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Grimsby Town v Luton Town

Tuesday 21st October 2008 | Kick-Off 7.45pm

Coca-Cola League Two



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06/56 C 200 CDI Tansanite blue, 25,250 miles	£14,500	08/08 E 220 CDI Indium grey, 5,847 miles	£25,500
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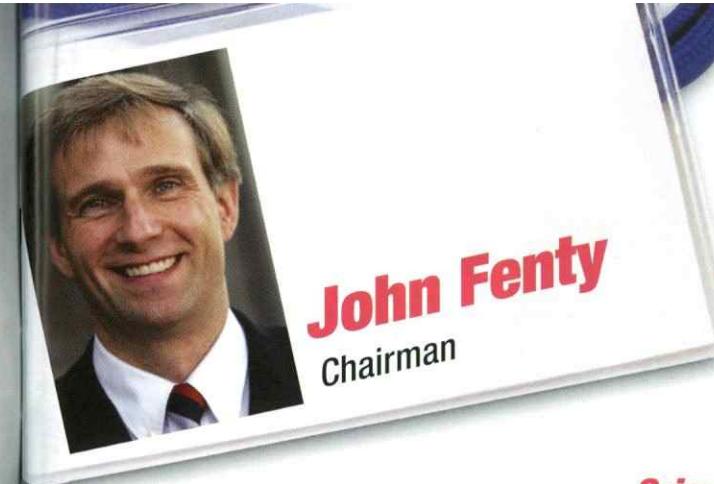
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At the Helm

Grimsby Town to back the One Game, One Community message

Grimsby Town is pledging its commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion by backing Kick It Out's One Game, One Community weeks of action this October.

The club will be holding its very own day of action at Blundell Park for the fixture against Luton Town tonight as part of a 12-day, nationwide celebration of diversity.

The fixture is one of 1000 events to take place across the country during the weeks of action, from 16-28 October. All professional clubs will hold activities to support the initiative, alongside schools, universities and community and youth centres.

Kick It Out, the game's equality and inclusion campaign, is co-ordinating the initiative as part of football's ongoing contribution to promote greater inclusion.

Lord Herman Ouseley, Chairman of Kick It Out, today commented, "The One Game, One Community weeks of action provides a focal point for everyone connected to football, from supporters to players

to stand up against discrimination in all its forms.

The game flourishes when people from all communities, and from all walks of life, are able to participate in it. Club activity like this reinforces the One Game, One Community ethos and is a vital part of the drive for equality at all levels of the game."

To demonstrate its support of the One Game, One Community message Grimsby Town will be showcasing the following activities:

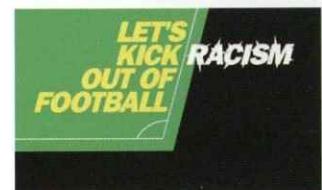
Players showcasing the One Game, One Community message by wearing special t-shirts during the warm-up, youngsters from Football in the Community displaying a flag before the game and being invited to the game, as well as special content in our Matchday Programme

"It is vitally important that everyone connected with Grimsby Town continues to support the One Game, One Community ethos. As a football club we are owe it to our fans and the community as a whole to ensure that all forms of

discrimination are stamped out at our football club." (John Fenty, Chairman)

"There is no place for discrimination in the game as modern day football features players and supporters from all different cultures and backgrounds. At International level it is very high profile, but it is important that we all ensure that discrimination isn't present on the pitch or in the terraces at our level either – it makes the game more enjoyable for everyone."

(Matthew Heywood, Captain)



"We went on to enjoy enormous success in the following two seasons, especially considering what we were competing against in the Championship."

Crown Newell

Mike Newell
Manager

Hello and Welcome to tonight's game against Luton Town. Welcome also to Mick Harford, his staff, players, directors and supporters from Kenilworth Road.

Luton will be continuously fighting against the penalties served at the start of this season, but you can be sure that they will do just that, so it will be another tough test for us.

I spent nearly four years as manager there and enjoyed every minute when dealing with the players and staff at the Football Club. I joined at a difficult time and will always be grateful to the supporters for the patience they showed in the first season.

We went on to enjoy enormous success in the following two seasons, especially considering what we were competing against in the Championship.

The ending has been much publicised, but for those who have not yet noticed, not by me. A day will come when I will respond to everything that has been said and written by the people who sacked me and a few others who also

threw in their two pence worth.

There is an awful lot that people are not aware of and unfortunately it may take time before they become aware.

You can guarantee very little in football but one thing I am already sure of here is that the people who employed me have the best interests of this football club at heart. That is not something I am used to. It is time to move on, and my only concern now is Grimsby Town.

I was delighted with the way our lads applied themselves against both Wycombe and Exeter. They were two daunting fixtures

considering their respective current positions and form, and obviously the fact that we haven't yet won in the league, but the players approached both games with a desire and enthusiasm that will be needed in the weeks and months to come.

I am of course still learning about individuals and their capabilities and some may take longer than others to force their way into my

thinking, from what I have seen so far it will not be from a lack of effort if they fail to do so.

Thank you to the fans that made the trip to St James's Park. We appreciate how difficult a trip it is and that is with the luxury of an overnight stop.

It will be a telling week with Luton tonight, Bradford City on Friday, and Dagenham and Redbridge next Tuesday; we will need your help.

Tonight is of course our Kick It Out game, and I am sure you will all join me in backing this tremendous cause.

Before I go I would like to wish a warm welcome to our Match Sponsors who are **SCRATCH MATCH** and **ALBERT DARNELL FISH MERCHANTS**, as well as our Associate Match Sponsors who are **HARTWELL SUPERCENTRE** – I hope you all have a fantastic time at tonight's game.

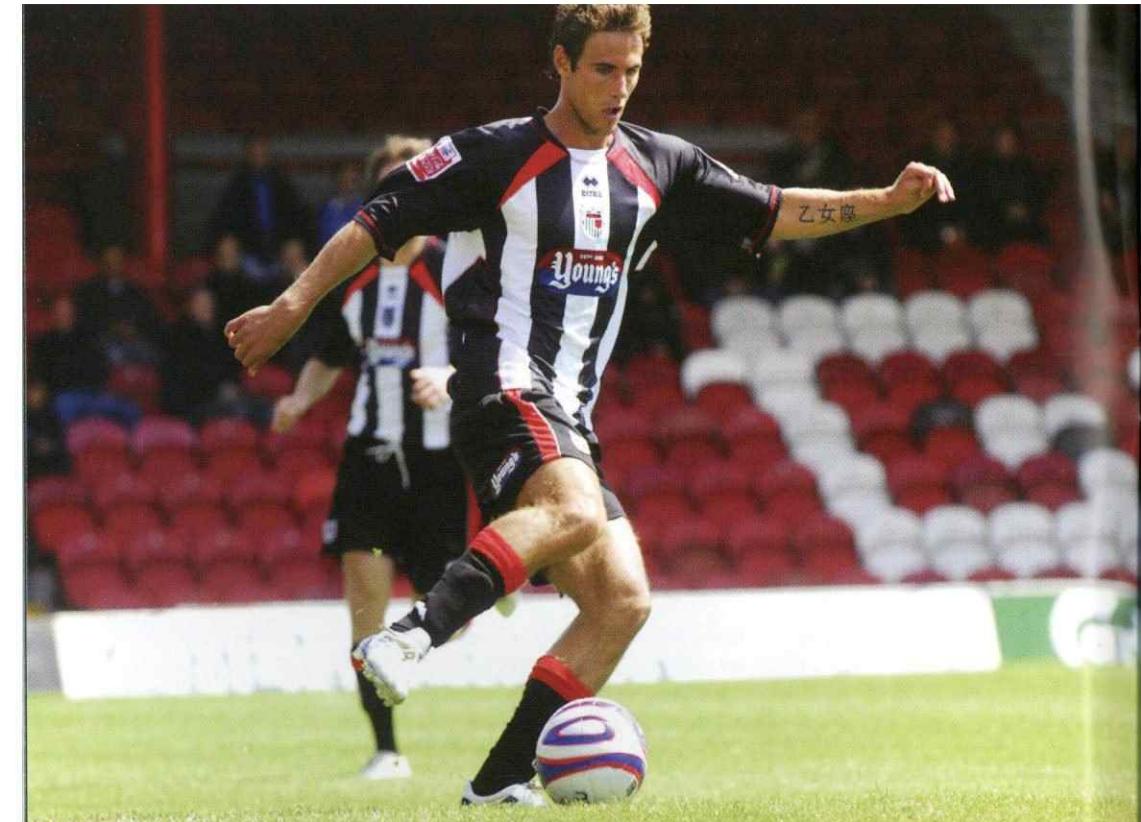
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Local Matters

Good afternoon Ladies and Gentleman and welcome to this evening's game against Luton Town here at Blundell Park.

Before I begin I would like to wish a warm welcome to our Match Sponsors who are **SCRATCH MATCH** and **ALBERT DARNELL FISH MERCHANTS**, as well as our Associate Match Sponsors who are **HARTWELL SUPERCENTRE** – I hope you all have a fantastic time at tonight's game.

I would also like to bid a warm welcome to everyone who has travelled up from Luton for tonight's game and wish you a safe journey home after the match.

The build-up to our last home game with Wycombe was bright and intense. Obviously the new manager came in on the Wednesday and he looked to instil some of his ideas on us in time for the match.

We got off to a dream start with a goal inside the first minute, but we knew that whatever happened that the game was going to be a tough one.

Wycombe are flying at the moment and to be fair to them they put us under a lot of pressure. We defended resolutely as a team though and it was absolutely gutting to let in the equaliser in the last minute, because

we are absolutely desperate to break our winning duck.

I felt that we held our own against the league leaders, and we must take nothing away from Wycombe either. I think they will be up there at the end of the season because they have a strong and powerful side.

We will be in the midst of a busy period of matches and last Saturday's game at Exeter will have involved a lot of travelling. We went down on the Friday and trained down there and I will talk more about the game in Friday's notes.

We welcome Luton to Blundell Park tonight and their season has been overshadowed by their 30-point deduction. I feel they have had a decent start to the season, but with Rotherham quickly wiping out their deficit, they may feel that they haven't made up as much ground as they would have liked.

It is a game we have to win really, it is imperative that we pull away from the bottom of the table as soon as possible. The Hatters will be really up for this game though, they will feel they can come here and snatch something, and going up against their former manager.

It is the same for us though, and I'm sure that the lads will want to go out and make their mark tonight.

A quick mention goes to Peter Bore. He came in from the cold a bit against Wycombe and got the goal. The manager has said that everyone starts with a clean slate and Peter has shown glimpses of what he can do in training and grasped his opportunity.

Your support was magnificent against Wycombe, please keep backing the boys and enjoy the game.

MATT HEYWOOD

Club Honours

DIVISION ONE:	
(highest-placed finish) 5th	1934/35
DIVISION TWO:	
Champions: 1900/01, 1933/34	
Runners-Up: 1928/29	
Promoted via Play-Offs: 1997/98	
DIVISION THREE NORTH:	
Champions: 1925/26, 1955/56	
Runners-Up: 1951/52	
DIVISION THREE:	
Champions: 1979/80	
Runners-Up: 1961/62	
Promoted: 1990/91	

DIVISION FOUR:	
Champions	1971/72
Runners-Up: 1978/79; 1989/90	

LEAGUE TWO:	
Play-Off Runners-Up: 2005/06	

FA CUP:	
Semi-Finalists: 1936, 1939	

LEAGUE CUP: (best performance)	
Fifth Round: 1980, 1985	

LEAGUE GROUP CUP:	
Winners: 1982	

FOOTBALL LEAGUE TROPHY:
Winners: 1998
Runners-Up: 2008

LINCOLNSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Winners:
1885/86, 1888/89, 1896/97, 1898/99,
1899/1900, 1900/01, 1901/02, 1902/03,
1905/06, 1908/09, 1912/13, 1920/21, 1922/23,
1924/25, 1928/29, 1929/30, 1932/33,
1935/36, 1936/37, 1937/38, 1946/47,
1949/50, 1952/53, 1967/68, 1972/73,
1975/76, 1979/80, 1983/84, 1986/87,
1989/90, 1991/92, 1992/93, 1993/94,
1994/95, 1995/96, 1999/2000

Introducing Luton Town

Anything above 23rd place in League Two has to be considered a success for Luton Town this season.

The Hatters were hit by an unprecedented 30-point penalty at the start of the 2008/09 season and have seen themselves rooted to the foot of the Football League ever since.

At press time Luton had clawed back 12 points of that deficit, but with Rotherham's sparkling start to the season, they still find themselves 20 points from safety.

Aside from the obvious points penalty, the Hatters have seen their squad decimated over the summer with the departure of several top names – manager Mick Harford, who took the reins earlier this year, has practically had to rebuild the squad from scratch.

The Hatters Ins & Outs:

In: Jamie Tolley (Macclesfield Town), Kevin Nicholls (Preston North End), Claude Gnapka (Peterborough United), George Pilkington (Port Vale), Rossi Jarvis (Norwich City), Ian Roper (Walsall), Michael Spillane, Chris Martin (both Norwich City (loan)), Kevin Watson (Colchester United), Tristan Plummer (Bristol City (loan)), Conrad Logan, Harry Worley (both Leicester City (loan)), Gareth O'Connor (Burnley), Marc Pugh (Shrewsbury Town (loan))

Out: Paul Furlong (Southend United), Darren Currie, Alan Goodall (both Chesterfield), Calvin Andrew (Crystal Palace), David Forde (Millwall), David Bell (Norwich City), David Edwards (Wolverhampton)

Wanderers), Marlon Beresford, Richard Langley, Steve Robinson, Jamie Tolley, Don Hutchison, Paul Peschosolido (all released), Matthew Spring (Sheffield United (loan)), Stephen O'Leary, Richard Jackson (both Hereford United), Dean Morgan (Leyton Orient (loan))

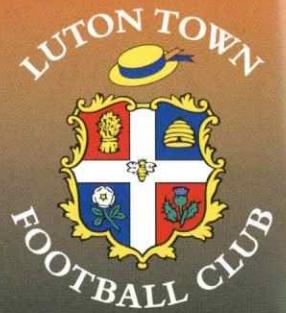
The books show that Kenilworth Road has been a hive of activity over the past six months and Harford has had to bring in players in virtually every position to ensure that the Hatters have a squad that is capable of attempting to overturn the 30-point deduction and ensure the club's Football League survival.

It must have been painful for everyone connected with the club to see their top names depart for derisory sums, especially to clubs at Championship level. Names like David Bell, David Edwards and Matthew Spring are all capable of playing at a much higher level and their departures show what quality the Hatters had at their disposal, and the effect that the off-field turmoil had on the club.

Experienced names like Darren Currie and Paul Furlong also departed the club over the summer, and a host of others were released as the club's new LTFC2020 consortium looked to make ends meet.

Harford moved quickly to plug the gaps though and has used the loan market to his advantage, as well as patiently waiting to snap unattached players up on free transfers.

Goalkeeper Conrad Logan and



Luton Town Factfile:

Nickname: The Hatters
Year Formed: 1885
Position 2007/08: 24th (League One)
Ground: Kenilworth Road

defender Harry Worley have both arrived from Leicester; the former helped Stockport win the League Two Play Offs last season, whilst Worley has a Community Shield Runners-Up medal from his time at Chelsea.

Elsewhere in defence, Harford has plumped for experience. Ian Roper has won League Two with Walsall and George Pilkington played over 250 games for Port Vale. Joining them is Claude Gnapka who appeared to be a victim of the size of the Peterborough United squad, as he came highly recommended by Swindon Town.

The most important signing of the summer was the return of influential midfielder Kevin Nicholls, who has been installed as club captain. Nicholls was with the club as they made the rise from League Two to the Championship, and is relishing the opportunity to be back at Kenilworth Road after spells with Preston and Leeds.

Gareth O'Connor has recently joined the club on a free transfer from

Burnley and once match fit the Northern Ireland International should prove to be a shrewd acquisition.

Young utility player Asa Hall is another inspired capture and if the England Under-20 International can recapture the form of his spell at Shrewsbury last season then he should turn some heads.

Crucially, Harford managed to keep two of his key strikers at the club in Sam Parkin and Drew Talbot. Both men have scored goals regularly at a higher level and they will be charged with firing the Hatters up the League Two table. Bloomfield and Gary Holt.

The Hatters have been hit by a slew of injuries to senior players such as Nicholls, Parkin, Pilkington and Kevin Watson in recent weeks and manager Mick Harford has been forced to rely on youngsters and loan signings.

The former Wimbledon star may be tempted to thrust the experience of Roper into the mix, whilst O'Connor is likely to have more minutes under his belt.

Nicholls is back in training and will face a race to be fit in time for the game, as is striker Parkin. Loan signings Tristan Plummer and Marc Pugh have returned to parent clubs Bristol City and Shrewsbury respectively, although there could be another loan forward in the Hatters' ranks by the time they travel to Blundell Park.

