

# Ipswich World

On matchday...Online...On the Blues

Official Matchday Programme

v Luton Town Championship

1.00pm Saturday December 31, 2005 £3

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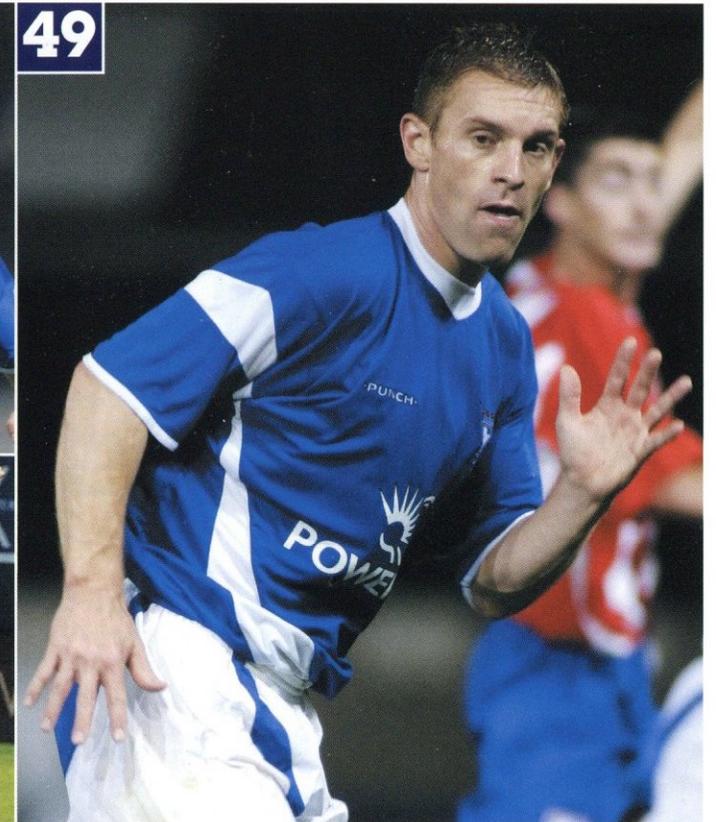
*Meet the man behind the Spaniard's journey from Town  
trianlist to fans' favourite at Portman Road*

# Singing the Blues!

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39

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**Texaco Cup:** Winners 1973

**FA Youth Cup:** Winners 1973, 1975, 2005

**U17 Academy League:** Winners 2000/01

**FA Premier Reserve League (South):** Winners 01/02

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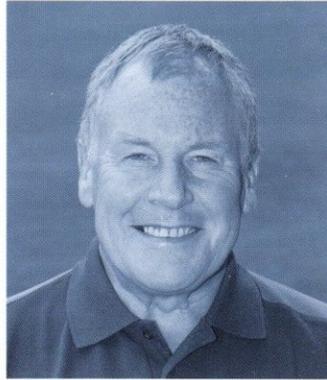
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the Ipswich skipper



# Let's end 2005 on a high

**Welcome** back to Portman Road for this afternoon's Championship match against Luton Town, our last fixture of 2005.

It's no secret that the festive period has not been very good to us so far – with successive defeats to Crystal Palace and Hull City – and Nicky Forster's knee injury at the KC Stadium on Wednesday evening just rubbed salt in the wound.

Losing Fozzie was a huge blow and he remains doubtful for today's game. If he is not fit then we will be without any senior strikers.

I don't know what we have done to deserve the run of bad luck we've been having.

Looking at this afternoon, Richard Naylor might be an option for us, he did well when he went up front on Wednesday and, of course, used to be a striker.

Young Dean Bowditch will also come back into contention, although Dean has been struggling a little in front of goal recently despite his obvious quality. I've said many times how highly we rate Dean and I'm sure the goals will come for him.



Gavin Williams: terrific at Hull on Wednesday

**We are not far away from being a good side. We're just a goalscorer or two short at the moment'**

I was proud of our performance at Hull in the week and would have been disappointed had we left with just one point, let alone coming away empty-handed as we did.

We passed the ball immensely well, with Jim Magilton running the game for long periods and Darren Currie and Gavin Williams in terrific form.

Jason and Bam Bam were also excellent at the back and we never really looked to have any problems. What we lacked again was a cutting edge, an end product to our play.

I honestly don't believe we are far away from being a good side. We are just a goalscorer or two short at the moment.

## 'I am looking at bringing in one or two new players once the transfer window opens'

We have got two outstanding young goalkeepers – as shown again at the KC Stadium when Shane Supple stepped up into the first-team – and plenty of good players in midfield but we are short of options in attack.

The transfer window opens tomorrow and I am looking to bring in at least one striker, and hopefully two, during the month.

Our last home match provided a fair bit of incident, with several bookings, a couple of sendings-off and a penalty that was not given.

It certainly wasn't a malicious match against Palace here on Boxing Day, but having said that I felt that all of their bookings were deserved. The referee certainly wasn't kind to us, turning down as he did what looked a spot-kick just before their second goal.

Other than the first 15 minutes, when Iain Dowie's side were well on top, I thought we looked the better side. But if you looked at Palace's bench it told the whole story.

In Clinton Morrison and Dougie Freedman they had substitutes who have played international football and been exchanged for millions of pounds, while they also had two forwards worth big money on the pitch.

To be fair to Palace – who must have been the biggest team ever to play here, by the way – they started strongly and took their goals well. Iain Dowie has got a good squad together and I would rate them up there with Southampton and Reading among the best sides we have played this season.

Kevin Horlock missed that game and the trip to Hull and is still feeling his sore knee. Kevin is back in training but it remains touch and go as to whether he will be fit in time for this afternoon's match.

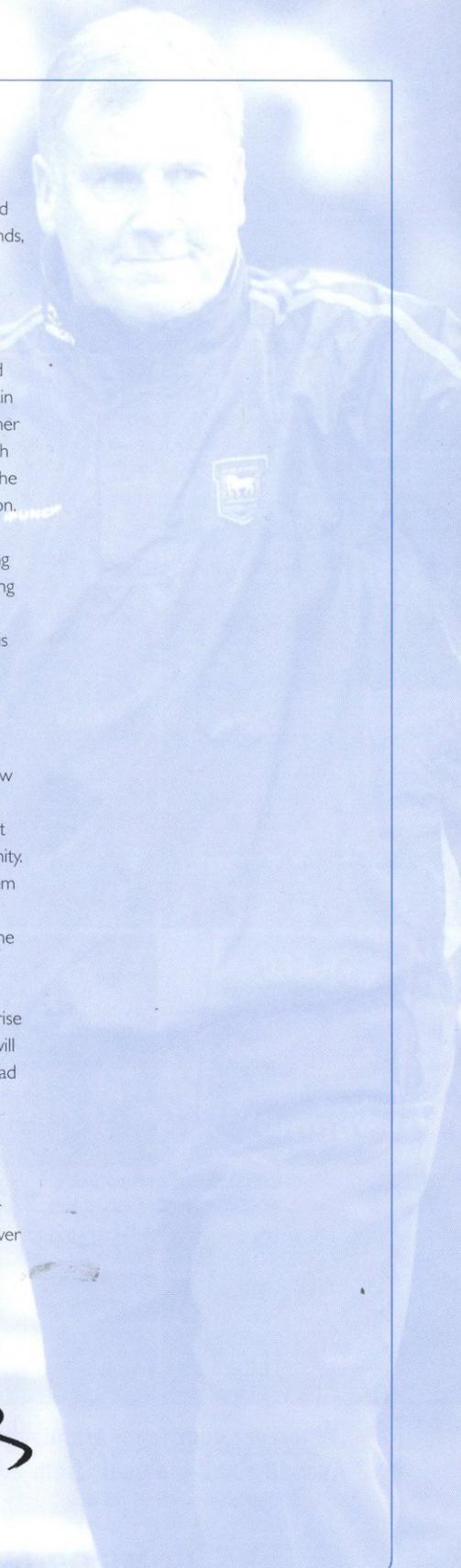
But we have to stay positive and look forward. Today we welcome Mike Newell and his Luton team.

Mike is a fellow scouser and I know him well. His team reflect him in the way they play. They are a very honest side who go for it at every opportunity.

On the occasions I have seen them this season they have reminded me a little of my Oldham teams from the early-1990s – they just want to go forward at every opportunity.

They have been one of the surprise packages of the season so far and will certainly be coming to Portman Road with their tails up after another excellent result in midweek when they beat Brighton 3-0.

It only remains for me to thank each and every one of you for your tremendous support of the team over the last 12 months and to wish you all a happy, healthy and successful New Year. Enjoy the game.





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## What If

**You could invite one person to dinner?**  
Jennifer Lopez – for obvious reasons!

**You could star in any film role?**  
Will Ferrell's role in Anchorman, which is a very funny film.

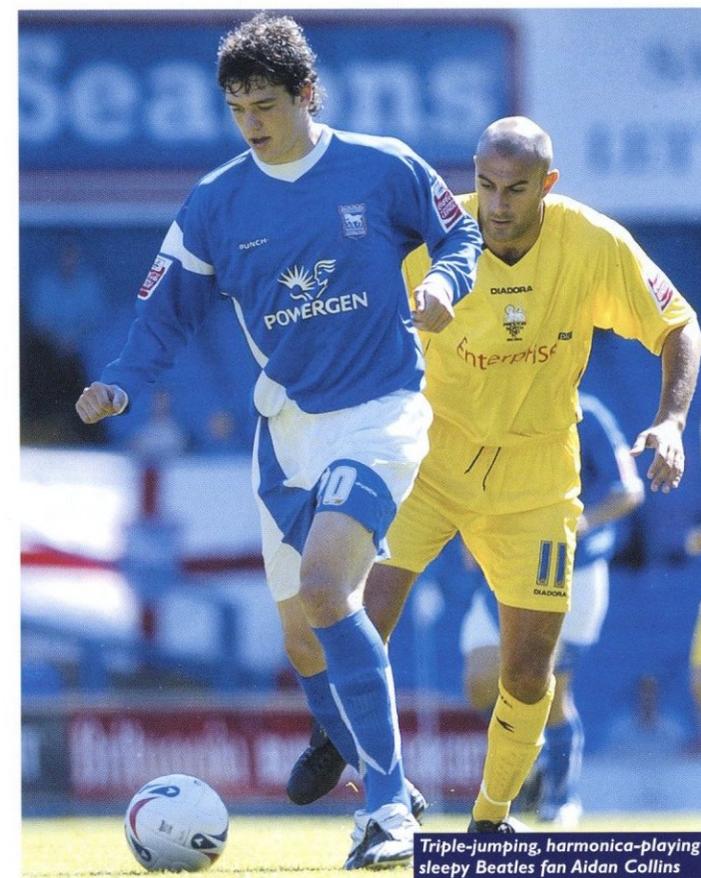
**You could invite one musical artist to play at a party at your house. Who would it be?**  
Bob Dylan – the greatest songwriter of all time.

**You could change any moment in your career?**  
I had a run of injuries a year or two back so avoiding them would get my vote.

**You weren't a footballer, what career would you have had?**  
I'd be a teacher.

**You were late for training and didn't have an excuse. What would you say to the boss?**  
Sorry I'm late!

**You could sign any player for Ipswich Town?**  
Michael Carrick from Tottenham.



Triple-jumping, harmonica-playing sleepy Beatles fan Aidan Collins

# Aidan Collins What if...

**You didn't live in Britain, where would you be?**  
Somewhere hot.

**You could change any moment in history?**  
I would have stopped The Beatles from splitting up.

**You could change one law in this country?**  
I would ban smoking in all public areas.

**You were on a long distance flight, who would you avoid?**  
Owen Garvan, because he said he would avoid me when he answered these questions earlier in the season.

**You could ban a TV programme from ever appearing again?**  
X-Factor.

**There was a film made about your life, who would play you?**  
Steven Merchant, the guy who co-wrote TV comedy The Office with Ricky Gervais.

**You could invent something?**  
Something that prevents me from getting injured! I don't want to go through all that again.

**You could play a musical instrument?**  
The harmonica.

**You could change the outcome of any sporting event?**  
I would make sure England won more than one World Cup. It's been a long wait since the last one. Maybe that will change next year.

**You could win a gold medal in the 2012 Olympics. What event would it be in?**  
Triple jump.

**You could change one rule in football?**  
I would clear up the offside law, make it more straightforward. I think it still confuses people sometimes.

**The world was going to end tomorrow night, what would you do in the morning?**  
I'd have a lie in.



# Out with the old...

Welcome back to Portman Road for the third game in a week over a very busy Christmas period.

**'It is absolutely the case that we do not need to make any player sales in the transfer window'**

Colin Kazim-Richards: joined Brighton as a result of Coca-Cola's 'win a player' competition last season



**The disappointing defeat** at home here against Crystal Palace on Boxing Day was followed by a similar result in midweek at Hull City.

Both clearly illustrated our current weakness in front of goal, which was further exacerbated on Wednesday by an injury to Nicky Forster; the full extent of which was unknown at the time of writing. Hopefully it will only be a temporary setback.

But clearly there is a need to strengthen our squad, both in terms of strikers and defensively. We're working on plans to do both just as soon as the transfer window opens tomorrow.

Meanwhile, off-field, as the Chairman said in his Crystal Palace matchday programme piece, we are making good progress regarding the re-negotiation of our debt service.

We hope to have more news on this within the first couple of weeks of January and maybe even prior to the FA Cup Third Round tie against Portsmouth on Saturday 7th.

In the short-term, however, it is absolutely the case that we do not need to make any player sales in the January transfer window.

On the contrary, as I have said, we are hoping that at least one incoming player move in will be completed during the first week of the New Year.

While I can't comment specifically on who the player may be, it could easily be the case that by the time you read this piece it's in the public domain. If possible, we would also like to add a couple of loan players to the squad by the time the window is closed.

While there will be no sales on-field, there's a big sale off-field in all of the Planet Blue stores.

So if you are looking for post-Christmas bargains, why not pop into the Planet Blue store here at Portman Road after the game or visit your local store in Bury St. Edmunds or the Buttermarket in Ipswich? We've also recently opened a 'store within a store' in Debenhams in Ipswich town centre and that's worth a visit too.

### Bubbling under

Back to football, many of you may be aware that we have taken the decision to move reserve team football for the next four matches – 16th January (against Fulham), 24th January (West Ham Utd), 1st February (Coventry) and 15th February (Crystal Palace) – to Needham Market's ground.

The main reason for doing this is to protect the main pitch from wear and tear during its most vulnerable period in mid-winter but also to give some of

our supporters who may not get the opportunity to come to Portman Road to watch reserve team football, to see it in their locality.

For most fans travelling from Ipswich or from the east, Needham Market isn't far to go and importantly the concession to season ticket holders of free entry to reserve games will be honoured by Needham Market.

Further afield, the Academy U18 side, having beaten Leeds Utd in the Third Round of the FA Youth Cup, now travel to Anfield on 19th January to play Liverpool's Academy side which undoubtedly will be a tough game.

If we are successful let's hope the next round draws us at home to give supporters the chance to see some of our emerging stars at first hand.

### The real thing ... again

Talking of players, Football League sponsors Coca-Cola have just announced that they will run their highly successful "Win a Player" competition again this season.

Once more, the top award of £250,000 will be made to the winning club (and £10,000 to the successful fan) and announced on Sky TV's Soccer AM programme on April 29th.

This year, however, two further clubs from different divisions will also each be presented with a £50,000 prize, so it's well worth taking the time to text in support of the Club. Check out the details in full by logging on to [www.coca-colafootball.co.uk](http://www.coca-colafootball.co.uk)

Another new initiative from The Football League was announced last week. The Football League, together with *FourFourTwo* magazine, are launching the first ever Football League Awards competition.

All Football League clubs are being invited to enter this competition by way of written submission across six categories, with a further two categories open for you the fans.

The eight categories include an award for:

- Community Club of The Year
- Best Club Sponsorship
- Best Club Marketing Campaign
- Best Kit Design
- Programme of the Year
- Best Club Website

The two categories for fans are:

- Fan of the Year
- Best Ground (voted by away fans)

On top of this, there are a further eight award categories including two Outstanding Achievement Awards, the first for contribution to football, which will be voted for by listeners to BBC Radio 5 Live. Secondly is the Most Admired Football League Club of the Year as voted for by Club Chairmen and Directors.

The next six awards are all focused on football and will include:

- Football League Young Player of the Year (as voted for by readers of *FourFourTwo*)
- Football League Top Apprentice Awards (entries for this category will be submitted by Club Academy or Youth Development Departments)
- Goal of the Year (voted for by an expert panel)
- Plus three awards for Player of the Year – League Two, Player of the Year – League One and Player of the Year – The Championship.

Once again, these awards will be judged by a special panel convened by The Football League and *FourFourTwo* magazine.

Rest assured that our Club will be entering into the spirit of this competition and will attempt to win as many awards as we possibly can and hopefully pick up a trophy or two at the Hilton Hotel in London on Sunday 5th March.

Finally, all that's left for me to do is to welcome the players, management and directors of Luton Town to Portman Road today and wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Hopefully we can end the current one on a high!

