

TALK OF THE TOWN

BLUE SQUARE PREMIER PROGRAMME OF THE YEAR 2009/10



1885 - 2010

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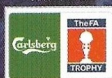
v WELLING UNITED

SUNDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2010 3PM

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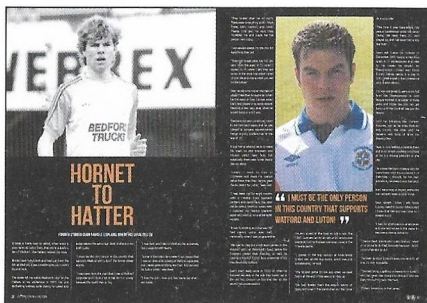
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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

Blue Square Premier Programme of the Year 2009/10

The Catalogue Conference Programme of the Year 2009/10

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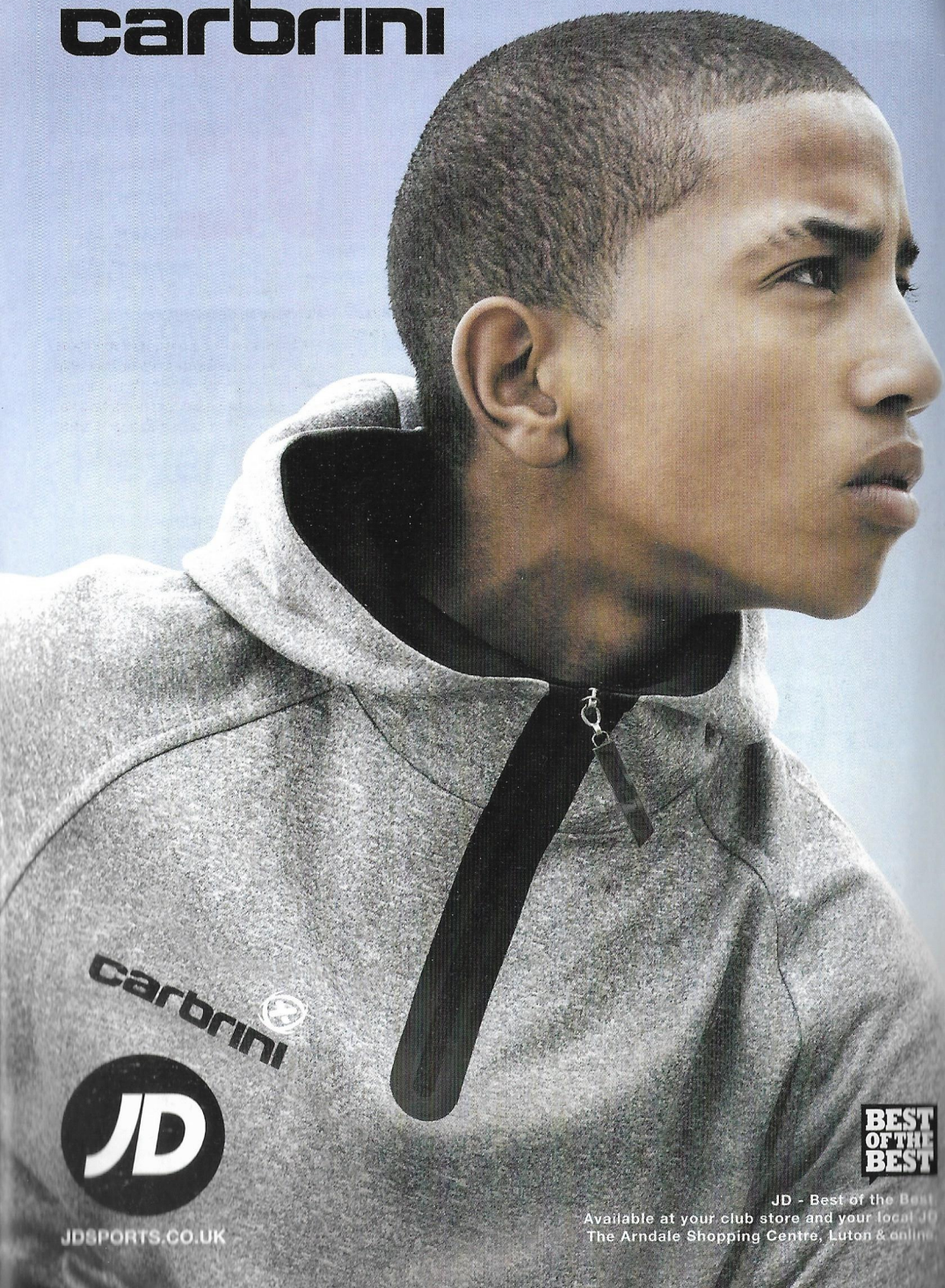
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Cover photo: Nefeez calls off 'force in the rain' at Kenilworth Road in October 1967.



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MONEY TALK

Welcome back to Kenilworth Road this Sunday afternoon to you all for this first round FA Trophy fixture with Welling United.

I'd like to open a warm welcome to Welling, Jamie Day, their manager, his staff and players plus their directors and supporters today and wish them a safe journey back to Kent.

Reading this on Sunday you will now know if we were successful or not on Thursday against Charlton in our FA Cup second round replay.

But today we turn our attentions to a different competition and one in which presents the potential to go all the way to Wembley.

They say the FA Trophy is the FA Cup for non-league teams and what more of an incentive for our players than to succeed in this competition and go all the way to Wembley.

Welling are enjoying a fine season in the league below us and have battled admirably against off-the-field problems.

If it wasn't for a fivepoint deduction they would be joint top and, having already played St Albans and Corby this season, we know they will prove to be a tough nut to crack.

Just as we were aiming to upset Charlton on Thursday, Welling will be looking to do the same to us this afternoon and we will need to



be wary of the threat they pose.

With the likes of Alex Lawless and Jason Walker cup-tied against Charlton, today enables us to choose from a larger pool of players than we have been able to recently, all of who are looking forward to battling for the 11 shirts available.

Enjoy the game.



We have already negotiated tricky ties in the FA Cup against St Albans and Corby and we'll hope we can do the same for the third time today to put us through to the next round of this competition.

Enjoy the game and get behind the lads

CAPTAIN SPEAKING

A warm welcome back to you all for the second home game in four days as we take on Welling United in the FA Trophy.

This competition has proved to be a valuable one for teams enjoying success in the league as indicated by Stevenage's achievements in it in the past few seasons.

Winning breeds confidence and if we can go on a run in the FA Trophy that can only boost that further.

We have two players in the dressing room who have experience of playing - and scoring - in

the final of last year's competition.

Both Andy Drury and Jason Walker scored fantastic goals at Wembley with Jason's goal giving Barrow victory.

It further goes to show the level of experience our squad has of playing in big cup games at huge venues like Wembley.

Welling visit Kenilworth Road in fine form and will want to come here and put on a show. They will be keen to put one over a team from a division above and we must be aware of the threat they pose.

INTRODUCING WELLING UNITED



PLAYER/MANAGER:

JAMIE DAY

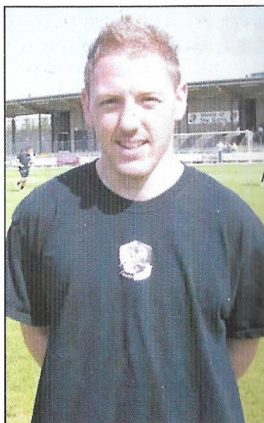
Jamie was appointed as the new Manager of the Wings in November 2009.

