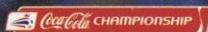


Royals

05|06

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF READING FOOTBALL CLUB



vs LUTON TOWN
SAT 3RD DECEMBER 2005
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Arsenal

REPORT AND PICTURES FROM HIGHBURY

Ivar Ingimarsson

DEFENDER REACHES TREBLE FIGURES

Luton Town

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Nicky Shorey

interview

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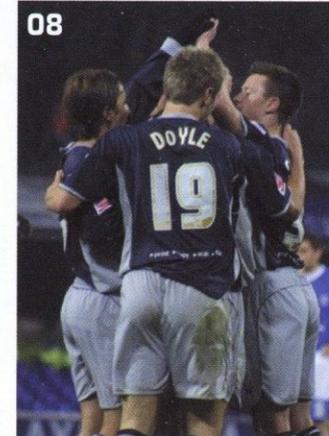
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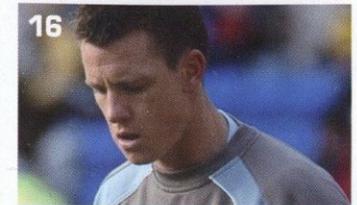
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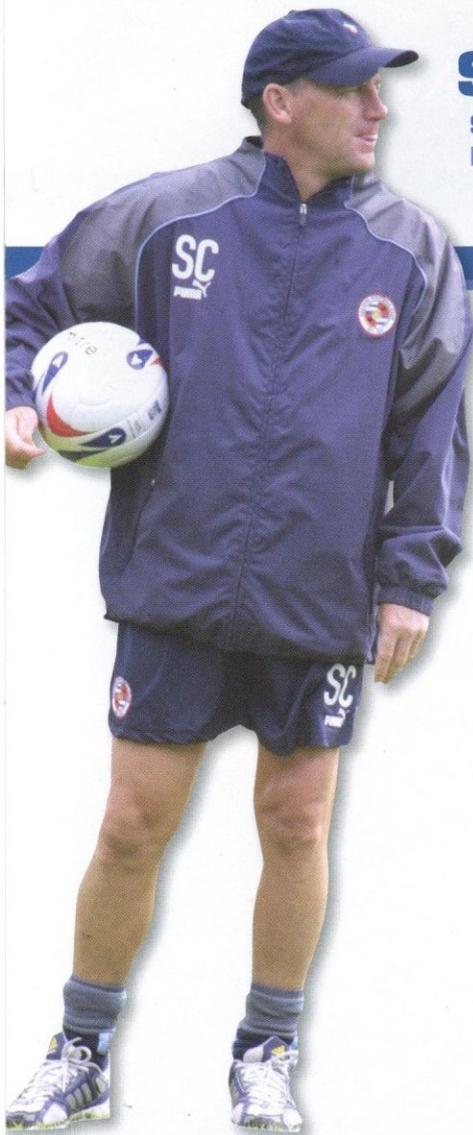
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FROM THE EDITOR

So the Carling Cup run is over, and our full attention can now return to the more important business of the Coca-Cola Championship – at least until tomorrow afternoon's FA Cup draw! Tuesday's trip to Highbury gave us all a taste of the 'big time', and I'm sure the 7,000+ Reading fans who made the journey were all thinking, 'Wouldn't it be great to come to places like this every week?' We're obviously in a strong position to make that dream a reality, but today's visitors Luton Town have dreams of their own, so we should be set for another exciting game this afternoon.

Come on URZ!

Andy West, Editor



STEVE COPPELL

STEVE LOOKS BACK ON RECENT FIXTURES

We always thought after the November international break of 14 days that the first round of three matches in seven days was going to be vital. We knew the opposition well on all three occasions, having already played them earlier in the season, so we had an idea of what kind of games they would be.

The trio of games started with a home fixture against Hull, who we had played less than a month before when we had found that although we had bags of possession, we didn't create as many chances as we would have liked. Our game 14 days ago saw a very solid performance, and although they gave us a few scary moments, I felt we were full value for our victory.

Following that, facing two successive away games with long journeys is always going to be a stern test, and although

Ipswich are going through a period of transition they still play some delightful football, while in Nicky Forster we knew were facing an opponent who was determined to score against us.

Looking back on that game at Portman Road, I must admit that the performance was possibly our most efficient of the season. We scored three goals and created a number of other chances, and defensively we looked as strong as ever, with Marcus only having one shot on goal to deal with.

The coach journey to Plymouth, a team we had not beaten in my time at Reading, was affected by a heavy snowfall, and always in the back of your mind you are conscious of pitch conditions affecting the play. However, fortunately Saturday afternoon was a lovely winter day for football, and in a frenetic, fairly physical game, we were all delighted to take three more points.

The contrast in the three fixtures was enormous. Against Hull City there was a very low number of fouls committed by either team (20 I believe), and yet against



Royals celebrate Convey's goal against Hull



Striker Kevin Doyle scored in all three wins

Plymouth the ball was never in play for too long without the official's whistle blowing, which totally disrupted the flow of the game. However, we came through all three tests undamaged, and very much looking forward to our Carling Cup 'day out' at famous old Highbury.

It was an enjoyable evening for us at Arsenal, in that we were tested against a wonderful team and ironically created more chances than we did against Plymouth.

"I must admit that the performance was possibly our most efficient of the season. We scored three goals and created a number of other chances..."

Yet the quality of their £23m strike force meant that we lost the game. The main significance of that match for the players will become most apparent in years to come, when they can tell their grandchildren that they played at the fabulous old Highbury ground, the scene

of so much good football and so many memories.

Today we welcome Luton Town and return to what is our real focus for this season. The 46 League games, as far as I am concerned, are of ultimately far more value

than any cup games, and I know that our preparation and concentration will have to be at its best against a very attack-minded and professional Luton outfit.

Best wishes,

Steve



ROYALS TAME TIGERS

THREE GREAT GOALS SEAL THREE MORE POINTS

Saturday 19th November 2005
Coca-Cola Championship
Madejski Stadium, 17,864

 READING	3
Convey 7, Doyle 68, Little 69	
 HULL CITY	1
Barmby 55	

A month after being held to a draw at the KC Stadium, Steve Coppell's men secured all three points against Hull with a hard-earned 3-1 win at Madejski Stadium.

After falling behind through Bobby Convey's 7th minute strike, Peter Taylor's side hit back after the break with a Nicky Barmby header, the former England man having already hit the woodwork before half time.

But with just over 20 minutes remaining, Glen Little floated the ball in to Kevin Doyle, who controlled before superbly hooking a shot in off the underside of Boaz Myhill's crossbar. A minute later the points were in the bag when Convey slid a pass into the path of Little, who skipped inside one challenge before stroking the ball calmly past the outstretched Myhill for 3-1.



Bobby Convey fires in the opening goal



Lita tests Hull keeper Myhill



THE LINE-UPS

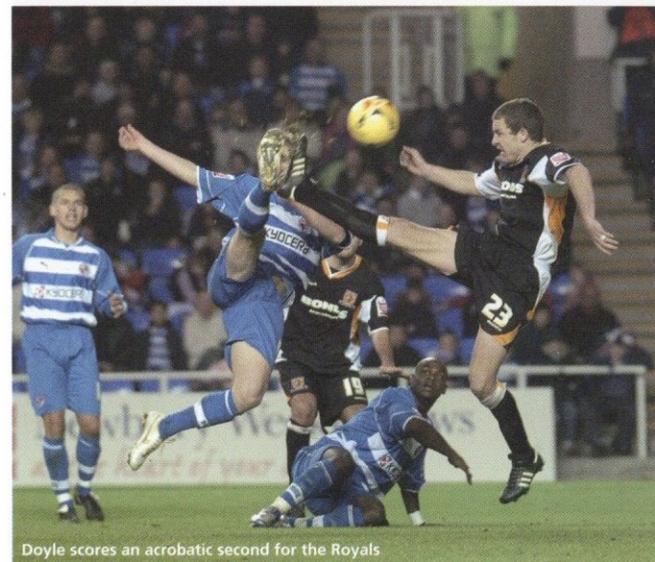


Subs Used 10.Hunt (Convey), 11.Oster (Little), 29.Obinna (Doyle)

Subs Used 28.Fry (Elliott), 24.Ellison (Barmby), 25.Paynter (Burgess)



Nicky Shorey battles with Craig Fagan



Doyle scores an acrobatic second for the Royals



Kingsley joins in the celebrations after Glen Little's strike

KEY MOMENTS

-  **4 Mins:** Bobby Convey arrives at the far post to volley Steve Sidwell's right-sided cross powerfully at goal, but Boaz Myhill acrobatically tips over for a corner.
-  **7 Mins: GOAL!** Kevin Doyle wins the ball on the halfway line and finds Convey in space. Beating the offside trap, the American slots neatly inside the left upright. 1-0.
-  **19 Mins:** Convey crosses to Doyle, who knocks down for Leroy Lita. The goal-hungry striker unleashes a stunning left-footed drive from a tight angle but Myhill brilliantly saves.
-  **31 Mins:** Leon Cort bundles through the middle to connect with a loose ball but Marcus Hahnmann saves instinctively and smothers Ben Burgess' follow-up strike to deny Hull.
-  **34 Mins:** Craig Fagan floats a right-sided cross towards Nicky Barmby, and the ex-England forward loops his header beyond Hahnmann but onto the woodwork.
-  **55 Mins: GOAL!** Mark Lynch beats Ivar Ingimarsson on the right to cross to Burgess at the far post. He nods back across goal for Barmby who heads home from close range for 1-1.
-  **68 Mins: GOAL!** Bobby Convey's cross is headed back across goal by Glen Little, towards Doyle on the penalty spot. Collecting an awkward ball he places an excellent volley over his shoulder and in off the underside of the bar. 2-1.
-  **69 Mins: GOAL!** Convey runs dangerously at the backpedalling defence and slides infield for Little. With sublime footwork the winger skips inside his man and places low into the corner for 3-1.
-  **88 Mins:** A mix-up in the Hull defence sees the ball fall to Lita only six yards out, but with the ball viciously spinning on the bounce, the frontman skews his snapshot over the bar.

ROYALS GO TOP IN STYLE

TOWN OUTCLASSED BY BRILLIANT ROYALS

Tuesday 22nd November 2005
Coca-Cola Championship
Portman Road, 22.621

 IPSWICH	0
 READING	3
Sidwell 28, Lita 53, Doyle 76	

The Royals hit top spot, overtaking Neil Warnock's Sheffield United at the summit of the Coca-Cola Championship with an awesome display against Joe Royle's Ipswich Town on Tuesday night.

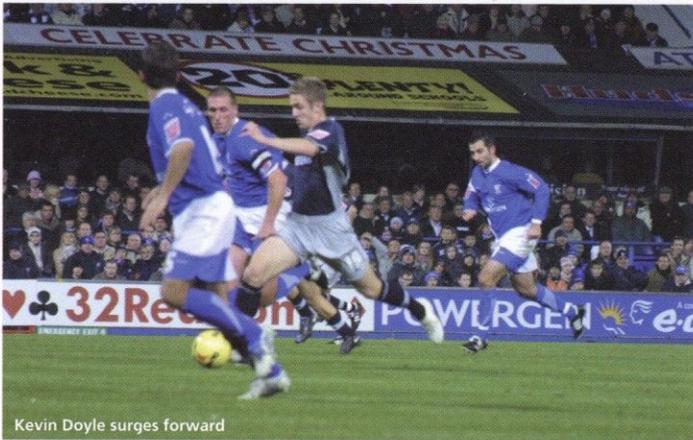
The impressive Steve Sidwell began the goalscoring, firing home after long spells of Reading pressure.

A lacklustre Town were unable to get a foothold in the game, changing formation and personnel early on in a desperate attempt to stem the Royals tide.

Kevin Doyle found Leroy Lita inside the box soon after the break, and the former Bristol City striker sidefooted past Lewis Price to double the lead. The scoreline truly reflected the away side's dominance when Lita returned the favour by finding Doyle, who prodded home yards out for 3-0.



Royals celebrate Steve Sidwell's opener

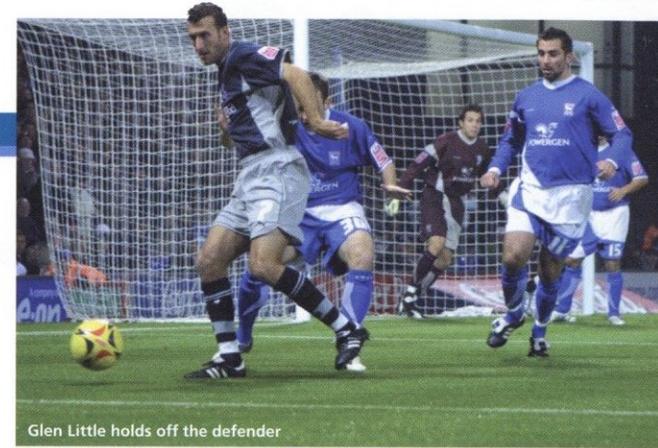


Kevin Doyle surges forward



Subs Used 8.Forster (Parkin), 2.Wilnis (Horlock), 33.Westlake (Juan)

Subs Used 11.Oster (Little), 10.Hunt (Convey)



Glen Little holds off the defender



Sonks and Ivar in the thick of the action



Doyle hits Reading's third

KEY MOMENTS

-  **8 Min:** Steve Sidwell runs into space and drills a shot that Lewis Price spills. Leroy Lita stoops low to head home the scraps but is flagged offside.
-  **10 Mins:** Harper feeds Sidwell, who strikes another fearsome shot from the edge of the box. This time Price produces a great save to tip over the bar for a corner.
-  **28 Mins: GOAL!** Doyle releases Convey, whose shot from the right ricochets off a defender. Doyle sees his stretching effort blocked but Sidwell pounces on the loose ball for the opener. 0-1.
-  **34 Mins:** In a rare Ipswich attack, Sidwell tracks back to dispossess Nicky Forster. His challenge however skids dangerously close to Reading's left upright and out for a corner.
-  **40 Mins:** Lita runs with the ball at pace and penetrates the Town box before pulling the trigger and trying to bend a strike around defender and keeper. His effort sails inches wide.
-  **52 Mins:** James McEveley advances down the left and cuts back to Forster who drills a first-time shot low but wide of Hahnemann's left post from ten yards out.
-  **53 Mins: GOAL!** Nicky Shorey finds Doyle on the left edge of the penalty area, and his cross reaches Lita. Running onto the ball the frontman shoots firmly past Price inside the far post. 0-2.
-  **56 Mins:** Shorey looks to find the back of the net himself, a mazy run taking him to the edge of the six yard box. His shot is blocked out to Sidwell, who fires a spinning ball well wide.
-  **62 Mins:** Convey crosses low from the right and with Lita lurking, Fabian Wilnis slides in only to prod towards his own goal, but Price saves with his legs to prevent an own goal.
-  **76 Mins: GOAL!** Little's corner finds Sonko at the far post, who nods down for Lita on the byline. He instinctively jabs inside to Doyle, who easily volleys home from six yards out. 0-3.

PILGRIMS REVENGE

LITTLE CHIP HELPS ROYALS EXTEND GAP

Saturday 26th November 2005
Coca-Cola Championship
Home Park, 14,020

 PLYMOUTH	0
 READING	2
	Little 20, Doyle 56

After reaching top spot in midweek, Reading extended their lead over Sheffield United, going four points clear at the top of the Coca Cola Championship with a 2-0 victory at Plymouth.

Winger Glen Little broke the deadlock midway through the first half in stunning style. Moments after Marcus Hahnemann had saved brilliantly from Nick Chadwick at the other end, Little produced a moment of magic to sail a deft 20-yard chip over Pilgrims' keeper Romain Larrieu and inside the left upright.

Leroy Lita's deflected shot seemed goal-bound but Kevin Doyle made sure from close range for a second, and although Chadwick's header hit the bar the Royals looked comfortable and stretched their unbeaten streak to an astonishing 23 games.



Glen Little celebrates...



...after placing a deft chip over the head of Larrieu



THE LINE-UPS



Subs Used 32 Djordjic (Buszaky), 19 Derbyshire (Evans)

Subs Used 11 Oster (Little), 10 Hunt (Convey), 31 Cox (Doyle)



Doyle looks to shake off the defender



Steve Sidwell puts the Pilgrims' defence under pressure



Leroy Lita receives treatment from physio Jon Fearn

KEY MOMENTS



19 Mins: Nick Chadwick is allowed to turn inside the box and sharply fires at goal from 12 yards out, but Marcus Hahnemann produces a great reaction save and the ball is cleared.



