

red andwhite

Sunderland AFC v Luton Town

Saturday 9th December 2006

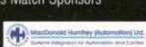
Sunderland Stadium of Light · K.O. 3.00pm

The Official Matchday Programme of SAFC · 06-07 · Issue 11 · £3.00

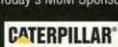
INTERVIEWS WITH

Roy Keane
Niall Quinn
Steve Caldwell
Daryl Murphy
Ross Wallace
Vic Halom
Ref. Andy Penn

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NIALL'S NOTES



Last week turned out to be a really good one with the win at QPR being followed up by three more points against Norwich.

We didn't move much in the table but we narrowed the points gap to the top six. Certainly if we can get another victory today the chances are we will begin to see progress reflected in our league position.

The games around the Christmas period are always vital and that's certainly the case for us at the moment. We are looking to stamp our authority on games and kick on from here on in. The transfer window is about to open and we're hoping to bring in one or two players to bolster our challenge. The bar is being raised and the current squad have now put together an unbeaten run of five games that we will look to continue. We've got a bit of a chance now to get in touch with the leading pack and the forthcoming games are so important for us.

I've said before and I'll keep on saying to supporters that if you are waiting to see what will happen then please come now and make a difference. The better our support the harder it is for visiting teams to cope with a trip to the Stadium of Light and I'd like to say to those who booed at half time last week that while we respect that you have paid good money, and are entitled to your opinions, you should know that booing the team off at half time is detrimental to our chances.

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'Championship' Runners Up: 1964 & 1980 (Promoted: 1990)
F.A. Cup Finalists: 1913 & 1992
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With the changing names of the leagues in 1992 and 2004 we refer to the levels of the Football League by their current names, for example Sunderland won the equivalent of what is now 'The Championship' in 1976 when back then it was called 'The Second Division'.



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Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



SUNDERLAND AFC

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Niall



WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER:

THE BIGGEST THING FOR ME WHEN I STARTED WORKING WITH THE TEAM WAS TO TRY AND GET THAT SENSE OF TOGETHERNESS.

WIN THE TEAM SHEET

'Red and White' gives you the chance to win a really rare piece of football memorabilia. At every game each team submits a handwritten team sheet. There are only three copies of this. One goes to the referee, one is given to the opposition and the other could be for you. That's our prize if you are our winner.

If you'd like to add the handwritten team sheet to your collection of footballing souvenirs what you have to do to have a chance of winning is correctly predict Sunderland's team. Send what you think will be the Lads' starting eleven to 'Red and White' by the day before each game and if your team matches the team Roy Keane names then you could be a winner. If more than one correct entry is received then a winner will be chosen at random.

Send your entries marked 'Teamsheets' to Red and White, Stadium of Light, Sunderland, SR5 1SU. Or email redandwhite@safc.com

I was absolutely delighted with the team last Saturday.

Sometimes at a football club there are lots of little things that supporters or people outside the club might not see or realise but there were one or two players who were really struggling. Dean Whitehead for instance hurt himself just before the end of training the day before the game but was prepared to go out and give it a go. We thought he might have to come off fairly early in the game but credit to him he stayed out there for the 90 minutes and did all that was asked of him.

Liam Miller was someone else who really helped us out. He'd been in Ireland for a funeral the day before the game and I was prepared to let him stay there for the weekend if he wasn't right for the match but he wanted to play and had a real influence on the game which helped us towards the three points. We had players out of position and had had a strange few days leading up the game with lads dropping like flies. Some of that was a knock on from the QPR match the previous Tuesday and I have to say that given the circumstances we faced going into the match I'd have been more than happy with a draw so to win and deserve to win really pleased me.

Clearly we didn't play as well as we can

but we did grind out a win which is what matters. Their manager came out and said he felt they should have won the game but I disagree with that one especially as I don't remember our keeper having to make too many saves. It was the sort of game where you want your team to give nothing away, keep trying to get a goal and hope that one of your players produces something and fortunately for us Murph did.

Murph had had a frustrating afternoon because we weren't getting enough people in forward positions. We weren't giving him a chance with the balls we were giving him and the same applied to Grant when he got into advanced positions because the quality of balls up to him wasn't what we wanted. Add to that the facts that the pitch wasn't great and that it's worth remembering that Norwich were ahead of us in the league. Even now looking back at last week's game

I'm still delighted with how the players did on the day.

The biggest thing for me when I started working with the team was to try and get that sense of togetherness even though I was chopping and changing the team. It's very hard to do especially with a lot of players going out and six or seven coming in so I'm delighted with that side of things.

Clearly we hope we can play better in other games but you could look and say we went to Norwich a month before last week's

"Cup games can be a help or a hindrance to league form but we're hoping to go on a cup run. You have to want that but if you ask me would I swap a cup run for a very good league run then I'll take the very good league run any day of the week."

return match and played quite well without getting anything out of the game. It all boils down to the players really and they deserve a lot of credit for winning in difficult circumstances last week.

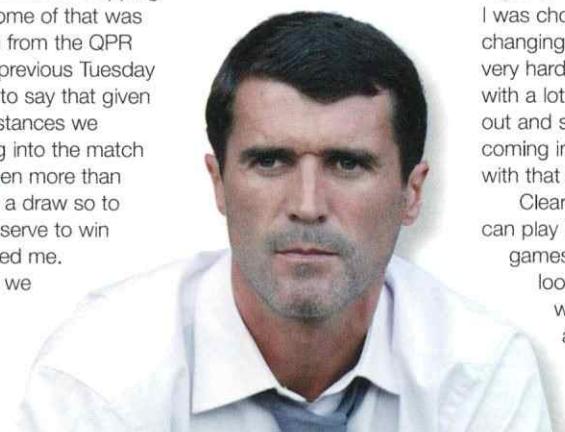
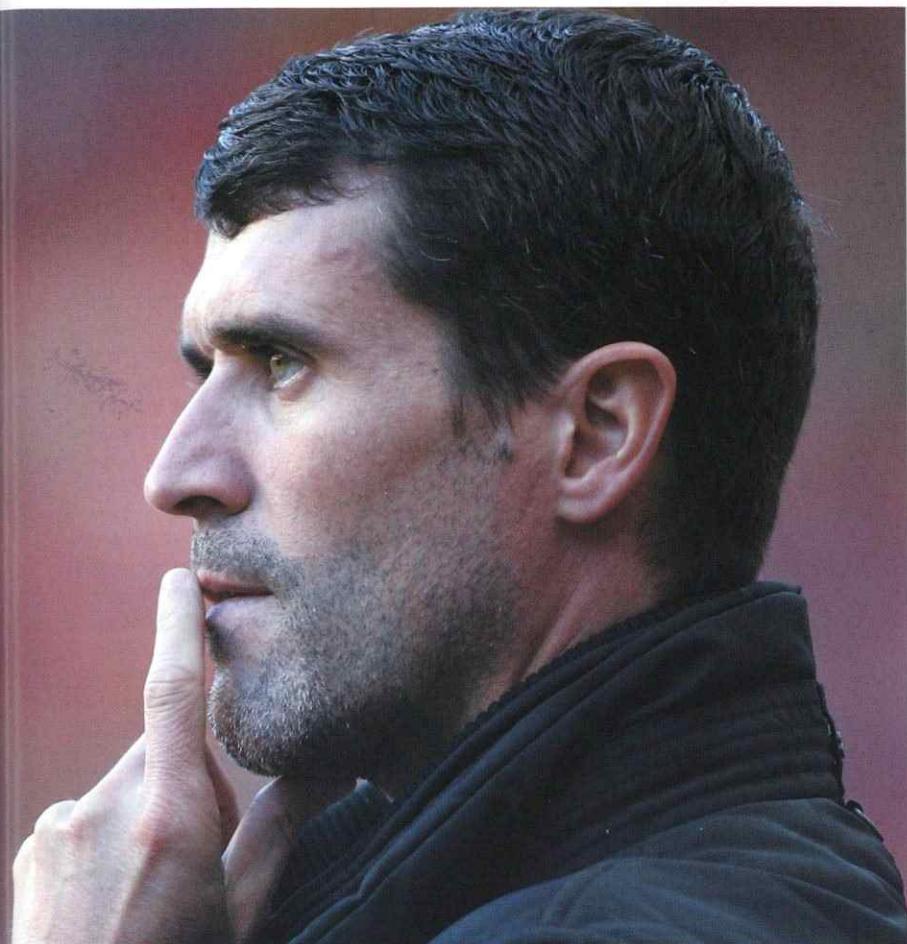
Ask any manager or supporter and you always hope for a home draw in any cup competition. We've been given a tough tie away to Preston who gave us a going over in my first few weeks in the job. They're riding high and I still think they're the best team we have played since I've been here so it's a difficult draw but

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thought they've tried to be a good footballing team over the years and I like Mike Newell who I think comes across well. He seems to wear his heart on his sleeve. It's not long since they were riding high in the table and people were quick to praise them but that just goes to show how quickly things can change in football and after a really good win over Preston last week it's good to see them back to winning ways for last week but hopefully not this week.

We're hoping to continue our mini run with a good result this afternoon. If we can win we might even get ourselves into the top half of the table for the first time this season. I think we must be the only team to go backwards in the league table after picking up good results! It was certainly an anti climax after winning last week to see we were still 14th but it goes to show that you have to make the most of your opportunities. If we'd put away a couple of the chances we didn't take at QPR we'd be three places higher but the main thing is just to win the game and that's what we'll be trying to do today.





ROSS WALLACE:

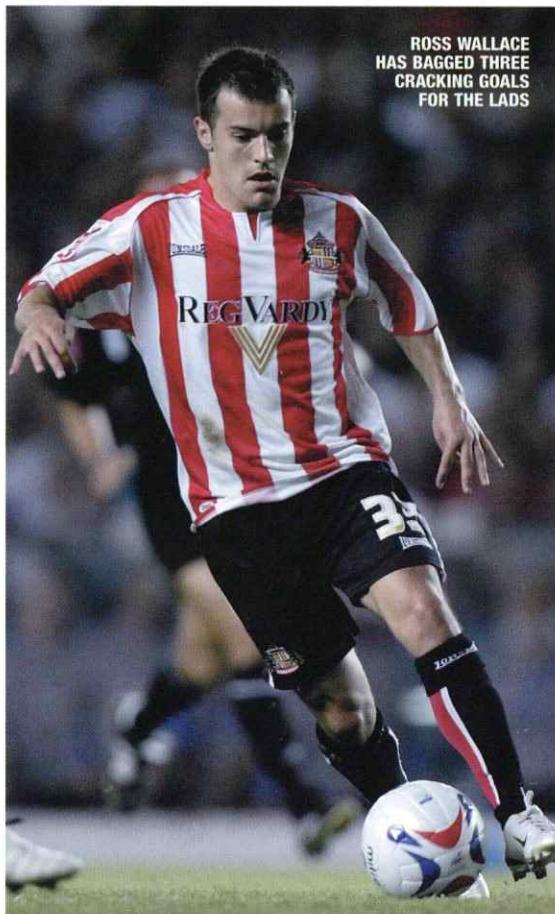
A WILLINGNESS TO TAKE HIS MAN ON AND A BOX OF TRICKS TO DO IT WITH

BY ROB MASON

Ross Wallace is proving to be a hit on Wearside. The 21 year old left winger signed from Celtic on the eve of the August transfer deadline is a player who makes fans sit up when he gets the ball. With a willingness to take his man on and a box of tricks to do it with, Ross is a player who looks a threat.

So far Ross has chipped in with three cracking goals: a clinically taken winner at Derby, a dramatic last minute winner exquisitely curled past the 'keeper at Hull and a beautifully flighted free kick to beat Kelvin Davis against Southampton. "I only score good goals, I don't score tap ins" jokes Ross who has no difficulty selecting the goal that gave him most satisfaction: "The one that stands out for me the most is the one at Derby because it was my debut and the goal came in front of all the Sunderland fans behind that goal. It was an amazing feeling for me."

Sunderland's record from free kicks during 2006 has not been good with only Neil Collins' headed goal v WBA, an OG at Ipswich and Grant Leadbitter's pre-season effort at Carlisle being converted prior to Wallace beating Davis: "On the day I fancied it and it came off so hopefully I can score more. I'd like to take free kicks that we get around the edge of the box" says Ross.



ROSS WALLACE HAS BAGGED THREE CRACKING GOALS FOR THE LADS

rotate the pair occasionally possibly as a way of keeping wingers fresh to come on against tiring defenders but not surprisingly Wallace wants to hold down a first team place on a consistent basis: "Having come here from Celtic I came to play games and of course I want to play in every single one if I can. I certainly don't want to be left out. I'd much rather be playing and scoring."

Wallace is currently showing Sunderland supporters the qualities he showed Roy Keane when the pair played for the Bhoys last season. In fact the pair only lined up together twice in the SPL, oddly enough both times being home games against Kilmarnock on what were the first and last of Keane's ten SPL appearances, Stan Varga scoring on the latter occasion incidentally. Ross and his new manager also played together in a couple of starkly contrasting cup ties north of the border, firstly in the shock Scottish Cup defeat at Clyde last January and later in the final of the CIS Scottish League Cup when Dunfermline were defeated at Hampden.

At Parkhead, Wallace was mainly used as a left back so the chance to play for Roy Keane and have an opportunity in his much favoured left wing position was one Ross jumped at and clearly it's

Of course it is making goals rather than scoring them that Wallace is primarily in the team for as he explains: "The most important part of my game is to try and create chances for our strikers. That's my job but if I can score a few goals to add to that then it's good for me and it's good for the team as well."

Sunderland are aiming to have competition for places all over the park and Ross is aware that with Toby Hysen itching for the chance to play he will have to stay at the top of his game to keep his place. With so many games in a short space of time over the Christmas period the manager may decide to



MONTY'S GUEST

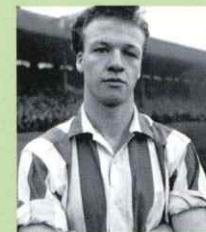
At every game Jimmy

Montgomery welcomes a former Sunderland player onto his legends table and today Jim's special guest is **Billy Bingham**.

The outside right in the 'Bank of England' team of the 1950s Billy played 227 games for the Lads scoring 47 goals. His debut came 56 years ago this month after signing from Glentoran for £9,000.

In October 1954 he scored twice in a 4-2 win over Newcastle before over 66,000 at Roker and later that season played in the first of two consecutive but losing FA Cup semi finals for the Lads.

Following the club's first ever relegation in 1958 Bingham was transferred to Luton Town for £15,000 in the July but not before the Northern Ireland international had become the first ever player to play in the World



Cup Finals as a Sunderland player. Of course Billy later managed his country in the 1982 World Cup finals when Northern Ireland stunned the world by beating hosts Spain. Four years later he again managed Northern Ireland at the World Cup Finals. Billy also had a couple of years managing Greece in a career that also took in Everton,

Port Vale and Southport (then a league side) as a player and managerial posts at Southport, Plymouth, Linfield, four years at Everton, Paok in Greece and Mansfield Town with a spell as Director of Football at Blackpool.

Having won 33 of his 56 caps while with Sunderland where he teamed up with the likes of Len Shackleton, Stan Anderson, Ivor Broadis, Trevor Ford, Billy Elliott and even a veteran Johnny Mapson, Billy Bingham has a special place in the history of SAFC.



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PRESTON IN THE CUP

Sunderland were drawn away to Preston North End in the draw for the third round of the FA Cup. Coincidentally the clubs met in the FA Youth Cup at the Stadium of Light this week and of course PNE are due on Wearside in the Championship seven days before the cup tie.

Cup history between the clubs centres around the 1987 Final when goals from Bobby Gurney, Raich Carter and Eddie Burbanks helped Sunderland to a 3-1 win and a first ever FA Cup triumph. Runners up Preston returned to Wembley a year later to win the cup with a last minute penalty against Huddersfield whose 'keeper Bob Hesford was the father of Iain Hesford who kept goal for Sunderland in the late eighties.

Preston may have inflicted Sunderland's heaviest defeat of the season so far when they won 4-1 at Deepdale in October but Sunderland have a magnificent FA Cup record against them. The clubs have played eight FA Cup ties with Sunderland winning seven and drawing one.

1962-63 Rd 3	Sunderland Sharkey (2) Fogarty Davidson	4-1	Preston Holden
1954-55 Rd 4	Preston Finney Morrison Foster	3-3	Sunderland Purdon Chisholm Shackleton
Rd 4 R	Sunderland Chisholm (2)	2-0	Preston
1936-37 Final	Sunderland Gurney Carter Burbanks	3-1	Preston F. O'Donnell
1913-14 Rd 3	Sunderland Buchen Connor	2-0	Preston
1908-09 Rd 2	Sunderland Low Bridgett	2-1	Preston Dawson
1895-96 Rd 1	Sunderland Campbell (3) Miller	4-1	Preston Cunningham
1894-95 Rd 2	Sunderland Campbell (2)	2-0	Preston

For FA Cup ticket details see page 57.



DARYL MURPHY: LUTON OLD BOY COULD BE A TOP PLAYER SAYS ROY.

BY ROB MASON

Luton supporters may look at Daryl Murphy today and think the name if not the face is familiar.

It's six years since 'Murph' joined Luton as a young striker but he never settled, returned to Ireland and now having scored in both of the last two games since returning from injury drew a warm accolade from Roy Keane last Saturday: "Murph has the potential to be a top, top player but we need consistent performances from him. He's coming back from a niggly injury but he's had a couple of games in a row now and if we keep his body in tip top shape and give him the right exercises then he has the potential. The top players do it week in week out and before the Norwich game we asked him not to rest on his laurels. He most certainly didn't and I thought his work rate was outstanding."

It's not unusual for young players away from home to find it difficult to settle at a club and that was certainly the case for Daryl at Luton. "I went to Luton when I was seventeen but I was homesick" he recalls, "I was there for about eighteen months but I was with my girlfriend at the time and it was hard for me to leave her and my family."

DARYL MURPHY WAS AT LUTON AS YOUNG STRIKER



As a seventeen year old I was in digs on my own and that didn't help at all.

"I moved in with Michael Leary who is still with Luton so it will be nice to see him this week. We still keep in touch and he comes over in the summer and I go over to him so the move to Luton was good for me in that regard but it was a bit too soon for me as a seventeen year old. It was all too much for me at

the time and I never made an impact at all because I wasn't happy. Ricky Hill was the manager when I first went to Kenilworth Road. He was followed by Lil Fuccillo and then Joe Kinnear came in. The best thing that ever happened to me was that I went back to Waterford to play for a couple of seasons and gain a bit of experience."

That experience back in Ireland was so

successful that Murphy forced his way into the Republic's U21 team and began to attract clubs from England once again. Following 22 goals for Waterford in 2004-05 when he was named Republic of Ireland U21 Player of the Year Sunderland were tempted to part with £100,000 for him.

Used mainly wide on the left last season Daryl applied himself well, top



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OPPOSITION EYES: ADAM BOYD

ROB MASON TALKS TO LUTON'S FORMER HARTLEPOOL STRIKER.

Former Hartlepool striker Adam Boyd rejoined his old Victoria Park boss Mike Newell in a reported £500,000 deal in the summer and it is a matter of time before the ex Pool talisman makes his mark on the Championship. The scorer of 29 goals the year before last when Hartlepool reached the League One Play Off final, Boyd is not only capable of finding the net regularly but possesses the skill to unpick the tightest defences.

So far this season Boyd has been playing catch up but he feels he is getting his sharpness back: "I probably didn't have enough minutes under my belt in pre-season when I moved to Luton and I wasn't as sharp as I'd like to be but I've started to get into the team over the last month or so and have been coming off the bench. Things are looking up and hopefully I'll get a regular place in the starting eleven before long."

Although troubled by a niggling injury, Murphy has featured in all but four games this season being called upon whenever available. His last couple of outings have seen him employed as a lone striker, a role that daunts some players but which Daryl enjoys: "I don't think it's necessarily harder to play up front on your own but in that role you have to look to hold the ball up and bring others into the game whereas when there's two of you up front you can share the load. I don't mind being up front on my own at all because I've got people like Stephen Elliott and Ross Wallace coming in from the right and left and midfielders getting forward to support as well. I like the formation but so

long as we keep winning then whatever formation we play doesn't really matter."

Murph has found the net in both recent games as a lone front-man, last week's swivel and shot being a beauty you can re-live by flicking the pages of your programme from front to back and looking



Sunderland were interested in him: "Mick McCarthy came to watch me a few times but nothing materialised. A move to Sunderland would have been great for me especially as I'm from the north east." However the Stadium of Light will be familiar territory for Boyd although this is the first time he will have played here: "I was on loan to Boston when Hartlepool played here in the FA Cup but I've been

to see a few league games such as the Play Off with Crystal Palace, a match with 'Boro and a few other league games."

