

TALK OF THE TOWN



**v FOREST GREEN
ROVERS**

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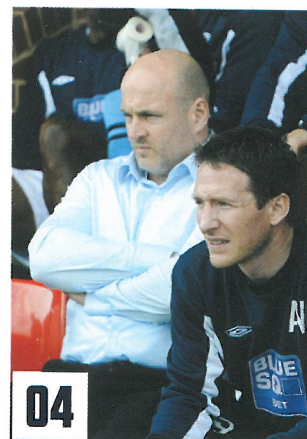
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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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BRABS

Hello, welcome and good evening to all supporters back at Kenilworth Road for tonight's Blue Square Bet Premier game with Forest Green Rovers.

I'd like to welcome Dave Hockaday, his staff and players plus the directors and supporters of our visitors to Bedfordshire tonight.

It's strange writing these notes now that this game is our first match of the season, following the postponement of Saturday's fixture with newly-promoted AFC Telford United.

Obviously it was hugely disappointing to learn that the game wasn't going to go ahead. We had planned methodically, worked hard in training and taken time to watch Telford, but we have to accept the decisions made by others.

I also feel for Telford because I'm sure as a club they were looking forward to hosting us in what was a big game for both clubs. We look forward to visiting the New Bucks Head when a new date for the match has been arranged.

At least the postponement on Thursday enabled us to focus and prepare for tonight's game with a Forest Green side who are widely tipped to raise a few eyebrows this season. Dave has pieced together a new-look side, adding experienced players to a youthful squad that showed promise last season.

Since my last set of programme notes we completed our pre-season preparations with a win and a defeat following games with Queens Park Rangers and Corby Town.

The victory over Queens Park Rangers was obviously very satisfying – and not just because they are a Premier League club.

The fact we bounced back from conceding goal inside the first 30 seconds and to complete the turnaround by scoring three goals in the last 16 minutes was excellent.

What impressed me most that night was that all

three goals were scored by substitutes. That's the kind of thing I expect from the players I bring off the bench, and something I thought we lacked last season.

Subs can be the most important part of the team. Given the opportunity they can change the game, help the team, win the game. And that's what happened against QPR.

At Corby we fielded a younger side who did well to stand up to a team who will do well in the Conference North. It's another experience for those players, coming up against seasoned non-league players.

All of the pre-season games have been a learning curve for all the players and staff. We have had schedule of varied opposition – teams from Italy, Azerbaijan, the Premier League, the Southern League, etc.

It's all vital preparation. While we all want to win in pre-season it's not all about results. I wasn't concerned about losing to Bedford and wasn't getting too carried away by beating QPR.

The most important thing is being ready for tonight and being ready for the 45 games that follow.

Make no mistake it's my intention to get this club back in the Football League but it's not going to be easy.

Your support since I've taken over has been brilliant. All I can ask if that you please continue it. Season ticket sales already show that you are, anyway.

Get behind us tonight and let's get this season off to a flyer.



FROM THE BOARDROOM

Welcome back to Kenilworth Road for the start of the 2011/12 season as we take on visitors Forest Green Rovers. We give a warm welcome to Dave Hockaday and his players and staff and we are sure that the first game of the season for us will be an exciting one.

The close season is always a time of intense activity at most football clubs and we have been no exception. Players have come, and some have left, as well as comings and goings of staff behind the scenes.

We thank all the players who have moved on, like Claude, for their part in our journey so far and their contributions to the club on and off the pitch. It is a pleasure to welcome the new players, like Aaron, James, and Dean, who we are confident will also play their part in the Luton Town story and particularly in the campaign this season to gain promotion to the Football League.

Behind the scenes this summer we have said a temporary goodbye to Adam Cockfield as he takes his 12-month secondment to the Olympic Committee for the 2012 games.

Adam has played a huge role in the Club since arriving in the 2008/09 season and has reinvigorated the role of club secretary and has ensured that the role and duties have been undertaken faultlessly and with greatly improved systems and organization.

He has seen the Club go through a very turbulent time and he had a large task on his hands to help turn previous mismanagement into the professional and modern approach he has given to the role.

It is a credit to Adam that his excellent work at Luton Town Football Club has gained him the recognition and reputation to enable him to gain such a prestigious role within the Olympic Games. Any fans who had interaction with Adam will know that he brought openness, friendliness, efficiency, and professionalism to

the role which previously had been missing at the Club for many years. We wish him every success in a role he fully deserves and we look forward to working with Adam again in the not too distant future.

Adam's opportunity has led to the appointment of Kevan Platt as our new club secretary.

Kevan has over 30 years of experience with newly promoted Norwich City and this background will enable Kevan to make a big impact at the Club. Norwich City is a well respected club and Kevan has also ensured that his reputation in the game is extremely high and well deserved.

All of us on the 2020 board are very excited that someone of Kevan's calibre has chosen to join us and be a key part of our resurgence, and I am sure you will join me in wishing him well as he develops this key role further.

During the close season it was also announced that I would also be stepping back for a period as I concentrate on my other business commitments.

I have been honoured to be a board director and I will still take an active role on the board through the position of associate director. Although my day-to-day commitment will be less as I focus on other areas, I thank my colleagues at 2020 for allowing me to return to the board as soon as my other commitments allow.

My decision gave the Club and my colleagues a good opportunity to look at the board structure and as a result we have made appointments to the board. New investor Mike Herrick will join me as an associate director, along with Mick Pattinson who has been part of the 2020 team from the start.

Additionally, directors appointed to the board are Paul Ballatyne, lawyer David Blakeman, Bob Curson and David Wilkinson. Paul, Bob

and Wilko have also been on board at the club from the very beginning of the 2020 tenure and are well known to fans. David Blakeman is a well-respected property lawyer who will bring a range of skills to the board, especially in our quest for better training and youth facilities, as well as being able to provide invaluable assistance in the process to gain a new stadium for the Club.

I believe it is fair to say that the first three seasons have all been about achieving stability on and off the pitch and this has been a huge task.

There have been a number of legal battles, massive debts to pay off, huge losses and books to balance, relationships to repair, and basic business systems to be introduced.

This has been done whilst trying to push the Club forward with regards facilities, and whilst trying to put right the wrongs fans have suffered under previous owners. We always said that stability was our primary aim, and that in fact it was vital to the Club's long-term future.

Whilst we are not quite where we would like to be on balancing the books, we do feel that 'Phase 1' of the 2020 plan has been completed and ahead of our own targets.

This gives the Club the opportunity to focus on firstly promotion, and secondly developing the Club, its facilities, and its relationship with all fans. This is an ideal time to structure the board in a way that allows 'Phase 2' to be successful, and with this in mind the four new appointments to the Board will ensure that every effort will be made to progress the Club as we all wish.

This season we all must stand united if we are to succeed. You know how much impact your encouragement from the stands can have so please keep it up and keep it loud!

Enjoy the game,

Stephen Browne.



HONOURS

Littlewoods Challenge Cup:

Winners 1988
Runners-up 1989

F.A. Cup:

Runners-up 1959
Semi-finalists 1959, 1985, 1988, 1994

Johnstone's Paint Trophy:

Winners 2009

Simod Cup: Runners-up 1988

Football League Division Two:

Champions 1981/82
Runners-up 1954/55, 1973/74

Football League Division Three (South):

Winners 1936/37
Runners-up 1935/36

Football League Division Three:

Runners-up 1969/70

League One: Champions 2004/05

Football League Division Four:

Champions 1967/68

Football League Division Three:

Runners-up 2001/02

Blue Square Premier:

Runners-up 2009/10

Southern League Division One:

Runners-up 1894/95, 1895/96

Southern League Division Two:

Runners-up 1913/14

United League: Champions 1897/98

Runners-up 1896/97, 1900/01

Southern Alliance: Runners-up 1913/14

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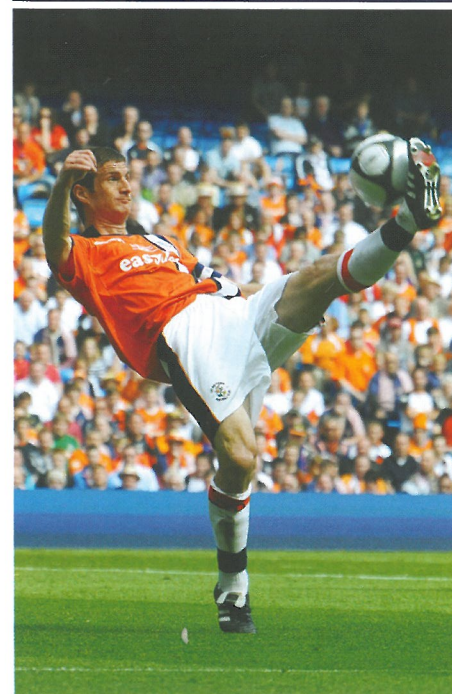
Tonight we embark on our third season in the Blue Square Bet Premier – hoping indeed that it is third time lucky and, come the end of April, we are celebrating a return to the Football League.

That, however, is a long, long way off and depends, of course, on how we perform between now and the time we visit Fleetwood Town on 28th April.

Following the unfortunate circumstances surrounding Saturday's proposed fixture with AFC Telford United on Saturday it means we kick-off our campaign tonight.

It will feel strange to be playing our first game of the season tonight but that's what has been decided and there's nothing we can do to change that.

However, it's great that we get the opportunity to play our opening fixture in front of you,



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our supporters. We begun at home last season against Altrincham and got off to a perfect start by earning all three points. That's the intention tonight.

Last season we began the season with three straight wins before we went on a four-match winless streak. We can't afford to do that again because this league is so competitive it's easy to get left behind in the race for top spot.

The past two seasons have seen us play catch-up and it's important we lead from the front. We certainly have a squad capable of success.

We may have had to say goodbye to a few players who were with us last season but the gaffer has done really well in recruiting new faces and I'd like to welcome the five new lads: Aaron O'Connor, Dean Beckwith, Will Antwi, Curtis Osano and James Dance.

All of them have already made a really positive competition to training and to our pre-season friendlies and, as a defender I know that James and Aaron are going to cause opposition defences many problems throughout this season.

From a personal point of view I'm gutted not to have been able to get my season underway and I'm likely to be missing today and maybe for a few more weeks yet.

Footballers never enjoy watching from the stands but I will be behind the lads every step of the way, heading and kicking every ball from my seat and I'm sure I'll be going through all the emotions that you go through every week.

It's going to be a long season with many challenges to overcome but I'm sure, together – with your support – we can conquer.

After tonight there are 45 matches left and each one is as important as the other. Stay with us and enjoy the ride and get behind the lads tonight. I will be.



AROUND TOWN

WELCOME

Welcome back to Talk of the Town for a brand new season, we hope you like our new retro look to the programme to tie-in with our new shirts.

We've got plenty of new and improved features inside, together with your usual favourites from the likes of Roger Wash and Simon Pitts.

In certain programmes throughout the campaign we will be continuing our Memory Lane page where we invite you to look back on the good times supporting the Town. If you're interested taking part then drop us a line.

Remember this page needs you too – so whatever the request – if you're celebrating a birthday or anniversary, or you want to show off in your new kit whilst on holiday then drop us an email on the address at the foot of the page. Enjoy the programme and enjoy the season.

THE NEW BOYS

Gary Brabin has been busy in the transfer market this summer, with five new faces arriving at Kenilworth Road:

■Curtis Osano, a 24-year-old defender previously with Rushden & Diamonds who has signed a six-month deal.

■Winger James Dance, 24, signed from Crawley Town who has signed a two-year contract.

■Forward Aaron O'Connor (pictured above), 28, previously with Rushden & Diamonds who has signed a two-year.

■Centre-back Will Antwi, 28, previously with Dagenham & Redbridge who has signed a six-month contract.

■Centre-half Dean Beckwith, 27, previously



Aaron O'Connor

with Northampton who penned a two-year deal.

NO GO

The Town were scheduled to kick-off their Blue Square Bet Premier campaign at AFC Telford United on Saturday but the fixture was postponed on Thursday.

A statement from the Football Conference read: "It is with great regret that due to information received from West Mercia Police, the Football Conference and both AFC Telford United and the Town have had to accede to their request to postpone the fixture between the two clubs scheduled for Saturday 13th August at 7.45pm.

"A re-arranged date for this fixture will be discussed and announced as soon as possible.

"Those having already purchased tickets for the match are advised to contact the source of their purchase to establish how such tickets will be processed.

"We apologise for matters outside of our control and sincerely hope this is the only disruption to the competition programme, due to recent events of unrest which is causing a drain on police resources."

JAKE MAKES INTERNATIONAL DEBUT

Midfielder Jake Howells made his debut for Wales Under-21s last Wednesday night against Hungary.

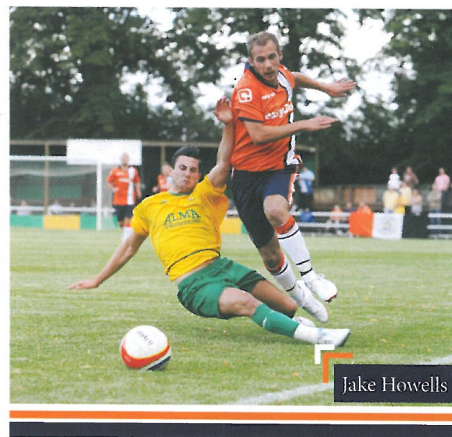
The 20-year-old, who has also represented England C, completed 90 minutes for Brian Flynn's side who went down 2-1 to their Hungarian counterparts.

Zsolt Haraszti's last-gasp goal for the visitors denied the young Dragons a draw ahead of their European Championship qualifier against Montenegro on 6th September.

Midfielder Benjamin Balazs gave Hungary an early lead in Haverfordwest, before Swansea City's Lee Lucas levelled just before the half-time interval.

Jake lined-up in the centre of midfield for the game alongside players plying their trade in the Premier League and Championship.

Everyone at Luton Town would like to congratulate Jake on his selection...here's to a senior cap in the future!



Jake Howells

NEW SECRETARY APPOINTED

The Town made a new off-the-field signing during the close season following the appointment of Kevan Platt as club secretary.



Kevan, 50, brings a wealth of experience to Kenilworth Road having worked as club secretary at Norwich City.

With over 30 years behind him at Carrow Road, Kevan served the Canaries in a variety of roles.

