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H E B L U E B I R D S

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Blue Square Bet Premier

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FROM THE BENCH



You might be getting sick of me saying it but there are no easy games in this league. And this afternoon, in Luton, we have another good side to battle against.

I sensed some of you thought we had it made after the confident way we dispatched Forest Green. We certainly didn't. We know things can snap back and bite you and that's just what has happened.

After going seven games unbeaten, we now find ourselves striving to put an end to a run of three defeats. It can be done.

The signs were there in the second half against Fleetwood. We made two defensive mistakes in the first half and were made to pay for them. That left us with a mountain to climb. But we were pleased at the way we responded.

We told the players we needed to have a go at them in the second half and that's just what they did. If we keep pressing teams like we did in that second half, we will be all right.

We are not happy at getting beat but if the lads give 110 per cent for the Barrow shirt, then that is pleasing. It isn't easy when you are 2-0 down but I thought we then pressed them really well and had our own chances.

We had a good crowd on Tuesday night and I just hope we did enough in that second half to have brought everyone back today.

To help us to get over our appalling injury crisis affecting our wide men, we have brought in Neil Wainwright for a month from Morecambe. We know how effective he can be from him having been here in the past and he is a good man to help us through our problems.

He hasn't played first team football for a while but the longer the game went on, the better he looked and the better he got.

The big spending Fleetwood on Tuesday; Luton, with their great pedigree, today; and the even bigger spending Crawley Town here next Saturday, with a trip to Tamworth tucked in between.

All clubs with their eyes on the title, or a play-off place at the very least.

That's the sort of opposition that is coming at us, thick and fast. But we will dig in. After three defeats we know better times are just round the corner.

DAVE BAYLISS

WATCH IT IN THE CROSSBAR

Live games are shown on the TV screens in the Crossbar on match days. Before our game with Crawley Town next Saturday (October 9) you can watch the clash between Brighton and Bournemouth (kick-off 12.45) and after the match there is the Blue Square Bet Premier game between Rushden & Diamonds and Mansfield (5.30).

BARROW AFC LTD

(Founded 1901)



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HOLKER STREET REVIEW

by Phil Yelland

A warm welcome to Luton Town this afternoon for this Blue Square Bet Premier game.

Last season the Hatters were favourites to win the league but failed to do so and then went out in the play-off semi-finals to York City.

Over the summer boss Richard Money improved his squad, bringing in a number of players experienced at this level and again they are tipped as one of the promotion favourites.

Their first 11 outings have seen mixed results. At home they have defeated AFC Wimbledon, Cambridge United, Altrincham and drawn with both Newport County and Hayes & Yeading United.

On the road they have struggled a little more. They have defeated Kettering Town and Fleetwood Town, drawn at Darlington but been defeated at Grimsby Town, Tamworth and Gateshead – their defeat at Gateshead came last Saturday when they had to play almost an hour with ten men following the dismissal of Taiwo Atieno.

On Tuesday night they were due to entertain the current league leaders, Mansfield Town.

Hayes disappointment

Sadly, everyone who travelled to Church Road last Saturday returned

disappointed as we failed to win at the venue for the third time. This time we fell to a 2-0 defeat with goals scored by Liam Enver-Marum – some of you might remember him scoring a late winner for Woking at Holker Street a couple of seasons ago – and Bradley Pritchard who was with Tamworth last season.

To complete our misery Phil Bolland, who scored our equaliser on the same ground back in April, was dismissed for two yellow cards.

Beware the date

Sometimes clubs can be caught in strange sequences of results but I think it is fair to say that since we returned to playing at this level we would like to cancel playing on the final Saturday in September.

Two seasons ago, we found ourselves at home to Ebbsfleet United on September 27. We went into that game having lost the three previous ones – at Salisbury City (3-0) and Northwich Victoria (2-0) as well as at home to Kettering Town (4-2). We lost 3-0.

Last season was equally disappointing. We had not won in September when we travelled to play Salisbury City. Again we lost 3-0.

However after both of those

sequences, results picked up and hopefully they will now do that again.

The first 11

By the time you read this, the season in terms of league games will be more than a quarter old. The defeats at Altrincham and Hayes have just prevented us recording our best start to the season over the first quarter of the programme since we returned to this level three seasons ago. Here is the record over that time.

2008-09

Played: 11. Won: 4.

Drawn: 2. Lost: 5.

Goal difference: -1. Points: 14.

The highlight of the opening 11 games in 2008 was the opening day win over Oxford United. But after a 3-0 win at Lewes in early September, we lost three games in a row.

2009-10

Played: 11. Won: 2.

Drawn: 4. Lost: 5.

Goal difference: -10. Points: 10.

The highlight was the opening day success at Cambridge but after 11 games we were in a run of five winless matches including the 6-1 home defeat by Rushden & Diamonds.

2010-11

Played: 11. Won: 3.

Drawn: 3. Lost: 4.

Goal difference: + 1. Points: 13.

The difference this year, to date is that all three wins have come on home soil – two years ago at this stage we had two home wins and last season just one.

Ex-Bluebirds in the news

Ten days ago, one former Bluebird found the net to help lift his side up the table, Steve Ridley scoring as Buxton beat Kendal Town 3-0 at Silverlands in the Evo-stik Premier Division to move into the on the play-off spots.

Last Saturday, for a change, no former Barrow players were on the score sheet in the Football League but there were some on the mark further down the Pyramid.

In Blue Square Bet Premier, Michael Rankine netted from the penalty spot as York City began life following the departure of boss Martin Foyle with a surprise 3-1 win at Tamworth. And former loanee Jon Shaw scored the winner for Gateshead against Luton.

In the FA Cup second qualifying round, four former Bluebirds found the net. At Irongate there was a late equaliser for Bamber Bridge from

Chris Thompson against fellow Evo-stik First Division North side Warrington Town.

Up at Hurst Cross our former loan striker Lee Steele scored in the opening minute for Ashton United but they bowed out of the competition as FC Halifax Town secured a win with two late goals.

Down in Northamptonshire, Buxton midfielder Steve Ridley made it two goals in successive games as he netted in Buxton's 3-1 win over Zamaretto Premier Division side Brackley Town.

At Rivacre Park, our former winger Paul Brown – in what was described as a "Man of the Match" performance – netted twice as Vauxhall Motors trounced Blyth Spartans 5-2.

In the UniBond First Division North, there was a goal for Mike Rushton, now at Lancaster City, as they won 3-2 at Harrogate Railway Athletic.

Going back a few years, some of you will remember Neil Tarrant and his spectacular goal in the FA Cup against Nuneaton Borough. "Taz" is still playing in the North-east and has recently signed for another new club – Northallerton Town. He scored on his debut in the 4-2 FA Vase win over Jarrow Roofing.

Next at home

Our next home game is next Saturday when we will entertain another of the clubs tipped to mount a promotion campaign in Crawley Town.

The Sussex side have had a very busy summer in the transfer market and now boast the most expensive squad in the league. That is, of course, no guarantee of success.

Their squad includes former Bluebird loanee Richard Brodie who joined the club from York City as the transfer window closed in August for a reported fee of over £200,000.

The two games between the clubs to date at Holker Street have been very entertaining. Two seasons ago, the Sussex side seemed to be on the way to winning as they led 2-0 and then 3-2 but two goals from Nick Rogan and one from Steve McNulty helped us to earn a precious point in our fight for survival.

Last season, as we fought against late season fixture congestion, Town visited us on a Thursday night and we won 4-1 thanks to goals from Jason Walker, Nick Chadwick and Simon Wiles plus an own goal from Ben Smith



Richard Money



Lowestoft-born Richard Money became the Hatters' 24th post-war permanent manager when he succeeded Mick Harford.

Dubbed "Dicky Dosh" by Walsall fans after he guided the Saddlers to the League 2 title in 2006/07, Richard played 49 times during his season-long stay at Kenilworth Road in 1982/83.

He made his final appearance in a Luton shirt at Old Trafford as the Town went down 3-0 to Manchester United, just days before a famous victory at Maine Road which kept the Town in the top-flight.

Richard cut his managerial teeth at Scunthorpe United, who he also served as a player, before continuing his education overseas with two clubs in Sweden.

After a brief stint in Australia, he enjoyed a successful spell at Walsall before joining Newcastle United, as Academy Director, prior to returning to Bedfordshire.

NEXT UP

Tuesday night sees us on the road again and heading down to Staffordshire to play Tamworth who have begun the season well.

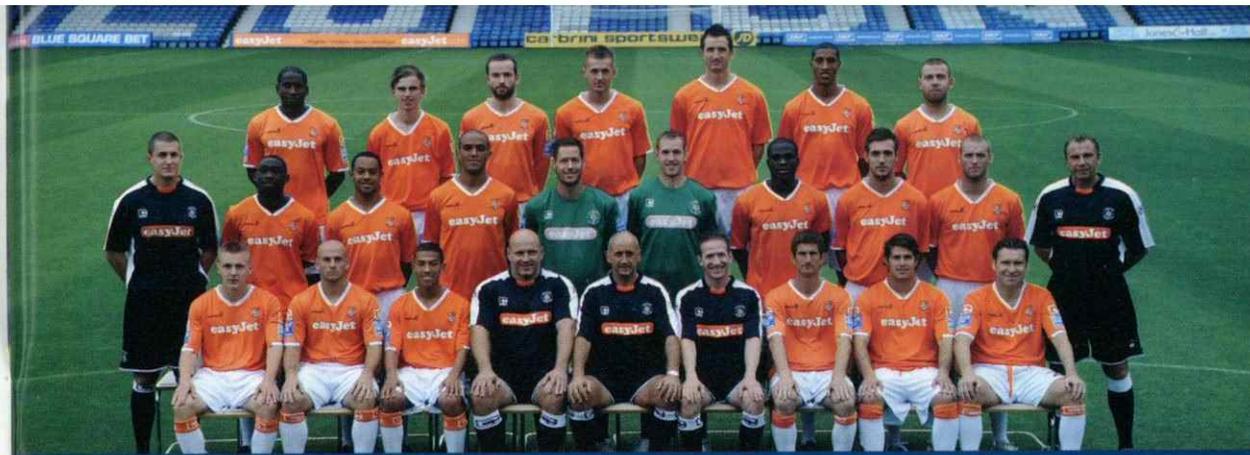
Last season, our trip to the Lamb Ground was one to forget as we lost 3-0 with a lacklustre performance.

That was in stark contrast to our two previous visits.

In October 2008 in the FA Cup fourth qualifying round when we were struggling in Blue Square Premier and the Lambs were top of Blue Square North, we ran out 4-0 with the goals coming from three players who are still playing at this level with different clubs – Richard Brodie, now of Crawley Town netted twice, David Brown, now of Wrexham netted from the penalty spot, and Steve McNulty, now of Fleetwood Town, opened the scoring.

