

# skyblues

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME  
ISSUE 16 £3

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BACK AND RARING TO GO



**PAUL FLETCHER SPEAKS**  
1987 FLASHBACK



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**COVENTRY CITY V LUTON TOWN**  
TUESDAY JANUARY 30 2007 • KICK OFF 7.45PM





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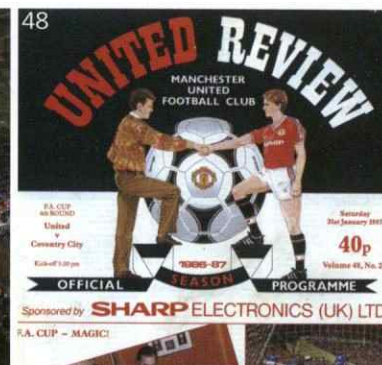
Vilamoura - Portugal.



The French Alps.



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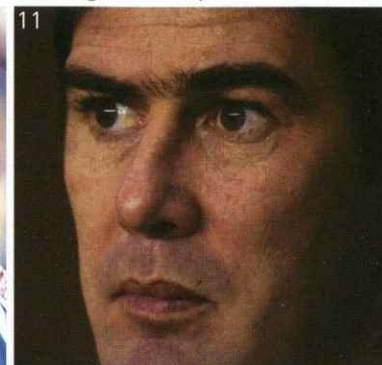
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## clubhonours

Formed: 1883  
Football League: Division Two Champions 1966-67, Division Three Champions 1963-1964, Division Three (South) Champions 1935-36  
Division Four Runners-up 1958-1959  
FA Cup: Winners 1987  
FA Youth Cup: Winners 1987  
Football League Cup: Semi-Final 1981, 1990  
European Competitions: European Fairs Cup 1970-71

## clubofficials

President: Mike McGinnity  
Acting Chairman: Geoffrey Robinson MP  
Directors: Sir Derek Higgs, Brenda Price, Joe Elliott  
Managing Director: Paul Fletcher MBE  
Marketing Director: Ken Sharp  
Finance Director: Malachy Brannigan  
Associate Directors: John & Celeste Clarke, David & Paula Shortland, Jas Sandhu & Moe Kandola, Noel Hand, Tina Grant, Ian & Steve Carvell, Lord Leigh, Ian Neale and Paul Roberts (Ian Neale Building Contractors Ltd)  
Premiership Bondholders: Geoff & Meg Mann, K B Benfield Group Holdings Ltd  
Club Secretary: Roger Brinsford  
Commercial Manager: Raj Athwal  
Financial Controller: John Street  
Ticket Office Manager: Dan Walker  
Community Manager: David Busst  
Retail Manager: Karen Bennett  
Press & PR Manager: Jo Lumani  
Marketing & CS Manager: Mark Davies  
Safety Officer: Pete Smith  
Caretaker Manager: Adrian Heath  
Academy Manager: Steve Ogrizovic  
Grounds Manager: Michael Finch  
Medical Officers: Dr Moss Gold, Dr Richard Keating, Dr John Batten, Dr Pat Griffin  
Physiotherapist: Michael McBride  
Club Statistician: Jim Brown

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Championship Programme of the Year 05/06 Season



## Adrian Heath

I have great pleasure in writing my first manager's message since I took over as caretaker-manager just under a fortnight ago and I hope that it will be the first of many.

Everyone is disappointed and frustrated with our recent run of form and results, which I feel is justified, as we have failed to live up to the standards we set ourselves at the start of the season. We're fully aware that our level of performance is not as it should be and we're attempting to implement a number of measures to ensure that we get back on track right away.

Our defeat against Plymouth Argyle last Monday night was a massive disappointment to everyone, because once again, individual errors cost us. It didn't help us that the game was played in appalling conditions, which made it really difficult for both sides to get the ball down and play decent football.

There are aspects of our play which are continually letting us down and that's hard to stomach as they are mainly down to individual mistakes. If it was a collective mistake I think it would be easier to take, as that can be rectified. But it's much harder when players are doing things which are uncharacteristic. We don't expect that and it is costing us dearly. We can't keep coming back to this same old problem.

We signed Irish central-defender Colin Hawkins in the week on an 18-month contract after he impressed during a short trial with us. I've spoken to some very influential people in Irish football and they have nothing but praise for Colin, who was part of the Shelbourne side which won the Eircom League in 2006. We had some great reports of Colin from when he played in the Champions League preliminary rounds against Deportivo La Coruna and Steaua Bucharest and I think that's underlined that he's shown the potential to cut it at the highest level.

It's a little ironic that he's returned to Coventry City almost a decade after being released by the Club as a youngster but football is like that sometimes. It's a great opportunity for Colin to show what he can do and I think it was a little bit strange for him to come into the canteen and see people who remembered him when he was here a decade ago! He may get his chance sooner rather than later because of the injury situation we have at the Club but I'm sure it's an opportunity he'll want to take.

Although I do not want to use this as an excuse, we have been plagued by a number of injuries throughout this season, including the recent one to Elliott Ward. Elliott has been to see a specialist and we are hopeful of some news soon as to when he can return to action, as he has been sorely missed.

I'm delighted that Michael Mifsud got his first goal for Coventry City at Plymouth, which will undoubtedly boost his confidence. I don't think anyone should underestimate what a terrific volley it was in atrocious conditions at Home Park and the great technique Michael showed. His fitness levels are also getting higher after not playing for a couple of months and I think he has shown what an exciting talent he can be.

I'm very proud to hold the position of caretaker manager at present and I would dearly love to take the job on a permanent basis. I hope the supporters will back me in that. I understand that every fan will have their favourite to come in as manager, but with a little bit of luck and a lot of support, you never know where we can go over the next few weeks.

I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Mike Newell and the players, staff and supporters who have travelled to the Ricoh Arena for tonight's game. Like us, Luton have had a sticky run of late, which I am sure won't have been helped by the sales of Carlos Edwards and Rowan Vine, who will be sorely missed. But football moves on, and I know Luton will give us a tough game this evening as both sides try to get back on track.

On a personal note, I'd like to lend my support to Mike for the comments he has made in recent months about agents and female officials. While I do not agree with everything he said, I think it's important to reiterate that we live in a democracy and everyone is entitled to their opinion. I think Mike is very brave to raise his head above the parapet and say what he - and a lot of other people - are thinking.




JAGUAR

Adrian is delighted to drive his Jaguar S-Type kindly supplied by Jaguar Cars



## MANAGERIAL RECORDS

<b>No current manager</b>	<b>Mike Newell</b>
Played 167 Won 71 Drawn 43 Lost 53	
For 259 Against 231	
Av Pts/game 1.53	
<b>Biggest Win(s)</b> Luton 5 Bristol City 0	
(05/03/2005). <b>Biggest Loss(es)</b> Ipswich	
5 Luton 0 (29/10/2006).	

## MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ..0	No current manager .....	Mike Newell.....
Draws ..0	Goals 0	Goals 0

### Player with the most...

#### shots

Stern  
John 46

#### shots on target

Michael  
Doyle 18

#### shots off target

Stern  
John 29

#### assists

Stern  
John 3

#### crosses

Marcus  
Hall 69

#### fouls

Michael  
Doyle 43

#### free-kicks-won

Michael  
Doyle 45



### GAMES SINCE

9	a win	0
4	a home win	0
6	an away win	11
0	a defeat	1
0	a home defeat	1
0	an away defeat	0
3	a score draw	3
10	a no score draw	4
0	conceding a goal	1
0	scoring a goal	0
0	conceding > 1	1
0	scoring > 1	2
9	keeping a clean sheet	0
1	failing to score	1
12	back to back wins	21
0	back to back defeats	1
3	gaining a point	0
0	losing a point	1
13	win by > one	7
1	loss by > one	1

### Player with the most...

#### shots

Rowan  
Vine 70

#### shots on target

Rowan  
Vine 35

#### shots off target

Rowan  
Vine 35

#### assists

Steve  
Robinson 4

#### crosses

Carlos  
Edwards 70

#### fouls

Rowan  
Vine 55

#### free-kicks-won

Leon  
Barnett 42

## SHARP SHOOTERS

Coventry	CCFC Cup	Tot	Luton	CCFC Cup	Tot
Stern John	5	1	6	3	1
Dele Adebola	3	1	4	2	2
Leon McKenzie	3	1	4	3	0

## TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ....63	Coventry wins .....	34	Luton wins .....	17
Draws ....12	Goals 113 (1.8 per game)		Goals 81 (1.3 per game)	
0-0's .....2	Times failed to score 11		Times failed to score 17	

**Biggest League win at Coventry for each team:**

21/08/1991 Coventry 5-0 Luton  
08/11/1930 Coventry 1-2 Luton



## 2006/07 LEAGUE STATS

16	Position	20
29	Played	29
10	Won	8
4	Drawn	7
15	Lost	14
29	Goals For	37
38	Goals Against	50
34	Points	31

### Record Against Top Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
3	2	9	21	3	5	9	17

### Record Against Bottom Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
7	2	6	16	5	2	5	21

### Record When Scoring First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
7	1	0	17	7	2	2	16

### Record When Conceding First

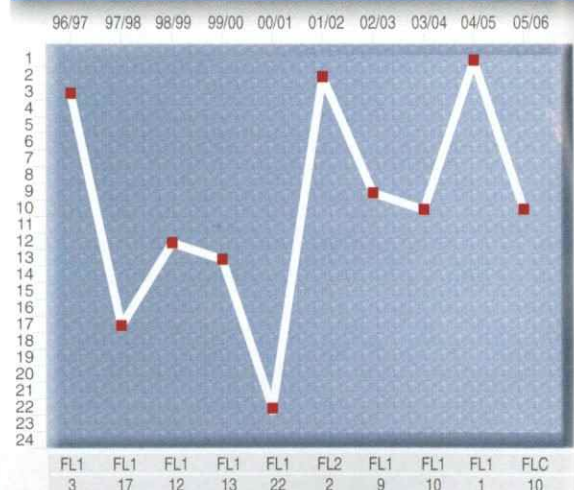
W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
3	1	15	6	1	2	12	18

### Match Scores

**Wins:** 1-0[5], 2-1[2], 3-0[1], 3-1[1], 3-2[1], **Losses:** 0-1[6], 0-2[1], 0-5[1], 1-2[4], 1-3[1], 2-3[1], 2-4[1], **Draws:** 0-0[2], 1-1[2]

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

## LUTON - TEN SEASON RECORD



\*up to and including 24/01/2007



**Paul Fletcher** MBE



07977 493 563

It is now two weeks since Micky Adams left his post of manager of Coventry City Football Club and I am well aware that many of our supporters are wondering what the future holds for the Sky Blues.

As I said at the time, Micky's departure was by no means a hasty decision that myself and the Board came to after our FA Cup exit against Bristol City. It was a judgement on our form and alarming slide down the table since the middle of December.

Micky Adams gave this position his best shot, he gave it 100% but unfortunately it just did not work. The only judgement on Micky was the league table and we as a Board sometimes have to make tough decisions like this and take a different route. That's what we have decided to do and we'll stick with it. Only the future will tell if it is the right one.

All we wanted the manager to do was to win games. We gave him total support. Every player that he wanted we went out and got for him. We are committed to our three-year quest to get Coventry City back into the Premiership and believe that tough decisions like this will sometimes be needed to fulfil that aim.

There are a lot of managers out of work across football and as a result, we have received a lot of quality applications - over 40 prior to the weekend.



Adrian is obviously in the hot-seat at the moment and he is certainly someone who will be short-listed for the position. In Adrian we have somebody who has had a few managerial posts in

the past, and he has grasped this position with both hands. He has a great relationship with the existing players and a lot of people at Coventry City, and who knows, he might be a huge success.

If we win tonight and that instigates a positive run of results, not only will it put a halt to our poor run of form - something that I and everybody connected with the Club is desperate to see happen - but it will also strengthen Adrian's case to take the job on a permanent basis.

That goes without saying but as we all know, so much can change in football in such a short space of time and during this interim period we will have to wait and see what transpires. I have the utmost faith that Adrian can do a great job in the caretaker manager role. If I didn't, he would not have been offered the position, and let's hope that we can regain our winning mentality very soon.

Over the course of the next week or so I, along with the rest of the selection panel, will be going through the list of applicants to decide a long-list, and then a short-list, of the people we feel fit the criteria we are setting.

We have had long meetings with Sports Consultants to help us decide the exact qualities we require in our new manager. This will be one of the most important decisions the Club makes this decade.

Over the past year we have been restructuring the Club operationally and commercially and we feel that the time has now come to extend that restructuring to the playing side. We have always known that returning to the Premiership as a strong, healthy club would require us to reorganise and modernise the Club in all respects. Only in this way can we be sure that the Club will grow and prosper in the coming years.

We need to build a sustainable 'culture' at Coventry City - one that identifies us and sets us apart from other clubs, one that underpins everything that we do. As we move into a new 'management' era at the Club we now intend to appoint a manager who is willing to work to a common plan for success and is open to exploring new methods of achieving it.

We intend to make more use of scientific methods and best practice policies to support the manager and players. We want to instil a new culture into the fabric of the way we do everything on the playing side of the Club, so we can build sustainable depth, stability and long term continuity for the future.

I hope that as loyal Coventry fans, you will support us in this pursuit of progress and support the new manager and systems that will soon emerge. As always I am keen to hear your views on these matters and I look forward to sharing greater success with you in the coming years.

*Adrian*



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## the headlines

## Micky departs



On Tuesday January 17 2007, Micky Adams and Coventry City Football Club parted company after a run of results which had seen the Sky Blues go eight games without a win, culminating in the 2-0 defeat to Bristol City in the FA Cup Third Round replay at the Ricoh Arena.

Adams had been manager for almost exactly two years, saving the Club from relegation from the Championship during his first four months in charge, and then leading City to a finish in eighth place in 2005/2006. He took charge of 99 games, 33 of which ended in victory, 40 in defeat and 26 all square.

After a massive squad recruitment last summer - with no less than 12 new arrivals before the start of the season, and four more joining since then - Coventry made a solid start to this campaign. Following a 1-0 home victory over Burnley in December, we sat in 10th place in the Championship, having amassed 33 points to sit just three points outside the top six.

A 5-0 away defeat to West Brom on December 16 instigated a bad run of form, which saw City take just one point from a possible 18, leaving the team, at the time of writing, nearer to the relegation zone than the play-off places.

Managing Director Paul Fletcher explained that the decision for Adams' departure was by no means a rushed one.

"This is a decision that the Board of Coventry City Football Club has not taken lightly," said Paul.

"Everyone at the Club has supported Micky 100%, but unfortunately, results have not gone as well as we all anticipated given the substantial investment in the team.

"We are committed to our three-year quest to get Coventry City back into the Premiership and believe that tough decisions like this will sometimes be needed to fulfil that aim as is sadly the case today. I join the Board in wishing Micky all the best for the future."

On the same day that Micky Adams left the Club, his assistant Adrian Heath - who has managerial experience with Burnley, Sheffield United as well as taking charge of three matches for City in January 2005 - stepped into the caretaker manager's role, stating:

"When they asked me if I'd take the job on for the foreseeable future I thought I'd give it a go. Like most people who work in football I want to be as high up the ladder as I can be, and being the manager is the ultimate job.

"This is an opportunity for me and one that you don't get too often. It's a big club, with a proud history in the Premier League. It's fallen on hard times a little bit over the last few years but it's a great opportunity for me.

"I'd like to place on record my thanks to Micky because I've certainly enjoyed working with him these last couple of years. Obviously we're all disappointed because a couple of years ago I was in the same boat when Peter Reid decided he didn't want to carry on.



"It was only about six weeks ago that we were on a five-match unbeaten run and on the verge of the play-offs. It shows how quickly football changes. We've gone from looking at our next five fixtures wondering if we can push on and make it into the top six, and ended up looking over our shoulder behind us. That's obviously culminated in Micky losing his job.

"This is a very good football club, we need to start winning some games and if we do that, who knows what can happen?"

Reserve team manager and first team coach Alan Cork also parted company with the Sky Blues, having been brought to the Sky Blues by Micky Adams in January 2005.

Paul Fletcher said: "We thank Alan for his hard work over the last two years and we wish him all the best in the future."

## Mac's back

David McNamee made his comeback from injury in City's last outing against Plymouth, playing the entire 90 minutes against the Pilgrims after being sidelined for more than three months with a torn hamstring.

Signed in the summer from Scottish side Livingston, the full-back suffered the injury in the game against Wolves in October and his return is a timely boost for Coventry, who have been short of numbers in defence after the departure of Matt Heath and Mikkel Bischoff and an injury to Elliott Ward.

The 26-year-old played in the first three games of the season but was injured against Cardiff and was forced to sit out six matches. His comeback was shortlived though and after only another four games in the side - a spell broken up after he was sent-off against Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park - he was forced to endure a lengthy spell in the treatment room when he suffered a bad tear to his hamstring at Molineux.

You can read of McNamee's frustrating start to his Sky Blues career and how he is determined to make amends now in this week's player feature, starting on page 30.



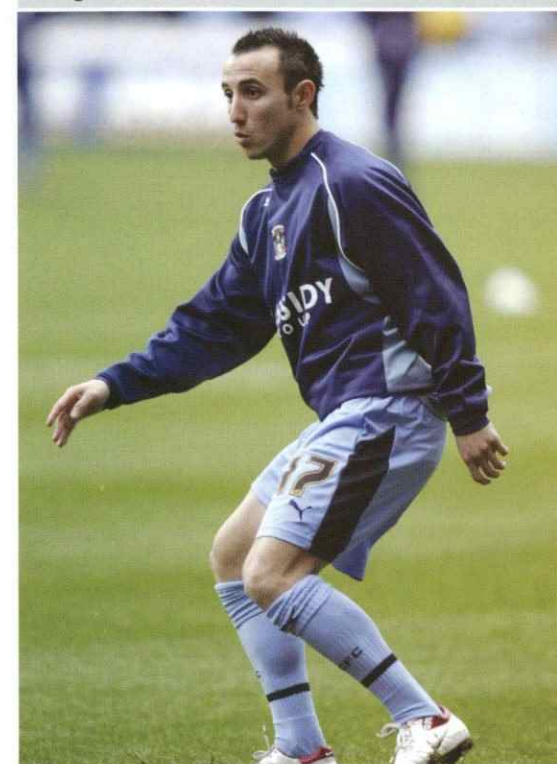
## Andrews loaned to Robins

Wayne Andrews has joined Bristol City on a month long loan.

The striker only returned to Coventry on January 1 after a loan spell at Sheffield Wednesday but with first-team opportunities limited, the former Crystal Palace man has linked-up with Gary Johnson's Robins.

The 29-year-old has made a positive start, scoring two goals in his first two games for the League One outfit. He was on target on his debut in the 2-0 win against Oldham, and then found the back of the net again against Brighton in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy.

## First goal for Mifsud



He is yet to start a game for the Sky Blues, but Michael Mifsud has shown enough in two brief substitute appearance to let City fans know he could be a very useful addition to the playing squad.

On a deeply disappointing night at the Ricoh Arena in the FA Cup replay defeat to Bristol City, Mifsud's fleeting substitute appearance was one of the few bright points, as he demonstrated an excellent touch as well as giving a glimpse of his powerful shot, which he used to full effect against Plymouth.

Entering the game with half an hour left on the clock and City trailing by three goals to one, the Maltese international played in a wide right role, and took only nine minutes to find the back of the net and give the Sky Blues hope of staging a comeback.

And although his effort did not ultimately earn City any points, the quality of his strike - a sweetly struck volley from 15 yards - demonstrated his technical ability and eye for goal.

Mifsud could be in line for his full debut this evening if named in the starting line-up against Luton.

## Thornton back in the frame

Kevin Thornton has made a timely comeback from injury, the young midfielder coming on as a substitute in each of City's last two matches.

Thornton is one of the many players who has been struck down this term, with a knee injury sidelining him since late October.

The Irishman - who has scored one goal this season, the winner against Hull back in August - gave an industrious performance in midfield as a second half substitute against Bristol City, and also played the final half an hour against Plymouth.

As his match fitness improves Thornton could well play a more prominent role in City's games in the not too distant future.



# Luton Town



## Luton Town FC

Year formed: 1885  
Stadium: Kenilworth Road  
Manager: Mike Newell  
Chairman: B Tomlins

## Club Honours

League One Champions: 2004/2005  
Division 2 Champions: 1981/82  
Division 4 Champions: 1967/68  
Division 3 (s) - Champions: 1936/37  
FA Cup Runners-up: 1959  
League Cup Winners: 1988

It is extremely common for clubs at this level to sell their best players and Luton are the latest Championship outfit to have seen supposedly "bigger" clubs - albeit ones in the same division as them - come and tempt some of their most exciting prospects away in recent weeks.

It is an inevitability, not just in football but in life, that the cream will always rise to the top and with the domestic transfer market now seemingly flourishing once again after its collapse during the early stages of the 21st century, many clubs at this level and below have no choice but to cash in on the prized assets.

And as Luton's Directors revealed following the sale of Carlos Edwards and Rowan Vine to Sunderland and Birmingham respectively, they did not want to let their top scorer (Vine) and an international calibre midfielder (Edwards) go, but had little choice and had to do what they perceived to be the best thing for the Club.

"Following the recent sales of Carlos Edwards and Rowan Vine there have been a number of supporters questioning the ambition of the Club," read an official statement.

"At no time have we wanted to sell any players or put any pressure on our management to do so. The simple facts are that in the modern game external influences play a key part in determining player's futures. In both cases we had offers for the players concerned, which are first given to our Manager to determine if they meet his valuation.

"The initial offers were turned down for the very reasons given, that we did not want to sell and in any event the prices offered were not acceptable. In both cases further offers followed, and as we all know from various reports in the national press other people - external to the Club - were trying to influence the outcome at the same time.

"We then have the modern day dilemma, the prices being offered meeting the Manager's valuation and the players are informed accordingly. Thereafter it is very much in the hands of the player and his agent.

"The only positive point from the Club's perspective is that we are now in a position to ensure no player is sold cheaply, as has happened in the past."

Indeed, you do not have to rewind the clock too far for a period when Luton were in a much worse position than the one they find themselves in now. They spent one season in the basement division in 2001/2002 and came out of a spell in the hands of the receivers in the summer of 2004.

In his second season in charge of the Club Mike Newell led them to the summit of League One and following their promotion as champions of that division in 2004/2005, the former Blackburn striker helped them towards a good first season in the Championship last time out, finishing tenth after prolonged spells inside the top six.

The Liverpoolian was supportive of his Board's decision to sell Edwards and Vine for £1.4m and £2.5m respectively, stating:

"It's very difficult when you have to sell players. It's a fact of life that we are in that position. As I said when I came here three-and-a-half years ago, if we can bring in players and they eventually move on for a profit then in the long run - and I know it's hard to swallow for a lot of supporters at the moment - then it will make the Club stronger.

"If it doesn't then there's something wrong, but it will do. It's impossible to stand in the way of players when they can earn three or four times what they can earn here and play in front of 20,000-plus fans every week."

What the immediate future holds for Luton remains to be seen but already Newell has re-invested in his squad, bringing defender Matthew Spring back to the Club.

And with plans to move to a new stadium near Junction 12 of the M1 in the offing, perhaps it will not be too long before the Hatters have their sights firmly fixed on a return to the Premiership and they'll be the club poaching other side's star players.

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## Need to know

### Recentform

Luton's league form has taken an alarming dip following a good start to the season and the Hatters have only won twice in the last 16 Championship fixtures.