The 31-year-old is a midfielder who graduated in the England School of Excellence at Lilleshall alongside players such as Wes Brown and Michael Owen.

During his youth days, Jamie was in the Arsenal youth squad and won caps for England at under-16, under-17 and under-18 levels.

He signed for Bournemouth for a £20,000 fee in 1999 and then switched to Dover Athletic at the start of the 2001/02 season.

After three seasons at the Crabble Jamie joined Welling in May 2004. Signed by Paul Parker, the midfielder would eventually make over 130 appearances and scoring almost 20 goals in all competitions.



CLUB HISTORY

Now in their 47th season since being formed with just an Under-15 side playing on a park pitch, Welling enjoyed a rapid climb from youth football to the Conference in little more than 20 years.

Having enjoyed considerable success at youth level, and then in adult Sunday League, Welling entered the Spartan League and sampled the lower reaches of Saturday soccer in 1971.

Promoted three times in five years, the club gained senior status in 1976 at their Butterfly Lane Sports Ground at nearby Eltham, and then joined the Athenian League where they spent three seasons.

Turned down in their first attempt to join the Southern League, Welling were successful a year later, by which time they had taken over their present Park View Road Ground following the demise of Bexley United.

Promotion was achieved at the first attempt when the league reorganised and after three seasons in the Premier Division the Wings romped to the league title by no fewer than 23 points and gained promotion to the Conference.

Life was much more difficult and more often than not Welling were in the wrong half of the table, narrowly missing relegation more than once.

Cup football produced many of the highlights during the late 1980's and early 1990's with six successive First Round FA Cup appearances, and a Third Round appearance on one occasion at Park View Road when the home side went down 1-0 to Blackburn Rovers.

Eventually, after 14 seasons, Welling were relegated back to the Southern League and enjoyed mixed fortunes until the Conference expanded and the club became members of the Conference South.

More than a full team of players have enjoyed League careers after starting life at Welling United, including Eire Internationals Andy Townsend and Steve Finnan, both of whom spent much of their youth and early firstteam days at the club.

As a result their poor form for much of the 2007/08 season, the club parted company with manager Neil Smith and his assistant Stuart Nethercott in January 2008, and a month later appointed experienced manager Andy Ford, who enjoyed considerable success with Gravesend & Northfleet as they were then known.

In the summer of 2008 Andy Ford appointed Jimmy Dack (who managed Sutton United for a spell in 2007/08) as his assistant, and the duo set about producing a squad of players, which included 13 new signings, that could compete at this level.

In Andy's first full season the club finished in 7th place in the Blue Sq South and also won the Kent Senior Cup for the first time in 10 years after defeating Whitstable Town 6-1.

After a poor start to last season Manager Ford left the Wings and was replaced by player-manager Jamie Day who with his backroom staff, assistant Barry Ashby and coach Dean Frost, lead the club from side facing relegation side to a team that just missed out on a Play-Off place.

Welling United player/manager Jamie Day had his eyes on a good run in the FA Trophy when 2010/11 got underway - but he admits that with the club's current predicament - today's trip to Kenilworth Road is "like being in the final".

The Wings face a High Court hearing on 15th December after being granted a 14-day adjournment to a winding-up order at the start of the month over a debt to HMRC totalling almost £60,000.

A massive fundraising drive is well underway now and that, coupled with this afternoon's FA Trophy encounter, looks like securing the Kent club's immediate future.

"I think at the start of the season we would have liked a decent run in the Trophy and in the League but when we went through in the last round we said we either wanted to continue the run or get Luton away," Day told Talk of the Town.

"To then get Luton away is the ideal draw for us. At this stage of the season and where the club is, it is ideal for us as even if we go out now it still benefits the club financially.

"We would have liked a good run but we couldn't have asked for a better draw at this period of the season."

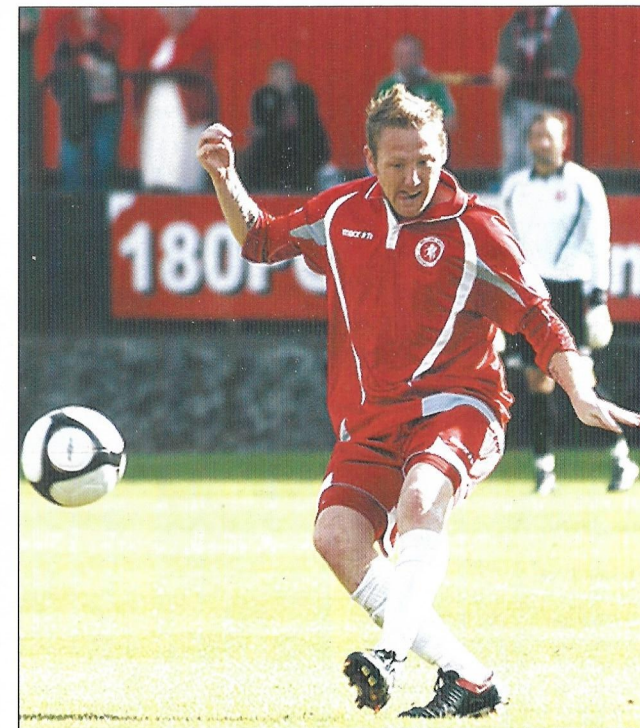
Welling currently sit third in Blue Square Bet South, and only a five-point deduction has stopped them from finding themselves level on points with leaders Braintree Town and second-placed Bromley.

They have won five of their last eight games with offfield troubles not really having had an impact on the club's on-field situation.

Day, who also spent three years at Welling as a player during his career and hails from just down the road in Bexley, is looking forward to the opportunity for his side to now test themselves against opposition from the next level.

He said: "We have done reasonably well so far in the League with a lot of younger players who have come out of the full-time game.

"These are the sort of games they want to be involved in, and as a Manager and a club they are what you want to be involved in.



JAMIE DAY

WELLING BOSS LOOKING FORWARD TO TOWN TEST

"Luton is a massive club, a Football League club really. Sunday's game will be the biggest crowd some of these boys will have played in front of.

"I am hoping they will rise to the challenge, put in decent performances and show people they are a decent bunch of players."

Day hopes the "no fear" approach from his youngsters will serve the Wings well, and assuming they come through this week's hearing, a return at their Park View Road home would be a welcome outcome.

"Yes, I think the Chairman would love that!" laughed Day.

"If we can get a draw from the game then we will have done really well and that will benefit the club even more.

"But we are going there to try and win the game. It is not going to be easy, we know it is going to be difficult, but we are not going there just to sit back."



WELLING UNITED

GOALKEEPER

GARETH STEWART

The 30-year-old stopper signed for the Wings at the end of September 2010. An experienced goalkeeper who made his name at Bournemouth, where he played alongside current boss Jamie Day.

DEFENDERS

ANTHONY ACHEAMPONG

Young defender who signed for the Wings in September 2010 after spending pre-season at Park View Road. Acheampong has previously been on the books of Cardiff City and Horsham.

GRAEME ANDREWS

Having previously had spells with Bearsted and Dover Athletic, Andrews joined Welling United in July 2008.

JAMIE COYLE

Joined the Wings in June 2010 from Dartford having started his career as a trainee at Crystal Palace. From Selhurst Park he went on to Gravesend & Northfleet, Dulwich Hamlet, where he was captain, and then Darford. The right-back has also spent time on loan with Sittingbourne.

