

# never say die



**Hartlepool United  
v Luton Town**

Saturday 2nd February 2008

Kick off 15:00



**ASDA**

Issue

# 16



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Hartlepool United v Luton Town

Saturday 2nd February 2008 | Kick-off 15:00



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## Club Directory

Hartlepool United Football Club, Victoria Park, Clarence Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8BZ.  
Telephone: 01429 272 584 | Fax: 01429 863 007

Email: [enquiries@hartlepoolunited.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@hartlepoolunited.co.uk) | Website: [hartlepoolunited.co.uk](http://hartlepoolunited.co.uk)

Ticket Office Email: [tickets@hartlepoolunited.co.uk](mailto:tickets@hartlepoolunited.co.uk)

Honorary Life President: Lord Tom Burlison | Club President: Peter Mandelson

Chairman: Ken Hodcroft | Director: Ian Prescott | Chief Executive: Russ Green

Senior Administrator: Maureen Smith | Technical Manager: Ian McRae

The Director of Sport: Chris Turner | Manager: Danny Wilson

Reserve Team Manager: Ian Butterworth | The Director of Youth: Terry Mitchell

Chief Scout: Tommy Miller | Football In The Community: Keith Nobbs

Media Manager: Mark Simpson | Ticket Office Manageress: Sharon Precious

Safety Officer: Maurice Russell | Head Groundsman: Dave Brown

PA Announcer: John Orley | Club Doctors: Dr David Russell and Dr Phil Peverley

Photography: Julian Richards and Frank Reid (Hartlepool Mail)

Website: Mark Simpson, Becky McNamee and John Orley

Programme Contributors: Mark Simpson, Becky McNamee, Phil Dunn, Stuart Drummond,

Colin Foster | Programme Name: Mark Carroll

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## Club Honours

League One Play-Offs  
2003/2004

League One Play-Off Finalists  
2004/2005

League Two Play-Offs  
1999/2000, 2000/2001, 2001/2002

League Two Runners-Up and Promotion  
2002/2003, 2006/2007

North East Team of the Year  
2002/2003

Reserves Division One East Champions  
2003/2004

Youth Alliance Champions  
2002/2003

USA Dallas Cup Under 19s Champions  
2003/2004

USA Dallas Cup Super Group Third Place  
2004/2005

Durham Benevolent Bowl Winners  
1936/1937

Durham Challenge Cup Winners  
1956/1957, 1957/1958

Durham Orphanage Cup Winners  
1923/1924, 1926/1927, 1927/1928,  
1929/1930, 1930/1931

Durham Senior Cup Winners  
1908/1909, 1909/1910, 1936/1937,  
1937/1938, 1951/1952, 1953/1954,  
1986/1987, 1987/1988

Monkwearmouth Charity Cup Winners  
1973/1974

North Eastern League Challenge Cup  
Winners  
1926/1927, 1927/1928

Northern Intermediate League  
champions  
1980/1981

Sunderland Shipowners Cup Winners  
1923/1924, 1932/1933

Wearside League Champions  
1979/1980

Wearside League Cup Winners  
1971/1972

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The views expressed in the Magazine are not necessarily those of Hartlepool United Football Club

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# From the Dugout

**Danny Wilson** gives us his thoughts ahead of this afternoon's game with Luton Town

Welcome back to The Vic for today's game with Luton Town. Firstly I'd like to welcome an old friend of mine, Nick Owen to Hartlepool. Nick has now taken over at the Club and it is fantastic that football people are now running the Club with the passion they have for the team, I am delighted that the Club is now in safe hands.

I'd also like to welcome my old friend and mucker Mick Harford. He has lived around that area for years, he is a strong character and he knows how that Club works. And make no mistake about it, we know how big a test we have in front of us today.

I have to say that at home, particularly this season, we have been doing better than OK and in that respect we have to keep the momentum going from our last game here at The Vic. It was a great game, with four goals and we have to try and build on that.

Looking back at the defeat to Doncaster and, with all due respect to them, I don't think they got the full credit that their football deserved. They played some fantastic stuff and I think the bookies prediction that they'd finish up there come the end of the season may well have been a good bet. Don't get me wrong, we would have liked to have

played much better but at the same time, we have to give credit where it's due. Now, though we have to bounce back.

We brought Sam Collins into the Club on Thursday and the fact that we have been after defenders for I don't know how long, has been very frustrating but we have managed to convince people to let us bring Sam in and we are delighted he is here. Sam is a big asset to the Club, he is a proper up and down defender, a great leader, a good talker and that is exactly what we need to steady the ship at the back and he'll do that for us.

Once we do that, there are other areas that we would like to strengthen but we have not been able to do that but we don't want to bleat on about it, we'll just get on with things.

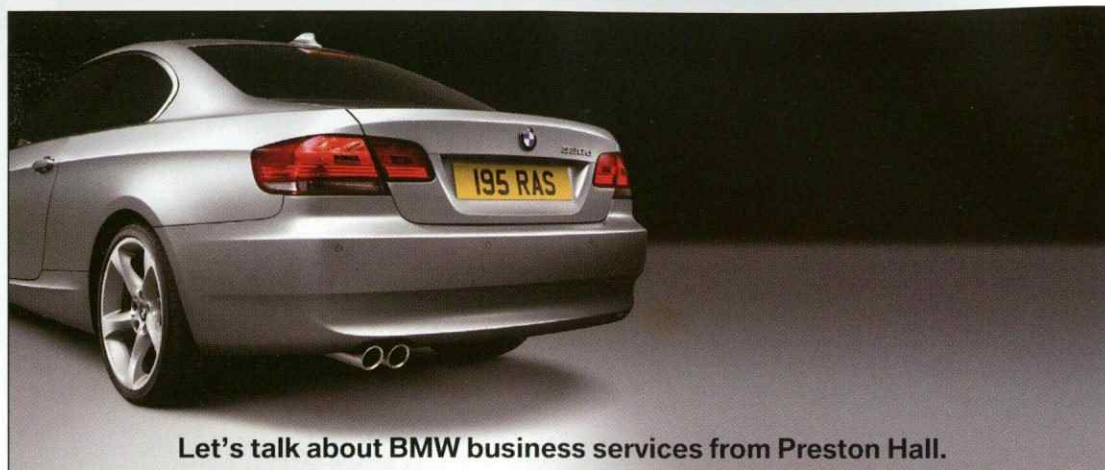
There is a sense of disappointment at this moment in time with one or two sections of the fans and that is a concern for us but we have to pull together at this time as you don't get anything by going separate ways. We have to come together and put things into perspective – while none of us are happy with our recent run, there is no point in us being despondent as that is when the poor performances continue.

But in the Football Club and certainly in the squad, we know what we are doing and if we keep going at it, we'll turn the corner. We have that belief and we need the fans have it too and to give us that kind of excellent support they have given us in past months.

*Danny Wilson*







Let's talk about BMW business services from Preston Hall.

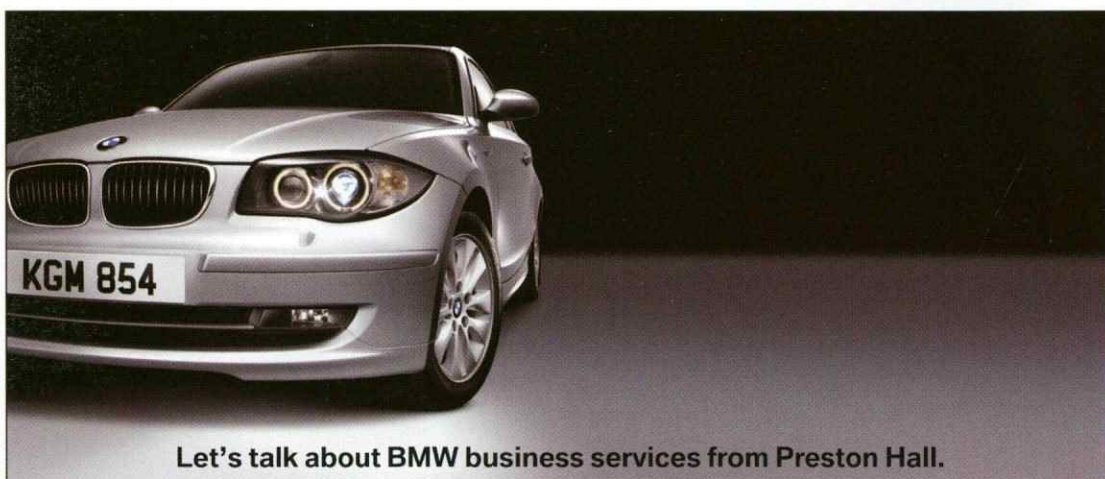
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### Preston Hall

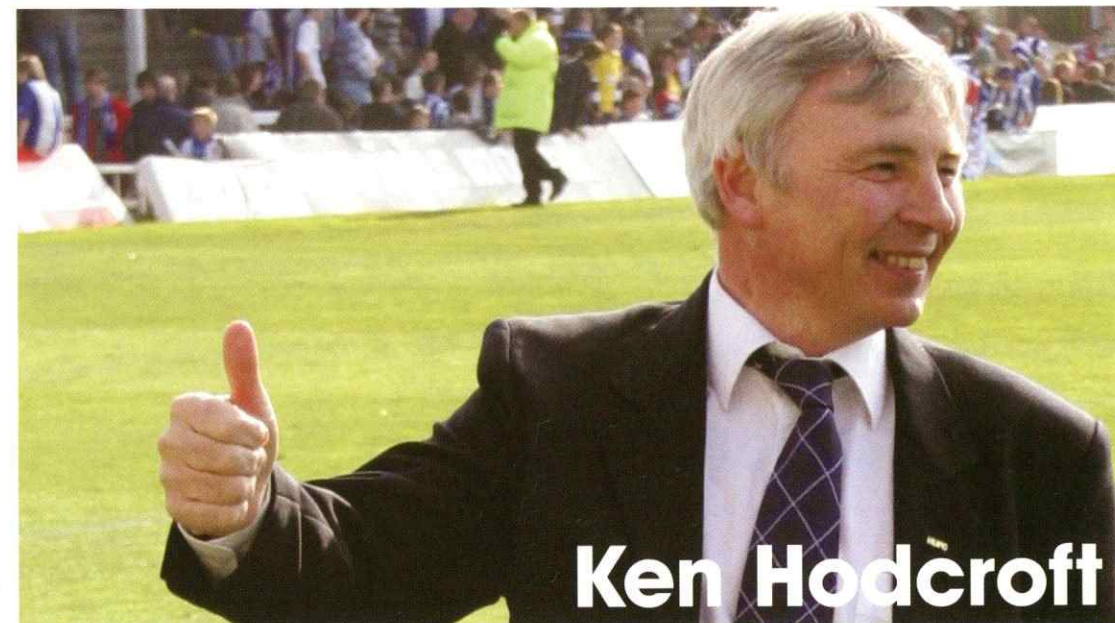
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Chairman



**Ken Hodcroft**

## Views from the Boardroom

Chairman **Ken Hodcroft** gives us his views ahead of kick-off in this afternoon's game.

Welcome back to Victoria Park for another important home League game. We also offer a very warm welcome to the Directors, management, players and the fans of Luton Town that have made the journey up to Hartlepool this afternoon.

After our exciting win (maybe too exciting by the end!) over Southend United in our last home game, we again slipped up away at Doncaster this week so the focus is back on the lads to get a good result today. We need to show the same attacking flair that we showed against Southend, as at times we were back to the form we showed earlier in the season. Our squad of players are quite capable of scoring goals and preventing goals and playing attractive, entertaining football. They have done that before and they know they can.

The Transfer Window closed on Thursday and both Danny and Chris have worked hard behind the scenes. We have been chasing a number of players throughout the

"open" period but ultimately, the only successes we've had have been the loan acquisition of Alan Thompson from Leeds and the deadline day signing of centre-back Sam Collins from Hull City. We have been told by a number of people that Sam is a superb professional and will be a huge asset to the Club while Alan has already featured in a couple of games and shown his quality, especially from dead ball situations.

We can also confirm in these notes that we were very close to signing striker Anthony Elding with positive written correspondence from Stockport County but ultimately the selling club decided to play him in their game on Tuesday night and then concluded a deal the next day with a club nearer to where the player lives.

Our Reserves showed the quality of our squad with a very professional display and deserved win against Darlington at Billingham last week. Two goals from Michael Mackay and one each from Antony Sweeney and David Foley proved too much for a

fairly experienced Darlington side. The performance of Stephen Turnbull also gained him a place on the bench at Doncaster last Tuesday.

The Reserves also put up a good performance against a fairly strong Sheffield Wednesday side on Wednesday at Stocksbridge before going down to a last gasp goal. Michael Mackay was again on target, scoring the equaliser after having a penalty saved earlier in the game. The Club has a strong squad of players who can ensure we move up the league.

I know I say this in just about every set of programme notes but it is very important to the lads that you all get behind them from the first minute of games. Let's make a lot of noise today and instil positive support from the back to the front of the team. They need your support more than ever this afternoon.



# Coca-Cola

## Hartlepool United F.C.

### Vs

 A.F.C. Bournemouth	 Huddersfield Town F.C.	 Crewe Alexandra F.C.	 Gillingham F.C.
 Swindon Town F.C.	 Northampton Town F.C.	 Brighton & Hove Albion F.C.	 Walsall F.C.
 Southend United F.C.	 Swansea City A.F.C.	 Doncaster Rovers F.C.	 Port Vale F.C.
 Leeds United F.C.	 Millwall F.C.	 Carlisle United F.C.	 Nottingham Forest F.C.
 Cheltenham Town F.C.	 Leyton Orient F.C.	 Yeovil Town F.C.	 Oldham Athletic F.C.
 Tranmere Rovers F.C.	 Luton Town F.C.	 Bristol Rovers F.C.	 LEAGUE 1

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



## Director of Sport

Chris Turner brings us his thoughts ahead of today's game.

Welcome to today's game with Luton Town – I'd like to welcome Mick Harford, who is Caretaker Manager at Luton now, and wish him all the best but obviously after this afternoon's clash. Mick was a striker of the highest quality – every team in the country is looking for the type of centre forward that he was in his day. We had many battles, some of which were successful and some weren't during my career.

Mick is now back at Luton Town, a Club that he played and worked at for a good number of years. He also has Mark Stein with him, who was also there previously and they are two lads who you can tell care about Luton Town.

Hopefully this afternoon's game is as entertaining as our last home game against Southend United but I am sure Danny would like it better if we didn't concede three goals every week. Hopefully though, in the attacking mould things will be the same this afternoon because scoring four goals sends everybody home happy.

As you all know, the Transfer Window closed on Thursday night and we were pleased to be able to bring in Sam Collins, a player who we were tracking for a long period of time. We missed out on one or two players who we had put in offers for that we thought were acceptable but as you say in the property market, we were 'gazumped'. This is very frustrating for

Danny and all of us at the Club, just as I am sure it is for you supporters. But there is still a loan market available in seven days and if Danny targets someone in that period, we will do our utmost to bring him here.

I personally think these transfer windows put a lot of pressure on Managers and Clubs to sign players for the sake of it. Deals done at the last minute become gambles and it restricts trade for both Clubs and players. The sooner it is abandoned the better for those football clubs outside of the Premier League.

This week the FA announced a new initiative at schoolboy level that is set to teach young players not to disrespect the decisions of referees during games. This is something I totally agree with but all these young players have to do is turn on the television on a Saturday night and watch Match of the Day to see players at the highest level of the game disrespecting officials. Unless the FA addresses this issue at the very top level, young players will just learn from their heroes on the television. Something has to be done in the game along the same lines as in Rugby Union a game in which some of the biggest and strongest professional sportsmen totally abide by the decisions of the official. This is how it should be done at every level of football.

Enjoy the game this afternoon.

