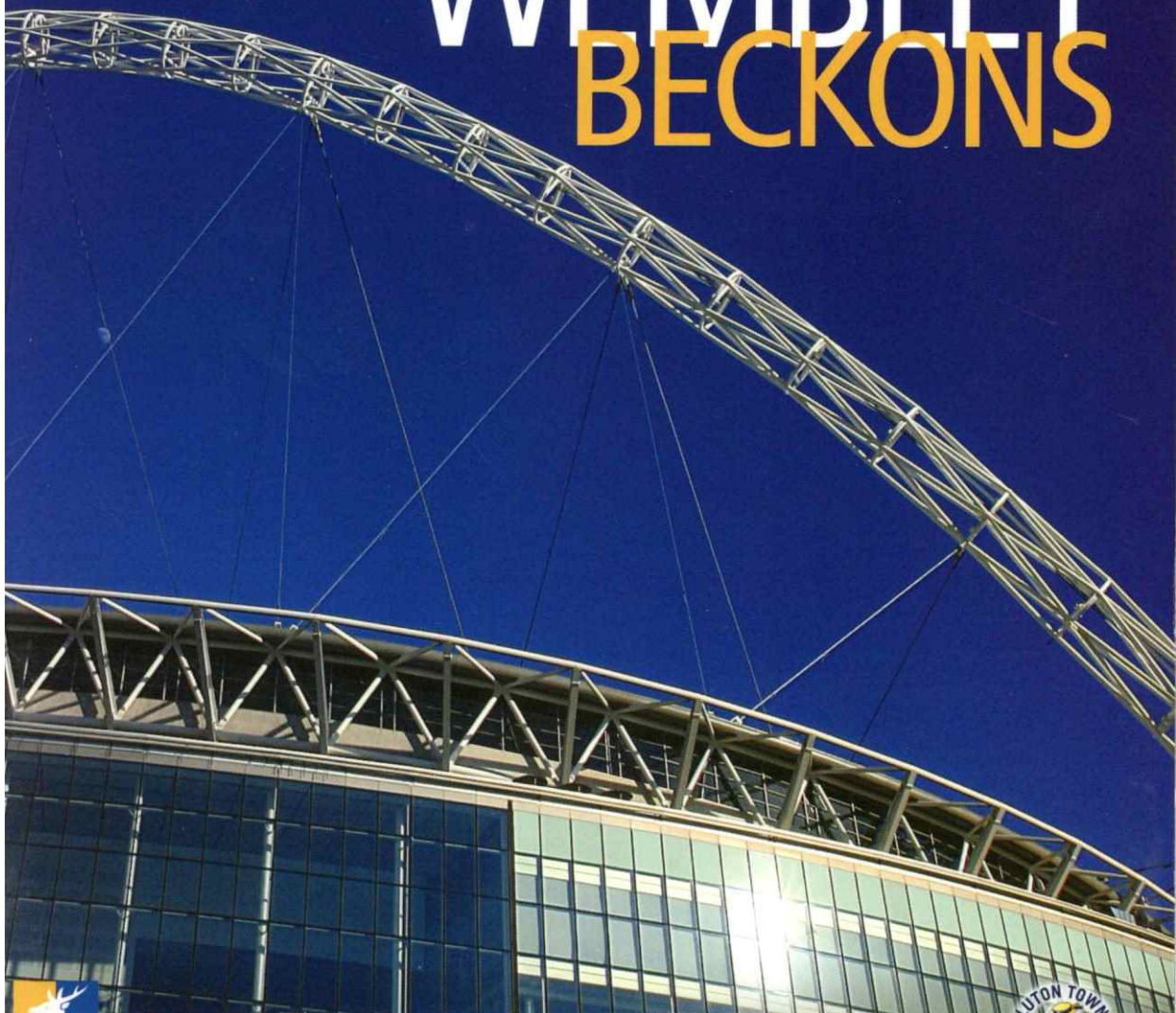


£3.00

The Stag

The Official Matchday Programme of Mansfield Town FC

WEMBLEY BECKONS



Luton Town Sunday 13th March 2011. Kick-Off 12.00noon. FA Trophy Semi-Final First Leg



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With the range of facilities we offer at Mansfield Town Football Club we can host nearly any type of event for any sort of occasion. We have two rooms available, so accommodating all your guests shouldn't be a problem. The decorations and table dressings will be designed on your behalf so you can sit back, relax and wait for the celebrations while we do the work.

Call us on 01623 482 482 for more information

WARM WELCOME

TALK OF THE TOWN

**LEANNE ROSE
MUSSON FROM
TIBSHELF**

Favourite Stags' player:

Tom Naylor

Player I'd most like
to take me on a date:

Kevin Sandwith

Favourite restaurant:

Dog & Duck, Kings Clipstone



TALK OF THE TOWN SPONSORED
BY STAGS' KIT SUPPLIER



LEANNE SAYS:

"I can't wait to make my first Wembley visit on May the 7th! Come on boys - make my dream come true."



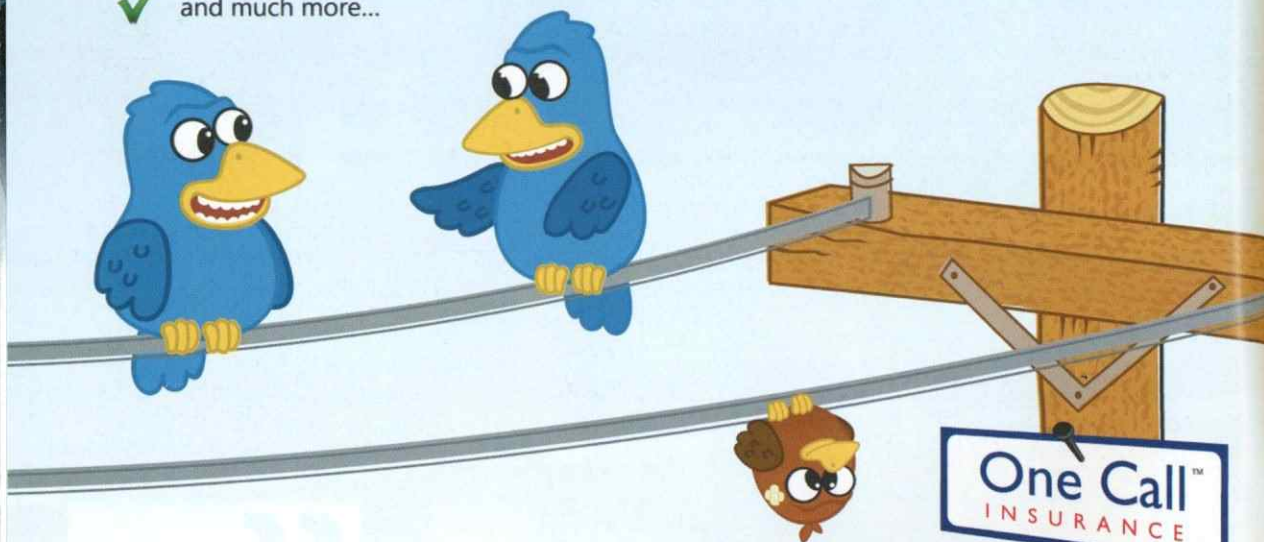
Exclusive to season ticket holders

20%
Discount off your *
car insurance



£5 goes to your
football club

- ✓ **FREE** breakdown membership
- ✓ **FREE** Legal Cover
- ✓ No Claims Discount Guarantee
- ✓ Windscreen Cover
- ✓ 3 year price guarantee at renewal**
- ✓ and much more...



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or call 01302 554 012

Terms and Conditions
*This offer is available to all football season ticket holders and a copy of your season ticket and renewal notice will be required as proof of eligibility within 14 days to avoid the policy being cancelled. You must be between the ages of 25 and 78 years of age. You must be claim free for at least 2 years and have 2 years or more no claims discount. The incentive will be paid to your football club on the third month of your policy being in force.

**Terms and conditions apply.

This offer only applies to motor policies, and One Call Insurance Services Ltd reserves the right to revoke this offer at any time. This offer is only available to new customers. Network charges may apply. Lines open 9am - 9pm Monday - thurs, 9am - 9pm Fri & Sat, 10am - 4pm Sun. Calls maybe monitored and recorded. Regulated by the Financial Services Authority.



Mansfield Town Football Club

Field Mill Ground,
Quarry Lane, Mansfield,
Notts NG18 5DA
Tel: 01623 482 482
Fax: 01623 482495
Email: info@mansfieldtown.net

AT THE TOP

Chairman: John Radford
Chief Executive Officer: Steve Barker
Non-Executive Director: Darren Shaw (Fans Representative)
Financial Director: James Beachill
Head of Media and Communications: Mark Stevenson
Safety Officer: Alan Lakin
Football Secretary: Laura Atherton
Sales Manager: Joanne Scully
Football in the Community Officer: Mark Hemingray
Club Shop & Administration: Catherine Hannant & Anne Matthews
Sales administration: Diane Jankiewicz & Adam Parkin
Conference & Banqueting Manager: Donna Clay
Accounts Manager: Elaine Bachir
Media and Communications Assistant: Paul Stephen
Head Groundsman/ Kitman: Michael Merriman
Ground Maintenance: Andy Johnson & Colin Needham
Club Photographer: Richard Parkes
Tannoy Announcer: Alan Wilson
Scoreboard Operator: Stuart Eggleshaw
Club Historian: Paul Taylor
Club Chaplain: Tim Mitchell

FOOTBALL OFFICIALS

Manager: Duncan Russell
Assistant Manager: Paul Hall
Fitness Coach: Steve Bonnington
Goalkeeping Coach: Chris Adamson
Sports Therapist: Jason Truscott
Medical Officer: Dr. Prabu

www.mansfieldtown.net

FROM THE BOARDROOM

Hat trick in the offing

INCENTIVES can sometimes act as an additional mental push towards the finish line, and this is why I have decided to take the whole squad to Las Vegas at the end of the season, should we lift the FA Trophy on May 7th.

You will forgive me for dreaming ahead, but if we do emerge victorious at our national stadium next month, then it will be well worth it.

The dream of another Wembley trip, only the second in our history, is a thought which has occurred to me on a daily basis since we beat Alfreton back in early February. It would certainly be a highlight of a season which has had its ups and downs. I do, however, have my eyes on a hopeful hat trick for the club which would include the following: 1)

Winning at Wembley in the FA Trophy 2) Being promoted as play-off winners and finally 3) Retrieving the ground from Keith Haslam.

I wrote in a recent edition of this programme that I would look to form a new board of directors in the near future.

Overall, we have received ten applicants, but I have always stated that a Board of five directors (including me) would be my preferred choice. I will begin to set



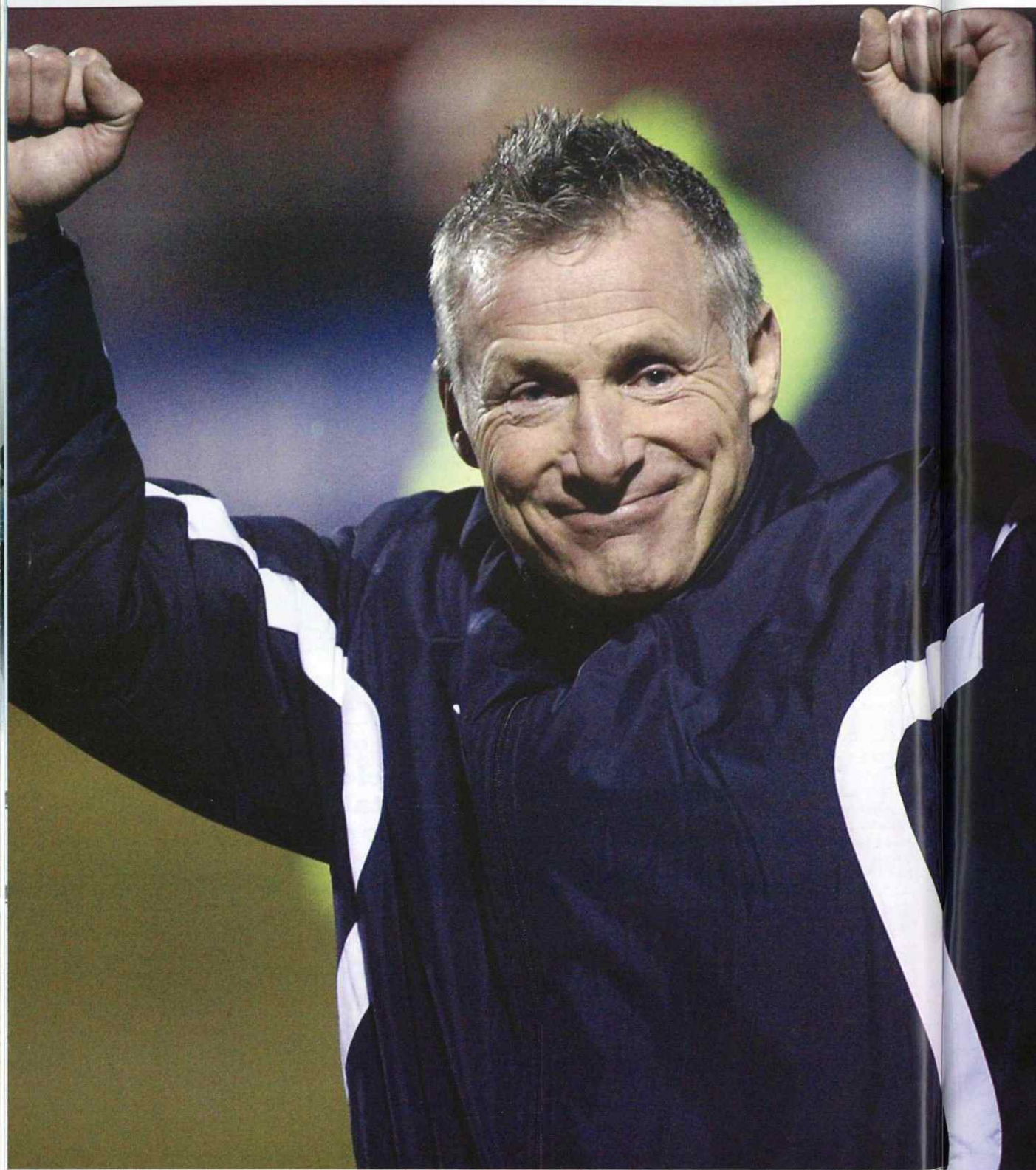
up meetings and hope to have the new directors on board by the end of the season.

"I have decided to take the whole squad to Las Vegas at the end of the season, should we lift the FA Trophy on May 7th."

I am confident that the Town can come out in force this afternoon to back 'Russ' and the players as we look to take a positive result into next Saturday's second leg at Kenilworth Road. It's not often we see our beloved Stags in a Semi-Final so let's make the most of it by showing the players we are fully behind them, both today, next week and who knows - maybe

even on May 07 at Wembley Stadium.

John Radford
Chairman



Duncan Russell

GOOD afternoon and welcome to today's FA Trophy Semi Final First Leg against Luton Town. My welcome is extended to the Hatters' manager, Richard Money, along with the directors, players, staff and supporters from Kenilworth Road.

Since I was given the honour of becoming the club's manager in December, I have regularly noted in this column of the importance your encouragement and vocal support can have on the players. Rarely have we needed it more than today.

This afternoon, we will be classed as the underdogs in this competition for the first time during this year's FA Trophy and Luton, so the pundits say, are the favourites to win. If we are to overcome this hurdle then it will require us all to work towards a common goal. I am hopeful that there will be over 3,000 of you in the home stands today, so just imagine the part you can play by encouraging our players to victory. At our club, I see us as one big team, and when we are all working together with one single vision, we can be unstoppable. At the heart of any great achievement is a successful team and this is why I ask you, in the integral part you play in this team, to encourage the players at every opportunity during today's game.

We are at least 180 minutes away from knowing whether our club will be playing at Wembley Stadium on 07 May. Having been there as part of Paul Ince's coaching staff at MK Dons in 2008, I know a day at the national stadium is an unforgettable occasion. Such occasions not only lift clubs and their fans, but Town's and their people. I know this club has had its fair share of hardships in recent years and a day out at

Wembley would go some way in making worthwhile the difficulties you have witnessed this club go through.

In team news, I am disappointed to lose our captain, Adam Murray, for the two legs due to a clause in his contract which states he cannot play against Luton in any competition this season. Adam has gone from strength to strength since joining us and has proved to be an influential captain. It is time, however, for someone to replace him over two games and I have belief in the players I have in mind who can do that job.

Louis Moutt also misses both legs following a back problem. The medical team at Stoke City, his parent club, have advised that he be treated for two weeks and we have taken heed of this information.

It is a dream for any player to fulfil his dreams, and today our players have an opportunity to step forward and make that happen. As I have stated at the beginning of my notes: encourage, support, and be vocal until 2pm today.

Together we can make this happen and write ourselves into Mansfield Town history.

"When we are all working together with one single vision, we can be unstoppable."

D. Russell

Friday 8th April 2011

Ladies Night

Kevin Bird Suite, 7.30pm start
Tickets £6 includes a buffet.
Massage from physio Jason Truscott
Various stands including Ann Summers,
Bodycare and Vie at home.

Order your drinks and have our charming waiter service bring them over to you.

Call 01623 482482 to book

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Man in the Middle ...Karl Evans

TODAY'S man in the middle, Karl Evans, will be running out for the first time ever at Field Mill this afternoon in what will be his 26th outing of the season.

Promoted to the national list of referees in 2007/08, Karl is more used to officiating at Hillsborough and the City Ground than in the BSBP and takes a short break from his

usual duties in the Football League today to preside over our important Semi Final clash against The Hatters.

On why he entered the profession, the 33-year-old sales representative from Wigan said: "I got introduced into refereeing by my father when I was 15-years-old.

"I used to also play football and had played in a number of games where no referee was appointed due to a shortage so I thought that it would be a good opportunity to have a go."