Derek Bowden  
Chief Executive Officer



**IPSWICH TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB**  
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Chief Executive: Derek Bowden  
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Secretary: David Rose  
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Sales Manager: Rosie Richardson  
Ticket & Call Centre Manager: John Ford  
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Club Doctor: Steve Lazar  
Club Chaplain: Rev. Kevan McCormack  
Head Groundsman: Alan Ferguson  
Stadium & Facilities Manager: Trevor Kirton  
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Reserve team coach: Steve McCall  
Chief scout: Colin Suggitt  
Goalkeeping coach: Andy Rhodes  
Fitness coach: Simon Thadani  
Physio: Dave Williams  
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# Fab's looking for Seventh heaven

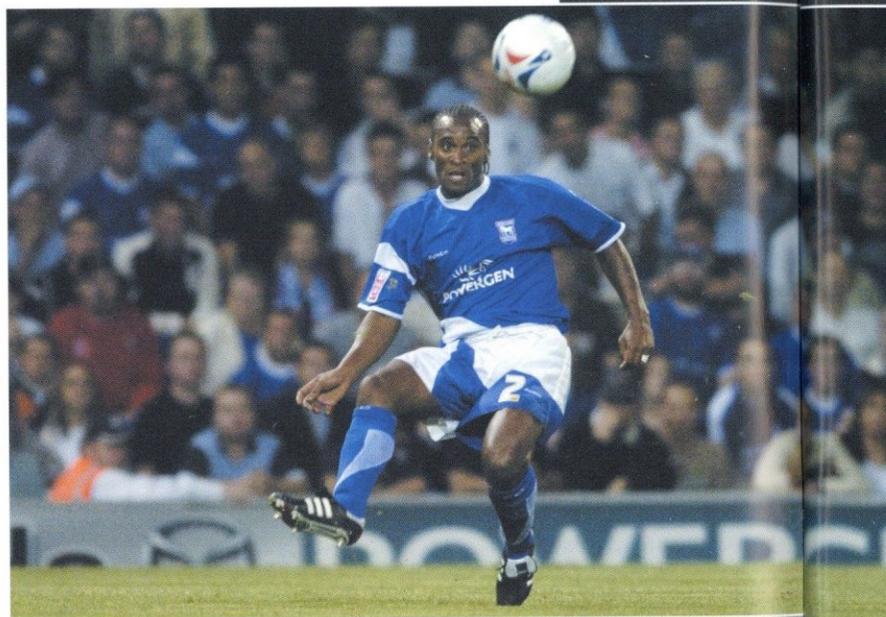
Fabian Wilnis is only a week away from celebrating his seventh anniversary at Portman Road. The matchday programme reminisced with the popular Dutchman and looked forward to a career away from the game...

**So tell us what you remember about moving to Town those seven years ago, Fabian?**

It was two weeks before Christmas, I had a match in Holland and Romeo Zondervan, who was still working for the Club at the time I think and was a good friend of George Burley's, told George to come and have a look at me. He saw me play and made the move from there. I was invited over by George on Boxing Day 1998 to have a look round the stadium and I was impressed straightaway. I liked what I saw on the pitch as well.

**It must still have been a big decision for you to make?**

It was. We had a little baby at the time and I had to talk it over with my wife. She was working in Holland as well so the move to England would obviously have a big effect on our lives. A new country, a new experience but it didn't take long for us to decide to move to Ipswich. The first three months were the hardest for me. I had to stay in a hotel during that time and was on my own most of the time but I soon became friends with the other lads and that made it easier to settle in.



**'It has always been in the second half of the season that we play our best football'**



**The first 15 years of my working life have been brilliant but the next 15 years I want to make even better'**

**Since then you have played more than 250 games for Town. There must be some great memories in there for you...**

I have had a lot of highs and a few lows as well. The highlight is still winning promotion to the Premiership for me. Playing at Wembley in the Play-Off Final, the whole build up, the celebrations after, the party back in Ipswich at the City Hall. Thousands of fans screaming your name, that was quite special. The first year in the Premiership was amazing as well. Our first home game was against Manchester United, who were the best team in Britain at the time, the Premiership Champions. I can still remember David Johnson passing to me after I had made a run down the right. I just hit the ball and made sure it was on target and it went past Fabien Barthez into the corner. That was perhaps the best single moment of my entire career.



"Going up, going up, going up". Fabian at Wembley, May 2000

**You scored in the East Anglia derby as well a few years later, in a 2-0 win at Norwich...**

That was special as well. It's always nice to beat your local rivals because you know what it means to the fans and to do so at Carrow Road made it extra special. It was the opening goal and an unbelievable feeling.

**You mentioned you've had a few lows as well and it looked at one stage as though you would be leaving the Club...**

I had a really good year the first season we were in the Premiership and I also extended my contract during that time. In the second year we struggled from the start. I was left out of the side by George and couldn't understand why. Then I had a fall out with him after being substituted before half-time in the UEFA Cup tie in Sweden. It went from bad to worse after that. He clearly didn't see me as part of his team. I was disappointed with the whole situation because I had signed a new contract and was looking forward to seeing it out but that didn't look likely at the time. It was obvious George wasn't going to play me so I asked for a transfer. I love the Club but I wanted to play in the first-team and, at that stage, that wasn't going to happen.

**Why do you feel the team was so successful in that first campaign in the Premiership but ended up relegated the very next year?**

In the first season everything was new. We were the big unknowns, just like Wigan are in the Premiership now. Clubs weren't aware of our players or style but they were the second time around and we struggled. We thought after doing so well in the first season it would be easier in the second year but it certainly wasn't. The team spirit wasn't the same the second year either. The Club brought in some new



Every true Blue's dream

players and they didn't all settle into the group very well. There were groups within groups if you like. Never underestimate the power of a good team spirit, that was another big factor in that first year. Everyone socialised together; the players who weren't in the squad were made to feel part of things and the team bonding was excellent. It has been that way for much of my time at Ipswich to be fair.

**Joe Royle replaced George Burley as boss and since his arrival at the Club, you have been a virtual ever-present...**

He gave me a chance from day one and from the moment he arrived he has been good to me. Not just me either; he has got on with all the players. He gave me another opportunity here and I think I grabbed it with both hands.

**So what do you make of this season so far?**

We have been inconsistent and that's been disappointing but there is still a lot to play for and the Play-Offs are within reach if we can put a run together. You only have to look at what Crystal Palace achieved two years ago when they were near the

bottom at this stage of the season and finished up promoted to know that anything is possible. We knew it would be difficult to replace the players we lost in the summer; goals-wise, but we have a lot of good young players coming through from the Academy. There is plenty of quality there. They need time, though, to achieve a consistent level of performance.

**Does it feel strange not to be flying high near the top of the table after being in the Play-Offs regularly throughout your time at Portman Road?**

It is a new situation because in the seven years I have been here we have either been pushing for promotion or a place in Europe or fighting relegation but at the moment we are in the middle of nowhere. I stress 'at the moment', though, because I'm quite sure that will change. It has always been in the second half of the season that we play our best football and I feel we have a good enough squad to compete for the promotion places.

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Where membership means a great deal

**Fab's football-free future**

Fabian is out of contract at the end of the campaign but hopes to extend his stay at Portman Road to an eighth season and possibly beyond.

The 35-year-old defender is not leaving anything to chance, though, and is already putting plans into place for the day he hangs up his boots.

"At the moment I feel really fit and don't feel as though I'm going backwards," says Fabian, who joined Town from De Graafschap in January 1999.

"I would love to carry on playing as long as possible and I am confident I can play for another year or two but it is not for me to decide whether or not that happens here.

"If the Club decide not to offer me a new contract then I have a number of options. I could play somewhere else or I could move into another career.

"Marketing is one area that I am very interested in. I also intend to do a personal training course as soon as I have finished playing, to become a fitness coach, a masseur and a nutrition advisor. I want to stay involved in something that keeps you fit, keeps you healthy.

"I will keep my options open, though, and the marketing and commercial side of business does appeal.

"I am doing a bit of work experience at the Club with the commercial and sales team and attending meetings with companies like the Club's main sponsors, Powergen. I want to see how that side of the business works.

"I have several directions I could go in. I don't want to leave it to the last minute and suddenly find myself retired and wondering what I am going to do next.

"Retirement doesn't frighten me at all. It's inevitable that footballers stop playing at some stage but I look at it that football is only part of my working life. If I worked in an office I would be 65 before I retired so the way I see it I'm not even halfway through my career yet.

"The first 15 years of my working life have been brilliant but the next 15 years I want to make even better. I am determined to achieve the same goals away from football that I have achieved on the pitch. That's a challenge that I relish."



Guess who has just scored against Manchester United

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### Blues in Focus

# On the right Rhodes

Town goalkeeping coach Andy Rhodes tells the matchday programme how delighted he is with the progress of Lewis Price and Shane Supple at Portman Road.

**Andy Rhodes** believes Lewis Price can establish himself as Wales' new No. 1 over the next year or so – and also feels that Shane Supple is unlucky not to be Town's current first choice between the sticks.

Former Oldham, Barnsley, Dunfermline and St Johnstone 'keeper Andy has worked with both players since replacing Malcolm Webster as Town's goalkeeping coach in the summer of 2004.

He has seen Lewis emerge as an international 'keeper in that time while Shane has progressed to League football and become a serious challenger for a first-team place.

"We're lucky to have two top class 'keepers pushing for a first-team place here," says Andy.

"There is no doubt that they have both benefited from training alongside an experienced senior 'keeper in Kelvin Davis, as they did last season and before I arrived.

"Kelvin would talk a lot to both of them as well as train with them and he's had a big part to play in their development.

"Lewis has got a similar temperament to Kelvin in that he isn't fazed by the highs or lows. He takes it all in his stride.

**'We're blessed with two excellent young 'keepers at this Football Club'**



Andy Rhodes

"He has gone from being a boy here to a senior international 'keeper in the last 18 months, and having played so well on his debut for Wales against Cyprus, there is no reason why he can't go on and become his country's number one.

"He made an outstanding debut and must be in pole position now to take on that senior role on a regular basis. I certainly can't see how his international manager, John Toshack, can leave him out of the next game.

"As well as the obvious technical qualities Lewis has, his calmness is one of his great strengths. He just never gets flustered.

"He's a lovely lad as well. A quiet boy but behind that exterior lies a strong determination to be a top class goalkeeper.

"He is willing to work hard and listen to any ideas that will help him achieve that."

Breathing down Lewis' neck for a first-team place at Portman Road is 18-year-old Shane, who made his debut for Town in the goalless draw at Leicester in August.

Andy is a big fan of the young Irishman and says: "I have never seen Shane have a poor game.

"He is the best I've seen at reading situations and getting off his line at through balls. He is excellent over 10 yards at making early decisions and making them the right decisions.

"His attitude, like Lewis, is first class and he can count himself unfortunate not to be in the first-team.

"We're blessed with two excellent young 'keepers at this Club pushing for that one place in the team and Lewis knows that if he steps off the levels he has set for himself then Shane will be there ready to take his place and that can only be a good thing for Ipswich Town."

**Today's Mascots**

**Town Mascots**

**Rebecca Whayman**

Age: 7  
School: St Pauls  
C of E Primary  
School, Hook,  
Surrey  
Player:



Darren Currie  
Hobbies: Swimming, cricket  
& playing the piano  
Score: Town 5 Luton 3

**Jessie Tilford**

Age: 8  
School: Coed-Y-  
Brain Primary  
Player:



Matt Richards  
Hobbies: Football,  
golf, football & more football  
Score: Town 3 Luton 1

**Rebecca Howes**

Age: 6  
School: Pakefield  
Primary School  
Player:



Dean Bowditch  
Hobbies: Reading,  
gymnastics & football  
Score: Town 3 Luton 2

**Luton mascot**

**Daniel Cadden**

Age: 9  
School:  
Wenlock Junior  
Player:



Steve Howard  
Hobbies: Football  
& swimming



# Community Trust Diary of the year

## JANUARY

BBC Sport filmed the Trust Learning Team delivering our ever-popular More Than Just A Game education programme.

The footage was screened at the national launch of BBC's Sports Summits, which also took place at Portman Road, later in the month.

Coach Education Officer Trevor Cox qualified a group at the Bury Football School. The young players added to their football knowledge by completing their qualification as well as the important Child Protection and First Aid courses.

taking part in the first horse-themed Playing for Success programme in the country. However, the Centre's planned first week coincided with a cold snap and as a result its 'debut' ended up being snowed off!

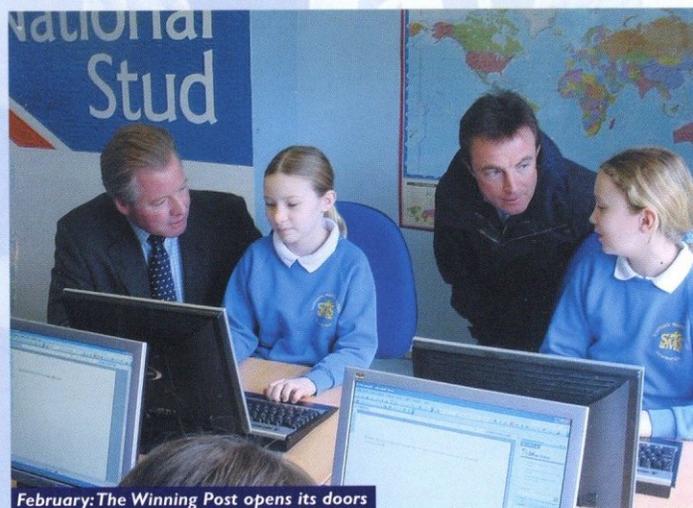
Big Fun Football courses entertained youngsters across the county. Six hundred enjoyed the fun football games and challenges.

The Trust's teaching staff were out and about the county's schools delivering outreach versions of the learning programmes normally run at Portman Road. These Outreach Double Clubs were funded by kind sponsorship from CPS Fuels and engaged pupils in a combination of class-based healthy living and practical physical activities.



## FEBRUARY

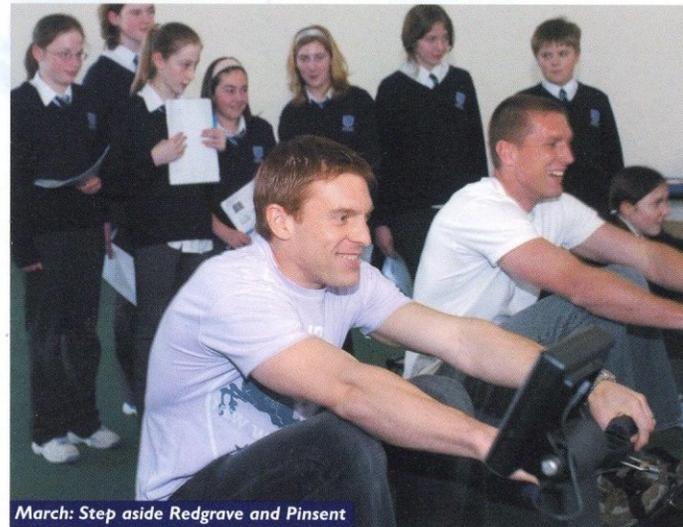
The Trust's newest Study Centre, The Winning Post, based at the National Stud in Newmarket, opened its doors to its first set of pupils from Scaltback Middle School and Histon & Impington Junior School who were



February: The Winning Post opens its doors



**Trust hotline**  
**(01473) 400502**  
**IT Learning Zone**  
**(01473) 400545**  
**Blues Crew**  
**0870 111 0 555**



March: Step aside Redgrave and Pinsent

## MARCH

Portman Road hosted Einstein's Birthday Party to mark the 100th anniversary of the great scientist's ground-breaking discoveries.

Supported by BT and the Institute of Physics, more than 500 students from schools across Suffolk took part in a series of sports-related physics workshops. Richard Naylor and Jason De Vos were also on hand to try out their rowing technique, strength and speed in a fiercely-contested competition against one another.

The Trust launched their purpose built Science Lab and its very own school's programme, Town QUEST. Pupils from St. Matthew's Primary School were among the first to get kitted out as mad professors in their white lab coats and attempt a series of science-based challenges under the watchful eye of Richard Naylor.

Representatives from teams in the Norwegian Premier League and the Norwegian FA were guests of the IT Community Trust on a fact-finding trip to share ideas and good practice.

The Trust hosted the final of a public speaking competition, organised by Handford Hall Primary School headteacher John Trotter, for schools in the Westbourne pyramid. Ipswich Mayor Roger Fearn was also on hand to give the competitors some inspirational advice and tips on speaking in front of a large audience.

## APRIL

The first group of touring players from Norway arrived at Portman Road from Stridsklev, a club from the Skien region of the country.

The group of 18 girls aged 12 and 13-years-old and 14 parents from the Stridsklev club were already friends of

ITFC from last August when ITFC took a touring party to Norway.

The Winning Post Study Centre saw its first set of pupils complete its horse-themed Playing for Success scheme. Histon & Impington Junior School, from Cambridgeshire, and Newmarket's Scaltback Middle School each put 15 Year 6 pupils through the six week course.

## MAY

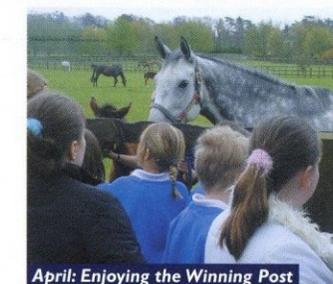
Community Youth Football League (CYFL) parents enjoyed the first ever adult five-a-side competition.