Expected Line-Up (4-4-2)



Last Five Fixtures

11-Oct-08	H Darlington	L1-2
7-Oct-08	H Brentford	D2-2
4-Oct-08	A Bradford City	D1-1
27-Sep-08	H Chester City	D1-1
20-Sep-08	A Rotherham Utd	Lo-1

The Hatters haven't won in five games, although the Johnstone's Paint Trophy draw with Brentford saw the club advance on penalties. Whilst that run wouldn't normally be too much cause for concern, the fact that Rotherham have overturned their 17-point deduction and Bournemouth are closing in on positive points means that Luton need even more points on the board.

Town have already clawed back 12 points of their 30, but the harsh reality is that they need even more. The Hatters have lost only four of their league games so far but draws have been their undoing – they need to turn one point into three more often, particularly at home where Aldershot are the only team to come away with nothing.

It's no surprise that Harford is looking to dip into the loan market for a striker, particularly as Parkin and Talbot have both been on the injured list this season. The Hatters' manager may also consider a swoop for free agent Wayne Andrews, although a loan move for Peterborough's Scott Rendell fell through at the eleventh hour – rumours persist that Harford may be after a youngster from Premier League side Middlesbrough.

Last Time Out

Nationwide League Division Two
 Tuesday 24th February 2004

The Mariners

Jeavons (2 (1 pen)), Ford
 Howard (2)

3
 2

A last-minute header from defender Simon Ford snatched a dramatic win for Grimsby Town in this Division Two fixture.

The Mariners desperately needed the points in their battle against relegation but were made to really dig in as current Town boss Mike Newell brought his high scoring Hatters to Blundell Park.

Luton had a strong side with a number of players, including goalscorer Steve Howard, who went onto play at a higher level.

Grimsby, under the guidance of caretaker manager Graham Rodger, had come off a woeful seven-week period that had seen them slip down the table and let goals in for fun.

The turning point in the game arguably came on 23 minutes when the Mariners' Ian Anderson limped out of play and was replaced by Phil Jeavons.

In the second half it was a different story though, Stuart Campbell saw a volley palmed away by former Mariner Morton Hyldgaard, before Jeavons worked his magic.

The Mariners were now fully on top and when Isaiah Rankin was felled by Michael Leary, Jeavons stepped up to convert the penalty and put Grimsby in front.

There was still more twists to come though; Howard was afforded space on the edge of the area on 80 minutes to fire home his second of the evening, and with the scores now level it was the visitors who were pushing for the equaliser.

Dramatically, deep into injury time it was Grimsby who snatched the win. Darren Barnard floated in a long free kick and Ford rose highest to head home and send the 3,000 home fans home happy.

THE GAFFER

Mick Harford

Former England International Mick Harford is a Luton Town institution having spent two playing spells at Kenilworth Road, and now he is charged with preserving the Hatters' Football League status.

A robust and highly committed striker, Harford turned out for Lincoln, Newcastle, Bristol City, Birmingham, Luton, Derby, Chelsea, Sunderland, Coventry and Wimbledon in a 21-year playing career that saw him score over 170 league goals and win two England caps.

The 49-year-old took his playing qualities into his management career and he has faced adversity before in spells in charge of Nottingham Forest, Rotherham and QPR.

The Sunderland-born forward has had success off the field at Kenilworth Road before. He worked alongside Joe Kinnear as the Hatters stormed to the Division Three Title in 2001/02, before taking a joint role as Director of Football and First Team Coach as current Mariners boss Mike Newell took the reins. Harford remained at Luton until he rejoined cohort Kinnear at the City Ground.

Mick was installed as manager at Kenilworth Road in January, and despite the club's relegation to League Two and subsequent 30-point deduction, he has announced his commitment to the club's cause.



The Main Men

Programme Editor Jonathan Byrne looks at the six main men in the Luton ranks.

SHOTSTOPPER

Conrad Logan

Leicester City goalkeeper Conrad Logan joined the Hatters on loan at the start of the 2008/09 season in order to compete with Dean Brill for the number one slot, a position he has since made his own.

The 22-year-old Irishman spent last season on loan at Stockport and helped the other Hatters win promotion through the Division Two Play Offs.

Logan joined the Foxes in 2004 and has caught the eye in his league appearances so far, as well as on loan at Boston and Stockport.

He has good agility and offers good distribution from his kicking. If Luton Town are to avoid relegation this season then Conrad Logan could prove to be the key man in the Hatters' squad.



DEFENSIVE ROCK

Ian Roper

Experienced centre half Ian Roper joined the Hatters from League One side Walsall in the summer.

The 31-year-old came through the ranks at the Bescot Stadium and made his debut as far back as 1995, playing alongside current Mariners' assistant Stuart Watkiss.

Ian was a lynchpin at the heart of the Walsall defence and won numerous awards in his time at the club.

He uses his height to great effect and is an excellent reader of the game. His 13 years at Walsall yielded 325 league appearances and he captained the club to their League Two Title success in 2006/07.

His chances have been limited at Kenilworth Road so far, but with a number of youngsters in the Luton ranks his experience both on-and-off the field will be welcome over the course of the season.



MIDFIELD MAESTRO

Gareth O'Connor

Manager Mick Harford pulled off a real coup of a signing when he snapped up Gareth O'Connor on a free transfer in September.

The Irish winger had been available on a free transfer since his release from Burnley in the summer.

Having starred in Irish football with Shamrock and Bohemians, the Dubliner arrived at Bournemouth in 2000.

Gareth spent five successful years with the Cherries, scoring some spectacular goals and setting up chances for the strike duo of James Hayter and Steve Fletcher.

O'Connor moved on a free transfer to Burnley in 2005 but he was limited to a number of substitute appearances at Turf Moor, and returned to Bournemouth on loan in 2007.

If Gareth can rediscover the form that made him such a hit on the South Coast then there he will prove to be a real asset to the Hatters' squad.



YOUNG GUN

Asa Hall

Versatile performer Asa Hall could prove to be one of the captures of the season if he can hit the heights at Luton.

The tall and rangy 21-year-old has been highly thought of since being snapped up by Wolves at the age of 12.

The England Under-20 International signed professional terms with rivals Birmingham City and caught the eye on loan at Ashford Town and Boston United, but it was last season's 15-game spell at Shrewsbury that brought him to many people's attention.

The Sandwell-born player is able to slot in all across the back and the midfield, as well as in the hole behind the striker(s) – he has always had an eye for goal.

Asa has tremendous ability and boundless potential; if he can get a run of games under his belt then he can really establish himself in League Two.



HOT SHOT

Sam Parkin

Tall and powerful striker Sam Parkin has been highly rated since he burst on the scene with Chelsea in 2000.

The 27-year-old spent successful loan spells with Millwall, Wycombe and Northampton before settling at Swindon in 2002.

Sam had a sparkling one-in-two goal ratio at the County Ground and was a scorer of all types of goals, regularly scoring against top opposition.

The former Chelsea man was snapped up by Ipswich in 2005 but failed to settle at Portman Road and was sold to Luton for £340,000 a year later.

Sam's Kenilworth Road career has been hampered by injury but nine strikes in 33 league outings have shown his worth to the side, and he could be the man to fire the Hatters to safety this season.





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Squad Check

Ed Asafu-Adjaye Defender

22.12.88 | Apps: 11 Goals: 0
Young defender Ed Asafu-Adjaye appeared to be on the cusp of breaking through to the Luton first team last season before suffering a serious leg injury. The Londoner fought his way back at spent valuable time on loan at Tommy Widdrington's Salisbury City last term. Ed has received his chance this season and has impressed with his performances at centre half and right back.

Jake Howells Defender

18.04.91 | Apps: 4 Goals: 0
Teenage defender Jake Howells has found himself back in the Luton first team having been thrust into action late last term against Huddersfield. An impressive left back, Howells has great energy and youthful exuberance. The 17-year-old spurned the chance to join Premier League Fulham to move to Kenilworth Road.

Claude Gnapka Defender

09.09.83 | Apps: 14 Goals: 1
Rugged defender Claude Gnapka has firmly established himself in the Hatters' first team this season since a free transfer switch from Peterborough in the summer. The Frenchman uses his height and strength to unsettle the opposition and is a threat from set pieces. The 25-year-old centre half brings great experience from spells with Montpellier, Racing Santander, Alaves, FC Vaduz and Swindon.

Keith Keane Midfielder

20.11.86 | Apps: 115 Goals: 4
All-action midfielder Keith Keane came through the ranks at Kenilworth Road and was handed the captaincy by manager Mick Harford last term. Keane's versatility, which has seen him turn out all across defence and midfield for the Hatters. A highly committed player, the 21-year-old has great energy and a good amount of skill.

Rossi Jarvis Midfielder

11.03.88 | Apps: 13 Goals: 1
Versatile performer Rossi Jarvis has joined the Hatters on a free transfer from Norwich City. The 20-year-old England Under-19 International is most comfortable on the right wing where he looks to use his pace and skill to trouble defenders.

Chris Martin Striker

04.11.88 | Apps: 13 Goals: 3
On-loan Norwich striker Chris Martin has made a promising start to his Luton



career with three goals in 13 games. The 19-year-old is a real penalty box predator and has the instinct to sniff out a chance. The England Under-19 International has already made his mark at Carrow Road.

Dean Brill Goalkeeper

02.12.85 | Apps: 79 Goals: 0
Young goalkeeper Dean Brill has established himself in the Hatters' first team in the last six years at Kenilworth Road. The 22-year-old came through the ranks at Luton and attracted the attention of Premier League giants Liverpool. Dean has fantastic agility and makes some eye-catching saves.

Paul McVeigh Striker

06.12.77 | Apps: 35 Goals: 0
Experienced striker Paul McVeigh adds depth to the Luton Town squad and will be looking to work his way back into the starting XI. The Northern Ireland International began his career at Tottenham, but is best remembered for his days with Norwich City where he caught the eye with a number of spectacular goals.

George Pilkington Defender

07.11.81 | Apps: 8 Goals: 0
Hard working defender George Pilkington moved to Kenilworth Road on a free transfer from Port Vale in the summer. The 26-year-old played over 250 games for Port Vale where he impressed with his tenacious tackling. George has seen his campaign halted by injury in recent weeks.

Lewis Emanuel Defender

14.10.83 | Apps: 71 Goals: 4
Exciting left sided player Lewis Emanuel has returned to form since a loan spell at Brentford last season. Equally comfortable at left back or left wing, Lewis is a cultured footballer who offers



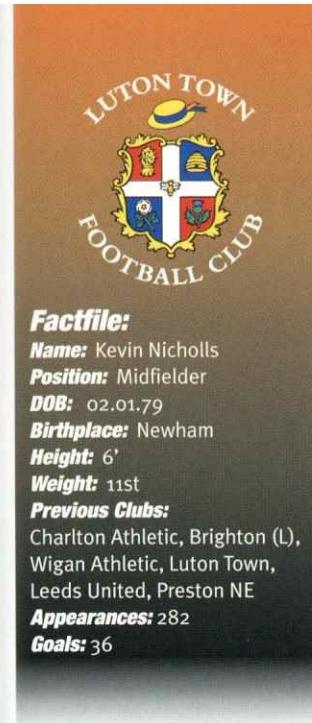
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Factfile:

Name: Kevin Nicholls
Position: Midfielder
DOB: 02.01.79
Birthplace: Newham
Height: 6'
Weight: 11st
Previous Clubs:
 Charlton Athletic, Brighton (L),
 Wigan Athletic, Luton Town,
 Leeds United, Preston NE
Appearances: 282
Goals: 36

Experience:

With over 280 professional games under his belt, there are few more experienced players in League Two. Kevin has starred throughout the Football League and with a number of youngsters in the Hatters' ranks, the knowledge he can pass on will be vital

Winning Mentality:

With two promotions from his previous spell at Kenilworth Road, Kevin has developed a winning mentality that has seen him succeed throughout his career. He has also overseen a number of cup upsets during his time with Luton.

Tenacity:

Kevin is a player with great stamina and he will keep running for the cause for the full 90 minutes. No tackle is ever too much and no ball is lost, Nicholls will chase all game in the hope that his team can gain something from the game.

All the latest news visit www.gtfc.co.uk

Talent Scout

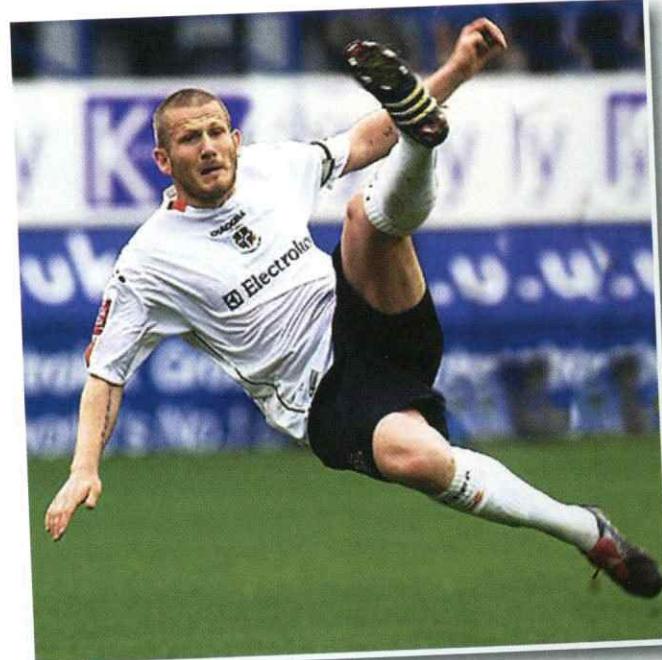
The Talent Scout takes a look at Luton's star performer, veteran midfielder **Kevin Nicholls**

Teamwork:

As the midfield anchorman of his side, 29-year-old Nicholls often sacrifices personal glory for that of the team, and it has worked to great effect. Kevin is the kind of player that sweeps up any loose ball in midfield before cleverly distributing to his team-mates in order to start attacks.

Courageousness:

As one of the on-field leaders in the side, Kevin is a vocal presence and will take the team forward even if it is against the odds. It is these sorts of attributes and that kind of attitude that have made Nicholls a firm fan favourite wherever he has played.



First & Last

Grimsby v Luton Town

First League Meeting:

The initial Second Division fixture between the sides took place in December 1897, a sorry Grimsby team being thrashed 0-6 at Luton's then-Dunstable Road ground.

First at Blundell Park:

Luton provided the opposition for the first-ever game at Blundell Park, the September 1899 clash in Division Two ending in a 3-3 draw.

First to manage both Clubs:

Grimsby-born Bill Harvey was in charge of Luton from 1962-64, prior to a twelve-month spell as the Mariners' boss (1968-69).

First Grimsby Substitute:

In October 1973 Jack Lewis replaced Frank Sharp in a League Cup Second Round tie at Luton (0-0); likewise doing so in two Blundell Park replays.

First Grimsby Double:

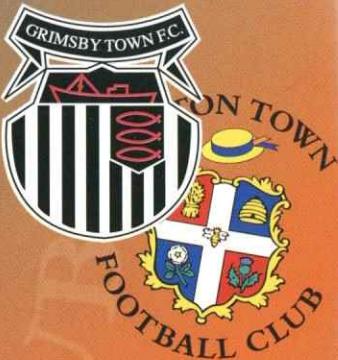
The Mariners did not achieve maximum points over Luton until 1992/93, winning 4-1 in Bedfordshire and 3-1 in Cleethorpes.

Last League Fixture:

A home crowd of 3,143 saw Grimsby defeat Second Division Luton 3-2 in February 2004, the Mariners relegated at the season's end.

Last Grimsby Hat-Trick:

Paul Groves hit his first treble for Grimsby in a 4-1 victory at



Kenilworth Road over First Division Luton in November 1992.

Last Grimsby Away Win:

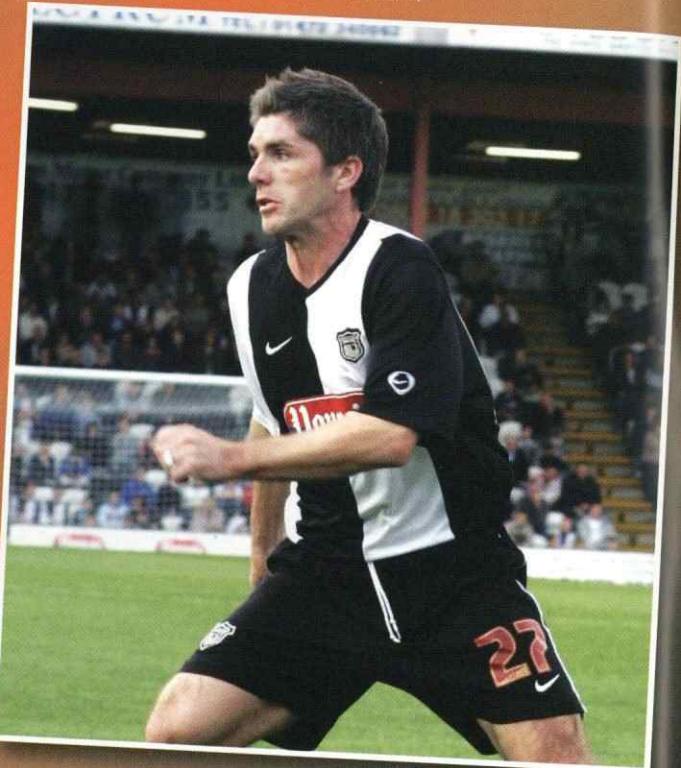
Goals from Iain Anderson and Michael Boulding secured a 2-1 Second Division success for Grimsby at Luton in August 2003.