They are without a league win since they ran out 3-1 victors against the Sky Blues at Kenilworth Road on December 3, having lost three and drawn two of their last five matches.

As previously mentioned, Luton's start to the campaign was a positive one. They amassed six wins in their first 13 matches and following a 5-1 victory against Leeds in mid-October, they sat in fifth place in the table with a handsome 22 points.

That result was followed by a 4-0 defeat against Everton in the Carling Cup and they subsequently lost their next seven league matches, starting with a 5-0 thumping at Ipswich.

They have collected just nine points out of a possible 48 since October and despite making it through to the Fourth Round of the FA Cup (Luton took on Blackburn on Saturday), Mike Newell will see ensuring Championship safety as a priority.

They have won just two away games in the league this season and have not collected three points on their travels since they beat Barnsley 2-1 at Oakwell at the end of September.

#### January 24: Luton 1 QPR 0, FA Cup Rd3 replay

Luton won the right to host Premiership Blackburn in the Fourth Round of the FA Cup with QPR man Zesh Rehman putting into his own net with just 10 minutes left on the clock. All the drama came in the last 15 minutes, as Stefan Bailey saw red for a lunge on Ahmet Brkovic before Rehman put Dean Morgan's shot into his own net.

#### January 20: Luton 0 Barnsley 2

Barnsley secured their first away league win since August thanks to goals from Brian Howard and Martin Devaney. Tykes midfielder Howard broke powerfully into Luton's penalty area in the seventh minute to fire home left-footed into the bottom corner. Howard turned provider in the last minute when his pass set up Devaney and he shot low into the Luton net.

#### January 12: West Brom 3 Luton 2

Kevin Phillips scored two late goals to snatch victory for West Brom. Jason Koumas opened the scoring for the Baggies before goals from Keith Keane and Warren Feeney then put Luton in front. Phillips resisted several attempted tackles to equalise from 10 yards late on before dramatically heading home a free-kick in injury time.

### Season so far

Home: W6 D5 L4

Away: W2 D2 L10

\*Up to 26/1/07

### Facts and Figures

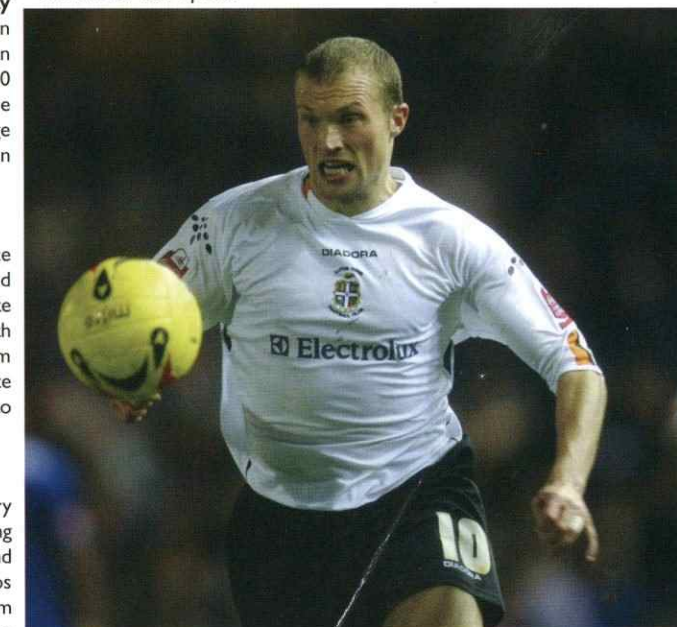
- Luton have conceded more league goals away from home in the Championship than any other side this season. They have shipped 31 in 14 away matches and have not won an away game in the league in nine attempts.



- Luton have the second leakiest defence in the Championship having conceded 50 goals in 29 games. Only Leeds have let in more.

- They have scored more goals than the teams around them at the bottom of the Championship. Their Goals For column currently reads 37 with only Ipswich scoring more from all the teams in the bottom half.

- Luton's top scorer this season is Rowan Vine with 14 goals in all competitions followed by Carlos Edwards with six. The pair have now left the Club leaving Dean Morgan and Warren Feeney (below) their joint top scorers on four apiece.



- Luton have been promoted twice since 2002. They were promoted as runners-up of League Two in 2001/2002 and as winners of League One in 2004/2005.

- Luton's heaviest defeat of the season was a 5-0 loss against Ipswich at Portman Road, which came just a week after their biggest win - a 5-1 victory against Leeds.



# SquadInfo



## Ones to watch

### Chris Coyne

Age: 28

Nationality: Australian

Position: Centre-back

Coyne first came to the attention of a UK-based manager when he was playing for Perth Soccer Club and was selected for the Australian Under-17 squad for the 1994 youth World Cup. He caught Harry Redknapp's eye and he signed him for West Ham as a teenager.

Premiership chances were few and far between, and after loan spells at Brentford and Southend, Coyne went to Dundee. A £50,000 cheque persuaded the Scottish Premier League club to let the defender move to Kenilworth Road in September 2001 and Coyne rapidly became a crowd favourite in the promotion run that followed.

A whole-hearted performer, Coyne has gone on to become one of the first names on the teamsheet each week and captains the side superbly thanks to his never-say-die attitude and fearsome approach to the game.

### Keith Keane

Age: 20

Nationality: Republic of Ireland

Position: Right-midfield

A product of the Luton Academy, Keane made his debut for the Hatters aged just 16 in November 2003 and went on to enjoy an extended run in the side while Kevin Foley was out injured. He finished the season with 14 appearances under his belt, all this whilst still in the first year of his scholarship.

Keane - who has represented the Republic of Ireland at youth team level - joined the Hatters at the age of nine having been scouted in local football.

Appearances have been limited for the 20-year-old this season, but when called upon he has proven to be an extremely adept performer, most comfortable on the right-hand side of midfield - a position which allows him to burst forward to great effect to provide many goals for himself and his teammates.



### Dean Morgan

Age: 23

Nationality: English

Position: Striker

Morgan has already proved what he is capable of against the Sky Blues once this season, scoring with a cracking volley to make it 3-1 to Luton at Kenilworth Road last December.

Morgan signed for the Hatters from Reading in July 2005 after seeing his opportunities limited at the Madjeski Stadium and became an instant favourite with Luton fans after his 90th minute winner in the 3-2 victory over Southampton in August 2005.

The former Colchester striker has four goals to his credit so far this season and with the departure of Rowan Vine, his contributions will be increasingly important as we approach the business end of the campaign.

### Ahmet Brkovic

Age: 32

Nationality: Croatian

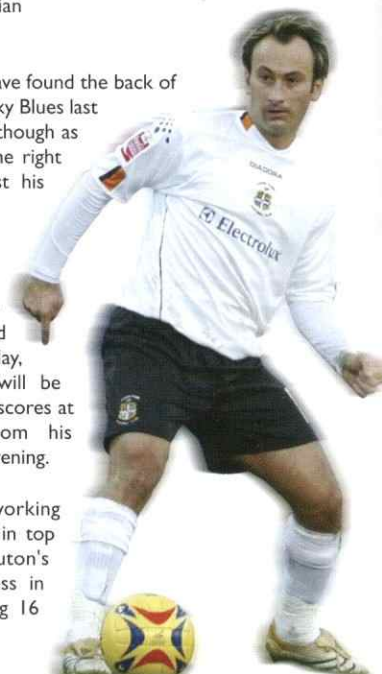
Position: Winger

Another player to have found the back of the net against the Sky Blues last month is Brkovic, although as well as scoring at the right end, he turned past his own keeper as well.

It was always going to take something out of the ordinary to beat an inspired Dean Kiely that day, but the Croatian will be hoping that he only scores at the right end from his point-of-view this evening.

A tidy and hardworking player, Brkovic was in top form during Luton's championship success in League One, scoring 16 goals from midfield.

The 32-year-old is more suited to a right wing role but is equally comfortable playing on the left, a position he filled on many occasions last season.



## Window of opportunity

With the transfer window due to close tomorrow, there has been considerable activity down at Kenilworth Road this January.

At the time of writing, it was outgoing deals which had attracted the most attention with Trinidad and Tobago international **Carlos Edwards** joining Sunderland for a fee of £1.4m and top scorer **Rowan Vine** linking up with Birmingham for a reported figure of £2.5m.

The two players will undoubtedly be missed by the Hatters. Edwards was a key creator of goals, with his flying runs and excellent crossing ability providing the ammunition for the likes of Vine to get the goals.

And Vine - who once hit a hat-trick against the Sky Blues during his Colchester days - was showing fine form this term, having scored 14 goals in all competitions to put him right up there with the very best strikers in the Championship - a return which caught the eye of high fliers Birmingham who swooped to add the 24-year-old to their squad with injuries ruling out the likes of Nicklas Bendtner.

Another less high profile departure came with the end of goalkeeper **Dean Kiely's** loan spell, although any Coventry fans who were at Kenilworth Road just over a month ago, will be grateful that the shot stopper isn't between the sticks again.

The former Coventry trainee's performance was nothing short of world class and a string of fine saves left Micky Adams scratching his head as to how his side had failed to take anything from the game.

Kiely played 11 games during a loan spell from Portsmouth, which expired on January 24.

At the time of writing Luton had made just one signing, although it cannot exactly be classed as new one.

**Matthew Spring** (below right) has re-joined the Club, signing a two-and-a-half year deal, having left the Hatters to join Leeds in 2004.

"It was an opportunity too good to turn down, really," explained Mike Newell. "I would never have let him go had we not been in administration and had his contract not been up.

"It's an indication of how much he feels for the Club that he turned down at least one other club to come back here.

"Maybe it gives you an indication of what he believes will happen here in the future."

Spring spent just one season with Leeds before joining Luton's rivals Watford but Newell said that was not an issue for him.

"He never mentioned it when I spoke to him, and I didn't see it as a problem. He didn't leave here for Watford, he went there via Leeds.

"I can't influence what supporters are thinking, but if he puts a Luton shirt on and he performs well and starts scoring goals for us then I would imagine that any Luton supporter will back him."

Spring had been at Luton since he was a schoolboy, and signed as a trainee in July 1997. He went on to score 30 goals for the Club in 289 appearances.

Last week Newell was still hopeful of bringing in more players, who could feature against the Sky Blues tonight.

"We will, before the deadline, bring in more players," said the Luton boss. "We are progressing and by the end of January we would hope to have another two here.

"I would never turn down the opportunity to get a good player. We are looking in other areas as well to strengthen but there isn't, at the moment, another Matthew Spring to bring here."

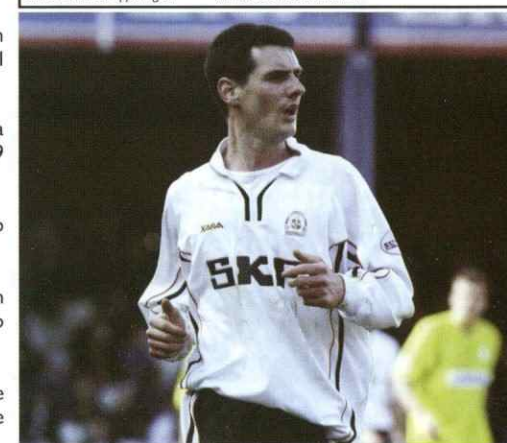
## THE SQUAD

GOALKEEPERS	AGE	POS	LA/G	CA/G
<b>Marlon Beresford</b>	37	GK	105/0	547/0
Signed from Barnsley in 2004				
<b>Dean Brill</b>	21	GK	16/0	24/0
Been on loan at Gillingham this season				
DEFENDERS	AGE	POS	LA/G	CA/G
<b>Kevin Foley</b>	22	RB	151/5	151/5
Academy product				
<b>Sol Davis</b>	27	CB	176/2	304/2
Signed from Swindon in 2002				
<b>Chris Coyne</b>	28	CB	218/15	256/15
First played for West Ham in England				
<b>Russell Perrett</b>	33	LB	104/9	220/13
Scored once this season				
<b>Paul Underwood</b>	33	CB	72/5	281/22
Not played this season				
<b>Lewis Emanuel</b>	23	LB/M	25/1	153/5
Signed from Bradford last summer				
<b>Leon Barnett</b>	21	CB	59/2	59/2
Scored twice this season				
<b>Markus Heikkinen</b>	28	CB	64/3	150/7
Finnish international				
MIDFIELDERS	AGE	POS	LA/G	CA/G
<b>Matthew Spring</b>	27	C/RM	289/40	289/40
Re-signed from Watford this month				
<b>Steve Robinson</b>	32	CM	163/11	488/75
Began career with Spurs				
<b>Stephen O'Leary</b>	21	CM	32/2	54/5
Last played in October				
<b>Richard Langley</b>	27	C/RM	20/1	274/33
Former Cardiff and QPR player				
<b>Ahmet Brkovic</b>	32	RM/S	216/38	298/47
From Croatia				
<b>Keith Keane</b>	20	RM/B	55/3	55/3
Academy product				
<b>David Bell</b>	23	LM	31/2	171/12
Sent off against Cardiff on Jan 1				
FORWARDS	AGE	POS	CPA/G	CA/G
<b>Dean Morgan</b>	23	S	69/10	181/19
Former Reading striker				
<b>Warren Feeney</b>	26	S	78/11	236/65
Nine caps for Northern Ireland				
<b>Sam Parkin</b>	25	S	8/1	245/93
Signed from Ipswich last summer				
<b>Adam Boyd</b>	24	S	18/2	201/66
Former Boston striker				
<b>Calvin Andrew</b>	20	S	12/1	24/2
Not played this season				

LA/G = Luton Town apps + goals

CA/G = Career apps + goal

\*All stats correct at 26/1/07





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## Hawkins comes home



Adrian Heath strengthened City's defence by signing centre-back Colin Hawkins late last week and the Irishman is no stranger to the Club having been a member of the youth set-up here a decade ago.

Hawkins links-up with the Sky Blues once again having spent the majority of the last decade playing in the Irish league for Bohemians and, most recently Shelbourne FC.

The 29-year-old has penned an 18-month contract with the Sky Blues and expressed his delight to be here.

"It's very exciting to be here again," he said. "It's 10 years since I left the City so it's a great opportunity for me and I'm delighted to be here."

"I arrived over here for a two-day trial and I was obviously impressed by the stadium, Adrian Heath and the whole coaching staff so it was up to me to show what I could do on the pitch and luckily everything's worked out and I'm delighted that I signed an 18-month contract."

Hawkins has won Irish League titles as well as gaining considerable Champions League experience with both Bohemians and Shelbourne and says that in just a week of training with the Sky Blues, he knows City have the ability to turn around their current poor run of form.

"It's a great stadium and looking at the teams we've got coming up it's a huge challenge for me personally. I know we have experienced a few defeats recently but having seen the quality in the squad I know it will take just one win to change things."

"There is no reason why we should be down there for too much longer and I'm hoping to play my part in turning things around if the manager gives me a chance."

"I'm coming here to do as good a job as possible. I know there's been a few goals conceded recently so hopefully I can play my part and inspire a few other people around me."

"I've always been known as being a bit of a leader on the pitch - that's what I'm hopefully looking to bring to the team."

Hawkins has not played for over two months since the Irish League finished but says he has been working "on his fitness and will be raring to go should he be named in the side against Luton tonight."

"They've done their best to get my fitness levels up. They've tried everything in training and put me right through my paces."

"It was like my first day of pre-season training to be honest on Tuesday. If I'm given the opportunity to play against Luton I'll definitely be up for it."

With so much change at the Club in recent months, let alone over the last ten years, there weren't too many familiar faces for Hawkins when he arrived at Ryton, although there were one or two who were here when he last was.

"I lived at the Sky Blue Lodge for a year which is where we train so there's a couple of faces I still recognise. Ros works in the canteen and Roy and Maria, who used to look after me at the Lodge, aren't too far away."

"Marcus Hall is the only one on the playing staff who was here then. He was just breaking into the first team and he was an England Under 21 international so we all looked up to him."

"It's good to have a few faces you recognise because it helps you settle in."



# ClubConnections

## Over the Years

Luton have not enjoyed the best of fortunes at Coventry over the years. They have won three games here in all competitions but only two in the league on City's turf.

The last time the Hatters came away from Coventry victorious was on New Year's Day 1987 when they won by a solitary goal to nil from Brian Stein during manager John Moore's first season in control of Luton.

The Sky Blues had plenty of shots on goal only to be thwarted by former City shot stopper Les Sealey who was in fine form and received a fair bit of stick from the Sky Blue Army, resulting in the eccentric keeper doing cartwheels at the final whistle.



You have to rewind the clock to the 1930/31 season for Luton's only other league win in Coventry when a Division Three (south) encounter ended in a 2-1 victory for the Hatters.

In all, Coventry have won 22 of the 31 league matches against Luton on their own patch, with six ending in a draw and only three in defeat.

## They wore both shirts

Amongst the players to have made the permanent switch from Coventry to Luton is Trevor Peake who, after 334 appearances for the Sky Blues during an eight-year spell - in which time he established a reputation as one of the classiest central defenders in the Club's history - made the move to Kenilworth Road in 1991.

He was snapped up for £100,000 and certainly gave the Hatters value for money as he made in excess of 200 appearances for them, playing his last Luton game in September 1997 at the age of 40. Les Sealey and Graham Rodger have also made the short trip down the M1 and more recently, Coventry lent Luton the services of Gary McSheffrey.



All-time Head to Head:			
	Coventry	Draw	Luton
League	34	12	17
FA Cup	0	1	2
League Cup	1	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>21</b>

### Last five meetings: Home - Coventry City

29/10/05, Coventry 1 Luton 0, Champ  
21/8/91, Coventry 5 Luton 0, Div 1  
13/3/91, Coventry 2 Luton 1, Div 1  
16/9/89, Coventry 1 Luton 0, Div 1  
12/11/88, Coventry 1 Luton 0, Div 1

### Last five meetings: Away - Luton Town

23/12/06, Luton 3 Coventry 1, Champ  
15/4/06, Luton 1 Coventry 2, Champ  
27/10/98, Luton 2 Coventry 0, League Cup  
20/12/91, Luton 1 Coventry 0, Div 1  
27/9/90, Luton 1 Coventry 0, Div 1 ----



The striker was first loaned out to Kenilworth Road at the start of the 2003/2004 campaign when he netted an impressive nine goals in 19 appearances. He spent another stint on loan there the following campaign, scoring once in five games.

Coventry's last purchase from Luton was Paul Telfer who joined City for £1.15m and went on to make 225 appearances for the Sky Blues between 1995 and 2001, scoring 12 goals.

## The last time we met

City travelled to Kenilworth Road in December in search of some festive cheer having suffered a 5-0 thumping at the hands of West Brom the week before.

Changes to the side included Luke Steele replacing the injured Andy Marshall in goal, following his emergency loan from the Baggies. Mikkel Bischoff made his full debut in place of the suspended Robert Page. Stephen Hughes was also recalled to the starting eleven and Leon McKenzie returned after a one-match ban, with Marcus Hall and Darren Currie dropping to the bench. The home side took the lead on the stroke of half time, despite City bossing much of the opening period only to be denied by the superb Dean Kiely in the Hatters goal.



Ahmet Brkovic found the target for Luton, but he turned past his own keeper to pull the Sky Blues level early in the second half. Mike Newell's men responded quickly and goals from Rowan Vine and Dean Morgan earned the Hatters all three points and left Micky Adams wondering how his side had failed to take anything from the tie.

Last season, City came away from Kenilworth Road with a 2-1 victory in the two teams' first league encounter since the 1991/1992 campaign - the last time that Luton were a top flight club.

Two goals in as many minutes from Stern John and Gary McSheffrey gave the Sky Blues the advantage before Ady Williams' late own goal proved nothing more than a consolation for Luton.

The last time the sides met at the Ricoh, a Dele Adebola goal was enough to earn Coventry all three points in what was City's seventh game at their new home.

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BMW 118d SE	<b>£299.00</b>	£16,750.00	<b>£299.00</b>	£16,451.00	£424.33	£7,824.87	£22,317.39	11.9%

**Typical 11.9% APR**

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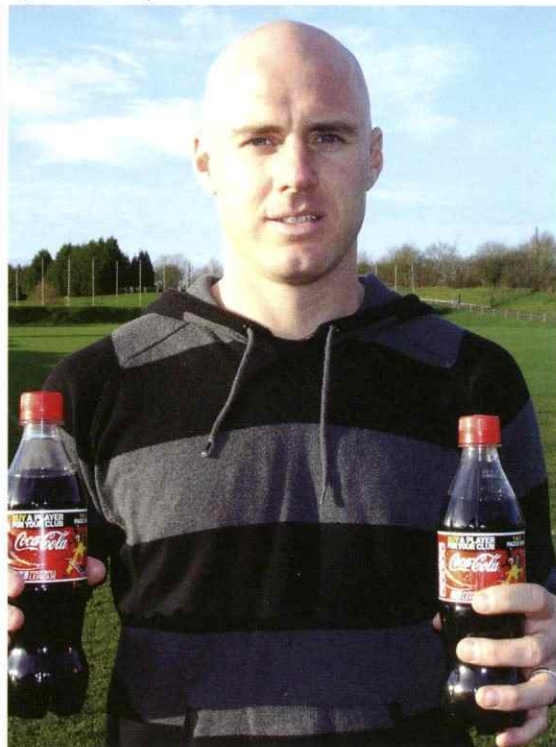


**Pagey supports 'Buy A Player'**

Want to see the Sky Blues boost their transfer kitty?

On the back of last year's 'Win A Player', Coca-Cola has launched a brand new promotion 'Buy A Player'.

Anyone buying a promotional bottle or multipack of Coca-Cola or Coke Zero will be in with a chance of winning a prize for Coventry City's transfer fund. Prizes range from 50p all the way up to £100,000. The winners of the £100,000 prizes will also win a personal cash prize of £10,000.



Fans need to simply text in the unique code found on promotional bottles or multipacks to 80094 or enter it at [www.coca-cola.co.uk/football](http://www.coca-cola.co.uk/football). Upon entering, Coventry City fans will find out instantly if they are winners of money for their club.

Everyone entering the 'Buy A Player' promotion up until February 7 will also be automatically entered into a separate draw for £250,000. The winner will be announced live on Soccer AM on Saturday February 10 2007.

Skipper Robert Page is urging the Sky Blue Army to go out and buy Coca-Cola by the dozen in the hope of raising money for the team.

"Every can counts," said Pagey. "The more Coca-Cola the fans buy the more it will help Coventry."

**Birmingham Senior Cup tie re-arranged**

Coventry City's Birmingham Senior Cup match against Stourbridge has been re-arranged for Tuesday February 6 (kick-off 7.45pm)

The match has been postponed twice, firstly because of a waterlogged pitch and more recently because of a frozen playing surface.

**Progressive Sale still on in Club Shop**

Huge savings can still be made in the CCFC Britannia Tyres Superstore where all stock in-store has been reduced by a massive 38% today.

Coventry City's Progressive Sale has been underway for a number of weeks, and has gone down brilliantly with the fans.

The Progressive Sale started with a 10% reduction on **everything** in-store, with the discount increasing by 2% each day (with the exception of Sundays) until a maximum discount of 50% is reached.

Many people have asked why they should buy now when everything will be half price soon, and the answer is simple. Some items of stock have already sold out, with other stock levels extremely limited and unlikely to still be available when the discount reaches 50%.

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\*While stocks last. Sale ends February 9 2007. No refunds unless merchandise is faulty.

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# 40 Yearson

with Club Historian Jim Brown

1966-67: A Season to Remember

Part Fifteen: January 1967

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of Coventry City's historic promotion to the top flight under the guidance of Jimmy Hill, official historian Jim Brown looks back on a memorable campaign for the Sky Blues.