The previous season, our first ever trip to the Lamb Ground, ended in a 0-0 draw thanks to two first half penalty saves by Tim Deasy – now at Gateshead.

(The Tamworth ground is The Lamb Ground, Kettlebrook, Tamworth, Shropshire B77 1AA. The club recommends travellers to leave the M42 at junction 10, then take the A5/A51 to the Town Centre and follow the signs for Kettlebrook and Tamworth FC).



LUTON TOWN



After 89 years in the Football League, last season was Luton Town's first at Conference level following relegation when they just failed to make up an incredible 30 points penalty imposed for going into administration for a second time and financial irregularities.

It proved to be a rollercoaster season. An indifferent start saw Mick Harford leave Kenilworth Road and be replaced by another former Town player, Richard Money.

Results and performances improved and a nine match winning streak through March and April propelled the Town into title contention. In the end Money's men had to settle for a play-off place.

They were paired with fifth-placed York City and a goal a minute from time gave York a 1-0 first leg lead. A similar score-line in the return leg consigned the Hatters to a second season of non-League football.

Luton Town FC was formed in April, 1885 with the merger of two local clubs. With a strong committee behind them, the club began to attract stronger opposition, better players and more spectators.

A decision to pay three players was taken in 1890 with the remainder being included the following year. But friendly matches were not enough to keep finances straight so an invitation to become a founder member of the Southern League in 1894 was grabbed with both hands.

Their initial bid for election to the Football League failed and a season had to be spent in the United League before they were accepted into Football League Division Two in 1897. But the cost of travel gradually became a burden and after three years of struggle the club rejoined a then much stronger, Southern League.

After hostilities ceased in 1914, the Southern League, en bloc, was asked to form a new Division Three of the Football League and Town enjoyed 17 seasons at this level. In the mid-1930s the board made a concerted bid to achieve a higher status and players were brought in.

In 1936 they finished runners-up to Coventry in the days when only one side was promoted. The next season promotion was secured.

Over Easter 1939, good results put the team in the promotion positions but a draw and two defeats from the final three games meant they missed out. No one will ever know how far this squad could have progressed as in September 1939, with Town sitting proudly at the top of the table, war broke out.

After a seven-year break, it was back to mid-table mediocrity until, in 1954/55 a Division One spot came when Town clinching the runners-up place on goal average.

In 1958/59 Town fought their way past Leeds, Leicester, Ipswich and Blackpool before seeing off Norwich in a semi-final of

the FA Cup. The final itself was a massive disappointment with Town not performing on the day, leaving ten man Nottingham Forest to win comfortably 2-1.

The Hatters' fortunes then went into steady decline and they sank to Division Three at the end of 1962/63; then to the football basement of Division Four in 1965 amidst apathy and crowds of less than 3,000.

Gradually things improved with manager Allan Brown's enthusiasm and astute playing of the transfer market. They went to the top of the table in February 1968, never looked back and walked away with the title.

They seemed capable of walking through Division Two back to a top flight they had left in 1960 but the March 1970 announcement of the collapse of directors Reggie Burr and Tony Hunt's Vehicle and General business reverberated around the corridors at Kenilworth Road and made the club sellers rather than buyers.

New manager David Pleat led a return to Division One in 1981 but he found the call of Tottenham too great and he departed amid much acrimony. They sank back down in 1992 and in '95/96 the loss of talismanic goalscorer, Dwight Marshall, with a broken ankle and relegation was the inevitable consequence.

On April 12, 2005, the club celebrated gaining a place in the Championship after 10 years in the bottom two divisions but the team was always under scrutiny from rival managers and the club received substantial bids for their top performers. A £3m bid from West Bromwich Albion for centre-back Curtis Davies was too good to turn down.

Season 2006-2007 was largely dominated by the Hatters' off-field problems, beginning with manager Mike Newell blowing the whistle on underhand transfer activity he knew of within the game. The Hatters then equalled their all time record of eight consecutive defeats and relegation was confirmed.

Eight players were signed in the summer of 2007 in preparation for a tilt at promotion. But form began to tail off and the club were deducted 10 points for falling into administration in November. Town lost their final six matches and were relegated to League 2.

New owners – a consortium headed by Hatters fan and TV presenter Nick Owen – were set to take full control of the club in the summer but the Hatters began their League 2 campaign with 15 points deducted for failure to agree to a Company Voluntary Agreement. The Football League, because the club had been in administration for the third time in nine years, deducted a further five points.

The club were still being investigated for alleged past financial irregularities and had a further 10 points docked by the FA meant the club had to start the season with an incredible 30 point penalty, a burden that proved too much to shoulder and relegation out of the Football League.

The Rotary Club of Furness Peninsula recently held a charity auction where over £2,000 was raised on the night. Up for grabs were two hospitality tickets for the visit of Forest Green Rovers. Pictured is the winning bidder, Helen Marshall of Community Times Furness, Helen's son Jack and Ian Bell the General Manager (Marketing) of Furness Building Society who kindly donated the tickets.



MARK TYLER (Goalkeeper)

Signed two-year contract at Kenilworth Road in June 2009 following his release by Peterborough United. He has made 483 appearances in 15 years at London Road and was rewarded with testimonial against Liverpool in 2007. When first team opportunities became hard to come by in 2008/09 he was loaned out to League 2 Bury. A former England Youth international.

KEVIN PILKINGTON (Goalkeeper)

Vastly experienced, joined Hatters in May after his release from Notts County. Began career with Manchester United playing six times in Premier League under Sir Alex Ferguson. In six years at Old Trafford had loan spells at Rochdale, Rotherham and Celtic before two-year stay at Port Vale. After 23 League appearances for the Valiants he moved to Aberystwyth Town and then Wigan Athletic. Found stability when joined Mansfield in 2000 and featured 167 times in League action over five years. In 2005 signed for Notts County and five year stay saw 141 appearances at Meadow Lane. However, Notts began flashing the cash at start of 2009/10 with goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel one of many high-profile arrivals. Frozen out of the County team, he joined the Hatters on-loan in November and when Magpies released him in summer of 2010, Money snapped up the veteran permanently.

ZDENEK KROCA (Defender)

Impressed in assured display in pre-season fixtures to earn a one-year contract. Made 169 league appearances in 10 years with hometown club Tescoma Zlin in his native Czech Republic. Last season imposing 6ft 5in defender scored four times in 27 league appearances with Letná Stadium outfit as they finished in second place in the Czech Second Division.

GEORGE PILKINGTON (Defender)

Highly experienced, joined club on free transfer in August 2008. Began career as an Everton trainee; joined Port Vale in June 2003 after loan spell at Exeter City. Started 223 League games for Valiants but injury frustrated first season at Kenilworth Road yet managed to pick-up Johnstone's Paint Trophy winners' medal.

DAN GLEESON (Defender)

Signed for Hatters in summer from home town club Cambridge United. Product of U's academy, made debut at 18 and became a regular, making 61 League appearances before Notts County snapped up his signature in 2006. Lasted a season at Meadow Lane, featuring 17 times, before back at the Abbey, firstly on-loan before signing permanently in 2007. Won seven England C caps.

ED ASAFU-ADJAYE (Defender)

Has made significant progress through club's youth set-up. After loan spell with Walton & Hersham, made breakthrough into first team under former boss Mike Newell, when club stretched through injury and suspension. First team opportunities limited so went on-loan to Salisbury City where earned rave reviews and when Mick Harford arrived as manager at Kenilworth Road one of first things he did was recall him. Made full debut in March 2008 and has gone from strength to strength.

SHANE BLACKETT (Defender)

Luton-born, was Mick Harford's sixth summer signing of 2009. Began career with Dunstable Town before switch to Arlesey Town in 2003 and United Counties form alerted attentions of Dagenham & Redbridge who signed him in May 2004. Made 83 appearances

and helped Daggers win Conference title and promotion to Football League in 2006/07. Peterborough signed him and made 38 appearances.

FREDDIE MURRAY (Defender)

Joined Hatters on six-month loan deal from Blue Square Premier side Grays Athletic in August 2009 and deal was made permanent last January. Irishman began career as trainee with Blackburn Rovers and had spells with Northampton Town, Stevenage Borough and Cambridge United.

TAYLOR NATHANIEL (Defender)

Signed professional contract in June after impressing in club's Under-18s. Made first senior appearance when coming off bench in 3-0 victory over Grays Athletic in FA Cup in October 2009.

ALEX LACEY (Defender)

Up-and-coming second year scholar who impressed Richard Money in the 2010 pre-season to earn a squad number. Yet to make first team appearance.

ADAM MURRAY (Midfielder)

Joined Hatters in summer from Oxford United. Started as trainee with Derby County, turning professional in August 1998. Gradually established himself in Derby first team and played regularly in Championship side but by start of 2003/04 season was out of favour and joined Kidderminster Harriers on loan. Left Derby in November 2003, joining Notts County and then rejoined Kidderminster and was regular until end of season. In June 2004 joined Mansfield Town, then moved to Carlisle United in March 2005 and played in play-off team that won promotion back to Football League. At start of 2006/07 moved to Torquay for £10,000, then in January 2007 joined Macclesfield for £17,500. Joined Oxford half way through 2007/08 and went on to make 87 appearances but last season cut short by a back injury. Hatters moved in when found out he had negotiated his release.

PAVEL BESTA (Midfielder)

Former Czech Under-21 international signed after impressing in pre-season friendly. Began career with hometown side Banik Ostrava and helped them win Czech league title in 2004 which led to appearances in Champions League qualifying rounds and made UEFA Cup appearance against Middlesbrough. Joined Hatters, alongside fellow countryman Zdenek Kroca, in August after campaign in Slovakia with Ruzomberok.

JAKE HOWELLS (Midfielder)

Came through ranks at Kenilworth Road and made full first team debut at Bradford City in October 2008. After 36 appearances rewarded with professional contract in May 2009. Made huge strides with impressive performances in 2009/10.

GODFREY POKU (Midfielder)

Signed from Blue Square South St Albans City last January as Hatters beat off competition from several Football League clubs. Impressed in Hatters' reserves last season.

JJ O'DONNELL (Midfielder)

Joined Town with St Albans team-mate Godfrey Poku last January. Featured for reserve team last season.

CLAUDE GNAKPA (Midfielder)

Frenchman signed on free transfer in August 2008 having plied his

trade across Europe with Montpellier HSC, Racing de Santander, Deportivo Alaves and FC Vaduz of Liechtenstein. Moved to Swindon Town for brief spell, then joined Peterborough in July 2007 and was regular in League 2 promotion winning side, starting 25 league games.

KEITH KEANE (Midfielder)

Made debut as 16-year-old in November 2003 and had extended run in the side. Product of youth system who appeared for Republic of Ireland at schoolboy level. Joined Hatters at age of nine and made rapid progression through club's centre of excellence and youth teams. Out of contract at end of 2009/10, delighted everyone at Kenilworth Road by penning two-year deal.