## JUNE

Trust staff attended a Kick Racism Out of Football conference at Old Trafford, Manchester, ahead of a fortnight of activities due to take place later in the year.



March: Norwegian visitors

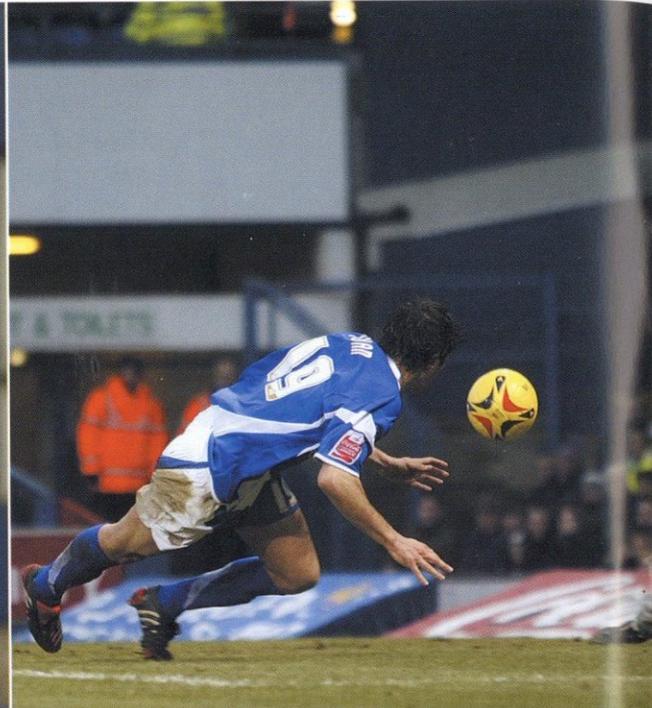


April: Enjoying the Winning Post

Turn to pages 42/43 to find out what activities the Trust was involved in during the second half of 2005



Richard Naylor gets the better of Jon Macken



Jimmy Juan goes close with this effort



December 26, 2005 **Coca-Cola Championship**, Portman Road

## Town 0-2 C.Palace

Town: -

C.Palace: Macken 14, Hughes 61

**Palace** finished the game with just nine men but all three points with goals from Irish pair Jon Macken and Michael Hughes.

Macken, who has won caps with the Republic of Ireland, opened the scoring on 14 minutes, finishing from close range after England international Andrew Johnson had burst past Jason De Vos and Richard Naylor inside the Town penalty area.

Northern Ireland's Hughes made it two midway through the second-half with a powerful left foot shot from 25 yards just 30 seconds after Blues had penalty claims turned down when Tony Popovic appeared to handle the ball in the area.

In a game that was never malicious, referee Andy Woolmer showed eight yellow cards and sent-off Macken for violent conduct and Ben Watson for two cautions in the closing stages.

### Town Top man

**Owen Garvan**

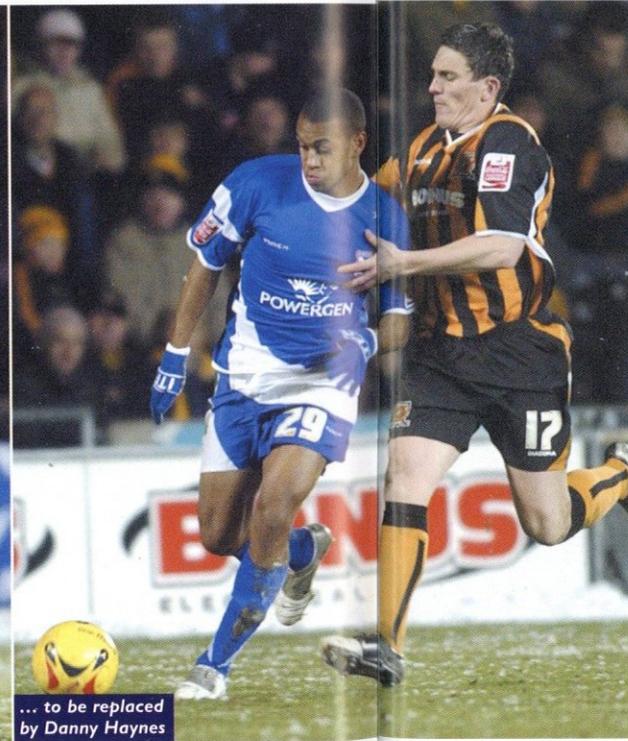
The 17-year-old midfielder returned to the starting line-up for the first time since suffering ankle ligament damage in October and marked his comeback with an assured display. He held his own in his midfield battle with the experienced Michael Hughes.

### The Stats

Town		C.Palace
3	<b>Shots on target</b>	6
5	<b>Shots off target</b>	5
8	<b>Corners</b>	6
15	<b>Fouls conceded</b>	16
3	<b>Booked</b>	5
0	<b>Sent-off</b>	2
15	<b>League position</b>	7



Nicky Forster limped off after 27 minutes at Hull ...



... to be replaced by Danny Haynes

December 28, 2005 **Coca-Cola Championship**, KC Stadium

## Hull 2-0 Town

Hull: Barmby 54, Fagan 70

Town: -

**Goals** from Nick Barmby and Craig Fagan gave Hull victory with Town's injury jinx striking again with the first-half loss of Nicky Forster.

The Blues' striker lasted only 27 minutes at the KC Stadium before being replaced by 17-year-old Danny Haynes after jarring his knee in the opening minutes of the match.

Barmby gave the Tigers the lead early in the second-half and Fagan wrapped up the points on

70 minutes with a cool finish after Town had been caught on the break.

Garvin Williams twice went close for Joe Royle's side with Darren Currie also thundering a volley wide.

There was a third start for young 'keeper Shane Supple, who replaced groin injury victim Lewis Price in the Town goal, but the Club's first visit to the KC Stadium was a disappointing one.

### Town Top man

**Jason De Vos**

The Canada international has been in a rich vein of form lately and turned in another impressive display at a bitterly cold KC Stadium. He twice made timely interceptions to thwart Jason Price inside the Town box and hardly lost a header all night.



### The Stats

Hull		Town
7	<b>Shots on target</b>	3
4	<b>Shots off target</b>	7
5	<b>Corners</b>	3
10	<b>Fouls conceded</b>	6
1	<b>Booked</b>	0
0	<b>Sent-off</b>	0
15	<b>League position</b>	17



Blues in Focus

# Onwards and upwards

Jason De Vos is looking forward to an improved second half of the season and plenty to cheer about for the Blue Army

**Jason** De Vos says the players are determined to give Town fans plenty to cheer about over the second half of the season – especially at home.

Blues have struggled at Portman Road this term, with Crystal Palace the sixth club to leave Ipswich with all three points this campaign after their Boxing Day victory.

Injuries and suspensions have conspired to leave Joe Royle's squad threadbare on occasions this year but the Play-Offs are still within sight for the team and a run of good form would catapult Blues into contention.

Canada international Jason accepts that the results and performances have been below par over the first half of the season, but he's confident fortunes can be turned around.

"Our home form, in particular, has not been good this season and that is something we need to address," says the Town defender.

"The pressure is there but there are pressures all around you in football and you need to deal with them.

"It's not when things are going well for you that you have to show strength of character; it's when things are not going your way. That's when you have to stand up and be counted and that challenge is there for us now. We have to show what we are capable of.

"It's clear that we are short on numbers in attack at the moment and are lacking that killer instinct.

"We played some decent football against Crystal Palace, but we lacked that edge in the final third.

"Everyone is working hard to put that right because we're determined to give the fans something to cheer about over the second half of the season – plenty to cheer about hopefully. It's long overdue."

Injuries to Sam Parkin and Nicky Forster at different stages of the season have opened the way for the likes of teenagers Billy Clarke, Danny Haynes and Dean McDonald to step up alongside Jason in the senior ranks.

The trio have enjoyed mixed fortunes and the former Wigan defender believes that is inevitable given their tender ages.

"It's a big step up from the reserves to the first-team for the youngsters, a really steep learning curve," he says.

"You can't expect young players to come in and play well every week. It doesn't work like that.

"They need time to settle in but it's great for the Club to see the likes of Danny and Owen Garvan in the first-team on a regular basis.

"Danny came on against Palace and just ran at them. His pace is frightening, it really worries defenders.

"He has been positive in his appearances so far and if he carries that on he will have a big future in the game."





Founded: 1885  
 Stadium: Kenilworth Road  
 Nickname: The Hatters  
 Manager: Mike Newell  
 Website: www.lutontown.co.uk



Ahmet Brkovic

## Top Hatters

Ahmet Brkovic tells the matchday programme why the Luton players have not been surprised at how well they have adapted to life in the Championship.



**You enjoyed a fantastic first-half of the season and certainly took a few people by surprise. Did your flying start shock yourselves?**

We were delighted with the start we made and the whole club was buzzing. No-one expected us to make such a good opening but, after the season we had last year when we won League One, we just kept going and carried that confidence into this campaign. We were going onto the pitch expecting to win – or certainly not to lose – and after beating Crystal Palace on the opening day we knew we were capable of beating anyone. We did think it would be hard, and certainly not too many people would have expected us to be in the top three after the first third of the season, but last year gave us huge confidence and we've maintained that momentum.

**That great start has clearly raised expectations at the club. Have the aims of the players changed now?**

At the start of the season the priority was simply to stay in the division, but now even the fans are expecting us to finish in the top six. And as players that is obviously what we are aiming for. It will be important that we steer clear of too many injuries and suspensions in the second half of the season because we haven't got the biggest squad, but if we can do that there's no reason why we can't stay in touch at the top. To get to the Play-Offs would be great.

**There weren't too many new arrivals during the summer following your promotion, but not many departures either. How important was that?**

It was really important that the squad stayed together because we all know each other so well. The majority of the players have been

together for four years now and we've got a great team spirit. We all know what each other can do and we know the kind of football we want to play.

**Luton's away form hasn't been the best, but you're certainly a tough nut to crack at home...**

Our home form has been very good. Teams are coming to Kenilworth Road and setting out simply to play for a point, and that's a great compliment to us and what we've achieved. We played Plymouth at home in mid-October and they equalised in injury-time to get a point, but the way they celebrated you would have thought they had won the European Cup. That's a measure of how far we have come in the last few months.

**There was a lot of controversy when Joe Kinnear left the club and Mike Newell was brought in as manager, but he seems to have done a fantastic job there...**

Mike Newell has done really well here. All the players like him, respect him and get on with him and he's given us real confidence. When he first came to the club he told me he believed in me and thought I could score more goals and he was going to play me in a slightly more advanced role than I played under Joe Kinnear. Last season I set myself a target of eight to ten goals and I ended up with 16, so I was delighted. It got to the stage where I was coming off the pitch disappointed if I hadn't scored, even when we had won.

**And you've chipped in with a few already this season, including a 'goal of the season' candidate at Leicester with a stunning overhead kick. Is that a speciality of yours?**

I've scored a few overhead kicks in my career. I got two for Leyton Orient when I was with them, a couple last season and I was really pleased with the one up at Leicester back in August. I put in a lot of practice on them and luckily it seems to have paid off.

**There's also been a fair bit of speculation about you being called up to the Croatia squad for the World Cup finals in Germany next year. You must be excited about that possibility?**

It would be a dream come true to play in the World Cup finals, and realistically this is my last chance because of my age [he is 31]. I've been told that the manager of Croatia is going to have me watched and maybe I could force my way into the squad for a couple of friendlies before the tournament. It would be amazing to go to Germany next summer, but everything is possible. If I play well for Luton, who knows?

## The Squad

### Marlon Beresford

**Born:** 02/09/69 **Position:** Goalkeeper  
 Signed on a free transfer from Barnsley in June 2004.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
09.87-08.92	Sheff Wed	- -
08.89	Bury (loan)	1 0
09.90	Northampton (loan)	13 0
02.91	Crewe (loan)	3 0
08.91	Northampton (loan)	15 0
08.92-03.98	Burnley	240 0
03.98-08.02	Middlesbrough	10 0
01.01-02.01	Sheff Wed (loan)	4 0
01.02-03.02	Burnley (loan)	13 0
08.02-09.02	York	6 0
09.02-09.03	Burnley	34 0
09.03-10.03	Bradford	5 0
10.03-01.04	Luton	11 0
01.04-06.04	Barnsley	14 0
06.04-Present	Luton	59 0



### Dean Brill

**Born:** 02/12/85 **Position:** Goalkeeper  
 Luton-born youngster who progressed through the ranks.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
08.02-Present	Luton	10 0

### Ahmet Brkovic

**Born:** 23/09/74 **Position:** Midfielder  
 Croatian midfielder who signed from Leyton Orient on a free in October 2001. Began with HNK Dubrovnik.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
10.99-10.01	Leyton Orient	69 7
10.01-Present	Luton	154 27

### Chris Coyne

**Born:** 28/12/78 **Position:** Defender  
 Australia international who was brought to England by West Ham for £150,000 ten years ago. Luton paid £50,000 for him.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
01.96-03.00	West Ham	1 0
08.98-09.98	Brentford (loan)	7 0
04.99-05.99	Southend (loan)	1 0
03.00-09.01	Dundee	20 0
09.01-Present	Luton	173 11



### Carlos Edwards

**Born:** 24/10/78 **Position:** Midfielder  
 Signed from Wrexham in the summer after helping his former side win the LDV Trophy. Trinidad international who can look forward to playing England in the World Cup next summer.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
06.00-05.05	Wrexham	165 23
05.05-Present	Luton	23 1

### Kevin Foley

**Born:** 01/11/84 **Position:** Defender  
 U21 caps for the Republic of Ireland. Academy graduate.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
07.02-Present	Luton	94 3

### Markus Heikkinen

**Born:** 13/10/78 **Position:** Defender  
 Finland international, signed in July 2005 from Aberdeen.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
08.00-08.03	Helsinki, Fin	N/A
01.03-05.03	Portsmouth (loan)	2 0
08.03-07.05	Aberdeen	68 2
07.05-Present	Luton	24 1



Warren Feeney

## Keep an eye on... Warren Feeney

**Belfast-born** Warren Feeney joined Luton in March 2005 for £150,000 from Stockport after starting his career at Leeds United.

Unable to make a breakthrough at Elland Road, Feeney was released by the club and joined Bournemouth after initially enjoying a successful loan spell with the Cherries.

He played more than 100 times for the south coast side, netting 36 League goals along the way, before moving to Stockport in July 2004 for £45,000. The move to Edgeley Park proved a big success and despite County being embroiled in a relegation scrap, Feeney scored 15 goals in 31 games, catching the eye of upwardly-mobile Luton.

He moved to Kenilworth Road on transfer deadline day in March 2005 after scoring a hat-trick in what proved to be his final game for Stockport, a 5-3 defeat by Huddersfield.

Likely to be in the starting line-up today, the Northern Ireland international has enjoyed a successful 2005 and was part of Lawrie Sanchez's side that beat England in a World Cup qualifier in September, as well as attracting interest from the top-flight, with Birmingham among the clubs said to be monitoring his progress.

Warren has followed his father and grandfather into the international arena and became the first member of his family to score for the province when he netted against Azerbaijan a few days before that famous victory over England.

He has an Ipswich connection, too – grandfather James Feeney made 233 appearances for Blues back in the 1950s.

### Ipswich's top scorers v Luton

- 5: Eric Gates
- 4: Ted Phillips
- 3: Alan Brazil, Trevor Putney

### Ipswich's hat-trick scorers v Luton

None

### Town's recent record v Luton

Home						Away				Final Pos.	
Season	League	Date	Result	Ipswich	Luton	Date	Result	Ipswich	Luton	Ipswich	Luton
1982/83	Division 1	26 February	Won	3	0	16 October	Drew	1	1	9th	18th
1983/84	Division 1	31 March	Won	3	0	13 March	Lost	1	2	12th	16th
1984/85	Division 1	28 August	Drew	1	1	30 March	Lost	1	3	17th	13th
1985/86	Division 1	28 December	Drew	1	1	1 October	Lost	0	1	20thR	9th
1995/96	Division 1	22 October	Lost	0	1	30 March	Won	2	1	7th	24thR

### Complete record v Luton

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Home League record	8	3	2	3	11	6
Away League record	8	2	1	5	13	15
Cup record	8	3	2	3	16	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>35</b>

### Top Hatter

**Joe Payne** scored 10 goals for Luton in their 12-0 win over Bristol Rovers in April 1936. He also holds the record for most goals in a League season for the Hatters at 55, set in the 1936/37 campaign.



LUTON boss Mike Newell played for BLACKBURN...alongside ALAN SHEARER...now at Newcastle with NOBBY SOLANO...

## Keep an eye on... Steve Robinson

**Another Northern Ireland** international at Kenilworth Road, Steve Robinson is now in his fourth season with the Hatters

A trainee at Tottenham, he made his name at Bournemouth where he spent almost six years, playing more than 250 senior games for the club.

A £375,000 move to Preston followed but the Lisburn-born player struggled to make an impact at Deepdale, starting just six games in two seasons.

A £50,000 move to Luton followed in the summer of 2002 and Robinson has proved a big asset to Mike Newell's side.