On his career highlights (prior to this afternoon of course) he added: "The best game that I have officiated in to date is the Johnstone's Paint Trophy Final in 2007. The game itself was played at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff. It was an amazing experience to be involved in such a high profile game."



LAWS OF THE GAME LAW 13 FREE-KICKS (CONT)

If a goalkeeper handles the ball outside the area but does not deny a goal scoring opportunity, typically the keeper has just misjudged his area what is the ruling?

This is a situation that is often misunderstood.

The easiest way to understand this, is to appreciate, that when a goalkeeper comes outside of his own penalty area, he loses the special goalkeeper parts of the Laws that cover him whilst he remains inside his penalty area. In other words, if the goalkeeper handles the ball deliberately outside of his own penalty area, he gets the same treatment as an outfield player would, if an outfield player deliberately handles the ball in the same position.

When the goalkeeper in this scenario, first handles the ball (inside of his own penalty area), he does it deliberately; and as long as he remains inside of the penalty area, he commits no offence. If his momentum takes him outside of his penalty area, and he continues to handle the ball, then it is **still deliberate**. Goalkeepers know all about the consequences of handling outside of their penalty area. If he does not release the ball before he travels outside of his penalty area, there are no rules that allow him any dispensation. The penalty area lines are there for a purpose, and they cannot be ignored for any reason. It makes no odds if the goalkeeper misjudged his area, or if he deliberately keeps hold of the ball - it is still an offence.

The Referee should stop play, and

award the attacking team a direct free kick, at the place where the goalkeeper deliberately handled the ball, outside of the penalty area.

In the back of the 'Laws of Association Football', is a chapter entitled, "Additional Instructions for Referees, Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials", where you can find the following information concerning misconduct:

Deliberately handling the ball
Referees are reminded that deliberately handling the ball is normally punished only by a direct free kick or penalty kick if the offence occurred inside the penalty area. A caution or dismissal is not normally required.

Preventing a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity
A player is sent off, however, if he prevents a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball. This punishment in Law arises not from the act of the player deliberately handling the ball but from the unacceptable and unfair intervention which prevented a goal being scored.

Cautions for unsporting behaviour by deliberately handling the ball
There are circumstances when, in addition to a free kick being awarded, a player must also be cautioned for unsporting behaviour e.g. when a player: deliberately and blatantly handles the ball to prevent an opponent gaining possession attempts to score a goal by deliberately handling the ball.



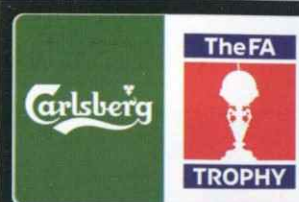
12th Stag will be celebrating its first year of fund raising for the Stags on the 26th March by having a Birthday Gig in the Kevin Bird Suite.

Doors will open 7pm (no dress code). We have asked the band Rehab to come back after a very successful thank you gig last month. Rehab play anything from Jimi Hendrix, The Kinks, The Who, Neil Young, The Undertones, Oasis, Paul Weller, Ocean Colour Scene, Franz Ferdinand, U2, Razorlight, and Arctic Monkeys!

Tickets are limited, but we hope you can support and help celebrate 12th Stag's first year. Tickets are on sale at www.12thstag.org (£6, inc paypal and visa fees and postage) or via the Club Shop, the SSA, Pleasley Stags, Westfield Stags or Ollerton Stags (£5 per ticket).

Once again we would like to thank everyone for their support and would hope we can sell this out and make it a night to remember. We will also be asking 12th Stag Paul Connor and Luke Medley to attend.

All profits raised will go directly into the 12th Stag.



Luton ticket details confirmed

WE CAN now confirm ticketing arrangements for next Saturday's FA Trophy Semi Final away leg at Kenilworth Road.

We have been allocated 1,000 tickets for this game which must be bought prior to travelling.

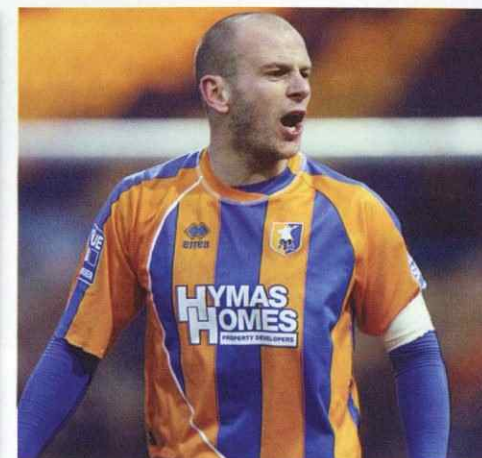
Season Ticket holders will be given first priority to purchase tickets. Season Ticket holders, who are allowed one ticket per season ticket book, have until 5pm on tomorrow (14th March) to book their ticket. Voucher D will be removed. Tickets can be purchased in person at our Ticket Office or by phoning 01623 482 482.

Should there be any available after this time, members of our fans' groups (Stags Supporters Association, Stags Fans United, Ollerton Stags, Pleasley Stags) will be given second priority to purchase tickets.

Upon proof of membership, one ticket is to be allocated per membership card, and are available to purchase until Tuesday (15th March) at 5pm. After this time, any remaining tickets will go on general sale until Friday 18th March at 5pm.

Prices are:

- £10 Adults
- £7 Seniors (65-74) & Young Adults (17-21)
- £5 Golden Seniors (75+) & Youths (10-16)
- £5 Juniors (under 10) or free if accompanied by a full paying adult.



Murray ruled out

SKIPPER Adam Murray is prevented from taking part in today's game or next Saturday's against his former club due to the terms of his transfer from the Hatters in January.

Murray rejoined us from Luton for his third stint at Field Mill in October initially on loan before making the move away from Kenilworth Road permanent almost three months ago.

New date for Histon clash

OUR away game at Histon has been moved to Tuesday 22nd March, 7.45pm.

We were scheduled to meet The Stutes next Saturday (19th March) but we will instead face BSBP promotion hopefuls Luton in the away leg of our FA Trophy Semi Final clash.

A new date is yet to be confirmed for this yesterday's scheduled home meeting with Bath but www.mansfieldtown.net will bring you this news as soon as it breaks.



Rules recap

JUST to clarify, if the aggregate scores remain level after today's match and 90 minutes being played next Saturday at Luton, 30 minutes extra time will be played and the tie decided on penalties if needs be.

No silver goals, golden goals or away goals will count.

St Mark's Church prize draw

CHURCHGOERS at St Mark's Church enjoyed an evening of music last Saturday (5th March) in which many of the night's great raffle prizes went unclaimed.

If you bought a raffle ticket and would like to know if you are a lucky winner of one of 30 prizes, ring Tony on 01623 640 263. Prizes up for grabs include a Stags football and a replica shirt.

Calling all Ladies

LOOKING for a way to pamper yourselves? Well look no further than our Ladies Night here at Field Mill on Friday 8th April.

Tickets for this female-only event are just £6 which includes a buffet, a complimentary massage from our physio Jason Truscott, full waiter service and several stands including Ann Summers, Bodycare and Vie at Home.

This is an excellent way to have a fun night out with all your girlfriends or perhaps just to do something out of the ordinary.

To reserve your place call us on 01623 482 482.

 Ann Summers

Spence sets sights on Wembley date

JANUARY signing Dan Spence has every confidence in getting a positive result this afternoon despite our tag as underdogs.

Our opponents today currently sit 10 places and 19 points better off than us in the BSBP but the Glenn Hoddle Academy graduate believes that this gap can be surmounted in our two-legged FA Trophy Semi Final tie.

"We're not going to be scared of anyone," he said. "Obviously we are going into today's game probably as the underdogs but Luton are there to be beaten just like everyone else. We are confident as a group that we can finish the job.

"To get a win or a good result today to take back to Kenilworth Road is the first objective and main focus for now."

Spence, who arrived at Field Mill alongside Louis Moulton and David Grof on January 31st, is relishing his move away from Glenn Hoddle's Academy in Spain and has not ruled out staying beyond the end of his contract in the summer.

In a message to fans, the 21-year-old defender also asked for supporters to create a cauldron-like atmosphere at Field Mill today as we look to take another step on the road to Wembley.

He added: "My time up here has been good. I'm training well, enjoying the facilities and the boys are brilliant too.

"It (a permanent deal) hasn't been talked about yet but if the opportunity arises then yeah, why not? At the moment I'd just like to concentrate on playing the matches that I'm involved in.

"It would be amazing to play at Wembley. It's the best stadium in the country and it's the national stadium so it would be a great occasion for the boys and the club.

"Just get behind us like you normally do. Obviously it's going to be a tough game but any result at home is a good result if we can win or draw."



Next up York City



The Minstermen v Stags

Tuesday 15th March 2011, 7.45pm

Destination: Bootham Crescent, York.
YO30 7AQ

Distance: 74miles (1hr 30mins)

Parking: Street parking immediately around Bootham Crescent is for residents only but spaces can usually be found a little further afield if you don't mind a short walk. Alternatively, you can use the city's Park and Ride scheme which can be seen signposted on the outskirts of York and will drop you at York Railway Station from which you can follow the directions on the right hand side of this page.

Mine's a pint: There is a supporters' club by the away end which almost always admits away fans. Alternatively, the nearest pub is the Burton Stone Inn which you will see on the main road (A19) as you approach the ground. If you have more time on your hands, you can make the 10 minute walk up the A19 into the historic city centre.

TICKET PRICES - STANDING

- Adults £14
- Concessions £9
- (Transfer to seating £1)

GETTING THERE

By car: Head towards Chesterfield before joining the M1 at J29. Leave the M1 at J32 and join the M18. Leave the M18 at J2 and then join the A1 (M) heading north. Keep on the A1 for approximately 30 miles before leaving it at J44 and merging onto the A64 following signs for York. Exit A64 at signpost for York North A1237, Harrogate A59. At the first roundabout go straight on staying on A1237 for approximately five miles, over three roundabouts and the River Ouse.

At the fourth roundabout, turn right (s/p York Centre A19) onto Shipton Road following it for approximately 1.5 miles before at the lights by the village green going straight on (s/p City Centre). After half a mile turn left by the Burton Stone Pub onto Burton Stone Lane and take the first right onto Grosvenor Road following it all the way to the ground.

By rail: With a journey time of approximately three hours, York can be reached from Mansfield with changes at Nottingham and either Chesterfield or Sheffield. Supporters are advised that there are no return services on the night and so an overnight stop will be required.

Alternatively, supporters who can make their own way to Newark Northgate or Retford stations will find direct services to York which take less than 50 minutes although return services are still a problem.

Turn left outside the railway station walking along Station Road to the Traffic lights. Turn left and walk until you reach the railway bridge. Cross over the road and walk down the small alleyway which brings you to the River. Cross the river and then turn immediately left following the footpath along the side of Marygate car park. Follow this footpath and immediately after passing under the railway turn right into Bootham Terrace walk up. At the main road junction turn immediately left and walk for approximately 50 yards. Bootham Crescent is the next turning on your right.

SSA TRAVEL TO YORK

SSA has family friendly transport available for all Stags fans wanting to travel to York. Departure from Field Mill is at 4.30pm and seats need to be pre-booked ASAP on 07967 689597

- Amber and Blue SSA £10
- Blue SSA £10
- Non SSA £13



DOES YOUR BUSINESS WANT TO FEATURE IN THIS PROGRAMME?

We all know that 'The Stag' is a good read but have you ever thought about using it as a way to promote your business?

Small, medium or large, we can cater for any company with our range of packages. Look no further than here for a way of reaching out to a large audience in the highest quality matchday programme outside of the Football League.

Packages for a full season:

FULL PAGE ADS £1,000 + vat
(or £43.48 + vat per insert)

HALF PAGE ADS £500 + vat
(£21.74 + vat per insert)

QUARTER PAGE ADS £250 + vat
(£10.87 + vat per insert)

ADVERTISING GROUNDBOARDS

We also provide the opportunity to regularly advertise to a large captive audience using pitchside advertising boards.

A cost effective way of marketing your business, they can be bought for as little as £800 per annum.

MATCHDAY SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Matchday sponsorship at Field Mill provides a unique opportunity to boost your company's profile whilst you and your guests enjoy first class hospitality and entertainment.

All our superb matchday packages afford the following benefits to your party and all at a reasonable price. Our individual matchday experiences are tailored to all your business needs and are an ideal way to say thank you to staff or customers or simply just to come and enjoy excellent food in a relaxed environment.

- Hospitality (two course meal plus one free drinks voucher per person)
- Complimentary programmes
- Comfortable seating in Sponsors' Area
- One car parking space per package
- Tannoy announcements
- The option of extra guests
- See man of the match being interviewed
- And much much more

MATCH SPONSOR (10 guests) £850 + vat
MATCHBALL SPONSOR (4 guests) £300 + vat
MAN OF THE MATCH SPONSOR (4 guests) £275 + vat
PROGRAMME SPONSOR (4 guests) £250 + vat

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OF ANY OF THE ABOVE PLEASE CALL JO SCULLY ON (01623) 482 482

Luton Town

Second Leg



Luton Town v Stags

Saturday 19th March, 3pm

A visit to Kenilworth Road awaits us next weekend in the second leg of our FA Trophy Semi Final tie against the Hatters. Should we triumph over our two games against the Bedfordshire outfit, a first appearance at Wembley since 1987 will await us on May 7th.

Parking: There is no car park at the ground and there is limited space available in the streets around the ground. If you are early, you can find a space close by, but the street parking fills up quite quickly. There is a multi-storey car park in the town centre. Follow the signs for the Galaxy Centre Leisure Complex.

Match Commentary: Away commentary is expected from BBC Radio Nottingham online at www.bbc.co.uk/nottingham and by Takeover 106.9FM.

Previous Round: Luton booked their place in the last four with a 1-0 win away at Blue Square Bet North outfit Guiseley on Saturday 26th February.

Last time out: We played at Kenilworth in the BSBP on Tuesday 28th September where goals from Danny Crow and Amari Morgan-Smith

secured all three points for the hosts. We are due to entertain them here at Field Mill in the league on Saturday 16th April.

Ticket prices: This game is strictly all ticket and supporters should not travel without one. For prices and information look on page 11.

GETTING THERE

By car: Exit the M1 at Junction 11, and join the A505 towards Luton. Follow the A505 for approximately 1.5 miles and Kenilworth Road is on your right as you leave the one-way system along Dunstable Road.

To park, follow the one-way around, turning left, right and right again all in about 100 yards so that you do a complete U-turn and then take the second left into Ash Road.

Continue down to the bottom, turn left at the end and the club is in front of you. Continue straight past the club and the road bends immediately over a dual carriageway bridge.

Beyond this is plenty of street parking (and a great fish shop) if you are early.

By rail: Luton is served by hourly Midland Mainline services direct from Nottingham. A change is required at Luton Airport Parkway but the journey

time is still under two hours. The station is a 10-minute walk from the ground. From the station, turn right into Station Road which runs into Mill Street. At the junction, turn left into Telford Way and right into Dunstable Road. Oak Road is the fifth on the left about a third of a mile along.

SSA TRAVEL TO LUTON

In order for Stags Supporters Association to effectively plan away transport to Luton to meet demand the decision has been taken to sell travel tickets for this game.

Travel tickets will be available to buy from the SSA Travel team in the Sandy Pate Bar from 10am today.

Travel tickets are priced at £12 for all SSA Members and £15 for Non Members and no refunds will be given. Travel Tickets will also be on sale in the Sandy Pate Bar after today's game and in the Top House pub across from Mansfield Community Hospital from 6.30pm on Monday 14th March.

No phone bookings will be taken for this game and admission to the SSA coaches on the day of the second leg is strictly by ticket only.

Coaches plan to leave Field Mill at 11am. SSA would encourage all fans wanting to travel with the SSA to buy their SSA travel tickets as soon as possible.



HI KIDS, TODAY AT FIELD MILL WE HOST LUTON TOWN. HOPEFULLY WE HAVE A GREAT MATCH IN STORE AND WE ALL WANT TO SEE THE STAGS SHOW THEIR QUALITY, GOOD LUCK TO BOTH TEAMS AND SUPPORTERS.

SAMMY

WORDSEARCH

CAN YOU FIND THE PAST STAGS MANAGERS?
PALMER • SMITH • DEARDEN • MCEWAN • SHIRTLIFF • HOLLAND



CROSSWORD ANSWERS
ACROSS
1. DECEMBER
2. CARD
3. MARGE
4. HOLLAND
5. COCA
6. ATHLETIC
DOWN
1. DERBY
2. BOLT

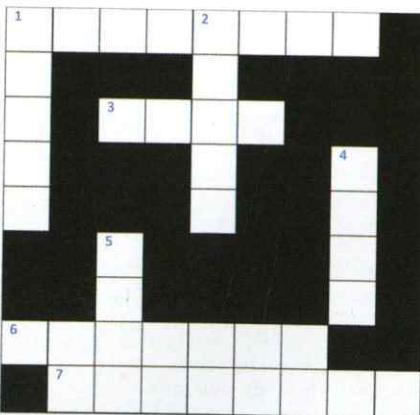
CROSSWORD
TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

ACROSS

- 1 - The winter transfer period starts in this month. (8)
3 - Yellow or red ____ (4)
6 - Former player and manager of The Stags, Paul ____ (7)
7 - Grays ____ FC, former Blue Square Premier League club. (8)

DOWN

- 1 - Championship club, nicknamed 'The Rams'. (5)
2 - Homer Simpson's wife. (5)
4 - ____ Cola Football League. (4)
5 - Usain ____, triple gold medallist in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. (4)



Football in the Community

Pentagon
Guardian Gas Ltd
Plumbing & Heating Engineers

Skoda to the rescue.... again



RAINWORTH Skoda have once again supplied a vehicle to us our Football in the Community team after their four years sponsorship with Pentagon came to an abrupt end recently.

Without a vehicle, FITC would find it very difficult to carry out all their activities and this arrangement with therefore avoid a lot of very disappointed children.