ADAM NEWTON (Midfielder)

Ascot-born, was Harford's second summer signing of 2009 following release from Brentford. Started career at West Ham United, coming through their Academy but only made three substitute appearances before signing for Peterborough United in May 2002. Former England U-21 international made 249 appearances in six years at the Posh. At end of 2007/08 was snapped by Brentford and helped Bees to the League 2 title. A St Kitts and Nevis international, has spent time on-loan at Portsmouth, Notts County and Leyton Orient.

ANDY DRURY (Midfielder)

Signed for Hatters in the summer from Conference champions Stevenage. Started career at Sittingbourne before signing for Gravesend and Northfleet (now Ebbsfleet United) in 2003. Lewes secured his signature in 2006 and he helped them lift Conference South title in 2007/08. Joined Stevenage in summer of 2008 and scored in last season's FA Trophy Final against Barrow.

ADAM WATKINS (Midfielder)

Signed professional forms in June. Self-confessed Hatters fan, made first team bow in 1-0 defeat at Southampton in FA Cup third round in January 2010.

KEVIN GALLEN (Forward)

Shepherds Bush native, established himself as something of legend at QPR notching up over 400 appearances and hitting 97 goals in two spells spanning nearly 14 years. Joined Huddersfield 2000 and after 30 starts moved to join Barnsley following summer but call of West London saw him return to QPR within a few months. Then scored nine goals in 16 league starts for MK

Dons before joining Luton on loan move made permanent in January 2009 and had prolific season in non-League football, finishing with 21 goals.

MATTHEW BARNES-HOMER (Forward)

Joined Hatters initially on month's loan from Kidderminster before agreeing two-and-a-half year contract to move permanently in January 2010 transfer window. Enjoyed dream start to international career when netted winner on debut for England C in 2-1 win over Poland in November. Began as trainee at Wolves and tried luck in United States before returning to England and, following success with clutch of non-League sides, was snapped by Wycombe Wanderers. Released at end of 2006/07 and then Harriers beat off competition to capture his signature. His Kidderminster form alerted attentions of number of Football League clubs but was suitably impressed by the Hatters' vision.

DANNY CROW (Forward)

Joined Hatters from Cambridge United in May 2010 following expiry of contract at Abbey Stadium. Started as trainee with Norwich City and made senior bow in Premier League in December 2004. Loan spell at Northampton followed towards end of 2004/05 season before released by Norwich and signed by Peterborough in summer of 2005, notching 17 goals in debut season. Following short loan spell at Notts County, was released by Posh and snapped up by Cambridge in September 2008. Strike rate of 22 goals in 43 league starts won him many admirers.

DAN WALKER (Forward)

Signed one-year deal in July 2010 after impressing in pre-season in games. Previously with Bedford Town and also played for Stony Stratford Town and Leighton Town.

TAIWO ATIENO (Forward)

Kenyan international originally signed in March 2010 until the end of the 2009/10 after returning to UK after spell playing in Puerto Rico and America. Released at end of campaign but after deal in South Africa fell through was re-signed on September 3 until end of season. Starting career as scholar at Walsall, failed to make breakthrough and send out on loan to gain first team experience to a number of Football League sides. Snapped up by Tamworth and scored 12 goals in first season before signing for the Puerto Rico Islanders in 2007.

Some of the Luton Town squad are pictured below –



Danny Crow

Andy Drury

Dan Gleeson

Claude Gnakpa

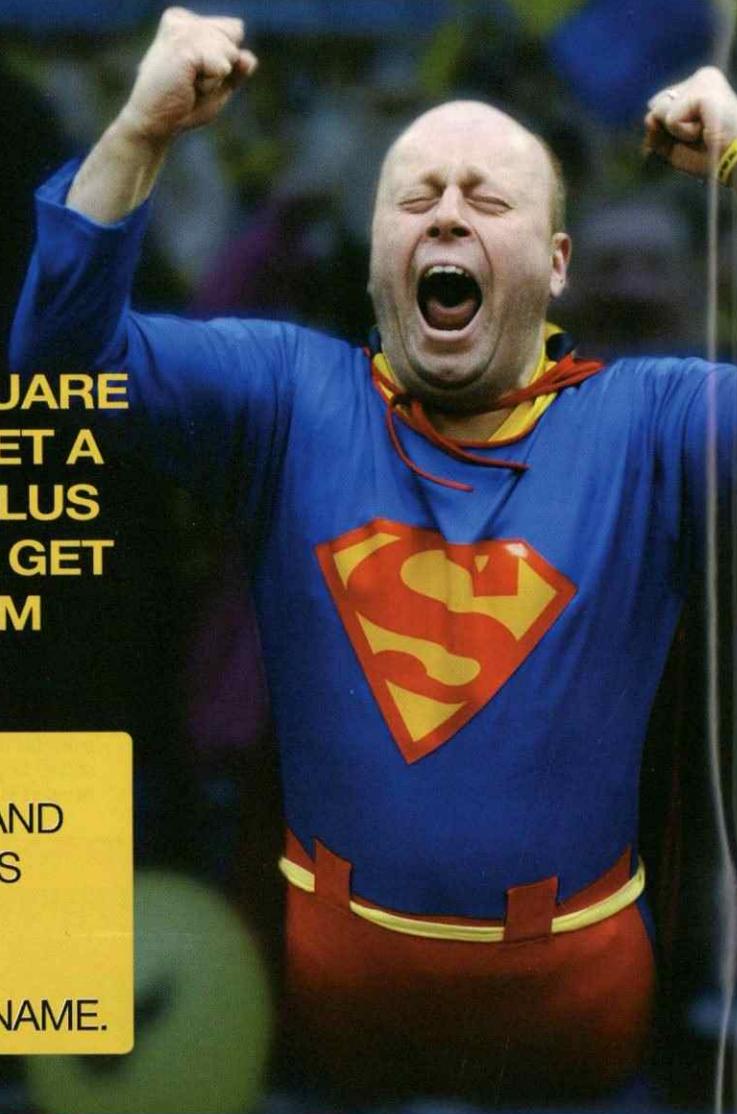
Keith Keane

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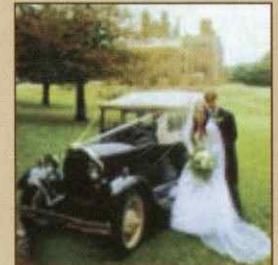
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STADIUM NEWS

with Operations Manager **Barry Fitzgerald**

Today we welcome Luton Town to Holker Street, which could be one of the largest visiting contingents we have this season.

This fixture last season was a game where we had to pay for a Police presence. It is a credit to Mike Forsyth and his stewarding team that this season this fixture has been categorised as Club Security, with no police required.

Over the last few weeks we have been recruiting some extra turnstile staff and I welcome Christine, Alan, Carl, Jordan and Ray to the team, who, along with Les, Brian, Gary, Hannah, Natasha, Claire and Clare, are the turnstile and ticket office staff here at Holker Street.

We have also moved one of the unused turnstiles to the popular side and on busier games we are now able to open 4 gates on this side. Thanks to Mike, Terry and his team of stewards for this

voluntary work in moving and fitting the new turnstile.

This week we have had a radio microphone fitted which will hopefully give us some flexibility and more scope to increase the build up to the match and half-time activities on the pitch. This is something we hope to start in the near future and any sensible suggestions for half-time entertainment will be gratefully received.

We are in the process of erecting a new stand for the DVD recording of the game. We have looked at many options for this and unfortunately filming from the back of the stand is not acceptable to the FA or to Premier Sports.

This is due to the large pillars in the front of the stand that interrupt the full view of the pitch.

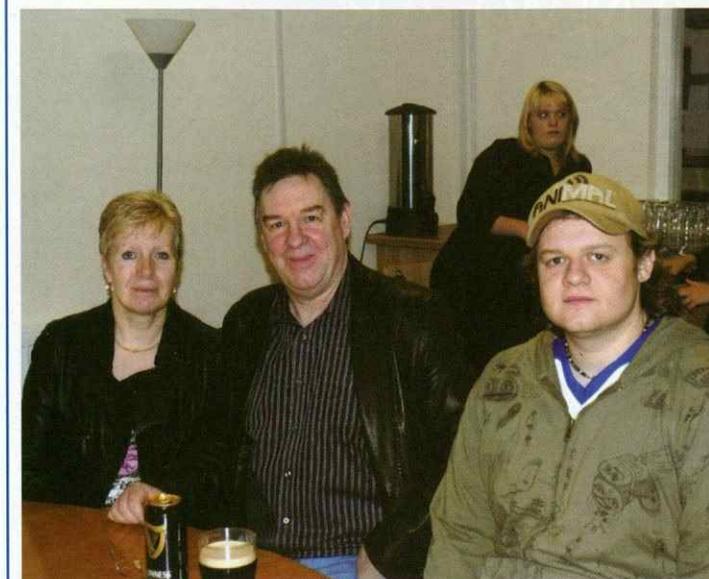
Having looked at all the options, we are going to position a raised platform in

front of the main stand on the half way line. This will be low enough so that no-one's view from the stand is affected. Work should be started on this in the next few weeks.

The new reception is getting near to completion and hopefully we will be looking to have this opened sometime in October, which will also mean we will be increasing our shop opening hours. This will be publicised in due course when the remaining work has been completed.

I have had some e-mails and phone calls over recent weeks but not as many as I thought! Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions, concerns, complaints, etc. I will respond and hopefully get these matters sorted or pass them onto someone who can.

My e-mail address is barry@barrowafc.com or you can telephone me on 01229 823061.



Pictured enjoying the match day hospitality before the Forest Green Rovers game is Phil Collier, Managing Director of Turnstone Consultancy, and guests. Turnstone Consultancy are new Premier Club members at Holker Street this season.

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DOWN THE YEARS

LUTON TOWN

by Phil Yelland

Last season when Luton Town visited us in Blue Square Premier, we featured in the programme the details of a match that took place here in November 1966 when we beat Luton Town 3-0.

That game is often said to have kick started our bid for promotion that season from Division Four which ultimately ended in success.

That was our first ever win over the Hatters. The previous season, we had met for the first time in Division Four and they had done the double over us thanks to a single goal victory here and a subsequent 3-2 victory at Kenilworth Road when our scorers were veteran winger Brian Pilkington and local lad Peter Marshall.

Even the return game in the 1966-67 season was not a success from our point of view as we closed in on promotion as former Newcastle United star Ron McGarry struck our goal in a 3-1 defeat.