"I've a lot of affection still for Hartlepool who are my home town team. I had some great times there such as getting to the Play Off final at Cardiff. It was a shame we went no further because it would have been great for Hartlepool to be in the Championship. It was sad when they got relegated last season but they've a good man in charge now in Danny Wilson and hopefully they'll go up again."

"I'm really looking forward to the game at Sunderland and I'll have a lot of my family at the match. Sunderland have picked up over the last couple of months and it will be hard for us but going to Sunderland is always difficult for visiting teams regardless of what form Sunderland are in. We're under no illusions about how hard the game will be but it was hard last week too and once again we'll be looking to take something from the game."

at the small picture in the top right hand corner of the odd numbered pages.

"I'm very pleased with the way things are going although I'd like to be scoring a few more goals" he says, "You need games to get your match fitness and now I'm looking to kick on and score a few

more goals. Goals give you confidence and hopefully if I keep playing I'll keep scoring." Strikers often get goals in batches and if Daryl scores against his old club today it will be a pleasant change for Sunderland supporters more used to seeing Sunderland old boys net against the lads!"

New Kronenbourg Cold Première

A good year for cold beer.



MEET THE REF



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ANDY PENN:

KEITH CHAPMAN TALKS WITH THIS AFTERNOON'S MATCH REFEREE ANDY PENN, FROM THE WEST MIDLANDS.

Andy began his career as a referee in 1986 and worked his way up through the ranks in youth football and the West Midlands leagues. In 1996 he progressed to be an assistant referee in the Football League and just six years later to the National List of Referees. In 2004 Andy refereed an FA Vase semi final and the Birmingham Senior Cup Final. This is the first time he has refereed at the Stadium of Light.

Q. How long have you been a referee?

A. I passed my first exam when I was fourteen and started refereeing properly when I was seventeen.



Q. What was the first professional game you refereed?

A. It was on the first day of the season five years ago in the old division three. It was a 2-2 draw between Swansea and Rushden & Diamonds and I had to send two players off.

Q. What are the highlights of your refereeing career so far?

A. I have refereed a semi final of the FA Vase a couple of years

ago and a fierce local derby I officiated at was Chester v Wrexham.

Q. Do you have any ambitions you would like to achieve as a referee?

A. I don't have any particular ambition to referee at specific grounds I just enjoy refereeing any game.

Q. What advice would you offer to young referees or to those thinking of becoming a referee?

A. To enjoy every game you are involved in and secondly to always remember that every game you referee is somebody's

'cup final.' There is a lot of advice available to referees from the Referees' Association and from the Football Association.

Q. Do you have any particular memories of either of this afternoon's teams, Sunderland or Luton Town?

A. This is the first time I will have refereed at the Stadium of Light and I'm looking forward to it and to the game. I have refereed Sunderland before in a League Cup tie that went to penalties at Crewe in 2004 when Mick McCarthy was manager. This season I refereed Luton's match away to Norwich city.



CAPTAIN: STEVE CALDWELL

IT'S ALWAYS GREAT TO WIN GAMES AND THERE'S A PARTICULAR KIND OF SATISFACTION FROM WINNING A GAME WHEN YOU HAVEN'T PLAYED WELL.



That was the case last Saturday against Norwich although there's no doubt that we deserved to win the game even though we didn't play as well as we are capable of. You always want to play good football but not even the greatest teams in the land play great every week. What they do manage is to still win even if they're not firing on all cylinders and they say the sign of a good team is that they win even when not at the top of their game.

Sometimes you just have to grind out a result and we looked resolute at the back against Norwich and had by far the more efforts on goal. Murph came up with a terrific winner and it was a special goal that made sure we got three points instead of one. In fact we had the better of both recent games against Norwich and three points out of the two fixtures was the very least we warranted.

In all the years I've been playing I don't think I've ever caught anybody hard with my elbow and then it happens to one of my best mates! I saw Robbo [Carl Robinson] coming towards me last week and turned my body thinking he was coming through alongside me only to catch him full on with my elbow. I didn't realise how much I'd hurt him at first and was telling him to get up but he had

STEVE GETS THE LADS TOGETHER BEFORE LAST WEEK'S GAME



four stitches and when we went out together with our wives on Saturday night he gave me stick about it all night. Still he's got a lovely scar now so he'll always have something to remember me by!

Last Sunday's FA Cup draw has given us a tough tie away to Preston. I was injured when we played there this season but I've seen the goals and I know they are a quality side. We've got them here in the league the week before of course so that's a tough double header with a trip

to Leicester in between but we feel that we're capable of getting a result against them.

Recognising that Preston are a very good side puts into perspective the task we face this afternoon as by all accounts Luton sent them packing when deservedly beating Preston 2-0 last weekend. Regardless of that result though we already knew that Luton would give us a stern test because whenever teams come to the

Stadium of Light they are always determined to give a good account of themselves.

We're on a nice little run now and know how important it is to keep it going. So far the league table hasn't really reflected the progress we've been making but that doesn't matter because as long as we keep getting results the table will look after itself. Hopefully a win today will take us into the top half of the league for the first time this season

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PETE FRIAR'S INJURY UPDATE:



NYRON NOSWORTHY:
Nugsy has an abdominal strain that will keep him out for a couple of weeks

CHRIS BROWN:
may be back in full training before the weekend.

BEN ALNICK:
Ben is back in full training.

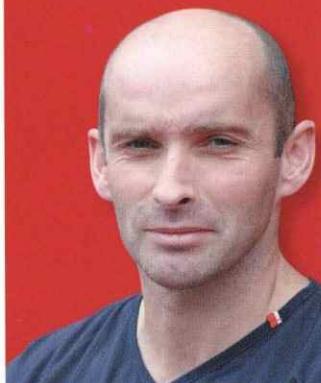
KENNY CUNNINGHAM:
Kenny remains on course for a Christmas/Early New Year return.

STEPHEN WRIGHT:
As with Kenny, Wrighty remains on course for a Christmas/Early New Year return.

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CLUB NEWS:

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR BUYING TICKETS FOR THE BOXING DAY VISIT OF LEEDS

Playing Leeds United is always a big game for Sunderland supporters and with Dennis Wise's team here on Boxing Day there is every chance that it will be a big gate.

The visitors' ticket allocation for this game has been reduced by the Safety Advisory Group as Leeds United fans have been identified as causing a safety risk by persistently standing in seated areas of grounds whilst attending away matches.

SAFC Head of Safety and Security John Davidson said: "Failure to

control persistent standing could result in the Safety Advisory Group revoking the Club's safety certificate and without this certificate the Stadium of Light could not stage football matches. We respect the decision of the Safety Advisory Group and must abide by it as the safety of all supporters must be our priority."

In order to ensure the safety of all supporters the Club, in association with Safety Advisory Group and Northumbria Police, will be implementing measures to ensure that visiting supporters cannot purchase tickets

in home sections of the Stadium of Light.

SAFC is advising all supporters wishing to attend the fixture to purchase their tickets in advance as soon as possible.

Tickets are on sale now but are not available on-line or via

Ticketmaster and can only be purchased from the Stadium of Light ticket office or on the ticket hotline, 0845 671 1973.

All supporters are urged to buy their tickets in advance of the match avoid any potential queues or delays on the day.

Sunderland's best performance of the season so far was at Leeds when the Lads handed out a comprehensive 3-0 defeat to go with a stunning performance. This will be the third time five years that Leeds have been Boxing Day visitors to Wearside and they've won on their last two visits. In total this will be the seventh Boxing Day clash between the clubs.

There have been two draws at Elland Road and two wins for Sunderland back at Roker Park, the last in 1957 when future Leeds manager Don Revie got one of Sunderland's goals.

magic 1152

SIMON CRABTREE

THE VIEWS IN THIS COLUMN DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE OFFICIAL VIEWS OF SUNDERLAND AFC.

HELLO AGAIN!

I'm in something of a state of shock at the moment. I can't remember it ever happening before.

No, I'm not talking about Lord Rowell buying a drink. We've got the charity bet right on Magic 1152 - THREE MATCHES RUNNING!

I can't believe it! Every week, Pagebet give us a £25 bet each. We then have to use our football knowledge to predict the outcome of the match.

As you know, in the Championship, that's never easy. I regularly drop my shoulder and get a "celebrity" bet instead.

This season, amongst others, Rod Stewart has tried but failed. Gary Barlow came close but didn't have a cigar to show for it. Louise Redknapp also had a go but to no success. Although to be fair we didn't hold it against her. As much as we would have liked to.

But we've now managed to get it spot on the last three games! Roweldinho predicted a 1-1 draw at Wolves (11/2), he thought it would be a 2-1 win at QPR (9/1) and then I plumped for Daryl Murphy to grab the first last Saturday against Norwich (6/1). All spot on!

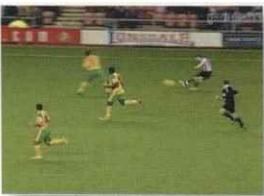
That's nearly £600 raised for the Magic 1152 children's charity Just For Kids in the space of a week. Excellent!

But that means the pressure's on this afternoon!



● PS - Don't forget we've got the full match commentary of our trips to Burnley and Crystal Palace on Magic 1152 AM and Digital Radio!

Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



LATE START FOR BURNLEY PUBS

We have been asked to inform supporters travelling to Turf Moor for next Saturday's match at Burnley that pubs in Burnley will not be opening until 12.30 on the day of the game.

Sunderland sold out their extended allocation of 5,747 tickets at nearby Preston in October and no doubt another big following will head across the Pennines next week to face Burnley.

The red and white army traditionally turn out in force at Turf Moor, never more so than for a crucial game in Peter Reid's early days when a result was needed to stave off relegation to what is now League One, and for a much postponed cup tie in 1979. Earlier that season Sunderland won at Turf Moor despite going in at half time with the score goalless but the side down to nine men against Burnley's eleven. Gary Rowell scored twice that day and no doubt fans will be reminding the locals next week that we all still live in a Gary Rowell world!

CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS AT SAFC STORES

Nexus has secured 17 Boxing Day bus services on Wearside, which should prove a big help in getting Sunderland fans to the home game against Leeds United.

Commercial bus companies have been contracted out by Nexus to provide reduced network coverage on December 26, from 9am until 7pm, across Sunderland, with stops close to the Stadium of Light.

The services, 17 in total and four more than last year, would have otherwise been withdrawn on a day that sees thousands of people using the bus network to visit family and friends.

Chairman of the Tyne and Wear Passenger Transport Authority, Cllr David Wood, said: "Sunderland's Boxing Day game against Leeds should attract a huge crowd so we felt it was only correct to secure extra bus routes across the city.

"Boxing Day is a time when lots of people come to rely on public transport to visit family and friends and these services make this possible for thousands of people who don't have a car or don't wish to drive.

The Metro will also be operating on Boxing Day on a 15 minute service from 10am until 7pm.

For further information on Christmas public transport options passengers should call Traveline on 0870 608 2 608

Club shops have extended their trading hours in the run up to Christmas. There are three SAFC stores conveniently located at the Stadium of Light, Debenhams, Sunderland and Sainsbury's, The Galleries, Washington as well as the online store at safc.com and our mail order hotline 0845 671 1973.

December opening hours are as follows:

STADIUM OF LIGHT STORE

Sat 9th	9am - kick off, re-open at 4.45-6pm
Sun 10th	10am - 4pm
Mon 11th, Tues 12th, Wed 13th	9am - 6pm
Thurs 14th	9am - 9pm
Fri 15th	9am - 6pm
Sat 16th	9am - 5pm
Sun 17th	10am - 4pm
Mon 18th, Tues 19th, Wed 20th	9am - 6pm
Thurs 21st	9am - 8pm
Fri 22nd	9am - 6pm
Sat 23rd	9am - 5pm
Sun 24th (Christmas Eve)	10am - 4pm
Mon 25th (Christmas Day)	Closed

SAINSBURY'S, THE GALLERIES, WASHINGTON

Sat 9th	8am - 8pm
Sun 10th	10am - 4pm
Mon 11th - Sat 16th	8am - 8pm
Sun 17th	10am - 4pm
Mon 18th - Sat 23rd	6am - Midnight
Dec 24th (Christmas Eve)	10am - 4pm
Dec 25th (Christmas Day)	Closed

DEBENHAMS, SUNDERLAND

Sat 9th	8am - 8pm
Sun 10th	10am - 5:30pm*
Mon 11th & Tues 12th	9am - 8pm
Wed 13th	9am - 9pm
Thurs 14th & Fri 5th	9am - 10pm
Sat 16th	8am - 8pm
Sun 17th	10am - 5:30pm*
Mon 18th, Tues 19th, Wed 20th	8.30am - 9pm
Thurs 21st & Fri 22nd	8am - 10pm
Sat 23rd	8am - 9pm
Sun 24th (Christmas Eve)	10am - 4.00*
Mon 25th (Christmas Day)	Closed

*10am-11am browsing only

RACISM AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AT SUNDERLAND.

FREEPHONE 08000 851 855

RING THIS 24 HOUR HOTLINE TO REPORT ANY RACIST ABUSE OR REPORT IT TO ANY STEWARD. ALL REPORTS HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE.

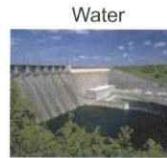


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TODAY'S SPONSORS



Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



COMMERCIAL NEWS

THE CLUB EXTENDS A WARM WELCOME TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS AND THEIR GUESTS

CATERPILLAR MEN OF THE MATCH

George Ayre presents the Caterpillar Man of the Match awards to Sunderland's goal scorer Daryl Murphy and Norwich's Dion Dublin following the victory over the Canaries last weekend.



TODAY'S MASCOTS

Leading out the Black Cats this afternoon will be seven year-old Kieran Green and Joe Stephenson, who's 10.

Kieran (top), from Sunderland, lists Ross Wallace and Darren Ward as his favourite players and enjoys cycling and swimming in his spare time, while Joe (middle) names Stephen Elliott as his top performer and likes football and computers

Alongside Joe and Kieran will be Luton mascot Declan Fry (bottom), who is from Cleveland and celebrated his 14th birthday last Wednesday.

VICE PRESIDENTS:

BILL BEADNELL, TOM MAXFIELD, EDDIE SHOTTON & STEVEN WOOD

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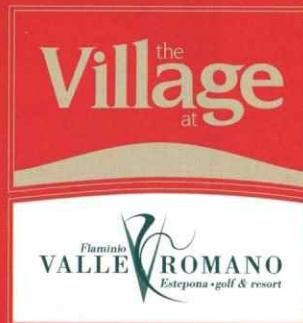
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OPPOSITION

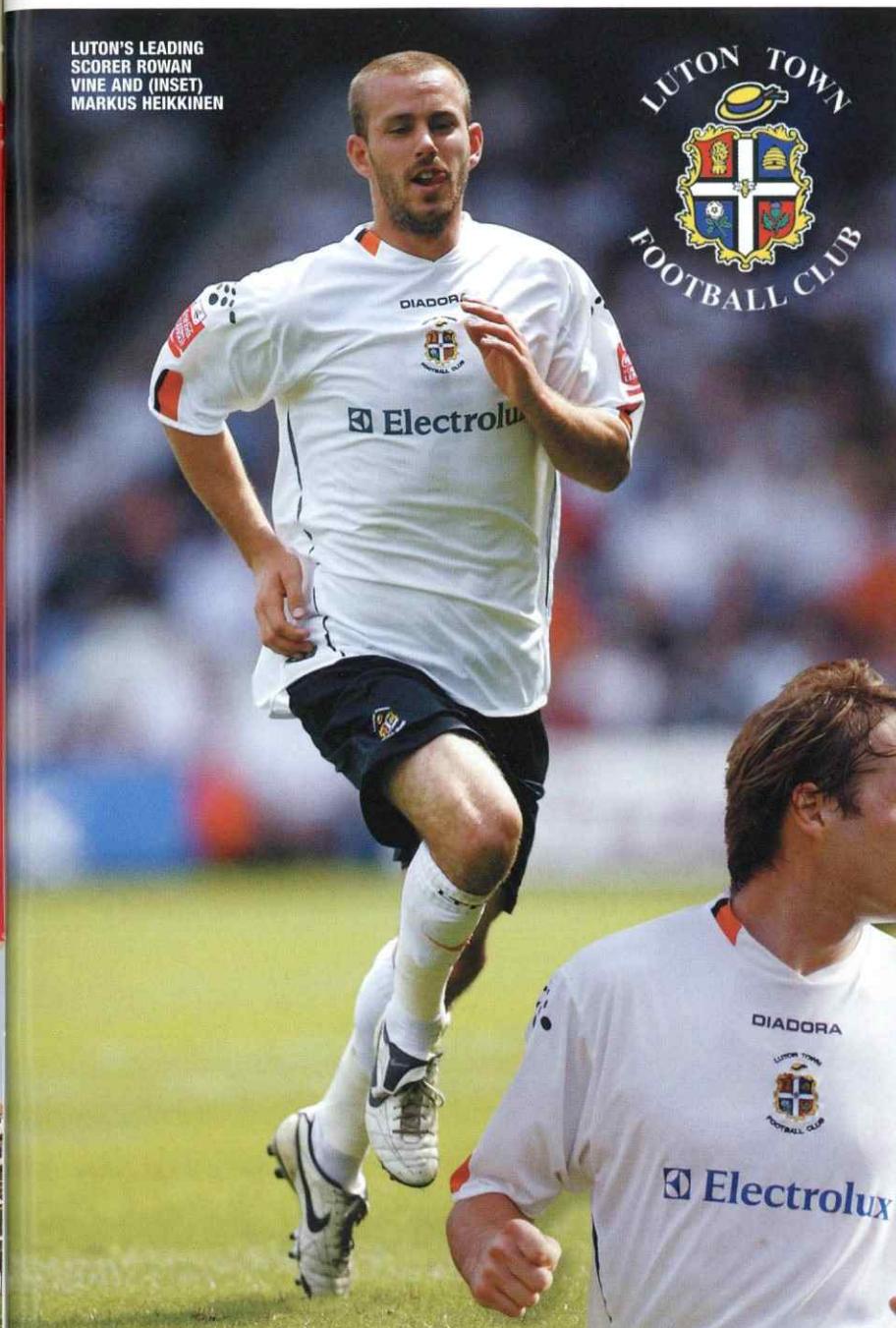


Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



LUTON TOWN: ONWARDS AND UPWARDS!

LUTON'S LEADING
SCORER ROWAN
VINE AND (INSET)
MARKUS HEIKKINEN



For more than three years there was only one way for Mike Newell – onwards and upwards. Luton walked off with the League One crown, advanced into the Championship play-off zone before finishing 10th last season and re-appeared in the top six this autumn.

And then everything changed. In October striker Rowan Vine scored his sixth goal in six games as The Hatters reached fifth place with a 5-1 rout of Leeds United. Seven weeks later they were in the bottom five, fighting to escape a run of eight consecutive defeats, which included a 4-0 loss to Everton at Goodison Park in the Carling Cup.

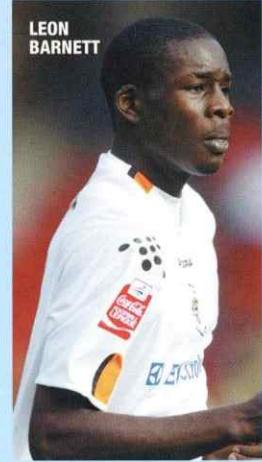
Mr Newell had known nothing like this in more than two decades. "It's the worst run I've had as a manager or player," he said of a career spanning 512 league games before he went into management in a promotion-winning season for Hartlepool United.

Searching for reasons for Luton's headlong plunge, he could not avoid reference to the list of absentees. Sol Davis, Chris Coyne

...continued
on page 21



LUTON TOWN: A-Z OF THE HATTERS SQUAD



OLEON BARNETT

The only ever-present in the defence when celebrating his 21st birthday last month, earmarked as a successor to Curtis Davies after making debut last season, now a regular in the role vacated by Davies' £3m move to West Brom.

DAVID BELL

Republic of Ireland U-21 midfielder with Rushden & Diamonds, made his debut in the side that landed the Division Three title in 2003, sold to Luton for £100,000 last January, scored winner against Birmingham in his first start of this season.

MARLON BERESFORD

Close to 550 games after 19 years as a professional, Burnley's No 1 keeper for six seasons, sold to Middlesbrough for £500,000, arrived at Luton after second spell at Burnley and interrupted his Hatters service with eight months at Barnsley.



LEWIS EMANUEL

ADAM BOYD

Free-scoring striker who helped Mike Newell to his first management success with promoted Hartlepool in 2003, reached a milestone with a personal-best 29 goals in 2004-05, re-joined his former 'Pool boss at Luton in a £500,000 deal this year.