With the big FA Cup tie against Newcastle looming the following Saturday Jimmy Hill had to use all his powers to prepare the side for a visit to Ashton Gate on 21 January. Over 3,000 City fans made the trip to Bristol confident the team could continue their nine-match unbeaten run. The Robins were languishing near the foot of the table but had beaten second-placed Wolves in their last home game.

For the third away game running the Sky Blues fell behind. Former Wolves and England forward Chris Crowe was left unmarked at a corner after 11 minutes and volleyed home. City were level three minutes later when George Curtis soared above everyone to head home a Ronnie Rees corner. Bristol bounced back after 18 minutes with Terry Bush taking advantage of some dithering by Dave Clements to make it 2-1.

After 36 minutes City were on terms again with the best goal of the game. Dietmar Bruck, City's man of the match, hit a thunderous shot past Bristol 'keeper Gibson from 25 yards when there appeared to be no danger. That concluded the scoring but it was still a fascinating battle on a strength-sapping muddy pitch. City were on top in the early stages of the second half but had only one chance - a Machin header which Mike Gibson fumbled and dropped behind him. He recovered to fall on the ball on the goal line but Machin claimed it had crossed the line.

In the latter stages Bristol went for the winner and Glazier had to be on top form to stop them, tipping a great Peters' effort over the bar. Afterwards Hill expressed satisfaction at the point: 'We keep picking up the points nicely while the others waver.' With Wolves drawing 0-0 at Blackburn, City retained their two point lead over the Wanderers but Carlisle, 2-1 winners over Ipswich, were now level on points with Wolves.

Jimmy concluded transfer business the following Tuesday when he signed Portsmouth midfielder Brian Lewis. The fee was £35,000, but with Ray Pointer joining Pompey, City had to pay out only £20,000. Lewis did not qualify to play against Newcastle and

would have to wait for his City debut. Also leaving the Club was 20-year old reserve goalkeeper Peter Thomas who joined Irish

club Waterford for a small fee. Thomas had impressed at Waterford on loan the previous summer and now made the move permanent. Newcastle arrived for the Cup-tie with a massive following. Black and White scarves were in evidence in the Precinct as early as Friday tea-time and there were an estimated 12,000 Geordies in the 35,748 crowd, which included England manager Alf Ramsey.

In an effort to keep First Division football at St James's Park manager Joe Harvey had spent £140,000 on five new players including Welsh centre-forward Wyn Davies, one of the best headers of the ball in the country, Chelsea's winger Tommy Robson and giant centre-half John McNamee from Hibs. The team however lay in 21st place and relegation looked a distinct possibility.

In one of the most sensational starts ever known at the ground Newcastle scored twice in the first three minutes before City pulled a goal back in the fourth minute. Only a minute had gone when a swift Newcastle counter-attack caught City short at the back. Davies shrugged off George Curtis's challenge and planted a firm shot past Glazier. Number two came from a left wing free-kick which City failed to clear and Bryan 'Pop' Robson ran in to score with an angled shot. McNamee turned a fierce Rees cross shot into his own net and it was 1-2.

After 21 minutes City showed their fighting spirit by levelling the scores. Rees broke on the left-wing, centered, and Ian Gibson running full pelt towards goal got his head to it to steer it past Gordon Marshall in the visitor's goal. The superb goal however came at a price - Gibson injured himself stretching and by half-time was unfit to carry on.

City were now on top and the Magpies defence looked decidedly shaky but out of the blue the First Division side took the lead again. Dave Hilley bamboozled Mick Kearns on the right and his cross found Davies who scored from short range.

The pace did not slow in the second half but without Gibson, City lacked their cutting edge. Gould however missed a glorious chance to make it 3-3 but miskicked when it looked easier to score. With 15 minutes left Davies completed his hat-trick with a well directed header and then Rees reduced the arrears within a minute only for Gould to miss an even better chance by blasting over from eight yards.

The thrilling game ended as it started with end to end football and drama and Newcastle probably just deserving their win thanks to that extra bit of top division class. Experienced referee Leo Callaghan described it as 'the most exciting Cup-tie I have ever handled' whilst George Curtis said: 'Wyn Davies is undoubtedly a greatly improved player since I last played against him'.

City were out of the FA Cup but many fans weren't sorry, they remembered 1963/64 when City had gone out at the first hurdle and they had been able to concentrate on promotion. Nuneaton Borough meanwhile were still in the Cup after a 1-1 home draw with Second Division Rotherham in front of 17,000 at Manor Park. Paul Cutler gave the Southern League side a first half lead but Chambers equalised for the Millers. Sadly in the replay at Millmoor over 22,000 saw Borough lose 1-0 and go out.

Elsewhere in the FA Cup there were few surprises. The biggest shock was at Upton park where the Hammers were held 3-3 by lowly Third Division Swindon with two goals from Don Rogers. Swindon completed the Hammers embarrassment by winning the replay 3-1. First Division leaders Liverpool drew 0-0 at Third Division Watford whilst the biggest crowd of the day was at Old Trafford where 63,000 saw United beat Stoke 2-0.

## This week 40 years ago

In midweek City's youth team progressed to the fourth round of the FA Youth Cup with a 2-1 replay win over Swansea. A crowd of 3,122 saw a Don Peachey brace of goals put Pat Saward's young charges through to an away tie with Port Vale.

In local non-league soccer Lockheed Leamington beat Gainsborough Trinity 1-0 at home thanks to another Ray Holmes goal. City's A Team lost 1-0 at Redditch whilst the B Team slumped to a 10-0 loss at Leicester.

In Rugby Union the touring Australia team beat the Barbarians 17-11 at Cardiff Arms Park. Coventry pulled off an excellent 10-0 victory at Swansea with two tries from Melville.

22-year old local athlete Dick Taylor won the Inter-Counties cross country championship at Leicester beating top runners such as Ron Hill, Bruce Tulloh and Gerry North. It was not good enough to win Warwickshire the county title however, they finished fourth behind winners Surrey.

In the singles charts Tom Jones was at number one for the seventh week:

- 1 I'm a believer - Monkees
- 2 Night of fear - The Move
- 3 Matthew & Son - Cat Stevens

## Peter Thomas



If you mention the name Peter Thomas in the pubs of the Irish town of Waterford few middle-aged males will not know who you are talking about. The Coventry-born goalkeeper played for the local team for almost 20 years and even won two full Irish caps. In Coventry however Peter is largely forgotten - he played just one competitive game for the Sky Blues.

Peter grew up in Coventry and was an 18-year old apprentice electrician playing in goal for GEC in 1965 when he was invited for a trial at Ryton. Bill Glazier was recovering from a broken leg and with his understudy Bob Wesson promoted, Jimmy Hill wanted a reserve keeper. Peter and youth team keeper Martin Clamp shared the duties during 1965-66.

In 1966, with Glazier recovered, Wesson was released to Walsall and Peter was loaned out to Waterford who were managed by an old friend of Hill's. In November 1966 an injury to Glazier forced Hill to send an SOS to Ireland and recall Thomas to Highfield Road, playing his one and only game at the stadium against Cardiff City.

City, inspired by the recall of Ian Gibson, led 3-0 until the last two minutes when a young John Toshack scored twice to put some respectability to the scoreline. Thomas acquitted himself well and appeared for the first team again three days later in a friendly with Scottish club Morton, another 3-2 win.

Four days later at Wolves, Glazier was fit again and Thomas's first team career was over. In January 1967 he returned to Waterford permanently. His team dominated Irish club football for the next decade winning six league titles in eight years and Peter, now aged 62, has wonderful memories of the period.

'We won every domestic honour and represented the country in the European Cup. I played against Manchester United the year after they won the European Cup, crack Hungarian side Ujpest Dosza and Glasgow Celtic. I've got wonderful memories.'

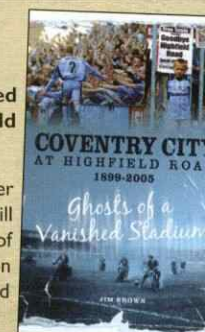
By 1973 Peter had become a naturalized Irishman and was in the full international squad as number two to Alan Kelly of Preston. He won two caps - against Poland in Dublin (alongside City's Jimmy Holmes) and against Brazil in the Maracana Stadium (that sounds like a good quiz question). He faced big names Jairzinho and Edu but a brave Irish display kept the score to 1-2.

After retiring from playing he worked in insurance but he is retired now and enjoys his golf and fishing near his home in the seaside town of Tramore.

## PERFECT GIFT IDEA

**Jim Brown**  
Official club historian  
Author of 'Ghosts of a Vanished Stadium: The Story of Highfield Road 1899-2005'

If you enjoyed Jim Brown's other books on the Club's history you will love his latest. He tells the story of Highfield Road from its construction in 1899 through to its sad demolition last year.



Coventry City at Highfield Road 1899-2005: Ghosts of a Vanished Stadium is available now priced at £20 (Post-free for UK subscribers).



# COVENTRY CITY2 CRYSTAL PALACE4

McKenzie (45), Kyle (57)

Fletcher (19), Kuqi (27), Cort (28), McAnuff (39)

Ricoh Arena, Coca Cola Championship, 13/01/07

Referee: Mr G Laws Attendance: 16,582



1

## Managers' Comments

"We were undone by individual errors which you can never legislate for and to be fair we never gave up and kept going. We are suffering in confidence but we kept going which we owe to the fans and ourselves and if there are any positives we can take from the game it is that we won the second half." **Micky Adams**

"Unlike earlier in the season, the players are now playing with confidence and if you look at the talent we have in the dressing room it should be no surprise we are winning games now. I think our first-half performance was the best away from home that we have produced all season."

**Peter Taylor**

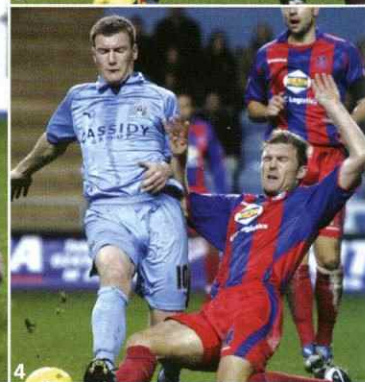
MatchStats		
Coventry		Palace
11	Goal Attempts	13
4	On Target	7
7	Off Target	6
10	Corners	1
16	Fouls	12
55%	Possession	45%



2



3



4



5



6



7

1. Players in a tangle. 2. Leon gets City's first goal. 3. Mifsud makes his Sky Blues debut. 4. Kyle is denied. 5. Tabb keeps his eyes on the ball. 6. Kyle gets up well. 7. Steele thwarts Kuqi





## SUPPORT YOUR CLUB

### By supporting the businesses that show this sign

The following companies have all signed up to Coventry City's By Official Appointment initiative which offers businesses the opportunity to become the Club's officially appointed provider of a service for the duration of a year. There are numerous benefits to firms who sign up to BOA and there are still several categories available if you would like to become one of the inaugural members.

Call 0870 421 1987, option 4 or email [commercial@ccfc.co.uk](mailto:commercial@ccfc.co.uk) for more information. Sky Blues fans can take advantage of sensational savings with BOA businesses, four of which are profiled below.



**Garnish Catering.** Unit 1, Newgate Court, Paradise Street, Coventry, CV1 2RU

t: 024 7623 0225  
e: [garnishcatering@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:garnishcatering@tiscali.co.uk)  
www.garnishcatering.co.uk

Garnish Catering (formerly known as K & S Enterprise) was established over 18 years ago and has evolved into a successful business with many major local and national clients who depend upon an affordable, reliable and professional service. We use fresh produce from local suppliers and our home cooked products give a touch that makes our buffets and sandwiches a little something different to the "norm". We cater for all occasions from business lunches to weddings, from small gatherings at your home to large parties at hired venues. Our website should provide you with the information you need to help you plan your event catering but if you have any questions then please contact us at [garnish@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:garnish@tiscali.co.uk) or by telephone on 024 7623 0225.



**Eyden Locksmiths Ltd.** 44 Wallace Road, Radford, Coventry, CV6 2LX

t: 024 7633 9394  
e: [joy@edens.co.uk](mailto:joy@edens.co.uk)  
www.edens.co.uk

**Exclusive offer to Coventry City fans:** 10% discount

Eyden Locksmiths Ltd is a family run business which has a full range of Locks, Safes and Ironmongery. We also offer a comprehensive key cutting service including the majority of the latest vehicle keys and remote fobs. Eydens is more than just a locksmith, we specialise in all types of vehicle locks and making of keys to vehicles (where all keys are lost), we have invested in the latest technology available, to enable us to make keys to most vehicles which have built in engine immobilisers. We also offer a full repair or replacement service for vehicle locks. We employ an experienced team of engineers covering Coventry and the surrounding areas dealing with all types of lock problems, including UPVC door and window repairs, alarm fitting and repair service, all forms of Access Control, full carpentry service and the supply and installation of security Grills. We would like to welcome all Coventry City fans to our retail premises, where you can expect to receive a professional and friendly service, to any problems or needs that you may have.

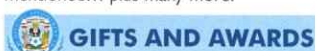


**Hunger for Health.** 3 Cavendish Walk, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, CV11 6GE

t: 07917 631604  
e: [becki@hungerforhealth.co.uk](mailto:becki@hungerforhealth.co.uk)  
www.hungerforhealth.co.uk

**Exclusive offer to Coventry City fans:** 10% discount on initial nutrition consultation

Becki Hawkins BSc(Hons), MBANT, award winning nutritionist is proud to be the official team nutritionist for Coventry City Football Club. Now you too can benefit from her expert advice on a whole host of nutritional issues and health conditions. Nutritional therapy is the use of food and nutritional supplements to encourage your body's own natural healing capabilities. During your one-to-one consultation a personalised diet and supplement programme will be tailored specifically to your needs and wishes. The plan will easily fit into your lifestyle and help you towards achieving your goals. A few simple changes can often have very positive results so what are you waiting for? Call today and begin the journey towards a healthier, happier you! Becki is also an experienced public speaker available for group talks on any of the topics mentioned... plus many more!



**Glass Creations Ltd.** Meadow Barn, Shenton Lane, Upton, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, CV13 6LA

t: 01455 213563  
e: [info@glass-creations.co.uk](mailto:info@glass-creations.co.uk)  
www.glass-creations.co.uk

**Exclusive offer to Coventry City fans:** 10% discount

We provide engraved glassware personalised to your own requirements making a unique gift to be treasured forever. Our range covers Champagne flutes, wine and sherry glasses, whisky tumblers, decanters and decanter sets, vases and bowls and picture frames. We also do a range suitable as executive gifts including crystal paperweights, clocks and letter racks. Engraved crystalware makes the perfect gift to celebrate retirements, weddings, anniversaries, christenings and any special occasion where you want to say thank you, well done or congratulations. Also in the range are a large selection of awards from the Rock Tablet range which are handmade in the Highlands of Scotland through to the White Optical Crystal. These awards are personalised with your details and logo for any corporate or sporting event.



## Directory A-C

**Accountants & Taxation Advisors**  
**McGrath Kirby Hill Ltd.** Clifford House, 38-44 Binley Road, Coventry, CV3 1JA T: 02476 258621

**Air Conditioning & Mechanical Services**  
**Building & Maintenance Services Ltd** Unit 1, Whetstone Magna, Lutterworth Road, Leicester, LE8 6NB T: 0116 2776044

**Alarms & CCTV**  
**Clear Sound Security.** 179 Lockhurst Lane, Coventry, CV6 5NQ T: 02476 668366

**Audio Visual Services**  
**Istead Business Presentations Ltd.** Unit 14 Herald Business Park, Golden Acres Lane, Coventry, CV3 2SY T: 02476 635530

**Bakers**  
**Luxury Bakery.** 115 Allfall Road, Stoke, Coventry, CV2 3GF T: 02476 451845  
**Balloons**  
**Creative Balloons.** 29 Earl Street, Coventry, CV1 5RU T: 02476 229693

**Bar**  
**Prague.** Unit 3, Priory Place, Fairfax Street, Coventry, CV1 5SQ T: 02476 251 000

**Blinds**  
**Bluebell Blinds Ltd.** Unit 2 Cavans Way, Binley Industrial Estate, Binley, Coventry, CV3 2SF T: 02476 650065

**Bookmakers**  
**Ladbroke's.** Kenburgh House, 28a Manor Row, Bradford, BD1 4QU T: 01274 308451

**Car, Van, Minibus & Truck Hire**  
**Kenilworth Vehicle Rental Ltd.** Unit 5/6 Cotton Drive, Kenilworth, CV8 2EB T: 01926 777888

**Car Body Repair Services**  
**XL Motors.** 51 Parkside, Coventry, CV1 2HG T: 02476 550011

**Car Supermarket**  
**TSC Car Supermarket.** Bradknocks Marsh, Business Centre, Kenilworth Road, Balsall Common, B92 0LV T: 0870 027 0029

**Carpet Retailers & Fitters**  
**Crazy Carpets.** 550-554 Stoney Stanton Road, Foleshill, Coventry, CV6 5FS T: 02476 686728

**Catering**  
**Garnish Catering.** Unit 1, Newgate Court, Paradise Street, Coventry, CV1 2RU T: 02476 230225

**Celebration Cakes**  
**The Cake Shop.** Park Road, Bedworth, Warwickshire, CV12 8QA T: 02476 315604

**Chauffeur - Car & Limousine Hire**  
**Vaughans.** 7 Homewood Way, Binley, Coventry, CV3 2UR T: 02476 453167

**Childcare**  
**Wonder Years.** 807 Foleshill Road, Coventry, CV6 5HS T: 02476 688111

**Chinese Restaurant**  
**China Red.** 58 Herford Street, Coventry City Centre, Coventry, CV1 1LB T: 02476 229333

**City Centre Hotel & Suites**  
**Ramada Hotel & Suites Coventry.** The Butts, Earlsdon, Coventry, CV1 3GG T: 0870 890 3722

**Courier - Same Day**  
**Dash Despatches Ltd.** Columbus House, 21-23 St Columbus Close, Coventry, CV1 4BX T: 02476 665550

## Directory C-F

**Cleaning Services**  
**Goldcrest Cleaning.** 22 Fields Court, Warwick, CV34 5HP T: 01926 497010

**Contract Hire & Leasing - Car & Commercial Vehicles**  
**Universal Vehicle Solutions Ltd.** 7 Clarendon Place, Leamington Spa, CV32 5QL T: 08700 604315

**Communications**  
**FoneStyle Uk.** 152 Butterstile Lane, Prestwich, Manchester, M45 7PX T: 0870 0465900

**Conference, Banqueting & Exhibitions**  
**Ricoh Arena.** Phoenix Way, Foleshill, Coventry, CV6 6GE T: 0870 8116500

**Commercial Printers**  
**The Allesley Press Ltd.** Leofric House, Waterman Road, Coventry, CV6 5TP T: 02476 638844

**Computer Maintenance & Repair**  
**Verlan.** Unit 10, Binley Business Innovation Centre, Harry Weston Road, Coventry, CV3 2TX T: 0845 644 2352

**Data Capture & Direct Mail**  
**Capture 2000.** Vintage House, St Nicholas Street, Coventry, CV1 4BG T: 02476 553580

**Dentist**  
**Coventry Road Dental Practice.** 94 Coventry Road, Bedworth, CV12 8NW T: 02476 312256

**Dog Grooming & Accessories**  
**K9 Divine.** 103 Sewall Highway, Wyken, Coventry, CV2 3NH T: 02476 636009

**Drain & Pipe Cleaning**  
**Drains Are Us Ltd.** 80 John O'Gaunt Road, Kenilworth, CV8 1DZ T: 01926 853111

**Driving School**  
**Dave's School Of Motoring.** 121 Joseph Luckman Road, Bedworth, CV12 8BJ M: 078111 29691

**Dry Cleaners**  
**Radford Dry Cleaners.** 145 Radford Road, Radford, Coventry, CV6 3BT T: 02476 599619

**Electrical Supplies**  
**Electronix.** 2 Shelton Square, The Precinct, Coventry, CV1 1DG T: 02476 630388

**Electrician - Residential & Commercial**  
**TPC Electrical Services Ltd.** 37-43 Earlsdon Street, Earlsdon, Coventry, CV5 6EP T: 02476 717773

**Embroidery**  
**UK Shirts.** Unit B11, Little Heath Industrial Estate, Old Church Road, Coventry, CV6 7NB T: 02476 687600

**Employment Agency - Catering, Industrial & Driving**  
**MCN Recruitment Ltd.** 26 The Burges, Coventry, CV1 1HL T: 02476 555450

**Employment Agency - Commercial & Retail**  
**Sector Resources Ltd.** 2nd Floor, Orchard House, 44-48 Corporation Street, Coventry, CV1 1GF T: 02476 223322

**Entertainment**  
**BT Promotions.** 5 Conrad Road, Radford, Coventry, CV6 2JZ T: 02476 593525

**Estate Agents**  
**Shortland Horne.** Warwick Gate, 21-22 Warwick Row, Coventry, CV1 1ET T: 02476 222123

**Exhibition, Interior & Display Products**  
**Exmedia.** Exmedia House, Parkside, Coventry, CV1 2NE T: 02476 224774

**Financial Advisors (Independent)**  
**R.W.T. (Coventry) Financial Services Ltd.** 14 Homeward Way, Binley, Coventry, CV3 2UR T: 02476 453529

## Directory F-L

**Florist**  
**Graham Giles Ltd.** 169 Ansty Road, Coventry, CV2 3JF T: 02476 445778

**Formal Suit Hire**  
**The Black Tie Coventry Ltd.** 3 Whitaker Road, Allesley Park, Coventry, CV5 9JE T: 02476 678800

**Funeral Directors**  
**Heart of England Co-operative.** 22 Abbey Street, Nuneaton, CV11 5BU T: 02476 382331

**Gifts & Awards**  
**Glass Creations Ltd.** Meadow Barn, Shenton Lane, Upton, Nuneaton, CV13 6LA T: 01455 213563

**Golf Course, Restaurant & Conference Centre**  
**West Midlands Golf Club & The Lake Barston Restaurant.** Marsh House Farm Lane, Barston, Solihull, B92 0LB T: 01675 444890

**Graphic Designers**  
**I-Creo.** 88 The Turbine Hall, Electric Wharf, Coventry, CV1 4JB T: 02476 223390

**Health**  
**Hunger For Health.** 3 Cavendish Walk, Nuneaton, CV11 6GE M: 07917 631604

**Health & Fitness Club**  
**Arena Health & Fitness.** Ricoh Arena, Phoenix Way, Coventry, CV6 6GE T: 0870 811 6333

**Health & Nutrition**  
**Holland & Barrett.** Unit 30, West Orchards, Coventry, CV1 1QX T: 02476 230107

**Holistic Therapy & Chiropractic Consultant**  
**Natural Healing.** 25 Princethorpe Way, Ermsford Grange, Binley, Coventry, CV3 2HE T: 02476 651191

**Home Improvements**  
**Wickes.** 2 Radford Road, Coventry, CV1 4BY T: 02476 553525

**Hotel - Four Star**  
**Paramount Hinckley Island Hotel.** AS Wading Street, Hinckley, LE10 3JA T: 01455 898571

**HR Services & Employment Advice for Business**  
**Vital HR Ltd.** 3 The Quadrant, Coventry, CV1 2DY T: 0870 034 4488

**Industrial Lighting**  
**Dakal Ltd.** Units 1 & 2, The Old Dairy, Southfield Avenue, Northampton, NN4 8AQ T: 01604 709111