He served as Chairman of the Norwich City Community Sports Foundation and the Norwich City Historical Trust, whilst earlier in his time at Norwich he also worked in the club's commercial offices, acting as shop manager, travel club manager, programme editor and press officer.

A mature, steady and an excellent communicator, Kevan takes over from Adam Cockfield who leaves the football club to take up a role within the 2012 Olympics football department.

On his appointment at Luton Town, Kevan told Talk of the Town: "I am thrilled to be joining Luton Town as club secretary and perhaps becoming a full-time Hatter at some point in the future.

"I was brought up on a diet of Anglia TV's Match of the Week programme, when Luton Town were featured on a regular basis in the late 1960's and early 1970's and I can recall great games and players from those days - Malcolm MacDonald, John and Jimmy Ryan, John Moore and Keith Barber.

"I cannot wait to get started to work hard in helping Luton Town return to the Football League where we belong.

"To miss out via the Play-Offs in two successive years has been tough, but hopefully season 2011/12 will see the Hatters regain their Football League status from where the Club's ambitions can truly start to be met."

Town managing director Gary Sweet added: "Kevan's credentials speak for themselves and I'm delighted to welcome him to the Club. He will be a huge asset to the business and with the wealth of experience he already has in football, it will stand us in good stead for the forthcoming season and beyond."



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WELCOME FOREST GREEN ROVERS



This evening we welcome Forest Green Rovers to Kenilworth Road for our first home fixture of the 2011/12 season.

Rovers are the longest serving members of the Blue Square Bet Premier, and this is now their 14th season playing in the Football Conference.

Having survived on goal difference last term, and only being reinstated at the end of 2009/10 due to Salisbury City's expulsion, chairman Dale Vince knows that his club have used up a lot of luck and will be hoping for a more comfortable season this time around.

To that end he has made funds available to manager Dave Hockaday to revamp the squad, and a new-look side should be stronger this season – and more than capable of ensuring a mid-table finish for club affectionately known as 'the little club on the hill'.

Al Bangura was the headline summer signing for the Nailsworth-based outfit, and the former

Watford and Blackpool midfielder will be hoping to make a big impact in his first season back in England after recent spells in Turkey and Azerbaijan, most recently with the Hatters' pre-season opponents Gabala.

Bangura will miss the first few matches through injury, however, and so the onus will fall on other senior players to get the season off to a good start.

The strike partnership of last season's top-scorer Reece Styche and former Newport and Stevenage hit-man Charlie Griffin looks like it has the potential to be one of the better forward lines in the division, while former Luton loanees Gavin Caines and Luke Graham will add steel to the defence.

With a stronger team, experienced manager, ambitious owner, and tidy stadium, the future is looking bright for the Green, and the Gloucestershire club will be confident of extending their long stay in the Conference this year – or even mounting a surprise Play-Off challenge.

THE VISITORS

Founded in 1890 as Nailsworth & Forest Green the club joined the Stroud & District League where they remained for the first 32 years of their existence. They were founder members of the Gloucestershire Northern Senior League in 1922 which they were to win three times in 1935, 1950 and 1951.

The 1981/82 season saw the club win the Hellenic League championship and the FA Vase under manager Bob Mersell. They moved upwards into the Southern League where they finished third in their maiden season in the Midland Division.

However in subsequent seasons they failed to make much impact, and in 1989 the club changed its name to Stroud Football Club. This highly opposed move failed to improve the club's fortune and the name was changed back to Forest Green Rovers for the 1992/93 season.

Under manager Frank Grogan Rovers enjoyed two successive promotions in 1997 and 1998 to the Conference National where they finished 12th in their first season.

A run to the final of the FA Trophy saw them lose 1-0 at Wembley Stadium to Kingstonian. Another appearance in the FA Trophy final in 2000 saw another 1-0 defeat, this time to Canvey Island at Villa Park.

Rovers are now the longest serving custodians in the non-league top-flight but last season their 21st place finish put that record in jeopardy.

A 12-year stay in the Conference looked to have ended on 24th April 2010 when losing 2-1 to Grays Athletic and were relegated from the Conference Premier.

However, on 10th June, they were reprieved at Salisbury City's expense who were demoted to the Southern League.

Last term, Rovers survived relegation once more, meaning the 2011/12 campaign will be their 14th consecutive season in the top flight of non-league football.

MEET THE MANAGER

As a player Hockaday clocked up over 650 appearances during his playing career with Blackpool, Swindon Town, Hull City, Stoke City and Shrewsbury Town, including five promotions with three as actual champions.

In 1995 he used his coaching skills to establish the Cirencester Football Academy, which turned out to be the forerunner of many similar schemes in the country and as a result was headed hunted by Graham Taylor in 2000 to take over the academy at Watford.

His time culminated in assisting the club to promotion to the Premiership in 2006 with a team constructed from a small financial base with half the team having come through the club's academy.

In 2007 he had a brief spell with MK Dons, before joining Southampton in the Championship, who he left at the end of the 2008/09 season.

Following the departure of Jim Harvey, Hockaday was quick to take his first managerial role at the New Lawn on 9th September 2009.



IN OPPOSITION



A pre-season of promise, including the capture of former Watford man Al Bangura, for tonight's visitors has convinced Forest Green Rovers boss Dave Hockaday that a 4-3-3 formation is the future.

It could mean both sides go toe-to-toe with a similar formation given that Town manager Gary Brabin also favours the same system.

But it was a 3-1 defeat to Frome Town in their opening friendly of the summer that gave Hockaday cause for optimism ahead of Rovers' 14th successive season in the Blue Square Bet Premier.

"Bizarre as it might sound, I've got no doubt that we're a lot, lot better now than when we won this game last year," Hockaday told thisisgloucester.co.uk.

"We didn't dominate that game as much, and it took two 30-yard goals into the top corner to win it, whereas this year we were in control without burying our chances.

"We probably had about 80 per cent of the possession and were obviously a lot stronger in the first half, and I was really happy with the way we set about it.

"In the second half we had all four trialists on the pitch and gifted Frome two late goals, which is disappointing, but had we taken all our chances we would have scored about eight.

"Hopefully people will see that we want to be patient and keep the ball. We're not going to say, 'Let's go back to 4-4-2', on the basis of a pre-season friendly.

"We're going to stick with 4-3-3 because the back four all know their jobs, we've got ball players in midfield and forwards who can complement each other when they are all on the pitch together."

Hockaday will be without Bangura for tonight's

fixture after the midfielder suffered a knee injury during pre-season.

"I'm very sad for Al that he has suffered this injury during training," said the Rovers chief.

"Al is a great professional and has worked very hard since he arrived, so missing him will be a big blow."



Reece Styche

IN TOWN

GOALKEEPERS

JAMES BITTNER

Joined Rovers at the beginning of the current season and has proved to be a superb No. 1 during pre-season matches. Previously with Salisbury City, Woking, Torquay United and Exeter. Born in Devizes, James has already become a supporters' favourite player with his acrobatic displays and defensive organising skills.

MATT BULMAN

Joined the Club during the close season from Cirencester Town for his first taste of full-time football. Signed a two-year contract and saved a penalty in the 3-0 home victory over Hereford United

DEFENDERS

JARED HODGKISS

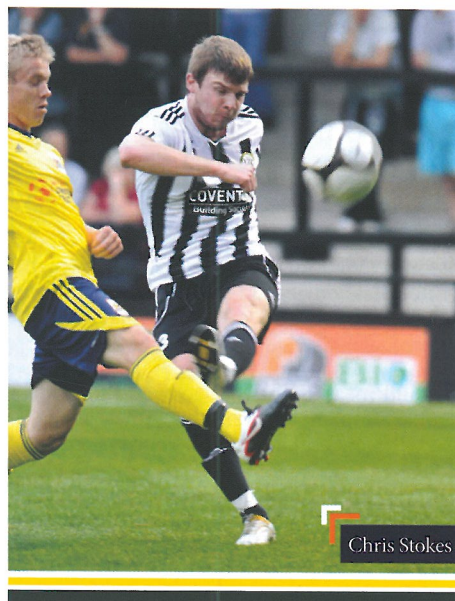
Just one of the few players retained from last season where he proved what a good defender he is. Gets forward down the wing when possible and has seen action in the box scoring some good goals. Started his career with West Bromwich Albion and made his league debut away to Leicester City in December 2007. Served a loan spell at Aberdeen in the Scottish Premier playing in a number of big fixtures while also having another loan spell with Northampton Town. Was made team captain during the close season.

SCOTT BARTLETT

Scott joined Rovers at the start of last season having played for Bath City and Salisbury City where he was Captain. One of David Hockaday's lads from their time at the Cirencester Academy, so therefore he was well aware of his abilities. Wanted to continue his full-time employment and play his football part-time but don't under estimate his commitment.

JAMIE TURLEY

Another close season signing, this time from Salisbury City, the central defender has soon become a firm fans' favourite with some impressive performances. Began his career at Wycombe Wanderers before moving to Salisbury where he was part of the team that were demoted two divisions. Stayed loyal to the club and helped



Chris Stokes

them win promotion to the Blue Square Bet South last season after a dramatic Play-Off final penalty shoot-out victory over Hednesford Town

LUKE GRAHAM

Experienced central defender who began his career with Northampton Town but has also played for Kettering Town, Mansfield Town, York City and Luton Town where he spent part of last season on loan.

CHRIS TODD

Central defender who joined the club during the summer from Newport County and began his career with his home town club Swansea City. Then enjoyed success in the South-West at both Exeter City and Torquay United where he helped the Gulls back into the Football League after a Play-Off final victory clinched promotion.

MIDFIELDERS

YAN KLUKOWSKI

Born locally at Chippenham and made brief number of starts with Bath City. Played the majority of his football in the United States and came to Rovers preseason last term where he earned a place in the squad with some classy strikes from midfield. Scored on his home league debut and signed a new full time contract before Christmas.

CHRIS STOKES

Left-sided player, signed on non-contract terms by Rovers in November 2010. A former captain of the Bolton Wanderers youth team and capped

FOREST GREEN ROVERS



on three occasions by England at under-17 level. Signed for Crewe Alexandra on a one month loan deal in March 2010 and played for them on two occasions. He was released by Wanderers in May 2010 upon expiry of his contract and trialed with Walsall before signing for Rovers.

KIERAN FORBES

In December 2010 Forbes signed for Rovers after he spent time training with the club. As part of the deal to bring Forbes to the New Lawn there was a nominal transfer fee involved as well as a sell-on clause in the player's contract. Forbes started out at Watford made his debut for the Hornets against Gillingham in the League Cup on 14th August 2007. At the end of his scholarship the decision was made not to offer Forbes a professional contract, and he was released. Upon his release from Watford, Forbes joined Ryman Premier League club Wealdstone.

JAMES NORWOOD

Exciting winger who signed forms in the summer having joined from Exeter City. Enjoyed a loan spell at the New Lawn last season scoring two goals from eleven appearances

AL BANGURA

Arguably the biggest signing of the summer for

Rovers. Al began at Watford playing 16 games for them in the Premiership and also enjoyed spells at Brighton & Hove Albion and Blackpool. Turned down opportunities at Charlton Athletic and Notts County to sign for Rovers

STRIKERS

REECE STYCHE

20-year-old Reece signed for Rovers in January 2010 and in his first 45 minutes made an immediate impact scoring two goals including the winner away at Hayes and Yeading. This dream debut had come just 24 after signing for the club and he has since gone onto impress even further. Had been playing in Unibond Division One (South) for Chasetown for whom he had scored an impressive 13 goals in 15 starts after joining the Staffordshire club in October 2009.

CHARLIE GRIFFIN

Re-joins the club for a third spell signing in the summer from Stevenage. Now 31, Charlie is a proven goalscorer at this level and is a huge personality in the dressing room and a vastly experienced player.



Al Bangura



NAMES &

GAMES

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS LOOKS AT FOREST GREEN ROVERS' LEADING LIGHTS

■ CLASSIC CAMPAIGN

1997/98

Paul Hunt was leading marksman and Player of the Year with 25 goals as Rovers won the Southern League Premier Division title in 1997/98. Frank Grogan's newly promoted side raced to the top of the table, dropping just two points in their opening six matches, with Hunt grabbing a hat-trick in a 5-1 victory at Gresley Rovers. They won only one of their next eight games but remained in the top three and underlined their title challenge with nine successive wins. Captained by Gary Smart, Rovers responded to pressure from Merthyr Tydfil and won seven of their last 10 games to clinch the title with 89 points.

■ MANAGING TO SUCCEED

FRANK GREGAN

As mentioned above, Grogan guided Rovers to the Southern League Premier Division title in 1997/98. A former infantry sergeant-major who served in the Army for 25 years and completed three tours of Northern Ireland, he gained a UEFA coaching licence grade A and became Rovers' manager in January 1994. He also took them to the Southern League Southern Division title in 1996/97 and FA Trophy final in 1999, remaining in charge until March 2001.

■ FAB FOUR

TONY DALEY

Former England international winger Tony Daley was an experienced figure as Rovers were FA Trophy finalists in 2001. Signing professional for Aston Villa in May 1985, he starred as they were twice League Championship runners-up and won the Coca-Cola Cup in 1994. He reunited with Graham Taylor at Wolves for £1,250,000 in June 1994 but was plagued by injury problems before linking up with Taylor again at Watford in August 1998. Briefly with Walsall, he joined Forest Green in September 1999 and featured in their 1999/00 FA Cup run, scoring six times in 68 Conference games while at the Lawn.

JASON DRYSDALE

Ex-England Youth international Jason Drysdale played for Rovers in the 1999 and 2001 FA Trophy finals. The son of Brian Drysdale, he turned professional with Watford in September 1988 and was sold to Newcastle United for £425,000 in August 1994. He joined Swindon Town in March 1995 and featured in their 1995/96 Second Division title campaign, moving via Northampton Town to Forest Green in March 1998. Starring as they reached the FA Cup second round in 1999/00, he netted five goals in 92 Conference games while at the Lawn, then played for Abersytwyth, Bath City and Mangotsfield United.