Last Grimsby Home Defeat:

In April 1998 Luton achieved a 1-0 result at Blundell Park to dent Grimsby's promotion hopes, Rory Allen claiming the only goal.

Last to play for both Clubs:

Tony Thorpe (pictured) made over 150 FL outings (70 goals) in four spells as a Hatter, later appearing six times for Grimsby during 2006/07.



Shooting Stars

Luton Town

Football historian **LEIGH EDWARDS** profiles six post-war **LUTON TOWN** goalscoring favourites

Ron Davies

Welsh international striker Ron Davies was Luton Town's leading marksman in 1962-63. Initially with Chester, he twice topped their goalscoring charts and moved to Kenilworth Road in October 1962. He impressed with his aerial strength in a struggling side, netting 21 goals in 32 League games for Luton before joining Norwich City in September 1963. Moving to Southampton in August 1966, he was top scorer three times prior to joining Portsmouth in April 1973. He played for Manchester United, Arcadia Shepherds, LA Aztecs, Tulsa Roughnecks and Seattle Sounders, becoming a soccer coach in Florida.

Malcolm MacDonald

Ace marksman Malcolm MacDonald was capped 14 times by England after leaving Luton Town. Initially with Tonbridge, he joined Fulham in August 1968 and moved to Kenilworth Road in July 1969. He was Luton's top scorer in two consecutive seasons including their 1969-70 promotion success and netted 49 goals in 88 League games before being sold to Newcastle United for £180,000 in May 1971. An FA Cup finalist in 1974, he joined Arsenal for £330,000 in August 1976 and was an FA Cup finalist again in 1978 before injury ended his career. He managed Fulham and Huddersfield Town and now works in the media.

Brian Stein

England international striker Brian Stein scored twice in Luton Town's 1988 Littlewoods Cup final triumph. Moving to Kenilworth Road from Edgware Town in October 1977, he was leading marksman in Luton's 1981-82 Second Division success and also starred as they were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984-85 and 1987-88. He joined Caen in July 1988 and moved via Annecy back to Luton in July 1991. Voted their 'Player of the Year' for the second time in 1991-92, he netted 130 goals in 427 League games overall before joining Barnet in August 1992, helping win promotion in 1992-93. His brother Mark also played for Luton.

Paul Walsh

England international striker Paul Walsh was capped five times while at Luton Town. Signing professional for Charlton Athletic in October 1979, he starred in their 1980-81 promotion success and moved to Luton in July 1982. He was 'Player of the Year' in 1982-83 and leading marksman in 1983-84, netting 24 goals in 80 First Division games for the Hatters prior to joining Liverpool in May 1984. Helping to win the League Championship in 1985-86, he joined Tottenham Hotspur in February 1988 and was an FA Cup winner in 1991. Later with Portsmouth and Manchester City until injury ended his career, he is now a football agent.

Mick Harford

England international striker Mick Harford played for Luton Town in consecutive Littlewoods Cup finals including their 1988 Wembley triumph. Signing professional for Lincoln City in July 1977, he had spells with Newcastle United, Bristol City and Birmingham City prior to joining Luton in December 1984. He starred as the Hatters were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984-85 and 1987-88, moving to Derby County in January 1990 and returning to Luton in September 1991. Joining Chelsea in August 1992, he then played for Sunderland, Coventry and Wimbledon. He has since been coach and now manager back at Luton.

Steve Howard

Striker Steve Howard topped Luton Town's goalscoring charts in five successive seasons. Initially with Tow Law, he joined Hartlepool United in August 1995 and moved to Northampton Town for £120,000 in February 1999. He starred in their 1999-2000 promotion campaign, joining Luton for £50,000 in March 2001. A key figure as the Hatters won promotion in 2001-02, then the League One title in 2004-05; he scored 95 goals in 212 League outings before being sold to Derby County for £1,000,000 in July 2006. He helped them win promotion in 2006-07 and joined Leicester City for £1,500,000 in January 2008.



Steve Howard

Flashback

GRIMSBY TOWN

7



Livingstone 2, Bonetti, Southall, Woods, Forrester 2

LUTON TOWN

1



Marshall

FA Cup Third Round - Saturday 6th January 1996

Blundell Park was in the midst of Bonetti fever as the Mariners welcomed Division One rivals Luton Town for this FA Cup Third Round tie.

The mercurial Italian was wowing the fans with his silky wing play and stealing the headlines as Town found themselves firmly in the public eye.

Although not the plum draw that many were hoping for, the match against Luton was set to be a tough test for Brian Laws' men, particularly as the Hatters had drafted in former Ipswich man Bontcho Guentchev, who had scored a hat trick against Town in the same competition in 1993.

Laws' only injury doubt was that of centre half Mark Lever, who was replaced by former Hatter Graham Rodger. The Mariners had arguably their strongest side at their disposal; even without long term absentee Clive Mendonca.

The visitors had future Town boss Lennie Lawrence at the helm, and he also found himself with a strong squad to pick from. Another Blundell Park connection was the presence of Tony Thorpe on the



Luton bench, the striker would enjoy a loan spell at Grimsby in 2006/07.

The Mariners usually saved their best for Luton, having registered 4-1 and 5-0 victories over the Hatters in previous seasons, and this game was no exception.

Town raced out of the blocks and player/manager Laws was booked inside the opening minute. It took less than 15 minutes for the home side to open the scoring.

Bonetti curled a delightful long ball forward to Jamie Forrester on the left hand side of the penalty area. The former Leeds man cut inside before lobbing 6'7" goalkeeper Ian Feuer with an exquisite finish.

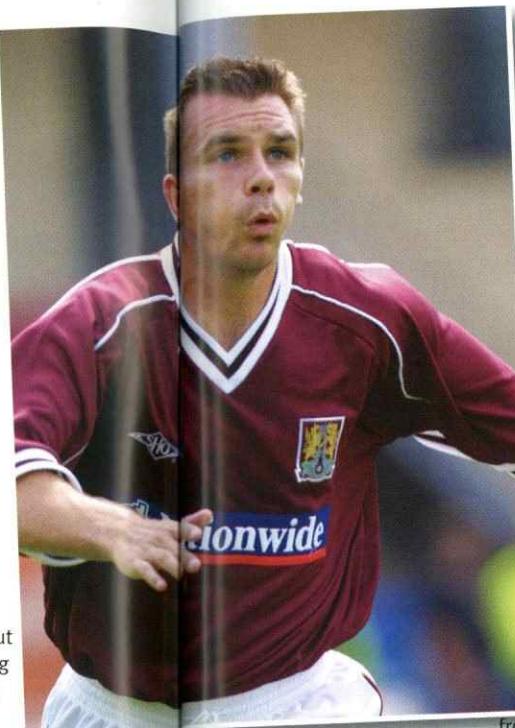
It was almost two just minutes later when Paul Groves played in Bonetti, the Italian seeing his shot saved at the second attempt by Feuer. The Hatters responded well and were inches from an equaliser when Scott Oakes cut in from the left hand side and saw his shot whistle past the post with goalkeeper Paul Crichton beaten.

Town were not to be outdone and Steve Livingstone saw a stinging drive palmed away by Feuer on 22 minutes. The former Blackburn and Chelsea star did get on the scoresheet



The hosts were fully on top now and both Forrester and Livingstone came close to adding to their lead before the third arrived on 32 minutes. Bonetti again had a part to play as he linked up with Gary Croft on the left wing. The former Juventus star saw his cross swept home by Forrester for his second of the afternoon.

Luton were in desperate



the resulting corner. Gary Childs' set piece drifted beyond the far post to Forrester who fired in a low left foot cross that was diverted in by the outstretched foot of Livingstone to double the Mariners' advantage.

need of something to get them back into the game and it came their way on 38 minutes. Guentchev's long cross into the Town box saw Dwight Marshall nip in between Croft and Crichton to reduce the arrears.

The Hatters threatened to storm back into the game, but it was the Mariners who restored their three-goal advantage before the break and fittingly it was Bonetti who got the goal. Forrester broke free on the right wing and his cross was missed by Feuer and Groves, allowing Bonetti to steal in at the far post for Town's fourth.

Laws' men were fully in control of the game and further underlined their superiority after the break. Bonetti was pulling the strings, ably assisted by Groves and Jim Dobbin in the centre, whilst the flourishing partnership of Forrester and Livingstone was causing the Hatters' defence all sorts of problems.

Bonetti, Dobbin and Childs all had chances to increase the lead before the fifth Town goal arrived on 72 minutes. Childs was the provider with a clever flick behind the defence and Livingstone turned smartly to smash the ball home from 18 yards.

With the match sewn up, manager Laws made a triple substitution on 77 minutes as Nicky Southall, Craig Shakespeare and Neil Woods replaced Childs,

Dobbin and Livingstone - all three substitutes would have time to make their mark as the floodgates opened.

Southall's first touch saw the sixth Town goal fly in as the midfielder emphatically volleyed home Woods' cross. The roles were reversed with time ticking away as Woods netted the Mariners' seventh of the afternoon. Southall whipped in a cross and the current Grimsby Head of Youth saw his scuffed shot creep past Feuer to complete a miserable afternoon for the Hatters.

THE TEAMS:

GRIMSBY TOWN:

Crichton, Laws, Croft, Rodger, Handside, Childs (Shakespeare 77), Dobbin (Southall 77), Groves, Bonetti, Forrester, Livingstone (Woods 77).

LUTON TOWN:

Feuer, Patterson, Thomas, Waddock, James, Johnson, Guentchev, Oakes, Oldfield, McLaren (Alexander 57), Marshall. **Subs not used:** Harvey, Thorpe.



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Tonight's mascots

Mariners' Mascot

Name: Alexander Lait

Age: 9

Hobbies:

Football, Tennis and Golf

Favourite Mariners:

Peter Till and Phil Barnes

Predicted Score:

Mariners 1 Luton 0



Luton Town Mascot

Name: Mark Asbury

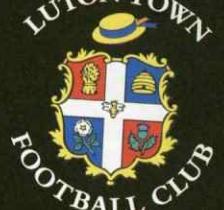
Age: 14

School: Barry Boys

Favourite Hatter: Dean Brill

Predicted Score:

Grimsby 1 Hatters 1



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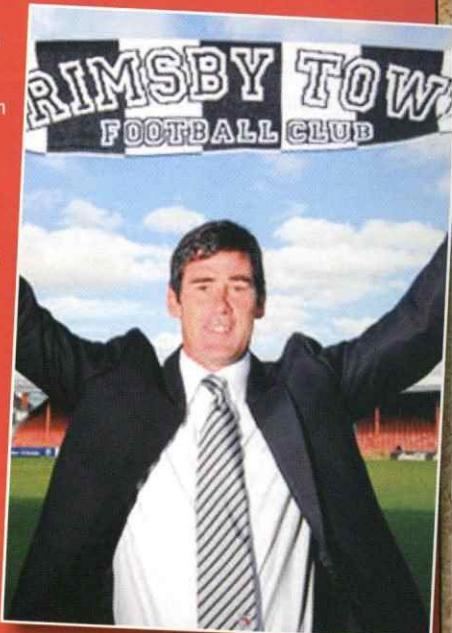
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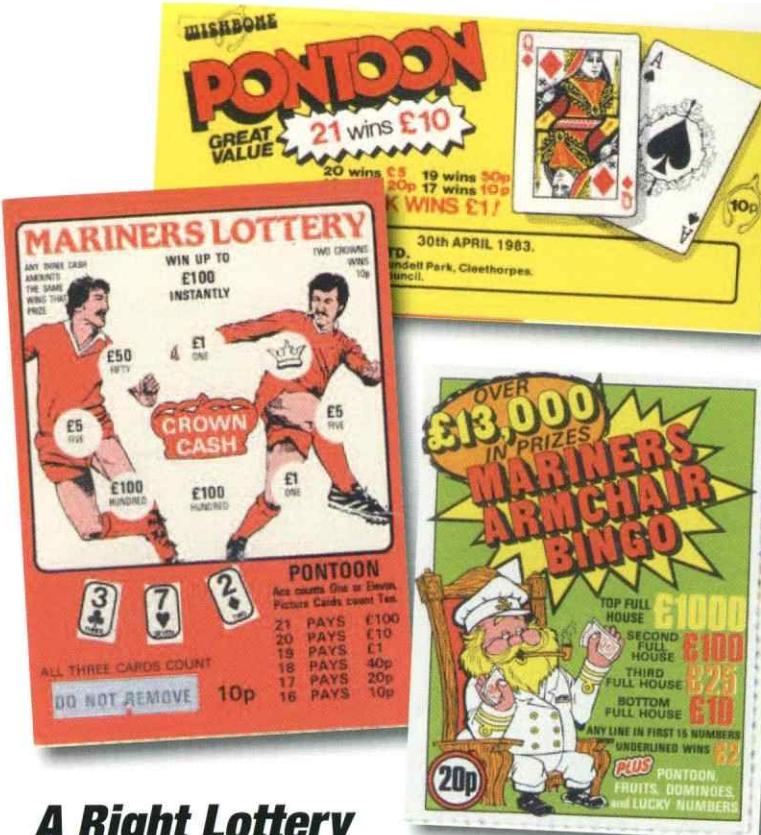
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A Right Lottery

Today's 'Mariners Memorabilia' offering could take the form of a quiz question.

What, in relatively recent times was sold in their millions, but few examples survive today? The answer is lottery tickets, for who other than a collector would keep a non-winning ticket?

Grimsby's own commercial ventures took-off in the late-1960s with 'Black & White Bingo' tickets (sales at one time reaching 15,000 a week) and the 'Beat the Clock' tickets, based on goal times. However, it was the inflationary 1970s that saw Town (under the direction of Alec King) begin its own 'Mariners Lottery' during 1977/78, the venture soon proving both popular and profitable.

In 1978 the club boasted more

than 500 agents, while for season 1979/80 (Town's Third Division title campaign) a lottery profit of just over £100,000 was announced. Such income was invaluable, providing timely revenue for transfers and ground improvements.

Apart from draw tickets there was also an array offering instant wins, with our examples dating from the early/mid-1980s. All produced by Leeds' company Norton & Wright Ltd., the 'Ponntoon' ticket (1983) cost 10p, with a top prize of £10 for a score of 21. The 1984 'Mariners Armchair Bingo' was double the price, but more enticing with a £1,000 jackpot for a full house. And finally, the

'Mariners Lottery' ticket (1985) was of the scratch card type with three amounts the same winning that value. For those who can remember, this latter card was similar in format to the green Great Grimsby Borough Council lottery ticket of the same period, though featured the Dock Tower instead of footballers.

In February 1985, Alec King announced that GTFC had sold an impressive TEN MILLION lottery tickets in just seven years. Despite their rarity though, those illustrated have only nominal values – probably no more than what they originally cost to buy!

Mariners Memorabilia

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At the heart of local sport

SCUNTHORPE UNITED

Togwell, Morris

GRIMSBY TOWN

Bishop

2



1



COMPETITION: Johnstone's Paint Trophy Northern Section Second Round

VENUE: Glanford Park | DATE: Tuesday 7th October 2008 | ATTENDANCE: 4,844



If there was a game the Mariners did not deserve to lose then it was this one. They more than matched League One high fliers Scunthorpe, but two goals in four first half minutes would eventually prove their undoing.

It was a shaky start from the visitors and Liam Trotter and Danny Boshell had to be alert to clear headers off the line as the Iron threatened in the opening minutes.

Town, backed by nearly 1000 vociferous fans who had made the short trip down the A180, rallied and played their way back into the game.

Their best opportunity of the half fell to Nathan Jarman on 19 minutes. Peter Till embarked upon a trademark mazy run and his clipped cross was headed against the bar by the ex-Barnsley striker.

The game turned on its head shortly before the break though. James Hunt was booked for a foul and from the resulting free kick; Sam Togwell was

left unmarked to head home.

Within four minutes the Iron had doubled their lead. Ian Morris was afforded space on the edge of the area and he buried a 25-yard drive in the bottom left-hand corner.

The Mariners responded after the break and pulled a goal back on 49 minutes. There was hesitancy in the Scunthorpe backline and Nick Hegarty was quickest to react, taking a touch before firing beyond Josh Lillis.

Town really gained the upper hand and when Boshell was felled on the edge of the area it was Jamie Clarke who saw his wonderful curling free kick crash against the bar.

The Mariners continued to pour forward, whilst Phil Barnes remained resolute in goal, but there would be no way through. Town's luck deserting them as they hit the woodwork for a third time through a Ryan Bennett header on 79 minutes.