CHRIS COYNE

England Youth international with Bradford City but previously with West Ham and Dundee, joined Luton for £50,000 in 2001 after 18 months in Scotland, a regular in the promoted side, on the bench last week after two-month absence with a knee injury.

AHMET BRKOVIC

Croatian midfielder with nearly 50 goals in England in six years since moving from HNK Dubrovnik, spent two seasons with Leyton Orient before joining Luton, scored a personal-best 15 goals in the promotion from League One in 2004-05.

CARLOS EDWARDS

The Hatters' man at the World Cup, the Trinidad & Tobago midfielder won his 50th cap in the build-up to three games in Germany, launched his league career with a £125,000 move to Wrexham and now in his second season at Luton.

LEWIS EMANUEL

England Youth international with Bradford City but previously with West Ham and Dundee, joined Luton for £50,000 in 2001 after 18 months in Scotland, a regular in the promoted side, on the bench last week after two-month absence with a knee injury.

WARREN FEENEY

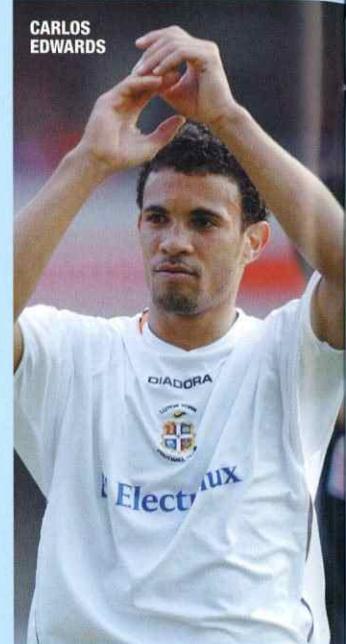
Northern Ireland forward (16 caps), started with Leeds and made league bow on loan at Bournemouth with future England striker Jermain Defoe, joined Stockport in 2004 and scored 17 League One goals to set up a £175,000 move to Luton.

KEVIN FOLEY

Home-produced prospect in his fourth season since his debut at 18, progressed to U-21 honours with the Republic of Ireland and upgraded last month with a 'B' cap against Scotland, regular at right-back in Luton's last promotion campaign.

MARKUS HEIKKINEN

Versatile Finland international, appearing at centre-back and in midfield this season, won a league medal with HJK Helsinki before joining



CARLOS EDWARDS

Portsmouth on loan, then spent two years at Aberdeen, Player of the Year in first season at Luton.

PETER HOLMES

Ex-England Schools player, born in County Durham but southbound in his football career, a trainee with Sheffield Wednesday, then moved down the M1 to Luton, won a League One medal in 2005 and completed 100 league games last season.

DEAN KIELY

Former Republic of Ireland keeper, signed on loan from Portsmouth after 661 games at four clubs, promoted at Wembley with York, won championships with Bury and Charlton, joined Pompey for their Premiership survival dash last season.

RICHARD LANGLEY

England Youth midfielder at QPR and then followed a different international path with full caps for Jamaica, made nearly 150 senior appearances in his first spell at Loftus Road and returned to Rangers last season after two years at Cardiff.

DEAN MORGAN

London-born winger who made a league debut as a 17-year-old trainee at Colchester, nailed down a first-team spot for two seasons at Layer Road, joined Reading soon after his 20th birthday and now in a second year with the Hatters.

RUSSELL PERRETT

Experienced defender in his 12th campaign since joining Portsmouth from Wessex League club AFC Lymington, moved to Cardiff for £10,000 in 1999 and to Luton in 2001, a fixture at centre-back in his first season but later unlucky with injuries.

STEVE ROBINSON

Northern Ireland midfielder recalled by Lawrie Sanchez to win a sixth cap last year, a Youth international with Spurs, then a first-teamer for five seasons at Bournemouth, sold to Preston for £375,000 in 2000 and joined Luton in 2004.

DANNY STEVENS

Ex-Spurs trainee, made Hatters debut in final game of last season.

34 goals on loan with Brentford, Colchester and Luton before completing a full move to the Hatters in 2005.

IN THE SQUAD DEAN BRILL

Understudy keeper, debut at 17, deputised last month when Beresford was sent off at Preston.

SOL DAVIS

Former Swindon defender, cost Luton £600,000 in 2002, taken ill on the way to an October fixture at Ipswich.

KEITH KEANE

Republic of Ireland U-21 international, made first-team debut as a 17-year-old in 2004.

STEPHEN O'LEARY

Republic of Ireland Youth international, graduated with Keane to the League One championship team in 2005.

SAM PARKIN

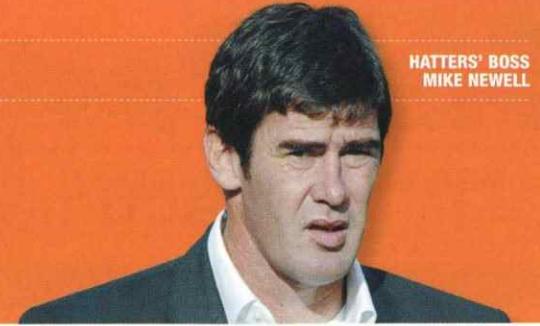
Ex-Chelsea striker, scored 73 goals for Swindon, sold in successive summers to Ipswich (£450,000) and Luton (£340,000), underwent ankle surgery last month.

DANNY STEVENS

Ex-Spurs trainee, made Hatters debut in final game of last season.

PAUL UNDERWOOD

England semi-pro international in Rushden's rise from the Conference to Division Two, promoted in first season at Luton, recovering from a post-op infection.



HATTERS' BOSS
MIKE NEWELL

Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



THE HATTERS' ROLL CALL - 2006-07 APPEARANCES

PLAYER	CHAMP	CUPS	GOALS	BIRTHDATE/BIRTHPLACE
LEON BARNETT	21	3	2	30.11.85 Stevenage
ZACH BARRETT	-	-	-	25.6.88 Hitchin
DAVID BELL	5(6)	3	2	21.1.84 Wellingborough
MARLON BERESFORD	17	3	-	2.9.89 Lincoln
ADAM BOYD	4(7)	2(1)	2	26.5.82 Hartlepool
DEAN BRILL	1(1)	-	-	2.12.85 Luton
AHMET BRKOVIC	6(4)	2(1)	2	23.9.74 Dubrovnik
CHRIS COYNE	1(3)	1	-	20.12.78 Brisbane
SOL DAVIS	11(1)	2	-	4.9.79 Cheltenham
CARLOS EDWARDS	20	2(1)	6	24.10.78 Port of Spain
LEWIS EMANUEL	17	-	1	14.10.83 Bradford
WARREN FEENEY	10(6)	2	1	17.1.81 Belfast
KEVIN FOLEY	20	1(2)	-	1.11.84 Luton
MARKUS HEIKKINEN	19	-	1	13.10.78 Kettunen (Finland)
PETER HOLMES	3	2	-	18.11.80 Bishop Auckland
KEITH KEANE	1(1)	3	-	20.11.86 Luton
DEAN KIELY	3	-	-	10.10.70 Salford
RICHARD LANGLEY	13	-1(1)	1	27.12.79 Harlesden
DEAN MORGAN	8(10)	3	2	3.10.83 Enfield
STEPHEN O'LEARY	2(1)	2	-	12.2.85 Barrow
SAM PARKIN	7(1)	-	1	14.3.81 Roehampton
RUSSELL PERRETT	3(1)	-	1	18.6.73 Barton-on-Sea
STEVE ROBINSON	19	1	-	10.12.74 Lisburn
DANNY STEVENS	-	-	-	26.11.86 Enfield
PAUL UNDERWOOD	-	-	-	16.8.73 Wimbledon
ROWAN VINE	20	1(2)	10	21.9.82 Basingstoke
OWN GOALS	-	-	-	-

Up to Friday, 8th December

...continued from page 19

and Paul Underwood were cornerstones in the rise from League One but this season they have started only a dozen Championship games between them. Add in the loss of new signing Sam Parkin and it was not surprising that the manager said: "We've hit a very hard part of the season and we haven't got the squad or bodies to cope with what we've been hit with in terms of injuries."

The loan transfer market provided some assistance with the signing of Dean Kiely but the nosedive continued with further defeats at Southampton and Plymouth. The team shipped 22 goals in the losing run before Kiely, on his third appearance, kept a clean sheet against Preston.

Two goals at the other end brought welcome relief to Luton – and knocked North End off the top of the table.

With "a horrible month" at last behind Luton, the

manager talked of the "feel good" factor in bringing down the leaders. "I said before the game I'd rather be playing the top team than the bottom team. We needed to get ourselves ahead in a game . . . we needed something to hang on to and give us belief."

Over the years, since David Pleat established top-flight status in the 1980s, Luton consistently performed above their resources. The average attendance for Pleat's team in the old First Division peaked at 13,500 and the club have long had plans to leave Kenilworth Road and relocate to a new stadium.

Having missed the Premiership boat by only two points when relegated in 1992, the Hatters tumbled to the basement by 2001. Happily, the recovery was swift with promotion under Joe Kinnear and then sustained by Mike Newell until the recent blip.

MANAGERIAL RECORDS

Roy Keane

Played 16 Won 8 Drawn 3 Lost 5 For 22 Against 18 Av Pts/game 1.69 Biggest Win(s) Leeds 0 Sunderland 3 (13/09/2006). Biggest Loss(es) Preston 4 Sunderland 1 (14/10/2006).

Mike Newell

Played 159 Won 70 Drawn 40 Lost 49 For 250 Against 217 Av Pts/game 1.57 Biggest Win(s) Luton 5 Bristol City 0 (05/03/2005). Biggest Loss(es) Ipswich 5 Luton 0 (29/10/2006).

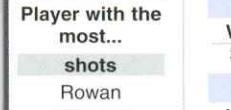
MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ..0	Roy Keane	0	Mike Newell.....	0
Draws ..0			Goals 0	Goals 0

Player with the most...



Player with the most...



shots

Daryl

Murphy 33

shots on target

Daryl

Murphy 16

shots off target

Daryl

Murphy 17

assists

Liam

Miller 4

crosses

Liam

Lawrence 46

fouls

Chris

Brown 33

free-kicks-won

Dean

Whitehead 32

GAMES SINCE

0 a win 0

0 a home win 0

0 an away win 6

5 a defeat 1

3 a home defeat 1

2 an away defeat 0

2 a score draw 13

29 a no score draw 10

1 conceding a goal 1

0 scoring a goal 0

6 conceding > 1 2

1 scoring > 1 0

0 keeping a clean sheet 0

5 failing to score 1

0 back to back wins 11

5 back to back defeats 1

0 gaining a point 0

2 losing a point 1

3 win by > one 0

10 loss by > one 3

SHARP SHOOTERS

Sunderland	CCFC	Cup	Tot	Luton	CCFC	Cup	Tot
Stephen Elliott	5	0	5	Rowan Vine	9	1	10
Daryl Murphy	4	0	4	Carlos Edwards	6	0	6
Ross Wallace	4	0	4	Ahmet Brkovic	2	0	2

TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played44	Sunderland wins	22	Luton wins	13
Draws9	Goals 75 (1.7 per game)		Goals 65 (1.5 per game)	
0-0's2	Times failed to score 8		Times failed to score 15	

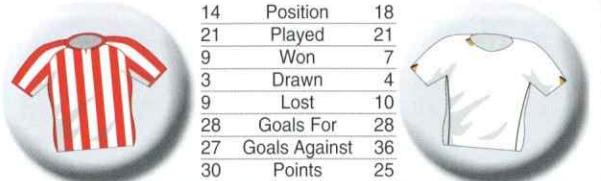
Biggest League win at Sunderland for each team:

31/12/1960 Sunderland 7-1 Luton

14/10/1972 Sunderland 0-2 Luton



2006/07 LEAGUE STATS



Record Against Top Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
3	2	6	12	2	3	7	19

Record Against Bottom Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
6	1	3	7	5	1	3	15

Record When Scoring First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
8	1	4	10	6	2	1	12

Record When Conceding First

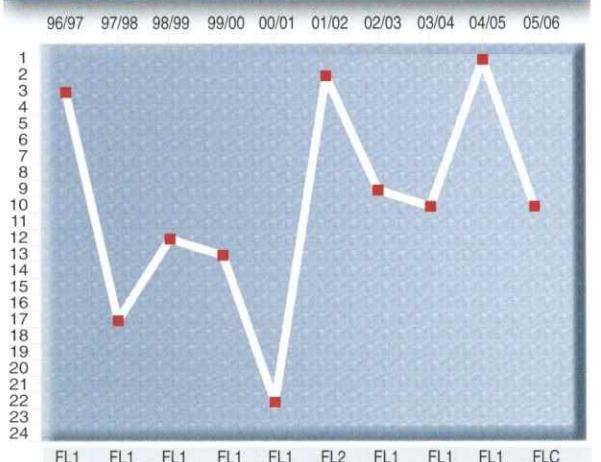
W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
1	2	5	14	1	1	9	18

Match Scores

Wins: 1-0[3], 2-0[2], 2-1[2], 3-0[1], 3-1[1], **Losses:** 0-1[2], 1-2[3], 1-3[2], **Draws:** 1-1[3]

Wins: 1-0[1], 2-0[2], 2-1[2], 3-2[1], 5-1[1], **Losses:** 0-1[2], 0-2[2], 0-3[1], 0-5[1], 1-2[1], 1-4[1], 2-3[2], **Draws:** 0-0[1], 1-1[1], 2-2[2]

LUTON - TEN SEASON RECORD



*up to and including 03/12/2006

MATCH FACTS



Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02/12/2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



REMEMBER THE LAST LEAGUE VISIT?

SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY 1996

DIVISION ONE, ROKER PARK.

SUNDERLAND 1 (JAMES OG) LUTON TOWN 0

John Major was Prime Minister, Oasis ruled the charts and sadly for those Gallagher troubadours, Man United bossed the Premiership the last time Luton visited Wearside for a league game.

Reidy's team, short on firing power, recorded a second home 1-0 win in four days, thanks to a first half own goal from Hatters' full back Julian James.

Lads: Given, Kubicki, Scott, Bracewell, Ball, Melville, Michael

Gray, Ord, Russell, Howey (sub Bridges), Cooke

Hatters: Feuer, James, Thomas, Waddock (sub Taylor), Oldfield, Johnson, Guentchev, Hughes, Marshall (sub Riseth), Thorpe (sub Oakes), Alexander

Attendance: 16,693. **Position at 5pm:** Lads 3/24, Hatters 19/24

● Luton's last visit to Wearside was for a League Cup 2nd Rd 1st leg tie on 19th September 2000 when 24,668 saw Paul Thirlwell, John Oster and Kevin Philips get the goals in a 3-0 win. Sunderland won the tie 5-1 on aggregate.

FIVE FACTS ABOUT THIS FIXTURE

■ Extrovert ELO and Move front man Roy Wood was performing with Wizzard when Luton last won on Wearside. September 1973 saw lanky Barry Butlin net the only goal.

■ Ulsterman Ian Lawther recorded Sunderland only hat trick against Town on New Year's Eve 1960 in front of 28,695 at Roker. The Lads won 7-1.

■ The Lads first three trips to Kenilworth Road (November 1955, August 1956, February 1958) saw them ship 21 goals.

■ Just a single scoreless draw on Wearside in the 22 previous fixtures. Appropriately the lowest gate in the series at Roker, 12,471, witnessed the stalemate.

■ Let's hear it for the kit manager, John Cooke in his second Sunderland appearance scored the winner when Luton came north in February 1980. Those points helped The Lads to promotion, while Town missed out in sixth spot.

WEARSIDE

Top Flight P 7 W 5 D 1 L 1 13-3

Second Level P 15 W 7 D 6 L 2 25-13

Totals P 22 W 12 D 7 L 3 38-16

KENILWORTH ROAD

P 7 W 2 D 0 L 5 F-A 12-29

P 15 W 8 D 2 L 5 F-A 25-20

P 22 W 10 D 2 L 10 F-A 37-49

...AND FIVE FACTS ABOUT LUTON

■ Luton is home to the UK's fastest growing airport.

■ In 1919 far from rejoicing the victory in World War One, locals set fire to the Town Hall, as a protest against unemployment and jobsworths stopping them using a park to celebrate the end of hostilities.

■ Where is Luton? For a long time Central Government reckoned it was in the southeast, as most reasonable people would assume. But now the town is regarded by Whitehall as being in the East of England.

■ Famous for Vauxhall cars until the plant closed, that famous name in British manufacturing has its origins in the home of King John's wife called Fawkes Hall. Mind that was 800 years ago.

■ Pin up of the 1950s and 1960s, Diana Dors once worked as a barmaid in the Rabbit. Despite that she never became a Hugh Hefner bunny girl.

THE VIEWS IN THIS COLUMN DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE OFFICIAL VIEWS OF SUNDERLAND AFC.

I've only been to Kenilworth Road the once. It turned out to be my last match as the Carlisle United commentator for BBC Radio Cumbria, and the manager at Carlisle at the time was chairman Michael Knighton assisted by coaches John Halpin and David Wilkes. What happened to Michael Knighton is anybody's guess, but I'm pleased to say that David and John are both back happily involved at Brunton Park.

I'm not sure what it is about Kenilworth Road and Carlisle United commentators. Whilst the curtain came down on my Carlisle United days there, for the current incumbent at Radio Cumbria the ground was the site of an ignominious incident I'm sure he'd sooner forget but of which he is constantly reminded. I won't name him to spare his blushes.

Carlisle on this particular day took the lead against Luton. As they did so our commentator dropped his packet of sweets on the press box floor in his excitement. Whilst down there the goal was ruled offside and disallowed but this all took place unbeknown to our man below. So he commented to half time in the belief that Carlisle were leading 1-0, and with no summariser and no-one at base any the wiser, Cumbria was led to believe the Blues were well and truly on top.

It was only at half time that the mistake came to light when supporters were phoning home from the terraces to report a goalless first half to be told that on the radio they were saying it was 1-0.....

It seems a little ironic that Sunderland's last game of the season is away at Luton Town. I wonder if there's anything I'm not being told.

● Don't forget.... Full commentary on 95.4 FM with myself and Gary Bennett.



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The Football League's Fans of the Future initiative is aiming to attract the next generation of supporters to watch live football at their local club
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JOE HINNIGAN:

BORN: LIVERPOOL 3 DECEMBER 1955

HARRY BARRETT RECALLS ONE OF THE LADS, AND THEIR FIRST OUTING FOR SUNDERLAND WHEN LUTON PROVIDED THE OPPONITION.

Joe Hinnigan was a lucky talisman as Sunderland stormed to promotion in the spring of 1980. For when the Merseysider played at left back The Lads did not lose.

Mind it was a desperately close thing when the 24 year old made his Roker debut. Luton, top of the table, bossed much of the game and but for some inspired keeping by Chris Turner, would have remained in pole position. Sunderland's last line of defence made three point blank saves from David Moss, Brian Stein and Kirk Stephens.

The win proved to be the watershed in Sunderland's season. There or thereabouts, inconsistent away form threatened to marginalize the promotion challenge. Going into the Luton fixture, Ken Knighton's team were off the pace in eighth spot. But that win over the leaders triggered an unbeaten 14 games sequence to the season end and runners up spot.

Joe played in every match and Argus in the

Echo's summary of his debut, "did all that was required of him," could have described his form in those final vital weeks. Steady and dependable, Hinnigan slotted in to the back four as if he had been at the club for years rather than weeks.

The newcomer benefited from an injury at Preston sustained by another Joe – the stalwart Joe Bolton. The hard tackling Birtley defender had made the number three shirt his own until a clumsy challenge at Deepdale, ended his season. Manager Ken Knighton moved quickly to replace a crowd favourite.

Within days Hinnigan had been signed from Wigan for £135,000, then a record transfer fee for a Fourth Division footballer. A quick return on his investment resulted, as top flight returned to Roker.

Hinnigan had played in Wigan's first Football League game in August 1978, after joining the club in their Northern Premier days from South Liverpool. Solid and with an eye for goal at set pieces, his form quickly



attracted attention. Even so a few eyebrows were raised at the money Sunderland paid for the relatively inexperienced full back.

But Joe's display on a wintery February afternoon dispelled any worries about his ability to move up a couple of Divisions. Correspondents to the Echo were debating the relative merits of socialism and Marxism, at a time when unemployment on Wearside was approaching

15%. Given such weighty topics of concern, it was hardly surprising little attention was paid to a new full back, even if the transfer fee was so hefty.