**Insurance**  
**CCFC Insurance Services Ltd.** 9 Norton Hill Drive, Wyken, Coventry, CV2 3AS T: 02476 508098 or text CCFC to 80806

**Investment & Pension Advisors**  
**R.W.T. (Coventry) Financial Services Ltd.** 14 Homeward Way, Binley, Coventry, CV3 2UR T: 02476 453529

**Jewellers**  
**H. Johnson & Son.** 51 Queens Road, Nuneaton, CV11 5JX T: 02476 347038

**Leaflet Distribution Services**  
**JM Circular.** Unit D7, Little Heath Industrial Estate, Old Church Road, Coventry, CV6 7ND T: 02476 663069

**Landscaping & Ground Maintenance**  
**Fallons Ground Maintenance Ltd.** R/O 60 Woodway Lane, Walsgrave, Coventry, CV2 2ER T: 02476 612545

**Leisure Complex**  
**Rialto Complex.** 85 Moseley Avenue, Coundon, Coventry, CV6 1HR T: 02476 591623

**Leisure & Entertainment**  
**Tenpin Coventry.** Crosspoint Business Park, Oliver Way, Walsgrave, Coventry, CV2 2SH T: 0871 550 1010

## Directory L-R

**Local Internet Business Directory**  
**Yellowcom Coventry.** 53 Coombe Park Road, Coombe Park, Coventry, CV3 2NW M: 07923 392371

**Loft Conversion**  
**Oakland's Mill Ltd.** 22 Woods Piece, Keresley, Coventry, CV7 8NP T: 02476 334377

**Loft Insulators**  
**Heatsavers Insulation Ltd.** 15a Bilton Industrial Estate, Humber Avenue, Coventry, CV3 1JL T: 0870 4781550 E:

**Marquee & Tent Hire**  
**Somel Tent Hire Ltd.** The Old Vicarage, London Road, Ryton On Dunsmore, Coventry, CV8 3ER T: 02476 639757

**Menswear Retail & Hire**  
**Roy Palin Menswear Ltd.** 1, 2 & 4 Quinton Parade, Daventry Road, Cheylesmore, Coventry, CV3 5HW T: 02476 502076

**Mobility Equipment & Accessories**  
**Mobility Nation.** 4b Clements Street, Stoke, Coventry, CV2 4HX T: 02476 651941

**Mortgage Advisors**  
**Aim GB Ltd.** 33 Bulkington Road, Bedworth, CV12 9DG T: 0845 1081640

**Motor Factors**  
**Nyanza Autoparts.** 9 - 12 Colledge Road, Holbrooks, Coventry, CV6 4BH T: 07000 222222

**Office Furniture Suppliers & Interior Fit-out**  
**The Office Group.** Unit 1, New Inn Bridge Estate, 998 Foleshill Road, Foleshill, Coventry, CV6 6EN T: 02476 664664

**Office Stationery & Supplies**  
**City Suppliers (Coventry) Ltd.** 167-171 Albany Road, Earlsdon, Coventry, CV5 6NE T: 02476 671990

**E: sales@citysuppliers.co.uk**  
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**Opticians**  
**Eyesite.** 50 Jubilee Crescent, Radford, Coventry, CV6 3ET T: 02476 601113

**Painters & Decorators**  
**O'Reilly Decorators Ltd.** 50 Merritts Drive, Rugby, CV22 7AE T: 01788 5687091

**Photography**  
**BT Digital Photography.** 5 Conrad Road, Radford, Coventry, CV6 2JZ T: 02476 593525

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**SKC Driveways.** 39 Old Hinckley Road, Nuneaton, CV10 0AA T: 02476 320270

**Pet Sitters**  
**Petpals.** 26 Upton Drive, Nuneaton, CV11 4GF T: 02476 373165

**Photocopier Solutions**  
**NRG Group UK Ltd.** NRG House, 4 Rushmills, Northampton, NN4 7YB T: 0500 102103

**Public House & Restaurants**  
**The Bull & Anchor.** 233 Wheelwright Lane, Ash Green, Coventry, CV7 9HN T: 02476 365528

**Public Relations**  
**Century Public Relations.** Kings Chambers, Queens Road, Coventry, CV1 3EH T: 02476 228881

**Research & Training**  
**Austin Research & Training.** 74 Whoberley Avenue, Coventry, CV5 8EQ T: 02476 714545

**Removals & House Clearances**  
**A2B4U.** 230 Holbrook Lane, Holbrooks, Coventry, CV6 4DD T: 02476 665558

**Restaurant & Bars**  
**Earlsdon Cottage.** 22-24 Warwick Street, Earlsdon, Coventry, CV5 6ET T: 02476 677 736

## Directory R-Z

**Restaurant - Indian (Central)**  
**Flamingo Bar & Grill.** Unit 2, Priory Place, Fairfax Street, Coventry, CV1 5SQ T: 02476 555 557

**Restaurant - Indian (North)**  
**Spice 45.** Birmingham Road, Meriden, Coventry, CV7 7JT T: 01676 522000

**Restaurant - Italian**  
**Ristorante Da Vinci.** 50 Earlsdon Street, Earlsdon, Coventry, CV5 6EG T: 02476 713554

**Retail & Service Industry (Locksmiths)**  
**Eyden Locksmiths Ltd.** 44 Wallace Road, Radford, Coventry, CV6 2LX T: 02476 339394

**Scaffolding**  
**G & R Scaffolding.** 9 Horseshoe Road, Longford, Coventry, CV6 6JY T: 02476 644017

**Sandwich & Deli Bar**  
**Simply Scrumptious.** 8 Wheelwright Buildings, Wheelwright Lane, Holbrooks, Coventry, CV6 4HF T: 02476 662606

**Security Services**  
**Halmarc Security Services.** 70 Brixham Drive, Wyken, Coventry, CV2 3LG T: 02476 717171

**Sign Writers**  
**Blowfish Media.** Unit B2, Abbey Industrial Estate, Bodmin Road, Coventry, CV2 5DB T: 02476 616111

**Slip Hire**  
**Sky Blue Skips.** 15 Edgwick Industrial Estate, Canal Road, Coventry, CV6 5RB T: 02476 447442

**Tanning Shops**  
**Gold N Brown.** 143 Radford Road, Radford, Coventry, CV6 3BQ T: 02476 593399

**Tattooist**  
**Tattoo World.** 18 Longford Road, Longford, Coventry, CV6 6DX T: 02476 682397

**Taxis (Private Hire)**  
**M.G.M Taxis Ltd.** Unit 11, Exis Court, Vesey Close, Attleborough Fields, Nuneaton, CV11 4JN

**Telecom & Services**  
**One Source Telecom Ltd.** Saturn Business Centre, 101 Lockhurst Lane, Coventry, CV6 5SF T: 0870 7453455

**Telephone & Computer Cleaning**  
**Teleclean Services (Coventry) Ltd.** Unit A Stonebridge House, Rowley Drive, Coventry, CV3 4FG T: 02476 639174

**Travel Agents**  
**Thomas Cook.** Thomas Cook Retail Ltd, 2-4 Godwin Street, Bradford, BD1 2ST T: 0845 308 9229

**Tyres, Exhausts, Batteries & Brakes**  
**Britannia Tyres Ltd.** Abbots Lane, Coventry, CV1 4AZ T: 02476 256262

**TV Aerials & Satellite Installations**  
**Binley Aerial & Satellite Services Ltd.** 8 Marlborough Road, Stoke, Coventry, CV2 4EP T: 02476 454234

**Uniform, Staff Wear & Sports Wear**  
**Caldoni Clothing.** Caldoni House, 3 Cronal Road, Bayton Road Industrial Estate, Coventry, CV7 9NH T: 02476 363 100

**Vehicle Leasing**  
**Universal Vehicle Solutions Ltd.** 7 Clarendon Place, Leamington Spa, CV32 5QL T: 08700 604315

**Web Services**  
**Swift Solutions.** 3 The Square, Brade Drive, Coventry, CV2 2QJ T: 02476 8423000

**Wine Merchants**  
**Ciao Bella Wines.** 3 Roe Close, Warwick, CV34 5AZ T: 0870 2251975

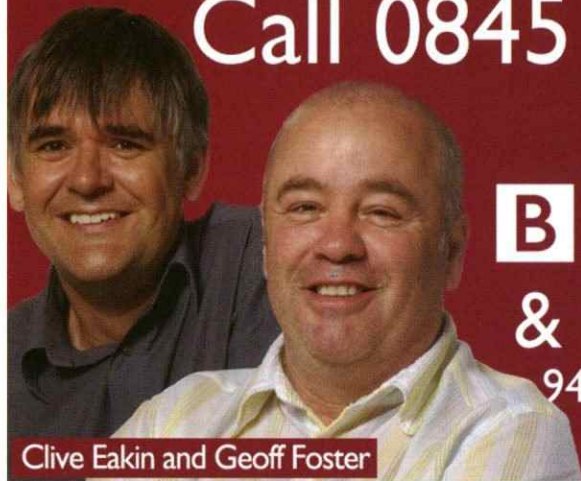
**Washroom Services**  
**Hygiene Solutions.** Unit 8, Pool Road Industrial Estate, Nuneaton, CV10 9AE T: 02476 354700



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Clive Eakin and Geoff Foster

# BBC COVENTRY & WARWICKSHIRE

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## Geoff Foster

BBC COVENTRY & WARWICKSHIRE  
94.8, 103.7, 104 FM & Digital Radio

Ahh - hello! You've come to the right place! I'd like to welcome you warmly with open arms. This is Geoff's World, and my job is to make you feel good about yourself. Forget about the past. Put your worries behind you. The clouds overhead are parting and the sun will soon be streaming down upon us, clothing the land in vestments of gold.

The Sky Blues' glass is definitely half full. We should look on the bright side of life. Rose tinted spectacles are the order of the day. Everything's going to be all right, you know? We'll be back on our feet in no time, no worries.

A French fellow called Gottfried Leibniz claimed that we live in the best of all possible worlds. He was an optimist. Optimism as a principle involves believing that things are going to go in our favour instead of against us. That's a good thing. It is possible, however, to fall prey to what is known as "The Valence Effect", a scientifically proven situation where people are actually likely to overestimate the amount of good fortune that's going to come their way.

That's a bad thing. You can see daily examples of such behaviour on that pestilent Noel Edmonds programme where everyone seems certain that their box contains a quarter of a million pounds rather than one penny.

So, as a Sky Blues fan, am I being just optimistic by asking everyone to keep their chins up because it's all going to be fine, or am I a victim of over-exaggerating the chances that today will herald a Coventry victory?



Every cloud has a silver lining, doesn't it? What's the worst that could happen? Just think - you could be Jade Goody. More dreadful things have happened at sea. At least Robbie Savage doesn't play for the City.

Clichés aside, optimism is a trait that I admire. Glenn McGrath was roundly mocked for predicting a five-nil Ashes whitewash in favour of the Australians back in 2004, but he turned out to be right, didn't he? Eighteen months later, granted, but his optimism was rewarded.

I know it's not sport related, but the American government have lately been displaying some awesome optimism in the face of disaster. They've even redefined concepts like failure. Five years after the September 11th attacks, Osama bin Laden is still at large despite George Bush's insistence that his troops were going to hunt him down.

A White House official called Frances Fragos Townsend, however, can put a positive spin on this unfortunate turn of events. When presented with this evidence as a sign of foreign policy going wrong, she replied: "Well, I'm not sure about that. It's a success that hasn't occurred yet. I don't know that I view that as a failure."

So, the Sky Blues are Champions' League winners. That particular cup victory just hasn't happened yet. I am a millionaire. The money isn't in my account at this exact moment...but... England are Ashes whitewashers. In a triumph that is still to occur.



Can you see how much fun it is in Geoff's World?

All together now, purse your lips together and whistle along with me: some things in life are bad...they really make you mad....



# Fighting

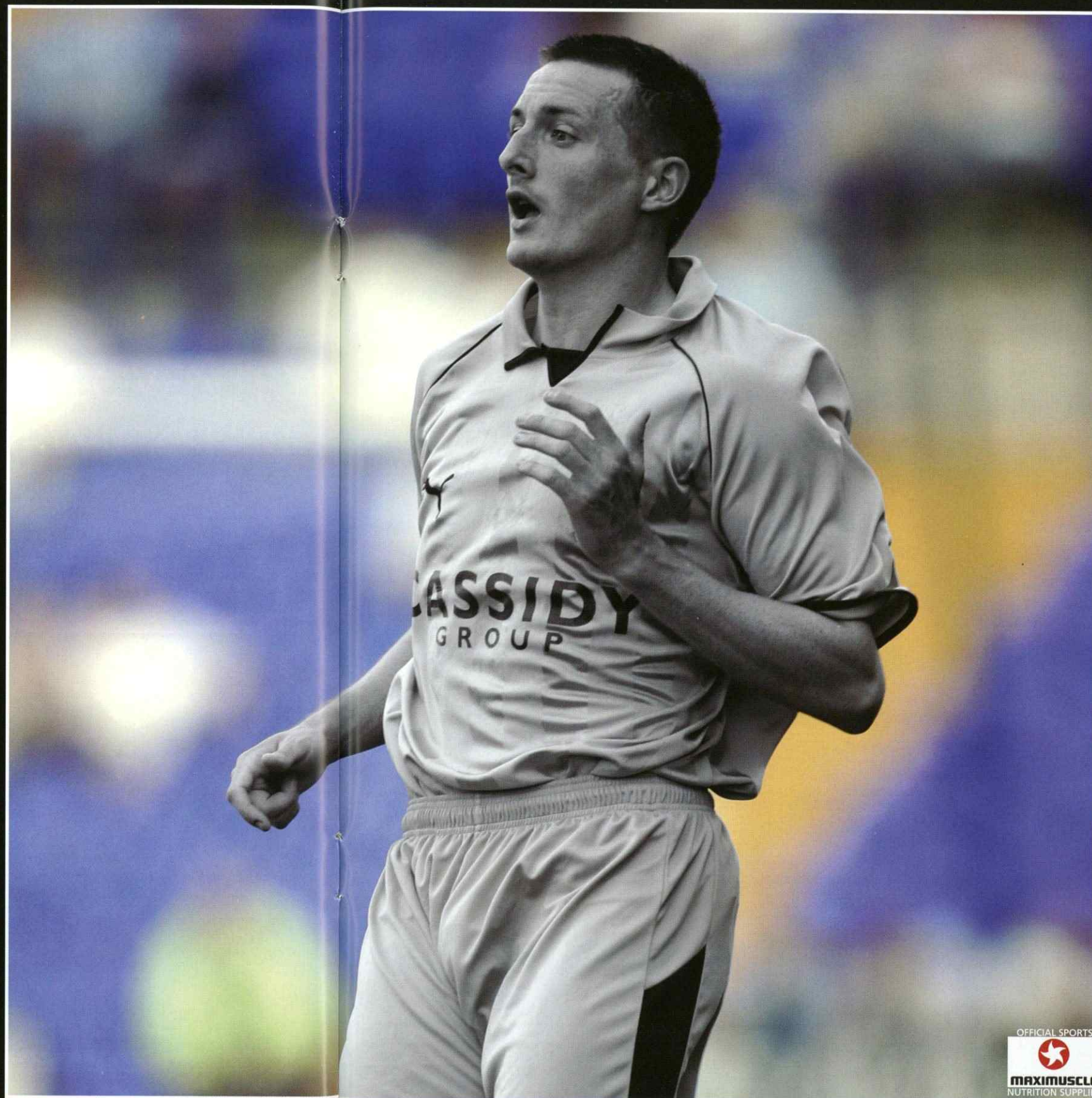
He's had a torrid time with injury problems since his arrival at the Club, but David McNamee returned to action last week at Plymouth and reveals here how he is determined to help the Sky Blues get back to winning ways.

**You have been out of action since October - you must have been delighted to make your comeback last week against Plymouth?**

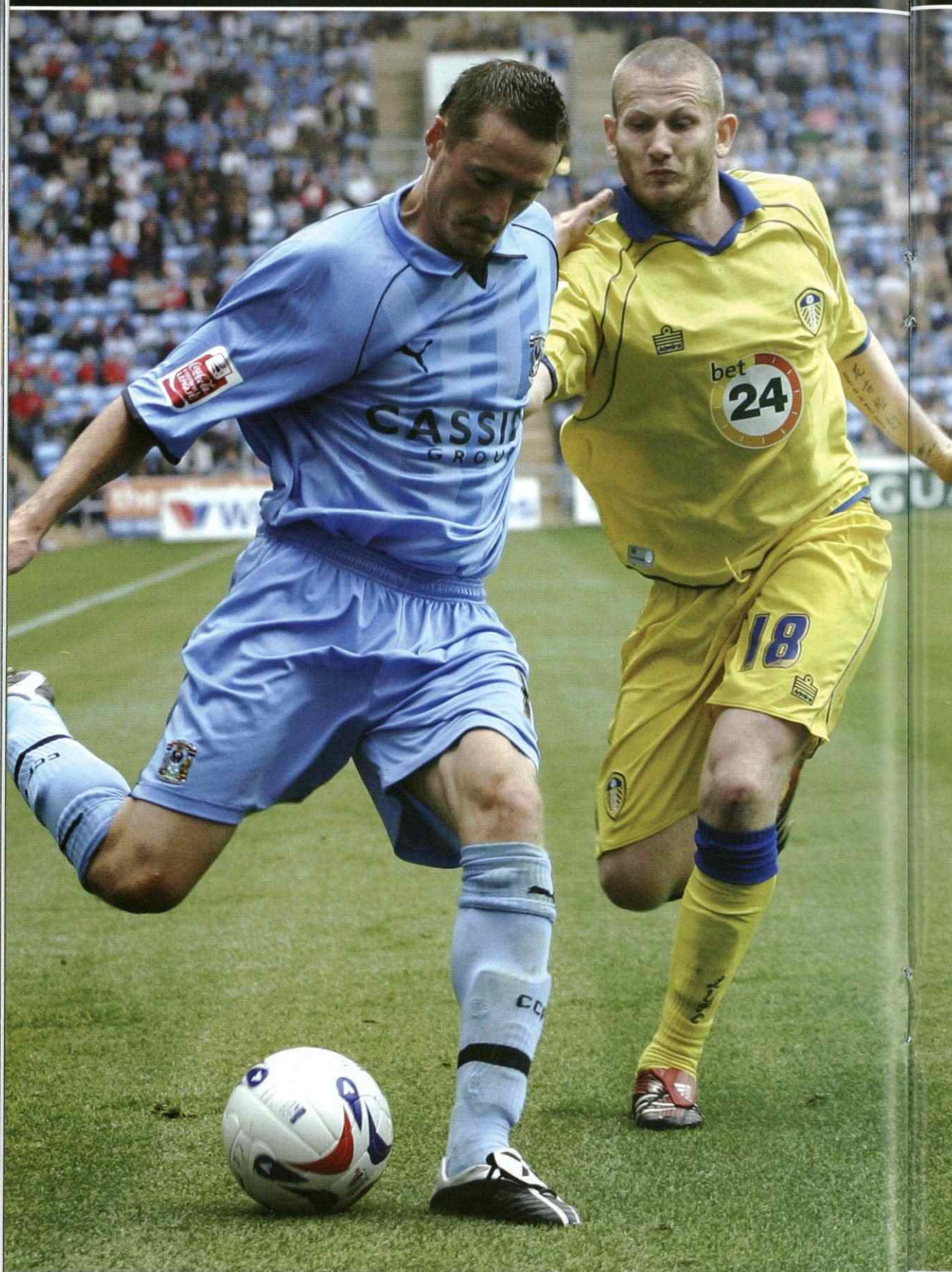
It was great to be back because unfortunately it's been a while coming. I was obviously just happy to get the ninety minutes under my belt after a few months out of action.

**It must have been a really frustrating time for you, being on the sidelines for over three months so soon after joining the Club?**

I tore my hamstring against Wolves so the first week after that there was nothing I could actually do on it - I just had to let the muscle knit back together. Then it was a case of getting it strengthened and stretched again. There has been a lot of boring stretching and leg work but it had to be done. Then I got into running and thankfully now I'm back. This time we've gone on the side of safety and any small niggles that I've felt, I've taken a step back. It seems to have settled down now and hopefully that's the end of it.







**Was it a new injury to you or have you suffered from hamstring problems in the past?**

I've never really had any serious problems with my hamstrings and hopefully it was just a one-off. You never can tell with hamstrings but fingers crossed it's all behind me now and that will be the end of it.

**Are you the sort of person who finds it easy to keep his spirits up while out injured?**

It's a hard thing to cope with because you see the boys going out to train and you can only watch. It can get frustrating when you just go into the gym every day, trying to strengthen your leg back up. I had my good and bad days but luckily I had a few other lads around me like Don Hutchison, who's always good for a bit of chit-chat and helped keep me going! It helps when you've got other boys around you who can keep you going.

**You came back against Plymouth on a very heavy pitch which probably wasn't ideal - did you get through it unscathed?**

The pitch was definitely the worst I've played on for a while - it took me back to my Scotland days! I used to come up against pitches like that all the time and I felt quite comfortable most of the way through. Obviously it wasn't a great game football-wise or result-wise. Personally I was happy to just get through the 90 minutes without feeling any problems.

**Is it tough to come back into a struggling side?**

It was a situation where if the boys had been doing really well and winning every week, I might not have got my chance. In a way, if you've been out for a while, you only tend to come back into a team if it hasn't won in a while. You end up getting your opportunity because of that more often than not. The manager wanted to use me and I wanted to play so I was just happy to get my opportunity so quickly.

**Were there positives to take from the Plymouth game?**

I think you can take positives from the fact that the team never stopped trying to go forwards as we looked to try and get back on level terms. I don't think we played the conditions particularly well. We tried to play football when maybe that wasn't on but I'm sure we'll learn from it and hopefully not make the same mistake again.

The boys do like to play football and with Inchy taking over as the new gaffer, I think he wants us to play some nice football, but we've got to do it in the right conditions and at the right times. You've got to know when to put your foot through the ball.

We've been talking about stuff like that in training and we'll try to resolve the fact that we're conceding goals. We just want the next game to come as quickly as possible so we can try and get back to winning ways.

**How have spirits been in training since the last match?**

It's not too bad at all. The lads were disappointed because we've been through a bad run of results recently and nobody's happy about it but the positives are that the boys have all stuck together. There's no animosity between anybody and as soon as we get a victory, confidence levels will change and we can hopefully push on.

**What do you expect from Luton? Looking at the league table it's a classic six-pointer.**

Recent results have seen us fall down the league and that's not a position any of us thought we'd find ourselves in. It's our home game so we've got to concentrate on what we can do and go out to try and get the three points at the Ricoh. Anything less just really don't do. I'm sure it will be physical but the surface is much better here than it was last week at Plymouth so hopefully we can play a bit more football.

**Would you class us as being in a relegation battle?**

That word hasn't even been mentioned down at the training ground. We feel that as soon as our confidence levels come back we will start moving up the league and the only way to do that is with a win. We've got a couple of boys still out injured who hopefully aren't too far away from coming back and strengthening the squad a bit more.

**How disappointed were you with Micky Adams' departure?**

Obviously I was disappointed for him because he brought me into the Club. He showed a lot of faith with me and was always good with me down at the training ground. I also understand that football nowadays is a results business and if the results aren't coming the people upstairs have got their decisions to make for the benefit of the Club. It's just something you have to take on the chin. I'm a professional and I know it's something that could happen again in my career. You just have to get your head around it and get on with things.