Whilst we were establishing ourselves in Division Three in the 1967-68 season, the Hatters

were winning promotion to join us and in the 1968-69 season they again enjoyed the better of our meetings. A 0-0 draw here in front of over 6,500 fans was followed later in the season by us losing 5-1 in Bedfordshire with the consolation goal falling to Bobby Knox.

The 1969-70 season saw us open the campaign at Luton. Over the summer manager Norman Bodell had brought in a number of new faces but they made no difference at all as the Hatters romped to a 3-0 win. They were managed at the time by Alec Stock who that summer had signed a full back from Fulham called Malcolm MacDonald – he went on to be one of the most prolific scorers in the game in the early 1970s at both Newcastle United and Arsenal as well as for England.

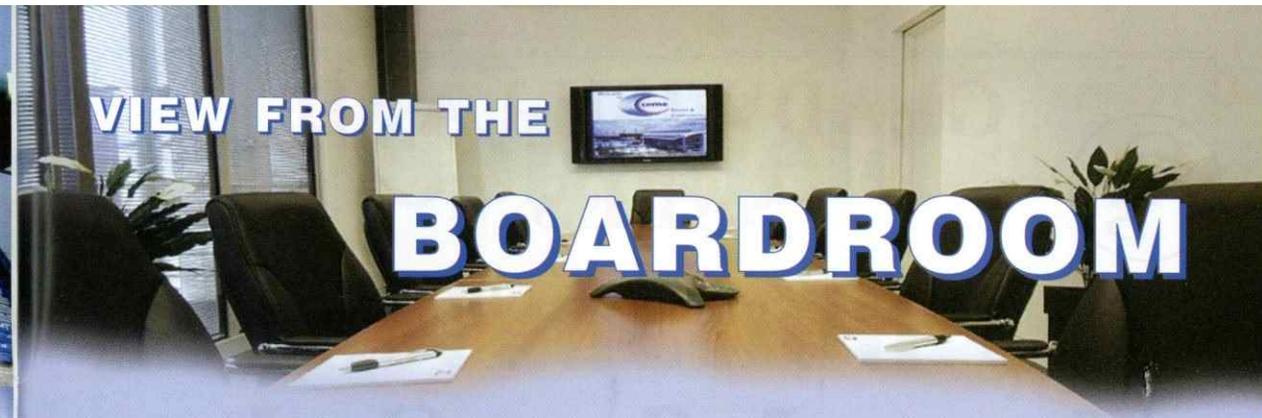
The reverse game was played at Holker Street on February 14, 1970. The Hatters were right in the promotion hunt with young MacDonald in great goal scoring form. Barrow were in crisis. Bodell had been sacked as manager –

just three wins in 30 League games had seen to that and meant the club was doomed to almost certain relegation.

The directors persuaded former manager Don McEvoy to return to the club to try to recreate the glory days which had seen him take the club to promotion three years earlier. Sadly, McEvoy's magic failed to work and we were relegated at the end of that season as Luton won promotion to Division Two.

But that winter afternoon, a crowd of just over 3,800 saw one of the shock results of the season as goals from striker Jim Mulvaney and midfielder Tony Morrin earned us a 2-1 win – described in those days as a “coupon buster!”

Our paths never crossed again until last season when the Hatters again did the double over us – their winner at Kenilworth Road in September was a late strike by Adam Newton. In February this year, they struck late to claim a win with the goal coming from loan striker Liam Hatch.



VIEW FROM THE

BOARDROOM

This afternoon we are in the middle of a relatively closely packed run of three home games, which is not ideal for our supporters as it can be an expensive time.

However it is always special to welcome teams of the quality and stature of Luton Town to Holker Street and is always a real test to see how far we are progressing.

This is Luton's second season out of the Football League and they will be desperate to either win the league this season or get promoted via the play-offs.

We therefore warmly welcome the chairman, directors, management, players and supporters to Holker Street and hope they have an enjoyable but short stay in Cumbria, join in with our customary hospitality and have a safe journey back home.

Two weeks ago we lost in disappointing style at Hayes and Yeading and despite key decisions not going our way, we were without doubt not at our best.

We have been decimated by injuries this season, especially up front, but mainly out wide. With Marc Goodfellow out for some time yet, we have now found out that the injury to Simon Wiles, picked up at Altrincham, will probably keep him out of the side for the season - and it is possible that his football career is in doubt.

Simon is one of the nicest human beings you could ever meet and it is a real tragedy that this has happened to him, especially as he has had severe injury problems before, ironically to his other knee.

We all wish Simon well and hope he can overcome these injury problems.

On the basis of the above, we have brought back to the club Neil Wainwright, on loan from Morecambe for

a month, and Neil was involved on Tuesday night against Fleetwood Town. If Neil can produce the form he showed last time he was us, we are all in for a treat.

The Fleetwood match result was obviously disappointing. We gave our visitors a two goal start and despite a much better second half, we could not peg it back.

It is quite obvious in most leagues that money talks and Fleetwood have players on wages that, at the moment, we cannot compete with. Their wage bill is incredible for their status and they appear to be in a very fortunate position where they have a substantial cash backer.

As long as the backer continues with his commitment they will be fine.

The reception area is almost ready to be officially opened. As mentioned before, it has taken longer than we would have liked. We would like to use this column to thank Rory Higham for all his hard work and commitment to the club and especially the number of hours he works and the evenings/weekends. Brilliant Rory, thank you.

We follow today's game with a trip to Tamworth followed by another very tough home match against Crawley. This is a very difficult league, there are no easy games.

We have to remember where we have come from in the last few years. We need to grow slowly and hopefully in the years to come we will be able to establish ourselves at the top part of this league.

Enjoy the game,

Neil Chalker
Director, Barrow AFC





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Getting to know you...

See a big action photo of Danny on the centre pages

DANNY FORREST



Programme editor Bob Herbert talks to new striker Danny Forrest.

BH: Barrow must be a bit of a change from the now big spending Crawley Town where you were last season?

DANNY: I love it with Barrow and I'm 100 per cent glad I'm away from Crawley. Two or three of my best mates are still there and it seems to be something of a circus. The club might be spending lots of money but how are they going to keep people happy when they are not playing? Over the last three of four weeks some five or six players have left. It might be a comfort zone to some but that's not for me. I'm really happy where I am now.

BH: Didn't Crawley want to keep you?

DANNY: Yes. Manager Steve Evans might have a bit of a reputation for upsetting a lot of people but I got on OK with him. He wanted to talk to me about a

new contract but I thought it was time to go. There seemed to be that much going on at Crawley it was difficult to concentrate on football 100 per cent which is what I wanted to do.

BH: So why Barrow?

DANNY: I think you can put that down to Jon Shaw who is a really good mate and he had a spell on loan at Barrow last season. Jon said it was a good club with good lads and good managers. I think he recommended me to Bayles who did a bit of research on me and had me watched. Jon wasn't wrong. There is a good feel about this place. I just want to enjoy my football and not be sidetracked by off the field issues. Already I'm beginning to get to know people – fans and people on the board. I like it here. There is an excellent outlook.

Don't read too much into that defeat at Altrincham. It was one of those things that was probably inevitable – we had not lost seven in a row and they hadn't won all season. Something was bound to give. There wasn't much that we did wrong and I think Alty would have settled for 0-0 with their five men across the back. There were so many bodies behind the ball it was difficult for us to break them down. If we had played poorly there would have been cause for worry but we kept the ball well and the only problem was that we didn't show the ruthlessness that we had shown in our two previous games. There is no crisis.

We have got to build on our home reputation. I know from being with Crawley last season that players just don't fancy coming to Barrow on a wet Tuesday night!

BH: You come from Keighley.

DANNY: Yes I'm Yorkshire through and through. I was signed by Bradford City when I was nine years old and given an apprenticeship when I was 16. By

the age of 18, I was playing in the Championship. I played 20 Championship games for Bradford and another 30 in League One. It was a good time and a lot of good people. I did my best but when there is a change of manager, sometimes your face doesn't fit. Unfortunately that was the case with me.

BH: So where did you go next?

DANNY: I knew Wayne Jacobs who was assistant manager at Halifax Town and when he knew I was available to go out on loan, Halifax did a deal. In all I played over 100 first team games there. But it was a sad end. While the players knew there were problems, they didn't know just how serious they were.

They were talking about new contracts and the manager said he wanted me to stay at the club. I went to see him and he asked me to come back in two hours because the club was waiting for some

news. I went back two hours later and the club was gone, bankrupt, points deducted. They have reformed now and are fighting back. I wish them the best of luck because there were some nice people there who didn't deserve what happened.

BH: So you joined Crawley

DANNY: The offer came and it felt right, even though it seemed a long way from Yorkshire where I had always been based. I feel I never quite fulfilled my potential at Crawley and I put that down to there being so much happening off the field. As I've said, I just want to concentrate on my football and not get distracted by other issues.

BH: What of the future?

DANNY: More and more goals for Barrow. There is a good feel about the place and I think Barrow can go places, if not this season then certainly next.



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THE BEAUTIFUL GAME

by Ade Roberts

Know what I mean?

Don't you find it frustrating when someone misinterprets what you're trying to say or do? You begin to question yourself and ask; Is it the way I said it or the way I did it?

Poor old Joey Barton, the poor fella. He's so misunderstood. He made a pledge to grow a moustache recently and promised not shave it off

until his Newcastle team had won a Premier League game.

Most players have some weird pre-match, post match routine which they follow or superstitions they firmly believe in. But what was Barton thinking with that tash? He looked like the seventh member of The Village People. Incidentally, he wears the No. 7 on his shirt - coincidence or what?

After scoring Newcastle's first goal in their 6-0 thrupping of Aston Villa recently, Barton signified through a hand gesture that the tash would go.

He was immediately criticised for carrying out a Nazi salute with his finger when his intended gesture was implying that he would shave off the hairy slug on his top lip! With his past disciplinary issues, it's fully understandable how the onlooking fans and press might misinterpret his hand gesture as some kind of intentional insult.

He's not the first in football to give out the wrong signal and be chastised for it, is he? There have been so many incidents in the past when our

footballing folk have dropped the proverbial clanger. If not by signals and hand gestures, it's simply by opening their foolish mouths before thinking!

Remember Glenn Hoddle's fall from grace with his comments about the disabled whilst he was England manager? He accepted that he had made a "serious error of judgement" – oooh, not half Glenn!

Then there's Ron Atkinson whose big mouth has landed him in trouble a number of times, his utterances became known as "Big-Ronisms".

Some folk just don't know when to keep quiet, do they? Well, there are some that do keep quiet but still manage to land themselves in bother.

Jose Mourinho, now there's a character. He received a three-game touchline ban and was fined £35,000 for what seemed like a simple hand gesture suggesting he was handcuffed. This was viewed as a strong criticism of the officials, implying that the referees were victimising his Inter Milan team.

He had also apparently insulted the officials throughout the entire game! That may also have added fuel to the fire.