Indeed the football talk of Wearside that month was about 17 year old striker John Cooke, Salford born and still at the club now as kit man, who in second first team start scored the winner against Luton. On the hour, Kevin Arnott, man of the match,

JOE HINNIGAN'S LEAGUE CAREER

SEASON	CLUB	APPS	GLS
78/79 – 79/80	Wigan	66	10
79/80 – 82/83	Sunderland	63	4
82/83 – 83/84	Preston	51/1	8
84/85 – 86/87	Gillingham	99/4	7
87/88	Wrexham	28/1	1
88/89 – 89/90	Chester	52	2
Totals		359/6	32

DEBUT DETAILS

23 February
1980. Roker Park.
Division Two

LADS 1 (Cooke)
Hatters 0

Lads: Turner, Whitworth, Hinnigan, Clarke, Hindmarch, Elliott (sub Dunn), Arnott, Marangoni, Cooke, Robson, Cummins

Hatters: Findlay, Stephens, Donaghy, Greasham, Saxby, Price, Hill, West, Stein, Hatton, Moss

Attendance: 25,287
Positions at 5pm: Lads 5/22, Hatters 2/22

Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02/12/2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



CLUB CONNECTIONS:

WITH MIKE GIBSON

PLAYERS SIGNED FROM LUTON

Reg Pearce	19/02/1958	£16k
Vic Halom	07/02/1973	£35k
Tom Finney	29/06/1974	£70k
Alec Chamberlain	01/07/1993	Free
Phil Gray	19/07/1993	£775k

PLAYERS TRANSFERRED TO LUTON

Albert Lindsay	31/05/1904
George McNestry	16/08/1930
Billy Bingham	24/07/1958

● Sunderland also met Luton on the way to their second Wembley triumph. Second half goals from Dave Watson and Ron Guthrie in front of the last Roker Park crowd in excess of 53,000 saw the Lads through to the 1973 FA Cup Final against Arsenal.

● Sunderland's first visit to Kenilworth Road in the League coincided with the Lads heading the top flight of English football. They were also leading scorers in the division yet twelfth placed Luton rapidly halted their progress going in 4-0 up at half time and eventually running out 8-2 winners. Ted Purdon got Sunderland's two consolation goals. The next two visits were not much better as Sunderland lost 6-2 and 7-1.

● The visit of Luton to Roker Park on 20th October 1993 saw the first occasion, since shirt numbering became compulsory in 1939, that Sunderland players wore squad numbers on their shirts instead of the traditional one to eleven. Martin Smith became the first Sunderland scorer with a shirt number in excess of twenty; he was wearing the number 22 on his back.

● The last meeting between the two clubs was in the 2000-01 season League Cup. This two legged tie saw the last appearances in Red & White of Carsten Fredgaard, Darren Holloway, Brendan McGill, Mark Maley, Milton Nunez, Eric Roy and Neil Wainwright.

● Only Ian Lawther has gone home with the match ball for The Lads in these encounters. His hat trick on the last day of 1960 helped Sunderland record their highest victory over The Hatters; 7-1. Two of his goals, and six in total, came during the second half.

THE FOLLOWING PLAYERS HAVE ALSO PLAYED FOR BOTH CLUBS DURING THEIR CAREER:

John Black, Norman Brown, Brian Chambers, Kelvin Davis, Patrick Gallacher (WW2), John Gibson, Mick Harford, Len Hargreaves, William Harper, Gerry Harrison, Albert Heywood, Robert Hogg, Daryl Murphy, Tom Naisby, Arthur Saxton, Fred Thompson, Colin Todd, Ted Vinall, William Robinson (WW2),

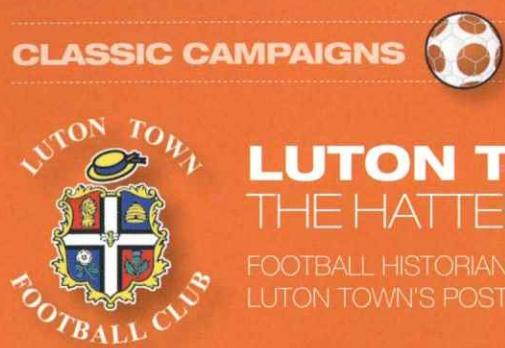
● Sunderland met The Hatters in the 4th round of the FA Cup on their way to the 1937 final. In the replay Jimmy Connor damaged cruciate ligaments in his knee. This injury effectively ended Connor's outstanding Sunderland career. Only thirteen of his 283 appearances and two of his 61 goals were added after this injury.

● Ex-Luton Town assistant manager Mick McGiven also suffered a serious injury playing for Sunderland against his future employers. The Newcastle born midfielder broke his right leg at Kenilworth Road on 31st October 1970. Ritchie Pitt's career was ended in a game with Luton in September 1973.

DEBUTANTS V HATTERS

Eight players have made their debuts against Luton Town.

Brian Chambers (as sub)	31/10/1970
Joe Hinnigan	23/02/1980
Lee Chapman	31/12/1983
Martin Smith	20/10/1993
George McCartney (as sub)	19/09/2000
Tom Peeters	19/09/2000
Ben Clark	26/09/2000
Brendan McGill (as sub)	26/09/2000



LUTON TOWN: THE HATTERS

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS SELECTS
LUTON TOWN'S POST WAR 'CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS'

2004/05

Mike Newell managed Luton to the League One title. The Hatters stormed to the top of the table, winning 10 of their first 12 games before three successive defeats. They beat Bradford City 4-0 and Wrexham 5-1, then Steve Howard netted a hat-trick in a 4-1 win at MK Dons. The 1-0 victory over Port Vale in December heralded a 14 match unbeaten run and Luton bounced back from a 3-1 defeat in the return fixture to hammer Bristol City 5-0. Briefly displaced as leaders by Hull, they triumphed 4-1 at Torquay and secured promotion with four games remaining, winning the title with 98 points.

2001/02

Steve Howard scored 24 times as Luton won promotion. Joe Kinnear's side were early leaders after winning their opening matches and newcomer Carl Griffiths netted a hat-trick in a 5-1 win over Torquay. The Hatters briefly regained pole position after beating Darlington 5-2 in October, signing Chris Coyne from Dundee, Jean-Louis Valois from Lille, Dean Crowe from Stoke, Ahmet Brkovic from Orient and Dave Bayliss from Rochdale. A run of 12 successive wins, slamming five goals past Halifax and Mansfield, took Luton back to the top with two games remaining but they finished runners-up to Plymouth.



THE HATTERS LIFT THE LEAGUE ONE TROPHY IN MAY 2005

1987/88

Ray Harford plotted Luton's Littlewoods (League) Cup final triumph. Danny Wilson replaced Peter Nicholas in midfield, while Micky Weir arrived from Hibernian and Mike Newell moved to Leicester. The Hatters won

LUTON PLAYERS CELEBRATE WINNING THE LITTLEWOODS CUP IN 1988



City and Oxford in the Littlewoods Cup before beating Arsenal 3-2 in the final. Luton were also FA Cup semi-finalists and Simod Cup finalists. A year later they again reached the League Cup final.

1981/82

David Pleat guided Luton Town to the Second Division title. The Hatters had narrowly missed promotion in the previous two years and Tony Greasham was swapped for Brighton's Brian Horton. They raced to the top by winning their first three games and hammered rivals Watford 4-1, then Steve White scored four times in a 6-0 demolition of Grimsby. Richard Money arrived from Liverpool and was an influential figure as Luton were unbeaten in their

CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS REFERS
TO DIVISIONAL STATUS AS
USED AT THE TIME:

First Division = Premiership 1992+
Second Division = First Division 1992-
2004 = Championship 2004+
Third Division = Second Division
1992-2004 = League One 2004+
Fourth Division = Third Division
1992-2004 = League Two 2004+

last 14 matches. Leading marksman Brian Stein, Mal Donaghy, Kirk Stephens and Steve White were all ever-present as Luton won the title with 88 points.

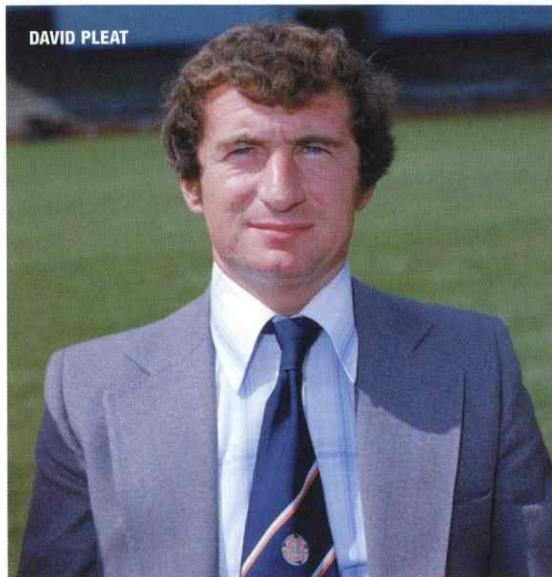
1973/74

Luton Town regained top-flight status after an absence of 14 years in 1973/74. The Hatters recovered from a 4-0 defeat at Nottingham Forest on the opening day to hammer Carlisle 6-1, embarking on an eight-match unbeaten run. Harry Haslam signed Alan West from Burnley and Jimmy Husband from Everton as Luton maintained their promotion challenge. Husband netted a hat-trick in a 3-1 victory over rivals Orient, then leading marksman Barry Butlin scored three in a 4-2 win over Preston. Alan Garner and Bobby Thomson were ever-present and other stars included Peter Anderson and John Ryan as Luton finished runners-up.

1967/68

Bruce Rioch netted 24 goals as Luton Town won the Fourth Division title. New captain Terry Branston made his debut as the Hatters kicked off with a 1-1 draw at Wrexham and Ian Buxton arrived from Derby in September. Luton lost just two of their first 18 matches and beat Charlton in the League Cup first round, scoring 27 goals in a run of eight successive wins. Allan

DAVID PLEAT



2-1 to Nottingham Forest in the final.

1954/55

Gordon Turner scored 32 goals as Luton Town won promotion to the top-flight for the first time. The Hatters began with a 3-0 victory at home to Nottingham Forest and soared up the Second Division table with six straight wins. Gordon Turner grabbed a hat-trick as Luton trounced Blackburn 7-3 and they triumphed 5-1 at Nottingham Forest. Dally Duncan's side maintained their challenge, slamming four goals past Hull City, Rotherham, Liverpool and Port Vale. Tom Aherne and Shay Dunne were ever-present as Luton pipped Rotherham to the runners-up slot on goal average with a 3-0 win at Doncaster.

Brown's side went top of the table with a 2-0 win at Brentford in February and Keith Allen, Max Dougan, Fred Jardine, John Moore and Ray Whittaker also starred as they remained in pole position, clinching the title with a 4-0 victory over Crewe.

1958/59

Luton Town were FA Cup finalists for the first and only time. The Hatters were

HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH SHAKES HANDS WITH LUTON TOWN'S ALLAN BROWN AS LUTON CAPTAIN SYD OWEN PRESENTS HIS TEAM TO THE DIGNITARIES BEFORE THE FA CUP FINAL IN 1959

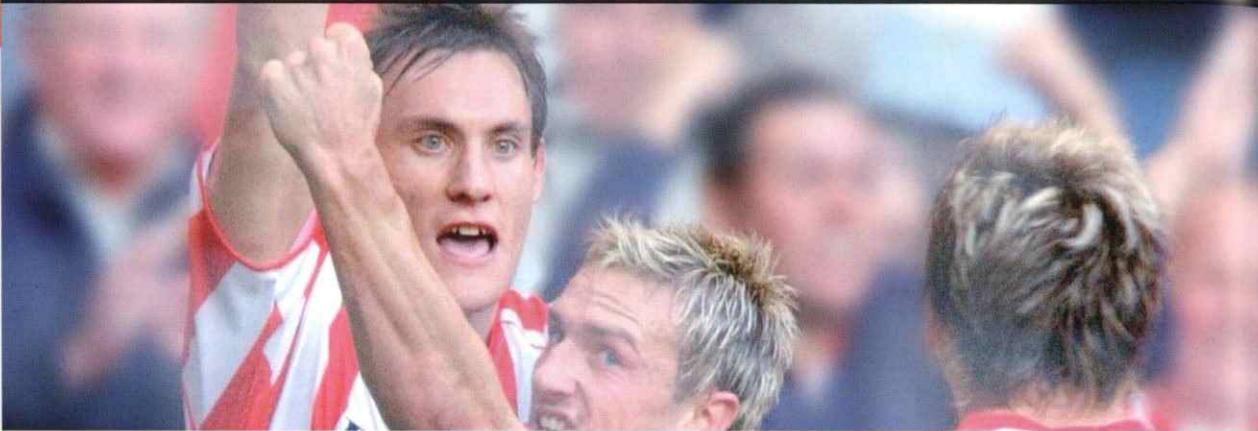


Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points

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AS I WAS SAYING...

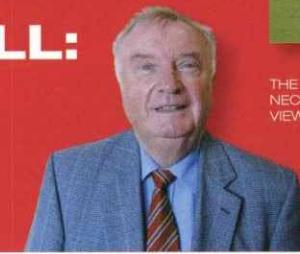


Sunderland vs Norwich City
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THE VIEWS IN THIS COLUMN DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE OFFICIAL VIEWS OF SUNDERLAND AFC.

DOUG WEATHERALL: MULHALL'S PERFECT PITCH... INSIDE A TAXI!



I don't recall finer in-taxi singing. We were in a great mood. Earlier that Monday night Sunderland had won 3-0 at Luton and were now within 90 minutes of promotion to the top division.

My companions, the Sunderland left-wing partnership, Johnny Crossan and George Mulhall, hadn't had a lot to drink. Having bussed to London after the season's penultimate match, we hadn't had much time to party, but we were flying on adrenalin as we returned to our hotel, the Great Northern beside King's Cross station.

"The Northern Lights of Aberdeen" was probably our most hearty and most word-perfect rendering. Winger Mulhall, of course, though born in Stirling and brought up in the Falkirk area, had been with Aberdeen almost nine years before Sunderland manager Alan Brown bought him for £23,000 in September 1962. He'd also married a lovely Aberdonian, Betts. I'd learned the song's words while doing National Service basic training with the Highland Brigade at Fort George, near Inverness.

Inside-left Crossan, the Londonderry lad manager Brown had bought from Belgian club Standard Liege for

£27,000 in October 1962, remembered well the libretti of most popular songs.

If Mulhall and Crossan could be accused of perhaps celebrating prematurely, they were not alone. Sunderland now needed only one point from their season's final match to clinch promotion to the First Division. Even the stern disciplinarian, Mr. Brown, hardly one to take a thing for granted, advised his team before the game not to overdo the revelry when the prize was won.

The final opponents were Chelsea, managed by the effervescent Tommy Docherty. For Chelsea to retain an interest in promotion the Doc knew they had to win at Roker on Saturday, May 18, 1963, and then have a high-scoring Stamford Bridge victory in their last match, with Portsmouth.

Until Sunderland achieved their fabulous FA Cup win over Leeds United in 1973, Wearside, in anticipation of the Chelsea game, was never so adorned with bunting. The town and villages were awash with red and white. My dad had known Sunderland's League and FA Cup wins of the Thirties and, as lads, we had experienced the street-party joys at the end of World War II. But even the oldest hadn't seen such colour.

Yet, only five days after that smashing night in London, we were in despair as tiny Tommy Harmer, former Spurs inside-forward, with his only goal of the season, won the match for Chelsea. It was a fluke, the ball entering the net via Harmer's private parts.

Thousands of Sunderland fans wept. For the first time I saw tears from Alan Brown. He and I had our ups and downs, but I could not have felt for him more that night. He and I expected Chelsea

to win their final game. And the Doc's men went up after a 7-0 victory.

These days George Mulhall lives in Yorkshire. He gets a mention when I address gatherings at, say, retirement clubs. He is the left-winger when I am asked to name the Sunderland team from all the players I have seen.

Johnny Crossan, back in his native Londonderry, doesn't make my selection. Unfortunately for him, I saw Raich Carter and Len Shackleton...'

GEORGE MULHALL





SUNDERLAND FANZONE:

BE IN RED AND WHITE: SEND YOUR SUPPORTER NEWS, BIRTHDAYS ETC TO REDANDWHITE@SAFC.COM OR WRITE TO RED AND WHITE, STADIUM OF LIGHT, SUNDERLAND, SR5 1SU.



SAFC 24-7

24-7 is the junior supporters' club for all young SAFC fans. When you sign up you will receive a gift box that includes an autograph book, a pen SAFC discounts and a Sunderland bag.

Give Samson a ring on 0191 551 5247 or log on to www.safc.com/247 and join the club. You will be very welcome.

● Anyone who signs up as a 24-7 member before Christmas will be entered into a draw for free SAFC Foundation Soccer Course places and to have an item of their choice signed by the team.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Happy 8th birthday to **Tom Cockton** of Fulwell for the 6th December. Dwight Yorke,

Liam Miller and Dean Whitehead are the birthday boy's favourite players. Tom's first game was the opening match of last season against Charlton and he's been coming to games with his dad Phil ever since but has yet to see Sunderland win. Hopefully you'll get a late birthday present today then Tom with three points for Sunderland!

Five month old **Ollie Ryan** is already a member of 24-7, in fact he was already signed up as a Sunderland fan by the time this picture was taken when he was all of three weeks old. Grandad Wayne Talbot of the Tyne Valley branch



of the SAFCSA is taking his responsibilities as a grandparent seriously by ensuring Ollie is brought up as a Sunderland fan despite living in Horsham West Sussex and having a Spurs supporter for a dad!

Graeme Costello of South Shields will be 13 next Friday. Graeme will be in the north east corner today and names Ross Wallace as his favourite player. Have a great day today and on your birthday Graeme.

'Happy 2nd Birthday for today to **Kaenan Beckwith** of Ryhope with lots of love Mammy & Daddy xx'



Best wishes go to **Roy Berry** for his 60th birthday on 14th December. Roy has never lived in Sunderland but has supported the Lads since 1958 because his father (a distant relative of Raich Carter) was born and brought up on Wearside. Roy (right) is pictured with his daughter Lisa at Wembley at the 1992 FA Cup final.



WIN THE TEAMSHEET

Congratulations to our latest winner **Martin Walker**. See page four to find out how you can win this rare piece of SAFC memorabilia.

COMPETITION TIME

Congratulations to the following competition winners:

SOUTHAMPTON PROGRAMME:

● PYJAMAS. Answer - Ross Wallace scored Sunderland's late winner at Hull City.

Winners: Mrs I. Wright of Humbledon, Susan Duffy of Billingham, Dave Smith of Seaham, Leah Collinson of Hebburn and Sheila Webster of Pallion.

COLCHESTER PROGRAMME:

● SAFC ANNUAL COMPETITION: Answer - Daryl Murphy scored Sunderland's first goal of the season.

Winners: Luke Winship of Harraton, David Martin by email, Anthony Smith of Southwick, Ian Dawson of Sunderland and Brian Wilson of Stockton.

● DUVET COMPETITION: Answer - Niall Quinn was on the cover of the first programme of this season.

Winners: Doreen Fowler of Fulwell, Mrs. S Oldroyd of Boldon Colliery, Angela Davison of North farm estate, Jack Clarkson of Red House and Ian Smith of Durham.

Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



AWAY FANZONE:

WITH KEITH CHAPMAN

This afternoon we welcome all Luton Town supporters who make the long trip to the Stadium of Light for the first time for a league visit although some were here for a League Cup tie six years ago. Before the game we grabbed a chat with Hatters fan for over 25 years, Norman Johnston.

Who are the Luton Town players to watch out for?

Rowan Vine has already scored 10 goals this season and will pose a big threat this afternoon. We've also signed Dean Kiely on loan from Portsmouth and he's a goalkeeper I've always rated very highly from his Charlton days.

Do you have any memories of games between Sunderland and Luton Town?

Not too many happy memories of the North East as in the last two occasions I've watched us in cup games at the Stadium of Light you've beat us 3-0 so hopefully we can do much better this time!

What are your thoughts on today's game?

We are under no illusions how tough it's going to be today and I'd be extremely happy with a draw. We are capable of beating anyone on our day as we proved last weekend

against Preston but we've got to sort out our away form. We've already lost seven on the road but if we can keep it tight in the first half then we stand a chance. Roy Keane looks as though he's getting it together at Sunderland now and they've got some talented players such as Graham Kavanagh and Stephen Elliott. If we keep them quiet we can come away with a point.

What is your best-ever game following Luton Town?

The 1988 Littlewoods Cup final at Wembley when we beat Arsenal 3-2. We were losing 2-1 with 10 minutes to go and Arsenal were given a penalty. However, Nigel Winterburn's penalty was brilliantly saved by Town keeper Andy Dibble. Just two minutes later Danny Wilson levelled and in almost the last kick of the game Stein touched in Ashley Grimes' cross to win us the cup.