DES LYTLE

Experienced right-back Des Lyttle featured prominently as Rovers took AFC Bournemouth to an FA Cup first round replay in 2004/05. A former Leicester City trainee, he impressed with Worcester prior to joining Swansea City in July 1992 and was ever-present in 1992/93. He moved to Nottingham Forest for £375,000 in July 1993 and helped them regain Premier League status in 1993/94 and 1997/98. Briefly joining Watford in July 1999, he played for West Brom and Northampton before moving to Forest Green in September 2004. He made 36 Conference appearances prior to rejoining Worcester in July 2005.

STUART SLATER

Former England Under-21 international midfielder Stuart Slater played for Rovers in the 2001 FA Trophy final. Signing professional for West Ham in March 1987, he starred as they were semi-finalists in both major Cup competitions and won promotion back to the top-flight in 1990/91. He was sold to Celtic for £1,500,000 in August 1992, moving to Ipswich Town for £750,000 in September 1993, then Watford in November 1996. Briefly with Australian side Carlton, he joined Forest Green in October 2000 and scored once in 21 Conference games, then played under Grogan at Aberystwyth and Weston-Super-Mare.



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COMMERCIAL BREAK

It barely seems two minutes since we were preparing for the Wrexham Play-Off fixture but here we are, about to embark on what we hope to be a successful and exciting campaign in the Blue Square Bet Premier.

It certainly has been a busy summer with this game in particular catching the attention of guests and sponsors keen to take advantage of our hospitality packages.

Just like it was in the run-up last season there has been substantial interest from companies local and national expressing a desire to snap-up corporate hospitality and sponsorship.

On our official website at www.lutontown.co.uk we notified supporters of the availability of our matchday executive boxes which sparked plenty of interest.

Remember you too can enjoy all the benefits of watching a game from this unique vantage point at Kenilworth Road – please get in touch on the number and email below.

We have the pleasure of having the continued support of match sponsors and back shirt and short sponsors NICEIC.

Remember there are 22 league matches at Kenilworth Road left after tonight to look forward, and therefore plenty of opportunities to watch the Hatters in style with us – just get in contact on the number and email below.

Finally I would like to thank all the sponsors and guests who attended our pre-season friendlies. A selection of photographs from before and after the game can be found on the page opposite.

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LOOK BACK



TOWN 2 - 3 GABALA
ADAMS' REVENGE



Gary Brabin was satisfied with the stern test that Tony Adams' side Gabala provided and pleased with the way his players acquitted themselves despite the narrow 3-2 defeat to Azeri club.

"I thought it was a really good game of football, which is a credit to us," he said. "It was quite physical, which I don't mind in a pre-season friendly because it makes it a more realistic test."

"I do want to win games and get a winning mentality but at this stage it's more important just to get that development amongst players and treat everyone equally, concentrating on training as well as playing."

The Town took the lead when Aaron O'Connor touched home Robbie Willmott's cross in the 12th minute but Gabala hit back when Victory Mendy ran through the home defence and hammered home.

O'Connor was denied by the post just before half-time but Adams' side took the lead on the hour when Deon Burton pounced for a tap-in following another strong surge from Mendy.

The sports writers in the press box got their headline

15 minutes from time when Dodo struck to make it 3-1 to the visitors leaving the Town's chances of victory slim, but trialist Nathan Elder raised hopes with a terrific header to reduce arrears but it wasn't enough as the Azerbaijan Premier League side held on.

Brabin was grateful to his counterpart Adams - who later joked the result was revenge for the 1988 Littlewoods Cup final defeat - for putting out a strong side in order to give the Town a thorough trial.

"I didn't know what to expect beforehand," he said. "But Tony spoke to me before kick-off and told me he'd put out a stronger team than in their previous friendlies which I appreciated as it was a good test for us."

That was an opinion shared by Alex Lawless. The midfielder said afterwards: "It was really good test and we're disappointed not to have won."

"We knew we'd be in for a game and, without disrespecting the teams we've already faced this pre-season, this was a step-up in class."

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TOWN 2 GABALA 3

O'CONNOR 12, ELDER 86

MENDY 14, BURTON 60, DODO 75

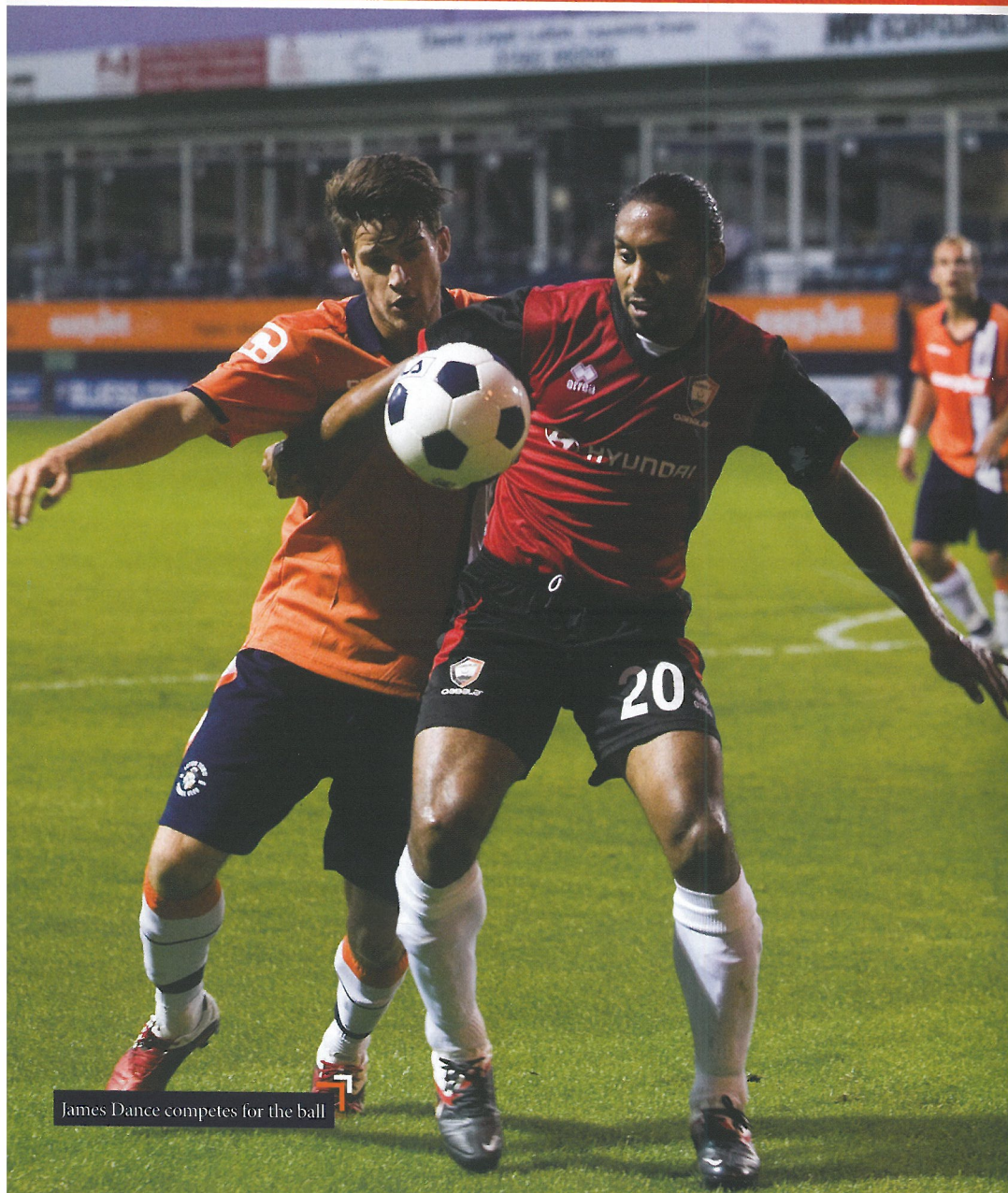
TOWN:

Pilkington, Osano, Asafu-Adjaye, Watkins (sub Elder 74), Beckwith, Antwi, Lawless, Howells, O'Connor (sub Dance 46), Crow (sub McKenzie 66), Willmott (sub Morgan-Smith 61). Substitutes not used: Tyler, Poku, Lacey, Tavernier.

GABALA:

Doroshevs, Huseynov, Yunisoglu, Baranin, Cruz, Shukurov, Kamara, Olfers, Dodo, Burton, Mendy. Substitutes not used: Nazirov, Sokolov, Mammadov, Chahangirov, Isayev.

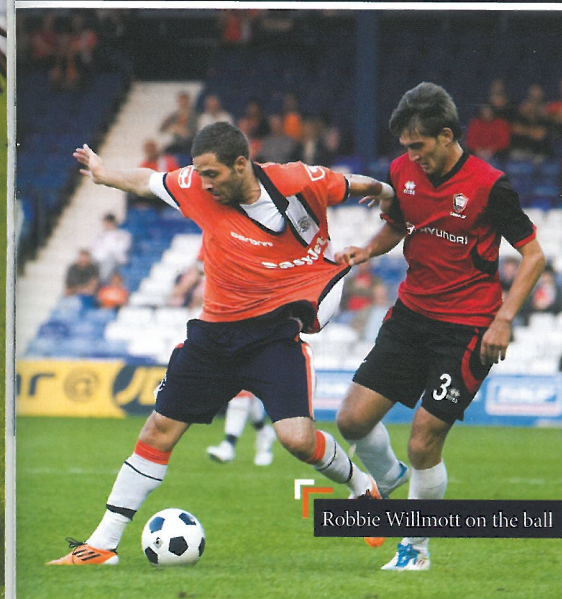
ATTENDANCE: 1,193



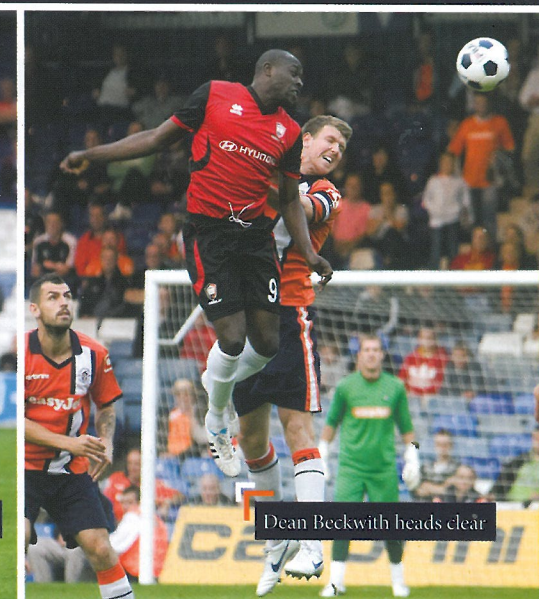
James Dance competes for the ball



Adam Watkins goes for goal



Robbie Willmott on the ball



Dean Beckwith heads clear

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LOOK BACK



TOWN 0 - 2 PARMA ITALIAN CLASS



Despite losing 2-0 to Serie A side Parma Town boss Gary Brabin said his team were heading in the right direction as the season approaches.

"I'm made up for the players because I thought they put in a really good performance," he said after the defeat to Franco Columba's side.

"They've showed what a good team we can be against really top opposition - it was a good test and a good advert for football."

A goal in each half was enough for Columba's stars in front of 3,173 at Kenilworth Road, but the Town created plenty of chances and were unlucky not to take the lead shortly before the Italians took the lead when James Dance hit the post.

"We all thought it was in," Brabin continued. "We had some chances before and after that and then all of a sudden we're one goal down."

"But we're creating chances; we just need to start putting them away. Creating chances is the first hurdle. We know we should be scoring but it doesn't overshadow the performance because I thought we were superb."

"We've got a good group of players and we're heading in the right direction - tonight was a glamour game and it was fantastic to be involved in but was impressed me most about it was the players kept doing things they'd usually do - we gave it a go and did things properly."

Midfielder Keith Keane, who was a part of the Hatters side that lost to Dutch giants Ajax in 2004, believes the test will stand the squad in good stead for the coming season.



"Ajax had the likes of Ibrahhimovic, Sneijder and van der Vaart playing that evening and we went onto the win the league," the Town number four said.

"Parma have some world class players, World Cup winners and internationals in their team. Playing against the likes of Crespo and Borini is a real education for the lads."

"I thought we did really well, and were unlucky not to score. James hit the post when it was 0-0 and we created plenty of chances in the second half well so despite the result we've gained a lot of confidence from the game."

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TOWN PARMA

0 2

BIABIANI 10, OSANO (OG) 53



Chest trap from Alex Lawless

TOWN:

Pilkington, Gleeson (Sub Watkins 46), Osano, Keane, Beckwith, Antwi, Lawless (sub Poku 73), Dance (sub Morgan-Smith 73), O'Connor (Sub Elder 63), Howells (sub Asafu-Adjaye 63), Willmott (sub Crow 37). Substitute not used: Lacey.

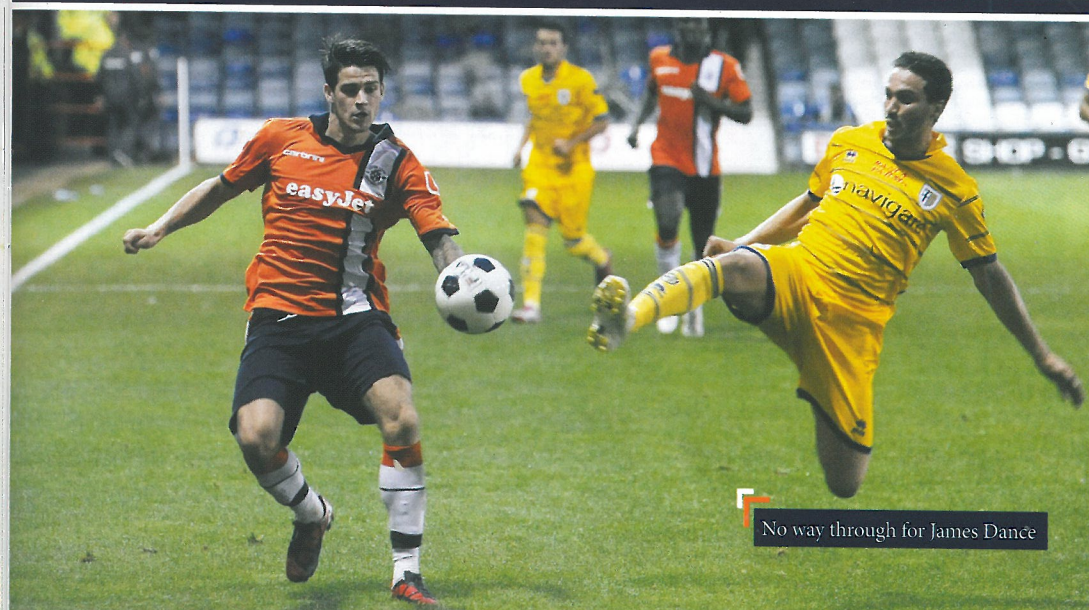
PARMA:

Pavarini, Felstcher, Biabiani (sub Valiani 42), Crespo, Brandao, Borini (sub Giovenco 69), Sansone (sub Modesto 54), Jadid (sub Coppola 54), Paletta, Santacroce, De Araujo. Substitutes not used: Mirante, Morrone, Zaccardo, Lucarelli, Galloppa, Pelle.