**Do the players feel like they let the old manager down in any way?**

I'm sure all of the boys have felt that maybe if they'd done something differently results might have gone our way and then the manager wouldn't be in this position. That's easy to say in hindsight and there's nothing you can do to change past results or mistakes that have been made. All we can really do is focus on the future and I'm sure all the boys will be behind Inchy just now.

He's taken over and hopefully he becomes the permanent gaffer because we all like him. He's been around the Club a lot longer than I have and since I've been here his training sessions have been really good so I don't think there'd be any complaints from us if he got the job permanently. We'll have to see what happens.

**Has Inchy changed much in training?**

I'd say most of the things are pretty similar to what we were doing before. There have been a few little subtle changes but nothing major has changed. He has his own ideas, there's no doubt about that, and maybe he would like to bring some players in but we just have to wait and see. Hopefully the ideas he gives us come across and we can put it onto the pitch.

**What are your hopes for the rest of the season?**

I want to become settled in the position and help us to push up the table. Our main concern is to get away from the bottom and I'm confident we can do it. We've got good enough players at the Club, it's just a case of getting confidence levels back up and pushing on from there. It doesn't matter how we win a game and hopefully that will come tonight.









## ChampionshipComment... with Nicola Rutledge

We've all been there. There's nothing quite like receiving an invitation to a party that you really aren't looking forward to. It may have been months since you went to a decent get-together but the hosts aren't really your kind of people. However you still decide to go.

But what would you do if that invitation was then withdrawn? Feel a bit put out? Quite aggrieved?

Well that was the situation that fans of Cardiff City found themselves in last weekend when their team was scheduled to face Wolves.

Controversially the Football League decided to ban all Bluebirds supporters from the match at Molineux, following a previous record of trouble that ensued in years gone by.

A strong decision. And while any trouble at football matches (and in society) is completely unacceptable and should see the perpetrators heavily punished and banned, it does raise the question - can you really tar a whole set of supporters with the same brush?

Granted, Wolverhampton's police, council and the club itself most probably have a completely different viewpoint when their money has to be used for extra policing to ensure a few mindless idiots are well-behaved. It can seem like the best solution.

However to ban all fans in a sweeping generalisation that all Cardiff City supporters are thugs and troublemakers is a facile judgement.

Yes the minority of proven troublemakers should be banned and never allowed to enter Molineux, Ninian Park or any Championship ground again. But the majority of law-abiding fans wanting to go and watch and support their team through a tricky period, (which has seen them go without a win in 14 games), should not be punished.

It may be a case of having better systems in place to identify specific troublemakers so the Football League can then take them

to task and the true supporters can continue to enjoy their team's football.

As with all injustices, a couple of hundred people did voice their feelings to the local authorities in Wolverhampton, marching on the Town Hall to show their exception to the ruling.

Chairman Peter Risdale also displayed his objection to the decision by shunning the Wolves board and opting to watch the match from the away dugout in protest.

Ironically, Cardiff managed to bag three points in a 2-1 win, despite no support in the ground. Debutant Jason Byrne, a £100,000 signing from Shelbourne, came off the bench to grab a dramatic 88th minute winner after Seyi Olofinjana looked to ensure a point for Wolves when he cancelled out Michael Chopra's opening goal.

Bluebirds boss, Dave Jones, couldn't disguise his delight at the win against his former club, who sacked him two years ago.

Jones said: "It's ironic that none of our fans were here to see us win our first match in 14 games. I've never felt an atmosphere like it - it was dead. Their fans tried to get it going but they needed some banter to bounce off and we got our just rewards."

Special mention must go out to Sunderland manager Roy Keane, who was also very vocal about his feelings towards TV pundits' views of non-Premiership clubs.

The Black Cats' boss spoke out against the BBC's football experts, branding them "ignorant and arrogant" about teams outside the Premier League.

Keane was angry at remarks made by Gary Lineker, Alan Shearer, Alan Hansen and Lee Dixon during and after Birmingham's 5-1 drubbing of Newcastle in the FA Cup. Keane said, "They talked about how bad Newcastle were. Not once did they say that Birmingham had played well. Yet they are so-called experts who are appearing on the box."

A statement which I think all Championship fans can agree with.

### SHARP SHOOTERS

Player	Team	Lge	Cup	Ttl
Grzegorz Rasiak	Southampton	17	2	19
Robert Earnshaw	Norwich	17	0	17
Gary McSheffrey	Birmingham	12	3	15
Chris Iwelumo	Colchester	15	0	15
Jamie Cureton	Colchester	13	1	14
Diomansy Kamara	West Brom	14	0	14
Michael Chopra	Cardiff	13	0	13
Steve Howard	Derby	11	1	12
Freddy Eastwood	Southend	7	4	11

### WHERE TO SEE GOALS (By Ground)

Ground	Home Team	M	Gls	G/Mt
The Hawthorns	West Brom	14	47	3.36
Layer Road Ground	Colchester	14	47	3.36
Hillsborough	Sheff Wed	15	47	3.13
Portman Road	Ipswich	15	45	3.00
Roots Hall	Southend	15	43	2.87
Kenilworth Stadium	Luton	15	43	2.87
St Andrews	Birmingham	13	36	2.77
The KC Stadium	Hull	14	38	2.71
Home Park	Plymouth	15	40	2.67
Loftus Road Stadium	QPR	15	40	2.67
Carrow Road	Norwich	14	37	2.64
Elland Road	Leeds	15	39	2.60
Turf Moor	Burnley	14	36	2.57
Oakwell Stadium	Barnsley	14	35	2.50
Deepdale	Preston	15	37	2.47
Molineux Stadium	Wolves	15	35	2.33
Selhurst Park	Crystal Pal	15	35	2.33
The Walkers Stadium	Leicester	14	31	2.21
Ricoh Arena	Coventry	14	31	2.21
Ninian Park	Cardiff	14	30	2.14
Britannia Stadium	Stoke	14	30	2.14
Stadium of Light	Sunderland	14	30	2.14
St Marys Stadium	Southampton	14	28	2.00
Pride Park Stadium	Derby	14	28	2.00

### TEAM LEADERS

Team with the most...  
**shots on target** 227 Southampton. **shots off target** 206 Southampton. **corners** 224 Plymouth. **hit** **woodwork** 12 West Brom. **offsides** 125 Luton. **fouls** 463 Hull. **yellow cards** 67 West Brom. **red cards** 5 Burnley.

### PLAYER POWER

Player with the most...  
**Shots** 109 Robert Earnshaw (Norwich). **Shots on target** 58 Robert Earnshaw (Norwich). **Shots off target** 51 Robert Earnshaw (Norwich). **Assists** 12 Gary McSheffrey (Coventry). **Crosses** 144 Darren Huckerby (Norwich). **Offsides** 53 Jamie Cureton (Colchester). **Fouls** 96 Barry Hayles (Plymouth). **Free-kicks won** 65 Patrick Kisnorbo (Leicester).



### 2006/07 SEASON



### GOAL COUNTER 888

RIGHT FOOT 469 goals

52.8%

LEFT FOOT 219 goals

24.7%

HEADERS 177 goals

19.9%

Own goals 21 (2.4%), Other body part 2 (0.2%)

### QUICK-FIRE GOALS

From the start of a match

D Kamara (West Brom vs Coventry) 0:28

By a substitute after coming on

Wayne Andrews (Coventry vs Barnsley) 0:47

### DISCIPLINARY



3.1 cards per match 0.2 cards per match

### QUICK-FIRE BOOKINGS

From the start of a match

Dexter Blackstock (QPR vs Southend) 0:15

By a substitute after coming on

Andrew Surman (Southampton vs Ipswich) 1:30

### SUB TOTALS

Subs used .....1708

Offsides .....2279

Corners .....3843

Shots Off Target .....3820

### BEAT THE TRAFFIC

Total number of goals you would have missed by leaving every match ten minutes early

1 4 0

In the Coca Cola Championship this season there have been 3911 shots on target, goals constitute 22.7% of all shots (doesn't include own goals). The woodwork has come to the rescue of the defending side on 171 occasions (the biggest beneficiaries being Leicester 14). There have been 75 penalties awarded this season and of those 65 have been scored (a success rate of 86.7%). Ipswich have been awarded most penalties - 8. Burnley have given most penalties away 5. The team to score the most penalties is Ipswich 7. Wolverhampton missed 2 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	25
1-0	45
2-0	29
3-0	12
4-0	2
5-0	3
0-1	35
0-2	11
0-3	5
0-4	2
0-5	-
1-1	34
2-1	29
3-1	18
4-1	5
5-1	3
6-1	-
1-2	26
1-3	5
1-4	2
1-5	1
2-2	19
3-2	12
4-2	4
5-2	-
2-3	8
2-4	3
2-5	-
3-3	5
4-3	2
5-3	-
3-4	-
3-5	-
4-4	-
5-4	-
4-5	-
5-5	-

\*up to and including 24/01/2007







## Liam Robinson

**Date of Birth:** 11/09/1989

**Place of Birth:** Mansfield

**Position:** Left/Right Back

### How did you come to be at Coventry City?

I was playing for a Sunday league side called Chasewell Park Under 10s and our manager entered us into a tournament in Southam. I managed to score a few goals in the tournament but at the time I was not playing defence, I tended to play up front or in midfield. I think it was my goals that alerted Ray Gooding and Lol Cairns who were watching on the sidelines. They asked me to attend a trial and I got offered a contract straight after.

### How would you describe yourself as a person and a footballer?

As a footballer I am very hard working and always give 100%. I am fairly competitive and I don't like coming second best so some might describe me as a sore loser. Off the pitch, I would say that I am very easy to get along with and I enjoy having a laugh with the lads.

### What do you want to achieve this season?

I want to help the team climb up the league table and achieve the highest position possible. Currently we are not doing as well as hoped but we are looking to finish the season strongly. I want to play more in the reserves, I've already played about six or seven times for them and I really enjoyed it. It will help me progress as a player if I play more in the reserves as some of the first-team squad feature and I can only learn from them. I am hoping to play in the Birmingham Senior Cup match against Stourbridge but it keeps getting called off!

### What do you hope to achieve in the next five years?

Next season I would like to do well in the FA Youth Cup, it was disappointing to lose against Reading but credit where credit's due, we lost to a very good side. I really hope that I will get offered a professional contract here at Coventry City and with that I would like to help the Sky Blues get back into the Premiership. I definitely want to play at the highest level possible and achieve an international cap at any level but that's only if I am good enough.

### What is the best thing about playing football?

Winning matches is the best thing about playing football. It is hard to explain the feeling that you get when you win but it's amazing, especially when you win important matches. When we beat Southend in the Third Round of the FA Youth Cup, it was one of the best feelings ever - especially as we won on penalties in a very important match. Another great thing about being a footballer is getting to do what you love doing everyday.

### And the worst?

Losing. I really don't like losing so I would describe myself as a bad loser. I tend to go quiet and grumpy. Being injured as well is not good when you are a footballer. Luckily I have not really had any bad injury setbacks yet but when you are not playing it is hard to be away from the rest of the lads and not be part of the team.

### What do you do in your spare time?

I play golf whenever possible, I play off a handicap of five. I don't play as much I would like but I like playing at courses such as the Belfry and Sherwood Forest. I know Reis Ashraf plays golf but I have not played with him but I have had a few rounds with Kieran Fitzharris but I won't say who won. I like going to the cinema, I find it a good way to relax after a hard day's training.

### Which footballer do you look up to the most?

Due to the nature of my position I would go for Gary Neville. I am trying to base my game around him and I just think he is has got an all round perfect attitude. As a defender I look up to John Terry as well - he is just awesome.

### Which member of the first-team do you get on with the best?

I would say the younger lads in the squad such as Ben Turner and Andy Gooding. They tend to train with us sometimes and they are really good to have around to ask advice and questions.

### Who is your best friend at the Club?

Matthew West a.k.a Snowy and Kieran Fitzharris. I have known them both a long time, I used to share a room with Snowy at the Lodge and Kieran was at the trial I attended all those years ago.

### Puma Time - Champions Collection in conjunction with CCFC Academy Profile

Thanks to Puma Time for providing Liam Robinson with a watch from their 'Champions Collection'. Available at H. Samuel stores nationwide, £79.50. Call 0870 752 0880 for stockist information.



## Under 18s stung by Hornets

Coventry City's Under 18s went down to their heaviest home defeat of the season when they were beaten 3-0 by Watford on Saturday January 13.

On a cold, blustery morning at the Alan Higgs Centre, the visitors were first on the scoresheet when Liam Henderson raced through to finish with a low drive in the ninth minute.

The industrious Andy Gooding had a good shout for a penalty turned down by referee Mr Mellor but in the 20th minute, Watford doubled their lead.

Theo Robinson headed onto a post, Cameron Belford saved with his feet from the rebound but as the ball came back in Robinson rose to power a header high into the net.

A stunning save from Belford straight after the restart forced another corner. This time Henderson rose to head onto the bar.

Lourougnon and Ritchie had chances whilst Jones, Duggan and Francis all made some well-timed tackles to prevent any more goals in the opening half.



Into the second half and Belford was earning his wages, denying Robinson three times in the first 10 minutes.

But with 20 minutes left, Liam Henderson burst through to slip the ball past Belford for the third goal of the game and a comprehensive victory.

**Coventry:** Belford, Duggan, Robinson, Hildreth, D. Jones, Francis, Gooding, Ritchie (Fitzharris 62), West (Ashraf 60), Lourougnon, Burtoft Subs Collett, Hett, Burgess.

## City go out of FA Youth Cup

Coventry City went out of the FA Youth Cup after losing 5-1 to Reading at the Madejski Stadium on January 17.

The Sky Blues started the match brightly and after two minutes

Ange Lorougnon volleyed over the crossbar from an excellent cross from David Burtoft.

But City went 1-0 down when Reading striker Simon Church kept his composure to coolly slot the ball past keeper Cameron Belford after 10 minutes of play.

Seven minutes later the evening got worse for Coventry when Chris Duggan received a red card after fouling Nicholas Bignall, who was clean through on goal. As Duggan was the last defender, the referee had no option but to send him off.

The Royals doubled their lead from the resulting free-kick, James Henry's low drive from the edge of the area went in off the post leaving goalkeeper Belford rooted to his line.

Henry was proving to be a thorn in the side for Coventry and just before half-time the winger turned provider for Reading as his low cross found Bignall who comfortably side footed the ball past Belford from six yards to make the score 3-0.

The Sky Blues began the second period of play with Under 16s winger Ashley Cain replacing Matthew West. The change seemed to spur City on when Dale Jones hit the underside of the crossbar from the edge of the area.

The tie was put out of Coventry's reach when substitute Hal Robson Kanu made it 4-0 to Reading with a neat header off the far post. The Royals inflicted more misery on City when 'keeper Belford was caught in possession outside the penalty area by Henry who subsequently finished from the tightest of angles.

Substitute Kieran Fitzharris pulled one back for the Sky Blues three minutes from time when the diminutive midfielder produced an excellent 20 yard free-kick.

**Coventry:** Belford, Duggan, Robinson, Hildreth, Burgess, Francis, Ritchie; Jones; West (Cain, 46); Lourougnon; Burtoft (Fitzharris, 75)

**Sent off:** Duggan (17)

### Under 18s fixtures

Date	Venue	Opponent	F-A	W/L/D
<b>Sat Aug 19</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Huddersfield</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>W</b>
Sat Aug 26	A	Sheffield Utd	1-2	L
Sat Sep 2	A	Fulham	1-1	D
<b>Sat Sep 9</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Crystal Palace</b>	<b>0-1</b>	<b>L</b>
Sat Sep 16	A	Millwall	1-2	L
Sat Sep 30	A	Bristol City	1-3	L
<b>Sat Oct 7</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Cardiff City</b>	<b>2-0</b>	<b>W</b>
Sat Oct 14	A	MK Dons	0-1	L
<b>Sat Oct 21</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Leicester</b>	<b>4-5</b>	<b>L</b>
Sat Nov 4	A	Watford	2-0	W
<b>Sat Nov 11</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Aston Villa</b>	<b>2-1</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>Sat Nov 18</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>0-1</b>	<b>L</b>
Sat Dec 2	A	Tottenham	3-0	L
<b>Sat Dec 9</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>MK Dons</b>	<b>1-0</b>	<b>W</b>
<b>Wed Dec 13</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Southend U (FAYC)</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>W(p)</b>
<b>Sat Dec 16</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Birmingham</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>D</b>
Sat Jan 6	A	Leicester	3-3	D
<b>Sat Jan 13</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Watford</b>	<b>0-3</b>	<b>L</b>
Wed Jan 17	A	Reading (FAYC)	1-5	L
Sat Jan 20	A	Aston Villa	1-3	L
Sat Feb 3	A	Reading		
<b>Sat Feb 10</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Tottenham</b>		
Sat Feb 17	A	Birmingham		
<b>Sat Feb 24</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Bristol City</b>		
Sat Mar 3	A	Cardiff City		
Sat Mar 10	A	Charlton		
<b>Sat Mar 17</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Ipswich</b>		
<b>Sat Mar 24</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Norwich</b>		
<b>Sat Apr 14</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Southampton</b>		
Sat Apr 21	A	Arsenal		

Home Academy games are played at the Alan Higgs Centre. Check ccfc.co.uk for kick-off times.



# RICOH ARENA

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AND NIZLOPI

The sultry diva will be performing in the Jaguar Exhibition Hall at the RICOH ARENA on Saturday, February 24. Doors open at 7.00pm. She will be supported by Leamington's chart-topping band Nizlopi.

Knight's career has already seen her win three Mobo awards, as well as Mercury and Brit nominations, and her performance is part of the celebrations to commemorate the official opening of the Ricoh Arena.

Tickets cost £15 (£10 for NUS cards) and are on sale from Coventry City Football Club's ticket office at the Ricoh Arena and the West Orchards Shopping Centre.

You can also book tickets by contacting CCFC on 0870 421 1987 and press the button for option one, and by emailing [ticketoffice@ccfc.co.uk](mailto:ticketoffice@ccfc.co.uk). For further enquiries contact 0870 811 6500.

For hotel bookings contact the hotel reception on 0870 811 6565 and for concert corporate hospitality information contact 0870 811 6594.

There is a £1.50 booking fee and £1.50 postage per transaction.

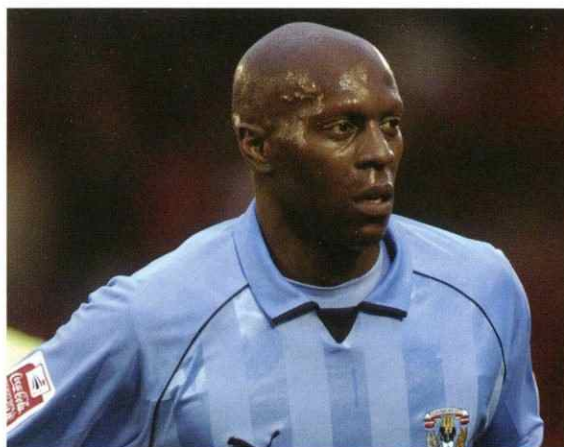
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# Half-timeQuiz



## Quick Fire: Sky Blues

1. Who has Wayne Andrews joined on loan?
2. For which Irish Club did Colin Hawkins previously play?
3. How many matches did Micky Adams manage Coventry City for?
4. Which current Coventry City player played in this season's UEFA Cup?
5. What is the name of Coventry's new loan goalkeeper?

## Quick Fire: Luton Town

1. Who did Luton sign from Sheffield Wednesday last week?
2. Which player did Luton recently re-sign, after he had played for Leeds and Watford?
3. Who did Luton play in the Fourth Round of the FA Cup at the weekend?
4. Which Luton player did Birmingham sign this January?
5. When did Luton last win in the league?

## Flashback

1. Which player left Coventry for Luton in 1991?
2. How many league games have Luton won at Coventry?
3. Which goalkeeper played for both Coventry and Luton in the Eighties?
4. Which Coventry striker missed the League Cup clash between the two sides in 1998, with a big-money transfer on the cards?
5. Who was Luton manager at the time?

## Championship

1. Which Midlands rivals battled it out in the FA Cup Fourth Round this weekend?
2. Which Championship club have had their last two league games postponed due to weather conditions?
3. Which Sheffield Wednesday defender is being chased by a number of Premiership clubs?
4. Birmingham City's Matthew Upson is linked with a move to which Premiership side?
5. Which Championship manager resigned as England Under 21 boss last week?

## World Football

1. Which former French international was elected UEFA President last week?
2. Which Spanish Club is reported to have made a £35m bid for Cristiano Ronaldo?
3. From what country does Bolton's new defender Lubomir Michalik hail?
4. Who did Rangers midfielder Jeremy Clement sign for last week?
5. Who did MLS Club Chicago Fire recently fail to tempt to the USA?

## QuizAnswers

1. David Forster, 2. Peter Crouch, 3. 10, 4. Micky Adams, 5. Simon Mignani, 6. 1, 7. 1, 8. 1, 9. 1, 10. 1, 11. 1, 12. 1, 13. 1, 14. 1, 15. 1, 16. 1, 17. 1, 18. 1, 19. 1, 20. 1, 21. 1, 22. 1, 23. 1, 24. 1, 25. 1, 26. 1, 27. 1, 28. 1, 29. 1, 30. 1, 31. 1, 32. 1, 33. 1, 34. 1, 35. 1, 36. 1, 37. 1, 38. 1, 39. 1, 40. 1, 41. 1, 42. 1, 43. 1, 44. 1, 45. 1, 46. 1, 47. 1, 48. 1, 49. 1, 50. 1, 51. 1, 52. 1, 53. 1, 54. 1, 55. 1, 56. 1, 57. 1, 58. 1, 59. 1, 60. 1, 61. 1, 62. 1, 63. 1, 64. 1, 65. 1, 66. 1, 67. 1, 68. 1, 69. 1, 70. 1, 71. 1, 72. 1, 73. 1, 74. 1, 75. 1, 76. 1, 77. 1, 78. 1, 79. 1, 80. 1, 81. 1, 82. 1, 83. 1, 84. 1, 85. 1, 86. 1, 87. 1, 88. 1, 89. 1, 90. 1, 91. 1, 92. 1, 93. 1, 94. 1, 95. 1, 96. 1, 97. 1, 98. 1, 99. 1, 100. 1, 101. 1, 102. 1, 103. 1, 104. 1, 105. 1, 106. 1, 107. 1, 108. 1, 109. 1, 110. 1, 111. 1, 112. 1, 113. 1, 114. 1, 115. 1, 116. 1, 117. 1, 118. 1, 119. 1, 120. 1, 121. 1, 122. 1, 123. 1, 124. 1, 125. 1, 126. 1, 127. 1, 128. 1, 129. 1, 130. 1, 131. 1, 132. 1, 133. 1, 134. 1, 135. 1, 136. 1, 137. 1, 138. 1, 139. 1, 140. 1, 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1014. 1, 1015. 1, 1016. 1, 1017. 1, 1018. 1, 1019. 1, 1020. 1, 1021. 1, 1022. 1, 1023. 1, 1024. 1, 1025. 1, 1026. 1, 1027. 1, 1028. 1, 1029. 1, 1030. 1, 1031. 1, 1032. 1, 1033. 1, 1034. 1, 1035. 1, 1036. 1, 1037. 1, 1038. 1, 1039. 1, 1040. 1, 1041. 1, 1042. 1, 1043. 1, 1044. 1, 1045. 1, 1046. 1, 1047. 1, 1048. 1, 1049. 1, 1050. 1, 1051. 1, 1052. 1, 1053. 1, 1054. 1, 1055. 1, 1056. 1, 1057. 1, 1058. 1, 1059. 1, 1060. 1, 1061. 1, 1062. 1, 1063. 1, 1064. 1, 1065. 1, 1066. 1, 1067. 1, 1068. 1, 1069. 1, 1070. 1, 1071. 1, 1072. 1, 1073. 1, 1074. 1, 1075. 1, 1076. 1, 1077. 1, 1078. 1, 1079. 1, 1080. 1, 1081. 1, 1082. 1, 1083. 1, 1084. 1, 1085. 1, 1086. 1, 1087. 1, 1088. 1, 1089. 1, 1090. 1, 1091. 1, 1092. 1, 1093. 1, 1094. 1, 1095. 1, 1096. 1, 1097. 1, 1098. 1, 1099. 1, 1100. 1, 1101. 1, 1102. 1, 1103. 1, 1104. 1, 1105. 1, 1106. 1, 1107. 1, 1108. 1, 1109. 1, 1110. 1, 1111. 1, 1112. 1, 1113. 1, 1114. 1, 1115. 1, 1116. 1, 1117. 1, 1118. 1, 1119. 1, 1120. 1, 1121. 1, 1122. 1, 1123. 1, 1124. 1, 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1347. 1, 1348. 1,

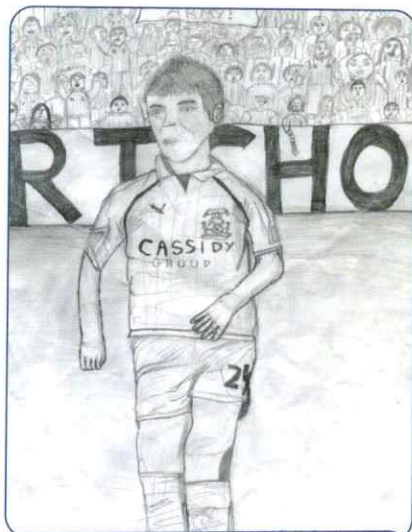




## Draw Specialists

There are certainly some budding artists among our 3,000 strong JSB membership. At the recent JSB Christmas party, children were asked to bring along a drawing of their favourite player with the chance of winning a number of prizes.