CHAMPIONSHIP CHALLENGE PREDICTIONS

GILL TAYLOR SAFC	NORMAN JOHNSTON LUTON
------------------	-----------------------

Birmingham v Preston	1-1	2-1
Crystal Palace v Colchester	2-0	1-0
Cardiff City v Ipswich	1-0	1-1
Coventry v Burnley	1-0	0-0
Leeds v Derby	2-3	2-2
Norwich v Sheffield Wed	3-1	0-2
Plymouth v Hull City	2-0	4-1
Southend v Southampton	1-3	1-1
Stoke City v QPR	2-0	3-0
Wolves v Leicester	1-1	1-2

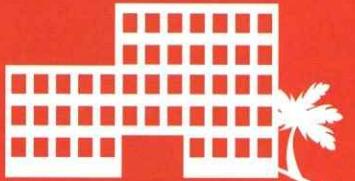
(3pts awarded for an exact score, 1pt for correct result.)

PREDICTIONS LEADERBOARD:
SUNDERLAND FANS 53 VISITING FANS 52

CITY BREAK



Krakow
fm £19.⁹⁹
one way inc. taxes



Hotels
fm £15
pppn

Jet2.com
Low cost at Newcastle

MY MATCHDAY



Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



DARYL MURPHY:

IT IS OFTEN SAID THAT FOOTBALLERS ARE A VERY SUPERSTITIOUS BUNCH AND THEIR MATCHDAY ROUTINE IS FULL OF RITUALS. THIS YEAR WE'RE FINDING OUT...



FULL OF BEANS...
THAT'S DARYL MURPHY

Q. What time do you usually get up?
A. Around half past nine.

Q. What is your morning routine?
A. I tend to potter around the house for a while before I have my breakfast.

Q. Do you watch Sky Sports, read previews in the papers or avoid all match previews?
A. I try and watch a bit of Soccer AM before my daughter Caitlin gets up but after that it's CBeebies! I don't read the papers at all.

Q. What time do you usually get to the ground?
A. I leave my house around quarter to one and get to the ground just after one.

Q. What do you have to eat before the game?
A. Beans on toast usually.

Q. Once you are at the stadium what is your routine?
A. I usually go in and get a stretch off the physio's just to loosen me off. After that I'll normally have a massage. Then I get ready and just have a little kick-a-about.

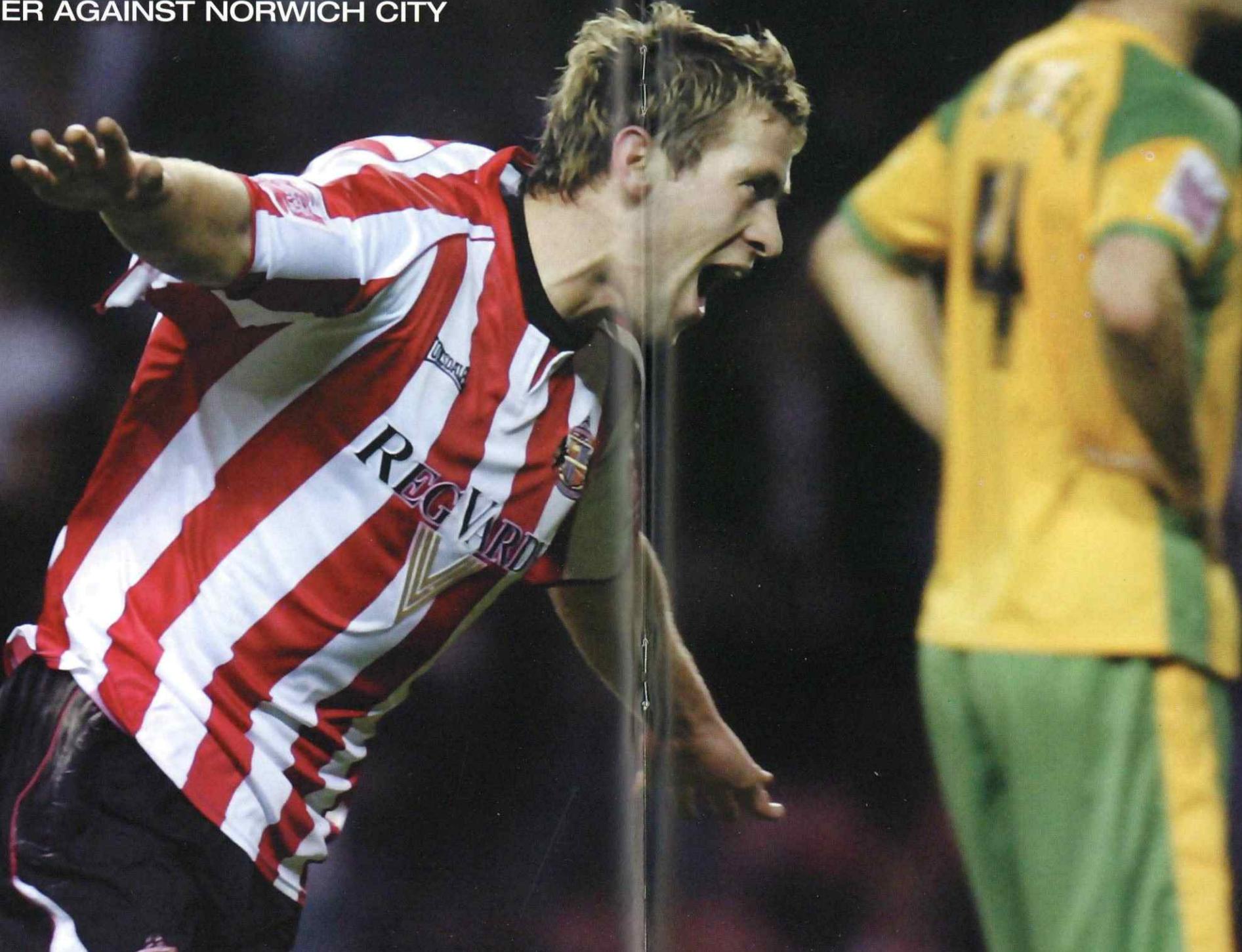
Q. After the game do you like to socialise or get home as soon as possible?
A. If I've got family over I go up to the players' lounge and have a drink but other than that I just go home, have something to eat and stay in with my family.

Q. Do you make an effort to catch the highlights of the game on TV or read the match reports in the papers?
A. I never watch them to be honest – they're on too early on a Sunday morning! I don't like watching it again other than on the DvD I get from the club.

Q. How does your routine differ when it is an away game?
A. It's usually the same in that I get a stretch and a rub off the physio's before the game although there's nowhere to have a kick-a-about before you go out onto the pitch whereas we have our warm up room just off our dressing room at our stadium. I used to room with Liam Lawrence all the time and on the last away trip at QPR it was Robbie Elliott.



FLYING WITH CANARIES: DARYL MURPHY PREPARES FOR TAKE-OFF AFTER SCORING THE WINNER AGAINST NORWICH CITY



Sunderland vs Norwich City

Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0

Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



Flick the pages of
your programme and look
at the picture in the top
corner of the odd numbered
pages to re-live the goal.

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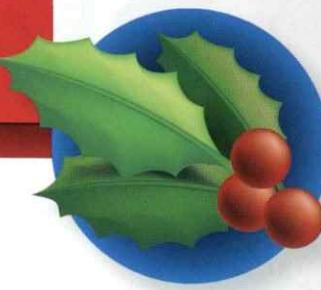
BLACK CATS ONLINE

safc.com

The Official Website of Sunderland AFC



Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



THE SAFC.COM
ADVENT
CALENDAR 2006

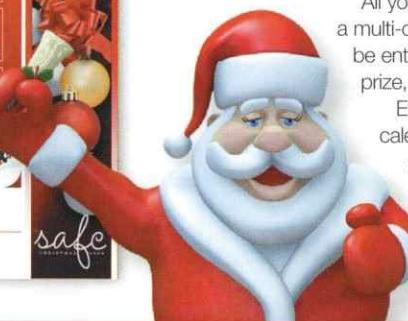
Get into the festive
spirit in the run-up to Christmas by playing
the safc.com advent calendar game.

Each day in December you can open an advent door to reveal a Sunderland player, past or present. You get a chance to win a prize each day by simply guessing who that player is.

All you need to do is choose a name from a multi-choice list, and if you are right you will be entered into a draw to win that day's prize, picked from the SAFC online store.

Everyone who plays the advent calendar game will be entered into a grand prize draw to win a behind-the-scenes day out at the Stadium of Light.

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2. Home Match News - Goal flashes, score updates on

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3. Away Match News - Goal flashes, score updates on the half and full-time whistles and red cards from every away game.
4. Teamsheets and Post-Match Quotes - Team line-ups as soon as they are out and Roy Keane's post-match reaction.
5. Ticket News - Latest ticket news as it's announced.
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4. To subscribe to TEAMSHEETS AND POST-MATCH QUOTES text SAFC QUOTES to 87058
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6. To subscribe to SAFC EXTRA text SAFC EXTRA to 87058

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Let us know what you think of today's match:

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echo.sport@northeast-press.co.uk
or text SUNECHO at 84070

Don't forget to include your name and where you're from

RED&WHITE JOURNEYS

Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



MARTIN FOSTER, STEVE HAY, CHRIS HERRIOTT, RICH HERRIOTT AND PAUL WALSH:

AGES: MARTIN, 30s, STEVE, 30, PAUL, 43, CHRIS, 48, RICH, 41

ORIGINALLY FROM: MARTIN - BLACKHALL, STEVE - DURHAM,
RICH - MIDLANDS, CHRIS - MIDLANDS AND PAUL - SUNDERLAND.

HOME: NOW ALL LIVE IN THE BIRMINGHAM AREA.

In March 2003, five members of the Heart of England Sunderland Supporters' branch set off on an epic journey to the Stadium of Light.

Martin Forster, Steve Hay, Chris Herriott, Rich Herriott and Paul Walsh left Coventry's Highfield Road ground on Wednesday March 12 2003 to get to the Sunderland versus Bolton match on the following Saturday.

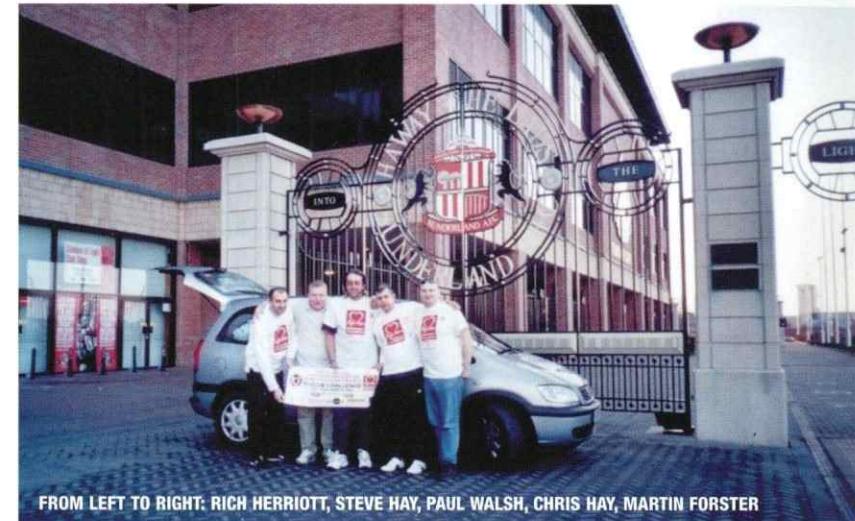
In between Coventry and Sunderland, they visited the other 90 Premiership and Football League grounds and arrived in time for the match.

They would spend 78 hours between setting off and kicking off on the 2,500 mile journey.

After a photo session with the local press the lads finally set off at 9.10am.

On the second leg of the journey between Rushden and Northampton a bizarre thing happened when Chris's phone rang. It was ITN News asking him to do an on air interview about the appointment of Mick McCarthy as manager.

Everything went well on the first day until they arrived in Sheffield in the evening rush hour. This put them back a little but due to some speedy



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: RICH HERRIOTT, STEVE HAY, PAUL WALSH, CHRIS HAY, MARTIN FOSTER

driving through East Anglia from Martin they were soon back on schedule.

The second morning saw them in London, arriving at Millwall at around 6.00am.

It was after 2.00pm by the time they left Crystal Palace heading off to Gillingham. Again they were behind by almost four hours and matters did not improve much during the night.

Dawn on day three saw them at Wycombe with the prospect of heading back to the Midlands and familiar territory.

By lunch time they had made their way to Birmingham where they were met by fellow members Alan Graham and Jeanette Sutton who

brought a welcome food parcel with her. It was then off again heading for the North West and a quick change of route as Tranmere were to kick off an hour after the group were due to arrive.

By this stage they were over three hours behind schedule but due to Paul's local knowledge of Manchester they made up another hour. Back on the motorways time was being made up rapidly and things were looking good.

Preston was followed by Blackpool, Carlisle, then across the A69, and just the five North East Clubs to go. By now they were ahead of schedule by five hours arriving at the Stadium

of Light at 6.50am.

They had completed the trip in 69 hours 40 minutes and were all completely exhausted. Seven and a half hours later they were presented to the crowd at the SOL and given a signed shirt by Kevin Ball.

The main reason for the trip was to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. All the lads were sponsored and around a third of the clubs made donations of various kinds which were auctioned at a later date. The project raised around £4000.

The only downside was Sunderland lost 2-0 and ended up getting relegated at the end of the season!



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MY GARDEN SHED



Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points

CRYSTAL PALACE:

FRIDAY DECEMBER 22 2006
COCA-COLA CHAMPIONSHIP, 8PM

KEITH CHAPMAN PREVIEWS THE
TRIP TO THE SELHURST PARK.

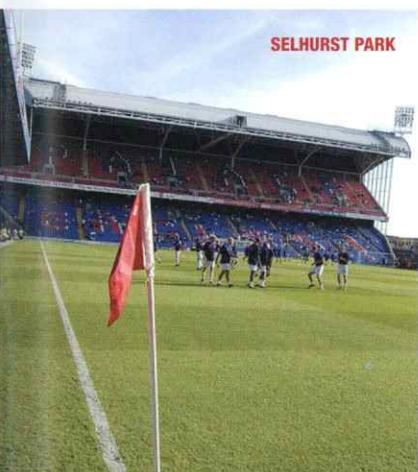


SELHURST PARK INFO

Capacity: 26,309
Address: Selhurst Park, London, SE25 6PU
Telephone: 0208 768 6000
Nickname: Eagles
Website: www.cpfc.co.uk

THEIR GARDEN SHED

You could not have picked a worse time to be heading for the most difficult journey of the season, just three days before Christmas – and on a Friday night. Selhurst Park has witnessed better days with facilities for away fans basic to say the least. The overall look of the ground has improved since the introduction of the Holmesdale Road stand where the more vocal Palace fans sit behind the goal. It's our first trip since the nightmare Play Off game down there a few seasons ago.



SELHURST PARK

OUR END

Once more, we're in The Arthur Wait Stand, which is shared with the home supporters. Around 3,000 away supporters can be housed here so it should be more than enough room. Can't see too many people from the North East making the trip but we should be well supported by fans located in the South, as proved by the excellent turnout at QPR.

THE OPPO

Now managed by Peter Taylor and currently sitting in the bottom half of the table, Palace convincingly beat QPR 3-0 at home last weekend to extend their unbeaten run to four games.

DID YOU KNOW?

Palace have had seven managers in the past six years under Chairman Simon Jordan.

FANCY A PINT?

Last time we went to the Weatherspoons opposite Thornton Heath Railway Station but following the well-publicised trouble at the play off game it's best to exercise caution around the ground.

TRAIN

Nearest railway stations are Selhurst or Thornton Heath, served by London Victoria main line station, Clapham Junction, London Bridge, and East Croydon.

SAFCSA TRAVEL

Depart 11.00, cost £30. Tel

ROUTE TO THE PALACE

Depart Carrville on High Street (North-East) - 0.3 mi
Bear LEFT (North-West) onto Local road(s) - 43 yds
Turn LEFT (South-West) onto A690 - 0.2 mi
At rdbt, take the FIRST exit onto Ramp - 0.2 mi
mi - A1(M) / The South / Darlington
Merge onto A1(M) - 25.1 mi
Road name changes to A1 - 24.0 mi
At Exit 49, road name changes to A1(M) [Leeming Lane] - 12.9 mi
Road name changes to A1 - 9.1 mi
- A1 / The South / Wetherby
Road name changes to A1(M) - 3.3 mi
Take Ramp [44] (LEFT) onto A1(M) - 1.2 mi
mi - A1 / M62 / The South / Hull
Road name changes to A1 - 16.9 mi
Road name changes to A1(M) - 15.2 mi
At rdbt, take the SECOND exit onto A1 - 6.8 mi - A1
At rdbt, take the FIRST exit onto A1 [Worksop Road] - 5.4 mi
At rdbt, take the THIRD exit onto A1 - 37.0 mi
At rdbt, take the SECOND exit onto A1 [Great North Road] - 14.3 mi
At rdbt, take the SECOND exit onto A1 - 9.4 mi
At Exit 17, road name changes to A1(M) - 12.4 mi - A1(M) / London
Road name changes to A14 - 15.8 mi
Road name changes to M11 - 49.6 mi - M11 / London
Take Ramp (LEFT) onto A406 (North Circular Road) - 1.1 mi - A12 / London (E) / The City
Keep LEFT onto Ramp - 0.2 mi
At rdbt, take the FIFTH exit onto A12 [Eastern Avenue] - 7.1 mi
Road name changes to A102 (Blackwall Tunnel Northern Approach) - 3.4 mi
Road name changes to A2 [Rochester Way Relief Road] - 0.6 mi
Keep RIGHT onto Local road(s) - 76 yds
Road name changes to A2213 [Kidbrooke Park Road] - 0.8 mi
Bear LEFT (South-East) onto A20 [Sidcup Road] - 0.3 mi
At rdbt, take the THIRD exit onto A205 [Westhorne Avenue] - 2.4 mi
Turn LEFT (South-West) onto A205 [Sangley Road], then immediately bear LEFT (South) onto A21 [Bromley Road] - 1.2 mi
Turn RIGHT (South) onto A2212 [Southend Lane] - 1.1 mi
Turn LEFT (South-West) onto A212 [Bell Green] - 0.9 mi
At rdbt, take the FIRST exit onto A212 [Westwood Hill] - 0.9 mi
At rdbt, take the FIRST exit onto A212 [Crystal Palace Parade] - 1.2 mi
Turn LEFT (South) onto A215 [South Norwood Hill] - 0.5 mi
Turn RIGHT (South) onto B266 [Whitethorse Lane] - 0.5 mi
Turn LEFT (South) onto Local road(s) - 109 yds
Arrive Crystal Palace FC -

GNER

www.gner.co.uk



SAFC foundation

fifth birthday



A warm welcome to everyone this afternoon as Luton Town make the journey north from Bedfordshire.

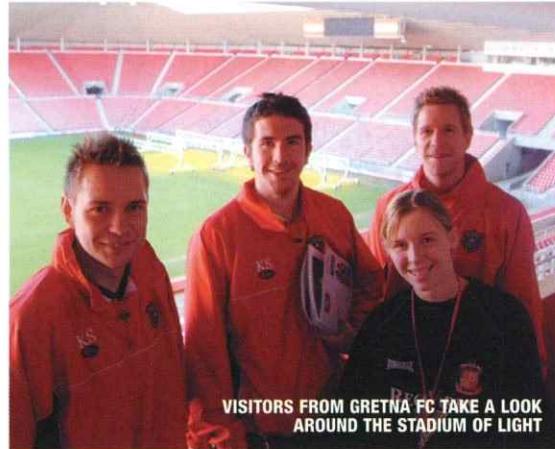
GRETNA GREEN WITH ENVY

We had three visitors recently from Gretna FC, currently joint top of the Scottish 1st Division. They were Community Education Officers, Kevin 'silver-haired' Somerville and Darren Edmundson, and Shaun 'The Shadow' Milligan, a university student on work placement (all pictured here with Amy).

The purpose of their visit was to view our highly successful programmes run from the Centre of Light. In return they brought information of projects they organise in Dumfries and Galloway and Cumbria.

Kevin and Shaun spent time with various members of staff and commented that: "The programmes that SAFC Foundation run are a great advertisement for how football clubs should interact with their local communities, giving something back to the supporters."

After seeing one of the sessions delivered at the Centre for Light by the very talented Phil 'The Prowler' Cowler, Kevin came out (of the closet) and said: "That was magnificent!"



VISITORS FROM GRETNA FC TAKE A LOOK AROUND THE STADIUM OF LIGHT

The content was pitched at the appropriate levels, allowing interaction and open learning. Phil had excellent delivery skills and was a joy to watch."

In the future it is hoped that the community teams will share more good practice to the benefit of their respective local communities. Thanks for travelling down from Scotland boys and have a safe journey home.



