartlepoolbet.

The Pools striker was also on target against Luton in last season's match at The Vic, so I suggest you put a few quid on him to achieve this feat once again today.

I also predict that Pools will win this fixture - albeit with some difficulty. Therefore, back Cooper's team to win a closely fought encounter by two goals to one at odds of 15/2 with Hartlepoolbet.

Don't forget to keep checking my daily articles on Pools' Official website for tips on numerous sporting events. If you want to place a bet, visit [www.hartlepoolbet.co.uk](http://www.hartlepoolbet.co.uk) for some of the best odds available.

Alternatively, you can freephone Teletbet on: 0800 0323365 if you don't have access to a computer.

There is also the opportunity for you to place a bet in the Victoria Lounge and the Hospitality boxes prior to today's game.

And remember, all stakes placed go towards helping the Club.



**"I believe Adam Boyd will bag the opener in this game at odds of around 9/2 with Hartlepoolbet."**



# No SURPRISES

**Adam Boyd doesn't think that anyone should be too surprised by Pools' lofty position in League One.**

**I**t's not been a bad season for Hartlepool fans so far. Many felt that Neale Cooper's over-achievers would come undone in their "difficult second season" in a higher division. Nothing could be further from the truth as Pools have gone from strength to strength in the current campaign with at least a play-off spot a real possibility come May.

Whilst fans and critics alike may be surprised by the lofty position that Pools currently occupy in the League One table, one person is not in the least perturbed. That's the man who has arguably done most to elevate them to the heights of fifth in the division with close to twenty goals.

"It's going really well for us but I thought we would be up there so it's not a real surprise to me," insists Adam Boyd. "I don't think the teams that came down are particularly strong and there are no run away leaders and we deserve to be where we are."

The striker has put behind him the negativity of his early years at The Vic, and with a temporary switch to Boston United proving the catalyst for some excellent form the

striker is enjoying his football.

"I am over the moon to be on nineteen goals already this season," he admits. "I set myself a target of twenty at the start of the campaign and once I reach that I will try and push on as far as I can. Maybe I can even get thirty but I will just wait and see!"

**"The lads in defence have been excellent, especially over the last two or three months..."**

Whilst goals may be the only currency in football, Boyd is fully aware of the excellent job being done at the other end of the pitch. The Pools' rearguard - whichever combination employed - has been in excellent form all term and the striker is hoping this continues for a long time yet.

"The lads in defence have been excellent, especially over the last two or three months," he says. "They will have to be strong again in the Luton game because we know it will be a very difficult game for all of us. If they can keep Luton out then I am confident we can carve

out some chances to win the game and pick up another three vital points.

"I am happy with the way things have gone and I would like to score thirty goals this season. We want to get promotion this season - that has to be our aim really."

Of course, goals are something that games between Hartlepool and Luton have never been short of. With Porter and Boyd linking up so effectively in recent weeks, the 22-year-old is hoping they can find their way through a Hatters defence that has leaked just thirty goals this season.

"Joel's a great player," he says forthrightly. "We have a good partnership going at the minute and we are both

just ignore them and get on with things. I enjoy playing football and I think you can see that when I am out there in some of the things I try!"

The skilful front man was rewarded for his efforts in January with the Powerade Player of the Month. He scored four times during a great start to 2005 for Neale Cooper's men and, just like his Manager before him, insists the award was one for the whole team.

"It was nice to pick up the award," he admits. "Really, though, everyone has played their part this season and it's been a big team effort. Everybody is after the same thing and we work hard as a unit to try and achieve that."

**"I enjoy playing football and I think you can see that when I am out there in some of the things I try!"**

working hard to make it even better. We are both quite similar players but it seems to work so it's really enjoyable to be honest."

Boyd has confidence in his own ability - it exudes from his person whilst on the pitch. The tricks and turns he tries during the action have come close to getting him in trouble too he reveals!

"Sometimes the defenders give you the threat and warn you about doing things but I

And, it's not just the players who are doing their bit according to Boyd. The fans too are giving the support to the campaign and the striker says that their efforts do not go unnoticed.

"It's great for us when we turn up at an away ground and see the kind of followings we have taken this season. We get brilliant support away from home as well as at The Vic and I think the players respond to that. Long may it continue as they've been fantastic."

**"Boyd has confidence in his own ability - it exudes from his person whilst on the pitch."**









## NDC - proud to support Hartlepool United



Hartlepool New Deal for Communities (NDC) is a scheme – led by residents – that aims to improve the area of the town that stretches between Belle Vue and Hart Lane.

With up to £54 million of Government funding, Hartlepool NDC is all about bringing together residents and other partners to:

- Improve housing and the environment
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web: [www.ndc.org.uk](http://www.ndc.org.uk)

## Stuart DRUMMOND



**Mayor Stuart Drummond can't believe he has to miss this evening's game.**

**If I had to choose one game this season that I could not miss, it would be our home game with Luton Town. It's a crucial clash at the top of the table against the league leaders. A game that always produces goals and a fixture that was probably the most entertaining of last season. Tonight is definitely the match of the season so far and I am missing it! Everything would have been fine if it had gone ahead as originally scheduled but our excellent cup run meant it had to be rearranged for this evening and I'm over 200 miles away in Cambridge.**

will give me a chance to put the finishing touches to the questions for tomorrow night's quiz at the Workingmen's club in King Oswy Drive. This is going to be no ordinary quiz night. I've been given the task of setting the questions for the Weakest Link and A Question of Sport, which is going to feature the first team players and Neale Cooper and Martin Scott. Martin will play the role of Anne Robinson and nine players will pit their wits against each other in the Weakest Link. This will be followed by A Question of Sport with a difference.

finished off by the town's newest pop star, Dean Crimdon, who's CD is on sale now. This is going to be an excellent evening and will raise money for the Club's Youth Development as well as HUDSA. If you haven't got a ticket yet, make sure you get one to avoid disappointment. We will find out how clever footballers really are. This is a night not to be missed!

Back to tonight's game, a win will really put us in a healthy position in the playoffs. Of course we still have to play Hull away and both Tranmere and Sheff Wed at home. If we can take points of these, there is no reason why we won't be challenging the automatic promotion places come April.

It's very encouraging to see Neale Cooper continuing to strengthen his squad with the addition of John Daly from Stockport. He may even get a run out tonight. It looks as if it's going to be a very intensive end of season run in and we will need some strength in depth.

It will be very tough next three months and we all have faith in Neale and Martin to see us through. There has never been a better time to be a Pools fan and it just keeps getting better and better.

**COME ON POOLS!**

**"Martin will play the role of Anne Robinson and nine players will pit their wits against each other in the Weakest Link."**

Tonight I have the privilege of speaking at the Cambridge University Student Union and it was an opportunity I couldn't refuse. I'll just have to make sure I sneak my radio in under the table so I can keep myself updated on the score. I will also make sure that Pools and H'Angus get more than just a passing mention and if we win, you will hear me cheering from all the way down there.

It does have one advantage though, as sitting on the train

Neale and Martin will be the two team captains and Micky Barron will be the question master. He will make a great Sue Barker! Two players will sit on each team and there will be a raffle with two lucky winners getting to join the teams on the stage.

There will be about eight rounds featuring the old favourites like the picture board and what happened next, plus one or two other rounds with a bit of a difference. The night will be

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(Non-Matchdays):	9am - 2pm



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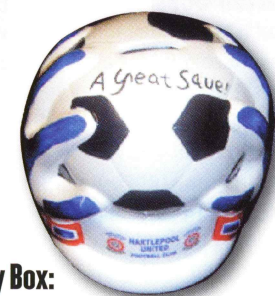


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Top

# 10

They played ONCE for Pools, that's it!

## 1) Jon Parkin (2001-02)

Currently rattling the goals in for Macclesfield, lanky striker Parkin looked terribly out of his depth at The Vic, but as often happens, he returned with York and Macc and looked much improved.

## 2) Colin West (1999-2000)

Of course Westy was our Assistant Manager for three seasons, but only made one start for Pools as an emergency striker aged 39!

## 3) Nicky Evans (1998-99)

One-off appearance for Evans, which luckily for him was a live televised match at Halifax. At least he'll have the video to remind him of his 90 minutes of fame.

## 4) Marc Nash (1998-99)

Oh dear. Towards the end of the Mick Tait era, lots of "Young Uns" were tried and cast adrift in an attempt to stop our slide towards oblivion. Most of them had Fop hairstyles, like young Nasher.

## 5) Warren Dobson (1997-98)

Oh dear #2. At one stage in 1997 we had FOUR keepers making their debuts in four successive matches. Desperate.

## 6) Alain Horace (1996-97)

Non, non, non. Frenchman Alain Horace later gained cult status whilst at Ayr United, but looked very anonymous whilst in his brief spell at Pools. It is rumoured that he is the favourite footballer of top Indie band Belle and Sebastian.