20 Mins: GOAL! Bobby Convey finds Glen Little 30 yards from goal. Aware of defenders around him, Little jinks into space to exquisitely chip Argyle's keeper and score in spectacular style. 0-1.



40 Mins: Convey's deep free kick finds Steve Sidwell who lays off to Ivar Ingimarsson. The centre-back's low strike is blocked by goalkeeper Romain Larrieu.



42 Mins: Akos Buszaky fires goalwards, but his shot takes a wicked deflection off Ingimarsson and the strike thankfully loops over the Royals' keeper and onto the roof of the net.



56 Mins: GOAL! Sidwell feeds Convey, who turns and releases Leroy Lita on the left. Running into the area, Lita strikes from a narrow angle and the ball bobbles off an Argyle leg towards Kevin Doyle, who taps home from inches out. 0-2.



70 Mins: Bojan Djordjic crosses from the left to find Nick Chadwick, who loops a header goalwards. Beating Marcus Hahnemann, his effort crashes off the crossbar to safety.



79 Mins: Little works his way into the Argyle box searching for a third but is felled. Penalty appeals are waved away and the winger is soon replaced nursing a knock.



83 Mins: Ingimarsson half-clears to substitute Djordjic, who drags a left footed effort wide of the far post. Nick Chadwick arrives late and slides in but can't connect for a late score.



88 Mins: Lita controls Stephen Hunt's cross but his powerful left-footed strike fizzles wide.



90 Mins: League debutant Simon Cox, a late Reading sub, unleashes a 25-yard strike just the wrong side of the right-hand post.

CUP BUBBLE BURST

GUNNERS END UNBEATEN RUN IN STYLE



Tuesday 29th November 2005
Carling Cup Fourth Round
Highbury, 36,167

ARSENAL 3
Reyes 12, Van Persie 42, Lupoli 64

READING 0

The Royals bowed out of the Carling Cup after seeing their record-breaking unbeaten run come to an end at Highbury on Tuesday night.

The Royals were not at their best but were by no means embarrassed, sharing the chances with their Premiership counterparts. Leroy Lita, James Harper, Stephen Hunt and Dave Kitson all went close, but found Arsenal goalkeeper Manuel Almunia in inspired form.

It was classy break play and clinical finishing that helped Arsene Wenger's men reach the quarter-finals. First team stars Jose Antonio Reyes and Robin Van Persie scored confidently taken first half goals to send the Royals in 2-0 down at the break, before young Italian goal-machine Arturo Lupoli grabbed a third just after coming on to complete the scoring.



Ingimarsson jumps with Senderos



Harper is tackled by Larsson



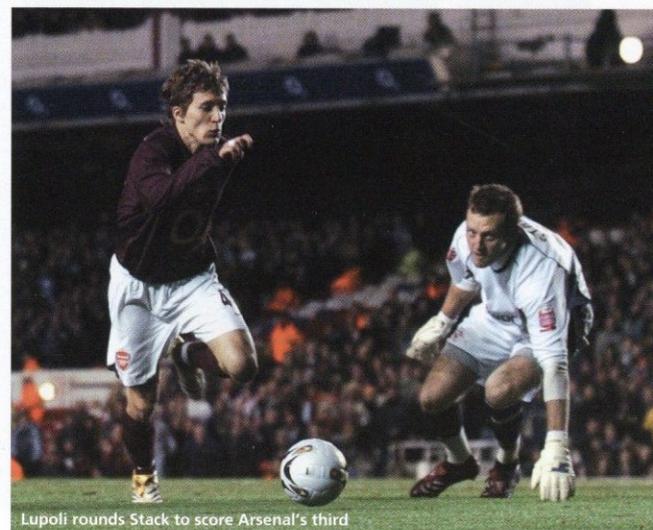
Subs Used 41. Lupoli (Van Persie), 18. Cygan (Reyes), 33. Bendtner (Owusu-Abeyie) Subs Used 23. Makin (Shorey), 19. Doyle (Lita), 1. Hahnemann (Stack)



John Oster looks to cross



Ingimarsson tussles with Flamini



Lupoli rounds Stack to score Arsenal's third

KEY MOMENTS



7 Min: Leroy Lita slides Dave Kitson in behind the Arsenal defence. Kitson turns back inside retreating defenders, but his right-foot strike is blocked by Manuel Almunia.



12 Mins: GOAL! Quincy Owusu-Abeyie strokes a pass through for Jose Antonio Reyes, who calmly dribbles around Graham Stack to tidily finish from a tight angle. 1-0.



24 Mins: Stack saves well from a Robin Van Persie 20-yard fizzer, before Lita pounces on Shorey's high ball to force Almunia to come quickly from his line to block from close range.



31 Mins: Steve Sidwell lays the ball off for James Harper, who tries to curl his first-time strike over Almunia from the edge of the box. The Spaniard acrobatically tips over.



41 Mins: Graeme Murty fizzes in a curling ball to find Kitson in the middle. Running onto the cross his 12-yard bullet header picks out Almunia who gathers at the second attempt.



42 Mins: GOAL! Sebastian Larsson centres to Reyes from the right. Reyes lays off to Van Persie, who shoots low past Stack from 18 yards for 2-0.



55 Mins: Hunt robs Johann Djourou and despite being dragged back surges into the box. The Irishman's shot is blocked by the Arsenal keeper and Sidwell drags the loose ball wide.



62 Mins: Owusu-Abeyie races forward and finds Kerrea Gilbert on the left edge of the box. He curls right-footed towards the top corner but Stack athletically swats wide.



64 Mins: GOAL! Substitute Arturo Lupoli capitalises on a slip by Sonko to sprint clear. Rounding Stack, he tucks neatly inside the near post from a tight angle. 3-0.



81 Mins: Oster swings a left-sided free kick towards substitute Kevin Doyle, who glances a powerful header goalwards. Almunia musters a fantastic reaction save to tip over the bar.



NICKY SHOREY

LEFT BACK HOPING TO MEET GUNNERS AGAIN



It was every football fan's dream - playing in front of a sell-out crowd alongside some of your sporting heroes.

Boyhood Arsenal fan Nicky Shorey may not have been overly familiar with the talents of Fabrice Muamba or Kerrea Gilbert before Tuesday night, and probably doesn't have glossy posters of Manuel Almunia and Johann Djourou on his bedroom wall, but lining up alongside Arsene Wenger's men at Highbury in midweek was still a special occasion.

"It was great running out against Arsenal at Highbury," he told today's matchday programme, "even though we obviously weren't playing against their full first team. As an Arsenal supporter

it was really nice and most of my family are Arsenal fans too, so I had quite a few people in the stands watching the game. It was special to get a chance to play there, especially in Arsenal's last season at the ground."

Steve Coppell's men bowed out of the Carling Cup to the Premiership giants, but our left-back was delighted to play a part in the game and proud of the Royals' performance against an impressive young Gunners side. "It was always going to be a difficult match. Even without the likes of Henry, Bergkamp and Pires, their side was filled with quality, otherwise these players wouldn't be at a club like Arsenal. They have talent throughout every age group and they showed that against us on Tuesday."

“We’ll take confidence from the way we played and the way we have been playing in the League, and hopefully if we can keep that form up we’ll be playing against Arsenal again next year”

The long-serving left-back was replaced just before the hour mark, as Steve Coppell opted to rest Shorey and give Chris Makin some second half action, but Nicky was delighted to have played a part and took the atmosphere and experience all in his stride. “As soon as you get on the pitch, you don’t think about who you’re up against. You just focus on putting in a good performance. I was a bit gutted to come off early because I was enjoying it and I’m always disappointed to get substituted in any game, but it’s just one of those things. I didn’t swap shirts with anyone after the game though, because I wasn’t out there on the pitch at the final whistle, so I didn’t really get the chance.

“But it wasn’t all about the experience, we went there looking to win the game and get to the quarter-finals. I thought we had some good chances, but it just didn’t happen for us on the night. But we’ll take confidence from the way we played and the way we have been playing in the League, and hopefully if we can keep that form up we’ll be playing against Arsenal again next year.”

The 3-0 defeat brought to an end a Club record-breaking unbeaten run of 23 games in all competitions and now Nicky is desperate to return to League action. “No-one was thinking about the end of our run come the final whistle on Tuesday.

and looking to win every match that is put in front of us. The best thing about football is that there’s always another game around the corner. We lost a few days ago but we’ve got another important match today and hopefully we’ll get another good result.”

Today’s game is the first of the month and the countdown to Christmas has begun, but where the festive period might mean rest and relaxation for a lot of people, for footballers it offers a lot of hard work and a flurry of fixtures that can prove critical in deciding the season’s end. “I’m looking forward to it,” Nicky declared. “It can be a difficult time if you start to pick up injuries and your squad starts to look thin, but if you ask any professional footballer, he’ll tell you that we all just want to be playing football.

“So when the games come thick and fast the lads enjoy that. It’s not going to be too different from the schedule we’ve had already this season to be honest. We’ve had ‘Saturday, Tuesday, Saturday, Tuesday’ and then a weekend off for an international break since August. We won’t have many more weekends off this season, so it’s going to be a bit tougher in that respect, but Christmas fixtures have always been hectic, so players are used to it by now.”

Sitting four points clear at the top of the Coca-Cola Championship and with the best goal difference in the country, Reading have no real reason to fear any fixtures that lie ahead. Shorey forms a key part of a back four that lays claim to the best defensive



“Games like the Arsenal clash are matches we all want to be involved in and players like Chris Makin, Johnny Oster, [Stephen] Hunty and [Graham] Stacky all played in previous rounds so deserved the chance to play again on Tuesday. We all want to be playing against the Arsenal of this world and at great stadiums like Highbury.

We were just going out to try and win the game that evening and we’ll going into today’s Championship clash with Luton with the same attitude.

“We went a long time unbeaten, but not one of the lads will be worried that that run has come to an end. We’re taking each game at a time





record in the Football League, having conceded only 11 goals in 21 Championship games. He said, "We work very hard and sensibly as a team, and it's nice to be able to have that record. But without it being mentioned, I wouldn't have known because all we're trying to do is keep as many clean sheets as we can."

"The more you play with your defensive partners, the more you understand their game and become comfortable in the same defence as them. Ivar and Sonks have been outstanding so far this season, and it's been a pleasure playing alongside them. I am more confident playing in the same team as them and that helps me concentrate on my own game, knowing they are there to back you up. The crowd chant from the stands 'Sonko is Superman', and I haven't actually seen the two in the same room at the same time so I can't disagree!"

"Murts and Marcus have been excellent too and just picked up where they left off last season. For Marcus I think it's made a difference bringing Stacky in too, who we know is a really good keeper. Marcus knows that if he doesn't perform, Stacky is a quality goalkeeper waiting for his chance so Marcus has had to push on."

The Royals face Mike Newell's Luton Town today for the second time this season, after the Hatters dropped out of



the Carling Cup at Madejski Stadium in September, a match Shorey missed through injury. "I watched the Cup match from the sidelines. Johnny Oster scored with a curling free kick but it was a tough game and I think it'll be a tight match again. Luton are a very good team – their results this season show that."

"They got promotion last season and have taken the Championship by storm. They're doing really well at the moment and we know it's going to be difficult. Dean Morgan is coming back of course and we know what he can do. Deano's a very good player and is doing well for his new club so far this season. They've got a lot of talented players who are performing at the top of their game, so we'll have to be wary."

The fixture has an added resonance for our 24 year-old full back, who made his Royals debut against Luton in August 2001. He helped the Royals progress to the second round of the League Cup with a 4-0 win courtesy of goals from Phil Parkinson, Alex Smith and a brace from Darius Henderson, but he and Reading Football Club have come a long way since then. "I don't remember

much about it to be honest, it seems like a long time ago now."

"I think I was a bit nervous because it was my debut and I wasn't used to playing in such a great stadium. But I enjoyed every minute of it and I can't wait to try and keep achieving things with Reading and playing as many games as I can."

"When I first joined from Orient it was a big step up, arriving at a Second Division club and then obviously we gained promotion that season. Now we're doing so well in the Championship it's a dream come true. But I'm not happy to just settle for where we are. I want to help take this Club to the next level and I think we've got a very good opportunity to do that this season. But we know we've got to stay together and keep working hard or we'll end up with nothing."

"Confidence is high, even after losing at Highbury. Arsenal were a classy outfit and they are the teams we want to be testing ourselves against week in, week out. That's why our ambitions lie in the League and why we want to earn the right to play against those teams on a regular basis next season."



record in the Football League, having conceded only 11 goals in 21 Championship games. He said, "We work very hard and sensibly as a team, and it's nice to be able to have that record. But without it being mentioned, I wouldn't have known because all we're trying to do is keep as many clean sheets as we can."

"The more you play with your defensive partners, the more you understand their game and become comfortable in the same defence as them. Ivar and Sonks have been outstanding so far this season, and it's been a pleasure playing alongside them. I am more confident playing in the same team as them and that helps me concentrate on my own game, knowing they are there to back you up. The crowd chant from the stands 'Sonko is Superman', and I haven't actually seen the two in the same room at the same time so I can't disagree!"

"Murts and Marcus have been excellent too and just picked up where they left off last season. For Marcus I think it's made a difference bringing Stacky in too, who we know is a really good keeper. Marcus knows that if he doesn't perform, Stacky is a quality goalkeeper waiting for his chance so Marcus has had to push on."

The Royals face Mike Newell's Luton Town today for the second time this season, after the Hatters dropped out of



the Carling Cup at Madejski Stadium in September, a match Shorey missed through injury. "I watched the Cup match from the sidelines. Johnny Oster scored with a curling free kick but it was a tough game and I think it'll be a tight match again. Luton are a very good team – their results this season show that."

"They got promotion last season and have taken the Championship by storm. They're doing really well at the moment and we know it's going to be difficult. Dean Morgan is coming back of course and we know what he can do. Deano's a very good player and is doing well for his new club so far this season. They've got a lot of talented players who are performing at the top of their game, so we'll have to be wary."

The fixture has an added resonance for our 24 year-old full back, who made his Royals debut against Luton in August 2001. He helped the Royals progress to the second round of the League Cup with a 4-0 win courtesy of goals from Phil Parkinson, Alex Smith and a brace from Darius Henderson, but he and Reading Football Club have come a long way since then. "I don't remember

much about it to be honest, it seems like a long time ago now."

"I think I was a bit nervous because it was my debut and I wasn't used to playing in such a great stadium. But I enjoyed every minute of it and I can't wait to try and keep achieving things with Reading and playing as many games as I can."

"When I first joined from Orient it was a big step up, arriving at a Second Division club and then obviously we gained promotion that season. Now we're doing so well in the Championship it's a dream come true. But I'm not happy to just settle for where we are. I want to help take this Club to the next level and I think we've got a very good opportunity to do that this season. But we know we've got to stay together and keep working hard or we'll end up with nothing."

"Confidence is high, even after losing at Highbury. Arsenal were a classy outfit and they are the teams we want to be testing ourselves against week in, week out. That's why our ambitions lie in the League and why we want to earn the right to play against those teams on a regular basis next season."



THE MATCH READING vs LUTON TOWN



TEAM NEWS

Steve Coppell took the opportunity to rest a couple of his first-team regulars in midweek for the Carling Cup trip to Arsenal, but Glen Little, Bobby Convey and Marcus Hahnemann are expected to return for this afternoon's clash at the expense of John Oster, Stephen Hunt and Graham Stack.

Dave Kitson returned to the side against Arsenal on Tuesday night, his head wound having healed sufficiently to allow him to return, and the striker may partner Leroy Lita up front again today. Alternatively Kevin Doyle could play through the pain of two broken bones in his hand and Eric Obinna (top) is also available after an ankle injury ruled him out of last weekend's trip to Plymouth.

Brynjar Gunnarsson (middle), who featured against Wycombe in the reserves on Wednesday, will be another player pushing for a return to the squad. The Icelandic midfielder has not played since scoring the opener against Leeds United in the 1-1 draw towards the end of October.

Luton boss Mike Newell could keep faith with Rowan Vine and Enoch Showunmi (bottom) up front, with the pair having led the line together in the last two

home wins over Crewe and Crystal Palace. That would mean leaving top scorers Steve Howard (seven goals) and Warren Feeney (five) out of the starting line-up again this afternoon.

Former Royals forward Dean Morgan is likely to start against his former Royals teammates on the left of midfield but Australian centre-back Chris Coyne could be missing after managing only 52 minutes on his return from injury before being substituted with a hamstring injury against Palace a week ago. In his absence Russell Perrett could step in at centre-back to partner Markus Heikkinen, who scored his first Luton goal to open the scoring on Saturday.

Luton will definitely be without long-term virus victim Paul Hughes, and Sol Davis is also likely to miss out as he continues to struggle with a knee injury.