TWEBLO IN THE LAST MINUTE

At the Southampton game a month ago we were pleased to welcome, as our special guests, representatives from one

of our major funders, the Tyne and Wear Education Business Link Organisation (TWEBLO). They continue to fund one of our successful projects, Learning Through Football, and it is through this generous support that thousands of pupils throughout the

THE LEARNING THROUGH FOOTBALL PROJECT IS FUNDED WITH TWEBLO'S GENEROUS SUPPORT



region can benefit from an education visit to the stadium, like the children here from Barmston Village Primary in Washington.

Thanks to Graeme Miller and Paul Casson from TWEBLO and guests for joining us and witnessing a stunning free kick from Ross Wallace before a shattering last minute equaliser.

STADIUM CAROL SERVICE

A special carol service will be taking place at the Stadium of Light on Sunday 17th December. It is being held in the Banqueting Suite by the Bethany City Church from Houghton-le-Spring and is open to all. The event starts at 6pm and entry is free but any donations will be in aid of SAFC Foundation.

24-7 CHRISTMAS

Looking for something extra special for a footy mad youngster this Christmas? We've got the perfect package for junior supporters with a SAFC 24-7 Membership, which provides them with unrivalled access to their favourite club as well as exclusive gifts and special offers.

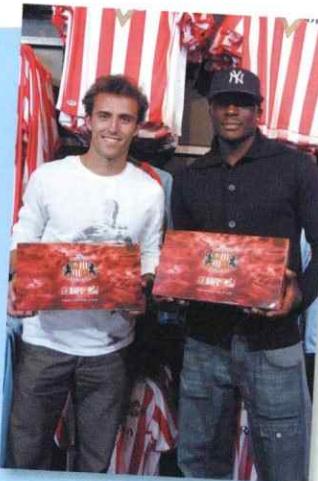
Members will receive a SAFC 24-7 autograph book and pen, a drawstring bag, discounted match tickets and two magazines.

They will also be able to take advantage of Club Store discounts, special rate Soccer Courses, and regular updates in Samson the Cat's monthly emails.

Other offers available to members include discounts to local attractions such as Metro Land, Pizza Hut (Pallion), Washington Wetland Centre, Sunderland Empire, Quasar and Excel Bowl.

Those joining before Christmas will be entered in to a prize draw to win a free place on our soccer courses for the remainder of the season and a special SAFC item signed by the squad.

Membership packs (as modelled by Spanish midfielder Arnaud and Nyron Nosworthy above) are available from SAFC Club Stores at the Stadium of Light and at the Galleries, Washington, or you can order via telephone on 0191 5515191.



a Washington based company we are proud to sponsor SAFC 24-7 Panthers football team who are all local lads and wish them all the best."

Here are the youngsters in their sparkling new kit.

MURRAY CHEQUES IN AT THE FOUNDATION

Former SAFC chairman Bob Murray and his family have donated £50,000 to SAFC Foundation. Sue and Nicole Murray presented the cheque to us at the recent Colchester game.

Mr Murray was a founder of the Foundation in November 2001 and is still an active trustee. He said: "My family truly believes in the ethos of the Foundation and its ground-breaking initiatives and we are delighted to be able to help their tremendous work continue."



WARREN G REGULATES

The Foundation has a new Football Development Coordinator in the form of Warren 'Wozza' Green (above) who has joined us from Chelsea FC.

Warren (32) has experience of coaching at numerous professional clubs including Blackpool, York, Leeds and Southampton but never at his beloved Tottenham Hotspur.

In his spare time Warren likes to drive around in his 1973 (good year) Volkswagen bay window campervan shouting "Hello Treacle!" at any given opportunity.

FINALLY

Today's game is the last at home before Christmas so everyone here at SAFC Foundation would like to wish all supporters a very Merry Christmas! Enjoy the game and... Be loud and proud!



Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points





FINAL SCORES

DAVID: NINE
ROSS: SIX

SCORES SO FAR...

DAVID CONNOLLY	9 - 6	ROSS WALLACE
TOBY HYSSEN	10 - 8	MARTON FULOP
LIAM LAWRENCE	9½ - 6	STEPHEN WRIGHT
LEWIN NYATANGA	7 - 6	ROBBIE ELLIOTT
DARREN WARD	10 - 8	LIAM MILLER
BEN ALNWICK	5²/₃ - 5¹/₃	GRAHAM KAVANAGH
DANNY COLLINS	6½ - 6	DARYL MURPHY
GRANT LEADBITTER	6 - 5	NYRON NOSWORTHY
ANDY WELSH	8 - 6	NEILL COLLINS
CHRIS BROWN	6 - 5	DEAN WHITEHEAD
STEPHEN ELLIOTT	5½ - 4	RORY DELAP

CALDWELL'S CHALLENGE

Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points

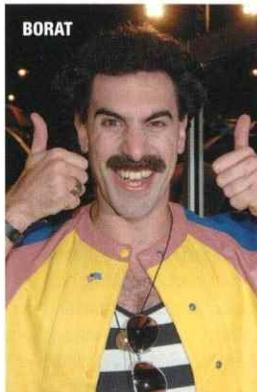


CONNOLLY vs WALLACE:

THE PLAYERS' TRIVIA QUIZ IS ALWAYS TAKEN VERY SERIOUSLY BY THE SQUAD WHO ARE AS COMPETITIVE OVER A PIECE OF NON FOOTBALL TRIVIA AS THEY ARE OVER A 50-50 TACKLE.



David Connolly put himself in the running as one of the favourites for the players' 'Caldwell Challenge' crown with a strong performance even knowing that it was Canberra and not Sydney or Melbourne that is the capital of Australia.



Which band's new song is called When You Were Young?

Ross: No idea ✗
David: The Killers ✓
Answer: The Killers

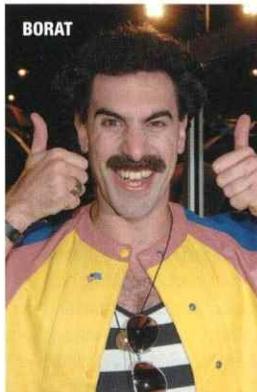
What is the capital of Australia?

Ross: Sydney ✗
David: Canberra ✓
Answer: Canberra

Who is the current champion of the Premier League Darts?

Ross: Phil Taylor ✓
David: Phil Taylor ✓
Answer: Phil Taylor

What is the name of the film featuring Ali G star Sacha Cohen?



Ross: Borat ✓
David: Borat ✓
Answer: Borat

Does a snooker table have four, six or eight pockets?

Ross: Six ✓
David: Six ✓
Answer: Six



What is the capital of Denmark?

Ross: Copenhagen ✓
David: Copenhagen ✓
Answer: Copenhagen

The world record transfer fee is still the £46.5m Real Madrid paid for Zinedine Zidane, but in which year?
Ross: 2001 ✓
David: 2001 ✓
Answer: 2001

PHIL TAYLOR



Roxanne Pallett plays which Emmerdale vet receptionist?
Ross: No idea ✗
David: No idea ✗
Answer: Jo



Which female rock star is the former wife of Kurt Cobain?

Ross: Courtney Love ✓
David: Courtney Love ✓
Answer: Courtney Love



SUNDERLAND AFC ACADEMY:

WITH GED McNAMEE, KEVIN BALL AND ELLIOTT DICKMAN

RED AND WHITE ACADEMY PROFILE
MICHAEL KAY
Right back

Born: Shotley Bridge, September 12th 1989.

Height: 183 cm

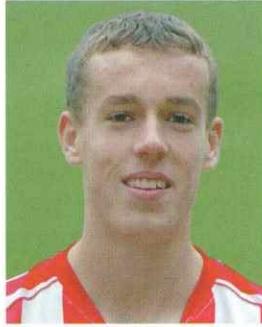
Weight: 74.5 kg

U18s debut: August 20th 2005 sub v

Coventry(a), lost 4-2.

First named as unused sub a week before his 15th birthday for a 3-1 win at Bolton on September 18th 2004, won 3-1.

U18s career stats: 20+5 league apps / 0 goals , 0+1 FAYC apps / 0 goals. (Not including Wednesday's game with Preston, see p 51). Reze tournament, Easter 2006, played five out of six games, scoring in penalty shoot out win over Niort.



put sessions on for him and he's done well so we're pleased with him so far."

A first year Academy player who only left school this Summer, Michael is getting to grips with being a full time footballer: "At first it was hard to adjust but now that I have adjusted I'm enjoying it and feel that I'm a lot fitter. I'd say stamina is one of my strengths, both in terms of getting forward

and being able to get back again. At first I wasn't getting forward as much as I do now. Tackling and reading of the game are other things I'm good at while to improve the thing I need to improve on most is my crossing. When I do get into that final third the quality of my crosses has to be better although I do feel as if I'm improving in that area. At the end of a session on a Friday Kevin Ball will ask if there's anything anyone else wants to do and I'll stay behind and work on my crossing ahead of the following day's game. The coaching staff tell us how we can improve as a team and from time to time they'll take people aside to give some individual advice which is always helpful. I have also been doing extra weights to strengthen my upper body."

Michael has been with the club since 1997: "I've been here since I was eight and I'm seventeen now. When I first came I was training at Pallion and later at the old Charlie Hurley Centre. There were many nights when my mam and dad, Colin and Susan would bring me down and then have to wait for me. They've had a lot of sacrifices to make to help me and they saw me play for England when I played in Northern Ireland. I've played four times for England so far, once for the Under 16s against Northern Ireland in the Victory Shield and I played three times at U17 level in Reykjavik in Iceland in the Nordic Cup last season when we played Iceland, The Faroe Islands and the Republic of Ireland"

RESERVES FIXTURES

DATE	VENUE	OPPOSITION	RESULT	SCORERS
Aug 3rd	AoL	South Korea U20s	1-0	Brown
Sept 18th	SoL	Doncaster Rovers	4-1	Smith K. (2) Miller T. Welsh
Sept 28th	Eppleton	Liverpool	1-0	Dowson
Oct 10th	A	Middlesbrough	0-1	
Oct 25th	A	Leeds Utd	3-0	Hysen, Dowson (2)
Nov 14th	AoL	Middlesbrough	2-1	Lawrence Hysen
Nov 21st	AoL	Darlington	2-2	Waghorn, Dennehy
Dec 12th	A	Berwick Rangers	KO 7.30	
Dec 19th	H-TBC	York City		

RESERVES AT BERWICK: The reserves have a game at Berwick Rangers on Tuesday night. With many first team squad players out on loan it is likely that the game will give several young players a chance to impress.

Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



FA Premier Academy Under 18 Group D

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PT
1	Sunderland U18	14	8	5	1	30	15	+15	29
2	Nottingham Forest U18	14	6	4	4	22	13	+9	22
3	Newcastle United U18	13	7	1	5	26	20	+6	22
4	Derby County U18	14	6	3	5	22	18	+4	21
5	Sheffield Wednesday U18	14	6	3	5	16	16	0	21
6	Middlesbrough U18	13	4	5	4	22	24	-2	17
7	Sheffield United U18	14	4	4	6	16	20	-4	16
8	Leeds United U18	14	4	3	7	19	26	-7	15
9	Huddersfield Town U18	14	3	1	10	12	29	-17	10
10	Barnsley U18	14	2	3	9	17	32	-15	9

UPTO AND INCLUDING DECEMBER 8TH

With the confidence gained from playing international football, allied to now being full time, Michael is looking forward having started to get an opportunity in the reserves: "I was happy with how I did against Boro reserves in my first game especially as I was up against quality experienced players such as Arca and Mendieta. The tempo was quite high but the step up wasn't as big as I thought it would be. In fact the defence probably got more time because the forwards tended to drop off so I was able to get my head up. A lot of players have left so when reserve games are played some of us will have to step up and I hope there'll be space for me. Last season I never expected to have played for the reserves so soon and I'd like to think that I could progress to the first team perhaps before some people expect it too."

SUNDERLAND 2 SHEFFIELD UNITED 0 December 2nd 2006

Jack Colback's first goal at this level secured another good win that kept Sunderland at the

top of their group in the FA Premier Academy League.

The Killingworth midfielder showed the killer touch after 51 minutes, cleverly beating his man before gleefully beating 'keeper Stephen Hernandez to get his name on the goalscoring charts. Colback has been a driving force in the Sunderland midfield this season and created the opening goal mid way through the first half when his corner was glanced home by Nathan Luscombe.

Luscombe and Robbie Weir had other good chances to extend the lead but a first home clean sheet of the season and another three points was a satisfactory outcome on a day when the wind made good football difficult. There was a first start for Jordan Cook after his two goals as a sub at Barnsley last time out.

SUNDERLAND: Carson, Kay, Smith, McArdle, Liddle, Weir, Chandler (Henderson 40), Colback, Luscombe, Cook (Waghorn 70), Dowson (Home-Jackson 70). **Unused subs:** Backhouse & Chapman

U18 FIXTURE LIST - SEASON 2006/07

DATE	GAME	V	FA	KO/SCORERS
August				
Sat 19th	Aston Villa	H	0-1	
Sat 26th	Milton Keynes Dons	A	2-1	Luscombe, Dowson
September				
Sat 2nd	Wolves	H	1-1	Chapman
Sat 9th	Liverpool	H	3-1	Weir, Chapman, Chandler
Sat 16th	Blackburn Rovers	A	3-1	Chapman, Chandler (2)
Sat 23rd	Nottingham Forest	A	0-0	
Sat 30th	Huddersfield Town	H	4-2	Weir, Waghorn, Donoghue, Chandler
October				
Sat 7th	Sheffield Wednesday	A	1-1	Dowson
Sat 14th	Derby County	H	3-1	Home-Jackson, Liddle, Luscombe
Fri 20th	Newcastle United	A	2-0	Waghorn, Dowson
November				
Sat 4th	Middlesbrough	H	2-2	Home-Jackson, Dowson
Sat 11th	Leeds	A	2-2	Richardson, Smith
Sat 18th	Barnsley	A	5-2	Waghorn (2), Chandler, Cook (2)
December				
Sat 2nd	Sheffield United	H	2-0	Luscombe, Colback
Wed 6th	Preston NE (FAYC)*	H		SOL - 7.00pm*
Sat 9th	Derby County	A		1.00pm
January				
Sat 6th	Newcastle United	H		12 Noon
Sat 13th	Middlesbrough	A		12 Noon
Sat 20th	Leeds	H		11.30am
February				
Sat 3rd	Barnsley	H		12 Noon
Sat 10th	Sheffield United	A		12 Noon
Sat 17th	Nottingham Forest	H		1.00pm
Sat 24th	Huddersfield Town	A		12 Noon
March				
Sat 3rd	Sheffield Wednesday	H		12 Noon
Sat 10th	West Bromwich Albion	A		1.00pm
Sat 17th	Everton	H		12.30pm
Sat 24th	Manchester City	H		12.30pm
April				
Sat 14th	Manchester United	A		12 Noon
Sat 21st	Crewe Alexandra	A		1.00pm

* SEE PAGE 51 OF THIS ISSUE FOR SCORE AND MATCH REPORT.

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IN THE WINGS



Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-1

Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



FA YOUTH CUP:

YOUNGSTERS GO THROUGH IN FIVE-GOAL STADIUM OF LIGHT THRILLER

SAFC U18S 3
PRESTON
NORTH END
U18S 2

FA Youth Cup 3rd Rd
December 6th, 2006
Att: 566

Two of Sunderland's goalscorers had decidedly mixed nights, Nathan Luscombe scoring an own goal just four minutes after the delight of scoring at the right end but that disappointment was nothing compared to that of England midfielder Jamie Chandler who 22 minutes after his 11th minute opener found himself being stretchered off and whisked straight to hospital for an X Ray which revealed a fractured tibia.

Thankfully no misfortune visited the WearSiders' skipper Robbie Weir who also got on the scoresheet. Sunderland only showed glimpses of the passing



NATHAN LUSCOMBE FIRES IN SUNDERLAND'S DECISIVE THIRD GOAL

game that has taken them to the top of their league but the lads made progress despite a spirited effort from PNE.

Dave Dowson created the first two goals as Sunderland took a 2-0 half time lead. One of Sunderland's trio of England internationals, Dowson robbed Mark Bloxham on the goal line and when his cross was knocked back into the danger area by PNE defender Dylan Adams, Chandler had already detected the danger and swooped to score.

Just past the half hour mark Dowson's persistence on the right saw him hit a low cross for Weir to steer home but moments later Chandler's injury disturbed Sunderland's rhythm.

North End captain Chris McGrail reduced the deficit in the 62nd minute and twelve minutes later Preston had loud

appeals for a penalty for handball by Weir turned down as they pressed for an equaliser. Five minutes from time Luscombe looked to have eased Sunderland through with a well taken goal only to head into his own net to keep a close contest alive until the final whistle.

"The main thing was that we scored three good goals and got through to the next round and I'm pleased for the lads but the injury to Jamie Chandler is a real sickener for us all" said Kevin Ball.

SUNDERLAND:

Backhouse, Kay, Smith, McArdle, Liddle, Weir, Chandler (Henderson 33), Colback, Luscombe, Waghorn (Chapman 87), Dowson (Home-Jackson 67).

Unused subs:
Hunter, Madden and Cook.



HOT SEAT:
WIN A MEN'S SNOWBOARD JACKET WORTH £40

At every game we announce a 'Hot-Seat' number at half time. If we announce your seat number you could have won a prize PROVIDING you have a copy of today's match programme.

Today's prize is a men's snowboard jacket worth £40.

Please be aware that row and seat numbers can be the same in different stands. To be our winner you must have a ticket for the correct stand, with the correct row and seat number together with your programme. Prizes must be claimed at half time.

If you are not at your seat when the number is read out report to your nearest steward before half time is over showing them your ticket and programme and ask them to report your claim to Martin

Walker in the PR dept. No prize claims can be accepted after half time.

CLUB NEWS:

DECISIVE DOZEN STARTS WITH THE NEXT HOME GAME



No doubt there will be a big crowd for the holiday game with Leeds. Just four days later high flying Preston come to the north end of the country hoping to demonstrate their promotion credentials. Both look like being cracking matches.

There is never any love lost when Sunderland play Leeds or any team Dennis Wise is involved with and with the visitors looking to atone for a heavy home defeat against the lads earlier in the season a pulsating match is in prospect. However when Paul Simpson's PNE arrive (Complete with Danny Dichio and the on loan Tommy Miller) the boot will be on the other foot with Sunderland this time looking to make up for

TABLE OF PRICES - 12-GAME SEASON TICKET 2006/07		
CATEGORY	PRICE	SAVING ON MATCH-TO-MATCH PURCHASING
Under 12s - Concession Areas	£65	£31
Under 16s - Concession Areas	£75	£21
Under 22s - Concession Areas	£125	£103
Senior Citizen- Concession Areas	£135	£33
Under 16 - West & East Stand and Premier Concourse Wings	£75	£21
Adult concession corners	£175	£53
Adult - Kronenbourg North Stand / South Stand	£185	£103
Adult - West & East Stand and Premier Wing	£225	£63
Adult - West & East Stand and Premier Centre	£245	£43
Disabled Patron	Prevailing prices as above	As above
Personal Assistant/Helper	Free of Charge	
Black Cats Bar	£385	£35

a being on the wrong end of a 4-1 scoreline at Deepdale in October.

With Christmas fast approaching we are steaming towards the business end of the season, the time when the league table really counts. A bad start means that the Lads have given Preston

and Co a head start but the 'decisive dozen' home games beginning with the visit of Leeds is when, with the help of the red and white army, Roy Keane's team will look to close in on the leading pack.

With the transfer window opening in January hopefully Santa will stay

in red and white for a few days after Christmas and help with Keano's shopping list so by the time Ipswich arrive on Wearside in mid-January there might be a debut or two in the offing. As Sunderland supporters know only too well after controversially losing to them in the Play Offs three

seasons ago, Crystal Palace have shown that promotion can be won on the back of a great second half of the season and when the Londoners come north at the end of January all being well Sunderland's surge will be well under way.

Coventry (Clarke), Southend (Arnaud), Derby (Stead) and Stoke (Lawrence and the injured Delap) all presently have Sunderland players on loan. They are the next four home games on the horizon through February and March and by then quite possibly some of those players will have joined Kevin Kyle (Coventry) in making their moves permanent and will be keenly anticipating their Stadium of Light returns.

The visit of Hull and Michael Bridges then precedes the Wolves game that quite apart from bringing Messrs McCarthy, Evans, Bowman, Breen, (maybe Neill Collins) and Craddock back to Sunderland could be a crunch game between sides battling for precious points in the promotion race. QPR are next up before Steve Cotterill's Burnley with their leading scorer Andy Gray bring the curtain down on the home league programme.

Clearly the 'decisive dozen' games are going to be vitally important and as Niall Quinn has made clear a stadium bouncing with Sunderland fans can frighten the life out of visiting teams and play a

Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



huge psychological role. Together with his Drumaville colleagues, Niall is doing what Sunderland fans have wanted in trying to get the club back to the top along with Roy Keane and his squad. Sunderland's gates are already the biggest in the Championship but you all know that with the return of supporters browned off by the disappointments of the last two Premiership campaigns, gates at the Stadium of Light can soar and the momentum gained from that would help massively in taking the Lads back to the top flight only this time with a different approach.