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## SHARP SHOOTERS

Player	Team	Lge	Cup	Ttl
Jermaine Beckford	Leeds	16	0	16
Jason Scotland	Swansea	12	4	16
Joe Garner	Carlisle	13	0	13
Adam Boyd	L Orient	9	3	12
Richard Barker	Hartlepool	9	3	12
Richard Lambert	Bristol Rvs	7	5	12
Licky Forster	Brighton	8	4	12
Paul Furlong	Luton	7	4	11
Craig Davies	Oldham	8	3	11

## WHERE TO SEE GOALS (By Ground)

Ground	Home Team	M	Gl	G/Mt
Fitness First Stadium	Bournemouth	14	45	3.21
Victoria Park	Hartlepool	14	41	2.93
Vithdean Stadium	Brighton	12	34	2.83
The Memorial Stadium	Bristol Rvs	11	30	2.73
Elland Road	Leeds	14	38	2.71
The Den	Millwall	14	38	2.71
Roots Hall	Southend	13	35	2.69
County Ground	Swindon	13	34	2.62
Brunton Park	Carlisle	12	31	2.58
The Galpharm Stadium	Huddersfield	13	33	2.54
Matchroom Stadium	L Orient	14	35	2.50
Sixfields Stadium	Northampton	14	35	2.50
City Ground	Nottm Forest	13	32	2.46
Kenilworth Stadium	Luton	13	32	2.46
Liberty Stadium	Swansea	14	34	2.43
Vale Park	Port Vale	14	34	2.43
The Alexandra Stadium	Crewe	14	34	2.43
Deepmoat Stadium	Doncaster	14	34	2.43
Priestfield Stadium	Gillingham	14	33	2.36
Wescot Stadium	Walsall	14	32	2.29
Prenton Park	Tranmere	14	31	2.21
Luish Park	Yeovil	14	29	2.07
Whaddon Road Ground	Cheltenham	14	26	1.86
Boundary Park	Oldham	12	22	1.83

## TEAM LEADERS

**Team with the most..**  
**Shots on target** 205 Bournemouth. **shots off target** 76 Oldham. **corners** 188 Swansea. **hit woodwork** 9 Nottm Forest. **offsides** 106 Port Vale. **fouls** 399 Yeovil.  
**Yellow cards** 55 Northampton. **red cards** 6 Southend.

## PLAYER POWER

**Player with the most..**  
**Shots** 94 Jermaine Beckford (Leeds). **Shots on target** 4 Craig Davies (Oldham). **Shots off target** 51 Jermaine Beckford (Leeds). **Assists** 8 Darren Currie (Luton). **Crosses** 95 Max-Alain Gradel (Bournemouth). **Offsides** 50 Luke Rodgers (Port Vale). **Fouls** 70 Tresor (Andol) (Leeds). **Free-kicks won** 91 Joe Garner (Carlisle).



## 2007/08 SEASON



## GOAL COUNTER 802

**RIGHT FOOT** 444 goals

55.4%

**LEFT FOOT** 175 goals

21.8%

**HEADERS** 170 goals

21.2%

Own goals 12 (1.5%), Other body part 1 (0.1%)

## QUICK-FIRE GOALS

**From the start of a match**

Richard Lambert (Luton vs Bristol Rovers) 1:47

**By a substitute after coming on**

Leon Constantine (Leeds vs Oldham) 0:12

## DISCIPLINARY



2.6 cards per match 0.2 cards per match

## QUICK-FIRE CARDS

**From the start of a match**

Sean Thornton (Leyton Orient vs Hartlepool) 0:53

**By a substitute after coming on**

Zoumana Bakayogo (Millwall vs Tranmere) 1:18

## SUB TOTALS

**Subs used** .....1533

**Offsides** .....1920

**Corners** .....3553

**Shots Off Target** .....3487

## BEAT THE TRAFFIC

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

1 4 6

In the Coca Cola Football League One this season there have been 3555 shots on target, goals constitute 22.6% of all shots (doesn't include own goals). The woodwork has come to the rescue of the defending side on 144 occasions (the biggest beneficiaries being Crewe 15). There have been 73 penalties awarded this season and of those 64 have been scored (a success rate of 87.7%). Swansea have been awarded most penalties - 6. Swansea have given most penalties away 5. The team to score the most penalties is Hartlepool 6. Swansea missed 2 penalties in the Coca Cola Football League One this season.

## RESULTS

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

0-0	23
0-1	29
0-2	15
0-3	6
0-4	2
0-5	1
1-0	33
1-1	47
1-2	21
1-3	8
1-4	3
1-5	-
2-0	24
2-1	34
2-2	14
2-3	5
2-4	1
2-5	-
3-0	17
3-1	12
3-2	7
3-3	-
3-4	-
3-5	-
4-0	5
4-1	8
4-2	3
4-3	3
4-4	-
4-5	-
5-0	1
5-1	-
5-2	-
5-3	-
5-4	-
5-5	-

\*up to and including 27/01/2008



# Russ Green

## Views from the Chief Executive

**Russ Green** brings us details of Centenary Celebrations at the Club

Good afternoon and welcome to today's clash with The Hatters from Luton, on what is the reverse fixture of the opening day of the season. It seems an age since that game and we have had a few ups and downs since then, let's hope we have a few more 'ups' before the end of the season. Luton have had a mixed time this season, going through administration, a buy out and then getting the reward of two games against Liverpool so they have seen both sides of the emotional rollercoaster.

As you are aware, we are now into our Centenary Year which promises to be a very exciting time for our Football Club. We have been working very hard behind the scenes to organise events to ensure that everyone in the town, not just the football fans enjoy this prestigious event. We plan to hold at least one event per month throughout the year, events that will involve a wide spectrum of the community. We have linked up with many groups within the town, the Arts Council, the Leisure Group, the Tourism Group, several schools and of course our Supporters Groups.

We kick off the events with a 'Question of Sport' night on 28th February 2008 at the Belle Vue Club. The event is being hosted by the Supporters Club and all proceeds

from the event will go to our Youth Development. The month of March is a busy one, we are holding a Sportsman's Dinner at The Grand Hotel, the first function to be held their following the extensive refurbishment and the speakers will be Dave Watson and Tommy Smith, two hard men of English Football. The evening promises to be a good night of football banter and will take place on 6th March 2008. The following week we are holding our first 'Luncheon with a Legend' in the Centenary Suite at The Vic. We will be hosting lunches throughout the year with both Pools Legends and Football Legends appearing. The inaugural lunch is with ex Pools hero 'Gordon Watson' on Wednesday 12th March and will take place from 12noon till 3pm and will include lunch and a complimentary drink upon arrival.

March will also be the month for our second event hosted along with the Supporters, this will be the ever popular 'Weakest Link' evening, which the players to participate in, another night which will see the players and fans enjoy plenty of 'banter'. The date and venue of the event will be released shortly. May will see a different 'Player of Year Evening', this year to celebrate the Centenary we will hold a player of the decade where fans can vote for their favourite player from the fifties to the present day.

June will see our Centenary Golf Tournament at Seaton Carew Golf Club, many celebrities from the world of sport and entertainment have been lined up to take part and as last year this promises to be a well supported event. July will see us celebrate the Centenary with some prestigious friendly games and hopefully a mini tournament at the latter part of the month, already teams have been approached and we are just awaiting final details before we announce actual dates and teams.

August will see us hold a "Pools Open Day", a great family day at The Vic where fans can come along and watch the team train and enjoy all the events taking place in the car park. There will be plenty of entertainment for all the family and as an added bonus our new Centenary Shirt will be on sale that day!

Anyway, enough of the Centenary Celebrations, let's concentrate on today's game where hopefully we can pick up 3 vital points. Let's get behind Danny, Ian and the lads today, it's times like this when the team needs your support, even more than when things are going well, that extra bit of support from the terraces can be our twelfth man!! Come on Pools!



# The Big Night Out

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Transportation Provided

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per head

(based on a booking of eight people)

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all sides up to the value of £1.95  
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# Stat Pack

## MANAGERIAL RECORDS

### Danny Wilson

Played 73 Won 35 Drawn 16 Lost 22  
For 104 Against 80  
Av Pts/game 1.66  
Biggest Win(s) Peterboro 3 Hartlepool  
5 (23/09/2006). **Biggest Loss(es)**  
Carlisle 4 Hartlepool 2 (01/01/2008).

### Mick Harford

Played 3 Won 0 Drawn 1 Lost 2 For 5  
Against 7  
Av Pts/game 0.33  
Biggest Win(s) No wins found **Biggest**  
**Loss(es)** Bournemouth 4 Luton 3  
(22/01/2008).

## MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ..1 Danny Wilson .....0 Mick Harford .....0  
Draws ..1 Goals 1 Goals 1

### Player with the most...

#### shots

Ian  
Moore 45

#### shots on target

James  
Brown 22

#### shots off target

Richard  
Barker 23

#### assists

Robbie  
Elliott 3

#### crosses

Ritchie  
Humphreys 51

#### fouls

Gary  
Liddle 33

#### free-kicks-won

Richard  
Barker 57

### Player with the most...

#### shots

David  
Bell 40

#### shots on target

Matthew  
Spring 24

#### shots off target

David  
Bell 20

#### assists

Darren  
Currie 8

#### crosses

Darren  
Currie 84

#### fouls

Paul  
Furlong 54

#### free-kicks-won

Paul  
Furlong 30

## SHARP SHOOTERS

Hartlepool	CCFL Cup	Tot	Luton	CCFL Cup	Tot		
Richard Barker	9	3	12	Paul Furlong	7	4	11
James Brown	8	3	11	Matthew Spring	6	3	9
Ian Moore	6	3	9	David Edwards	4	0	4

## TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ....15 Hartlepool wins .....6 Luton wins .....8  
Draws .....1 Goals 22 (1.5 per game) Goals 26 (1.7 per game)  
0-0's .....0 Times failed to score 3 Times failed to score 3

### Biggest League win at Hartlepool for each team:

05/03/1966 Hartlepool 2-0 Luton  
15/02/2005 Hartlepool 2-3 Luton



## 2007/08 LEAGUE STATS

15	Position	23
27	Played	27
9	Won	9
6	Drawn	7
12	Lost	11
39	Goals For	31
40	Goals Against	34
33	Points	24

### Record Against Top Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
4	4	8	11	4	5	6	8

### Record Against Bottom Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
5	2	4	16	5	2	5	17

### Record When Scoring First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
8	1	4	15	9	0	1	12

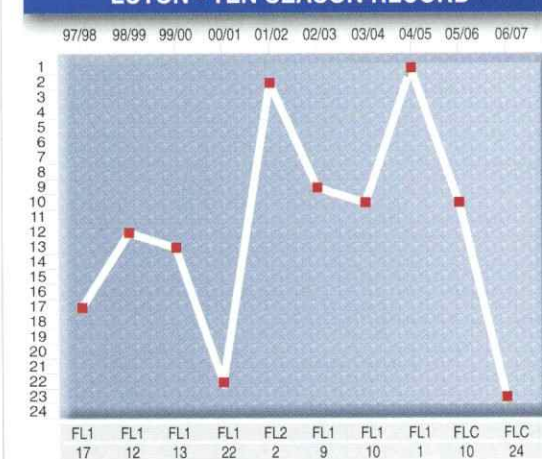
### Record When Conceding First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
1	5	8	10	0	4	10	24

### Match Scores

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

## LUTON - TEN SEASON RECORD



\*up to and including 27/01/2008



The Football League's *Fans of the Future* initiative is aiming to attract the next generation of supporters to watch live football at their local club  
Find out more at [www.football-league.co.uk](http://www.football-league.co.uk)





# Focus on Luton Town

## Last Time Out

Luton Town 0  
Swindon Town 1

League One at Kenilworth Road



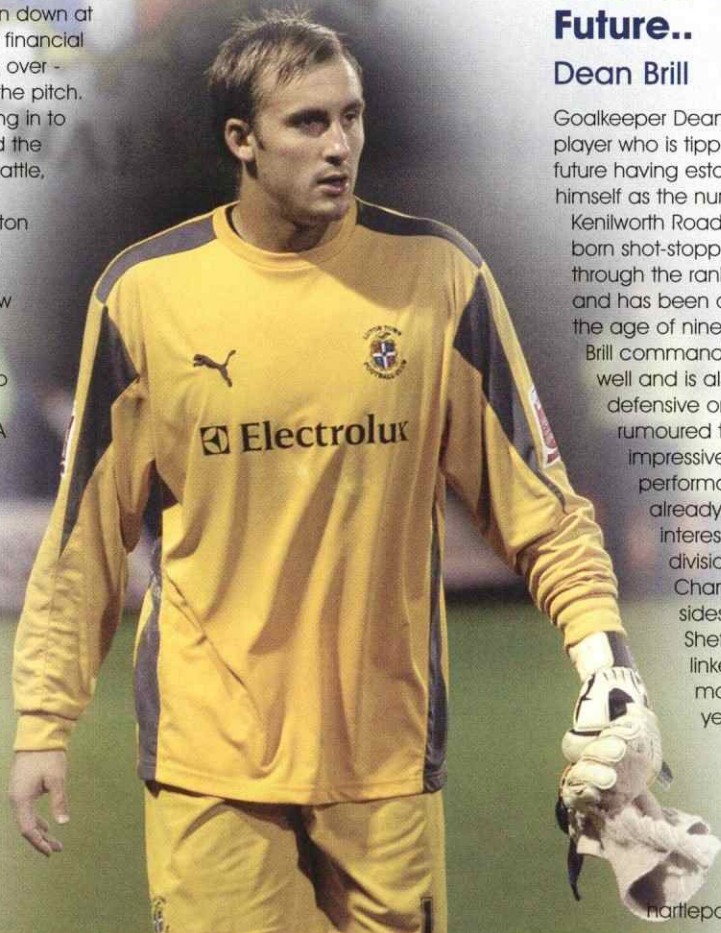
## Subs:

Morgan (46 for Andrew)  
Currie (46 for Parkin)  
O'Leary (64 for Talbot)



## The Story So Far....

It's been a turbulent season down at Kenilworth Road so far with financial worries taking precedence over - and affecting - action on the pitch. A ten-point penalty for going in to administration has plunged the Hatters in to a relegation battle, though a takeover led by television presenter and Luton fan Nick Owen looks set to save the Club from liquidation. The Hatters drew publicity for the right reasons early last month when they held Liverpool to a draw at Kenilworth Road in the Third Round of the FA Cup but by the time they went to Anfield for the replay some key players had been sold and they were beaten 5-0. And as if that wasn't enough drama for one Club in a season they also sacked boss Kevin Blackwell following the trip to Liverpool and brought Mick Harford back to the Club as the new Manager.



## One for the Future..

### Dean Brill

Goalkeeper Dean Brill is a player who is tipped for a bright future having established himself as the number one at Kenilworth Road. The Luton-born shot-stopper came through the ranks at Luton and has been a Hatter since the age of nine. At 6ft 3ins, Brill commands his area very well and is also a great defensive organiser. It's rumoured that his impressive performances have already attracted interest from higher division clubs with Championship sides Hull City and Sheffield United linked with a move for the 22-year-old.

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## One To Watch



### Keith Keane

The 21-year-old Irishman has been a sensation at Luton Town this season and has become one of the first names on the team sheet. Having made his debut at the tender age of 16, Keane went on to have a good run in the side and has been used most usually on the right wing. However, he's slotted into the centre of defence for the Hatters now and has been getting rave reviews in the current season. He's been at the Club since he was just nine-years-old and made a rapid progression through the Kenilworth Road Centre of Excellence.



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# Harford Faces Up To Hatters Challenge

Luton legend **Mick Harford** on his desire to take things forward at Kenilworth Road.

There was little time for a hero's welcome for new Luton boss Mick Harford. He's arrived at Kenilworth Road with the Club entrenched in a battle for survival – on and off the pitch.

Harford enjoys legend status at Luton Town having played in the Hatters side which won the Littlewoods Cup in 1988 and is widely regarded as one of the best players to have represented the Club.