ROYALS RECORDS

Reading's win at Plymouth last weekend saw a number of records and obscure landmarks:

- The Plymouth game was the 100th in which Graeme Murty has kept a clean sheet.
- The Club's best-ever run of consecutive away wins in the second tier (four).
- Our best unbeaten run of away games in the second tier (eleven).
- Ibrahima Sonko now has the best average of clean sheets to League games played for any defender. The Plymouth game made it 30 in 59 games.
- Players from the current team now hold the top six places of our 'most watched' averages, with Glen Little (pictured) leading the pack.

MAN IN THE MIDDLE

The referee this afternoon is Mr Michael Jones from Cheshire. He began refereeing in 1983 and was promoted to The Football League referees list in 1996.



He hasn't been involved in a Royals match this season but officiated over Reading three times in 2004/5, and on each occasion the points were shared. Goalless draws with Sheffield United and Burnley and a 1-1 draw with Ipswich at Portman Road, saw Jones issue Steve Sidwell with his fourth and decisive tenth bookings of the season.

He has already taken charge of a Luton fixture this season, booking Hatters midfielder Peter Holmes during Town's 2-1 win at Cardiff at the start of October.

Jones was the fourth official at the Carling Cup Final between Middlesbrough and Bolton in 2004 and also refereed the LDV Vans Trophy Area Final between Blackpool and Sheffield Wednesday that year. This season he has taken charge of 16 games, issuing 54 yellow cards and three reds.

HEAD-2-HEAD

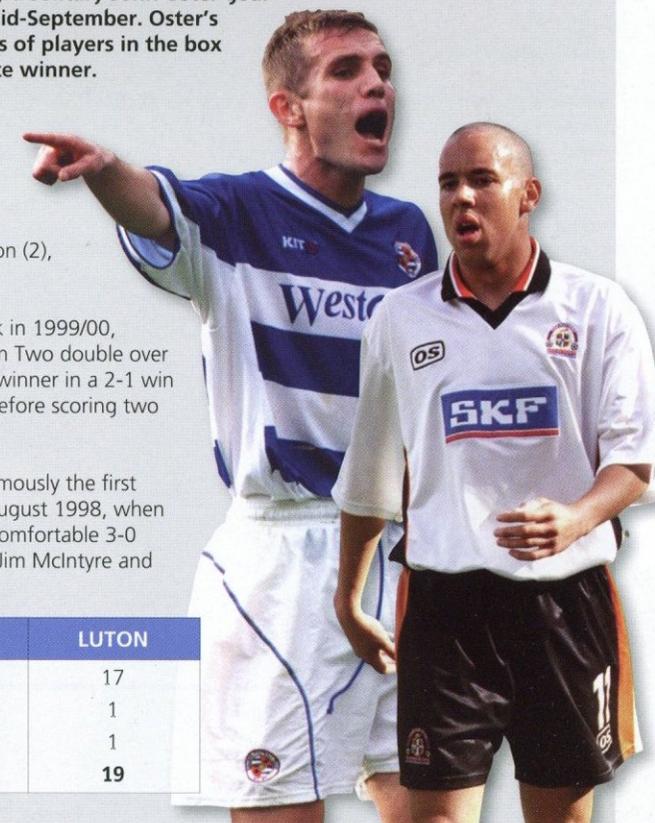
Luton have already visited Madejski Stadium once this season, with Mike Newell's men being defeated by a solitary John Oster goal in the Carling Cup second round tie in mid-September. Oster's 35-yard free kick sailed beyond both sets of players in the box to drift past Dean Brill for an 80th minute winner.

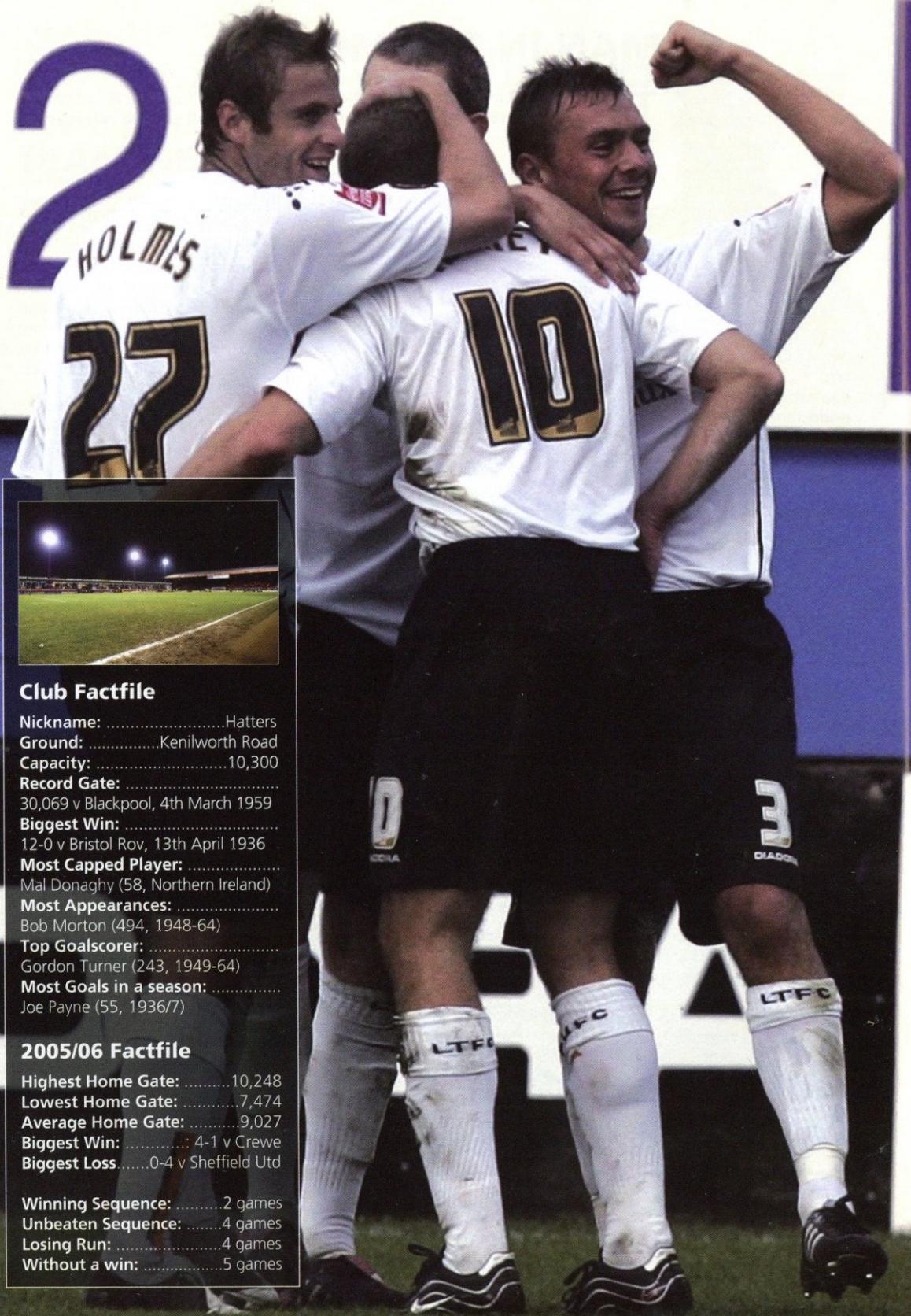
The previous meeting between the two sides also came in the League Cup and the Royals again secured the victory in a first round tie played in August 2001. The Royals won 4-0 that day on Nicky Shorey's debut, thanks to goals from Darius Henderson (2), Phil Parkinson (right) and Alex Smith.

The last time Town beat the Royals was back in 1999/00, when the Kenilworth Road side did a Division Two double over Reading. Liam George (far right) scored the winner in a 2-1 win for Town at Madejski Stadium that season before scoring two more in a 3-1 return fixture in January.

The previous season, though, Luton were famously the first ever visitors to Madejski Stadium on 22nd August 1998, when Reading christened their new home with a comfortable 3-0 victory thanks to goals from Grant Brebner, Jim McIntyre and Robert Fleck.

	READING	DRAWN	LUTON
League	18	7	17
FA Cup	0	0	1
League Cup	2	1	1
Total	20	8	19





Club Factfile

Nickname:Hatters
Ground:Kenilworth Road
Capacity:10,300
Record Gate:
 30,069 v Blackpool, 4th March 1959
Biggest Win:
 12-0 v Bristol Rov, 13th April 1936
Most Capped Player:
 Mal Donaghy (58, Northern Ireland)
Most Appearances:
 Bob Morton (494, 1948-64)
Top Goalscorer:
 Gordon Turner (243, 1949-64)
Most Goals in a season:
 Joe Payne (55, 1936/7)

2005/06 Factfile

Highest Home Gate:10,248
Lowest Home Gate:7,474
Average Home Gate:9,027
Biggest Win:4-1 v Crewe
Biggest Loss:0-4 v Sheffield Utd

Winning Sequence:2 games
Unbeaten Sequence:4 games
Losing Run:4 games
Without a win:5 games

LUTON TOWN



Newly-promoted Luton launched their Championship season with two thrilling wins against relegated Premiership opposition. Steve Howard and Ahmet Brkovic scored either side of the break at Selhurst Park to defeat Iain Dowie's Palace in the season opener while Southampton fell victim to a 90th minute Dean Morgan strike which sealed a 3-2 Hatters home win three days later.

A goalless draw with Leeds preserved the unbeaten start, but Morgan's opener at Stoke wasn't enough to prevent 10-man Town losing out to Dave Brammer's last-gasp winner at the Britannia Stadium. They were back to winning ways before August was out however, beating Leyton Orient in the Carling Cup, triumphing 2-0 at Leicester and

then taking three more points against Millwall.

The Hatters lost just once in the League in September, with QPR's Lee Cook scoring a second half strike to take the points. A late 1-0 victory at fellow newly-promoted side Hull City earned three more points, before John Oster's free-kick dumped Mike Newell's side out of the Carling Cup at Madejski Stadium. Goals from Brkovic, Howard and Warren Feeney secured a comprehensive 3-0 win over Preston before a 2-1 win at Cardiff on the first day of October kept Town flying high.

Returning from the international break, Luton lost late at Crewe with Kenny Lunt and Luke Varney netting in the dying stages for the Railwaymen, but Newell's men bounced back in dramatic style with four first half goals against

Norwich. That 4-2 win however triggered a winless streak of five, including Bojan Djordic's late equaliser for Plymouth and an Ade Akinbiyi hat-trick sealing defeat to Burnley. Sheffield United inflicted Town's heaviest defeat to date with a 4-0 Bramall Lane drubbing and after further defeats at Coventry and Norwich, Luton found themselves outside the playoff places for the first time.

The Hatters' last two games, though, have helped Town climb back up to an impressive fifth spot. Despite being goalless against Crewe last Tuesday until the 69th minute, strikes from Vine, Morgan and Enoch Showunmi eventually secured a 4-1 win before last weekend's 2-0 home victory over Crystal Palace, coming courtesy of Markus Heikkinen's first goal for the club and Vine's third in two games.

Manager: Mike Newell

Newell made his professional debut with Crewe before establishing himself as a Wigan player in 1983. After 25 goals in 64 starts for the Latics, the striker signed for Luton for £100,000 in January 1986 where he scored 18 more. He continued to notch at the top level with Leicester, Everton, and then Blackburn Rovers, where he helped Kenny Dalglish's side to the Premier League title in 1994/5.

Newell set a new record in Europe, scoring the fastest ever the Champions League hat-trick with three goals in ten minutes against Rosenborg. He left Rovers in 1996 for Birmingham before moves to Aberdeen, Crewe and Doncaster preceded the England under 21 and B international's final season at his 14th club, Blackpool.

Beginning his coaching career at Tranmere and then Doncaster, Newell was appointed Hartlepool boss in November 2002, leading them to automatic promotion in his first season in charge. In the summer of 2003, Newell was appointed Luton manager after winning an unprecedented fans' vote ahead of Steve Cotterill and Joe Kinnear. Steadying the ship with a 10th place finish in his first season at Kenilworth Road, his second saw Town clinch the League One title with Newell winning the League One Manager of the Year award.





HATTERS' SQUAD

KEY PLAYERS

Goalkeepers

	Apps	Goals
1 Marlon Beresford	18	0
33 Dean Brill	3	0
47 Rob Beckwith	0	0

Defenders

	Apps	Goals
2 Kevin Foley	12(+3)	0
3 Sol Davis	9(+3)	0
4 Chris Coyne	12(+2)	0

Australian defender and former West Ham trainee who joined Luton in 2001.

5 Russell Perrett	5(+2)	0
6 Paul Underwood	13(+1)	0
26 Markus Heikkinen	18(+1)	1

Finnish international who made the summer move to Kenilworth Road from Aberdeen.

45 Leon Barnett	3(+2)	0
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Midfielders

	Apps	Goals
7 Carlos Edwards	14(+4)	1
8 Kevin Nicholls	16	3

Powerhouse ex-Wigan man who joined Luton in 2001 and has made 170 Hatters appearances.

11 Steve Robinson	15	0
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Ex-Spurs trainee and Northern Ireland international who joined Luton in 2002.

17 Paul Hughes	0	0
18 Ahmet Brkovic	18(+1)	4
21 Keith Keane	0(+4)	0
22 Danny Stevens	0	0
23 Dean Morgan	17(+2)	5
27 Peter Holmes	9(+3)	2

Strikers

	Apps	Goals
9 Rowan Vine	2(+4)	3
10 Warren Feeney	20(+1)	5

Former Bournemouth striker who has Northern Ireland international recognition.

16 Enoch Showunmi	4(+16)	1
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Home-grown striker who scored his first goal of the season in the 4-1 win over Crewe ten days ago.

19 Steve Howard	17(+1)	7
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All stats are for Championship games during 2005/06.

Dean Morgan *Midfielder*

Talented forward who began his career with Colchester, making his full debut for the Layer Road club in an LDV Vans Trophy match against Reading at Madejski Stadium in October 2001. Joining the Royals on a free transfer in November 2003, the 22 year-old struggled to hold down a first team berth and moved to Kenilworth Road in the summer. The versatile Morgan can play in midfield or attack and has scored five goals already this season.



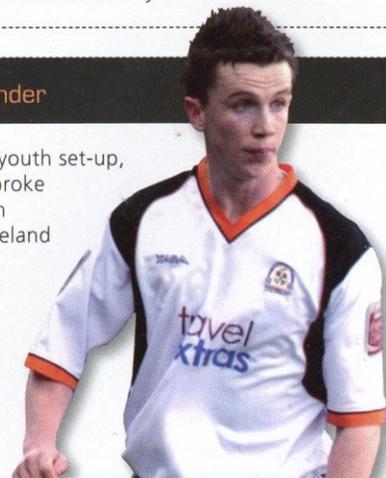
Marlon Beresford *Goalkeeper*

6'1" goalkeeper signed in July 2004 from Barnsley after a three month loan spell with the Hatters the previous season. The 36 year-old stopper, if selected this afternoon, will make his 500th start in professional football since starting his career at Sheffield Wednesday. Since then he has played at 10 other different clubs, including Burnley, Crewe, Northampton and Middlesbrough.



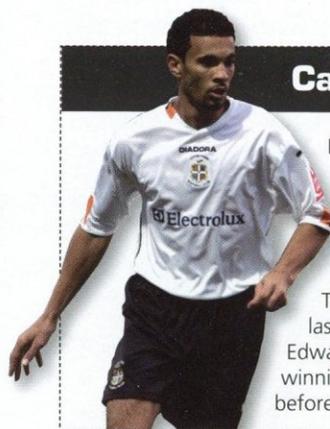
Kevin Foley *Defender*

A product of the Hatters' youth set-up, the 21 year-old full back broke into the Town first team in 2003/4. The Republic of Ireland under-21s international settled rapidly and as a local lad, Foley has made 98 appearances for the club already, scoring five times. Played 39 League games in last season's Championship campaign.



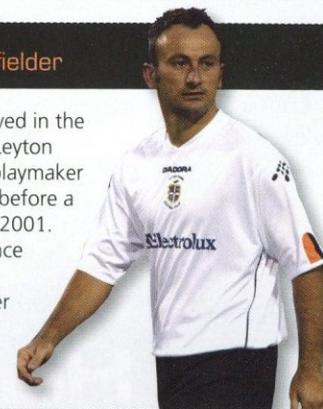
Carlos Edwards *Midfielder*

Midfielder signed in May on a free transfer from Wrexham. Mike Newell had tried to sign the Port of Spain-born midfielder while boss at Hartlepool but managed to secure the World Cup-bound Trinidad & Tobago man after promotion was secured last season. The pacy and attacking Edwards spent five seasons at Wrexham, winning the LDV Vans title with the Dragons before making the move to Luton.