Buying a twelve game season ticket saves adults over £100 compared to

coming to games on a match by match basis and a parent and child together can come to the match for less than £21 a game with the twelve game ticket. If you are thinking about snapping up a season ticket for the remaining games or you know someone who is thinking about doing so then now is the time to be decisive. Be at the Leeds game as a season ticket holder knowing that you are up for the second half of the season as part of the red and white army and don't forget that as a season



SUNDERLAND 1 NORWICH CITY 0

SATURDAY DECEMBER 2ND,
COCA COLA CHAMPIONSHIP

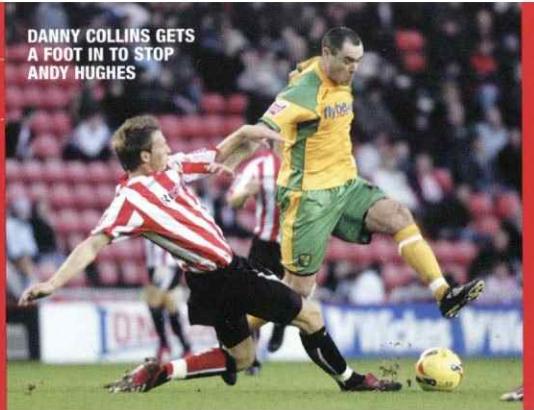


Daryl Murphy's all important goal thirteen minutes from time separated the sides in what was a hard fought contest.

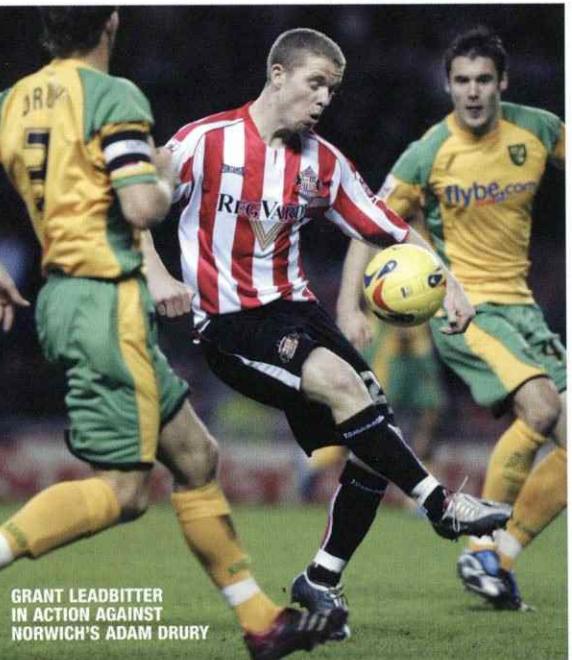
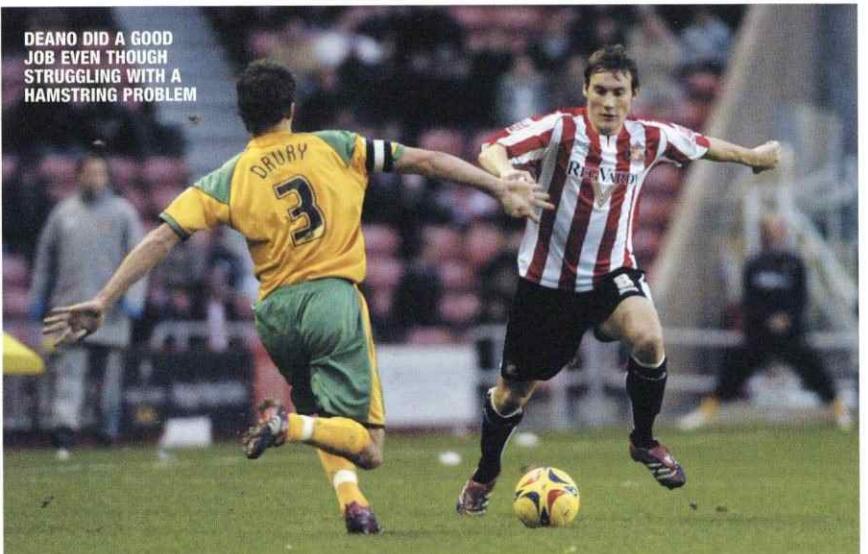
Murphy almost beat his own record for the Championship's quickest goal of the season when he brought a save out of Lee Camp in the first few seconds but despite the bright start the game largely lacked incident.

Sunderland though dug in and worked hard to make sure they won the game even if it had to be achieved with graft rather than grace.

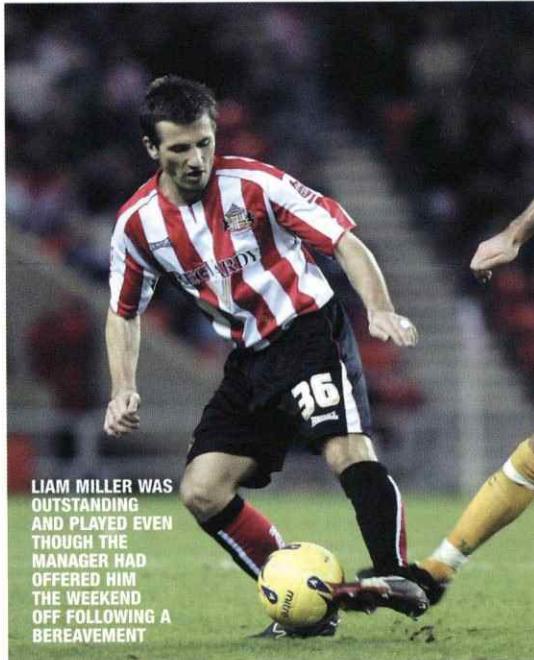
DANNY COLLINS GETS A FOOT IN TO STOP ANDY HUGHES



DEANO DID A GOOD JOB EVEN THOUGH STRUGGLING WITH A HAMSTRING PROBLEM

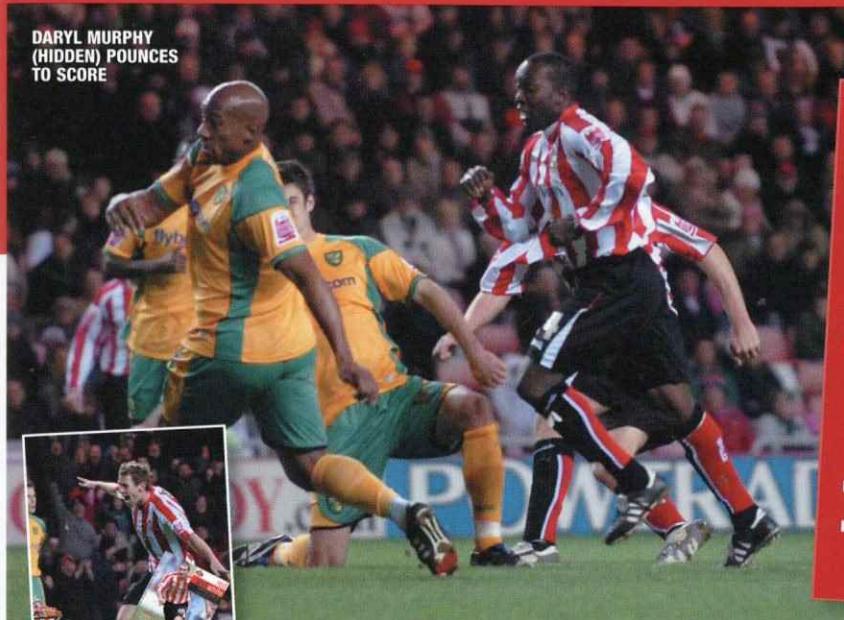


GRANT LEADBITTER IN ACTION AGAINST NORWICH'S ADAM DRURY



LIAM MILLER WAS OUTSTANDING AND PLAYED EVEN THOUGH THE MANAGER HAD OFFERED HIM THE WEEKEND OFF FOLLOWING A BEREAVEMENT

DARYL MURPHY (HIDDEN) POUNCES TO SCORE



Full match DVDs of all home games with commentary by either Magic 1152 or BBC Radio Newcastle are available from club shops, priced £9.99.



Sunderland vs Norwich City

Date: 02/12/2006 Result: 1-0

Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



MATCH FACTS

- Of the last thirteen games between the clubs ten have been settled by one goal with the others being draws.
- A first clean sheet in seven games was achieved.
- The unbeaten run stretched to five games, the best of the season.
- The win kept the Lads in 14th place, the bottom of four sides on 30 points and below Sheffield Wednesday only on alphabetical order, the clubs sharing goal difference and number of goals scored.
- Carl Robinson was injured on his return to the Stadium of Light.
- Marton Fulop was on the bench for the first time at the Stadium of Light.

DARYL MURPHY IS MOBBED BY TEAM MATES AFTER SCORING THE ONLY GOAL OF THE GAME



All I want for Christmas is for Daddy to stop hitting Mummy



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TICKET NEWS



Sunderland vs Norwich City
 Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
 Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



HOME & AWAY:

CRYSTAL PALACE HAVE NOW REDUCED THEIR PRICES FOR THE FIXTURE AGAINST THE LADS AT SELHURST PARK ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22ND.

HOW TO PURCHASE MATCH TICKETS

By Phone: 0845671 1973

(All major credit and debit cards accepted but not American Express, Diners Club & Visa Electron)

Open:

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 7.00pm.
 Saturday - 9.00am - 1.00pm.
 Matchdays until kick off.

A 24 hour service is also available for home league and cup tickets from Ticketmaster: 08705 862 015

Stadium of Light Ticket office for personal callers:
 Monday - Friday 10.00am - 5.30pm.
 Saturday - 9.00am - 1.00pm.

Matchdays until kick off.

Internet: On the ticket page at the Sunderland AFC

website: www.safc.com

Fax: 0191 551 5150

Post: Sales, PO Box 165,

Sunderland SR5 1WF

SAFC Ticket Info Line:

0968 12 18 81 (60p per min)

Disabled & Visually Impaired:

Tickets can be purchased by contacting the SAFC

Ticket Office on: 0191 551 5156

or by emailing: disability@safc.com

Parking: Matchday parking at the

Sunderland Stadium of Light is sold out for the 2005-06 season. There is a **FREE** Park & Ride scheme in operation on matchdays.

MATCHDAY PRICES

PRICE

West Stand

Adults and ALL centre tickets	£24
Wings: U16	£8
Wings: Senior Citizens (65+)	£14

Premier Concourse

Adults and ALL centre tickets	£24
Wings: U16	£8
Wings: Senior Citizens (65+)	£14

East Stand

Adults and ALL centre tickets	£24
Wings: U16	£8
Wings: Senior Citizens (65+)	£14

South Stand

Adults	£24
--------	-----

Kronenbourg Cold

Premiere Stand	£24
----------------	-----

Adults	£24
--------	-----

Kronenbourg Cold

Premiere Upper Stand	£24
----------------------	-----

Centre All Tickets	£24
U16	£8
Adults	£19
Senior Citizens (65+)	£14

Upper Concession Corner

U16	£8
Adults	£19
Senior Citizens (65+)	£14

Concession Corner

U16	£8
Adults	£19
Senior Citizens (65+)	£14

Disabled

Wheelchair Stand Specific
 Helpers FREE

Black Cats Bar	£35
----------------	-----

Adult	£35
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HOME LEAGUE GAMES

SAFC vs LEEDS UNITED

Tuesday 26th December 2006, KO 3.00pm
 Tickets are now on sale to supporters with
VALID MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS ONLY.

SAFC vs PRESTON NORTH END

Saturday 30th December 2006, KO 3.00pm
Tickets are now on sale.

AWAY LEAGUE GAMES

BURNLEY vs SAFC

at Turf Moor, Saturday 16th December 2006, KO 3.00pm
Tickets are now on general sale
 - subject to availability.

Prices: Adults £18; Over 65s £11.50; Under 16s £9.

CRYSTAL PALACE vs SAFC

at Selhurst Park, Friday 22nd December 2006, KO 7.45pm

Tickets are now on general sale
 - subject to availability.

Prices: Adults £25; Over 65s £15; Under 16s £15.

LEICESTER CITY vs SAFC

at Walkers Stadium, Monday 1st January 2007, KO 3.00pm

Season Ticket Holders: Apply until 5th December using voucher 41

General Sale: Will start 14th December
 - subject to availability.

Prices: Adults £22; Over 65s £20; Juniors* (16-21) £20; (8-15) £12; (under 8) free.

* Proof of age will be required at point of sale and at turnstiles.

FA CUP THIRD ROUND

PRESTON NORTH END vs SAFC

at Deepdale, Saturday 6th January 2007, Kick Off 3.00pm

Season Ticket Holders: Apply until 20th December using voucher 58

General Sale: Will start 28th December - subject to availability.

Prices: Adults £20; Over 65s £13; Juniors* (16-17) £13; (under 16) £7.

* Proof of age will be required at point of sale and at turnstiles.



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BARRY JACKSON



Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



STATS STORY:

OUR RESIDENT STATISTICIAN DIPS INTO HIS ARCHIVES TO FIND THE STORIES BEHIND THE FACTS AND FIGURES. TODAY BARRY TELLS THE TALE OF THE TAPE BEHIND PLAYERS MAKING CONSECUTIVE APPEARANCES AWAY FROM HOME.

CONSECUTIVE APPEARANCES

Dean Whitehead's run of 46 consecutive starts in first team away matches came to an end at Loftus Road but his second half substitute appearance ensured that he kept his record of playing some part in every away game since his debut for Sunderland at Coventry in August 2004.

This run of 56 games puts him joint sixth in the all-time list for consecutive away appearances for the Black Cats.

Whitehead has missed only five of 113 games since joining Sunderland, all home fixtures.

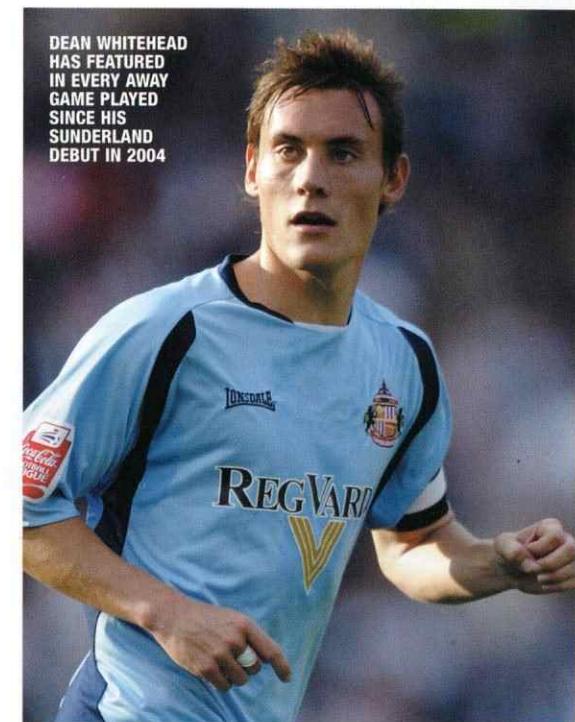
As you can see from the table, provided he plays some part in next

week's game at Burnley, Whitehead will move ahead of the trio of players he currently is tied with on 56 successive away games. Providing he then plays at Crystal Palace Deano will overtake 1973 FA Cup winner Dick Malone.

- The record for consecutive home appearances is held by legendary goalkeeper Ted Doig who didn't miss a match at Newcastle Road or Roker Park between October 18th 1890 and April 1st 1899, a run of 142 games.

- Cup-winning captain Bobby Kerr holds the ground record for Roker Park with 114 consecutive home appearances in the mid 1970s.

DEAN WHITEHEAD HAS FEATURED IN EVERY AWAY GAME PLAYED SINCE HIS SUNDERLAND DEBUT IN 2004



- Former custodian Tommy Sorensen has the longest unbroken run of appearances at the SOL with the 32 he made throughout the title-winning season of 1998-99 and the start of the following campaign in the Premiership.

- Sunderland's record holder for consecutive appearances in all matches is held by Glaswegian right-half Charlie Thomson who racked up an unbroken sequence of 147 games in the 1930s.

FIFTY PLUS CONSECUTIVE AWAY APPEARANCES FOR SUNDERLAND

Number	Player	Period	Apps (incl sub)
1	Sandy McAllister	1898-1902	90
2	Charlie Thomson	1934-37	75
3	George Mulhall	1962-65	69
4	Dariusz Kubicki	1994-96	60
5	Dick Malone	1973-75	57
6=	Ted Doig	1890-93	56
6=	Bert Davis	1933-35	56
6=	Gordon Armstrong	1989-91	56
6=	Dean Whitehead	2004-06	56*
7	Jim Montgomery	1962-64	53
8	Chris Turner	1983-85	52

* up to and including QPR (a) 28-11-06

SHARP SHOOTERS

Player	Team	Lge	Cup	Ttl
Robert Earnshaw	Norwich	13	0	13
Grzegorz Rasiak	Southampton	13	0	13
Michael Chopra	Cardiff	11	0	11
Nicklas Bendtner	Birmingham	8	2	10
Freddy Eastwood	Southend	6	4	10
Andy Gray	Burnley	10	0	10
Jamie Cureton	Colchester	10	0	10
Rowan Vine	Luton	9	1	10
Chris Iwelumo	Colchester	9	0	9

WHERE TO SEE GOALS (By Ground)

Ground	Home Team	M	Gls	G/Mt
Layer Road Ground	Colchester	10	34	3.40
Kenilworth Stadium	Luton	11	37	3.36
Portman Road	Ipswich	11	37	3.36
Lotus Road Stadium	QPR	11	35	3.18
The Hawthorns	West Brom	10	29	2.90
Carrow Road	Norwich	10	29	2.90
Turf Moor	Burnley	11	31	2.82
Roots Hall	Southend	11	31	2.82
Oakwell Stadium	Barnsley	10	28	2.80
Elland Road	Leeds	11	30	2.73
Hillsborough	Sheff Wed	11	29	2.64
Home Park	Plymouth	11	28	2.55
St Andrews	Birmingham	10	25	2.50
The KC Stadium	Hull	10	25	2.50
The Walkers Stadium	Leicester	11	27	2.45
Stadium of Light	Sunderland	10	23	2.30
Pride Park Stadium	Derby	10	23	2.30
Deepdale	Preston	11	25	2.27
Selhurst Park	Crystal Pal	11	24	2.18
Ninian Park	Cardiff	10	21	2.10
St Marys Stadium	Southampton	10	21	2.10
Molineux Stadium	Wolves	11	23	2.09
Britannia Stadium	Stoke	10	20	2.00
Ricoh Arena	Coventry	10	19	1.90

TEAM LEADERS

Team with the most..
shots on target 164 Southampton. **shots off target** 144 Southampton. **corners** 170 Plymouth. **hit woodwork** 9 West Brom. **offsides** 88 Luton. **fouls** 335 Plymouth. **yellow cards** 53 Ipswich. **red cards** 5 Burnley.

PLAYER POWER

Player with the most..
Shots 89 Robert Earnshaw (Norwich). **Shots on target** 45 Robert Earnshaw (Norwich). **Shots off target** 44 Robert Earnshaw (Norwich). **Assists** 9 Gary McSheffrey (Coventry). **Crosses** 93 Wade Elliott (Burnley). **Offsides** 41 Jamie Cureton (Colchester). **Fouls** 72 Steve Howard (Derby). **Free-kicks won** 50 Patrick Kisnorbo (Leicester).



2006/07 SEASON
actim STATIS

GOAL COUNTER

655

RIGHT FOOT

345 goals

52.7%

LEFT FOOT

159 goals

24.3%

HEADERS

132 goals

20.2%

QUICK-FIRE GOALS

From the start of a match
Daryl Murphy (Sunderland vs Plymouth) 0:31

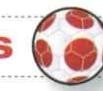
By a substitute after coming on
Wayne Andrews (Coventry vs Barnsley) 0:47

In the Coca Cola Championship this season there have been 2781 shots on target, goals constitute 23.6% of all shots (doesn't include own goals). The woodwork has come to the rescue of the defending side on 119 occasions (the biggest beneficiaries being Leicester 11). There have been 56 penalties awarded this season and of those 49 have been scored (a success rate of 87.5%). Ipswich have been awarded most penalties - 6. Derby have given most penalties away 5. The team to score the most penalties is Sheff Wed 6. Leeds missed 1 penalties in the Coca Cola Championship this season.