He scored in the 3-0 win over Brighton in midweek, his first goal of the season.



### Played for both clubs

<b>Allenby Driver</b>	Luton (1946-48)	Ipswich (1949-52)
<b>Joe O'Brien</b>	Luton (1947-49)	Ipswich (1949-51)
<b>Willie Havenga</b>	Luton (1950-52)	Ipswich (1951-53)
<b>Ted Phillips</b>	Ipswich (1953-64)	Luton (1964-65)
<b>John O'Rourke</b>	Luton (1963-66)	Ipswich (1967-70)
<b>David Geddis</b>	Luton (1976-77, 82-83)	Ipswich (1976-79)
<b>Mark Stein</b>	Luton (1983-88, 2000-01)	Ipswich (1997-98)
<b>Raphael Meade</b>	Luton (1988-89)	Ipswich (1989-90)
<b>Gavin Johnson</b>	Ipswich (1988-95)	Luton (1995-96)
<b>Scott Houghton</b>	Ipswich (1990-91)	Luton (1993-95)
<b>Andrew Petterson</b>	Ipswich (1992-93, 95-96)	Luton (1992-94)
<b>Bontcho Guentchev</b>	Ipswich (1992-95)	Luton (1995-97)
<b>Kelvin Davies</b>	Luton (1993-99)	Ipswich (2003-05)
<b>Neil Midgley</b>	Ipswich (1999-00)	Luton (1999-00)

## Mike Newell

**After a successful** playing career which included a Premiership winners' medal and Champions League football with Blackburn, Newell has quickly adapted to the world of management.

Reserve team boss at Tranmere and coach at Doncaster, he was the surprise replacement for Chris Turner at Hartlepool in November 2002 and guided the club to automatic promotion from the old Third Division.

Remarkably, it wasn't enough to earn him a new contract and a month later he was installed as Luton boss after getting the nod in a poll of the Hatters fans and promptly guided the club to the League One title last season.



## The Squad

### Peter Holmes

**Born:** 18/11/80 **Position:** Midfielder  
Luton's longest-serving player; he progressed through the ranks at Sheffield Wednesday before joining the Hatters on a free in 2000.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
12/97-08.00	Sheff Wed	0 0
08.00-Present	Luton	92 11



### Steve Howard

**Born:** 10/05/76 **Position:** Striker  
Signed from Northampton in March 2001 for £50,000. Top scorer in last season's promotion side with 22 goals.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
08.95-02.99	Hartlepool	145 26
02.99-03.01	Northampton	86 18
03.01-Present	Luton	192 90



### Kevin Nicholls

**Born:** 02/01/79 **Position:** Midfielder  
Tough-tackling club captain who joined from Wigan in August 2001 for £25,000. Ex-England youth international.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
08.95-06.99	Charlton	12 1
02.99-03.99	Brighton (loan)	4 1
06.99-08.01	Wigan	28 0
08.01-Present	Luton	162 29

### Russell Perrett

**Born:** 18/06/73 **Position:** Defender  
Moved from Cardiff on a free in August 2001.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
09.95-07.99	Portsmouth	72 2
07.99-08.01	Cardiff	29 1
08.01-Present	Luton	86 8

### Enoch Showunmi

**Born:** 21/04/82 **Position:** Striker  
Unorthodox frontman who is often used as a 'gamebreaking' late substitute by the Hatters. Signed from non-League Willesden Constantine.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
09.03-Present	Luton	85 14

### Paul Underwood

**Born:** 16/08/73 **Position:** Defender  
Signed on a free in March 2004 from Rushden. Former England semi-pro international.

Date	Club	Games/Goals
08.97-03.04	Rushden	182 16
03.04-Present	Luton	57 5

### Rowan Vine

**Born:** 21/09/82 **Position:** Striker  
Signed from Portsmouth in July 2005 for £250,000 after spending all of last season on loan at Kenilworth Road.

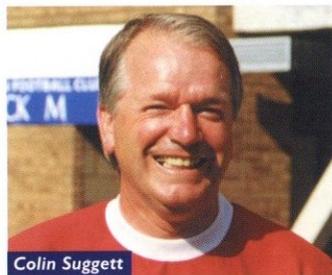
Date	Club	Games/Goals
08.00-07.05	Portsmouth	13 0
08.02-05.03	Brentford (loan)	42 10
08.03-05.04	Colchester (loan)	35 6
08.04-05.05	Luton (loan)	45 9
07.05-Present	Luton	11 3



Also in the squad: Sol Davis, Michael Leary, Steven O'Leary, Paul Hughes, Keith Keane, Danny Stevens, Dean Morgan, Dino Seremet, Calvin Andrew, Leon Barnett, Rob Beckwith. Coaching staff: Brian Stein, Marvin Johnson. Statistics are for League games only. Correct up to and including 30.12.05.

Who joined the club from ASTON VILLA...where he played alongside ULISES DE LA CRUZ...once of Hibernian...who are managed by TONY MOWBRAY...formerly of IPSWICH

# Scout's honour



Colin Suggett

The matchday programme caught up with Colin Suggett to discover what's involved in his role as chief scout at Portman Road.

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**You've brought Sito and Vemund Brekke Skard into the Club this season following trials, Colin. How did that process work?**

Through contacts. People recommend players to us then we check through our own contacts to find out a little more about them. If you get good reports, you bring the player in and have a look at them and Sito and Vemund both did very well when they were here on trial. We are very pleased with the progress they have made. Sito has become a regular in the first-team and a favourite with the fans. We are looking forward to Vemund playing after the transfer window opens tomorrow. He will be more long-term, though, because he's come from the lower divisions and hasn't been in professional football. But what we saw we liked. He played against Tottenham reserves while on



Vemund Brekke Skard

trial here and the next day Spurs rang us and asked who he was. They were interested in him so he made that kind of impression and we are very hopeful of him doing well here given a bit of time.

**It must give you a buzz, finding a player from 'nowhere' who ends up in the first-team?**

A little but we are professionals, that's our job. It's nice to see young boys we have brought in breaking through. That's a bigger buzz because you've been associated with the boys and their families for a while. I'm delighted to see Sito doing so well here, though. He is a nice lad, just like Vemund.

**You've been active in the likes of Jay McEveley and Gavin Williams coming in on loan as well this season. How does that side of things work?**

We are constantly watching players week-on-week, month-on-month. I spend most of the week watching Premiership reserve teams play. We have ongoing targets and they change as we get players injured, or as we get reports in on injured individuals. If the report on a player is poor, we take them off the list. If the report is good, we follow them up. We then try and produce a 'hit list' of sorts. You have to keep your finger on the pulse all the time because your priorities are not only long-term but short-term as well. You can be busy targeting strikers and suddenly because of injury you are after a central defender or a goalkeeper and



Sito



Gavin Williams

then it can become a chase to find one. The Premiership clubs are now hanging on to 24 players whereas they used to hang on to 18. That has made it harder.

**Do you find out what a player is like off the pitch as well as on it before you make a move to bring him to the Club?**

That's the most difficult thing but it's the biggest thing you have to do. Is he a good trainer? Does he look after himself? Is he a problem off the pitch? It's contacts again that lead you to the answers. I have a contacts book built up from years of working in the game. I lost it the other day and had a half-hour of panic trying to find it. It can take perhaps two weeks to get the information you want but you use every source you have to find it because it's vital.

**How many scouts do you have in your team?**

I have seven around the country. In most weeks we do three match reports covering the teams we are going to play over the next three weeks. I will be one of the three doing the match reports while the other five scouts will be watching players and then reporting back to me. If I have a couple of good reports then I check out the player personally. If I like what I see I go back again and if I like what I see again, the manager

goes and watches him. We will then make a decision from there but it's difficult when the transfer window is closed. We have been looking at targets for January, but then so is everybody else.

**What makes a good scout?**

Someone who can tell you what you need to know about a player. Also people who can do match reports. If you can see strengths and weaknesses, systems, the way people play and can put it down on paper. I have a number of ex-players among my scouts and contacts. Some people I inherited and some people I have brought in who I know have got an eye for the game and can tell me what I want to know.

**So your scouts are covering Town's future opposition as well. What does that entail?**

A scout will watch the opposition's formation and changes in tactics. He provides an individual report on each player, his strengths and weaknesses. He does set-plays – that's corners and free-kicks – both attacking and defending. How goals are scored and conceded. How they take penalties, what way they put the ball. Throw-ins, are they long or short? It takes three hours to write up a report and it includes illustrations and everything. It's a long job and takes a lot of concentration. I know I do one every

week. Joe likes at least two reports on the opposition so we do three because in some games you might not get everything you want.

**How does that information get from you to Joe?**

I talk to Joe and Willie on a regular basis and take them through things. Over the Christmas period it's especially hectic because there are so many games in such a short space of time but they will have reports on all the opposition, both as a team and as individuals. At this time of year you get new players coming in because of injuries and if that player is not on my report, I have to find out something about him and quickly.

**How does your job compare with the chief scout's at, say, Chelsea or Manchester United?**

In my opinion it's more difficult the higher you go because the level of expectation is higher. You are looking at a better standard of player and every player that you are looking at you can buy so that makes it easier in one respect but then you have to travel the world to get THE best. When you are at a smaller club you shop in a different market. I don't shop at Harrods, I shop a little lower down. So while the quality is not as high, there are bigger numbers. It's just cutting that list down to find what you want.



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The year revisited

# Review of 2005



The matchday programme looks back over an eventful 12 months in words and pictures.



Darren Bent scores one of his January double against Coventry

**Also this month:** ■ The FA Cup dream is over at the first hurdle, Bolton winning 3-1 at Portman Road ■ On loan Danny Karbassiyouon makes his first start



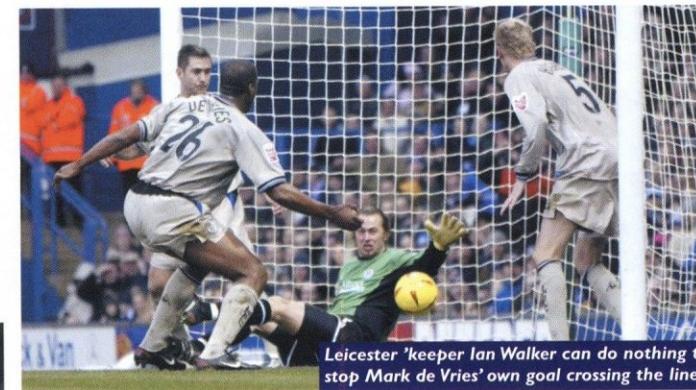
■ Two trialists arrive, Jimmy Juan from Monaco and Argentinean Miguel Angel Martinez ■ Supporter Sandra Cuninghame wins a competition to have the North Stand (temporarily) named after her ■ Tommy Miller makes his 100th appearance for the Club ■ Midfielder Antonio Murray joins Tony Mowbray's Hibernian.

### JANUARY

The New Year dawns with West Ham the visitors to top of the table Ipswich. Alan Pardew's side maintain their recent 'hex' over Blues courtesy of a 2-0 win. It is only the second time all season that Town have failed to score. The rest of January passes unbeaten, though, with wins over Plymouth (2-1) and Coventry (3-2) followed by a draw with Reading (1-1).

### FEBRUARY

Former England international David Unsworth joins Town on loan from Premiership Portsmouth and announces his arrival by thumping in a goal on his debut as Sheffield United are beaten 2-0 at Bramall Lane. Leicester are also beaten, 2-1, but the month ends with two successive defeats, seeing Blues drop to third.



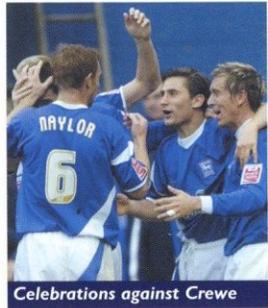
Leicester 'keeper Ian Walker can do nothing to stop Mark de Vries' own goal crossing the line



**Also this month:** ■ Jimmy Juan and ex-Arsenal youngster Dean McDonald sign up with Blues until the end of the season ■ Dean Bowditch agrees a new three-and-a-half year contract ■ Anna Hughes is appointed as Town's new Finance Director ■ James Scowcroft rejoins the Club on loan from Leicester, and promptly makes his 200th start for Town ■ Shefki Kuqi is out for 'at least a month' after being injured against Leicester.

## OCTOBER

Nicky Forster returns to action after nine games out and promptly scores his second of the season as Crewe are beaten 2-1 at Portman Road. Darren Currie nets Town's other goal with an excellent free-kick in what turns out to be the only win of the month. Meanwhile, Adam Proudlock arrives in Suffolk for a two week trial after being offered a way back into the game by Joe Royle following his recent sacking by Sheffield Wednesday. The striker is later offered a loan deal until January and makes his debut at Reading in mid-month.



Celebrations against Crewe

**Also this month:** ■ Richard Naylor is granted a testimonial year in 2006 ■ U18 Michael Synnott suffers a fractured ankle in his first training session back after a ligament problem in his other ankle ■ Gerard Nash returns to training for the first time this season after



knee injury ■ Joe Royle: *The Autobiography* goes on sale at bookshops ■ Norwegian Vemund Brekke Skard arrives at Ipswich for a week's trial and is quickly offered an 18-month contract. He will sign officially on January 1st.



Gavin Williams is mobbed after his debut goal at Coventry

## NOVEMBER

Despite twice falling behind, Ipswich fight hard to earn a 3-3 draw at Derby at Pride Park but undoubtedly the result of the week comes from Steve McCall's reserves who thump Watford 8-1 in a game that also saw Shane Supple save a penalty from the ex-England striker Les Ferdinand. The first-team follow up with a 3-1 demolition of Plymouth and a 1-1 draw at Coventry – with a debut goal for on loan Gavin Williams – before running up against in-form Reading and losing 3-0. The month ends with defeat at Cardiff where Billy Clarke plays his first senior game.

**Also this month:** ■ Billy Clarke scores the only goal of the game as Town's U18s beat their Norwich counterparts at Portman Road ■ Richard Naylor signs a three-year contract extension ■ Ian Westlake returns to training after three months out ■ Lewis Price makes his senior debut for Wales in a friendly in Cyprus ■ The Club announce a loss of £3.17m for the year ending June 2005 ■ Dean McDonald joins Hartlepool on a month's loan ■ Sam Parkin breaks his ankle, out for three months.



## DECEMBER

Fifteen months after making his Club debut – and following a nightmare series of injuries – Scott Barron makes a cameo appearance in the 1-1 draw with Wolves at Portman Road. Matt Richards scores the Ipswich goal from the penalty spot, his third strike in six games. Danny Haynes heads in his first for the Club in a 2-2 draw with QPR and the unbeaten start to December continues with a 2-1 win at Sheff Wed in a match that sees Jim Magilton make his 300th senior appearance as Town take to the field in an unusual mish-mash of kit. There are successive 2-0 defeats to Crystal Palace and Hull as 2005 draws to a close.



Matt Richards: penalty king, while (inset) did Jim get dressed in the dark?

**Also this month:** ■ Owen Garvan and Ian Westlake both play 45 minutes in the reserves' 3-0 win over Norwich ■ Gavin Williams agrees second month's loan from West Ham ■ Jay McEveley returns to Blackburn with a knee injury, his season-long loan deal at an end ■ Town are handed a home tie against Premiership Portsmouth in the FA Cup ■ Billy Clarke dislocates his elbow after falling awkwardly in a reserve match against Portsmouth ■ Former QPR and Burnley player Arthur Gnohere, Dutch striker Iwan Redan and French defender Delis Ahou are all on trial ■ Dean McDonald returns from his loan at Hartlepool.



# THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE AWARDS



Teddy Sheringham and Nathan Ellington are banging in goals in the Premiership. Jimmy Bullard and Danny Gabbidon are playing starring roles for their newly-promoted clubs. And Reading's Steve Sidwell is on course to be gracing the top flight next season.

What do these players have in common? They were all among the '50 Top Football League Players' in last April's edition of *FourFourTwo* magazine. And now, following the success of that survey, The Football League has announced a

glittering annual awards ceremony to champion the achievements of its players and clubs.

The Football League Awards will be handed out at the London Hilton on March 5 2006, when *FourFourTwo* will also announce its annual 'Top 50 Football League Players' to coincide with our April edition – and now's your chance to get involved.

For details of how to nominate someone for the 'Fan of the Year Award' and to vote for the 'Best Away Ground', visit [www.fourfourtwo.com](http://www.fourfourtwo.com) or check out your matchday programme.

### THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE AWARDS

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- ★ League 1 Player of the Year
- ★ League 2 Player of the Year
- ★ Young Player of the Year
- ★ Top Apprentice Award
- ★ Goal of the Year
- ★ Most Admired Club
- ★ Community Club of the Year
- ★ Fan of the Year
- ★ Best Club Sponsorship
- ★ Best Club Marketing Campaign
- ★ Best Kit Design
- ★ Matchday Programme of the Year
- ★ Best Club Website
- ★ Best Away Ground - voted for by fans
- ★ Contribution to Football

For more information on The Football League Awards contact [nicky.lusignani@haynet.com](mailto:nicky.lusignani@haynet.com)



LATEST ISSUE ON SALE NOW!