ATTENDANCE: 3,173



Dean Beckwith is denied



No way through for James Dance



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LOOK BACK



TOWN 3-1 QPR COMEBACK KINGS



Delighted Town boss Gary Brabin paid tribute to the three substitutes that scored the goals to earn his side a fine pre-season friendly victory over Premier League Queens Park Rangers.

Matthew Barnes-Homer, Amari Morgan-Smith and Adam Watkins all hit the target in the last 16 minutes to seal a terrific turnaround against Neil Warnock's side at Kenilworth Road who took the lead inside 29 seconds through DJ Campbell.

"I wanted a reaction from players and I certainly got that from those three," the boss said afterwards.

"They have come off the bench and given me food for and that's what I want. The substitutes can play the most important part. Sometimes you need to change things tactically; you want players to come on and pose problems.

"I felt last season our bench was not strong enough but it proved it is and that's what I want for the rest of the season."

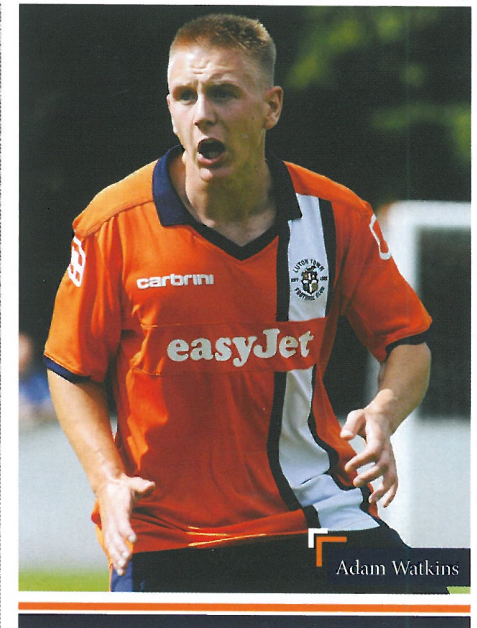
But despite the fantastic display and result the boss refused to get too carried away.

"Obviously I'm delighted," he said. "To beat a Premier League is always a feather in your cap - but it was only a friendly.

"But, like I was saying when we were getting beaten, by Bedford for example, that it's only pre-season. The real work starts at Telford.

"The application of the lads has been excellent this pre-season and it's good we have had a range of different tests; playing different clubs from different countries and levels which has been really refreshing.

"We'll keep our feet on the ground, though. I want competition for places and tonight has given me a few headaches for next week and that's exactly what I want."



Adam Watkins

Man-of-the-match Jake Howells was the star of the show on the night and the Town youngster was thrilled with his and the team's performance.

"I really enjoyed it," said the 20-year-old. "To play like we did against a QPR team at full strength goes to show what we're capable of.

"It was a brilliant performance and I was happy with the way I contributed. We thought 'here we go' after they scored so early but we remained patient, played some good football and eventually got rewarded."



TOWN 3 QPR 1

BARNES-HOMER 74, MORGAN-SMITH 83, WATKINS 88

CAMPBELL 1

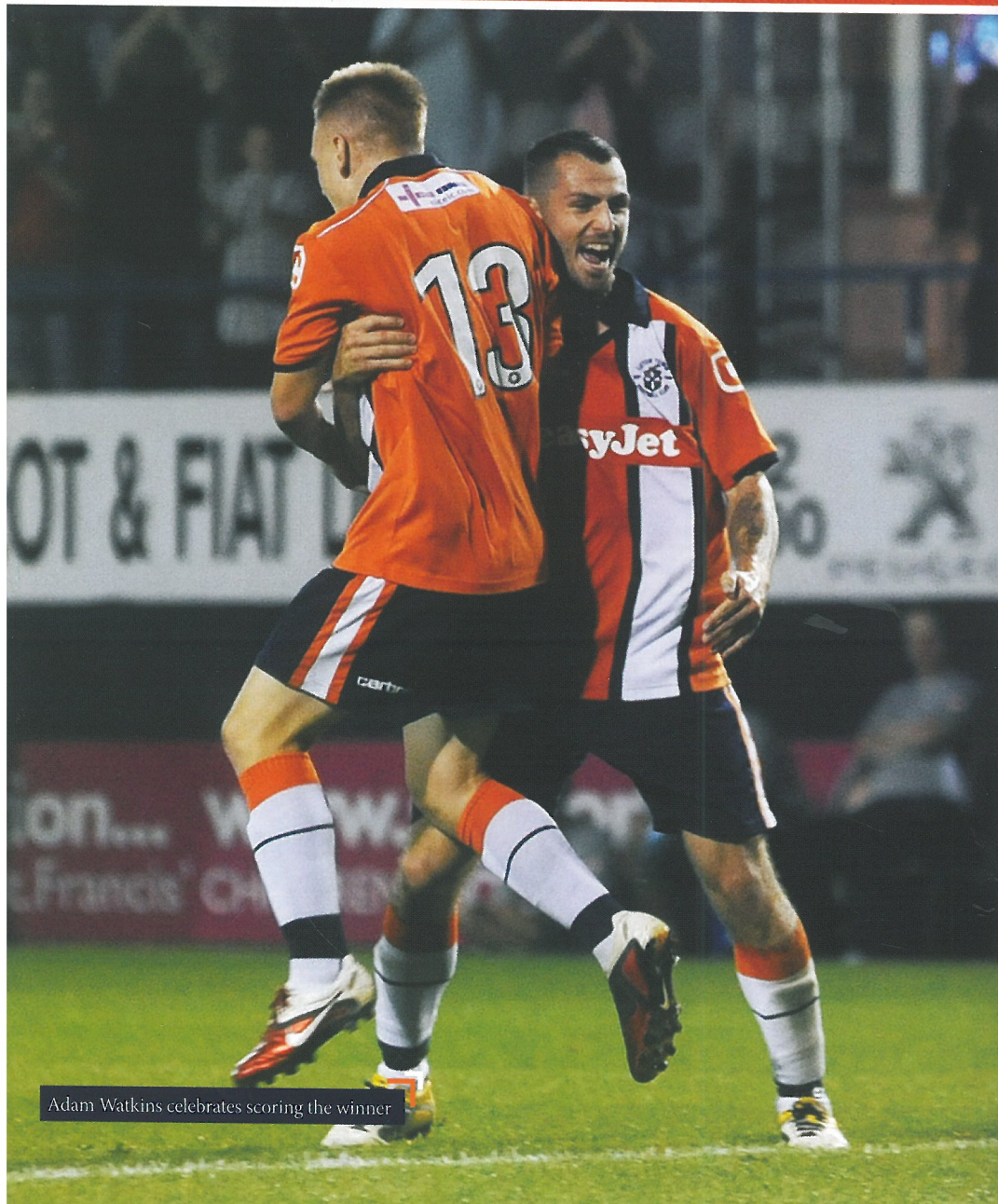
TOWN:

Tyler, Gleeson (sub Asafu-Adjaye 64), Osano, Keane, Beckwith, Antwi (sub Barnes-Homer 64), Lawless (sub Lacey 90), Dance, O'Connor (sub Morgan-Smith 72), Crow (sub Watkins 64), Howells (sub Poku 90). Substitutes not used: Elder, K.Pilkington.

QPR:

Kenny (sub Cerny 46), Dyer (sub Doughty 72), Hill (sub Andrado 81), Derry (sub Buzsaky 46), Hall (sub Peroni 46), Gabbidon (sub Connolly 46), Taarabt (sub Vaagen Moen 46), Smith (sub Ephraim 46), Campbell (sub Helguson 46, (sub Hewitt 82)), Bothroyd (sub Agyemang 46), Faurin. Substitute not used: Orr.

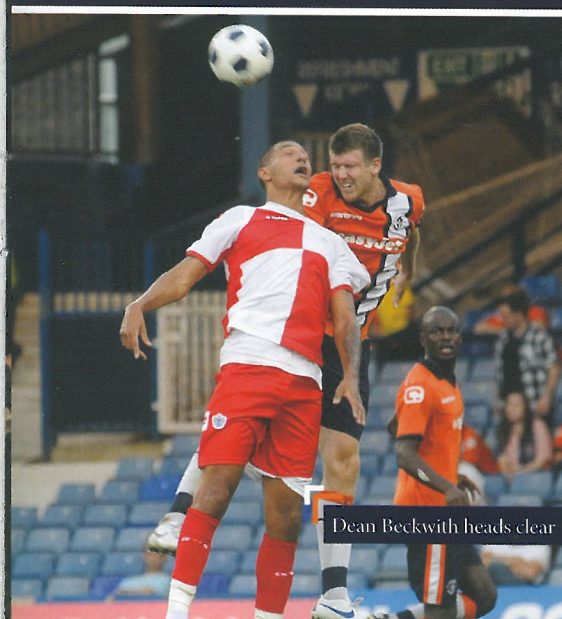
ATTENDANCE: 3,170



Adam Watkins celebrates scoring the winner



Matthew Barnes-Homer heads the equaliser



Dean Beckwith heads clear



Radek Cerny holds onto the ball

CENTRE SPOT



New signing Curtis Osano celebrates his goal at Cambridge City

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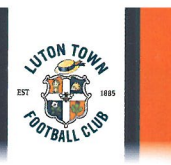
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 CHRISTIAN TAVERNIER HOME: Derek Broughton AWAY: Available	 GARY BRABIN HOME: Available AWAY: Available	 ALAN NEILSON HOME: Available AWAY: Available	



STEPPING UP

DESPITE DROPPING DOWN FROM THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE, NEW SIGNING DEAN BECKWITH REVEALS HE'S DELIGHTED TO HAVE JOINED THE HATTERS

He was the second summer signing and has worn the captain's armband throughout pre-season and now Dean Beckwith can't wait to help the Hatters' promotion push.

The 27-year-old, who has signed a two-year deal at Kenilworth Road, was a key member of the Northampton squad last season which reached the fourth round of the League Cup following wins over Brighton, Reading and Liverpool.

But, as the centre-half explains to Talk of the Town, he's looking forward to a season of success with his new club.

"Obviously like any player that signs for Luton, I am really happy," says Dean. "It's a massive club, full of tradition – playing in the top division and winning the league cup.

"Training and pre-season has been good and now it's time to put all practice into the real thing now and I can't wait, it's going to be tough, but exciting."

The defender turned down offers from a number of Football League clubs but was delighted to agree terms to bolster the Hatters' defensive options for the forthcoming campaign.

So why swap the Football League for the Blue Square Bet Premier?

"Although it's a step down in terms of division it's a step up in terms of size of club," he says. "I've mentioned the supporters here and it's fantastic to get crowds of 6,000 plus each week in the Conference.

"That was one of the main reasons for coming here. Home and away the Luton fans are one of the most loyal and passionate and hopefully this season we can give them something to smile about.

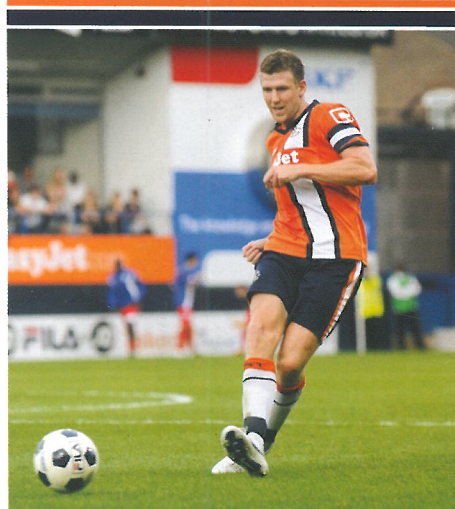
"There isn't much different between League 2 and the Conference which will make it tough but Luton is the place to be – there aren't many bigger clubs in this league or the one above. This is a big club and I'm proud to be here."

As soon as the 6ft 3in centre-half became available Gary Brabin was straight on the phone.

"The gaffer spoke to me five or six times before I signed – he was another big pull to come here. With George Pilkington out injured he's made me captain which is a great honour. Now it's time to repay that faith shown in me."

One of five new faces arriving at Kenilworth Road over the close season and with the disappointment of last season's Play-Off final defeat to overcome, Beckwith knows the Hatters must hit the ground running if they are to challenge for the title this season.

"We have some really great players here," he continues. "It's vital we get off to a good start kick-on from there."



"The gaffer has brought some new lads in to add to the squad and there's a real belief here that this can be our season.

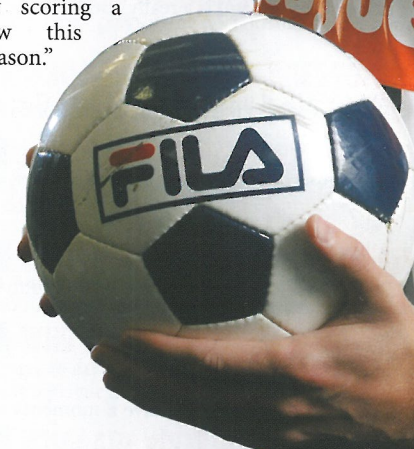
"Last season was mixed for me at Northampton – we had the highs of the cup run but we struggled for whatever reason – we kept drawing too many games. We drew six on the bounce, it killed our season and found ourselves in a relegation fight."

So to those Town fans that have yet to see Beckwith in action during pre-season, what are you likely to expect?

"I'm just a tall centre-half!" he jokes. "But seriously I'm a defender who likes to play football the right way, get it down and play."

"Last season I scored three times – my best season so far – but I know there's more goals in me. Last season I had a few cleared off the line and hit the woodwork [something he's already done this pre-season for the Hatters].