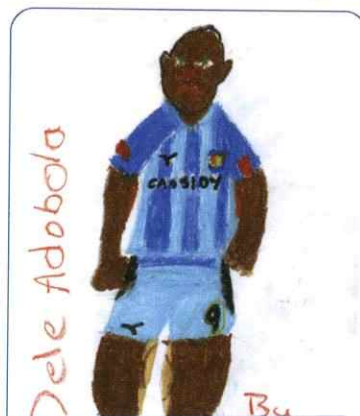
Pictures of nearly every member of the Sky Blues squad were handed in and there was an abundance of exceptional drawings of the players.



On the day there were three winners from different age categories who were accordingly rewarded with prizes such as a Puma Time watch and autographed footballs.

Adrian Heath had the unenviable task of deciding the best drawing and as you can see from some of the examples on this page it was a hard decision.

If you would like to send in a picture of your City star, please post your drawing to JSB Office, Coventry City Football Club, Ricoh Arena, Phoenix Way, Foleshill, Coventry, CV6 6GE.



## Today's mascots



**Callum Whitehouse**

**Age:** 9

**School:** All Souls

**Hobbies:** Football, watching all sports on T.V. and swimming

**Fave Players:** Michael Doyle and Andy Marshall



**Brandon Sheehan**

**Age:** 9

**School:** Foleshill C of E

**Hobbies:** Football and wrestling

**Fave Players:** Dele Adobola and Robert Page



**Lauren Smith**

**Age:** 12

**School:** Stoke Park

**Hobbies:** Football, dancing and singing

**Fave Players:** Stephen Hughes

## Football in the Community



### Whingy Gets Active

Andrew Whing attended a PE Lesson at Templars Primary School last week to promote Coventry City's Get Active initiative.



Get Active encourages kids to adopt a more healthy lifestyle through regular exercise and healthy eating and Whingy was more than happy to put the children through their paces, as well as answering their questions afterwards and signing autographs.

Templars Primary is a Sky Blues School, one of the perks of which is receiving free tickets to a Coventry City match at the Ricoh Arena. All of the children received tickets to the next home match against Cardiff and Whingy urged them all to come along and cheer the boys on.

If you would like any more information on Sky Blues Schools or Get Active contact Claire Boden on 0870 421 8116343 or email her on [claire.boden@ccfc.co.uk](mailto:claire.boden@ccfc.co.uk)

### Half-Term Holiday Coaching

Coventry City Football Club's Football in the Community Department have a range of coaching courses running in Coventry and Warwickshire during the February Half-Term holidays.

Running from 10am to 3pm daily, the courses are open to boys and girls of all abilities aged 5 to 13 and are designed to teach essential football skills while having fun at the same time, all under the supervision of our FA-qualified coaches.

Not only this but every child who attends a soccer school will receive a pair of tickets to a Coventry City first team game at the fantastic Ricoh Arena.

Please note that we no longer accept payment on the day of the course without a prior phone call. Contact us now on 024 7621 7676 or 07766 365 675.

- 1) **Alan Higgs Centre**, Allard Way, Coventry.  
Mon Feb 12 to Fri Feb 16. Cost: £50
- 2) **Race Leys Junior School**, Barton Road, Bedworth.  
Mon Feb 12 to Wed Feb 14. Cost: £30
- 3) **Meadow's Community Sports Centre**, Kenilworth.  
Mon Feb 12 to Wed Feb 14. Cost: £30
- 4) **NFU, Tiddington**, Stratford.  
Mon Feb 12 to Wed Feb 14. Cost: £30
- 5) **Bablake Astro-turf**, Coundon.  
Mon Feb 12 to Wed Feb 14. Cost: £30
- 6) **North Leamington Community School**,  
Thur Feb 15 to Fri Feb 16. Cost: £20
- 7) **George Eliot Secondary School**, Nuneaton,  
Thur Feb 15 to Fri Feb 16. Cost: £20
- 8) **Finham Park Secondary School**,  
Thur Feb 15 to Fri Feb 16. Cost: £20
- 9) **Ashlawn School**, Rugby.  
Thur Feb 15 to Fri Feb 16. Cost: £20



### Bussy's Coaching Tips

#### No.13: Speed Training

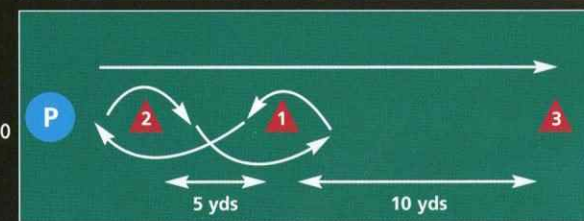
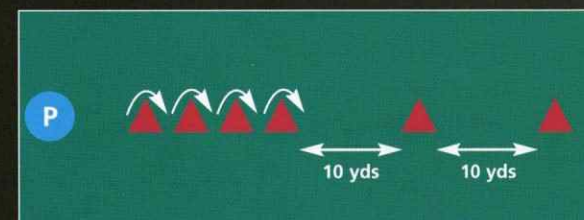
##### Drill One:

- High knee lifts
- Sideways knee lifts both ways
- Fast feet forwards (one set) and backwards (one set)

##### Drill Two:

- Sprint round cones to finish line
- Sprint to cone 1, backwards to cone 2 and sprint last 10 yards

### Speed Exercises

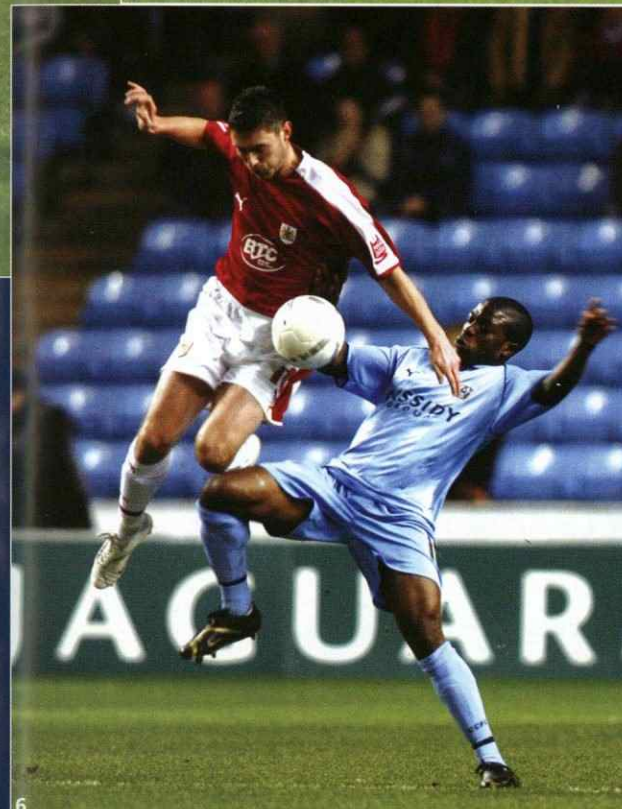
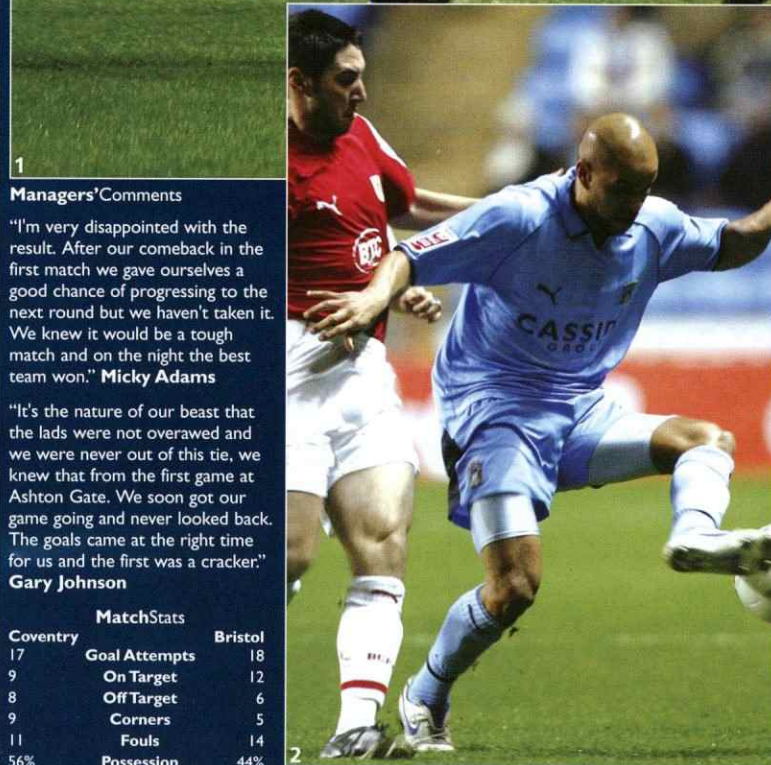




# COVENTRY CITY 0 BRISTOL CITY 2

Murray (39), Showunmi (54)

Ricoh Arena, FA Cup Third Round Replay, 16/01/07  
Referee: Mr N Miller Attendance: 13,055



## Managers' Comments

"I'm very disappointed with the result. After our comeback in the first match we gave ourselves a good chance of progressing to the next round but we haven't taken it. We knew it would be a tough match and on the night the best team won." **Micky Adams**

"It's the nature of our beast that the lads were not overawed and we were never out of this tie, we knew that from the first game at Ashton Gate. We soon got our game going and never looked back. The goals came at the right time for us and the first was a cracker." **Gary Johnson**

## MatchStats

Coventry		Bristol
17	Goal Attempts	18
9	On Target	12
8	Off Target	6
9	Corners	5
11	Fouls	14
56%	Possession	44%

1. Pagey slides in. 2. Leon holds the ball up. 3. Stern is taken out. 4. Showunmi scores the second. 5. Birchall watches his man. 6. Isaac tussles for possession. 7. Marcus places a pass



# FA Cup Memories

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Sky Blues' historic FA Cup run, here in the matchday programme we will take a look at each match that City played in the competition in 1987 on their way to Wembley.

Today we focus on the Fourth Round clash against Manchester United, when Coventry got many people believing they could go all the way as they proved more than a match for the very best.

Saturday January 31, 1987

**Manchester United 0**

**Coventry City 1**

(Houchen 20)

**Old Trafford**

**Att: 49,082**

**Ref: R Lewis**

## Teamsheets

**Coventry:** Ogrizovic; Borrows; Downs; Emerson; Kilcline; Peake; McGrath; Philips; Regis; Houchen; Pickering

**Man U:** Turner; Sivebaek; Duxbury; Whiteside; Garton; Moran; Blackburn; Strachan; Stapleton; Gibson; Olsen.

After a relatively easy encounter in the Third Round, when Coventry overcame Bolton by three goals to nil in front of their own fans at Highfield Road, the Sky Blues faced a much tougher test when they travelled to Old Trafford to take on Manchester United in Round Four.

City had already held the Red Devils to a 1-1 draw on their patch in the league earlier in the campaign - a result which led to the sacking of United boss and Coventry manager-in-waiting, Ron Atkinson.

Three months on from that day, the Sky Blues travelled north in high spirits following their 3-0 win over Bolton, although a 3-1 home defeat against West Ham in the league the week beforehand meant they were not arriving at Old Trafford in the best form.

"I'd love to see them go to Wembley and lift the trophy, and I think they can." Terry Gibson

Like the Bolton match, this one took place in freezing conditions on a bone-hard pitch and Keith Houchen - signed from Scunthorpe at the start of the season and with just one goal to his credit in City colours so far - came into the starting line-up at the expense of the injured Dave Bennett.

Alex Ferguson had not been at the helm for long and United had already lost four league fixtures at home that season. Combined with their good performance at Old Trafford earlier in the season it meant that the tie would not only be a money spinner for the Sky Blues but one that they honestly felt they could win.

And 20 minutes into the match, the dream became a reality when Houchen took advantage of his place in the starting line-up with the only goal of the game. He demonstrated great persistence to finally stab the ball home from just a yard out at the third time of asking.

"I've scored better goals than that, but not many which have meant quite as much," said the joyful striker.

While Houchen's name was the only one on the scoresheet, City's defence performed heroics that day to keep one of the country's most feared cup sides at bay for the remaining 70 minutes on a treacherous surface.

Ferguson actually blamed the defeat on the pitch but following criticism from George Curtis after City had taken their foot off the gas when 3-0 up against Bolton in Round Three, Coventry players could be seen throwing themselves into challenges without any fear for their own safety.

For John Sillett, this result marked the day when people really began to class them as serious contenders in the 1987 FA Cup.

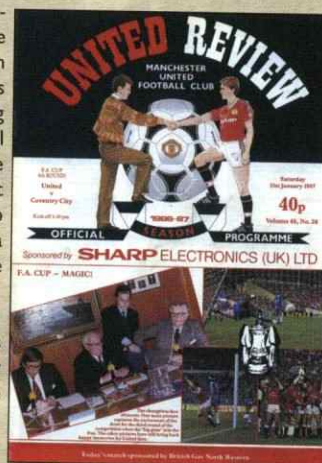
"You just sense that we are really starting to get the ball rolling," he said. "It will have the whole city buzzing."

His thoughts were echoed by a former Sky Blues favourite, who plied his trade for United that day.

"I'd love to see them go to Wembley and lift the trophy, and I think they can," said former Coventry striker Terry Gibson following his side's defeat.

In Round Five City were on the road again, this time taking on Stoke.

Make sure you buy a copy of the matchday programme at the Southampton game on February 20 as we take another trip down memory lane and recall how the Sky Blues made it through to the Quarter Finals.



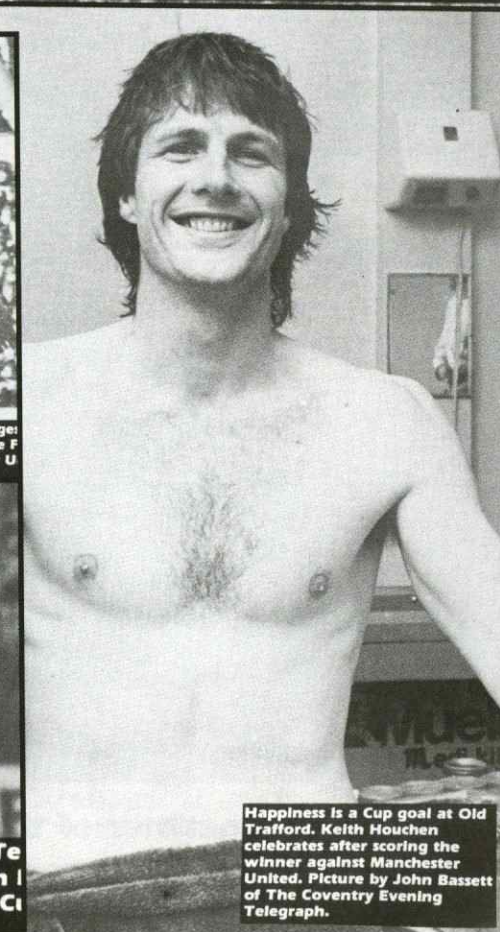
Happy Keith Houchen climbs to his feet in jubilation after scoring the only goal of the match at Old Trafford.



Keith Houchen lunges for the only goal of the FA Cup against Manchester United at Old Trafford.

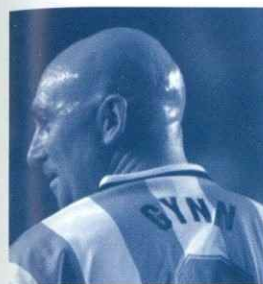


Former Sky Blue Terry Gibson shakes hands with Houchen at the end of the FA Cup match at Old Trafford.



Happiness is a Cup goal at Old Trafford. Keith Houchen celebrates after scoring the winning goal against Manchester United. Picture by John Bassett of The Coventry Evening Telegraph.





## Micky Gynn

I must admit that I'm a little sad with what has happened at the Club these last couple of weeks. The main reason I'm disappointed is obviously because of the departure of Micky Adams.

Managers only leave a club when the team is not doing well and I, along with all other fans, have been really surprised with how quickly our form has gone from pretty good to pretty bad.

We've had such a bad run of results over the last six weeks, which has turned us from play-off candidates to a team looking over our shoulders at the other end of the table.

I can see both sides of the argument as to Micky's dismissal. Personally I think that Micky deserved more time but then I can see the other side of things that our results have been poor, and when supporters start to turn against the manager and players, and the crowds start to fall, then the Board has to make a decision.



When a crowd turns as it has done in recent weeks, there is invariably one outcome and whether you like it or not, it seemed like an inevitability that Micky would leave the Club after the Bristol City match at the Ricoh.

That game was a massive blow for me because not only were we out-played, we were outfought that night by a team from the league below us. I am not suggesting for one minute that going out of the FA Cup was the only reason that Micky lost his job but I think that was the straw that broke the camel's back.

The main problem this season is that I do not see the Championship as being an exceptional league and it would have been a great year to get out of this division. The Board obviously had ideas in their head as to where they would like us to be and we were not hitting those targets. Football is more of a business now than a game and we have seen many managers lose their jobs when lots of people thought they deserved more of a chance.

We are no different to any other club nowadays in that if results take a dip, the manager is the first one in the firing line. The pressure in the Championship is so huge because the vast majority of Chairmen want so see their club in the Premier League because of the massive financial incentives.



But the decision has now been made and there is no point dwelling on the past for much longer. I don't think anybody envisaged this situation arising at the start of the season but when a week is a long time in football, you can never foresee what will happen in a few month's time.

The main problem that Adrian Heath will have addressed immediately is that the players have not been performing well enough. I am not pointing the finger at any one individual but you cannot escape the fact that players have been making mistakes that they wouldn't normally these last few weeks, and it is only the players who can stand up and be counted.

I've been in this position as a player and all you can do is keep doing the things that you are good at and hope that sooner rather than later you get a win which can get your season back on track.

I have no doubt that the players will turn things around and I am still optimistic that this season will be okay. Hopefully we have been through our worst patch of the campaign and we can start to build again.

With a new defensive signing being made last week, and maybe one or two more on the way, we will hopefully see the number of goals we have been leaking greatly reduce and build from there.

All we need is a bit of a backbone and to start to show a bit of fight again, like we did so well in the early stages of this season. All it takes is one player to spark it off and tonight's match against Luton is the ideal stage on which to do it.

The support of the fans is needed at times like this more than ever so I hope you all cheer the boys on from the first minute to the last, because I know from experience that it can make all the difference.

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# my space **Luke Steele**



Coventry's become his home on and off now for three years. When he's not playing football Luke Steele is an active lad with plenty of interests, which he reveals in this week's My Space.

## What TV programme do you have to watch?

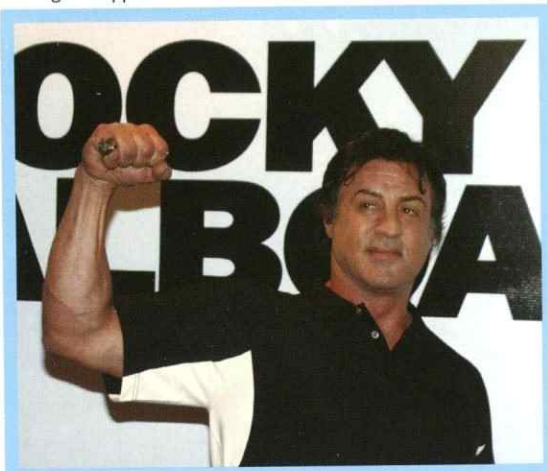
If I'm home I'll watch Neighbours. I've watched it for years and it's still quality! I always watch Friends at five o'clock even though I've seen every episode about 100 times. My favourite characters are Joey and Rachel, for different reasons.

## What five bands/ artists would be the first on your ipod?

Michael Jackson, Razorlight, the Kooks, Oasis and Busta Rhymes.

## Best film you've seen recently?

Rocky Balboa. I love it. Sylvester Stallone is a legend and he was still in good shape for somebody his age. I think we should sort out a guest appearance at the Ricoh!



## You're out for a meal - what can't fail to please you?

I quite like a lamb shank at the moment. If they haven't got that on the menu I'll have pasta napolitana.

## And you'd wash it down with?

I don't mind a glass of red wine.

## If money was no object which car would you drive?

It'd have to be a black Ferrari.

## Do you regularly buy any newspapers or magazines?

I'll just pick up whatever papers are in the canteen at the training ground and I have a read of quite a few magazines.

## Do you read books?

I must have read about a quarter of every book but I don't very often seem to finish them. I liked the Da Vinci Code and Tale of Two Cities and Paul McGrath's autobiography is brilliant.

## Do you use the internet? What sites do you always go to?

I like watching funny stuff on YouTube.

## Got any hi-tech gadgets?

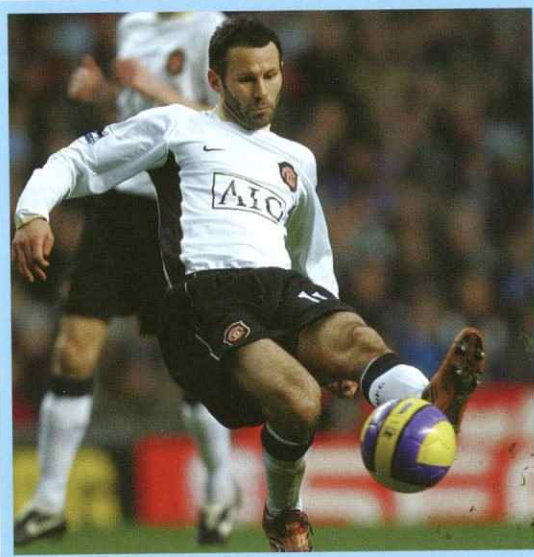
I'm not very hi-tech at all. I've got a PSP and that's about it.