FITC director Mark Hemingray said: "Once again we owe such a lot to a local business (Rainworth Skoda) for their very kind act in providing us with this new vehicle. In these very difficult times it has been a big worry over the last few weeks thinking about where our transport would come from."

"On behalf of all the FITC team I would like to thank you to our partners Rainworth Skoda, Guardian Gas, Jonathan James and three local businesses that didn't want to be mentioned."

FITC benefit from generous donation

LOCAL Councillor Martin Shaw made a very much appreciated donation to FITC of £570.00 recently.

The money will go towards supporting their 'stay all day club' where young supporters come along on a match day to spend the full day at FITC (9.30am - 5.00pm) playing football in the morning and making full use of the community room facilities in the afternoon before taking a seat in the stadium to watch the game.

Holiday Course reminder

Our next holiday course will be in the Easter holidays so why not call into the Football in the Community office at the rear of the Ian Greaves Stand and pick up a flyer to get your child booked on.

COME ON YOU STAGS!!

Today's Mascots



Name: Jordan Booth
Age: 11
School: Peafield Primary School
Hobbies: Swimming and supporting Stags.



Name: Oliver Jankiewicz
Age: 13 today
School: Brunts School
Hobbies: Attending FITC holiday courses, computer games, playing for Ravenshead Reds and Rainworth Tigers and supporting the Stags

Meet the team

T: 07977 428 147
E: stagsfitc@hotmail.com

MARK HEMINGRAY FITC Director
GARY SHAW Community Officer
MARK LYNK Community Officer
JOANNE SHUTTLEWORTH Activities Co-ordinator
JORDAN FERRER Community Coach
JULIE HEMINGRAY Admin and Accounts
BERNARD WALE Secretary

AN INSIDE VIEW



Club photographer Richard Parkes was allowed access to the corridors of power on Tuesday night at home to Chasetown. Here he reveals his pre and post match photographs in old-school black and white.

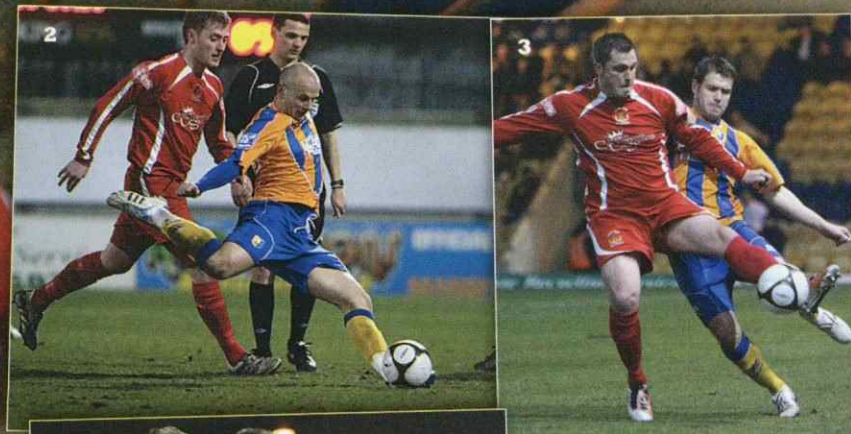


Main: Our players line up in front of the faithful, seconds before kick off
From far left top:

- Field Mill awaits last Tuesday's Quarter-Final
- Staff share a smile with goalkeeper Alan Marriott
- Steve Foster settles the pre-match nerves with a cuppa
- Inside the home changing room
- The press gather pre-match
- David Grof warms up
- Changing room post match
- The man behind Sammy the Stag – businessman Doug Carroll – is revealed

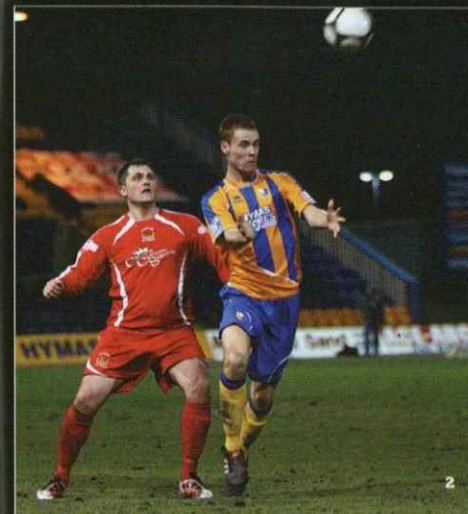
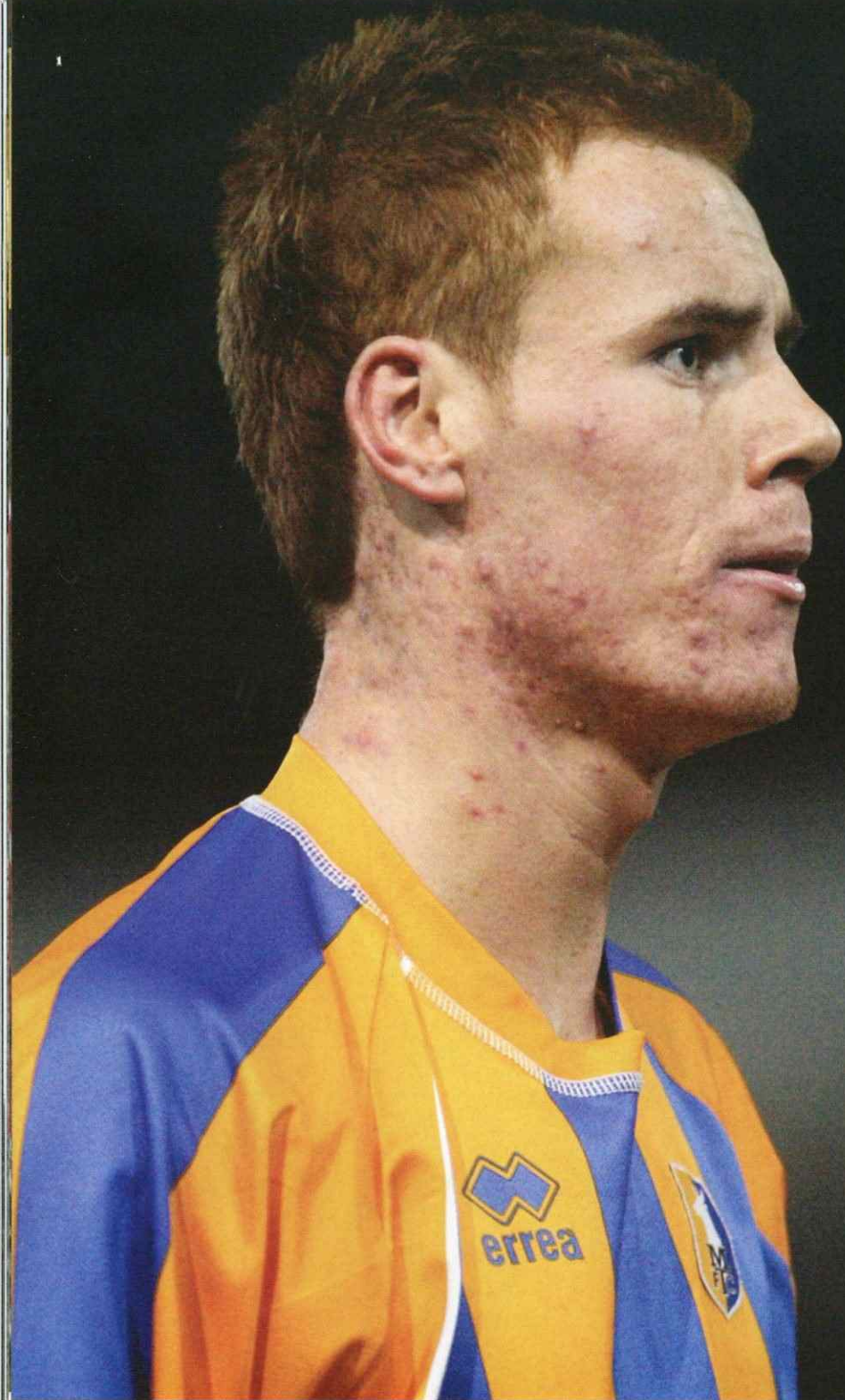
Stags 3**Chasetown 1****Murray 35, Briscoe 54, Mitchley 75****Jevons 52****IN ACTION**

- 1 Louis Briscoe's header finds the back of the net
- 2 Adam Murray shoots for goal
- 3 Kevin Sandwith clashes with Chasetown's powerhouse Gary Birch
- 4 Paul Connor tussles for the ball
- 5 The Stags players hold their arms aloft after Briscoe's effort crosses the line



1





Spotlight on ... Tom Naylor v Chasetown

Official photographer Richard Parkes will be aiming his long lens in the direction of a different player through the course of a game this season.

Here, he keeps a close eye on Tom Naylor during Tuesday night's FA Trophy replay win over Chasetown here at Field Mill.

1. Tom Naylor keeps his eye on play
2. Nipping in front of Gary Birch to head clear
3. Creating another attack
4. Clearing under pressure
5. Playing the ball forward
6. Bruising forward Birch proved to be a tough opponent for the young defender on the night



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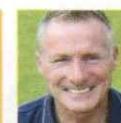
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How Wembley would be good for us all

By BBC Radio Nottingham's David Jackson

AS A regular follower of Mansfield Town you'll know of the struggles this club has had over the years.

There have been struggles off the field with the former owner and current landlord. There have been struggles on the field with successive seasons of struggle in League Two before eventual relegation to the Conference. And since then there have been struggles to get back up to where the club belongs.

In the middle of all that there have been flashes of joy though. There was the trip to Newcastle in the FA Cup, the televised home game against Middlesbrough, a promotion campaign to what we'd now call League One and a dramatic play-off semi-final victory over Northampton (I'll leave out the subsequent trip to Cardiff for now!)

The thing that all these things have in common is that they affected the whole town and not just the football club.

At such times I can remember walking around Mansfield and seeing more people wearing their Stags shirts, proudly displaying the amber and blue. Proud to shout about the football club.

Even those who aren't big football fans liked to associate themselves with what was going on at Field Mill.

They were proud of their town because of what the football team was doing. That's the power that football has.

I don't want to put too much pressure on the players here – they're the underdogs after all against a very good Luton side – but you can't help but think what good a trip to Wembley would do for everyone.

The prospect of heading to London



Stags faithful: Will they get a day out at the 'Home of Football'?

with supporters coaches and cars adorned with flags and scarves is something we've all had to wait a long time for.

The FA Trophy isn't traditionally supported by fans very much in the early stages, but once you get to Wembley it will be a different tale. Very very different!

That will be brilliant for this town – it's a town that, like the football club, could do with something to shout about.

This competition can provide that, and can provide us all with something to smile about.

I've had the pleasure of going to new Wembley once before for the first FA Cup final there between Chelsea and Manchester United. It wasn't a good game but the fact that it was at Wembley was enough for me.

To see Duncan Russell and his players walk out of the tunnel to cheers from Stags supporters around Wembley would be a phenomenal way to end this season.

So, while we dream, let's hope the players keep their minds focussed on the football today – and again next Saturday.

Up the Stags.

BBC

Can't make it away? Not to worry.
Follow the Stags away from home with
online commentary from BBC Radio
Nottingham: www.bbc.co.uk/nottingham

When will they learn?

With The Chad's Deputy Editor Tim Morriss

JUST a few days after the ridiculous gun toting Ashley Cole incident off the field and the Rangers/Celtic hatred in their Scottish Cup 'war', our prima donna top flight footballers were at it again.

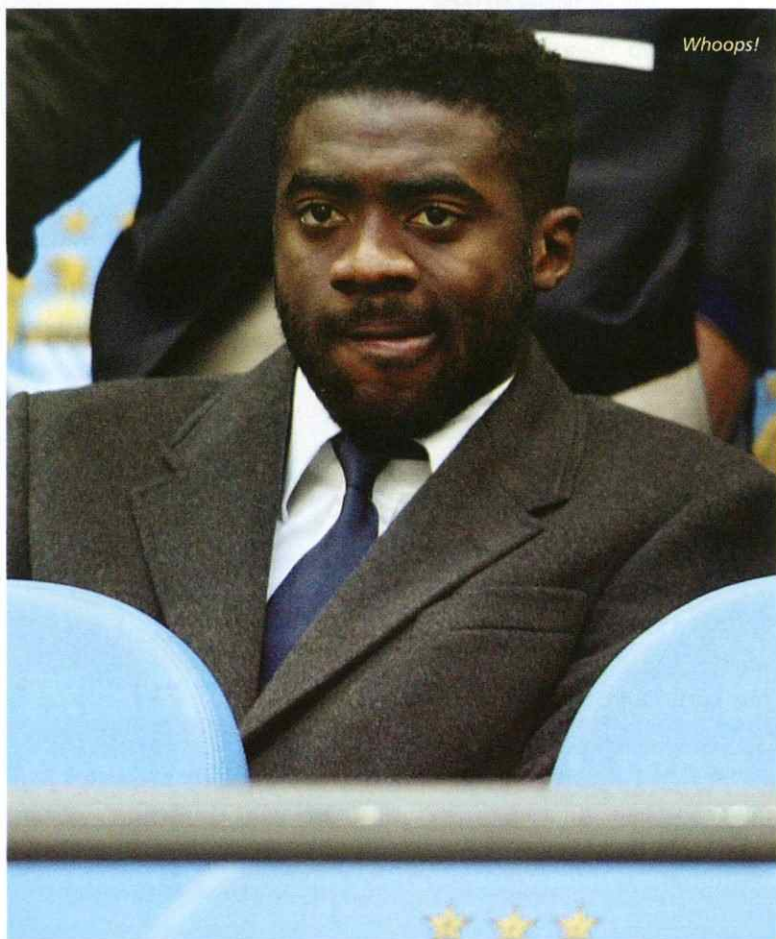
You would have thought that with all the bad publicity surrounding these incidents - and many, many more - that our Premier League 'stars' would have been determined to give the pundits and fans nothing to criticise them for last weekend - me included! But no, it was just the opposite really and there is no wonder than so many supporters despair at what is happening to the top end of our beloved game.

It all started for me last Saturday morning with that Saturday tradition Football Focus. One of the best players of the recent past generation - and proper Premiership star and England international - was asked for his views on the recent ill discipline shown by footballers both on and off the pitch.

Alan Shearer - rarely one to criticise players but always one ready to slam match officials - had the perfect opportunity to join the majority of football fans in saying that it was time for players to take responsibility for their own actions.

Instead, all we got was a mere shrug of the shoulders, a pained expression which said that it was wrong to even suggest footballers could possibly be at fault and a mumbled 'it has always happened'.

Reference was then made to the off-the-field antics of 'Gazza' and Eric Cantona's king-fu style kick at a fan in the stands at Crystal Palace all those years ago, as if that justified today's 'naughty boys'.



Whoops!

Why are the BBC - so, in effect, we the TV licence payers - paying this man huge amounts of money to rarely offer an opinion and to do little more than defend players, while enjoying smug 'in' jokes with the other 'boys in the studio'?

That made my blood boil... and worse was to happen as I watched

Match of the Day later that evening. All we saw - amongst it must be said some exciting if poor quality matches - was a series of petulant reactions from players if refereeing decisions didn't go their way.

The Blackburn match at Fulham springs to mind, with players surrounding the referee and one

even being booked after the final whistle for charging at him to contest the late penalty which settled the match. Where is the much lauded FA Respect campaign?

This so called controversial penalty was, according to the 'victim' (Blackburn boss Steve Kean) 'technically right'. So what is the argument about then?

Then we move on to last Sunday and the 'interesting' Liverpool victory over Manchester United. Once again we have out of control players badgering referees, and this time one injured player comically getting to his feet to manhandle the referee, before lying back down again to call for a stretcher.

Nani was on the wrong end of a terrible challenge, a potential leg breaker from Jamie Carragher. That is not in question. But his spoilt baby-type reaction epitomises all that is wrong in the moneybags Premier League.

Why should the ordinary player in the Mansfield Sunday League - not to mention the Blue Square Bet Premier for example - be expected to accept refereeing decisions with good grace when the players earning a fortune are allowed to get away with this constant questioning of authority?

It is happening in other countries, and it could get to the stage when match officials go on strike, boycott matches and leave players to referee themselves.

In fact, why is it that hardly any ex-players become referees? Because they know that actually it is the hardest job on the football field and that very few players would be competent enough - many don't know all the rules, let's be honest - to run a match.

Then there is the case of Kolo Toure failing a drugs test and claiming he took a slimming pill. I



Woe is me... ask you! Whatever next? As I say, when will they learn?

And that brings us to another favourite of mine, Sir Alex Ferguson. Manchester United - and so Ferguson - are paid a small fortune by football's rights holders like Sky and the BBC to give their reactions after a match.

It is ridiculous that he continues to get away with not speaking to the Beeb - but last weekend he went one step further and took on a vow of silence to everyone from the press, including his own club's TV station.

Once again petulance springs to mind. One Saturday he is defending referees when it suits him (that Rooney elbow escape), then in midweek he is slamming them for an admittedly borderline decision which cost his team two points before he goes completely over the top and decides to keep his own counsel and says that no-one from the club will comment at all.

I repeat, when will they ever learn?

Despite all these moans, I did enjoy my TV football viewing last week, thanks largely to the goals which just keep on coming in all five divisions - yes, the BSPB included. There have been some crackers of late, none more so than those scored by the Stags of late. Long may it continue.

One thing that did make me smile, though, was Peterborough's launch of a £15,000 season ticket - the best seats in the house (well London Road) and all the pies that you can eat on a matchday. The most expensive season ticket in the world probably - with a second offer at £12,000 not far behind.

This one, however, did seem to make some sense to me. A 75 year Lifetime ticket which can be passed on should you die during those 75 years. If you do the maths it works out at about £7 per match, so not bad value.

Food for thought!