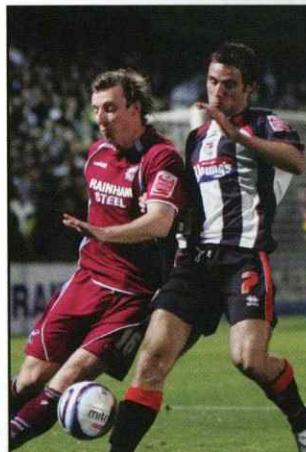
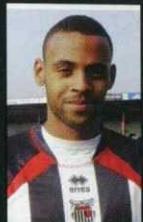
MATCH FACTS:

Town: Barnes, Bennett, Heywood, Newey, Clarke, Hegarty, Hunt (Llewellyn 79), Trotter, Boshell, Till (Taylor 76), Jarman (Ameobi 76).
Subs not used: Montgomery, Stockdale.

MARINERS' MAN OF THE MATCH:

Liam Trotter. An all-action display in the centre of the park, the on-loan Ipswich man was at the heart of everything for the Mariners.

What They Said: We have struggled for goals all season but tonight we were more positive and we have had a few more shots at goal." (Jamie Clarke)



A Day in the life of...

Rae Walker (Club Secretary)

9.00am

Rae arrives at Blundell Park for another hectic Matchday. The computers are switched on and it's time to sift through the countless e-mails that have arrived overnight.

9.15am

There is always plenty of paperwork connected with the football club and Rae can use this opportunity to catch up with various documents. Usually there are team sheets from various midweek games that need completing and sending to the correct authorities. It is vitally important that all the information is correct on these, otherwise the club could face a penalty.

9.35am

Rae has a hand in the club's fruitful Club Shop, and with the changeover to Errea there are plenty of new ideas floating around. One such idea is to make t-shirts of replica Grimsby shirts



available to the fans.

Accompanying these is a classic game on DVD, Rae labels up these DVDs and makes sure all the details are correct – Matchdays are the most profitable time for these items.

10.00am

In conjunction with Ticket Office Manager Lisa Piggott, Rae makes sure that all the Matchday Staff are sufficiently briefed and in the correct positions.

10.25am

Chief Executive Ian Fleming has some important documents that need completing before the Matchday rush begins. In her role as Club Secretary, Rae is also the Chief Executive's PA and this is a vital role in terms of getting paperwork for players etc. completed.

11.00am

Before every game the Mariners' fans are treated to music etc. on the PA system. Rae makes sure that the laptop for the PA box is in working order with the correct songs and all the necessary jingles on there.

11.35am

It's not just the fans



that need tickets on Matchdays, the players' families will also require tickets and Rae has to make sure that all requests are looked after and sent to the Players' Entrance. The visiting side will also have their requests and these tickets need to be organised, placed in an envelope and sent over to the Away Team dressing room where the players can place them on the Players' Entrance at the Main Stand gate.

12.00pm

There is a disaster in the Club Shop. One of the club's replica kit display models has fallen to bits. Rae and Commercial Assistant Lucie Ramsden complete a salvage job on the model whilst Study Support Centre Manager Oliver Cowling unhelpfully looks on. Commercial Manager Dave Smith is last seen scuttling off in the direction of McMenemy's.

12.30pm

The Match Officials arrive at Blundell Park and Rae and Chief Executive Ian Fleming greet them, making sure that everything is catered for and that they know their way to the Blundell Park dressing rooms.

1.00pm

There is a quick trip to the Boardroom to meet Chairman John Fenty and his fellow directors; Rae enquires if anyone needs anything from the main office.

1.20pm

Manager Mike Newell arrives at Blundell Park ready for the game. Rae greets the new manager and ensures everything is in order for him. Usually there is some paperwork, memos and post for the Town boss.

1.45pm

The Blundell Park ticket office is really getting busy and Rae takes time out to help the Matchday staff serve the fans.

2.10pm

Rae ensures that Club Shop Manager Fiona Fenty has sufficient numbers of staff and that the Club Shop is safely stewarded. Rae sometimes liaises with Ground Safety Officer Terry Rudrum to ensure that a steward is in place.

2.20pm

The teams are in! Arguably the most important job on a Matchday



is the completion of the teamsheets. Press, the PA Box, VIPs and the club's bars all require the teamsheets a good 15 minutes before kick-off. Rae has to make sure that the sheets are filled in quickly and accurately, and printed on the correct paper.

4.50pm

The game is over and win, lose or draw all staff are on hand to reopen the Ticket Office and Club Shop.

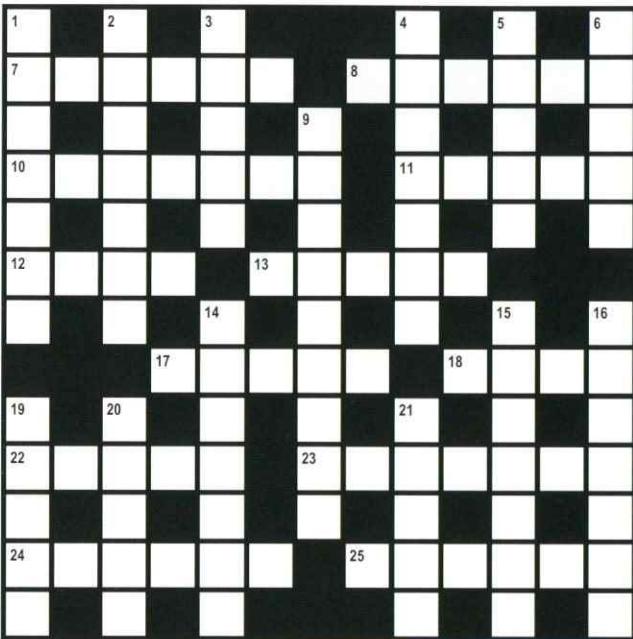


5.15pm

In the digital age there is little respite and within minutes of the match ending fans and other interested parties are on the phone and e-mail enquiring about the next game, and incidents that may have happened on the day. Rae mans the phones and completes anymore paperwork before the office closes at roughly 5.45pm.

Mighty's Lighter Note

See how quickly you can complete today's cracking crossword (courtesy of our friends at sportsxwords):



Fun Facts about Tonight's Visitors

FOUNDED: In April 1885, a meeting at Luton Town Hall involving local clubs' Wanderers and Excelsior led to the formation of Luton Town FC. Five years later they became the first professional side in the south of England.

ODD SPOT: During season 1920-21 Third Division Luton were awarded a penalty in both home and away fixtures against Bristol Rovers. However, on each occasion Rovers' keeper Jesse Whatley saved from Luton's future England international, Ernie Simms.



ACROSS: 7. GORDON 8. LAWRENCE 9. KINNEAR 11. RIND 12. ALMA 13. DEREK 14. CARLISLEY 15. KHAZ 16. BOOSTER 16. BURNDIE 19. MESSI 20. BARRY 21. BLACKIE 22. LEAVENS 23. GRANSON 24. STEEL 25. KEEWELL
DOWN: 1. MOR 2. ELLIOTT 3. GOWER 4. LAURSEN 5. BURNET 6. LEFTY 9. GREENIDGE



Across

- 7 Sunderland's Scottish international keeper (6)
- 8 Last British winner of The Open (6)
- 10 Crazy Gang manager also boss at Luton and Forest (7)
- 11 Austrian great who is only posthumous F1 world champion (5)
- 12 Hashim _____, first player of Indian descent to play Test cricket for South Africa (4)
- 13 Dougan or Fazackerley (5)
- 14 Sven managed this Roman club to Serie A success (5)
- 15 Burnley play at Turf _____ (4)
- 16 Ched _____, Man City youngster who scored Wales winner in Iceland in May on debut (5)
- 17 Blackpool boss whose brother played cricket for Essex and Yorkshire (7)
- 18 Leicester's Filbert or Hereford's Edgar (6)
- 19 Injury prone Aussie once of Liverpool (6)

Down

- 1 The _____, Ismaili Muslim leader who owned Shergar amongst his 4 Derby winners (3,4)
- 2 Swansea's Scouse cult hero (7)
- 3 Left handed great now fronting Sky's cricket coverage (5)
- 4 Danish centre back who was a Villa ever present last season (7)
- 5 Creative left footer for Baggies and N Ireland (5)
- 6 Phil Mickelson's nickname (5)
- 7 Formed one of the great West Indian opening partnerships with Desmond Haynes (9)
- 8 Recently moved from Everton to Birmingham (7)
- 9 Philip Hobbs' Champion Hurdle winner, Rooster _____ (7)
- 10 From F1 cockpit to ITV's expert analyser (7)
- 11 Barcelona's Argentinian wonderkid (5)
- 12 Involved in transfer saga between Villa and Liverpool (5)
- 13 Peter _____, 93 Ryder Cup hero who was one of Woosnam's Ryder Cup assistants (5)

FOOTBALL FORTUNES

This season's Players' Quiz has a little bit of a retro flavour to it as we play Football Fortunes. The rules are simple; each week a Grimsby Town star will take part in two rounds answering questions that have been put to a poll of 50 random people. The first is one question with the aim to get as many answers as possible without losing the three lives. A full set of answers means double points! The second round features five questions with the aim to get as many top answers as possible – top answers mean double points! The points are tallied up at the end and added to our leaderboard.

** = Double Points

RICHARD HOPE

Position: Defender
DOB: 22.06.78 | **Birthplace:** Stockton
GTFC Apps: 3 | **Goals:** 0



ROUND 1

Name six of the top foreign stars to play in Serie A in the 90s:

	Points
1. David Platt	X
2. Ruud Gullit	18
3. Paul Gascoigne	X
4. Jürgen Klinsmann	X
5. Lothar Matthäus	12
6. Andres Brehme	6
Total	36

Missing Answers:
Diego Maradona, Marco Van Basten, Gabriel Batistuta

ROUND 2

1. Name an England goalscorer in their two World Cup qualifying matches against Kazakhstan and Belarus:

ANSWER: Wayne Rooney *36*
TOP ANSWER: Wayne Rooney 36

2. Name a Premier League player nominated for the African Footballer of the Year Award:

ANSWER: Michael Essien 23
TOP ANSWER: Didier Drogba 31

3. Name one of the clubs that Stoke goalkeeper Thomas Sorensen says that Aston Villa refused to let him join in the summer:

ANSWER: Blackburn Rovers *28*
TOP ANSWER: Blackburn Rovers 28

4. Name a Thai International released by Manchester City in the wake of Thaksin Shinawatra's departure from the club.

ANSWER: Sun Gun Hi
TOP ANSWER: Suree Sukha 19

5. Name a Premier League club interested in signing German goalkeeper Roman Weidenfeller.

ANSWER: Tottenham Hotspur X
TOP ANSWER: Middlesbrough 20

Total: 151

Overall Total: 187

LEADERBOARD

1. Tom Newey	427
2. Robbie Stockdale	369
3. Ryan Bennett	328
4. Matthew Heywood	299
5. Phil Barnes	194
6. Richard Hope	187

Carlsberg

PROBABLY THE BEST SUPPORTER IN THE WORLD

Out on the Town

Rotherham United v Grimsby Town

Saturday 4th October | Don Valley Stadium

The Journey

After the much documented engineering works between Grimsby and Sheffield, it was with much smugness that I found a train to take the strain on the first leg of our journey to Rotherham – although in hindsight I wish I hadn't.

Yes folks, the 11.13 from Cleethorpes is right up there with the 4.50 from Paddington for comfort and safety. A charabanc of the lowest order, it's a wonder this train got past Blundell Park, never mind the Don Valley! However, here it was rocking and swaying like a demented Janis Joplin in full swing, cutting a route through the Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire countryside.

For the football purists amongst us this is non-league country; Brigg Town, Gainsborough Trinity, Retford United, Worksop Town and Sheffield United (perhaps not the last one) – they are all on the list.

We crawl into Sheffield some two hours-plus later and I make a mental note to personally thank The On The Road scribe for mentioning this alternative route next time I see them (nothing to do with me – Ed). A short tram ride later and it is time for a well-earned pre-match pint.

2/10

Pubs

Two words: Valley Centertainment. If our proposed ground at Great Coates ever comes to fruition then a Humber version of this is a necessity!

Bowling, cinema, bars, restaurants and much, much more – Nando's and Frankie and Benny's are the venues of choice.

These may like the traditional tendencies of some other trips but in terms of wetness and sustenance then it ticks all boxes, even if it is a little overpriced.

7/10

The Ground

Well...it's a bigger version of the Withdean/King George V Stadium and it brings nothing to a football match apart from novelty value. The ticket office is a fair old trek from the away end and the match has kicked off by the time we take our seat. The view is clear but the distance from the pitch rekindles memories of long forgotten trips to Molineux and Stamford Bridge, i.e. light years! Thankfully the half time facilities are excellent. The large concourse area means fans can mingle with a pie and a pint and the queues are kept to a minimum.

However, the openness of the ground means that you are open to the elements, and to compound matters – it rained!

3/10

The Match

I viewed this match as a must-win heading into the game and my views have not changed since.

Forget the fact that Rotherham have had a fantastic start to the season, it was imperative that we kept the

negative figures as long as possible. For 45 minutes everything was going to plan. Danny Boshell let fly with a screamer and Town were in full control. There was an air of nervousness at half time though, and those fears were confirmed as Town capitulated in the second half. More fun was had trying to catch a glimpse of our prospective new manager in the crowd.

2/10

The Journey Home

Talk about long-winded – the journey home from Rotherham takes roughly an hour and a half, unless you are with Mumby and his detour via Berwick-on-Tweed adding an extra three-and-a-half hours to proceedings. I digress though, as it took us until eleven o'clock for this weary body to hit the bed – all of a sudden the Mumbymobile looked like a viable option. There was a stop for watering at Old Orleans in the Valley Centertainment before dinner, but even departing at 7.30pm from Meadowhall, it took an astonishing three hours and more to get to Cleethorpes, thanks to replacement bus services and the general inconvenience that is Scunthorpe.

1/10

Total Score: 15/50





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GRIMSBY TOWN

Bore

WYCOMBE

Johnson

COMPETITION: Coca-Cola League Two | VENUE: Blundell Park

DATE: Saturday 11th October 2008 | ATTENDANCE: 4562



New Grimsby Town manager Mike Newell was denied a victory in his first game in charge thanks to Leon Johnson's 90th-minute header for League Two leaders Wycombe Wanderers.

The Mariners got off to the perfect start with a goal inside the opening minute. Nathan Jarman used his strength and played in Nick Hegarty. The Town winger managed to get a shot in on goal that squirmed underneath goalkeeper Scott Shearer with Bore sliding in to add the finishing touch.

As would be expected from Wanderers they pushed Town back for long periods but were regularly thwarted by the in-form Phil Barnes who twice denied Chris Zebroski and former Mariner Matt Harrold.

In the second half the visitors really penned the Mariners back but

found Barnes and his back four in a mean mood.

Town did have their opportunities going forward as well; Shearer snuffed out James Hunt's low cross with Jarman looking to pounce, and the Scottish stopper then acrobatically tipped away a 25-yard effort by Hegarty.

It looked as if Town had the three points secured as first Barnes somehow clawed away a Zebroski header and then Wycombe midfielder Tommy Doherty was dismissed after a late challenge on Hunt.

The visitors had one last push though and got their equaliser in stoppage time. A left wing free kick was deflected off Harrold and Johnson was on hand to plant the header into the Osmond goal.

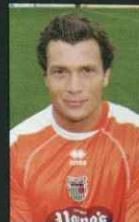


MATCH FACTS:

Town: Barnes, Clarke, Bennett, Heywood, Newey, Till (Kamara 60), Hunt, Trotter, Hegarty, Bore (Heslop 60), Jarman **Subs not used:** Montgomery, Taylor, Stockdale.

MARINERS' MAN OF THE MATCH:

Phil Barnes. An inspirational performance from the Town stopper as he kept the league leaders frustrated.



WHAT THEY SAID: "It was a dream start for us – you could not have wished for anything more." (Mike Newell)



Sponsor A Goal

Amy Tows
Andy Palmer
Anna Broadburn-Lawson
Barry Whittaker
Bernard and Sheila Stafford
Bob Read

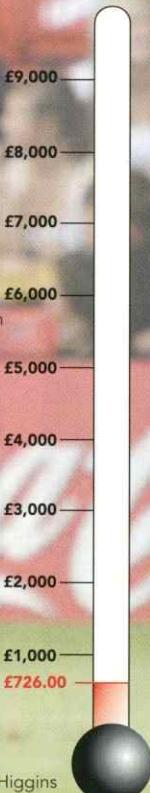
Carl Hullett
Catherine Hullett
Charlotte Bunten
Christopher Broadburn
Connor Parsons
Dave Roberts
Dave Smith
Dave, Laura & Sarah Cook
David Blakey
Dean Fitzsimons

Deborah Normandale
Electrical Wholesale Services LTD
GTST
Helen & Stephen Marley
Ian Robinson
Ian Townsend
Julie & Tash Holmes

Kathryn Broadburn
Lee Bradley
Lincs Radio Ltd
Lindsey Thomas Bathroom Design
Louie Cockerill
Malcolm Finning
Martin Copass
Martyn Winters
Michael Robinson
Miss Freda Limon
Mr D.R. Eves
Mr M.D. Hearn
Mr S.P. Clarke

Mr V. Riggall
Mr Winston Walters
Olivia Cammack
Patricia & Steven Mapley
Patrick Lince
Phil Emberson

Rachael Pullen
Roy Gladwell
Shaun Smith, Sarah & Carrie Ann Higgins



Indirect

Name: Tomi Ameobi

Personal

Marital Status: Single

Children: None

Best Friend in Football:

Fabien Delph

Hobbies: Chilling Out

Hidden talents: Singing

Dream Place to Live: GY!!