The 48-year-old enjoyed a successful spell at the Club when working alongside former Pools boss Mike Newell before making a move to Nottingham Forest in November 2004 to assist Joe Kinnear at the City Ground.

But, after a brief caretaker spell in charge at Queens Park Ranger, Harford returned 'home' and is determined to meet the challenge that has been put in front of him.

"It is great to be back. This is my home club and I have got a lot of affection for the area, for the players, for the staff and for the fans," Harford commented.

"There is a lot of sentiment involved, but I am here to do a job and I am looking forward to the challenge. It is going to be a difficult challenge, but I feel I am ready for the job."

"I spoke to administrator Brendan Guilfoyle briefly and he asked whether I would step in and take over the mantle until the end of the season, which I was delighted to do. It is an opportunity for me to take over what I believe is a great football club and it is a challenge I'm looking forward to.

"This is about the football club and its future. It's all about trying to get the team moving forward and to try and bring a bit of stability.

"In the future, whatever happens to me happens to me. If we get success then I will probably be rewarded, but if we don't then I know what the consequences will be," he added.

Now he's taken the reigns, Harford is keen to spear-head a quick rise up the League One table – a challenge made even harder by the ten-point deduction imposed following the Club's dip in to administration.

But Harford now feels comfortable that the Club is moving back on to a more solid

footing and there can still be bright times ahead for Hatters' fans.

"I know some of the people on the consortium like Nick Owen, who is heading the consortium, but I haven't spoken to anybody. However, I have seen their prospectus and I do believe in what they are trying to do. If I didn't believe it then I wouldn't be here. It is a fantastic package they have put together for the future of this Football Club and I thoroughly believe in that.

"The first objective is to stay in this division and climb the table. If players have to leave for the benefit of this Football Club and the move is right for the player, then they will be free to leave because we also have to protect the future of Luton Town.

"Short-term, I will also be looking at getting the players playing attractive football and trying to win some football matches."

Harford – who has drafted in QPR Youth Team boss Warren Neil to assist him at Kenilworth Road – says he wants the fans to enjoy some stability in the coming seasons.

Far from the ups and downs that being a Luton supporter has afforded in recent times, Harford wants to see fans and players unite to take things forward at the Club.

"The fans have been on a real rollercoaster ride for years and years. I would say to them that at this moment in time, with the 2020 people coming in, there is going to be some stability.

"I just want them to turn up, like they always do, week-in, week-out and get behind the players. They got right behind me when I was a player. The message to the players is that they have done exceptionally well over the past few weeks. The players have come out with a lot of credit over the Liverpool games and it's just a process of carrying that on really. We have to show our passion and desire and I will try and give them that belief and the organisation to try and win games.

"I don't care what people say, Kenilworth Road is still a great stadium and I am glad it hasn't changed. There was a shiver down my spine when I walked into the Club. It is great to be back and it is a great place to be."



# 57 Registration...



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The New Deal for Communities (NDC) Business Enterprise Grant provides funding for people who live in the NDC area. Not only that but successful applicants are given free business support and advice on topics such as business strategy, advertising, and marketing.

Dave Garthwaite was the first person to receive the grant three years ago to launch his specialist tree management business 'The Coppice'.

He said: "I would definitely urge anyone thinking of starting their own business to get in contact with the team."

For more information on the grant, please contact Alison Soulsby on 404017.

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New promotion offers big cash prizes for the Pools youth schemes

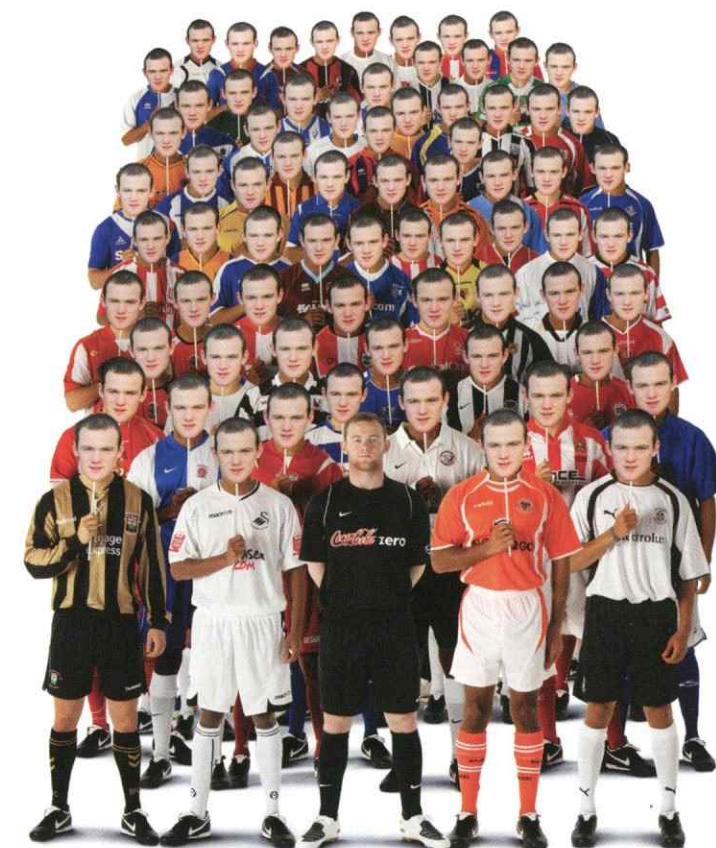
Wayne Rooney has helped 'Coca-Cola Zero' launch their most exciting football promotion to date, giving Hartlepool United fans the chance to help shape the Pools future and win money for themselves simply by buying special packs of 'Coca-Cola Zero'. The 'Coca-Cola Zero' 'Find the Next Rooney' competition will make one Football League or Scottish Premier League fan the toast of their club by giving them a cheque for £25,000 to give to their club to spend on youth development along with £1,000 to keep for themselves! There are a total of ten £25,000 and £1,000 prizes up for grabs in weekly draws between now and March 3rd.

It's easy to enter the promotion. Pools fans need to look out for special packs of 'Coca-Cola Zero' featuring a unique entry code and enter the code online at [www.coca-cola.co.uk](http://www.coca-cola.co.uk) or via SMS to 88555. Once entered, fans will be automatically placed into the weekly draw to find out if they've won money for Hartlepool United's youth set-up along with £1,000 for themselves. Each entry will also be placed into a bonus draw for an extra £25,000 prize for one club, to be revealed at the end of March. There's a whole host of other prizes up for grabs. The fan who enters the promotion the most times for Hartlepool United will win a 'Superfan' prize. This could be anything from a place on the bench during a game to a place on the 1st team coach to an away game!

Winners will also get the chance to meet Wayne Rooney along with players from the winning clubs' youth teams at an exclusive coaching session being held at the end of the promotion.

Manchester United and England star Wayne Rooney said: "The Coke Zero promotion is a great idea. It's important we do everything we can to help the next generation of players and this promotion means fans can do their bit."

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## Rooney Launches New Coke Zero Drive



Coca-Cola Zero



# It's Hammer Time!

We catch up with an old Pools favourite who has some great memories of a game with Luton Town.

When you think about clashes against Luton Town in recent seasons there is probably one game that stands out more than most.

The 4-3 win over the Hatters on 6th April 2004 was made famous not just because of the topsy-turvy nature of the game – but also because of THAT strike by Hugh Robertson.

"It could have gone either way during the game, we were one down, then up and then it was level and they had a goal chalked off in the last minute. It was one of those games that had everything," Robertson recalled when we spoke to him earlier this week.

"Night games always have a different sort of atmosphere and it was definitely a different sort of game, with Mike Newell back at the Club."

Robertson's goal in the game put Pools 3-2 to the good and was later crowned Goal of the Season – not surprising really as his thunderbolt effort nearly ripped the net out of the Town End goal!

"The ball came to me and I never really had time to think about what to do and fortunately for me, it went in or it could've ended up in the car park across the back!," he joked.

"Everyone was running towards me and I thought I better get rid of this and it ended up in the back of the net.

"When you hit a ball like that, it has a good chance of going in



and luckily for me there was nobody in the way to stop it.

"I think the Luton goal was definitely the best one I scored, especially with the importance of the game and we got on a little run after that and I think we won four out of five games."

It was for goals like that one that Robertson became known as The Hammer and the quietly-spoken Scotsman became a cult hero with fans at Victoria Park.

And 'Shuggy' says he still looks back on his stay at Pools with warm memories and just wishes he could have played more and increased his tally of six goals to repay the fans for their backing.

"I don't know how it happened, the game with Blackpool, which was my home debut and even when I was taking corners, I was getting a standing ovation – it was unbelievable support. Even when I was coming back from injury, they really got behind me.

"I really enjoyed my time there; it was just unfortunate I was injured for quite a bit of it. It was frustrating that I spent more time watching the games than playing.

"The first season I came down, I scored four goals and it was really enjoyable, we got to the play offs and were a bit unlucky to get beat by Bristol City.

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"Then I missed out for a while through injury, came back into things but kept getting injured so I was disappointed with that side of it but I definitely enjoyed the playing side of things."

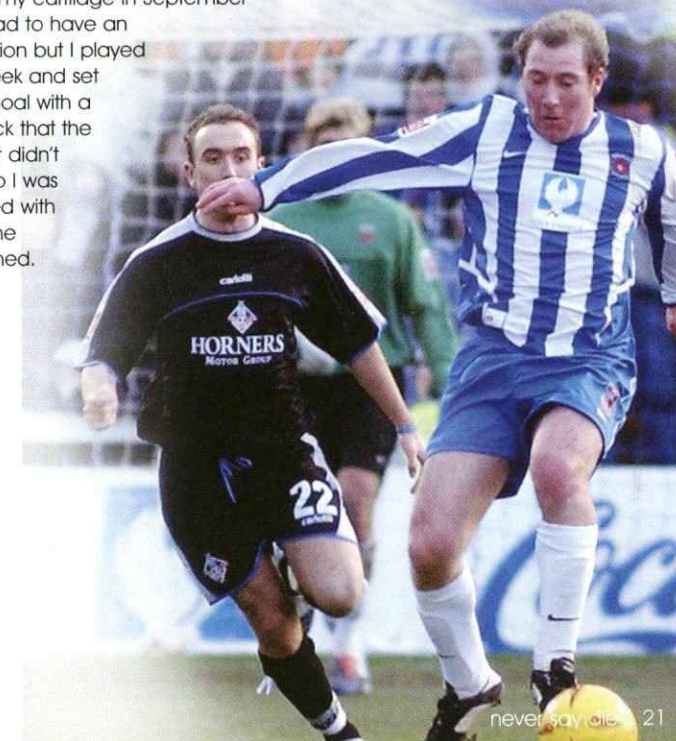
After leaving Pools in 2005, Robertson headed back North of the border where he re-joined former side Ross County. Rather than slotting in at left-back, the 32-year-old has been operating in the centre of midfield – although the old injury curse has struck again this term.

"I'm playing central midfield now, since I have been back up here, I have not played left back at all since coming to Ross County.

"Things are not looking bad for us at the moment – we won the Scottish Challenge Cup last year, which is a bit like the LDV but we also got relegated unfortunately.

"But this year we are top of the league with games in hand so hopefully we have a good chance of getting promoted and going straight back up again."

"I tore my cartilage in September and had to have an operation but I played last week and set up a goal with a free kick that the keeper didn't hold so I was pleased with that," he explained.







# Commercial Break

with Andy Rowley

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to The Vic for this afternoon's fixture against Luton Town.

Please note that we still have some matchday Mascot Packages left for selected games through the remainder of the season. This great day at The Vic includes pre-match meal in the Victoria Diner for 4 people including the mascot, seats in the Cyril Knowles stand and a unique opportunity for the mascot to meet and warm up with the Pools players prior to kick off. Each mascot will receive the latest Pools home shirt and a commemorative framed photo of the day.

a matchday then why not take a look at our new Centenary Suite? Situated behind the Cyril Knowles Stand, the Centenary Suite is a stylish and modern location for you to enjoy a pre-match Carvery meal in the company of your fellow Pools. Prices for adults are just £40 (plus Vat) and £25 (plus Vat) for children.

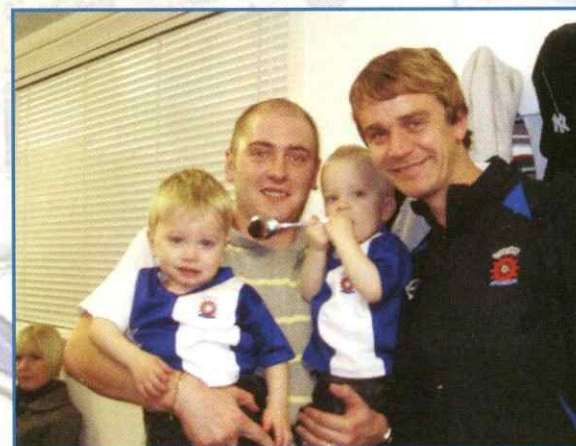
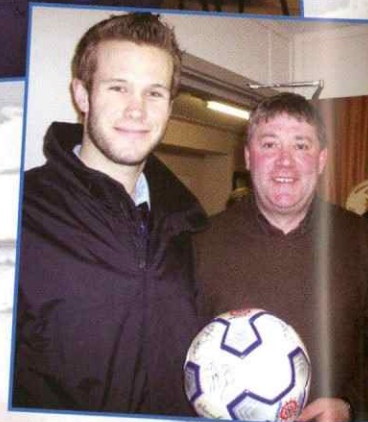
We also have advertising/sponsorship packages starting from as little as £10 so there is an option affordable for you just waiting at The Vic- for more information of how to support your local team please contact the Commercial Department on 01429 272584 (option 3), fax 01429 863007, email commercial@hartlepoolunited.co.uk

If you would like to enjoy a special day of a different kind at The Vic on

## Today's Mascots

**Name:** Ben Boreland  
**Age:** 11  
**School:** Eldon Grove School  
**Favourite Sports:** Football  
**Favourite Player:** Joel Porter

**Name:** Tony Allen  
**Age:** 10  
**School:** Hillside Avenue School, Norwich  
**Favourite Sports:** Football, Motor Sports  
**Favourite Player:** Godwin Antwi



Good afternoon and welcome to Victoria Park for our home fixture with Luton Town.

Our sponsors today are: -

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#### Mr. Richardson

Hartlepool United would like to welcome Ian & Guests into the Executive Boxes this afternoon and wish Ian a Happy 40th Birthday. Enjoy your day at The Vic and lets hear you cheer the lads.

### Seasonal Matchball Sponsors are: -

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### Guests in our Centenary Suite today are:-

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Hope you enjoy the evening at The Vic and cheer the lads on!!!

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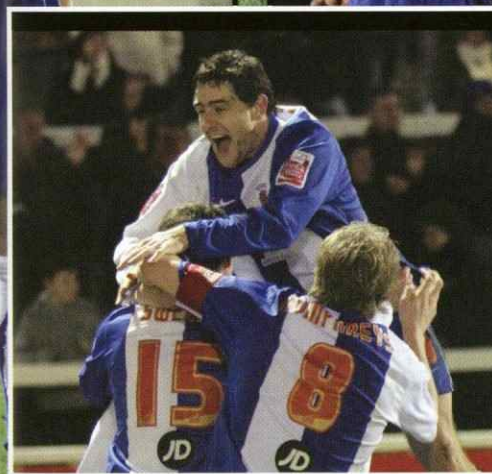
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**Hartlepool United** 4

(Barker, Brown 2, Sweeney)

**Southend United** 3

(Hammell, Gower, Black)

League One at Victoria Park

Attendance: 3,217

#### Star Man:

**Richard Barker**

The Pools striker was back in top form against the Shrimpers as he had a hand in all of the goals in a thrilling 4-3 win at The Vic.

First of all, he confidently slammed home his 12th goal of the season from the penalty spot after James Brown had been tripped inside the area. In the second half his constant harrying of the visiting defence proved too much to handle and James Brown benefited with two goals and substitute Antony Sweeney also got in on the act with the fourth and what proved to be decisive strike.