Ahmet Brkovic *Midfielder*

Croatian midfielder who first arrived in the country from HNK Dubrovnik at Leyton Orient in 1999. The 31 year-old playmaker made 82 appearances for Orient before a free transfer to Luton in October 2001. Made his 150th League appearance for the club in the 2-0 win over Palace last Saturday, having earlier scored in Town's first two Championship games at the start of the season.



Steve Howard *Striker*

Bustling striker signed for £50,000 from Northampton on transfer deadline day in March 2001. Since then the 29 year-old frontman has been the Hatters' leading marksman for the last four seasons. Howard began his professional career at Hartlepool before a £120,000 move to the Cobblers in 1999. Now seventh in Luton's list of leading post-war goalscorers, he has netted 89 times in 186 League starts.



Rowan Vine *Striker*

Basingstoke-born striker who joined Town permanently for £250,000 in July, after a successful season-long loan from Portsmouth in 2004/05. Previously enjoying loan spells at Brentford and Phil Parkinson's Colchester, Vine missed the start of the new season through injury. But the 23 year-old has scored three in Luton's last two games – a 4-1 win against Crewe and the 2-0 victory over Crystal Palace.



Did you Know ??

Luton legends

Bob Morton holds the all-time appearance record for Town. After signing from local club Waterlows as World War II drew to a close, he tallied 495 league appearances before retiring in 1964. Gordon Turner is the leading goalscorer, netting 243 times in 406 appearances for the club.

The Hatters

'The Hatters' nickname derives from the town's historical association with the hat making trade. The Easter Hat parade was Luton's premier social event regularly attracting more than 40,000 people in its heyday in the 1950s.

Packed Kenilworth

Luton's record attendance was set in March 1959, when a crowd of 30,069 packed into Kenilworth Road to watch the FA Cup quarter-final replay against Blackpool. Luton won the game 1-0 and continued their run all the way to the final, before their dream was ended at Wembley in a 2-1 defeat to Nottingham Forest.

Madejski curtain-raiser

Luton Town famously visited Madejski Stadium on the 22nd August 1998, as the first ever away side to play at Reading's new ground (pictured). Town lost 3-0 in the Division Two clash that day, with Grant Brebner, Jim McIntyre and Robert Fleck the first goalscorers at the Royals' new home.

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Please remember to include contact details, including name, address, and contact phone number.

In order to guarantee design and delivery in time for Christmas images will need to be received by Monday 12th December

MATCH ODDS



Bobby Convey - 9/1 to open the scoring

Our official betting partner www.readingbet.co.uk makes the Royals favourites at 4/6 to take three points from today's clash with Luton Town. But Mike Newell's men were tough to beat when they visited Madejski Stadium in the Carling Cup earlier this season and have won their last two Championship games to leave them fifth in the table. To bet now call 08000 323 365 and mention Reading FC!

FINAL RESULT	Reading win	4/6
	Draw	9/4
	Luton win	4/1

HALF TIME	Reading	6/5
	Draw	11/10
	Luton	4/1

READING WIN	LUTON WIN
1-0 5/1	1-0 9/1
2-0 11/2	2-0 25/1
2-1 7/1	2-1 16/1
3-0 12/1	3-0 80/1
3-1 12/1	3-1 50/1
3-2 25/1	DRAW
4-0 28/1	0-0 15/2
4-1 28/1	1-1 11/2
4-2 66/1	2-2 12/1
5-0 80/1	3-3 50/1

HALF-TIME/FULL-TIME	
Reading - Reading	8/5
Reading - Draw	14/1
Reading - Luton	40/1
Draw - Reading	10/3
Draw - Draw	15/4
Draw - Luton	10/1
Luton - Reading	25/1
Luton - Draw	14/1
Luton - Luton	17/2

SCORECAST	1-0	2-0	2-1	1-1	2-2	1-2
Dave Kitson	18/1	18/1	25/1	25/1	50/1	95/1
Kevin Doyle	25/1	30/1	35/1	35/1	70/1	130/1
Steve Howard	-	-	75/1	45/1	85/1	90/1
Rowan Vine	-	-	100/1	55/1	110/1	115/1
Bobby Convey	40/1	40/1	50/1	50/1	100/1	190/1
Dean Morgan	-	-	150/1	85/1	165/1	175/1
Glen Little	50/1	55/1	65/1	65/1	130/1	250/1
Markus Heikkinen	-	-	450/1	250/1	500/1	550/1
Ibrahima Sonko	125/1	135/1	165/1	165/1	340/1	650/1

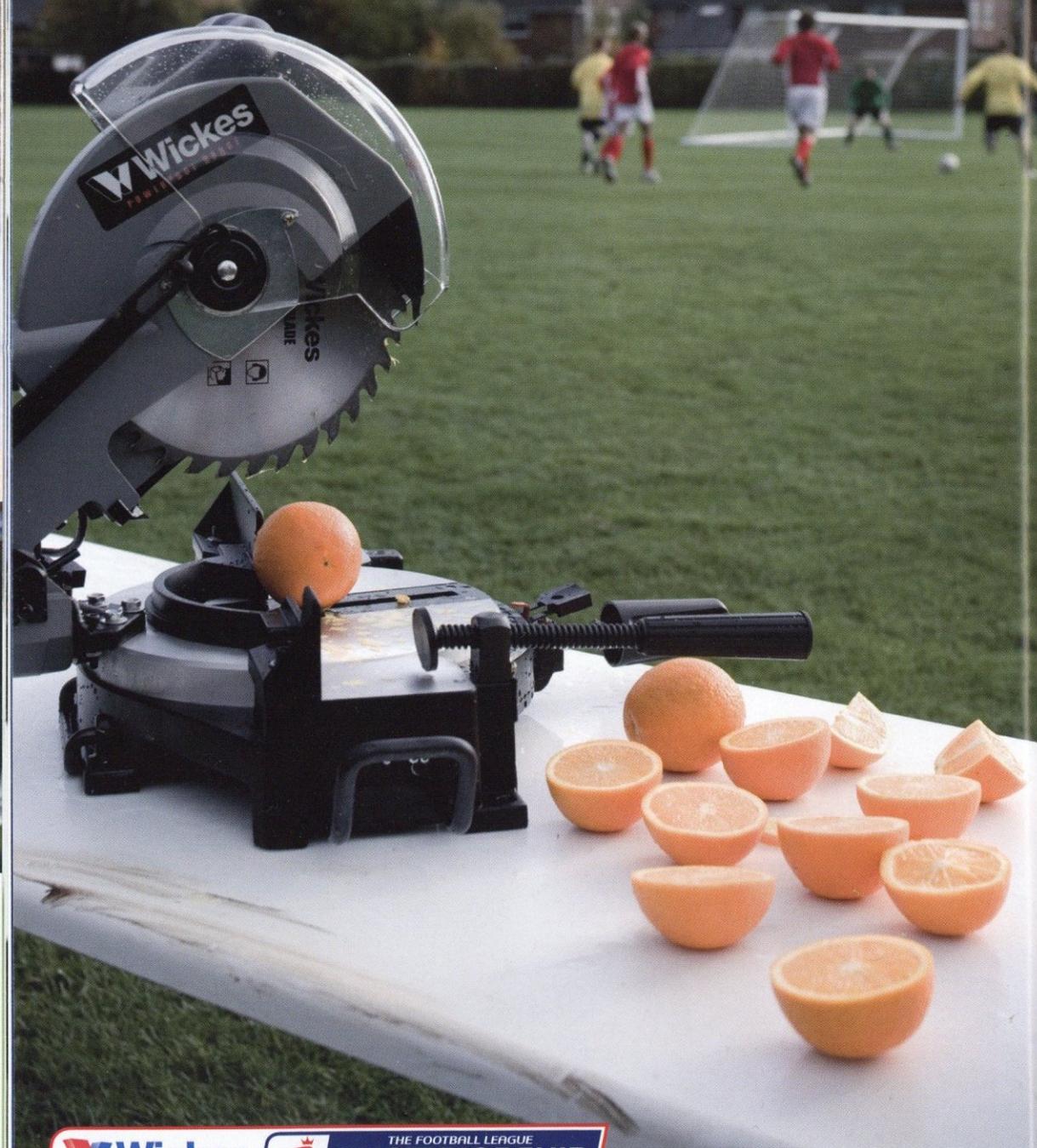
FIRST SCORER

Dave Kitson	4/1
Leroy Lita	4/1
Kevin Doyle	6/1
Eric Obinna	6/1
Steve Howard	15/2
Bobby Convey	9/1
Steve Sidwell	9/1
Ahmet Brkovic	10/1
Rowan Vine	10/1
Warren Feeney	10/1
Enoch Showunmi	11/1
John Oster	11/1
Bryn Gunnarsson	12/1
Glen Little	12/1
Kevin Nicholls	14/1
Dean Morgan	16/1
James Harper	16/1
Sekou Baradji	16/1
Stephen Hunt	16/1
Ivar Ingimarsson	20/1
Michael Dobson	20/1
Nicky Shorey	20/1
Peter Holmes	22/1
Steve Robinson	22/1
Carlos Edwards	28/1
Chris Coyne	28/1
Keith Keane	28/1
Kevin Foley	28/1
Paul Underwood	28/1
Chris Makin	33/1
Graeme Murty	33/1
Ibrahima Sonko	33/1
Curtis Osano	40/1
Russell Perrett	40/1
Markus Heikkinen	50/1
Sol Davis	66/1
No Goal Scorer	15/2



Kevin Nicholls - 14/1

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STAR PHIL CULLIMORE ON TUESDAY'S ARSENAL TEST



NOW WE KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT!

Tuesday night gave us a taste of what next season could be about, and certainly did not ring too many alarm bells. I think every fan accepts that there are three outstanding teams in the Premiership and we certainly did not disgrace ourselves against one of them. In fact, we made their goalkeeper earn his corn in the first half, and the game illustrated how important it is to take chances clinically.

I'm sure the players will have enjoyed their taste of the limelight and the Club will have learnt some new things about ticket allocation and distribution which will stand them in good stead, regardless of how we finish the season. Here at STAR, Colin and his team showed they can cope with transporting our fans to important matches. Nearly 1000 members in 18 coaches made the trip to Highbury!! Brilliant Job, Colin.

YOU LUCKY PEOPLE

As regular readers will know, I had to forgo the trip to Highbury to watch my son's Reading Town team play, and all I will say is you were the lucky ones. I did, however, have my pocket radio tuned in and through an atmospheric quirk I was tuned into Reading 107 instead of the Beeb. Well, I will certainly keep it tuned to that station in future and I recommend it to anyone who can't get to the game. Clear, informed commentary and sensible summarising...what a change. Thank you, Andy and Ben, it was almost as good as being there.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING... AND HOW TO AVOID IT!

We have a couple of weeks before the next away trip but wouldn't it be great if we could assemble another mega convoy of coaches to Millwall?

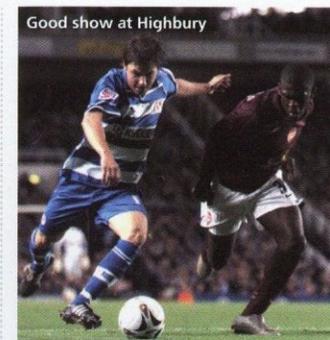
Another ground that is not easily accessible by road, with limited street parking, so an ideal opportunity to forgo the pleasures of the Festive High Street and relax by coach en route to East London. At these prices you could take a carfull for less than the price of a tank of fuel. (And if you are desperate you can pick up all sorts of things in the motorway services, these days.)

Details are: Saturday 17th December, Millwall, departs from Station Hill at 11.15am and from the Madejski Stadium at noon. Price £10.

A condition of using STAR travel is that you must be a member of STAR and you must bring your membership card with you. Bookings can be made at the temporary shop, the STAR ticket line on 07919 931716 or at the Stadium Sales Centre in person or by phone (0870 999 1871) with payment by cash or credit card. You can join or renew your membership by visiting the STAR temporary shop or the Sales Centre, or visit www.star-reading.org and download an application form.

For details of the Readibus service for disabled fans contact Gary Deards on 07876 681899.

Good show at Highbury



A NEW HOME FOR STAR

I'm sure that many of you will have seen our new portakabin which is situated opposite Gate 7 and this is the place to go and book your seats on the coach to Millwall.

Although we still have a lot of work to do fitting it out and stocking it up, it is open for business and Melanie has a superb range of framed photographs from days gone by. This is a new line and I'm sure that they would be an ideal Christmas gift for that Loyal Royal in your household.

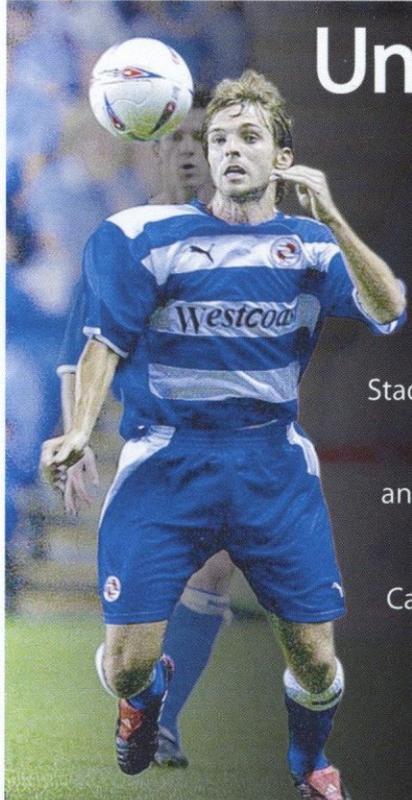
FANS FORUM

One of the benefits of membership of STAR is that you can attend the Fans Forums which are held at regular intervals through the season, at which you can put your questions to and hear the opinions of the manager, players, coaching staff and management of the Club. The next Forum will be on Wednesday 18th January and our guests will be some of the first team squad. Watch out for details of who is attending and how you can put your questions to them.





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Ibrahima Sonko says, "Save water with me and turn off the tap when brushing your teeth. A running tap can waste 6 litres of water a minute. For more water efficiency tips and advice, visit www.thameswateruk.co.uk/waterwise."



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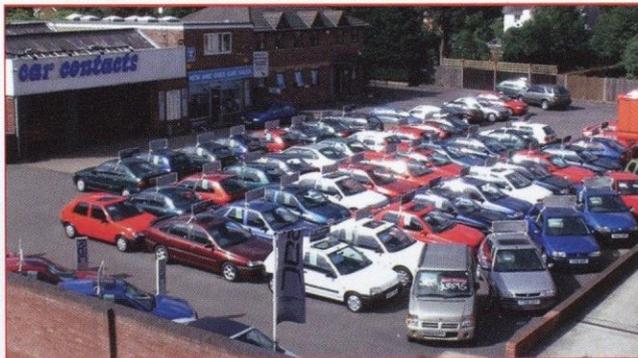
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RFC NEWS LATEST FROM MADEJSKI STADIUM



ROYALS SIGN DEFENSIVE DUO

The Royals signed two defenders on loan last week, with Aaron Brown joining from Tamworth and Michael Dobson making the short trip from Brentford. Brown's move is likely to be made permanent in the January transfer window, while Dobson will be with the Club until 1st February.

22 year-old Brown (pictured) impressed during a trial spell at Madejski Stadium earlier in the season, and represented non-League England in a representative game in Belgium last month. He was delighted to make the move, saying, "It's a dream come true. I'm now looking to settle in, fit in alongside the lads and soak it up.

"I've been watching Reading on the TV and keeping up to date with how well they've been doing. I need to step up now and improve both as a player and a person, and I'll be looking to get my foot in the door and cement a

place in the side. I want to get out on the pitch and let my football do the talking.

Boss Steve Coppell commented, "We had Aaron on trial earlier in the season, he played a reserve game and since then we've had him watched regularly. This is a stage for him and it's up to him now. He's young and hungry, and he's not necessarily ready for the first team yet but we haven't bought him to be a reserve."

24 year-old Dobson has been with Brentford since the age of ten, and worked his way through their Centre of Excellence and the youth squad before taking his first team chance in the 2001/2 season under the management of Steve Coppell.

He has since gone on to make more than 200 appearances for the Bees, and was appointed club captain earlier this season. The Isleworth-born six footer is primarily a right-back but can also play in the centre

of defence or in midfield.

Steve Coppell said, "I know Dobbo from when I was manager at Brentford and I thought he was a good player back then. He's had a few injuries but he's coming back from those now, and going into the busy Christmas period, I thought that it was a good opportunity for both club and player.