Chad

For all the latest news and sport visit www.chad.co.uk



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www.mansfieldtown.net

Class of 2010/11

Alan Marriott



Boyhood hero: Peter Schmeichel
Current heroes: David Beckham
Person you'd most like to meet: Eva Longoria
Best player ever played with: David Ginola
First pay packet: £38.50 as a Youth Team Scholar at Tottenham
Favourite City: Newcastle and Prague
Hobbies: Golf and D.I.Y
Favourite music: Dance, house, trance
Favourite meal: Crispy duck, egg fried rice and sweet & sour ribs
Favourite drink: Absolut chambulls (Vodka, red bull and white wine)
Last holiday: Menorca, Spain
Last song you downloaded: Champion - Chipmunk
Are you religious? Not really
Which one thing would you take with you to a desert island?
 Apart from my little boy? My golf clubs!
Main weakness: Too self-critical
Main strength: Sense of humour
Best compliment received: I am often told that I look about 12!
Best advice given: The man who never made a mistake never learned anything
What would you never forgive: Thieves, liars and cheats
Marmite: love it or hate it? Love it
Last book you read? Doyle Brunson's *Poker Strategies*
Who would you hate to be stuck in a lift with? Peter Jackson
Person you are closest to: Paul Morgan
Favourite actor: Will Ferrell
Favourite actress: Demi Moore
Favourite comedian: John Bishop
Favourite royal: William
Favourite game show: Deal or no deal
If I won a million pounds... I'd buy some new clothes
In five years time I'll be... Qualified as an electrician

Stag Mates

Steve Foster on his team mates....

Best trainer...

Steven Istead

Quickest player...

Ashley Cain

Most skilful...

Adam Smith

Best Singer...

Long live Steve Cook.... His rendition of 'Valerie' before a game earlier this season still makes me laugh!

Joker...

I am a fan of Sandy's (Kevin Sandwith) one liners

Best dressed...

Me in my PFA gear

Worst dressed...

I still can't get my head around Ashley Cain's 'gear'

Toughest...

Steven Istead

Most intelligent...

Definitely not Adam Smith

Least intelligent...

See above...

Who do you room with on away games?

Nails (Tom Naylor)

Funniest nickname...

Louis 'Burger' Briscoe

Which one of your team mates has the hottest girlfriend?

I haven't seen any of them yet!



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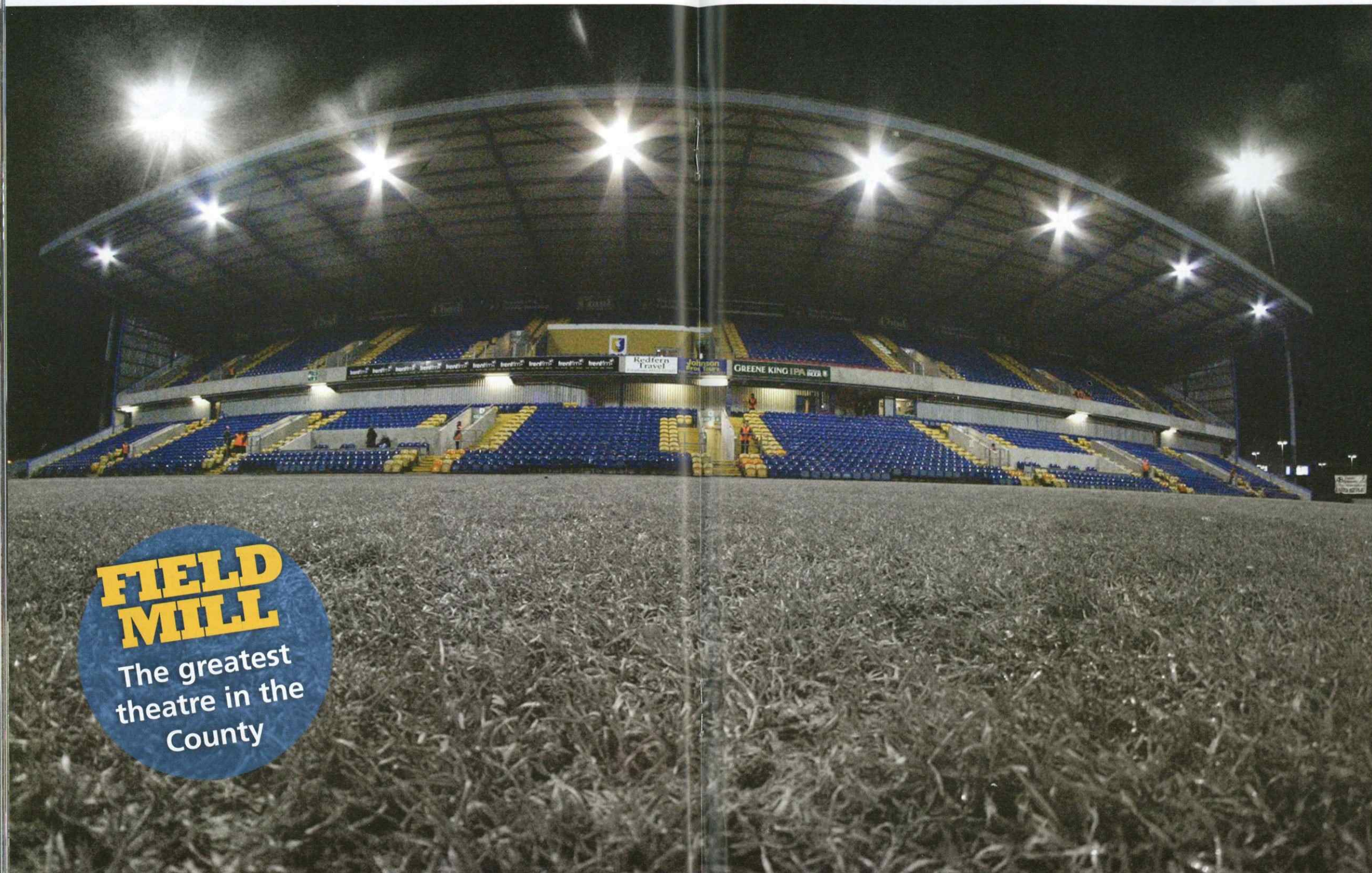
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NON-LEAGUE NATTE

Support Your Club

By Sam Elliott

HERE at *The Non-League Paper*, we have hatched some popular campaigns over the years – and this week sees the launch of one that is sure to be a hit with your team's bean counters!

While the Clean Up Our Game green wristband cause and our 2004 attempt to see the potential career-ending bladed boots taken off the shelves were both aimed at tidying up Non-League football, our latest idea is targeting cash for clubs!

The NLP will hand 50 per cent of any online subscription taken out via your team's website right back to your club.

We are doing this via club websites

so you can track the payment every step of the way, letting you know exactly what a difference you are making.

The Support Your Club campaign is already off the ground with The Stags, Altrincham, Newport, Alfreton, Wrexham, Crawley and Staines just a few that are backing our plan – and there's still plenty of time to make sure your club is involved.

Our online editions mean whether you are at home or abroad there is no reason to miss out on the weekend's action.

It's simple to use and delivered straight to your computer – meaning that cold walk to the newsagents

could become a thing of the past!

Online subscriptions start from only £15 for 12 issues, a saving of 25p per issue. Book for 24 issues at £28 and you save 33p, with 48 issues priced at just £48 it is a whopping 50p per copy.

And the beauty is that we will pay HALF your subscription straight to your club.

So, if 1,000 of your club's fans sign up for a year, that's a whopping £24,000 in the bank.

Even if 250 were to get behind the campaign, that's still a tidy £6,000 pumped into your club's account.

There's no minimum uptake, and even 50 signing up sees £1,200 winging its way into the club's coffers.

So what are you waiting for? You never know – once the money starts coming in, your side's manager may get the go-ahead to splash the cash on that striker he's had his eye on!

Keep posted on www.mansfieldtown.net for more details soon.

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ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

Buy it every Sunday from your local newsagent



Luton Town

Money is equal to promotion pressure

LUTON boss Richard Money has hit back at some sections of supporters growing increasingly inpatient for a return to the Football League.



The Hatters find themselves in their second season participating in England's top flight of non league football prompting those desperate for promotion to become more vocal in recent weeks.

With memories still fresh of playing at Championship level only four years ago, the pressure has never been greater on 'Dicky Dosh' to deliver a late assault on the division's top spot. Still trailing leaders Crawley by six points and having played a game more, time is now running out if last season's losing Semi-Finalists are to avoid another year of heartache in the lottery of BSBP's end of season Play-Offs.

Each obstacle, or failure to garner maximum points from each game, brings added frustration to members of the Kenilworth Road faithful starved of success and still

resentful of their relegation from League Two in 2009 following a record 30 point deduction handed down by the FA. Some of these fans have lately chosen to direct their venom at the man at the helm, Richard Money, who was booed from the pitch following his side's 1-1 draw with fellow Play-Off contenders Kidderminster last weekend.

His reaction to this verbal abuse was typically measured, not in any way defensive and one of mutual understanding. Far from launching a tirade of fighting talk himself, the former Scunthorpe, Fulham and Luton defender seemed to think that it was perfectly natural.

"I've never heard in my life what I've heard as I walked off the pitch there," he told BBC Three Counties Radio. "If the police came with me I think there'd be 20 people in the cell."

"But that's life and it's what you have to live with I guess being the manager of Luton Town."

"I don't think it's particularly something about me, I think it's whoever is the manager of Luton."

"Because of the expectation, you

have to come off the pitch every game as winners."

On the reality of overhauling AFC Wimbledon and big spending Crawley for the BSBP title, he added: "Whoever is the manager, whatever players you've got at this club, I don't believe this club will ever run away with this division."

"It's my belief that if you put yourself in the position to win often enough then eventually you'll win, and we want to do it this year."

"We are striving every last sinew in our bodies to do it this year, but I'm not surprised by the expectation, not at all."

"I thought the crowd were very, very good Saturday and understandably booed when we didn't win the game."

Although a return to the Football League and a rerun of great chapters in the club's long and proud history must be the ultimate ambition, today's tie still offers our opponents another route to cup glory at our national stadium this May. It is perhaps not the benchmark of success that Luton fans would ever admit to liking but a second Wembley appearance in

• Wembley glory in 2009



three seasons (following their 2009 Johnstone's Paint Trophy win) would surely not go amiss for what is arguably non-league's largest fan base.

The competition is undeniably a thorny issue though for Richard Money who says our last four meeting will not come at the expense of the league.

He added: "To get through to a semi-final and then lose your league fixtures on those two weekends is absolutely ridiculous. So yes, (it should be) 100% a midweek competition and no replays."

"The reality is if we were to win Saturday we'd have a midweek game every week until the season finishes," Money said prior to their Quarter Final win over Guiseley. "That pretty much sums it up."

Visiting fans who remember the last time Luton emerged from Field Mill with a win will be painfully aware how circumstances have dramatically changed since that day in October 1989. Not only were we then plying our trade in the old Division Three but the Hatters were gracing the top flight. Luton's 4-3 league cup win on that weekend 22 years ago also came just six months after the Hatters had been losing finalists in the same competition to Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest beneath the twin towers.

The flip side is that Luton only survived relegation that season by the slimmest of margins and will no doubt be praying that a win today will bring them rather better luck in their league exploits this time round.

The Hatters' Road to Wembley

Date	Opponents	V	Round	Res/KO	Att
Sun 12 Dec	WELLING UNITED	H	1	D 0-0	1,639
Tue 14 Dec	Welling United	A	1R	W 2-1	404
Sat 15 Jan	UXBRIDGE	H	2	W 4-0	1,958
Fri 04 Feb	GLOUCESTER CITY	H	3	W 1-0	2,212
Sat 26 Feb	Guiseley	A	QF	W 1-0	1,152

The Lowdown

The Hatters

Ground Kenilworth Road
Capacity 10,226
Nickname The Hatters
Year Reformed 1885
Likely Formation 4-4-2
Last Game W2-0 v Tamworth (H) BSBP

The Dossier...

The Stag takes a look at the strengths and weaknesses of this afternoon's opponents.

Mark Tyler

Highly-experienced shotstopper Mark Tyler is now in his second season at Kenilworth Road after a highly successful stint at Peterborough spanning 15 years. After making almost 500 appearances for Posh, the former England Youth international became surplus to requirements at London Road and was allowed to leave. The 33-year-old's steady hands and assured presence between the sticks have played a large part in the Hatters rise to third in the BSBP this season and he has impressively kept 16 clean sheets in 35 appearances this term.

Dan Gleeson

Right back and England C international Dan Gleeson signed for the Hatters last summer from his hometown club and BSBP rivals Cambridge United. A product of the U's Academy, the 26-year-old made 61 appearances at the Abbey Stadium before a switch to Notts County in 2006. His time at Meadow Lane lasted just one season and he returned to Cambridge prior to coming to Luton boss Richard Money's attention last season.

Fred Murray

Irish left back Fred Murray signed permanently for Luton last January following a successful six month loan from previous club Grays. With over 60 Luton appearances to his name, the 28-year-old made his debut for the Bedfordshire outfit in our 4-1 defeat at Kenilworth Road in August 2009. The former Blackburn trainee was also previously with Northampton, Stevenage and Cambridge.



Above: Matthew Barnes-Homer

LUTON TOWN ROLL CALL 2010/2011

No.	Name	Pos	Date of Birth	Previous Club
1	Mark Tyler	G	02-04-77	Peterborough U
2	Dan Gleeson	D	17-02-85	Cambridge U
3	Fred Murray	D	22-05-82	Grays Ath
4	Keith Keane	M	20-11-86	None
5	Luke Graham	D	27-04-86	Kettering T
6	George Pilkington	D	07-11-81	Port Vale
7	Adam Newton	M	04-12-80	Brentford
8	Amari Morgan-Smith	F	03-04-89	Ilkeston T
9	Matthew Barnes-Homer	F	25-01-86	Kidderminster H
11	Robbie Willmott	M	16-05-90	Cambridge U
12	Shane Blackett	D	03-10-82	Peterborough U
13	Zdeněk Kroča	D	29-09-80	Zlin
14	Alex Lawless	M	05-02-83	York C
15	Jake Howells	D	18-04-91	None
16	Ed Asafu-Adjaye	D	22-12-88	None
17	Paul Carden	M	29-03-79	Cambridge U
18	Claude Gnapska	D	09-06-83	Peterborough U
19	Danny Crow	F	26-01-86	Cambridge U
21	Charlie Henry	M	28-09-86	Newport Co
23	Jason Walker	F	21-02-84	Barrow
24	Alex Lacey	D	31-05-93	None
25	Godfrey Poku	M	22-07-90	St Albans C
26	JJ O'Donnell	F	29-10-91	St Albans C
28	Adam Watkins	M	08-09-91	None
30	Kevin Pilkington	G	08-03-74	Notts Co
31	Lewis Kidd	G	28-10-92	None
32	Jordan Patrick	F	14-10-92	None
33	Cauley Woodrow	F	12-11-94	None
34	Lloyd Owusu	F	12-12-76	Adelaide U
36	Newman Carney	D	23-03-94	None

Zdenek Kroca

Czech centre half Zdenek Kroca earned himself a contract after his proficient displays alongside George Pilkington in the heart of defence in two pre-season fixtures. The 30-year-old had made 169 league outings with his hometown club Tescoma Zlin in his native Czech Republic before choosing to relocate to these shores. The imposing defender has found the net five times in his maiden season in the BSBP coming in 35 appearances.

George Pilkington

Highly experienced central defender George Pilkington joined the club on a free transfer in August 2008. Having begun his career as an Everton trainee, Pilkington joined Port Vale in June 2003, after a loan brief spell at Exeter City. Injury frustrated the centre-half in his first season at Kenilworth Road in 2008/09 but he still managed to pick-up a Johnstone's Paint Trophy winners' medal. His impeccable form on the pitch last season led to him winning a string of end-of-season awards.

Claude Gnapska

French winger Claude Gnapska joined on a free transfer in August 2008 having plied his trade across Europe with Montpellier HSC, Racing de Santander, Deportivo Alaves and FC Vaduz of Liechtenstein. Claude moved to Swindon Town for a brief spell but was then off again in July 2007 to Peterborough United where he was a regular in Posh's League Two promotion winning side. A favourite with the Kenilworth Road crowd, Gnapska scored the Hatters' winning goal in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final against Scunthorpe United in April 2009.

Jake Howells

The young winger, who can also play at left back, came through the youth ranks at Kenilworth Road before making his first start in October 2008. After making 36 appearances in 2008/09, he was rewarded for his efforts with a professional contract and has since made huge strides in become one of Richard Money's most valuable players. An accurate crosser of the ball, Howells has chipped in with two goals himself this season.

Alex Lawless

The former Wales U21 international was a shining light in York City's Play-Off finishing side last season before opting

to join Luton on loan in November last year. That deal was made permanent in January for an undisclosed fee. The 28-year-old brings a great deal of BSBP experience to the Hatters' midfield due to the 150 games he has had at this level with Torquay, York and Forest Green.

Keith Keane

Central midfield heavy weight and club captain Keith Keane has been at Luton since the tender age of 16 and is now in his eighth season in Bedfordshire. The former Republic of Ireland Schoolboy has proved to be one of Luton's most versatile players having played in a number of positions in midfield and across the back four.

Lloyd Owusu

Experienced striker Lloyd Owusu is one of Luton's newest recruits after linking up with the squad in January. The 34-year-

old Ghanaian international enjoyed prolific spell in England before a move down under having bagged 144 goals in 350 starts for a number of clubs including Brentford, Sheffield Wednesday and Reading. The strong, pacey forward opted for the Southern Hemisphere with a move to Adelaide in June 2009 prior to his recent return to the UK.

Matthew Barnes-Homer

Currently leading the way in Luton's score charts, Matthew Barnes-Homer's 16 goals this season have kept him ahead of Luton's clutch of strikers in the pecking order. The prolific forward joined the Hatters on a month's loan from Kidderminster before agreeing a two-and-a-half year deal in January 2010. The England C international began his career at Wolves before spells in the USA, Wycombe Wanderers and then a move to Kidderminster in 2007.