Football

Team Supported as a youngster: Newcastle

First team played for:
Walker Central

Idol growing up:

It's only fair I say my Brother

Best player played with:
James Coppinger

Best player played against:
Pedro Mendes

Most memorable match:
Portsmouth

Most embarrassing moment:
Luckily I haven't had any!

Best player in the world today:
Grant Normington/Ronaldo!

Other Sports:

Which other sport would you like to play professionally?
Tennis

What is your favourite sport to watch? Tennis

Sporting hero outside football: Roger Federer

How will Danny North's Sunday League team fare this season? Relegation Battle

TV

Favourite TV Programme:

House

Last film you saw:

The Stranglers

Last DVD you watched:

24

Favourite TV personality:
Jamie Foxx

TV personality who makes you change the channel:
Peter Kay

Music

Favourite band/artist /group:

Lil Wayne/Jay-Z

Song you would sing at karaoke: Can't Touch This

Last album you bought:
Carter 3 - Lil Wayne

Music you would never listen to: Opera

Either/Or

Pattinson or Pietersen

Pizza or Pasta

Big Brother Or X -factor

Night out with the lads or night in with the missus

Gordon Brown or David Cameron

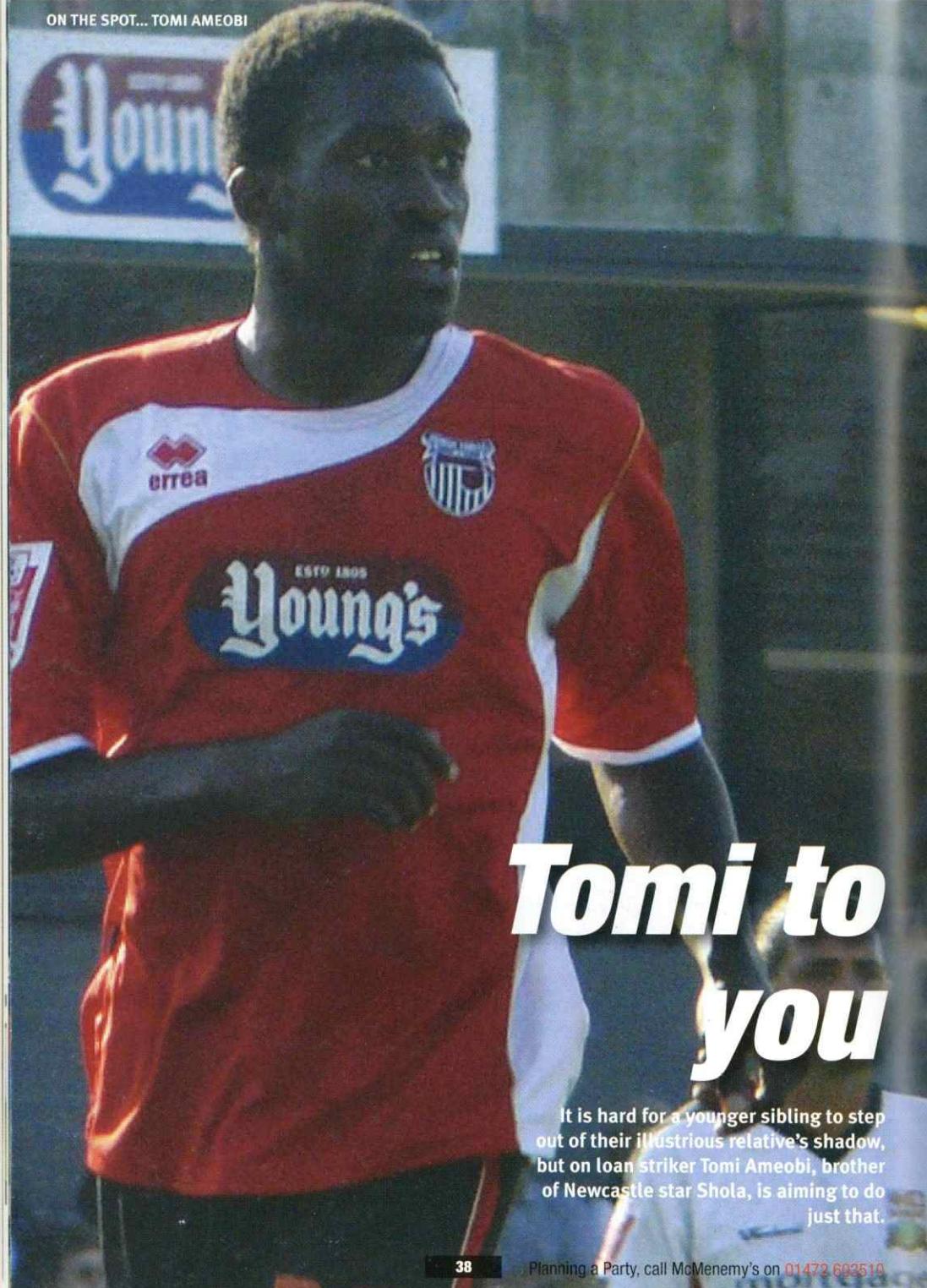
Skydiving or Abseiling

Snooker or Darts

Setanta or Sky Sports News

Peaches or Bob Geldof

Kiera Knightly or Siena Miller



Tomi to you

It is hard for a younger sibling to step out of their illustrious relative's shadow, but on loan striker Tomi Ameobi, brother of Newcastle star Shola, is aiming to do just that.

The Doncaster forward can meet his aim by taking in loan spells like the month he is currently spending at Blundell Park.

The 20-year-old, whose full name is Oluwatomilo, was on the books of Newcastle United as a youngster but it was at a more grass roots level that he was snapped up by Leeds United, he recalled:

"I was playing Sunday League and was picked up by Leeds United who had some scouts watching the game. I joined them the season before they got relegated so it was actually the season they made into the Play Offs."

After falling at the final hurdle with a return to the Premier League, expectations were high at Elland Road for the following season. The 3-0 defeat to Watford in Cardiff had taken more out of the club than anyone could imagine though, and when manager Kevin Blackwell was dismissed halfway through the season then the odds really began to stack up against the Whites:

"Obviously everyone was expecting us to do really well after getting to the Play Off Final," said Tomi, "but things just didn't work out. It was a bit of a shock finding ourselves in the position that we did and that went against us because we found it harder and harder to pull ourselves clear."

After relegation, disaster followed

All the latest news visit www.gtfco.co.uk

for Leeds with a 15-point deduction and the club realistically looking at dropping all the way through to League Two. Ameobi was just starting to make a mark on the first team.

The 6'3" striker made his United debut in a Carling Cup tie at Portsmouth in August 2007, partnering Tresor Kandol in attack, he admits that he remembers little of the game that gallant Leeds lost 3-0, he said:

"The one thing I remember about the game was that it was a fantastic atmosphere even though it was only a cup game. I only got on for the final few minutes but it was a great experience for me."

The Whites looked set to complete a remarkable turnaround and clinch promotion despite their initial 15-point deficit but then manager Dennis Wise left for a role at Newcastle and the Yorkshire club suffered a dip in form. Tomi feels that Wise's departure didn't affect the side that much though:

"They couldn't be expected to win every game so I don't think it affected them that much. They had done well to get where they were and they will be looking to go one step further this season."

"They've gone onto do well. I think the new manager (Gary McAllister) has installed a lot of confidence in the players and I wish them all the luck."



Only one more appearance for Leeds followed in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy at Darlington before Tomi embarked upon a two-month loan spell at Scunthorpe, he recalled:

"It was a first for me and it was the first club I had been to on loan. It was an up and down period because sometimes I was in the squad and sometimes I wasn't."

With Leeds pushing for promotion from League One, it was a completely different experience to go to North Lincolnshire and battle against relegation. Although the Iron eventually dropped into League One themselves, he admits that he is pleased to see the club doing well now:

"They were a good set of lads though and they've got a good manager there and I think they are proving their worth this season."

There was more Play Off heartbreak for United at the end of the season as they lost out to



Yorkshire rivals Doncaster at Wembley, just a few weeks later and Tomi was heading to the Championship with Rovers, he explained the move:

"I thought my days at Leeds were numbered and I had a sit down with my agent and we talked about it. Doncaster had shown some interest in me and I jumped at the chance to join them really."

To continue his learning curve, Tomi sought a loan move away

from the Keepmoat Stadium and that brought him to Cleethorpes. Halfway through his loan spell new manager Mike Newell arrived at the club and Tomi feels he has already had an impact on the squad:

"It has been really positive," he declared, "and I think that you could see that in the performance against Wycombe. He knows what he wants out of players and he has the man management skills to get that."

"He has told us to be positive in every game we are playing in and hopefully that will get us out of the predicament we are in.

"I've not been involved against Wycombe but I have enjoyed the three games I have played in, and when the lads play like that you can't be too disappointed."

Elsewhere in the Ameobi family, brother Shola is fighting his way back to fitness at Newcastle, with younger sibling Sammiusto coming through the St. James Park ranks:

"He (Shola) is doing well," stated Tomi, "although I don't get much chance to keep in touch with him. He is still at Newcastle and looking to work his way back into the first team picture."

"There is a lot going on up there but I am sure that over time it will get better."



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GOALKEEPER

Kelvin Davis (Wimbledon)
29.09.76, Bedford

England Under-21 International Kelvin Davis was a £600,000 capture from Luton Town in July 1999. The stopper established himself as the Dons' number one following their relegation to Division One. Currently at Southampton, the 32-year-old has impressed for both Ipswich and Sunderland.

RIGHT BACK

Glen Johnson (West Ham United)
23.08.84, Greenwich

England International Glen Johnson burst onto the scene with the Hammers in 2002/03 before a big money move to Chelsea. A host of honours followed at Stamford Bridge, and after a successful loan spell at Portsmouth, the move to Fratton Park was made permanent and he has firmly established himself in their first team.

CENTRE BACKS

Glenn Loovens (Cardiff City)
Doeotinchem, Holland, 22.09.83

Dutch Under-21 International Glenn Loovens has proven to be a real bargain since a £250,000 move from Feyenoord in August 2005. The 25-year-old was an integral part of the Bluebirds side that reached the FA Cup Final last term.

Anton Ferdinand (West Ham United)
Peckham, 18.02.85

Brother of Manchester United star Rio, Anton Ferdinand is following in

All the latest news visit www.gtfc.co.uk

Dream Team

In our latest series, your Grimsby Town favourites pick their Dream Team, the eleven best players they have played alongside. In this issue **MALVIN KAMARA** selects his Dream Team:



his footsteps with a series of classy performances. Anton played over 150 times for the Hammers, helping them to the Premier League and the FA Cup Final, before joining Sunderland in August.

LEFT BACK

Joe Ledley (Cardiff City)
Cardiff, 23.01.87

Highly-rated Welsh International Joe Ledley has made over 150 appearances for the Bluebirds since coming through the ranks at Ninian Park. Joe played a starring role as the Welsh side reached the FA Cup Final last season.

RIGHT MIDFIELD

Jobi McAnuff (Wimbledon)
Edmonton, 09.11.81

Jamaican International Jobi McAnuff burst onto the scene with Wimbledon in 2000 where his pace and skill caught the eye. He has since gone onto star for West Ham, Cardiff, Crystal Palace and Watford.

CENTRAL MIDFIELD

Nigel Reo-Coker (Wimbledon)
Thornton Heath, 14.05.84

Combative midfielder Nigel Reo-Coker was a star for Wimbledon after coming through the ranks in 2002. A steal for West Ham at £575,000, Nigel pushed himself into the England reckoning and now is a regular for Aston Villa.

Stephen McPhail (Cardiff City)
Westminster, 09.12.79
Irish midfielder Stephen McPhail





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League Two Review



Shrewsbury

Shrewsbury Town have opted not to extend Sean Thornton's loan spell, despite a plea from the player wanting to stay at the club. Sean has been sent back to Leyton Orient as his wage demands were deemed too expensive for Shrewsbury Town. Marc Pugh has returned to the league two side from Luton and may become more of a fixture in the starting eleven. Shrewsbury have said they will keep tabs on Thornton in case the situation changes.



Barnet

A 19-year-old winger who agreed to a short term contract with League One side Cheltenham has joined Barnet on loan until January. Ryan Burge only agreed his contract just last month but has opted to take a trip to the club he supported as a boy. Burge was released by Birmingham City earlier in the year but has an impressive CV, as he has spent time at West Brom, Ajax, Manchester United, Hereford and Coventry City.



Chesterfield

Defender Alan Goodall has been suspended for one match after receiving his fifth yellow card of the season. Alan was given the card in the game against Chester.



Bournemouth

Jimmy Quinn has this week given his comments about a regional restructure

of the football league. The Bournemouth manager feels that a total restructure of League One and Two would have a positive impact on the football in this country.

Jimmy thinks that the move will help both fans and clubs alike. From a financial point of view midweek games would be played closer to home and means that more fans would be able to get there. They would not have to pay out for travel and hotels and they would have time to get to the match after work. If this was to happen Bournemouth alone would reduce their mileage from 7000 to 4300 a season.



Port Vale

Paul Edwards has this week put himself forward to be the inspiration

to help the club climb the League Two table. Paul made his first appearance in a Port Vale shirt for seven months in the club's 2-1 defeat at Notts County. The 28-year-old is so happy to be back in the team and fit that he hopes to pass on his enthusiasm to his fellow team mates. Despite joining the club in 2007 Edwards has only made 17 starts due to time out with a knee injury – Port Vale currently sit 19th in League Two.



Chester City

Simon Davies has this week expressed his disappointment at

Paul Taylor's lack of effort since his loan spell at the club started. The 20-year-old did not appear at the game against Chesterfield or Grimsby. Taylor is on loan from Vauxhall Motors and has been warned and fined by the club for his lack of effort and appearance.



The former Manchester City player has played just four times for Chester this season.





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On the Road



v Dagenham & Redbridge

Tuesday 28th October 2008 | KO: 19.45

The Mariners return to London for this League Two fixture with Dagenham & Redbridge. The Daggers have had a fine start to the season with a number of impressive wins under their belt. Town will be looking to fare better than August's 4-0 loss at Brentford.

How to get there:

Leave the M25 at Junction 27 and take the M11 towards London. At the end of the M11 continue onto the A406 towards Docklands (A13) and London City Airport. At the intersection with the A13, turn onto this road towards Dagenham/Dartford Tunnel. As you near Dagenham, you will see a cinema complex on your left. At this point you leave the A13 and join the A1306 towards Dagenham. At the third set of traffic lights turn left at the McDonalds into Ballards Road. At the end of this road you will come to a large roundabout, (known as the Bull roundabout, after the public house of the same name) at which you turn left, into Rainham Road. Proceed up Rainham Road passing Dagenham East tube station on the left and Victoria Road is a quarter of a mile further on, on the same side of the road.

Parking:

There is a fair sized car park at the ground which is free, but is normally full 45 minutes ahead of kick off. Otherwise street parking.

Rail:

Take the District Line to Dagenham East (and not Dagenham Heathway). Turn left as you come out of the station and the ground is clearly sign posted and only five minutes walk

away. Please note that the journey by tube from Central London can take around 45 minutes.

Eating & Drinking:

There is a fair sized social club at the ground, which allows in away supporters for a nominal fee. Otherwise there are three pubs in walking distance of the ground. The nearest is The Eastbrook, which down the hill towards Golds Gym. There is also The Railway which is down the road beside the station. A ten minute walk away is the Bull, which is down Rainham Road (going past the Jet Garage), by a large roundabout.

The Ground:

The majority of away fans are housed in the Pondfield Road terrace at one end of the ground. This area accommodates 1,200 fans. It is a small terrace, being around 10 rows high and is open to the elements, so be prepared to get wet. However, the view from this part of the ground isn't bad and the refreshments are excellent. A small section of seats is also allocated, in a small stand adjacent to the Carling Stand. Although this stand does have cover, it does have a number of supporting pillars that may impede your view. There is normally a good atmosphere within the ground and there are normally no problems for visiting fans.

Staying Over:

For fans wishing to stay over then the nearest hotel is the Express by Holiday Inn in nearby Newbury Park, Redbridge. Room rates start at £69.00 and the hotel is well served by the Tube. For



Copyright Owen Davey

football fanatics, the West Ham United Hotel, set within Upton Park, is less than 10km away with rooms starting at just £40.00.

One to Watch:

Paul Benson

The Dagenham striker has been amongst the goals this season after an injury-hit first campaign in League football. Benson has formed a great partnership with Ben Strevens and the duo will be looking to fire the Daggers to victory.

Last Time Out:

Dagenham 0 Grimsby Town 0

Saturday 19th January 2008 | League Two
The Mariners' first trip to Victoria Road ended in a stalemate with neither side creating many clear cut chances.