"We've signed him on loan until the end of January and now we get a chance to see first hand whether he can be perform well as part of the first team squad and be comfortable here."

Brown takes squad number 27, while Dobson has the number 18 shirt.

Meanwhile, 18 year-old forward Simon Cox has signed a two and a half year professional contract. However, young winger Darren Campbell and midfielder Ryan Catney have left the Club and we wish them well for the future.



LUTON TRIP MOVED AGAIN

The return match of today's Coca Cola Championship meeting with Luton Town has been moved again and will now take place on Friday 17th February, kicking off at 7.45pm at Kenilworth Road.

The game had initially been moved to Monday 20th February for live coverage on Sky Sports, but has now been switched again due to a Football League commitment. It will still be shown live on Sky. However,

if the Royals or the Hatters reach the fifth round of the FA Cup, which takes place that weekend, the game will have to be rescheduled again.

Three more forthcoming games have also been moved for live TV coverage: the New Year's Eve trip to Derby will now kick off at 5.15pm, our trip to Crystal Palace will take place on Friday 20th January (7.45pm) and the home meeting with Southampton has been moved to Friday 10th February (7.45pm).

RFC PLAYER OF THE MONTH



This week fans have been voting for the club's official player of the month for November. There have been a number of very worthwhile contenders after yet another superb month for the Royals, and the winner will be presented with his award before next Saturday's home game with Brighton.

Voting is now open for the goal of the month award, and again it is a difficult decision for supporters after some excellent goals during the month of November.

Leading contenders include James Harper's neat finish at QPR, Kevin Doyle's (left) acrobatic effort against Hull and Glen Little's brilliant chip against Plymouth.

Vote now on the home page of readingfc.co.uk

COPPELL BAGS ANOTHER AWARD

Steve Coppel has been named Coca-Cola Championship Manager of the Month for the second successive month. Steve won the award for November after a perfect month in the League which saw the Royals gain five victories from five games, scoring twelve goals and conceding just two.

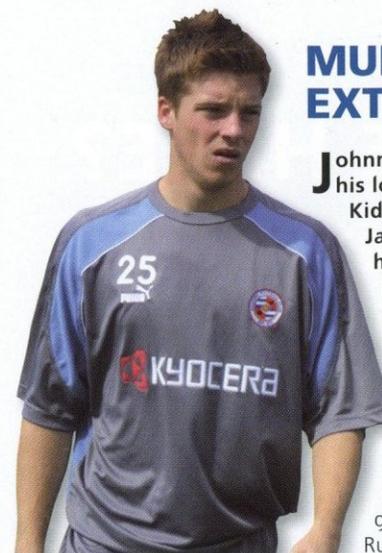
SIX-A-SIDE TOURNAMENT

Thames Valley Police are looking for more teams to enter a football tournament they are organising for the New Year. The six-a-side competition, which will be held at Reading University on 7th January, has been arranged to promote healthy lifestyles and comes with the warning that success in sport does not mix with drink and drug abuse.

Inspector Kevin Sinfield, who is organising the tournament on behalf of the East Reading Police and Communities Sports Group, said, "The main point of the tournament is to educate youngsters about the dangers of drink and drugs. We hope to send home the message that if you want to succeed in sport you have to stay clear of drink and drugs."

"In fact the theme of the whole tournament will be about promoting the benefits of being healthy and looking after your body. For instance there will be no fizzy drinks or snacks on sale at the tournament just water and fruit."

There will be three age groups taking part in the tournament: 8-10, 11-14 and 15-17 for both boys and girls teams. Call Insp Kevin Sinfield for more information or to register via 08458 505 505.



MULLINS LOAN EXTENSION

Johnny Mullins has extended his loan stay at Conference side Kidderminster Harriers until 7th January. The young defender has played six games for the Harriers since his move to the Aggborough club at the end of October.

Other players away from Madejski Stadium on loan are Simieon Howell and Scott Rendell at Conference side Forest Green Rovers, and goalkeeper Jamie Young at Rushden & Diamonds.



FA CUP DRAW

The draw for the third round of the FA Cup will take place at 3pm tomorrow afternoon, and will be broadcast live on BBC1, Sky Sports News and BBC Radio Five Live. Jim Montgomery and Peter Osgood will be pulling the numbers out of the bag.

The Royals will enter the competition at this stage with all other Championship and

Premiership clubs, and our number in the draw is 33. Today's visitors Luton Town will be number 22. Other numbers of interest are:

1. Arsenal
10. Chelsea
21. Liverpool
24. Manchester United
48. Aldershot or Scunthorpe
49. Shrewsbury or Colchester
59. Oldham or Brentford



YOUNGSTERS TO FACE EVERTON

The Royals Academy side will face Everton at home in the third round of the FA Youth Cup. The game will take place on Wednesday 14th December, kicking off at 7.30pm at Madejski Stadium. Admission prices will be £4 for adults and £2 for concessions.

Our u18s have already met the Toffees this season, drawing 0-0 on Merseyside on the opening day of the season. The cup tie must be settled on the night, with extra time and penalties if necessary.

GOLDEN GAMBLE

Every matchday at Madejski Stadium you have a chance to win hundreds of pounds with our half-time Golden Gamble prize draw! It's simple to enter – just buy a ticket for £1 from one of our sellers around the ground, and listen out for the winning numbers at half-time!

GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW

The promotions department's Grand Christmas Draw is underway, and books of tickets are on sale now. As well as four cash prizes, you will also be able to win a meal in Le Café followed by tickets to a game, a signed matchball and many more! Call 0118 968 1480 or email cmoss@readingfc.co.uk to enter!

BRIAN WALKER AND IVAN ALGIE

Reading Football Club would like to express sincere condolences to the families and friends of long-standing season ticket holders Brian Walker and Ivan Algie, who sadly passed away recently.

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IVAR'S CENTURY

ROYALS DEFENDER REACHES A LANDMARK



Ivar Ingimarsson, Steve Coppell's first signing as Royals boss, made his 100th appearance in a Reading shirt in last weekend's 2-0 victory at Plymouth. Here we take a look back at the top five highlights of the Icelandic star's Reading career so far.

Debut blinder

Two days after joining the Royals from Wolverhampton Wanderers, Ivar made his debut in an excellent 2-1 victory at Sheffield United on 24th October 2003, in a Friday night game that was televised live on Sky Sports.

Radio station Reading 107 quickly gave Ivar the nickname 'Ingimarsson again' as he made a series of blocks, tackles and clearances to help his team towards three points, and Ivar's excellence in defence alongside Adie Williams played a key role in gaining Steve Coppell's first away win as Reading manager. The game was also notable for Nicky Forster's 'goal of the season' matchwinner, a thunderous strike from 25 yards.

First goal

Ivar's first goal in Reading colours

came in a thrilling game at Cardiff City on 16th March 2004. He opened the scoring after 39 minutes with a well-placed header from John Salako's corner. The Royals went on to win 3-2 at Ninian Park, with Dave Kitson and Dean Morgan also scoring their first goals for the club.

Goalscoring spree

For a spell in late 2004/early 2005, Ivar was our most potent goalscoring weapon. After securing victory at Leicester with the second goal in a 2-0 success, Ivar rescued our FA Cup campaign with a thumping late leveller against Swansea City at Madejski Stadium.

A fortnight later Ivar netted his third goal in 10 games in even more dramatic circumstances in a home match with Ipswich Town. With 89 minutes played the game was goalless, but then Darren Bent gave his team a late lead. From the restart the Royals went straight onto the attack, and Glen Little's cross was met by Ivar's rasping half-volley at the far post to rescue a point.

Wearing the armband

With Graeme Murty and Steve

Sidwell missing through injury, Ivar took over as captain for the top-of-the-table clash against Sheffield United earlier this season. Fellow Icelancer Brynjar Gunnarsson was the matchwinner on the day, opening the scoring after two minutes and then netting a winner in the dying stages.

Ivar kept the armband for the home meeting with Ipswich and trips to Hull and Stoke, so with ten points gained from his four fixtures as captain, he must surely be the most successful captain in the club's history?!

Loftus Road winner

In a tense and well-competed game at Loftus Road, the score was tied at 1-1 when Ivar rose at the near post to meet John Oster's cross and send a bullet header into the roof of the net, securing another three points and extending the team's unbeaten record to 20 games. To complete a memorable week, a few days later Ivar signed a new two-year contract.

Congratulations to Ivar on your first 100 Reading appearances, let's hope there are many more to come!

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THE MANAGERS



PART ELEVEN: HARRY JOHNSTON 15TH NOVEMBER 1955 - 12TH JUNE 1962

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For a period of eight weeks from September to November 1955, Reading FC was without a manager. Jack Smith had been given leave of absence and his successor had yet to be appointed. So during this interim spell, Chairman EJ Canter and Secretary Fred May assumed the title of joint caretaker-managers. They picked the team for ten games, though the actual coaching and fitness work was supervised by player-coach Bobby Campbell and trainer Jimmy Wallbanks.

Although this arrangement was moderately successful – Reading won three and drew one of the ten matches – it clearly could not be allowed to continue, and the directors were making feverish attempts to find a permanent manager. They approached, with the permission of Blackpool FC, that club's long-serving player, Harry Johnston, who agreed to be interviewed at Elm Park. Johnston was offered a salary of £1,250 per year, plus £250 in expenses, and an added bonus of £500 should Reading gain promotion from Division Three (South) to Division Two. After some brief negotiation, during which the manager's contract was extended from two years to three, Mr Johnston accepted the post, and was officially

appointed on 15th November 1955.

Elm Park was a ground Harry Johnston already knew quite well. Although he had never played there for Blackpool, his only league club, he had guested for Reading during the war years, and Blackpool had used Elm Park as a training base prior to the famous Wembley FA Cup Final of 1953, in which Johnston captained his team to a 4-3 win over Bolton Wanderers.

Johnston's reputation as a player was that of an archetypal, loyal, one-club man. He made his debut for Blackpool in November 1937, aged 18, and was a regular in the first

team for the next 18 seasons apart from wartime service, much of which he spent as a PT instructor with an RAF maintenance unit in the Middle East. In the ten post-war seasons he was the lynchpin of the popular and successful Blackpool team which appeared in the FA Cup finals of 1948 and 1951, before he became the first captain of the Seaside to lift the trophy in that Coronation year of 1953.

During his 438 Football League games with Blackpool, Johnston played in all three half-back positions as well as making the occasional appearance at centre-forward. He was much respected for his



Harry Johnston (left) pictured with youth team skipper David High, who holds a trophy Reading's youngsters won in Germany in 1959, plus club coach Bobby Campbell and trainer Jimmy Wallbanks.

gentlemanly behaviour on and off the pitch, though he was a strong character whose commanding leadership was an inspiration to those around him. Elected 'Footballer of the Year' in 1951 by the Football Writers' Association, he won ten England caps in an all-too brief international career. His final appearance for his country came in the disastrous 7-1 defeat by Hungary in Budapest in May 1954.

Clearly Harry Johnston had all the qualities required for a lengthy and fruitful managerial career, and as he moved with his wife and young son David into the club house at 28 Kenilworth Avenue, he must have relished the challenge that confronted him. But he found the club in a parlous state. The youth scheme had been greatly neglected, the financial situation was desperate, and he was horrified by the standard of play of his first team squad. So he persuaded the board of directors to allow him to extend the scouting network, and organize coaching sessions for schoolboys and local youngsters at Palmer Park stadium. He also introduced weightlifting training for his professional players in an effort to build up their stamina. This was successful as he was able to steer the club away from the threat of re-election, and also ensured that Reading became founder members of the non-regional Third Division in 1958.

The manager had to deal with many other innovations, including two new competitions. Reading were twice losing finalists in the Southern Professional Floodlit Cup, against Luton Town in 1957, and against Portsmouth in 1958. The Club also made its bow in the Football League Cup in the 1960/1 season. These additional fixtures, plus the numerous floodlit friendly matches arranged to provide extra revenue, resulted in a lengthening injury list and Reading



Expectations were high when Harry Johnston arrived at Elm Park, as illustrated in this Reading Chronicle cartoon of 18th November 1955.

were never able to make a sustained bid for promotion.

The maximum wage was abolished in 1961, and this put further pressure on the manager as he had to conduct negotiations with all his playing staff. So difficult was the money situation that Johnston himself was asked to take a cut in salary and expenses, something he politely declined to do. Even his best transfer deal, the signing of young centre-forward Denis Allen from Charlton Athletic in August 1961, was completed at a bargain price of just £900.

Despite all those external pressures, Johnston persevered with his belief in trying to make his teams play skilful possession football. He had a habit of jabbing his right index finger at his forehead whilst saying to his young players, "You've got to be thinking all the time, you've got to be thinking!" Eventually however it was the lack of funds available to buy experienced,

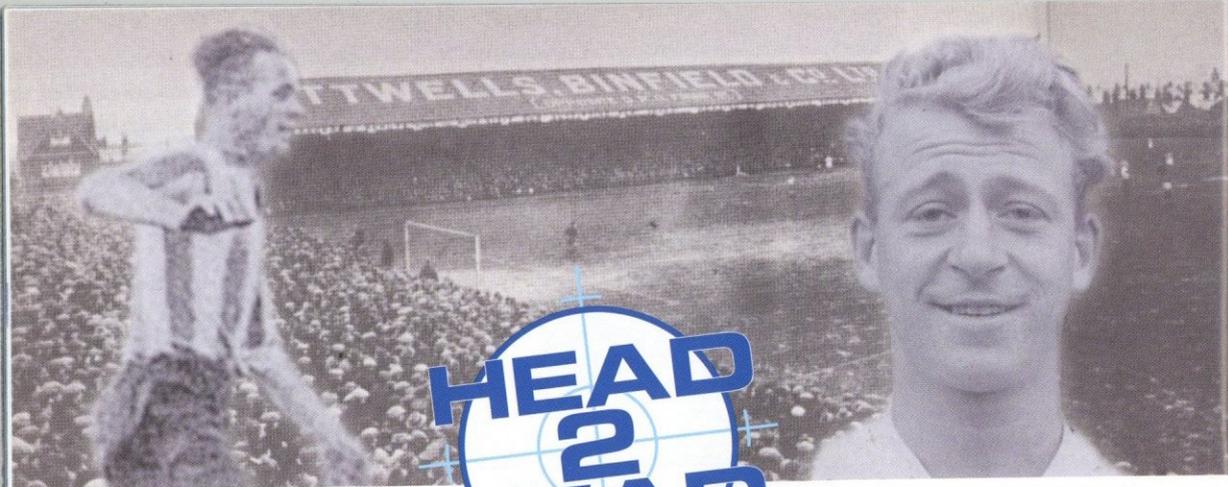
quality strikers that caused his downfall, and he was told on 12th December 1962 that his contract, due to expire in November 1963, would not be renewed.

His departure from Elm Park was handled in a dignified manner, with the board paying tribute to his hard work and integrity over the past seven years. He in turn wished Reading FC all the best for its future success. He remains to this day the Club's longest serving manager.

Harry Johnston returned to Blackpool, where he became a scout for his former club until his death at the premature age of just 54 on 12th October 1973.

Harry Johnston's Football League record as Reading manager was:

Played 327, Won 133, Drawn 70, Lost 124, Goals for 558, Goals against 507.



HEAD 2 HEAD

TOMMY TAIT

JIMMY WHEELER

by Alan Sedunary

They may have had very different styles but their goalscoring records and all-out effort for the Reading cause made Tommy Tait and Jimmy Wheeler two of the most popular players we have ever had.

THE ROAD TO READING



Born in the North East, Tommy Tait was a schoolboy international and the Rooney of his day – helping Man City to promotion as a 19 year-old and then scoring 28 First Division goals in 31 games two years later. He also played for Sunderland, Middlesbrough, Southport and Bolton before settling down at Luton, where he scored 50 League goals in 84 games during three seasons. In 1934 he joined Bournemouth but by November he was on the move again when he signed for Reading.



A true 'Biscuitman', Jimmy Wheeler was born in Reading and worked as electrician for Huntley & Palmers, as well as playing for 'the factory'. He also played for Berkshire Boys Clubs when they won the national cup so he came to the attention of several clubs. Brentford and Leyton Orient both offered Jimmy terms but there was only one club he was going to sign for and in May 1952 he joined Reading as an amateur, signing professional terms three months later.