JACK OBERSTELLER

Having started his career at Millwall, Obersteller dropped down to Crawley Town before signing for Wycombe Wanderers. He then agreed a one-year contract with Exeter City in the summer of 2008 after leaving the Chairboys. From here he signed for Grays Athletic in 2009, a side he had previously had a loan spell with. He joined the Wings in November 2009 after being released by Grays.

OSA OBAMWONYI

Central defender who joined the Wings in late October 2010. In his short career the 19-year-old has already represented Dulwich Hamlet and Fisher Athletic.

JACK PARKINSON

A highly rated young defender who started his career at Tonbridge Angels before joining VCD Athletic. Jack attracted interest from a number of League clubs but continued to play his football with the Vickers. Signed for Welling in July 2008 and

became the skipper shortly afterwards.

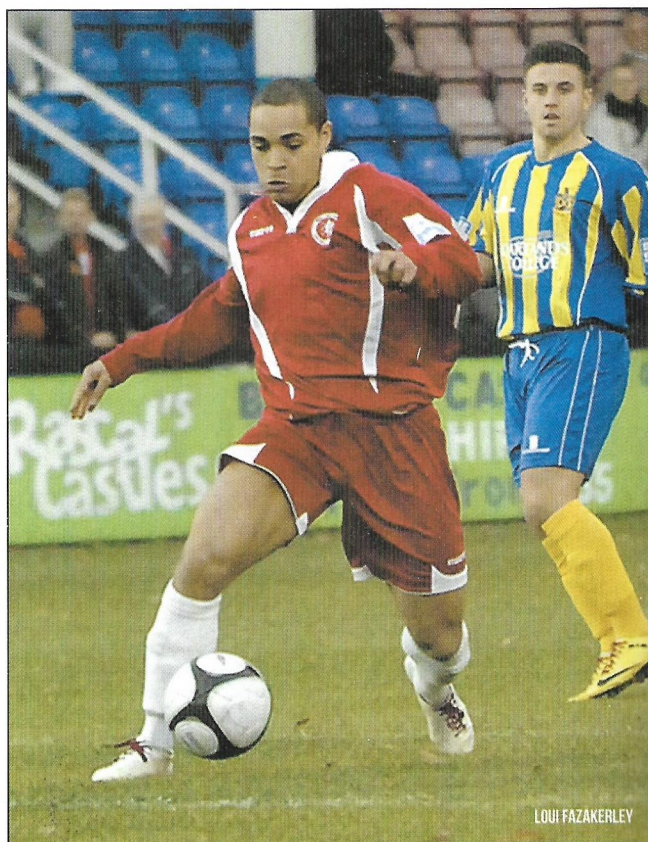
ANDY SAMBROOK

The 29-year-old right-back signed for the Wings in May 2009 after being with AFC Wimbledon during the 2008/09 season. Andy has had spells with Rushden & Diamonds, Grays Athletic, Fisher Athletic and Thurrock.

MIDFIELDERS

LOUI FAZAKERLEY

Moved to Welling in October 2008 from local side Bromley. An attacking midfielder with pace and skill, he started his career at West Ham United's Under 15's and later Leyton Orient's Under 16's. Had a three year spell with Fulham before moving to Eastbourne Borough in 2004.



LOUI FAZAKERLEY

JORDAN JOHNSON

Started his footballing career at the Knights Academy in Grove Park, London. He was subsequently signed up as a second-year scholar by Cambridge United and has since represented Croydon Athletic and Bromley.

LOICK PIRES

A winger who started his youth career at Stoke City before moving to Leyton Orient in 2006. Pires progressed through the youth and reserves teams at the O's to make his professional debut in April 2008.

STRIKERS

LEE CLARKE

Andy Ford's first signing of the 2009 pre-season having joined the Wings from St Albans City. He

is an experienced forward and one of the most prolific goal scorers in the Saints' history. Lee netted close to 100 goals for the Hertfordshire club in just over 200 appearances before being released by mutual consent in April 2009.

LUIS CUMBERS

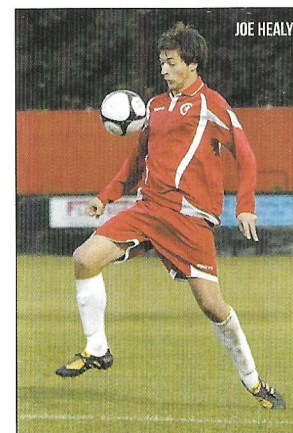
Luis started his career with Gillingham, where he made his Football League debut as a substitute against Yeovil Town in May 2007. The striker was then loaned out to various clubs over the years including Maidstone United, Grays Athletic, AFC Wimbledon, Ebbsfleet United and Dover Athletic.

JOE HEALY

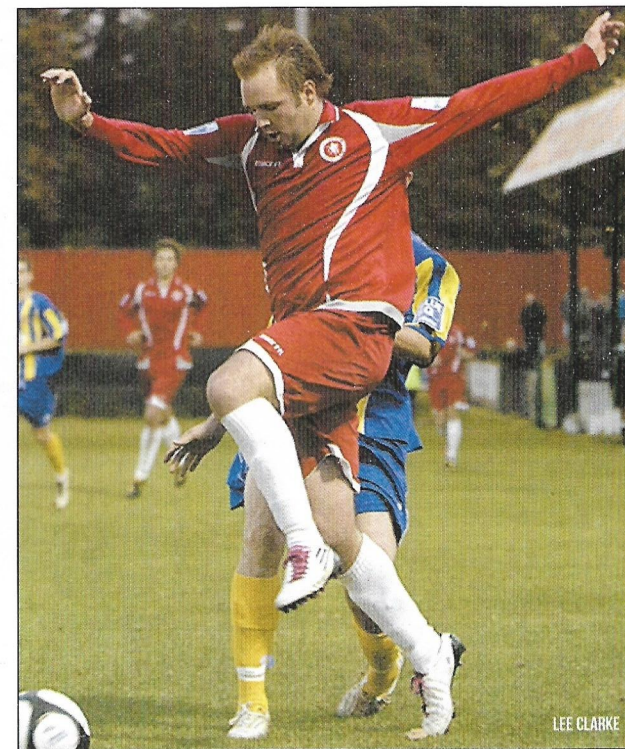
Young striker who started his career with Millwall. He played four times for the Lions, making his debut whilst still a trainee in a 3-0 Carling Cup defeat by Liverpool in October 2004. Joe then joined Crawley Town on loan before having spells with Yeading, Fisher Athletic and Beckenham Town. He signed for Welling United in July 2008.

ANDY PUGH

Signed scholarship forms with Gillingham in 2005 and made his debut as a substitute against Brighton & Hove Albion in 2007. In October of that year he joined Welling United for his first spell at Park View Road. Andy then left and went on to play for Folkestone Invicta and Grays Athletic before he resigned for the Wings, initially on loan in November 2009. He made his return permanent in the summer of 2010.



JOE HEALY

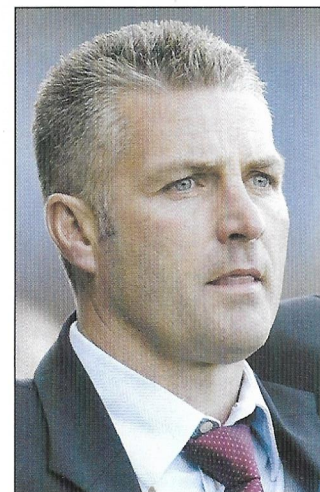


LEE CLARKE



LUIS CUMBERS

LEAGUE ROUND-UP



AWARD FOR CITY DUO

York boss Gary Mills has been named as the Blue Square Bet Premier Manager of the Month for November.