**Ticket info...**

**Match:** Stoke City  
**Venue:** Britannia Stadium, Stoke  
**Date:** Monday 2nd January  
**Kick-off:** 3.00pm  
**On sale dates:** There are no advance tickets for this game – tickets must be purchased at the turnstiles.  
**Prices:** Adults £19.00. Concessions and U17s £12.00. U11s £9.00.

**Match:** Portsmouth  
**Venue:** Portman Road, Ipswich  
**Date:** Saturday 7th January  
**Kick-off:** 3.00pm  
**On sale dates:** Tickets for this match are now on general sale.  
**Prices from:** Adults £21.00. Concessions £14.50. U16s £4.00. Ticket prices increase by £2.00 for adults and senior citizens and by £1.00 for juniors if purchased on the day of the match.

**Match:** Sheffield United  
**Venue:** Portman Road, Ipswich  
**Date:** Saturday 14th January  
**Kick-off:** 3.00pm  
**On sale dates:** Tickets for this match are now on general sale.  
**Prices from:** Adults £21.00. Concessions £14.50. U16s £6.00. Ticket prices increase by £2.00 for adults and senior citizens and by £1.00 for juniors if purchased on the day of the match.

**Match:** Southampton  
**Venue:** St Mary's Stadium, Southampton  
**Date:** Saturday 21st January  
**Kick-off:** 3.00pm  
**On sale dates:** Tickets for this match are already on sale to Gold Club members and season ticket holders. They go on sale to Silver Club members from Tuesday 3rd January and on general sale from Friday 6th January. TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE ON THE DAY OF THE GAME.  
**Prices:** Adults £26.00. Senior Citizens and U20s £19.00. U12s £13.00.

**5 things you may not know about Stoke**

Stoke-on-Trent is a unique British city made up of six separate towns: Tunstall, Burslem (home of Port Vale FC), Hanley (the 'city centre'), Stoke, Fenton and Longton. It's also known as The Potteries.

Not surprisingly given its nickname Stoke considers itself home to the world's greatest pottery makers and boasts a host of ceramics museums and factory shops

There are two great 'family' attractions nearby – the famous Alton Towers and Waterworld theme parks.

The Cultural Quarter is perfect for a meal, drink or night out.

The Peak District is also nearby.

**Away with the lads**

Monday, 2nd January 2006  
 Coca-Cola Championship  
**v Stoke City**  
 Kick-off 3.00pm

**Coaches leave Portman Road: 09:00**  
**Approx. Mileage:** 192 miles  
**Approx. Journey time:** 3 hrs 30 mins  
**Prices:** Adults £20.00 • Concessions £16.00 • Juniors £13.00 • £1.00 discount for all members.

**By road:** Take the A14 to the M11/M6 junction and then join the M6. Follow the M6 to junction 15 (shortly after Stafford Services) where you exit. At the slipway roundabout take the second exit on to the A500 (signposted: Stoke-on-Trent). Follow signs for Stoke-on-Trent City Centre and branch left when you pick up signs for Uttoxeter. At the Sideway Junction roundabout take the second exit to join the A50. After approximately half-a-mile you will see the junction for Stoke City FC on the opposite carriageway. You will need to continue to the next roundabout and then come back for access to the Britannia Stadium.

**Parking:** There are few spaces available at the ground. Try Great Fenton Business Park or the Booker Cash and Carry nearby. Conveniently, parking tickets need to be bought in advance from local newsagents and general stores (none are available at the car parks).

**By rail:** The nearest station is Stoke-on-Trent, which is approximately two miles from the Britannia Stadium.

Visit [www.kickoff.co.uk](http://www.kickoff.co.uk) for the champion of Championship guides



Saturday, 21st January  
 Coca-Cola Championship  
**v Southampton**  
 Kick-off 3.00pm

**Coaches leave Portman Road: 09:00**  
**Approx. Mileage:** 120 miles  
**Approx. Journey time:** 3 hrs 30 mins  
**Prices:** Adults £20.00 • Concessions £16.00 • Juniors £13.00 • £1.00 discount for all members.

**By road:** Take the A12 out of Ipswich to the M25 and then go 'left' towards the Dartford Crossing (toll: £1.00 for cars), Gatwick and Heathrow. Remain on the M25 all the way to junction 12 where you exit and pick up signs for Southampton. After about an hour the road divides into the M27 East and West. Take either fork and then join the A33 signed for Southampton City Centre. From here pick up the signs for West Quay and follow until you pass the Grand Harbour Hotel, the pier and the Town Quay. Continue following the one-way system round until you pick up signs for Woolston and the Toll Bridge. Go straight over the roundabout at the foot of the Toll Bridge and you will find yourself on Britannia Road, which leads to the Friends Provident St Mary's Stadium.

**Parking:** Little better than The Dell. Saints advise visiting fans to travel by foot or bus from the city centre as local parking is severely limited and what there is is restricted.

**By rail:** The nearest station is Southampton Central, a 25 minute walk or free shuttle bus ride away (if in possession of match ticket).

**Coming to Town**



Saturday 7th January, 2006  
 FA Cup Third Round  
**Portsmouth**  
 Kick-off: 3.00pm



*I know I drove quite quickly to get here today, but have I upset the space-time continuum somehow and gone back to December 2004? Not sure what you mean. Too much festive sherry perhaps?*

*Well the picture above seems to figure 'happy' Harry Redknapp in a rather fetching Portsmouth overcoat and chatting with Milan Mandaric... Where have you been? Have you missed the south coast's greatest comedy turn since, ooh, this time last year? It goes like this (do try and keep up). Nov 04 Harry leaves Pompey citing 'personal reasons' following the appointment a few days earlier of Velimir Zajec as 'executive director'. Dec 04 Redknapp appointed manager at Portsmouth's hated rivals Southampton. May 05 Southampton are relegated. Nov 05 Milan Mandaric sacks Alain Perrin, Pompey's third manager inside 12 months. Dec 05 Redknapp resigns from St Mary's citing 'personal reasons'. Dec 05 Redknapp appointed Portsmouth manager. Again.*

**Is he a double agent?**  
 Some Portsmouth fans are suggesting that if he keeps them up a year after being relegated with Saints then Harry should be knighted. With his undoubted coaching and motivational skills he might just do it too.

**Want to watch the Blues?**  
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**On Matchdays**  
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 Saturday 9.00am-5.00pm

**Buttermarket**  
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 Sunday 10.30am-4.00pm

**Bury St Edmunds**  
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Fixtures are subject to alteration. Please check the official Club website at [www.itfc.co.uk](http://www.itfc.co.uk) for latest details. The travel information is only intended as a guide and supporters are advised to make their own enquiries.



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**Blues in Focus**

# Parkin on comeback trail

The matchday programme met up with Sam Parkin as he took his first steps on the road to recovery from a broken ankle.

**Sam Parkin** is taking the first steps on his way back to action – and they're big steps with the Town striker currently patrolling the training ground with an outside boot protecting his broken ankle.

The summer signing from Swindon limped off the Portman Road pitch in the early stages of the defeat by Reading in November and x-rays the following day resulted in Sam being told he would be out of the game for around four months.

Surgery followed and then a period of post-op recovery time before the 'big boot' came into play, bringing the first signs of encouragement for the former Chelsea player:

"The boot holds the ankle in place but it allows me to put some weight down on my foot and that is a step in the right direction, if you'll pardon the pun," says Sam.

"In a week or so I hope to be free of the boot as well and then I can really start to get my head down and begin working hard towards getting back on the pitch.

"I have no idea of the recovery process because I've not had a major injury before and I was really surprised when the scans showed a fracture.

"In the past I've had numerous x-rays and it's always been bumps and bruises, nothing major. So I was pretty surprised when I was told it was broken.



"Any player will tell you that it's frustrating being injured. It's not just missing out on playing, it's not being around the place, the training ground, the dressing-room.

You miss all the banter, the build-up to the matches, the day-to-day atmosphere of being involved.

"Once I get the boot off I will hopefully be able to do some light exercise work with the physios and take it from there.

"It will feel like I have taken a step forward and that there is some light at the end of the tunnel.

"I know I will still have a long way to go before I'm back involved with the first-team but at least I will be heading in the right direction."

The injury came at a time when Sam had established himself as Town's leading scorer and he admits his spell on the sidelines has come at the worst possible stage.

"I felt I was just getting a decent run of form together," says the 24-year-old frontman who heads the Blues' goalcharts with five this term.

"The three games before the Reading match were probably my best of the season and the boss seemed happy enough with what I was doing.

"So that made it particularly frustrating but I have to get on with it. Injuries are part of the game and, like I say, this is my first bad one. You just have to deal with it."

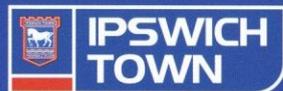
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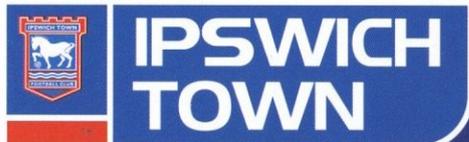


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View from the Fans

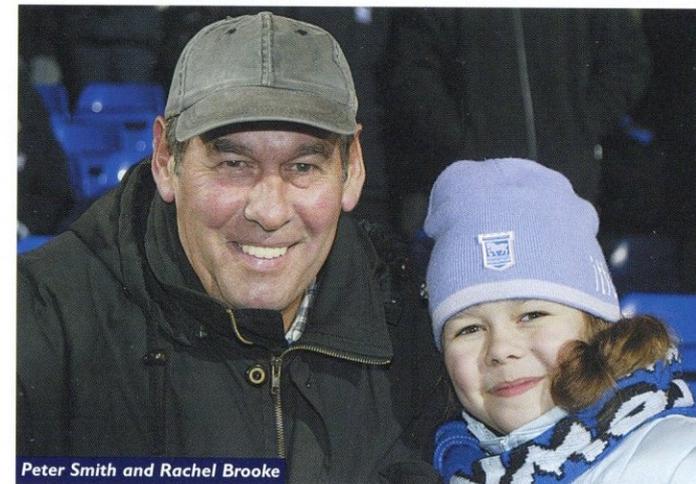
# Standpoint

## Peter Smith and Rachel Brooke

**When did you start supporting Town and why?**

**Peter:** My father took me when I was a young boy. I don't know which year. I was watching in the boys' section in the north west corner.

**Rachel:** From a very young age, before I was two I think because that's when I got my first Ipswich kit. My dad's a big fan.



Peter Smith and Rachel Brooke

**Can you remember the first game you saw at Portman Road?**

**Peter:** It was either Portsmouth or Charlton in a charity game. I had my blue and white rattle but I don't know when it was. I remember that Harry Baird and Jackie Little were playing for us though.

**Rachel:** No but my daddy tells me it was a friendly against Fiorentina in August 2000.

**Who is your all-time favourite Town player?**

**Peter:** Ray Crawford

**Rachel:** Shefki Kugij, who I named my rabbit after before he left the Club.

**And your current one?**

**Peter:** Shane Supple

**Rachel:** Darren Currie, Jason De Vos, Jim Magilton and Shane Supple

**What's your best memory as a Town fan?**

**Peter:** Winning the FA Cup in 1978. It was a fantastic occasion.

**Rachel:** Beating Nottingham Forest 6-0 last season and the FA Youth Cup Final where Shane Supple was great.

**And the worst?**

**Peter:** Losing to West Ham

twice, once in the FA Cup Semi-Final at Stamford Bridge in 1975 and also in the second leg of the Play-Offs at home last season. Both of those were very disappointing.

**Rachel:** Whenever we lose.

**What's the best Town game you have ever seen?**

**Peter:** Again, I would have to say the FA Cup Final in 1978. Such a great day.

**Rachel:** That 6-0 win against Nottingham Forest.

**Tip a young Town player to make it to the top...**

**Peter:** Shane Supple.

**Rachel:** Shane Supple.

If you would like to take part in Standpoint, email your name and contact number to [finalscore@compuserve.com](mailto:finalscore@compuserve.com)



Shane Supple: great



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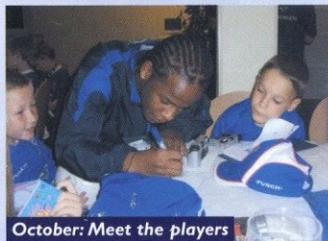
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August: Gifted and Talented



August: Big Fun Football



October: Meet the players



November: Skills Active

# Community Trust Diary of the year *continued*



July: A celebration of success at Portman Road

## JULY

More than 1,000 young people from local schools and grassroots Ipswich Town football teams visited Portman Road with their families on Sunday 17th July to take part in the End of Season Celebration to receive awards from members of Ipswich Town Football Club squads.

Sixteen players from the Club's first-team and youth team were among the VIPs who awarded all those who had taken part in the Community Youth Football League (CYFL), Playing for Success, Playing for Success Online and Onside.

The Winning Post held its first graduation-style Celebration of Success at the Rowley Mile Racecourse, Newmarket, with the first 150 students to pass through the Centre in attendance with their families.

IT Community Trust staff were invited to meet Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall as part of a celebration of Suffolk's diverse businesses on Angel Hill in Bury St Edmunds.

## AUGUST

Big Fun Football courses took off throughout the summer holidays with 1,100 youngsters taking part. Everyone walked away with gifts and prizes.

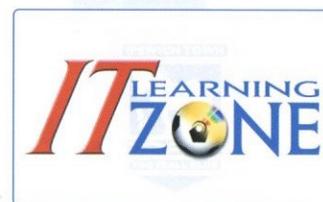


The new season of Blues Crew kicked-off with hundreds of children joining up to the fantastic junior membership scheme.

Seventy five students from 14 Suffolk primary and middle schools



took part in a Gifted and Talented fortnight at the IT Learning Zone, Ipswich, and The Winning Post, Newmarket. These courses were designed to stretch the school's more able pupils both physically and academically with a series of challenges which not only took place at the two Study Centres but also involved orienteering in Thetford Forest, archery at Copleston High School and wall climbing at the Mepal Outdoor Education Centre near Ely.



## SEPTEMBER

The school year began with a new partner on the ever-popular Aimhigher programme, which targets Key Stage 4 and FE College students with the aim of opening their eyes to the opportunities that exist for those who choose to take up places on university courses.

Harlow College were to arrange 10 visits by the end of the year with around 500 students from 20 Essex schools participating in the day's activities which included a careers talk, some football coaching and a stadium tour.

Schools across the county enjoyed the start of IT Community Trust coaches taking curriculum PE lessons. These lessons will continue for the

whole of the academic year, and support teachers while they are on non-contact time.

Weekly Soccer Centres kicked-off for Term One across the region. Each week approximately 1,000 youngsters were trained by ITFC.

The former captain of the Chinese national football team, Ma Ming-Yu, paid a visit to the Trust to learn more about establishing a successful community programme that could be replicated back in his home country.

## OCTOBER

Trust Learning staff spread the anti-racism message as part of the Kick Racism Out of Football fortnight at Charles Burrell High School in Thetford. The team worked hard with the entire group of Year 8 students.

The first of many Blues Crew Meet the Player events took place during the holiday with 100 young Blues fans enjoying the chance to have a chat with Dean McDonald, Scott Barron, Jaime Peters and Danny Haynes.

Project Kabom was re-launched with new students from Deben High School in Felixstowe. The project is run in conjunction with the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) and the British Council and pairs up the Deben students with pupils from Ghana.

The young people maintain e-mail communications and share experiences of each other's culture. The ultimate aim is for each group to organise a football tournament in their country for younger children and for those tournaments to run simultaneously in Ghana and Suffolk.

## NOVEMBER

Trust Learning staff gave an overview of the IT Community Trust's work as part of a Business Day at Thomas Wolsey Special School.

Pupils from Benjamin Britten High School and Denes High School in Lowestoft made their first visit to Portman Road as part of the Young Apprenticeship in Sport Scheme, also known as Skills Active.

The 24 students will spend the next two years gaining experience of working in sporting environments, one of which will be Ipswich Town Football Club, as part of their Apprenticeship programme.

## DECEMBER

Blues Crew Christmas Parties took place in both Bury St Edmunds and Ipswich. Youngsters enjoyed the chance to make friends and have a try at bowling as well as meet some of the football players.

Term Two of weekly soccer centres kicked off, youngsters will enjoy a short winter break before returning after the Christmas period to continue their learning.

The national Playing for Success Open Week was marked at the IT Learning Zone, Ipswich, and The Winning Post, Newmarket, to give parents an opportunity to discover what goes on in the classroom.

**The IT Community Trust looks forward to working with even more schools and families throughout 2006 in what promises to be an exciting year for all concerned.**

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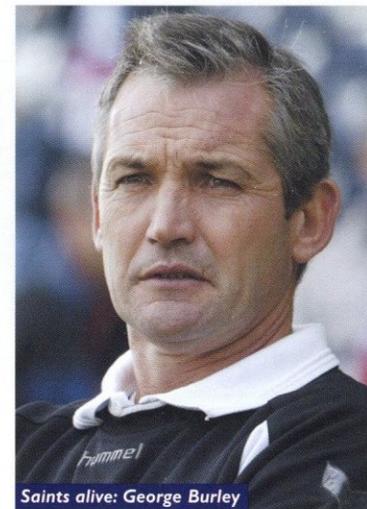
**Around the Championship**

**By George he's back**

You can't keep a good man down, and former Town boss George Burley proved the truth of that old saying when he was appointed as Southampton's 11th manager in the last ten years two days before Christmas.