## 7) Ian Gallagher (1995-96)

Currently our Youth Team Physio! Sadly, I missed Buster's only match for Pools, but if you ask him nicely, I bet he will tell you all about it in graphic detail!

## 8) Archie Gourlay (1994-95)

Now part of the famed Newcastle United Academy

set-up, Greenock Morton and Newcastle starlet Archie only lasted 60 minutes in a Pools shirt. The shame of it.

## 9) Paul Sweeney (1994-95)

No, NOT Pauline McSweeney, or her son Paul, but a ginger-haired full-back from The Mags, who played just once at Gillingham on the first day of the season and got injured, never to return.

## 10) John Shotton (1990-91)

Our promotion side of 1990 featured a few bit-part players (Mark Nesbitt, Andy Habron, Andy Duggan etc.). But poor Mr Shotton wins the award for brevity - TEN MINUTES!



Phil  
DUNN

Phil Dunn gives us his thoughts on all things Pools.



## REPEAT PERFORMANCE PLEASE

Good Evening Poolies and Hatters (the REAL Hatters, not those Stockport imposters!) and welcome to Victoria Park for what seems like our first evening fixture for months. Anybody remember last year's fixture between our promotion-chasing sides!? It's a game that is etched in my memory, and in my DVD player, as being quite simply the greatest game of football seen here for many, many years. It had everything. It ended 4-3 to Pools of course, but that's not half of the story. Former Pools striker, Steve Howard, notched after only two minutes, with the Hatters eventually taking a 3-2 lead well into the second half. What followed in those last few minutes was not just surreal, but spectacular. A throw in down the right flank was chucked in, Mark Tinkler held it up on the edge of the box before laying it out to the 25 yard mark into the path of Hugh Robertson... well, you know the rest of that particular Goal Of The Season don't you! As if this wasn't enough, Boyd stuck away a late penner to win it, but it was a close thing with the last kick of the game when Luton scored only for it

to be ruled offside. I tell yer, if every game was like that one we'd have 7,500 in every week, with queues round the block for tickets! Let's hope tonight's match is half as good.

## PREDICTION PROWESS!

One of my good football-mad mates, Mark Flanagan, is Sports Editor for the Doncaster evening paper, and he's always quick to ask me for a comment on what's going on at Pools, especially when it's Pools V Donny time. However, this season his newspaper did an "Eve Of Season" issue, where he got together a supporter of each of the League One clubs, and asked us to predict the Top Six, and the Bottom four, in our division. The results were printed in the issue, and all I can say is "Why on earth didn't I put a bet on?!" Bearing in mind this was done without a ball being kicked, and was texted to him whilst I was on holiday without the benefit of internet access to check on form, signings etc, my Top Six predictions were as follows. Hull, Luton, Tranmere, Pools, Sheff Weds, Brentford!!!! Even more astounding, is the fact that I was the sole contributor who placed ourselves AND Brentford in the Top 6. Better

still, 3 out of 4 bottom clubs are currently correct too, with only Wrexham's 10 point-deduction spoiling my forecast and preventing a clean-sweep. I'm going to ring him this week with my revised forecast, AND put a bet on at Joycey's. Pools to go up automatically, anybody?

## A FINE DISPLAY

Finally this week a special mention to the lads (all Pools fans, incidentally) who play 5-a-side at the Millhouse Leisure Centre on a Wednesday night for what can only be described as a top display of various Pools shirts!! It just goes to show what a lucrative market the replica shirt sector is, as on Wednesday we had the following: two brand new red away tops, one current home shirt, one current away shirt, two of last season's home kit, and me with a vintage DNO yellow away kit! In fact, the only non-Pools shirt on the night was a QPR top (very strange!). Little do they know which Pools delights I have in store for them over the next few weeks, as I've kept just about every Pools top for 2 decades. Mind, whether they'll fit or not is another matter...

Enjoy The Game.

MONKEY PUZZLE



# Reserves Report Williamson with **Martin Scott**

Martin Scott was pleased with his side's second half performance at The Vic last week.

**Coatings Plus Ltd.**

**Pools v Rotherham United.** The Reserve Team faced my old club Rotherham United last week in what was an entertaining match. The game was played at Victoria Park which in itself is a good experience for the Reserve Team players, particularly the younger lads who are in the squad.

Although we again named quite a young squad, we did include some of the older lads, with Jim Provett returning in goal and Micky Barron again featuring in defence. It's good to have Micky back involved and it helps the younger lads out a lot when they get the chance to play alongside some of the more experienced players.

Reserve Team football is a great way for the players to improve their fitness and prove to myself and Neale that they deserve their chance with the First Team. And full credit to all the boys, they

have all got stuck in and really battled away for the team.

Rotherham fielded a very youthful team, who were a lot younger than ours and they started the game very brightly. They had a lot of energy and performed very well in the first forty five minutes. We had some good chances in the first half, but Rotherham took the lead and we went in 1-0 down at half time.

The lads continued to work away though and we fully deserved to get back on level terms when Eifion Williams hit a powerful shot through the legs of their goalkeeper. Eifion showed good composure in front of goal and, again, it was good to have him involved and back on the scoresheet.

Although we dominated the second period, we couldn't find the goal that would have won the game for us. We did have a

few good chances but it was not to be. Overall, the lads put in a pleasing second half performance and showed good spirit to keep plugging away and I know they all enjoyed playing on the Victoria Park pitch.

The draw keeps us up there in the table and, if you consider this is only our first season in this higher league, our progress has been really good. We have found ourselves playing against some tough teams but the lads have never let themselves down and we're looking to continue this throughout the rest of the season.

**Final Score: 1-1**

**Pools:** Provett, Craddock, Brackstone, S Turnbull, Barron, Low, Istead, P Turnbull, Williams, Appleby, Robson

**Subs:** N Wilkinson, Fox, J Wilkinson, Maidens, Manson



## Pontins Holidays' League Premier Division LEAGUE TABLE 2004-2005



	Premier Division	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Barnsley	13	8	3	2	27	13	+14	27
2	Hull City	11	6	4	1	24	16	+8	22
3	Sheffield Wednesday	13	7	1	5	24	20	+4	22
4	Hartlepool United	14	6	4	4	21	19	+2	22
5	Stoke City	14	6	3	5	17	14	+3	21
6	Rotherham United	13	5	5	3	24	18	+6	20
7	Preston North End	12	6	1	5	20	24	-4	19
8	Sheffield United	14	4	4	6	25	29	-4	16
9	Walsall	13	4	2	7	27	27	0	14
10	Tranmere Rovers	13	4	2	7	13	18	-5	14
11	Wigan Athletic	14	3	3	8	13	23	-10	12
12	Bradford City	14	2	4	8	14	28	-14	10

# Treatment Room with **JOHN MURRAY**



Physio John Murray updates us on the latest from the Treatment Room.

Well, after a quiet week last week, we've had a little more to do this weekend in the Treatment Room. Fortunately though, we have not picked up any new injuries and things are looking OK going into tonight's game.

A couple of the players took knocks during Saturday's game against Brentford, but neither was too serious. Mark Tinkler came off with a head injury but we've had him assessed and he

has made a complete recovery and trained on Monday.

Antony Sweeney also took a knock late on in the game on Saturday, but again, he's recovered well and also joined in training yesterday.

Darrell Clarke has returned from his week at Lilleshall, which he enjoyed and he is progressing well. Darrell is working immensely hard doing cardio and strengthening work and he'll also be doing some

exercises in the pool. We'll be working him hard over the next four weeks and we'll see how things are at the end of that.

We've got a busy schedule ahead of us now, with a midweek game almost every week between now and the end of the season and I'm hoping things remain as quiet for me in the Treatment Room as they have been in recent weeks.

# Fitness with **DAN LEWIS**



Fitness Coach Dan Lewis keeps us up to date on the players' training regime.

New players to the club often comment upon the fitness levels of the squad as a whole. Jon Daly has certainly had a tough start to his training career at Hartlepool United. He completed a reserve game last Monday, followed by a hard endurance session on Tuesday. Due to the fact that he was cup-tied for the Brentford game, he was also lucky enough to complete extra running in the latter part of the week. He has responded well though and I am sure he will begin to appreciate the benefits of the all the hard work.

We now face a period which is going to be physically very demanding on the players. Success in the FA Cup has meant league games having to be rearranged, and naturally the games have been scheduled for mid-week. Therefore the players now face games on Saturday and Tuesday for the next few weeks. This reduces the opportunity for the players to work on their conditioning, with much of the training focusing on recovery, and ensuring the players can compete throughout the games.

To this end, the players will be required to complete warm down sessions after games, clearly with a number of these sessions taking place on Sundays.

The players all complete a session in an outdoor swimming pool, designed to remove the waste products produced as a result of exercise from their bodies. Although this is not the most enjoyable session for the players, they appreciate the fact that their bodies recover more quickly.