In his first full month in charge at Bootham Crescent, Mills has overseen a seven-match unbeaten run which has also resulted in his side progressing to the third round of the FA Cup.

The Minstermen have conceded only one goal in over 600 minutes of football during November and have climbed to 14th in the league table and as a result goalkeeper Michael Ingham was named Player of the Month.

STAGS LOCKED OUT

Mansfield Town are "extremely disappointed" to be locked out of Field Mill ground after they found locks had been changed at the Field Mill stadium on Thursday.

Landlord and former club owner Stags Limited

said the lease had been terminated because of rent arrears.

The club, which has ongoing financial issues with Stags Limited, said it was working to resolve the matter and was looking into alternative arrangements.

Earlier this week a statement from Burlington Enforcement, the bailiffs acting for Stags Limited, said: "The club has failed to pay the rent that fell due under the lease in September and October 2010."

The owners of Mansfield Town said they had offered to make new arrangements for paying rent but these had not so far been accepted.

Last Saturday's home game against Barrow was postponed because of snow, with the next home fixture due for 26th December.

In the meantime the Stags are looking for alternative venues to host home fixtures and are still on the lookout for a new manager.

COLD SNAP HITS DIVISION

All the weekend's Blue Square Bet Premier games were postponed because of adverse weather across the country.

The Town's trip to Forest Green fell foul of the weather as early as Thursday whilst Newport's game with Cambridge, due to be played on Sunday, failed a pitch inspection on Saturday.

Tamworth's game with Altrincham on Sunday was called off on Friday while Darlington, Hayes & Yeading, Histon, Kettering, Mansfield, Southport, Wrexham and York had already seen their home fixtures called off.

Only one fixture has been played in the division over the course of the last week which saw Kiddeminster move into the top five following a goalless draw at home to York.

TOP GOALSCORERS

Tubbs (Crawley)	17
Connell (Grimsby)	14
Reid (Newport)	14
J. Walker (Luton)	12
Vieira (Fleetwood)	12
Kedwell (AFC Wimbledon)	12
Connor (Mansfield)	10
Barnes-Homer (Luton)	9
Rankine (York)	9
McPhee (Kiddeminster)	8
Mama (Kettering)	8
Styche (Forest Green)	8

AVERAGE ATTENDANCES

Luton	6,552
AFC Wimbledon	3,413
Grimsby	3,328
Wrexham	2,718
Cambridge	2,553
York	2,373
Mansfield	2,341
Newport	2,333
Darlington	1,950
Fleetwood	1,747
Kettering	1,729
Crawley	1,658
Barrow	1,331
Eastbourne	1,323
Kiddeminster	1,292
Rushden & Diamonds	1,238
Southport	1,183
Altrincham	1,079
Tamworth	1,062
Forest Green	914
Bath	907
Gateshead	774
Histon	549
Hayes & Yeading	371



LUTON TOWN 5



HISTON 1

GNAKPA 7, HOWELLS 19, WALKER 39, DRURY 69 (PEN), ATIENO 78 MURRAY 43

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

KENILWORTH ROAD, SATURDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2010 ATT: 5,963

MONEY TALK

"If I'm frank there were a lot of very willing bodies but a lot of tired minds. We weren't as bright or sharp as we normally are and made one or two poor decisions.

"But with the goal threat we have we always looking like scoring and we've run out winners and earned three valuable points."

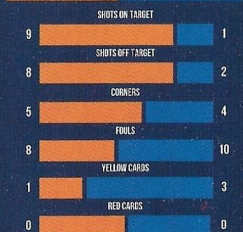
LINE-UPS

Luton Town: Tyler, Gnakpa, Murray (sub Blackett 46), Pilkington, Kroca, Kean, Howells, Drury, Lawless (sub Asafu-Adjaye 65), Barnes-Homer (sub Atieno 53), J. Walker. **Subs not used:** Poku, D. Walker.

Histon: Welch (sub Attwood 90), Stewart, Okay, Clerima, Wootton, Murray, Sparkes, Mills, Stevenson (sub McCrae 76), Smith (sub Taaffe 76), Ainsley. **Subs not used:** Mills, Lawton.

POSSESSION

48% 52%

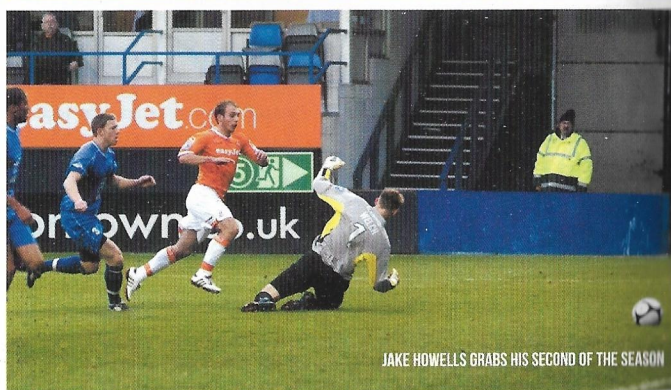


SPONSORS MAN OF THE MATCH ANDY DRURY

It was another man-of-the-match display from the Town midfielder who had a hand in all five goals – including winning the penalty in which he scored his fifth of the season to make it 4-1.



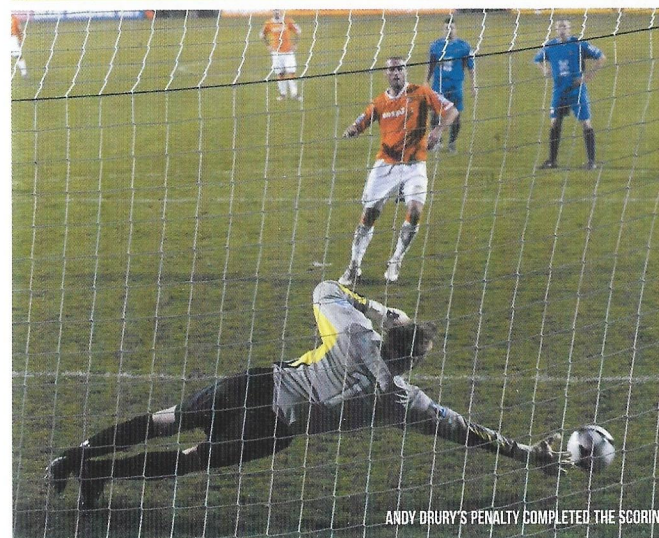
CLAUDE GNAPKA RISES HIGHEST TO MAKE IT 1-0



JAKE HOWELLS GRABS HIS SECOND OF THE SEASON



JASON WALKER SCORES ON HIS DEBUT



ANDY DRURY'S PENALTY COMPLETED THE SCORING

MATCH REPORT

A five star performance swept the Hatters into second spot with a comprehensive victory over lowly Histon to make it seven wins in their last nine games in the Blue Square Bet Premier.

It all started on seven minutes when debutant Jason Walker did well to chase a lost cause in the left corner, to win a freekick under pressure from Jack Ainsley. From the resulting freekick whipped in by Andy Drury, Claude Gnakpa rose head and shoulders above the rest in the penalty area to plant a header past Joe Welch.

The game was still only 14 minutes old when Drury orchestrated another fine chance, this time for Walker who latched onto the midfielder's raking pass from the centre circle to nod at Welch.