"I know that doesn't count for much but I'm always looking to get a goal and hopefully I can help by scoring a few this season."



DREAM TEAM

Defender Dean Beckwith chooses his favourite XI made up for players he's played with in his football career.

GOALKEEPER

Jason Brown (Blackburn) – A great shot stopper and good on the ball for a goalkeeper. I played with him whilst at Gillingham and knew that he'd go on and achieve better things.

RIGHT-BACK

Nyron Nosworthy (Sunderland) – Another of my former Gillingham team-mates Nyron was all you want in a good right-back: strong, quick and good in the air.

CENTRE-BACKS

Tamika Mkandawire (Millwall) – Strong in the air, too and good on the ball he was an excellent centre-half during my time at Hereford and believe he's playing in centre-mid for Millwall now.

Chris Hope (St. Neots) – His nickname was the 'Dolphin' because he would never lose a header. He read the game so well and I really enjoyed playing alongside him at Priestfield.

LEFT-BACK

Roland Edge (Folkestone Invicta) – An absolutely brilliant defender in one-versus-one situations. He never used to get beat in those scenarios and was a real asset whilst with Gillingham.

RIGHT MIDFIELD

Lionel Ainsworth (Shrewsbury Town) – Lionel has pace, and score goals and is a really good dribbler of the ball. He'd terrorise defences. His pace was lethal.

CENTRAL MIDFIELDERS

Paul Smith (Retired) – So strong in the centre of the park, Paul was a good passer with terrific work-rate. The kind of player every team needs.

Andy Crofts (Norwich City) – Great on the ball, Andy has great technical ability and was another key component of the team at Gillingham.

LEFT MIDFIELD

Michael Jacobs (Northampton Town) – An unbelievable player. His dribbling skills are incredible – the way he can cut inside from the left and shoot or cross leaves wondering what he'll do next. He can definitely play at a higher level later in his career.

STRIKERS

Gary Hooper (Celtic) – So, so sharp in and around the box, defender will never have a moment's rest when Gary's about. He's quick and scores goals – good attributes for a striker.

Adebayo Akinfenwa (Northampton Town) – Back for a second spell with Northampton, Bayo's hold-up play is the best around, especially in League 2. He's got two good feet and will always score goals.

GETTING TO KNOW...

DEAN BECKWITH

WHO IS YOUR BEST FRIEND IN FOOTBALL?

Oh dear, I might upset a few people here! Andy Ferrell probably. He plays for Barrow now but I was with him for four years at Edgar Street and we're still in touch.

WHAT TEAM DID YOU SUPPORT AS A CHILD?

Chelsea – I still do. I'm from London and all my family are Chelsea fans – my dad, granddad and brother. I think they'll do alright this year. The Premier League will be tight between Chelsea, Man City and Man Utd.

WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT PLAYING FOR LUTON TOWN SO FAR?

Getting Hernan Crespo's shirt after the Parma game was pretty special. He asked for me – I think he's always been a fan of me!

WHAT AMBITIONS DO YOU HAVE IN FOOTBALL?

To get back in the League, hopefully this year, and then play as many games at that level as possible.

WHO'S THE FUNNIEST PLAYER AT THE CLUB?

Dan Gleeson. He makes good jokes, he's good to have around for the banter.

WHO HAS THE BEST MUSIC TASTE?

Danny Crow plays some decent stuff before games.

WHO HAS THE WORST DRESS SENSE?

James Dance. What a try-hard! It must take him an hour to get ready before training every day!

WHO IS THE HARDEST WORKER AT THE CLUB?

Alex Lawless and Adam Watkins. They're both busy centre midfielders, they get up and down the pitch all day.

WHAT'S YOUR EARLIEST FOOTBALL MEMORY?

Having my photo taken with Kerry Dixon at Stamford Bridge.

WHO'S YOUR BEST EVER OPPONENT?

I'd have to say Hernan Crespo for the things he's done. I was a big fan of his when he was at Chelsea and it was a privilege to play against him.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS AFTER FOOTBALL?

I'd like to start a business of some kind. I'd like to be my own boss.

WHO'S YOUR ALL-TIME FOOTBALL IDOL?

Gazza had everything. And John Terry, I love the way he plays.



PICTURE THE PAST

WITH CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH

Perhaps the players could see promotion to the top flight slipping away from them given the anguished look on Anderson's face and, in truth, the Town had been pretty fortunate to still be in the hunt leading up to that Good Friday fixture.

With good displays sandwiched between some pretty mediocre performances in any season the Town would not have been in with shout of a top three spot but with all the teams around them, with the exception of eventual champions Middlesbrough, all taking it in turns to display inconsistency we managed to keep the interest going to the bitter end.

In those days we tended to play three games over the Easter period which, in the past, had been a graveyard for any promotion aspirations but with the season so unpredictable perhaps we were due a change of fortune.

Sadly, the thousands of Luton supporters who swelled the Manor crowd to a best of the season 13,714 were soon to be disappointed as relegation threatened Oxford took the lead after only two minutes.

Though Jimmy Ryan levelled for the Town on 19 minutes with a speculative 40-yard free-kick, which was misjudged by Roy Burton in the Oxford

goal, we did not push on and seemed happy to settle for a point.

A 2-2 draw, 24 hours later, against struggling Sheffield Wednesday, again was not promotion form but worse was to follow as Oxford left Kenilworth Road three days later with both points after a smash and grab 1-0 win.

This time, Burton, mindful of his error on Good Friday, put on an amazing display to thwart wave after wave of Luton attacks making it an evening of despair for the crowd of 16,357.

As everyone trooped away finally sensing that dreams of promotion were over it slowly sank in that all the other challengers had also 'enjoyed' a poor Easter and we were still in second spot.

A comprehensive 3-0 home win over Millwall on the following Saturday meant that only one point was required for promotion with a jittery 1-1 draw at West Brom clinching a very unlikely return to Division One for the first time since 1960.

Typically, with the crowd in carnival mood for the final game of the season, Sunderland came to Kenilworth Road and won 4-3 to spoil the party!

Peter Anderson (left) and Barry Butlin (right) make strong appeals to the referee during the 1-1 draw at the Manor Ground, Oxford in April 1974.



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19 AUG LINCOLN CITY V WREXHAM

26 AUG FLEETWOOD TOWN V YORK CITY

02 SEP STOCKPORT COUNTY V LUTON TOWN

03 SEP BRAINTREE TOWN V LINCOLN CITY

10 SEP MANSFIELD TOWN V NEWPORT COUNTY

27 SEP KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS V GRIMSBY TOWN

06 OCT CAMBRIDGE UNITED V STOCKPORT COUNTY

14 OCT LINCOLN CITY V FLEETWOOD TOWN

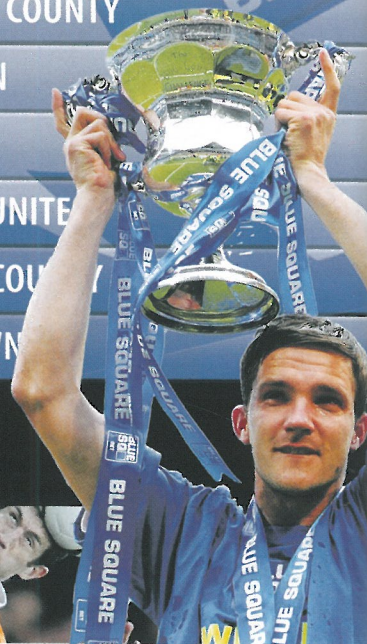
21 OCT GRIMSBY TOWN V LUTON TOWN

03 NOV MANSFIELD TOWN V CAMBRIDGE UNITED

19 NOV FLEETWOOD TOWN V STOCKPORT COUNTY

24 NOV KETTERING TOWN V GRIMSBY TOWN

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THE CAMERA

NEVER LIES

BY CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH



Darlington goalkeeper Tony Moor organises his wall seemingly unaware that a rocket free-kick from Bruce Rioch was already nestling in the back of the net!

The Division Four clash at Feethams in March 1968 had seen the table-topping Hatters take on a struggling Darlington as the season drew to a close.

With several injury problems to contend with, the Town had to recall the likes of George Potter, Micky Brown and Rodney Green to a side which was to play without wingers as both Graham French and Ray Whittaker were on the treatment table.

Nevertheless, the Hatters were undefeated in 11 games and were expected to extend their lead at the top but were made to work hard for their victory after Rioch had fired in his free-kick after 11 minutes.

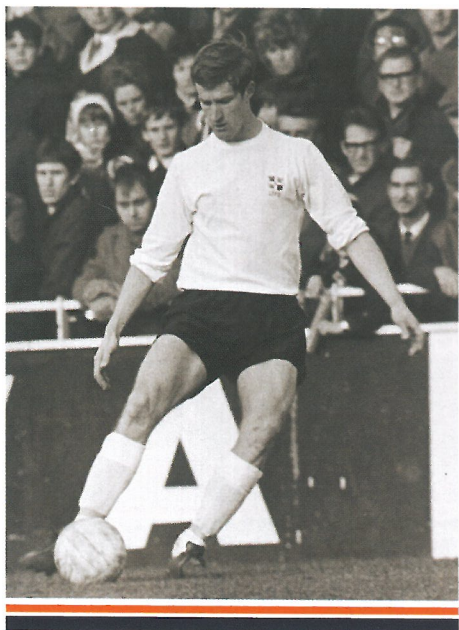
Darlington levelled through Jim O'Neill soon after the interval before Rioch flashed another free-kick across the box which was missed by the onrushing Ian Buxton.

Fortunately, the predatory Green was waiting at the far side of the box to smash the ball into the roof of the net.

With Buxton hitting a post before the end, the Town eventually ended up worthy winners on the way to promotion as champions of the division.

LESSONS FROM JOHN MOORE

IN THE FIRST OF A TWO-PART FEATURE, TALK OF THE TOWN CAUGHT UP WITH THE GREAT SCOT, WHO IMPARTED SOME KEY LESSONS HE HAS LEARNED OVER THE YEARS.



A loyal servant of the Hatters whose association with the club stretches across over a third of its history, former player, manager and youth coach John Moore has a lot of wisdom to share.

■ LUTON'S THE PLACE FOR A YOUNG LAD TO GET AN OPPORTUNITY

I signed for Luton as a very young lad. I had been a part-time player at Motherwell while working in a factory, and one Friday I got told I'd been released.

Obviously I was very down, but then on the Monday I heard from a Scottish-based Luton scout called Mr Hutchinson who was interested in me.

He went to Motherwell to ask about me, and could only find the groundsman – who gave me a very strong reference!

On the back of that the Luton manager, George Martin, flew up to Scotland to sign me on the Wednesday. I remember sitting down with him in my living room with my family, and it sounds far-fetched nowadays but there were no contract negotiations and no haggling at all. He said 'What do you want?' He was actually talking about a signing-on fee, but I just said 'I want an opportunity.' He certainly gave me that.

Years later when I finished playing and came onto the coaching side, I always remembered that moment and I always saw the football club as somewhere where a boy could have an opportunity.

Let's be realistic, Luton's never been able to attract the very best players, but I would always say to boys, 'If you want to work hard and apply yourself then there will be an opportunity for you to progress – and once that happens the rest is up to you.'

Young Luton players always had that chance of getting through that hardest first door of getting into the first team.

You get that opportunity at Luton, which is what I asked for as a lad joining the club, and it

doesn't matter what league you're in.

David Pleat threw kids into the team in what is now the Premier League – all that matters is that players recognise that opportunity and realise they have to earn it.

■ THE HARDER YOU WORK, THE LUCKIER YOU GET

I remember the golfer Gary Player saying: 'The harder you work, the luckier you get.'

That proved true in my own career, and I taught all my youth lads that too. I worked at the club for 32 years, even though during that period there were so many changes and in football any time a new manager comes in you can get the sack.

I was lucky in that I got to play for George Martin, Alan Brown, Alec Stock, Harry Haslam, and then I worked for David Pleat, Jimmy Ryan, Pleat again, Terry Westley, Lennie Lawrence, Ricky Hill, Mick Harford, Joe Kinnear and

Mike

Newell.

But I got that luck by working hard.

I said the same to the youngsters. When I was growing up I just wanted someone to be honest with me – don't give me flannel and rubbish, tell me the truth.

So when I became youth coach I always treated the boys like adults. I wasn't interested in

making them successful youth players, the only way to make a living is to become a first team player.

I told them they had to work harder than the first team, because those older guys down the corridor aren't going to just give you their first team place and their luxury lifestyle, you've got to work for it.

■ IT'S ALL ABOUT ATTITUDE

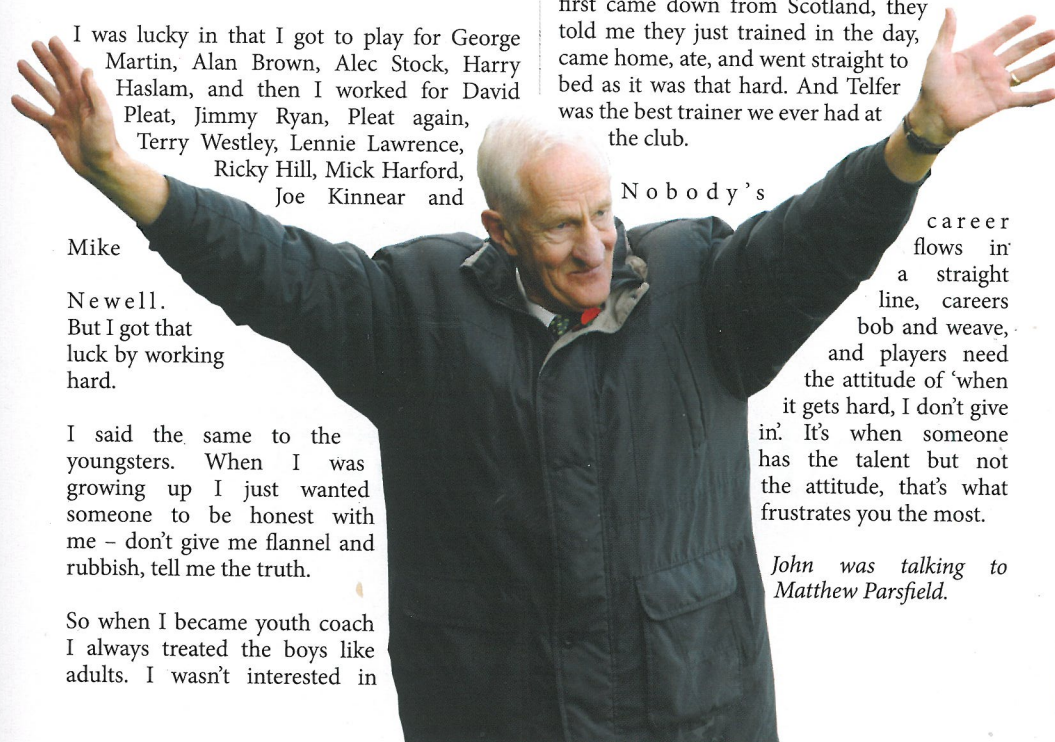
You can tell who's going to be a good player early on, right from the way they react to their first pre-season training.