Even the common "thumbs-up" gesture is open to misinterpretation. To you or I, it could have many meanings of a positive nature. On the pitch, a player could use it to the gaffer on the touchline after a crunching tackle to signal that he's ok to carry on playing. However, the same "thumbs-up" gesture in Greece or Russia can have a very different meaning, similar to our middle finger "up yours" gesture here!

It should be said though that not all gestures made by players or managers are intended to cause controversy.

During the World Cup Final in South Africa, Fernando Torres was pictured and seen by millions celebrating Spain's World Cup win wearing not a Spain scarf but a Liverpool scarf, thus showing his allegiance to the Reds after a period of speculation over his Liverpool future.

Let's hope we're not misunderstood today as fans. We want entertaining football and a win, nothing less!

Now let's make some sound in the ground and get behind the lads.

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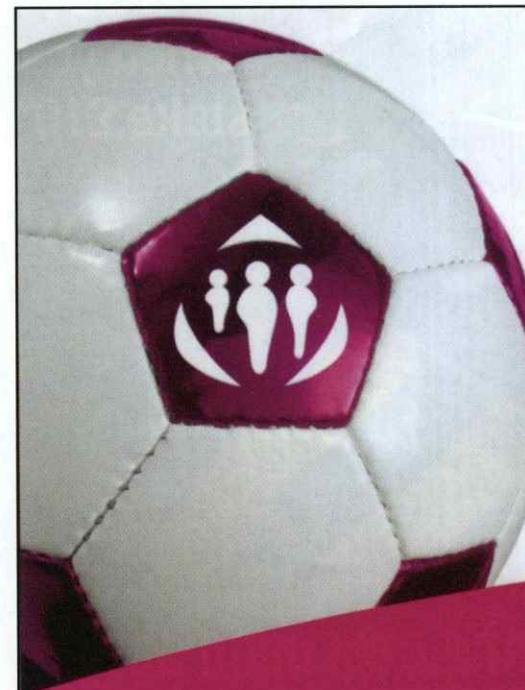
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Danny
Forrest



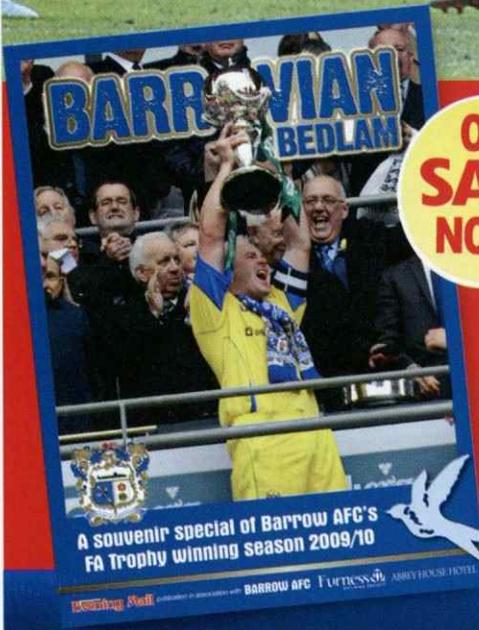
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FAMILY TIES - BROTHERS (2)

by Phil Yelland

Having covered the issue of brothers who have featured for us in the non-League era, I thought I would have a dig back to see who had played for us as brothers in the Football League days between 1921 and 1972.

With the help of a couple of books, including the excellent A Who's Who of Barrow AFC, it appears that just two sets of brothers played for the club over that period and one set is rather better known than the other.

The less well known were the Brelsford brothers who were born within 18 months of each other towards the end of the last century in Sheffield.

They both joined us, each for a reported £150 fee, from Sheffield Wednesday in the summer of 1924. The older brother, Ben, was a defender while Tom could play in midfield or in defence.

Both made their debuts for the club on August 30, 1924, in Division Three North at Belle Vue against Doncaster Rovers in what turned out to be a 0-0 draw.

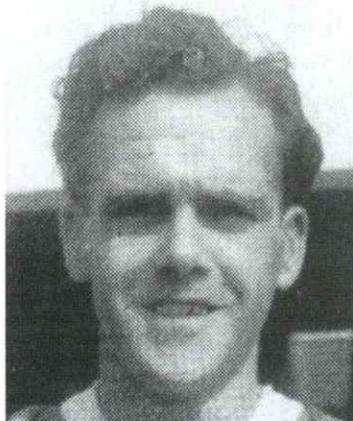
Both were regulars in the side but at the end of the season, Tom decided to move back to Yorkshire and joined Rotherham United – he made 38 appearances in total for us, scoring once. Ben stayed for a second season and completed 75 appearances for the club, scoring twice. In the summer of 1926 he joined Oldham Athletic.

The more famous set of brothers appeared for the club in the 1950s and were the locally based Keens – Alan, Bert and Jack.

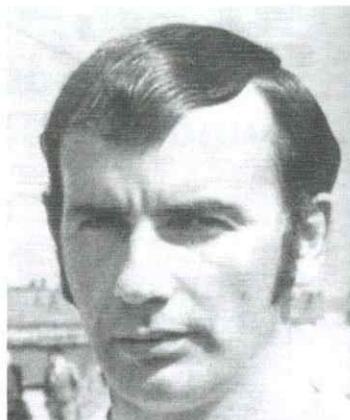
The oldest brother was Bert, a winger, and he played fewest

games for the first team. He joined the club from Netherfield – then of the Lancashire Combination – in the summer of 1953 and made his Division 3 North debut at Chesterfield on the opening day of the 1953-54 season.

The middle brother Jack was what we would now class as a midfielder player. He had been an amateur with West Bromwich Albion before joining the club in January 1948, making his debut at Oldham in Division Three North in April 1948.



JACKIE KEEN . . . created a first in the Football League when he lined up with his brothers Alan and Bert for Barrow at Port Vale in 1953.



BOB KNOX . . . a record holder – but never played alongside brother Mike in the Football League.

FAMILY TIES - BROTHERS (2)

The youngest of the brothers – Alan – joined the club from local football in the summer of 1949 but he didn't make his debut in the first team until the final day of the 1949-50 season at Lincoln.

Jack and Alan first appeared in the first team together in January 1952 in a 1-0 win at Carlisle United.

The three brothers then appeared together in the team on just two occasions at the start of September 1953. Both games ended in defeat – 0-4 at Port Vale and 0-2 at Halifax four days. The game at Port Vale was the first time that three brothers had appeared together in the same side in the Football League.

Bert's League career lasted just eight games before he returned

to local football. Jack played with the club through until the summer of 1959 when he joined Workington – he made a total of 310 Barrow appearances, scoring 25 times.

Alan left the club in the summer of 1954 having made 102 appearances and scoring 15 times. He joined Chesterfield and later had two spells with Cheltenham Town as well as playing for Bradford Park Avenue before finishing his career with Carlisle United.

There is of course one myth that is worth exploding. In the 1960s, brothers Bobby and Mike Knox did not play together in a competitive first team game.

Bobby, of course, became the first substitute to score in the Football League, getting the third in

a 4-2 win over Wrexham in the first game of 1965/66.

And he was the first substitute to save a penalty in a 2-1 win over Doncaster Rovers in December, 1965. Lionel Duffin was carried off with concussion after 34 minutes and Bob took over in goal and saved a 56th minute spot kick by Alick Jeffrey, a player who seemed destined for great honours until suffering a serious injury.

Ironically, in that game Doncaster also lost their keeper, with a dislocated shoulder, and one of their mid-field players took over in goal.

However whilst the Knox brothers played together in the Lancashire Combination for the Reserves, that was as far as it went.

Gala Night kicks off Christmas celebrations

Tickets are now on sale for our Christmas Gala Night to be held at the Crossbar on Thursday, December 9. This will be the second year the club has held this event in this format and everyone who attended last year said what a superb evening it was.

There will be a four course buffet and the entertainment for the evening will be provided by Mr Denis Horan and his band.

Tickets are on sale at £26 each, or you can reserve a table for 10 people at the discounted price of £250. Ticket sales are limited to 100 so please call the club early to book your tickets.

As a gift to you fans, we are cutting the price of the corporate hospitality to £32.50 per head for the last home

game before Christmas – against Tamworth on Saturday, December 18.

The meal and drinks will have a Christmas theme and as places are limited, please book early.

After the Tamworth game we will be having a Christmas Party in the Crossbar, starting at 7pm. There will be a pie and peas supper, along with a top quality disco, and the main treat for all fans will be the presence of the majority of the Bluebirds squad for the evening.

Admission will be by ticket only and tickets, priced at £5, are now on sale at the club.

The club shop and Crossbar will be open from 11am through until 2pm on Sunday, December 19 for people to go along and purchase last minute Christmas presents. The shop will stock a full range of branded items and will have something for everybody.

The players will be in attendance on the day and will be available to sign gifts, cards, etc., or have photographs taken.

The open day held earlier this year was a real success so the club is looking forward to another fantastic day.

After the open day, the players will head to Furness General Hospital to visit the Children's Ward and distribute gifts to the children unfortunate enough to be in hospital over the Christmas period.



ON THIS DAY 2nd October

by Phil Yelland

1976 – NPLC(2)

Barrow 2 – Gateshead United 2

Following a 3-1 defeat at the hands of Macclesfield Town in the league seven days earlier, player/manager Ron Yeats made no fewer than four changes to the starting line up for the game.

He rested himself and central defensive partner

Dave Large as both were carrying injuries and called in Brian Arrowsmith and Neil McDonald. Charlie Gisbourne returned after an injury in a shuffle that saw Paul Wilson move into midfield to replace Brian McManus. In attack Tony Hateley started in place of Ian Gill who dropped to the bench.

The Tynesiders included Ron Guthrie in defence – just over three years earlier he had been one of the Sunderland heroes in their FA Cup Final triumph over Leeds United. The prize for the winners was a place in the quarter-finals of the competition.

Barrow looked good in the early minutes but Gisbourne gave the home crowd a scare as he sliced a clearance just wide of his own goal. Worse was to follow as the visitors took a tenth minute lead as John Martin failed to deal with a through ball from Rosethorn on the edge of the box and it ran to the prolific Les Mutrie who shot home.

Another Gisbourne error saw Arrowsmith tidy up things up before the visitors could take

advantage but on 37 minutes the visitors increased their lead. Goalkeeper Lionel Duffin failed to deal with a Guthrie shot and Norman Smith turned the rebound home.

Duffin partly atoned for his mistake just before the interval when he produced a superb save from a Mutrie header.

Barrow began the second half well with Martin testing Wilson and by the hour mark Barrow had drawn level courtesy of two goals in a five minute period.

The first came on 55 minutes when Alan Cook made room and crossed for Tony Hateley to score with a diving header to bring back memories of his time at Liverpool and Chelsea. Five minutes later former Liverpool junior Derek McClatchey when a Martin free kick was flicked on in turn by Hateley and Arrowsmith for the striker to fire home from close range.