READING RECORD



Tommy cost us a club record £1,000, which did not please our bank manager! He would have been even more annoyed if the Supporters' Club had not chipped in £200 for our new centre forward but that was the last time anyone complained about the signing. A hat-trick on his debut, at Aldershot, plus two disallowed 'goals' made Tommy an immediate favourite with the fans, popularity that never waned during his five years at Elm Park. Tommy soon established himself as our chief goalscorer, topping our scorers' list for each of his first four seasons and averaging well over a goal every two games. But there was much more to Tommy than just his goals. A deep thinker and tactically astute, Tommy was one of the first centre forwards to roam from the middle of the pitch and, in dragging the centre half with him, he created many goals for his colleagues. He was also an all-action player who never gave up



Jimmy Wheeler broke into the first team almost immediately and scored on his debut against Shrewsbury. He was used on either wing where his pace and control plus his ability to shoot with both feet made him a constant threat. He reached double figures in nine consecutive seasons and was our top scorer from 1957/8 to 1960/1, when he scored a remarkable 35 goals. During that period 'Jimmy Wee' had graduated through the inside forward position to the centre forward role where, despite being only 5 ft 6, he scored a fair share of headed goals against much taller opponents. Many of Jimmy's goals came as a result of the amazing energy he displayed in each and every game. He would chase every lost cause and frequently surprised his opponents by reaching a ball that they had considered out of danger. In September 1964, with Ron Blackman's goalscoring record within his reach, Jimmy broke his leg and this virtually ended his first team career yet also led to his greatest triumph. As

and never flinched a challenge, factors that served to increase his popularity and effectiveness at Elm Park. Consequently, you can imagine the uproar when it was announced just before the end of the 1937/8 season that Tommy was not being retained by the club. The local press were inundated with letters of protest and a petition demanding that he be retained was started by fans. Tommy had a better idea - in the two remaining games he scored five times to force a change of heart on the directors. Tommy stayed one more season before ending his Reading career with a remarkable **103 goals in 168 games.**

manager and captain of our reserves he led his young team to a memorable championship season, playing as an inspirational left back. Even from this position, Jimmy couldn't contain his goalscoring instincts as he netted nine times as the 'Stiffs' attracted higher attendances than the first team. Adored by the fans, Jimmy was voted our Player of the Year that season, even though he only played two first team games. His obvious leadership qualities eventually saw him tempted to leave Elm Park in 1968 to become Bradford's manager. Only Trevor Senior has scored more Reading goals than the **170 that Jimmy netted in 452(1) games.**

AFTERLIFE



Tommy joined Torquay in June 1939 but his career was ended prematurely by the war. Even so he returned to Elm Park a year later to play a couple of wartime games as a guest, and also guested for Southampton where he scored four times in 10 outings. Tommy eventually returned to the North East for a life outside football and died in Barnton at the age of 67.



Jimmy enjoyed immediate success at Valley Parade, guiding Bradford to promotion in his first season, but after a poor start to the following season Jimmy resigned. He never worked in the game again and after running a pub in Sandhurst he worked for the Met Office in Bracknell. Since retiring, Jimmy has made many visits to the Mad Stad where he remains as popular as ever.

CLAIM TO FAME



In 1934, after an hour of being fouled by an over-physical (even by 30s standards) Millwall defender, Tommy's patience finally snapped and he struck the offender. As a result Tommy became the first Reading player to be sent off in an Elm Park League fixture. As Tommy left the pitch to a standing ovation his tormenter was carried off – it was Boxing Day, after all!



Although Jimmy never worked in football after he left Bradford, he scouted for several clubs and one of his more recent discoveries was West Ham's Roy Carroll. Less successful was the signing of Michael Owen's father, Terry, for Bradford. Apparently, Owen senior was every bit as gifted as his son on the training pitch but could never transfer his talents to matchdays.

STRAP'S STATS

- Tommy is one of only 13 Reading players to have a better than a goal-every-other-game record. Of those players who made over 100 appearances, Tommy's average is third to Ron Blackman and Tony MacPhee.
- Jimmy is our second highest all-time scorer while Tommy is in fourth place.
- In those amazing coincidences that only Nigel Meek's Ultimate RFC Database can throw up, both Jimmy and Tommy hit four goals once and netted three hat-tricks, while both of their Reading debuts saw us hit five goals.
- Southend were Jimmy's favourite opponents with 12 goals in 18 starts while Tommy hit 10, including two hat-tricks, in 8 games against Aldershot.
- **THE STRAPOMETER** – The two players' careers coincided with contrasting Reading fortunes. Tommy's team was rarely out of the top three while Jimmy had to lift a usually struggling team. Consequently Tommy averaged 1.76 points per game while Jimmy's efforts were only rewarded with a 1.5 average.

VERDICT

Tommy Tait was a talented and hard-working player with a great goalscoring record who was idolised by the Elm Park fans. In fact it is doubtful whether there was a more popular Reading player between the wars. But Jimmy Wheeler was all of that and more. I have to declare that he was my boyhood hero (and still is!) but no player has displayed more effort and enthusiasm for the Reading cause than Jimmy. You can keep your Henrys, Rooneys and Beckhams, not even Tommy Tait can edge out 'Jimmy Wee' in my opinion!



HALF-SEASON TICKETS

BOOK YOUR SEAT FOR THE PROMOTION RUN-IN!



Reading Football Club's half-season ticket prices are available now and applications can be made for the best seats available. More than 2,000 half-season tickets have already been snapped up, taking the full total of season ticket holders to a record tally of more than 11,000!

Half-season tickets are valid for the final 11 Championship games, starting with the meeting with Leicester City on December 28th. Norwich, Southampton, Watford and Wolves are among the other visitors to Madejski Stadium in the

second half of the season, so there should be some thrilling action as the race for the Premiership continues.

Prices start from just £35 for an under 12 so they make a great Christmas present for any junior fan. Adult prices start at £165 and on a match by match basis mean that you can save up to £7 per ticket (see full table for all comparisons with matchday prices).

As well as securing your seat for every game, obtaining a half-season ticket also means that you'll also have a guaranteed booking period to secure your own seat for any

big Cup and play-off games. It will also give you the cheapest available season ticket prices for next season. Simply, it is the cheapest, most convenient and guaranteed best way of supporting your club!

To book your half-season ticket now, call the Sales Centre on 0870 999 1871 or visit in person. You can also download an application form at readingfc.co.uk, or to request one email memberservices@readingfc.co.uk

Full list of half-season ticket prices with per match equivalent:

	Lower West/ East Stand	Price per match equivalent	Saving per match on matchday price
Adult	£190	£17.27	£4.73
16-21 & over 65	£120	£10.90	£3.10
Under 16	£50	£4.55	£9.45
Under 12	£35	£3.18	£10.82

	North Stand	Price per match equivalent	Saving per match on matchday price
Adult	£165	£15	£7
16-21 & over 65	£100	£9.09	£4.91
Under 16	£50	£4.55	£9.45
Under 12	£35	£3.18	£10.82

	Upper West Stand	Price per match equivalent	Saving per match on matchday price
Adult	£200	£18.18	£6.82
16-21 & over 65	£145	£13.18	£3.82
Under 16	£60	£5.45	£11.55
Under 12	£40	£3.63	£13.37

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Visit www.MoveIntoDefence.com or call 0118 982 9009 for an application form.

AWE welcomes applications from women and men, regardless of disability, sexuality, racial or ethnic origin, age (up to 65) or responsibility for dependants. Successful candidates will be selected solely on their ability to carry out the duties of the post. Because of the nature of the work undertaken at AWE, these posts are required to meet special nationality rules and therefore are only open to British Citizens. All selected candidates will be required to undergo security clearance.

www.MoveIntoDefence.com



RESERVES REPORT

A LOCAL DERBY WIN FOR OUR SECOND STRING



Striker Simon Cox

WYCOMBE 0-1 READING PONTINS COMBINATION LEAGUE

The Royals reserves gained a 1-0 local derby victory over Wycombe Wanderers on Wednesday afternoon, with youngster Simon Cox netting the only goal midway through the first half at the Causeway Stadium.

Brynjar Gunnarsson made a successful return from injury following a month on the sidelines, while recent signings Michael Dobson and Aaron Brown made their debuts.

The only goal came when debutant Brown gained possession in defence and strode confidently forward before delivering a pass that released Cox, who advanced to the edge of the penalty area and slotted home past former Reading loanee Talia in the Wycombe goal.

There were plenty of opportunities for the second string to add to the scoring, but Cox and Long were denied on a number of occasions, while Curtis Osano – playing in an unfamiliar midfield position – also

forced an excellent save from Talia. Despite their dominance, the Royals were grateful to young keeper Ben Hamer for an excellent late save that secured the victory.

Reserve team boss Brian McDermott was happy with his side's performance, saying, "I thought it should have been four or five, we had so many chances. On another day Coxy would have had four or five goals on his own, Shane Long had a couple of chances as well, and Frank Talia did well in goal for them."

Brian felt a number of individuals produced good displays, saying, "I thought Aaron Brown was very good. He defended well, won all his headers and cleared his lines when he had to. He made the goal by putting the ball in the right place, and he can be very pleased with his first performance as a Reading player."

"Michael Dobson has played a lot of games at League level, and we had a more solid look about us, especially in the first half when Brynjar Gunnarsson played. We know that Bryn is a top pro

and he strolled through the game at centre-half. It was always the plan to just give him 45 minutes, and eased him back into action."

There was also praise for young striker Shane Long, who was returning from an absence through injury. Brian said, "Shane hadn't played for five or six weeks and I thought he looked really strong and powerful. There's a lot to come from him, he has raw talent and when he really understands the game he'll have a great chance."

ROYALS LINE-UP



Subs Used Karacan, Castle, Joseph-Dubois

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Model shown RX 400h with metallic paint £36,030 OTR. RX 400h range prices start from £35,480 to £44,895 OTR. Prices correct at time of going to press and include VAT, delivery charges, number plates, full tank of fuel, one year's road fund licence and first registration fee.

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ACADEMY REPORT



Goalscorer Liam Marum



DETAILS OF A THUMPING WIN

READING 4-0 LEICESTER NATIONAL ACADEMY LEAGUE

The Royals Academy side gained a highly impressive 4-0 victory over Leicester City in their last National Academy League fixture a fortnight ago.

All four goals came in a 17-minute burst towards the end of the first half, with striker Liam Marum bagging a brace after fellow frontman Pierre Joseph-Dubois had opened the scoring. Captain and central defender Curtis Ujah netted the fourth after 42 minutes.

Academy Manager Eamonn Dolan was very impressed with his team's performance, commenting, "Our boys were very good against a strong Leicester outfit. The game was fairly even at first and Leicester had plenty of possession, but we scored some good goals in

quick succession to make it 4-0 at half-time."

Eamonn was pleased to see his strikers on target, but is looking for further improvement in certain areas. "We've certainly got some strikers who are capable of scoring very good goals, but we're looking for those players to improve their reactions, strength and linkage of play. Overall we want them to become more structured in their play.

"Kevin Doyle is a really good example of a striker who is structured in his play. He is always looking to stretch the play and get behind the defence. We have players who sometimes do those things, but sometimes don't, and we are working hard to try to instill greater consistency in their play."

There were no Academy League fixtures last weekend due to an in-service training weekend for the coaches, with former Arsenal player Stewart Robson providing some sessions for our Academy staff. Our under 18s are returning to action today against the MK Dons.

ROYALS LINE-UP



Subs Used Bygrave, Crockford, Piotrowski

WANT TO JOIN THE ACADEMY?

We are always on the look-out for talented local youngsters, and have a number of coaches and scouts who attend local games every week.

If we identify a player, they may be invited to spend time at one of our Development Centres. From there, the most talented players can be invited to join the Academy's Elite Centre, which takes place at Madejski Stadium once a week for boys aged between 7-13, and successful graduates from the Elite Centre will be invited to a six-week trial to join their Academy age-group.

To recommend a player, contact our Academy Recruitment Officer Steve Shorey with a letter containing full details of the boy's playing history, forthcoming games, venues and kick-off times. You can also call Steve on 0118 968 1416.



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CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

OUR TOP TEN
CHRISTMAS
GIFTS FROM
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STADIUM
MEGASTORE!



2005/06 home shirt

1) Reading FC replica shirt

If you're not already wearing the blue and white of the Royals, the new Kyocera sponsored 2005/6 home kit is now available from prices as low as £28. The new shirt (long and short sleeved available) is made of lightweight performance fabric, has breathable side panels and a traditional collar, plus a plain section on the back for clearly visible name and number printing.

2) Bench Coat

The clocks have gone back and the dark winter nights are drawing in, so you'll need to wrap up warm with a deluxe 'Bench Coat' with fleeced interior for the frosty mornings, a concealed hood for the inevitable English downpours, as well as a mobile phone pocket, zipped pockets and adjustable sleeves and waist band. Buy it now from £60.

3) Players Fleece

Or you can keep warm in style with a Players Fleece priced between £34 and £40. With a short zip at the front, deep zipped pockets and a toggle at the hem, you'll be able to keep the chilly winds out.

4) 2005/06 away shirt

If you fancy a change from the hoops, why not buy the new Navy away shirt? Lightweight performance fabric with breathable side panels and a contemporary collar.

5) Quality footballs

Hone your own footballing skills in the park. We've got full size leather Puma footballs from just £10 – the perfect gift for any aspiring young footballer. You can also get a smaller sized Reading FC 'Skill Ball' for just £6, which is ideal for improving ball control and a young player's first touch.

6) RFC Polo Shirts

Reading Football Club polo shirts are another great gift available at a bargain price. You can get a twin pack of polo shirts, one navy and one royal blue, at the special price of just £14 for children and £20 for adults.

7) Academy Sweatshirt

Part of our Academy range from Puma, a light blue sweatshirt with the Reading crest on the front, displaying the message 'Supporting Excellence Since 1871'. Now available for only £15 for all ages.

8) RFC Swim Shorts

What better way to get you through the winter nights than thoughts of the summer sun, beautiful beaches, and a gentle swim in the sea. Navy blue swimming shorts with the embroidered RFC logo are available from £16.

9) Ladieswear

We also have a large range of ladieswear, from hooded sweatshirts, stylish fitted t-shirts,

hats, bags and more.

10) Souvenirs

And what do you buy the hardened Royals fan who seems to have everything already? From water bottles and flags to keyrings and stationery, the RFC Megastore has it all! You can even buy the latest edition of the new Royals Magazine for just £3.50.

THREE WAYS TO SHOP!

There are three easy ways to buy your official RFC merchandise:

1) At the Madejski Stadium Megastore – open Monday-Saturday (9am-5.30pm), Sundays (10am-4pm), and until 8pm on Thursdays between now and Christmas.

2) By telephone on 0118 968 1234

3) In our online shop at www.readingfc.co.uk

Please note that London Irish are at home on Sunday 4th December and Sunday 11th December, so Royals fans are advised to avoid visiting the Stadium on those days.

Important - please also note that Friday 16th December is the deadline to guarantee pre-Christmas delivery (subject to stock availability). Any order placed after the deadline will be processed as soon as possible, but we cannot guarantee delivery for Christmas.



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RFC COMMUNITY



Young fans enjoy the 'Girls Day' at the recent home match against Hull



A LOOK AT OUR LATEST ACTIVITIES

MANAGERS' DAYS

Some of our most popular activities are the Reading FC Managers' Days, which give local football teams the opportunity to see behind the scenes at Reading Football Club.

We appreciate the importance of working with local football clubs in our community and see this as a great way to work together. As you know we already have in place coaching sessions for children, and now we can offer education days to their managers, trainers and other volunteers of local clubs.

The days consist of theory and practical coaching sessions. We start on the theory side, discussing how young players develop learning skills. We then move onto the practical side of the day which is held at our Academy Training Centre, where we have the opportunity to demonstrate practical coaching sessions on warm ups, passing, team shape, goalkeeping and much more.

This also gives the managers the chance to be coached by our highly qualified community staff.

Recently we welcomed the Twyford Comets to their fourth Managers' Day, and their communications officer Steve Green said, "The Managers' Day at Reading FC is now a regular part of our calendar and we encourage all our managers and team helpers to attend each year.

"Taking on the role of the players for a few hours helps us understand what works well from their perspective, and this in turn helps us to better plan our own weekly training sessions. There are new ideas each time for making warm-ups and training routines fun for the players, plus of course the ongoing reinforcement of coaching basics for the managers."

If your club would like to get involved in our Managers' Days, please contact our Community Manager Lee Herron on 0118 968 1415.

COMMUNITY PENALTY CUP

Today we see the final tie in the last 16 of the half-time Community Penalty Cup. The two teams competing for a place in the quarter finals are Shiplake and Wokingham & Emmbrook – good luck to you both!

The last team to progress was Finchampstead FC, who beat Tadley Calleva by four goals to nil during the half-time break of our game with Hull.

FA CHARTER AWARD

Today we have the pleasure of welcoming Wokingham & Emmbrook FC pitchside to receive their FA Charter Development Club Award. Present to receive the award are Mark Ashwell (Chairman) and Graham Tabor (Youth Chairman), and the community scheme will look forward to working very closely with Wokingham & Emmbrook in the coming months.