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Fan File

AWAY TEAM

With Mark Bradbury, Chairman of Loyal Luton Supporters Club - Luton's independent supporters organisation.

Is the FA Trophy a competition that Luton fans treat seriously?

There are divided opinions amongst the fans really - although we all hate being in non-league and eligible to play in the thing in the first place. We'd far rather be going up to League Two in May.

Richard Money has gone on record to criticise the effect the competition has had on postponing league fixtures. Was he right to make those remarks?

Yes, in my opinion, as I totally agreed with him. For the sake of the fixture list, this competition should be all midweek with no replays. We've had to lose two Saturday games for this tie which will be difficult to squeeze in before the end of the season.

Would you have preferred to face Gateshead or Darlington rather than Stags in today's Semi-Final?

Obviously the shorter travelling distance is better for both the team and the fans although today's all-ticket noon kick off is likely to significantly reduce the number of our fans who travel.

We are due to meet in the league at Field Mill in just over a month. Will that game be more important in the course of your season?

If we keep winning our league games, and are still in the promotion mix up then yes, it will be far more important. Returning to the Football League must be our highest priority.

Is the BSBP title still within your reach?

If we keep winning games then yes, of course it is. As the old saying goes 'it's not over the fat lady sings' and at

the moment she hasn't stood up or begun clearing her throat yet.

How are things off the pitch bearing in mind this is your second season in non league?

Our Managing Director was recently quoted in the local press as saying that by the end of this season we will have cleared all the debts inherited from the previous custodians of the football club. A proper balance of business management and football ambition will then enable the club to continue to deliver a sustainable future.

How does manager Richard Money fare in the popularity stakes at the moment?

Richard (pictured right) is his own man and completely professional about his work. He's totally committed to delivering his aspirations for the club and doesn't look to win friends whilst doing so.

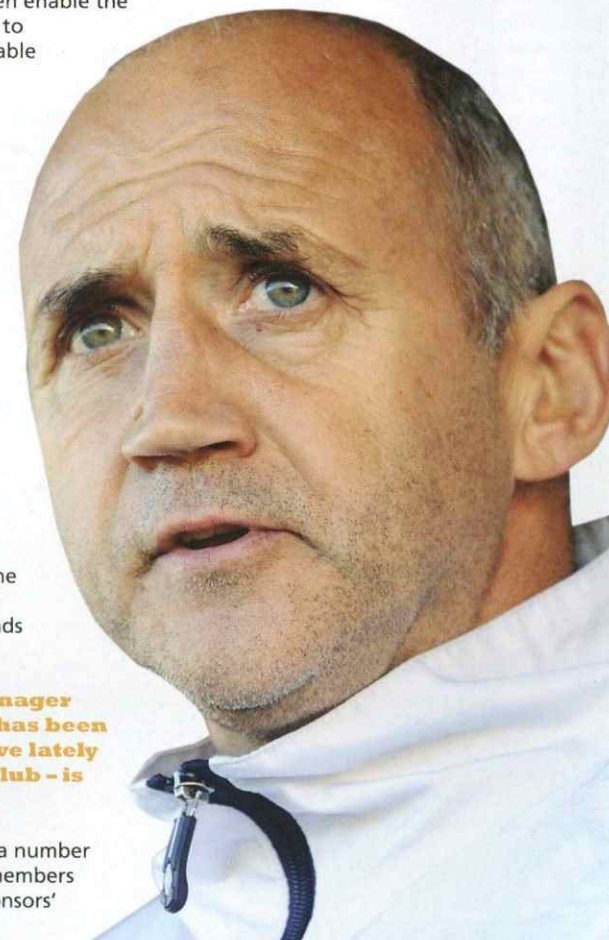
Assistant Manager Gary Brabin has been tipped to leave lately for another club - is this likely to happen?

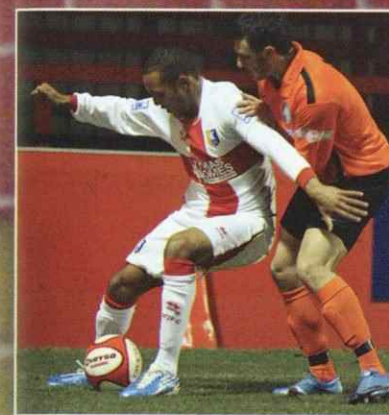
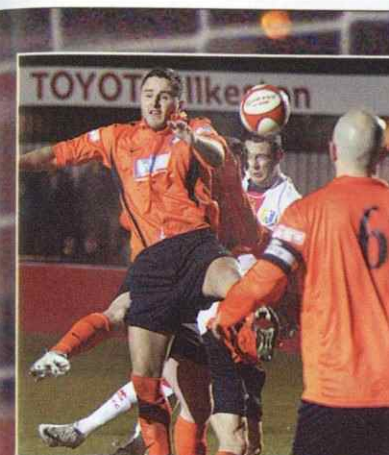
Gary chatted to a number of Loyal Luton members in the match sponsors'

lounge a couple of weeks ago and seems very happy with his role at Luton. However, this is football and he may want to be a manager again so who knows?

Luton haven't won at Field Mill since 1989. Presumably you are confident that you can put this right today?

Forgive me as that fact had actually slipped my mind! We must certainly be due a win then!



**ROUND ONE TUESDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2010****Workshop Town 0****Stags 5** Parker (pen) 16, Briscoe 45, Duffy 51, Grand 65, Medley (pen) 90**MATCH FACTS:****Workshop:** Kennedy, Wharton, Wood, Ashmore (Thompson 60 mins), Shiels, Simpkins, Bettney, Young, Bacon, Jackson, Mallon. Subs not used: Meikle, McIntosh, Bownes, Worsnop.**Mansfield Town:** Collett, Silk, Cook, Grand, Sandwith, Murray, Thompson (Mills 86 mins), Briscoe, (Medley 62 mins), Connor (Duffy 36 mins), Smith. Subs not used: Medley, Stonehouse, Naylor.**Referee:** Mr Heywood. **Attendance:** 682

Stags put themselves into the Second Round of the FA Trophy with a comfortable win over Workshop at the New Manor Ground.

Five goals from five different players were met with no reply from the Tigers as Neil Collett marked his first senior start with a clean sheet.

The 5-0 drubbing over the Evo-Stik Premier outfit blew away any cobwebs which may have gathered from a break in competitive football lasting over three weeks and saw Duncan Russell's unbeaten stint as Caretaker Manager continue.

Our opponents boasted two ex-Stags in their line up with Chris Wood at left back and Danny Bacon in attack.

With the quarter hour mark fast approaching, Mansfield were able to make their early pressure count from the penalty spot. Adam Murray was the man felled by Workshop skipper Michael Simpkins as he attempted to get on the end of a rebound.

Keigan Parker was on penalty-taking duties and confidently tucked his low kick firmly inside the left hand post and beyond the reach of Kennedy for his fifth goal of the season.

Stags were to take a strong initiative into the half time break by going two goals to the good just as the board was being raised to signal added time. Louis Briscoe raced into the area before beating the goalkeeper from the narrowest of angles and slotting a right foot shot between Workshop captain Michael Simpkins and Jon Kennedy.

Workshop's purple patch at the

start of the second half came to no avail as the game was taken from within their reach through substitute Rob Duffy who superbly made the score 3-0 after hitting an Adam Smith corner on the half volley from 12 yards out.

Reduced to speculative efforts, Ryan Mallon saw his audacious lob from 25 yards out drop the wrong side of the bar with half an hour remaining before Luke Medley was introduced to the fray in place of penalty scorer Keigan Parker. Medley was on the field just long enough to see Simon Grand grab the fourth goal of the night as he converted an Adam Smith corner from the left.

Stags eventually made it five right on the final whistle as Workshop skipper Michael Simpkins felled Luke Medley forcing his 'keeper to face a third Mansfield penalty. Medley dusted himself off and made no mistake from 12 yards by burying his spot kick in the bottom right hand corner.

WHAT RUSS SAID...

"Everything that could have gone against us has gone against us, but, the players have worked really hard.

"As the game opened up, we stretched them and our superior fitness started to show.

"I want to be the next manager of Mansfield Town alongside Paul Hall. The players have responded really well to us.

"Two wins and a draw are not bad but it's a decision I cannot make - it's the Chairman's decision."

**ROUND TWO SATURDAY 15TH JANUARY 2011****Stags 4** Connor 16, 18, Parker 41, Briscoe 47**Newport County 2** Silk (OG) 61, Matthews 70**MATCH FACTS:**

Mansfield Town: Collett; Silk, Foster, Sandwith, Stonehouse; Cain, Murray, T. Thompson, Briscoe; Connor (Nix 85), Parker. Subs not used: Williams, Medley, Smith, Mitchley.

Newport County: G. Thompson; Bignot, Fowler, Todd, McDonald (Hughes HT); Morgan Knights 79), Rose, Odhiambo (Rogers HT), Morgan, Foley; Reid, Matthews. Subs not used: Garner, Leary.

Referee: Mr Madley **Attendance:** 1,137.

Stags went just three rounds away from Wembley after beating BSBP rivals Newport 4-2 in mid-January in the Second Round of the FA Trophy.

Goals from Paul Connor and Keigan Parker gave Stags a commanding half time lead before The Exiles pulled two back to set up a nerve-jangling last 10 minutes.

Louis Briscoe was on hand to settle matters in emphatic fashion, however.

With just 11 minutes played, Adam Murray showed the foresight to play a ball from the halfway line behind The Exiles' back four releasing Keigan Parker into a one-on-one scenario with the 'keeper. Glyn Thompson got a hand to the Scotsman's effort where it hit the post but kindly bounced to the onrushing Paul Connor rather than the two defenders closely behind him.

On 21 minutes Parker and Connor made another successful link-up to hand the 12th Stag player his second goal of the game and 12th strike of the season. Louis Briscoe played the ball forward to Parker who ran it right to the byline before squaring it for Connor who was well-positioned to prod the ball over the line from only a yard out.

Stags capitalised on Newport's failure to convert their chances by taking their own and Parker put the home side into a 3-0 lead with less than 10 minutes to go to the break. It was scored in a direct fashion as Connor flicked on a Collett goal kick to send Keigan Parker clean through on goal where he drew the 'keeper off his line before firing into the left hand

corner for his sixth goal of the campaign.

Kerry Morgan turned from hero to villain, after an earlier booking, with half an hour to go by giving his side a glimmer of hope, albeit with some help from an amber shirt. A ball into the area was headed away by Murray to the Newport winger on the edge of the box who saw his half volley, which looked to be heading wide, diverted into the top corner by the head of Gary Silk for an own goal.

The defence were eventually breached for a second time in the 80th minute setting up a finger-biting final 10 minutes when Robbie Matthews steered a Danny Rose corner over the line.

Louis Briscoe finished the job with a brilliant individual goal less than a minute later after unleashing a thunderous shot from the edge of the box which crept inside the post.

WHAT RUSS SAID...

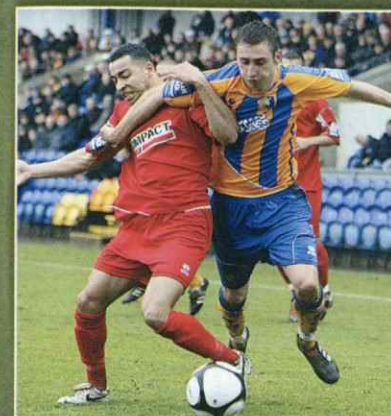
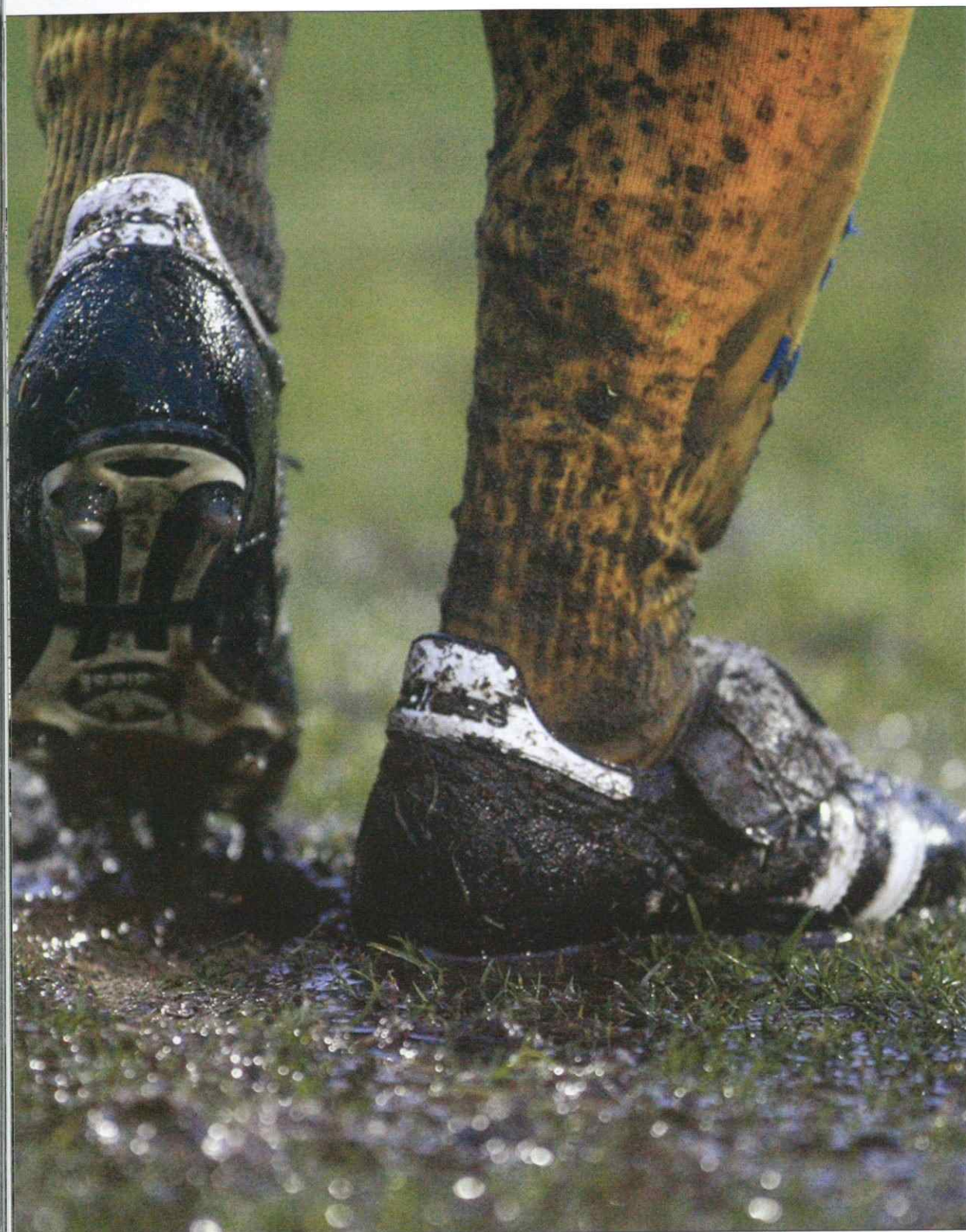
"To see a display like that after so many changes and people playing in different positions I thought was outstanding.

"It was a fighting performance against a very good side.

"I spoke to Paul Connor about getting us some goals and using his experience – and he did that.

"He should have had a hat-trick against Newport, but the keeper made a great save.

"It's really all about his presence and you know if you are the opposition and Paul Connor is playing that you are in for a tough game."



ROUND THREE SATURDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2011

Stags 1 Connor 49

Alfreton Town 1 Arnold 43

MATCH FACTS:

Mansfield Town: Collett, Silk, Foster, Sandwith, Stonehouse, Cain, Thompson, Murray, Briscoe (Naylor 19), Connor, L. Moulton (Parker 84). Subs not used: Mitchley, Nix, Grof.

Alfreton: Turner, Ross (J. Moulton 65), M. Wilson, Stride, Franklin, Hall (Dillon 82), Brown, L. Wilson, Arnold, Clayton, Hearn. Subs not used: Keane, Law.

Referee: Mr Heywood **Attendance:** 3,408.



Stags were held to a 1-1 draw at Field Mill by a combination of their resilient opponents and some awful weather.

On a pitch more reminiscent of the Somme than anything else, the home side had to battle the wind and rain in addition to a spirited Reds' side in order to earn a replay at The Impact Arena three days later.

Ten-man Stags showed great character to fight back from Kevin Sandwith's early sending off and conceding on the stroke of half time to get back into the tie and equalise through topscorer Paul Connor shortly after the restart.

The game-changing moment for Stags took place on 12 minutes when last man Kevin Sandwith slid across the saturated surface and took down Clayton. The Alfreton no.9 looked through on goal and referee Mark Heywood had little alternative but to issue Stags' centre half with a straight red.

Stags weathered the storm and were slowly getting to grips with playing with a numerical disadvantage before Alfreton skipper Darren Stride evened things up with his indiscretion on 40. The foul was committed on Paul Connor who had turned Stride and was running towards goal. The ex-Burton centre half clearly pulled back Connor and grounded him and with no hesitation was given his marching orders by Mr Heywood.

Any renewed hope and confidence which Stags may have taken from the restoration of parity in numbers quickly disappeared as The Reds raced into the lead in the first minute of injury time. It came in controversial circumstances though as Steve Foster was left clutching his head when attempting to cut out a ball pumped from midfield and into

the feet of ex-Stag Nathan Arnold. With some fans expecting play to be stopped immediately due to a head wound, Arnold advanced into the right hand side of the area and waited for Collett to commit himself to the dive before dinking it over him into an empty net.