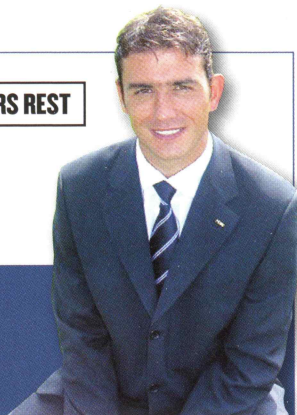
# Youth Team with Paul Stephenson

REG VARDY



HUDSONS TAXIS

TRAVELERS REST



Youth Team Coach Paul Stephenson reflects on his side's first game in Merit Division One.

Next Home Game: Saturday March 5th 11.00 Darlington

We had very difficult conditions to contend with in our game against Scunthorpe United but the performance was very pleasing, especially considering the number of younger lads we played.

We started the game with two Under 16s, Kyle Anderson and Andy Hetherington, in the back four and with Tony Davison, an Under 17, in goal. These games provide these lads with some great experience for them and the lads acquitted themselves very well.

We then introduced another Under 16 player, Sean Wood after sixty minutes when he replaced Stephen Turnbull and Damien Mullen also played the last twenty minutes so we finished the game with four Under 16s.

It is really useful to see those boys in action so we can assess how they can cope with football at our level, taking into consideration the fact that the physical demands are greater than when playing in their own age group. As the 1-1 score

line suggests, the young lads and the rest of the team more than held their own.

We had some good chances to score early on through James Brown and Martin Robinson and, considering the fact that we had the wind in the first half, we should really have gone in one or two nil up. That was the only disappointing aspect of the game, we should really have scored more goals and used the wind advantage more in the opening period.

The second half was tougher for us, as they were a big strong side and played almost their full quota of Under 19 players. Their strength showed midway through the second period when they went 1-0 up but our lads kept plugging away and we got a deserved equaliser.

Our goal came from a really good break by James Brown, who cut inside and shot with his left foot. Although this was deflected, the

ball fell straight into the path of Philip Turnbull, who showed great appetite to get forward quite late in the game and coolly side foot it home from eight yards.

There were also some very good performances from our Under 19s who featured in the game, none more so than Carl Jones. He was outstanding at the back and did well to continue playing after knocking his shin against the post whilst clearing the ball off the line early in the first half. He showed immense bravery to carry on and this is what we are looking for at this level.

Looking ahead to the weekend's fixture against Wigan Athletic, I am sure the strength of their team will be dependant on how many senior players they feature. I will use the game as an opportunity to play a very good team but also to blood a couple more of the Under 16s to see how they are progressing and this will allow me a clearer view on making decisions on their futures.



UMBRO YOUTH ALLIANCE  
MERIT DIVISION ONE  
FIXTURES 2004/05

<b>Saturday February 12th</b>	Scunthorpe United	Home	11.30	<b>Saturday April 2nd</b>	Mansfield	Home	11.00
<b>Saturday February 19th</b>	Wigan Athletic	Away	12.00	<b>Saturday April 9th</b>	Port Vale	Away	12.00
<b>Saturday February 26th</b>	Tranmere Rovers	Away	12.00	<b>Saturday April 16th</b>	Chesterfield	Away	12.00
<b>Saturday March 5th</b>	Darlington	Home	11.00	<b>Saturday April 23rd</b>	Burnley	Away	12.00
<b>Saturday March 19th</b>	Oldham	Home	TBC	*Venue for home fixtures to be confirmed.			
For more info on the Youth Team visit <a href="http://www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk">www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk</a>							

# Youth Team PROFILES

We catch up with two stars of Pools youth team.



YOUTH PROFILES

Steven Istead

-Steven Istead is sponsored by Industrial Corporate Finance Ltd



Steven Istead burst on to the scene in November 2002 when he came on as a substitute against Bristol Rovers at The Vic.

At the time, he was the Club's youngest ever player and almost made an immediate impact when, with his first

touch, he hit the post. "It was unbelievable to be given a chance," he admits. "It would be have been even better if the ball had looped in to the net rather than coming out off the post though!" The pacy winger has also been used up front in the past couple of seasons by Neale

Cooper as he looks to develop his game. It's a big year for the 18-year-old with his sights set on a professional contract with the Club. "That's the target and hopefully I can achieve it - I have confidence in my ability and I am determined to show what I can do."



YOUTH PROFILES

Andy Appleby

-Andy Appleby is sponsored by Greenlake Leisure Ltd



Who can forget Andy Appleby's first goal for the First Team against Bournemouth in November?

Neale Cooper threw on the young striker with his side trailing by two goals to one and staring a first home defeat of the season full in the face. After Michael Nelson scored a late equaliser you'd have been forgiven for thinking that was the end of the drama...

"It was unbelievable," Appleby recalls. "Nelse got us back on level terms and we had our tails up and were really pushing for the winner."

"I got through in the box and scored but the ref said I was being fouled, disallowed the goal and awarded a penalty."

Adam Boyd missed the resultant spot-kick and the game looked likely to end all square until

Appleby had his final, crucial say with just seconds left on the clock.

"We got a free kick on the edge of the box and Gavin Strachan fired it in low and I got a touch to turn it in - it was a great feeling and something I will never forget." Since then the young striker has been included on the bench a number of times and made his first start in the FA Cup Third Round replay at Boston United.



## Director of Youth Ian Kerr updates us on the latest from the Centre of Excellence.



Welcome everyone to tonight's fixture with Luton Town. This is a massive game for us and an opportunity to bridge the gap between ourselves and the teams above.

This obviously will not be an easy task but everyone will be up for the fight and hopefully we can extend our unbeaten home run.

We have recently launched the latest in our series of Kerr's Coaching Challenges. In this edition, we give information and guidance on the technique of turning and set the young player two challenges to measure their ability and progress. This can be found on Pools World right now. Log on at hartlepoolunited.co.uk, click on Highlight Channel and Coaching Corner.

On Sunday, our schoolboys played Darlington and it was

making in terms of recruitment and technical development at schoolboy level.

Tonight, our young players from the Under 9s and Under 10s will be giving a 'keep up' display on the pitch. We asked the boys to get their own personal sponsorship and the response has been fantastic. We are so pleased with the commitment and support we receive at these age ranges and I know how much the boys and their parents are looking forward to tonight and their first opportunity to step onto the hallowed turf at Victoria Park.

Tomorrow, HUDSA are holding an event at Hartlepool Working Men's Club. I am sure this will be a tremendous night and very enjoyable for everyone. Neale and Martin will be team captains in our 'Question of Sport' slot and the players will be involved



One of the young boys in training

always great fixtures and the facilities at York are always good to play on. Details of travel will be provided to the boys during the course of this week.

Lastly, once again, thank you very much for your attendance tonight. As always,

**"We are so pleased with the commitment and support we receive at these age ranges and I know how much the boys and their parents are looking forward to tonight ..."**

another big test for the boys. There are a lot of positive signs being shown at Centre of Excellence level and we are very happy with the progress we are

in the 'Weakest Link'. I'm sure there will be a lot of tales to tell after the night. Next weekend, our schoolboys are at York City. These are

your support is very much appreciated and please get behind the team to give us the magnificent support that you always give.

## Ian Kerr welcomes some new sponsors of the Centre of Excellence.



Tonight we welcome Dave Craven from NSS who has recently sponsored our Under 9 and Under 10 teams.

To Dave, thanks very much for your valued support and the boys look terrific in their new kit.

Also, Glamal, who recently sponsored our Centre of Excellence coaches, a big thank you for their support and the

coaches greatly appreciate the support given.

Lastly, we are always grateful for any support that is given and the backing we have received to date has been exceptional. We will continue to work together with local businesses and community to ensure that Hartlepool United's Youth Development Programme remains effective and player-productive.