The visitors were now struggling and Alan Cook

almost gave Barrow the lead with a low cross shot that beat Wilson but also beat the far post.

With 20 minutes remaining the visitors' Maddison found space to fire in a shot from 15 yards only for Duffin to produce the save of the match.

The game ended all square and the replay on Tyneside the following month saw Barrow lose 6-1 - but that is another story.

Barrow: Duffin; Gisbourne, Arrowsmith, McDonald, Brimelow; Cook, Martin, Balm, P. Wilson; Hateley, McClatchey. Sub: Gill for Hateley – 75 mins.

Gateshead: K. Wilson; Rosethorn, Potter, McLeod, Guthrie; Mclver, Maddison, J. Wilson, Smith; Mutrie, Johnson. Sub: Common – unused.

Referee: Mr J. Cunningham (Preston)

Gate: 495

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AROUND THE PREMIER

by Phil Yelland

There is more news to catch up on from around the League this afternoon.

AFC Wimbledon

Following the suspension of regular central defender Andre Blackman, before the top of the table clash with Crawley Town, boss Terry Brown reinforced his defensive options by bringing in young defender Chris Bush on loan from League One side Brentford.

Bath City

Boss Adie Britton has added to his attacking options by taking teenage winger Marley Watkins on loan from League Two Cheltenham Town for one month. Watkins has no first team experience to date.

Leaving the club defender Mark Badman who has failed to hold down a regular place this season having made over 90 appearances for the club before. The club are retaining his Blue

Square Bet Premier registration for now, however.

Crawley Town

With Steve Evans now settled on his best line up, one of the club's summer signings has been released. Midfielder Jai Reason, formerly with Cambridge United, is thought likely to interest a number of Blue Square Bet Premier sides.

There has also been a change in the backroom staff with former Luton Town and Chelsea striker Brian Stein joining the club as physiotherapist. Stein filled the same role at Barnet for part of last season.

Darlington

The plans of Quakers boss Mark Cooper to sign former Brighton and Chelsea striker Leon Knight have hit a snag. Knight spent last season playing in Scotland after his release by Rushden & Diamonds. However reports indicate that there was a clause in

his contract at Rushden indicating that if he wanted to play in England before the end of the 2010-11 season, the club he joined would have to pay Rushden a fee for his services. It appears the player is unhappy and Darlington are not willing to meet the fee requested.

Eastbourne Borough

Eastbourne boss Gary Wilson has added another defender to his squad on loan - 18 year old Yado Mambo from Charlton Athletic of League One. He is very highly rated and was a targeted for a loan deal in the summer by AFC Wimbledon.

Grimsby Town

Goalkeeping problems for Grimsby Town boss Neil Woods. Having brought in Sheffield Wednesday's Richard O'Donnell on loan to cover for injured first choice Kenny Arthur, it looked as if things had slotted into place with Arthur fit to return against

AROUND THE PREMIER

Fleetwood Town. However, he dislocated a finger in the warm up which will mean an absence for several weeks and may see O'Donnell's loan extended. The only other senior goalkeeper on the books is goalkeeping coach Steve Croudson.

The Mariners have also struggled to score goals and in a bid to cure that problem they have brought in former Morecambe striker Danny Carlton on loan for a month from Bury of League Two. Carlton had two seasons with Carlisle United before joining the Shakers on his release this summer.

Histon

Over the summer a number of concerns were voiced about financial irregularities at Histon which led to the Cambridgeshire police being called into investigate. It seems that nothing has been found to warrant action as the police have now confirmed their investigation is closed.

Kettering Town

After a disappointing start to the season, Kettering Town have announced that goalkeeper player/manager Lee Harper has left the club by mutual consent - the third Blue Square Bet Premier boss to lose his job this season after John Beck at Histon and Graham Heathcote at Altrincham. A run of just one win in eight

games was not deemed good enough by a side with play-off ambitions.

However, perhaps the biggest surprise is that the club's former manager Morrell Maison has been appointed as caretaker manager. After leaving the Poppies Mr Maison had a highly controversial spell in charge of Zamaretto Premier Division side Halesowen Town and last season he was brought in to manage Chester City as they went out of business.

Meanwhile experienced former Walsall midfielder Darren Wrack has been released by Kettering and has joined Blue Square Bet North side Stafford Rangers.

Mansfield Town

It looks as if the Stags may have solved their financial problems following a takeover by Doncaster based businessman John Radford. Radford has a number of business interests and has pledged to put £250,000 into the club now and the same amount at the end of the season. The aim is a return to the Football League.

Rushden & Diamonds

Rushden boss Justin Edinburgh has moved to try to improve his striking options by bringing in Tim Sills on loan from Stevenage Borough. Sills has helped Aldershot, Torquay and Stevenage win promotion to the Football League and Edinburgh will hope

he can help Rushden into the promotion race.

Wrexham

Over the last couple of seasons, Wrexham fans have voiced concerns about the commitment of manager Dean Saunders to the club given his role as assistant to national team manager John Toshack. That will no longer be an issue as following the departure of Toshack, the Welsh FA confirming that Saunders is no longer involved with the national team.

York City

Following a number of injuries, York City boss Martin Foyle has brought in two players. Left sided defender Jamal Fyfield has joined from Maidenhead United of Blue Square Bet South for the rest of the season whilst former Bury midfielder Danny Racchi has joined on a one month deal having previously featured this season for Wrexham.

However, having made the signings, the team crashed 5-0 at Mansfield Town and that was followed by an announcement that Mr Foyle was leaving the club. No further details have yet emerged but for the time being assistant manager Andy Porter and coach Steve Torpey are in charge and began with a 3-1 win at Tamworth.



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Football is not a cheap sport and costs continue to increase year on year. To help the development of the club we are looking to re launch our membership of the GOLD BOND WEEKLY DRAW.

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In League two clubs who have similar gates to us have over 1,600 members and receive over £50,000 per annum. Another local league 2 club that we have spoken to has over 8,000 members paying each week into their weekly draw so now is the time to allow us as a club to compete on a level playing field.

The Gold Bond draw has 315 prizes on offer every week with a jackpot of £2,000 every week guaranteed and a total prize fund of over £5,000.

To join by debit or credit card downloaded <http://www.goldbondlotto.com/?ref=BARRO>. If you prefer to pay by standing order, forms are available.

If you need any assistance in joining, feel free to e-mail Martin at office@barrowafc.com or telephone 01229 823061.

We are also looking for supporters to help take the draw to more people by becoming collectors and canvassers. If you can spare just a couple of hours each day, week or just as a one-off, please phone Martin on 01229 823061.

Benefits of becoming an agent are:

- Generous commission on all members fees collected.
- 10% bonus on all winners of £25 or above.
- 10% discount in the club shop (for agents with 10 members or over)
- A substantial discount on a season-ticket (if you have over 10 members)

Each week the winners of the draw are publicised on the club website www.barrowafc.com/newsite/goldbond.php with all our lucky winners being paid automatically with no need to claim.



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HIDDEN DANGER IS THERE FOR ALL PLAYERS

By Stuart Hammonds (of The Non-League Paper)

Just over four years ago, Hinckley United's Matt Gadsby collapsed and died during a Conference North game at Harrogate Town.

Former Walsall, Mansfield, Kidderminster and Forest Green defender Gadsby had just turned 27 and had been living with an undetected heart condition known as arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy (ARVC).

His wife, Sarah, had given birth to their first child, Amelia, just eight months earlier. As a non-League player with a daughter of the same name and age, I sat with tears streaming down my face as I read Internet tributes from family, team-mates, opponents and strangers.

An interview with Sarah on the first anniversary of the husband's death was the most heartrending I've done.

Gadsby's condition also claimed the life of Motherwell's Phil O'Donnell and was similar to the more high-profile death of Manchester City midfielder Marc Vivien Foe, who suffered hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM).

Gadsby wasn't, and won't be, alone in passing away during a non-League game. Just a few months earlier, striker Paul Sykes died during a game for Folkestone Invicta against his former side Margate.

Sykes was a year older but, like Gadsby, had recently become a father for the first time and was suffering from ARVC, where the right ventricular muscle cells are progressively replaced by fibrous tissue and fat.

The startling truth is that wherever you are watching your football today, there is likely to be at least one player in that league playing with potentially fatal heart condition they know nothing about.

Steve Cox, director of screening at Cardiac Risk in the Young, recently told our sister publication, The Football League Paper: "We've been screening people for 15 years and what we've found is that around one in 300 people will have an underlying cardiac abnormality that they are unaware of."

Screening in the form of an electrocardiogram (ECG) costs just £35 and there are calls for it to be mandatory for all professional footballers.

But what about the thousands in the game's grass-roots? In a 22-team league there are 352 footballers every Saturday not being screened.

Cox added: "Academy players will be screened, as will guys in the Premier League. But these incidents don't occur very often at that high level. They occur on the way up, often in grass-roots football but they only get published in local papers so nobody hears about it."

"Obviously finance is an issue. There are a lot of people playing football at all the different levels and to screen them all would be very expensive. But we feel that £35 is a reasonable amount."

So it is. Even if the FA, individual leagues or the clubs don't make it mandatory, at less than half the cost of a pair of boots, it's a small price for individual players to pay themselves for peace of mind.

That's if they – or supporters – don't take advantage of CRY's Test My Heart Tour, currently travelling the country offering a FREE appointment at nine locations. See www.testmyheart.org for details.

If you are unable to attend any of the dates or there is no space available, send an email to ecg@c-ry.org.uk with your name and address and they will forward details of upcoming clinics as new dates are confirmed.





By Phil Yelland

Having looked in previous home programmes at how Blue Square Bet North and the Evo-stik Premier Division are shaping up, here is news from the Evo-stik First Division North and South where a number of former Bluebirds are making the news.

FIRST DIVISION NORTH

For a number of years it has been said that Chorley should be playing at a higher level and after a dramatic overhaul in the summer they look set to push for promotion which has seen them win six of their first seven league games. Boss Gary Flitcroft moved to the club from Leigh Genesis in the summer and he took many of his squad from last season with him to Victory Park.

Our former full back Lee Woodyatt is enjoying an excellent season whilst another former Bluebird, defender Jonathan Smith, is a valuable member of the squad. Steve Flitcroft, another former Bluebird, is currently out of the team.

Another side to strike early season form are Witton Albion who transferred to the North Division over the summer after enjoying little success in the South. Their resurgence this season also seems to

be down to a change of manager with veteran former Leek Town boss Paul Ogden in charge – he was in charge of Leek at Wembley in 1990!