The deficit was thankfully short lived, however, and the home side needed just a minute of the second half to get themselves back on level terms through the regular source of Paul Connor. It came from yet another brilliantly conceived pass from Moulton as he chipped Anton Brown to send Ashley Cain scampering down the right flank. The winger crossed with great accuracy to find the ex-Lincoln man at the back post who headed in off the cross bar for his 14th goal of the campaign.

Three minutes added time were played before the largest away crowd of the season were made to contemplate the short trip over the Derbyshire border three days later.

WHAT RUSS SAID...

"It had everything – we went down to ten men, then they did. It was cold, wet and windy and the pitch was a nightmare. It was a classic cup tie.

"It is a concern that we have the replay so soon after playing on such a heavy pitch, but it is the same for both sides and they are going to have tired legs as well.

"I certainly don't feel our best chance has gone. Hopefully, their surface will be a bit better because I think if conditions had been better it would have favoured us.

"We are not fearful of going to Alfreton, we are going there to win it."

**ROUND THREE (REPLAY) TUESDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2011****Alfreton 1** Wilson 16**Stags 2** Connor 68, Parker 77**MATCH FACTS:**

Alfreton: Turner, Hall, M. Wilson, Stride (J. Moul 72), Franklin, Howell, L. Wilson, Brown, Arnold (Dillon 82), Hearn (Ross 86) Clayton. Subs not used: Keane, Law.

Mansfield Town: Collett, Silk, Naylor, Day, Spence, Cain, Thompson, Murray, Briscoe, Connor, L. Moul (Parker 68). Subs not used: Grof, Preece, Nix, Mitchley.

Referee: Mr Ross **Attendance:** 2,131



Mansfield Town toppled near-neighbours Alfreton to make it to the last eight of the FA Trophy, but were made to fight all the way for their 2-1 victory

The transformation in Mansfield's second half performance was quite remarkable. Alfreton's home goalkeeper Ross Turner was a mere spectator in the opening 45 minutes, as Stags were stuck in the traps during a dismal first half.

But an inspirational half-time team talk from manager Duncan Russell spurred them into life and goals from frontmen Paul Connor and Keigan Parker ensured Stags' place in the next round.

The first half was one of few chances for both sides, but it was Alfreton who grew into the match with greater ease, registering two corners in the opening ten minutes.

Alfreton drew first blood in just the 16th minute when Mansfield failed to defend properly from a Laurie Wilson corner and Matt Wilson was left unmarked to slam home from close range.

Stags, who had lacked tempo and gusto in the first half, needed a huge injection of energy to re-ignite their failing performance.

At half-time, boss Duncan Russell did just that by reading them the riot act and his players reacted magnificently.

It only seemed a matter of time before Stags would find a leveller and their persistence paid off on the stroke of the hour. Deadly hitman Paul Connor, who Stags have relied on so heavily this season, again came to the rescue.

Adam Murray battled well to win the ball and after slipping it to Connor inside the area, the ex-Lincoln frontman kept his cool to finish low past Turner and level the tie.

With 22 minutes remaining, Keigan

Parker replaced Louis Moul in attack and the change paid dividends five minutes later when he put Stags in front.

The move started with Adam Murray winning the ball superbly in his own half, before feeding Connor who looked on with only the goalkeeper to beat. After Turner beat his shot away, Briscoe collected and played it wide to Parker who steered the ball home with the aid of a deflection.

Then followed euphoric scenes, with 869 Stags fans in pandemonium along with the Mansfield bench, who could not hide their delight by galloping on to the pitch.

Stags continued to dominate the second period and may have had a third through Louis Briscoe - Mansfield's man of the match. The powerful wingman went on a surging run during injury time and was so close to putting his name on the scoresheet. His darting run forward saw him beat the goalkeeper, but not Alfreton's Connor Franklin, who cleared the ball off the line.

WHAT RUSS SAID...

"There was a lot said at half-time and I wouldn't have wanted the cameras to have been in there.

"We were not right at all in the first half, it wasn't us. There was no urgency from us and I wasn't going to accept it.

"We were not going to go out of the FA Trophy without a fight. I told the lads that the only thing stopping us going through to the next round was us.

"There were a few home truths and that's why my voice has gone. I wanted a response and that's what I got."

**QUARTER FINAL TUESDAY 1ST MARCH 2011****Chasetown 2** Turner 59, Grof (OG) 90**Stags 2** Connor 35, Briscoe 74**MATCH FACTS:**

Chasetown: Price, Turner, Slater, Teesdale, Peel, D. Smith (Stephens 70), Davies, Parsons (Abbott 85), Jevons, Perrow, Birch (Hay 83). Subs not used: Cohen, Abbott, Branch.

Mansfield Town: Grof, Silk, Naylor, Sandwith, Stonehouse (Foster 65), Cain (A. Smith 83), Thompson (Nix 83), Murray, Briscoe, Connor, Mould. Sub not used: Marriott, Mitchley.

Referee: Mr Madley **Attendance:** 2,000.



The Scholars twice came from behind to send our Quarter-Final tie to a Field Mill replay.

Stunning long range goals from Paul Connor and Louis Briscoe were not enough to earn victory for the Stags, meaning that Luton Town were made to wait another seven days to discover their Semi-Final opponents.

Mansfield again had more than enough chances to put the tie beyond doubt, but Chasetown had Ryan Price to thank who pulled off a string of saves to keep The Scholars in the Trophy.

Stags superior quality was there for all to see, but Chasetown's sheer grit and determination to fight for every ball is worthy of equal praise.

Mansfield should have sent the home side packing by the end of the first half, but the Scholars scored twice in a second period which saw them attack Stags' goal with greater purpose.

Chasetown had to withstand heavy pressure from Mansfield mid-way inside the first half and they had Price to thank who denied Paul Connor's effort from point blank range after the Stags leading scorer had been assisted by Louis Mould on the left.

Stags eventually found the net first on 35 minutes from a likely hero. Leading scorer Paul Connor continued his rich vein of form in the competition when he picked up the ball 30 yards from goal, before advancing to send an unstoppable drive beyond Price that left the net bulging.

Mansfield expressed their intent to put the tie beyond doubt at the earliest opportunity with their first attack of the second half as the

match turned 50 minutes old. Home goalkeeper Price had to turn away a rasping Louis Briscoe strike from the right as Stags were again denied.

Chasetown were on terms with 59 minutes played. Jimmy Turner's right wing cross eluded everyone and clipped the inside of the far post before trickling into the net.

But Stags, through another wonderstrike, restored their lead on 74 minutes. Kevin Sandwith superbly cut out a Chasetown attack on halfway before laying it off to Louis Briscoe who pulled out another cracker with a well-placed low shot which left Price with little chance.

With the game almost over, The Scholars Ground then erupted as Chasetown scored a dramatic equaliser in the 90th minute. It came after Grof palmed away Dean Perrow's effort but was unable to hold on to the resulting Richard Davies corner as it tumbled through him and into the net.

WHAT RUSS SAID...

"The game should have been won in the first half but I don't think their goalkeeper will have another game like that.

"If he does play like that again then I think we will be trying to sign him. It seemed like they had three goalkeepers at times.

"We played some good stuff, especially in the first half. We had four or five clear chances but if you don't put them away, that changes games.

"The boy (David Grof) has put his hands up for their goal at the end. He had it in his hands and dropped it."

**QUARTER FINAL (REPLAY) TUESDAY 8TH MARCH 2011****Stags 3** Murray 35, Briscoe 54, Mitchley 75**Chasetown 1** Jevons 52**MATCH FACTS:**

Mansfield Town: Grof, Silk, Sandwith, Briscoe, Thompson, Naylor, Spence, Connor, Cain, Murray, Mitchley. Unused subs: Marriott, Foster, Nix, Smith, Istead

Chasetown: Price, Turner (Abbott '75), Peel, Slater, Davies, Teesdale, Stephens (Hay '75), Parsons (J. Branch '66), Birch, Smith, Jevons. Unused subs: M. Branch, Cohen

Referee: Mr Mohareb **Attendance:** 2,295

Stags were through to the last four of the FA Trophy after sweeping aside Chasetown 3-1 in our Quarter Final Replay last Tuesday.

Chasetown dominated the opening period prior to Adam Murray's conversion of Ashley Cain's cross handing the home side a half-time lead. The Scholars drew level early in the second half before our quality began to shine through and two more strikes ended an impressive FA Trophy run which started for them back in October.

There was growing frustration from the home support on the half hour mark as the increasingly lively Chasetown embarked on a flowing move up the pitch which almost resulted in Jevons scoring had it not been for Gary Silk's last minute intervention.

Stags seemed to heed the close shave and showed what they had so far been lacking by breaking the deadlock in emphatic fashion on 35. It came from the right in a swift move which culminated in Ashley Cain threading his cross between two red shirts for Adam Murray to slam the ball home from 10 yards.

The blistering pace of Stags in the opening exchanges of the second half was brought to a shuddering halt by a Chasetown freekick on 52 minutes. Davies took the set piece from near the right hand corner flag which Grof could only punch clear at the near post. The ball ballooned up in the air for bruising centre forward Gary Birch to head back into a crowded six yard box where Ben Jevons was first to it to poke it over the line.

Chasetown's celebrations were short-lived, however, as Briscoe swiftly restored the lead in the 56th

minute. The winger had done well to squeeze a rising shot past the outstretched arm of Price from the right hand side of area which then came back off the left hand post. Paul Connor was well positioned to head in the rebound but to everyone's horror, it too came back off the bar. Fortunately Briscoe was able to finish the job and nod it over the line past the stranded Price who was yet to get back to his feet.

Chasetown made all three of their permitted changes with the game entering its final quarter to try and stem the amber tide but the fresh legs could not prevent Danny Mitchley from claiming a well deserved goal. Paul Connor raced down the left wing as the gulf in fitness between the two sets of players increasingly began to show. As Price came out to narrow the angle, Connor squared it for Mitchley who rifled it home from 10 yards for his third goal of the season.

WHAT RUSS SAID...

"We did it the difficult way. We didn't start the first half at all and I couldn't put my finger on it."

"I had a few words at half-time and they responded – but I wanted the players to respond before that out on the pitch."

"Chasetown played really well, especially in the first 25 minutes, but we still had chances against the run of play and I did think 'here we go again'."

"But we had a chat at half-time and I wanted us to play in their third and keep a higher line, rather than dropping off, and it went to plan."

Killing some time with 'Killer' Kilcline

Nottingham has produced some fine footballers - Andrew Cole, Jermaine Jenas and Jermaine Pennant just to name a few but, there is one more who is regarded by many as an icon, writes Colin Holmes

TOWERING at 6ft 4" and still sporting his trademark long blonde locks complete with fearsome-looking moustache and beard, Brian Kilcline has been described as many things that an uncompromising defender may expect to be called, but as we spoke, I was struck by how very well-spoken he was. He is a kind gentleman and not the sort of person that some might expect.

We started talking about his beginnings, going right back to when Brian grew up in the Sherwood area of Nottingham. He spoke of school as something he really enjoyed. Whilst at school, like many young boys he never really looked to the future, and had no firm plans as to what career he hoped to go into. Naturally he played playground football, a game where the official ball can resemble anything from a tennis ball to a floater, there are never any set positions, tactics, subs and very often no rules, which suited taller than average Brian nicely. Brian commented upon his playground football days and said: "I wouldn't ever tackle anybody smaller than me. I was scared I may hurt them."

As he got older, and the playground football was left behind, he was recognised by teachers as having a talent on the field, scoring goals for fun as a centre forward, and was put forward for the South Nottinghamshire representative side, an outfit often watched by scouts from local clubs such as Nottingham Forest, Leicester City and Notts County. It was the latter that spotted Brian playing in this side, and he was offered a trial alongside Mark Hateley.

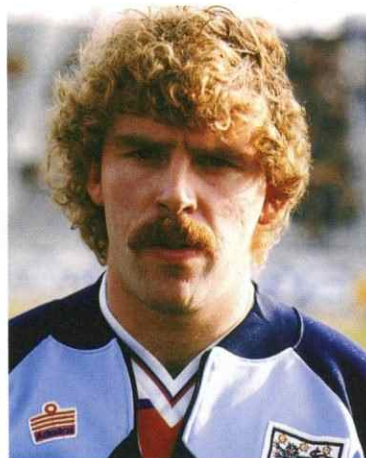
He added: "It was Ron Fenton and

Colin Addison who got me the trial, but I very nearly didn't sign for anyone. I was promised a contract when I became old enough but during this time the coaching staff and management left. However, the new manager Colin Murphy signed me after hearing that I had been promised a contract and it was he who switched me from centre forward to centre half."

Many have described 'Killer Kilcline's' style as warrior like, or like a caveman centre half, and it was this no-nonsense attitude that saw him get snapped up by Coventry City of the old First Division. It was whilst at Highfield Road that Brian got to become captain of a side that would go on to win the FA Cup in 1987 in a game which saw Brian make a crunching tackle on Gary Mabbutt only to end up coming off injured himself. He did manage, despite being quite seriously injured, to walk the steps to claim the cup.

"The whole game seemed to last about ten minutes. My memories are few and I do remember Gary Mabbutt get past me once earlier in the game. My theory was that he wasn't going to get past me again but unfortunately I came out worse off and had to leave the pitch injured, and wasn't even able to get a drink after the game as I was having an operation the following day. As a result I was not allowed on the pre-season trip to Magaluf with the other players who constantly rang to tell me of how good a time they were having. I thought 'bugger this' and got the next flight out".

It was 1991 when a 29-year-old Brian Kilcline joined newly-promoted Oldham Athletic in the top flight.



● Brian pictured here representing England U21's

"I wouldn't ever tackle anybody smaller than me. I was scared I may hurt them"



Brian commented that he could never understand why then Oldham manager Joe Royle brought him to the club as it just didn't work out. Understandably he was after a move away from Greater Manchester and it was newly-appointed Newcastle United manager Kevin Keegan who offered Brian a one month contract. He impressed in the North East so much that the then Chairman Sir John Hall offered him a much longer contract. Many of the Newcastle fans and Kevin Keegan himself regard Brian as key to saving Newcastle from being relegated to the third tier of English football and Keegan also went as far as saying that Kilcline was the most important signing he ever made in his spell as manager at Newcastle. Considering he also signed such illustrious names as David Ginola, Les

Ferdinand, Peter Beardsley and Alan Shearer, this was quite a compliment. It was whilst at Newcastle that Brian started to consider his future beyond playing football and he invested in a cottage in Yorkshire to renovate and sell on. He did so well at this new found vocation, however, that Brian and wife Lynn decided to move in.

After Newcastle, a brief spell at newly promoted Premier League side Swindon Town was the next chapter in his career. However, he didn't get on with manager Steve McMahon and therefore was lined up for a move. Mansfield were the first team to come in for him and the chance to move closer to his birth home was a hard one to turn down. Andy King was the manager of Stags at the time and had told Brian how he had a hungry young squad who needed an experienced head to lead

them on to better things. Brian spent two years at Field Mill between 1995 and 1997, making 50 appearances. Brian spoke fondly of his time at Mansfield, and recalled two stories of his time here he will never forget.

"I have only ever been injured twice in my career and Mansfield was the home of my second serious injury. I was playing in a game where a young lad busted my nose and I was sent to Kings Mill Hospital. Whilst there I was waiting for quite a while to be seen only to find out that the Chairman Keith Haslam had not paid any hospital bills and therefore they would not treat me privately. However, one of the doctors who was a Mansfield fan, overheard this, and thankfully went on to treat me. My beloved wife filmed me having my nose reset in to place whilst under the influence of the helium gas given to me."

Upon retiring from football, Brian settled in Yorkshire and became extremely talented at renovating old houses and continues to do this to date. He has also done a lot of travelling for both personal experience and charity. He has done a four month trip around India and also has visited Nepal and Burma on charity events. Brian added that the best classroom is the world. When I asked Brian what the future held, he replied: "I want to keep being happy. I am as happy now as when I was playing football".

I wanted to ask Brian about a rumour I had heard about him being a former UK arm wrestling champion. Brian laughed and explained that this had come from some previous TV work he had done. An appearance on Sky television's *Soccer AM* saw 'Killer Kilcline' battle John Fashanu in an arm wrestle and win before it became a regular feature for the rest of the season. In a few short questions to close the interview, Brian answered that no player has ever intimidated him and that he had never had any superstitions. His favourite food is Upma (an Indian version of bubble & squeak) he classes life as a hobby and his favourite film is *The Midnight Express*.

After the interview, Brian watched Stags v Alfreton Town grind out a 1-1 draw in the FA Trophy Third Round sitting amongst John Radford & Co and later in the evening emailed his thanks for such an enjoyable day.

A Tale of Two Football Clubs

Football never loses its capacity to surprise - or is shock a better word?

THERE I was, in the depressing February cold of Wembley Stadium, surrounded by raucous Birmingham City fans, willing their heroes on to their first trophy win for 48 years.

My other footballing love, Arsenal, were the opposition in a pulsating Carling Cup final which looked like it was going to extra time. 1-1 with a few minutes left, and another 30 minutes all but certain. We all know what happened next, a once in a lifetime howler of a mix-up between the rookie Gunners goalkeeper Szczesny and defender Koscielny in the dying seconds of normal time, and Obeferi Martins nips in to gleefully slide the ball home, around 30 yards from where I was sitting. Cue pandemonium among the Blues' fans, whose last visit to a major Wembley Cup Final had ended in defeat to Manchester City in 1956, when I was

six months old. I endured a miserable train journey home from Wembley to Birmingham Moor Street penned in by joyous, lager-swilling Birmingham City supporters, having to stand up all the way. "Football, bloody hell," as one Alex Ferguson once said.