The Town doubled their lead on 19 minutes when Ainsley conceded possession to Jake Howells who ran free and slotted a tidy finish underneath the advancing goalkeeper.

Two became three 20 minutes later when Matthew Barnes-Homer's deep rightwing cross found the unmarked Walker from close range.

All of a sudden though, as the half-time whistle approached, the Hatters fell half asleep which allowed the visitors to pull a goal back when Antonio Murray finished past Mark Tyler.

Super interplay between Walker and Drury eventually saw Alex Lawless ping a cross onto the head of Atieno whose bullet header destined for the bottom corner was clawed away brilliantly by Welch's outstretched hand.

The majority inside a murky Kenilworth Road didn't have long to wait for the fourth goal which arrived on 69 minutes when Drury ran at the Histon defence before being upended by Ainsley. The Hatters midfielder got back up to send the resulting spotkick past Welch.

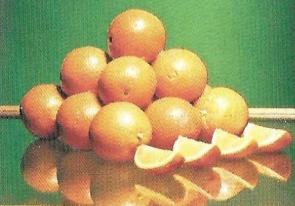
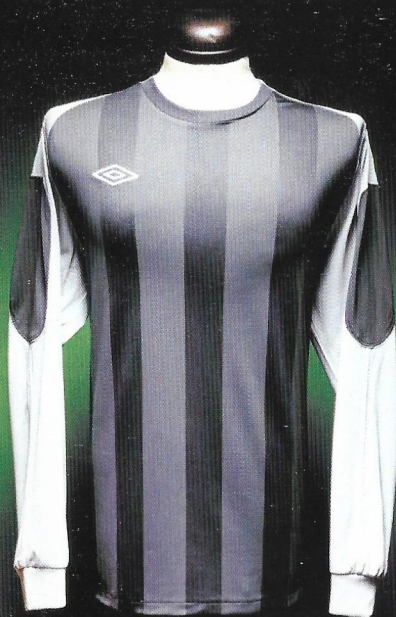
That fourth knocked the stuffing out of the Stutes and four became five on 78 minutes when Atieno claimed his fourth goal in his last three matches, in front of the home faithful, in fine fashion.

Again Drury was the architect, showing strength to win the ball in midfield. He then spotted Atieno in the inside-right channel with a low pass that the striker ran onto. Cutting inside his marker, he quickly zipped a confident left-foot shot past Welch.

TEAMWEAR



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POST-MATCH REACTION

The Hatters ran out 5-1 winners over Histon in their last league outing before bad weather got a stranglehold of country's sporting calendar.

It was a comfortable victory for the Town in the end after Manager Richard Money had juggled his side around to protect against tired legs. Claude Gnaka was on target for the second game in succession to open the scoring and he was more than happy with the way it went.

The former Peterborough United man explained to Talk of the Town: "I'm very pleased with the performance of the team, it wasn't the easiest of the games we have played recently but I think we managed to cope well.

"We're happy, very pleased with the last few games and today's win.

"The Frenchman found himself in a different position than of late but more of a familiar one at right back.

"When the manager told me I was going to play right back I was a bit surprised because I was on good form in midfield, doing well and scoring goals like last time," he said.

"He explained to me that that it's a good thing, I think he has been very honest with me and that's helped me to do my job

today and to help the team, that's the most important thing."

Gnaka wasn't the only happy man in the Town dressing room with new boy Jason Walker notching the third goal.

And the new signing from Barrow could not hide his delight on a "perfect" debut.

"To score on my debut in front of the home supporters was fantastic," he said.

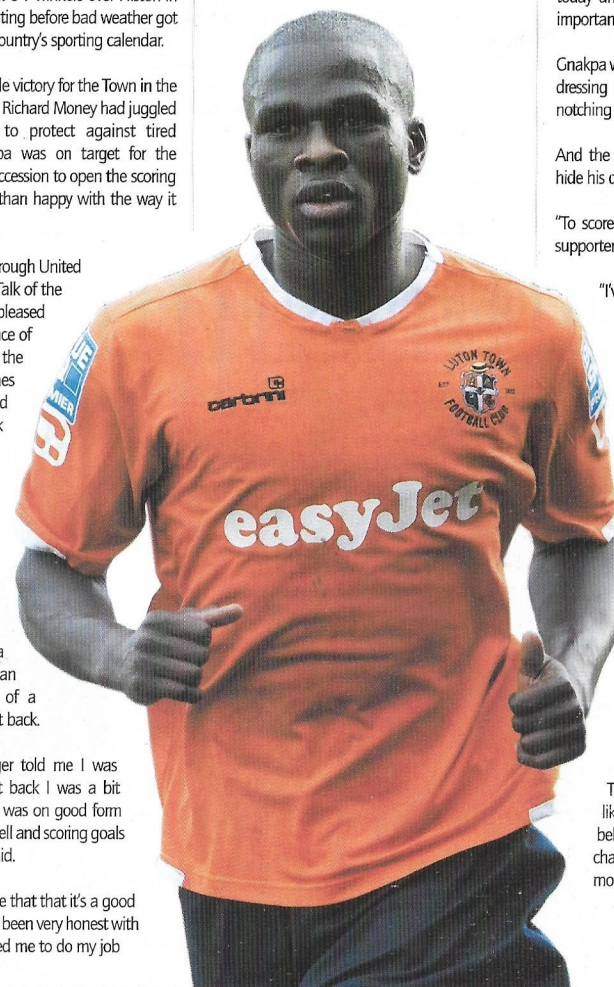
"I've seen Andy Drury out on the right and he played it to Matthew Barnes-Homer who supplied a great ball and I couldn't really miss.

"You've got to get yourself in the right position but it was a wonderful cross from Matthew."

With Drury, Gnaka and Barnes-Homer, amongst others, on hand to create goals, Walker knew a chance would fall his way.

"I watched the game against Corby on the Wednesday before and knew if I started I'd get chances.

"If I'm honest I was surprised I was starting but naturally I wanted to. There's going to be pressure at a club like Luton but the team we've got behind us are always going to create chances and hopefully I can score a lot more."



HOME COMFORTS



LUTON TOWN v WELLING UNITED

FA Trophy first round Sunday 11th December 2010 kickoff 3pm

This match is not all-ticket but tickets can be purchased in advance from the ticket office. Unreserved seating applies in all areas of the ground and supporters can pay on the turnstile on the day of the game. Please arrive early to beat the rush and avoid the queues at cash turnstiles.

The following prices have been agreed following discussions with Welling.

Adults (22-64 year-olds) £10, Young adults (17-21) £7, Seniors (65-74) £7, Golden seniors (75+) £5, Youths (11-16) £5, Juniors under-10 free if accompanied by a full-paying adult (£5 if not).

Season ticket holders who completed cup authorisation forms will automatically receive their tickets in the post.

Diamond season ticket holders can, as part of their package, claim a free ticket to one home game in each cup competition this season. Those diamond holders who wish to claim their FA Trophy ticket for this particular tie must contact the ticket office on 01582 416976.



LUTON TOWN v YORK CITY

Blue Square Bet Premier Saturday 18th December 2010 kickoff 12 noon

This game is all-ticket for all supporters. Please note the change in kickoff time for this match. Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices.