#### Danny's View:

We're not doing anything the easy way at this moment in time and the heart rate was kept high during the game! We put in a terrific attacking performance most importantly we got the three points which we'd have been delighted with prior to the game. To get a goal so early in the second half really settled our nerves as I think there was quite a lot anxiety not just in the team but on the terraces as well. We played some really good football at times but we did leave the back door open again which made the game a little more nervy than we'd wanted it.







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# I'm Giving It My All

A determined **Matty Robson** on his efforts to force a way back in to the fold at Pools.

Now in his ninth year with the Club, Matty Robson is one of the longest-serving players currently at The Vic.

The 23-year-old winger has progressed steadily through the ranks at Pools, a Club he admits to having a 'strong bond' with.

And in recent weeks, Robson has found himself recalled into the First Team squad, where he hopes to do enough to extend his time at the Club.

"It has been good being back in the squad because it gets frustrating when you are out of the squad looking in when you want to be part of the squad. Even when things aren't going great, you still want to be part of it.

"I'd been sitting on the bench and getting more and more minutes before getting a start against Southend United and that was pleasing to be honest.

"A lot of hard work had gone in to get back in the side.

"When you are not in the squad, it can knock your confidence a bit but you have to make sure you try to keep your confidence levels up and carry on working hard and hopefully your luck will change."

Having featured for the Reserve Team on several occasions this season, Robson is keen to stress the importance of second-string football for the players at the Club,

"I'd been playing well in the Reserves and trying to do the things I know I can. In Reserve games, people at other Clubs look disheartened to be playing, but here it is different.

"There is always a chance because the squad is not

that big. We do have a very good Reserve Team here and that gives you confidence."

The pacy left winger came on as a second-half substitute in the game at Northampton Town and impressed with a determined and confident display.

And, now Robson is hoping to build on recent involvement to cement his place with the squad in the remaining months of the current campaign,

"I think when anyone's contract is up, you always think about what is going to be happening next but you can't think about it too much, you have to keep it in the back of your mind. It is up to the Manager and other people at the Club to make that decision; you just have to keep playing your football.

"Hopefully it won't be a difficult few months and we'll pick up some good results and improve our standing in League One."

Robson's commitment to the cause can never be questioned and, as he admits, he gives everything while playing for the Club he has been with for nearly a decade,

"I have been at the Club now since I was 14 years old and I have a



very strong link with the Club. I never like to let it down and always give 110% - I always try my best, maybe too hard sometimes.

"I enjoy playing for the Club and want to do my best every time I pull the shirt on."

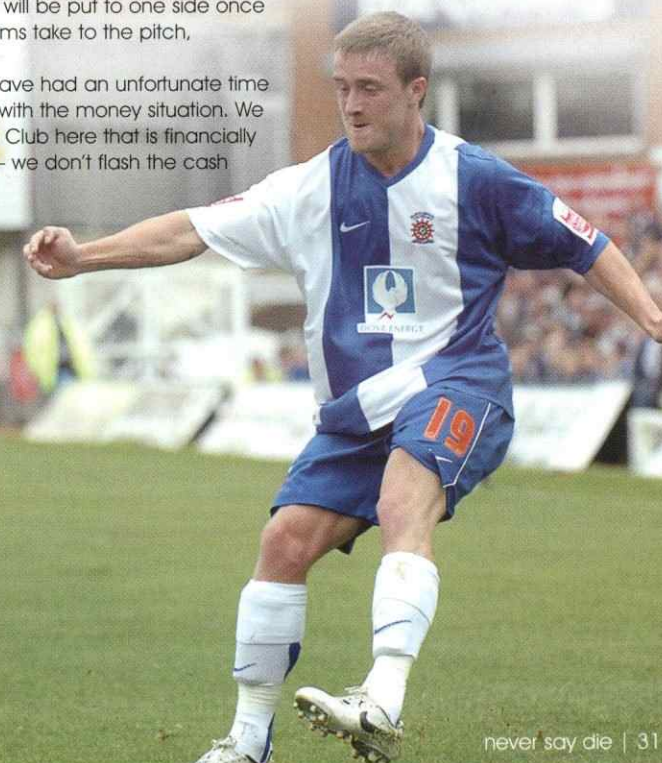
Looking at today's game with Luton Town and Robson reveals he does have sympathy for their recent plight but this will be put to one side once the teams take to the pitch,

around because this is a professionally-run Club.

"It is unfortunate what has happened at Luton Town and I know they had to sell a couple of players due to money worries.

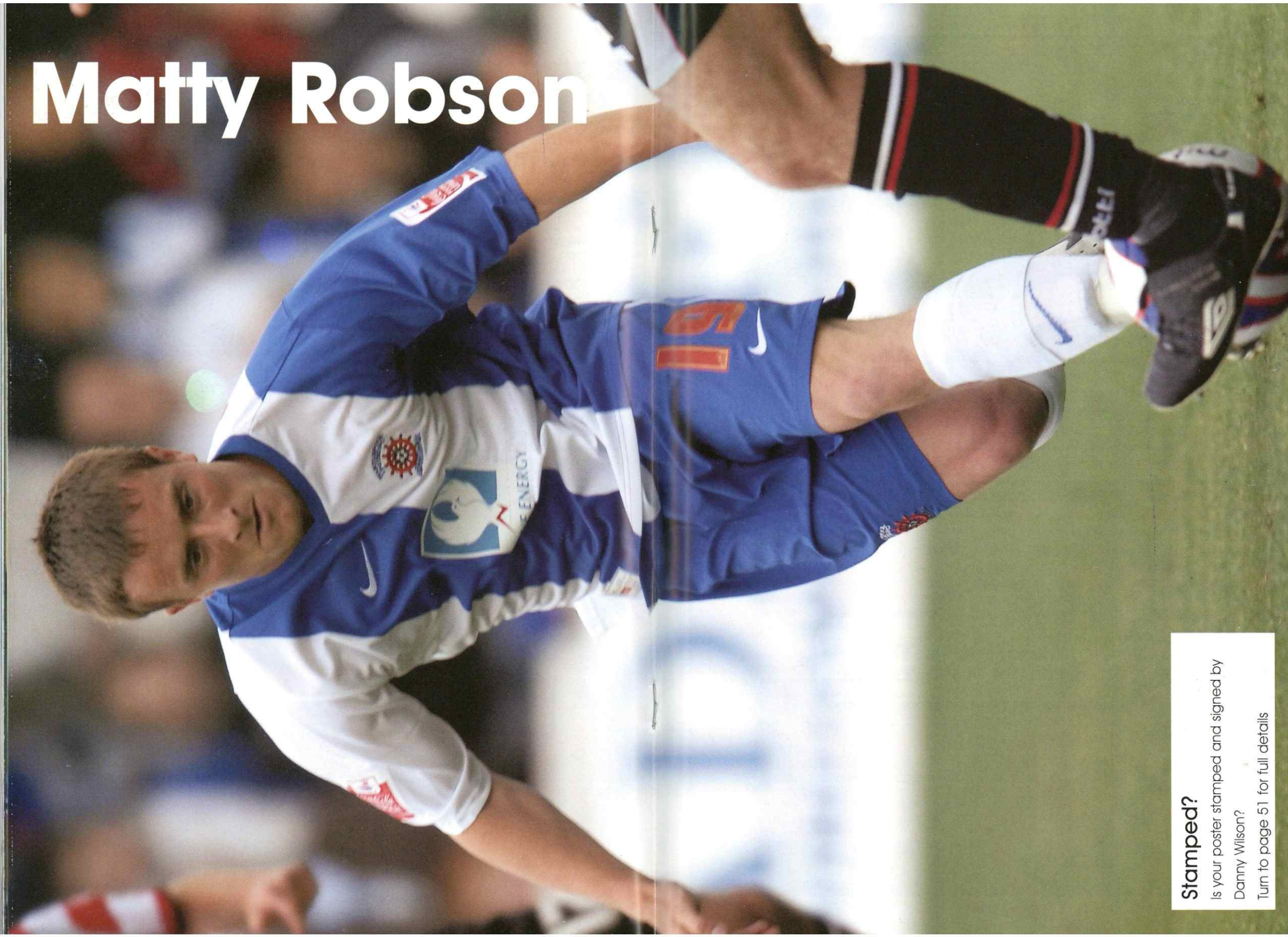
"We know it will be a tough game, they are down at the bottom and will be as eager as we are to pick up the points."

"They have had an unfortunate time of late with the money situation. We have a Club here that is financially stable - we don't flash the cash





# Matty Robson



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Turn to page 51 for full details



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**Stuart Drummond**

## The Mayor's View

The Mayor gives us his views on why Pools are set up for success.

A very warm welcome back to The Vic for today's clash against the Hatters of Luton Town. Their troubles have been well-documented over recent weeks and they would actually be above us in the table had they not been deducted ten points for going into administration.

It is sad to see any football team on the verge of extinction due to poor management at board level and unfortunately it is happening to more and more clubs. Is it down to the billionaires who have come into the Premier League, upped the ante and are leaving everyone else behind? Is it down to a spate of ruthless businessmen taking over clubs with a view only to make a quick buck? Is it down to just poor business sense from some owners who have ideas way beyond their station and don't have the cash to match them? Or is it just bad luck?

I don't know the answers but they probably lie somewhere in the

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middle of all that. It should make all Hartlepool United fans sit up and count their blessings that we are owned by a company who run the Club properly, invest in the infrastructure as well as the team and have an ethos of not trying to run before they can walk. It can be frustrating if the team are not winning games every week but no one can argue that we are in an infinitely better position as a Club than we were before IOR took over. The last ten years have been the best in the Club's history and left us all with memories that will live with us forever.

We will eventually get into the Championship. It may not be this season, it may not be next, however we will continue to grow as a Club and improve bit by bit. More clubs will continue to fall by the wayside and we are in a great position to take advantage. Even if we don't win today's match, just ask yourself, would you rather be in Luton's shoes at present?

If you haven't done so already, make sure you register your vote in the search for Britain's best fanzine. Just visit [www.footballfanzineawards.com](http://www.footballfanzineawards.com). You'll be asked four questions to which the answers are; 1) Monkey Business – best fanzine, 2) John Cooper – best fanzine editor. The other two questions, you can choose your best contributor and best fanzine blog. Give Monkey Business your support. They have been making us fans laugh for years, so help them get the recognition they deserve.

Let's get right behind the lads today and cheer them on to another three points.

COME ON POOLS!



# Mid Season Sale At The Club Shop



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**HUFC Polo Shirt**  
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**HUFC Female Pyjamas**  
Adults - Was £17.00 **Now £10.00**  
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Adults - Was £17.00 **Now £10.00**  
Childs - Was £16.00 **Now £18.00**



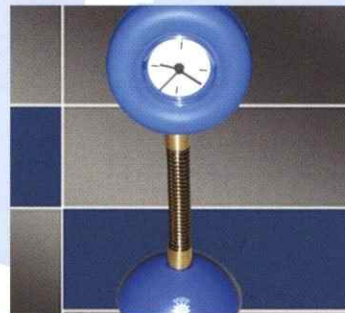
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Saturday (matchday) 10am - 3pm, 4.30pm-5.30pm  
Saturday (non-matchday) - 9am - 1pm  
Sunday (from Dec 2nd - Dec 23rd) - 11am - 4pm

## Contact Details

Tel: 01429 260491  
Email: [hufcweborders@just-sport.co.uk](mailto:hufcweborders@just-sport.co.uk)  
The Club Shop is situated within the Car Park  
at Victoria Park

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Ticket Office

## Ticket Office



### SOUTHEND UNITED V POOLS, Saturday 9th February 2008 (3pm kick off)

The tickets will remain on sale from the Pools' Ticket Office until 5pm on Thursday 7th February.

Tickets can be purchased on the day of the game, but this will be at an additional cost of £2 per ticket.

Ticket Prices (when bought in advance) Adults - **£20.00** | Juniors (16 and under) - **£12.00**  
Seniors (Over 60) - **£13.00** | Students (with valid ID) - **£12.00** | Young Person - **£12.00** (aged 17-20, with ID)

Away Family Enclosure: Adult - **£20.00** | Child - **£4.00**

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Evening Matchday 9am - 7.45pm  
Saturday (matchday) 9am - 3pm, 4.30pm - 5.30pm  
Saturday (non-matchday) Closed

### Contact Details

Ticket Office  
Victoria Park  
Clarence Road  
Hartlepool  
TS24 8BZ  
Tel: 01429 272584 (extension 2)  
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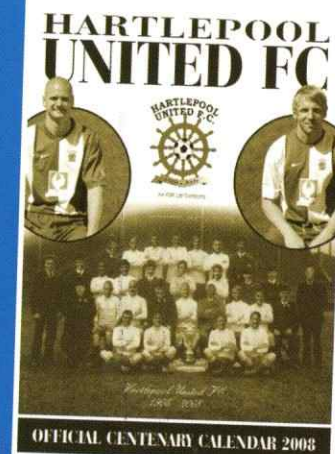
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# Top Ten Poolie/Hatters

## 1) Don Hutchison

Gateshead-born Scotsman(!) who amazingly only played 19 games for Pools before being sold to Liverpool during our 1990-91 promotion season. Currently in-and-out of the visitors' side.

## 2) Terry Adamson

One of those rare players who only played ONE game for Pools, against Rochdale in our 1967-68 promotion campaign. A two-club player, with just Pools and Luton to his name.

## 3) George Potter

One of Jeff Stelling's favourite-ever Poolies, who could forget his sending off at Maine Road in 1976 on a stretcher? Had began his English career with Luton in 1968 after signing from Forfar Athletic.

## 4) Adam Boyd

Currently with Leyton Orient, local hero Boyd shone for Pools from 1999 until 2006 playing his last game in Micky Barron's testimonial before being sold to Luton. For one reason or another it didn't really work out for him at Kenilworth Road, and he moved to Orient last Summer.

## 5) Andy Dibble

In an 18 (count 'em!) club career, Dibble's dodgy spell at The Vic can probably be best forgotten. However, he had served Luton very well from 1984 until 1988, mainly as an understudy to Les Sealey.

## 6) Steve Howard

Currently with Leicester City in the Championship, Big Stevie was sold by Pools to Northampton Town the day Chris Turner took over as Manager. Has gone on to forge a decent career and indeed scored at Old Trafford in the Premier League for Derby earlier this campaign.

## 7) Ben Roberts

The goalkeeper with perhaps one of football's most unwanted records next to his name, as Ben was the Middlesbrough keeper beaten by Chelsea's Roberto Di Matteo after just 42 seconds in the 1997 FA Cup Final! Had short loan spells at both Pools and Luton.

## 8) Kelvin Davis

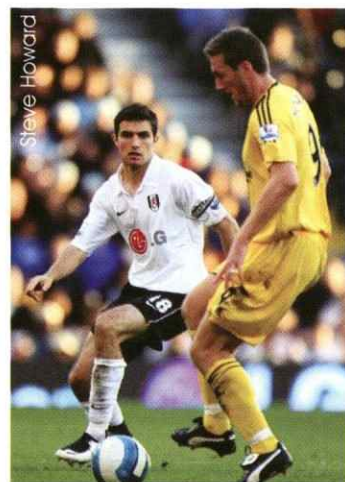
Yet another short-term loanee goalkeeper here at The Vic, Davis had played 91 games for The Hatters prior to coming here and went on to play for Ipswich and Sunderland before settling at Southampton where he currently plays.

## 9) Billy Thayne

108 games for Pools in the 1930's, Thayne was Hartlepool-born but had tried his luck at Crystal Palace before returning to the North-East in 1930. Was sold to Luton five years later before joining Northampton Town.

## 10) Barry Hawkes

Left winger from our Early-60's side that finished in the bottom four so regularly. Played just nine games for Bill Robinson's side after a short spell at Kenilworth Road in the late 50's.