C of E players show off their kit



## HARTLEPOOL UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE SPONSORS

### U9's

Aiden Lamb  
Connor Campbell  
Jake Larkin  
Evan McEvoy  
Harrison Smith  
Darryl Naylor  
Matthew Davison  
Kieran Laking  
Jordan Robertson  
Matthew Dawson  
Anthony Steele  
Joseph Hamblin  
Matthew Dixon  
Jason Taylor  
Matthew Davison  
Liam Ross  
Brynley Fox

### U10's

Harry Hooks  
Stephen Flounders  
Harry Cosgrove  
Max Stephenson  
Ross Holland  
Kieran Stares  
Jacob Close  
Elliot Longmore  
Christian Caswell  
Luke Farnan  
Carl O'Loughlin  
Bradley Stauch  
Carl Rochester  
William Clark  
Jordan Lavery  
Tyler Easton  
Lewis Green  
Matthew Brooks  
Ryan Lincoln  
Cameron Llewellyn  
Aaron Brown

### U11's

Ross Frankland  
Paul Murphy  
Callum Patton  
James Montgomery  
Elliot Woods  
Kaine Mosley  
Elliot Horton  
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Liam Inray  
Liam Gough  
Greg Rutherford  
Christopher Dodds  
Matthew Thomas  
Rhys Morris  
Matthew Smith

### U12's

Steven Hetherington  
Jake Noble  
Liam Belsham  
Ryan Dovenor  
Daley Hetherington  
James Sutton  
Paul Murphy  
Ben Ward  
Louis Herbert  
Liam Cook  
Jordan Richards  
Kyle Morris  
Andrew Loynes  
Warren Brown  
Jed Garthwaite

### U13's

Lee Andrews  
Reece Davison  
Kieron McDonald  
Grant Herbert  
James Hall  
Liam Judson  
Paul Johnson  
Lewis Turnbull  
Benjamin Twidle  
Luke Muir  
Daniel Clayton  
Christopher Jennings

### U14's

Jack Hope  
Thomas Gowlan  
Anthony Rogers  
Ryan Graham  
James Batie  
Christopher Killen  
Calum Maddison

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Foreman Recycling Limited

Thomas Heselt  
Christopher Killen  
Stephen Forster  
Shaun Hutchinson  
Sean Lavender  
Jo Craig  
Matthew Dale  
Shaun Brewster

### U15's

Mark Rochester  
Luke Preston  
Karl Willis  
Craig Ruddy  
Garry Stevens  
Ryan Graham  
Joseph Tait  
Matthew Hammerton  
Billy Gatenby  
Ross Molloy  
James McNab  
Ben Worton  
Calum Proudlock  
Matthew Tymon  
Liam Foreman  
Matthew Horner

### U16's

Kyle Anderson  
Sonny Andrews  
Luke Bythway  
Matthew Clarke  
James Debbage  
Thomas Haigh  
Graeme Heath  
Andrew Hetherington  
Andrew McIntosh  
Damen Mullen  
Matthew Noble  
Sean Wood  
Martin Young  
Andrew Ross  
John Rogers  
Lewis Collinson  
Tony Stephenson

### YOUTH TEAM

Neil Wilkinson  
Jack Wilkinson

Milwaukee Powertools Ltd  
Precision 2000 Ltd  
Guy Forster  
Mum & Dad  
Jayne & Paul Lavender  
Yvonne Craig  
RCBC  
Mr & Mrs Brewster

### SPONSOR

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Five Star Auto's  
Nana & Granda  
George & Graham Roofing Service  
Nanna  
D Brogan  
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JCM Retail Services Ltd  
Regency Windows N.E. Ltd  
Mum & Dad  
B Proudlock Joinery Services  
Box Clothing  
Jacqueline Foreman  
Gill Horner

### SPONSOR

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Hart Lane Motoport  
Mum & Dad  
Paul Haigh  
Nigel and Jacqui Heath  
Andrew Hetherington  
Keith McIntosh  
Team Flooring 01670 850907  
T & D Homeworks  
Smart Tile Ceramic Tiling  
Hughdel Fixers  
Twenty 3 Taxis  
Impress North & East Ltd  
Ravendale Foods Ltd  
Mum & Dad

### SPONSOR

HUFCSA  
Errol Bristow

Updated 14.02.05



# Playing FOR SUCCESS

Joel Porter meets with pupils from St Helens Primary School



Joel Porter recently visited the Pools Study Support Centre to take part in a question and answer session with pupils from St Helens Primary School. The pupils then wrote articles based on his answers. Here are two of them

Joel Porter is a professional football player. Joel is from Australia and is very good at football. He is married to a girl named Kirsty and has a little girl named Chloe. He loves to eat chicken and pasta and his favourite drink is Coke. Joel grew up in Australia, and came

to England to play football for Hartlepool. His favourite film is Grease and his favourite actor is Tom Cruise who starred in Jerry McGuire. His birthday is on Christmas Day and his star sign is Capricorn. Joel wears Adidas Predators and Nike when he plays football. Joel is into 60's and 70's music. He has lived in England for a year and a half. Joel's favourite football team is Manchester United and he knows his way around Hartlepool, Joel shops at Asda.

By Selina Allen

Joel Porter is a very good



Joel chats with the students

player. He comes from Australia and he would like to play for Australia in a World Cup. His favourite club is Manchester United and he most admires Eric Cantona. His agent brought him to England for trials, where he was noticed by Hartlepool United. In his spare time he plays on his PS2 on evolution Soccer 4. His

child is called Chloe and she will be two this month. His favourite food is pasta and chicken. His favourite book is the B.F.G by Roald Dahl. He enjoys helping out in the Hartlepool United Study Support Centre. Joel has scored 10 goals this season. I think that Joel is a good player.

By Ryan Squires

# Hartlepool United DISABLED SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION

Neil Appleyard gives us an update from the Disabled Supporters' Association



Hello everyone and welcome to our top of the table game with Luton Town, which promises to be one of the most exciting games of our season so far. The Hatters have been leaders for a very long time and after our defeat down there we will be certainly looking for revenge for that and to give our very realistic promotion chances a huge boost.

Things have been extremely exciting for HUDSA with the release of the "Whole lot of Poolie" CD and all the publicity that has surrounded this. In the three years that we have been formed we have done a number of interesting fund raising events but this is certainly the largest

venture so far and things like this are certainly raising the profile of not only the Association and the Football Club, but also that of Hartlepool in general. Events like this show what a caring and helpful town this is.

Tomorrow, the Weakest Link and Question of Sport evening will be held at Hartlepool Working Men's club. Again we are every excited about this and hope we have a sell out for the venue; I know that the players and the management team of Neale and Martin are certainly looking forward to it, so come along and have some fun.

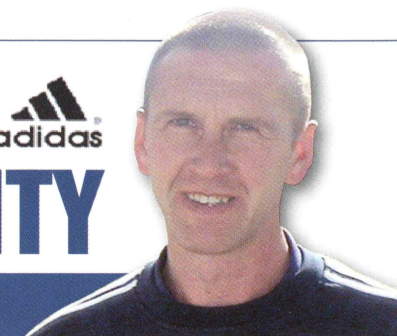
The good news just keeps on coming because I can tell you

that we are making progress towards our meeting /community room behind the Victoria Lounge. We are hoping to have a start date for this and I will keep you updated as time goes on.

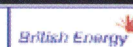
I'd also like to mention that Hudsa will be taking a coach to the following places: we will be going to Stockport, which costs £10.50, Bradford £9.00, Port Vale £11.50 or Southampton £24.00, Blackpool £12.00, Colchester £21.00 and finally Doncaster £9.00. If you are interested please call Steve Sharp on 07985501781 or Neil Appleyard on 07747735247.

Enjoy the game, all the Best Neil.

# Football IN THE COMMUNITY



Keith Nobbs updates us on the latest from the Football In The Community



## Network Rail £5000 Sponsorship

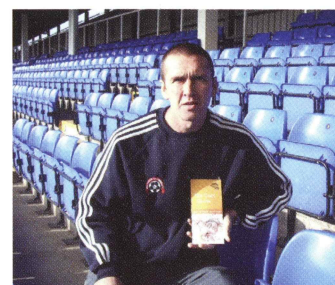
FITC have been working in schools in Hartlepool warning against the dangers of trespass and vandalism on or around railway lines. Encouraging children not to play on the tracks and directing them towards after school activities, holiday clubs and soccer courses. 'The Cool Guide' leaflets have been distributed to children who have attended coaching sessions at the school.

## Route Crime Facts

- Every year around 250 people are killed on Britain's railway system.
- Children as young as five years old have been caught putting objects on the track
- Children as young as eight years old have been seen 'playing chicken' in front of high speed trains
- Railway crime costs the industry approximately £150m per year
- Railway crime causes 11, 500 hours delay to train services each year

across the national network

- Overhead power cables have high voltage electricity running through them at 25, 000 volts
- 100 times more powerful than the electricity supply in your home
- Third rails have electricity at 750 volts passing through them. They are potentially the most dangerous to someone trespassing on the railway tracks because they look as if they are part of the track itself
- The third rail is NEVER switched off, not at night or even on Christmas Day
- Children do not have to touch cables or the third rail to get killed or injured - high voltage electricity can 'jump' up to 2.5m
- Points, where tracks move to switch the direction of the train, can trap feet causing serious injury
- Trains travel up to 225kph (125mph) and it can take up to 200m (1.25 miles) to stop (20 times the length of your average football pitch).



Keith Nobbs with the Network Rail Leaflet



Saint John Vianney pupils discuss The Cool Guide.