MATCHDAY PRICES

ALL AREAS

JUNIORS (UNDER 10)	£5	COMPROMISE SEATING - MAIN ENCLOSURE A, B, H & J, MAIN STAND C	
YOUTH (AGE 10-16)	£8	JUNIORS (UNDER 10)	£5
YOUNG ADULT (AGE 17-21)	£13	YOUTH (AGE 10-16)	£8
ADULT (AGE 22-64)	£18	YOUNG ADULT (AGE 17-21)	£13
SENIOR (AGE 65-75)	£13	ADULT (AGE 22-64)	£15
GOLDEN SENIOR (OVER 75)	£10	SENIOR (AGE 65-75)	£13
		GOLDEN SENIOR (OVER 75)	£10

BUY TICKETS

IN PERSON: At the ticket office, Kenilworth Road.

BY PHONE: Call 01582 416976

ONLINE: Visit www.eticketing.co.uk/lutontown

ON THE ROAD



RUSHDEN & D v LUTON TOWN

Blue Square Bet Premier Sunday 26th December 2010 kickoff 3pm

Allocation: We have received an initial allocation of 2,287 seats for this fixture.

Sales Plan: Tickets are now on sale at 2 tickets per Diamond Season Ticket holder until Tuesday 7th December. Tickets will then be available to season ticket holders at 1 per person until Wednesday 15th December. Any remaining tickets will go on general sale from Thursday 16th December until 12pm on Christmas Eve.

Prices: Adult £17 Over 60/Student (with id) £12, Under 16s £6, Under 8s FREE.



HAYES & YEADING v LUTON TOWN

Blue Square Bet Premier Monday 3rd January 2011 kickoff 3pm

We are awaiting ticket information from Hayes & Yeading for this fixture. Keep an eye in future programmes and on the official website.



BOXING DAY TRAVEL

Address: Nene Park, Irthlingborough, Northants, NN9 5QF.



Directions: Leave the M1 at Junction 15 and take the A508 towards Northampton. At the junction with the A45 turn right towards Wellingborough. Follow the A45 past Wellingborough and then towards Rushden. At the junction with the A6 turn left towards Irthlingborough. You will come to the ground on your right. There is a fair sized car park at the ground.

Go by coach: Both the Bobbers Travel Club and Town on Tour are running coaches to Rushden on Boxing Day. The Bobbers depart the Maple Road car park at 12.30pm and prices are £13 for adults and £11 for concessions. Call 01234 856542 to book your place. Town on Tour depart the Maple Road car park at 1pm. Prices are £12 for adults and £10 for concessions. To reserve your spot call 07960 567465.

HITCH TO HAYES

Address: Church Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 2LE



Directions: M1 south, M25 anticlockwise, leaving the M25 at Junction 16. Take the A40(M) towards London. Pass over one large junction (Denham Roundabout) and under another (Swakeleys Roundabout). Take next slip road (Hillingdon). At traffic lights turn right into Long Lane (A437). At the traffic lights at the end of Long Lane turn left onto the Uxbridge Road (A4020). After about two miles, turn right into Church Road opposite the Adam & Eve public house and the ground is down on your right. There is a car park at the ground which holds 300 cars.

Go by coach: Both the Bobbers Travel Club and Town on Tour are running coaches to Hayes & Yeading. The Bobbers depart the Maple Road car park at 12 noon and prices are £13 for adults and £11 for concessions. Call 01234 856542 to book your place. Town on Tour depart the Maple Road car park at 12.30pm. Prices are £13 for adults and £11 for concessions. To reserve your spot call 07960 567465.



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COVER STORY

THE FARCE IN THE RAIN



After tumbling down through the divisions in record time between 1960 and 1965 the Town were finally showing signs of hauling themselves back up after a good start to the 1967/68 campaign.

The Hatters had won four games on the trot during October 1967 leading up to a 5-3 midweek victory over Doncaster before a Kenilworth Road crowd of 13,925.

A win over Darlington the following Saturday would have pushed the Town up to top spot in Division Four and it was anticipated that the biggest Kenilworth Road crowd for four years would be there to witness the event.

Heavy rain fell during the two days prior to the match and on the morning of the game a torrential downpour started at midday which left the contest in doubt.

Thirty minutes before the start, referee Ray Johnson from Lowestoft inspected the pitch and said: "I will start the game but if the rain does not stop I cannot see any hope of it being finished."

When walking round during the inspection the mud and water on many parts of the field completely covered his shoes!

Reluctantly therefore, secretary Bob Readhead ordered the turnstiles to be opened and a remarkable 9,415 piled in to see the Oak Road end of the pitch completely under water with the rest a sea of mud. One lone supporter braved the elements on the Kenilworth Road terrace.

The game kicked-off and within seconds everyone realised that play was impossible with the two teams unable to kick the ball

through the water. The referee waited through seven minutes of farce, however, before abandoning the game.

Under Football League rules for abandonments there were no refunds given which led to a deputation of supporters banging on the door of the club's offices in Kenilworth Road demanding their money back. They were eventually dispersed by the police.

In this day and age the game would have been called off the day before but even though postponements were rarer 40 years ago the decision to even consider playing that game still remains a complete mystery.

Roger Wash

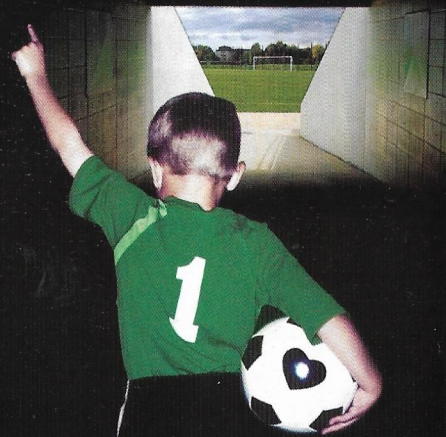
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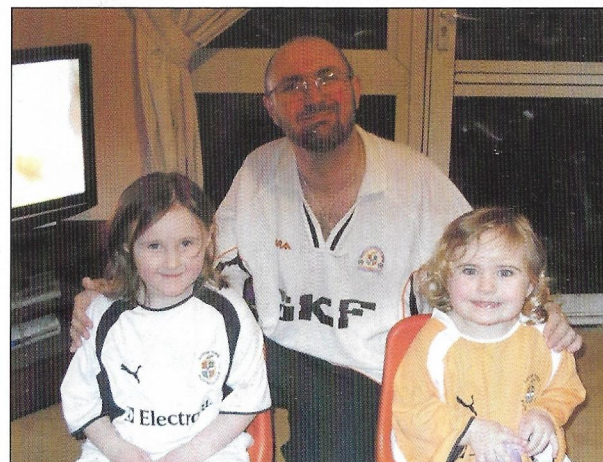
HATTERS Player



FOR ALL THE POST-MATCH REACTION FROM TODAY'S GAME VISIT
WWW.HATTERSPAYER.CO.UK

FOR EXCLUSIVE VIDEO CONTENT

MEMORY LANE



Name : Derek Borino

Age: 34

Location: Luton

Where do you watch games from:
Main Stand Block D

First game: I can't remember the date but it was against Bristol City when Andy Cole was playing for them.

First Memory: Winning the 1988 Littlewoods Cup final. I was sitting at home shouting at the television as I was told by my parents I was too young to go.

Best Goal Seen: All three Scott Oakes goals in the FA Cup win over West Ham in 1994.

Best Match witnessed: The 2-0 FA Cup third round win against Newcastle in the

1993/94 season with Des Linton's pass to Scott Oakes what a game!