RESULTS
How many times each result has occurred this season - home sides score shown first

0-0	17
1-0	30
2-0	23
3-0	10
4-0	2
5-0	2
0-1	27
0-2	7
0-3	3
0-4	1
0-5	-
1-1	27
2-1	22
3-1	13
4-1	3
5-1	3
6-1	-
1-2	18
1-3	3
1-4	2
1-5	1
2-2	13
3-2	8
4-2	3
5-2	-
2-3	7
2-4	1
2-5	-
3-3	4
4-3	2
5-3	-
3-4	-
3-5	-
4-4	-
5-4	-
4-5	-
5-5	-

CATS' STATS



Sunderland vs Norwich City
Date: 02.12.2006 Result: 1-0
Daryl Murphy's great goal earns another three points



FIRST TEAM STATISTICS

OUR FIRST TEAM STATISTICS SECTION NOW COVERS THREE PAGES, GIVING YOU THE COMPLETE PICTURE OF THE BLACK CAT'S 2006-07 CAMPAIGN.

CHAMPIONSHIP FIXTURES & RESULTS GRID

	BARNESLEY	BIRMINGHAM	BURNLEY	CARDIFF	COLCHESTER	COVENTRY	C PALACE	DERBY	HULL	IPSWICH	LEEDS	LEICESTER	LUTON	NORWICH	PLYMOUTH	PRESTON	QPR	SHEFF WED	SOUTHAMPTON	SOUTHEND	STOKE	SUNDERLAND	WBA	WOLVES
09/04	2-0	07/04	03/03	2-1	01/04	2-1	10/03	2-1	2-2	13/01	1-1	29/12	0-1	3-0	09/12	26/12	28/04	14/04	30/01	10/02	20/02	2-0	1-1	
2-0	4-2	1-2	09/04	1-2	06/05	03/03	23/12	2-0	1-0	2-1	20/02	31/03	20/01	10/03	3-2	2-0	10/02	2-3	0-0	01/01	16/12	21/04	0-1	
2-0	2-0	2-0	1-0	0-0	1-0	30/12	2-2	28/04	09/12	17/02	30/01	4-1	10/03	26/12	24/02	0-1	07/04	1-0	13/01	14/04	31/03	1-1	4-0	
1-2	1-2	0-0	24/02	3-1	10/03	06/05	4-3	5-1	1-0	09/04	13/01	26/12	31/03	0-1	30/01	4-0	2-0	3-0	3-0	16/12	21/04	17/02	30/12	
0-1	17/03	0-1	09/12	10/02	2-1	13/01	1-2	03/03	26/12	1-0	0-4	30/01	3-0	14/04	07/04	3-1	20/02	30/12	0-0	2-1	28/04	13/03	0-1	
2-0	2-0	17/02	2-2	1-2	09/12	1-0	28/04	20/01	03/02	1-0	10/03	24/02	01/01	0-1	07/04	3-0	31/03	0-2	1-1	22/12	0-2	14/04	0-1	
2-1	2-1	0-1	31/01	17/03	03/03	09/04	16/12	10/02	2-1	06/05	1-0	21/04	0-0	30/12	1-1	2-2	3-0	21/02	1-2	2-1	26/12	0-1	0-1	
2-3	2-3	24/02	30/12	16/12	14/04	0-1	1-1	1-2	17/02	30/01	26/12	0-0	06/04	06/05	10/03	13/01	2-1	31/03	0-2	0-1	03/02	2-0	20/02	
0-1	07/04	0-1	01/01	1-1	1-2	14/04	0-0	16/12	10/02	5-0	3-1	31/03	2-3	0-2	1-1	10/03	23/12	3-1	5-0	15-20	0-1	0-1	11/03	
0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	
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0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	
0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	
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0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	
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0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	
0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1																					

**CATS' STATS**

FIRST TEAM STATISTICS:

THE COMPLETE 2006-07 MATCH-BY-MATCH RECORD

DATE	OPPOSITION	KICK-OFF/SCORE F-A	POS	ATTEN	AWAY	GOALSCORERS	1	2	3	4
Sun 6th Aug	Coventry City (TV)	1-2	-	22,366	2,584	MURPHY 51, John 70, McSheffrey 79	G	U		RB
Wed 9th Aug	Birmingham City	0-1	22nd	26,668	564	Forssell 40 (P)	G	U		RB
Sat 12th Aug	Plymouth Argyle	2-3	22nd	24,377	657	MURPHY 1, Norris 7, Hayles 38, ELLIOTT S. 66, Chadwick 81	G	Sub		RB
Sat 19th Aug	Southend United	1-3	21st	9,848	1,745	Barrett 45+1 & 67, Bradbury 88, STEAD 90+3	G	RB y		LM
Tues 22nd Aug	Bury (CC1)	0-2	-	2,930	1,056	Fitzgerald 83, Bishop 88	G	RWB		LWB
Mon 28th Aug	West Bromwich Albion (TV)	2-0	23rd	24,242	829	WHITEHEAD 33, COLLINS N. 46	G			RB
Sat 9th Sep	Derby County	2-1	21st	26,502	4,709	Oakley 45+1, BROWN 62, WALLACE 63	G			RB y
Wed 13th Sep	Leeds United	3-0	14th	23,037	4,904	L. MILLER 28, KAVANAGH 45, S. ELLIOTT 47	G			
Sat 16th Sep	Leicester City	1-1	14th	35,104	776	Fryatt 48, HYSEN 65	G			
Sat 23rd Sep	Ipswich Town	1-3	17th	23,211	1,700	DE VOS OG 29, Currie 31, Lee 64 & 66	G			
Sat 30th Sep	Sheffield Wednesday	1-0	14th	36,764	2,539	LEADBITTER 57	G			
Sat 14th Oct	Preston North End	1-4	17th	19,603	5,747	Dichio 18, Alexander (p) 31, Whitehead OG 35, Whaley 55, VARGA 56	G			
Tues 17th Oct	Stoke City	1-2	19th	14,482	1,351	YORKE 26, Hendrie 50, Pericard 54	U			
Sat 21st Oct	Barnsley	2-0	17th	27,918	1,401	WHITEHEAD 82, BROWN 88	U	Sub		
Sat 28th Oct	Hull City	1-0	13th	21,512	3,996	WALLACE 80+2	U	LB		
Tues 31st Oct	Cardiff City	1-2	15th	26,528	712	Chopra 4 & 37, BROWN 9	U	LB		
Sat 4th Nov	Norwich City	0-1	17th	24,652	1,708	Earnshaw 51	U	LB		
Sat 11th Nov	Southampton	1-1	19th	25,667	882	WALLACE 62, Bale 90				LB
Sat 18th Nov	Colchester United	3-1	15th	25,197	720	ELLIOTT S. 45 & 52, Iwembo 78, CONNOLLY 90				LB
Fri 24th Nov	Wolverhampton Wanderers (TV)	1-1	16th	27,203	2,048	Johnson 43, ELLIOTT S. 80				LB
Tues 28th Nov	Queens Park Rangers	2-1	14th	13,108	2,273	MURPHY 17, LEADBITTER 45+, Blackstock 72				LB
Sat 2nd Dec	Norwich City	1-0	14th	27,934	895	MURPHY 76				
Sat 9th Dec	Luton Town	3.00pm								
Sat 16th Dec	Burnley	3.00pm								
Fri 22nd Dec	Crystal Palace (TV)	8.00pm								
Tues 26th Dec	Leeds United	3.00pm								
Sat 30th Dec	Preston North End	3.00pm								
Mon 1st Jan	Leicester City	3.00pm								
Sat 6th Jan	Preston North End (FAC3)	3.00pm								
Sat 13th Jan	Ipswich Town	3.00pm								
Sat 20th Jan	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00pm								
Sat 27th Jan	FA Cup 4									
Tues 30th Jan	Crystal Palace	7.45pm								
Sat 3rd Feb	Coventry City	3.00pm								
Sat 10th Feb	Plymouth Argyle	3.00pm								
Sat 17th Feb	Southend United (or FAC5)	3.00pm								
Tues 20th Feb	Birmingham City	7.45pm								
Mon 26th Feb	Derby County (TV)	7.45pm								
Sat 3rd Mar	West Bromwich Albion	3.00pm								
Sat 10th Mar	Barnsley (or FAC6)	3.00pm								
Tues 13th Mar	Stoke City	7.45pm								
Sat 17th Mar	Hull City	3.00pm								
Sat 31st Mar	Cardiff City	3.00pm								
Sat 7th Apr	Wolverhampton Wanderers	3.00pm								
Mon 9th Apr	Southampton	3.00pm								
Sat 14th Apr	QPR (or FACs-f)	3.00pm								
Sat 21st Apr	Colchester United	3.00pm								
Sat 28th Apr	Burnley	3.00pm								
Sun 6th May	Luton Town	3.00pm								
Sat 19th May	FA Cup Final									

Derby's visit to the Stadium of Light in February has been put back two days for live TV.

The fixture has been selected by Sky TV and will now be played on Monday, February 26th (kick-off: 7.45pm).



LEGION OF LIGHT

Sunderland AFC's official magazine 'Legion of Light' is published quarterly and is essential reading for all fans.

The current issue includes exclusive in-depth interviews with Roy Keane and Graham Kavanagh, puts Dwight Yorke in the 'Footballers' Lives' spotlight and meets up with former Sunderland and England star of the fifties, Ivor Broadis.

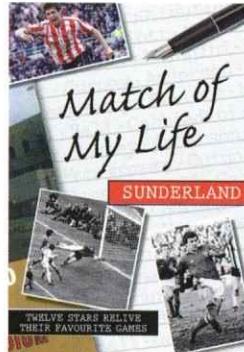
Subscriptions including postage and packing are just £14 or £18.80 for Europe and £19.80 for the Rest of the World. Orders can be placed on safc.com/shop/publications or by ringing 0191 551 5066.

BEN ALNICK	01-01-87
STEPHEN WRIGHT	08-02-80
LEWIN NYATANGA	18-06-88
RORY DELAP	06-07-76

KENNY CUNNINGHAM	28-06-71
STEVE CALDWELL	12-09-80
LIAM LAWRENCE	14-12-81
DEAN WHITEHEAD	12-01-82
JON STEAD	07-04-83
STEPHEN ELLIOTT	06-01-84
DARYL MURPHY	15-03-83
NYRON NOSWORTHY	11-10-80
DARREN WARD	11-05-74
TOMMY MILLER	08-01-79
DANNY COLLINS	06-08-80
TOBIAS HYSEN	09-03-82
ANDY WELSH	24-01-83
WILLIAM MOCQUET	23-01-83
ARNAU	01-10-81
CHRIS BROWN	11-12-84
KEVIN SMITH	20-03-87
NEILL COLLINS	02-09-83
CLIVE CLARKE	14-01-80
GRANT LEADBITTER	07-01-86
TREVOR CARSON	05-03-88
ROBBIE ELLIOTT	25-12-73
STANISLAV VARGA	08-10-72
GRAHAM KAVANAGH	03-12-73
PETER HARTLEY	03-04-88
JAKE RICHARDSON	22-10-87
DAVID CONNOLLY	06-08-77
MARTON FILUP	03-05-83
ROSS WALLACE	23-05-86
DWIGHT YORKE	03-11-71
LIAM MILLER	13-02-81
KEVIN KYLE	07-06-81

MATCH OF MY LIFE

Have you got your copy of 'Match of My Life' yet? We're sorry supplies ran out if you tried to buy a copy in Debenhams last weekend but stocks have been replaced and 'Match of My Life' is on sale now at the stadium shop and Sainsburys, Washington as well as Debenhams in Sunderland centre. You can also order online at safc.com/shop/publications.



"I especially loved reading the Bobby Gurney chapter" said Len Ashurst who was back in the stadium shop signing copies prior to last week's match with Norwich. "It surprised me to learn how similar some

things were in Bobby's day to mine. I can remember waiting with all of the other players to see which team you were in, be it the first team, reserves, third, fourth or fifth team. Whichever team you were in you just went with that team there was no arguing about it."

SAFC all time record scorer Gurney, all time highest outfield appearance maker Ashurst, all time highest appearance maker

Jim Montgomery, player of the century Charlie Hurley, chairman Niall Quinn, as well as Stan Anderson, Gary Bennett, Kevin Ball, Tony Norman and goalscoring heroes Gary Rowell, Marco Gabbiadini, Nick Sharkey all contributed to 'Match of My Life' which costs £16.99 in hardback.

KEY
 G = Goalkeeper
 RB = Right back
 RWB = Right wing back
 LB = Left back
 LWB = Left wing back
 CB = Centre Back
 RM = Right midfield
 CM = Centre midfield
 AM = Attacking midfield
 LM = Left midfield
 S = Striker
 y = yellow Card
 r = red card
 Sub = Used Sub
 U = Unused Sub
 CC = Carling Cup
 FAC = FA Cup
 SQUAD NUMBER GREEN = goalkeeper
 SHADED BLACK = left the club
 Matching colours indicate players substituted and the players who replaced them.

NOTE: 13/09/06 vs Leeds United - Grant Leadbitter replaced Stephen Elliott who was himself an earlier substitution.



WISE MEN SAY:

FOOTBALLING BAIRNS USED TO BE STREETS AHEAD

THE VIEWS IN THIS COLUMN DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE OFFICIAL VIEWS OF SUNDERLAND AFC.

"If we'd been youngsters nowadays, we'd all have been given ASBO's."

Jack Snowdon, still as sharp as when keeping goal for his home town club Willington in the 1950 Amateur Cup Final, probably made the most pertinent comment in years about the general decline in fitness levels of modern day teenagers.

age,' gathered to share reminiscences and view with an audience of over 100, Pathe News footage of a period when the ball had a lace and goalies were fair game for a robust shoulder charge.

Why Crook and the reference to anti social behaviour orders? Well between the 1935 action from Bishop Auckland's win over Wimbledon recorded on celluloid and

on social issues was between the sticks.

Of the 24 finals played during those three decades (the second world war caused five fallow years) teams from Wear Valley took 14 of the available places.

And the ASBO's? Questions poured in as to why so much success came to a few parishes in County Durham, at a time when the Amateur Cup was second only to the FA Cup Auckland in the 1954 Final, which went to three games.

Jack Snowdon

reckoned and with some justification, that youngsters in the 1940s learnt the game on the street. Few youth centres or coaching clinics in those days. But now in a more affluent yet less tolerant era, bairns will be chased if a ball is seen bouncing in the roadway. Everything in life has to be organised. Facilities must be tiptop, and even the tiniest tackler has to have all the latest gear before being allowed to kick a ball, following of course obligatory CRB checks and safety risk assessments.

So woe betide any group of ten year olds, particularly if wearing hoods, having an impromptu game on some convenient green space. They will be held responsible for all the ills of the world and clearly conspiring to bring death and destruction to this green and pleasant land. Far better to slap an ASBO on them, so they are confined to the couch viewing DVD's showing good wholesome techno violence. Then citizens can rest easy in their conservatories knowing the streets are safe.

Of course decline in Wear Valley's footballing achievements and the challenge of low participation levels in sport of any description – the north east has the poorest figures in the country – is far more complicated.

But often a word spoken in jest gets you thinking.



WHATEVER HAPPENED TO 30-A-SIDE STREET FOOTBALL WITH THE RESULT DECIDED WHEN YOUR MAM CALLED YOU IN FOR TEA?

Almost 57 years ago, Jack's reflexes were finely tuned in front of 88,000 at Wembley, when Willington overcame their southwest Durham neighbours Bishop Auckland on amateur football's showpiece occasion. By all accounts the young Snowdon "had a magnificent match."

Last month at Crook Library, Jack and several other local heroes of the Northern League's 'golden

1964, the FA Amateur Cup was triumphantly held aloft ten times in three Durham towns, barely six miles apart.

Bishops led the way with five victories, fielding a host of household names, including Bob Paisley later to win a trophy or several with Liverpool. Crook themselves had four successes in ten years, and Willington just the one when a future commentator

in terms of prestige and media attention. Crowds of ten thousand plus were common at Bishop's Kingsway enclosure, Millfield in Crook and Hall Lane home of Willington, when crack southern amateurs from Leytonstone, Hendon and Bromley and future league clubs Wycombe and Barnet, were vanquished.

Over 200,000 witnessed Crook's eventual victory over Bobby Hardisty's Bishop Auckland in the 1954 Final, which went to three games.

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Today's officials

Referee	Mr Andy Penn	
Assistant referee	Mr Mick McDonough	
Assistant referee	Mr Paul Simpson	
Fourth official	Mr Brian Parry	

Black Cats' last game

SAFC 1 - 0 Norwich City



Hatters last game

Luton Town 2 - 0 Preston North End

The Championship 08.12.06

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	P
B'ham	21	6	3	1	17	8	6	1	4	15	13	11	40
Preston	21	7	4	0	19	6	3	4	3	12	13	12	38
Cardiff	21	6	3	1	16	5	5	2	4	15	15	11	38
Derby	21	5	3	2	14	9	6	1	4	17	16	6	37
So'ton	21	6	3	1	14	7	4	3	4	20	17	10	36
Burnley	21	6	1	4	18	13	4	4	2	12	9	8	35
Stoke	21	6	3	1	16	4	3	4	4	13	11	14	34
West Brom	21	7	2	1	21	8	2	3	6	12	15	10	32
Wolves	21	6	3	2	14	9	3	2	5	5	14	-4	32
Colchester	21	8	0	2	25	9	1	4	6	8	16	8	31
Plymouth	21	3	5	3	13	14	4	4	2	12	12	2	30
Coventry	21	5	2	3	12	7	4	1	6	8	11	2	30
Sheff Wed	21	5	3	3	16	13	3	3	4	12	14	1	30
Sunderland	21	5	2	3	14	9	4	1	6	14	18	1	30
Norwich	21	6	2	2	18	11	2	3	6	10	22	-5	29
Palace	21	5	1	5	13	11	2	4	4	12	15	-1	26
Ipswich	21	5	2	4	20	17	2	2	6	11	14	0	25
Luton	21	5	3	3	21	16	2	1	7	7	20	-8	25
QPR	21	3	3	5	17	18	3	3	4	14	18	-5	24
Leicester	21	4	3	4	13	14	1	4	5	7	14	-8	22
Barnsley	21	4	3	3	15	13	2	1	8	12	25	-11	22
Leeds	21	4	1	6	12	18	2	1	7	12	23	-17	20
Hull	21	2	2	6	10	15	2	3	6	8	18	-15	17
Southend	21	2	4	5	13	18	0	2	8	3	20	-22	12

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Also playing today

Birmingham City	v Preston NE
Cardiff City	v Ipswich Town
Coventry City	v Burnley
Crystal Palace	v Colchester Utd.
Leeds Utd	v Derby County

Norwich City	v Sheffield Wednesday
Plymouth Argyle	v Hull City
Southend Utd	v Southampton
Stoke City	v QPR
Wolves	v Leicester City



Sunderland AFC

PLAYED SCORED

- 1 Ben Alnwick (GK)
- 2 Stephen Wright
- 3 Lewin Nyatanga*
- 4 Rory Delap*
- 5 Kenny Cunningham
- 6 Steven Caldwell
- 7 Liam Lawrence*
- 8 Dean Whitehead
- 9 Jonathan Stead*
- 10 Stephen Elliott
- 11 Daryl Murphy
- 12 Nyron Nosworthy
- 13 Darren Ward (GK)
- 14 Tommy Miller*
- 15 Danny Collins
- 16 Tobias Hysen
- 17 Andy Welsh*
- 18 William Mocquet*
- 19 Arnau*
- 20 Chris Brown
- 21 Kevin Smith*
- 22 Clive Clarke*
- 23 Grant Leadbitter
- 24 Trevor Carson (GK)
- 25 Neill Collins*
- 26 Robbie Elliott
- 27 Stanislav Varga
- 28 Graham Kavanagh
- 29 Peter Hartley
- 30 Jake Richardson
- 31 David Connolly
- 32 Marton Fulop*
- 33 Ross Wallace
- 34 Dwight Yorke
- 35 Liam Miller

*Out on loan *On loan



Luton Town

PLAYED SCORED

- 1 Marlon Beresford (GK)
- 2 Kevin Foley
- 3 Sol Davis
- 4 Chris Coyne
- 5 Russell Perrett
- 6 Paul Underwood
- 7 Carlos Edwards
- 8 Steve Robinson
- 9 Rowan Vine
- 10 Warren Feeney
- 11 Dean Morgan
- 12 Michael Leary
- 13 Stephen O'Leary
- 14 Lewis Emanuel
- 15 Richard Langley
- 16 Ahmet Brkovic
- 17 Sam Parkin
- 18 Adam Boyd
- 19 Keith Keane
- 20 Danny Stevens
- 21 Dean Kiely (GK)
- 22 Shaun Ross
- 23 Leon Barnett
- 24 Markus Heikkinen
- 25 Peter Holmes
- 26 David Bell
- 27 Calvin Andrew
- 28 Dean Brill (GK)
- 29 Zac Barrett (GK)
- 30 Chris Pendleton