Clitheroe are also amongst the early season pace setters which will please their boss, former Bluebird Peter Smith. His skipper is another former Bluebird – defender Kevin Brown. He was a summer signing for Phil Wilson in 2006 but left us without kicking a ball in a competitive game. Another former Bluebird Kenny Mayers has left the club but his son Louis still features.

Another side who have started well are AFC Fylde who have ambitions beyond the Evo-stik League and are looking at a new ground in the not too distant future. They have brought in three players over the summer from neighbours Fleetwood Town – defender John Hills, former skipper Jamie Milligan and striker Tom Cahill. They also have three former Bluebirds lining up in defence – Ryan Elderton, Phil Doughty and Mike Stringfellow.

Their hero to date has been striker Matt Walwyn, the son of former York City and Blackpool striker Keith who is starting to fulfil his potential.

Tommy Lawton's Skelmersdale

United who have missed out in the play-offs in the recent past have also made a solid start to the campaign whilst Warrington Town have surprised many as they have climbed into the top half dozen.

The side they all fear, of course if the re-born Chester FC who started the season well before going down at home to Chorley in front of over 3,000 fans. They are a brand new team built by former Colwyn Bay boss Neil Young who featured for us very briefly in the 1992-93 season when Graham Heathcote was or boss. They have former Bluebirds striker Nick Rogan on loan from Fleetwood Town and that arrangement may be extended.

Struggling

Down at the bottom of the table are Leigh Genesis who just missed out on the play-offs last year. They have had a turbulent summer – moving operations from Leigh Sports Village to ground share with Atherton LR at Crilly Park. The dream of a new stadium and with it real hope of climbing back up the Pyramid seems to have gone.

Former Bluebird Mark Maddox took charge over the summer after a spell

in charge at Formby but his low budget squad seems set for a long and difficult season.

It's not so long ago that Prescot Cables were a thriving club in the Premier Division but this season the Valerie Park club have made a poor start and they are looking to their usual crop of youngsters to lift them away from trouble.

In many ways Durham City will be only too happy to be competing. Last season their excursion into the Premier Division was a disaster – just two wins in 38 starts after a financial crisis at the start of the season saw all their experienced players leave.

They looked at one point as if they would return to play in the Northern League but agreed to battle on at this level. They are competing this season but look set to face another points deduction for playing unregistered players at the start of the season.

Two Yorkshire clubs are also struggling – Garforth Town and Harrogate Railway Athletic. The latter appointed former Goole Town boss Nigel Danby as their manager this summer and he has appointed veteran striker Mickey Norbury as his player/coach – some Barrow fans might remember Norbury netting a winning goal here at Holker Street for Bridlington Town in an FA Cup tie back in 1991.

FIRST DIVISION SOUTH

League newcomers Barwell lead the First Division South having won their first seven games of the season. That ensured boss Marcus Law picked up the "Manager of the Month" award.

However that sequence of wins doesn't tell the full story. The Leicestershire outfit won the Midland Alliance title last season and their win

at Rainworth took them to a total of 60 league games without defeat. They will be looking to emulate Mickleover Sports who won the title last year at the first attempt.

They are closely followed by last season's Vodkat League Division One champions Newcastle Town who were virtually unstoppable last term after missing out on promotion narrowly for several years. They have a number of seasoned campaigners including striker Alan Naggington who has experience before at this level with Leek Town.

Tucked in behind are Carlton Town and their early season success could not have been predicted. Over the summer the majority of their squad left the club to follow manager Tommy Brookbanks to Premier Division neighbours Hucknall Town. They brought in Les McJannett as manager. He had previous experience as a manager at this level with Glapwell and his success in rebuilding the squad looks at this stage to have been remarkable.

Kidsgrove Athletic, who have flattered to deceive on occasions in recent season, are tucked in behind along with a resurgent AFC Goole who have experience in defence in the form of former Stalybridge Celtic man Terry Barwick whilst in attack Gavin Allott and much travelled Vil Powell are finding the net regularly.

League newcomers Sutton Coldfield Town are also settling in well in the top half dozen

Belper Town who just missed the play-offs last season, having lost in the play-off final the year before, are in contention even though they have a much changed squad and Brigg Town under former Bluebird Steve Housham have enjoyed their best start to the season for years.

Battling hard

Bottom of the table, with seven straight defeats are Market Drayton Town who joined the league last season when they enjoyed some success. Although they don't have much immediate competition in terms of teams at this level, their gates rarely top the 100 mark and survival would be success.

Shepshed Dynamo are also winless at the time of writing and they are also having to look for a new manager after Barry Baker stepped down due to ill health. He had only joined the club in the summer and things looked very positive after a good pre-season – not so now.

Last season Spalding United only escaped relegation because of league reorganisation and events elsewhere. Whilst they have not started this campaign well, there is promise in a young squad bolstered by loan signings from neighbours Boston United and it would be a surprise if they did not climb the table.

Just above these three are Stamford and league newcomers Romulus both of whom are expected to improve.

Something to ponder

They say that regionalised football may be the way ahead and the grouping of clubs in this division may make the case for that. Take Nottinghamshire side Rainworth Miners Welfare. Their longest away trip of the season will be 75 miles and they will rack up fewer travelling miles than they did in winning promotion from the Koolsport Northern Counties East League last season.



FACTS & STATS

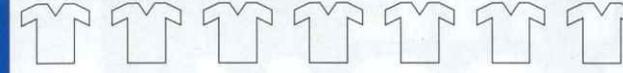
2010/2011



STARTING ELEVEN



SUBSTITUTES



Date	Opponents	Venue	Comp.	F-A	Att.	Pos.
AUGUST						
Sat 14	HISTON	A	BSBP	1-3#	533	23
Tue 17	GATESHEAD	H	BSBP	1-3	1440	24
Sat 21	RUSHDEN & DIAMONDS	H	BSBP	2-0	1145	17
Tue 24	YORK CITY	A	BSBP	0-0	2212	17
Sat 28	WREXHAM	A	BSBP	1-1	2525	18
Mon 30	DARLINGTON	H	BSBP	1-1	1718	19
SEPTEMBER						
Sat 4	BATH CITY	A	BSBP	1-1	875	19
Sat 11	EASTBOURNE BOROUGH	H	BSBP	4-0	1093	14
Sat 18	FOREST GREEN ROVERS	H	BSBP	3-0	1246	9
Tue 21	ALTRINCHAM	A	BSBP	0-2	1042	14
Sat 25	HAYES & YEADING UNITED	A	BSBP	0-2	340	16
Tue 28	FLEETWOOD TOWN	H	BSBP	0-2	1634	17
OCTOBER						
Sat 2	LUTON TOWN	H				
Tue 5	TAMWORTH	A				
Sat 9	CRAWLEY TOWN	H				
Sat 16	CAMBRIDGE UNITED	A				
Sat 30	RUSHDEN & DIAMONDS	A				
NOVEMBER						
Tue 9	NEWPORT COUNTY	H				
Sat 13	AFC WIMBLEDON	H				
Sat 20	GRIMSBY TOWN	A				
Sat 27	KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS	H				
Tue 30	GATESHEAD	A				
DECEMBER						
Sat 4	MANSFIELD TOWN	A				
Sat 18	TAMWORTH	H				
Sun 26	SOUTHPORT	A				
Tue 28	WREXHAM	H				
JANUARY 2011						
Sat 1	SOUTHPORT	H				
Mon 3	DARLINGTON	A				
Sat 8	CAMBRIDGE UNITED	H				
Sat 22	KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS	A				
Tue 25	HISTON	H				
Sat 29	ALTRINCHAM	H				
FEBRUARY						
Sat 5	LUTON TOWN	A				
Sat 12	KETTERING TOWN	A				
Sat 19	MANSFIELD TOWN	H				
Sat 26	CRAWLEY TOWN	A				
MARCH						
Sat 5	YORK CITY	H				
Sat 12	FOREST GREEN ROVERS	A				
Sat 19	EASTBOURNE BOROUGH	A				
Sat 26	BATH CITY	H				
APRIL						
Sat 2	AFC WIMBLEDON	A				
Sat 9	KETTERING TOWN	H				
Sat 16	NEWPORT COUNTY	A				
Sat 23	GRIMSBY TOWN	H				
Mon 25	FLEETWOOD TOWN	A				
Sat 30	HAYES & YEADING UNITED	H				

CUP DATES 2010/11	
FA Cup	
4Q	Sat Oct 23rd
1	Sat Nov 6th
2	Sat Nov 27th
3	Sat Jan 8th
FA Trophy	
1	Sat Dec 11th
2	Sat Jan 15th
3	Sat Feb 2nd
4	Sat Feb 26th
SF i	Sat Mar 12th
SF ii	Sat Mar 19th
Final	Sat May 7th (at Wembley)

Martin	Spender	Nicholas	Bolland	Milne*
Martin	Spender	Nicholas	Bolland	Milne
Martin	Spender	Edwards	Jones	Bolland
Martin	Spender	Edwards*	Jones	Bolland
Martin	Spender	Edwards	Jones*	Bolland
Martin*	Spender	Edwards	Jones*	Bolland
S Pearson	Spender	Edwards	M PEARSON	Bolland
Martin	Spender	Edwards	M Pearson	Bolland
Martin	Spender*	Edwards	M Pearson	Bolland
Martin	Spender	Edwards	M Pearson	Bolland*
Martin	Spender	Edwards	M Pearson	Jones

Goodfellow	Boyd	Owen	Walker	Blundell	Wiles
Wiles	BOYD	Owen*	Walker	Cook	Rutherford
Goodfellow	Boyd	Sheridan	Owen	WALKER 1+p*	Rutherford
Goodfellow	Boyd	Sheridan	Owen	Walker	Rutherford
Wiles	Hulbert	Boyd	Owen	WALKER	Forrest
Hulbert	Wiles	Boyd	Owen	WALKER p	Forrest
Hulbert*	Wiles	Boyd	Owen	Walker	Donnelly
Hulbert	Wiles	Boyd	WALKER 2+p*	FORREST	Rutherford
Hulbert	WILES 2	Boyd	WALKER	Forrest	Rutherford
Hulbert	Wiles	Boyd	Walker	Forrest	Rutherford
Hulbert	Boyd	Owen	Walker	Blundell	Rutherford
Hulbert*	Rutherford	Owen	Walker	Forrest	Wainwright

SPearson	MPearson 60	Sheridan	Forrest 75	Cook 59	-	-
SPearson	MPearson	Jones	Sheridan	Forrest 68	-	-
MPearson	Forrest 87	Wiles 51	Cook 84	Milne	-	-
MPearson 60	Forrest	Wiles 16	Cook	Milne	-	-
S Pearson	M Pearson 87	Sheridan 79	Cook	Nicholas	-	-
S Pearson	M Pearson 90	Sheridan	Cook 66	Nicholas	-	-
Blundell	Sheridan	Forrest	Cook 68	Nicholas	-	-
S Pearson	Owen 83	Donnelly 71	Cook 74	Nicholas	-	-
S Pearson	Blundell 83	Owen	Donnelly 68	Cook 73	-	-
S Pearson	Blundell 76	Owen	Donnelly 5	Cook 60	-	-
S Pearson	Jones	Forrest	Donnelly 58	Cook 55	-	-
S Pearson	Boyd	Blundell	Cook 65	Milne	-	-