The Daggers were looking to pull away from the drop zone, whilst Town were in the middle of a ten-game unbeaten run. Town were dealt a blow when they lost centre half Nick Fenton to injury before half time, but teenager Ryan Bennett stepped in admirably.

The visitors' best chance fell to James Hunt, but he saw his close range effort blocked. Meanwhile Phil Barnes was largely untroubled in the Town goal.

Dagenham & Redbridge: Thompson, Foster, Uddin, Boardman, Griffiths, Saunders, Southam, Huke, Sloma, Nurse (Taylor 71), Strevens. **Subs not used:** Hogan, Smith, Taiwo, Hall.

Grimsby Town: Barnes, Hird, Atkinson, Fenton (Bennett 40), Newey, Hegarty, Bolland, Hunt, Clarke (Boshell 84), North, Taylor (82), Jones. **Subs not used:** Montgomery, Till.

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Matthew Heywood

Nationality: English Previous Clubs: Date of Birth: 26/08/1979 Swindon Town, Brentford, Defender Burnley, Bristol City

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Phil Barnes

Nationality: English Previous Clubs: Date of Birth: 02/03/1979 Swindon Town, Rotherham, Position: Goalkeeper Blackpool, QPR, Torquay United (loan)

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Robbie Stockdale

Nationality: English Previous Clubs: Date of Birth: 30/11/1979 Sheffield Wed, Tranmere, Rotherham, West Ham United, Darrington, Hull City, Defender Blackpool, QPR, Torquay United (loan)

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Tom Newey

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Richard Hope

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Peter Till

Nationality: English Previous Clubs: Date of Birth: 07/09/1985 Boston Utd, Scunthorpe, Midfielder Birmingham, Leyton Orient

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Paul Bolland

Nationality: English Previous Clubs: Date of Birth: 23/12/1979 Bradford City, Notts County, Midfielder

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Danny Boshell

Nationality: English Previous Clubs: Date of Birth: 26/08/1979 Oldham Athletic, Bury, Midfielder Stockport County

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James Hunt

Nationality: English Previous Clubs: Date of Birth: 17/12/1976 Northampton, Bristol, Defender Rovers, Oxford United, Notts County

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Matthew Bird

Nationality: English Previous Clubs: Date of Birth: 31/10/1990 Grimsby Town Youth, Defender

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Nick Hegarty

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Nationality: English Previous Clubs: Date of Birth: - Grimsby Town Youth, Position: -

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Simon Heslop

Nationality: English Previous Clubs: Date of Birth: 26/08/1979 Northwich V (L), Kidderminster (L), Barnsley, Halifax Town (L), Tamworth, Midfielder



Hat Trick Heroes

Paul Groves

Luton Town
Grimsby Town

Barclays League Division One | 07.11.92



Hat tricks are a rare enough occurrence in modern football with even top strikers struggling to snag the match ball. For a midfielder to net a treble in a game is therefore quite the feat, and inspirational Grimsby midfielder Paul Groves managed that twice in the 1992/93 season.

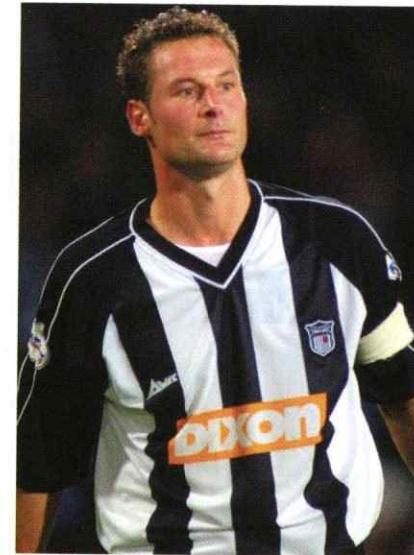
Groves' capture was another piece of shrewd business by manager Alan Buckley, who had seen star man Shaun Cunningham leave Blundell Park for Sunderland in a £625,000 deal. The Town chief had a ready-made replacement up his sleeve in Blackpool midfielder Groves, and save for a season at West Brom in the mid-90s, he would be a regular in the Town side for the next ten years - combined transfer fees of £400,000 meaning he was an absolute snip.

The Mariners travelled to Kenilworth Road for this league fixture in the midst of a fantastic run of results, including a 1-0 win at Champions-elect Newcastle, which saw the club storm into the Division One Play-Off zone.

The talk going into the game was of two Chelsea goalkeepers; the

Mariners had ex-England International Dave Beasant between the sticks as he continued his month's loan from Stamford Bridge, meanwhile the home side had recalled their goalkeeper Alec Chamberlain from the same location.

It was Groves and Grimsby's all-round play as a whole that would steal the headlines though. The Mariners started in confident fashion spraying the ball around the lush Kenilworth Road surface in Buckley's tried and tested style. Dave Gilbert, Tony Rees and Tommy Watson all tried their luck in the opening quarter of an



hour, before Town took the lead on 18 minutes.

Watson found some space on the right and his low cross was hammered goalwards by Groves with Chamberlain pulling off a fantastic reaction save. The ball fell kindly for the Town midfielder though, and he made no mistake in prodding the ball home from six yards. The Mariners were rampant and Watson was inches from adding a second just moments later.

A long cross from Gilbert was volleyed goalwards by his wing partner, Chamberlain doing well to tip the ball onto the bar. Town's second did arrive on 22 minutes and it was a real poacher's effort from Tony Rees.

John McDermott played a long ball down the touchline and after Trevor Peake had glanced the ball backwards it was Rees who reacted quickest to lob Chamberlain from 20 yards.

Every time Town crossed the halfway line they looked like scoring, and Buckley's men were really putting on a clinic of fast, flowing, attacking football. The third goal arrived with just 27 minutes on the clock. Gary Croft took a quick free kick, and with the hapless Hatters' defence appealing in vain for offside, Groves bore down on goal.

The former Blackpool man cleverly played in Gilbert and continued his run into the box. The diminutive winger picked out team mate Groves with the cross and he smashed his header beyond Chamberlain in the Hatters' goal.

Town were relentless and Mendonca went close to a fourth when his volley flashed into the side netting on 35 minutes. The Mariners went into the half time break fully in control and there was no let-up after the break.

On 48 minutes Jim Dobbin saw his goalbound effort deflected wide, whilst Mendonca, Watson and Rees all had chances to increase the lead. The home supporters' biggest cheers were reserved for former Hatter Graham Rodger, who replaced Mark Lever on 50 minutes.

The Hatters did pull a goal back when Phil Gray looped a header over Beasant with 20 minutes remaining. In truth though, the Mariners never looked in any real danger, and were well on their way to quashing memories of their last trip to Luton, a 6-0 trouncing in 1981/82.

It was left to Groves to put the icing on the cake as he completed his hat trick on 82 minutes. Gilbert



switched to the right and once more crossed into the danger zone.

The centre was half-cleared to Groves, who had time to steady himself before slamming the ball beyond Chamberlain to complete a good afternoon's work for the men from South Humberside.

The Town midfielder would add another treble to his collection with all three in a 3-3 draw against

Notts County on 27 February 1993. The two trios were part of a haul of 12 goals that meant Groves topped the goalscoring charts at Blundell Park in a successful first season at the club; Groves would also go onto be top scorer in 1995/96 and 1998/99.



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Commercially Speaking

with Dave Smith



GTFC Presents

In picture we have Elliot and Trevor Thompson representing Match Sponsors
LES ENGINEERING presenting Phil Barnes with the Man of the Match award
for the Wycombe fixture – many thanks to **LES ENGINEERING** for their
continued support of the football club.

Sportsman Dinner

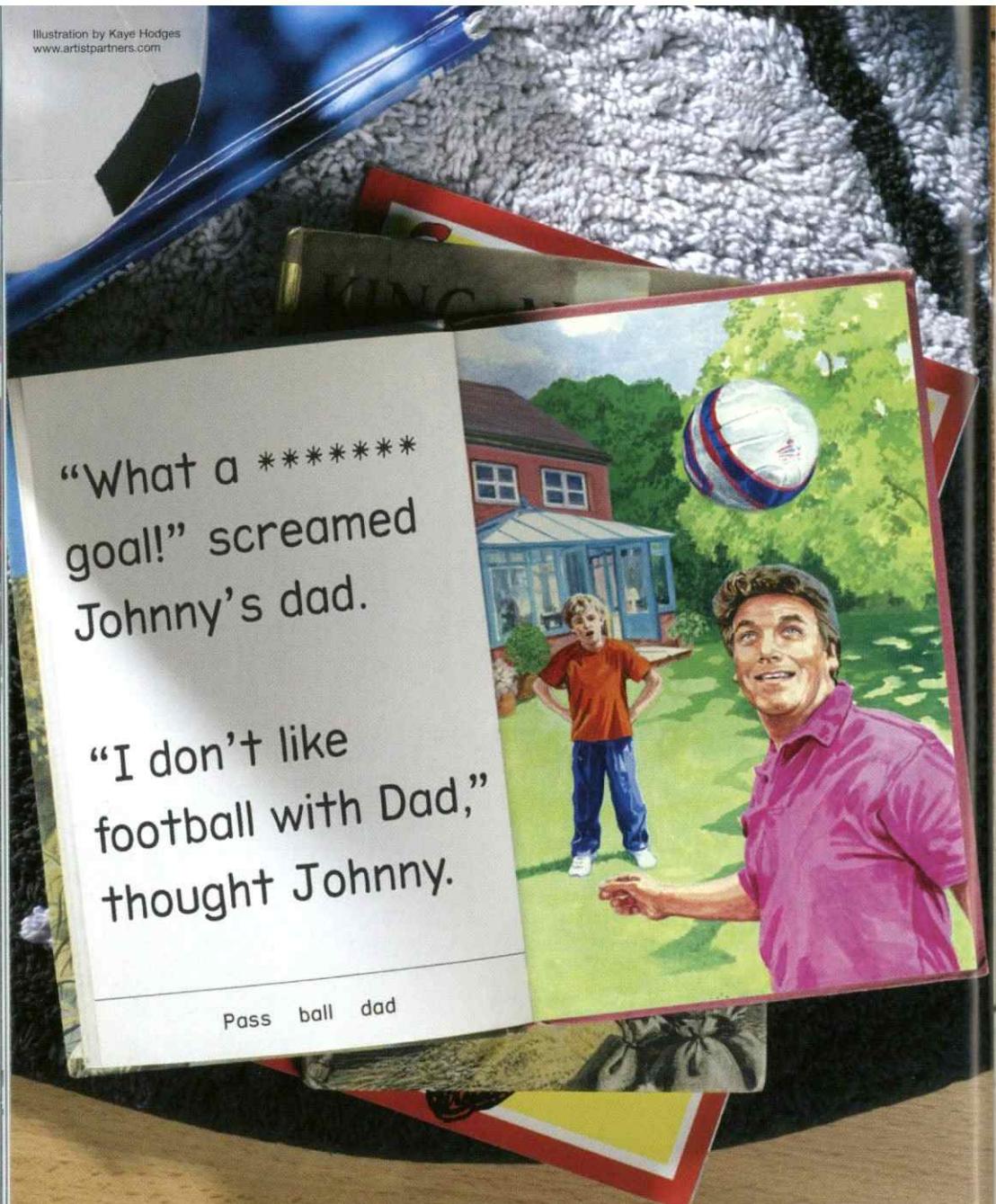
We will be holding our next Sportsman's
Dinner evening in McMenemy's on Friday
28th November. The guest will be former
Arsenal, Middlesbrough and England
star, and current Sky Sports pundit Paul
Merson.

Merse is sure to have plenty of stories
from his days at Highbury and with the
National team and he is one of the country's
most popular after dinner speakers.

As usual there will be a three-course meal and further
entertainment from a top comedian, as well as an auction with a host of top
football memorabilia.

For more information or to book tickets call Gayle on **(01472) 608006**.





BAD LANGUAGE HAS NO PLACE IN FAMILY ACTIVITIES. PLEASE RESPECT YOUR FELLOW SUPPORTERS IN OUR FAMILY AREA.



A look at the various unofficial Grimsby Town websites and forums will invariably provide a daily handful of postings that are critical of the way the club is run. From comments about the quality of Matchday pies, to dietary guidance for playing staff and advice on club communications, as fans we're experts on anything and everything.

Whilst I'm not claiming that everything GTFC does is perfect, when you look at the trials and tribulations that Hatters supporters have endured since October 2006, these criticisms start to look a little trivial.

Two years ago, things looked rosy for Luton Town. With a promising young manager in Mike Newell at the helm, the team well positioned near the top of the Championship and funds from the sale of two key players re-invested in the squad, the supporters were looking forward to a successful season. Trust in Luton (TiL), formed in 2003 when the club first suffered financial hardship, had board representation and a hard earned 10% shareholding in the club. But a run of poor results combined with sales of other key players saw the club slipping towards the dreaded relegation places by February 2007.

If that wasn't depressing enough, worse was to come. Following public criticism of the board (including suggestions of transfer irregularities), Mike Newell was sacked in March 2007. The undemocratic manner of the dismissal led to the resignation of two board members, including the TiL representative. Arguably supporter representation was more important than ever given the looming crisis, but TiL rightly felt it was inappropriate to be closely linked to the club given the nature of the allegations. A financial report published in April 2007 allayed no-one's fears about the state of LTFC's finances and an FA investigation sparked the resignation of the

chairman and admissions of illegal payments to agents. The season ended in relegation, albeit with another promising young manager at the helm.

The 2007/8 season failed to live up to supporters' expectations, with Matchday attendances down by 25%. An extended League Cup run brought some respite, but it was too little too late and in November 2007 the administrators were called in. I'm sure we all recall the plight of the unpaid Luton players and management, but have probably forgotten that this situation remained for three months. Eventually something had to give. Two more key players were sold for a combined fee of just over £1-million and the management team departed.

At around the same time the LTFC2020 consortium, made up of lifelong Hatters fans including two TiL board members (who subsequently resigned from the TiL board to avoid a conflict of interests) and headed by local celebrity Nick Owen, were awarded 'preferred bidder' status. What's that they say about silver linings?

LTFC2020 completed its takeover of the club this April, and duly gifted a 1% shareholding to TiL, their previous 10% shareholding having been lost to administration. A 1% shareholding may seem like a step backwards, but TiL's level of influence remains much the same as before. For this reason, they have opted to invest funds in other areas such as Football in the Community and sponsorship of the Girls' Centre of Excellence and player kit rather than purchase more shares.

Sadly, the LTFC2020 takeover didn't herald a turnaround in fortunes. The eventual consequence of administration was a second successive relegation (not a pleasant experience, as we know). Those connected with the Bedfordshire club



GTST

were resigned to a 15-point penalty, as was handed out to Rotherham and Bournemouth for exiting administration without fulfilling certain conditions. However the reality was a far more severe double-whammy. In June 2008, the FA handed Luton a ten-point penalty and a £50,000 fine relating to 15 misconduct charges between 2004 and 2007. Shortly after, the Football League handed out a 20 point penalty and an order to pay back £500,000 to creditors. Luton unsuccessfully appealed the latter and had to accept the penalty in order to receive back the 'golden share' that would allow them to compete in the League. It's an unprecedented situation - never before has a club started the season with such a huge points gap to bridge.

So to summarise, in the last 24 months, Hatters fans have witnessed one administration, two owners, three managers and 40 deducted points. As a supporter of another lower league team, it doesn't bear thinking about and it's easy to see why some fans might find other Saturday pursuits more appealing.

TiL played an instrumental role throughout proceedings, both in providing regular and insightful updates via their website (www.trustinluton.co.uk) and in rallying support when the club needed it most. The average attendance this season is only 300 lower than last season, which maybe shows that the fans are responding to TiL and sticking with their team in these difficult times.

Grimsby fans may not always like the way their club does things, but perhaps we should be thankful that we have a football club to be critical of - I'm sure the Luton fans are.

Emma Blackbourn – GTST Board Member

Learn GTI

Creative Fun

This week we have all been having some creative fun at the Grimsby Town FC Learn GTI Study Support Centre. The young people who have visited the Centre during the 'Playing for Success' sessions have created some magnificent cubism GTFC team portraits.

The young people have used a range of computer skills to be able to create these fabulous portraits. I'm sure you will agree that they have done a great job and have managed to capture the real team.