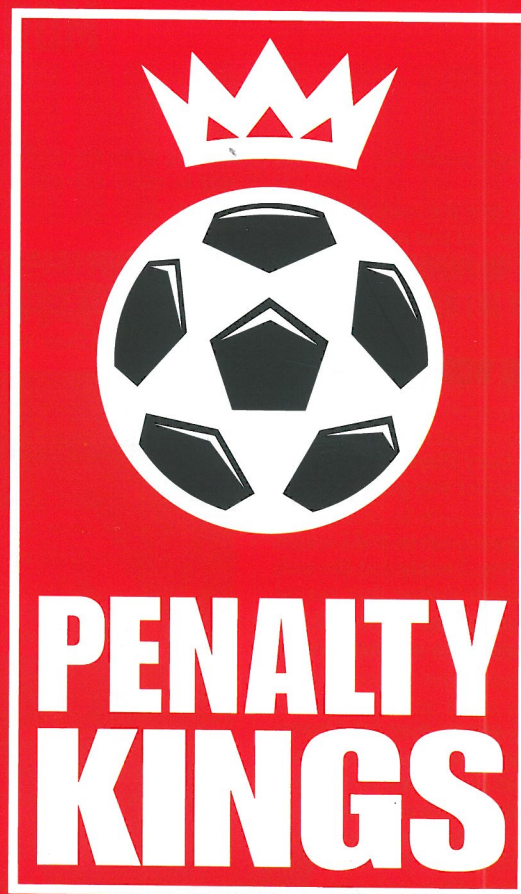
That first season for a schoolboy is hard, and at the end of it you know what their attitude is. I remember when Darren Salton and Paul Telfer first came down from Scotland, they told me they just trained in the day, came home, ate, and went straight to bed as it was that hard. And Telfer was the best trainer we ever had at the club.

Nobody's

career flows in a straight line, careers bob and weave, and players need the attitude of 'when it gets hard, I don't give in'. It's when someone has the talent but not the attitude, that's what frustrates you the most.

John was talking to Matthew Parsfield.





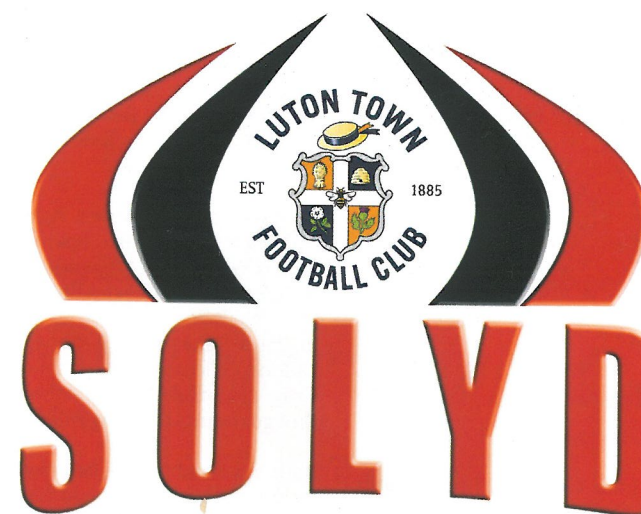
**Come on
you Hatters!!!**

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2010/11 YOUTH TEAM KIT SPONSORS



	JOSH CARPENTER HOME: Available AWAY: Available GLOVES: Available		BRETT LONGDEN HOME: Available AWAY: Available		JEROME JIBIOU HOME: Available AWAY: Available		MUSTAFA MIRZIA HOME: Available AWAY: Available
	JAMES FERGUSON HOME: Available AWAY: Available GLOVES:		NICK BURTENSHAW HOME: Available AWAY: Available		COLBY MCADAMS HOME: Available AWAY: Available		JERRY NASH HOME: Available AWAY: Available
	ALANA ANN HOME: Available AWAY: Available		MOSES KADOU HOME: Available AWAY: Available		MASON BLAKE HOME: Available AWAY: Available		BEN EKINS HOME: Available AWAY: Available
	JORDAN DAVIS HOME: Available AWAY: Available		JAKE WOOLLEY HOME: Available AWAY: Available		IAN REES HOME: Available AWAY: Available		CHISOLM AMADI HOME: Available AWAY: Available



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DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

FIXTURES

**TOTESPORT.COM COMBINATION
2011/12 NORTHERN SECTION**

SEPTEMBER

TUE 6 - SOUTHEND UNITED A 2PM

NOVEMBER

TUE 22 - SOUTHEND UNITED H 2PM
WED 30 - STEVENAGE BOROUGH A 2PM

DECEMBER

TUE 13 - COLCHESTER UNITED A 2PM

JANUARY

TUE 10 - OXFORD UNITED H 2PM
TUE 17 - STEVENAGE BOROUGH H 2PM
WED 25 - OXFORD UNITED A 7PM
TUE 31 - COLCHESTER UNITED H 2PM

Home games to be played at Kenilworth Road

MATCH DIGEST

FIXTURE

Arlesey Town

COMPETITION

Bedfordshire Premier Cup Final

RESULT

1-2

GOALSCORER

Crow

TEAM

Kidd, Longden (sub Carden), Jibodu (sub Walker), Poku, Deeney, Lacey, Tavernier, Yamfam, Elder, Crow (sun Dasilva), O'Donnell. Sub not used: Carpenter.

REPORT

A young Town development side suffered a 2-1 defeat against Southern Premier League Arlesey Town in the Bedfordshire Premier Cup final.

Including first year scholars Brett Longden and Jerome Jibidu at full-backs, the Hatters went behind after 10 minutes when Chris Marsh struck a fine effort from 25-yards beyond Lewis Kidd.

Skipper Danny Crow and JJ O'Donnell both misses chances before Chris Dillon saw a shot saved comfortably by Kidd and the same player spurned a better chance when heading wide.

However, the Hatters made the hosts pay, striking an equaliser on the half-hour mark when Crow nipped in between the defence to tuck home from close range following good work from Jean-Phillipe Yamfam.

The Town, buoyed by that goal, started to gain confidence with Godfrey Poku seeing plenty of the ball and good battling play from Yamfam teed up a shooting chance for O'Donnell but the winger shot wide.

To their credit, however, Arlesey fought back and they re-took the lead just before half-time when Longden upended Dillon and Lees Allinson beat Kidd, who dived the right way.

In the second period Kidd was alert to gather Dillon's deflected shot, while at the other end, Crow cut inside from off the left to hit a low shot goalwards that was palmed away.

Both sides continued to create half-chances, including Dan Walker - in his first appearance of the summer - for the Hatters, whilst Arlesey hit the post late on as they went in search of a third.

YOUNG HATTERS



UNDER-18S

**PUMA YOUTH ALLIANCE
UNDER-18
SOUTH-EAST DIVISION**

AUGUST

6 - COLCHESTER UNITED (H) L 0-1
13 - QUEENS PARK RANGERS (A)
D 2-2
20 - BARNET (H)
27 - WYCOMBE WANDERERS (A)

SEPTEMBER

3 - NORTHAMPTON TOWN (H)
10 - BRENTFORD (A)
17 - STEVENAGE BOROUGH (H)
19 - ROTHWELL CORINTHIANS (H)
FAYC
24 - PETERBOROUGH UNITED (H)

OCTOBER

8 - BARNET (H) PYC
15 - STEVENAGE (H) PYC
22 - NORTHAMPTON TOWN (A) PYC
29 - WYCOMBE WANDERERS (H)
PYC

NOVEMBER

5 - PETERBOROUGH UNITED (A) PYC
12 - WYCOMBE WANDERERS (H)
19 - NORTHAMPTON TOWN (A)

DECEMBER

10 - BRENTFORD (H)
17 - STEVENAGE A

JANUARY

7 - PETERBOROUGH UNITED (A)
28 - COLCHESTER UNITED (A)

FEBRUARY

4 - QUEENS PARK RANGERS (H)
11 - BARNET (A)
18 - MILLWALL (H)
25 - SOUTHEND UNITED (A)

MARCH

3 - BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION (H)
10 - ALDERSHOT TOWN (A)
17 - AFC WIMBLEDON (H)
24 - DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE (A)
31 - CRAWLEY TOWN (A)

APRIL

SAT - 14 LEYTON ORIENT (H)
SAT - 21 GILLINGHAM (H)

SHADOW SQUAD

**FOOTBALL CONFERENCE
YOUTH ALLIANCE
CENTRAL DIVISION**

SEPTEMBER

14 - ST ALBANS CITY (A)
28 - TAMWORTH (H)

OCTOBER

12 - CORBY TOWN (A)
26 - WATFORD HERTSWOOD (H)

NOVEMBER

2 - KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS (H)
9 - OXFORD CITY (A)
16 - BIRMINGHAM CITY WHITES (H)
23 - CHASE TOWN (A)
30 - FOOTBALLCV REDS (H)

DECEMBER

7 - HITCHIN TOWN (A)

JANUARY

11 - KETTERING TOWN (H)
25 - KETTERING TOWN (A)

FEBRUARY

1 - ST ALBANS CITY (H)
8 - TAMWORTH (A)
22 - CORBY TOWN (H)
29 - WATFORD HERTSWOOD (A)

MARCH

14 - KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS (A)
21 - OXFORD CITY (H)
28 - BIRMINGHAM CITY WHITES (A)

APRIL

4 - CHASE TOWN (H)
18 - FOOTBALLCV REDS (A)
25 - HITCHIN TOWN (H)

SHADOW SQUAD

**SOUTHERN COUNTIES
FLOODIT YOUTH LEAGUE
CORINTHIAN DIVISION**

AUGUST

29 - NEWPORT PAGNELL (A)

SEPTEMBER

5 - CHESHAM UNITED (H)
12 - LEIGHTON TOWN (H)
26 - BOREHAM WOOD (A)

OCTOBER

3 - HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN (H)
17 - CHESHAM UNITED (A)
24 - NEWPORT PAGNELL TOWN (H)

NOVEMBER

7 - LEIGHTON TOWN (A)
21 - BOREHAM WOOD (H)
28 - HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN (A)

Sizzling summer

We've got loads of bright ideas for things to see and do when out and about this summer and with our hot value fares you can really go to town. Visit our spanking new microsite for more amazing offers and ideas on where to go at firstcapitalconnect.co.uk/summer

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*Valid for Super Off-Peak tickets only. Terms and conditions apply. See website for details. There may be engineering works on Sundays throughout the summer, please check the website for full details.

First Capital Connect

ACADEMY UPDATE



Over the past year the Premier League have introduced their plans for youth development for 2011/12.

These plans are radical and forward-thinking and will reshape the way that young footballers are recruited and trained in England.

In preparation for these changes we have restructured our youth system for the coming season.

We now have two shadow squads at Under-18 level, supporting the main youth team. This allows us to monitor the progress of late developers as well as providing educational support via Cedars Upper School in Leighton Buzzard and at Central Bedfordshire College.

Our Under-8 to Under-16 programme is now known as the Academy, as we prepare to be assessed for our academy status under the new Premier League guidelines.

The boys train three times a week with

Luton Town and play matches against other professional clubs on Sundays.

Feeding into the academy we have a centre of excellence based in both Luton and Baldock, allowing us to widen our recruitment net.

Boys at this level will continue to play for their local teams whilst training with Luton Town once a week.

Finally our Community Trust will continue to manage our excellent talent identification programme with 10 regional centres feeding into a Performance Centre based at the new Creasey Park facility in Dunstable.

This restructure will not only provide a player pathway for any talented individuals but also ensure that our top coaches can assess players at all levels.

For more details please visit the youth department's official website www.ltyd.co.uk.

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IN THE COMMUNITY



We are almost half-way through a busy summer of soccer camps with almost 300 youngsters having already joined our coaches in the last three weeks throughout Bedfordshire - and the good news is there's still plenty of time to join in the fun.

Our soccer courses are for all of our young enthusiastic footballers who want to both learn and improve their game and be coached by our Luton Town community coaches.

During each course all aspects of the game are covered including shooting, passing, heading and dribbling, and each day offers a well organised fun programme for youngsters which includes small sided games, competitions and fun games to practice those all important ball techniques.

Our venues and dates are listed in our summer

soccer leaflet printed on the pages overleaf, and children can either book for an entire course or individual days by phoning or sending a text to our community officer James Hatch on 07725 172345 or by email at james.luton@live.co.uk.

We have soccer courses running during the next three weeks of the summer holiday for boys and girls aged from five years up to 12years-old in Luton, Dunstable, Houghton Regis, Leighton Buzzard, Flitwick, Barton, Shefford, Woburn Sands, Hitchin, Harpenden and Bedford.

Prices start from only £10 per day in Luton and £12.50 per day in Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire.

All youngsters participating receive an official Luton Town Football Club medal so if you're interested, then please get in touch.