**Ex-Blues** defender Burley – he played 500 senior games for the Club as well as being manager from December 1994 to October 2002 – has taken the position of head coach at St Mary's and will work in tandem with the former England rugby union coach Sir Clive Woodward, now Saints' director of football. After leaving Portman Road in October 2002 Burley spent 26 months in charge at Derby County. He had been out of work since October 22nd, when he parted company with Hearts with the Edinburgh club top of the Bank of Scotland Premier League.

His first game in charge of a Southampton side which has largely underachieved so far this season was a 3-0 reverse at Watford on Boxing Day, followed by a 1-0 defeat by Sheff Utd, but the former Scotland international sees a brighter future for the south coast outfit. "I am very pleased to come on board at St Mary's," says Burley. "Southampton have an exciting young team and I believe they should, and can, be much higher up the Championship table. It is my job to make sure that happens."



Saints alive: George Burley

**Tuttle takes over**

**Millwall** have also been shuffling their managerial pack over the festive period.

Former manager Colin Lee has been moved 'upstairs' to the job of director of football and replaced by his assistant David Tuttle.

The move is just the latest twist in a season of upheaval in south east London.



David Tuttle (left) with Millwall chairman Peter De Savary

Lee had only been in place at the New Den since late July, when he replaced Steve Claridge who had himself been given less than one month to turn the Lions around.

Tuttle's playing career saw him turn out in central defence for Tottenham, Sheff Utd, Crystal Palace, Barnsley and Millwall as well as loan spells at Peterborough, Charlton and Wycombe. He has been handed the job until the end of the season and, at 33, becomes the youngest boss in the Championship.

"If he keeps the team up then I'm sure he will keep the job full time," says Lee.

**In short**

*Hull City are set to table a £400,000 bid for Rochdale striker Grant Holt ... Leeds defender Rui Marques has been invited to attend a training camp with World Cup finalists Angola ... Midfielder Don Hutchison has scored three goals in five games on loan at Coventry from Millwall ... Plymouth are poised to sign Njazi Kuqi, younger brother of Sheffi, from Birmingham.*

**Pesch pleased**

*One man who is delighted that Southampton have recalled on loan striker Dexter Blackstock from Derby County is Paul Peschisolido.*

*The Canada international has been out in the cold at Pride Park since the arrival of the Saints hit man, who scored three goals in eight League starts for the Rams, including a brace in the 3-3 draw with Town in November.*

*But after netting a hat-trick in a recent reserve team*

*friendly, Peschisolido played most of the second-half at Crystal Palace last Wednesday.*

*"Paul is in my mind," admits Derby boss Phil Brown.*

**Stone thrown**

One time £5.5m man Steve Stone is set to miss the whole of the 2005/06 campaign for Leeds United.

The ex-England midfielder moved to Elland Road on a free transfer from Premiership Portsmouth in June 2005 and almost immediately went under the surgeon's knife to sort out an Achilles problem.

But a recent set-back has required a second operation on his troublesome heel and means he is unlikely to be match fit before next summer.

Stone began his career at Nottingham Forest before a big money move to Aston Villa led to his England call-up.

# Win! Win! Win!

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Closing date for entries is: Friday 13th January.



**Powergen would like to wish all the players, fans and staff of Ipswich Town Football Club a very Happy New Year!**

**Jaime Peters**  
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# At the back and beyond

Richard Naylor tells the matchday programme that, despite a few cameo roles up front for Town lately, his future is very much at the back for Blues.

**Town boss** Joe Royle is hoping to bring in a new striker in the January transfer window and that is likely to bring to an end the dual role that Richard Naylor has had to fill on occasions recently.

Bam Bam has been used as an emergency striker as Town have looked to compensate for injuries to Sam Parkin, Nicky Forster and Billy Clarke at various stages of the season.

It's the long-term injury to Sam that has really left Blues short on numbers. The former Chelsea and Swindon player provides the main physical presence in attack but a broken ankle means he won't be wearing a Blues shirt in League action until February at the earliest.

With Billy, Danny Haynes and Dean Bowditch all teenagers, Town boss Joe used Richard in attack for second-half spells in the lead up to Christmas to provide the frontline with some experience and power.

"We've not got the biggest squad so when Sam got injured, it was always going to stretch us," Bam Bam tells the matchday programme.

"The boss asked me to switch up front at half-time in a few of the games and although it's not ideal to play as a defender one half and then switch, it's a case of needs must.

"It can be slightly difficult changing positions, especially as against Sheffield Wednesday it was only for a short period, but we had little option really.

"The gaffer has felt in some games that we needed more of a physical presence up front so I was asked to do a job there."

**'It is not ideal to move around, but if it's a case of helping the team you do it'**

Richard started his Town career as a defender at youth level but was quickly moved into the attack and spent the first eight years of his professional life in the frontline. Has that experience as a striker helped him as a defender?

"A little bit. There are some physical similarities between the two positions – power in the air for example – but mentally the two jobs are very different," he says.

"You have different priorities, different things to focus on, and that's why when I switch positions during a game, it's vital that I tune into the role straight away.

"That's one of the reasons why it's not ideal to move around, but like I said, if it's a case of helping out the team, you do it.

"I know my long term future is as a defender. The gaffer moved me back in to the defence virtually as soon as he arrived here and I've enjoyed the role.

"He is happy with the way I have been playing and hopefully it will stay that way for a long time to come."



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TeamCard points can be collected by season ticket holders and club members then redeemed against merchandise or season tickets. For further information and online retailers visit [www.itfc.co.uk](http://www.itfc.co.uk) and click on TeamCard.



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Former Blues

# X-Files

**Blues legend** Mick Stockwell, who played more than 600 senior games in a career spanning nearly 18 years with the Club, is enjoying life as manager of Ridgeons League Premier Division side Woodbridge Town.

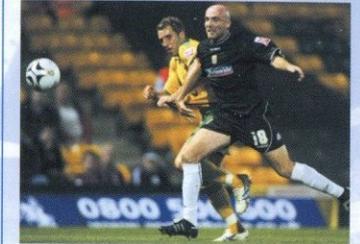
A 0-0 draw with eighth place Ipswich Wanderers – and their player-manager Jason Dozell – recently stretched Woodbridge's unbeaten run to five as they bid to consolidate their position. When Stockwell took over last season the team was bottom of the League without a win, but he led them to safety and is now looking upwards.



"I am here to stay," he said. "I am enjoying it more right now than if I was still playing. That part of my career is over."

"I plan to manage long-term and can't see myself moving away from Woodbridge to take charge of another team in this area. I receive great backing and the young players all want to learn and to improve, which is encouraging."

There will be a strong Ipswich Town connection when Northampton travel to our visitors on Boxing Day, Crystal Palace, for their FA Cup Third Round meeting in early January.



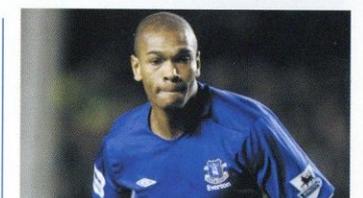
The Cobblers, who earned their trip to Selhurst Park thanks to a 2-0 replay win over Stevenage Borough, call on the services of former Blues utility man Gavin Johnson (pic above), while John Deehan – who scored 11 goals in 49 League games for Ipswich in the 1980s – is Director of Football for the Sixfields Stadium outfit.



**Jermaine Wright**, who was tipped as a future England international while at Portman Road, has returned to Leeds United following a three month loan spell at struggling Millwall.



**League Two leaders Wycombe**, managed by ex-Town coach John Gorman and with **Matt Bloomfield in midfield, lost 2-1 at Bury in Christmas week, their first defeat of the season.**



**Charlton's ex-Blues** contingent could be set to grow still further with the news that Everton's Marcus Bent is being lined up to join Hermann Hreidarsson, Matt Holland, Darren Ambrose and Darren Bent at The Valley.

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## WINTER SALE AT PLANET BLUE

UP TO **75% OFF** SOME ITEMS

The exclusive ITFC Winter Sale is now on at all three Planet Blue stores with some fantastic Town bargains to be had.

There are hundreds of great bargains in store and online at [www.itfcshop.co.uk](http://www.itfcshop.co.uk) so check it out quickly and make sure you don't miss out.

Included in the sale are the following great value items, and much, much more.



The hugely popular ITFC away kit is a massive 75% off, with prices at:

**Shirts:**

Were £39.99 Now £9.99

(Sizes: adult only)

**Shorts:**

Were £19.99 Now £4.99

(Sizes: adult only)

**Socks:**

Were £8.99 Now £2.19

(Sizes: adult only)

This stylish 'Tuna' coat is on sale for just £19.99, a huge £20.00 saving on its pre-sale price of £39.99!

It is available in sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL.



The 'Jacob' sweatshirt (in petrol blue) has been reduced from £18.99 to just £9.49

It is available in sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL.



# planet blue

### OPENING TIMES

Day	Portman Road	Buttermarket	Bury St Edmunds
31.12.05	09:00-13:00	09:00-15:00	09:00-15:00
01.01.06	Closed	Closed	Closed
02.01.06	Closed	Closed	Closed
03.01.06	08:30-17:00	09:00-17:30	09:00-17:00

(shop then reverts to normal opening times)

## Golden Gamble

The winners of the Club's Golden Gamble prize draw at the recent League match against Crystal Palace were:

1st: 23601 wins £500      2nd: 19821 wins £100

Mystery prize number: 23398

To be in with a chance of scooping the big cash prize make sure you buy a Golden Gamble ticket at every home match.

## Town in FA Cup Third Round action against Portsmouth



Supporters are reminded that tickets are now on general sale for all areas of the ground for our FA Cup Third Round tie with Premiership Portsmouth on Saturday 7th January 2006, kick-off 3.00pm.

Seats are priced from £21.00 (adults) and £14.50 (concessions), while there is a special low price for U16s of just £4.00. Ticket prices increase by £2.00 for adults and senior citizens and by £1.00 for juniors if purchased on the day of the match.

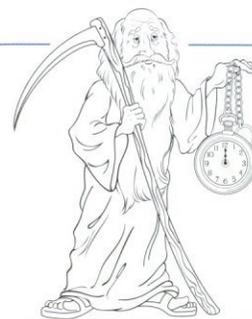


Season ticket holders should note that when they purchase their own seat at their normal price band for this match their season ticket card will be enabled to allow them to access the stadium through the turnstiles. No paper ticket will be issued. This includes supporters who use the cup prepayment scheme. There are a small number of exceptions to this and these supporters will have received a letter, or advice from a staff member in the Ticket Office, where a paper ticket has been issued rather than enabling the card.

The cup scheme has been run several times since 9th December and, apart from about 170 supporters from whom we have been unable to take a payment, the season tickets cards have been enabled for access. We have written to all the supporters from whom we have been unable to take a payment, and ask that they contact the Ticket Office on 0870 111 0 555 to ensure we have their current card details and can put the sale through.

## Stamp it out

The STAMP IT OUT text messaging service is available for all supporters to report instantly yet discreetly by text any incident they feel needs attention, enabling the Club to take immediate appropriate action. The **STAMP IT OUT** text number is: **07834 439 429** (standard text rate applies). All reports will be handled in the strictest confidence.



## Happy New Year

The players, management, directors and staff of Ipswich Town Football Club would like to thank you all for your wonderful support in 2005 and to wish you all a happy, healthy and successful New Year.



## Retiring type

Town season ticket holder **Sonia Nickells** has recently 'hung up her boots' after 39 years of loyal service with William Armes Limited of Cornard Road in Sudbury.

At a meal arranged to celebrate 'freedom' for sales liaison manager Sonia, the office ladies presented her with a signed Ipswich Town football as well as mugs for herself and her husband David.

All the best for a long and happy retirement, Sonia, and many thanks for your continued support of Blues.



## Have your say

The Football League is encouraging Ipswich Town fans to have their say on who they think should win the Fan of the Year and Best Away Ground categories in the inaugural Football League Awards incorporating FourFourTwo magazine's Top 50 Football League Players.

Fans wishing to nominate a Fan of the Year or vote for the club they believe deserves the Best Away Ground accolade can visit The Football League's official website at [www.football-league.co.uk](http://www.football-league.co.uk) or FourFourTwo's official website at [www.fourfourtwo.com](http://www.fourfourtwo.com) and follow the links to The Football League Awards.

The closing date for entries is Monday 16th January 2006 and the winners will be announced at a gala dinner at The London Hilton on Park Lane on Sunday 5th March 2006. For further details see their advertisement on p35 of today's matchday programme.



## Screen Test

Your official ITFC matchday programme always brings you the very best free giveaways.



This afternoon we offer you the chance, in conjunction with Cineworld Cinemas, to win a family ticket for four people to attend the film of your choice.

Just write the answer to the question (right) on the back of a postcard or sealed, empty envelope, along with your name and address, and send it to: Publications Dept, ITFC, Portman Road, Ipswich, IP1 2DA.

Alternatively you can email your answer to: [camilla.haycock@itfc.co.uk](mailto:camilla.haycock@itfc.co.uk)

**QUESTION:** Nathan Lane, Matthew Broderick and Uma Thurman star in which current movie?

The first correct answer selected after the closing date of January 7th, 2006 will win the family ticket for four.

Winner Wolves programme: Mr P Gardiner, South Woodham Ferrers. Winner QPR programme: Connor Ludlow, Ipswich.

## Happy Birthday

Everybody at Ipswich Town Football Club would like to send warm birthday greetings to the following supporters:

**Francesca Corbett** turned 11 yesterday (December 30th). Francesca sits in the Cobbold Stand and closely watches her favourite player, Lewis Price. With lots of love from mum Julie.



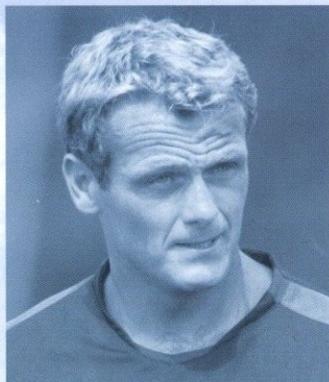
**Richard Butcher** is a season ticket holder in the Britannia Stand and will be 18 on 3rd January. Happy birthday to Richard from his family.



Happy 15th birthday to another Britannia Stand season ticket holder, **Amy Bell**, for 4th January. She hopes her favourite player, Ian Westlake, is in action against Luton today. With lots of love from mum and dad.

## Reserves change

Supporters are reminded that Steve McCall's reserve side will be playing their next four home matches at Needham Market FC. See p61 of today's programme for full details.



# Supporters can play their part

The year 2005 is certainly not finishing the way we had hoped for with those two defeats against Crystal Palace and at Hull this week.

We have another chance to say goodbye to the year; though, with a win against Luton today and it's a victory we need to lift the spirits and, most importantly, the confidence of the players in the dressing-room and the supporters in the stands.

At the start of the season I looked at the year ahead and thought it would be one of transition for the Club and I believe that has proved to be the case.

We've been so close to promotion to the Premiership over the last couple of years but we all know the financial position of the Club and once we missed out last season it was inevitable that players would have to move on.

That's why I believed it would be a transitional period, with new players coming in and some youngsters being integrated into the squad. That whole process takes time.

What we couldn't have expected is the long list of injuries that we have had since day one of this season. The gaffer has hardly ever been in a position to field the same side in successive games.

We haven't got the biggest squad around anyway, so losing the likes of Sam Parkin, Westy, Fozzie and Jason for lengthy periods has hit us hard, especially up front where we are short of senior players at the moment.

It is in the final third where we are clearly struggling and it's been no different this week against Palace and Hull City.

I thought the lads finished the first-half against Palace really well. We were the better team at that stage but Michael Hughes pulled that goal out of

nowhere with a great strike for them in the second-half and that knocked us right back.

I'd be lying if I said that our confidence hasn't taken a jolt recently but it's up to the players to continue working hard on the training ground and in matches to put it right and you can be sure that is what will happen.

We have talked all season about aiming for the Play-Offs and, while many will have written us off, you never know what can happen in this game. Such is the nature of this



Owen Garvan: big future

division that any sort of decent run could quickly see a club scampering up the table.

We are also aware that we are too near the wrong end of the table and it's important that we start to pick up points quickly so that we can look up at the Play-Offs rather than over our shoulders.

It won't be easy today against a Luton side that come here on the back of a good win in midweek.

Mike Newell has done a terrific job at the Hatters and they have taken the jump up from League One in their stride so we know we will be in for a testing 90 minutes.

Like I said, confidence can ebb away in a side if things are not going to plan and the supporters can have a massive part to play in restoring that self-belief.

It's a two way street, because the performances on the pitch can lift the fans but sometimes the players need that extra backing from the supporters when it matters to help them raise their game.

This Club is blessed with fantastic and loyal support and I believe they can play their part in making sure the second half of the season is a lot better than the first.

## Christmas chaos

I know football over the festive season is part of the tradition in this country, and a lucrative time for clubs as well, but this year it's been an absurd programme.

Four games in eight days is a completely ridiculous schedule and puts too much stress and strain on the players.

Most of the year we play one game a week – occasionally two – then suddenly four are thrown into a short period and it's a schedule that will test the strongest squads, let alone smaller ones that are already carrying injuries like ours.