# Clashes Of The Century

As 100 years of football approaches for Hartlepool United, Phil Dunn looks back on a Classic Clash between ourselves and tonight's opponents.

## Hartlepool United Luton Town

4  
3



Date: Tuesday 6th April 2004

Venue: Victoria Park | Att: 4434 | Referee: R Fumandiz (Doncaster)

### Line Ups

**Hartlepool:** Provett, Craddock, Robertson, Tinkler, Westwood, Strachan, Sweeney, Humphreys, Porter, Boyd, D. Clarke.

**Subs:** Istead, E. Williams, Jordan, Danns, Konstantopoulos.

**Southend:** Hyldgaard, Keane, Davies, Coyne, Davis, Foley, Robinson, Leary, Howard, Showunmi, Brkovic.

**Subs:** Forbes, Brill, Mansell, Hillier, O'Leary.

There have been many matches over the four decades I've been supporting Pools where you can stand up and proudly say "I Was There". Today's featured game was most definitely one of those nights.

The game had been re-arranged from February when it fell victim to a torrential downpour on Saturday lunchtime that left referee Fraser Stretton no choice but to call the game off at 2pm. For the re-arranged fixture in April the teams ran out to a fine Spring evening, with Pools showing just one change from the weekend's 2-0 defeat at Brighton. In came Australian striker Joel Porter replacing Eifion Williams who dropped to the bench. Luton lined up with ex-Pools forward Steve Howard up front.

After just three minutes, Luton, in their away kit of orange shirts and blue shorts, took the lead. A superb corner found the head of **STEVE HOWARD** and he planted an unstoppable header past Jim Provett. It was just the start that 7th placed Pools didn't require. Luckily, the equaliser wasn't long in coming. After a build-up of good Pools pressure, Hugh Robertson's shot was deflected wide for a corner which he placed directly onto the head of **TONY SWEENEY** and the young midfielder had the game level on 15 minutes.

What was already shaping up to be a cracking game took on a different dimension when firstly Adam Boyd, and then Darren Craddock almost gave Pools the lead. From the clearance, Luton surged forward and **MICHAEL LEARY** fired home through a crowded area to make it 2-1 to The Hatters. Just three minutes later and it should have been all over, as Brkovic powered through leaving Pools defenders standing still. His powerful volley beat Jim Provett but hit the bar in the Town End goal. Pools fans sensed a major let-off as the Half-Time whistle blew. If the first half was good, then the second was simply incredible.

Kicking towards the Town End, Pools roared into

attack mode with Neale Cooper urging the forwards on from the bench. On 53 minutes, a headed clearance by Robinson found Ritchie Humphreys out on the right wing. His delightful cross was headed home in-off-the-post by **ADAM BOYD** and Pools were level. With the crowd willing Pools on, and the pressure being heaped onto the Luton defence, Pools took the lead for the first time in the game. To call this goal superb, brilliant, marvellous etc. doesn't do it any justice at all, and even today, some four years later, it's a goal that is forever etched in the memory.

A great ball into the box by Humphreys was met by Mark Tinkler on the penalty spot, back to goal. He laid the ball out to beyond the edge of the box, in a central position. From seemingly nowhere, left-back **HUGH ROBERTSON** met the ball on the half-volley and smacked the most powerful, rising shot into the roof of the net from 25 yards before Hyldgaard could even move. It's no exaggeration to say that if the goal-net hadn't been there that Robertson's shot would have put several Town-Enders in grave danger such was the power of the Scotsman's effort.

With Pools leading that **SHOULD** have been that, but plucky Luton weren't playing the game and equalised soon after. The previously quiet Coyne won a good header which crashed down off the Pools crossbar straight to the on-rushing **LEARY** who headed home the rebound as Craddock and Westwood could only watch on. 3-3 and to be honest, most fans in the ground would have settled for that especially after Luton had another effort ruled offside after 88 minutes. Of course, in this dramatic season anything could happen, and on 90 minutes it did. A superb move saw late sub Eifion Williams burst into the box, take his first touch of the game and be tripped by Leary for a last-minute penalty. **ADAM BOYD** stepped up to the plate and was calmness personified as his low shot made it 4-3.

# It's A Fact!

1) Steve Howard's goal in the featured match today was his sixth goal scored against Pools since leaving The Vic in 1999. The likeable striker had notched twice for Northampton against his old club prior to joining The Hatters where he scored four times in four games against us.

2) Pools Manager Danny Wilson played at The Vic for Luton Town in an FA Cup tie in 1988. Andy Toman's goal wasn't enough to prevent a 2-1 defeat that day as Pools went out to a Hatters team featuring Les Sealey, Steve Foster and Brian & Mark Stein.

3) Pools' top-scorers against Luton are Darrell Clarke and 60's Striker Ernie Phythian, both with three goals. Indeed in the 60's Pools beat Luton four times running at home with Ernie scoring in three of those games.

4) There have been an incredible TWENTY-SEVEN goals in the last six matches between the two clubs, with this season's 2-1 opening-day Hatters win being the lowest-scoring Pools/Luton match for seven years!

5) Mike Newell has Managed both sides, leaving Pools in May 2003.







# Reserves Report

**Sheffield Wednesday  
Pools**



**Ian Butterworth** reflects on the midweek game with Sheffield Wednesday.

This was a game we really should not have lost on the day. We did have some difficult conditions to master, as it was very windy and we had to play on a deteriorating pitch, but for the majority of the game, it was even stevens.

The teams went in at half time at 0-0 and in the second half we had the advantage of the din behind us and we created three or four good chances so it was disappointing that we conceded with only a couple of minutes to go.

We had a very young back four and we didn't manage it very well at all. We got back in the game to make it 1-1 after they had taken the lead on the hour mark. Michael Mackay, who had earlier seen a penalty saved when their goalkeeper pulled off an excellent save, scored the equaliser in the 83rd minute.

We had two or three more chances to take the win, Michael Mackay went through one-one-one and Matty Tymon had a good chance and should have scored but that summed it up for us in the game; we weren't clinical enough in either box.

We were pressing for the winner late on but committed the cardinal sin when one of our players lost his marker and he ran through to score from a tight angle.

There were one or two decent performances but we have to manage those kinds of situations if we want to win them. The young players will learn a lesson from that sort of game but like we have said in the past, they have to learn them quickly and play smart.



Michael Mackay

**Pools:** Budtz, Young, Gott, Tait, Robson, Turnbull, Halgh, Rowell, Monkhouse (Tymon), Rae (Ruddy), Mackay  
**Subs Not Used:** Allison, Forbes, Horner

For more info on the Reserves go to [hartlepoolunited.co.uk](http://hartlepoolunited.co.uk) and click on Team then Reserves.

# Youth Team

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**Micky Barron** tells us about his first few weeks as Youth Team Coach

Things have gone well with the Youth Team – the lads have been working really well, especially with the matches being called off. That has been a bit difficult for them but we have been doing a lot of physical training as well as the technical and tactical side of things and they have found it hard doing more running than they are used to but they've been working well.

With having the games called off, the younger lads can sometimes find it harder than the older players – they just want to get out and play games so it can be hard to get motivated at the beginning of a week when you know they game is going to be off but hopefully we won't have any more called off and I'll get more opportunity to see them playing games and not just in training.

I think the standards when the lads are playing games is brilliant – I think sometimes the standards around the Training Ground can improve a bit in terms of discipline areas but actual playing-wise is very good.

I have only taken them for the Darlington game so far but that was

a good game and I thought they all did well.

I think it is important, especially at their age to instil some discipline. When I was a YT, I had a Coach who was big on discipline and I do think that it is important that they are all polite and courteous when they are representing Hartlepool United. They will probably get sick of me banging on about it but it will keep going.

Compared to when I was a YT, it is a piece of cake now, we used to have to do jobs for an hour and a half before training and then again after, cleaning cars and boots and things like that. But they get looked after much better these days, they go to College to get themselves an education, which I think is very important and they do have things easier.

Hopefully by the time you read these notes, we will have played our game with Rotherham United and we will get a good run of games under our belts to the end of the season.



## Youth Team Fixtures 2007/08

Sat 18th Aug	Lincoln City	2-1
Sat 1st Sept	Bradford City	1-0
Sat 8th Sept	Darlington	2-0
Sat 15th Sept	York City	1-0
Sat 22nd Sept	Doncaster Rovers	2-4
Sat 29th Sept	Rotherham Utd	2-2
Sat 6th Oct	Grimsby Town	1-2
Sat 13th Oct	Boston United	3-3
Sat 20th Oct	Scunthorpe Utd	P-P
Sat 27th Oct	Mansfield Town	12pm
Sat 3rd Nov	Hull City	2-1
Thur 8th Nov	Huddersfield	3-4
Sat 10th Nov	Scunthorpe Utd	3-4
Sat 17th Nov	Chesterfield	2-0
Sat 24th Nov	Bury	2-4
Sat 8th Dec	Bradford City	1-1
Sat 15th Dec	Lincoln City	P-P
Wed 16th Jan	Darlington	3-1
Sat 19th Jan	York City	P-P
Sat 2nd Feb	Rotherham Utd	12pm
Sat 9th Feb	Doncaster Rovers	12pm
Sat 16th Feb	Boston United	1pm
Sat 1st Mar	Grimsby Town	12pm
Sat 8th Mar	Mansfield Town	12pm
Sat 15th Mar	Hull City	12pm
Sat 29th Mar	Scunthorpe Utd	12pm
Sat 5th Apr	Chesterfield	12pm

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Fixtures 2007/08

03.02.08	Mansfield	10/12/14/16's	A
10.02.08	Rotherham	12/14/16's	H
10.02.08	Rotherham	11/13/15's	A
17.02.08	York	11/13/15's	H
17.02.08	York	12/14/16's	A
24.02.08	Darlington	11/13/15's	H
24.02.08	Darlington	12/14/16's	A
02.03.08	Bradford	10/12/14/16's	H
02.03.08	Bradford	9/11/13/15's	A
09.03.08	Carlisle	9/11/13/15's	H
09.03.08	Carlisle	10/12/14/16's	A
16.03.08	York	12/14/16's	H
16.03.08	York	11/13/15's	A
30.03.08	Darlington	12/14/16's	H
30.03.08	Darlington	11/13/15's	A
06.04.08	Scarborough	12/14/16's	H
06.04.08	Scarborough	13/15's	A
13.04.08	Doncaster	13/15's	H
13.04.08	Doncaster	12/14/16's	A

For more info on the Centre of Excellence go to [hartlepoolunited.co.uk](http://hartlepoolunited.co.uk) and look under Team.HARTLEPOOL UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB  
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Matthew Hughes  
Jack Gooding  
Ben Henderson  
Robbie Gratton  
Joe Belshaw  
Daniel Todd  
Cameron Penny

## U10's

Adam Thompson  
Jack Turnbull

Alan Harrison  
Joe Posthill  
James Malcolm  
Jack Gibson

## U11's

Paul Moore  
Alex Belshaw  
Joe Bell  
Sam Timothy  
Paul Braithwaite  
Ryan Hopper

## U12's

Reece Wood  
Evan McEvoy

Christopher Barrett  
Lewis Scorgie  
Scott McCarthy  
Harrison Smith  
Lewis Calvert

## U13's

Aaron Brown  
Jack Dalton  
David Braithwaite

## U14's

Elliot Woods  
Adam Cole  
Matthew Smith  
Kaine Mosley  
Ross Brymer  
Josh Rowbotham  
Matthew Garbutt  
Josh Stratford  
Craig Hutchinson  
Liam Mooney  
Daniel Hunter  
Rhys Morris  
Lewis Nicholson

## U15's

Thomas Conroy  
Mark Dixon  
Jordan Mellish  
Jonathan Evans  
Daniel Johnson  
Andrew Laynes  
Robbie Molloy  
Kyle Morris  
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## YOUTH TEAM

Gary Forbes

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Neil Appleyard updates us on the latest from HUDSA

Hello everyone and a warm welcome to our game with Luton Town. I have been to see Luton Town play a number of times as I had a friend who lived down in Bedford but for some reason it was never Hartlepool United. One of the most amazing games involving Luton was when they were in the League Cup final when they played Arsenal and won 3-2 - it was a joy to be there that day. Hopefully we can come out all guns blazing and get three points from today's match.

So far in 2008 it has been a busy time for HUDSA - we are one of the partners in a very interesting project called Hartlepool Centre for Independent Living (HCIL). This is at an early stage at present but things are certainly progressing well. When there is further information I will certainly let you know.

As well as this the HUDSA minibus is now being well used and recently we have taken groups to Northampton and Doncaster. At the present time visits to other clubs are being organised and this might include going away for a weekend which would be exciting for all concerned. It is good to know that people are now getting a chance to experience visits to other football clubs and all the enjoyment this can bring.

This is not our only project for 2008 as we have also bought an adapted caravan at Primrose Valley near to Filey. We are looking at using this to give families a wonderful holiday at a reasonable cost and to help with respite care as well. As with most things we do need support from people and we would be grateful if anyone would like to sponsor this or could help with some sort of funding for the project.

Enjoy the game. All the best, Neil.

Study  
Support Centre

Football Foundation  
Football's biggest supporter  
Playing for Success

The Pools players have been helping out in the Pools Study Support Centre

You never forget meeting your heroes. That is one of the main factors behind the success of the Pools Study Support Centre. Once again the Pools players have taken up their role in the Playing for Success scheme and made inspirational visits to our classroom last week. Students really value these appearances and continue to rate it as the best element of their 10-week course.

It is a chance for our young people to spend time with the footballers they can usually only watch from the stands on match days. This time round the players were involved in a variety of maths challenges with the pupils. Despite having been at many big clubs this was Robbie Elliott's first visit to a Study Support Centre and along with goalkeeper Scott Allison, he really looked relaxed around our students. They answered some questions from the girls and boys from Sacred Heart RC Primary before assisting them with some hands-on puzzles. They were also challenged to a Speedstacking competition by the Y7 students from High Tunstall College which was a close result in the end.

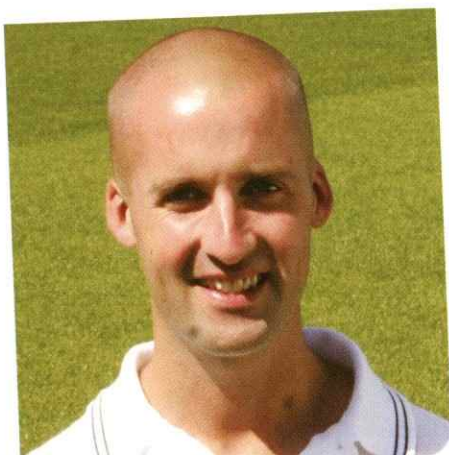
Michael Rae and Martin Young returned to the classroom to meet the pupils from Barnard Grove and Rift House Primary Schools. They shared their experiences of becoming part of a successful team and advised the pupils on the importance of hard work in football and in the classroom.

Jamie McCunnie and Godwin Antwi resumed their rivalry in the classroom when they took part in a HUFC version of the 'Price is Right' with the pupils from Kingsley Primary School. Having previously been beaten by Jamie in Speedstacking and a squad number game last time round, Godwin got some revenge by claiming the top shoppers spot! The pair also met with the Y7 Students from English Martyrs RC School during their first PFS session. Each of the visiting players were superb, patient and for that we thank them.

Our 10 brightest stars from the PFS Primary groups join us in the hospitality box today. Well done to them all on a super start to the course, we hope you enjoy the game.

For more info on the Pools' Study Support Centre go to [hartlepoolunited.co.uk](http://hartlepoolunited.co.uk) and Click on Club.





## Fitness Report

with Dan Lewis

Having no game last weekend was really beneficial from the perspective of developing the players' physical abilities. After the game on Tuesday the players were given Wednesday as a recovery day, before a reasonably light day on Thursday, designed to further remove any lingering waste products from the body after the game. On Friday we put the players through a demanding endurance session, designed to improve their short term endurance in quite a specific way. Whilst they didn't particularly enjoy the session, the players accepted the need to complete it in order that they kept their endurance systems at the optimal level.