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55



Luton Town FC

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

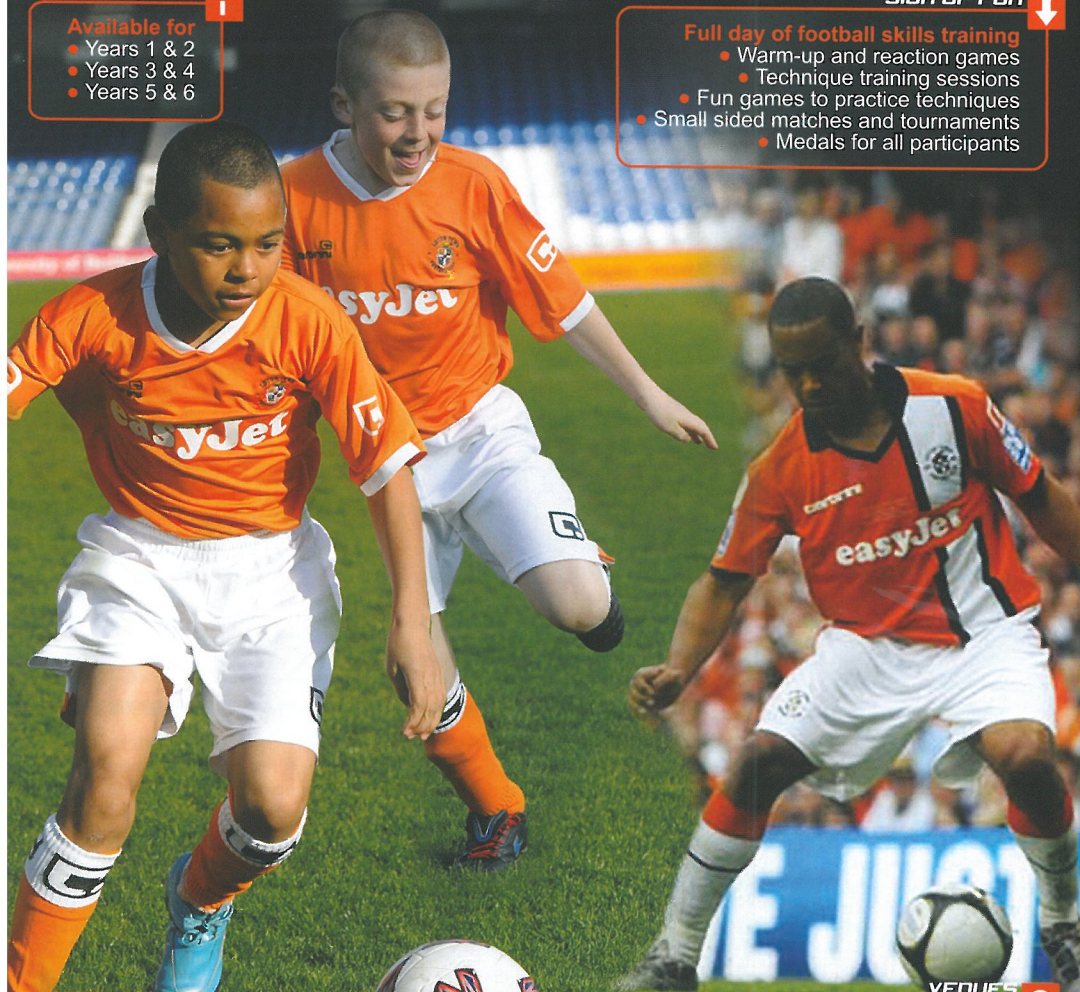
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YEAR GROUPS

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- Years 3 & 4
- Years 5 & 6

SIGN UP FOR

- Full day of football skills training
 - Warm-up and reaction games
 - Technique training sessions
 - Fun games to practice techniques
 - Small sided matches and tournaments
 - Medals for all participants



Barton, Bedford, Biggleswade, Bromham, Dunstable, Flitwick / Ampthill, Kempston, Leighton Buzzard, Linslade, Luton, Harpenden, Hitchin, Houghton Regis, Shefford / Henlow, Pitstone, Potton, Sandy, Stotfold / Arlesey, Woburn Sands

Telephone and Credit Card bookings
01582 583618 or 07725 172345

HERPENDEN

HARPENDEN

Venue: Sir John Lawes School, Manland Way
Dates: Mon 25th to Fri 29th July
Tues 30th & Wed 31st August

HITCHIN

Venue: Hitchin Boys School, Grammar School Walk
Dates: Mon 1st to Wed 3rd August
Mon 15th to Wed 17th August

PITSTONE

Venue: Memorial Playing Fields
Dates: Tues 2nd to Thurs 4th August

BARTON

Venue: Arnold Middle School, Hexton Road
Dates: Wed 3rd to Fri 5th August
Wed 24th to Fri 26th August

BEDFORD

Venue: Newnham Middle School, Polhill Avenue
Dates: Wed 3rd to Fri 5th August
Wed 31st August to Fri 2nd September*
Venue: Harrowden Middle School, Oak Road
Dates: Wed 17th to Fri 19th August

BIGGLESWADE

Venue: Edward Peake Middle School, Potton Road
Dates: Mon 1st to Wed 3rd August

BROMHAM

Venue: Bromham Lower School, Grange Lane
Dates: Mon 25th to Wed 27th July

DUNSTABLE

Venue: Ardley Hill Lower School, Lowther Road
Dates: Mon 25th to Wed 27th July
Mon 8th to Wed 10th August
Tues 30th August to Fri 2nd September

FLITWICK / AMPHILL

Venue: Flitwick Leisure Centre, Steppingley Road
Dates: Mon 25th to Wed 27th July
Mon 8th to Wed 10th August*
Tues 30th August to Thurs 1st September

KEMPSTON

Venue: Daubeney Middle School, Orchard Street
Dates: Mon 8th to Wed 10th August

LUTON & BEDS

HOUGHTON REGIS

Venue: Thomas Whitehead Lower School, Angels Lane
Dates: Tues 23rd to Thurs 25th August

LEIGHTON BUZZARD

Venue: Gilbert Inglefield Middle School, Vandyke Road
Dates: Wed 3rd to Fri 5th August
Wed 31st August to Fri 2nd September

LINSLADE

Venue: Cedars Upper School, Mentmore Road
Dates: Mon 25th to Wed 27th July*
Mon 22nd to Wed 24th August

LUTON

Venue: Playfootball.net, Stopsley, St Thomas's Road
Dates: Mon 1st to Wed 3rd August
Mon 15th to Wed 17th August*
Tues 30th August to Fri 2nd September
Venue: Barnfield College, New Bedford Road
Dates: Mon 25th to Fri 29th July
Mon 8th to Friday 12th August
Mon 22nd to Fri 26th August*

POTTON

Venue: Burgoyne Middle School, Mill Lane
Dates: Mon 1st & Tues 2nd August

SANDY

Venue: Robert Peel Lower School, Dapifer Drive
Dates: Tues 9th to Thurs 11st August

SHEFFORD / HENLOW

Venue: Samuel Whitbread Community College, Shefford Road
Dates: Wed 27th to Fri 29th July
Wed 17th to Fri 19th August*
Wed 31st August to Fri 2nd September

STOTFOLD / ARLESEY

Venue: Stotfold Football Club, The Green
Dates: Mon 8th to Wed 10th August

WOBURN SANDS

Venue: Fullbrook Middle School, Weathercock Lane
Dates: Mon 22nd to Wed 24th August

* Goalkeeping course also included

PRICES

1 day: £12.50 2 days: £25 3 days: £35 4 days: £45 5 days: £55 Luton all course £10 per day no concessions

Half price for brothers & sisters (plus £2.50 per child - min 2 day booking)

Course Times: 10.00am - 3.00pm

Ages: Courses are open to all school children in school year groups 1 to 2 and 3 to 4 and 5 to 7

REGISTER NOW

Name:				Any health problems or disabilities:	
Address:					
Email:				School attended:	
Age:	Dob:	M/F:		Course applying for:	
Contact number(s):				Money enclosed:	

Cheques made payable to:

Luton Town F.C. Youth Development.

Please ensure that the name of the child, home address, course venue & cheque guarantee card number are written on the back of the cheque. **Return to:** 1 Maple Road, Luton, Beds, LU4 8AW

BOOKING PROCEDURE

Applications can be made on the form above or by telephone 01582 583618 or 07725172345, or via email at james.luton@live.co.uk.

Confirmation of booking: Postal bookings will be confirmed by email or telephone.

Refund procedure: If your child is ill or unable to attend or you phone two days prior to the course start date we offer full refunds. Children should arrive no earlier than 15 minutes before start time on the days for which they are registered and must be collected promptly.

Telephone bookings: 01582 583618 or 07725172345

Postal bookings: 1 Maple Road, Luton, Beds, LU4 8AW

Email bookings: james.luton@live.co.uk

Credit card bookings: 01582 583618

PARENTAL CONSENT

- ☐ Please tick if you have objections to images taken at soccer camps used by Luton Town F.C.
- ☐ Please tick if you do not wish to receive information and promotional offers from Luton Town Football Club. By returning this form you will be indicating your consent to receiving such promotional messages unless you have ticked the box above to indicate an objection.
- ☐ I authorise coaching staff to administer or approve medical treatment deemed necessary. I agree that Luton Town F.C. reserves the right to remove any disruptive children from the course and the Luton Town F.C. do not accept responsibility for loss or damage whether to person or property in connection with these courses.

Signed

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HATTERS PLAYER

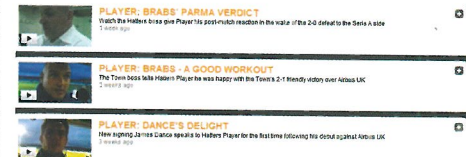


The season is almost upon us as Gary Brabin's and his players kick-off the 2011/12 campaign in the Blue Square Bet Premier tonight.

Hatters Player has followed the Town every step of the way last season with home highlights, pre- and post-match reaction with the manager, live commentary courtesy of our Luton Town Show team as well as reaction from the players that mattered come the final whistle.

For just £4.29 for the final month of the campaign you can watch and listen to all the exclusive content from Kenilworth Road as the Hatters gear up for what promises to be another rollercoaster campaign.

In the lead-up to each game there will be interviews and press conferences from the men that matter and then once the final whistle has blown we've got post-match reaction too and Player subscribers will be the first to watch all the reaction in the aftermath.

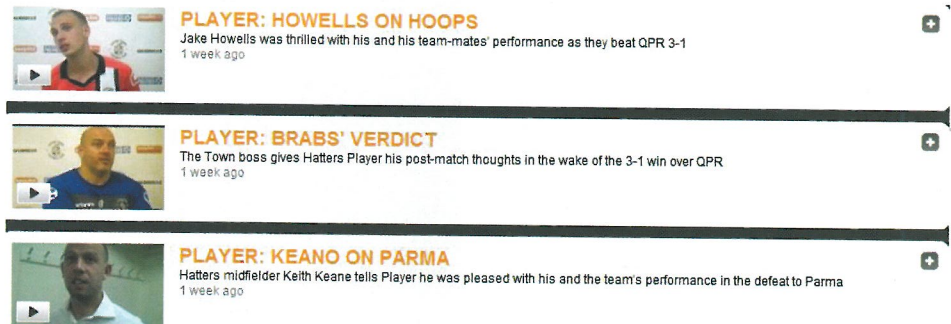


In recent weeks Player has given you exclusive interviews with our new signings as well post-match reaction from some of our friendlies.

Not only that, over the course of pre-season we've heard from the Town's new signings, Dean Beckwith, Aaron O'Connor and James Dance.

Subscribers have also heard from Mark Tyler on why we signed a new contract at Kenilworth Road and much more besides.

What we can guarantee is excitement and tension and remember, one way or another, we'll bring it you through Hatters Player.



WWW.LUTONTOWN.CO.UK

ON THIS DAY

WITH SIMON PITTS

6

The number of matches previously played on this date. Four of these matches have been away, with only two at Kenilworth Road. The Hatters have five wins and a draw from these six matches, with nine goals scored and three conceded.

1

It was a solitary goal from Malcolm Macdonald at Bournemouth in 1969 that saw the Hatters win maximum points.

2

The number of goals scored by Luton in a Division Two match in 1975 when Hull City were the visitors to Kenilworth Road. Ron Fletcher and Andy King were the goalscorers as the Hatters won 2-0.

3

The number of penalties scored in a game on this date when the Town beat West Ham 2-1 in 1980. West Ham took the lead in the second half with a spot kick, before Moss netted from 12 yards with 15 minutes remaining to equalise. A third penalty was awarded late in the game and the Hatters secured the points as Moss converted from the spot for a second time. A record crowd for a Luton fixture on this date, 28,033, witnessed this victory.

1

The only draw on this day saw both sides score late goals when Fulham were the visitors in 1994 for a League Cup first round first leg tie. Scott Oakes opened the scoring with less than 10 minutes remaining, but a late equaliser from Kevin Moore denied the Hatters victory.

8

The number of years since the Hatters played the Hatters, of the Stockport variety! Alan Neilson

opened the scoring in the first half with his first and only Luton goal. Steve Howard doubled the lead before Stockport scored with 18 minutes remaining.

3

The number of years since the last game on this date, and it was also into the third minute of the game when Sam Parkin scored the decisive goal as Luton won 1-0 at Gillingham.

100

The number of league appearances that Raddy Antic made for Luton. His debut came on this day in 1980, in the 2-1 win at West Ham. Antic scored nine league goals for the Hatters, and none will be remembered more than his late strike at Maine Road on 14th May 1983 as Luton secured top flight football for another season with a 1-0 win.



Malcolm Macdonald

IT'S TIME TO TWEET TWITTER POSITIVELY

BY STUART HAMMONDS - CHIEF REPORTER, THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

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Twit or tweet? No, not what Jonathan Ross asks on Halloween, but the great debate about football's use of social networking sites like Twitter.

It blew up again recently with Newcastle United's disowning of Joey Barton after he tweeted a thinly veiled attack on the club's hierarchy, and many critics believe the controversial former Manchester City midfielder is a bit of a twit for doing so.

In seasons past I'd have fully agreed. Indeed, I have written in The NLP in criticism of some footballers' use of Twitter and Facebook, but as you'll see from the details at the bottom of this piece, I'm a born-again tweeter. I've grown to appreciate the good it can do for football.

As a newspaperman it's difficult to concede, but we have to accept the way the world has moved into one dominated by social media.

It may be costly, certainly in Barton's case, to air dirty dressing room linen in public. And I'm sure my editor would haul me in if I put sensitive company information in the public domain.

But as far as I can see, Barton was giving his personal opinions in support of another team-mate in trouble for tweeting, Jose Enrique, and with it a rare insight as to what is apparently going on behind closed doors.

We are lucky at The NLP that, in most cases, we can simply ring the manager of a club and he'll happily give us his player's phone number.