## KELLOGGS FROSTIES SPRING HALF TERM SOCCER COURSE/HOLIDAY CLUB 2005

### MANOR COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY,

Owton Manor Lane, Hartlepool, Registration At Rear Of Building In The Sports Hall (via pupil entrance)

1) Monday 14th to Friday 18th Feb 2005  
Time: 9.00am - 5.00pm Daily  
Age 8-13 years, Boys/Girls

(Price includes free excursion) Price: £35

2) Monday 14th to Thursday 17th Feb 2005, Time: 9.00am - 1.00pm Daily  
Age: 6-7 years, Boys/Girls

(Price includes free gift) Price: £24

### DYKE HOUSE COMPREHENSIVE, Off Raby Road, Hartlepool

3) Monday 14th to Friday 18th February 2005,  
Time: 9.00am - 5.00pm Daily  
Age 8-13 years, Boys/Girls

(Price includes free excursion) Price: £35

4) Monday 14th to Thursday 17th February 2005,  
Time: 9.00am - 1.00pm Daily  
Age: 6-7 years, Boys/Girls

(Price includes free gift) Price: £24



# Player HEAD 2 HEAD

## Round 2

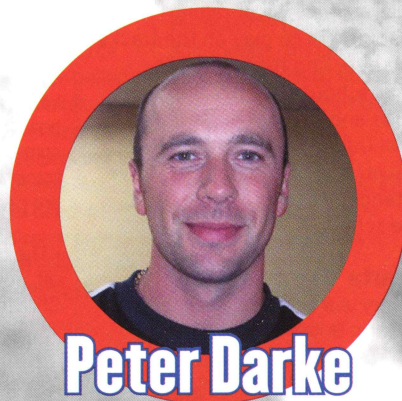
We recommence the search for the King of football trivia at The Vic.

We return to Round Two of the Head 2 Head this week as we look for the next contestant to make it through to the Quarter Finals. This latest clash sees Kit Man Peter Darke come up against Welsh striker Eifion Williams.

While Darke will be looking to progress after seeing off the challenge of Jack Ross in Round One, Williams will be determined to push on into the next round - but which of the men will run out victorious? With Darke up first - let's find out...

### Questions

1. Which Club did Sunderland buy defender Stephen Wright from?
2. Glenn Hoddle is the manager of which Club?
3. Where do Cambridge United play their home games?
4. Which Club did Dwight Yorke play for prior to joining Manchester United?
5. What is the nationality of Blackburn's goalkeeper, Brad Friedel?
6. Name the striker who recently signed for Norwich from Crewe Alexandra?
7. Which Club did Alan Shearer start his career with?
8. Which Club plays at Brisbane Road?
9. Which country won the 1974 World Cup?
10. Who scored the decisive goal for Pools in their 4-3 victory over Luton last season?



**Peter Darke**

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 1) Liverpool       | ✓ |
| 2) Wolves          | ✓ |
| 3) Abbey Stadium   | ✓ |
| 4) Aston Villa     | ✓ |
| 5) American        | ✓ |
| 6) -               | ✗ |
| 7) Southampton     | ✓ |
| 8) Stockport       | ✗ |
| 9) West Germany    | ✓ |
| 10) Hugh Robertson | ✗ |

7

Well, Darke has kicked off in impressive form with a very respectable seven out of ten and, while he's certain to be pleased with his score - how will he fare against Eifion's attack?

# Player HEAD 2 HEAD

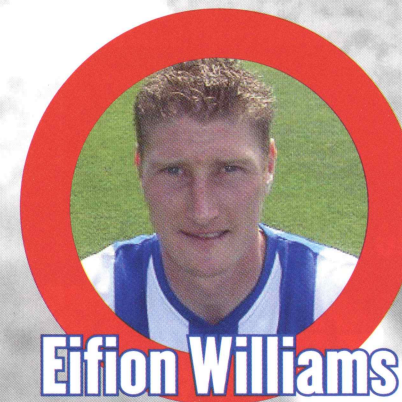
## Round 2

We recommence the search for the King of football trivia at The Vic.

With Peter Darke having gained an impressive seven out of ten, Eifion's task was not an easy one. The striker was geared up ahead of the competition but could he edge past the Kit Man?

### Questions

1. Which Club did Sunderland buy defender Stephen Wright from?
2. Glenn Hoddle is the manager of which Club?
3. Where do Cambridge United play their home games?
4. Which Club did Dwight Yorke play for prior to joining Manchester United?
5. What is the nationality of Blackburn's goalkeeper, Brad Friedel?
6. Name the striker who recently signed for Norwich from Crewe Alexandra?
7. Which Club did Alan Shearer start his career with?
8. Which Club plays at Brisbane Road?
9. Which country won the 1974 World Cup?
10. Who scored the decisive goal for Pools in their 4-3 victory over Luton last season?



**Eifion Williams**

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 1) Liverpool     | ✓ |
| 2) Wolves        | ✓ |
| 3) -             | ✗ |
| 4) Aston Villa   | ✓ |
| 5) American      | ✓ |
| 6) Dean Ashton   | ✓ |
| 7) Southampton   | ✓ |
| 8) Leyton Orient | ✓ |
| 9) Brazil        | ✗ |
| 10) Adam Boyd    | ✓ |

8

Well it looks like the Welshman has won this tight contest by the slightest of margins, getting eight out of the ten questions right. Williams will now be looking forward to a place in the quarter-finals of the Head 2 Head competition.



# Player HEAD 2 HEAD Round 2

After that nail-biting encounter, we're now all eagerly awaiting the next clash in the Head 2 Head competition. In the next issue, we'll see Darrell Clarke come up against the man who fought his way into the competition - The Doc!

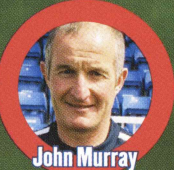

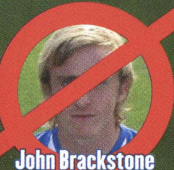
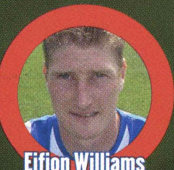
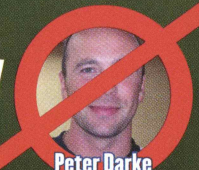

The Doc's enthusiasm for the competition is well known and, with him easing past Ben Clark to earn his place in Round Two with an impressive eight out of ten, he's definitely a serious contender.

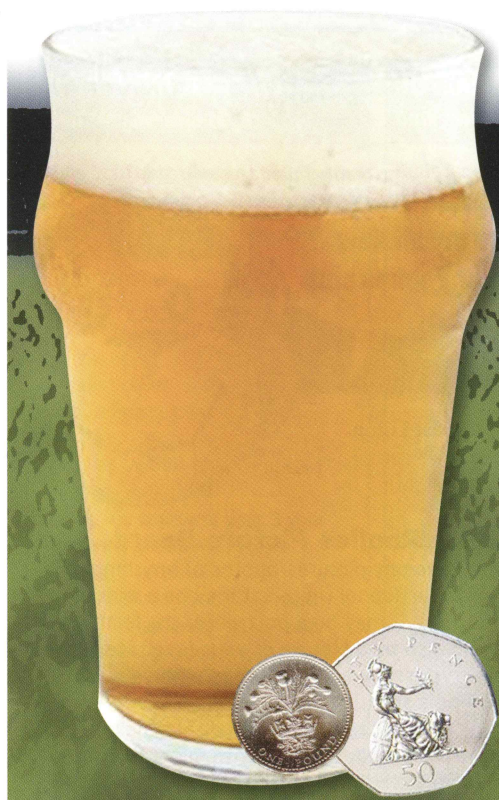
However, Darrell Clarke saw off the tough competition of Gavin Strachan in the previous round and will be determined to move into the Quarter Finals at the expense of Doctor Russell.

Check out our matchday programme for the Brentford league game to find out which of the two will run out victorious and become the last competitor to make it into the Quarter Finals.

## The Draw

 Ian Gallagher	V	 Jim Provett
 Matty Robson	V	 Adam Boyd
 Micky Barron	V	 Mark Tinkler
 Martin Scott	V	 Ian McRae

 John Murray	V	 Ritchie Humphreys
 John Brackstone	V	 Andrew Appleby
 Eifion Williams	V	 Peter Darke
 Darrell Clarke	V	 The Doc



## Down at THE VIC



### Beer We Go!

There will be lager and bitter available prior to the match today from a bar inside the Cameron's Brewery Stand and the Cyril Knowles stand here at The Vic. With prices at just £1.50 why not pop along early and enjoy a pre-match pint at Victoria Park?

These bar will open from 2.00pm this afternoon and at 6.45pm for evening kick-offs.

Cheers.



## Norton Hotel & Tea Rooms, Seaton Carew

En-Suite Single, Twin & Double Rooms  
and Family Rooms available

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(including Full English Breakfast)

The Green, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool

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Fax: 01429 283777

## BRIERTON COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE

The Community Centre for ALL of  
your families needs



### Facilities Available for Hire

- 4 x Bad Court large Sports Hall
- 2 x Small Sports Hall
- 1 x Dance Studio
- 2 x Adult Football Pitches
- 1 x Junior Football Pitch
- 1 x Rugby Pitch
- 2 x Floodlit Netball/Basketball Courts
- Meeting Room
- 4 x Floodlit Netball Courts

### Membership & Pricing

We operate an open pricing policy. Membership concessions available To Children, OAP's & Students. Membership price is cheaper than Non Membership Prices.