## Any other passions?

I really like surfing. Me and my mates head down to Newquay every year for a holiday and to get some surfing in. I'm not bad at it and I'd quite like to go abroad and try it. South Africa maybe.

## Which current sports star do you respect the most?

I respect Phil Taylor but it's got to be Ryan Giggs. He's classy on the pitch and off it. I'd say he's pretty much the perfect footballer. He's so consistent and to still be playing for the biggest club in the world at his age is amazing.



## What other sports do you really enjoy?

Apart from surfing I really enjoy watching boxing. I've been to a few Joe Calzaghe fights like the one against Jeff Lacy last year. I also like darts.

## Is there a sport that you'd love to try but can't because you're a footballer?

Skiing or snow-boarding. I'd love to try them both but you can't when you're a footballer.

## Which club do you/did you support?

Peterborough United.

## You've finished training for the day - what will you do for the rest of the afternoon?

I'd just relax, watch some Friends repeats on TV or watch some DVDs.

## What was the best Christmas present you received?

I got some wicked presents last Christmas. I got some speakers and a pellet gun off my brothers, Nathan and Matt.

## You've got a day off - explain your ideal way of spending the next 24 hours.

I'd go home to Peterborough and spend some time with my friends, family and girlfriend.

## Are you much of a clothes man - if so, where do you like to shop?

Not really into clothes and I don't go to any specific shops.

## What are your favourite football boots?

Adidas World Cup.





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# FANZONE



CCFC sends its condolences to the family of Noel McGregor who tragically passed away recently. Noel (pictured above with his mother), aged 32, was a Sky Blues fanatic who regularly travelled from his home in Lakesend in Norfolk to watch City playing. He loved City's new ground and his aunts and uncles had a wreath created in the shape of the Ricoh Arena.



Happy Birthday to Conor Ledwidge who was six yesterday (January 29). Lots of love and kisses from mummy and daddy xxx



Happy Birthday Ian, 45 today. Let's hope the City can give you something to smile about today. Love from Sam, George, Matt and Dennis



Happy 7th Birthday to Louie Hall and Liam Bennett. Lots of love from your mums, dads and Keira.

## Happy Birthday

Happy birthday to Michael East for Monday January 29. Love from Gill, Jason, Pauline, Sophie & Jamie xx

## Sadly Missed

CCFC wish to mourn the passing of Mr Ted Fletcher last week. Ted was a member of the Vice Presidents Club who will be sadly missed.

## Get yourself in the programme

If you would like to appear in Fanzone all you have to do is get in contact with programme editor David Antill on 0870 421 5034 or alternatively email him at [david.antill@ccfc.co.uk](mailto:david.antill@ccfc.co.uk)

Fanzone are the pages in the programme devoted solely to you, the supporters, and what goes on these pages is entirely up to you. Whether you want to wish somebody happy birthday or have something else to celebrate, just send us your message and picture and we'll do the rest. Even if you just want to get your face in the programme or give somebody a special surprise, it's perfect for Fanzone.

If you do not have email you can send messages and pictures by post to David Antill, CCFC, Coventry City Football Club, Ricoh Arena, Phoenix Way, Coventry, CV6 6GE.

## Fanzone Profile Moz Baker

This week's Fanzone Profile features Moz Baker, aged 40, from Stoke in Coventry.

### How long have you been supporting the Sky Blues?

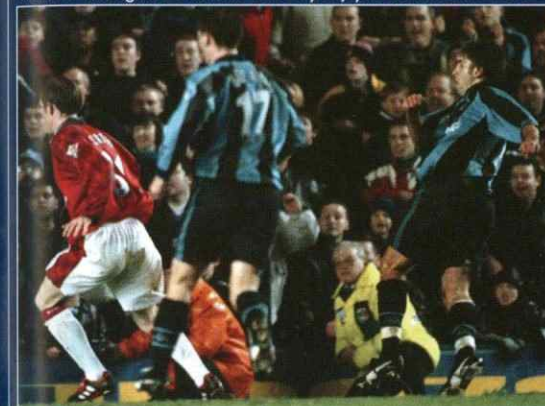
Been watching Sky Blues since the late Seventies. I had previously been to Anfield a number of times as a child with my dad who's a mad Liverpool supporter. I loved it and saw some great games including the League Cup Final at Wembley, but being a Coventry lad I wanted to support my home city club. I got a season ticket in the first season of Jimmy Hill's all-seater stadium in 1981 but had been to a number of games in the two seasons before that, including the League Cup matches against Watford and West Ham.

### What was the first Coventry match you went to and what was the score?

I first saw Coventry play Liverpool at Highfield Road. I think it was 1974 as a very young child. It was a goalless draw but I was hooked into football from that point onwards.

### What is your favourite ever game/ Coventry memory?

Has to be the 1987 Cup Final but beating Man Utd in that cup run at Old Trafford and again 3-2 in 1997 was very enjoyable. I hate Man Utd!

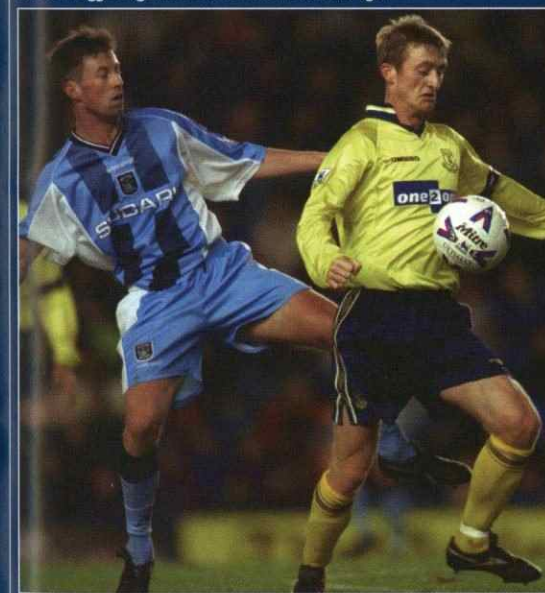


### Who is your favourite ever Coventry player?

Tommy Hutchison. What he could do with a ball was amazing!

### What is the best goal you have ever seen a Coventry player score?

Steve Froggatt against Everton a few seasons ago.

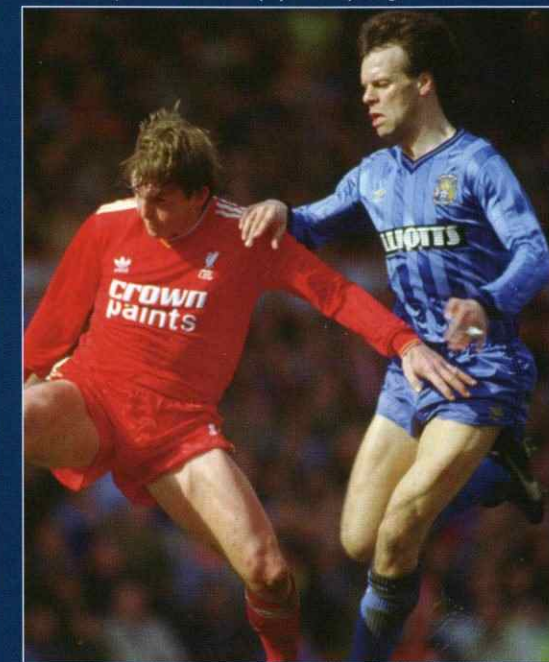


### What is your worst moment as a Coventry fan?

Being at Sutton for the FA Cup defeat in 1989 - the worst ever result for the club. The following year when we lost to Northampton in the FA Cup which I regard as the worst ever performance and of course losing to Aston Villa at to be relegated. I left the ground as soon as Merson had scored the winning goal and drowned my sorrows back in Coventry.

### Who is the best player you've ever seen play against Coventry?

Has to be my all time favourite player Kenny Dalglish.



### Who is the best ever Coventry manager in your opinion?

Since I've been watching, no contest - John Sillett.

### How many games a season do you go to nowadays?

Season Ticket Holder and maybe six or seven away games.

### If there is one club you would like to see Coventry beat this season who would it be and why?

Has to be Birmingham City.

### Who is your favourite current Coventry player?

Micky Doyle.

### What are your hopes for the Club this season?

That we start showing signs of moving forward and win back the fans who are staying away.

### What one thing would definitely make you miss a Coventry match?

I hate missing home matches but generally seem to miss one or two games a season due to work commitments.

### Who do you go to games with?

I go to games with my son George, aged nine, and sometimes my wife.

### Do you have a set matchday routine?

Drop daughter at my mum's. Leave about 2pm. Get into ground about 2.45pm.

If you would like to show your support for the Sky Blues by appearing in Fanzone Profiles contact David Antill on 0870 421 5034 or email [david.antill@ccfc.co.uk](mailto:david.antill@ccfc.co.uk). Feel free to answer the questions on this page or write your own piece. Fanzone profiles works on a first come, first served basis and there are now limited slots available in the 2006/2007 season so get in touch soon.



# Ticketoffice

Opening Hours: Mon - Fri: 9.30 - 5.30, Matchday: 9.30 - kick-off, Non-match Sat: 9.30 - 12.30  
T: 0870 421 1987 E: ticket.office@ccfc.co.uk W: www.cfc.co.uk

## Matchday admission prices

City's matchday ticket prices are now structured in five price zones.

Please note that these prices are for when match tickets are bought in advance. Tickets will cost an additional £1 when purchased on the day of the game.

### Green Zone: Blocks 1; 18-22; 36-37

Adult:	£23
Under 7s:	£8.50
7 - 12:	£9.50
13 - 15:	£10.50
16 - 18:	£11.50
Concession:	£11.50

### Yellow/Blue Zone: Blocks 2-7; 13-17; 23-24; 27-31

Adult:	£22
Under 7s:	£8
7 - 12:	£9
13 - 15:	£10
16 - 18:	£11
Concession:	£11

### Purple Zone: Blocks 25-26

Adult:	£21
Under 7s:	£7
7 - 12:	£8
13 - 15:	£9
16 - 18:	£10
Concession:	£10

### JSB Red Zone: Blocks 32-35

Adult:	£20
Under 7s:	£7
7 - 12:	£8
13 - 15:	£9
16 - 18:	£10
Concession:	£10

JSB Prices (throughout the stadium with a valid JSB membership)

Under 7s:	Free
7 - 12:	£6
13 - 15:	£7

Concessions: Students with valid NUS card, senior citizens and disabled supporters. (Personal assistant free of charge)

## home fixtures



### Cardiff City

**Date:** Saturday February 10  
**Kick-off:** 3pm  
**Prices:** Normal matchday prices apply  
**Dates of sale:** Tickets are on general sale.



### Southampton

**Date:** Tuesday February 20  
**Kick-off:** 7.45pm  
**Prices:** Normal matchday prices apply  
**Dates of sale:** Tickets are on general sale.



### Hull City

**Date:** Saturday March 3  
**Kick-off:** 3pm  
**Prices:** Normal matchday prices apply  
**Dates of sale:** Tickets are on priority sale to season ticket holders and go on general sale on February 5.



### Wolverhampton Wanderers

**Date:** Tuesday March 13  
**Kick-off:** 7.45pm  
**Prices:** Normal matchday prices apply  
**Dates of sale:** Tickets are on priority sale to PSL holders, they go on priority sale to season ticket holders on February 5 and go on general sale on February 12.

## away fixtures



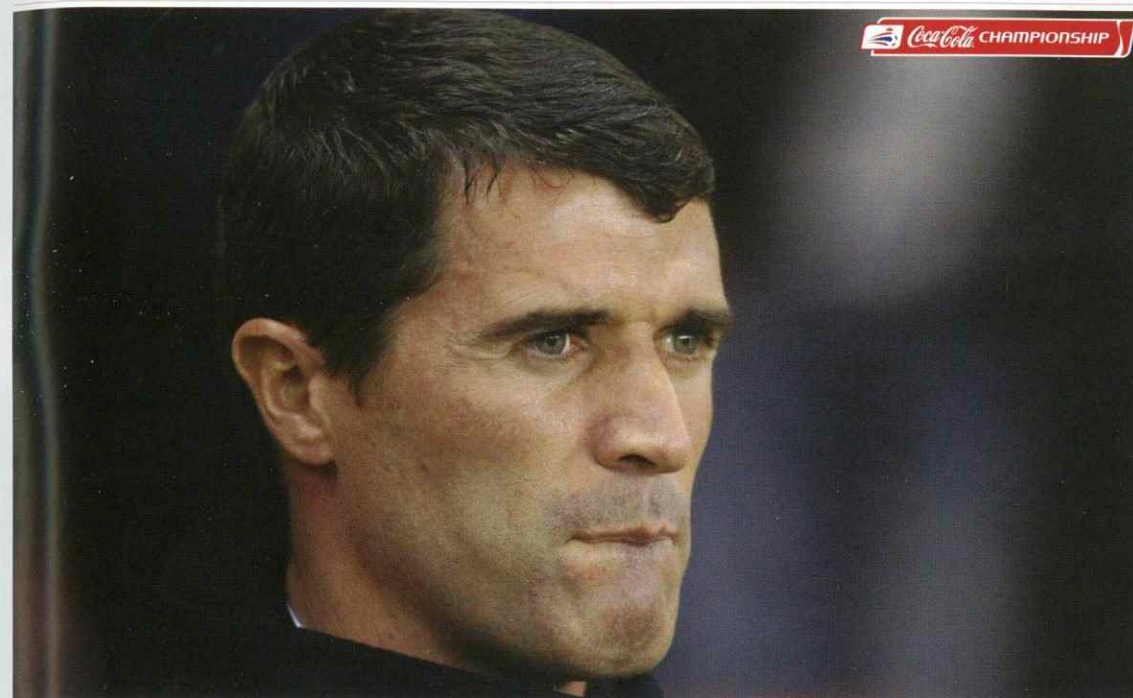
### Sunderland

**Date:** Saturday February 3  
**Kick-off:** 3pm  
**Prices:** Adults £24; junior £8; senior citizen £14  
**Allocation:** 2,000  
**Dates of sale:** Tickets are on general sale.  
**Coach Travel:** Adults £24, Senior citizen/junior £21, Adult season ticket holder £19, Concession season ticket holder/JSB £12  
**Coaches will depart the Ricoh Arena at 9am.**



Dates and kick-off times of fixtures are subject to change. Please check the Club's official website [www.cfc.co.uk](http://www.cfc.co.uk) for latest details.

# Coming up - the Black Cats



Stadium of Light, Saturday February 3, kick-off 3pm, Coca Cola Championship

It's a marathon, not a sprint; it's not how you start but how you finish; it ain't over 'til the fat lady sings - all clichés regularly used in footballing circles and all clichés which look likely to be applicable to Sunderland's season.

Rewind the clock to the opening day of the campaign and there was much hope and optimism at the Club as they travelled to the Ricoh Arena to take on the Sky Blues.

Former striker Niall Quinn headed a consortium which had led a successful takeover bid for the Black Cats, and although there was no manager in place for the start of the season, hopes were high that Quinn was the messiah who could lead Sunderland back to their glory days of the not-too-distant past.

At the Ricoh, the former Republic of Ireland international found himself barking orders from the technical area as he took on managerial duties in the short term, but second half goals from Stern John and Gary McSheffrey gave the Sky Blues a 2-1 victory and instigated a terrible run of early results for Sunderland.

They lost their first four matches to sit rock bottom of the Championship at the end of August, meaning that if Quinn was intending to bide his time appointing a gaffer, the search was quickened somewhat.

And on August 28, the decision was made for Quinn's former international teammate Roy Keane to take his first steps into the managerial side of the game, having retired as a player last season after a glittering career.

The move inevitably attracted a wave of publicity as the media wondered whether the Manchester United legend - famed for his no-nonsense, aggressive style of play - would manage in the same way or mellow with age.

The early signs are that he has tamed the beast within, although what goes on behind dressing room doors is anybody's guess.

Besides, his players have not really given him too much reason to resort to the sort of techniques that Sir Alex utilised on some of Keane's former United teammates when the going got tough.

The announcement of Keane taking over as manager saw an instant upturn in fortunes. He watched his new charges beat West Brom 2-0 the same day the news broke and took control of team affairs for the first time for a 2-1 away victory against Derby.

Sunderland went unbeaten in their first four games under Keane's supervision and have shown plenty of consistency ever since, never losing more than two consecutive games without showing a reaction.

At the time of writing Sunderland sit in eighth place in the Championship, nicely positioned to make an assault on the play-off spots.

They have proved to be strong at the Stadium of Light where they have won eight, drawn two and lost four times, although two of those defeats did come in that early sticky patch. They last lost at home on December 30 to high-flying Preston.

Roy Keane boosted his strike force this week by signing Stern John from the Sky Blues. Other January signings include former Sky Blues shot stopper Marton Fulop who signed permanently from Spurs after an initial loan switch. Luton's Carlos Edwards also made the move north along with young Arsenal striker Anthony Stokes.

Coventry travel to the North East this Saturday, having not beaten Sunderland on their patch in their last 12 attempts. They have only ever won once in Sunderland - a 1-0 victory at Roker Park in January 1977.

Adrian Heath leads the Sky Blues to take on the Club he used to be assistant manager at under Peter Reid, hoping to turn that poor form around and give City a timely boost.





## Sharpbites

with Commercial Director Ken Sharp

Carrying on from the last instalment of Sharp Bites, here is a continuation of the summary of how Coventry City has performed commercially during the first half of this season in comparison to the 2005/2006 season.

Last time I focused on two brand new initiatives which fall under the Operation Premiership banner - the Bondholder Proposal and By Official Appointment schemes - as well as a look at how we have improved our revenue through the introduction of rotating advertising boards.

Here we look at three of the most long-running and integral aspects of the Club's revenue along with another Operation Premiership initiative - Private Seat Licences.

### Corporate Hospitality

The re-launch of the Vice Presidents Club along with an improved sales strategy for match-by-match hospitality has seen a massive increase in corporate revenues, in what I feel is one of our best performing areas at the Football Club.

With income already exceeding last season's total revenue, we are confident of maintaining that level of sales through the remainder of the season, which should be close to 70% higher than the total revenue generated in 2005/2006.

### Retail

By the midway point in 2006/2007 we had nearly hit the figure raised through retail sales throughout the whole of last season. With the Club's first ever Progressive Sale well underway, and offering fans a maximum discount of 50% off EVERYTHING in-store, we can confidently predict that our retail revenue will increase by at least 60% on last season.



### Season tickets

Whilst there was only a moderate increase in actual season ticket sales this season compared to last, the introduction of price zoning, along with people's preference to sit in better areas at the Arena has resulted in an 11% increase in overall season ticket revenues.

This was not through simply bumping up the costs of season tickets as we actually reduced the cost of season tickets in numerous areas of the stadium. We were very conscious not to price people out of being able to purchase a season ticket and

rather than there being just one price in all areas - the approach that had been taken in the first season here at the Ricoh - we carefully selected zones and, as such, offered fans the choice of paying slightly more for the areas within the stadium deemed most desirable.



### PSLs

While the take-up for this innovative new scheme was not as high as we would have liked, we have still raised a considerable sum of money in NEW revenue. We are certain that this will be a slow burner with our fans and that PSLs will continue to sell steadily through the course of 2007.

### Man of the Match Awards - Crystal Palace



Jay Tabb is presented with his man of the match award on behalf of match sponsors Waters Wye Ltd.



Jay Tabb is presented with his Vice Presidents man of the match award from Mr Faulkner

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### Man of the Match Awards - Bristol City



Andrew Whing is presented with his man of the match award from Rob Ally of match sponsors XL Motors



Andrew Whing is presented with his Vice Presidents man of the match award from Eddie Atkins

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AwayKit: Oakwood Accountancy

**Kevin Thornton**



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**Jay Tabb**



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Coventry Career Appearances and Goals						
NAME	D.O.B	LEAGUE	FA CUP	LEAGUE CUP	TOTAL	GOALS
Dele Adebola	23/6/75	87 (34)	6 (3)	3 (2)	95 (39)	25
Wayne Andrews	25/11/77	(3)	(1)		(4)	1
Chris Birchall	5/5/84	16 (5)	(1)	1	17 (6)	2
Mikkel Bischoff	3/2/82	2 (1)			2 (1)	0
Colin Cameron	23/10/72	15 (7)	1	1	17 (7)	3
Clive Clarke	14/1/80	12			12	0
Darren Currie	29/11/74	6 (2)			6 (2)	0
Liam Davis	23/11/86	(2)			(2)	0
Michael Doyle	8/7/81	152 (3)	10	7	169 (3)	10
Richard Duffy	30/8/85	13			13	0
Faysal El Drissi	16/11/77	(1)		1	1 (1)	0
Stuart Giddings	27/3/86	12 (3)	1	2	15 (3)	0
Marcus Hall	24/3/76	184 (21)	12 (2)	16 (1)	213 (24)	4
Matt Heath	1/11/81	30 (2)		2	32 (2)	2
Stephen Hughes	18/9/76	78 (3)	3	4	85 (3)	6
Don Hutchison	9/5/71	13 (25)	2		15 (25)	4
Claus Jorgensen	27/4/76	30 (22)	(4)	3 (2)	33 (28)	6
Stern John	30/10/76	65 (13)	6 (1)	3	74 (14)	29
Kevin Kyle	7/6/81	12 (8)	2		14 (8)	2
Andy Marshall	14/4/75	26		1	27	0
Leon McKenzie	17/5/78	17 (3)	2		19 (3)	4
Gary McSheffrey	13/8/82	108 (35)	7 (2)	8 (2)	123 (39)	53
David McNamee	10/10/80	8			8	0
Michael Mifsud	17/4/81	(2)			(2)	1
Andy Morrell	28/9/74	52 (45)	4 (3)	5 (1)	61 (49)	19
Isaac Osbourne	22/6/86	18 (7)	2	2	22 (7)	0
Robert Page	3/9/74	64	3	1	68	1
Luke Steele	24/9/84	3	2		5	0
Jay Tabb	21/2/84	8 (7)	1		9 (7)	0
Kevin Thornton	9/7/86	6 (16)	(1)	(2)	6 (19)	1
Ben Turner	21/8/88		2		2	0
Andrew Whing	20/9/84	80 (19)	5 (1)	4 (3)	89 (23)	2
Elliott Ward	19/11/85	26		1	27	2
Adam Virgo	25/11/83	2 (3)	1		3 (3)	1

Appearances and Goals 2006/07											
<b>1 Luke Steele</b> Full: 5 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>2 Andy Whing</b> Full: 11 Sub: 1 Goals: 0	<b>3 Marcus Hall</b> Full: 25 Sub: 2 Goals: 0	<b>4 Robert Page</b> Full: 25 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>5 Elliott Ward</b> Full: 27 Sub: 0 Goals: 2	<b>6 Stephen Hughes</b> Full: 21 Sub: 1 Goals: 1	<b>7 Wayne Andrews</b> Full: 0 Sub: 4 Goals: 1	<b>8 Michael Doyle</b> Full: 29 Sub: 0 Goals: 2	<b>9 Dele Adebola</b> Full: 16 Sub: 10 Goals: 4	<b>10 Kevin Kyle</b> Full: 14 Sub: 8 Goals: 2	<b>11 Chris Birchall</b> Full: 17 Sub: 6 Goals: 2	<b>13 Stern John</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0
<b>14 Leon McKenzie</b> Full: 19 Sub: 3 Goals: 4	<b>16 Isaac Osbourne</b> Full: 4 Sub: 2 Goals: 0	<b>17 Michael Mifsud</b> Full: 0 Sub: 2 Goals: 1	<b>18 David McNamee</b> Full: 8 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>19 Stuart Giddings</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>20 Jay Tabb</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>21 Don Hutchison</b> Full: 3 Sub: 11 Goals: 0	<b>23 Colin Cameron</b> Full: 16 Sub: 7 Goals: 3	<b>24 Adam Virgo</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>25 Kevin Thornton</b> Full: 2 Sub: 6 Goals: 1	<b>30 Chris Birchall</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>31 Andy Marshall</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0
<b>32 Ben Turner</b> Full: 2 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>33 Elliott Ward</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>34 Stephen Hughes</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>35 Wayne Andrews</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>36 Michael Doyle</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>37 Dele Adebola</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>38 Kevin Kyle</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>39 Chris Birchall</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>40 Stern John</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>41 Leon McKenzie</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>42 Isaac Osbourne</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0	<b>43 Michael Mifsud</b> Full: 0 Sub: 0 Goals: 0