But more and more we are getting leads for stories through Twitter, with the clubs' official accounts acting something of a newswire as well as fans, players and even gaffers getting in touch to let us

know about potential subjects to write about.

By tweeting that I was at Luton for their friendly against Parma, I had a message from Jake Howells' agent asking where the Hatters' utility man was playing.

Another came from a Rushden & Diamonds fan enquiring how Curtis Osano and Aaron O'Connor were getting on with their new club, and then one from Fleetwood midfielder Jamie McGuire asking: "So, who do you fancy for the league, Stu? Hope we're up there on your list mate - lol."

Nothing ground-breaking, I know, but it increases interaction between players and fans, as well as journalists, and that can only be a good thing.

Stockport director Tony Evans used it last week to ask fans which striker they wanted out of George Donnelly and Jamie Vardy.

And let's not forget its use as an advertising tool. Luton devoted a page of their matchday programme to plug their Facebook and Twitter platforms.

Further north, they may not have lifted silverware for beating a Sheffield Wednesday XI 14-0, but 'Alfreton Town' was trending on Twitter for a while that Sunday.

The Reds had the kind of global profile that would traditionally have cost a fortune. I'm sure the little Derbyshire club saw that as a special 'tweet'!

The Non-League Paper and our reporters on Twitter:

@NonLeaguePaper
@stuhammonds_NLP
@SamElliott_NLP
@MattBadcock_NLP



HOME COMFORTS

FOLLOW THE HATTERS AT KENILWORTH ROAD



LUTON TOWN v SOUTHPORT

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 20TH AUGUST 2011, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices.



LUTON TOWN v BRAINTREE TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 27TH AUGUST 2011, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices.



LUTON TOWN v DARLINGTON

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2011, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices.



ALL AREAS

Juniors (Under 10)	£5
Youth (Age 10-16)	£8
Young Adult (Age 17-21)	£13
Adult (Age 22-64)	£18
Senior (Age 65-75)	£13
Golden Senior (Over 75)	£10

UNCOVERED SEATING - MAIN ENCLOSURE BLOCKS A&B

Juniors (Under 10)	£5
Youth (Age 10-16)	£8
Young Adult (Age 17-21)	£13
Adult (Age 22-64)	£15
Senior (Age 65-75)	£13
Golden Senior (Over 75)	£10

BUY TICKETS...

IN PERSON: At the ticket office, Kenilworth Road.

BY PHONE: Call 01582 416976

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

SAFETY NOTICE

In the event of an emergency in the stadium, Luton Town Football Club and the emergency services have agreed on an evacuation procedure which is designed to ensure the safe and controlled evacuation of the crowd, and to ensure their safe dispersal from the area, to allow the emergency services to carry out their tasks. In the event of an evacuation from all or part of the stadium, you will receive instructions over the public address system on how you should leave the stadium. In an evacuation of the main stand you will be instructed to use the pitch. Stewards will direct you to your nearest exit. It may be that your normal exit route will not be available. On leaving the stadium you will find some roads closed to pedestrians to enable swift and unobstructed access for the emergency services. Please leave the area of the ground as quickly as possible by the route directed. Your co-operation will be most appreciated.

ON THE ROAD

SUPPORT THE TOWN ON OUR TRAVELS



MANSFIELD TOWN v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 23RD AUGUST 2011, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

This game is all-ticket for Luton Town supporters.

The ticket office will communicate a sales plan once tickets are received from Mansfield. Prices: Adults - £16, Concessions - £12, Under 16s - £7, Under 7s - £2.



HAYES & YEADING UNITED v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

MONDAY 29TH AUGUST 2011, KICK-OFF 3PM

The ticket office is yet to receive ticket information from Hayes & Yeading. Once received details will be published in forthcoming matchday programmes, on the official website and in the local press.



STOCKPORT COUNTY v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

FRIDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2011, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

Please note the change in date and kick-off time for this match. This game will be screened live on Premier Sports.

The ticket office is yet to receive ticket information from Hayes & Yeading. Once received details will be published in forthcoming matchday programmes, on the official website and in the local press.



GETTING TO...MANSFIELD - FIELD MILL

Bobbers Travel (01234 856542): £18 adults, £15 concessions. Departure: 4pm.

Town on Tour (07960 567465): £19 adults, £17 concession. Departure: 3.30pm.

Car: Leave the M1 at Junction 28, take A38 to Mansfield and after 6.5 miles turn right at the crossroads into Belvedere St, then turn right into Quarry Lane.

For the sat-nav: NG18 5DA

By train: Field Mill can be seen from Mansfield railway station which is no more than ten minutes walk away. The station is on a local line and is served with trains from Nottingham.

GETTING TO...HAYES & YEADING UNITED - KINGFIELD

Bobbers Travel (01234 856542): £14 adults, £12 concessions. Departure: 11.30am.

Town on Tour (07960 567465): £14 adults, £12 concessions. Departure: 12.30pm.

Car: Leave the M25 at Junction 11 and take the A317 and then the A320 towards Woking. Continue on the A320 through Woking town centre. After passing a hospital on your left you will come to a fork in the road, where you want to leave the A320 and branch left into Claremont Road towards Old Woking (A247). At the bottom of Claremont Road turn left onto the A247 Kingfield Road and the entrance to the ground is down on the right.

For the sat-nav: GU22 9AA

By train: Woking train station is about a mile away from the ground and is around a 15-20 minute walk. The station is served by trains from London Waterloo.

FIXTURES & RESULTS



DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	COMP	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	STARTING XI	SUBS
------	------	-----	------------	------	-------	-----	------	-----	-------------	------

August
Tue 16 19:45 H Forest Green Rovers
Sat 20 15:00 H Southport
Tue 23 19:45 A Mansfield Town
Sat 27 15:00 H Braintree Town
Mon 29 15:00 A Hayes & Yeading United

September
Fri 2 19:45 A Stockport County **TV**
Sat 10 15:00 H Darlington
Sat 17 15:00 H Lincoln City
Tue 20 19:45 A Bath City
Sat 24 15:00 A York City
Tue 27 19:45 H Cambridge United

October
Sat 1 15:00 H Barrow
Sat 8 15:00 A Kidderminster Harriers
Tue 11 19:45 A Ebbsfleet United
Sat 15 15:00 H Gateshead
Tue 18 19:45 H Wrexham
Fri 21 19:45 A Grimsby Town **TV**

November
Sat 5 15:00 H Fleetwood Town
Sat 19 15:00 A Cambridge United
Sat 26 15:00 A Newport County
Tue 29 19:45 H AFC Telford United

December
Sat 3 15:00 H Stockport County
Tue 6 19:45 A Lincoln City
Sat 17 15:00 A Tamworth
Mon 26 15:00 H Kettering Town

January
Sun 1 15:00 A Kettering Town
Sat 7 15:00 H Newport County
Sat 21 15:00 A Southport
Tue 24 19:45 H Mansfield Town
Sat 28 15:00 H Alfreton Town

February
Sat 4 15:00 A Barrow
Sat 11 15:00 A Forest Green Rovers
Sat 18 15:00 H Tamworth
Sat 25 15:00 A Darlington

March
Sat 3 15:00 H Bath City
Tue 6 19:45 A Wrexham
Sat 10 15:00 H Ebbsfleet United
Sat 17 15:00 A Gateshead
Sat 24 15:00 H Grimsby Town
Sat 31 15:00 H York City

April
Sat 7 15:00 A Braintree Town
Mon 9 15:00 H Hayes & Yeading United
Sat 14 15:00 A Alfreton Town
Sat 21 15:00 H Kidderminster Harriers
Sat 28 15:00 A Fleetwood Town

TBA TBA A AFC Telford United

LEAGUE TABLE 2011/12

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Hayes & Yeading	1	1	0	0	3	1	2	3
2	Fleetwood Town	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
3	Gateshead	1	1	0	0	3	2	1	3
4	Kettering	1	1	0	0	3	2	1	3
5	York	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	3
6	Darlington	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
7	Lincoln City	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1
8	Southport	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1
9	Barrow	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
10	Bath City	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
11	Cambridge City	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
12	Forest Green	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
13	Mansfield	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
14	Stockport	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
15	Tamworth	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
16	Wrexham	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
17	AFC Telford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	LUTON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Kidderminster	1	0	0	1	2	3	-1	0
20	Newport County	1	0	0	1	2	3	-1	0
21	Ebbsfleet United	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0
22	Braintree Town	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
23	Alfreton Town	1	0	0	1	1	3	-2	0
24	Grimsby	1	0	0	1	0	2	-2	0

LAST WORD

WITH THE BEDFORDSHIRE ON SUNDAY'S JAMES CUNLIFFE

It may not have felt like it if you were sat at home, traipsing around the shops or, like me on Saturday, sat in the newsroom with nothing Hatters based on the agenda – but we were all bereft of our first fix of the football season because common sense had prevailed.

The only question was, why it took so long to employ? Postponing the trip to AFC Telford United should have been done the second the powers that be in Shropshire decided to allow a certain march on the same day as a football match.

And that should have been the end of it because a simple bit of common sense used early on would have then prevented the fiasco that became the kick-off time and ticketing arrangements.

Of course, a stern 'no' to the so-called protest movement wouldn't have done any harm either. Perhaps then, you'd be reading about a well-earned three points on the opening day of the campaign.

Nevertheless, mobs of masked morons marauding through some of the nation's big cities last week ensured that a postponement simply became a no-brainer. Common sense at last.

The fact that any was applied at all, in relation to the beautiful game, is a small miracle in itself baring in mind the world, bar Qatar, is still reeling from the decision by FIFA to stage the 2022 edition of the greatest show on earth in a desert.

I digress, because here we are on a Tuesday night, despite a delay, about to make the first step of what we all hope will be the third and final season in the Blue Square Bet Premier.

However, I don't believe we'll start to see a clearer picture of where fortunes will take us until the transfer window slams shut at the end of the month.

Hopefully then there will have been no last minute exits of key players à la Andy Drury and Tom Craddock, but also, another striker will have been added the ranks.

It wouldn't have escaped anyone's attention that

ex-forward Jason Walker bagged a brace for York on Saturday to beat Ebbsfleet 2-1, and we'll have to hope his departure is not another that comes back to haunt the Hatters.

But the move for Oxford's James Constable, though rejected by the U's, was a heartening one. The forward has banged in goals for fun at this level and someone of his calibre is just what is needed. For me, the difference between Luton and last year's champions, Crawley Town, came down to two words... Matt Tubbs.

Yes, goalscorers like him are hard to come by but sometimes, as the Red Devils found out to their benefit, you've simply got to speculate to accumulate.

That's just more common sense, isn't it?

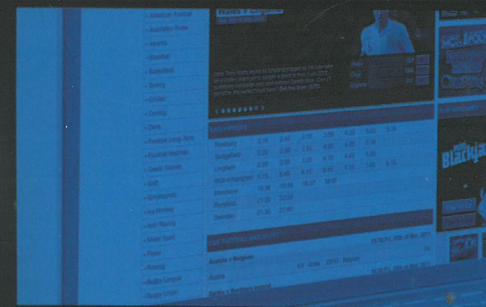
Sport on Sunday
Telford no-go was right call
 Boss Brabin talks of 'deep issue' as Hatters sit out the big kick-off in the wake of unrest

False start can't shade Jake's joy at Welsh bow

FOOTBALL
 Telford United's victory over York City on Saturday night was a relief for manager Paul Brabin, who had been under pressure since the club's 1-1 draw with York City on Saturday night. Brabin said: "It was a deep issue, but we've got it sorted now. We're back on track and we're looking forward to the next game." The victory was a relief for Brabin, who had been under pressure since the club's 1-1 draw with York City on Saturday night. Brabin said: "It was a deep issue, but we've got it sorted now. We're back on track and we're looking forward to the next game."

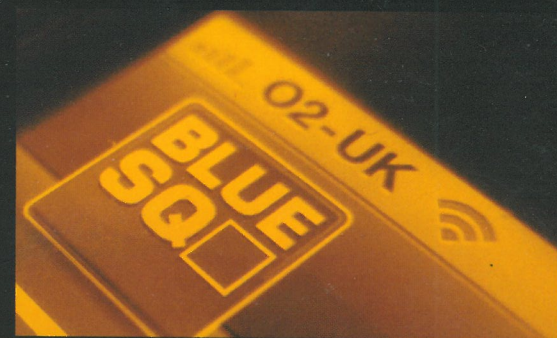
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TONIGHT'S TEAMS



LUTON TOWN

Mark Tyler	1	■
Dan Gleeson	2	■
Freddie Murray	3	■
Keith Keane	4	✓
Dean Beckwith	5	✓
George Pilkington	6	■
Alex Lawless	7	✓
Amari Morgan-Smith	8	✗
Matthew Barnes-Homer	9	✓
Danny Crow	10	✗
Robbie Willmott	11	✓
Shane Blackett	12	■
Aaron O'Connor	14	✓
Jake Howells	15	✓
Ed Asafu-Adjaye	16	✓
Will Antwi	17	✓
Curtis Osano	18	✓
James Dance	19	✓
Charlie Henry	21	■
Alex Lacey	24	■
Godfrey Poku	25	■
JJ O'Donnell	26	■
Adam Watkins	28	✗
Dan Walker	29	■
Kevin Pilkington	30	✓
Lewis Kidd	31	✗
Ash Deeney	32	■
Ryan Dasilva	33	■
Christian Tavernier	36	■



FOREST GREEN

✗	1	James Bittner
✓	2	Jared Hodgkiss
✓	3	Chris Stokes
✓	4	Wayne Turk
✓	5	Jamie Turley
■	6	Chris Todd
✓	7	James Norwood
✓	8	Yan Klukowski
✓	9	Reece Styche
✓	10	Charlie Griffin
✓	11	Kieron Forbes
✗	12	Jeffrey Imudia
✓	13	Matt Bulma
■	14	Scott Bartlett
✗	15	Callum Henry
✓	16	Luke Graham
✓	17	Curtis McDonald
✓	18	Chris Allen
✓	19	James Rowe
■	20	Al Bangura

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee:	N. Kinseley
Assistant:	L. Venamore
Assistant:	T. Goddard
Fourth Official:	L. Wood

UP NEXT

v SOUTHPORT

Saturday 20th August 2011, 3pm
Blue Square Bet Premier