### Fitness Suite Info

Top of the Range, State of the art Fitness Suite with Cardio & Resistance Machines. Everyone must have an Induction to Use this facility. Induction's take place twice a week and must be booked & paid for in advance.

### Activities for Children

Netball, Badminton Trampoline & Basketball ages 7+  
Gymnastics ages 5+  
Jujitsu, Karate & Taekwondo ages 7+  
Fitness Suite for ages 14+  
Learn to Swim Courses ages 5+  
Children's Sporting Birthday Parties  
HUFC- Football for Juniors - Saturday

### Activities for Adults

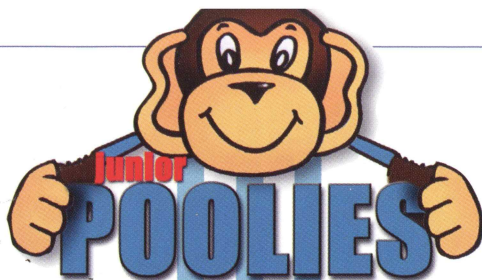
Fitness Suite including GP Referrals  
& Women Only Sessions  
Karate, Jujitsu, Tai Chi & Taekwondo  
Aerobics, Step & Circuit Classes  
Belly Dancing & Yoga Classes  
Trampoline, Badminton & Netball

### Contact Details:-

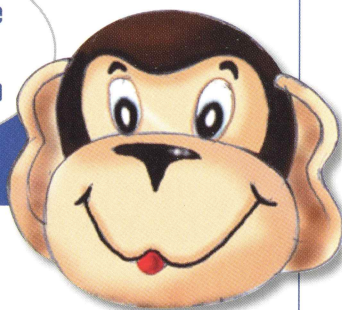
B.C.S.C, CATCOTE ROAD,  
HARTLEPOOL  
TS25 4BY  
TEL: 01429 287 606  
Entrance to Sports Centre is up Brierton Lane past the Pink Domino.

**\*\*NEW SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC ON EVERY SATURDAY 11-1**





Welcome everyone  
to my all New  
Junior Poolies club



HUFC - Supporting our Young Supporters.

Good evening Junior Poolies and welcome to tonight's match against Luton Town. There was a great atmosphere here on Saturday, lets see if we can create the same level of noise and get behind the players again tonight!! Up the Pools!!!!

## Half-Time Teaser

Can you find 8 different things you are likely to see from your seat at Victoria Park?? (tip: you could find some answers diagonally)

G U L B A L L Q H I  
H S Y O K S O R P A  
S A T D N U S E L H  
T G S A O F X G V A  
U B F Y D P Q A K N  
O C V L H I V N D G  
G L P U O T U A R U  
U E K F L C W M E S  
D A E Y E H L J G T  
A D S R E Y A L P Y

## Junior Poolies Picture Board

If you have any pictures/photos of anything to do with Hartlepool United, it may be a drawing of H'Angus, it may be a portrait of the Manager, it could also be a picture of your favourite Players, possibly a holiday snap with you in your Pools shirt!!!

Any pictures we receive we will display here on the Picture Board. The best ones might even get into the match-day programme!!!

\*Remember to put your junior poolies Membership Number on the back of your picture along with your Name, Age, and Address. **please note: we cannot return any pictures/photos.**

Alternatively Send in your pictures / Good Luck messages to:

Junior Poolies, Victoria Park, Clarence Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8BZ

## Birthday Board

This Saturday young Poolie **Andrew Jeffery** celebrates his 9th Birthday. Andrew's favorite player is Hugh Robertson.

## Full-Time Tester

**February Prize give-away.** To win the chance to get your hands on an Autographed Ball Signed by all the Hartlepool players, simply complete the question below and e-mail your answer to: juniorpoolies@hartlepoolunited.co.uk. Subject: February prize. Or alternatively send them into: Junior Poolies, Hartlepool United, Victoria Park, Clarence Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8BZ.

## Who scored the first Pools goal of 2005?

Please make sure you write your name, address, and membership number along with the answer clearly. Answers must be in no later than February 24th.

## YOUNGSTERS BACKING US!

Good Luck Messages from Junior Poolies Members. Can **you** imagine what goes through the minds of the Pools players in the dressing room before every match? Can **you** help their pre-match preparations and settle their nerves?

Now is **your** chance to give your words of encouragement to the players before every game!!

Send your messages in to [juniormpoolies@hartlepoolunited.co.uk](mailto:juniormpoolies@hartlepoolunited.co.uk) or alternatively you can post them to **Junior Poolies, Victoria Park, Clarence Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8BZ.**

Make sure you put the subject Good Luck HUFC on your message.

**Your messages will be displayed in the First Team dressing room for all your Hero's to read!!!**

## JUNIOR POOLIES CLUB

### Club Membership (0-3)

Runs from birth until just before 4th birthday. On joining you will receive...

- Welcome letter from the manager
- HUFC height chart
- A-Z of Pools poster
- Pools bib
- Pools beaker
- Pools Beanie bear
- Membership card
- Signed membership certificate

During the course of your 3 year membership you will receive...

- HUFC Birthday cards & Present
- HUFC Christmas cards & Present
- Your name to appear in the match day programme on your birthday
- Quarterly Newsletter

## JUNIOR POOLIES CLUB

### Club Membership (4-9)

Runs for one year from date of enrolment. On joining you will receive.

- Welcome letter from the manager
- Pools baseball cap
- Pools Pin-badge
- Signed Team Poster
- HUFC height chart
- Official Pools Mug
- A-Z of Pools poster
- Pools stationery set
- Membership card
- Signed membership certificate
- 2 Cinema tickets

During the year of your membership you will receive...

- HUFC Birthday card
- HUFC Christmas card
- Your name to appear in the match day programme on your birthday
- Quarterly Newsletter

## JUNIOR POOLIES CLUB

### Club Membership (10-14)

Runs for one year from date of enrolment. On joining you will receive...

- Welcome letter from the manager
- Pools baseball cap
- Stationery set
- Pools Scarf
- Pools Pin-badge
- Team poster signed
- 2 cinema tickets
- Membership card
- Signed membership certificate

During the year of your membership you will receive...

- HUFC Birthday card
- HUFC Christmas card
- Your name to appear in the match day programme on your birthday
- Quarterly Newsletter

All members will also be entitled to FREE entry to any junior poolies events, FREE entry to reserve matches, FREE entry of a monthly prize draw for an autographed ball, FREE entry of competitions throughout the year, and DISCOUNTS off FITC coaching courses.

## JUNIOR POOLIES ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 0-14.

Return to: Junior Poolies, Hartlepool United Football Club, Victoria Park, Clarence Road, Hartlepool TS24 8BZ  
Tel: 01429 272584 ex.3 Fax: 01429 863007 Website: [www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk](http://www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk)

Master/Miss ..... Forename/s ..... Surname: .....

Date of Birth: ..... My secret password (12 digits max) .....

Favourite Player ..... School Attending (if applicable) .....

Address ..... Post Code: .....

Telephone: ..... E-mail address: .....

• Please enclose one passport size photograph for Membership card.

Signature (parent or guardian): .. Date: .....

### Parental Consent

We must obtain the consent of the parent/guardian for possible future use of any photographs of the applicant/s to be used in the programme and/or the official junior poolies web page taken from any junior poolies events/competitions.

If you do wish details to appear within the HUFC programme/web page please sign below.

I give my consent for Hartlepool United to include details of.....  
(name of applicant/s) within any matchday programme/HUFC web page and release Hartlepool United from any liability that may arise due to the publication of such information.

Signature (parent or guardian): ..... Date: .....

(If the above is not signed only the applicant/s name would appear in the matchday programme/ official web page)

### Data Protection

How we will use your information. We will keep the information you provide with other information we have from your dealings with us and our commercial partners secure (whether the information is paper based or held in our computerised databases) and will use it to:

- Administer any services and/or products we provide you with
- Contact you by e-mail. If you do not want to be contacted by e-mail please tick this box ☐
- Hartlepool United Football Club reserve the right to offer an alternative gift of equivalent value.

### Payment Details Junior Poolies (Photocopies accepted)

Annual Membership Fee £15 (+ £2.50 post & packaging of membership pack)

Junior Poolies Club, 3 year membership (0-3) £40 (+p&p)

Please allow 21 days for delivery

Telephone or call into the Club Shop for Method of Payment.