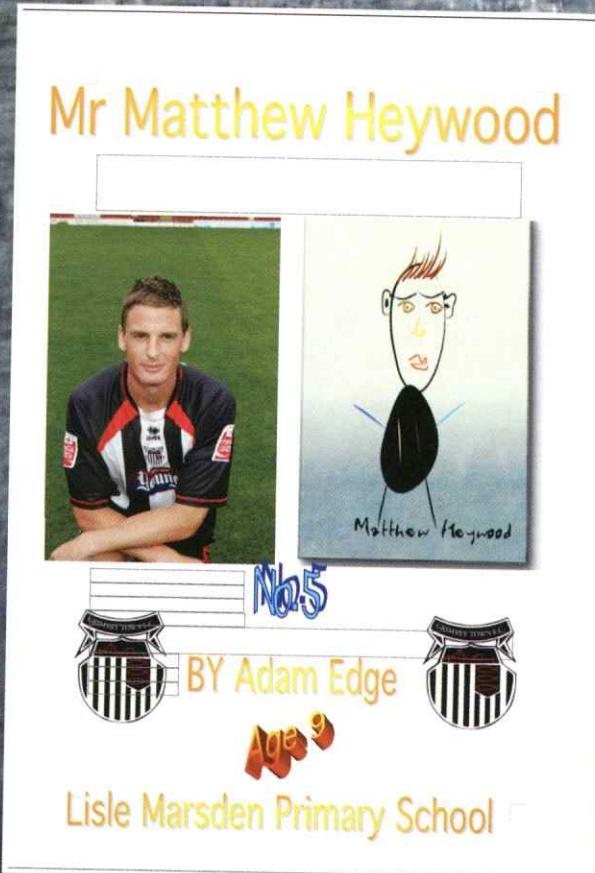
We will be showing some more portraits over the next few weeks, so watch this space. It might be your favourite players in the next programme.

I just want to take this opportunity to thank all the young people we have been working with this term for all their energy, enthusiasm and hard work. Well done to you all.

If you would like to see all of the cubism portraits created this term you can find them on the LearnGTI Blog Site over the next few weeks.

www.learngti.edublogs.org

Fingers, eyes and everything crossed for a win
Hope you enjoy the game
Sam Smith
Assistant Study Support Centre Manager



Fresh Start in Autumn

It's not all fun and games at Study Support.

Learn GTI has embarked on a new course in partnership with the Learner Engagement Team. We now provide GCSE education for pupils who do not currently have any school provision.

Every Tuesday, pupils attend the centre in Grant Thorold library to undertake maths and English lessons. Delivered by fully qualified teachers, these sessions compliment the vocational work that the pupils do during the rest of the week.

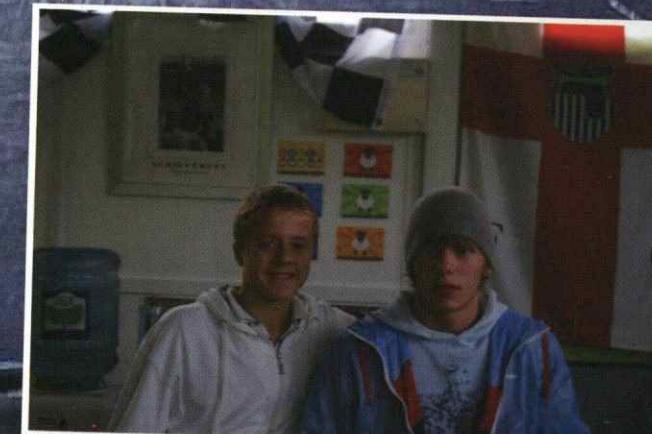
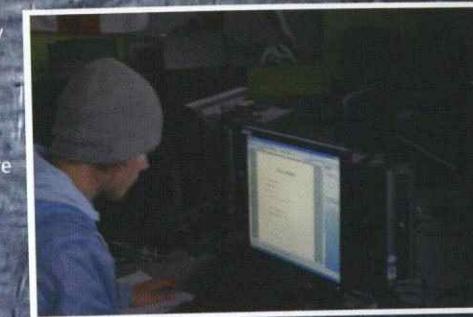
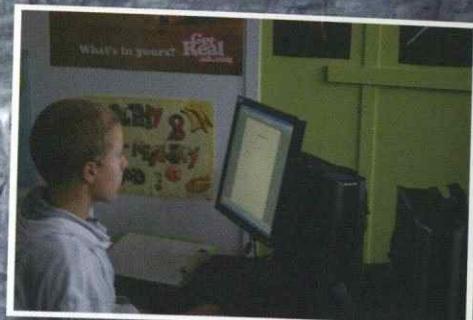
Ashley Westerman – a keen footballer himself – is in year 11, and attends Trinity Youth Centre in Cleethorpes for most of the week. With the Learn GTI team, he has just begun his first piece of coursework, in the hopes that he can be prepared for the exam in May.

Jowell Hutton, year 10, is a fitness fanatic who spends some time working in the fitness suite of a local college. He hopes one day to join the army, but also likes the idea of working in the leisure and fitness industry. He too has begun his English coursework.

As a start to their maths programme, the boys began to look at how to calculate area and perimeter. We thought we'd try to make this as interesting as possible, so armed with clipboards

and trundle wheels, we headed for Blundell Park. The boys marched and measured around the outside of the pitch, and then completed the calculations. They were then treated to a tour around the whole ground, including the players gym, where Jowell demonstrated his knowledge of physiology and how to safely use different machines.

Next week, we expect to have a few more pupils joining us at the centre – but I think you'll agree, they probably missed the best bit!



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Checkout the Football in the Community website for information and details regarding all our latest courses.

October 2008

The summer courses have now finished and were a great success with all courses well attended. Football in the Community is running courses in October.

The October courses are fun for all with:

- Giant inflatable
- Speed guns - test your shooting power
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- Re-Bound boards
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- Inflatable penalty shoot out
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Hereford School.
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27th/ 28th/ 29th October
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10am to 3pm - £30.00

27th/ 28th/ 29th October
Louth, Cordeaux School - 10am to
3pm - £30.00

30th/ 31st October
Holton-Le-Clay
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All young people who complete the course will leave with a Grimsby Town prize.

This programme is a great opportunity to improve skills but more importantly, to have fun and to keep fit & healthy which is obviously important to encourage in children. Regardless of what level you play, the most important factor is having fun.

For more information visit

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FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY



FITC

with Mark Westerby & Ray Blain

Fitc Half Time Tournament Knockout Stage

The third game of the half time tournament knockout stage took place with Healing hotspurs taking on Atlantic (A).

The game started with both teams trying to play football but under a big crowd looked nervous. The ball was in the middle of the pitch for much of the game with the defenders from both teams winning every tackle and ball.

As the game was going to be decided by a penalty shootout some neat passes on the right hand side by Healing opened up a goal scoring chance in which Pete Ball rifled in the top corner leaving the Atlantic goalkeeper no chance.

Atlantic never gave up and tried to force their way back in the game but its Healing who progress into the league stages.

Healing hotspurs 1 -0 Atlantic (A)
Pete Ball



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Stuart Watkiss
Reserve Team Manager

Assistant Manager Stuart Watkiss bemoaned the cancellation of the 90 minutes, Richard Hope has recovered from injury, and Danny North, who has come in for some undue criticism in recent weeks, is looking to get back involved in first team matters, Stuart continued:

Town's trip to Hartlepool United on Wednesday 15th October was postponed after the hosts Durham County Cup match against Ryton clashed with the fixture:

"They (Hartlepool) had a cup game on the same day and that took precedent," explained Watkiss, "it's deeply frustrating for us though because we really need a reserve fixture at this time – it will mean there won't have been a league fixture for nearly four weeks."

New manager Mike Newell has arrived at Blundell Park and is desperate to see all the members of his first team squad in match action, and Watkiss feels the fixture would have been the perfect opportunity to:

"If the game had gone ahead then we I feel we would have had the strongest reserve side out since I've been at the club," he declared, "we had almost a clean bill of health and with a couple of the loan lads involved we would have put out a really strong team."

Watkiss pointed to several members of the first team squad who are working their way back to full fitness

All the latest news visit www.gtfc.co.uk

and would have benefited from the 90 minutes, Richard Hope has recovered from injury, and Danny North, who has come in for some undue criticism in recent weeks, is looking to get back involved in first team matters, Stuart continued:

"Richard Hope is in desperate need of some football, he's been really unfortunate with injury since he arrived here, and he needs games now to get him back on track.

"Northy (Danny North) has been working hard on his fitness in recent weeks, and full credit to the lad, he has really knuckled down, he needs match fitness though, and the game would have been ideal.

"With the new manager coming in, it's even more important than ever that the players take their opportunity when given to them.

"If that means turning out for the reserves and playing the full 90 minutes then so be it, it's all about showing the new manager what you are capable of, and it is part of every footballer's career."

Central League Fixtures '08/09

26/08/08	CL	Braford City	1-7	17/12/08	CL	Huddersfield Town	14:00
03/09/08	LC	Bradford City	P-P	07/01/09	CL	York City	19:00
10/09/08	CL	Rotherham Utd	2-2	13/01/09	CL	Middlesbrough	14:00
23/09/08	CL	York City	1-2	20/01/09	CL	Rotherham Utd	14:00
04/10/08	CL	Scunthorpe Utd	1-1	11/02/09	CL	Barnsley	14:00
15/10/08	CL	Hartlepool Utd	P-P	24/02/09	CL	Leeds United	14:00
22/10/08	F	Mansfield Town	14:00	17/03/09	CL	Scunthorpe Utd	19:00
27/10/08	CL	Leeds Utd	19:00	25/03/09	CL	Hartlepool United	19:00
12/11/08	CL	Barnsley	19:00	22/04/09	CL	Huddersfield Town	19:00
18/11/08	CL	Sheffield Wed.	19:00	Home games in BOLD			
03/12/08	CL	Bradford City	14:00				

YT Index



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Neil Woods
Youth Team Manager

Grimsby Town YA 1
Hull City YA 1

Grimsby win 8-7 on penalties

partner Corner raced away to score, despite the Tigers' vein appeals for offside.

Town must have thought that was the winner, but Hull put on relentless pressure for an equaliser, which arrived three minutes into injury time.

Joe Fox floated in a cross and Cairney rose highest to head beyond Overton. Incredibly there was still time for Town to search for a winner, but Corner saw his shot blocked.

With no extra time, the tie moved straight to penalties. The scores were level at 3-2 when substitute Bradley Wood saw his penalty saved by Hallam. The referee ordered a retake though and this time Wood made no mistake.

Overton then saved Ekra's penalty to give Town the advantage at 4-3, but Liam Davis missed to level things up again. It was sudden death and with the scores at 7-7 Overton saved from Danny East, with Corner netting the winner.

Youth Alliance Fixtures '08/09

16/08/08	PYANE	Boston United	2-0	04/11/08	MYC2	Walsall	19:00	07/02/09	PYANE	Mansfield Town	11:00
30/08/08	PYANE	Hull City	1-2	08/11/08	PYANE	Bradford City	11:00	21/02/09	PYANE	Hartlepool Utd	12:00
06/09/08	PYANE	Doncaster Rvrs	P-P	15/11/08	PYANE	Darlington	12:00	07/03/09	PYANE	Chesterfield	11:00
13/09/08	PYANE	Lincoln City	2-1	22/11/08	PYANE	Scunthorpe Utd	11:00	14/03/09	PYANE	Scunthorpe Utd	11:00
20/09/08	PYANE	Rotherham Utd	3-1	29/11/08	PYANE	York City	11:00	28/03/09	PYANE	Bradford City	11:00
04/10/08	PYANE	Mansfield Town	3-1	06/12/08	PYANE	Boston Utd	11:00	04/04/09	PYANE	Darlington	12:00
11/10/08	PYAC1	Hull City	1-1*	13/12/08	PYANE	Hull City	11:00	18/04/09	PYANE	York City	11:00
18/10/08	PYANE	Hartlepool Utd	1-3	17/01/09	PYANE	Lincoln City	11:00	TBC		Lincoln City	TBC
25/10/08	PYANE	Chesterfield	11:00	31/01/09	PYANE	Rotherham Utd	11:00				
01/11/08	PYANE	Scunthorpe Utd	11:00								

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GTFC Ladies

**Linby Colliery 3
Grimsby Town 10**

Grimsby Town Ladies swept to the top of Division One North of the East Midlands Women's Football League in style when they put bottom-of-the-table Linby Colliery to the sword in a 10-3 scoreline.

Gemma Hopkin scored five while Emily Mumby notched a hat-trick.

Manager Paul Farbrace said: "We still aren't at the top of our game and failed to really click in first half.

"However, our superiority in skill and fitness showed in the second half.

"I am naturally pleased with 12 points from four games and our position at the top of the league."

On a sunny day, on a rather less than even pitch, Town Ladies tried to get the ball down and play early on.

With just three minutes on the clock, a through-ball from captain Ruth Ashton was flicked round Linby's centre-back by Mumby and into the path of her strike-partner Hopkin, who wrong-footed the keeper as she took the ball around her and placed the ball into an empty net.

Town's and Hopkin's second followed quickly when play was taken down the left.

Esther Farrow, at left back, nudged the ball around the oncoming striker and played the ball up the wing to Lindsey Dye.

Quick feet and vision by Dye released Hopkin on the left and she immediately cut in and side-footed the ball into the bottom left-hand corner, beating the keeper at her near post.

To Linby's credit they kept their composure, despite Grimsby's two goals in five minutes, and gradually built pressure in the middle of the park.

They closed down Town with determination and were rewarded with a goal when Town keeper Beth French was beaten by a deflection.

Linby equalised when Town centre-back Kylie Farbrace was penalised for a soft foul on the edge of the box. A well-taken free-kick was flicked past the keeper at the back post.

French denied Linby a third goal when she rushed out of her box to meet a 50-50 ball with a striker.

Despite Town's commitment, they were unable to take full control in the central areas and struggled to play free-flowing football.

Sophie Madsen relieved the pressure with a run down the right and then curved the ball onto Linby's penalty spot, where Hopkin arrived to flick it past the oncoming goalkeeper.

Five minutes before half-time, a throw near the corner flag was trapped by Hopkin, who passed the ball back to Dye on the left-hand corner of the 18-yard box and a first-time wonder strike saw the ball sail into the top right-hand corner and Town to go to the changing rooms 4-2 up.

Town came out the second half a completely different side. There was much more composure in the middle and some great one-touch football to release the strikers.

Grimsby's midfield supported higher up the pitch and impressive performances by Laura Ibbett and Ashton solidified them in the middle, with Dye and Madsen giving Town width.

The goals started to flow free and fast. Hopkin, released down the right by Ibbett, crossed the ball to Mumby, who slotted the ball home with her left foot.



Another ball over Linby's back four allowed Mumby to show her pace and she made her chip of the goalkeeper look effortless, placing

the ball in the top left of the goal.

Five minutes later, a hand-ball led to a Town penalty and Mumby hit the ball hard into the bottom-left corner to claim her hat-trick.

Midfielder Madsen got in on the act when she picked up the ball just into Linby's half.

She ran 50 yards, holding off the defender, and then attempted to chip the keeper, who got her fingertips to it. However, Madsen following in was able to side-foot home from a yard.

With 20 minutes to go, a first-team debut was given to Nikki Wright. Having been injured in the early part of the season, her strength and ability to pinpoint crosses showed she will be an asset to Town's squad.

One of her first touches was a powerful shot from wide right which beat the keeper but hit the crossbar.

Linby scored a third against the run of play with an incredibly powerful strike from a free-kick that swerved past the Town keeper.

As Linby tired, Town took full control and Hopkin converted the pressure into two further goals.

Sophie Burns was voted Town's player of the match for a comprehensive and solid performance at the centre of the back four.

Oasis academy :wintringham

As part of our Specialism (Sport and Health) we have just started an "enrichment" programme on Wednesday and Friday afternoons for all our students. On Wednesday afternoon ALL our students and staff participate in the enrichment programme, on Friday afternoon the programme is optional and occurs after the end of our school day. The programme is designed around the wealth of knowledge and expertise of our staff.

Having identified all the possible opportunities available to students and staff, our students choose which activities they would like to participate in, and then are engaged in a programme that runs for at least a half-term. The list below shows the different components of the current programme. Some of these activities are seasonal but by the end of this term, we will have weekly clubs running in at least 48 of these activities on Wednesdays or Fridays.

The aims of the programme include:

- Enjoyment and having fun, leading to healthy minds, healthy bodies or both.
- Provision of learning currently not always present within our curricular programme.
- Providing our students and staff an opportunity to try something new and maybe find something they would wish to continue in their own time.
- Engaging with the local community and agencies.
- Allowing teaching staff and support staff to exchange roles, as the expertise of the support staff is developed through new activities.
- Enhancing the learning of all our students.
- Motivating students to learn more.
- Fostering very positive relationships between staff and student.

We are always looking for new ideas, opportunities and activities for our students and staff to take part in. Maybe you have something you would like to offer to our students during "enrichment" time, which we could support you in delivering on a Wednesday or Friday? If so please contact Trevor Bailey at Oasis Academy Wintringham (01472 871811) or Trevor.Bailey@oasiswintringham.org

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GEOGRAPHY FIRST AID WAR GAMING TEXTILES - HAT MAKING CHRISTMAS CRAFTS CLIMBING
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Congratulations go to Joshua Walker (Yr10) who was selected for the County Rugby team. Joshua has worked extremely hard to improve his fitness and thoroughly deserves his place.





Adam Smith
Centre of Excellence Manager

Jack Barlow and Dayle Southwell scored a brace apiece as Grimsby Town's Under-15s thumped Chesterfield 6-0.

On a relatively hot day, the game started very evenly, with Town's defence playing well to keep out the Spireites.

The Mariners gradually got on top and took the lead when good play set Jack Barlow free and he calmly slotted past the keeper.

Town then won a penalty, but Dayle Southwell's shot hit the post and rebounded to safety.