Worst Match Witnessed: Was when I worked at the club as kitman. In the 2003/04 season we played Southend in the LDV Vans Trophy. I forgot Marlon Beresford's red goalkeeper shirt. With our green keeper jersey clashing with the referee's we had to borrow a Southend shirt and we lost 3-0.

Best individual game by a player: Enoch Showunmi's hat-trick in the 4-1 victory over Brentford at Kenilworth Road in 2004.

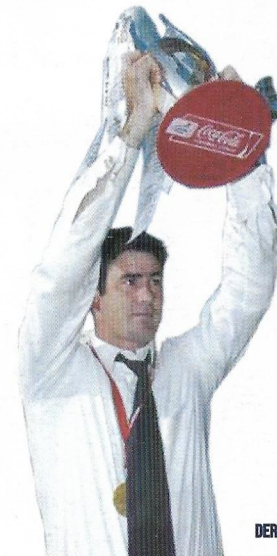
Favourite hatters kit: It has got to be the 1988 Littlewoods Cup strip: it holds a lots of memories.

Favourite all time player: Mick Harford. A Legend who I was lucky to have worked with and watch him ply his trade as a coach from close quarters.

Favourite all time manager: Mike Newell - without him we might never have seen the magic of Enoch Showunmi!

All time Hatters XI: Sealey, Taylor, Coyne, Boyce, Foley, Valois, Spring, Nicholls, Howard, Harford, Rioch.

I love Luton because: They are my hometown club who I love and have been lucky enough to work for them in many ways: from dishing out the players their lunch to washing their kit and travelling to away games and watching the team talk. The tears, the laughter, the highs the lows, it's never a dull day at Luton Town.



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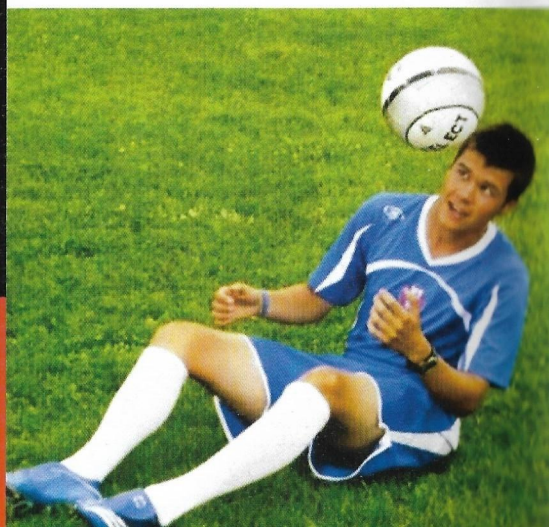
Visit: **www.beds.ac.uk/sport**

Profile:

Michael Sup

Football studies student

Currently in his first year, Michael has landed a position with Luton Town as head coach for under-12's.



KIT PARADE

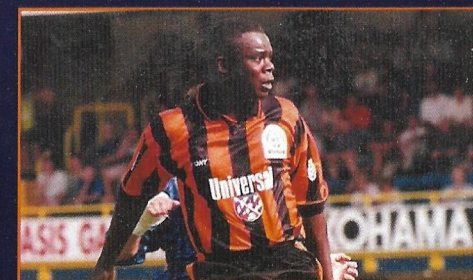
Nothing pulls on the heartstrings like an old Hatters' playing strip...

1995-97 AWAY STRIP

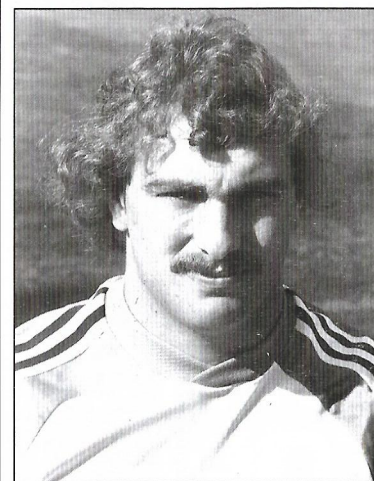
Pony were the new kit manufacturers on the block in 1995 as the Town unveiled a host of new signings under new boss Terry Westley.

The away offering was a black and orange striped affair with black shorts and orange trim which gradually grew on the Hatters faithful - especially considering it made a winning debut in the 1-0 win at Southend.

Its final appearance also ended in a 1-0 win - at Peterborough in April 1997 - before it was discontinued in 1997/98.



HATTERS HEROES



We stick a random pin into club historian Roger Wash's excellent book *Hatters Heroes* and focus on a player who has featured for the Hatters in the past 125 years

Clive GOODYEAR

After signing for Luton Town as a 17-year-old from Lincoln United in 1978, tall and powerful defender Clive was happy to learn his trade as understudy to Mike Saxby.

A bad knee injury suffered by Saxby early in the 1981/82 season gave Clive his big chance and he was awarded with a medal at the campaign's end as the Hatters won the old Division Two championship.

Never looking out of place in the top flight, Clive was eventually sold to Plymouth

where he made over 100 appearances before moving to Wimbledon in time to pick up an FA Cup winners' medal in 1988.

A qualified physiotherapist, Clive worked for a number of league clubs including the Town, but after leaving Chester is now concentrating on his own practice.

Luton Town career appearances: 99
Luton Town career goals: 4

Debut v Wrexham (h) W 2-0
26/04/1980

First goal v Cambridge United (a) W 3-1
25/10/1980

Last game v West Bromwich Albion (a)
L 0-3 12/05/1984

BEHIND THE SCENES

We take a sneak peek around Kenilworth Road to some of the places you don't get to see...

PITCH COVERS

They're not quite 'behind the scenes' but we thought it was apt enough given the current weather conditions, effecting

the country to focus on our pitch covers.

Used to protect the surface of snow and in particular, frost, the covers stretch to all areas of the Kenilworth Road pitch and are laid out by head groundsman Richard Bird and assistant Roger Osborne.





HORNET TO HATTER

FORMER STRIKER SEAN FARRELL EXPLAINS WHERE HIS LOYALTIES LIE

It takes a brave man to admit, when making your name at Luton Town, that you're actually a fan of Watford - the Hatters' nearest big rivals.

But for Sean Farrell, born and bred just down the M1 at Watford, it was something he just couldn't try and hide.

The striker left his native Watford to sign for the Hatters as an apprentice in 1985 but put footballing rivalries aside during his career and

today retains the same high level of affection for both clubs.

"I must be the only person in this country that supports Watford and Luton!" the former striker admits.

"I was open from the start that I was a Watford supporter and I took a lot of flak for it in a way because the rivalry was so big.

"I was born and bred in Watford, the arch-rivals, but I support both teams.

"Some of the Luton fans weren't too happy that I was so open about being a Watford supporter but I never gave anything less than 100 per cent for Luton while I was there.

"I love the club - that club has made me what I am today.

"They looked after me so much. There were some of my idols - Steve Foster, Mick Harford, and David Preece, God rest his soul, they modelled me and made me the person I am today.

"I am always grateful to the club for everything they did.

"They just looked after me 100 per cent. From the ages of 15, when I signed, to 21, when I left, they are some of the most important times of your life and shape what you are for the future."

Sean recalls a far higher standard of player there than he expected when he first went on trial. He was asked back and played in a game against Reading a few days later, when he scored twice in a 4-2 win.

The two-goal salvo convinced Luton to ask him back again and he was offered a two-year apprenticeship before signing professional at the age of 18.

It took him a while to begin to make his mark on the first-team and injuries didn't help him, but eventually there were some happy days to enjoy.