We could have done without the six hour coach journey to Siberia – otherwise known as Hull – during the week as well.

Our coach broke down twice on the way up there and I had to lambast Paul Elmer, our kit manager and resident mechanic, for that. Well it had to be done!

## A new face for the new year

Vemund Brekke Skard begins his professional career in earnest tomorrow when he 'officially' becomes an Ipswich Town player and everyone in the dressing-room is hoping he goes on and becomes a real success.

He is already popular with the lads after doing well on trial here and is now working his way back to fitness after a hernia operation.

Vemund's story is a fairytale really and he could prove to be a fantastic asset for this Club. He has taken everything in his stride, which Scandinavians tend to do, and is determined to make a career for himself at Ipswich Town. We all wish him well because he's a lovely lad.

While Vemund is taking the first steps on the road to a professional career, Owen Garvan is already up and running and I believe the lad can go right to the top.

He is one of the most determined individuals I have come across, totally focussed on being a success in this game, and I have no doubt that he has the attributes to achieve his goal.

He's very calm on the pitch, passes the ball well and doesn't get intimidated by the far more experienced players up against him.

At just 17 Owen has the world at his feet. He wants to succeed, he wants to win and he wants to do it with Ipswich Town.

Finally, happy New Year from all the playing staff at the Club and thanks for your support.

# £10 off a family ticket to see Peter Pan

Town fans have been offered the chance to save £10 off a family ticket to watch the pantomime *Peter Pan* at the Ipswich Regent.

Starring Brian Blessed as the 'ultimate' Captain Hook and Kirsten O'Brien from CBBC as *Peter Pan* the production features spectacular laser and flying effects and the outstanding cast also includes one of the world's greatest acrobatic acts, *The Kenya Boys*, who will be playing the pirates.



Family tickets to *Peter Pan* cost £60.00 and £50.00 (for two adults and two children) but you can save £10.00 by calling the Regent Box Office on: (01473) 433100 and quoting 'ITFC Family Ticket Offer'.

The production runs until 15th January 2006 but the offer does not apply to performances up to 3rd January.

Offer subject to availability and limited to the first 500 responses.



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# PROFESSIONAL STAFF 2005/2006

All the games and goals for every Town player

Name	Height	Weight	League 2005/06	Cup/Other 2005/06	Season Total	League Total	Cup Total	Play-Off Total	Club Total
Born/Date	From		app	goals	app	goals	app	goals	app
Lewis Price	6'3"	13st 6lb	23	0	24	0	31 (1)	0	34 (1)
Brimouth 19.07.84	Ipswich Acad.								
Andy Rhodes	6'1"	15st 8lb	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Doncaster 23.08.64	Non-contract								
Shane Supple	5'11"	11st 7lb	3 (1)	0	3 (1)	0	3 (1)	0	3 (1)
Dublin 04.05.87	Ipswich Acad.								
Scott Barron	5'10"	11st	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)	0	1 (1)
Preston 02.09.85	Ipswich Acad.								
Chris Casement	6'	12st 1lb	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Belfast 12.01.88	Ipswich Acad.								
Aidan Collins	6'3"	13st 9lb	1 (1)	0	2 (1)	0	1 (2)	0	2 (2)
Harlow 18.10.86	Ipswich Acad.								
Jason De Vos	6'4"	13st 7lb	21	1	21	1	66	4	70
Ontario 02.01.74	Wigan								
Jay McEveley	6'1"	12st 11lb	13 (2)	1	13 (2)	1	13 (2)	1	13 (2)
Liverpool 11.02.85	Blackburn (returned)								
Mark Fish	6'4"	13st 2lb	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Cape Town 14.03.74	Charlton (returned)								
Scott Mitchell	5'11"	12st	0	0	0	0	0 (2)	0	2 (2)
Ely 02.09.85	Ipswich Acad.								
Gerard Nash	6'1"	11st 8lb	0	0	0	0	0 (1)	0	0 (1)
Dublin 11.07.86	Ipswich Acad.								
Richard Naylor	6'1"	13st 7lb	25	3	26	3	168 (84)	37	17 (17)
Leeds 28.09.77	Ipswich Y.T.								4 (4)
Matt Richards	5'8"	10st 10lb	14 (6)	3	15 (6)	3	80 (21)	5	8 (3)
Harlow 26.12.84	Ipswich Acad.								3 (1)
Sito (Castro)	5'7"	11st 5lb	24	0	25	0	24	0	0
La Coruna 25.05.80	Racing Ferrol, Spa.								25
Fabian Wilnis	5'8"	12st 6lb	15 (2)	0	15 (3)	0	209 (21)	5	27 (4)
Sunnam 23.08.70	De Graafschap, Hol.								7 (1)
Darren Currie	5'11"	13st 3lb	21 (5)	3	22 (5)	3	40 (10)	6	2
Hampstead 29.11.74	Brighton & HA.								1 (1)
Owen Garvan	6'2"	10st 6lb	12 (2)	1	12 (3)	1	12 (2)	1	0 (1)
Dublin 29.01.88	Ipswich Acad.								0
Kevin Horlock	6'	12st	13 (4)	0	14 (4)	0	46 (12)	0	2 (1)
Erith 01.11.72	West Ham								1
Jimmy Juan	6'2"	12st 6lb	12 (8)	3	13 (8)	3	12 (8)	3	1
Valence 10.06.83	Monaco, Fra.								0
Jim Magilton	6'	13st 10lb	19 (2)	1	19 (2)	1	237 (23)	16	28 (4)
Belfast 06.05.69	Sheff Wed								9
Jaime Peters	5'8"	11st 5lb	3 (6)	0	4 (6)	0	3 (6)	0	1
Ontario 04.05.87	Canada								0
Ian Westlake	5'9"	12st	9 (4)	1	9 (5)	1	80 (21)	14	5 (2)
Clacton 10.11.83	Ipswich Acad.								4
Gavin Williams	5'10"	11st 5lb	8	1	8	1	8	1	0
Pontypridd 20.06.80	West Ham (loan)								0
Dean Bowditch	5'11"	10st 8lb	11 (6)	0	12 (6)	0	24 (35)	7	4 (2)
Harlow 15.06.86	Ipswich Acad.								0 (2)
Billy Clarke	5'8"	10st 2lb	1 (1)	0	1 (1)	0	1 (1)	0	0
Cork 13.12.87	Ipswich Acad.								0
Nicky Forster	5'8"	11st 5lb	14 (2)	3	14 (2)	3	14 (2)	3	0
Caterham 08.09.73	Reading								0
Danny Haynes	5'11"	12st 4lb	1 (5)	1	1 (5)	1	1 (5)	1	0
London 09.01.88	Ipswich Acad.								1 (5)
Darryl Knights	5'6"	10st 1lb	0	0	0	0	0 (1)	0	0
Ipswich 01.05.88	Ipswich Acad.								0 (1)
Dean McDonald	5'6"	11st 4lb	2 (6)	0	3 (6)	0	2 (6)	0	1
Lambeth 19.02.86	Arsenal Acad.								0
Sam Parkin	6'2"	13st	17 (2)	5	17 (2)	5	17 (2)	5	0
Rampton 14.03.81	Swindon								17 (2)
Adam Proudlock	6'	13st	3 (3)	0	3 (3)	0	3 (3)	0	0
Telford 09.05.81	Sheff Wed								3 (3)

All stats correct up to and including 30.12.05.

## TOWN IN THE BOOK

Player	Yellow	Red
Scott Barron	0	0
Dean Bowditch	1	0
Chris Casement	0	0
Billy Clarke	0	0
Aidan Collins	0	0
Darren Currie	0	0
Jason De Vos	2	0
Ade Akinbiyi	1	0
Nicky Forster	1	0
Owen Garvan	3	0
Danny Haynes	0	0
Kevin Horlock	6	0
Jimmy Juan	3	0
Darryl Knights	0	0
Jim Magilton	0	0
Dean McDonald	0	0
Jay McEveley	4	0
Scott Mitchell	0	0
Gerard Nash	5	0
Richard Naylor	0	1
Sam Parkin	3	0
Jaime Peters	0	0
Lewis Price	1	0
Adam Proudlock	0	0
Andy Rhodes	0	0
Matt Richards	1	0
Sito*	4	2
Shane Supple	0	0
Ian Westlake	0	0
Gavin Williams	2	0
Fabian Wilnis	2	1

\*One red card rescinded after appeal

## IT'S A FACT



Darren Currie played his 50th League game for Town in the 2-0 defeat at Hull in midweek. The former West Ham apprentice joined Blues in December 2004 and marked his debut for the Club with a goal in the 4-2 win at QPR a day after signing.

## OTHER GAMES TODAY

Brighton v Millwall  
 Burnley v Sheff Wed  
 Cardiff v Southampton  
 Crewe v QPR  
 Derby v Reading  
 Leeds v Hull  
 Leicester v Norwich  
 Preston v Coventry  
 Sheff Utd v Stoke  
 Watford v C.Palace  
 Wolves v Plymouth

## FORM MEN 2005/06



Name	Team	Index score
Ade Akinbiyi	Burnley	4.82
Glen Little	Reading	4.59
Ashley Young	Watford	4.55
Ibrahima Sonko	Reading	4.42
James Harper	Reading	4.40
Kevin Doyle	Reading	4.27
Bobby Convey	Reading	4.14
Marcus Hahnemann	Reading	4.13
Marlon King	Watford	3.97
Ivar Ingimarsson	Reading	3.89
Paddy Kenny	Sheff Utd	3.80
Phil Jagielka	Sheff Utd	3.72
Leigh Bromby	Sheff Utd	3.69
Cameron Jerome	Cardiff	3.67
Leroy Lita	Reading	3.64
Steven Kabba	Sheff Utd	3.48
Neil Shipperley	Sheff Utd	3.48
Ahmet Birkovic	Luton	3.44
Gary Kelly	Leeds	3.43
Jason Koumas	Cardiff	3.37

## SHOTS TO GOALS RATIO 2005/06

Team	Shots	Gls	Shots/Gls
Reading	295	52	5.67
Sheff Utd	278	48	5.79
Burnley	254	37	6.86
Watford	291	42	6.93
C.Palace	259	37	7.00
Cardiff	256	33	7.76
Leeds	252	32	7.88
QPR	227	28	8.11
Crewe	230	28	8.21
Stoke	266	32	8.31
Ipswich	234	27	8.67
Brighton	220	25	8.80
Luton	344	39	8.82
Coventry	287	31	9.26
Hull	246	26	9.46
Preston	262	27	9.70
Derby	304	31	9.81
Wolves	318	31	10.26
Norwich	339	31	10.94
Millwall	200	18	11.11
Southampton	293	26	11.27
Plymouth	248	22	11.27
Leicester	336	27	12.44
Sheff Wed	259	18	14.39

## THE PLAYER WITH THE MOST...

**Shots on target:** 53 Dean Ashton (Norwich). **Shots off target:** 46 Dean Ashton (Norwich). **Crosses:** 115 Lee Naylor (Wolves). **Offsides:** 56 Ade Akinbiyi (Burnley). **Free-kicks won:** 59 David Norris (Plymouth).

## Assists

Ashley Young (Watford) 8, Glen Little (Reading) 7, Kenny Lunt (Crewe) 7, Dean Ashton (Norwich) 6, Kevin Nicholls (Luton) 6, Darren Currie (Ipswich) 6.

## Most shots on target

Dean Ashton (Norwich) 53, Cameron Jerome (Cardiff) 36, Ade Akinbiyi (Burnley) 36, Marlon King (Watford) 33, Joey Gudjonsson (Leicester) 33, Warren Feeney (Luton) 32.

## Most shots off target

Dean Ashton (Norwich) 46, Steve Howard (Luton) 35, Inigo Idiakez (Derby) 34, Chris Brunt (Sheff Wed) 33, Gary McSheffrey (Coventry) 32, Akos Buzsaky (Plymouth) 29, Paul Furlong (QPR) 29.

## Most shots without a goal

Michael Doyle (Coventry) 33, Dion Dublin (Leicester) 25, Micah Hyde (Burnley) 25, Dean Marney (Norwich) 24, Mark Kennedy (Wolves) 24.

## The team with the most...

**Shots on target:** 174 Leicester. **Shots off target:** 171 Luton. **Corners:** 191 Luton. **Hit woodwork:** 13 Coventry. **Offsides:** 136 Norwich. **Fouls:** 406 Leicester. **Yellow cards:** 54 QPR. **Red cards:** 10 Millwall.

## TOP LEAGUE SCORERS 2005/06

Player	Club	Lge gls
Ade Akinbiyi	Burnley	12
Marlon King	Watford	12
Dean Ashton	Norwich	10
Kevin Doyle	Reading	10
Cameron Jerome	Cardiff	10
Steven Kabba	Sheff Utd	9
Dave Kitson	Reading	9
Ashley Young	Watford	9
Clinton Morrison	C.Palace	8

## HOME AND AWAY 2005/06

Number of fans to have travelled to and from Town this season

Championship	ITFC fans	Away
Brighton	756	
Burnley	383	
Cardiff	203	1120
Coventry	2169	282
Crewe		214
C.Palace		1775
Derby	556	
Hull	879	
Leeds	949	
Leicester	1366	
Luton		856
Millwall		
Norwich		2253
Plymouth		668
Preston		287
QPR	1579	1230
Reading	1765	514
Sheff Utd	938	
Sheff Wed	973	1469
Southampton		697
Stoke		
Watford		980
Wolves		1212

## Cup games

Yeovil	456
Portsmouth	

## GOAL CHART 2005/06

Player	Lge	FAC	CC	Tot
Scott Barron	0	0	0	0
Dean Bowditch	0	0	0	0
Billy Clarke	0	0	0	0
Aidan Collins	0	0	0	0
Darren Currie	3	0	0	3
Jason De Vos	1	0	0	1
Nicky Forster	3	0	0	3
Owen Garvan	1	0	0	1
Danny Haynes	1	0	0	1
Kevin Horlock	0	0	0	0
Jimmy Juan	3	0	0	3
Darryl Knights	0	0	0	0
Jim Magilton	1	0	0	1
Dean McDonald	0	0	0	0
Jay McEveley	1	0	0	1
Scott Mitchell	0	0	0	0
Gerard Nash	0	0	0	0
Richard Naylor	3	0	0	3
Sam Parkin	5	0	0	5
Jaime Peters	0	0	0	0
Lewis Price	0	0	0	0
Andy Rhodes	0	0	0	0
Matt Richards	3	0	0	3
Shane Supple	0	0	0	0
Ian Westlake	1	0	0	1
Gavin Williams	1	0	0	1
Fabian Wilnis	0	0	0	0

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Rileys,

**KEY:**  
 ● player started, number goals  
 First: ▼ sub off/time, ▲ sub on/time  
 Second: ▼ sub off/time, ▲ sub on/time  
 Third: ▼ sub off/time, ▲ sub on/time  
 U unused sub, ● red card, ● yellow card  
 \* after extra time + own goal  
 ♦ red card rescinded on appeal, L. Loane returned



Month	Date	Opposition	Home	Att	Result
August	Sat 6	Cardiff City	H	24,292	W 1-0
	Tue 9	Queens Park Rangers	A	14,632	L 1-2
	Sat 13	Leicester City	A	21,879	D 0-0
	Sat 20	Sheffield Wednesday	H	24,238	W 2-1
September	Tue 23	Yeovil (Carling Cup 1)	H	11,299	L 0-2
	Sat 27	Millwall	A	8,277	W 2-1
	Mon 29	Preston North End	H	22,551	L 0-4
October	Sat 1	Crewe Alexandra	H	23,145	W 2-1
	Sun 16	Reading	A	17,581	D 0-2
	Tue 18	Coventry City	H	22,656	D 2-2
	Sat 22	Watford	H	24,069	L 0-1
November	Wed 2	Derby County	A	21,598	D 3-3
	Sat 5	Plymouth Argyle	H	23,083	W 3-1
	Sat 19	Coventry City	A	18,316	D 1-1
	Tue 22	Reading	H	22,621	L 0-3
December	Sat 3	Wolves	H	23,563	D 1-1
	Sat 10	QPR	H	24,628	D 2-2
	Sat 17	Sheffield Wednesday	A	21,716	W 1-0
	Mon 26	Crystal Palace	H	27,392	L 0-2
January 2006	Wed 28	Hull City	A	20,124	L 0-2
	Sat 31	Luton Town	H	ko 1.00pm	
	Mon 2	Stoke City	A		
	Sat 7	Portsmouth (FAC3)	H		
February	Wed 11	Carling Cup Semi-Final (1)			
	Sat 14	Sheffield United	H		
	Sat 21	Southampton	A		
	Wed 25	Carling Cup Semi-Final (2)			
March	Sat 28	FA Cup 4			
	Tue 31	Leeds United	H		
	Sun 5	Norwich City	A	ko 11.15pm	
	Sat 11	Burnley	H		
April	Tue 14	Crewe Alexandra	A		
	Sat 18	Wolves (FA Cup 5)	A		
	Sat 25	Leicester City	H		
	Sun 26	Carling Cup Final			
May	Sat 4	Preston North End	A		
	Sat 11	Millwall	H		
	Sat 15	Brighton	H		
	Sat 22	Derby (FA Cup SF)	H		