Southwell quickly made up for this when he latched on to a great ball from Curtis Allenby and flighted a cross to the far post where Barlow placed a good header past the keeper.

Ricky Smith and Jordan Ramsden completely controlled the midfield and good play from them set up Southwell, who hit a great shot from 25 yards into the bottom corner.

The same player then scored his second and Town's fourth after Josh Freeman's shot had been well saved.

Soon after, Allenby scored the goal of the game when he drove an unstoppable shot into the top corner from fully 30 yards.

Town were in full flow now and making chances galore with some excellent football. In the end they had to settle for just one more goal, a header from

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Pure Excellence

Three more goals ensued, two from Lawrence Burchell and another from Read helped produce a fine scoreline.

In perfect conditions, the Under-10s started brightly and played some of their best football of the season against a very capable and well-organised Chesterfield side.

The midfield quartet of Callum Lovett, JJ Smith, Tom Sawyer and Kyle Howitt controlled play superbly and the excellent forward play of Reece Moody ensured the Chesterfield side were unable to settle.

Unfortunately for Town, they found the Spireites keeper at the top of his game as he thwarted attack after attack.

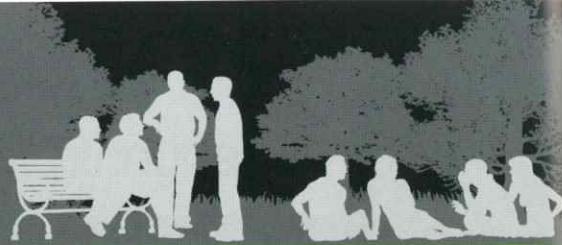
The Mariners' defensive pairing of Lewis Hoad and Billy Merrison ensured Chesterfield's goalscoring opportunities were kept to a minimum and the pair continually brought the ball out of defence starting many attacks.

As the match continued evenly it was the young Mariners who eventually took a deserved lead when Sawyer hit a fantastic free-kick into the roof of the net.

Sawyer doubled the lead a few minutes later after a goalmouth scramble when brave play from Joey Finnegan saw the ball fall to the Town scorer who finished well.

Continued in Bradford Programme

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NEWS FROM INSTITUTE ACADEMY



THE GRIMSBY INSTITUTE
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Academy Class

The Grimsby Institute saw their 100% start to the season come to an end with a 2-2 draw at Barnsley on Wednesday 15th October.

Despite being unbeaten, the draw means the Institute lose ground on league leaders Gateshead in the ECFA Premier League Four.

The Grimsby side have chance to overtake their North East rivals though when they entertain Gateshead at Blossom Way on Wednesday 29th October.

There has been better news on the international front for the Institute side with no fewer than six players being selected for the North East Central England trials, which will go towards selecting players for the ECFA English Colleges' side that takes part in various tournaments in the winter and summer.

Trials took place on 8th October and the six Grimsby players selected to move forward include last season's England heroes Jack Debnam and Benji Would.

Joining them will be former

Grimsby Town youth star Steve Davis and former Scunthorpe United trainee Jonathan Walton.

Completing the sextet are midfielders Sam Thorpe and Lewis Peters.

Institute Coach John McDermott is the North East Central Regional Coach and he will take his 19-man squad to Salford for the next stage of selection on 5th November.

The full squad is as follows:

North East Central - Regional
coach John McDermott [Grimsby]
Lee Bennett [Barnsley]
Matthew Haigh [Barnsley]
Ricky Poppelwell [Barnsley]
Tom Hyde [Doncaster]
Danny Kellock [Doncaster]
Lewis Peters [Grimsby]
Sam Thorpe [Grimsby]
Steve Davis [Grimsby]
Jon Walton [Grimsby]
Tom Green [Hull]
Nathan Bulfield [Hull]
Nathan Cook [George Pindar]
Adam Priestley [Selby]
Luke Ruff [Leeds Thomas Danby]
Nick Leadbetter [Wakefield]
Tom Wilson [York]
Josh Leader [York]

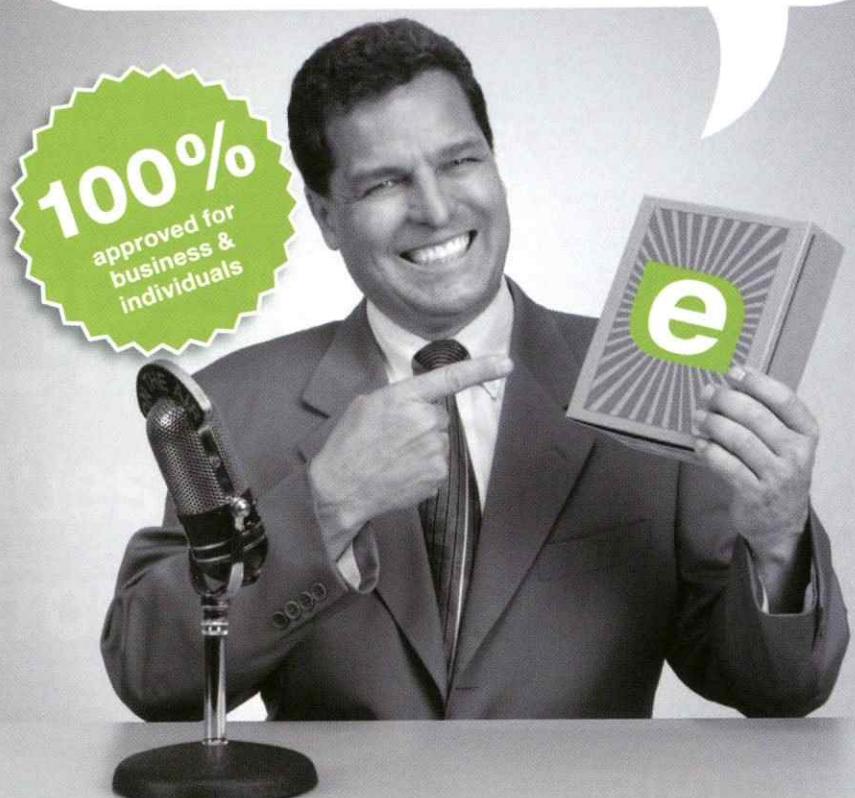
Benjamine Would [Grimsby]
Jack Debnam [Grimsby]

All players who have been successful should be aware that the North festival will take place on the 5th of November at Salford Sports Village [Littleton Road, Salford]. Players should arrive at no later than 9.45 am for a prompt start of 10.00am. Players should bring with them their own playing kit including shin pads, tracksuit and boots suitable for 3G astro turf. Players should also bring with them refreshments and fluids for a full day. If players have any questions they should contact their Regional Coach



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NEWS FROM THE TREATMENT ROOM



Dave Moore
Club Physio

Good evening Ladies and Gentleman and welcome to tonight's game against Luton Town here at Blundell Park.

I'm pleased to report that we have a near full bill of health for tonight's game and I'm sure that will please our new manager Mike Newell.

Richard Hope has recovered from his groin strain, and as Stuart touched on, he is in need of some games under his belt in order to gain full fitness.

The same can be said of Danny North who has really knuckled down in training over the past month. Danny has shown what he can do with his two goals already and I'm sure we are all eager to see him back in action.

It was nice to see Bolly at the last home game, even if he was on crutches! Paul is a great lad to have around the place, and I'm sure that his

presence gave all the lads a lift. He was full of smiles and was straight in cracking the jokes with the lads – all the best Bolly!

Enjoy the game everyone and please keep up your magnificent support.

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matchstats

Coca-Cola League Two Table 2008/09																
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts			
1 Wycombe	11	3	3	0	8	4	3	2	0	5	1	8	23			
2 Bury	11	3	1	1	6	3	3	3	0	13	8	8	22			
3 Shrewsbury	11	5	0	1	19	3	1	3	1	5	5	16	21			
4 Dag & Red	11	3	2	1	14	5	3	0	2	9	6	12	20			
5 Brentford	11	3	2	0	8	2	2	3	1	4	3	7	20			
6 Bradford	11	3	2	1	12	8	3	0	2	9	7	6	20			
7 Exeter	11	2	2	2	7	5	3	1	1	8	6	4	18			
8 Gillingham	11	4	0	1	10	1	1	2	3	6	16	-1	17			
9 Darlington	11	2	2	1	8	5	2	2	2	11	7	7	16			
10 Aldershot	11	3	3	0	12	9	1	0	4	5	10	-2	15			
11 Notts County	11	1	5	0	7	6	1	3	1	7	7	1	14			
12 Rochdale	11	2	1	2	6	6	1	4	1	7	7	0	14			
13 Lincoln City	11	2	3	1	9	7	1	1	3	4	6	0	13			
14 Port Vale	11	1	0	4	5	11	3	1	2	9	7	-4	13			
15 Macclesfield	11	2	0	3	7	15	2	1	3	6	9	-11	13			
16 Chesterfield	11	1	1	3	3	6	2	1	3	8	11	-6	11			
17 Accrington	11	1	1	3	6	8	2	0	4	6	9	-5	10			
18 Chester	11	1	2	3	8	9	1	2	2	6	12	-7	10			
19 Barnet	11	1	1	3	5	8	2	0	4	7	15	-11	10			
20 Morecambe	11	1	3	2	7	9	0	3	2	4	10	-8	9			
21 Grimsby	11	0	2	3	2	6	0	3	3	3	13	-14	5			
22 Rotherham	11	4	1	1	14	8	1	3	1	4	3	7	2			
23 Bournemouth	11	1	2	2	4	4	1	2	3	8	13	-5	7			
24 Luton	11	1	2	3	8	10	1	2	4	4	2	-18				

Luton deducted 30 points, Rotherham deducted 17 points

Player Appearances/Goals 2008/09

	2008/2009		GTFC	
	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS
Phil BARNES	15	0	116	0
Robbie STOCKDALE	3 (2)	0	5	0
Tom NEWEY	15	1	153	4
Ryan BENNETT	13	0	66	1
Matt HEYWOOD	15	0	15	0
Richard HOPE	3	0	3	0
Peter TILL	15	2	81	6
Paul BOLLAND	0	0	138	15
Martin BUTLER	4 (1)	0	27	6
Chris LLEWELLYN	6 (7)	0	13	0
Danny BOSHELL	8 (1)	1	90	10
Jamie CLARKE	8 (1)	0	47	3
Gary MONTGOMERY	0	0	7	0
James HUNT	15	1	76	3
Matthew BIRD	0	0	2	0
Javan VIDAL	2 (2)	0	4	0
Nick HEGARTY	11 (1)	1	72	5
Peter BORE	2 (4)	1	65	11
Danny NORTH	0 (9)	2	71	18
Andy TAYLOR	4 (4)	0	50	7
Simon HESLOP	8 (3)	0	11	0
Nathan JARMAN	9 (1)	1	18	1
Grant NORMINGTON	0 (1)	0	1	0
Liam TROTTER	6	0	6	0
Malvin KAMARA	1 (1)	0	2	0
Tomi AMEOBBI	2 (1)	0	3	0

* won 4-1 on penalties

KEY:

■	Booked
■	Sent Off
■	Subbed
■	Goals Scored
■	Started Game
■	Playing Sub
■	Non Playing Sub

The Burning Issue

with Jonathan Byrne

If you are a striker reading this then you might want to look away now because if the tacticians at the top of the game have their way then the art of the goalscorer may become a dying breed.

Italian football has always been noted for its defensive stringency and its cautious approach to play. However, Roma's adoption of a 4-6-0 formation may be even too much for some football purists to bear.

Deprived of an out-and-out goalscorer in the giallorossi squad, Coach Luciano Spalletti did the unthinkable and created a formation bereft of strikers.

The 49-year-old Italian had favoured the 4-2-3-1 system at former club Udinese, a formation that had been popularised by Portugal's much-vaunted 'Golden Generation' of the mid-90s.

However, arriving at the Olympic Stadium in 2005, Spalletti found a club in disarray, lagging well behind Italian superpowers Juventus and the Milans, Roma had slipped to 15th place in Serie A and were looking nervously over their shoulders.

In a side struggling for points, other coaches may have been tempted to

go for broke and throw more attackers into the fray.

Spalletti did exactly the opposite and opted to play to the squad's strengths. Looking around the training ground, and seeing no recognisable striker, he decided to drop them altogether and play with six midfielders.

The former Udinese coach's plan was simple: a flat back four had two holding midfielders in front of it. In front of them lay three deep-lying attacking midfielders with a fourth attacking midfielder in the 'hole' behind a non-existent front line – hence the 4-6-0 – the fourth midfielder dropping deep to receive the ball whilst the other three advance beyond him.

The radical change immediately paid dividends as Roma embarked upon an 11-game winning streak, a Serie A record. Roma ended the season in fifth-place, but thanks to the punishments handed out to Juventus, AC Milan and Fiorentina for irregularities, the club ended up qualifying for the Champions League.

Spalletti's first full season in charge, 2006/07, was to be even better. Harshly remembered for a 7-1 humiliation at Old Trafford in the

Champions League Quarter Final, Roma's season had so much more to it as they became the only team capable of challenging Roberto Mancini's all-conquering Internazionale side.

Runners-up in Serie A and Coppa Italia winners, Spalletti's 4-6-0 formation was receiving plaudits. Critics may say that the striker-less option is a negative approach to football, but Roma produced some exciting attacking football throughout the season.

Proof of this came with the fact that Francesco Totti, the club's talismanic playmaker won the European Golden Boot with an astonishing 26 goals in 34 league outings. Totti played in the 'hole' and it appeared that the formation was built for him, and he thrived in it.

Roma repeated their cup-winning feat last season and Totti's impressive strike rate continued with 14 goals in just 24 games. Spalletti's tactics appeared to have even rubbed off on Sir Alex Ferguson as the Manchester United boss adopted the formation last season, with Wayne Rooney in the Totti role – perhaps a striker-less world is the way forward.



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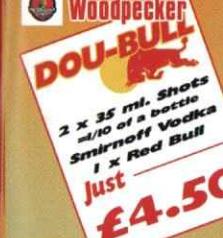
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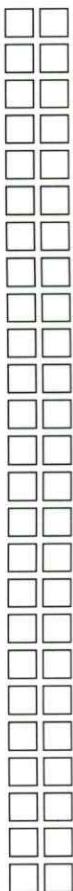
Grimsby Town v Luton Town

Tuesday 21st October 2008 | Kick-off 19:45

**Match Sponsors****Grimsby Town**

Manager: Mike NEWELL

- 1 Phillip BARNES
- 2 Robbie STOCKDALE
- 3 Tom NEWHEY
- 4 Ryan BENNETT
- 5 Matthew HEYWOOD
- 6 Richard HOPE
- 7 Peter TILL
- 8 Paul BOLLAND
- 10 Chris LLEWELLYN
- 11 Danny BOSHELL
- 12 Jamie CLARKE
- 13 Gary MONTGOMERY
- 14 James HUNT
- 15 Matthew BIRD
- 17 Nick HEGARTY
- 18 Peter BORE
- 19 Danny NORTH
- 20 Andy TAYLOR
- 21 Simon HESLOP
- 22 Nathan JARMAN
- 23 Grant NORMINGTON
- 24 Liam TROTTER
- 25 Malvin KAMARA
- 26 Tomi AMEOBI

ALBERT DARNELL
FISH MERCHANTS**Associate Match Sponsors****Previous Line Up**

Luton Town

Manager: Mick HARFORD

**Forthcoming Fixtures****First Team**

Coca-Cola League Two

Grimsby Town**v Bradford City**

Friday 24th October 2008

Kick Off 19:45 at Blundell Park

Reserves

Friendly

Mansfield Town**v Grimsby Town**

Wednesday 22nd October 2008

Kick Off 14:00 at Field Mill

Youth

Puma Youth Alliance North East

Grimsby Town YA**v Chesterfield YA**

Saturday 25th October 2008

Kick-Off 11.00 at Cheapside

- 1 Dean BRILL
- 2 Claude GNAKPA
- 3 Sol DAVIS
- 4 Keith KEANE
- 5 Ian ROPER
- 6 George PILKINGTON
- 7 Gareth O'CONNOR
- 8 Kevin NICHOLLS
- 9 Sam PARKIN
- 10 Ryan CHARLES
- 11 Lewis EMANUEL
- 12 Harry WORLEY
- 14 Asa HALL
- 15 Ed ASAFAU-ADJAYE
- 16 Rossi JARVIS
- 17 Kevin WATSON
- 18 Chris MARTIN
- 19 Drew TALBOT
- 20 Michael SPILLANE
- 21 Conrad LOGAN
- 23 Wayne ANDREWS
- 24 Wayne CRADDOCK
- 25 George BEAVAN
- 28 Paul McVEIGH
- 31 Marc PUGH
- 33 Jake HOWELLS

**Match Officials**

Referee: Mr A. Haines | Assistant Referees: Mr S. M. Hutchinson and Mr S. Smith

Fourth Official: Mr D. I. Storrie

**Next At Blundell Park**

Coca-Cola League Two

Friday 24th October 2008

Grimsby Town v Bradford City

Kick-Off: 7.45pm

The music played
at Blundell Park is
kindly supplied by...