Coca-Cola CHAMPIONSHIP											
Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	For	Agst	G/D	Pts		
1	Derby County	29	17	5	7	38	28	+10	56		
2	Birmingham	27	16	5	6	46	26	+20	53		
3	Preston	29	15	8	6	44	30	+14	53		
4	WBA	29	14	7	8	54	35	+19	49		
5	Southampton	29	13	10	6	46	32	+14	49		
6	Cardiff City	30	13	10	7	41	32	+9	49		
7	Stoke City	29	13	8	8	39	25	+14	47		
8	Sunderland	29	14	4	11	41	34	+7	46		
9	Colchester	29	13	5	11	48	34	+14	44		
10	Wolves	29	12	7	10	30	32	-2	43		
11	Plymouth	29	10	12	7	39	37	+2	42		
12	Sheffield W	29	11	7	11	41	42	-1	40		
13	Burnley	28	10	8	10	32	29	+3	38		
14	Crystal P	29	10	8	11	36	35	+1	38		
15	Ipswich Town	29	11	5	13	40	40	0	38		
16	Coventry	29	10	4	15	29	38	-9	34		
17	Norwich City	28	9	7	12	35	45	-10	34		
18	Leicester City	29	8	9	12	29	38	-9	33		
19	Hull City	29	8	7	14	30	40	-10	31		
20	Luton Town	29	8	7	14	37	50	-13	31		
21	QPR	29	8	6	15	35	45	-10	30		
22	Barnsley	29	8	5	16	31	48	-17	29		
23	Leeds United	28	7	3	18	29	52	-23	24		
24	Southend U	29	5	9	15	23	46	-23	24		

Championship top scorers			Goals
Player	Team		
Robert Earnshaw	Norwich		17
Grzegorz Rasiak	Southampton		17
Michael Chopra	Cardiff City		16
Chris Iwelumo	Colchester		15
Diomansy Kamara	WBA		14
Gary McSheffrey	Birmingham		13
Jamie Cureton	Colchester		13
Rowan Vine	Luton Town		12
Steve Howard	Derby County		11



## Match Statistics 06/07

Date	Fixture	F-A	Att	A Att	Pos/Pts	Referee	GK	RB	CB	CB	LB	RM	CM/B	CM	LM	S	S	SUB1	SUB2	SUB3	SUB4	SUB5	CITY SCORERS
Sun Aug 6 1.30pm	Sunderland	2-1	22,366	2,584	6/3	C Foy	Marshall	McNamee	Ward	Heath	Hall	Birchall	Doyle	Hughes	McSheffrey	Adebola	John	Hutchison	Thornton	Whing	Tabb	Steele	John (71), McSheffrey (78)
Wed Aug 9 7.45pm	Southampton	0-2	21,088	675	14/3	G Hegley	Marshall	McNamee	Ward	Heath	Hall	Birchall	Doyle	Hughes	McSheffrey	Adebola	John	Virgo	Cameron	Hutchison	Tabb	Thornton	
Sat Aug 12	Cardiff City	0-1	13,965	430	18/3	R Booth	Marshall	McNamee	Ward	Heath	Hall	Birchall	Doyle	Hughes	McSheffrey	Adebola	John	Virgo	Tabb	Hutchison	Cameron	Thornton	
Fri Aug 18 7.45pm	Leicester City	0-0	20,261	1,728	20/4	A Hall	Marshall	Whing	Ward	Heath	Hall	Cameron	Birchall	Hughes	Doyle	Hutchison	John	El-Adrissi	Adebola	Thornton	Page	Osbourne	
Tue Aug 22 7.45pm	Hereford (CC1)	1-3	3,404	657	-	L Probert	Marshall	Whing	Ward	Heath	Hall	Birchall	Cameron	Hughes	El-Idrissi	Adebola	John	Thornton	Hutchison	Osbourne	Doyle	Jorgensen	Adebola (59)
Sat Aug 26	Hull City	1-0	16,145	671	13/7	N Swarbrick	Marshall	Birchall	Ward	Heath	Hall	Cameron	Page	Hughes	Doyle	Kyle	John	Thornton	Adebola	Hutchison	Osbourne	Whing	Thornton (85)
Sat Sep 9	Norwich City	3-0	20,006	2,573	7/10	J Moss	Marshall	Whing	Ward	Page	Hall	Birchall	Doyle	Hughes	Thornton	Kyle	John	Hutchison	Cameron	Osbourne	Adebola	Heath	Birchall (12), Kyle (63), John (67)
Tue Sep 12 7.45pm	Ipswich Town	1-2	19,465	214	11/10	P Taylor	Marshall	Whing	Ward	Page	Hall	Birchall	Doyle	Hughes	Thornton	Kyle	John	McKenzie	Cameron	Hutchison	Adebola	Heath	Ward (72)
Sat Sep 16	Leeds United	1-0	22,146	2,903	6/13	I Williamson	Marshall	McNamee	Ward	Page	Hall	Birchall	Doyle	Hughes	Tabb	Kyle	John	McKenzie	Cameron	Hutchison	Adebola	Thornton	John (26)
Wed Sep 20	(CC2)																						
Sat Sep 23	Crystal Palace	0-1	16,093	508	11/13	K Wolmer	Marshall	McNamee	Ward	Page	Hall	Birchall	Doyle	Hughes	Tabb	Kyle	McKenzie	John	Cameron	Adebola	Heath	Hutchison	
Sat Sep 30	Plymouth Argyle	0-1	19,545	1,186	15/13	M Halsey	Marshall	Whing	Ward	Page	Hall	Birchall	Cameron	Hughes	Tabb	Kyle	John	Adebola	Hutchison	Doyle	Heath	Thornton	
Fri Oct 13 7.45pm	Southend United	3-2	9,821	788	9/16	D Drysdale	Marshall	McNamee	Ward	Page	Hall	Cameron	Heath	Hughes	Doyle	Adebola	McKenzie	Osbourne	Thornton	Kyle	Tabb	Hutchison	Hughes (42), Cameron (47p), Adebola (80)
Tue Oct 17 7.45pm	Wolves	0-1	19,823	1,307	12/16	L Mason	Marshall	Birchall	Ward	Page	McNamee	Cameron	Heath	Hughes	Doyle	Adebola	McKenzie	Tabb	Kyle	John	Thornton	Hutchison	
Mon Oct 23 8pm	Colchester United	2-1	16,178	477	10/19	M Pike	Marshall	Duffy	Ward	Page	Clarke	Cameron	Doyle	Hughes	McKenzie	Kyle	John	Tabb	Birchall	Hutchison	Adebola	Heath	John (45), Doyle (69)
Wed Oct 25	(CC3)																						
Sat Oct 28	Barnsley	1-0	10,470	1,190	8/22	M Halsey	Marshall	Duffy	Ward	Page	Clarke	Cameron	Doyle	Hughes	McKenzie	Kyle	Adebola	Hall	Tabb	Andrews	Birchall	Heath	Andrews (84)
Tue Oct 31 7.45pm	Birmingham City	0-1	27,212	5,371	8/22	A D'Urso	Marshall	Duffy	Ward	Page	Hall	Cameron	Doyle	Hughes	McKenzie	Kyle	John	Hutchison	Adebola	Andrews	Tabb	Clarke	
Mon Nov 6 8pm	Stoke City	0-1	19,055	323	11/22	C Boyeson	Marshall	Duffy	Ward	Page	Clarke	Birchall	Hall	Hughes	Doyle	McKenzie	John	Tabb	Adebola	Hutchison	Andrews	Cameron	
Wed Nov 8	(CC4)																						
Sat Nov 11	Derby County	1-2	19,701	2,913	15/22	L Probert	Marshall	Duffy	Ward	Page	Hall	Tabb	Doyle	Hutchison	Clarke	McKenzie	John	Adebola	Cameron	Andrews	Birchall	Gonzalez	John (22)
Sat Nov 18	Sheffield Wednesday	3-1	19,489	4,154	11/25	N Swarbrick	Marshall	Duffy	Hall	Page	Clarke	Birchall	Doyle	Hutchison	Tabb	McKenzie	Adebola	Cameron	Kyle	Andrews	Bischoff	Gonzalez	Bougherra (25og), McKenzie (51.55)
Sat Nov 25	Queens Park Rangers	1-0	12,840	1,159	9/28	C Penton	Marshall	Duffy	Ward	Page	Hall	Cameron	Doyle	Clarke	Currie	McKenzie	Adebola	Kyle	Birchall	Bischoff	Tabb	Gonzalez	Adebola (48)
Tue Nov 28 7.45pm	Preston North End	1-1	13,104	-	11/29	R Lewis	Marshall	Duffy	Ward	Page	Hall	Cameron	Doyle	Clarke	Currie	McKenzie	Adebola	Tabb	John	Kyle	Birchall	Bischoff	Adebola (80)
Sat Dec 2	Stoke City	0-0	19,073	1,871	12/30	N Miller	Marshall	Duffy	Ward	Page	Hall	Cameron	Doyle	Clarke	Currie	McKenzie	Adebola	John	Birchall	Bischoff	Virgo	Gonzalez	
Sat Dec 9	Burnley	1-0	18,362	1,062	10/33	M Thorpe	Marshall	Duffy	Ward	Page	Clarke	McKenzie	Doyle	Cameron	Currie	Adebola	John	Hughes	Kyle	Birchall	Bischoff	Virgo	Cameron (31p)
Sat Dec 16	West Bromwich Albion	0-5	20,370	-	14/33	M Jones	Marshall	Duffy	Ward	Page	Hall	Cameron	Doyle	Clarke	Currie	Adebola	John	Bischoff	Kyle	Birchall	Virgo	Hughes	
Wed Dec 20	(CC5)																						
Sat Dec 23	Luton Town	1-3	8,299	933	14/33	A Taylor	Steele	Duffy	Ward	Bischoff	Clarke	Cameron	Doyle	Hughes	McKenzie	Adebola	John	Currie	Virgo	Kyle	Hall	Birchall	Brkovic (59og)
Tue Dec 26	Ipswich Town	1-2	22,154	1,631	14/33	C Oliver	Marshall	Duffy	Ward	Bischoff	Clarke	Cameron	Doyle	Hughes	McKenzie	Adebola	John	Kyle	Birchall	Hall	Osbourne	Virgo	Doyle (90)
Sat Dec 30	Southend United	1-1	16,623	922	14/34	D Whitestone	Marshall	Whing	Ward	Page	Hall	Birchall	Doyle	Hughes	Currie	Kyle	McKenzie	Adebola	Osbourne	Tabb	Cameron	Virgo	Ward (12)
Mon Jan 1	Leeds United	1-2	18,158	-	16/34	M Pike	Marshall	Whing	Ward	Page	Hall	Birchall	Doyle	Osbourne	Tabb	Kyle	Virgo	McKenzie	Adebola	Currie	John	Cameron	Virgo (43)
Sat Jan 6	Bristol City	3-3	13,336	2,903	-	P Joslin	Steele	Virgo	Turner	Page	Whing	Cameron	Doyle	Osbourne	McKenzie	Adebola	Kyle	John	Andrews	Birchall	Tabb	Marshall	Cameron (13), McKenzie (33), John (81)
Sat Jan 13	Crystal Palace	2-4	16,582	1,360	16/34	G Laws	Steele	Whing	Virgo	Page	Hall	Tabb	Hughes	Osbourne	McKenzie	Kyle	John	Birchall	Mifsud	Adebola	Turner	Lee-Barrett	McKenzie (45), Kyle (57)
Tue Jan 16 7.45pm	Bristol City	0-2	13,055	2,606	-	N Miller	Steele	Whing	Turner	Page	Hall	Tabb	Doyle	Osbourne	McKenzie	Kyle	John	Thornton	Birchall	Adebola	Hughes	Virgo	
Mon Jan 22 7.45pm	Plymouth Argyle	2-3	9,841	262	16/34	S Tanner	Steel	McNamee	Hall	Page	Whing	Tabb	Doyle	Hughes	Birchall	Adebola	John	Mifsud	Thornton	Kyle	Virgo	Lee-Barrett	Birchall (22), Mifsud (70)
Wed Jan 24	(CCSF2)																						
Sat Jan 27	(FAC 4)																						
Tue Jan 30 7.45pm	Luton Town																						
Sat Feb 3	Sunderland																						
Sat Feb 10	Cardiff City																						
Sat Feb 17	Leicester City (FAC 5)																						
Tue Feb 20 7.45pm	Southampton																						
Sat Feb 24	Norwich City																						
Sun Feb 25	Carling Cup Final																						
Sat Mar 3	Hull City																						
Sat Mar 10	Colchester United (FAC 6)																						
Tue Mar 13 7.45pm	Wolves																						
Sat Mar 17	Barnsley																						
Sun Apr 1 2.00pm	Birmingham City																						
Sat Apr 7	Queens Park Rangers																						
Mon Apr 9	Derby County																						
Sat Apr 14	Preston North End (FAC SF)																						
Sat Apr 21	Sheffield Wednesday																						
Sat Apr 28	West Bromwich Albion																						
Sun May 6	Burnley																						
Sat May 19	F.A. Cup Final																						

Cards: • Red Card • Yellow Card

Substitutions: SUB1 SUB2 SUB3

ALL FIXTURES ARE COCA-COLA CHAMPIONSHIP UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

ALL KICK OFF TIMES ARE 3PM UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

PLEASE CHECK LOCAL MEDIA AND CCFC.CO.UK FOR DATE AND TIME CHANGES

\*Virgo replaced McNamee, Tabb replaced Virgo.



# Make me a better man

By Paul Chopin, Odds Compiler, BetClick.com

**It's a new dawn, it's a new day...**

*Transition: a change from one place or state or subject or stage to another*

Coventry fans have been here before. All too often for a few, but with Adams leaving the managerial post City again enter the period of transition. Micky's departure, just five months into the season, signalled a premature end to 'Operation Premiership' with him at the helm. League results and displays were governed not good enough and the reins have been handed over to Adrian Heath.

Whilst painful to observe the recent demise there is no room for sentiment in this game. Getting Coventry promoted is not the easiest job in the world but the manager is in the position of responsibility when it all goes pear-shaped. With many others I wish him well for the future. More pressing matters concern Sky Blues fans at present; turning around what can only be described as a miserable run of results.



Heath, whose position as caretaker manager suggests he will have no time or money to spend on the squad, is unenviable. Whilst a long-term replacement is sought, building team spirit and getting the fight back into the City must be high on his agenda. With just one point from the last seven league games punters have placed Coventry City on the black list.

At the start of the season Coventry looked tight at the back but lacked firepower up-front and better latched onto this. With 28 goals from the last seven league games the 'Rock' defence has come off the rails somewhat but going forward City look more able. This goal-feast period has not been a successful venture though with Coventry conceding more than scoring.

Backers playing the over 2.5 goals a game market have reaped the rewards as six from the last seven matches have returned winning bets. As Heath attempts to find the best possible starting 11, juggling formation, injury lists and new faces this trend looks set to continue.

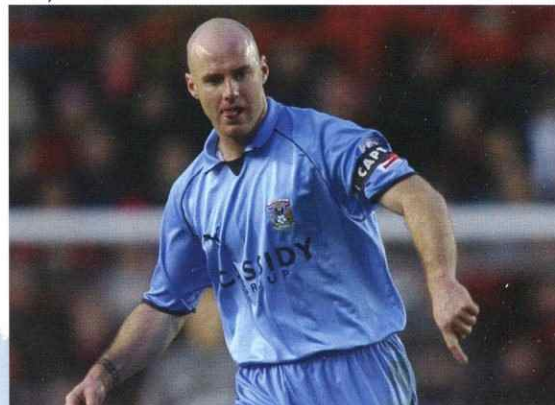
Top marksman Rowan Vine has left the Hatters to join Birmingham City and Luton, sitting in 20th position, offer City the perfect opportunity to get this season back on track. Mike

Newell's side have not won a Championship match since beating the Sky Blues on December 23 and have suffered a similar run of pitiful results.



Punters should also note the fact that Luton have not won on the road since September last year and will bring a squad blighted by injuries and sales to the Ricoh. There are not too many better opportunities to try and turn your fortunes around but confidence is not exactly in abundance at the moment.

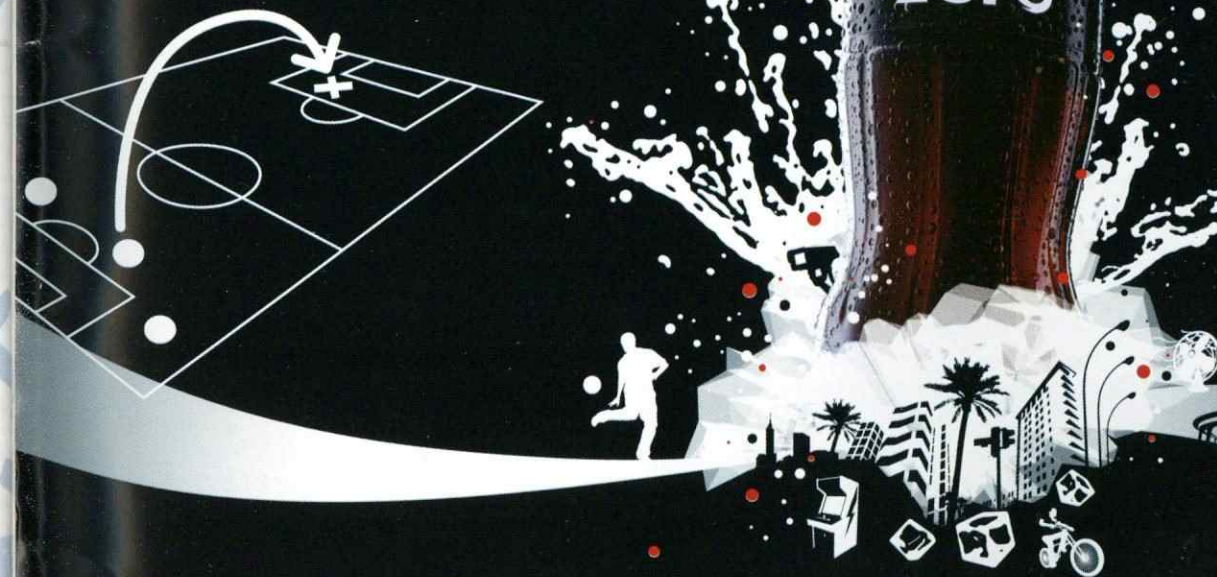
New signing Mifsud looks to have settled in well and provides City with attacking options and a bit of quality. The Maltese sensation has the ability to turn a game around and attacking creativity that all football fans enjoy. The tactics that Heath employs will shape the way Coventry play their football but if players like Tabb, Page, Doyle and Adebola can rekindle their form City will be deserved favourites to take all three points today.



The weather will probably be as bleak as the league table, for fans as well as players, so heart and courage in equal supply is a must - a cup of hot Cha Cha wouldn't be the worst investment too as we await what should be a very exciting game. Betting wise this game has 'no-bet' written all over it in big fat black marker pen but it is the thought that counts, and I think City will win 4-0. It's a new dawn, it's a new day, it's a new life for me, and I'm feelin' good.

**Around the grounds:** Colchester, who have won 11/14 at home represent value against a Preston side who have lost three out of their last five games away from Deepdale.

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# squadlists

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



## COVENTRY CITY

MANAGER ADRIAN HEATH

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Luke Steele (GK)        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Andrew Whing            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Marcus Hall             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Robert Page             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Elliott Ward            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Stephen Hughes          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 Wayne Andrews           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 Michael Doyle           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 Dele Adebola            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 Kevin Kyle             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 Chris Birchall         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 Arran Lee-Barrett (GK) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 Stern John             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 Leon McKenzie          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 Isaac Osbourne         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 Michael Mifsud         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 David McNamee          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 Stuart Giddings        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 Jay Tabb               | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 Don Hutchison          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 Colin Cameron          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 Adam Virgo             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29 Kevin Thornton         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 33 Andy Marshall (GK)     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 34 Ben Turner             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 David King (12th Man)  | <input type="checkbox"/> |



## LUTONTOWN

MANAGER MIKE NEWELL

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Marlon Beresford (GK) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Kevin Foley           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Sol Davis             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Chris Coyne           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Russell Perrett       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Paul Underwood        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 Matthew Spring        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 Steve Robinson        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 Warren Feeney        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 Dean Morgan          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 Stephen O'Leary      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 Lewis Emanuel        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 Richard Langley      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 Ahmet Brkovic        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 Sam Parkin           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 Adam Boyd            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 Keith Keane          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 Danny Stevens        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 Shaun Ross           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 Leon Barnett         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 26 Markus Heikkinen     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 28 David Bell           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29 Calvin Andrew        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 33 Dean Brill (GK)      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 34 Zac Barrett (GK)     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 35 Chris Pendleton      | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Mr M Clattenburg

Assistant Referee: Mr R East

Assistant Referee: Mr K Pike

Fourth Official: Mr S Bratt

### TODAY'S OTHER FIXTURES

Barnsley v QPR

Birmingham v Southend

Colchester v Preston

Derby v Burnley

Hull v Leeds

Norwich v Wolves

Stoke v Ipswich

Sunderland v Crystal Palace

## RICOH ARENA

UP NEXT AT THE RICOH

v Luton Town

Coca Cola Championship

Tuesday January 30

7.45pm KO

TICKET INFO CALL: 0870 421 1987

### CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

CCFC, Ricoh Arena, Phoenix Way

Foleshill, Coventry, CV6 6GE

T: 0870 421 1987

F: 0870 421 1988

E: info@ccfc.co.uk

W: www.ccfc.co.uk

### EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

In the event of an emergency affecting public safety in the stadium, you will hear three warning chimes. These will be followed by announcements over the public address system. If this occurs please follow the instructions of stewards and police officers. Coventry City Football Club has for many years made the safety of fans in the ground a priority. The following measures will enhance your safety and enjoyment in our football ground. They have been drawn up between ourselves and the emergency services and confirmed by Coventry Advisory Group, a body whose function is to examine all aspects of safety at the ground. Remain seated during the game, keep all gangways clear, be aware of the nearest exit points in the event of any evacuation, in an evacuation, please leave in an orderly manner and obey the stewards or police, if you see a fire, activate the fire alarm or inform the nearest steward or police officer, please assist the Stewards or Police if requested to move from, or into any area, if you are concerned about any aspect of safety, please inform a steward, do not run onto the pitch. There are no high fences since we want all fans to see and enjoy the game. Running onto the pitch can cause danger and you will be fined £1,000.

OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS TO COVENTRY CITY FOOTBALL CLUB



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