This week has followed a more normal in-season pattern. The early part of the week featured a dedicated build-up to the Doncaster game. The conditioning work took a back seat while the players worked more specifically on the systems of play for the game. After a recovery day on Wednesday, the players returned to training on Thursday with the emphasis being on some specific speed and agility work, before focussing on the Luton game.

We were also able to provide the players with a range of samples from a nutritional company who are offering sports drinks and supplements to aid the players in both training and competition, and perhaps more importantly in their recovery. It is crucial that the players fuel their bodies appropriately to enable them to complete games and training and it is not always possible for them to get all the nutrients they need from food. Drinks are often a quick and convenient alternative that can be more effective in meeting their nutritional needs. The samples allowed the boys to test a selection of the products to see what they liked, and to see how their recovery altered compared with their normal routine. We will be looking to incorporate these drinks and gels into the programmes for a number of the players in the coming weeks.



## From The Treatment Room

with James Haycock

It was pleasing to see Jamie McCunnie return from injury for the game here with Southend United last Tuesday.

Jamie has had a really rough time with injury and has been frustrated not to be able to play his part so it was great that he came through the game with no worries.

And he also built on the match fitness with more minutes under his belt on Tuesday night at Doncaster so hopefully he can continue to look sharper and sharper in the coming weeks.

It was a blow to lose Ben Clark who picked up a thigh injury during the game with Cheltenham a couple of weeks ago. It's particularly harsh on Ben who worked really hard to fight back from his hamstring injury so he's obviously upset to be sidelined again.

He's not been able to train much since sustaining the injury but we're hoping he won't be missing for too long and the attitude he shows to getting fit again will certainly help.

Andy Monkhouse returned for the Reserves on Wednesday afternoon which was another good piece of news for the Club. Andy is another player who feels it keenly when he's out of action and he's been impatient to get back involved.

However, it's key that players are not hurried back before they're ready and he's been out quite some time now so getting some minutes under his belt at Reserve level will do him the power of good.

Godwin Antwi has been suffering with a bit of a swollen knee in the last few weeks but he seems to be over that now and is able to play a full part in training and has missed no games.

# Football in the Community

Keith Nobbs brings us the latest news from FITC



LOTTERY FUNDED

## Awards For All

Football in the Community has recently been awarded a grant of £8,471 by Awards For All which is supported by the Arts Council England, the Big Lottery Fund, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Sport England. Grants are awarded between £300 and £10,000 for people who take part in art, sport, heritage and community activities

and projects that promote education the environment and health in the community.

The grant will enable FITC to promote opportunities for children in disadvantaged areas to receive professional coaching in a safe controlled environment. The project will offer 70 sessions for children who otherwise would not be able to afford to participate.

Sessions will include healthy eating and diet/nutrition classes using smoothie makers to design nutritional drinks. The programme will also include healthy exercise working on Speed, Agility and Quickness (SAQ) with children being able to have an input to develop sessions.



MANOR COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, OWTON MANOR LANE, HARTLEPOOL, REGISTRATION REAR OF BUILDING IN SPORTS HALL (VIA PUPIL ENTRANCE)

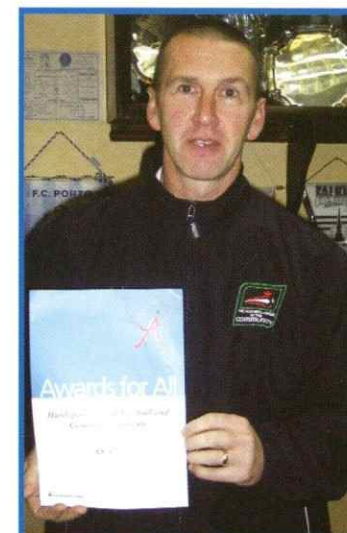
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|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 MON 18th to FRI 22ND FEBRUARY '08  | 2 MON 18th to FRI 22ND FEBRUARY '08 |
| <b>TIME:</b> 9.00am to 5.00pm        | <b>TIME:</b> 9.00am to 1.00pm       |
| <b>AGE:</b> 8 - 13YRS BOYS AND GIRLS | <b>AGE:</b> 6 - 7YRS BOYS AND GIRLS |
| <b>PRICE:</b> £45.00                 | <b>PRICE:</b> £35.00                |

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FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT: KEITH NOBBS TEL: 01429 862595  
MOBILE 07788 724588 | Email: fitc@hartlepoolunited.co.uk

For more news on the Pools' FITC go to [hartlepoolunited.co.uk](http://hartlepoolunited.co.uk) and Click on Club.



## HUFC/HSFA Half-Time Primary School Penalty Competition

Holders: Oakdene

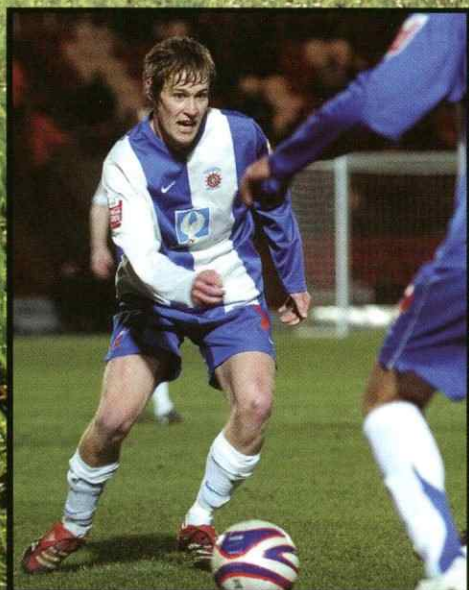
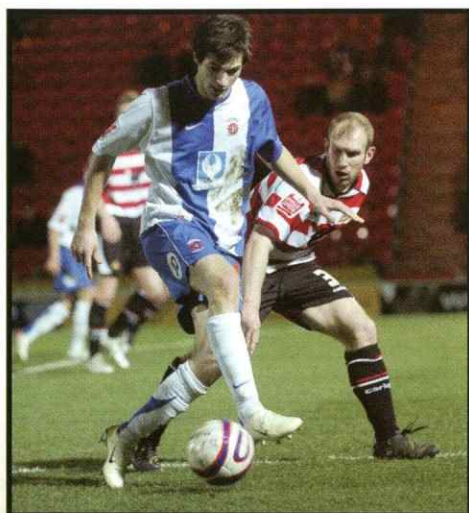
### Quarter Final:

Throston vs Hart

Rift House vs St Teresa's







**Doncaster Rovers** 2  
(Wellens, Lockwood)  
**Hartlepool United** 0

League One at the  
Keepmoat Stadium

Attendance: 6,442

**Star Man:**

Michael Nelson

The defender looked strong in the centre of defence against Doncaster Rovers and but for a few crucial blocks and interceptions

the score could have been more harsh on Pools. He threw himself in the way on more than one occasion and didn't really deserve to be on the losing side at the Keepmoat Stadium. He also had a good chance to get on the scoresheet but sent a volley wide after ghosting in at the far side of Rovers' penalty area.



**Danny's View:**

We didn't keep the ball as well they did - it was like a hot potato for us at times. I think there was a fine line between the sides in the first half but they came at us in the second half and scored with their first attack of any substance. After that they've thrown everything at us and if we'd defended all night the way we did in that period of time we wouldn't have conceded the first two goals. Overall you can't argue with the result because Doncaster played very, very well.





## Are you getting your share?



The Football Foundation provides grants for kit, goalposts, pitches, floodlights, clubhouses, coaching and innovative projects that use football to deliver a wide range of community benefits. Since 2000, over **£500 million** worth of projects have been supported. If you are a football club, youth group, local authority, charity or a school, or have an idea for using football to tackle a local issue, contact the Football Foundation to get your share.

For more information visit  
[www.footballfoundation.org.uk](http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk)  
or call us on 0845 345 4555



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**home**

# No Ifs And No Butts!

Ian Butterworth has readied some more questions for a player and a fan – and this week he's testing their knowledge on the African Cup of Nations! How will .....

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 1 Where was the opening game of the African Cup of Nations played? | 4 What country does Samuel Eto'o represent?  | 7 Which player annoyed his Manager by leaving the Mail camp to go and sign for Juventus? |
| 2 Which teams played in that opening game?                         | 5 Which country are nicknamed The Elephants?   | 8 Which country does Portsmouth's John Utaka play for?                                   |
| 3 Who are the current holders of the Cup?                          | 6 How many players from the Premier League are playing in the tournament?<br>a) 34 b) 35 c) 36 |  |

### Neil Casey's Answers

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Ghana v Guinea
- 3 Egypt
- 4 Cameroon
- 5 Mali
- 6 35
- 7 Mo Sissoko
- 8 Nigeria

**6**

### Godwin Antwi's Answers

- 1 Accra
- 2 Ghana v Guinea
- 3 Ivory Coast
- 4 Cameroon
- 5 Nigeria
- 6 a) 34
- 7 Mo Sissoko
- 8 Nigeria

**6**

### Tie Breaker

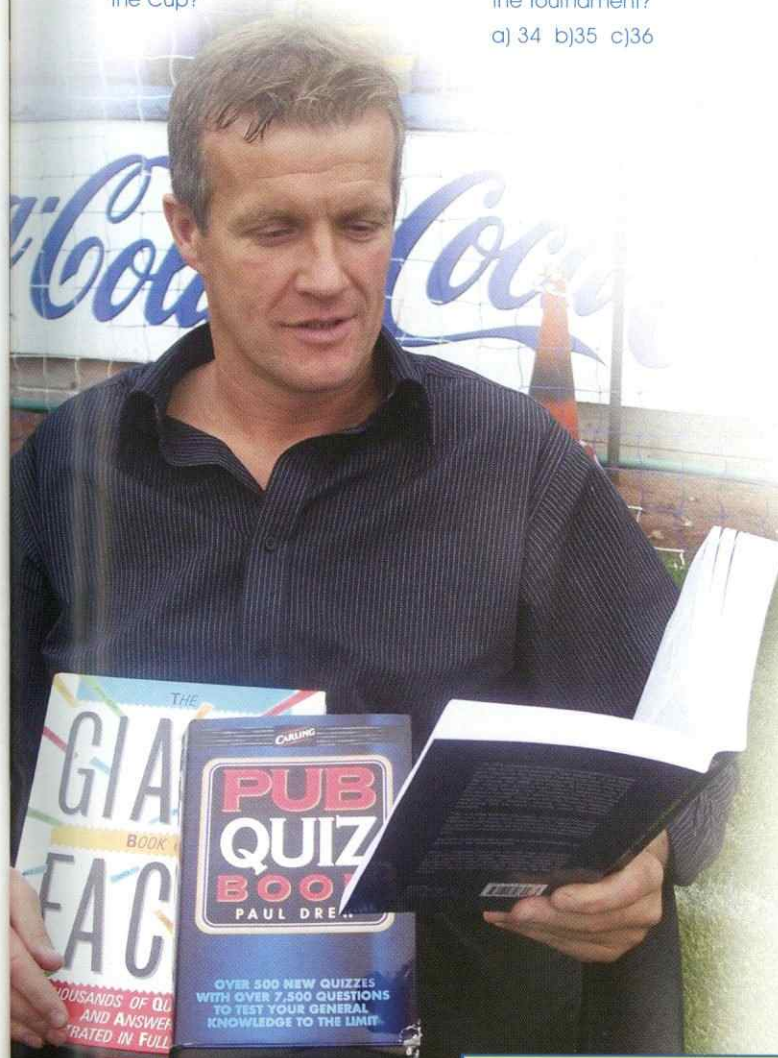
Morocco have won the Cup just once – in which year? (Closest competitor wins)

Godwin: 1992

Neil: 1997

Answer: 1976

Well, they both did remarkably well but Godwin takes victory after a tie-breaker! Unlucky, Neil!



### Table so far

Players	9
Fans	3

Answers: 1. Accra, 2. Ghana v Guinea, 3. Egypt, 4. Cameroon, 5. Ivory Coast, 6. a) 34, 7. Mo Sissoko, 8. Nigeria.



# Let's Get Going Says New Signing

Latest recruit **Sam Collins** wants to see Pools rise up the table.

Sam Collins put pen to paper on a contract at Victoria Park in midweek and then revealed his determination to help move Pools up the League One table.

The no-nonsense centre-back is looking forward to pulling on a Pools shirt for the first time this afternoon after completing the formalities on his transfer to the Club.

"I'm really looking forward to the move," Collins admitted.

"I know quite a few of the lads here through playing against them – the likes of Michael Nelson and Ritchie Humphreys who are good players.

"As soon as I knew Hartlepool were in for me I wanted to make the move; I know that it's a good club that play good football so when I heard I was interested straight away."

The 30-year-old has been left frustrated by injury in recent seasons but has worked hard to get back to full fitness at the start of the current campaign.

The former Huddersfield man missed out on eleven months of football with

a knee injury whilst with Hull and now he's back in action he's determined to make the most of it.

"It's been frustrating to pick up injuries over the last couple of seasons and at one point I was out for about eleven months. I'm over that now and I'm looking to play some games and progress from there.

"Being injured is the worst side of being a footballer; everyone wants to be on the pitch playing and I'm no different and hopefully I can do that here. I've been fit for about six or seven months now so I'm raring to go."

Pools boss Danny Wilson has been left disappointed by some sloppy goals conceded this term and moved quickly to bring in Collins when he became available from the KC Stadium.

And now he's on board, Collins is confident he can do his bit to help tighten things up in defensive quarters.

"I aim to come in and help the lads if we've been giving a few goals away. We'll be trying to keep as many clean sheets as possible and if we can get

the goals going in at the other end we'll be moving up the league very soon.

"I'm a typical centre-back who can play a bit as well. I know what the Manager likes to do with his team so that suits me just fine."

Luton Town arrive at The Vic in the relegation zone in League One and Collins insists that Pools must pick up the points and quickly put distance between themselves and the trapdoor.

"They're all massive games and we need to get three points," he insisted.

"I've been looking on the Internet to see how things have been going recently and we need to start picking up points and get ourselves in a more comfortable position and then just keep building from there.

With Luton here at the weekend we need to be beating them and hopefully that can help us make Victoria Park in to a bit of a fortress," he added.

## Seal Of Approval

Here's your chance to win a signed Pools' football.

We're continuing our new competition which gives everyone who buys Pools' Matchday Programme the chance to win a signed Pools' football.

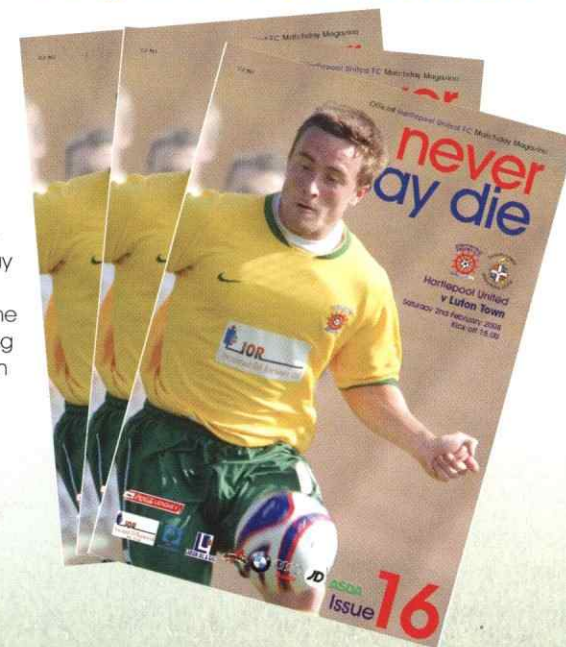
If your copy of 'Never Say Die' has been signed by the Manager and stamped on the middle poster pages – today that's Matty Robson – then you're our lucky winner.