Just over 48 hours later, I'm with the Stags' fans on the makeshift terraces of Chasetown FC, watching a match equally as enthralling as the Carling Cup Final, albeit in slightly different surroundings. The Scholars' home ground is not Wembley, but it has an appeal of its own, as much a part of the footballing experience as the North London theatre of dreams (or nightmares, at least for Arsenal fans a week last Sunday). The FA Trophy Quarter-Final between the Stags and Chasetown is a cracker, and it looks like it's going the way of MTFC, 2-1 ahead with minutes left on the clock following superb strikes from Connor and Briscoe, which could easily have graced the green grass of Wembley. Then, at more or less exactly the same time as Szczesny spilled the ball at Wembley, with a minute or so left, on-

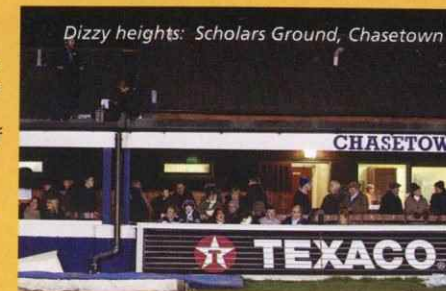
loan Stags' goalkeeper David Grof misjudges a Chasetown corner and bundles the ball into his own net. How unlucky can you get? The Gunners and the Stags robbed at the same late stage in vital cup games, all in the space of 72 hours, following goalkeeping blunders.

Both had been favourites in their respective ties, but neither managed to win, although the Stags survived to fight another day. Wembley and Chasetown FC may be more than 100 miles apart, and further apart in terms of their places in the footballing firmament, but many of football's principles remain the same in both venues. I genuinely enjoyed several aspects of the Chasetown experience more than Wembley - fewer safety hassles, far easier to get to and from the stadium, a chance for a drink with the Stags' guys in the pub beforehand rather than overpriced Guinness in a rundown London bar blasting out ear-splitting music to Blues' fans - and the result was easier to swallow. And I was back home from Chasetown in 30 minutes...

Lots of men juggle two women (some brave souls juggle more than two) - I choose to juggle two football

"Wembley and Chasetown FC may be more than 100 miles apart, and further apart in terms of their places in the footballing firmament, but many of football's principles remain the same in both venues."

teams. It leaves me wide open to charges of glory-hunting in the case of Arsenal, but my conscience is quite clear. I have every sympathy with fans who declare solemnly that you can only support one team - it's a point of view that is unchallengeable in many aspects, but since around 1968 the Gunners and the Stags have been my twin footballing loves. My Stags' support dates back to the mid-60s, my first visit to Field Mill was in March 1966, for a 2-0 defeat at the hands of Reading in the old Division Three. So MTFC were there first, and Arsenal followed the Stags into my affections a couple of years later. Most of my contemporaries at Brunts School picked up on Division One sides, and, just like today, Manchester United were the most popular, with Best, Law and Charlton in their pomp under Matt Busby. Others pledged allegiance to the likes of Spurs, Leeds, Derby, Nottingham Forest. I fell for a deeply unfashionable club in North London with a fantastic history who hadn't won a thing for nearly 20 years. It was a decision that changed the shape of my life, mostly for better, sometimes for worse. Arsenal, like the Stags, became an obsession that outlived an ill-fated marriage, friendships, career moves, good times, bad times, bereavements, everything. Mansfield Town and Arsenal march remorselessly on for me, 45 years and counting, whilst other parts of life fade into the background. In fact, the older I get, the more intense it all sometimes gets. You cannot walk away from football if you're a real fan, it's simply not possible. Nick Hornby's classic fans perspective of nearly 20 years ago, *Fever Pitch*, said it better than anybody. He happened to be an Arsenal fan, but he could equally have been writing about Mansfield Town, or Chesterfield, or Celtic, or Crewe or



Dizzy heights: Scholars Ground, Chasetown

anybody. Hornby hit the nail on the head better than anyone when he came to describe the nature of fandom, breaking the mould of football writing. And the film wasn't half bad either, especially the scene where Michael Thomas gets the winner at Anfield in the dying minutes for Arsenal against Liverpool to win the championship in the very last game of the season in 1989.

There are occasional problems following two clubs. Sometimes on winter Saturday afternoons, I can find myself frantically trying to keep track of two games at once, listening to an Arsenal game on the radio while tuning into an away Stags fixture via an Internet connection upstairs. But Arsenal frequently play Sunday games, having to pay homage to the great god of satellite television, while the Stags are normally 3pm Saturday afternoon bankers. So I often get three to four hours of a footballing fix of a weekend. Midweek clashes happen occasionally, and trips to the pub to watch an Arsenal game on satellite (I refuse to subsidise that well-known football fan Mr Murdoch) are interspersed with simultaneous anxious thoughts of the Stags' fortunes in a midweek away fixture at Darlington, Histon, Gateshead or the like. Mastering mobile phone technology would help, but my Luddite approach to all things digital

sometimes leaves me in the dark, at least where MTFC are concerned - Arsenal tend to be more accessible to the mainstream media.

Of course, the acid test for me has never happened, at least not in my lifetime. The Stags have never played the Gunners since the famous 2-0 FA Cup 4th round defeat at Highbury in non-league days back in 1929, although they came mighty close in January 1970. Mansfield stormed through to the Fourth Round of the FA Cup, and drew Arsenal or Blackpool away. My dilemma of who to support on the day was resolved when Blackpool defeated Arsenal in a replay, 3-0. And, of course, MTFC went on to triumph at Bloomfield Road, with a brace of Dai Jones' goals. So my adolescent loyalties were never put to the ultimate test...

You can call me greedy, but, in the end, it's enormous fun and richly rewarding following two teams at opposite ends of the footballing spectrum. There is, however, one acid test from which the Stags emerge on top. Arsenal may be more famous and may play the more cultured football, but the Stags have provided me with my ultimate footballing memory, the famous 3-0 FA Cup West Ham triumph at Field Mill in 1969. I was at the Stade de France in Paris in 2006 to see a plucky ten-man Arsenal lose 2-1 to Barcelona in the Champions League final - even if the Gunners had won that night, Roberts, Keeley, Sharkey and the rest would have retained top spot in my own personal footballing hall of fame. And if the Stags ever draw the Gunners again in an FA Cup tie...well, I always tend to go for the underdogs...

Defining Moments

Celebrating 100 years of
Mansfield Town Football Club

The Great Escape

Having secured the club's first league championship since the 1920s, if the Stags' faithful were expecting a continuation in 1975/6 then they were in for a rude awakening. The season started with a home defeat to the previous season's nearest challengers, Shrewsbury Town, and continued in much the same vein until mid-February when the club were six points adrift at the foot of the Division Three table, a seemingly hopeless position with more than half the season gone.

However, in the League Cup, the team was magnificent. The Stags reached the Quarter Finals beating First Division Coventry City (2-0) and Wolverhampton Wanderers (1-0) before bowing out to Manchester City 2-4 at Maine Road. In the Anglo-Scottish Cup Town went one better and reached the Semi Final before losing to Middlesbrough. In this competition too, First Division opponents (Leicester City) were beaten in the Preliminary Round. So with only three league wins to their name by Christmas the same team had knocked three top division sides out of cup competitions!

The club's league fortunes did improve dramatically and from mid-February the club was undefeated in 20 games until the end of the season. Incredibly, from a seemingly impossible position at the start of the run, the Stags finished 11th in the final league table.

There was one casualty, Dave Smith the manager who masterminded this great escape (and the club's first championship for almost 50 years) was sacked just as safety was achieved with five games to go to the end of the season. The club has never fully explained the reason for Smith's dismissal, this lack of information and the manager's huge popularity fuelled the Stags' fans anger but despite their protests, Smith was gone.



News Round-Up

Blue Square Review



Season Ticket appeal: Darlington's Arena Stadium

Darlo chief calls for commitment

RAJ Singh, Darlington's embattled Chairman, has issued a rallying cry to all Quakers supporters asking them to show their commitment to the North-East side.

With the Quakers holding company currently in receivership and facing a loan repayment of £1.7 million, Singh, who owns 75% of the said holding company, has promised that he will guarantee the future of the club should they be able to sell 2,000 season tickets ahead of next season. Singh has said that he is prepared to continue to keep football in Darlington as long as the supporters show that they are prepared to support him in his quest to keep the club financially viable.

Currently Darlington have an average gate of 1,826 in a stadium that was built to hold 25,000 by former owner George Reynolds in 2003 although current safety regulations mean that the capacity has been reduced to 10,000.

Another option that Singh has been exploring is the possibility of a move away from the Arena stadium to a smaller venue that would cost less to run. This, however, may not be

possible unless an agreement can be reached with creditors of the holding company.

Gateshead pick up double award

THERE was much to celebrate at Gateshead recently as manager Ian Bogie was named Blue Square Bet Premier Manager of the Month for February and Heed targetman and former Stags' striker Jon Shaw was named as the Player of the Month.

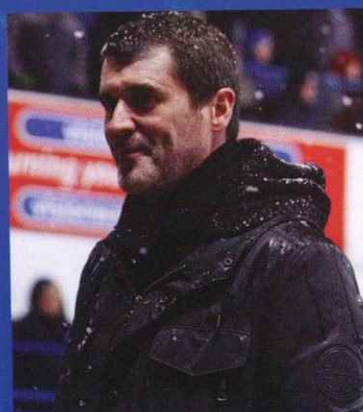
In an incredible four week period, Gateshead won all five of their league matches and progressed to the Semi-Finals of the FA Trophy. More incredibly, four of the league matches were away from home and included a 7-2 victory at Wrexham's Racecourse Ground followed up by a 4-1 win away at Kettering.

Shaw collected the players' award for his return of six goals in the five league games including a hat-trick in the victory at Wrexham and a brace in the win at Kettering.

The highly successful month has seen the 'Gasheads' progress from relegation contenders to 12th in the table and just 12 points off fifth placed Kidderminster with three games in hand.

CUFC dismiss Roy Keane speculation

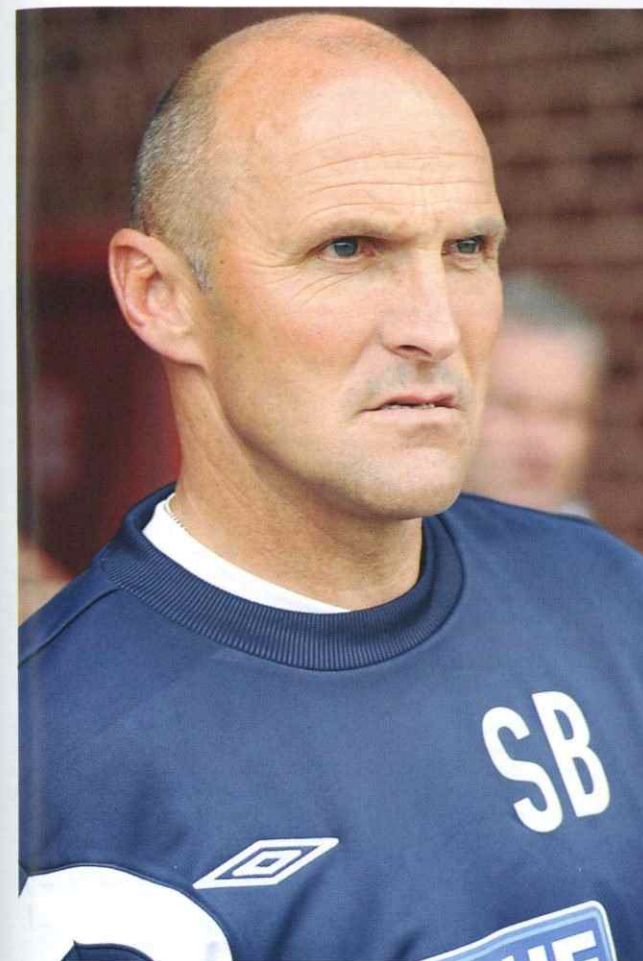
REPORTS emerged earlier this week suggesting that former Nottingham Forest and Manchester United midfielder Roy Keane (pictured below) is looking to purchase BSBP rivals Cambridge United.



The rumours were quickly quashed by The Abbey Stadium side, however, who have denied any approach from the former Ipswich manager but did add: "We would of course be very interested to hear from him, or any other parties".

United were put up for sale in January by Chairman Paul Barry but as yet, there have been no substantive bids for the club.

In other news from The U's, Director of Football Jez George has been asked to manage the first team for the remainder of the season with Nolan Keeley as first team coach. George is also a member of the board and had been assisting the club in looking for a successor for Martin Ling who left the club in early February. Chairman Paul Barry explained that one of the reasons that George had been asked to see out the end of the season was due to tight finances and the monetary constraints that the club are currently operating under.



Harriers offer Burr new deal

BSBP promotion hopefuls Kidderminster Harriers have moved to ward off interest from several clubs by offering manager Steve Burr (pictured left) a new contract.

Kiddy recently shrugged off an approach from Grimsby to interview Burr for their vacant managerial position following the recent dismissal of Chris Woods.

The financially-stricken Worcestershire outfit are hopeful that he will have put pen to paper in time for yesterday's visit to AFC Wimbledon.

Burr's services are understandably in demand after guiding Kidderminster into the top five following a 10 match unbeaten run despite the club's well-documented financial issues.

Former Wrexham ace joins ownership race

FORMER striker Ashley Ward, who started his career at Wrexham, says he now wants to buy the club.

In a statement on the Wrexham website, the player said he had held 'positive preliminary talks' about a takeover at the Racecourse ground. His legal representatives have now begun to examine the Dragons' finances as part of their bidding process.

The 40-year-old made his league debut at The Racecourse during a brief loan stint at Wrexham in 1991 before embarking on a career at clubs including Derby, Norwich, Blackburn and Bradford.

His bid would rival proposals from a fan-based consortium led by hotelier Stephanie Booth. Earlier this week, Wrexham Supporters Trust indicated that they were prepared to join her £5m bid in an effort to oust unpopular owners Geoff Moss and Ian Roberts.

Livermore slams indiscipline

HISTON player/manager Dave Livermore (pictured right) has admitted that his side's ill discipline has become a concern after they picked up a ninth red card of the season in last weekend's 5-0 drubbing at Crawley.

Bottom-placed Stutes were reduced to nine men following the dismissal of goalkeeper Joe Welsh and defender Lee Wooton whilst Livermore himself has been sent off twice this term.

"I'm not happy with that stat," Livermore told Cambridge News.

"Nine red cards is far too many, and it's disappointing. Maybe that tells us that we're always having to make last-ditch tackles and always living on the edge defensively."

The Cambridgeshire outfit's nine red cards are the joint highest amount in the BSBP along with 15th placed Kettering whilst they currently lie six points adrift of safety.



BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER TABLE

1	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Gd	Pt
1	Crawley Town	32	13	1	2	40	14	8	7	1	23	8	41	71
2	AFC Wimbledon	37	13	3	2	38	11	8	5	6	30	28	29	71
3	Luton Town	33	12	4	2	45	14	7	4	4	18	13	36	65
4	Wrexham	36	10	6	2	28	19	8	5	5	25	20	14	65
5	Kidderminster H	37	12	4	3	32	19	5	9	4	25	25	13	59
6	Fleetwood Town	37	8	8	2	27	15	7	4	8	23	20	15	57
7	York City	34	9	4	2	22	8	5	6	8	20	31	3	52
8	Darlington	34	10	5	3	29	10	2	10	4	16	20	15	51
9	Rushden & Dm	34	9	4	6	31	21	5	5	5	21	22	9	51
10	Grimsby Town	33	7	7	2	27	16	5	5	7	26	27	10	48
11	Newport County	35	6	7	4	31	24	5	7	6	23	26	4	47
12	Gateshead	34	6	6	4	19	17	6	5	7	31	29	4	47
13	Mansfield Town	32	6	3	6	29	27	7	4	6	28	24	6	46
14	Bath City	36	6	10	3	31	25	5	3	9	21	31	-4	46
15	Kettering Town	35	5	7	6	22	24	6	3	8	23	29	-8	43
16	Tamworth	36	5	7	6	29	32	5	4	9	21	31	-13	41
17	Cambridge Utd	36	5	5	7	27	23	4	6	9	17	29	-8	38
18	Forest Green Rvs	36	6	7	5	24	21	2	5	11	18	40	-19	36
19	Southport	34	8	4	5	32	19	1	4	12	10	30	-7	35
20	Barrow	34	7	6	6	24	19	0	6	9	11	32	-16	33
21	Hayes & Yeading U	36	6	2	10	20	31	3	4	11	16	33	-28	33
22	Altrincham	35	4	6	7	18	27	3	3	12	14	43	-38	30
23	Eastbourne Boro	35	5	4	8	31	32	2	4	12	19	47	-29	29
24	Histon	35	4	3	10	16	28	4	5	9	17	34	-29	27

STAGS STATISTICS 2010/2011

Player	Apps	League	Gls	Apps	Cup	Gls
Alan MARRIOTT	14	-	-	-	-	-
Gary SILK	24 (1)	-	8	-	-	-
Kevin SANDWITH	26 (1)	1	5	-	-	-
Gary MILLS	15 (3)	1	- (1)	-	-	-
Steve FOSTER	22	1	2 (2)	-	-	-
Peter VINCENTI	3	-	1	-	-	-
Chris SMITH	15	1	-	-	-	-
Louis BRISCOE	24 (4)	7	8	4	-	-
Tyrone THOMPSON	17	-	6 (2)	-	-	-
Rob DUFFY	8 (11)	5	1 (2)	1	-	-
Kyle NIX	10 (7)	2	2 (2)	-	-	-
Adam SMITH	20 (1)	6	3 (1)	-	-	-
Matthew SOMNER	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ryan WILLIAMS	2	-	-	-	-	-
Louis MOULT	3	2	3	-	-	-
Tom NAYLOR	6 (1)	-	3 (1)	-	-	-
Paul STONEHOUSE	8 (3)	-	5	-	-	-
Mark PREECE	-	-	-	-	-	-
Steven ISTEAD	10 (9)	1	-	-	-	-
Dan SPENCE	1	-	2	-	-	-
Lee GREGORY	2	1	- (1)	-	-	-
Keigan PARKER	13 (7)	5	3 (2)	2	-	-
Luke MEDLEY	3 (19)	5	- (3)	1	-	-
Paul CONNOR	25 (5)	11	7	5	-	-
Neil COLLETT	3 (1)	-	4	-	-	-
Ashley CAIN	10 (2)	1	5	-	-	-
Adam MURRAY	19	3	8	1	-	-
Kevin PILKINGTON	10	-	1	-	-	-
Simon GRAND	6	-	3	-	-	-
Mihkel AKSULU	2	-	1	-	-	-
David GROF	2	-	2	-	-	-
Rhys DAY	8	-	2	-	-	-
Steve COOK	8	-	3	-	-	-
Danny MITCHLEY	2 (8)	2	1	1	-	-