PLAYER APPEARANCES TOTALS (12 games)

No.	Name	Apps	Subs	Goals
1	S Pearson	1		
2	Spender	12		
3	M Pearson	6	4	1
4	Jones	5		
5	Bolland	11		
6	Hulbert	8		
7	Rutherford	8		
8	Boyd	11		1
9	Walker	12		8
10	Chadwick			
11	Goodfellow	3		
12	Blundell	2	2	
14	Sheridan	2	1	
15	Forrest	6	2	1
16	Bayliss			
17	Owen	9	2	
18	Wiles	8	2	2
19	Donnelly	1	4	
20	Cook	1	9	
21	Martin	11		
22	Nicholas	2		
23	Milne	2		
24	Edwards	10		
25	Wainwright	1		
	Own Goals			1
	Totals			14

KEY: FAC = FA Cup FAT = FA Trophy LCT = Lancs Cooperative Trophy # = score includes own goal * = sent off * = Booked * = Starman CAPS = goals scorers
 SUBSTITUTED PLAYERS are in colour - 1st Substitute = Green, 2nd Substitute = Blue, 3rd Substitute = Red



THE LOCAL SCENE

by PAUL WRIGHT

There is only one Furness based team left in each of the Lancashire FA competitions for clubs below Step 7 after Walney Island's 6-1 defeat at Thornton Cleveleys in the second round of the Amateur Shield.

With Walney struggling in West Lancs Division Two they weren't expected to progress against a Premier Division side so Hawcoat Park carry local hopes. They won 1-0 at Whinney Hill thanks to a Carl Mackay goal and now face Denton Town in the next round.

Barrow Wanderers play Shevington today in the second round of the Amateur Cup after the other five local teams went out in the opening round.

The award curse struck at Rakesmoor last Saturday after Holker Old Boys keeper Ben Morsby picked up the Vodkat League Division One Goalkeeper of the Month award for August prior to the game against Atherton Collieries. Morsby was at fault for one of the goals as Holker lost 3-1 to the league leaders but they will expect to get back to winning ways today at bottom side Rochdale Town.

In the West Lancs Premier Division Dalton United remain glued to the foot of the table after a 2-1 home defeat at the hands of Coppull United but Vickerstown got back on track with a 3-1 win over Freckleton.

In Division One Carl Waters scored twice to help Millom to a 4-1 win over Croston while Crooklands Casuals twice came from behind to draw 2-2 with BAC/EE Springfields.

Askam United are doing their best to move away from the foot of Division Two. Their recovery started with a come-from-behind 3-2 win over Kendal County

and continued last week as they drew 2-2 with Furness Rovers, again having been 2-0 down. Kendal bounced back by thrashing Furness Cavaliers 5-0 as Cavs wasted their good performance from the previous week when they became the only side this season to take points of Lytham Town. The 5-3 win over Lytham was even more remarkable as they were 3-0 down after 60 minutes.

Rovers have slipped up recently by losing to Whinney Hill and today face Lytham Town. Any more dropped points would seriously damage their promotion hopes.

GSK Ulverston Rangers were disappointed with a penalty awarded against them against Ambleside when the game was evenly matched at 1-1. The penalty was duly dispatched and Ambleside went on to win 4-1.

Swarthmoor Social were on the wrong end of some controversial refereeing in the North Lancs Premier Division when they lost 1-0 at Bowerham. The home side scored the only goal with over 10 minutes of added time played of a game that had no more than the normal substitutions and no major stoppages.

In the Furness Premier League there was a full programme of games in the Riflemans Garage Premier Division with all games high scoring. Barrow Celtic came from 3-1 down with 10 men to defeat Bootle 4-3 so Vickerstown Reserves opened up an 8 point lead at the top after beating Millom Reserves 6-2.

Individual performance of the week went to Dean Crossman of Barrow Wanderers who scored five in their 7-1 win over Holker Old Boys Reserves. Furness Rovers had an excellent 3-2 win at Hawcoat Park Reserves while Haverigg United and Kirkby United beat Furness Cavaliers Reserves and Dalton United Reserves 4-1 and 5-2 respectively.

In Division Two, due to the return of some key players, new Saturday side Britannia have found their feet. Dale Cleece and Andrew Higginson have both been amongst the goals as they hammered Walney Island A 12-0 and Kirkby United Reserves 10-0.

The Horne Cup group matches began with a couple of Division Two sides beating teams from Division One. Swarthmoor Social Reserves beat SDO 6-1 and Holker Old Boys A beat Dalton United A 4-0.

STAT ATTACK

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

FIXTURES

TODAY

AFC Wimbledon	v	Forest Green
Altrincham	v	Rushden & D'mnds
BARROW	v	Luton
Cambridge	v	Bath
Crawley	v	Kidderminster
Darlington	v	Wrexham
Eastbourne	v	York
Fleetwood	v	Histon
Gateshead	v	Mansfield
Grimsby	v	Newport
Kettering	v	Hayes & Yeading
Southport	v	Tamworth

TUESDAY OCTOBER 5th

Bath	v	Altrincham
Forest Green	v	Grimsby
Hayes & Yeading	v	Cambridge
Histon	v	Southport
Kidderminster	v	Gateshead
Luton	v	Crawley
Mansfield	v	AFC Wimbledon
Newport	v	Eastbourne
Rushden & D'mnds	v	Darlington
Tamworth	v	BARROW
Wrexham	v	Fleetwood
York City	v	Kettering

SATURDAY OCTOBER 9th

BARROW	v	Crawley
Bath	v	Eastbourne
Darlington	v	Hayes & Yeading
Fleetwood	v	Cambridge
Gateshead	v	Tamworth
Histon	v	Altrincham
Kidderminster	v	Grimsby
Luton	v	Forest Green
Newport	v	York
Rushden & D'mnds	v	Mansfield
Southport	v	Kettering
Wrexham	v	AFC Wimbledon

SATURDAY OCTOBER 16th

AFC Wimbledon	V	Gateshead
Altrincham	V	Fleetwood
Cambridge	V	BARROW
Crawley	V	Newport
Eastbourne	V	Luton
Forest Green	V	Histon
Grimsby	V	Southport
Hayes & Yeading	V	Wrexham
Kettering	V	Kidderminster
Mansfield	V	Darlington
Tamworth	V	Rushden & D'mnds
York	V	Bath

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE

as at Tuesday September 28th		Home				Away				GD	PTS			
Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D			L	F	A
1	Fleetwood	12	4	1	1	12	7	3	2	1	8	4	9	24
2	Newport	12	3	3	0	11	5	3	2	1	7	5	8	23
3	Crawley	11	3	1	1	6	4	4	1	1	10	4	8	23
4	Mansfield	12	4	1	1	14	3	3	0	3	9	8	12	22
5	AFC Wimbledon	11	4	1	0	13	3	3	0	3	6	9	7	22
6	Luton	12	4	2	0	11	3	2	1	3	9	9	8	21
7	Darlington	12	4	1	1	9	3	0	6	0	6	6	6	19
8	Tamworth	11	3	2	1	13	10	2	2	1	6	7	2	19
9	Grimsby	12	3	1	2	8	6	2	2	2	6	8	0	18
10	Gateshead	12	3	2	1	4	2	2	1	3	8	12	-2	18
11	Wrexham	12	3	3	0	11	5	1	2	3	8	11	3	17
12	York	12	3	2	1	8	2	1	3	2	7	11	2	17
13	Kidderminster	12	2	2	2	11	10	2	2	2	7	10	-2	16
14	Rushden & D'mnds	11	3	1	2	8	4	1	1	3	4	8	0	14
15	Eastbourne	11	3	1	1	17	7	1	1	4	7	18	-1	14
16	Cambridge	11	3	2	1	12	3	0	2	3	1	5	5	13
17	BARROW	12	3	1	2	11	6	0	3	3	3	9	-1	13
18	Southport	12	2	2	2	5	5	1	2	3	5	7	-2	13
19	Kettering	12	0	3	3	6	10	2	2	2	7	8	-5	11
20	Bath City	12	2	3	1	9	8	0	2	4	5	12	-6	11
21	Hayes & Yeading	12	2	0	4	9	12	1	2	3	4	12	-11	11
22	Forest Green	12	1	3	2	7	7	1	0	5	6	16	-10	9
23	Histon	12	1	1	4	6	12	1	1	4	5	13	-14	8
24	Altrincham	12	1	2	3	7	11	0	1	5	4	16	-16	6



THE SQUADS

BARROW AFC

White Shirts / Blue Shorts / White Socks

- 1 Shaun PEARSON
- 2 Simon SPENDER
- 3 Mike PEARSON
- 4 Paul JONES
- 5 Phil BOLLAND
- 6 Robin HULBERT
- 7 Paul RUTHERFORD
- 8 Mark BOYD
- 9 Jason WALKER
- 10 Nick CHADWICK
- 11 Marc GOODFELLOW
- 12 Gregg BLUNDELL
- 14 Darren SHERIDAN
- 15 Danny FORREST
- 16 Dave BAYLISS
- 17 James OWEN
- 18 Simon WILES
- 19 Ciaran DONNELLY
- 20 Andy COOK
- 21 Alan MARTIN
- 22 Andy NICHOLAS
- 23 Andrew MILNE
- 24 Paul EDWARDS
- 25 NEIL WAINWRIGHT

LUTON TOWN

Navy shirts White & Orange trim / Navy shorts / Navy socks

- 1 Mark TYLER
- 2 Dan GLEESON
- 3 Freddie MURRAY
- 4 Keith KEANE
- 6 George PILKINGTON
- 7 Adam NEWTON
- 9 Matthew BARNES-HOMER
- 10 Taiwo ATIENO
- 11 Andy DRURY
- 12 Shane BLACKETT
- 13 Zdenek KROCA
- 14 Adam MURRAY
- 15 Jake HOWELLS
- 16 Ed ASAFU-ADJAYE
- 17 Pavel BESTA
- 18 Claude GNAKPA
- 19 Danny CROW
- 20 Kevin GALLEN
- 24 Alex LACEY
- 25 Godfrey POKU
- 26 JJ O'DONNELL
- 27 Taylor NATHANIEL
- 28 Adam WATKINS
- 29 Dan WALKER
- 30 Kevin PILKINGTON

The Officials

Referee: T. HARRINGTON – Assistants: P. K. THOMPSON & G. FREER – 4th Official: G. LIDDLE