So if you haven't checked already – take a look now to see if your copy has been signed by Danny Wilson.

And if a signed football wasn't enough of a prize, every person who wins the football will also be entered into a prize draw to win a special Star Prize.

So, make sure you keep buying Never Say Die to be in with a chance of winning.

And, if you're the lucky winner today then take your signed copy of the programme along to main reception now and collect your free signed football.



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## Welcome Junior Poolies

Well here we are back at The Vic for this clash against Luton Town.

### Competition Time

Check out the prize-winning Junior Poolie for January and try your luck for February!!

Congratulations to **Callum Bratt** who is this month's lucky winne of a signed football.

Callum, who is 11 years old and attends St Cuthbert's Primary School, answered the following question correctly:

Which team is Godwin Antwi on loan from?

And the answer was.....Liverpool.

Well done to all that answered correctly!!

Why not try your luck at this month's question?

### February Prize Give-Away

Which player have Pools signed on loan from Leeds United? Email your answer to [juniormoolies@hartlepoolunited.co.uk](mailto:juniormoolies@hartlepoolunited.co.uk). Subject: February Prize give-away. Or send them into: Junior Poolies, Hartlepool United, Victoria Park, Clarence Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8BZ. Answers to be in no later than 29th February, 2008.

### Answer to Half Time Teaser

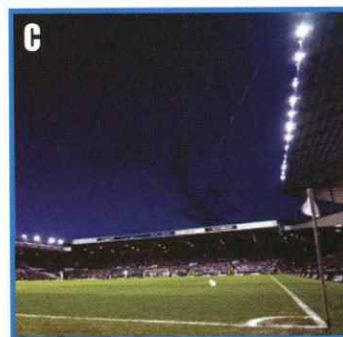
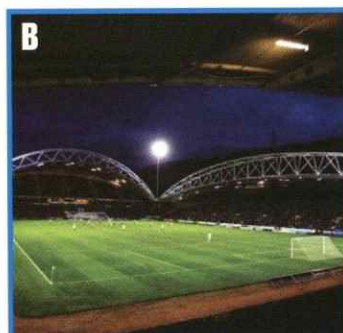
- A. Emirates Stadium - Arsenal
- B. Galpharm Stadium - Huddersfield
- C. Elland Road - Leeds United



### HUFC – Supporting our Young Supporters.

#### Half-Time Teaser - Ground Guesser!

Can you name the 3 Football stadiums below and the teams that play there?



#### Birthday Board

**Tony Allen** celebrated his tenth birthday on the 29th of the month. Tony lives in Norwich and has made the long trip to Victoria Park for today's game. Tony attends Hillside primary school and his favourite Pools player is Ritchie Humphreys! He's also our mascot for today's game.

**Shay Stephen Wood** celebrates his 1st birthday on the 7th of the month. Shay's favourite player is Ritchie Humphreys.



H'Angus Hangout

## H'Angus Hangout

Hello and welcome to our game with Luton Town here at The Vic. I hope you have all wrapped up warm for the game today and make sure you get behind the lads!!!

### Where's H'Angus hiding?

I know that you can see my smiling face on this page in today's programme but where else am I hiding in the programme?

If you look through every page of today's programme, you'll spot me hiding.

When you find me, write down the page number and email it in to [juniormoolies@hartlepoolunited.co.uk](mailto:juniormoolies@hartlepoolunited.co.uk).

One lucky winner will then be drawn at random to win a special H'Angus poster. Make sure your entries are in no later than Friday 8th February.

Congratulations go to Callum Thornhill who spotted me hiding next to Ritchie Humphreys in the Southend United programme – your poster is on it's way to you!

### Facebook Friends

I've recently set up my very own Facebook profile and you can now join up to be my friend.

All you have to is log onto your Facebook account, search for 'H'Angus Mascot' and then request to add me to your friends.

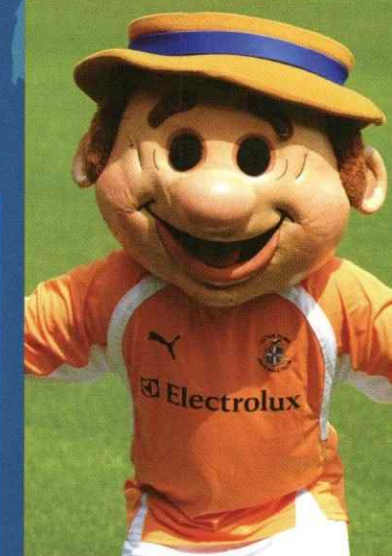
You can then share your Poolie stories and messages as well as Poolie pics with me online!

### The Opposition

Well Luton Town's mascot Harry The Hatter is an interesting character isn't he?!

He takes his name from the Club nickname (The Hatters), which comes from the old hat-making industry in the town.

Luton Town aren't the only Club nicknamed The Hatters and Harry The Hatter isn't the only mascot with that name – Stockport County are also The Hatters and they have their very own Harry The Hatter too!





# JEFF WINTER

The former Premier League ref lets off some steam with his regular column for Never Say Die.

Well those Geordies want their entertaining football, I am not so sure, the last home game against Southend had us on the edge of our seats and was certainly entertaining but a solid 2-0 victory would probably have been easier on the nerves of not only the fans but also the management.

There was a lot to talk about in the seven goal thriller but funnily enough not the two penalties that were given. Rarely have I seen two "daff" penalties given virtually without a word of dissent. Ironically on an evening when Pools were doing their utmost to give the game away by surviving a last minute scare, our visitors today Luton Town did exactly that and turned a 3-2 winning margin into another 4-3 defeat. Looks like we could be in for another goal fest today!! That means get your money on a goalless draw!! Whilst fans harbour hopes a late surge towards the play-offs, today represents

another opportunity to distance the club away from the foot of the table.

It seems a long time since that balmy August afternoon when hopes were high for both clubs at Kenilworth Road, the game ironically set the scene for many Pools away games to follow, a good performance but a poor result. A chance to redress the balance today must be taken. The Luton fans apart from a relegation battle have had much more to worry about this season, but hopefully their future is now safe off the field and their fans can look forward again. One of these days a club will fold and the thought of that does not bear thinking about! Just imagine life without your side, don't even go there.

The Southend game provided the lowest League gate of the season, perhaps not surprising after the Cheltenham performance and the foul weather. Those who did turn up

not only saw goals galore but also a playing surface that must be one of the best, if not the best in the League. Despite the weather it looks as good as it did in August. The groundsman and his staff deserve a massive pat on the back, who knows a trophy could be on its way to The Vic this season after all.

It was sad to see Ben Clark in the press box last home game. He has not had the best of luck of late with injuries, today might come a little too soon for him, but the sooner he is back on the pitch the happier we all will be. I asked him who let his New Year in, he did not tell me but I feel sure whoever it was won't be doing it next year!

Get behind the lads today and enjoy the game.

After the game give me a call and let me know your views. Read my other columns on [www.jeffwinter.co.uk](http://www.jeffwinter.co.uk).

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# Away Days

## Southend United v Hartlepool United

Saturday 12th February 2008 | Kick off 15:00 | Coca-Cola League One

### General Info

Roots Hall, Victoria Avenue,  
Southend-on-Sea, SS2 6NQ

### Contact Details

Main Switchboard: 01702 30 40 50  
Ticket Office: 08444 77 00 77  
Fax: 01702 30 41 24  
Email: info@southend-united.co.uk  
Website: www.southendunited.co.uk

### Ticket Information

Tickets for the fixture at Roots Hall have been on sale to Season Ticket holders all week and any remaining tickets will go on General Sale from Monday morning at 9am.

They will remain on sale from the Victoria Park Ticket Office until Thursday 7th February at 5pm.

Tickets can be bought on the day of the game but prices will increase by £2.

### Prices (when bought in advance)

Adults:	£20.00
Juniors (12-16):	£10.00
Senior (60 and over):	£13.00
Students (with valid ID):	£12.00
Young Person (17-20 with ID):	£12.00

### Away Family Enclosure

Adults:	£20.00
Child:	£4.00

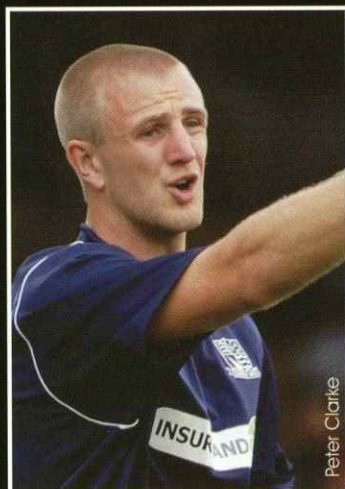
### Ambulant Disabled

Adult:	£13.00
Carer (if required):	Free

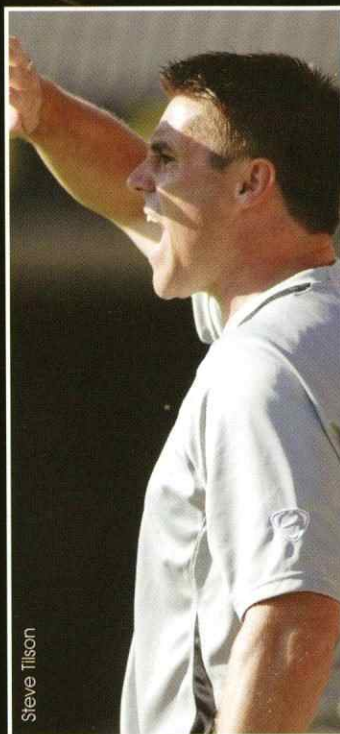
### Extra Info:

Supporters making the trip to Southend can check out the Ground Guide section of the Official Website for all the information you need on Roots Hall.

There's travel and parking tips as well as further information on the ground itself so make sure you pay a visit before setting off down the road to any Pools away game.



Peter Clarke



Steve Tilson



# Next Up At The Vic

Port Vale will be the next visitors to The Vic when they come to the North East in ten days time to try and pick up some vital points in their battle to beat the drop.

Vale picked up a vital point in midweek when they twice came from behind to secure a draw against Yeovil Town.

However, they still sit bottom of the pile and are currently nine points away from safety so boss Lee Sinnott will know he needs further good results in the coming weeks.

Sinnott has only been in the job for three months having left his post at Farsley Celtic to take over from Martin Foyle who left Vale in September 2007.

### Last Time

Pools won 2-0 at Vale Park earlier in the season with Matty Robson taking advantage of some slack defending to score the first after six minutes before James Brown made it safe with a deflected shot late on.

Vale have a poor record against Pools in recent times having failed to win any of the last seven meetings between the two clubs – the last success they had was then they dumped Pools out of the FA Cup in November 1994, thrashing them 6-0 at Vale Park.

Since then there have been some memorable clashes between the sides, most notably a 5-2 win at a snowy Vale Park in January 2004 with goals coming from Chris Shuker, Ritchie Humphreys, Michael Nelson, Eifion Williams and Darrell Clarke.



Action from Vale Park earlier this season





# Top 100 Poolies

With Pools centenary year coming ever closer, **Colin Foster** examines some of the Club's finest players from the last 100 years.

## 1966-67

### Ernest Rixon (Ernie) Phythian 1965-68

#### Pools Appearances:

League 124, FA Cup 6,  
League Cup 5 - total 135

#### Pools Goals:

League 51, FA Cup 2,  
League Cup 2 - total 55

Born in Farnworth on 16th July 1942, Ernie signed for Bolton from school after impressing in the same Lancashire schoolboys team as Nobby Stiles, who he later played for the England youth set up with, along with Geoff Hurst. Understudy to the legendary Nat Lofthouse at Bolton, he found his appearances restricted but still made his debut when aged just seventeen. Three seasons at

Burnden Park produced few chances so he moved to Wrexham in March 1962, bagging three goals before the end of the season as they won promotion from the fourth division. Ernie was a regular here and two seasons later he netted twenty goals as the side struggled and lost a relegation battle. He spent another year there but after just breaking into double figures for goals he was allowed to join Pools in June 1965. Ernie's pace and strong play made him a legend at the Vic in the time he spent there.

Seventeen league goals in his first season and then six more the season after (when he topped the charts for the division) saw him blossom under Brian Clough. After the manager moved on he didn't see so eye to eye with his replacement Gus McLean and he surprised many when he moved to South Africa in March 1968, with Pools pushing for promotion. Several English clubs had made offers for him and had been watching him for some months but he spurned the chance to join the likes of Colchester, Lincoln and Southend in favour of Southern Suburbs, who

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offered him more than ten times the signing on fee that was being offered in England. Ernie settled overseas and spent three years as a player before spending four years as player manager. He then had a spell in charge of first division side Lusitano and brought England star Malcolm MacDonald over to play as well as Portsmouth's Eion Hand and Norman Piper. A spell in charge of Corinthians followed before he moved into the amateur scene and when he played, coached and finally became chairman of Johannesburg side The Wanderers. Ernie still lives overseas and is currently a sales executive for a prestigious Audi dealership in Johannesburg.

## 1967-68

### John Prescott McGovern 1966-68

#### Pools Appearances:

League 69+3, FA Cup 2, League  
Cup 2 - total 73+3

#### Pools Goals:

League 5, League Cup 2 - total 7

Montrose born (28-10-1949) John moved to Hartlepool with his parents when aged just seven and was brought up on the old Central Estate and it was whilst playing for Central Park Juniors that his skills were spotted by Pools. He joined them as a youth and was thrust into the first team by manager Brian Clough in the final game of the season in May 1966. He was aged only 16 years and 205 days and was the youngest Pools player to appear in the first team, a record that he held until Steven Istead broke it over 36 years later. He was a near regular the following season as learnt from the experience Fogarty. The following season he was again first choice as the team won promotion for the first time in their history. He played half a dozen games the following season and then his former manager Clough signed

him and took him to Derby County with Pools receiving a fee of £7500. The Rams won the second division in his first season there and three seasons later he was a member of the Championship winning side. By the age of 19 he was the youngest player to play in all four divisions of the Football League. Two seasons later he followed Clough to Leeds and a few months after he joined him at Nottingham Forest. The Clough era at Forest saw McGovern captain the side to unparalleled success as they won the League and then brought two League Cups and two European Cups to the City Ground. After over seven years with Forest he moved to Bolton as player manager in June 1982 but saw them relegated in his first season there. He later had a spell playing for Horwich RMI and took up assistant manager roles with Plymouth and Hull and was manager for Rotherham and Woking. Now working in local radio in Nottingham, John is still very popular on the after dinner speaking circuit. One of the most successful former Pools players in history, things could have been so much different for John as he was a promising fly half for the rugby side at the non-football playing Henry Smith's Grammar School, but for the intervention of Clough.

## 1968-69

### John Barry Anthony Gill 1966-71

#### Pools Appearances:

League 201+3, FA Cup 7,  
League Cup 6 - total 214+3

#### Pools Goals:

League 1 - total 1

John was a powerhouse defender who joined the club during the 1965-66 campaign, signed by Brian Clough. Born in Wednesbury on 3rd February 1941, John started with Nottingham Forest and after failing to break in to the first eleven in the three

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years he spent there, he made the short move to Mansfield in July 1961. He took a couple of seasons to make himself first choice at Field Mill but then hardly missed a game for two years, until Clough brought him to Pools. He went on to become something of a legend at the Vic with his rock solid displays helping the club get promotion in May 1968. His hard man displays kept him in the starting line up for the next couple of seasons, but during 1970-71 he found a regular place harder to come by due to injury. He scored his one and only Pools goal in his thirteenth outing and failed to score in the other 201 games he played in after that. However he was not so shy in front of his own goal and scored five own goals during his penultimate season at the club. During his time at Pools he gained promotion but this was followed by relegation and two consecutive re-election battles. After being granted a testimonial game, he moved to Nuneaton Borough in the summer of 1971 and afterwards represented Atherstone Town, later working in an abattoir.