TUESDAY NIGHT'S BSBP FIXTURES

Altrincham v Forest Green, 19:45
Cambridge Utd v Luton, 19:45
Crawley Town v Hayes & Yeading, 19:45
Grimsby v Rushden & D'mnds, 19:45
Kettering v Histon, 19:45
Southport v Barrow, 19:45
York v Mansfield, 19:45

Date Opposition Time Res Att Away Pos

AUGUST

Sat 14	Forest Green Rovers	15.00	W3-1	2,474	48	3
Tue 17	Fleetwood Town	19.45	L0-3	1,849	250 approx	14
Sat 21	Kidderminster Harriers	15.00	W3-1	1,487	295	4
Tue 24	Kettering Town	19.45	D1-1	2,089	88	6
Sat 28	Cambridge United	15.00	W1-0	2,257	307	4
Mon 30	Altrincham	15.00	W4-0	1,261	351	1

SEPTEMBER

Sat 4	Tamworth	15.00	L0-1	2,516	160	3
Sat 11	Southport	15.00	W2-1	1,289	300 approx	3
Sat 18	Newport County	15.00	L0-1	2,713	220	6
Tue 21	York City	19.45	W5-0	2,202	309	2
Sat 25	Eastbourne Borough	15.00	W4-0	2,312	15	2
Tue 28	Luton Town	19.45	L0-2	6,024	303	4

OCTOBER

Sat 2	Gateshead	15.00	D1-1	1,046	324	5
Tue 5	AFC Wimbledon	19.45	L2-5	2,699	209	6
Sat 9	Rushden & Diamonds	17.15	L0-1	1,480	351	7
Sat 16	Darlington	15.00	D1-1	2,234	169	7
Sat 23	FC Halifax Town (FAC4Q)	15.00	W1-0	2,986	564	-
Sat 30	Crawley Town	15.00	L1-4	2,615	102	8

NOVEMBER

Sat 6	Torquay United (FAC1)	15.00	L0-1	2,179	201	-
Tue 9	Kettering Town	19.45	W2-0 ⁶	1,270	172	8
Sat 13	Forest Green Rovers	15.00	L1-2	767	158	10
Sat 20	Hayes & Yeading United	15.00	W3-2	2,019	21	9
Sat 27	Wrexham	15.00	D1-1	2,505	133	9

DECEMBER

Tue 14	Worksop (FAT1)	19.45	W5-0	682	n/k	-
Tue 28	Cambridge United	15.00	W5-1 ⁰⁶	2,505	281	6

JANUARY

Sat 1	Grimsby Town	15.00	L2-7	3,654	518	8
Mon 3	Altrincham	15.00	L0-1	2,229	93	9
Sat 8	Eastbourne Borough	15.00	W3-1	903	100 approx	8
Tue 11	Fleetwood Town	19.45	L2-5	1,725	53	8
Sat 15	Newport County (FAT2)	15.00	W4-2	1,137	121	-
Sat 22	Histon	15.00	W1-0	1,880	8	8
Tue 25	Darlington	19.45	D0-0	1,614	122	7
Sat 29	Wrexham	15.00	L2-3	3,266	498	9

FEBRUARY

Sat 5	Alfreton (FAT3)	15.00	D1-1	3,408	928	-
Tue 8	Alfreton (FAT3R)	15.00	W2-1	2,131	869	-
Sat 12	Newport County	19.15	D3-3	1,986	198	10
Sat 19	Barrow	15.00	D2-2	1,130	85	14

MARCH

Tue 1	Chasetown (FATQF)	15.00	D2-2	2,000	800	-
Sat 5	Tamworth	15.00	W2-0	1,162	378	12
Tue 8	Chasetown (FATQFR)	19.45	W3-1	2,295	525	-
Sun 13	Luton Town (FATSF1L)	12.00	-	-	-	-
Tue 15	York City	19.45	-	-	-	-
Sat 19	Luton Town (FATSF2L)	15.00	-	-	-	-
Sat 26	Kidderminster Harriers	12.00	-	-	-	-
Tue 22	Histon	19.45	-	-	-	-
Tue 29	Crawley Town	19.45	-	-	-	-

APRIL

Sat 2	Rushden & Diamonds	15.00	-	-	-	-
Tue 5	Southport	19.45	-	-	-	-
Sat 9	Hayes & Yeading United	15.00	-	-	-	-
Tue 12	Barrow	19.45	-	-	-	-
Sat 16	Luton Town	15.00	-	-	-	-
Tue 19	Grimsby Town	19.45	-	-	-	-
Fri 22	AFC Wimbledon	15.00	-	-	-	-
Mon 25	Gateshead	15.00	-	-	-	-
Sat 30	Bath City	17.15	-	-	-	-
TBA	Bath City	-	-	-	-	-

Home games in bold blue. All games Blue Square Bet Premier unless specified

Starting XI

Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith*, Connor***, Parker***
Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith*, Connor***, Parker
Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith*, Connor***, Parker***
Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith*, Connor***, Medley**
Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe*, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith***, Connor***, Parker**
Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe*, Mills, Thompson, A. Smith*, Connor***, Parker*

Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe*, Mills, Thompson*, A. Smith, Connor, Parker***
Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Istead, Mills, Nix, Medley*, Connor, Gregory*
Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Istead***, Mills, Nix, A. Smith*, Gregory*, Connor
Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Istead*, Mills, Nix, A. Smith, Duffy*, Connor***
Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Istead*, Mills, Nix, A. Smith, Duffy*, Connor***
Marriott, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Istead***, Mills, Nix, A. Smith*, Duffy*, Connor

Marriott, Silk, Naylor, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe*, Mills, Nix*, A. Smith, Murray, Connor***
Marriott*, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe, Mills, Nix**, Cain, Murray, Connor***
Aksalu, Silk, Foster, C. Smith, Sandwith, Briscoe***, Mills, Murray, Cain*, Medley, Connor**
Aksalu, Silk, Foster, Day, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Nix**, Murray, Cain*, Thompson, Connor***
Aksalu, Cook, Grand, Day, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Nix, Murray, Smith***, Connor** Duffy*
Pilkington, Cook**, Foster, Day, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Thompson, Murray, Smith, Connor*, Vincenti***

Pilkington, Cook, Silk*, Grand, Stonehouse, Briscoe, Nix**, Murray, Smith, Parker, Vincenti**
Pilkington, Cook, Foster, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray, Thompson, Smith***, Parker**, Vincenti*
Pilkington, Cook, Foster, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe***, Mills, Murray, Cain*, Medley, Connor**
Pilkington, Cook, Day, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe*, Murray, Thompson*, Smith, Istead, Connor
Pilkington, Cook, Day, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray, Istead, Smith*, Mitchley, Connor**

Collett, Silk, Cook, Grand, Sandwith, Murray, Thompson***, Briscoe, Parker**, Connor*, Smith
Pilkington, Day, Cook, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray, Istead**, Smith, Duffy***, Parker*

Pilkington, Cook, Day, Grand, Sandwith, Briscoe, Istead, Murray, Smith**, Duffy, Parker*
Pilkington, Silk, Cook, Day, Sandwith, Briscoe**, Murray, Istead***, Smith, Connor, Duffy*
Pilkington, Silk, Naylor, Foster, Sandwith, Cain, Murray, Nix***, Williams*, Parker**, Duffy
Pilkington, Silk, Naylor, Foster, Sandwith, Cain, Murray, Nix***, Williams*, Parker**, Duffy
Collett, Silk, Stonehouse, Foster, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Connor*, Parker**
Collett, Silk, Stonehouse, Foster, Sandwith, Briscoe, Murray*, Cain, Thompson, Connor, Parker**
Collett, Silk, Stonehouse, Foster, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray*, Thompson, Connor, Mitchley**
Collett, Silk, Stonehouse, Foster, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Connor, Mitchley*

Collett, Silk, Stonehouse, Foster, Sandwith, Briscoe*, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Connor, Mould
Collett, Silk, Day, Naylor, Spence, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Connor, Mould*
Collett, Silk, Day, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Connor*, Mould*
Grof, Silk, Stonehouse***, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain*, Murray, Thompson, Mould**, Connor

Grof, Silk, Stonehouse*, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain**, Murray, Thompson***, Mould, Connor
Grof, Silk, Spence, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Mould*, Connor
Grof, Silk, Spence, Naylor, Sandwith, Briscoe, Cain, Murray, Thompson, Mitchley, Connor

Used Subs

Cain 80*, Istead 85**, Medley 70***
Istead 46*, Medley 65**
Sandwith 84*, Duffy 74**, Medley 47***
Parker 62*, Nix 89**, Duffy 90***
Nix 64*, Medley 73**, Duffy 84***
Nix 64*, Medley 64**, Duffy 76***

Medley 66*, Nix 67**, Duffy 81***
Cain 61*, Duffy 83**
Parker 46*, Briscoe 63**, Duffy 82***
Briscoe 58*, Medley 61**, Stonehouse 79***
Medley 62*, Briscoe 69**, Stonehouse 82***
Naylor 46*, Medley 52**, Briscoe 68***

Stonehouse 68*, Istead 76**, Medley 85***
Collett 45*, Medley 61**, Duffy 76***
Parker 56*, Duffy 76**, Istead 79**
Medley 64*, Istead 90**, Parker 90***
Gregory 53*, Medley 72**, Thompson 90+1***
Parker 33*, Silk 46**, Duffy 75***

Foster 48*, Duffy 65**, Thompson 74***
Connor 56*, Mitchley 80**, Istead 90***
Connor 52*, Mitchley 59**, Istead 65***
Mitchley 46*, Medley 64**
Medley 78*, Duffy 78**

Duffy 35*, Medley 62**, Mills 87***
Medley 71*, Mills 75**, Mitchley 79***

Connor 59*, Mitchley 70**
Medley 60*, Parker 65**, Mills 70)***
Medley 64*, Connor 80**, Mills 86***
Medley 58*, Connor 58**, Istead 85***
Nix 84*, Medley 90**
Mitchley 54*, Nix 82**
Nix 5*(**), Medley 65**, Istead 86***
Smith 62*

Naylor 18*, Parker 83**
Parker 68*
Parker 74*
Smith* 63*, Mitchley 66**, Nix 82***

Foster 62*, Smith 82**, Nix 83***
Mitchley 81*
-

15% OFF
ALL ITEMS IN THE CLUB
SHOP UPON PRESENTATION
OF THIS VOUCHER

The cabinet gathers dust...

BBC Sports Broadcaster Ross Ellis heads into extra time

ARSÈNE Wenger needs to calm down before he has an episode. The stress has been lingering like a bad smell in the Emirates boot-room. First, there was guaranteed glory. Arsenal were going to storm the League Cup. It was their prize. There was no way the Gunners could fail. Ah, but Mr McLeish, Glaswegian commander of Brum, had other ideas.

Thrusting long bullets toward Zigic seemed a cunning plan. It paid off. The big Serbian nodded the Blue noses in front. There was no panic from the padded jacket-wearing Wenger, he simply turned his back. Russian roulette came to his rescue. Andrei Arshavin, often ridiculed, rarely loved, wove his way into the box and Robin Van Persie finished emphatically. In between visits to the surgeon's table, RVP does score some delightful goals. Keeping him away from the surgeon's knife is the problem.

Talking of operations, it was Birmingham that produced the goods. And who would have thought it? Obafemi Martins?! Back from the brink. The former Geordie idol coming good. A Nigerian tap-in sealing glory for the Blues. My, my, Monsieur Wenger was not impressed. That's putting it milder than a poor cheddar. Red-faced, rage-ridden, discontent. No trophy yet again.

Fast forward to the Nou Camp...Barca awaits. Arsenal had given them both guns at the Emirates, dispensing misery on Catalan streets. But it wasn't to be a repeat, despite Barcelona scoring one for them. Lionel Messi is not a footballer. He's the finest musician in a cleverly constructed sporting orchestra. He floats like a ballerina –



● A calming influence? Arsène Wenger

not akin to the Black Swan – but I'd give him an Oscar for best supporting actor. True thespian spirit.

The two strings, plucking away in midfield, Xavi and Iniesta caused copious chaos to the Arsenal back line. The Gunners didn't have a shot at goal! How can this be? Arsène once again in fine puffer jacket, remonstrated with the referee. RVP was banished for kicking a football. Since when did kicking the ball become an offence? Kicking balls maybe...

True histrionics! Arsène's cool well and truly melted by more scorching vapours. I feel for him, out of the Champions League to the Catalan conjurers once again.

But despair not Gunners boys and Gunners girls. For all the disappointment, the injuries, cup final defeats, exits from Europe...there is hope. Arsenal can still do the double. The cabinet may yet part with the gathering dust. Call in the cleaner, order the Brasso. I feel that there may yet be medals for Arsène and his boys...

Colemanballs

Digging deep into the archive of 'foot-in-mouth' football quotes

"You'll be hoping that this run of injuries will stop earlier than it started."

Andrew Gidley

"Ian Durant has grown both physically and metaphorically in the close season."

Jock Wallace

"It will be a shame if either side lose, and that applies to both sides."

Jock Brown

"Ian Rush, deadly ten times out of ten, but that wasn't one of them."

Peter Jones

"Everything in our favour was against us."

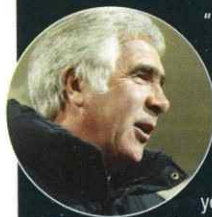
Danny Blanchflower

"I think everyone in the stadium went home happy, except all those people in Romania."

Ron Greenwood

"Butcher goes forward as Ipswich throw their last trump card into the fire."

Byron Butler



"We are really quite lucky this year because Christmas falls on Christmas Day."

Bobby Gould

"Well we got nine and you can't score more than that."

Bobby Robson

"Wayne Clarke, one of the famous Clarke family, and he's one of them, of course."

Brian Moore

"It's a Renaissance, or put more simply, some you win, some you lose."

Des Lynam

"Football is a game of skill, we kicked them a bit and they kicked us a bit."

Graham Roberts

"£5.3 million is a large loaf to be throwing away before a ball's been kicked."

Jimmy Greaves



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The Squads...



Mansfield Town

Manager: Duncan Russell

from...

1. Alan **MARRIOTT** ○
2. Gary **SILK** ○
3. Kevin **SANDWITH** ○
5. Steve **FOSTER** ○
7. Louis **BRISCOE** ○
8. Tyrone **THOMPSON** ○
10. Kyle **NIX** ○
11. Adam **SMITH** ○
12. 12th **STAG** ○
14. Louis **MOULT** ○
16. Tom **NAYLOR** ○
17. Paul **STONEHOUSE** ○
19. Steven **ISTEAD** ○
20. Dan **SPENCE** ○
23. Paul **CONNOR** ○
25. Neil **COLLETT** ○
26. Ashley **CAIN** ○
29. Adam **MURRAY** ○
30. David **GROF** ○
33. Rhys **DAY** ○
35. Danny **MITCHLEY** ○



Luton Town

Manager: Richard Money

from...

1. Mark **TYLER** ○
2. Dan **GLEESON** ○
3. Fred **MURRAY** ○
4. Keith **KEANE** ○
5. Luke **GRAHAM** ○
6. George **PILKINGTON** ○
7. Adam **NEWTON** ○
8. Amari **MORGAN-SMITH** ○
9. Matthew **BARNES-HOMER** ○
11. Robbie **WILLMOTT** ○
12. Shane **BLACKETT** ○
13. Zdeněk **KROCA** ○
14. Alex **LAWLESS** ○
15. Jake **HOWELLS** ○
16. Ed **ASAFU-ADJAYE** ○
17. Paul **CARDEN** ○
18. Claude **GNAPKA** ○
19. Danny **CROW** ○
21. Charlie **HENRY** ○
23. Jason **WALKER** ○
24. Alex **LACEY** ○
25. Godfrey **POKU** ○
26. JJ **O'DONNELL** ○
28. Adam **WATKINS** ○
29. Dan **WALKER** ○
30. Kevin **PILKINGTON** ○
34. Lloyd **OWUSU** ○



Match Officials

Referee: Karl Evans (Wigan)

Assistant Referee: Steven Plane

Assistant Referee: Matthew Pope

Fourth Official: Stephen Ross



Mansfield Town's Official Match Programme

'The Stag' was brought to you by:

Editor: Mark Stevenson **Deputy Editor:** Paul Stephen

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Club Charter

The Mansfield Town Club Charter is available to all supporters. The charter outlines our services and commitment to our supporters.

To obtain a copy call us on 01623 482482 or visit www.mansfieldtown.net

Safety Matters

All of our Stewards are trained to look after your safety and comfort during your visit. Stewards will ask spectators to comply with Football League Ground Safety Regulations.

This is a statutory requirement of the club. If spectators have any concerns or problems please ask the nearest steward for assistance.

Spectators with children under the age of five years must sit in seating allocated by the Safety Officer or his Deputy. Spectators are reminded that for your safety and comfort Field Mill is an all seater stadium. It is a condition of entry to the ground that all spectators whenever possible remain seated. Spectators who persistently stand will be asked why they are standing and our stewards will endeavour to make it possible to remain seated, failure to comply with requests to remain seated may result in ejection from the ground. Season ticket holders who are ejected may have their ticket revoked without compensation and refusal of further entry.

If you have any concerns relating to crowd behaviour or management you are welcome to contact Alan Lakin, our Safety Officer, with your comments.