ROYALS ROADSHOW

The Royals Roadshow is now

coming to the end of the first phase. To date we have visited 11 schools in the Reading area, seeing more than 900 children. The last leg on the Roadshow will see us visit Coley Primary School on Wednesday, when Bobby Convey will be the special guest!

The Roadshow got underway in September at Christ the King School in Whitley, and the school's PE co-ordinator Nathan Broad said, "It was a great experience for the children. They had the opportunity to meet Kevin Doyle and at the same time receive a very important message on fire safety with a bit of coaching thrown in for good measure. We thank Reading Football Club and ADT for making it such a great day."

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

A warm welcome to Football in the Community to our guests for today's game: FC Fernhill u13s & u15s from Bracknell, and Wexham School in Slough. Both groups of

players will be put through their paces with a coaching session in the Academy Training Centre, followed by tickets to watch the game.

CHRISTMAS SOCCER SCHOOLS

We have organised various soccer schools for boys and girls in the rapidly approaching Christmas holidays. You will need to bring your kit, football boots, trainers, shin pads, packed lunch, plenty of drink, shower proof jacket in case

of showers. There will also be a medal, competitions and prizes to be won.

We are also organising a girls-only soccer skills day at Madejski Stadium on Wednesday 21st December. A list of more venues and dates is below. For further information and a booking form for any of our courses please call 0118 968 1460 or email soccerschools@readingfc.co.uk

Area	Venue	Dates	Cost
Reading	Academy Training Centre	19th- 21st Dec	£40 for 3 days
Reading	Prospect School	22nd-23rd Dec	£25 for 2 days
Basingstoke	Down Grange Playing Fields	20th-22nd Dec	£38 for 3 days
Bracknell	Binfield Primary School	21st-23rd Dec	£38 for 3 days
Farnborough	Yateley School	22nd-23rd Dec	£22 for 2 days
Slough	Herschel Sports Centre	22nd-23rd Dec	£25 for 2 days
Andover	Charlton Leisure Centre	22nd-23rd Dec	£25 for 2 days
Wallingford	Wallingford Sports Park	22nd Dec	£15
Thatcham	Henwick Worthy Playing Fields	21st-22nd Dec	£28 for 2 days
Hungerford	John O'Gaunt School	22nd-23rd Dec	£28 for 2 days

TODAY'S MASCOTS



TODAY'S MASCOTS ARE (L-R): JAMES HIGGINS, REBECCA HIGGINS, JACK BRENNAN, REBECCA MURRAY

QUICK QUIZ

- 1 Who scored Reading's opener against Hull City in our last home game?
- 2 Who scored our last goal at Elm Park?
- 3 Who plays their home games at Belle Vue?
- 4 Which British club won the UEFA Cup in 1983/4 season?
- 5 Who did England play in their last game at the old Wembley?

Answers: 1. Bobby Convey, 2. Michael Meaker, 3. Doncaster Rovers, 4. Tottenham Hotspur, 5. Germany

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 Plymouth Argyle F.C.	 Queens Park Rangers F.C.	 Preston North End F.C.	 Brighton & Hove Albion F.C.
 Hull City F.C.	 Sheffield United F.C.	 Stoke City F.C.	 Wolverhampton Wanderers F.C.
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RFC COMMERCIAL

LATEST NEWS FROM OUR HOSPITALITY DEPARTMENT



MATCH SPONSORSHIP

We have availability for a match sponsor for the Christmas period games against Leicester (28th December) and Cardiff City (2nd January). So if you want an extra bit of festive cheer, what better way than treating yourself to some first class hospitality at Madejski Stadium! The match sponsorship package includes:

- * VIP car parking
- * Sparkling wine reception
- * Complimentary wines, beers and spirits
- * Complimentary matchday programmes
- * Stadium tour (except evening matches)
- * Pre-match talk with player/s
- * Full dining
- * Luxury match seating
- * Half-time refreshments
- * Man-of-the-match and gift presentations
- * Commemorative photographs
- * Company logo on programme cover
- * Programme acknowledgement

* PA and scoreboard announcements

We offer great value at an all inclusive price of just £137+vat per person for Match Sponsorship and £120+vat per person for Matchball Sponsorship. For further details contact us on the details shown below.

Today's match sponsors are ProInstall, the UK's number one trade Audio Visual installation company, with a nationwide team of trained engineers, project managers, electricians, and programmers. They are able to deal with projects ranging from a simple boardroom to a project implementation involving literally hundreds of sites, and have to date carried out over 5,000 classroom installs into predominantly primary and secondary education.

Since being established ProInstall has created new standards in the audio visual installation market by focusing on continual improvement and on the range services provided.

They are unique in providing, a nationwide, fixed price, one stop solution with 100% satisfaction guarantee on all their work.

MAN OF THE MATCH

Our last home game was the 3-1 victory over Hull City, and after the game our 280 Madejski Stadium Suiteholders voted to give the Man of the Match award to the game's opening goalscorer, Bobby Convey. Our picture above shows Bobby receiving the award from Ian and Aden Clack and Russell Parker from Airwide Solutions.

CONTACT DETAILS

For more information or to book please call Kevin Girdler or Richard McCoull on 0118 968 1302/3 or email kgirdler@readingfc.co.uk / rmccoull@readingfc.co.uk

www.readingfc.co.uk

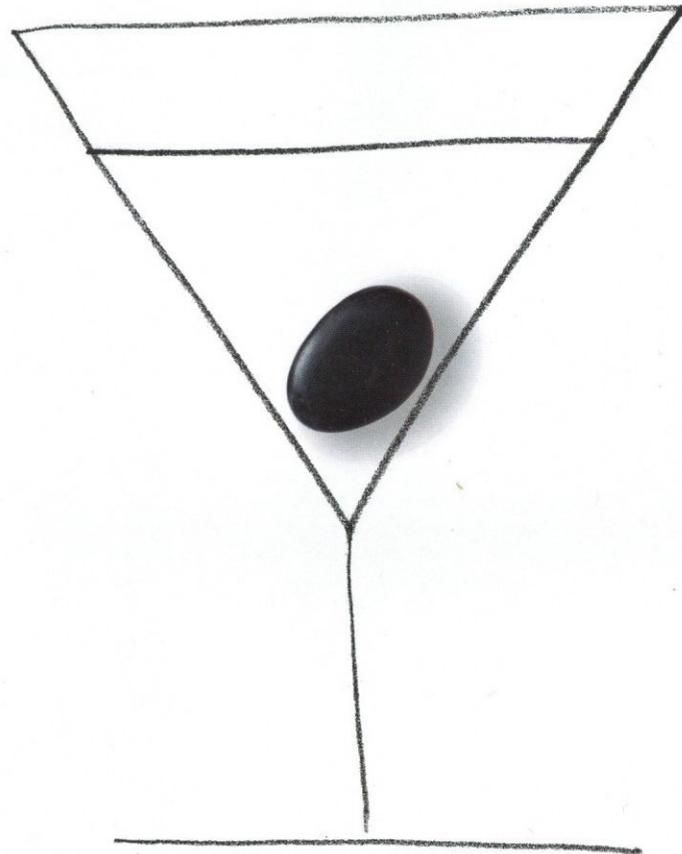
TODAY'S SPONSORS



Welcome to our match sponsors **Pro Install**. We hope you have an enjoyable day. For more information on match sponsorship at Madejski Stadium, please call Kevin Girdler on **0118 968 1303**.



Man of the Match champagne kindly supplied by Church House Vintners of Newbury, tel 01635 579327



Stirred, never shaken.

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the printers



SALES CENTRE NEWS

Please note that the Madejski Stadium Sales Centre will be closed to personal callers and phone callers on Monday 5th December. This is so that all half season ticket applications can be processed, which has to be done before the home game with Leicester on 28th December can go on sale (as this is the game from which half season tickets begin).

The opening hours for the Madejski Stadium Sales Centre have changed to make it easier for supporters to buy tickets. The new hours are:

Monday	10am-6pm
Tuesday	10am-6pm
Wednesday	11am-8pm
Thursday	11am-8pm
Friday	10am-6pm

Saturday NON matchdays
9am-midday

Saturday matchdays
9am-midday by phone
9am-half-time in person
Sunday NON matchdays
Closed

The Sales Centre is also open for 30 minutes after a weekend game.

The new opening hours give supporters the chance to visit or telephone the Sales Centre after standard working hours, with extended evening openings on Wednesdays (for Sevens Presentations Evenings) and Thursdays (to coincide with late-night town centre shopping).

Another benefit for supporters is that you can now call outside of peak hours and therefore pay lower call charges. The later opening times also give the Sales Centre staff more time for administration and staff training.

BUS SERVICES

A number of bus services are running to and from Madejski Stadium on matchdays again this year, and fares have been kept unchanged from last season.

Services are available from Reading Station, Sonning Common, Emmer Green, Caversham, Caversham Park, Woodley, Cemetery Junction, Lower Earley, Purley, Tilehurst, Newbury, Thatcham, Midgham, Woolhampton, Aldermaston, Theale and Calcot.

Fares begin from £2.50 for an adult return depending on your departure point, and great value family return tickets are also available. For a full list of timetables and pick-up points, see the concourses inside Madejski Stadium, visit readingfc.co.uk/page/Transport or call Reading Buses on 0118 959 6000.

STADIUM TOURS

We are pleased to offer official tours of Madejski Stadium, giving fans a unique chance to take a behind-the-scenes look at the home of the Royals. The fully guided tours include the changing rooms, Directors' Lounge and hospitality areas. The price is £5 for adults and £2 for concessions, and the tours are between 45 minutes and one hour in duration. It is necessary to book in advance. Reservations can only be made by calling our tour guide, Paul Robinson, on 0118 958 0036.

SAFETY GATE

Please note the Safety Gate behind the South Stand will be in operation after today's game, and traffic will be held back for 20 minutes until pedestrians have safely departed.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We are able to display 'Happy Birthday' messages on the new video screen. If you would like your message to be displayed, please email birthdays@backtheboys.com at least two days before the game.

ANY QUESTIONS?

We always want to hear your comments, suggestions and queries, and all supporters are welcome to contact our Customer Services Manager Jackie Evans. You can get in touch with her by phone (0118 968 1211), fax (0118 968 1101), email (jevans@readingfc.co.uk) or post (Customer Services, Reading FC, Madejski Stadium, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 0FL).

SALES CENTRE



OPENING HOURS AND PRICES

The Madejski Stadium Sales Centre is open currently at the following times:

Monday	10am-6pm
Tuesday	10am-6pm
Wednesday	11am-8pm
Thursday	11am-8pm
Friday	10am-6pm
Saturday NON matchdays	9am-midday
Saturday matchdays	9am-midday by phone 9am-half-time in person
Sunday NON matchdays	Closed

The Sales Centre telephone number is **0870 999 1871**. Call charges are 6.72p per minute at peak times, 3.6p off peak and 2.8p at weekends.

Buying tickets online at www.readingfc.co.uk is the cheapest and simplest way to purchase seats. The online ticketing system is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

SEATS BOOKED ONLINE - MEMBER CARD HOLDERS ONLY

East, North and Lower West stands: Adult £17, Concession £9
Upper West stand: Adult £20, Concession £12

SEATS BOOKED IN ADVANCE WITH A MEMBER CARD

East, North and Lower West stands: Adult £19, Concession £11
Upper West stand: Adult £22, Concession £14

NON-MEMBER CARD BOOKINGS AND ALL MATCHDAY PURCHASES

East, North and Lower West stands: Adult £22, Concession £14
Upper West stand: Adult £25, Concession £17

Concessions are for fans aged 65 and over or 21 and under - if you are aged between 16-21 you must register with the ticket office providing proof of age. Under 5s go free on a guardian's lap. Disabled prices include a free ticket for personal assistant if required.

UPGRADES

You can upgrade a concession season ticket for a one-off game. Contact the Sales Centre with the customer number on the concession Member Card and pay a £10 upgrade fee. The concession Member Card can then be used by an adult.

ROYALS ON TOUR 05/06

HOTLINE 0870 999 1871



MILLWALL 17.12.05

The New Den
Sat 17th December 2005
Kick-off 3pm

Club Address:

The New Den
Zampa Road
Bermondsey
London
SE16 3LN

Tel: 020 7232 1222
info@millwallplc.com
www.millwallfc.co.uk



Match Preview

Steve Coppell's team will be aiming to complete the double against ex-Reading coach Colin Lee's side after a 5-0 thumping at Madejski Stadium in August. The Lions played most of that game with 10 men after keeper Andy Marshall was sent off, and they are likely to have another new shotstopper for this game as Lenny Pidgeley has recently signed on loan from Chelsea.

Reading legend Adie Williams will not play as his loan at Millwall from Coventry comes to an end this weekend.



TICKET ALLOCATION

We have an initial allocation of 1,500 tickets, with more available if needed.

Tickets will go on general sale immediately after this afternoon's game, priced at **£19** for adults, **£12** for seniors and **£10** for under 16s. There are five disabled spaces with free helper space.



Jody Morris



WOLVES 26.12.05

Molineux
Mon 26th December 2005
Kick-off 3pm

Club Address:

Molineux Ground
Waterloo Road
Wolverhampton
WV1 4QR

Tel: 0870 442 0123
info@wolves.co.uk
www.wolves.co.uk



Match Preview

A Boxing Day trip to the Black Country as the Royals look to erase the memory of last season's 4-1 thrashing at Molineux. After being among the pre-season favourites Glen Hoddle's side have struggled for consistency and have drawn too many games, but remain in a decent position to make a push for automatic promotion if they can hit top form.

They are hoping to welcome back top scorer Carl Cort, who underwent a knee operation in October but could be back in contention for the Christmas period.



TICKET ALLOCATION

Ticket information is not yet available. Please see readingfc.co.uk and local press for details.



Carl Cort

FIXTURES & RESULTS

THE KEY

fac - fa cup
cc - carling cup

home games
appear in bold

number before name
denotes player replaced

number in red denotes
number of goals scored

DATE OPPONENTS RESULTS - ATT

SAT AUG 6	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	1-2	16,836	A:3,979
TUE AUG 9	BRIGHTON	2-0	6,676	A:538
SAT AUG 13	PRESTON NORTH END	3-0	13,154	A:497
SAT AUG 20	MILLWALL	5-0	14,225	A:679
TUE AUG 23	SWANSEA CITY (CC1)	3-1	7,603	A:540
SAT AUG 27	WATFORD	0-0	12,152	A:979
MON AUG 29	BURNLEY	2-1	14,027	A:890
SAT SEP 10	COVENTRY CITY	1-1	22,074	A:1,896
TUE SEP 13	CRYSTAL PALACE	3-2	17,562	A:3,777
SAT SEP 17	CREWE ALEXANDRA	1-0	17,668	A:353
TUE SEP 20	LUTON TOWN (CC2)	1-0	6,941	A:829
SAT SEP 24	NORWICH CITY	1-0	24,850	A:986
WED SEP 28	SOUTHAMPTON	0-0	24,946	A:3,094
SAT OCT 1	SHEFFIELD UNITED	2-1	22,068	A:3,745
SUN OCT 16	IPSWICH TOWN	2-0	17,581	A:2,034
TUE OCT 18	HULL CITY	1-1	17,698	A:484
SAT OCT 22	STOKE CITY	1-0	13,484	A:888
TUE OCT 25	SHEFFIELD UTD (CC3)	2-0	11,607	A:442
SAT OCT 29	LEEDS UNITED	1-1	22,012	A:3,012
TUE NOV 1	SHEFFIELD WED	2-0	16,188	A:1,620
SAT NOV 5	Q.P.R.	2-1	15,347	A:2,878
SAT NOV 19	HULL CITY	3-1	17,864	A:1,200
TUE NOV 22	IPSWICH TOWN	3-0	22,621	A:514
SAT NOV 26	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	2-0	14,020	A:1,569
TUE NOV 29	ARSENAL (CC4)	0-3	36,167	A:7,200
SAT DEC 3	LUTON TOWN	3PM		
SAT DEC 10	BRIGHTON	3PM		
SAT DEC 17	MILLWALL	3PM		
MON DEC 26	WOLVES	3PM		
WED DEC 28	LEICESTER CITY	8PM		
SAT DEC 31	DERBY COUNTY	5.15PM		
MON JAN 2	CARDIFF CITY	3PM		
SAT JAN 7	FA CUP 3			
SAT JAN 14	COVENTRY CITY	3PM		
FRI JAN 20	CRYSTAL PALACE	7.45PM		
SAT 28 JAN	FA CUP 4			
TUE JAN 31	NORWICH CITY	8PM		
SAT FEB 4	CREWE	3PM		
FRI FEB 10	SOUTHAMPTON	7.45PM		
TUE FEB 14	SHEFFIELD UNITED	7.45PM		
FRI FEB 17	LUTON TOWN	7.45PM		
SAT FEB 18	FA CUP 5			
SAT FEB 25	PRESTON NORTH END	3PM		
SAT MAR 4	BURNLEY	3PM		
SAT MAR 11	WATFORD	3PM		
SAT MAR 18	WOLVES	3PM		
WED MAR 22	FA CUP 6			
SAT MAR 25	LEICESTER CITY	3PM		
SAT APR 1	DERBY COUNTY	3PM		
SAT APR 8	CARDIFF CITY	3PM		
SAT APR 15	LEEDS UNITED	3PM		
MON APR 17	STOKE CITY	3PM		
SAT APR 22	SHEFFIELD WED	3PM		
SAT APR 22	FA CUP SEMI FINAL			
SUN APR 30	Q.P.R.	3PM		
SAT MAY 13	FA CUP FINAL			



Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	1 Little
Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	1 Little
Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	2 Little 1
Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	3 Little
Stack	Makin	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	1 Oster
Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	Little
Hahnemann	Murty	2 Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	Little
Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Gunnarsson	1 Little
Hahnemann	Murty	Makin	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Gunnarsson	Little
Hahnemann	Murty	Makin	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Gunnarsson	2 Little
Hahnemann	Murty	Makin	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Baradji	Oster 1
Hahnemann	Murty	Makin	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Gunnarsson	Little
Hahnemann	1 Murty	Makin	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Gunnarsson	Little
Hahnemann	Makin	Hunt	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Gunnarsson	2 Little
Hahnemann	Makin	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Gunnarsson	2 Little
Hahnemann	Makin	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Gunnarsson	2 Little
Hahnemann	1 Makin	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Gunnarsson	2 Little
Stack	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Sidwell	Baradji	Oster
Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	1 Gunnarsson	1 Little
Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	2 Little
Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	1 Little
Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	1 Little 1
Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	1 Little
Hahnemann	Murty	Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	1 Little 1
3 Stack	Murty	1 Shorey	Sonko	Ingimarsson	Harper	Sidwell	Oster



2 Convey	Lita 1	Doyle	1 Kitson	2 Hunt	Oster	Makin	Stack
2 Convey	3 Lita	Kitson 1	1 Oster	2 Hunt	3 Doyle	Makin	Stack
1 Convey	Lita 2	Kitson	1 Hunt	2 Oster	Doyle	Makin	Stack
1 Convey	Lita	2 Kitson 1	1 Hunt	2 Doyle	3 Oster	Makin	Stack
Hunt	2 Doyle	Kitson 2	13 Little	2 Gunnarsson	3 Lita 1	Convey	Hahnemann
Convey	1 Lita	Kitson	1 Doyle	Makin	Oster	Hunt	Stack
Convey	Lita 1	1 Kitson	1 Doyle 1	2 Makin	Oster	Hunt	Stack
Convey	2 Lita	Doyle 1	1 Oster	2 Obinna	Baradji	Hunt	Stack
1 Convey	Lita 1	Doyle 1	1 Hunt	Oster	Obinna	Baradji	Stack
3 Convey	1 Lita	Doyle	1 Obinna	2 Oster	3 Hunt	Baradji	Stack
Hunt	2 Obinna	1 Doyle	1 Lita	2 Cox	Gunnarsson	Little	Federici
Convey	1 Lita	Doyle	1 Obinna	Oster	Hunt	Cox	Federici
Convey	2 Lita	Doyle	1 Hunt	2 Obinna	Oster	Baradji	Federici
2 Convey	3 Lita	Doyle	1 Oster	2 Baradji	3 Obinna	Osano	Federici
3 Convey	Lita	1 Doyle 1	1 Kitson	2 Oster	3 Hunt	Baradji	Stack
2 Convey	1 Lita	Doyle	1 Kitson	2 Oster	Hunt	Sidwell	Stack
3 Convey	Kitson 1	Doyle	1 Sidwell	2 Oster	3 Hunt	Obinna	Stack
2 Hunt	1 Kitson 2	Obinna	1 Cox	2 Little	Gunnarsson	Doyle	Hahnemann
2 Convey	Kitson	Doyle	1 Sidwell	2 Hunt	Oster	Obinna	Stack
1 Convey	Kitson 1	Doyle	1 Hunt	2 Oster	Osano	Obinna	Stack
2 Convey	Kitson	Doyle	1 Oster	2 Hunt	Makin	Obinna	Stack
2 Convey	Lita	3 Doyle 1	1 Oster	2 Hunt	3 Obinna	Makin	Stack
2 Convey	Lita	Doyle 1	1 Oster	2 Hunt	Obinna	Makin	Stack
2 Convey	Lita	3 Doyle 1	1 Oster	2 Hunt	3 Cox	Makin	Stack
Hunt	2 Lita	Kitson	1 Makin	2 Doyle	3 Hahnemann	Convey	Little

COCA-COLA CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	GD
READING	21	15	5	1	38	11	50	+27
SHEFF UTD	21	14	4	3	42	21	46	+21
WATFORD	21	10	7	4	36	25	37	+11
LEEDS	20	10	6	4	26	18	36	+8
LUTON	21	10	4	7	33	28	34	+5
CARDIFF	21	8	7	6	32	24	31	+8
BURNLEY	21	9	4	8	30	25	31	+5
STOKE	21	10	1	10	25	28	31	-3
C PALACE	19	9	3	7	31	22	30	+9
WOLVES	21	7	9	5	26	18	30	+8
PRESTON	21	6	11	4	24	20	29	+4
SOUTHAMPTON	20	5	12	3	23	18	27	+5
QPR	21	6	7	8	23	30	25	-7
LEICESTER	20	5	9	6	22	23	24	-1
IPSWICH	21	6	6	9	23	33	24	-10
NORWICH	21	6	5	10	21	27	23	-6
DERBY	21	4	10	7	27	32	22	-5
HULL CITY	21	4	8	9	18	25	20	-7
PLYMOUTH	20	4	8	8	16	25	20	-9
SHEFF WED	21	4	8	9	17	27	20	-10
COVENTRY	21	3	10	8	24	33	19	-9
CREWE	21	4	7	10	23	41	19	-18
BRIGHTON	21	2	12	7	20	29	18	-9
MILLWALL	21	3	7	11	16	33	16	-17

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FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES

PLAYER NAME	2005/2006 SEASON			ROYALS CAREER		TOTAL OVERALL LFK CAREER	
	LGE APP	CUP APP	TOTAL GLS	TOTAL APP	TOTAL GLS	TOTAL APP	TOTAL GLS
SEKOU BARADJI	(+1)	2	-	2(+1)	-	2(+1)	-
AARON BROWN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOBBY CONVEY	21	-	3	28(+15)	3	28(+15)	3
SIMON COX	(+1)	(+2)	-	(+3)	-	(+3)	-
MICHAEL DOBSON	-	-	-	-	-	196(+15)	7
KEVIN DOYLE	16(+4)	2(+1)	7	18(+5)	7	18(+5)	7
BRYN GUNNARSSON	10	(+1)	3	10(+1)	3	215(+14)	25
MARCUS HAHNEMANN	21	1(+1)	-	167(+1)	-	178(+1)	-
JAMES HARPER	21	3	3	175(+21)	12	177(+21)	12
SIMIEON HOWELL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
STEPHEN HUNT	1(+15)	4	-	5(+15)	-	150(+43)	29
IVAR INGIMARSSON	21	4	2	99(+2)	7	262(+9)	21
DAVE KITSON	9(+3)	3	8	60(+10)	33	177(+16)	80
LEROY LITA	17	1(+2)	7	18(+2)	7	69(+51)	45
GLEN LITTLE	21	(+2)	5	61(+8)	6	298(+57)	42
CHRIS MAKIN	9(+1)	2(+1)	-	11(+2)	-	401(+13)	8
JOHNNY MULLINS	-	-	-	-	-	21	2
GRAEME MURTY	17	3	-	248(+14)	1	379(+26)	10
ERIC OBINNA	(+6)	2	-	2(+6)	-	2(+6)	-
JOHN OSTER	(+14)	4	1	4(+14)	1	160(+69)	22
STEVE SIDWELL	11(+2)	3	2	123(+3)	18	168(+5)	27
GRAHAM STACK	-	3	-	3	-	37(+1)	-
NICKY SHOREY	15	3	-	192	7	205(+3)	7
IBRAHIMA SONKO	21	4	1	63(+4)	2	153(+4)	11
JAMIE YOUNG	-	-	-	(+1)	-	16(+2)	-

05/06 TOP GOALSCORERS

PLAYER NAME	LEAGUE	CUP	TOTAL
DAVE KITSON	4	4	8
LEROY LITA	6	1	7
KEVIN DOYLE	7	0	7

05/06 TOP HOME GATES

DATE	OPPONENTS	ATTENDANCE
SAT 1 OCT	SHEFF UTD	22,068
SAT 29 OCT	LEEDS UTD	22,012
SAT 19 NOV	HULL CITY	17,864

LAST THREE GAMES

OPPONENTS	RESULT
ARSENAL CC4 (A)	0-3
PLYMOUTH (A)	2-0
IPSWICH (A)	3-0

05/06 STARTING RECORD

PLAYER NAME	LEAGUE	CUP
IVAR INGIMARSSON	21	4
IBRAHIMA SONKO	21	4
JAMES HARPER	21	3

EDITOR: ANDY WEST
ASSISTANTS: CRAIG MORTIMER, MARK BRADLEY
DESIGN: MATT COLE
PICS: CRAIG MORTIMER, JOHN HAWKEN, RICHARD CLAYPOLE, GARY HYNARD, EMPICS, GARETH DAVIES

MATCH OFFICIALS

-  **M Jones**
• Referee
-  **M T Cassidy**
• Assistant 1
-  **J Flynn**
• Assistant 2
-  **S W Tinknell**
• 4th Official

ROYALS PREVIOUS LINE-UP

Arsenal 3-0 Reading
Carling Cup Round 4 • 29.11.05



HATTERS PREVIOUS LINE-UP

Luton Town 2-0 Crystal Palace
Coca-Cola Championship • 26.11.05



TODAY'S FIXTURES

- Crystal Palace v Millwall
- Coventry v Plymouth
- Crewe v Preston
- Derby v Norwich
- Hull City v Cardiff
- Ipswich v Wolves
- Leeds v Leicester
- Sheff Utd v Sheff Wed
- Southampton v Burnley
- Stoke v QPR
- Watford v Brighton

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TODAY'S SQUADS

READING vs Luton Town
Coca-Cola Championship, Saturday 3rd December 2005, Kick-Off 3pm



READING

- 1 Marcus HAHNEMANN
- 2 Graeme MURTY
- 3 Nicky SHOREY
- 4 Steve SIDWELL
- 5 Ibrahima SONKO
- 6 Brynjar GUNNARSSON
- 7 Glen LITTLE
- 8 Leroy LITA
- 10 Stephen HUNT
- 11 John OSTER
- 12 Dave KITSON
- 13 Reading FANS
- 14 Simieon HOWELL
- 15 James HARPER
- 16 Ivar INGIMARSSON
- 17 Bobby CONVEY
- 18 Michael DOBSON
- 19 Kevin DOYLE
- 20 Jonathan HAYES
- 21 Graham STACK
- 22 Peter CASTLE
- 23 Chris MAKIN
- 24 Shane LONG
- 25 Johnny MULLINS
- 26 Curtis OSANO
- 27 Aaron BROWN
- 28 Jamie YOUNG
- 29 Eric OBINNA
- 30 Sekou BARADJI
- 31 Simon COX
- 32 Adam FEDERICI



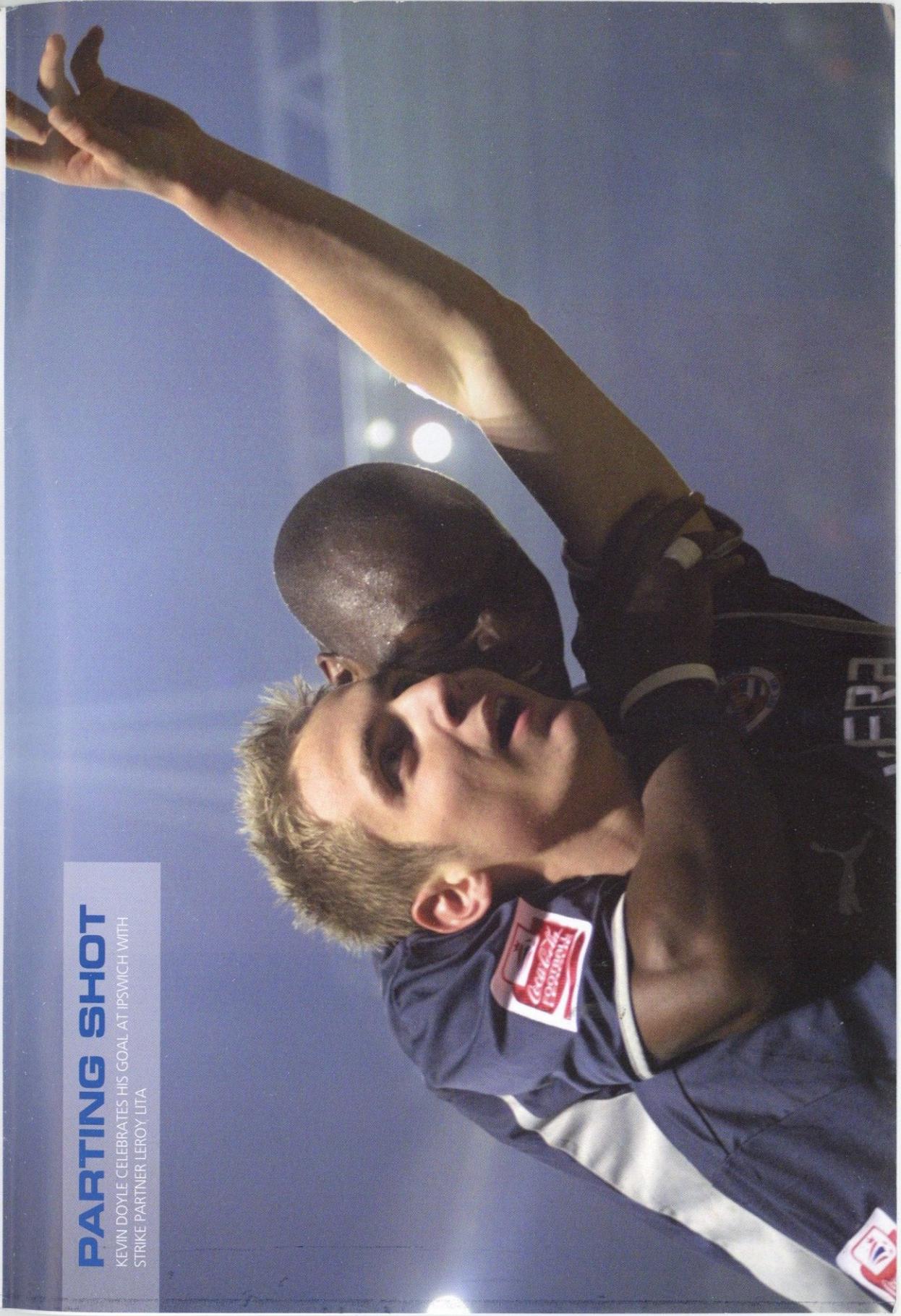
LUTON

- 1 Marlon BERESFORD
- 2 Kevin FOLEY
- 3 Sol DAVIS
- 4 Chris COYNE
- 5 Russell PERRETT
- 6 Paul UNDERWOOD
- 7 Carlos EDWARDS
- 8 Kevin NICHOLLS
- 9 Rowan VINE
- 10 Warren FEENEY
- 11 Steve ROBINSON
- 14 Michael LEARY
- 15 Steven O'LEARY
- 16 Enoch SHOWUNMI
- 17 Paul HUGHES
- 18 Ahmet BRKOVIC
- 19 Steve HOWARD
- 21 Keith KEANE
- 22 Danny STEVENS
- 23 Dean MORGAN
- 25 Dino SEREMET
- 26 Markus HEIKKINEN
- 27 Peter HOLMES
- 29 Calvin ANDREW
- 33 Dean BRILL
- 45 Leon BARNETT
- 47 Rob BECKWITH

UP NEXT

Royals vs. Brighton
Saturday 10th December 2005
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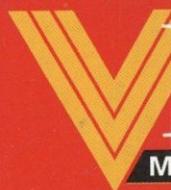
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