# Football's Future

Cash in on our support for:

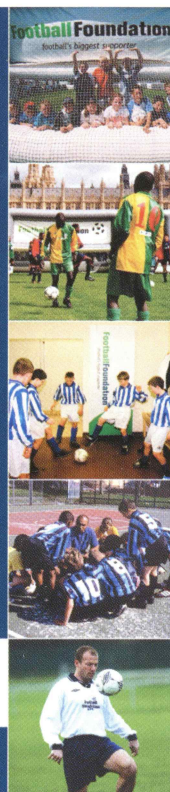
- pitches
- social inclusion projects
- changing rooms
- education schemes
- kit and equipment
- pavilions



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football's biggest supporter

www.footballfoundation.org.uk Helpline 0800 0277766



## Port Vale



**Port Vale Football Club**  
Saturday 19th February  
Kick Off - 7.00 pm

### General Info:

Port Vale Football Club  
Hamil Road,  
Burslem,  
Stoke on Trent,  
Staffs,  
ST6 1AW

Main Reception: **01782655800**  
Ticket Office: **08702242100**  
Club Shop: **01782833545**

### Ticket Prices/Information:

Adults £16  
Students, OAPs £10  
Children £7  
Disabled supporters need to  
phone the Port Vale ticket office  
to book seats

### How To Get There (From the North):

(Check out Route Planner at  
hartlepoolunited.co.uk - click on  
Tickets and then Route Planner)

### By Road:

Leave M6 at Junction 16  
and take the A500 South to  
Stoke on Trent. In approx six  
miles take the exit signposted  
Tunstall (A527). At the  
roundabout take a left turning  
(second exit signposted  
Tunstall A527, Longport Road).  
After 0.5 miles turn right  
on to the B501 (second exit,  
Newcastle Street) at the small  
roundabout. Carry on up to  
the next roundabout and go  
straight across the cross-roads  
into Moorland Road. Take the  
second left on to Hamil Road  
and Vale Park is on the left.

### By Rail:

Important maintenance and  
engineering work is being

carried out at Stoke-on-  
Trent from May 18th until  
September 27th so there will  
be no train service in this area  
during this period.

### Parking:

Hamil Road car park (zone C):  
£3.50 per car, £20.00  
per coach, £12.50 per min-  
bus. Normid car park: £4.00  
per car.

### Around The Ground:

Vale Park is situated in  
Burslem, Stoke on Trent  
and has been home of the  
Valiants for more than fifty  
years. The ground is made up  
of four major stands called  
the Lorne Street Stand, The  
Carling Syand, the Big Stand,  
which has the Disabled to one  
side and the Family Stand  
to the other. The Phones 4U  
Stand is located on Hamil  
Road and houses up to 4,500  
away supporters.

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PAY ALL NIGHT (6PM-11PM) FOR ONLY £10 selected nights  
FREE MEMBERSHIP ON PRODUCTION OF THIS ADVERT\*

7 FULL SIZE SNOOKER TABLES - 2 AMERICAN POOL - 1 ENGLISH POOL - DARTS  
FULLY LICENSED BAR - SNACKS AVAILABLE

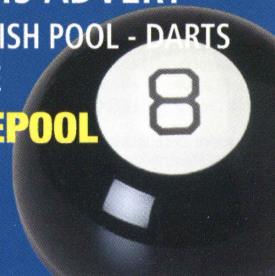
**TITAN HOUSE PARK ROAD HARTLEPOOL**

above chinese buffet restaurant

**01429 278347**

\*MUST BE OVER 14 YEARS OF AGE

Prices correct at time of print. Terms and Conditions apply



EAST DURHAM  
& HOUGHALL  
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TRAINING  
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Sport  
&  
Education  
together!

Anywhere else is **JUST** a College!

For a Prospectus contact Student Services on 0191 5188222/8253 or visit the website @ www.edhcc.ac.uk



Saturday February 12th 2005 KO 3.00pm  
Victoria Park, 7,580



Photo Credit  
- FRANK REID



**Hartlepool United** 0

GOALS: -



**Brentford** 1

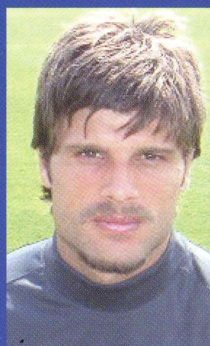
GOALS: Rankin

**TEAM:** Konstantopoulos, Ross, Robertson, Westwood, Nelson, Humphreys, Sweeney, Tinkler, Clark, Porter, Boyd.

**SUBS:** Provett, Barron, Strachan, Istead, Williams.

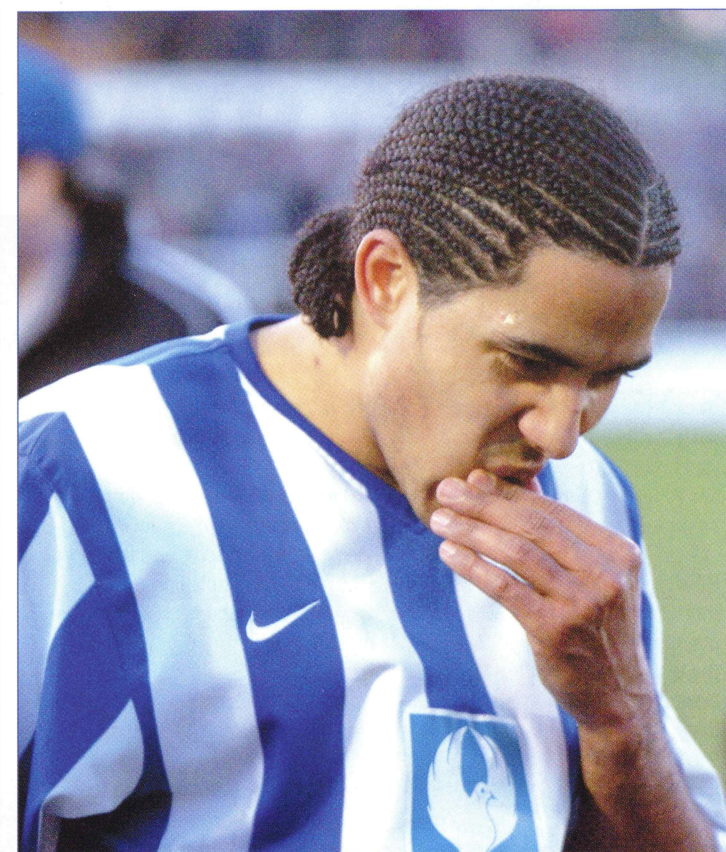
## STAR MAN: Dimitrios Konstantopoulos

The goalkeeper had little chance to prevent the only goal of the game and was otherwise his usual dominant self. He made a fantastic penalty save down to his right very early in the match and looked secure throughout. Growing in confidence with every match, the goalkeeper did not deserve to be on the losing side.



## COOPER'S COMMENT:

I can't fault the players' effort but it just wasn't meant to be for us this afternoon. We battled away in difficult conditions, which didn't really suit the way we try to play. The red card affected the game obviously and losing Mark Tinkler too was a massive blow. It would have been nice for the players and the fans to go to a Premiership side in the next round but it simply wasn't our day.







# Happy TO STAY

Jack Ross is happy with things in the North East right now, as Northern Echo Sports Editor Nick Loughlin found out recently.

Jack Ross admits he's content with life at Hartlepool United right now. Three months ago, the defender admitted he was seeking a return to Scotland.

Ross moved from Clyde last summer on a free transfer and had played his part in helped Pool to the upper reaches of the League One table ahead of tonight's tasty encounter with Luton. But a bout of homesickness had him pining for a return home as 2004 came to a close and, with the transfer window open for January, his sights were set on a move home.

**"the transfer window is shut and I feel quite content really..."**

Now, however, he cuts a different figure and is relishing the chance to steer Pool higher in the table. He admitted: "It has been a difficult time for me, but I always wanted to stay here and play for the club.

"My girlfriend is back in Scotland, but I get the chance to go back up there regularly - after the Chesterfield game I was back up to Scotland for a couple of days which was nice.

"I've been injured for a while dur-

ing my time here as well, so that didn't help my situation.

"Maybe there was a bit of homesickness there for me, but I think I perhaps wanted too much too soon. "I wanted to get playing well straight away and feel comfortable at the club.

"At Clyde I was captain and I had been there a while as well, so I was happy with the situation there, but I wanted to come to England and Hartlepool. "I'm really glad I'm staying here and I'm happy at the club.

"the transfer window is shut and I feel quite content really, and excited about the rest of the season."

And Ross admitted the experience of some friends has helped make his decision even easier. He revealed: "Some of my friends work away and I said a couple of weeks ago that they had told me to get my head down and stay.

"They are abroad for months on end and they've told me to just get on with it as I don't know when I've got it good.

"I was talking to a Hartlepool supporter a couple of weeks back, he had read about it and, at the reserve game he was asking me about them.

"At one time, there was three of



Happier times for Ross

them working away and one of them really had it bad, life was really boring for him. "It made me think about my situation and if I'm honest, I'm in a position I enjoy and doing a job I love.