## 1969-70

### Terence John (Terry) Bell 1966-70

#### Pools Appearances:

League 111+6, FA Cup 5,  
League Cup 1 - total 117+6

#### Pools Goals:

League 34, FA Cup 4 - total 38

Terry was a forward who was born in Sherwood (1-8-1944) who began with nearby Burton Albion, before he joined Nottingham Forest in August 1964. He failed to play for Forest and his next two clubs, Manchester City - who he joined in October 1964 - and Portsmouth, who he joined the following month. He gave up on the league scene and moved to Nuneaton Borough where he stayed until Pools signed him in July 1966. He went on to become a regular at the Vic and a crowd favourite and became renowned for his strength in the air. He topped the scoring charts in the promotion season of 1967-8 and in 1969-70, when Pools were back in Division Four, despite moving to Reading in March 1970. He was an almost regular at Elm Park too and he bagged twenty league goals in just over eighty league matches, prior to making the move to Aldershot.

Again he was a great favourite here and went on to score 49 goals in 124 games. He left the Shots in the summer of 1978 and later became player manager of Wokingham Town and was also involved with Hillingdon Borough. Terry lives in retirement in the Reading area and his son Nicky also went on to play for Aldershot.

## 1970-71

### Anthony (Tony) Bircumshaw 1965-67

#### Pools Appearances:

League 182+3, FA Cup 7,  
League Cup 2 - total 191+3

#### Pools Goals:

League 11 - total 11

Born in Mansfield on 8th February 1945, Tony began his footballing career as an apprentice with one of his local sides, Notts County. He made his debut for County, just eight weeks after his sixteenth birthday and is still their youngest debutant in football league matches. Tony went on to spend another five years there, appearing in 148 league games, netting just the solitary goal, before he put pen to paper for Pools in July 1966. He was a regular and dependable right back for the club over many seasons and was a vital member of the 1967-68 promotion squad and the seasons of struggle thereafter. After spending five seasons at the Vic, Tony returned to the midlands area in the summer of 1971 when he signed for non league outfit Nuneaton Borough along with John Gill. Tony later worked in the family fruit and vegetable trade, later working in insurance.



Team Photo Line-Up 1968-69

#### Back row (l-r):

John Simpson (coach), Tony Parry, Ernie Phythian, Alan Goad, John Gill, George Smith, Stan Aston, Ken Simpkins, Tony Bircumshaw, Wilson Hepplewhite, Brian Drysdale and Jimmy Mulvaney.

#### Front row (l-r):

John McGovern, Terry Bell, Gus McLean, John Sheridan, John Curry, Cliff Wright and Mick Somers.

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# HUFC Statistics 2007/08

HUFC Stats 2007/08

## Coca-Cola League One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Swansea	27	9	3	2	24	10	8	3	2	28	12	30	57
2 Doncaster	28	8	3	4	22	14	5	5	3	19	14	13	47
3 Nottm Forest	27	8	5	1	25	7	4	5	4	17	13	22	46
4 Walsall	29	5	7	3	18	14	6	6	2	17	10	11	46
5 Carlisle	27	10	1	1	24	7	3	5	7	15	21	11	45
6 Leeds	29	11	1	2	29	9	7	4	4	20	15	25	44
7 Leyton Orient	29	7	4	3	19	16	5	4	6	16	23	-4	44
8 Tranmere	29	8	3	4	21	12	4	4	6	12	17	4	43
9 Southend	28	7	2	5	22	14	5	2	7	20	26	2	40
10 Swindon	27	7	3	3	21	13	3	6	5	15	19	4	39
11 Northampton	29	7	4	4	22	14	3	4	7	13	25	-4	38
12 Yeovil	29	6	3	5	14	15	4	5	6	14	17	-4	38
13 Oldham	27	3	5	5	11	13	6	5	3	17	11	4	37
14 Brighton	26	5	4	3	19	15	4	4	6	13	15	2	35
15 Huddersfield	27	6	3	5	18	16	4	1	8	9	26	-15	34
16 Hartlepool	28	6	5	3	24	17	3	1	10	15	25	-3	33
17 Bristol Rovers	25	2	6	3	14	16	5	4	5	13	12	-1	31
18 Gillingham	28	6	5	3	19	14	2	2	10	10	29	-14	31
19 Millwall	27	6	2	6	21	17	2	4	7	8	22	-10	30
20 Cheltenham	27	6	5	4	13	14	2	1	9	9	22	-14	30
21 Crewe	29	6	4	5	17	19	1	5	8	10	24	-16	30
22 Bournemouth	28	3	3	8	16	29	4	2	9	19	25	-19	26
23 Luton	28	8	3	3	20	13	1	4	9	11	22	-4	24
24 Port Vale	29	3	4	8	16	22	2	2	10	10	24	-20	21

Leeds United deducted 15 points, Luton deducted 10 points

## Player Appearances 2007/08

	League	League Cup	FA Cup	JP Trophy	Total games	Total Goals
McCunnie	14 (2)	2	2	2 (1)	20 (3)	0
Elliott	13	0	0	1	14	0
Boland	17	2	1	1	21	0
Nelson	27	2	2	2	33	2
Clark	7 (4)	0	1	2	10 (4)	1
Liddle	24	2	1 (1)	2	29 (1)	2
Humphreys	25 (1)	1	2	2	30 (1)	2
Barker	23 (4)	2	2	3	30 (4)	12
Porter	8 (13)	(2)	(1)	1 (2)	9 (18)	7
Monkhouse	9 (1)	(1)	(2)	0	9 (4)	1
Barron	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brown	24 (2)	2	2	2	30 (2)	11
Sweeney	8 (9)	1	2	2	13 (9)	2
Bullock	(1)	0	0	0	(1)	0
Foley	4 (12)	(2)		(2)	4 (16)	3
Gibb	4 (2)	(1)	0	1 (2)	5 (5)	0
Robson	3 (5)	2	0	3	8 (5)	1
Antwi	20	2	1 (1)	3	26 (1)	1
Lee-Barrett	3	0	0	1	4	0
Moore	22 (1)	2	2	2	28 (1)	9
Turnbull	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mackay	3 (6)	0	1 (1)	2 (1)	6 (8)	3
Maidens	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rae	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coles	3	0	0	0	3	0
Nolan	11	0	1	0	12	0
Thompson	1	0	0	0	1	0
Haigh	0	0	0	0	0	0
Young	0	0	0	0	0	0
Allison	0	0	0	0	0	0

**KEY:**  
■ Started Game  
■ Playing Sub  
■ Non Playing Sub  
■ Booked  
■ Sent Off  
S Subbed  
1 Goals Scored

		Comp	Kick-Off	F-A	ATT
Sat 11 Aug	A Luton Town	FL1	15:00	1-2	8,013
Tue 14 Aug	A Scunthorpe	CC1	19:45	2-1	2,965
Sat 18 Aug	H Doncaster	FL1	15:00	2-1	5,544
Sat 25 Aug	A Port Vale	FL1	15:00	2-0	3,978
Tue 28 Aug	A Sheff Wed	CC2	19:45	1-2	8,751
Sat 1 Sept	H Oldham	FL1	15:00	4-1	5,015
Tue 4 Sept	A Chesterfield	JPT1	19:30	2-1	2,127
Sat 8 Sept	A Leeds United	FL1	15:00	0-2	26,877
Sat 15 Sept	H Swindon Town	FL1	15:00	1-1	4,943
Sat 22 Sept	A Leyton Orient	FL1	15:00	4-2	5,325
Sat 29 Sept	H Walsall	FL1	15:00	0-1	4,948
Tue 2 Oct	H Carlisle	FL1	19:45	2-2	5,359
Sat 6 Oct	A Nottm Forest	FL1	15:00	1-2	17,520
Tue 9 Oct	A Lincoln City	JPT2	19:15	5-2	936
Fri 12 Oct	H Bristol Rovers	FL1	19:45	1-0	4,963
Sat 27 Oct	H Brighton	FL1	15:00	1-2	5,619
Sat 3 Nov	A Millwall	FL1	15:00	1-0	7,731
Tue 6 Nov	A Huddersfield	FL1	19:45	0-2	8,154
Sun 11 Nov	A Gainsborough	FAC1	14:00	6-0	2,402
Tue 13 Nov	H Morecambe	JPT3QF	19:15	1-1*	2,776
Sun 18 Nov	H Bournemouth	FL1	16:00	1-1	3,496
Sat 24 Nov	A Gillingham	FL1	15:00	1-2	5,488
Tue 27 Nov	A Swansea City	FL1	19:45	0-1	11,421
Sat 1 Dec	A Hereford United	FAC2	15:00	0-2	3,801
Tue 4 Dec	H Tranmere	FL1	19:45	3-1	3,583
Sat 8 Dec	A Yeovil Town	FL1	15:00	1-3	4,694
Sat 15 Dec	H Crewe	FL1	15:00	3-0	3,915
Sat 22 Dec	A Swindon Town	FL1	15:00	1-2	5,875
Wed 26 Dec	H Leeds United	FL1	12:00	1-1	7,784
Sat 29 Dec	H Leyton Orient	FL1	19:45	1-1	4,379
Tue 1 Jan	A Carlisle	FL1	13:00	2-4	7,496
Sat 12 Jan	A Northampton	FL1	15:00	1-1	4,639
Fri 18 Jan	H Cheltenham	FL1	19:45	0-2	4,120
Tue 22 Jan	H Southend	FL1	19:45	4-3	3,127
Tue 29 Jan	A Doncaster	FL1	15:00	0-2	6,442
Sat 2 Feb	H Luton Town	FL1	15:00		
Sat 9 Feb	A Southend	FL1	15:00		
Tue 12 Feb	H Port Vale	FL1	19:45		
Sat 16 Feb	A Cheltenham	FL1	15:00		
Fri 22 Feb	H Northampton	FL1	19:45		
Sat 1 Mar	A Bournemouth	FL1	15:00		
Tue 4 March	A Oldham	FL1	19:45		
Sat 8 Mar	H Gillingham	FL1	15:00		
Tue 11 Mar	H Huddersfield	FL1	19:45		
Sat 15 Mar	A Tranmere	FL1	15:00		
Sat 22 Mar	A Crewe	FL1	15:00		
Mon 24 Mar	H Yeovil Town	FL1	15:00		
Sat 29 Mar	H Swansea City	FL1	15:00		
Sat 5 Apr	A Bristol Rovers	FL1	15:00		
Sat 12 Apr	H Millwall	FL1	15:00		
Sat 19 Apr	A Brighton	FL1	15:00		
Sat 26 Apr	H Nott'm Forest	FL1	15:00		
Sat 3 May	A Walsall	FL1	15:00		

\*lost 4-2 on penalties

	Jan BUDTZ	Jamie McCUNNIE	Robbie ELLIOTT	Willie BOLAND	Michael NELSON	Ben CLARK	Gary LIDDLE	Ritchie HUMPHREYS	Richard BARKER	Joel PORTER	Andy MONKHOUSE	Micky BARRON	James BROWN	Antony SWEENEY	Lee BULLOCK	David FOLEY	Ali GIBB	Matty ROBSON	Godwin ANTWI	Aran LEE-BARRETT	Ian MOORE	Stephen TURNBULL	Michael MACKAY	Michael MAIDENS	Michael RAE	Danny COLES	Alan THOMPSON	Tom HAIGH	Martin YOUNG	Scott ALLISON	Jonny ROWELL
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# Getting To Know...

We find out a little bit more about the Club's Goalkeeping Coach **George Wood**.

## Where did you grow up?

In a place called Douglas in Lanarkshire – it was moorland and out in the sticks really!

## What did you want to do when you were younger?

I always wanted to be a footballer. I wasn't too bright at school so I'm afraid it was football or nothing for me!

## How did you first get in to goalkeeping?

It actually started for me at Under 15 level at school and the teacher asked if I would play in goal because there was nobody else. I was better than the other kids even though I'd usually been a centre-forward. In fact, when I signed for Blackpool I played about half a season up front in the Central League before reverting to goalkeeper!

## What was your highlight as a player?

Without a doubt it was getting the chance to represent my country. Going to the World Cup with Scotland in 1982 was the real highlight – it was brilliant.

## How did you first get involved in goalkeeper coaching?

I finished playing at Hereford when I was 42 and then went back to Cardiff on the coaching staff. I was taking the Reserves and working on my coaching badges and ended up taking over as Goalkeeping Coach.

## What was the first football match you ever went to?

I remember it well – it was Rangers v Hearts in about 1956. Rangers won 4-1 and it was a great night – the floodlights and the atmosphere really stick in my mind even though I was only about five at the time!

## What was the first football match you ever went to?

There are two that stand out really. The best game I've ever seen was when Rangers beat Celtic in the Cup Final of 1973. And the best game I've played in was when I was at Everton and we beat

Liverpool – I think it was the 77/78 season and Everton hadn't beaten Liverpool in the league for about eleven years so that was pretty special.

## Who was your footballing hero when you were growing up?

It was Dennis Law, the Scottish striker at Manchester United. I also admired Pat Jennings and had the privilege of working with him at Arsenal for three years which was brilliant.

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# Today's Squads

## Hartlepool United v Luton Town

Saturday 2nd February 2008 | Kick-off 15:00



### Hartlepool United

Manager: Danny Wilson

	P	G	R	Y
1 Jan BUDTZ				
2 Jamie McCUNNIE				
3 Robbie ELLIOTT				
4 Willie BOLAND				
5 Michael NELSON				
6 Ben CLARK				
7 Gary LIDDLE				
8 Ritchie HUMPHREYS				
9 Richard BARKER				
10 Joel PORTER				
11 Andy MONKHOUSE				
12 Micky BARRON				
14 James BROWN				
15 Antony SWEENEY				
16 Lee BULLOCK				
17 David FOLEY				
18 Ali GIBB				
19 Matty ROBSON				
20 Godwin ANTWI				
21 Arran LEE-BARRETT				
22 Ian MOORE				
23 Stephen TURNBULL				
24 Michael MACKAY				
25 Michael MAIDENS				
26 Michael RAE				
28 Alan THOMPSON				
29 Tom HAIGH				
30 Martin YOUNG				
31 Scott ALLISON				
32 Jonny Rowell				



### Luton Town

Manager: Mick Harford

	P	G	R	Y
1 Dean BRILL				
3 Alan GOODALL				
4 Don HUTCHISON				
5 Chris PERRY				
7 Dean MORGAN				
8 David BELL				
9 Sam PARKIN				
10 Darren CURRIE				
11 Paul PESCHISOLDO				
12 Richard JACKSON				
14 Steve ROBINSON				
15 Stephen O'LEARY				
16 Lewis EMANUEL				
19 Drew TALBOT				
20 Calvin ANDREW				
21 Keith KEANE				
22 Richard LANGLEY				
24 Paul UNDERWOOD				
25 Matthew SPRING				
26 Sol DAVIS				
28 Paul McVEIGH				
29 Paul FURLONG				
32 Ryan CHARLES				
34 Anthony GRANT				
35 Marlon BERESFORD				
Zac BARRETT				

KEY: P - PLAYED | G - GOALS | Y - YELLOW CARD | R - RED CARD

## Today's Officials



Referee:  
N. D. Swarbrick (Lancashire)



Assistant Referees:  
C. A. Brumwell (Cumbria)  
J. R. Tyas (West Yorkshire)



Fourth Official:  
G. Wallace (Tyne & Wear)

## Today's Fixtures



Bournemouth v Nottm Forest  
Brighton v Crewe  
Bristol Rovers v Port Vale  
Carlisle v Walsall  
Gillingham v Cheltenham  
Hartlepool v Luton  
Leeds v Tranmere  
Leyton Orient v Southend  
Millwall v Doncaster  
Swansea v Oldham  
Swindon v Northampton  
Yeovil v Huddersfield

## Forthcoming Fixtures

Saturday 9th February 2008

### Southend United v Hartlepool United

Kick-off 15:00  
Roots Hall



Tuesday 12th February 2008

### Hartlepool United v Port Vale

Kick-off 19:45  
Victoria Park



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