"Initially I went on loan to Colchester and made my League debut there, then Ray Harford gave me my debut for Luton," Sean said.

"I had been out for eight months with a medial knee ligament problem and came back, Ray gave me my debut, then two weeks later I ruptured my medial ligament again and was out for another eight months.

"It was frustrating and that was the best period Luton ever had, particularly when I was an apprentice.

"We used to play our youth team games on the Astroturf pitch at Kenilworth Road, before the first-team played their matches, so we'd be playing in front of 10,000 fans sometimes which was absolutely brilliant."

Sean's mark really came in 1990/91 when he featured regularly in the side that stayed up in the old First Division on the final day for the second successive season.



**“ I MUST BE THE ONLY PERSON
IN THIS COUNTRY THAT SUPPORTS
WATFORD AND LUTON! ”**

He also scored in the final as Luton won the 1990 Guinness Soccer Six with a 4-0 victory over Liverpool, but his fondest memories come in the 11-a-side game.

"I played in the top division at Manchester United and all the top teams, which was just unbelievable," he said.

"The biggest game for me was when we beat Derby at the end of the season to stay up.

"We had beaten them the season before at Derby but I was in the stands then as I had gone

as a supporter.

"This time it was Manchester City versus Sunderland whilst we faced Derby. We beat them 2-1 and stayed up, and I've never had a day like that."

Sean left Luton for Fulham in December 1991 having scored four goals in 31 appearances and later in his career he played for Peterborough United and Notts County before calling it a day in 2003 after a spell in the Conference with Burton Albion.

He was saddened to see Luton's fall from the Championship to non-league football in a matter of three years and hopes the club can get back up to the Football League this season.

He'll be following the Hatters' fortunes, just as he does Watford and County, the other club he remains very fond of from his playing days.

"Sean is now settled in Nottingham and is no longer involved in football as he is a driving instructor in the city.

He misses the buzz of being with his team-mates and the excitement of matchday - though, by his own admission, he doesn't miss training!

And becoming a driving instructor has certainly been a good move.

Sean added: "When I left Notts County I went to Burton Albion, and I knew that the end was close so I needed a job.

"I had no qualifications whatsoever and saw an advert in the paper to become a driving instructor.

"I had a clean licence and could drive so I went on a course to do that, basically because I didn't know what else to do!

"I've been doing it for eight years now and it's all fine, it's very enjoyable.

"The best thing is getting someone from scratch who has never been taught to drive and you see them through to pass their test.

"It's very rewarding in that sense."



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CUP CALLING

● WITH BBC THREE COUNTIES RADIO'S SIMON OXLEY

If you're reading this on Thursday...Then here's to another memorable cup night at Kenilworth Road.

If it's Sunday...How long was the queue for Tottenham tickets?/Now we can focus on the cup competition which the Hatters can reasonably hope to win (delete as appropriate)...

We could debate the merits of the FA Trophy, a Wembley final, or a distraction which could cost promotion. Remember all the ties are at the weekend, with a two-legged semi-final, causing a huge fixture backlog even in a mild winter.

But let's focus on the FA Cup, and those memorable replay nights. Looking back through Roger Wash and Simon Pitts' bible this week, it seems the replays I've covered are either memorable victories here or crushing defeats away from home.

In the latter category:

- The 5-0 defeat at West Ham in 1991, when Luton were in the top flight, and from memory, the Hammers were coming up from what is now the Championship.

- The 6-0 defeat at Southampton in 1995 when Matthew Le Tissier climbed out of his sickbed to inspire the Saints.

- A 6-2 defeat at Bolton in 1997.

- And the 5-0 defeat at Liverpool in 2008, although the defeat was eased by news that the 2020 takeover had been given the go-ahead.

Equally as crushing was a 2-1 extra-time defeat at QPR in 2001. Lil Fuccillo was in caretaker



charge, and the prize was a home game with Arsenal. Arsene Wenger left Loftus Road in stoppage time with Lee Mansell's goal still separating the teams but QPR equalised and won in extra-time.

But those memories can be eased by looking back to two great replay wins in the 1994 FA Cup run.

A 2-0 win here over Newcastle with goals from John Hartson and Scott Oakes before Oakes's hat-trick gave Luton that 3-2 sixth round win over West Ham - probably my favourite Hatters moment. What a night as stalwarts like John Dreyer, David Preece and Paul Telfer guided Luton to that Wembley semi-final.

It seemed like quite a night last week as well

at the 125th anniversary dinner. What a great prize - David Pleat's Maine Road shoes! What prize Joe Payne's 10-goal boots I wonder?

I was also delighted to see that John Buttle had been made Honorary Life President. I shared an office with John for three years in the 1990s and he is utterly devoted to this club. He will have accepted the award with great dignity, but deep down he will have been hugely proud.


Supporting and working at Luton has more than its fair share of ups and downs, and whilst John takes most things in his stride, even 'he was visibly shaken by the state the club was in just a few years ago. Recognition for his loyalty is fully deserved.

CENTRE SPOT

ANDY DRURY HEADS THE HATTERS LEVEL AT CHARLTON



OFFICIALS

-  A. DAVIS
-  K. HOWICK
-  B. KNIGHT
-  S. DAVIDSON

POST-MATCH

HATTERS
Player 

FOR ALL THE POST-MATCH REACTION PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM TONIGHT'S GAME VISIT WWW.HATTERSPAYER.CO.UK OR LOG-ON TO WWW.LUTONTOWN.CO.UK FOR A REPORT, ANALYSIS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND REACTION.

MATCH CENTRE

HALF-TIME SCORE

FULL-TIME SCORE

ATTENDANCE

SCORERS

UP NEXT

YORK
CITY



SATURDAY 18th DECEMBER 2010 12 NOON



THE TEAMS



LUTON TOWN

MANAGER: RICHARD MONEY

- 01 MARK TYLER
- 02 DAN GLEESON
- 03 FREDDIE MURRAY
- 04 KEITH KEANE
- 05 CRAIG HINTON
- 06 GEORGE PILKINGTON
- 07 ADAM NEWTON
- 08 AMARI MORGAN-SMITH
- 09 MATTHEW BARNES-HOMER
- 10 TAIWO ATIENO
- 11 ANDY DRURY
- 12 SHANE BLACKETT
- 13 ZDENEK KROCA
- 14 ALEX LAWLESS
- 15 JAKE HOWELLS
- 16 ED ASAFU-ADJAYE
- 17 PAVEL BESTA
- 18 CLAUDE GNAPKA
- 19 DANNY CROW
- 20 KEVIN GALLAN
- 21 CHARLIE HENRY
- 24 ALEX LACEY
- 25 GODFREY POKU
- 26 JJ O'DONNELL
- 27 TAYLOR NATHANIEL
- 28 ADAM WATKINS
- 29 DAN WALKER
- 30 KEVIN PILKINGTON

WELLING UNITED

PLAYER/MANAGER: JAMIE DAY

- 01 GARETH STEWART
- 02 JAMIE COYLE
- 03 JACK OBERSTELLER
- 04 JAMIE DAY
- 05 GRAEME ANDREWS
- 06 JACK PARKINSON
- 07 LOUI FAZAKERLEY
- 08 LEE CLARKE
- 09 LOUIS CUMBERS
- 10 ANDY PUGH
- 11 LOICK PIRES
- 12 ANDY SAMBROOK
- 14 JOE HEALY
- 15 ANTHONY ACHEAMPONG
- 16 JORDEN JOHNSON
- 17 OSA OBAMWONYI