**"I'm in a position I enjoy and doing a job I love."**

"It's a good job and, as I've said, I'm comfortable at the club."

Ross is part of a back line looking more than comfortable, with five clean sheets kept in the last seven away games.

In the previous seven away games, Pool conceded 15 times. He said: "We've kept a lot of clean sheets now in this run we are on and to be honest, I didn't realise how many it was until before the Chesterfield game.

**"before we know it, we are approaching the end of the season in a strong position."**

"Before Christmas we were leaking goals and, if you want to be at the right end of the league table, you cannot do it.

"But we've stopped doing it now and tightened up - long may it continue.

"We've got a settled back four and a good understanding now. We work well as a unit and the four in front of us do a good job as well.

"They can dig in when needed and Ritchie and Sweets have the good engines on them as well.

"They work hard and they don't leave us exposed. But a lot of it is down to the whole team spirit we have here.

"I think it's made a big difference for me personally to come back in fit and I'm enjoying my football - but in this team it's hard not to enjoy it."

Pool have pushed themselves to the fringe of the promotion race. Sitting in fifth spot ahead of tonight's encounter with the long-time league leaders, they have gradually moved into the play-off zone and closed the gap at the top thanks to a storming run of seven wins and two draws from the last nine league games.

While others drop points, Pool are picking them up apace and Ross added: "A lot of the results in the league are going in our favour, other teams are dropping points and we are winning a lot of our games.

"We have a couple of games in hand on teams and, OK, so we might not have the points from them, but it will

make other teams look at us and wonder.

"Chesterfield wasn't a game in hand, but it was another win and another win and another game down the line.

"There seems to be a lot of draws among the other teams at the moment and, before we know it, we are approaching the end of the season in a strong position.






"There's so much confidence and belief in this squad. I commented on that a few weeks ago, I think it was before the home game with Bristol City.

"The feeling before the game among the lads was good and we gave a great performance. "It's not cockiness or over-confidence, it's just a genuine belief in what we do - there is a difference between confidence and over confidence."





[illegible]

	Full red block denotes player appearance	<b>1</b>	Goals scored
	Half red block & number denotes substitute appearance & player replaced	<b>p</b>	Scored from Penalty
<b>SNU</b>	Substitute not used	<b>OFF</b>	Player Sent Off
	Denotes loan player	<b>+</b>	Opponents own goal
			Through to next round of Cup
			Knocked out of Cup

## leaguable

TEAM	P	HW	HD	HL	HGF	HGA	AW	AD	AL	AGF	AGA	Pts	GD
Luton	31	11	4	1	30	10	7	5	3	24	20	24	63
Hull	31	11	3	1	30	11	7	2	7	27	28	18	59
Tranmere	32	10	4	2	30	16	6	6	4	22	23	13	58
Sheff Wed	32	7	4	5	22	18	7	6	3	33	20	17	52
Hartlepool	29	12	2	0	33	13	4	2	9	17	26	11	52
Brentford	30	12	1	3	25	15	3	4	7	11	23	-2	50
Swindon	32	9	3	4	31	21	5	3	8	21	24	7	48
Bradford	32	5	6	5	26	26	8	3	5	18	19	-1	48
Bournemouth	30	8	5	2	32	17	5	3	7	21	23	13	47
Bristol City	32	6	5	5	31	19	5	7	4	21	23	10	45
Doncaster	32	8	6	2	23	14	3	5	8	16	28	-3	44
Chesterfield	32	7	6	3	23	16	4	4	8	16	25	-2	43
Walsall	32	9	4	3	31	23	2	5	9	16	31	-7	42
Barnsley	32	5	7	4	25	21	4	7	5	22	20	6	41
Huddersfield	32	6	5	5	24	21	4	4	8	26	29	0	39
Port Vale	31	8	1	6	21	19	4	1	11	13	25	-10	38
Colchester	30	5	3	7	19	16	4	6	5	22	18	7	36
Oldham	31	7	3	5	31	24	3	3	10	12	27	-8	36
Blackpool	30	4	5	6	18	22	5	3	7	19	19	-4	35
Torquay	31	4	3	8	16	23	3	8	5	21	28	-14	32
Wimbledon	32	6	6	4	24	20	2	2	12	16	37	-17	32
Wrexham	32	5	6	5	20	28	4	5	7	19	29	-18	28
Peterborough	30	5	5	6	23	18	1	4	9	13	25	-7	27
Stockport	32	2	4	10	19	31	2	3	11	16	37	-33	11

**player appearances** 04/05

NAME	league		fa cup		carling cup		ldv vans	
	APS	GLS	APS	GLS	APS	GLS	APS	GLS
J. PROVETT	14	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
M. BARRON	8(1)	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
H. ROBERTSON	13(1)	2	4	-	-	-	-	-
M. TINKLER	26(1)	2	5	1	2	-	2	-
M. NELSON	25(1)	1	5	-	2	-	3	-
C. WESTWOOD	25(1)	4	6	2	2	-	2	-
D. CLARKE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R. HUMPHREYS	29	2	6	-	2	-	2(1)	-
E. WILLIAMS	20(5)	3	3	1	(2)	1	2	-
A. BOYD	28	14	6	3	2	1	1(1)	1
G. STRACHAN	10(7)	-	1(1)	-	2	-	2	1
J. ROSS	18(1)	-	5(1)	-	-	-	1	-
J. PORTER	23(3)	8	5	1	1(1)	-	3	1
A. SWEENEY	27	9	6	-	2	1	2	1
B. CLARK	7(2)	-	5(1)	-	-	-	1	-
K. BETSY	3(3)	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
M. ROBSON	13(1)	1	1(1)	1	2	-	2	-
J. BRACKSTONE	2(1)	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
S. ISTEAD	(13)	-	(6)	-	(1)	-	1(1)	-
D. KONSTAN-LOS	15(1)	-	5	-	1	-	3	-
D. CRADDOCK	2	-	-	-	1	-	(3)	-
J. WILKINSON	1(2)	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-
D. FOLEY	1(1)	-	(1)	-	(1)	-	(1)	-
A. APPLEBY	(12)	2	1(2)	-	-	-	(1)	-
M. WOODS	3(3)	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
A. POUTON	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
M. MAIDENS	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	-
L. GOBERN	1(0)	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
S. TURNBULL	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*Brackets denotes substitution appearance





**MANAGER:** NEALE COOPER

**Hartlepool United**

SCORE



**MANAGER:** MIKE NEWELL

**Luton Town**

SCORE

		PLAYED	SCORED
1	JIM PROVETT		
2	MICHAEL BARRON		
3	HUGH ROBERTSON		
4	MARK TINKLER		
5	MICHAEL NELSON		
6	CHRIS WESTWOOD		
7	DARRELL CLARKE		
8	RITCHIE HUMPHREYS		
9	EIFION WILLIAMS		
10	ADAM BOYD		
11	GAVIN STRACHAN		
12	JACK ROSS		
14	JOEL PORTER		
15	ANTONY SWEENEY		
16	JON DALY		
17	BEN CLARK		
18	MATTY ROBSON		
19	JOHN BRACKSTONE		
20	STEVEN ISTEAD		
21	DIMI KONSTANTOPOULOS		
22	DARREN CRADDOCK		
23	JACK WILKINSON		
26	DAVID FOLEY		
29	MICHAEL MAIDENS		

		PLAYED	SCORED
1	MARLON BERESFORD		
2	KEVIN FOLEY		
3	ALAN NEILSON		
5	RUSSELL PERRETT		
6	PAUL UNDERWOOD		
7	PAUL HUGHES		
8	KEVIN NICHOLLS		
9	9 ROWAN VINE		
11	STEVE ROBINSON		
12	CHRIS COYNE		
14	MICHAEL LEARY		
15	STEPHEN O'LEARY		
16	ENOCH SHOWUNMI		
17	LEE MANSELL		
18	AHMET BRKOVIC		
19	STEVE HOWARD		
20	CURTIS DAVIES		
21	KEITH KEANE		
22	DAVID BAYLISS		
23	IAN HILLIER		
24	SOL DAVIS		
25	DINO SEREMET		
26	MATTHEW BLINKHORN		
27	PETER HOLMES		
29	CALVIN ANDREW		
33	DEAN BRILL		
36	DAVID DEENEY		
37	STUART SINCLAIR		
45	LEON BARNETT		
46	MAX HOWELL		
47	ROB BECKWITH		

## MATCH OFFICIALS



**Referee:** M Jones, Ellesmere Port



**Linesman:** S Duncan, Newcastle Upon Tyne



**Linesman:** R Lockhart, Newcastle Upon Tyne



**Fourth Official:** A Haines, Sunderland

## TODAY'S ODDS

**POOLS:** to win 13/10

**DRAW:** 11/5

**LUTON:** to win 17/10

**Scorecast:**

Hugh Robertson to score first  
and Pools to win 1-0 105/1

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