Player	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	28	29	30	31	33	34	L		
Fabian Wilnis																																	
Matt Richards																																	
Jason De Vos																																	
Jay McEveley																																	
Richard Naylor																																	
Jim Magilton																																	
Nicky Forster																																	
Sam Parkin																																	
Darren Currie																																	
Kevin Horlock																																	
Jaime Peters																																	
Dean McDonald																																	
Sito Castro																																	
Chris Caseant																																	
Dean Bowditch																																	
Adam Proudlock																																	
Jimmy Juan																																	
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Owen Garvan																																	
Billy Clarke																																	
Andy Rhodes																																	
Scott Barron																																	
Gerard Nash																																	
Danny Haynes																																	
Gavin Williams																																	
Shane Supple																																	
Ian Westlake																																	
Lewis Price																																	
Mark Fish																																	

**CHAMPIONSHIP 2005/06 LEAGUE TABLE**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Reading	26	20	5	1	52	12	40	65
2 Sheff Utd	26	17	5	4	48	24	24	56
3 Leeds	25	13	6	6	32	22	10	45
4 Watford	26	11	10	5	42	31	11	43
5 C.Palace	24	11	5	8	37	26	11	38
6 Wolves	26	9	11	6	31	22	9	38
7 Burnley	26	11	5	10	37	32	5	38
8 Luton	26	11	5	10	39	36	3	38
9 Stoke	26	12	1	13	32	36	-4	37
10 Preston	25	7	14	4	27	21	6	35
11 Cardiff	26	9	8	9	33	29	4	35
12 Norwich	26	10	5	11	31	33	-2	35
13 QPR	26	8	8	10	28	35	-7	32
14 Southampton	25	6	13	6	26	26	0	31
15 Hull	26	7	9	10	26	29	-3	30
16 Coventry	26	6	11	9	31	38	-7	29
17 Ipswich	26	7	8	11	27	40	-13	29
18 Derby	26	5	13	8	31	36	-5	28
19 Plymouth	24	6	9	9	22	29	-7	27
20 Leicester	25	5	11	9	27	32	-5	26
21 Brighton	26	4	13	9	25	39	-14	25
22 Crewe	26	4	10	12	28	49	-21	22
23 Sheff Wed	26	4	9	13	17	32	-15	21
24 Millwall	26	3	10	13	18	38	-20	19



**THE ACADEMY U18S**

**Fixtures 2005/2006**

Date	Opps	Ven	Res
20 Aug	Barnsley	H	D2-2
27 Aug	Liverpool	A	W3-2
3 Sep	Reading	A	W2-0
17 Sep	Watford	A	L0-5
24 Sep	Arsenal	H	D2-2
1 Oct	Millwall	A	D2-2
8 Oct	West Ham	H	W5-1
15 Oct	Chelsea	A	L1-4
22 Oct	C.Palace	A	L3-4
28 Oct	Spurs	H	L2-3
5 Nov	Charlton	H	L2-3
12 Nov	Norwich	H	W1-0
19 Nov	Fulham	A	L1-3
30 Nov	Leeds (FAYC3)	A	W1-0
3 Dec	Soton	H	L1-2
10 Dec	Arsenal	A	L0-3
7 Jan	West Ham	A	
14 Jan	Chelsea	H	
19 Jan	Liverpool (FAYC4)	A	7pm
21 Jan	C.Palace	H	
4 Feb	Charlton	A	
11 Feb	Norwich	A	
18 Feb	Fulham	H	
25 Feb	Soton	A	
4 Mar	Millwall	H	
11 Mar	Aston Villa	H	
18 Mar	Cardiff	A	
1 Apr	Coventry	H	
8 Apr	Leicester	A	
22 Apr	Birmingham	H	

All home fixtures played at the Training Centre, Playford Road, Ipswich. Kick-Off 11.00am, except \*At Portman Road, kick-off 1.00pm. Please see local press to confirm details. Kick-off 7.00pm. \* denotes matches at Needham Market FC. Copyright © and Database Right 2005 The FA Premier League Ltd. All rights reserved. Fixtures are subject to change. Compiled in association with Atos Origin.

**BARCLAYS PREMIERSHIP RESERVE LEAGUE**

**Fixtures 2005/2006**

Date	Opps	Ven	Res
Aug 15	Portsmouth	H	W2-1
Aug 30	Fulham	A	L1-3
Sep 5	Arsenal	H	L2-4
Sep 14	West Ham	A	L0-4
Sep 19	Leicester	H	W1-0
Oct 10	Soton	H	W5-3
Oct 31	Watford	H	W8-1
Nov 7	Chelsea	A	L1-2
Nov 14	Spurs	H	L0-2
Nov 23	Charlton	A	W4-2
Dec 5	Norwich	H	W3-0
Dec 14	Portsmouth	A	L3-4
Jan 16	Fulham	H	*
Jan 24	West Ham	H	*
Feb 1	Coventry	H	*
Feb 7	Leicester	A	*
Feb 15	C.Palace	H	*
Feb 21	Coventry	A	*
Feb 28	Soton	A	*
Mar 13	Watford	A	*
Mar 20	Chelsea	H	*
Mar 27	Spurs	A	*
Apr 3	Charlton	H	*
Apr 10	Norwich	A	*
TBA	Arsenal	A	*

Important: Not all Home matches will be played at Portman Road. Please see the Club website www.itfc.co.uk or local press to confirm details. Kick-off 7.00pm. \* denotes matches at Needham Market FC. Copyright © and Database Right 2005 The FA Premier League Ltd. All rights reserved. Fixtures are subject to change. Compiled in association with Atos Origin.



72 Clubs. The 'Coca-Cola' Football League. The Real League.

# Diary of the Blues

## Fri, December 23

Dean McDonald is back in the Town squad for the Boxing Day game against Crystal Palace after completing his loan stay at Hartlepool. Blues and Liverpool agree a date for the Fourth Round FA Youth Cup tie, with the U18s travelling to Anfield on January 19.

## Sun, December 25

A short training session in the morning but Lewis Price emerges as an injury worry for the Boxing Day game at home to Palace with a groin strain.

## Mon, December 26

Price plays but Town go down 2-0 to Palace at Portman Road. Jon Macken and Ben Watson are sent-off for the Eagles late on in front of a 27,000-plus crowd. There is more bad news with Richard Naylor picking up his fifth booking of the season that will see him suspended for the game at Stoke. On a more positive note, Owen Garvan makes his

first start for Ipswich since recovering from ankle ligament damage sustained in October.

## Tue, December 27

Scott Barron is added to the squad for the trip to Hull but it's a journey that has its problems with the coach breaking down twice on the way to Yorkshire.

## Wed, December 28

The game survives the heavy snow but Town leave the KC Stadium without any points after second-half goals from Nicky Barmby and Craig Fagan give Hull victory. Nicky Forster, Town's only available senior striker, is substituted early in the game after jarring his knee.

## Thu, December 29

Forster and Price are both in for treatment while the Town groundstaff work around the clock to ensure the severe weather conditions don't affect the Portman Road pitch for the visit of Luton.



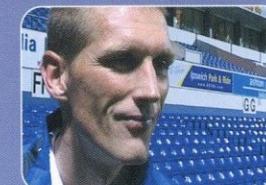
Richard Naylor battles hard at Hull

## The Week on... IPSWICH WORLD

On Ipswich World TV this week have been:-



Joe Royle spoke to Ipswich World from the tunnel straight after Town's defeat by Palace and said he had little argument with the referee's decision to show eight yellow and two red cards during the 90 minutes.



Jason De Vos talked about the players responding to the challenge to climb up the table and looked ahead to his first visit to Hull's KC Stadium.

The World cameras carried a thank you to the fans and a best wishes for the New Year message from the players and staff at Portman Road.

Town boss Joe previewed today's game against Luton and brought World up to date on the latest injury news and his hopes of adding to the squad in the January transfer window.

### Join the World

Ipswich World TV is - well you've guessed it, the Club's TV channel. With a Town TV news broadcast going out every day of the week and on home matchdays, live commentary from every Blues game and a video library of action, it's a must for any Town fan. And all for under 70p a week. Check the Club website on [www.itfc.co.uk](http://www.itfc.co.uk) for full details of the service that takes you inside Portman Road.



Ipswich Town

Blue shirt, white shorts

2	Fabian <b>WILNIS</b>
3	Matt <b>RICHARDS</b>
4	Jason <b>DEVOS</b>
6	Richard <b>NAYLOR</b>
7	Jim <b>MAGILTON</b>
8	Nicky <b>FORSTER</b>
9	Sam <b>PARKIN</b>
10	Darren <b>CURRIE</b>
11	Kevin <b>HORLOCK</b>
12	Jaime <b>PETERS</b>
14	Dean <b>McDONALD</b>
15	<b>SITO</b> Castro
16	Chris <b>CASEMENT</b>
17	Dean <b>BOWDITCH</b>
18	Adam <b>PROUDLOCK</b>
19	Jimmy <b>JUAN</b>
20	Aidan <b>COLLINS</b>
21	Scott <b>MITCHELL</b>
22	Darryl <b>KNIGHTS</b>
23	Owen <b>GARVAN</b>
24	Billy <b>CLARKE</b>
25	Andy <b>RHODES</b>
26	Scott <b>BARRON</b>
28	Gerard <b>NASH</b>
29	Danny <b>HAYNES</b>
30	Gavin <b>WILLIAMS</b>
31	Shane <b>SUPPLE</b>
33	Ian <b>WESTLAKE</b>
34	Lewis <b>PRICE</b>



Luton Town

White shirts, black shorts

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

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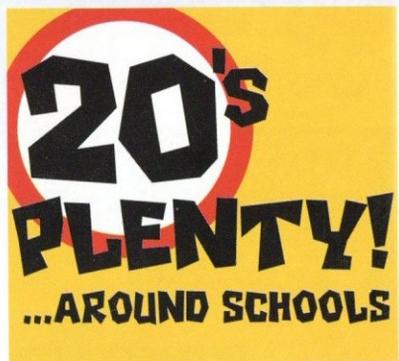


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Referee: **Mr Andy D'Urso**  
Assistants

**Mr J. Ross**

**Mr D. Cann**

Fourth Official: **Mr M. Bull**

Played / Goals

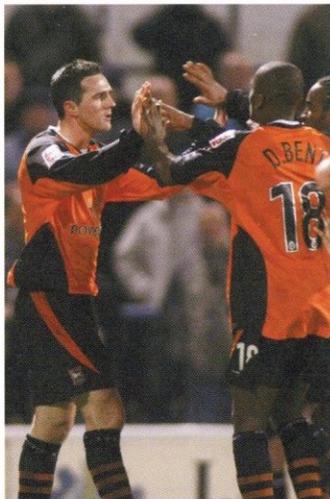
Autographed shirt sponsor:

**Andrew Jolliffe & Teri Jefferies**



**Contents may be habit forming!**

**EveningStar** MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR EVENING



Tommy Miller: midfield goal machine



Sito: 'I'm here'

## JULY

Pre-season begins and Blues enjoy high profile home friendlies against Glasgow Rangers and Atletico Madrid as well as a tour of Hungary and trips to the likes of Boston and Cambridge. One of the highlights of the Atletico match was a debut for on trial Spanish defender Sito, who looks set to be a decent acquisition.



**Also this month:** ■ Jim Magilton signs a new one year contract with added responsibility for helping bring the young players through to the first-team ■ Nicky Forster scores on his first appearance for the Club, a friendly at Cambridge ■ **Rock legends REM play at Portman Road** ■ After a long wait 18-year-old Jaime Peters is granted a work permit and signs for Town.

## MARCH

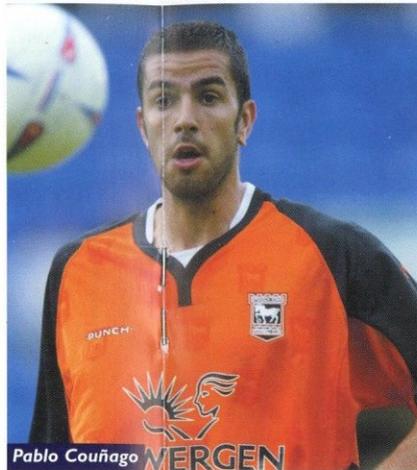
Despite an unexpectedly quick return by Shefki Kuqi the month begins where the last one ended as Town go down 1-0 at promotion rivals Wigan, but the players bounce back to thump Forest 6-0 in their next game. When Tommy Miller scores the winner against Cardiff three days later it takes his tally to five goals in six games.



**Also this month:** ■ Scott Barron's return after seven months out injured is held up by a further groin strain ■ Richard Naylor completes his 250th game for Town ■ **Dean Bowditch joins Burnley on loan** ■ Danny Karbassiyoov returns to Arsenal ■ Powergen confirm they will continue as Club sponsors for 2005/06 ■ Town's U18s beat Colchester 5-0 to set up an FA Youth Cup Semi-Final with Spurs.

## APRIL

It's all getting very tight at the top now, with barely a hair's breadth separating the top three of Town, Sunderland and Wigan. With six games April is a busy month and by the end of it Ipswich have lost only once, a 2-0 reverse at in-form Wolves. Memorable wins include Derby (3-2), Rotherham (4-3) and Crewe (5-1). Pablo Couñago scores what turns out to be his last goal for Town in the 82nd minute of that win over the Railwaymen.



Pablo Couñago



THE FA YOUTH CUP IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PEPSI WINNERS 2005

**Also this month:** ■ The Academy U18s win the FA Youth Cup for the first time since 1975, thanks to a goal from 15-year-old schoolboy Ed Upson ■ David Unsworth's loan deal comes to an end and he returns to Portsmouth.



Nicky Forster (8) announces his arrival with a goal v Cardiff

## AUGUST

The League campaign kicks-off with a 1-0 win at home to Cardiff City, the only goal of the game coming from new signing Nicky Forster. Sam Parkin, Jimmy Juan, Owen Garvan and Canada international Jaime Peters also make their debuts against the Bluebirds. The opening month brings two further wins, against Sheffield Wednesday and Millwall, but also sees Town tumble out of the Carling Cup at the hands of League One Yeovil.

**Also this month:** ■ Town round up their pre-season games with a 3-1 win at Colchester ■ Jim Magilton reveals that 2005/06 will be his last campaign as an Ipswich player ■ Mark Fish arrives on loan from Charlton ■ After initially rejecting a contract offer, Sito signs a one-year deal at ITFC ■ Fish, clearly not match fit, plays just 45 minutes at QPR before returning to The Valley ■ **Goalkeeper Lewis Price is injured at Leicester and replaced by Shane**



**Supple, who makes his debut** ■ Nicky Forster is ruled out for around six weeks with cartilage damage while Jason De Vos has broken some ribs and also faces a lengthy spell on the sidelines ■ Dean McDonald makes his senior debut against Sheffield Wednesday.

## MAY

The scheduled season ends with a 1-1 draw at Brighton, leaving Town with a place in the Play-Offs for a record-equalling seventh time. After the nightmare of going 2-0 down in the opening 13 minutes, Blues battle back to earn a 2-2 draw at Upton Park and set up a nail-biting return at Portman Road. In the event a quickfire double by Bobby Zamora midway through the second-half condemns Joe Royle's side to disappointment.



Shefki Kuqi strikes at Upton Park

**Also this month:** ■ The player of the year awards are revealed with the winners as follows: Shefki Kuqi (Supporters' Club and Boxholders & Sponsors), Kelvin Davis (Players'), Richard Naylor (Most Improved), Billy Clarke (Academy) and Darren Bent (EADT/Powergen and Goal of the Season) ■ Charlie Sheringham is given a year's contract ■ New ITFC home shirt goes on sale ■ Blues legends including John Wark, Jason Dozzell, Chris Kiwomya, Trevor Whymark and many more play in a 'legends game' at the stadium ■ Singer Neil Diamond follows the likes of Elton John and Status Quo playing at Portman Road.



## SEPTEMBER

Won't go down as a classic in all honesty. Five League games, three defeats – including, rather unluckily, at home to Norwich – and only one victory, a 2-0 triumph at Leeds courtesy of a double strike from Sam Parkin, with Danny Haynes making his debut. On another positive note, 17-year-old Owen Garvan scores his first goal for Town with a belting effort in a 2-2 draw with Southampton.



Owen Garvan thumps the ball home against Southampton and (inset) enjoys the moment



**Also this month:** ■ Sito is twice sent-off – at Sheff Utd and home to Norwich – although his second red card is later rescinded by the FA ■ Ian Westlake looks set to be out of action for around six weeks after sustaining ankle ligament damage in training, but Jason De Vos returns after broken ribs ■ **The lights go out at Portman Road after an electrical problem during the home game with Southampton** ■ Jay McEveley arrives on loan from Blackburn.



New face: Sam Parkin

## JUNE

Having missed out on promotion, an exodus of senior players becomes inevitable and Kelvin Davis and Tommy Miller (both to Sunderland), Darren Bent (Charlton) and Shefki Kuqi (Blackburn) all step up to the top flight. Incoming, within 24 hours of each other, are Nicky Forster from Reading and Sam Parkin from Swindon Town.

**Also this month:** ■ Fabian Wilnis signs a new year's deal with the Club.

